

Lansing Hotels

By Jerry Lawler

**Prepared by the Forest Parke Library and Archives,
Capital Area District Libraries, 2021**

Jerry R. Lawler

Jerry R. Lawler was born on August 2, 1943, in Jackson Township, Webster County, Iowa. His parents Cornelius Rial “Cork” and Ruth Catherine (née Sullivan) Lawler operated a large farm just south of Clare, Iowa. Jerry attended St. Matthews Academy for grade school and high school in Clare.

After graduating from St. Matthews, Jerry served in the United States Army. Upon his discharge from the service, Jerry attend Drake University, graduating in 1966. He briefly worked for the Iowa Legislative Service Bureau before relocating to Lansing, Michigan, in 1968. In his early years in Lansing, Jerry managed two fast food restaurants, before finding a position as a clerk with the state of Michigan. He was also instrumental in the founding and growth of the Eastside Neighborhood Organization.

Jerry was fascinated by local politics. He was the moving force in opening city council committee meetings to the public. In 1977, *State Journal* writer Mike Hughes captured Jerry’s passion for research and exploring all aspects of a problem or question: “Lawler has an obsession for meticulous detail. His home is overflowing with charts, graphs, lists, overlays. He can show you the precise location of streetlights and stop signs and accidents and crimes. He can outduel city officials on everything from zoning to water pumps. He has built the ENO [Eastside Neighborhood Organization] into a strong force.” (4/18/1977).

He worked for the state of Michigan for thirty-eight years in a variety of nonpartisan positions, including as Director of the Legislative Council Facilities Agency. In 1989, he became Executive Director of the Michigan Capitol Committee, for which he managed the restoration of the Michigan State Capitol in the early 1990s and was instrumental in having the Capitol designated a National Historic Landmark. Jerry loved local history and was fascinated with the early settlement of Ingham County and the decision to relocate the state Capitol to the county. He was probably the leading expert on John Lansing Jr., a delegate to the U. S. Constitutional Convention of 1787, and indirectly who the city of Lansing, Michigan, is named after.

Jerome Raymond “Jerry” Lawler passed away on September 14, 2007, having received many awards and recognition for his community service, including a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. He was survived by wife Connie, two stepdaughters and a stepson, and two sisters.

How to use this Document

Jerry Lawler left his research notes, both digital and print, to the Forest Parke Library and Archives at the Capital Area District Libraries. For the first decade of the 21st century, staff have been updating Jerry's digital files. It has been a challenge. Jerry's digital documents were created on an iMac G3. When we migrated the files to Microsoft Word, there were several complications; for example, sometimes the date 1881 was rendered as l88l (uppercase "l" instead of the numeral one). Many have been corrected but this discrepancy still exists throughout the files. The Lawler Timeline was the first of these converted documents to be published. We hope to follow it with Jerry's other works, but it will take some time, given that there are still thousands of pages to edit and organize.

In the timeline text you will notice that following the quote or piece of information, there will be a citation. Sometimes the citation is complete, but mostly you will see something like this: "Government land surveyors in area. 12 pg. 51". If you check at the end of the document, you will find a list of sources. So, "12 pg. 51" refers to the source number 12 on the list, and the information will be found on page 51.

Lansing Boarding Houses

Eichele

1867

Jacob Eichele came Lansing and opened boarding-house, connected to saloon; later erected Eichele House (hotel) at 206 N. Washington.

Source: Portrait and Biographical Album of Ingham and Livingston Counties; Chapman Bros. 1891, pg. 406.

Smith Tooker

Built first shanty in Lansing. Source: Adams pg. 51.

Lansing - Hotels

Barnes House (later Butler House)

See Butler House

NE Corner S. Washington & Kalamazoo. In Butler Block - Old State Block

1st class boarding house - 50 rooms

1872

Opened as boarding house

Built by Charles W. Butler, a prominent real estate dealer of Lansing at the time. It was first named the Barnes house in honor of O. M. Barnes, but was afterwards changed.

When the old state office which stood on the ground now occupies by the capitol building was demolished, Mr. Butler purchased the brick and other materials and used them in the building.

Source: J. P. Edmunds *LSJ* 12-24-1921.

Cost \$22,000; built as first-class boarding house.

Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.

about 1874

Butler sold half interest to Mr. John J. Bush.

Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.

1877

John J. Bush bought the property and owned it for a number of years. Since that time it has had several owners, but is still a hotel.

Source: J. P. Edmunds *LSJ* 12-24-1921.

Converted it to Hotel. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.

1877-1879 Converted to hotel; had two stores on ground floor, about 50 rooms, made of brick. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.

Jan 1, 1879 Opened as "Barnes House". Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.

Sep 1, 1880 Bush leased to A. Scleck.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.

Bennett House

Stood in middle of block between Ionia and Shiawassee streets on east side of Washington Avenue. "This block dropped down from street and some steps led down to the walk to the house."

Note: In accon [account] 1856.f Ballard family early days in county; capped as "Bennett House" assume hotel or boarding style house. [Have been unable to decipher this sentence]

Open by 1852

Benton House (Everett)

NW Corner S. Washington & W. Main

This was the first brick building erected in Lansing, and the brick were made at North Lansing by "old man Beals."
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.

1847 Built by real-estate firm of Bush, Thomas & Lee; named from U. S. Senator Thomas Hart Benton. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.

1847 During the summer the Benton House was built by Bush and Thomas. At the same time this firm built a small store on the east side of the river, a bridge being thrown across from Main Street. 287 - pg. 177.

1847 "When I came to Lansing two years after this (1847) from New York states, " said Mr. Bush, in speaking of his early

advent into the new state capital "Michigan City" as the place was then called, consisted of a few log houses close to the river bank and along the road that is now Washington ave. Cedar st was then as prominent as Washington ave. The latter, from Michigan to north Lansing, was full of trash heaps and logs, and dense woods bordered it on both sides. The first hotel in the town was the Jipson house, where the stages shipped. The same year I came, however, two new hotels, the Benton house and the Franklin house, were built, the mason work on which I handled. I remembered that a French-Canadian named Peter Suppy worked with me in building the first of these, the Benton house on the site of the Olds residence, at Main st and Washington ave. Suppy was a giant in strength having the capacity for work equal to two ordinary men. he and I worked together and when the buildings war nearing completion and there was an urgent demand that it be finished in time for the big ball that was to mark the opening of the legislature for the first session in Lansing, the new state capital, he and I plastered 600 square yards of the interior Saturday afternoon between 2 and 9 o'clock so that the house might be ready for the ball Monday night. We finished the job that nit. He and I made together the record of lathing and plastering 5,000 yards in two months, a record never surpassed by any pair of workmen, so far as I know, in the history of Lansing." Source: John N. Bush in The State Republican, April 14, 1909.

1848

Opened.

C. P. Bush was first landlord, but officiated for only about four months, and was succeeded by William Hinman, who had been a clerk in the store of Messrs. Bush & Thomas. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.

?

The opening of the old Benton House was a great event and duly celebrated with a social party, dancing, etc. Chas. P. Bush was the proprietor, and cook and waiters were engaged from one of the steamboats running between Detroit and Buffalo. The first marriage celebrated in Lansing took place in this house.

Source: Early Days In Lansing: A Well-Known Lady's Personal Reminiscences (undated newspaper clip in Lawler collection); Lady Mrs. E. R. Merrifield (Sarah Thomas).

- Mar 18, 1848 Sen. Hazen on his map notes as a "brick house 3 1/2 stories high."
- Jan 1849 "My, how pa and Mr. Bush did drive to get this tavern ready for the opening of the Legislature--everyone said they couldn't do it, but they did. Ann Cochran, who came over here with her brother, Henry, from Woodhull, to do the cooking, told ma the other day that if it were not for so much cheap whisky helping out as filling that they never could fill all these men with food. How Ann does hate the black waiters pa and Mr. Bush hired form a lake boat at Det4orit to come up here during the session."
Source: Sarah Thomas; in State Journal article, reprinted in Pioneer History of Ingham County, pg. 531.
- May 18, 1849 Managed by William Hinman, former clerk for Bush & Thomas; managed for 10 years, until November 1858; purchased and sold to Mr. Packard who renamed Everett House. Source: Port. Ing. & Liv Cty, Chapman, Bros, 1891 pg. 362.
- Altogether, Mr. Hinman kept the house for a period of about six years, at two different times.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- Nov 22, 1855 Benton House
The subscriber having leased this Establishment for a term of years, will devote his entire time to its management, and pledging himself that no efforts shall be wanting to render this Hotel worthy of the continued patronage of its old customers and the public generally, he respectfully solicits a share of the public patronage.
E. H. Peck,
Lansing, November 22, 1855
Source: Ad ran in several issued of The Lansing Republican
- Nov 1858- June 1861 Managed by E. W. Peck, a Detroitier.
- 1859 "In 1859, State Senator Zachariah Chandler "Banqueted the legislature and his other friends" and greatly added to the Benton's reputation."
Source: The Elegance of Yesterday Lansing's Forgotten Hotels by Manuel Castro, Lansing Metropolitan Quarterly, Winter 1987, pg. 24.

1859-1861	Dr. James W. Holmes landlord. Source: Edmunds LSJ 12-21-1921.
1860	Peck and Hinman proprietors of Benton House. Source: George W. Hawes' Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1860, pg. 225.
June 1861	Martin Hudson became proprietor until April 1863 when went to Eagle. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162. Source: 117 pg. 515. Eagle "directly opposite the capitol" at 215 S. Washington.
1863-4	Martin Hudson proprietor of Benton House. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1863-4, pg. 275.
Appx. 1865	Purchased by Rev. C. C. Olds; used as select school or academy, "school enjoyed a fine reputation among the people of Lansing and vicinity." Source: Edmunds LSJ 12-14-1921. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
1867	Closed after Lansing House opened
1870	Rev. Olds sold to Cyrus B. Packard, name changed to Everett House. Source: Edmunds LSJ 12-14-1921. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
1870	Opened as Everett House Degenerated into boarding house
1873	William H. Packard proprietor of Everett House on corner of Main and Washington Avenue. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1873, pg. 398.
1874	Listed in atlas as Everett House
1877	William H. Packard proprietor of Washington avenue and Main. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 558.
1879	William H. Packard proprietor of Washington avenue and Main.

Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 740.

- 1885 Listed as Everett House on Sanborn map.
- 1902 Everett torn down.
- 1904 Property purchased by Judge Edward Cahill, tore down building and sold land to R. E. Olds. Source: Edmunds LSJ 12-14-1921.
- ? The Benton remained the leading hotel for several years, and here congregated the noted men of the state, Zack Chandler, Salt Williams, Rufus Hosmer, judge Danforth and many others of that class made their home while in the city and it is said that during the session and elections of United States senators things were might lively and could the walls of the old hotel talk they would tell of some hilarious times beneath the shingles that sheltered them from the blasts of winter. One one-timer ways they fairly "made Rome howl, and often depleted the liquid refreshments until they had to resort to agua puri from the Grand rifer to quench their thirst. Salt Williams who was a regular guest at the hotel was a great joker, and while he was afflicted with an impediment in his speech the humorous die of the old fellow would often find its way to the surface. One morning at breakfast and while the table were all occupied with boarders and transient guests, Williams sent out for Hinman; the landlord thinking there was something wrong with the servants, hastened to the dining room. Williams picked up a small pitcher and held it aloft and in his stentorian voice cried out, Sa-sa-say B-b-bill wh-in-jy-in thunder do-do-don't you shingle your cows. " Source: Twentieth Century Edition, The Lansing Journal, January 1902.
- 1868 Dr. C. C. Olds acquired property and used as boys' academy.
- 1870 Cyrus B. Paddock bought hotel changed name Everett house.
- "From its first opening, the Benton House was famous for the old-time hospitality extended to all. Being the only good hotel in the southern part of the town, it was well patronized by the citizens as well as the traveling public and soon became the center of social activities. Balls and other functions were held in the spacious ballroom as many cards of invitation still in

existence bear witness. it was the custom for the landlord to give a grand ball and dinner Thanksgiving night, to which the 'elite' were all invited. This was an annual event and the most eagerly anticipated party of the season.

"The hotel soon became headquarters for politicians, members of the legislature, and others who came to town to attend the legislation sessions, and even the governors of the state seem to have liberally extended their patronage. One old invitation reads: 'Gov. Bigham invites you to attend a reception at the Benton House, Jan. 4, 1885.' This was no doubt, his inaugural party, as he took office Jan. 1 of that year. Zachariah Chandler made the house his base of operations during his first campaign for U. S. senator. he was elected in January 1857. Many are the stories told by the old timers about this campaign and the brand of hospitality extended to all-comers by the honorable Zachariah." Source: Edmunds LSJ 12-14-1921.

U.S. Sen Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri (1782-1858)
Advocate of Western development
Daughter Jessie married Gen. John Charles Fremont, famed trail blazer.

Hotel Bryan

Located at 327 East Michigan Avenue.
Owned by Rollo K Bryan

Apr 29, 1904

Destroyed by fire. Four people died in fire.
Sources: *Images of America Lansing City of the Grand 1836-1939* by James MacLean and Craig A. Whitford, 2003, pg. 113.

Hotel Butler

NW Corner of S. Washington & W. Kalamazoo

Orange Butler, Charles W. Butler
father and son were conspicuous business men among those who arrived before 1850. Charles had a land office, and continued in the real estate business for many years, during which time he built the Butler block, known as the Hotel Butler, later he became associated with James M. Turner in lands and mines in the upper peninsula, died in Chicago several years ago.

Source: Twentieth Century Education, the Lansing Journal, January 1902.

- 1872 Built. Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.
- 1915 Peter L. McFarlane acquired property (Butler Block); hotel operated on second story of Butler buildings.
- 1929 One of 3 leading hotels (Downey & Wentworth (Kerns))

Butterfield Hotel

- 1854 Turner recalled that the stage depot was at “the old Butterfield Hotel” on the north side of Franklin Street (now Grand River Avenue) in North Lansing. The hotel, a yellow, two-story structure, had a long porch in front and a barn for the stage and horses alongside.
Source: Out of the Wilderness, an Illustrated History of Grater Lansing, by Justin Kestenbaum; pg. 38.
- 1860 A. M. Butterfield operated boarding house on Franklin street.
Source: George W. Hawes’ Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1860, pg. 223.
- 1864 On a bright sunny day in September 1864, after a good old-fashioned five o'clock breakfast, we report for the journey at the old Butterfield Hotel at North Lansing. This hotel was on the North side of Franklin street on the ground now occupied by the Rikerd Lumber company. It was a two-story wooden building painted yellow with a porch along its entire front. The barn were the stage and horses were kept was just east of it. The peculiar thing that struck my boyish fancy was that of the arrangement of these two buildings--the hotel stood broadsides to the street while the barn stood end to street. Just west of the hotel was a grocery kept by a German, Walters, and west of this was another grocery kept by another German named Englehart. Walters' grocery always had a fascination for the kids who attended the First Ward School, for besides the candies and marbles, he made in a small way fireworks. The stage coach is before the hotel ready to start. It is a type of what we see now in the Wild West shows, i.e., heavy wheels, body hung on leather braces, deep boot and rivers seat in front and trunk rack behind. Inside there are three seats, front, middle and back. The middle seat is extra wide so that four passengers an set back to back. how many passengers an be accommodated?

Eight, and by some crowding twelve, three on each seat but one-half must of necessity ride backwards.

Any outside passengers? One or two can ride with the driver, but this in bad weather is not a very desirable perch and you must have a certain understanding or social pull with the driver as he is very particular in his choice of seatmates. The mail bags are securely stowed in the boot under the driver's feet and the trunks lashed on behind. Jack Stapleton, the driver, after an inspection to see that all is secure--a coach is like a gun, it must be loaded right to go off right--mounts the box and with reins in hand cracks his long whip and we are off.

Source: Article by Dr. F. N. Turner; *Pioneer History of Ingham County*; compiled and arranged by Franc L. Adams, secretary of the Ingham County Pioneer and Historical Society, Vol. I, 1923.

Capital House

See Columbus House.

Central Hotel

1877 Mrs. Mary King proprietor of Central Hotel on Washington Avenue.

Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 560.

Chapman House

SW corner of Michigan Avenue & Grand

1870 appx. Opened

Mr. Edmonds relates At the corner of Michigan and Grand Avenues, where VanDervoort hardware store now stands, was the old Chapman House operated in later years by Mr. Wentworth, who later transferred hotel business diagonally across Michigan Avenue - Wentworth Hotel. Source: Adams pg. 527.

1874 Listed in atlas

Harry Bowie married Miss Hattie Hudson, and along with her sister, Allie became proprietors of Hudson House. 117 pgs. 515-6.

1870

The city then was but a wilderness, muddy streets with no sidewalks or pavements of any kind. There were very few homes, and only two hotels, the Hof-Way house, ion the downtown area, and the Green Tree hotel at Cedar Street and Michigan Avenue. There was but one grocery store and no dry goods or clothing stores. "But then it didn't matter," Mrs. Tooker said, "As there wasn't much money in those days."

Also recalling the Indians that used to pass through their yards, Mrs. Tooker said that they used to slave over a hot cook stove, baking bread and other foods to exchange with the Indians for fowl, in order to keep them on friendly terms. A barn recently razed on the property about four years ago (1943), she said, revealed the Skelton of an Indian.

The only form of amusement in those days she related were quilting and pedro parties at various homes or attending the Republican and Democratic meetings held in the old capitol building. She said she also saw the laying of the corner-stone for the new capitol building.

Source: Pioneer Woman Tells of Early Like In Lansing; State Journal, March 1947. Story about Mrs. Martha Moore Tooker, 1119 N. Washington avenue; moved Lansing in 1870 in cover wagon; married Ed S. Tooker in winter of 1878.

Note: Unclear talking about 1870 or 1878; probably 1870. [No verification of the Skelton story]

1877

Lemon H. Bailey proprietor of Chapman House on corner of Michigan and Grand.

Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 556.

1879

Chapman House, Elliott & Brown proprietors, corner Michigan and Grand.

Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 734.

1885

Listed on Sanborn Map.

Appx. 1900

Torn down.

Source: Lansing Michigan Past and Present--; issued by J. W. Knapp Company, Oct 1923.

1910-20s appx. Later VanDervoort hardware store erected on site. Source: Adams pg. 527.

Clapsaddles Hotel (National Hotel)

E. Main and S. Cedar St. (Block 231)

"The National Hotel was built on the corner of the block near the 3 bridge on the east side of Cedar street, and occupied by Mr. Clapsaddle. In later years the house was burned." 276 pg. 177.

"A commodious two-story frame, was built on the northeast corner of Cedar and main"
Source: Cowles pg. 56.

1847 Built by Daniel Clapsaddle "who was killed in the same year by the fall of a bent while raising his barn"
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.

Among her pupils were three children of Dr. Goucher, two sons of Mr. Dearin, two children of Mrs. Thompson, who was living at the National Hotel, and two of Mr. Hunt, who built the Michigan Exchange.
Source: Ingham and Eaton counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 115.

1847 Opened

Dec 25, 1847 "He arrived here on Christmas day after having walked a large part of the way from Jackson on account of the miserable condition of the stage road."
Source: Obituary of Orien Austin Jenison; The State Republican, Tuesday August 6, 1895.

...Mr. Jenison spent his first three weeks in Lansing at the National hotel on Main street. The town was so crowded that during that time there was not an available bed in the city for Mr. Jenison to sleep in. A wooden building was being built on the present site of the Baird & Hudson block. Quarters were secured there for Macey & Driggs, and after getting their business into shape he resigned his position with them and went into the auditor general's department, where he held a clerkship for twelve years.
Source: Obituary of Orien Austin Jenison; The State Republican, Tuesday August 6, 1895.

Aug-Sep 1848 Dr. David E. McClure came city from Jackson, boarded at National Hotel; surrendered practice to Dr. H. B. Shank. 18 pg. 116.
Destroyed by fire. 25 pg. 162.

City Hotel

Washington Ave. - opposite Lansing House
1874 Atlas Listed on lot 10, block 129; 300 block S. Washington; E. side of street

1873 George Collins, proprietor, hotel on Washington avenue.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1873, pg. 398.

Columbus House (Eagle/American)

200 block of S. Washington; east side of street; Lot 10, block 114; appx. 215 S. Washington

three-story frame hotel built by Christopher Columbus Darling in 1847-48.
Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 56.

1848 Opened

1848? Mr. Dearin "erected the Capital Hotel, a three-story house, the nucleus of the Hudson House of today" (1897). 276 pg. 176.

"Later a Mr. Allen occupied it, erecting an addition on the north end." 276 pg. 176.

"It was the first building ever put up on that site. Instead of a basement and foundation of masonry, the Columbus House was built on a foundation of beech stumps. They were sawn off square, a short distance above the ground, and the building built on them as supports. In after years, when the Hudson House succeeded the older Columbus House, the old stumps were found. "

Source: Chief Okemos and "Gang" Swoop Down on Big "Feed" Back in 1855; State Journal; reprinted in Pioneer History of Ingham County, compiled and arranged by Mrs. Franc L. Adams. vol. 1, 1923.

"Instead of a basement and foundation of masonry, the Columbus House was built on a foundation of beech stumps.

They were sawn off square, a short distance above the ground, and the building built on them as supports. In after years, when the Hudson House succeeded the Older Columbus House, the old stumps were found.”

Source: Adams pg. 539.

- 1852 C.C. Darling purchased and re-named ‘Columbus House’; “...later he put up an addition on the south side; Darling family lived in hotel until October 1856 when moved to house on Grand Street. 176 pg. 176.
- Jul 3, 1855 Columbus House
C. C. Darling, Proprietor. Directly opposite the Capitol, Lansing, Michigan. Persons visiting the capitol will find this comfortable and commodious House.
Source: Ad in The Lansing Republican, July 3, 1855
- Sep 1856 The next morning we sallied out and found our friend, John Horner, who was teaching for Miss Rogers, in the Michigan Female College, which occupies the Ohio House, in front of where C. T. Marks’ livery stable is. He boarded at the Columbus House, a frame hotel standing where now is the Hudson House, and kept by Mr. C. C. Darling. Source: Reminiscentail by George P. Sanford, Lansing Journal, February 22, 1883; Michigan Pioneer Society, Vol. VI; pg. 292-295.
- 1856 Darling son (John?) took charge of hotel. 276 pg. 176.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- ? C. T. Allen became landlord, followed by James Shearer. Source: Edmunds LSJ 12-14-1921. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1858 James M. Shearer took control, renamed The American. 291 pg. 117. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1859 Columbus became Eagle House
- 1860 H. Fields barber at Eagle Hotel.
J. M. Shearer proprietor of Eagle Hotel on Washington Avenue.
Ad:
Eagle Hotel

By J. M. Shearer,
Lansing, Michigan
Stages Leaved This House Daily
Source: George W. Hawes' Michigan State Gazetteer and
Business Directory for 1860, pg. 222 & 226.

- Apr 1863 Martin Hudson took over, later purchased and changed name; 117 pg. 515; TSJ 5-24-1959, pg. 2-B.
Hudson took over as proprietor from Shearer and purchased in 1866. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1863? Eagle House became American House
- 1863-4 Clark Foot proprietor Eagle Hotel.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1863-4, pg. 275.
- 1866 Purchased by Martin Hudson.; "and for about 10 years was not used as a hotel. After Mr. Hudson retired from the new Lansing House in 1877, he rebuilt and largely improved the building, adding a fine dining room in the rear and changing the name to the Hudson house. Under his management, the house enjoyed a state-wide reputation, and for many years as the most popular house in the city. It was political headquarters during the legislative sessions many a senatorial contest was fought out and settled within its walls." ; north half of property later leased to Strand Theater Co. Source: Edmunds LSJ 12-14-1921.
- 1867-68 Henry W. Edgar proprietor Edgar House on Washington Avenue. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1867-8, pg. 275.
- 1867-1877 Closed; Hudson operated Lansing House.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1877 House largely rebuilt; cost \$8000, new 58 x 36 dining room added 1879-1880. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1864? Martin Hudson operated; sold in 1875 to N. G. Isabelle. 117 pg. 515.? **Check** [Sold Lansing House to Isabelle]

Commercial Hotel

1885 Listed on Sanborn Map.
W. Washington Avenue; west side of street between E.
Washtenaw and E. Kalamazoo, just south of center of block.

Detroit Hotel

Across street from Kerns on N. Grand
1917 Built and operated by Charles Kontas.[d 11/21/1965]

Digby Hotel

See Grand Hotel.

Downey Hotel

See Lansing House

“The members of the Legislature were always saying there was no hotel accommodation in Lansing and the best thing that could be done was to remove the Capitol back to Detroit, out of the wilderness of Ingham county. They used to say there was nothing in Lansing but wild cats, wolves and Indians. The citizens of Lansing had to exert every effort to save the Capitol from being removed. Prominent Lansing men made a house to house canvass to have citizens who had large comfortable homes take in the members of the Legislature to room and board. Mr. Whiteley exerted every effort to have a good hotel built.

“ Dr. Goucher lived in a story and a half house where the Downey now stands. The land was very low, and the house stood way down below the street level in a hole. The boys used the land around the house for a skating pond in the winter. This spot was finally selected as a site for a hotel and Mr. Whiteley headed the list and was very active in soliciting other business associates to raise funds to buy the site. A Mr. Baker was willing to build the hotel, but he wanted the citizens to buy the site. The new hotel meant a great deal to the citizens of Lansing and there was very much rejoicing when it was completed. In early days it was as it is now, everyone wanted the new hotel on their particular corner, but it was finally settled to be built on the corner of Washington

Avenue and Washtenaw street, where the Hotel Downey now stands. (1923)." Source: Adams pg. 565-566.

The car (Oldsmobile touring car of early nineteen hundreds) belonged to Charles P. Downey, proprietor of the famous Downey House in Lansing, a hotel distinguished for years as the "unofficial" capital of the state.

It was in the Downey House that countless discussion of political maneuvers and legislation took place, and many famous persons were its guests through the years. A true "genial host," Charlie Downey was known in a typical far-and-wide sphere and had friends from literally everywhere.

He was rather on the wide side, himself, being a man of huge build, thoroughly enjoying good stories, a fine teller of tales, too, and none who ever saw or heard him can forget the completely relaxed shaking of his roly-poly frame in congenial company.

Charlie Downey enjoyed his car and like to drive around, frequently stopping to chat with friends in the surrounding towns....

...the old Grand River road was almost impassable in stretches. Only a few miles of pavement, at Howell were to be found between Lansing and Detroit. the high wheels of the old "limited" could negotiate the bad spots in pretty good fashion compared with the smaller wheels of other cars of the time.

Source: Clinton County Republican-News, 1956, Centennial Edition, Section F, page I.

Eagle

See Columbus House

Eichele House

Built at 206 N. Washington Ave; 3 story, brick; built by Jacob Eichele. (Eichele came Lansing in 1867)

Source: Portrait and Biographical Album, Ingham and Livingston counties, Chapman, 1891, pg. 407.

1867

Came to Lansing and opened boarding house.

1873

Built three story brick hotel.

	Operated for 18 years renown for hearty, tasty meals offered for 25 cents. LSJ 5-24-1959
May 1891	Eichele leased to son-in-law (William F. Graessle and wife Anna). 117 pg. 407.
1897	Graessle's run for six years; sold John Herrmann.
1904	Hotel out of existence. LSJ 5-14-1959

Edgar House

S. Washington

1865-66	Built; two story; kept by Nelson Edgar, son of builder and owner. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.
1878 Appx	Rebuilt; brick three story building by D. P. Edgar. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.
1879	Dennis P. Edgar proprietor of Edgar House on Washington Avenue. Ad: Edgar house, D. P. Edgar, proprietor \$1.00 to \$2.00 per day. Call and See us. Lansing, Michigan. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 734 & 745.
May 1880	Mrs. S. A. Heiser leased House. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 163.

Ennis House

1879	James Ennis proprietor of Ennis House in North Lansing. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 736.
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Everett House

See Benton House

Exchange Hotel

Franklin St; Lot 15, Block5

- 1873 William J. Walker, proprietor of Exchange Hotel on Franklin Street in North Lansing.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1873, pg. 398.
- 1874 Listed in atlas (1874)
- 1877 Edward D. Gould proprietor, of Dinning Hall and Exchange Hotel at depot of M C and D L & N R R.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 558.
Ad:
Lansing
Dining Hall
and
Exchange Hotel
E. D. Gould, Proprietor
Good Livery in Connection
Trains Stop Twenty Minutes for meals and Refreshments,
Lansing, Michigan.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 561.
- 1879 Edward D. Gould proprietor, of Dinning Hall and Exchange Hotel at depot of M C and D L & N R R.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 736.

Goodrich Hotel

- 1879 Mrs. Sarah A. Goodrich proprietor of Goodrich House at 18 and 20 Michigan avenue.
Ad:
Goodrich House
S. A. Goodrich, Proprietor
\$1.00 Per Day. All the comforts of Home.
18 and 20 Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 736 & 745.
- 1885 Listed on Sanborn Map
115 & 117 E. Michigan
North side of street about middle block
between N. grand & N. Washington

Grand Hotel

403 E, Grand River
1959

In operation, formerly called Digby. TSJ 5-24, 1959

Grand River House (1st)

NW Corner Center and Wall

Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 55.

Stands just south of Franklin House (64-pg. 420)

Page House (sometimes called Grand River House) (86 pg. 465)

1846

Opened.

Grand River House: Located about a block south of NW corner of E. Grand River and Center Street.

Source: The Elegance Of Yesterday Lansing's Forgotten Hotels, by Manuel Castro, Lansing Metropolitan, Spring 1995.

Located about a block south of the northwest corner of E. Grand River avenue and Center street.

Source: Lansing's First 'Guest House'. by Dick Murray, The State Journal, May 24, 1959.

"When the town of "Michigan" was laid out in the early summer of 1847, Mr. Page and Whitney Smith purchased a lot and erected a two-story frame house, which afterwards became the "Grand River House," and kept boarders, having at one time as many as sixty.

"Within a year after building the "Grand River House," Messrs. Page and Smith sold the property and purchased six lots in another part of the village, where they erected a dwelling. This is now (1880) known as the Parmelle place." 18 pg. 126.

1860?

Both (Burchard/Page) mill and house disappeared the same year. The dam stood until the Spring of 1861....

Source: A History of the City of Lansing From the Foundation Thereof Down To the Present Time by M. Dash (J.M. Longyear), 1870.

Grand River House (2nd)

SW corner Washington & Saginaw; Lot 1, Block 64

- 1873 J. H. Clements proprietor of Grand River Hotel, 263 Washington avenue. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1873, pg. 398.
- 1874 Listed in atlas (1874)

Granger House

- 1877 Samuel B. Scammon proprietor of Granger House in North Lansing. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 564.

Green Tree House

SW Corner Michigan and Cedar

- 1877 Andrew Silberhorn proprietor of Green Tree House on corner Michigan avenue and Cedar. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 556.

Halfway House

SE corner Washington & Saginaw; a crossroads tavern; marked line with Saginaw between upper and lower town.

- Summer 1847 Daniel Mevis, 528 Lapeer St, N, who formerly owned the old Half Way House, which stood midway between middle Town and North Town, settled in Lansing.
Source: Has Lived Here Longer Than Any Other Person; State Republican, April 14, 1909.

Hinchey House

See Seymour House

- 1870's For many years there had been a saloon in the basement of what was known as the Hickey House, a well-known hostelry of early days. it was during these days (1870's) that the proprietor gave up the saloon business and turned the place over to the use of the Methodist church. The Society used the room for prayer meetings and social gatherings, and it was known as the Bethel Retreat.

Source: The History of the First Methodist Church Lansing, Michigan 1846-1946; edited by Lula P. Hall.

Howard Hotel

1885 Listed on Sanborn map; SW Corner of Clinton & Turner Streets.

Hudson House

See Lansing House

Hunt Hotel

1867-8 George W. Hunt proprietor Hunt's Hotel, on corner Washington avenue and Saginaw.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1867-8, pg. 276. [558]

Jack Tar

See Hotel Olds

Kembeily Boarding House

1860 Mrs. Mary Kembeily operated boarding house on Washtenaw. Source: George W. Hawes' Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1860, pg. 225. [Could this be the Ohio House? No other record of the Kembeily House]

Kerns Hotel

Next Wentworth on N. Grand

1909 Opened; built by William G. Kerns, son-in-law of Wentworth; had 162 rooms; first hotel in state to have running ice water in rooms.
1921 Kerns retired; leased to Ernes S. Richardson.
1932 Kerns bought back operating rights, ran hotel.
Dec 11, 1934 Destroyed by fire; killed 34

Kirkwood

Dec 11, 1895 Listed in Atlas (1895)

Lansing House (1st)

SE corner W. Washington & E. Washtenaw

Stood opposite and east of where Hotel Downey now stands (1897) 276 pg. 176.

- 1847 Owned by Mathew P. and Jeremiah Marvin (brothers); leased to Henry Jipson who managed hotel for 8 years; Jipson bought in 8th year.
Built by John N. Bush. TSJ 5-24-1959, pg. 1-B.
- 1847 Built of logs by Henry Jipson and W. W. Upton. They afterwards added a frame building three stories in height and of large dimensions. This house was kept by Henry Jipson, a man named Holbrook, the Bakers, and M. P. Marvin.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1847 Built and opened by Henry Jipson.
- “Among them the old Lansing House, a double lot house, hewed on the outside, built by Mr. Jipson, and made ready for the members of the Legislature,”
Source: Mrs. C. M. Smith; Adams pg. 14-5.
- Built of logs and later one-story frame addition added on south side. 276 pg. 176.
- 1848 “.it was also the “center of stage coach, mail and other commercial activity in the early days.”...A year later, the original structure was moved east, and a new frame three-story building became the second Lansing House in its place.” Source: The Elegance of Yesterday Lansing’s Forgotten Hotels by Manuel Castro, Lansing Metropolitan Quarterly, Winter 1987, pg. 25.
- 1848 “The log Lansing house at Washington avenue and Washtenaw street, near the capitol was generally taxed to its limit and members of all known political preferment were obliged to sleep in the same bed and eat at the same table.
Source: “Uncle Dan” (Daniel S. Mevis) Remembers, The State Journal – August 16, 1913.
- 1848 (was 1849) Original moved east and replaced 3 story building.
Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 56-57.
- Mar 1848 or 9? Construction started by John N. Bush who constructed Packard House and finished Seymour Hotel. 117 pg. 384.

Jun 30, 1848

June 26, 1848. Came to Detroit on steamer John Owen to Monroe, rather pretty town on Raisin River (about 3000) -- navigable to a mile from the town for craft of 7 to 8 feet. The railroad a very poor concern--runs sixty miles into the interior...

June 30, 1848. Arrived at Lansing and wrote home about everything except C. R. R. up to my arrival. Wrote Whiting and Adams to make an offer for lots 27 and 22-350 x 250 and for 100 acres in the tract.

July 1, 1848. Let at 1/4 10, rode in an open wagon to Portland. Leslie Foote, good humored but obstinate, gawky fellow of driver.... Country around Lansing very wild and thence to Ionia quite rolling--not much settled...

While at Lansing stayed at the Lansing House by John Beny. There are three towns extending some two miles, the upper, middle, and lower. The State House is in the middle town, at the lower they have waterpower and are building a factory and a flouring mill. Two years ago, it was all a dense forest and now the dense forest comes to within a hundred yards of the capitol.

Source: Journal of Paul Nelson Spofford, edited and arranged by Samuel Taylor Moore; Michigan History Magazine, Vol. 29, No. 3, 1945; pg.

Note Spofford born in 1824.

Lansing House (2nd)

SE corner W. Washington & E. Washtenaw

1849 Original (1st) Lansing House moved east and replaced by new 3 story building.

1850 So the matter stood, when in September 1850, I had occasion to visit Lansing. In order to get there, I took passage from Portsmouth to Saginaw on board the steamboat Wolcott, and remained at Saginaw overnight in order to take the early stage the next morning for Flint, at which point I arrived on the evening of the second day. In order to get from Flint to Detroit in one day it was necessary to start at four o'clock in the morning. There had been a long spell of dry weather, but when we started from Flint that morning the rain was pouring down in torrents. The stage we

rode in was a primitive concern, the top being covered with three basswood boards running lengthwise of the vehicle, which the dry weather had shrunk, leaving large, open cracks which operated as conductors to convey all the water inside the stage that fell on top. The cracks were directly over the heads of the passengers, and anyone can judge of the comfort of the situation. Among the passengers of that occasion was Miss Helen Taylor, who a short time afterwards became the second wife of the late Col. William L. P. Little of East Saginaw, and the cheerfulness and forbearance with she manifested in passing through that uncomfortable ordeal, as plainly showed the amiability of her character as did the excessive grief of a large circle of friends on her departure to her final rest a year of two afterwards. The third day's journey brought me safely to Detroit, many miles father from Lansing than when I started from home. From Detroit I had railroad conveyance all the way to Jackson, where I remained the fourth night after leaving home. At Jackson I fell in company with Bernard C. Whittemore, than State treasurer, and John Sweegles, who was a candidate for auditor general. It was a tedious day's ride from Jackson to Lansing, but the pleasant conversation of my traveling companions above named made it more pleasant than it would otherwise have been.

I think the hotel we stopped at in Lansing was called the Lansing House. It was a frame addition built to the primitive log house that served as the first hotel in the city and was located on Washington avenue directly opposite the site of the present Lansing House. there was much sickness in Michigan that season and I was attacked with cholera morbus on the night of my arrival at Lansing and I spent the two days of my stay in town in recuperating from my attack of illness and in transacting some business at the auditor general's office; for auditor general I found my friend, John J. Adam, with whom I had been associated in the legislature three years before. When I got ready to start from Lansing, I found my traveling companions, Messrs. Whittemore and Sweegles, also ready for their return trip. We jointly, hired a light two-horse carriage and team to take us to Jackson. Mr. Whittemore drove the team, taking with him a large sum of money to be conveyed to Detroit for safe keeping.

Source: Incidents in the Early History of the Saginaw Valley, by Judge Albert Miller; Historical Collections, Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Vol. XIII, 1908.

- ?
- In a few years, the second Lansing House corner was "made", a local newspaper observed. operating through a series of owners, the establishment began to dominate the city's hotel business and, oddly enough, with the help of one of its major competitors, the Benton House. In a move to outflank the Seymour. which had previously controlled the stagecoach trade from Jackson, the Benton management threw up a bridge across the Grand River and stage coach drivers quickly rerouted their runs to Lansing from the former entry point at the Franklin street bridge. This traffic change not only doomed the Seymour, which was now located on the long way around," but it also brought increased business to the Lansing House as well as the Benton."
- Source: The Elegance of Yesterday Lansing's Forgotten Hotels by Manuel Castro, Lansing Metropolitan Quarterly, Winter 1987, pg. 25.
- Mid 50's
- James M. Shearer became proprietor of Lansing House; also served as first steward at Michigan Agricultural college; tried do both positions.
- Sep 1856
- Jackson - Lansing**
- "...The September day in 1856 when we mounted the stagecoach at Jackson to penetrate the north woods to Michigan's Capitol was bright and balmy... As we made our way northward, we penetrated a dense smoke from the burning of forests, marshes, and swamps of Central Michigan. As evening came on, while we were yet ten miles away, the darkness became impenetrable. A man with a lantern in the road ahead to pilot the way, and two others beside the leaders, enabled the driver to pick his way only with difficulty. All the passengers walked, including two ladies. A little girl of one of the ladies not being old enough to walk, a gentleman of the party took her in his arms and carried her. I noticed the gentleman (H. Seymour) closely. Tall, erect, with a benign and intelligent face, a deep, rich, cultured voice, he was a man to be noticed in any place. We shared with him the labor of carrying the little girl. Arriving in town, we stopped at the Lansing House." 63 pg. 292 - 293.
- 1857
- Relinquished to stepsons, Ben. B. and Henry B. Baker.
- 1858
- New York - Jackson - Eaton Rapids - Lansing**
- Early in the winter of Eighteen hundred and fifty eight, I left my home in New York for a visit of several months in Michigan, coming by rail to Jackson and from there by sleigh

to Eaton Rapids, where that conveyance was exchanged for what the driver called a “mud wagon”, a covered vehicle without springs. It was very cold and the roads exceedingly rough, making it almost impossible to remain seated, and often I was tossed upward, my head striking the top of the coach in no gentle manner. At midnight, we arrived at Lansing and we drove to the Lansing House where I found my cousin awaiting me and he took me to his home.
Source: Mrs. Frances Reeks Carnahan; Michigan Pioneer Experiences 1710-1880 with Genealogical Data and Anecdotes; Contributed by Michigan Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 1933.

1859 Martin Hudson came Lansing and leased hotel. 117 pg. 515.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.

1860 Ad:
Lansing House
By M. Hudson,
Corner of Washington and Washtenaw Avenue,
Lansing, Michigan
General State Office,
Near the Amboy, Lansing and Grand Traverse Bay Railroad Depot.
Source: George W. Hawes' Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1860, pg. 224.

? Hudson purchased and remodeled. 276 pg. 175.
About 1859 Destroyed by fire.
Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 57.

Jun 2, 1861 Destroyed by fire

Lansing House (3rd)

300 S. Washington (Lot 10 of Block 114)

About 1865 Dr. Goucher sold land to company of citizens who donated to Baker for hotel.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.

1866 Built at a cost of over \$100,000; original intention to expend about \$50,000, estimated to have cost over \$120,000.

- Hotel 120 by 110 feet, four stories and basement, large court between wings.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- May 1867 Lansing House opened by Baker; Martin Hudson manager.
"The first proprietor and lessee was Martin Hudson, who took possession upon its completion, and ran it for 10 years, then retiring to open the Hudson house. Mr. Hudson was a born hotel man and was connected at various times with nearly every hotel of any prominence in town."
Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.
- May 9, 1867 The Charlotte Republican reported the Lansing House, built by Col. Baker, was been bought by Messrs. J. W. Longyear, H. B. Shank and H. Ingersoll and leased from them by Mr. Martin Hudson, proprietor of the American House.
Source: The Charlotte Republican, May 9, 1867, captioned in Eaton county, Michigan newspapers, Vol. I 1845-1867, compiled and indexed by Joyce Marple Liepins.
- May 1867 Mr. Baker sold the property to a stock company composed of Lansing men. This company held it for about four years when it was sold on a mortgage and bid in by the mortgagee, Hiram Sibley of Rochester, N.Y., (mortgage and interest amounted to about \$41,000) who disposed of it to N. G. Isbell. (for \$37,000).
Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1873 A. E. Slater telegraph operator, office Lansing House.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1873, J. E. Scripps & R. L. Polk, Compilers.
- 1874 Listed in atlas (1874)
- 1875 Sold to N. G. Isbell "After his death (Isbell), it passed through several hands finally being purchased and operated by Jacob Aberle of Owosso. he kept it for some time and about 1890 sold to H. J. Downey of Durant, whose family still retains it."
Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.
- 1876 Fire not destroyed.
1877 Rebuilt and

	John F. Rouse telephone operator at Lansing House. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 564.
1878	Mr. T. J. Lyon succeeded Isbell as proprietor. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
1879	Ad: Lansing House Lansing, Michigan Can Accommodate 300 Guests Largest hotel in Central Michigan First-class in all its appointments, with all Modern Improvements. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 733.
1879	Nelson G. and George A. Isbell, owners of Lansing House. James D. Lyon proprietor of Lansing House on Washington Avenue. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1879, pg. 738.
1887-88	Closed, enlarged, reopened in 1888
1887	Henry J. Downey bought hotel along with sons: Charles P. and Oscar C Downey. Invested \$20,000 in.
1888	Renamed Downey
1894	Henry Downey died; hotel operated by sons.
1907	Enlarged by two stories, new sixth floor became convention hall, grill room and sample room. See 1910.
1910	Downey added two stories. See 1907.
Feb 6, 1912	Destroyed by fire and rebuilt; two entire floors burned out, rest damaged. \$110,000 estimated damage.
1936	Torn down "General Baker was, during the war, head of the United States secret service, and in this capacity organized the several parties which were sent out from Washington in pursuit of John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln. The party that actually found Booth was in command of his brother, Lieut. L. B., Baker, Secretary of War Stanton, acting under authority of congress, offered a

reward of \$100,000 for the capture of booth dead or alive. After the capture so many claimants appeared and so much controversy developed over the distribution of the money that congress appointed a special committee to adjudicate the claims and made awards. Under this division, Gen. Baker, as ranking officer, received the largest share, nearly \$10,000. Shortly afterwards he resigned the service, coming to Lansing and commenced building the hotel.

The lots of which the building was erected were purchased by a number of citizens and donated to Mr. Baker in consideration of his building a first-class hotel on them.
Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.

Lt. Luther B. Baker*

1830	Born at Stafford, NY
1868	Married Helen Davis
?	Called from Iowa to the "Detective service" by a cousin during Civil War, Baker captured Booth and heard his dying words, "Useless, useless..." Reward money invested in farm and Lansing Hotel; he also worked for auditor general's staff. His horse "Buckskin" was well known.
1896	Died.
*	Source: significant People Buried in MT. Hope Cemetery, Lansing, Michigan a Tour Through History by Linda Peckham.

Lafayette Baker

Horse called "Patchen"

1862 Called cousins from Lansing to join service

Cousins from Lansing -

Joseph Stannard Baker "Stan" and Luther Byron Baker

Apr 26, 1866 US House debated claims

Awarded Baker \$3,750

Share of prize for role in capture of John Wilkes Booth - \$3,750

Cousin share - Bryon Baker \$3,000

? The hotel venture at Lansing, Michigan, had foundered and his life savings were nearly gone.

Source: Death to Traitors by Jacob Mogelever, pg. 419.

? Wrote book with Phineas Headley - Book sold door to door

- Jul 3, 1868 Died in Philadelphia
- Jul 6, 1868 The Washington Star "The newspaper statements that General L. C. Baker died worth \$200,000 are entirely incorrect. So far from having that amount, he left nothing whatever, and his family are in destitute circumstances. His unfortunate hotel enterprises at Lansing, Michigan, swept away the profits from his book, and the copyright of the same. He has been in declining health for more than a year, and his spirits have been much depressed by his pecuniary embarrassments, and the failure to his expectation to receive what he considered justly due him for his services in the arrest of the assassin of Lincoln."
- Source: Death to Traitors by Jacob Mogelever, pg. 419.

Malone Hotel

East St. across from Passenger Depot
1874 Listed in atlas (1874)

Mead Boarding House

1877 Mrs. H. Mead operated boarding house on Washington Avenue. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 562.

Michigan House (Exchange)

NW Corner of E. Main and River Street
Built by Levi Hunt; still standing in 1880. 25 pg. 162.
Mr. Hunt built. 18 pg. 115.

A two-story frame, building on NW corner of Main and River Street. Source: Cowles pg. 55.

The house occupied by Mr. Hunt is still standing, we believe, on the northwest corner of main and River Streets. It was known as the "Michigan House." Durant pg. 162 and 198.

1847 Opened

The first hotel was kept by old Mr. Hunt, in a shanty made of boards, near where the Mineral Springs House now stands. Mr. Hunt commenced to build the old Michigan Exchange on the 5th day of June, and on July fourth he had an Independence ball in the new house.

Source: Sketch by Cpt. J. P. Cowles, May 1873
meeting of Ingham County Pioneer Association;
reprinted Adams pg. 20.

- ? "Mr. Thomas later purchased it for a residence, to which he removed his family." 276 pg. 177.
- Summer 1847 C.C. Darling and son boarded part of summer at. 287 pg. 177.
- Aug 1847 "on their first arrival in Lansing, Dr. Burr and wife boarded at the ..Michigan Exchange where they became acquainted with the prominent families then living in the place. 18 pg. 115.
- 1847 "We came here in 1847. On the west side was the Michigan house, built and operated by John Tomas. Hunt's meat market. A Ward's book and shoe shop. Gilkey's bowling alley. Berry and Co's dry goods store. David Westcott's tailor shop and at Washington avenue and Main street the Benton house was built, the first brick hotel in the city and was operated for many years by William Hinman."
Source: "Uncle Dan" (Daniel S. Mevis) Remembers, The State Journal – August 16, 1913.
- ? Purchased by Mr. Thomas for residence.
- Oct 1848 In October 1848, father removed his family and all his goods, to take up our abode in the place of great expectations.

Twelve large loaded wagons came through the forest taking four days to come from Farmington, twenty miles west of Detroit...first lived at Michigan House.
Source: Early Days In Lansing; A well-Known Lady's Personal Reminiscences (undated newspaper clip in Lawler collection); Lady Mrs. E. R. Merrifield (Sarah Thomas).
- 1880 Still standing.
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.

Mineral Well Hotel

East side River Street (Oak Street); 3 story.; 900 block of River street.

- 1869 In 1869 the firm of Woodhouse and Butler commenced to drill a well with the idea of striking brine and engaging in the manufacture of salt. After going down about 1400 feet, they failed to find brine but did strike a vein of fine mineral water, which by analysis compared very, favorably with the medicinal springs at Saratoga and other health resorts. Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.
- 1870 In 1870 the hotel was built. It was a large frame structure, three stories and basement in height. The bath house was located on the west side of the street, directly opposite the hotel and was provided with all modern means for giving mineral baths in the most approved manner. In the south end was a large plunge bath about 40 feet square, the rest of the building being devoted to private rooms. The grounds around the building and extending down to the river were greatly beautified and made very attractive. Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.
- Spring 1870 This hotel was opened in the spring of 1870 and soon became a great resort for rheumatic and nervous patients, much as the hotels of Mt. Clemens are at the present time. it had patronage enough so the L.S. & M. S. R. R., which had just entered Lansing from the south, made it a regular stop on its passenger schedule. One of the favorite and most pleasant ways of reaching the hotel in summer was via the steamers "Sea Bird" or Pickwick," both of which made regular trips on the river between the dam at North Lansing and the mineral well. Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.
- 1873 William Woodhouse proprietor of Mineral Spring and Hotel on Spring street. Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1873, pg. 403.
- 1874 Listed in atlas (1874)
- 1875 The big flood of April 1875, carried away the River St. bridge, so for a time the hotel was somewhat isolated and inconvenient to reach. To remedy this, the management maintained a ferry across the river which was operated until the bridge was replaced. The builders kept the hotel for a few years and then sold out to C. Y. Edwards & co. This firm owned it until 1879. In February of that year it was completely destroyed by fire and was not replaced. The

bathhouse was not burned and up to a few years ago was still standing in a dilapidated condition--a relic of its former prosperity. For many years the well continued to flow but the casing gradually rusted away and Clem Jarvis, who now owns the property, says it will probably not be replaced.”
Source: J. P. Edmunds LSJ 12-24-1921.

Feb 5, 1876 Burned

Woodhouse & Butler

Jan 28, 1846 Governor Felch nominated:
Oven Sharp, Joseph Woodhouse, Almon M. Chapin, Amos E. Steele, Joseph P. Cowles, David Waite, Joseph H. Kibbon (Kilborn) , Griffin Paddock, Amaziah Winchell, Levi Rowley and Daniel L. Case, to be notaries public for Ingham county, senate consented to on January 29, 1846.
Source: Executive Journal, Senate Journal 1846; pg. 2, 3 & 5.

Mar 1, 1848 Governor Ransom nominated:
Orin Sharpe, Joseph Woodhouse, Joseph P. Cowles, Joseph H. Kilborn, Griffin Paddock, Aramaic Winches, Levi Rowley, Vavasa H. Powell, Mason Branch, Minus McRobert, Edwin Hulburt and Moses B. Hess, to be notaries public for Ingham county for the legal term.
Senate consented to the nominations.
Source: Executive Journal, Senate Journal 1848; pg. 710.

Summer “Board of control of House of Correction for Juvenile Offenders entered into contract with Messrs. Woodhouse, butler & Baker, to employ forty boys in a chair shop. The necessary buildings and appliances were not got ready to start the chair shop till” October, in full operation in November.
Source: Second Annual Report of the Board of Control of the House of Correction of Juvenile Offenders for the fiscal year ending November 17, 1858; Joint Documents for year 1858.

1850 William Woodhouse elected Register of deeds.
Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 53.

Jun 20, 1857 Ingham county: Contract let to Matthew Elder of Lansing for brick court house at cost \$12,229.19; site committee consisted of P. R. Peck, William Woodhouse and J. C. Bailey; committee selected center of public square where

current court house sits; citizens of Mason contributed \$1,700.00; two stories high, fenced and contained court room, rooms for county officials. Source; Early History of Mason by Dr. William B. Hartzog, 1938, Chapter 10.

- Sep 1, 1858 Messrs. Butler, Woodhouse & Co., commenced the manufacture of chairs, in the new brick shop erected on the premises, under the contract for the labor of forty boys for five years. Source: Second Annual Report of the Board of Control of the House of Correction of Juvenile Offenders for the fiscal year ending November 17, 1858; Joint Documents for year 1858.
- Sep 26, 1859 Woodhouse & Butler paid state \$138.07 for boy labor in erecting. Source: Receipts and Disbursements in erecting South Wing, &c., under PA 193 of 1859; Fourth Annual Report of Board for 1860; included in Twenty-fourth Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1860; Joint Document No. 7 for 1860.
- Nov 22, 1859 State paid Woodhouse & Butler for erecting South Wing on main shop at State Reform School \$710.95 and paid \$27.15 for materials and repairs.
Source: Receipts and Disbursements in erecting South Wing, &c., under PA 193 of 1859; Fourth Annual Report of Board for 1860; included in Twenty-fourth Annual Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1860; Joint Document No. 7 for 1860.
- 1859 Woodhouse and Butler listed as Land & Tax Agents.
Source: Topographical Map of The Counties of Ingham and Livingston, Michigan published by Geil, Harley & Siverd, Philadelphia, 1859.
- 1859 During the year, the greater part of the boys have been employed in the manufacture of chairs, under a contract with Messrs. Woodhouse & Butler. The number of boys now at work in their shops is 66.
Source: Superintendent's Report; State Reform School for year ending Nov. 16, 1859; Joint Document of 1859, No. 5.
- Apr 4, 1859 Woodhouse & Butler paid state \$72.78 for labor of boys.
Jun 1, 1859 Woodhouse & Butler paid state \$160.00 for labor of boys.

Jul 1, 1859 Wood house & Butler paid state \$44.89 for labor of boys.

Jul 27, 1859 Woodhouse & Butler paid state \$62.80 for labor of boys.

Sep 2, 1859 Woodhouse & Butler paid state \$95.63 for labor of boys.

Source: Treasurer's Report; State Reform School for year ending Nov. 16, 1859; Joint Document of 1859, No. 5.

1860 All the boys except those engaged in the kitchen, dining room, &c., and in the manufacture of shoes and clothing for the inmates, are employed from the house of 9 to 12 A.M. and 1 to 4 P.M. by the contractors, Messrs. Woodhouse & Butler, in the manufacture of chairs, their proficiency in which is very gratifying to the Board. pg. 84

Source: BTS Board of Control; Twenty-fourth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; pg. 118; Doc. No. 7. Joint Documents for 1860.

1860 Woodhouse & Butler
William Woodhouse and Charles W. Butler, general land and tax agents, Washington Avenue.

Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1867-8, pg. 278.

Oct 29, 1861 Shops at BTS were destroyed in morning fire; 100 boys had been employed in manufacture of chairs under contract with Messrs. Woodhouse & Butler.

Source: Twenty-fifty Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; pg. 118; Doc. No. 5. Joint Documents for 1861.

Oct 29, 1861 During fiscal year ending November 17, 1861:
"Under the contract with Messrs. Woodhouse & Butler, 100 boys have been profitably and usefully employed in the manufacture of chairs; but the shops, with most of their contents, were entirely destroyed by fire on the morning of the 29th of October...The earnings of one hundred boys in the shop were eight dollars a day, or \$1.500 a year... pg. 118.

Made and painted 20,250 chairs in chair shop during fiscal year. pg. 131.

Most employed between hours 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. pg. 134.

Source: Fifth Annual Report of the Board of Control of the State Reform School; Joint Document No. 5 for 1861; pg. 118.

- 1850 William Woodhouse elected Register of deeds.
Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 53.
- 1858 Lemuel Woodhouse elected County Treasurer.
Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 53.
- Jul 30, 1863 Notice in The Republican (Charlotte) of July 30, 1863,
There will be meeting at J. C. Bailey & Company. Banking
Office at Lansing, to organize a stock company for
improvements of Grand River in several counties so as to
render it navigable.
William Woodhouse, Lansing.
The estimated amount of capital required \$250,000.
Source: Captioned in Eaton County, Michigan Newspapers,
Vol. 1 1845-1867, compiled and Indexed by Joyce Marple
Liepins.
- 1865 Report of the Committee on State Affairs, to whom was
referred a joint resolution for the relief of William Woodhouse
and Charles W. Butler.
- The committee on State affairs, to whom was referred House
joint resolution No. 18, being,
- A Joint resolution for the relief of William Woodhouse and
Charles W. Butler,
- Have had the same under consideration, and find that some
time since, the said Woodhouse and Butler employed certain
of the boys of the Reform School in their chair factory, under
a contract with the State for their labor, and for said labor, on
several monthly statements, there was found due, from the
said Woodhouse and Butler, to the State, about the sum of
thirteen hundred and seventy dollars, for which amount the
aid Woodhouse and Butler gave their notes, at the several
statements, and upon said notes the Board of control of
State Reform School directed suit to be brought, and
judgment was rendered for the amount, in favor of the State.
- Messrs. Woodhouse and Butler now ask to be relieved from
the payment of such judgment, for the following reasons, viz:

The factory or chair shop, wherein their business was prosecuted, was twice burned, destroying nearly all their tools and stock.

The last fire was, without doubt, the work of some of the boys confined in said school.

The Board of Control of State Reform School had consented to have the night watchman for said school, watch said factory, which it is claimed could not have been faithfully done, and in consequence of relying upon said watchman, the parties asking relief did not procure the services of any other and more faithful watch to be under their immediate control; and further, in the carrying on said chair manufactory, and in consequence of the two disasters by fire, their entire means became exhausted, and they are wholly unable to pay said judgment.

The committee, feeling that their duty is discharged when the facts are brought to the knowledge of the Senate, have directed me to report the said resolution back to the Senate with the foregoing statement, for your determination, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

D. H. Jerome, Chairman.

Source: Report of the Committee on State Affairs; Senate Doc. 21 of 1865.

- 1875 William Woodhouse president of village of Mason. Source: Early History of Mason by Dr. William B. Hartzog, 1938.
- 1877 William Woodhouse mayor of Mason. (incorporated as city in 1875) Source: Early History of Mason by Dr. William B. Hartzog, 1938.

National Hotel

See Clapsaddles

North Lansing House

Franklin Street; SW corner Franklin and Center St.

1874 Listed in atlas

1885 Listed on Sanborn map; N. Franklin; on north side of street between Centre and East.

Octagon Hotel

SE corner S. Washington and E. Kalamazoo.

1857	Opened
1920s	Razed

Ohio House

South side of Washtenaw Street; behind Downey Hotel; 100 block of Washtenaw Street.

On Washtenaw street facing the south side of the Capitol block. Source: Adams pg. 580.

In 100 block of West Washtenaw Street.

Source: An Historical Guidebook for the Hall of Christian Pioneers by Dick Frazier, 1986.

Behind Hotel Downey, on south side of Washtenaw Street, about where Piatt's Power Plant is.

Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 57.

1848	Opened.
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Dec 1848	The Sabbath School (First Presbyterian Church of Lansing) was organized in the Ohio House on a Sunday morning in December 1848. Church services were also held there for about three months and the minister is reported to have used an old flour barrel set on end for a pulpit. During the next three years, morning services were held in the State Capitol and the afternoon services were held in the schoolhouse on Cedar Street (where the church was organized) for one year, and then in a chapel set up for that purpose in a store house. Later this building was given to the Methodist church. Source: First Presbyterian Church (Lansing) 1847-1947. Booklet printed as part of the Centennial Celebration, pages 2 & 3.
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1849	Presbyterians held services in Capitol in morning, "except about three months of the year 1849, when they were held in a tavern building then known as the "Ohio House," the minister using a four barrel set on end for a pulpit, ... Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 172.
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1852	Opened.
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- Sep 1856 The next morning we sallied out and found our friend, John Horner, who was teaching for Miss Rogers, in the Michigan Female College, which occupies the Ohio House, in front of where C. T. Marks' livery stable is. He boarded at the Columbus House, a frame hotel standing where now is the Hudson House, and kept by Mr. C. C. Darling. Source: Reminiscentail by George P. Sanford, Lansing Journal, February 22, 1883; Michigan Pioneer Society, Vol. VI; pg. 292-295.
- 1856 Michigan Female College located in.
- “The services of the First Presbyterian church of Lansing were first held in a building known as the Ohio House, on Washtenaw street, where Dearn's livery stable now stands; afterwards for three years in Representative Hall in the old capitol building in the morning, and in the afternoon in the school house in North Lansing, in which the church was organized December 17, 1847. Then for one and half years the members worshipped in a chapel in North Lansing, which when vacated was given to the M. E. church.” pg. 7. For the first three years of his pastorate the Sunday services were held in Representative hall of the old capitol, excepting during three months in the early part of 1849 at which time they were held in a building known as the Ohio House” ...pg. 22. Source: History of the Beginning and Growth of the First Presbyterian Church, Lansing Michigan 1847-1922;
- ? Used for Miss. Rogers female college and later for tenements. Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 57.
- ? Burned. Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 57.

Olds Hotel

- 1926 Built by The Lansing Community Hotel Corporation.
Jul 14, 1926 Opened
?-1958 Bruce Anderson president and general manager; succeeded by son Olds Anderson.
- Jun 11, 1951 Fielder room opened, in honor of Mr. Anderson's famous Irish setter.
- Mar 19, 1955 Hotel Olds Operating company purchased Green Acres motel, North of Lansing on highway US27.
- 1960 Sold, renamed Jack Tar
1985 Closed

Oneida House

Corner of Washington and Saginaw

1872 Purchased by John H. Clements; landlord for two years.
Source: Ingham Report at 1898 Pioneer Meeting.

Packard House

? Daniel Parker early resident; Joseph W. Barker noted he came Lansing in June 1848 and in fall of 1849 formed partnership in mason business with Daniel Parker; Parker died appx. 1853. Source: Twentieth Century Edition, The Lansing Journal, January 1902.

1848 Constructed by John N. Bush after he completed Seymour House. 117 pg. 384

Mar 1848 Packard House completed. TSJ 5-24-1959, pg. 2-B.

Page House

Apr 11, 1847 On April 11, 1847 Rev. Orin Whitmore visited Lansing and preached sermon in, probably, "the first frame building erected in North Lansing, which was an addition to Esquire Page's log house. This building was used for a variety of purposes,--as a dwelling, boarding-house, hotel, church; as a business office by the State commissioners appointed to locate the Capitol; and as a court-room by Mr. Page, who was the first justice of the peace officiate in the village, or, at least, living within its limits. It was also the common rendezvous of the land speculators who visited this region and was altogether a busy place. As the before-mentioned meeting here were about sixty person convened,"
Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 168.

Porter Hotel

South side of Rutter Park

1918 Opened; built as apartment hotel by E, S, Porter,
1938 Remolded - apartment broken into apartments; leased by Mr. Davey (who operated Roosevelt)

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1847 | Wheel room (bar) opened and Press club moved into new quarters divided between a corner of the hotel and location immediately south; Press Club moved out Feb 1959. |
| 1948 | Expanded and renamed Capitol Park. |

Post House Hotel

Townsend & West Hillsdale
May 1959 Opened.

Railroad Hotel

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1873 | Jacob VanHusen proprietor Railroad House on Franklin Street near Depot.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1873, pg. 402. |
| 1877 | Jacob VanHusen proprietor of Railroad Hotel in North Lansing.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1877, pg. 564. |

Riverside Manor

E. Main and S. Washington Avenue on banks of Grand river.
Oct 1, 1957 Opened; 145 room motel.

Roosevelt Hotel

200 block of Seymour
Built by Frank P. Davey of Detroit.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1922 | Opened |
| 1937 | Two floors added |
| 1947 | Emerald room cocktail lounge opened; could not serve liquor due proximity to churches. |
| 1950 | Legislature passed act to authorize liquor-by-the-glass at Roosevelt; upheld by Supreme Court. |
| Jul 1952 | Sold to 4 Chicago men, who formed Lansing-Roosevelt Hotel company; Harold J. McCormick headed stockholders. |
| Jan 1959 | McCormick's interest bought out by three partners, E. L. Wenzel, Sol Rich and Harry Silverman, for \$90,000. |
| 1976 | Closed, converted to legislative office building. |

Seymour House (Franklin House)

SW corner of Center & Franklin
extending on Center Street about halfway to Wall Street.
Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 55.

Block 13

- 1847 Sum/Fall Erected; "He (Seymour) had a sawmill at Flushing and most of the lumber for the new hotel was hauled from there. The building was about 125 feet long by 40 feet wide and two stories in height." Source. J. P. Edmund's LSJ 12-24-1921.
- 1847 Opened - The Seymour Tavern
- Jun 1847 Oliver Bush came Lansing "One of his first contracts was on the building known as the old Seymour House....While thus employed he was taken sick with erysipelas, being obliged to leave his work October 9, and a few days later, October 20, he passed away from this life the age of sixty years."
Source: Portrait and Biographical Album of Ingham and Livingston Counties, Michigan; Chapman Brothers; Chicago 1891, pg. 383.
- 1847 "Smith Tooker built the first shanty in the city of Lansing. It was sixty feet long, and crowded with people who slept on the ground inside, and were very glad to get so good a shelter. I boarded with him and built smith & Case's store at North Lansing. This was the first frame raised in the city after the Capitol was located. The Seymour House was raised the next day. Source: J. P. Cowles at May 1873 Ingham County Pioneer Association meeting: Adams pg. 22.
- Sep. 1847 John N. Bush received contract to finish construction.
Source: Portrait and Biographical Album of Ingham and Livingston Counties, Michigan; Chapman Brothers; Chicago 1891, pg. 384.
- Summer 1847 "Also a large hotel called the Seymour House, all within speaking distance of our old home." (Page House).
Source: Mrs. C. M. Smith, daughter of Page; Adams pg. 16.
- Oct 20, 1847 Oliver Bush died. Source: TSJ 5-24-1959, pg. 2-B.
- 1847 "When I came to Lansing two years after this (1847) from New York states, " said Mr. Bush, in speaking of his early advent into the new state capital "Michigan City" as the place

was then called, consisted of a few log houses close to the river bank and along the road that is now Washington ave. Cedar st was then as prominent as Washington Avenue. The latter, from Michigan to north Lansing, was full of trash heaps and logs, and dense woods bordered it on both sides. The first hotel in the town was the Jipson house, where the stages shipped. The same year I came, however, two new hotels, the Benton house and the Franklin house, were built, the mason work on which I handled. I remembered that a French-Canadian named Peter Suppy worked with me in building the first of these, the Benton house on the site of the Olds residence, at Main street and Washington Avenue. Suppy was a giant in strength having the capacity for work equal to two ordinary men. He and I worked together and when the buildings were nearing completion and there was an urgent demand that it be finished in time for the big ball that was to mark the opening of the legislature for the first session in Lansing, the new state capital, he and I plastered 600 square yards of the interior Saturday afternoon between 2 and 9 o'clock so that the house might be ready for the ball Monday night. We finished the job that night. He and I made together the record of lathing and plastering 5,000 yards in two months, a record never surpassed by any pair of workmen, so far as I know, in the history of Lansing." Source: John N. Bush in The State Republican, April 14, 1909.

1847

"The building originally was 48 x 128 feet with cellars and two stories. Lumber and interior finish for the new hostelry were hauled from the Seymour mills at Flushing by oxen over mere trails. Some of the hardware, hinges for doors, etc. was brought from Eaton Rapids by boat as much of the traffic then was on the Grand River." Source: Adams pg. 587.

"Lansing's first hotel had few conveniences, but was shelter and served good meals. It had one convenience not known to modernity, however, that was a bar. Its lighting system was candles. If guests were sick in the night or wanted anything, they "hollered." If the landlord was awake, he heard them and responded. If asleep, the guest "hollered" until tired." Source: Adams pg. 587-8.

The hotel in an earlier day became popular as a stopping place for stages, which plied between Lansing and Detroit and Lansing and northern points. Horses were changed at

the old hotel which had a barn of huge proportions in the rear. With the coming of the railroads the stage business became a dead issue. From that period the hotel's patronage began to decline." Source: Adams pg. 589.

1847

"Seymour," now the "Franklin House" was immediately commenced, with a number of stores on the first floor. The first store that was filled with dry goods was built by Messrs. Crossman and Walker of Flint. Source: History of the Early Days of North Lansing," by Mrs. D. L. Case, delivered at Pioneer Society Annual Meeting, June 5, 1884 pg. 420.

"...with rooms for stores south of the hotel office or bar-room, as it was then called, parlor and sleeping rooms in the second story, and a dance hall ran the whole length in the upper half or two-thirds story..."

Source: Past and Present, Cowles, pg. 55.

1847

Seymour House built SW corner Center and Franklin 29 pg. H-12. Seymour House constructed corner of Center & Franklin (E. Grand River) Streets. Source: Lansing and Its Yesterdays, The State Journal, 1930 pg. 71

"A two and half-story frame, extending on Center Street about half way to Wall Street, with rooms for stores south of the hotel office or bar-room, as it was then called, parlor and sleeping rooms in the second story and a dance hall ran the whole length in the upper half or two-thirds story, for it seemed too high for a half, and too low for a full story."

Source: Past and Present of the City of Lansing and Ingham County Michigan, by Albert E. Cowles pg. 55.

48 x 128 feet, cellar, 2 stories high, lumber hauled from Seymour mills at Flushing by oxen over trails, some hardware hinges, etc. bought from Eaton Rapids by boat. Lighting by candles. Source: Historic Michigan Land of the Great Lakes, edited by George N. Fuller, M. D., An Account of Ingham County From Its Organization, edited by Frank N. Turner, M. D., Vol. III, pg. 94

Seymour House faced Franklin street Hotel office and bar in front, and stores behind offices, parlor and sleeping rooms on 2nd floor. Dance hall on 3rd floor.

Source; Lansing State Journal, April 28, 1955 pg. H-11.

...the Seymour House...was built in '47, H. H. Smith, now of Jackson having a general store in one of the compartments, at which place my father purchased a ball of pink and white soap, which my childish fancy coveted at the time of our visit (October 1847)."

Sketch Of The Life of C. C. darling, Lansing, Michigan by Mrs. R. C. Dart; Pioneer Collections Report of the Pioneer Society of the State of Michigan, Vol. IV, 1881 pg. 178.

- 1847 Seymour House built SW corner of Center & Franklin Street. Frame building 130 x 40 feet. 6pg. 58. Haven for weary travelers following Grand River Trail from Detroit. Source; Lansing State Journal, April 28, 1955 pg. C-2.
- Jan 1, 1848 "It was first opened Jan. 1, 1848, with Jesse T. Turner as landlord." Source. J. P. Edmund's LSJ 12-24-1921. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- Feb 15, 1848 Turner's Hotel at the capitol, is the house which all visitors who desire a good landlord, good fare, and good accommodations generally, would stop. Mr. T. is always on hand, his house is commodious and well furnished, and he has a way of satisfying everybody. Go to Turner's, by all means. Source: Jackson Patriot, February 15, 1848.
- 1848-49 Jesse F. Turner landlord. Source: Adams pg. 588. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1849-53 McGlovey landlord. Source: Adams pg. 588. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- Dec 19, 1850 James Seymour and Charles T. Allen agree Allen to rent Seymour hotel except stores of *Smith, Turner Seymour & E. Vedder* for one year for \$100.
- Content of Hotel:
21 stoves
19 carpets
50 Windsor chairs
28 toilet tables
6 wash bowls
9 pitchers
15 bedsteads & rope

15 feather beds
 15 straw beds
 15 quilted comforters
 34 blankets
 32 pillows
 6 long dining tables
 7 chambers with covers
 10 chambers
 3 sheets
 3 pillow cases
 Source: Bentley Collection

- 1853 Seymour sold to N. J. Allport.
 Source. J. P. Edmund's LSJ 12-24-1921. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1853-61 John Powell bought Source: Adams pg. 588.
- 1860 H. Augle proprietor of Seymour House, corner of Franklin and Center. Source: George W. Hawes' Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1860, pg. 222.
- 1861-? Horace Angell (County sheriff) bought. Source: Adams pg. 588.
- ? -1863 Dr. Israel Richardson. Source: Adams pg. 588.
- 1863 Bought by J. W. Hinchey name changed to "Hinchey House"
 Source: Adams pg. 588.
- 1863-4 Horace Angel, proprietor of Seymour House in Lower Town.
 Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1863-4, pg. 377.
- 1870 Bought by J. W. Hinchey; ward councilman and "dyed in the wool" Democrat. Source. J. P. Edmund's LSJ 12-24-1921.
- 1867? Bought by Mr. Damon, who raised and put in brick basement, sold to Hinchey. Source: Ingham and Eaton Counties, Michigan, 1880, Durant, pg. 162.
- 1874 Reopened as Franklin House.
- 1874 Reopened as Franklin House
 By 1921 Known as Franklin Terrace and houses score or more of families. Source: Adams pg. 587.

- Appx. 1888 Hinchey died; purchased and remodeled into apartments by E. S. Porter. Source: LSJ 12-24-1921.
- 1891 George Lovely took over
R. S. Porter bought and changed to Franklin Terraces apts.; veneered the sides with brick and converted into apartment house. Source: Adams pg. 588-9.
- By 1921 Known as Franklin Terrace and houses score or more of families. Source: Adams pg. 587.

Shattuck Boarding House

- 1860 A. Shattuck operated boarding house on corner main and River. Source: George W. Hawes' Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1860, pg. 226.

Strand Hotel

Second floor of building at S. Grand avenue and E. Allegan Street.
Operated by Mrs. Richard Murray, Sr.

- Mar 1950 Lease of property taken over by western department of the Boston and Old Colony Insurance company, remodeled and used for offices.

Union Hotel

- 1867-7 Israel E. Richardson worked Union Hotel on corner of Central and Franklin.
Source: Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory for 1867-8, pg. 275.

Wentworth Hotel

NE corner Grand and Michigan (120 pg. 26) Built by Frank and Allen Wentworth

- 1901 Opened
1909 \$50,000 addition added to hotel (Kerns Hotel); project of son-in-law - William G. Kerns.
Added 111 rooms; "hot and cold water and telephone in every room and ice water in every room, during summer, are among the conveniences of the new hostelry."

Source: Hotel Capacity To be Tripled, State Republican,
April 15, 1909.
Razed

1966

Lansing Hotel History

1847 "The first hotel was kept by old Mr. Hunt, in a shanty made of boards, near where the Mineral Springs House now stands. Gipson soon after got in to a log house that he built opposite to the present Lansing House, and that was called Lansing House. Mr. Hunt commenced to build the old Michigan Exchange on the 5th day of June, and on July fourth he had an Independence ball in the new house." 268 pg 21.

1873 Jacob Eichele erected and became proprietor of the Eichele House; a three-story brick hotel at 206 N. Washington Avenue (1891 address); leased to son-in law on May 1, 1891;
Eichele came Lansing in 1867 and engaged in boarding house business "having connected with the house a saloon." 117 pg. 407.

1863 Moses R. Taylor came to Lansing "as clerk for Martin Hudson at the old American House, and afterward the old Hudson House." 117 pg. 407.

Nov 22, 1890 John C. Hawes came city and established decorative painting business called Decoratum; business at 306 N. Washington Avenue (1891 address).; completed decoration in Hotel Downed (1890-91). 117 pg. 430. (Sketch and Photo of in source.)

1859 Martin Hudson came to Lansing, leased "the old Lansing House, which he ran until it was burned. he then became the proprietor of the old Benton house, now known as the Everett House. This he continued for about two years and then took charge of the old Eagle house, which he later purchased, changing its name to the American house.

When the new Lansing House, now called Hotel Downey, was completed Mr. Hudson furnished the place and opened it, giving a grand house-warming as the inaugural affair. he conducted it for about eleven years, from 1864 to 1875, and then sold his interest in it to N. G. Isabelle. Later he built the Hudson House on the site of the old American House. This building is a fine, large, substantial edifice, well-furnished

and conducted by him until his death, which occurred March 15, 1889." Upon death Hattie (Butterfield Hotel" on the north side of Franklin Street (now Grand River Avenue) in North Lansing. The hotel, a yellow, two-story structure, had a long porch in front and a barn for the stage and horses alongside." 7 pg. 38.

1864

Account of Dr. F. N. Turner "On a bright sunny day in September 1864, after a good old-fashioned five o'clock breakfast, we report for the journey at the old butter field Hotel at North Lansing. This hotel was on the north side of Franklin street on the ground now occupied by the Rikerd Lumber Company. It was a two-story wooden building painted yellow with a porch along its entire front. The barn where the stage and horses were kept was just east of it. The peculiar thing that struck my boyish fancy was that of the arrangement of these two buildings--the hotel stood broadsides to the street while the barn stood end to street." Source: Adams pg. 178.

Area Hotels

Okemos

Hotel kept by Freeman Bray

"The post office was in the hotel and I remember never having gone for the mail as a land that the old bar room was not filled with men, some dead drunk, some noisy drunk, and all more or less under the influence of liquor. ...The hotel at Okemos was no worse than the rest. it was merely typical of the taverns of those days, which abounded along every road." Source: Russell B. Calahan, LSJ March 16, 1923; Source: Adams pg. 602.

Holt

1848

First building used for a Hotel at the Center (Delhi-Holt) was built by Price Welch in 1848. ..This hotel was on the ground where the residence of Dr. Alexander now stands. Source: Pioneer History of Ingham County, pg. 376. Written by Mrs. Myrtle B. Hillard, Holt; June 6, 1916; read before Ingham County Pioneer and Historical Society at 44th Annual Meeting.

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