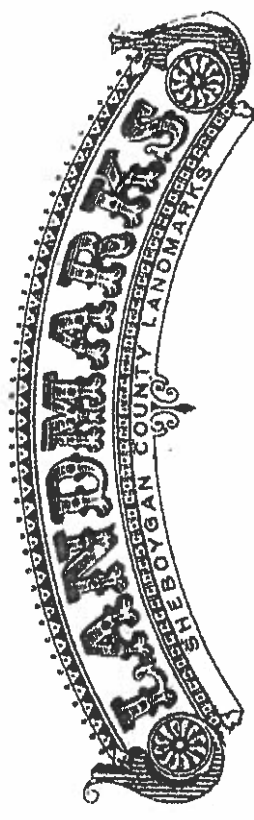
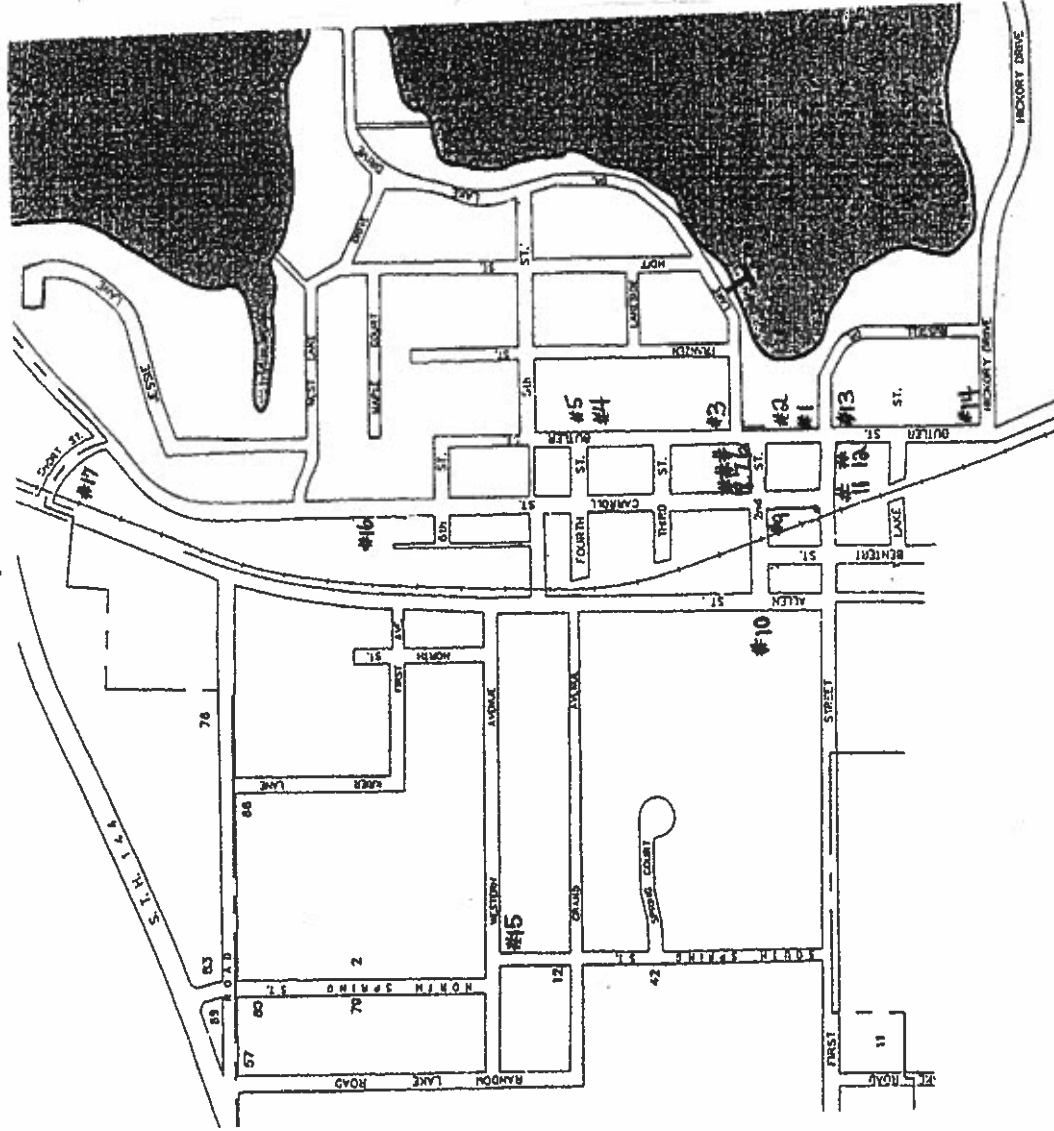
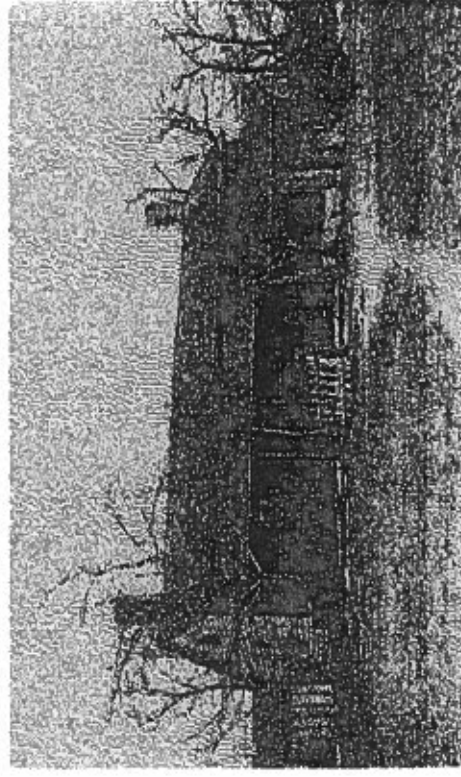


Historic Random Lake 1865-1926

17 Historic Properties



Historic Random Lake Walking Tour 1865-1926 17 Historic Properties



~ Beginnings ~

When the railroad first came to what is now Random Lake in 1870, the officials gave the place the name Greenleaf, after E.D. Greenleaf, the financial agent of the company. The name was soon changed so as to conform to that of the lake on the edge of which it was laid out. Despite the fact that the spot is a natural site for a flourishing village, no settlement sprang up there until the railroad encouraged one.

The government surveyors, who made the original government survey of that section of the county in 1835, named the lake. "Running a random line" is a surveying expression; and it probably was while the surveyors were running such a line through the thick woods in the course of their work that they accidentally came upon the lake, and named it after the event." (Buchen, Gustave W., 1944)

John P. Carroll is said to have been the first settler in the area, coming here in 1848. The location of a railroad station was the signal for the formation of the village. The first building was the depot, which was shortly followed by a post office, the union house and a house for the station agent. The village thereafter got a public school, lumberyard, one saloon, a livery stable, a wagon shop and two blacksmith shops. Three grain warehouses and five icehouses rounded out the brisk trade business of the village.

According to the 1881 publication, *History of Wisconsin*, Random Lake's population was 260. The village was incorporated in 1907. The early settlers were mainly of German and Irish lineage.

**#1 Random Lake Auditorium
112 Butler Street 1921**

This Neo-Classical Public Building style structure was used for all community functions and fundraising activities. It was rented to the public school system for its activities, as the school had no gym or auditorium. It has been restored to its original architectural style, and is now the fourth home of the library.



**#2 Carl Pfeiffer House
120 Butler Street 1902**

This Victorian-style Cream City Brick house was built as a two family home by retired farmer, Carl Pfeiffer. The basement also housed a bedroom and kitchen for the local ice delivery man who happened to be Carl Pfeiffer's brother. There was a small barn on the property used as a stable. The home is now a single family residence



**#15 Charles Rietz House
684 Western Avenue 1919**

Mr. and Mrs. Rietz owned the Rietz Distillery in Silver Creek until the Volstead Act of 1917 forced them out of the distilling business. Mr. Rietz died before this home was completed. It is a fine example of an unaltered Craftsman Style bungalow, common in the WWI era of Wisconsin. Lumber from the Silver Creek Distillery was used for finish work in the upstairs.



**#16 Charles Hamm Brewery
521 Carroll Street 1912**

This brick commercial Victorian-style building housed a brewery run by Charles Hamm. He died in Europe while serving in the army in 1918. William Jung ran the business from 1918 until 1932, when he purchased it from the Hamm family. The bottling house was built in 1933. The entire facility was then sold to Herman Sitzberger in 1952. Sitzberger owned it until production ceased in 1958. Alfred LeClair purchased the property in 1978. It is currently owned by the Mondloch's who have converted the brewery to living space. From 2008-2012 the bottling house was the home of The Random Lake Area Historical Society Museum.



**#17 Carl Nowack House
900 Short Street 1865**

Formally located at 37 Hickory Drive, this half timber home, the oldest in historic Random Lake, was dismantled and restored. Built in 1865, an extra room and exterior wide-board vertical siding were added in 1875. About 20 years later the house was modernized with clapboard siding. Mr. Nowack, served in the Civil War. Before and after he worked as a carpenter. Four generations of Nowacks lived there, the last leaving the home in 1947. The Lorenz Scholler family donated the building to the Random Lake Area Historical Society in 1998. The restoration was completed in 2005 and it was dedicated as a State Historical Site Building that same year.



#12 Malloy/Russell Medical Office 1912
400 First Street

Sometime after Dr. T. E. Malloy built his "fire safe" building, he built this large frame home and moved his medical practice there. Dr. Joseph Russell joined his uncle, Dr. Malloy, in 1936, using this building as his office until he moved his practice next door to the "fire safe" building. The building is currently a law office.



#13 Random Lake Telephone Co. 1918
98 Butler Street

Emil Thiel built this modified Prairie-Style building as his residence. The Telephone Company was located over the garage. The garage and basement stored supplies and construction equipment for the telephone business. In 1936, Thiel sold the business to Midwest States Telephone Co. It was later sold to General Telephone, which occupied it until 1960. The wood shake exterior was originally stucco. The building has been converted into private residences.



#14 Wilmer Orth House and 1914
Random Lake Ice Co.
40 Butler Street

This Sears and Roebuck Catalog house is a bungalow kit that was the year round residence of the Wilmer Orth family. It was also an ice company office until the Orth family moved to Milwaukee to manage one of their ice and coal businesses. From 1928 on, it was the family's summer home and winter headquarters for the management of the ice harvest on Random Lake. Michael Orth, grandson of the ice company founder, has lived there since 1951.



#3 George Krier House 1926
210 Butler Street

This Old World Style bungalow was built by George Krier. He and his brother Henry started Krier Preserving Company, with factories in Random Lake and Belgium. The architecture reflects European influence, or more specifically Luxembourg design.



#4 St. Mary Parish Rectory 1908
230 Butler Street

This rectory was built on the south side of the church providing living quarters for the parish priest, his housekeeper and visiting clergy. It also served as the church and school office. It is currently used as living quarters for the resident priest, and as an office for the merged congregation of Our Lady of the Lakes.



#5 St. Mary Church 1895
300 Butler Street

The congregation of St. Mary in Random Lake was established in 1855. The original church was located at the site of the cemetery west of the village. This present church was built in the Gothic Vernacular Style. It replaced the original church, which burned. In 1925, an addition enlarged this structure. It is now the principal worship site of Our Lady of the Lakes Parish.



#6 Martin "Fred" Melcher Store 1878
405 Second Street

Railroad service began in Random Lake in 1872. This building, originally built as a general store in 1878, was constructed on speculation of village growth because of the railroad. The two story wooden store had living quarters on the upper floor and additional living quarters were added later. The building housed many enterprises. From 1923-1961 the Scholler family published the "Random Lake Times" at this location. In 1978, the building became the home of the same newspaper, which changed its name to "The Sounder" in 1975.



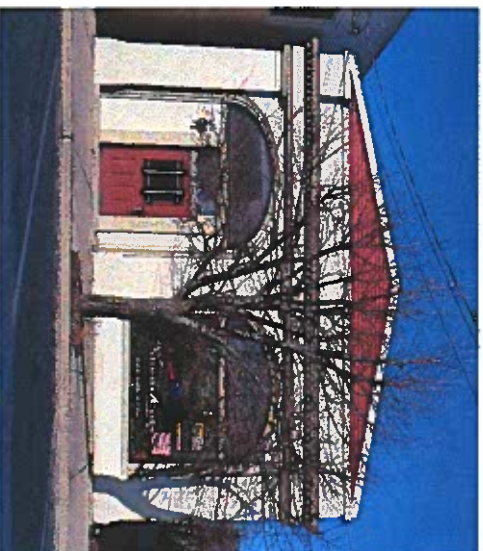
#9 State Bank of Random Lake 1924
430 Second Street

This Neo-Classical building was the second State Bank of Random Lake. When the bank moved to new quarters in 1972 it became the Public Library. The library stayed here until 1995. The building was restored and now houses a hair salon and spa.



#7 State Bank of Random Lake 1905
409 Second Street

First opened on July 12, 1905 this classical revival building served as the bank until 1924. Currently a barber shop, the front of the building was restored in 1998. At one time it was also the Random Lake Post Office.



#10 Doegnitz Hardware Store 1908
115 Allen Street

Built by W. F. Doegnitz as a hardware store and implement business in 1908, it specialized in farm machinery, buggies, cutters, feed, flour and all of the staples of farm life. The building style is Commercial Victorian. Exterior trim is intact, as is the interior tin ceiling. There have been two additions. The fourth and fifth generations of the Doegnitz family are now working in the business.



#8 Matthew B. Heinen Saloon and Hotel 1890
417 Second Street

The Heinen Saloon and Hotel was built well after the railroad came through. Although there were already several hotels and saloons in the area, more were needed. This use continued until the late 1940's. An Addition housed a millinery store, a jewelry store and the Random Lake Library. The original building and addition are now used as a restaurant.



#11 Dr. T. E. Malloy House and Office 1910
402 First Street

Dr. T. E. Malloy came to Random Lake to start his medical practice in 1899. His first office was in a wood frame building on this site. It was destroyed by fire in 1910. He then built this "fire safe" building of concrete block, which he used for his office and living quarters. He later moved his office into a large frame building next door.

