

**INTENSIVE LEVEL HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL
SURVEY OF THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE AREA OF BELVIDERE
BOONE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**



SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

Prepared for:

City of Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission

Submitted by:



**HAGERTY
HERITAGE
PLANNING**

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**Intensive Level Historical and Architectural Survey of
the Courthouse Square Area of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois**

September 8, 2014



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September 8, 2014



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Belvidere, through its Historic Preservation Commission (collectively, the "City") has recognized that cultural resources surveys are important tools in aiding the City and its residents in identifying the important historic and architectural resources of the area, educating the community about the significance of its historic properties and developing a plan for the maintenance and preservation of these important resources. The Intensive Level Historical and Architectural Survey of the City of Belvidere's Courthouse Square Area (the "Survey") is part of a phased program to identify, evaluate, register and protect the cultural resources of Belvidere. The Courthouse Square area is the second area surveyed under the City of Belvidere's 10-15 year plan to survey priority areas north and south of the Kishwaukee River.

The City of Belvidere, located on the Kishwaukee River, was settled beginning in the 1830s shortly after the Native Americans migrated west. Settlers from New York, Pennsylvania and New England were attracted to Boone County because of the relatively flat prairie and the fertile soil. Early Belvidere pioneers set up on the north bank of the Kishwaukee River for the purpose of operating sawmills to process the abundant lumber in the area and gristmills for the processing of farmer's grain. In 1836, the original town of Belvidere was laid out beginning with the first four corners of the town at State Street and Mechanic Street (now Lincoln Avenue). When Belvidere was selected as a stop on the stagecoach road between Chicago and Galena, Belvidere began to prosper. The settlers intended that the government and business center would be located just northeast of State and Mechanic Streets. They built the Boone County Courthouse on a slight rise along Main Street between Perry Street and Menomonie Street. Many of the early settlers built handsome stone and brick vernacular and Greek Revival homes in the neighborhood. They also established their church congregations in the area.

In 1851 the railroad arrived in Belvidere, the line running just south of the Kishwaukee River. As a result, most commercial business activity gravitated to new commercial districts south of the Kishwaukee River. In the 1860s and 1870s, most of the residential and commercial development took place south of the Kishwaukee River. Construction in the Courthouse Square area virtually came to a halt. In 1886 the June Manufacturing Company (the predecessor of the National Sewing Machine Company) moved its manufacturing plant to Belvidere. The Courthouse Square area again became a desirable residential neighborhood for National Sewing Machine Company employees because the massive plant was right across the river. The neighborhood continued to develop into the 1920s; by the 1930s, the neighborhood was mostly developed. After World War II, a handful of modern-style homes completed the development of the neighborhood.

The purpose of the Survey was to undertake an intensive level historic and architectural survey of 150 properties in the Courthouse Square area. Historic



research was conducted to develop a historic context relating to the development of Belvidere and the Courthouse Square area. The purpose of the Survey was also to note the condition of the properties in the neighborhood and to evaluate properties for inclusion in potential National Register of Historic Places districts and local districts and to identify boundaries and contributing buildings. The buildings were evaluated for individual eligibility as well. A total of 156 Survey Data Sheets (defined below) were generated. Six (6) of the Survey Data Sheets were for vacant properties that did not contain any Identified Resources (defined below). The remaining 150 properties contained Identified Resources. The Survey Data Sheets include all of the vital information related to the Identified Resources, including extensive information about style, materials and integrity. One or more photographs accompany each Survey Data Sheet. The Survey identified a National Register of Historic Places District with 112 Contributing Properties and 19 Non-contributing Properties. The Survey also identified two (2) local historic districts. One local district is in the northwest corner of the Survey Area and contains 24 Contributing Properties and two (2) Non-contributing Properties. The other local district is in the southeast corner of the Survey Area and includes 13 Contributing Properties and three (3) Non-contributing Properties.

PROJECT DESIGN AND OBJECTIVES

The Survey is part of a phased program to identify, evaluate, register and protect the cultural resources of Belvidere. The Courthouse Square is located in the original settled town of Belvidere and is the oldest residential area in the City. A Vicinity Map with the Survey Area (defined below) is shown in Figure 1. The Survey is Phase II under the City of Belvidere's 10-15 year plan to survey priority areas north and south of the Kishwaukee River. Phase I of the long-term plan was a survey of the downtown commercial buildings in Belvidere. The Phase I Survey included approximately 160 buildings, sites and structures, resulting in two National Register Districts designated in the downtown area of Belvidere: The Belvidere North State Street Historic District and the Belvidere South State Street Historic District.

The parcels in the Survey included an area bounded roughly by Menomonie Street on the north, State Street on the west, Hancock Street on the east and the Kishwaukee River on the south (the "Survey Area"). The map of the Survey Area provided in the City of Belvidere Request for Proposal for the Survey (the "RFP") is shown in Figure 2.

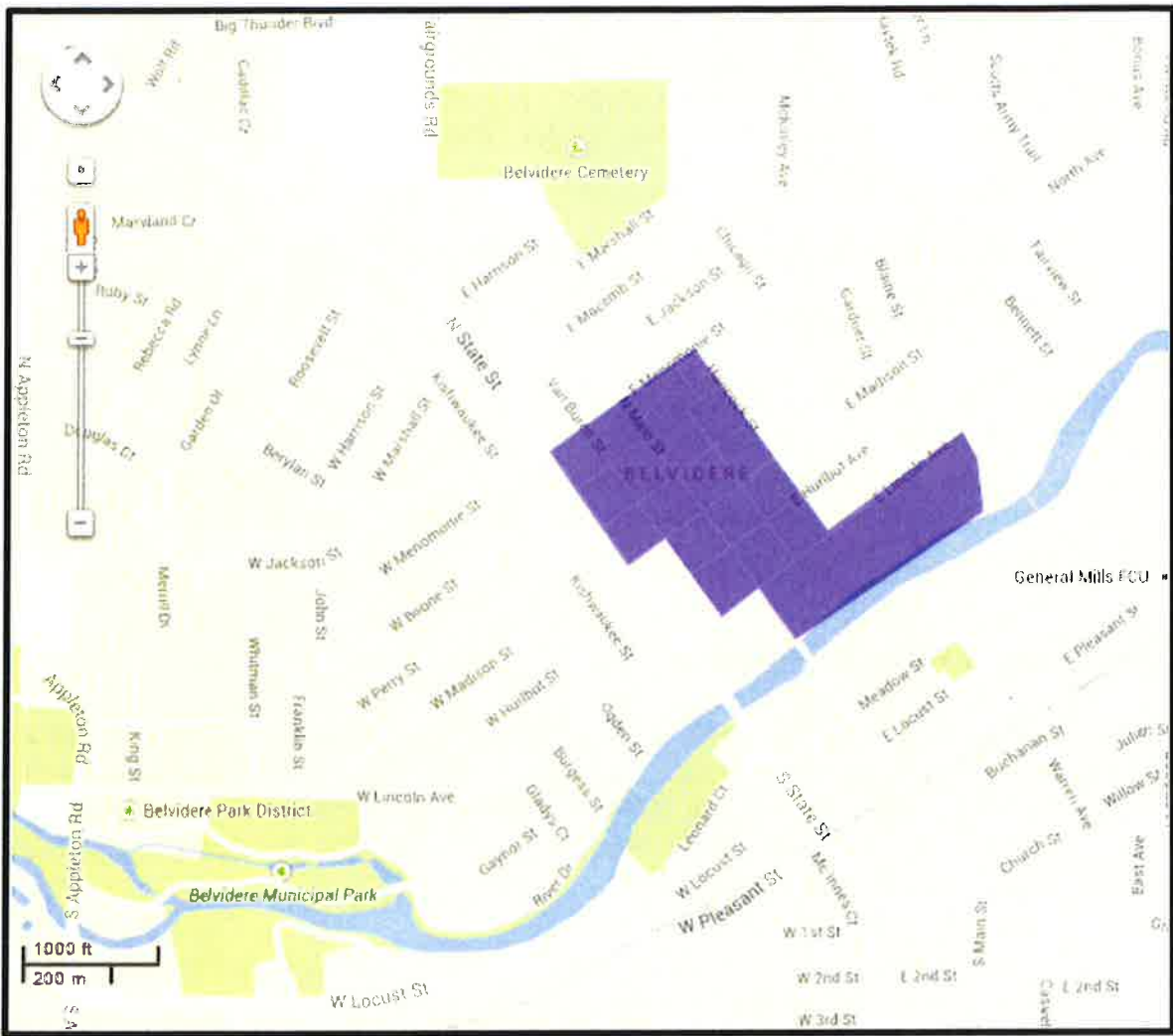


Figure 1. Map of Survey Area in Context (Google Maps)

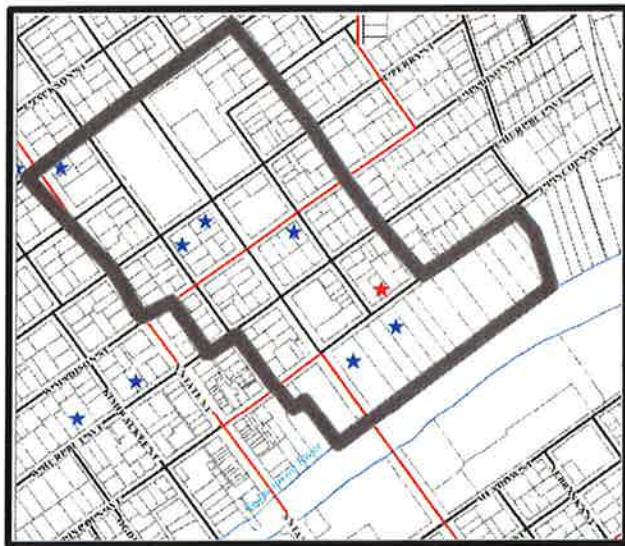


Figure 2. Map of the Survey Area (City of Belvidere)

The RFP identified approximately 135 properties in the 70-acre Survey Area. The Survey Area includes one (1) property already individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places at 410 E. Lincoln. It includes seven (7) properties already individually listed as local landmarks under the City of Belvidere's Landmark Ordinance. Those properties are:

619 N. State Street, 417 N. Van Buren Street, 424 N. Main Street,
303 E. Lincoln Avenue, 405 E. Lincoln Avenue, 410 E. Lincoln Avenue
321 E. Madison Avenue

To complete the Survey, the City hired Hagerty Heritage Planning, a historic preservation consulting firm from Chicago, Illinois. Hagerty Heritage Planning assembled a team of consultants consisting of Duane Hagerty, Kelsey Shipton and Jill Tuinier (collectively, the "Consultants"). The principal consultant for the Survey is Duane Hagerty (the "Principal Consultant").

Previous Survey Work in Belvidere

Prior to the Phase I Survey of the downtown Belvidere commercial district, there were some attempts to inventory historic buildings in Belvidere, though there were no complete formal surveys. In May of 1974, the Illinois Department of Conservation did an Inventory of Historic Landmarks in Boone County. Of the buildings in the Survey Area, the Inventory included the following:

303 Van Buren Street, 424 N. Main Street, Boone County Courthouse
Boone County Administration Building

Nineteen (19) Buildings, structures and sites in the Survey Area have been identified and minimally documented in the State of Illinois' Historic Architectural and Archaeology Geographic Information System (HAARGIS). They are:

605 N. State Street
619 N. State Street
303 Van Buren Street
417 Van Buren Street
706 Van Buren Street
424 N. Main Street (incorrectly identified in HAARGIS as 424 Van Buren Street)
Boone County Courthouse
Boone County Administration Building
707 N. Main Street
First Presbyterian Church at E. Lincoln Avenue and N. Main Street
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church at E. Hurlbut Avenue and N. Main Street
223 E. Lincoln Avenue

303 E. Lincoln Avenue
410 E. Lincoln Avenue
519 E. Lincoln Avenue
Band Shell in Big Thunder Park
Civil War Memorial in Big Thunder Park
Spanish-American War Memorial in Big Thunder Park
Big Thunder Marker at Boone County Courthouse
Civil War Cannon in Big Thunder Park

It appears that there was some attempt by the City of Belvidere to inventory and document historic buildings in the late 1990s. Inventory data sheets with photographs of some of the buildings in the Survey Area were begun, but they only contain identifying address information for selected buildings with no analysis of National Register of Historic Places or local landmark eligibility.

Survey Objectives and Structure

The purpose of the Survey is to identify and document historic resources to help the City make well-informed decisions regarding the community's historic resources; to identify properties or areas that qualify for landmark designation; to identify properties that are threatened or in deteriorating condition; to help provide information to educate the community about the significance and value of historic resources; and to provide a written history of the community's assets for generations to come. The Survey is intended to position the City and the community to undertake a future nomination of historic properties, specifically a historic district, to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and to examine the possibility of establishing City of Belvidere local landmark districts.

Every primary building, structure and site in the Survey Area was documented, regardless of perceived architectural or historic significance or age (the "Identified Resources"). Products of the Survey include a survey report (the "Survey Report") following the Multiple Property Documentation format (including a historic context developed for any potential district), a summary of the survey results and recommendations for future nomination of a historic district and/or individual properties either to the NRHP or as local landmarks. Additional products include a survey data sheet (the "Survey Data Sheet") and one or more digital photographs for each Identified Resource.

Survey Methodology

The methodology for Project included a combination of field survey and archival research. The consultants followed the Secretary of Interior's *Standards for Identification and Evaluation* as published on pages 44720-44726 of the *Federal*



Register of September 19, 1983 and the Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning, Bulletin #24 (National Park Service 1985).

Archival Research

Archival research established the historic context for the Survey. Each property was researched as well to develop a chronology of construction and alterations and to identify the architect/builder, if any. To the extent possible, ownership of the buildings was also examined to determine if any of the owners were significant to the history of the community. In conducting research, consultants utilized local, county and state resources, including, but not limited to: HAARGIS; city directories; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps; other historic maps and aerial views; county and local histories; newspapers; previous survey reports and historic photographs.

Data Collection

The Consultants completed the data collection for the Survey in four (4) separate trips to Belvidere to conduct field surveys. The Consultants conducted a preliminary windshield survey of the entire survey area in December of 2013 to identify the most significant properties so that specific archival research could begin on those properties early in the Survey timeline. The unusually harsh weather in the winter of 2013-2014 prevented the Consultants from doing any further field survey work until late March of 2014.

On March 29, March 30 and April 12, the Consultants completed the field intensive survey of every primary structure and site in the Survey area, regardless of perceived architectural/historical significance or age. The Consultants worked with the City and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency ("IHPA") to obtain approval of the basic form of the Survey Data Sheet. The Consultants completed a Survey Data Sheet for each building, structure or site. While the City's RFP indicated approximately 135 properties in the Survey Area, the field survey yielded 142 primary buildings (not including significant out buildings), plus five structures in the vicinity of Big Thunder Park.

The Consultants used computer software called FileMaker Pro to develop a digital database of Identified Resources. Each Identified Resource was documented in the field with the FileMaker Pro application for iPad, using an electronic version of the Survey Data Sheet. All Identified Resources had characteristics such as address, approximate age, style, number of stories, materials, significant details and any known alterations documented on each individual data sheet.

Each Identified Resource was documented with one or more digital color photographs. The photographs were taken under optimal lighting conditions in early spring, 2014 when the vegetation had no foliage so to show the property's details to the greatest



extent possible. The photographs are digital images (1600 x 1200 pixels at 300 pixels per inch or larger). Each photographic digital file was appropriately named to sufficiently identify the property and attached to the resource's individual data sheet.

The Consultants also noted on the Survey Data Sheet for each Identified Resource the significance of the property to the Belvidere community and the potential for its eligibility for individual listing under the four NRHP criteria and the City of Belvidere Landmark criteria contained in City of Belvidere Ordinances, Sec. 58-61. Additionally, the Consultants considered each Identified Resource for inclusion in possible NRHP Districts or City of Belvidere Local Historic districts. They also evaluated and noted on the Survey Data Sheet the integrity of the property, taking into consideration the Secretary of Interior's seven considerations of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

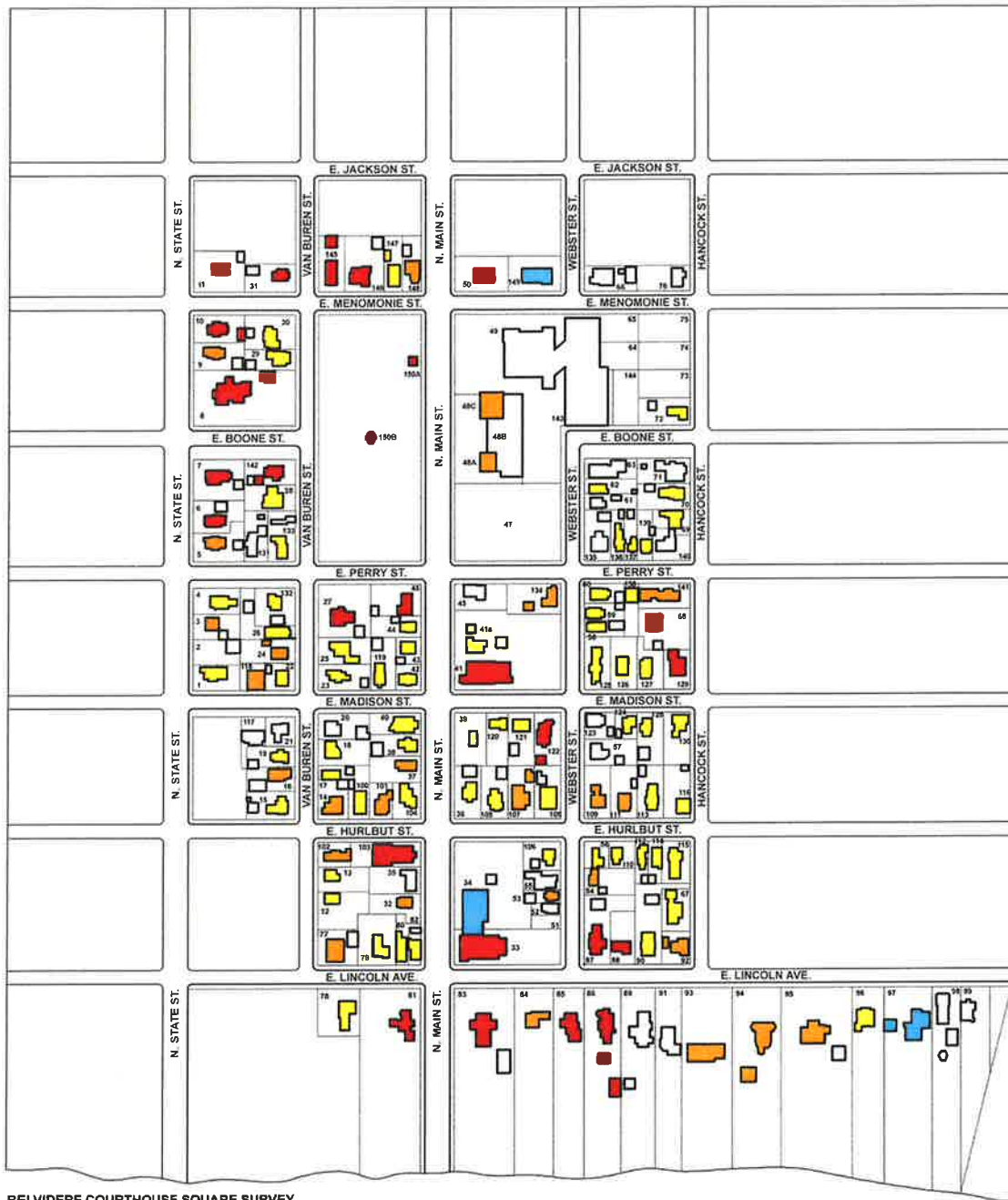
In addition to the record of every Identified Resource on the Survey Data Sheet, the Consultants established a color coding criteria to assist with National Register and local landmark designation. The established color-codes categorized all recorded resources based on the property's integrity, architectural and historical significance. The Consultants used the following color code:

- Red:** Identifies buildings, structures or sites with strong historic and/or architectural merit that also retain a high degree of integrity and are therefore individually eligible for listing on the NRHP and individually eligible for local landmark listing.
- Orange:** Identifies buildings, structures or sites with historic and/or architectural merit that retain a fair amount of their integrity, but are not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP nor are they individually eligible for local landmark listing. They would be contributing buildings in a potential NRHP district and/or a local landmark district.
- Yellow:** Identifies buildings, structures or sites with no particular historic and/or architectural merit as individual buildings, but which could contribute to a potential NRHP district and/or local district because they retain a sufficient level of integrity to identify their historic massing, craftsmanship, details or materials.
- Blue:** Identifies buildings, structures or sites with strong historic and/or architectural merit that also retain a high degree of integrity but are not yet fifty (50) years old and are therefore not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP nor are they individually eligible for local landmark listing. They could be contributing buildings to a NRHP and/or local district in the future when they attain 50 years of age.

No Color: Identifies buildings, structures or sites with no particular historic and/or architectural merit as individual buildings or which have been so severely altered over time that they have lost their integrity and are therefore not eligible to be listed as contributing buildings in a potential NRHP district or local landmark

The color code for each Identified Resource was placed on a map of the Survey area. As a graphic tool for locating highly-significant or high-integrity resources, the color-codes are useful to determine proposed boundaries for future historic districts. The color-coded map for the Survey Area is shown as Figure 3.

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]



BELVIDERE COURTHOUSE SQUARE SURVEY

- Buildings, structures or sites with strong historic and/or architectural merit that also retain a high degree of integrity. These are individually eligible for listing on the NRHP and individually eligible for local landmark listing.
- Buildings, structures or sites with historic and/or architectural merit that retain a fair amount of their integrity, but are not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP nor are they individually eligible for local landmark listing. These would be contributing buildings in a potential NRHP district and/or a local landmark district.
- Buildings, structures or sites with no particular historic and/or architectural merit as individual buildings, but which could contribute to a potential NRHP district and/or local district because they retain a sufficient level of integrity to identify their historic massing, craftsmanship, details or materials.
- Identifies buildings, structures or sites with strong historic and/or architectural merit that also retain a high degree of integrity but are not yet fifty (50) years old and are therefore not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP nor are they individually eligible for local landmark listing. They could be contributing buildings to a NRHP and/or local district in the future when they attain 50 years of age.

Figure 3. Preliminary Color-coded Map of the Survey Area

The Consultants prepared folders for each property and collected historic archival information, photographs, maps and other information in the files. With all of the information gathered, the Consultants completed, reviewed and revised all Survey Data Sheets for each Identified Resource and wrote the architectural descriptions to be included in the Survey Data Sheets. The Consultants then made the final evaluation of each Identified Resource based on research and the historic context developed during the Survey. The historic significance was reported on each Survey Data Sheet and summarized in this report. Finally, the Consultants prepared maps of potential NRHP districts and potential City of Belvidere local districts.

The timeline of the Survey spanned approximately eight (8) months from December of 2013 to August of 2014, but very little work could be completed in the months of January, February and March of 2014 because of the inclement winter weather. Taking into consideration the delays due to inclement weather, the Survey work was in reality completed in five (5) months.

Overview of Survey Results and Products

The Survey documented 150 primary Identified Resources. When outbuildings associated with Primary Identified Resources are included, the Survey documented a total of 236 buildings, structures and sites. If an Identified Resource included a significant outbuilding, the outbuilding was also documented and described in the Survey Data Sheet for that Identified Resource.

Identified Resources were primarily residential building types, with a handful of government and institutional building types. There were four (4) church buildings in the Survey Area. After evaluating each Identified Resource for its potential to contribute a local and/or NRHP district and its eligibility for individual listing either as a local landmark or on the NRHP, there appears to be an eligible NRHP that encompasses most of the Survey Area (131 Identified Resources) and includes 112 contributing resources and 19 non-contributing resources. There also appear to be two smaller eligible districts that qualify for local landmark district designation on the northwest corner of the Survey Area and the southeast corner of the Survey Area. The local district on the northwest corner of the Survey Area includes 24 contributing resources and two (2) non-contributing resources. The local district on the southeast corner of the Survey Area includes 13 contributing resources and three (3) non-contributing resources. There are four Identified Resources outside the two local districts that appear to be individually eligible for listing as local landmarks.

The Survey Report was developed that includes elements of a Multiple Property Document (MPD) nomination form with an introduction, discussion of historic contexts and property types, survey results and recommendations. Additionally, a Survey Data Sheet was created for each property as noted above. One set of the forms, as well as

the survey report was submitted to IHPA. The other set of survey forms and additional copies of the Survey Report were retained with the City along with digital files of research notes/folders. The Consultants will also give the City the digital file of its database of Identified Resources. It is anticipated that the main products of the Survey will be stored at City Hall. Consultants also suggest that a copy of the Survey Report be placed in the Ida Public Library in Belvidere and with the Boone County Historical Society. This will provide for public access under controlled conditions and information will be readily available for community planning and economic development purposes.

Consultants recommend that the nomination of the NRHP district be completed, as well as the local district and individual property listings of the properties identified. This will be discussed in more detail in *Section V: Survey Results* and *Section VI: Recommendations*.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW

The Courthouse Square Area of Belvidere is significant in the context of the early settlement and later development of the City of Belvidere. The Survey Area contains mostly residential building types, a few institutional government buildings and 4 church building complexes. As the first settled area of Belvidere, the Survey Area has some of the oldest residential and church buildings in Belvidere. The Courthouse Square Area of Belvidere is unique in that it is the only neighborhood in Belvidere that has experienced and withstood the entire cycle of the settlement and development of Belvidere. Its fortunes have waxed and waned through a few historic cycles, yet the neighborhood retains much of its historic character.

The history of the Courthouse Square area is broken down into four distinct contexts in the history of Belvidere. The first context is the **Early Development of Belvidere and the Arrival of the Railroad: 1836 – 1851**. This is the period in which the pioneers who came to Belvidere settled on the north side of the Kishwaukee River, established a town and then laid the foundations favorable for commerce focused on milling and agricultural interests. Their recruitment of the railroad to come through Belvidere paved the way for the second context: **After the Railroad - Transition: 1851 – 1885**. In this era, the arrival of the railroad caused the development of Belvidere to shift sharply from the north side of the Kishwaukee River to the south side of the Kishwaukee River. The result for the Courthouse Square area is that construction and development in the neighborhood slowed substantially and the area was neglected for almost 30 years. In 1886, Belvidere experienced the arrival of the June Manufacturing Company (the predecessor of the National Sewing Machine Company), which ushered

in the third context: **Commercial Expansion and Stability: 1886 – 1929.** During this period, the Courthouse Square neighborhood experienced a surge in growth and development. Some of the finest homes in Belvidere were built in the Courthouse Square area during that period, typically in the showy Queen Anne style of architecture. Toward the end of this period, the neighborhood experienced a settling-in of the middle class lifestyle, as evidenced by the use of more modest styles of homes, such as the Craftsman architectural style. Finally, the depression and World War II characterize the most recent historic context: **Mid-twentieth Century Residential Development: 1930-1970.** During the Great Depression and World War II, building construction came to a screeching halt across the country. Belvidere was no exception to that trend. However, with the end of World War II, pent up demand and return of the soldiers who fought in World War II led to a housing boom. By the end of World War II, the Courthouse Square Area was already mostly developed. There was still a fair amount of construction in the neighborhood in the 1940s and 1950s. In a clean break from the past, people looked to more modern styles of architecture and innovative construction techniques, such as the Lustron home.

Population Data

Table 1 below shows the population of Belvidere and Boone County for each decade from 1840 to 1980 based on data from the United States Census Bureau gathered every ten (10) years pursuant to the Decennial Census. The table illustrates very well the patterns of growth over the historic context periods outlined above. There was no specific Belvidere information for the 1840 census, so the 1840 census figures are for Boone County as a whole. The population of Belvidere increased by almost sixty percent in the decade between 1850 and 1860, with the arrival of the railroad. The population of Belvidere again almost doubled in size in the two decades between 1890 and 1910, reflecting the arrival of the National Sewing Machine Company and the expansion of other industry during this period. In the post World War II period between 1940 and 1980, the population again almost doubled in size due to the post war economic boom and resulting baby boom.

The population data shown in Table 1 also shows the pattern of the shift in population from the rural and small town areas of Boone County to the City of Belvidere. In the first 70-80 years of the history of Belvidere and Boone County, the area was dominated by the agrarian economy. The population of Belvidere lagged well behind the population of Boone County as a whole. However, in 1920 the population of Belvidere surpassed 50% of the entire population of Boone County, reflecting the increasing importance of Belvidere's manufacturing industry in attracting residents. Belvidere's population remained over 50% of Boone County's population until the 2000 Census.

TABLE 1. BELVIDERE AND BOONE COUNTY POPULATION¹

YEAR	BELVIDERE POPULATION	BOONE COUNTY POPULATION
1840	--	1,705
1850	1,003	7,624
1860	2,446	11,678
1870	3,231	12,942
1880	2,951	11,508
1890	3,867	12,203
1900	6,937	15,791
1910	7,253	15,481
1920	7,804	15,522
1930	8,123	15,078
1940	8,094	15,202
1950	9,422	17,070
1960	11,223	20,326
1970	13,049	25,440
1980	15,176	28,630
1990	15,763	30,806
2000	20,820	41,786
2010	25,585	54,165

Overview of Survey Area

The Survey Area comprises the original settled portion of the City of Belvidere. The streets in the Survey Area are laid out in a grid pattern. The building types in the Survey area are predominantly residential single-family homes. Some of the homes that were historically single-family have been subdivided into multiple unit rental housing. The Boone County government complex is located on a slight mound on the east side of Main Street between Menomonie Street and Perry Street. Historically, the government buildings included the Boone County Courthouse and the Boone County Records Building. In the 1980s Boone County built a modern addition connecting the Boone County Courthouse and the Boone County Records building. They also built a law enforcement center to the north and east of the Boone County Courthouse. In addition to residential and government buildings, there are also four (4) churches in the survey area.

¹ The United States Census Data for Belvidere and Boone County was compiled by George Gibson and is on file at the Ida Public Library in the Local History and Genealogy collection, Population and Growth Statistics File.

The topography of the Survey Area is relatively flat, with the highest point in the Survey Area at the Boone County Courthouse complex. The terrain slopes slightly from north to south towards the Kishwaukee River. Lincoln Avenue on the south side of the Survey Area follows the northern bank of the Kishwaukee River. The residences fronting Lincoln Avenue on the south side have the banks of the Kishwaukee River as their rear boundary. The vegetation in the Survey Area consists of a mixture of large, mature trees and landscape plantings.

Architectural Styles

The Survey Area is characterized by wide variety of architectural styles and construction materials. The variety reflects the development of the neighborhood over several eras of Belvidere's history. Figure 4 illustrates the variety of architectural styles in the Survey Area. In the Early Development of Belvidere period, the pioneers of Belvidere often designed their own homes utilizing materials that were readily available. In Belvidere, the materials would have been stone, brick or wood. For purposes of identification, these vernacular homes have been labeled "Settlement" architecture. In many cases Settlement architecture emulated elements of other architectural styles, such as Greek Revival or Federal. Many of the early settlers of Belvidere came from New England, Pennsylvania and New York, so they would have been familiar with the Greek Revival and Federal styles.

As Belvidere developed, its architecture also emulated the broad national trends. By the 1880s, during the Commercial Expansion and Stability Period, the Queen Anne style of architecture was, by far, the predominantly favored style of architecture. With its elaborate turrets, oriel windows, rooflines and exterior decorative materials, architects would have designed many of these homes. By the Post World War II period, the more decorated styles were no longer popular and property owners opted for plain, modern comfortable designs.

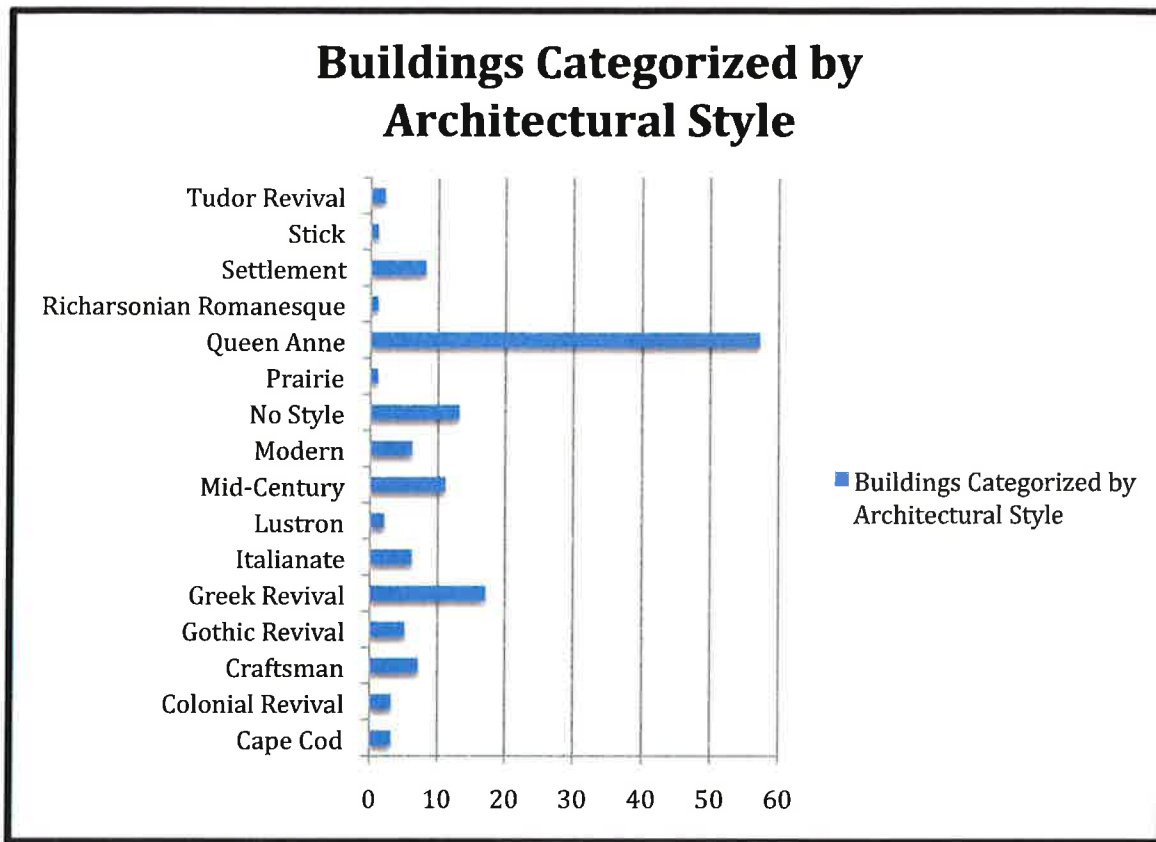


Figure 4. Extant Buildings in the Survey Area Categorized by Architectural Style

The Survey Data Sheets identify the architectural style and the building materials for each Identified Resource. Below is a summary of the architectural styles prominent in the survey area.

Settlement (1830s-1860s)



Settlement architecture has no particular architectural style. It is characterized more by its form, overall massing, shape, interior space configuration and function. They are designated Settlement buildings because they were constructed in the early days of the settlement of Belvidere. These building forms represent popular forms of architecture derived from local and regional traditions of construction or traditions brought from outside the area by

immigrants. They were built more with functionality in mind rather than style. They may include elements of an architectural style popular at the time of construction. An excellent example of Settlement architecture is the Samuel Monroe Limestone Manse at 424 N. Main Street.

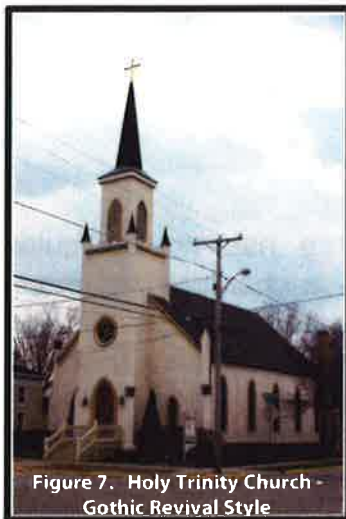
Greek Revival (1830s-1870s)



Greek Revival became a prevalent style nationally in the middle of the 19th Century. It was first popularized by its use in public buildings in cities in the eastern United States. As settlers moved into the Midwest, the Greek Revival style migrated with them. The use of pattern books and carpenter guides popularized Greek Revival as one of the earliest styles to be used for residential vernacular architecture in developing Midwestern communities. Rectangular and

gable-front building forms characterize Greek Revival architecture. Greek Revival homes are usually one or two stories. They typically have clapboard siding and decorative pediments or crown moldings over doors and/or windows. Windows are typically double hung and multi-pane. The most recognizable feature of a Greek Revival house is the gable cornice with returns that mimic a triangle pediment in Classical Greek architecture. Belvidere has several excellent examples of Greek Revival architecture, including the Joel Walker home at 223 E. Lincoln Avenue and the Wildflower House at 410 E. Lincoln Avenue.

Gothic Revival (1840s – 1870s)



Beginning in the 1830s, architectural tastes were moving away from cold, classical architecture to more romantic, picturesque architecture. Gothic Revival architecture harkened back to the simpler, more rural Medieval period. The Gothic Revival style was popularized by the dissemination of pattern books by Alexander Jackson Downing. It was often the chosen style for rural country homes. Typical features for Gothic Revival buildings include pointed arch windows, front-gables or asymmetrical building forms and gables with decorative cross bracing and vergeboard. Gothic Revival buildings were often constructed with clapboard and board and batten siding, giving rise to the term, "Carpenter Gothic." The best example of a Carpenter Gothic building in Belvidere is the Holy Trinity

Episcopal Church at N. Main Street and E. Hurlbut Avenue.

Italianate (1840s – 1880s)



Alexander Jackson Downing's pattern books also popularized the Italianate architectural style. The Italianate style was based loosely on the Italian villas of northern Italy. By the 1880s, the popularity of the Italianate style waned in favor of the Queen Anne architectural style. Italianate houses typically have low roofs (hipped or gabled), overhanging eaves with decorative brackets,

round-headed windows (often paired) with hood moldings, arcaded porches and balconies with balustrades. Good examples of Italianate homes in the Survey Area include the Dr. Daniel C. Foote Home at 417 N. Van Buren Street and the Old Dunton Home at 401 E. Lincoln Avenue.

Queen Anne (1880s – 1900s)



The Queen Anne architectural style was the most dominant of the Victorian architectural styles. The hallmark of the Queen Anne style is the use of contrasting materials and forms. In the Midwest, the majority of Queen Anne homes are wood frame construction with wood clapboard and wood shingles on the upper floors. Queen Anne homes are often asymmetrical, with steeply pitched, cross-gabled roofs. They often feature tower bays, turrets and

recessed balconies. One of the iconic features of a Queen Anne residence is the porch with elaborate spindle work, balusters and pediments with stick or shingle detailing. There are many excellent examples of the Queen Anne style in the Survey Area, including the Clyde Andrus Residence at 619 N. State Street, the Benjamin S. Herbert Residence at 405 E. Lincoln Avenue and the Henry Haywood Residence at 321 E. Madison Avenue.

Colonial Revival (1880s – 1950s)

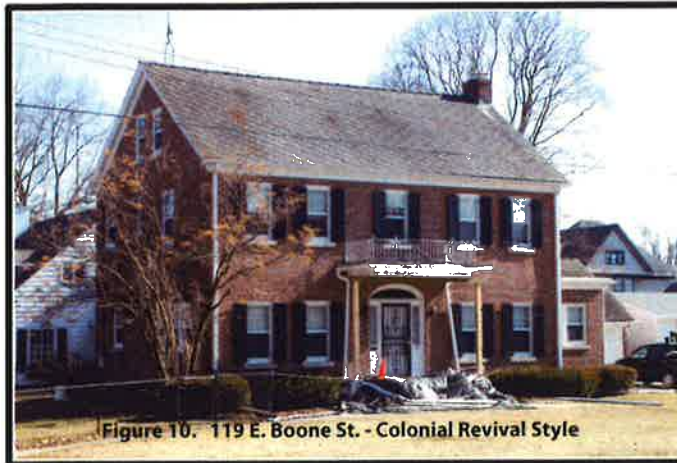


Figure 10. 119 E. Boone St. - Colonial Revival Style

The Colonial Revival style emerged after the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. It reawakened interest in the American Colonial period. The most common architectural features of Colonial Revival buildings include symmetrical building forms, hipped roofs, porches with columns, entry doors with transoms, sidelights and elaborate surrounds and double-hung multi-paned windows. A sub-style of the Colonial Revival architectural style is

the Cape Cod style. The Cape Cod typically has a steeper pitched roof and less ornamentation than other Colonial Revival styles. A good example of the Cape Cod style in the Survey Area is 509 E. Lincoln Avenue. The Colonial Revival style enjoyed a longer duration of popularity than any other style, lasting long into the 1950s. Colonial Revival details often find their way into other styles such as American Four Square and Ranch style homes. An excellent example of the Colonial Revival style in the Survey Area is 119 E. Boone Street.

Tudor Revival (1890s – 1940s)



Figure 11. Rhinehardt Residence - Tudor Revival Style

The Tudor Revival style enjoyed popularity in roughly the same period as the Colonial Revival style. Tudor Revival style homes emulated Medieval English examples of grand manor homes and thatched cottages. Tudor Revival homes are characterized by dominant front gables, half timbering, masonry walls, steeply pitched roofs, dominant chimneys and narrow casement windows, many with a diamond pane pattern. In the Survey Area, the finest

example of a Tudor Revival home is the Rhinehardt Residence at 605 N. State Street.

Craftsman (1900s – 1920s)



The Craftsman architectural style arose out of the 19th Century Arts and Crafts movement. The Arts and Crafts movement was a reaction to the opulence of the Victorian Era and the mass production of the Industrial Revolution. The Craftsman style became popular when Gustav Stickley began publishing plans for homes in his magazine, *The Craftsman* in 1901. A Craftsman home is typically characterized by

simplicity of design and detailing, the exhibition of fine workmanship and the use of natural materials such as wood and stone. Craftsman homes are usually one story or one and a half stories with shallow roofs, dormers and windows set in the gable end. A nice, intact version of a Craftsman home in the Survey Area is at 404 Van Buren Street.

Mid-Century Modern (1940s-1960s)



The Mid-Century Modern style of architecture began after World War II and continued through the 1960s. The Mid-Century Modern style is characterized by its bold, innovative use of imaginative forms. Designs also include the use a combination of building materials such as wood, brick, stone, metal, laminate and plastics. Roofs are typically hip or gable with a shallow slope. Windows are often steel frame casement or

multi-pane picture windows. The ranch style home, with its sprawling single floor layout is a sub-style of the Mid-Century Modern style. Two fine examples of the Mid-Century Modern style in the Survey Area are 505 E. Lincoln Avenue and the Lustron home at 420 E. Madison Street.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF BELVIDERE AND ARRIVAL OF THE RAILROAD: 1836 – 1851

Native Americans

Prior to white settlement, Belvidere was an open prairie intermittently inhabited by Native Americans. In the early 1800s, Boone County was on the boundary of territory held by various tribes.² The Winnebago tribal territory was to the north and west of Belvidere. The Potawatomi, Chippewa and Ottawa tribal territory was to the northeast, east and south of Belvidere. It is most likely that the Native American tribe inhabiting Belvidere just prior to white settlement was the Potawatomi tribe. By the *Chicago Treaty of 1833*, the Potawatomi, along with allied tribes, the Chippewa and Ottawa, agreed to vacate all of their lands in Wisconsin and Northern Illinois between Lake Michigan on the east and the Rock River on the west and north of a line running directly east and west from the southern-most tip of Lake Michigan and move to territory west of the Mississippi.³

When the white settlers arrived in the Belvidere area, they found the remnants of a Potawatomi encampment in the area of what is now the Boone County Fairgrounds.⁴ As Boone County became more populated with white settlers, the Native Americans permanently left the area; however, as late as 1861, Native Americans traveled through the Belvidere area. An article in *The Belvidere Standard* on August 13, 1861 noted:

A company of strolling Indians and squaws numbering from fifteen to twenty, honored our town with a short call on Saturday of last week. . . . They belong to the Pottowatomie [sic] tribe. . . . One or two of the oldest said they used to live on this river about thirty years ago, and the oldest squaw, somewhere from 80 to 100 years, apparently, stated that she was a blood relative of Big Thunder.⁵

Big Thunder was thought to be the chief of the Potawatomi, but there is no definitive history documenting either Big Thunder's existence or his status as a leader of the Potawatomi tribe. There are accounts from early white settlers of Belvidere describing Big Thunder's gravesite and his mummified corpse. Big Thunder's grave was purportedly on the mound where the current Boone County Courthouse is located.⁶ The gravesite was described as a "pen or coop built of puncheon or split logs, and

² Newton Batemen and Paul Selby, *Encyclopedia of Illinois*, (Chicago: Munsell Publishing, 1909), 662.

³ Milo M. Quaife; G. B. Porter, "The Chicago Treaty of 1833," *The Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Vol. 1, No. 3 (Mar., 1918), 287.

⁴ *Encyclopedia of Illinois*, 662.

⁵ "Indians," *The Belvidere Standard*, 13 Aug., 1861.

⁶ *Encyclopedia of Illinois*, 665.

was, perhaps, some six or seven feet wide and about as long as an ordinary grave.”⁷ Inside the enclosure, Big Thunder was propped up facing east seated on a chair cut from a log and wrapped in a blanket surrounded by his various weapons.⁸ Native Americans wandering through the area would often leave tobacco or other offerings at the gravesite. The corpse of Big Thunder endured several indignities at the hand of early settlers, including pilfering of his bones by travelers who stopped along the stage route from Chicago to Galena. A visiting doctor decapitated Big Thunder’s corpse and removed his skull to Chicago.⁹ By the time the current courthouse was built in the 1850s, the gravesite was no longer in existence. Local legend is that the gravesite is either directly under the flagpole by the courthouse or between the flagpole and the courthouse steps.

Whether real or legend, Big Thunder holds a prominent place in the history of Belvidere because the park across the street from the Boone County Courthouse is named after Big Thunder. An archaeological investigation of the area around the Boone County Courthouse could uncover some additional information about the gravesite and the individual interred there. Additionally, archaeological investigations at the Boone County Fairgrounds and the north and south banks of the Kishwaukee River could yield more information about the Native American presence in Belvidere prior to white settlement. An archaeological investigation is beyond the scope of this survey.

Belvidere’s Early Pioneers

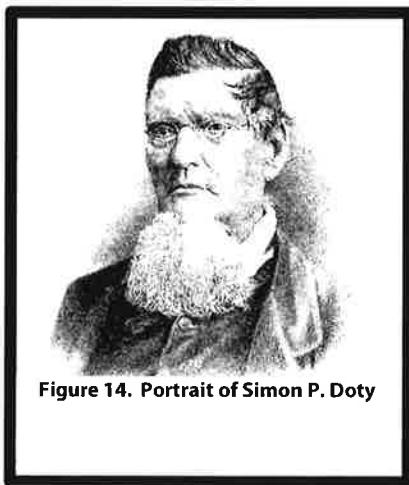


Figure 14. Portrait of Simon P. Doty

Belvidere’s early pioneers arrived in the area in the 1830s and settled on the north bank of the Kishwaukee River. By June of 1835, early settlers Archibald Metcalf and David Dunham owned most of the land in what is now Belvidere, north of the Kishwaukee River.¹⁰ In that same month of 1835, John K. Towner, Cornelius Cline and Erastus Nixon, each from upstate New York, also arrived in the area of what would become Belvidere.¹¹ In August of 1835, Simon P. Doty (Figure 14) and Dr. Daniel Whitney arrived in the area, also from New York.¹² It is unclear what attracted New Englanders to settle in the Belvidere area. There is speculation that New

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ H. F. Kett & Co., *The Past and Present of Boone County*, (Chicago: H.F. Kett & Co., 1877), 276.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.* at 278

Englanders who were part of General Winfield Scott's regiment during the Black Hawk War traveled through the area on their way to battle in southwest Wisconsin and were attracted to the gentle, rolling prairie.¹³

In 1835, Dr. Whitney, in conjunction with early settlers Ebenezer Peck, a native of Vermont, and Dr. Josiah C. Goodhue, purchased the claims of Archibald Metcalf and David Dunham for the purpose of forming the Belvidere Company.¹⁴ The purpose of the Belvidere Company was to raise capital for the purpose of "building a town, mills and making such other improvements as would add to the convenience and accommodations of immigrants and settlers."¹⁵ With its location on the Kishwaukee River, the Belvidere site became an ideal location for the establishment of saw mills and gristmills.¹⁶ Much of Belvidere's early commerce involved its mill enterprises.

In June of 1836, the area of what is now Belvidere was chosen to be a point on the stage line between Chicago and Galena.¹⁷ The stage line brought consistently heavy traffic to the area. In August of 1836, Simon Doty and Nathaniel Crosby laid out the four corners of State and Mechanic Streets (now Lincoln Avenue), beginning the formal process of the planning of the City of Belvidere. That same year on January 16, 1836 the State Legislature of Illinois authorized the formation of Winnebago County, which included the present territory of Boone County.¹⁸ The people in Belvidere wanted their own county, so petitioned the legislature to carve a new county out of the East portion of Winnebago County. On March 4, 1837 the State Legislature of Illinois authorized the formation of Boone County, named for Colonel Daniel Boone.¹⁹ The early settlers of Belvidere felt strongly that the county seat of Boone County should be located in Belvidere, so the Belvidere Company agreed to relinquish 160 acres of property to Boone County in the northeast quarter of Section 26 of Belvidere Township on the condition that the property be established as the county seat of Boone County. The Belvidere Company also stipulated that the center of Boone County government be located on the donated property.²⁰ In 1838, Boone County designated Belvidere as the county seat of Boone County.²¹ The County designated 10 acres on the current courthouse mound for the county buildings.

The legislation of 1837 left Boone County one mile shorter on the west side than intended. In 1843, the State Legislature of Illinois authorized the annexation of the eastern one-mile of Winnebago County into Boone County so long as the residents in

¹³ *Encyclopedia of Illinois*, 661.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.* at 279

¹⁷ *Ibid.* at 280

¹⁸ *Encyclopedia of Illinois*, 666.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ "Belvidere: History of its Municipal Organization," *Boone County Independent*, Jan. 1883.

²¹ *Ibid.*

that strip approved.²² The voters approved the annexation in May of 1843, giving Boone County its current size.

In 1838, the northeast quarter of section 26 in Belvidere Township was platted into lots and called, "Belvidere, the county seat of Boone County."²³ The plat was laid out in a New England-style Plan with a town square. In the early years, Belvidere was unincorporated and administered by Boone County.²⁴ However, the issue of the legality of liquor within the confines of Belvidere became a dividing factor among the residents. Boone County was issuing liquor licenses, to the dismay of some of the citizens of Belvidere. In order to remove the County's liquor licensing authority, the residents of Belvidere voted to incorporate as a town under the general laws of the State of Illinois in 1847.²⁵ That corporate charter lasted only about a year because of continued disagreement among the residents about the issuance of liquor licenses; therefore, governmental authority again reverted to Boone County until 1857 when the residents approved a new charter for the Town of Belvidere.²⁶ The residents of Belvidere remained divided into "License" and "No-License" camps for several decades, reflecting the division nationally about the legality of alcohol.²⁷ In 1882, Belvidere was incorporated as a City.

The origin of the naming of Belvidere is unclear. The Belvidere is an alternative spelling of belvedere, a word derived from the Latin words "bellus" meaning beautiful and "vedere" meaning view. Ebenezer Peck is credited with giving Belvidere its name. In Mr. Peck's obituary in the *Belvidere Standard*, it states that "he bestowed the name Belvidere on the hamlet from which our beautiful city has grown to its present considerable proportions."²⁸ Ebenezer Peck was married to Caroline Louisa Walker, the daughter of Joel Walker, a prominent Belvidere pioneer. The Walkers were from Peacham, Vermont.²⁹ Less than 50 miles from Peacham is a town called Belvidere. It is likely that the Pecks and the Walkers had some connection to Belvidere, Vermont.

Planning for the Railroad

As early as 1836 there were plans for a railroad line from Chicago to Galena when the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad Company was incorporated.³⁰ A financial panic in 1836 halted the project for many years. In 1840, several Belvidere settlers were instrumental in attempting to revive the project. On December 18, 1840, Daniel

²² *Ibid.* at 667.

²³ Gene Hanson, "Naming of Belvidere Obscured in History," *Rockford Morning Star*, January 21, 1968.

²⁴ "Belvidere: History of its Municipal Organization.

²⁵ *Ibid.* at 281

²⁶ *Ibid.* at 282.

²⁷ "Dost Like the Picture?," *Belvidere Standard*, 17 Mar. 1874.

²⁸ Judge R.V. Carpenter "The Naming of Belvidere," *Belvidere Daily Republican*, October 3, 1931.

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ "Early History of Local Railroad," *Belvidere Daily Republican*, April 26, 1916.



Whitney, Dr. Molony and Nathaniel Crosby banded together with other Boone County residents to petition the government and the railroad companies to bring a railway to Belvidere.³¹ Finally, in 1845, definite plans were in the works to build the railroad from Chicago to Galena. Several Belvidere residents were stockholders in the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad Company, including: S.P. Doty, A.C. Fuller, Wm. H. Gilman, S.A. Hurlbut, Ezra May, R.S. Molony and Joel Walker.³² Joel Walker was selected by the group to represent Belvidere in meetings in Rockford and Freeport.³³

The original plan by the railroad was to have it follow the old stagecoach trail.³⁴ The train would have crossed the Kishwaukee River in Belvidere. The Belvidere depot would have been built on the north side of the river near present-day Big Thunder Park. William Holt Gilman had other plans, however. Gilman was a lawyer who came to Belvidere from the east. He owned most of the property from the Kishwaukee River south to what is now Logan Avenue today. Gilman recognized that he could experience an economic windfall if he could lure the railroad to establish its depot on the south side of the Kishwaukee. To implement his plan, he offered right of way on his land to the railroad for free.³⁵ The railroad accepted Gilman's offer and the railroad came through Belvidere for the first time in December of 1851. In 1864 the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad was merged into and became part of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad.

The ramifications of the railroad running south of the Kishwaukee River had substantial ramifications for the development of Belvidere. First, it forever altered the development of the Courthouse Square area. Belvidere would never develop around the intended New England Town Square plan developed in the 1830s. Second, most of the commercial development clustered around the train depot south of the river and then on South State Street. The Courthouse Square area then became a predominately residential neighborhood.

Examples of Significant Period Buildings in the Survey Area

The City is fortunate to have three excellent extant examples of buildings built during this period. They are:

³¹ "Railroad Meeting" *Rock River Pilot*, December, 1840.

³² "On the Old Galena Road," *Belvidere Daily Republican*, April 25, 1905.

³³ "Early History"

³⁴ Mike Doyle, "Railroad Route Helped to Establish Cherry Valley," *Rockford Register Star*, October 1, 2009

³⁵ *Ibid.*

Phillip Lampert Home
410 E. Lincoln
Built in 1837, the
Phillip Lampert Home
is the oldest frame
home in Belvidere

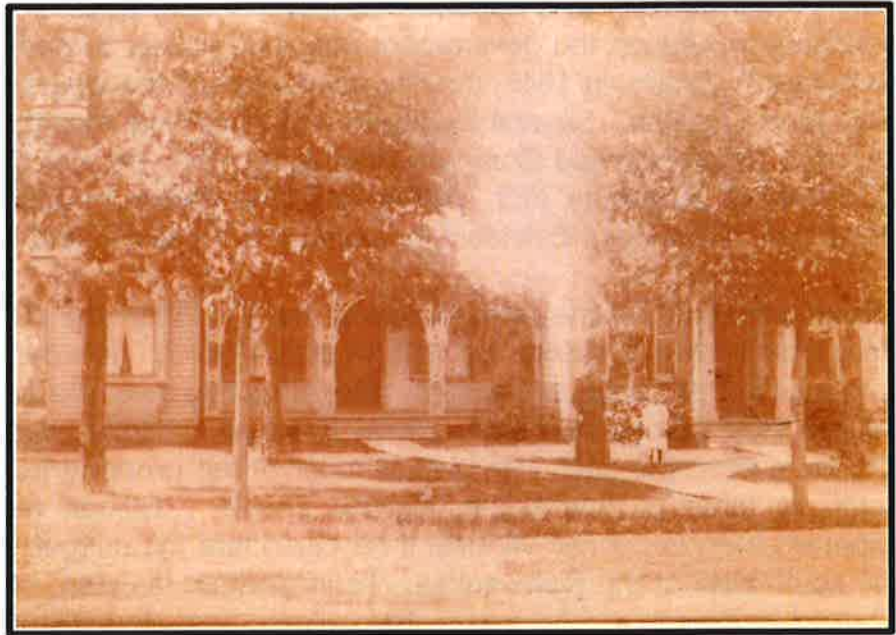


Figure 15. Historic Photo of Lampert (Wildflower) Home.³⁶

Joel Walker Home
223 E. Lincoln.
Built in 1841, the Joel
Walker Home is the
oldest brick home in
Belvidere



Figure 16. Historic Photo of Joel Walker Home.³⁷

³⁶ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society, date unknown.

³⁷ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society, date unknown.

Samuel Monroe
Manse
424 N. Main.
Built in 1842, the
Samuel Monroe
Manse is the oldest
limestone home in
Belvidere



Figure 17. Current Photo of Samuel Monroe Manse.

AFTER THE RAILROAD - TRANSITION: 1851 – 1885

Construction of the Boone County Courthouse

Even after the arrival of the railroad to Belvidere in 1851, the Courthouse Square area continued to experience growth in the 1850s. The continued viability of the neighborhood was assured when Boone County decided to build the courthouse on the current site in 1854. The current courthouse is the second courthouse on the site. In 1837, the jail was built on the high ground or “Mound,” on the current courthouse site.³⁸ By 1840, the county decided to build a courthouse on the site and was complete in 1843. In December of 1853, the courthouse was too small for the growing county. Accordingly, work commenced on the new courthouse in 1854 and was completed that same year. The courthouse is designed in the Italianate style of architecture.

The cupola on the current courthouse is a replica of the cupola on the original courthouse. Figure 18 is an undated historic photo of the courthouse sometime between the 1850s and the 1890s. In 1905, the cupola was removed (see Figure 19).

³⁸ Fred Franck, “The Courthouse of Boone County,” (Publisher Unknown).



Figure 18. Historic Photo of Courthouse.³⁹



Figure 19. Historic Photo of Courthouse Post 1905. Removal of Cupola.⁴⁰

The oldest known map of the original plat of Belvidere dates from 1856 (Figure 20). It shows the New England Town Square Plan very clearly. Main Street was cut off between Perry Street and Menomonie. All of the area between Van Buren on the west, Menomonie on the north, Webster on the east and Perry on the south was dedicated as a public square. By 1878 Main Street was opened and the street layout of the Courthouse Square area was roughly similar to its current layout.

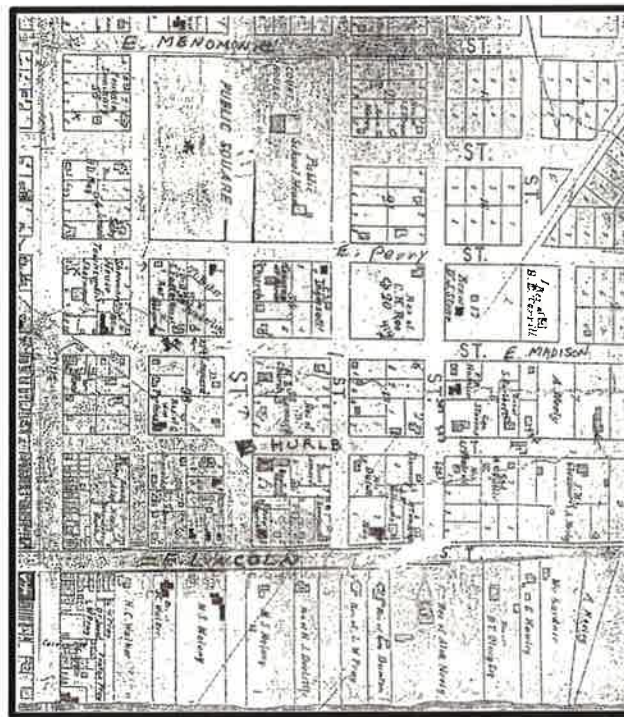


Figure 20. 1856 Map of Belvidere.⁴¹

³⁹ Picture Credit: Ida Public Library Local History Collection, date unknown.

⁴⁰ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

⁴¹ Picture Credit: Ida Public Library Local History Collection.



European Immigration to Belvidere

The arrival of the railroad to Belvidere in 1851 not only boosted the economic fortunes of the community, it also brought a wave of European immigration to Belvidere. As noted earlier, most of the early settlers of Belvidere came to the area from the eastern United States. They were either native-born Americans or immigrants from England who had settled on the east coast and then migrated to the Belvidere area. After 1850, the English continued to arrive in Belvidere, but Irish and German immigrants also joined them in large numbers.

Table 2 illustrates the population statistics for Belvidere and Belvidere Township combined for the 1850, 1860 and 1870 censuses, highlighting the number of foreign-born Germans, English, Irish and other ethnicities. The number of foreign-born citizens of Belvidere increased almost four fold between 1850 and 1870. While English-born citizens in Belvidere continued to increase between 1850 and 1870, the German-born population experienced the largest growth by percentage during that period of any ethnic group. The growth in German immigration to Belvidere paralleled the growth in German immigration throughout the entire United States during that period.

TABLE 2. BELVIDERE/BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FOREIGN –BORN CITIZENS⁴²

YEAR	TOTAL POP.	TOTAL FOREIGN	GERMAN	ENGLISH	IRISH	OTHER
1850	1,945	179	3	59	99	18
1860	3,546	680	58	232	319	71
1870	4281	764	173	231	280	80

By 1870, the largest group of foreign-born citizens in Belvidere was the Irish. The Irish began arriving in the United States in large numbers in the 1840s after the Irish Potato Famine. Irish immigrants generally engaged in farming or took low wage jobs. Irish laborers were instrumental in the construction of railroad lines throughout the United States. Irish railroad laborers typically followed the railroad as it was constructed westward. It is likely that many of the Irish immigrants to Belvidere came during the construction of the railroad in the area in 1850 and 1851.⁴³ After construction of the railroad to Belvidere was complete, many Irish working on the railroad stayed because the green grass, the river and the pastureland reminded them of home in Ireland.⁴⁴

⁴² The United States Census Data for Belvidere and Boone County was compiled by George Gibson and is on file at the Ida Public Library in the Local History and Genealogy collection, Population and Growth Statistics File.

⁴³ Mike Doyle., "Catholic Church Built in 'Irish Patch' Section of Belvidere," *Rockford Register Star*, 2 Mar. 2006.

⁴⁴ Mike Doyle., "Train Tracks Led First Irish Settlers to Belvidere," *Rockford Register Star*, Date Unknown.

Most of Belvidere's Irish citizens took up residence in the "Irish Patch," a tight rectangular area 12 blocks square bounded by Meadow Street to the north, Pleasant Street to the south, Gilman Street to the east and State Street to the west. It was named the Irish Patch because it was covered in thick green grass and reminded the Irish of the green grass of Ireland.⁴⁵ St. James Catholic Church in Belvidere was the epicenter of the Irish Patch.

Belvidere During the Civil War: 1861 - 1865

Following the surrender of Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor on April 14, 1861, the residents of the City of Belvidere responded immediately to President Lincoln's call for volunteer soldiers and funds to subdue the Southern rebellion. On April 20, 1861, the citizens of Belvidere held a rally at the Boone County Courthouse. Dr. Daniel Whitney chaired the rally and declared that the crisis is a "plot to disrupt the Union" and that he "had an only son to dedicate to the service and what little property he had was at the service of the good old flag."⁴⁶ Dr. Whitney's son was later killed in the Civil War. Stephen A. Hurlbut (Figure 22), who later became a General in the Union Army, also gave a "soul stirring speech," bringing those attending the rally to tears.⁴⁷ Stephen Hurlbut was the first to place his name on the list of volunteers for military service. At the end of the rally, Judge Allen C. Fuller (Figure 21), who later became Adjutant General of Illinois during the Civil War, presented a resolution to the crowd raising a Citizens War Fund to "pay for the support of families of volunteers during the men's absence" to which he contributed \$500 of his own money.⁴⁸

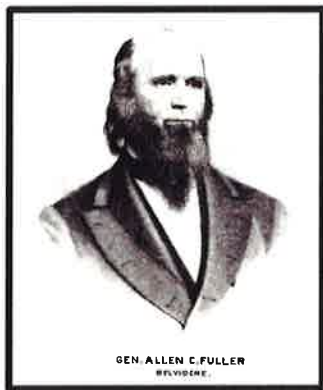


Figure 21. Portrait of Gen. Allen C. Fuller⁴⁹



Figure 22. Portrait of Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut⁵⁰

The most well known Civil War personage in Belvidere was Stephen Augustus Hurlbut. Stephen Hurlbut was born in Charleston, South Carolina on November 29, 1815. In

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ Fred Franck, "The Court House of Boone County," *Boone County Journal*, 29 Jan. 1998.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ Picture Credit: "Past and Present of Boone County."

⁵⁰ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

1845, he moved to Belvidere and established a law practice there. Mr. Hurlbut was affiliated politically with the Whig party and later the Republican party. He was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1859 and 1861. Mr. Hurlbut had close political ties to Abraham Lincoln and expected to be given a political appointment after Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated President of the United States in May of 1861.⁵¹

With the secession of South Carolina shortly after Lincoln's election and the impending siege of Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor in the spring of 1861, President Lincoln requested that Stephen Hurlbut go on a mission to Charleston, South Carolina in March of 1861 to gauge the potential level of Union sympathy in Charleston. President Lincoln believed that Hurlbut's connections as a Charleston native might help to gain valuable information about the level of secessionist furor in South Carolina. Prior to the trip, Hurlbut advised the President that he believed that "there were no Union People" in Charleston, but President Lincoln still wanted Hurlbut to make the trip to confirm the belief.⁵² After traveling to Charleston, Hurlbut reported back to the President on March 27, 1861, confirming his suspicions that: "there is unanimity of sentiment which is to my mine astonishing – that there is no attachment to the Union."⁵³ Hurlbut also added:

I cannot close without repeating to the President, that this is a time to expect and be prepared for the worst & that any yielding that the times my enforce has infinitely more value when it comes from a Government strong in fact and conscious of its strength – giving not from any suspicion of fear – but with the sense of power. And if no yielding takes place so much the more necessity for the most ample preparation.⁵⁴

Active hostilities in the Civil War began when shots were fired on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861. President Lincoln later commissioned Stephen Hurlbut as Brigadier General of the Union Army on Jun 14, 1861. Lincoln promoted Hurlbut to Major General on September 17, 1862. General Hurlbut commanded the Fourth Division of the Union Army in the Battles of Shiloh and Corinth. Lincoln gave General Hurlbut command of the XVI Corps command in Memphis in 1863.

General Hurlbut left the army in 1865 after the cessation of hostilities. General Hurlbut helped to found the Grand Army of the Republic, a national association for Civil War veterans, becoming its first Commander in Chief.⁵⁵ He served in the U.S. Congress

⁵¹ Jeffrey N. Lash, *A Politician Turned General: The Civil War Career of Stephen Augustus Hurlbut*, (Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 2003), 174.

⁵² Michael Burlingame, *An Oral History of Abraham Lincoln: John G. Nicolay Interviews and Essays*, (Carbondale, Illinois: SIU Press, 2006), 63.

⁵³ Lash, *A Politician Turned General: The Civil War Career of Stephen Augustus Hurlbut*, 213.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵ "Grand Army of the Republic." *Dictionary of American History*. 2003. *Encyclopedia.com*. (August 10, 2014).

between 1873 and 1877 and was also appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant to be Minister to Peru in 1881.

Decline in the 1860s and 1870s

The ebb and flow of the development of the Courthouse Square area and its decline for two decades after the 1850s is best illustrated in the chart below (Figure 23) that graphs the dates of construction by decade for the extant buildings in the Survey Area.

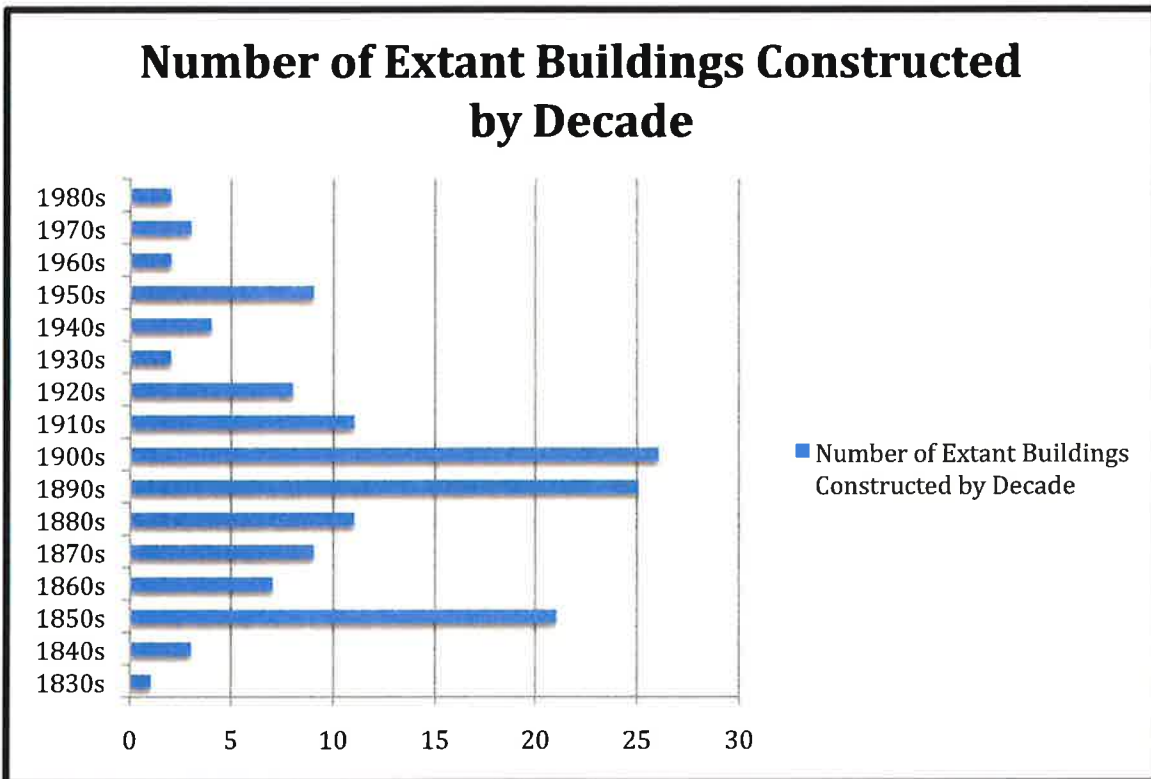


Figure 23. Number of Extant Buildings in the Survey Area Constructed by Decade

The pattern of building construction shows the flurry of activity in the early years of Belvidere in the 1850s, but then a marked reduction in building activity in the 1860s and 1870s, reflecting the movement of the development of the City to the areas south of the Kishwaukee River.

The decline in building and population on the north side of the Kishwaukee, coupled with the booming population and development on the south side of the Kishwaukee, fueled a rivalry between the two competing groups. One citizen wrote to editor of *The Belvidere Standard*:

It is quite evident that we are at this time a sadly divided community; and what is worse, are becoming more so every day. The rivalry between the North and South sides of the Kishwaukee is only what has invariably occurred in ten thousand cases where a little stream separate the

population. With us it is simply ruinous to our prosperity as a town. . . . The South side is rapidly growing, and feels its importance, and can no longer be kept as an appendage to the North. Indeed, it is the opinion of not a few that the one will continue to advance in population, while the other will recede.⁵⁶

There were calls by Belvidere residents to move the Courthouse and the churches on the north side of the Kishwaukee to a more central location. Some suggested the flats just south of the river and east of State Street. The county government center remained on the north side of the river, as did most of the historic churches; however, by the 1880s, most of the commercial enterprises were south of the Kishwaukee.

These competing rivalries sapped Belvidere's growth potential during the 1870s and early 1880s. During this period, Belvidere's economy paled in comparison to its neighbors' commerce. Commentators in Chicago were puzzled about the reason for Belvidere's lack of commerce, given its favored location on the Chicago Northwestern railroad line:

There are few better locations for manufacturers than Belvidere anywhere in the West. Nowhere can the construction of buildings be pushed with greater facility or at less expense than here. Living is cheaper here than in larger cities, and an absolutely reliable class of workmen instead of a shifting population may be depended upon. . . . There are excellent sites . . . awaiting the disposal of capitalists and manufacturers and the City of Belvidere may be induced at any time to give substantial encouragement to sound and legitimate enterprises. *What more do you want?*⁵⁷

Elgin to the east was booming as a result of the location of the Elgin watch factory. The location of the Elgin Watch factory in Elgin was credited with causing a three-fold increase in its population.⁵⁸ The *Belvidere Republican* noted that Belvidere was offered the Elgin Watch factory just a few years earlier, but declined:

Belvidere, who once had the offer of this same watch factory – which is the principal cause of Elgin's growth – has not now as many inhabitants as she had at the time the factory was offered to her! In fact, *there is not a town in Boone County that has as many inhabitants it had ten years ago!* This is a bad state of affairs, and the only way to turn this tide of emmigration [sic], is, in our opinion, to open up manufacturing here. . . .

⁵⁶ "Letter to the Editor," *The Belvidere Standard*, Unknown Date.

⁵⁷ "A Write Up of Belvidere," *The Belvidere Standard*, 28 Apr. 1878.

⁵⁸ Editorial, "When Elgin Built Her Watch Factory," *Belvidere Republican*, 14 July 1880.



One good manufactory once started, others are sure to follow. [emphasis in original].⁵⁹

Rockford to the west prospered while Belvidere lagged behind:

The *Rockford News* doesn't think there can be any 'perceptible difference between the climate of Rockford and that of Belvidere; and the reason why Belvidere does not engage in manufacturing, is from the lack of enterprise and capital.' We don't suppose there is much difference in the climate of the two towns; but there is a wide difference in the enterprise of the capitalists of Rockford and Belvidere.⁶⁰

By the early 1880s, it is likely that civic pride was a catalyst in allowing the various factions in Belvidere to overcome their differences and to begin promoting manufacturing commerce in Belvidere. Their work paid off with the arrival of the National Sewing Machine Company in Belvidere in 1886.

Greek Revival Architecture

Construction in the Survey Area in the 1850s represents the full flower of the Greek Revival architectural style. Both residences and church buildings were designed in the Greek Revival style. In 1858, First Presbyterian Church built their church on the corner of Main Street and Lincoln. While the church still stands today, it looks completely different than it did after its construction in 1858. Its façade was a temple-front Greek Revival design (Figure 24). In 1889, the front façade and steeple were completely removed and replaced with a Gothic Revival façade and towers (Figure 25).



Figure 24. 1st Presbyterian Church Pre-1889.⁶¹

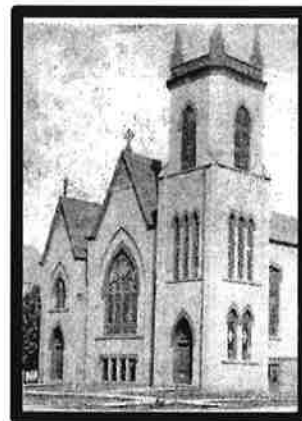


Figure 25. 1st Presbyterian Church Post-1889.⁶²

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

⁶⁰ Editorial, *Belvidere Republican*, 14 July 1880.

⁶¹ Picture Credit: Ida Public Library Local History Collection.

⁶² Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

There are two extant houses that were built in the 1850s and exemplify the Greek Revival style. They are:

706 Van Buren.
Constructed in 1850



Figure 26. 706 Van Buren - Current Photo - 2014

303 Van Buren
Constructed in 1852



Figure 27. 303 Van Buren - Current Photo - 2014

COMMERCIAL EXPANSION AND STABILITY: 1886 – 1929

Arrival of the National Sewing Machine Company

In 1885 labor unrest in Chicago caused Frank June to close his sewing machine manufacturing company. By 1886, Mr. June was looking for communities that were free of labor strife to which he could move his sewing machine factory. With the help of local Belvidere investors, Frank June, along with his new partner, Barnabas Eldredge, moved their entire June Manufacturing Company assembly operation to Belvidere and started operations on December 3, 1886 with 175 employees.⁶³ The manufacturing facility was located south of the Kishwaukee River and west of South State Street. Figure 28 shows the factory complex along the river (no longer extant). The business of the company steadily grew and the name of the company was changed to the National Sewing Machine Company in 1893. In 1894, the National Sewing Machine Company expanded its business into bicycle manufacturing when it purchased the Freeport Bicycle Manufacturing Company. The expansion required an enlargement of its manufacturing facility. Buildings along South State Street were added to the complex. Figure 29 shows the expanded factory complex.



Figure 28. National Sewing Machine Company Plant Early 1890s (No Longer Extant)⁶⁴

⁶³ Narrative History of the National Sewing Machine Company located at the Boone County Historical Society.

⁶⁴ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

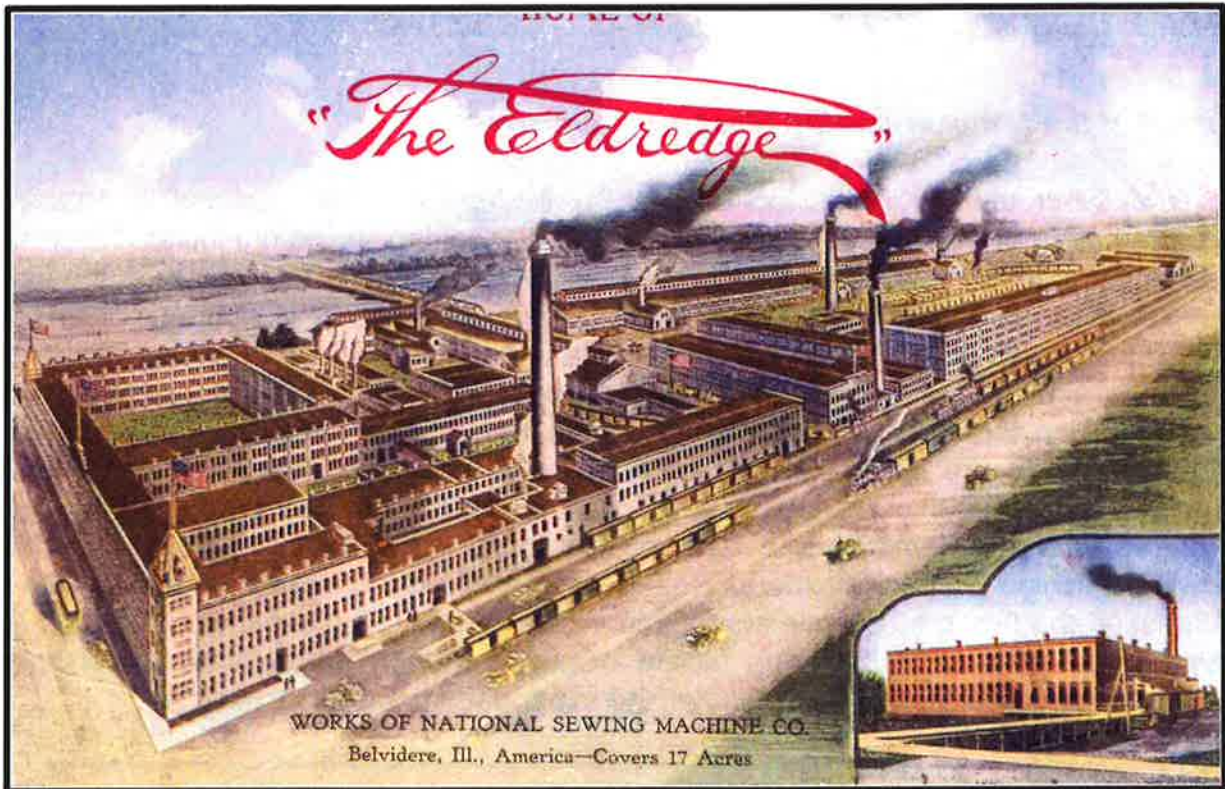


Figure 29. Expanded National Sewing Machine Company Plant. Date Unknown. (No Longer Extant).⁶⁵

The arrival of the National Sewing Machine Company in Belvidere profoundly affected the development of Belvidere from the 1880s through the early 1950s when it closed. Just five years after the factory opened, Belvidere was transformed. An editorial in *The Sycamore City Weekly* noted:

A few years ago Belvidere was about as dead as a door nail and quiet as a cemetery, but a change came, a notable change, and to-day [sic] it is a busy, bustling town with still brighter prospects ahead. A large manufacturing enterprise sought a place there, was encouraged, and others added. Belvidereites are holding their heads high and that's right.⁶⁶

A writer from the *Chicago Chronicle* also noted Belvidere's turnaround in a short period of time:

Pretty nearly half of the sewing machines made in America are manufactured right here in Belvidere. The National Sewing Machine Company's factory, located on the banks of the Kishwaukee river, is the second largest concern of the kind in the United States. . . . The big plant

⁶⁵ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

⁶⁶ "A Few Years Ago..." *The Belvidere Standard*, 14 Jan. 1891.

is the backbone of the town. About 1,500 men find employment there and Belvidere with out the sewing machine factory would be worse than "Hamlet" with Hamlet left out. . . . The men are content and doing well. They are buying lots, putting up homes and making Belvidere one of the prettiest as well as most thrifty towns in northern Illinois.⁶⁷

Perhaps its greatest impact was on the Courthouse Square area. Because the Main Street Bridge led directly from the factory complex north to the Courthouse Square area, the residential neighborhood was ideal for employees of the National Sewing Machine Company. The chart at Figure 23, above, documents the building boom that occurred in the Courthouse Square Area after the arrival of the National Sewing Machine Company. Over 60 of the Survey Area's extant buildings were built during the three-decade period between the 1880s and the first decade of the 1900s. Then by the 1910s and beyond, the neighborhood falls back into stability.

By the last decade of the 1800s into the first decade of the 1900s, the Courthouse Square area began to reach the height of its development. The 1894 perspective map (Figure 30) shows the extent of development in the area as of 1894. Figure 31 is an undated aerial photo showing an almost fully developed neighborhood.



Figure 30. 1894 Perspective Map of Belvidere.⁶⁸

⁶⁷ "Good Word For City: Chicago Chronicle Man Says Belvidere is a Dandy Municipality," *The Belvidere Daily Republican*, 14 Dec. 1903.

⁶⁸ Picture Credit: Ida Public Library Local History Collection





Figure 31. Aerial Photo of Courthouse Square Area Facing Northeast. Undated.⁶⁹

Development of the City Park, now known as Big Thunder Park

As indicated earlier, the original Plat of Belvidere intended ten acres in the middle of the Plat to be reserved for a public square. Figure 32 is a detail of the 1856 map of Belvidere showing the public square bounded by Menomonie Street on the north, Perry Street on the south, Van Buren Street on the west and Webster Street on the East. The Boone County Court House is located west of the center of the public square. A detail of an 1876 map of Belvidere, shown as Figure 33 continues to show the public square, with the Court House, Boone County office building and school located on the west half of the square. By the mid-1890s, the concept of a “public square” had been abandoned and it was divided in two, with Main Street bisecting the square. The detail of the 1894 Belvidere Perspective map, shown as Figure 34, portrays the east portion

⁶⁹ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

of a park with trees and a standpipe in the northeast corner of the park. A map from 1895 (Figure 35) shows the portion of the public square east of Main Street as a “public park.”

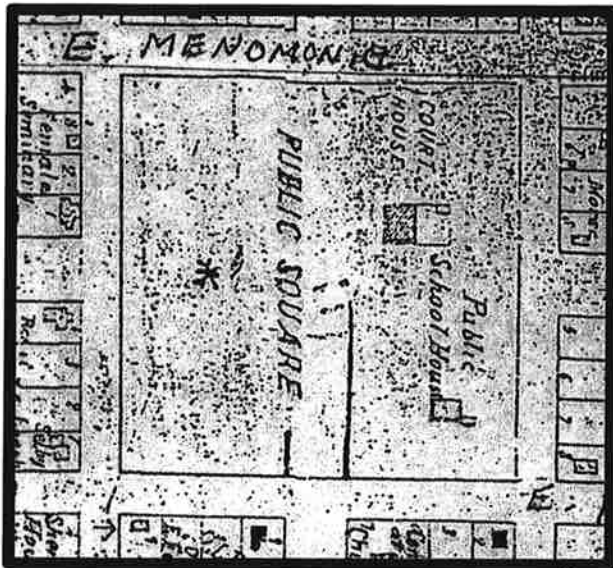


Figure 32. 1856 Map of Belvidere Public Square Detail.⁷⁰

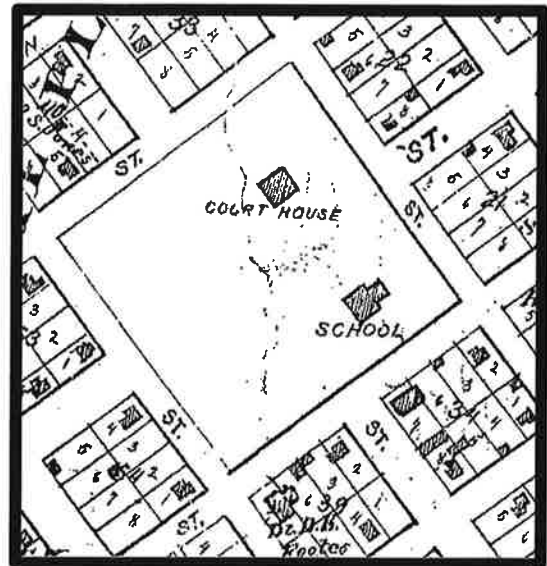


Figure 33. 1876 Map of Belvidere Public Square Detail.⁷¹



Figure 34. 1894 Perspective Map of Belvidere Public Square Detail.⁷²



Figure 35. 1895 Map of Belvidere Public Square Detail.⁷³

Because the area was not originally intended as a public park, the legal status of the park was in question for most of the first 70 years of its existence. For several decades the area that is now the park was fenced off and occupied by livestock for grazing. Even as recent as the early 1900s, Boone County believed they owned the park and could sell it for development. On June 10, 1901, the Boone County Board of

⁷⁰ Picture Credit: Ida Public Library Local History Collection.

⁷¹ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

⁷² Picture Credit: Ida Public Library Local History Collection.

⁷³ Picture Credit: Ida Public Library Local History Collection.

Supervisors considered selling the park to a buyer for \$13,000.00.⁷⁴ Several citizens questioned the authority of Boone County to sell the park based on the original platting of the property indicating that the park property was dedicated as a public square.⁷⁵ As a result, the Boone County Supervisors abandoned any attempts to sell the park in the future.

The park's close proximity to the purported grave of Big Thunder destined the park to have a close association with Big Thunder. In 1924, the Daughters of the American Revolution received permission to erect a plaque in the park to honor Big Thunder.⁷⁶ On March 29, 1940, the Boone County Board of Supervisors officially named the park Big Thunder Park.⁷⁷

The most prominent feature of Big Thunder Park is the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, a stone monument standing in the northeast corner of the park. The Soldiers and Sailors Monument was a gift from the Estate of Mark Ramsey, the former President of First National Bank in Belvidere. Mr. Ramsey died in October of 1909 and left \$6,000 to erect a monument to the soldiers and sailors of Boone County.⁷⁸ The total cost of the monument was \$7,800. The cost differential was made up by a cash donation from Mr. John Ramsey, Mark Ramsey's brother. The monument was designed in the Classical Revival/Beaux Arts style of architecture. The monument was unveiled on October 15, 1910.

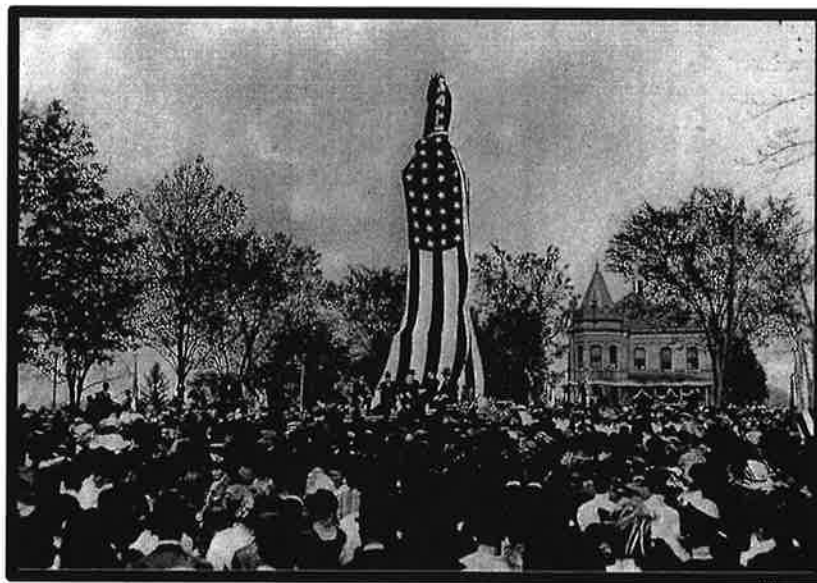


Figure 36. Unveiling of Soldiers and Sailors Mounument October 15, 1910.⁷⁹

⁷⁴ "Sale of the Park," *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 11 Jun 1901.

⁷⁵ "Letter to the Editor," *The Belvidere Daily Republican*, 13 Jun 1901.

⁷⁶ "Plan Honor to Big Thunder in Memorial Here," *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 19 Mar. 1924.

⁷⁷ "Big Thunder is Name Given to Park of County," *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 30 Mar. 1940.

⁷⁸ "Makes up Sum for Full Cost of Monument," *Belvidere Republican-Northwestern*, 11 Oct. 1910.

⁷⁹ Photo Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

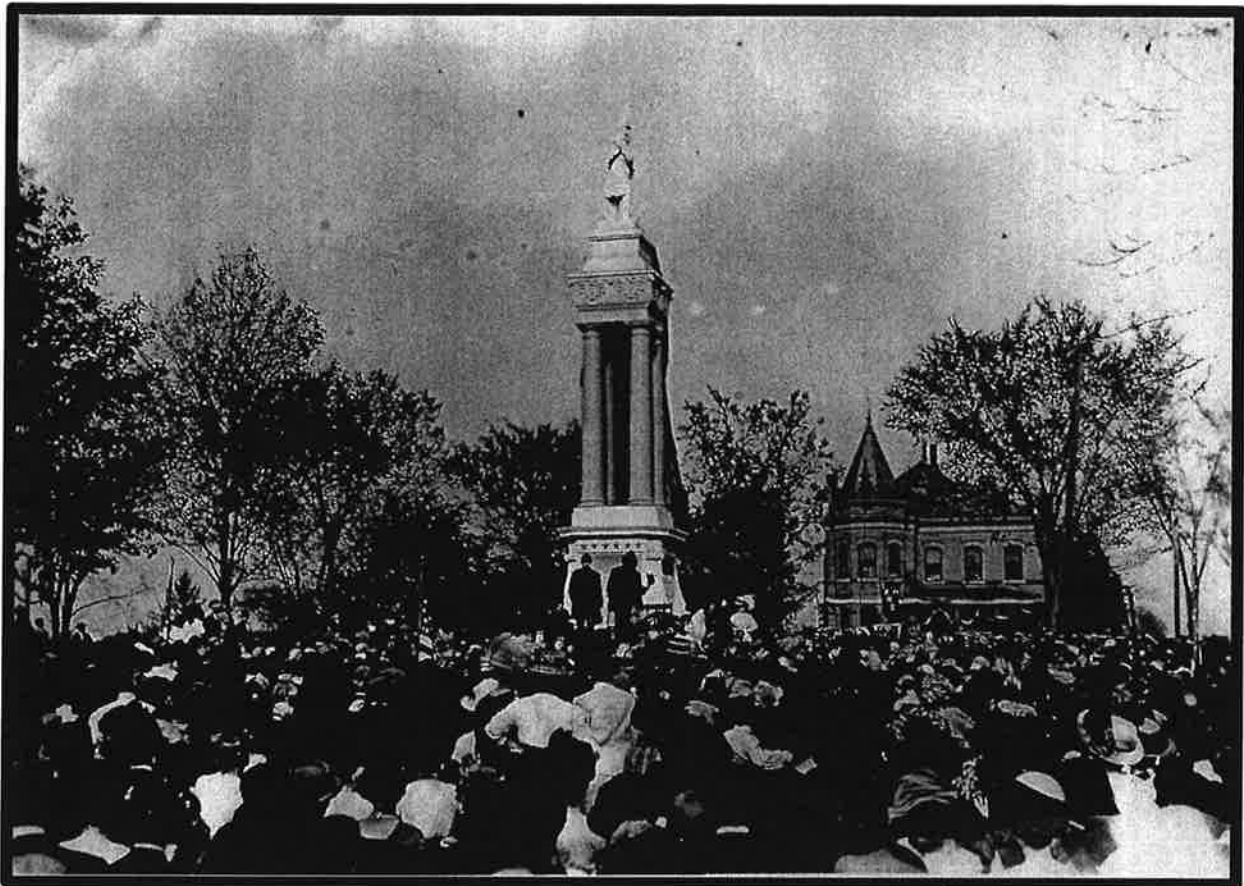


Figure 37. Unveiled Soldiers and Sailors Monument October 15, 1910.⁸⁰

Examples of Significant Period Buildings in the Survey Area

During this period, some of the most impressive homes in Belvidere were built in the Survey Area. Most of the residences were built in the Queen Anne style of architecture. The Consultants were not able to find any information about the architects for any of these homes; however, because many of these homes are high style and constructed with expensive materials, it is likely these homes were designed by architects. The Consultants suggest that future study be focused on the architects for some of the more significant buildings in the Survey Area and other areas of the City.

Some of the exemplary buildings constructed during this period include:

⁸⁰ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

Benjamin S. Herbert Home
405 E. Lincoln Ave



Figure 38. Herbert Home - Current Photo - 2014.

The Rhinehardt Home
605 N. State



Figure 39. Rhinehardt Home - Historic Photo - Date Unknown.⁸¹

The Clyde Andrus Home
619 N. State Street



Figure 40. Clyde Andrus Home - Current Photo - 2014

⁸¹ Picture Credit: Boone County Historical Society.

MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT: 1930 – 1970

On October 29, 1929, the stock market crash ushered in the Great Depression. The resulting economic upheaval negatively affected Belvidere in much the same way that other communities throughout the United States were affected. Figure 23 above indicates that two of the extant buildings in the Survey Area were built in the 1930s. World War II began as the Great Depression was ending, diverting much of the country's resources from consumer production to war production. As a consequence, four of the extant buildings in the Survey Area were built in the 1940s. Even the post World War II boom of the 1950s and 1960s did not result in a boom of construction in the Survey Area. As was discussed in the previous section, the development of the Courthouse Square area reached its height in 1910. Any development after that occurred on scattered vacant lots or buildings were torn down to build new buildings.

At the end of World War II, Belvidere once again worked to recruit businesses and manufacturing to Belvidere. Belvidere industry touted its war record of consistent production with no labor disruptions during the war.⁸²



Figure 41. Belvidere Industry Promotional Advertisement - 1947.⁸³

⁸² Advertisement, *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 15 Oct. 1947.

⁸³ Picture Credit: *Belvidere Daily Republican*, October 15, 1947.

The citizens of Belvidere felt that their success in production during the war years perfectly positioned them to capitalize on the post-war expansion. Promotional materials touted:

LOOK AT BELVIDERE: Our Industries have greater production capacity for peacetime goods than ever before . . . our establishments have war-starved markets to supply. Humming factories provide the lifeblood of a community like Belvidere—make prosperous people, busy stores. You can help Belvidere on the march by making Belvidere attractive to Industry—by making it a good place to live and work.⁸⁴

Despite its best efforts to attract new business, Belvidere experienced a shattering blow when the National Sewing Machine Company announced in early September 1953 that it was merging with Free Sewing Machine Company out of Rockford.⁸⁵ Shortly thereafter, production ceased at the National Sewing Machine Company in Belvidere and all equipment was auctioned in February of 1954.⁸⁶

It took nearly 10 years for Belvidere to recover from the loss of the National Sewing Machine Company. During that time period, it watched through “shuttered eyes,” as other communities enjoyed industrial progress.⁸⁷ Belvidere’s streak of bad luck changed on November 26, 1963 when the Chrysler Corporation announced that it was moving an assembly plant that would employ 5,000 people to a site just west of downtown Belvidere.⁸⁸ As a result, the City of Belvidere projected that 6,000 new homes would be built in the community.⁸⁹ The news of the Chrysler plant resulted in an immediate boost in the area economy. The assembly plant cost approximately \$50,000,000 to build, creating local construction jobs.⁹⁰ Tax revenues in Boone County soared.⁹¹

Examples of Significant Period Buildings in the Survey Area

One trend that is observable during this period is the preference for modern styles as opposed to some of the revival styles that were popular in the 1940s and 1950s. Perhaps the most significant aspect of this period in the Survey Area is that there are two Lustron Homes in the Survey Area. Lustron Homes were prefabricated metal homes that were a response to a desire to facilitate the construction of sound, durable

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ “National Is Merged Into Free Sewing,” *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 4 Sept. 1953.

⁸⁶ “Machine Auction to Sound NSM Death Knell,” *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 25 Jan. 1954.

⁸⁷ “Story of Belvidere is Told: Impact of Chrysler on Community is Reported,” *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 14 Dec. 1963.

⁸⁸ “Chrysler Chooses Belvidere to Produce 960 Cars Daily,” *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 26 Nov. 1963.

⁸⁹ Edmund D’Moch, “The Story of Belvidere is Told,” *Belvidere Daily Republican*, 14 Dec. 1963.

⁹⁰ Robert M. Lewin, “Booming Belvidere,” *Chicago Daily News*, 20 Mar. 1965.

⁹¹ “Belvidere is Booming Now,” *Rockford Morning Star and Register*, 20 Apr. 1967.

homes in the midst of the post-World War II Housing boom. They were produced in assembly line fashion and were shipped to the construction site on trucks. A trained construction crew could then assemble the house in a matter of days. Lustron Homes are rare because they were manufactured for only a short time, from 1949 to 1950. Lustron Homes had the option of including either a 1.5 or 2.5 car garage, though the garages were made with wood frames rather than steel frames.

Some notable buildings constructed during this period include:

420 E. Madison
Lustron Home
(with garage)



Figure 42. 420 E. Madison - Current Photo - 2014

505 E. Lincoln



Figure 43. 505 E. Lincoln - Current Photo - 2014.

PROPERTY TYPES

Residential Historic Districts

Description

Residential historic districts are primarily composed of residential buildings, ranging from one story to no more than two stories in height. Residential historic districts also include supporting building types such as churches, schools and small pockets of commercial buildings supporting the residential district. A historic residential district is typically located adjacent to a commercial district or in small towns, adjacent to the downtown commercial district. Historic residential districts can be laid out in a grid pattern or in a less formal pattern, with winding, irregular street patterns. In more dense residential historic districts, there may be alleys through blocks to give property owners better access to the rear of their property. In smaller towns and communities, alleys are rare in historic residential districts. Residential districts typically contain a wide variety of architectural styles, depending on the development of the district. A residential historic district may also encompass one or several periods of construction, depending on historic and architectural significance.

In Belvidere, the Courthouse Square area was intended to be not only the civic center of Belvidere, but also the commercial center of Belvidere. Before the railroad arrived in 1851, most of the commercial and residential development was occurring in the Courthouse Square area. The area is laid out in a grid pattern oriented north/south and east/west. Lincoln Avenue runs parallel to the Kishwaukee River. The earliest buildings date from the 1830s through the 1850s. Buildings from this period are typically one or two story stone or brick construction in a vernacular style of architecture. The influence of the Greek Revival style of architecture is strong during this period. After the railroad arrived most of the commercial development of Belvidere moved south of the Kishwaukee River and with it, most of the residential development. After the National Sewing Machine Factory arrived in Belvidere in 1885, residential construction boomed again in the neighborhood. Between 1885 and 1910, the residential construction was mostly 2-story frame construction dominated by the Queen Anne style of architecture. In this period, some of the largest homes in the City were built along N. State Street and E. Lincoln Avenue. Construction in the neighborhood tapered off after 1910 with a predominance of smaller Craftsman style homes between 1910 and 1930. After World War II, a handful of homes were built in modern styles of architecture.

Significance

A historic district “possesses a significant concentration, linkage or continuity of sites, buildings, structures or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.” Historic districts are collections of buildings that derive their importance from the group that possesses a sense of time and place. They have a



common period of significance that may extend over a few years or multiple decades. Historic districts may have a shared building type, style or material, or they may be composed of a variety of resources. However, an area must possess characteristics that united it historically or aesthetically by a plan or physical development to be considered a historic district.

Residential historic districts that may be eligible as historic districts reflect themes within the development of Belvidere. This may be a significant, unified development over a short period of time, or it may reflect a pattern of development over several decades based on events there were significant in the history of Belvidere. Districts developed by a significant person or group may be eligible as historic districts if they had a direct impact on the development of the district or if they had a significant impact on the development of Belvidere in general. Residential districts may also be eligible as historic districts for the architecture of their buildings in terms of style, type, design, materials and/or construction. They may have unified or similar architectural features throughout an area, or the district may represent a variety of architecture that is significant within the development of the area.

Registration Requirements

NRHP Criterion A, Local Criteria 1, 2 & 7:

Historic districts will have served an important role in the residential development of Belvidere to be eligible under these Criteria. Eligible residential districts will distinctly reflect the trends and patterns of this development in Belvidere during a particular period or throughout several periods. Their relationship with the pattern of residential development should be demonstrated to be significant in the overall history of the development of Belvidere.

NRHP Criterion B, Local Criteria 3:

Historic districts will have an association with important people in the history of Belvidere or a significant group of people associated with the residential development of Belvidere in order to be eligible under these Criteria. The historic district must be associated with the person's productive life or the group's period of significance, and the district would likely be developed as a whole by this person or group to be solely eligible under these Criteria. For that reason, it is unlikely that a historic district will be eligible only under these Criteria rather than a combination of other Criteria. Historic districts will only be eligible under these Criteria if the properties are better associated with the person than other extant properties.

NRHP Criterion C, Local Criteria 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 & 10:

Historic residential districts eligible under these Criteria will have a significant group of residential buildings (and associated buildings), either for architectural styles or vernacular designs, which may lack individual distinction but form an architecturally significant group of resources based on the architectural components of the district. A number of resources or a significant portion of the development must have occurred within a particular period to significantly reflect that period. Historic districts may be eligible within multiple periods for architecture and development, if significance is established for all periods.

NRHP Criterion D:

The sites of non-extant properties and other sites may yield important archaeological information related to these districts; however, archaeology was not included as part of the Survey.

Integrity Considerations

The integrity for a historic district will be judged on the basis of the integrity as a neighborhood as well as the integrity of the individual components. The majority of the district's individual buildings should retain integrity as contributing buildings even if they lack individual distinction. Additionally, the relationship between the individual buildings must be substantially unaltered since the period of significance. Intrusions, such as buildings constructed outside the period of significance, will be judged on their relative number, size, scale, design and location to determine their impact on the integrity of the district as a whole. A historic district will not be eligible if it contains alterations or intrusions to the extent that it no longer conveys the sense of the historic district during its period of significance.

Individual resources may be eligible as contributing resources in a historic district when they retain sufficient integrity and date to the period of significance for the historic district. As a contributing building in a historic district, alterations throughout the period of significance for the district should be considered significant. Alterations range from stylish updates that reference specific popular architectural influences to small projects conducted over a period of time, perhaps by several tenants or owners. These changes are significant as they reflect the development of a historic district over a period of time. Contributing buildings must retain essential elements such as massing, fenestration patterns and architectural stylistic features to remain as contributing buildings. Alterations less than 50 years old or outside the period of significance for the historic district may be acceptable for contributing buildings in the following circumstances.

- If window openings do not retain historic sashes, the majority of the window openings retain their original sizes, particularly on primary facades.
- Non-historic or non-original siding materials such as asbestos shingles, asphalt brick, aluminum and vinyl shall not solely prohibit a building from being contributing, unless a masonry wall was historically exposed.
- Any additions after the period of significance are subordinate to the original building (preferably at the rear) and do not cover any significant architectural detailing.
- No significant character-defining features have been removed. If small decorative elements have been removed, the overall features of the style of the building should remain intact.

Substantial character-altering changes or a combination of changes such as resized window openings, removal of historic features and non-historic siding, shall result in the building being classified as non-contributing. Examples of significant changes include major changes in roofline, cladding of a brick building outside the period of significance and major additions or modifications of primary facades inconsistent with the proportion, rhythm and materials of the building. Buildings that have been to the extent that the original building is no longer readily identifiable will be classified as non-contributing.

Residential Historic District Related Properties Identified in the Survey

For a list of Related Properties identified in the Survey, see the list of contributing properties for the Belvidere Old Town NRHP District shown in *Survey Results*.

Individual Residential (and Supporting) Buildings

Description

The earliest extant residential buildings in Belvidere date from the 1830s – 1850s and were typically one and a half or two story frame or brick/stone buildings with either side or front gables. Buildings in this period were relatively small and constructed on yet undeveloped lots. They were typically vernacular or Greek Revival in style of architecture. In the 1860s and 1870s, architectural styles began to diversity into Gothic Revival and Italianate. Between 1885 and 1910, residential construction boomed, which included some demolition of previously built homes and churches to build new buildings. The residential construction was mostly 2-story frame construction dominated by the Queen Anne style of architecture. In this period, some of largest homes in the City were built along N. State Street and E. Lincoln Avenue. Construction in the neighborhood tapered off after 1910 with a predominance of smaller Craftsman style homes between 1910 and 1930. After World War II, a handful of homes were built in modern styles of architecture.

Throughout the period of residential development in Belvidere, stylistic influences changed numerous times, reflecting national trends, local tastes and a desire to demonstrate the owner's success to the public by constructing a stylish, up-to-date home.

Significance

The significance of these buildings lies in their reflection of the residential development of Belvidere. Individual buildings may be significant for their historical associations or architectural features that reflects this residential history. Buildings may be significant for their association with a significant person if the building represents the person's most productive and significant portion of their life. Residential buildings may also be eligible for their architecture in terms of style, type, design, materials and/or construction. The significance of many individual residential properties, however, is likely to be established as contributing resources in a district.

Registration Requirements

NRHP Criterion A, Local Criteria 1, 2 & 7:

Resources significant under these Criteria will have served an important role in the residential development of Belvidere. Eligible resources will distinctly reflect the trends and patterns of this development in Belvidere during a particular period or throughout several periods. Their relationship with the pattern of residential development should be demonstrated to be significant in the overall history of the development of Belvidere.

NRHP Criterion B, Local Criteria 3:

Resources significant under these Criteria will have an association with important people in the history of Belvidere or a significant group of people associated with the residential development of Belvidere. The building must be associated with the person's productive life or the group's period of significance. A building will only be eligible under these Criteria if the property is better associated with the person than other extant properties.

NRHP Criterion C, Local Criteria 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 & 10:

Resources significant under these Criteria will be excellent examples of an architectural style applied to residential architecture; or they will be intact examples of a vernacular

or a folk type with good integrity; or they will significantly represent the work of a well known architect or builder; or they will significantly represent a particular building method or material. Individually eligible resources significant for their style, type, or construction will be representative of the distinctive characteristics of that resource type and will be compared to other similar resources to demonstrate their significance.

Integrity Considerations

Residential buildings may be individually eligible when they display high integrity and their historical associative or architectural characteristics are strong. Resources should demonstrate several of the seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Alterations should be considered significant if they are 50 years old and fall within the period of significance. However, the building must retain its essential characteristics such as massing, fenestration pattern, design and materials that reflect its appearance from within its period of significance.

Individual Residential (and Supporting) Related Properties Identified in the Survey

For a list of Individual Related Properties identified in the Survey, see the list of properties individually eligible for listing on the NRHP shown in *Survey Results*.

SURVEY RESULTS

Summary of Identified Resources

The Survey included 150 properties. Seven (7) of the properties were vacant lots. Of the 143 properties with improvements, the Consultants observed 148 primary Identified Resources in a general 23-block Survey Area. Big Thunder Park alone has five (5) Identified Resources that are documented in one Survey Data Sheet. No archaeological sites were included in the Survey Area. A summary of all of the Identified Resources is shown in Table 3. Survey Data Sheets were completed for each of the above properties. Its corresponding Record Number identifies each property's Survey Data Sheet.

TABLE 3. IDENTIFIED RESOURCES

Record Number	Property Address	Architectural Style	Construction Date	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria	Local Individual?	Local Criteria
1	405 N STATE ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
2	411 N STATE ST	None	1920 - 1929	NonContributing	No		No	
3	415 N STATE ST	Lustron	1940 - 1949	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7, 8
4	421 N STATE ST	Stick	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
5	505 N STATE ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
6	507 N STATE ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
7	521 N STATE ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
8	605 N STATE ST	Tudor Revival	1910 - 1919	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
9	615 N STATE ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	A, C	No	4, 7
10	619 N STATE ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	Yes	C	Already Listed	4, 7
11	705 N STATE ST	Tudor Revival	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
12	215 VAN BUREN ST	None	1870 - 1879	Contributing	No	C	No	7
13	217 VAN BUREN ST	None	1870 - 1879	Contributing	No	C	No	7
14	303 VAN BUREN ST	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	A, C	No	4, 7
15	304 VAN BUREN ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
16	312 VAN BUREN ST	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
17	313 VAN BUREN ST	Craftsman	1920 - 1929	Contributing	No	C	No	7
18	315 VAN BUREN ST	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
19	316 VAN BUREN ST	Queen Anne	1880 - 1889	Contributing	No	C	No	7
20	321 VAN BUREN ST	Mid-Century	1960 - 1969	NonContributing				
21	322 VAN BUREN ST	Gothic Revival	1890 - 1899	NonContributing				
22	402 VAN BUREN ST	Craftsman	1920 - 1929	Contributing	No	C	No	7
23	403 VAN BUREN ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
24	404 VAN BUREN ST	Craftsman	1910 - 1919	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
25	407 VAN BUREN ST	Mid-Century	1940 - 1949	Contributing	No	C	No	7
26	408 VAN BUREN ST	Craftsman	1930 - 1939	Contributing	No	C	No	7
27	417 VAN BUREN ST	Italianate	1870 - 1879	Contributing	Yes	C	Already Listed	4, 7
28	534 VAN BUREN ST	Cape Cod	1920 - 1929	Contributing	No	C	No	7
29	618 VAN BUREN ST	Queen Anne	1900-1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
30	620 VAN BUREN ST	None	1910 - 1919	Contributing	No	C	No	7
31	706 VAN BUREN ST	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	Yes	A, C	Yes	1, 4, 7
32	216 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
33	221 N MAIN ST	Gothic Revival	1850 - 1859, 1880 - 1889	Contributing	Yes	A, C	Yes	1, 4, 7
34	221 N MAIN ST	Modern	1970 - 1979	NonContributing				

Record Number	Property Address	Architectural Style	Construction Date	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria	Local Individual?	Local Criteria
35	222 N MAIN ST	Colonial Revival	1900 - 1909	NonContributing				
36	305 N MAIN ST	Settlement	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
37	310 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
38	316 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1870 - 1879	NonContributing	No	C	No	4, 7
39	317 N MAIN ST	Cape Cod	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	7
40	320 N MAIN ST	Gothic Revival	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
41	401 N MAIN ST	Richardsonian Romanesque	1900 - 1909	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
41a	411 N Main ST	Mid-Century	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
42	404 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
43	408 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
44	412 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
45	423 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	NonContributing				
46	424 N MAIN ST	Settlement	1840 - 1849	Contributing	Yes	C	Already Listed	1, 4, 7
47	585 N MAIN ST	VACANT LOT						
48a	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN)	Italianate	1880-1889	Contributing	No	C	No	1, 4, 7
48b	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN)	Modern	1980-1989	NonContributing				
48c	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN)	Italianate	1850-1859	Contributing	No	A, C	No	1,2,4,7
49a	615 N MAIN ST (Law Enforcement Building)	Modern	1980 - 1989	NonContributing				
49b	615 N MAIN ST (Law Enforcement Building)							
50	707 N MAIN ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
51	212 WEBSTER ST	VACANT LOT						
52	214 & 214 1/2 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	NonContributing				
53	216 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	7
54	219 WEBSTER ST	Greek Revival	1860 - 1869	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
55	220 WEBSTER ST	None	1890 - 1899	NonContributing				
56	225 WEBSTER ST	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
57	317 WEBSTER ST	None	1890 - 1899	NonContributing				
58	417 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1910 - 1919	Contributing	No	C	No	7
59	419 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1910 - 1919	Contributing	No	C	No	7
60	421 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
61	513 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	NonContributing				
62	517 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
63	521 WEBSTER ST	None	1920 - 1929	NonContributing				

Record Number	Property Address	Architectural Style	Construction Date	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria	Local Individual?	Local Criteria
64	619 WEBSTER ST (COUNTY BUILDING)	Modern	1980 - 1989	NonContributing				
65	621 WEBSTER ST (COUNTY BUILDING)	Modern	1980 - 1989	NonContributing				
66	705 WEBSTER ST	Queen Anne	1870 - 1879	NonContributing				
67	210 HANCOCK ST	Modern	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	7
68	418 HANCOCK ST	Italianate	1880 - 1889	Contributing	No	A, C	No	1, 4, 7
69	510 HANCOCK ST	Mid-Century	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	7
70	518 HANCOCK ST	Queen Anne	1900-1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
71	520 HANCOCK ST	Settlement	1860 - 1869	NonContributing				
72	602 HANCOCK ST	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	7
73	610 HANCOCK ST	VACANT LOT						
74	616 HANCOCK ST	VACANT LOT						
75	622 HANCOCK ST	VACANT LOT						
76	704 HANCOCK ST	Mid-Century	1940 - 1949	NonContributing				
77	206 E LINCOLN AVE	Italianate	1870 - 1879	Contributing	No	A, C	No	1, 4, 7
78	215 E LINCOLN AVE	Settlement	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	A, C	No	1, 4, 7
79	218 E LINCOLN AVE	Settlement	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	A, C	No	4, 7
80	220 E LINCOLN AVE	Queen Anne	1870 - 1879	Contributing	No	C	No	7
81	223 E LINCOLN AVE	Greek Revival	1840 - 1849	Contributing	Yes	A, C	Yes	1, 4, 7
82	226 E LINCOLN AVE	Settlement	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	7
83	303 E LINCOLN AVE	Prairie Style	1910 - 1919	Contributing	Yes	C	Already Listed	4, 7
84	319 E LINCOLN AVE	Mid-Century	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	7
85	401 E LINCOLN AVE	Italianate	1860 - 1869	Contributing	Yes	A, C	Yes	1, 4, 7
86	405 E LINCOLN AVE	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	Yes	A, C	Already Listed	1, 4, 7
87	406 E LINCOLN AVE	Queen Anne	1880 - 1889	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
88	410 E LINCOLN AVE	Greek Revival	1830 - 1839	Contributing	Already Individually Listed	A, C	Already Listed	1, 4, 7
89	415 E LINCOLN AVE	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	NonContributing				
90	416 E LINCOLN AVE	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
91	421 E LINCOLN AVE	None	1930 - 1939	NonContributing				
92	426 E LINCOLN AVE	Queen Anne	1870 - 1879	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
93	505 E LINCOLN AVE	Mid-Century	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
94	509 E LINCOLN AVE	Cape Cod	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
95	519 E LINCOLN AVE	None	1850 - 1859, 1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
96	531 E LINCOLN AVE	Greek Revival	1860 - 1869	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
97	601 E LINCOLN AVE	Modern	1970 - 1979	NonContributing				
98	613 E LINCOLN AVE	Queen Anne	1870 - 1879	NonContributing				



Record Number	Property Address	Architectural Style	Construction Date	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria	Local Individual?	Local Criteria
99	621 E LINCOLN AVE	None	1880 - 1889	NonContributing				
100	210 E HURLBUT AVE	Craftsman	1910 - 1919	Contributing	No	C	No	7
101	216 E HURLBUT AVE	Mid-Century	1960 - 1969	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
102	217 E HURLBUT AVE (Parsonage)	Queen Anne	1880 - 1889	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
103	217 E. HURLBUT (HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH)	Gothic Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
104	222 E HURLBUT AVE	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
105	310 E HURLBUT AVE	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	7
106	319 E HURLBUT AVE	Greek Revival	1860 - 1869	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
107	320 E HURLBUT AVE	Craftsman	1920 - 1929	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
108	322 E HURLBUT AVE	Queen Anne	1880 - 1889	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
109	402 E HURLBUT AVE	Mid-Century	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
110	409 E HURLBUT AVE	Gothic Revival	1880 - 1889	Contributing	No	C	No	7
111	410 E HURLBUT AVE	Queen Anne	1920 - 1929	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
112	413 E HURLBUT AVE	None	1890 - 1899	Contributing	no	C	No	7
113	416 E HURLBUT AVE	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
114	417 E HURLBUT AVE	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	7
115	421 E HURLBUT AVE	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
116	424 E HURLBUT AVE	Settlement	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	7
117	115 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1900-1909	NonContributing				
118	120 E MADISON ST	Settlement	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	A, C	No	1, 4, 7
119	214 E MADISON ST	Settlement	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
120	309 E MADISON ST	Greek Revival	1860 - 1869	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
121	315 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1880 - 1889	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
122	321 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	Yes	C	Already Listed	4, 7
123	401 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1910 - 1919	NonContributing				
124	403 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
125	404 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
126	410 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
127	414 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
128	415 E MADISON ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
129	420 E MADISON ST	Lustron	1940 - 1949	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
130	421 E MADISON ST	Settlement	1860 - 1869	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
131	114 E PERRY ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	NonContributing				
132	119 E PERRY ST	Queen Anne	1890 - 1899	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
133	120 E PERRY ST	None	1850 - 1859	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
134	313 E PERRY ST	Settlement	1840 - 1849	Contributing	No	C	No	1, 4, 7

Record Number	Property Address	Architectural Style	Construction Date	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria	Local Individual?	Local Criteria
135	404 E PERRY ST	None	1890 - 1899	NonContributing				
136	410 E PERRY ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
137	412 E PERRY ST	Colonial Revival	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
138	415 E PERRY ST	Queen Anne	1910 - 1919	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
139	416 E PERRY ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
140	418 E PERRY ST	None	1850 - 1859	NonContributing				
141	419 E PERRY ST	Mid-Century	1950 - 1959	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
142	119 E BOONE ST	Colonial Revival	1920 - 1929	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
143	404 E BOONE ST (Law Enforcement Center)	See 49A						
144	406 E BOONE ST	VACANT LOT						
145	204 E MENOMONIE ST	Queen Anne	1900 - 1909	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
146	210 & 212 E MENOMONIE ST	Greek Revival	1850 - 1859	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	4, 7
147	218 E MENOMONIE ST	Craftsman	1910 - 1919	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
148	222 E MENOMONIE ST	Queen Anne	1880 - 1889	Contributing	No	C	No	4, 7
149	330 E MENOMONIE ST	Mid-Century	1970 - 1979	NonContributing				
150a	Big Thunder Park - Soldier and Sailors Monument	Neoclassical	1910-1919	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	1, 4, 7
150b	Big Thunder Park - Bandstand	Queen Anne	1880 - 1889	Contributing	Yes	C	Yes	1, 4, 7
150c	Big Thunder Park - Other Monuments	Neoclassical	Various	Contributing	No	C	No	1, 4, 7

Analysis of National Register of Historic Places District Eligibility

After completion of the Survey Data sheets and an analysis of the significance of each property, a determination was made about whether there was adequate justification for a NRHP District. With the data and observation gleaned from the field investigation of the Survey Area, archival research into the historic contexts discussed above, archival research into the history of individual properties, the assistance of the information on the Survey Data Sheets and the color coded map of the Survey Area in Figure 3, above, it was determined that there was adequate justification for the nomination of a NRHP District, preliminarily referred to as the Belvidere Old Town NRHP District (the "NRHP District"). The NRHP District encompasses most of the Survey Area except for the properties northeast of the intersection of Perry Street and Webster Street. There

are buildings with high integrity and high architectural and historic significance on both the northwest and the southeast side of the Survey Area. In between the two areas is a fairly dense collection of historically and architecturally significant properties with sufficient integrity to contribute to the NRHP District. The NRHP District encompasses all of the properties that would be potentially individually eligible for listing on the NRHP, so there would be no need to nominate those properties separately.

The properties on the northeast side of the Survey Area were excluded from the NRHP district because the properties northeast of Perry and Webster are of lesser historic significance and generally lack integrity. Additionally, the modern Boone County Buildings and the Vacant lots on both the south side and the east side of the Boone County Buildings segregate this pocket of buildings from the rest of the district.

There are 112 Contributing properties and 19 Non-Contributing properties in the District. Table 4 below lists each of the properties in the NRHP District, including contributing status and NRHP Criteria.

TABLE 4. PROPERTIES ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING ON THE NRHP

Record Number	Property Address	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria
1	405 N STATE ST	Contributing	No	C
2	411 N STATE ST	Noncontributing		
3	415 N STATE ST	Contributing	No	C
4	421 N STATE ST	Contributing	No	C
5	505 N STATE ST	Contributing	No	C
6	507 N STATE ST	Contributing	Yes	C
7	521 N STATE ST	Contributing	Yes	C
8	605 N STATE ST	Contributing	Yes	C
9	615 N STATE ST	Contributing	No	A, C
10	619 N STATE ST	Contributing	Yes	C
11	705 N STATE ST	Contributing	No	C
12	215 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
13	217 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
14	303 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	A, C
15	304 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
16	312 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
17	313 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
18	315 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
19	316 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
20	321 VAN BUREN ST	Noncontributing		
21	322 VAN BUREN ST	Noncontributing		
22	402 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
23	403 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C

Record Number	Property Address	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria
24	404 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
25	407 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
26	408 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
27	417 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	Yes	C
28	534 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
29	618 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
30	620 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	No	C
31	706 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	Yes	A, C
32	216 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
33	221 N MAIN ST	Contributing	Yes	A, C
34	221 N MAIN ST	Noncontributing		
35	222 N MAIN ST	Noncontributing		
36	305 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
37	310 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
38	316 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
39	317 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
40	320 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
41	401 N MAIN ST	Contributing	Yes	C
41A	411 N Main ST	Contributing	No	C
42	404 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
43	408 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
44	412 N MAIN ST	Contributing	No	C
45	423 N MAIN ST	Noncontributing		
46	424 N MAIN ST	Contributing	Yes	C
48A	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN) (Boone County Records Building)	Contributing	No	C
48B	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN) (Boone County Courthouse Addition)	Noncontributing		
48C	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN) (Boone County Courthouse)	Contributing	No	C
50	707 N MAIN ST	Contributing	Yes	C
52	214 & 214 1/2 WEBSTER ST	Noncontributing		
53	216 WEBSTER ST	Contributing	No	C
54	219 WEBSTER ST	Contributing	No	C
55	220 WEBSTER ST	Noncontributing		
56	225 WEBSTER ST	Contributing	No	C
57	317 WEBSTER ST	Noncontributing		
58	417 WEBSTER ST	Contributing	No	C
59	419 WEBSTER ST	Contributing	No	C
60	421 WEBSTER ST	Contributing	No	C
67	210 HANCOCK ST	Contributing	No	C
68	418 HANCOCK ST	Contributing	No	A, C
77	206 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	A, C



Record Number	Property Address	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria
78	215 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	A, C
79	218 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	A, C
80	220 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
81	223 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	Yes	A, C
82	226 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
83	303 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	Yes	C
84	319 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
85	401 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	Yes	A, C
86	405 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	Yes	A, C
87	406 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	Yes	C
88	410 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	Already Individually Listed	A, C
89	415 E LINCOLN AVE	Noncontributing		
90	416 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
91	421 E LINCOLN AVE	Noncontributing		
92	426 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
93	505 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
94	509 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
95	519 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
96	531 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	No	C
97	601 E LINCOLN AVE	Noncontributing		
98	613 E LINCOLN AVE	Noncontributing		
99	621 E LINCOLN AVE	Noncontributing		
100	210 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
101	216 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
102	217 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
103	93-4-178 (217 HURLBUT CHURCH)	Contributing	Yes	C
104	222 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
105	310 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
106	319 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
107	320 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
108	322 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
109	402 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
110	409 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
111	410 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
112	413 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	no	C
113	416 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
114	417 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
115	421 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C
116	424 E HURLBUT AVE	Contributing	No	C

Record Number	Property Address	NR and Local District Eligibility	NR Individual?	NR Criteria
117	115 E MADISON ST	Noncontributing		
118	120 E MADISON ST	Contributing	Yes	A, C
119	214 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
120	309 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
121	315 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
122	321 E MADISON ST	Contributing	Yes	C
123	401 E MADISON ST	Noncontributing		
124	403 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
125	404 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
126	410 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
127	414 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
128	415 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
129	420 E MADISON ST	Contributing	Yes	C
130	421 E MADISON ST	Contributing	No	C
131	114 E PERRY ST	Noncontributing		
132	119 E PERRY ST	Contributing	No	C
133	120 E PERRY ST	Contributing	No	C
134	313 E PERRY ST	Contributing	No	C
138	415 E PERRY ST	Contributing	No	C
141	419 E PERRY ST	Contributing	No	C
142	119 E BOONE ST	Contributing	Yes	C
145	204 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	Yes	C
146	210 & 212 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	Yes	C
147	218 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	No	C
148	222 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	No	C
150A	Big Thunder Park – Soldiers and Sailors Monument	Contributing	Yes	C
150B	Big Thunder Park – Bandstand	Contributing	Yes	C
150C	Big Thunder Park – Other Monuments	Contributing	No	C

A map of the proposed NRHP District is shown below as Figure 44. The dotted line shows the proposed NRHP District Boundary. The Contributing Properties are colored dark green. The Non-Contributing Properties are colored light green.

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]



Figure 44. Proposed Boundary for the Old Town NRHP District

Analysis of Local Landmark Eligibility (Individual and District)

The Survey Area contains seven (7) properties that are already individually listed as Belvidere Local Landmarks. The Survey identified sixteen (17) additional properties that are potentially individually eligible for local landmark status. Table 5 below lists each of the properties that are currently individually listed as Belvidere Landmarks and the properties that are eligible for individual listing as a Belvidere Local Landmark.

TABLE 5. ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES FOR LISTING AS LOCAL LANDMARKS

Record Number	Property Address	Local Individual?	Local Criteria
10	619 N STATE ST	Already Listed	4, 7
27	417 VAN BUREN ST	Already Listed	4, 7
46	424 N MAIN ST	Already Listed	1, 4, 7
83	303 E LINCOLN AVE	Already Listed	4, 7
86	405 E LINCOLN AVE	Already Listed	1, 4, 7
88	410 E LINCOLN AVE	Already Listed	1, 4, 7
122	321 E MADISON ST	Already Listed	4, 7
6	507 N STATE ST	Yes	4, 7
7	521 N STATE ST	Yes	4, 7
8	605 N STATE ST	Yes	4, 7
31	706 VAN BUREN ST	Yes	1, 4, 7
33	221 N MAIN ST	Yes	1, 4, 7
41	401 N MAIN ST	Yes	4, 7
50	707 N MAIN ST	Yes	4, 7
81	223 E LINCOLN AVE	Yes	1, 4, 7
85	401 E LINCOLN AVE	Yes	1, 4, 7
87	406 E LINCOLN AVE	Yes	4, 7
103	93-4-178 (EPISCOPAL CHURCH)	Yes	4, 7
129	420 E MADISON ST	Yes	4, 7
142	119 E BOONE ST	Yes	4, 7
145	204 E MENOMONIE ST	Yes	4, 7
146	210 & 212 E MENOMONIE ST	Yes	4, 7
150A	BIG THUNDER PARK - SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MONUMENT	Yes	1, 4, 7, 8
150B	BIG THUNDER PARK - BANDSTAND	Yes	1, 4, 7, 8

A map of the proposed current and potentially individually eligible Belvidere Local Landmarks is shown below as Figure 45. The seven (7) current Belvidere Individual Local Landmarks in the Survey Area are colored dark purple. The sixteen (17) potentially eligible individual Belvidere Local Landmarks in the Survey Area are colored light purple.

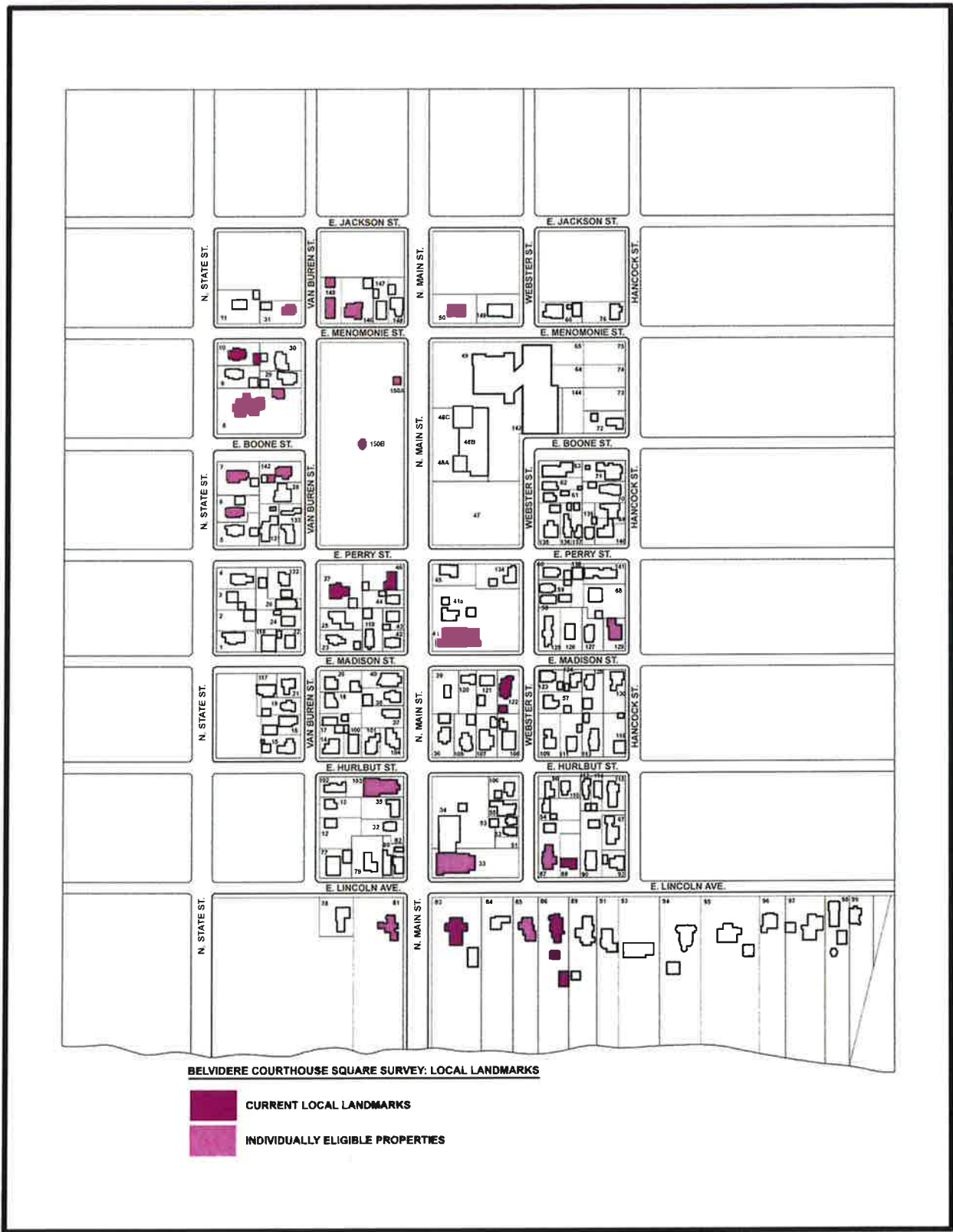


Figure 45. Local Landmarks Already Listed and Potentially Eligible.

With the data and observation gleaned from the field investigation of the Survey Area, archival research into the historic contexts discussed above, archival research into the history of individual properties, the assistance of the information on the Survey Data Sheets and the color coded map of the Survey Area in Figure 3, above, it was determined that there was adequate justification for the establishment of two Belvidere Local Historic Districts within the Survey Area. Figure 3 shows that there are buildings with high integrity and high architectural and historic significance on both the northwest and the southeast side of the Survey Area. Those two areas are highly important to the history and architectural heritage of Belvidere and should be listed as Belvidere Local Historic Districts, not only to recognize the importance of those two areas, but also to protect them from loss of historic and architectural integrity.

The two proposed Belvidere Local Historic Districts are preliminarily called the Belvidere Courthouse Square Local Historic District (“Courthouse Square”) in the northwest corner of the Survey Area and the Belvidere East Lincoln Historic District (“East Lincoln”) in the southeast corner of the Survey Area.

Courthouse Square has 24 Contributing properties and 2 Non-Contributing properties in the District. Table 6 lists each of the properties in Courthouse Square, including contributing status and Local Criteria.

TABLE 6. PROPERTIES IN THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Record Number	Property Address	NR and Local District Eligibility	Local Criteria
5	505 N STATE ST	Contributing	4, 7
6	507 N STATE ST	Contributing	4, 7
7	521 N STATE ST	Contributing	4, 7
8	605 N STATE ST	Contributing	4, 7
9	615 N STATE ST	Contributing	4, 7
10	619 N STATE ST	Contributing	4, 7
11	705 N STATE ST	Contributing	4, 7
27	417 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	4, 7
28	534 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	7
29	618 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	7
30	620 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	7
31	706 VAN BUREN ST	Contributing	1, 4, 7
46	424 N MAIN ST	Contributing	1, 4, 7
48A	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN) (Boone County Records Building)	Contributing	1, 4, 7
48B	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN) (Boone County Courthouse Addition)	Noncontributing	
48C	93-4-13 (601 N MAIN) (Boone County Courthouse)	Contributing	1, 4, 7
50	707 N MAIN ST	Contributing	4, 7
131	114 E PERRY ST	Noncontributing	

Record Number	Property Address	NR and Local District Eligibility	Local Criteria
133	120 E PERRY ST	Contributing	4, 7
142	119 E BOONE ST	Contributing	4, 7
145	204 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	4, 7
146	210 & 212 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	4, 7
147	218 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	4, 7
148	222 E MENOMONIE ST	Contributing	4, 7
150A	Big Thunder Park – Soliders and Sailors Monument	Contributing	1, 4, 7
150B	Big Thunder Park - Bandstand	Contributing	1, 4, 7

A map of the proposed Courthouse Square District is shown below as Figure 46. The dotted line shows the proposed Courthouse Square District Boundary. The Contributing Properties are colored dark green. The Non-Contributing Properties are colored light green.

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]



Figure 46. Proposed Boundaries for the Courthouse Square Local Historic District.

East Lincoln has 13 Contributing properties and three (3) Non-Contributing properties in the District. Table 7 lists each of the properties in Courthouse Square, including contributing status and Local Criteria.

TABLE 7. PROPERTIES IN THE EAST LINCOLN DISTRICT

Record Number	Property Address	NR and Local District Eligibility	Local Criteria
33	221 N MAIN ST	Contributing	1, 4, 7
34	221 N MAIN ST	Noncontributing	
81	223 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	1, 4, 7
83	303 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	4, 7
84	319 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	7
85	401 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	1, 4, 7
86	405 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	1, 4, 7
87	406 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	4, 7
88	410 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	1, 4, 7
89	415 E LINCOLN AVE	Noncontributing	
90	416 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	4, 7
91	421 E LINCOLN AVE	Noncontributing	
92	426 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	4, 7
93	505 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	4, 7
94	509 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	4, 7
95	519 E LINCOLN AVE	Contributing	4, 7

A map of the proposed Courthouse Square District is shown below as Figure 47. The dotted line shows the proposed East Lincoln Local District Boundary. The Contributing Properties are colored dark green. The Non-Contributing Properties are colored light green.

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

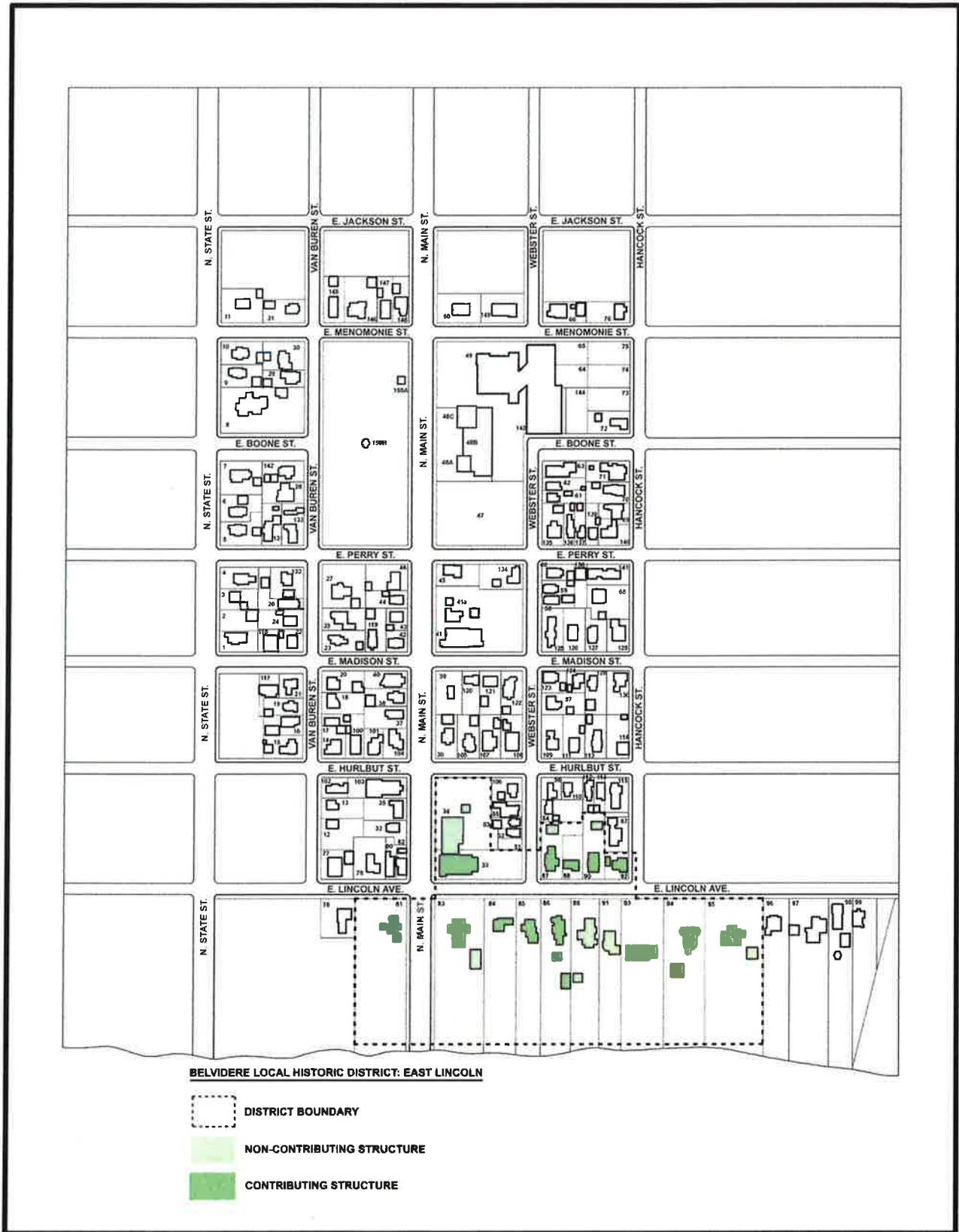


Figure 47. Proposed Boundaries for the East Lincoln Local Historic District.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Nominate the Belvidere Old Town NRHP District.

First, it is recommended that the Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission should pursue nomination of the identified Belvidere Old Town Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places. The NRHP district would have local historic significance. The boundaries for the NRHP district recommended within this report should be used as a framework to begin this process. During the nomination process, the boundary may be revised as needed. The nomination should utilize the historic context developed through this project. A narrative description of the district and statement of significance for the district will also be developed as part of the nomination process. Historic photographs, postcards and maps should be utilized to support the significance and the integrity of the district, as necessary.

Buildings listed as contributing buildings in a NRHP district do not need to be individually nominated because they enjoy the full benefits of listing as contributing buildings in a district, unless a particular building wishes to have a higher level of significance recognized by the National Park Service.

Informational/educational sessions about the NRHP process and the benefits of NRHP Listing.

Second, as part of the NRHP nomination process, the Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission should sponsor information/educational sessions about the NRHP process and the ramifications of listing on the National Register. During that process it can be explained that a listing on the NRHP does not restrict property rights in that it does not require any special approval for either rehabilitation or demolition of the property. Benefits such as the local property tax freeze, certain rehabilitation tax credits and selected potential grants can also be explained to property owners.

Designate the Courthouse Square and the East Lincoln Local Historic Districts as Belvidere local landmark districts.

Third, it is recommended that the Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission should designate the Courthouse Square Local Historic District and the East Lincoln Local Historic District as Belvidere Local Landmark Districts. The boundaries for the local districts recommended within this report should be used as a framework to begin this process. During the designation process, the boundaries may be revised as needed.

Individual designation of locally eligible buildings outside the two local landmark districts.

Fourth, there are three buildings determined to be eligible for local landmark listing that are not within the boundaries of the two proposed local districts. They are: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, St. John's United Church of Christ at 401 N. Main, and the Lustron house at 420 E. Madison.

Holy Trinity and St. John's are important landmarks in the neighborhood and contribute greatly to the neighborhood's character. However, church organizations are often reluctant to agree to local landmark designation. The Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission should have discussions with these congregations about their willingness to be listed as local Belvidere Landmarks. If the congregations are unwilling to agree to local landmark designation, the Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission should provide these congregations with information about how to maintain and preserve the historic features of their buildings.

The Lustron Home at 420 E. Madison should be designated a Belvidere Local Landmark. While there are other Lustron Homes in Belvidere, 420 E. Madison stands out because of the rarity of its attached garage. The Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission should provide the owner of this residence information about the proper maintenance and preservation of Lustron Homes.

Development of resources and design guidelines for local landmarks and local landmark districts.

Finally, in order for property owners of locally landmarked properties to be able to effectively plan for the sensitive maintenance and rehabilitation of their historic properties, the Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission should develop a set of informational resources and design guidelines for historic properties. These resources would outline the minimum guidelines for the restoration and rehabilitation of locally designated historic properties. Established resources and guidelines would also assure that the Historic Preservation Commission is administering Belvidere's Historic Preservation ordinance consistently and even-handedly.

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