

A Draft Documentary History of
Businesses Along the E.T. & V./E.T.V. & G./Southern Railway in Downtown Johnson City,

Part 1:
The Hotel Piedmont Block and Adjacent Buildings
(Between Wilson and Main Streets, East of the Southern Mainline and West of Buffalo Street)

By William C. Schneck, Jr. (As of 24 March 2025)

1. Introduction

This is a draft documentary history of the businesses along the E.T. & V./E.T.V. & G./Southern Railway mainline through downtown Johnson City. The amount of information available on trackside businesses in downtown has caused me to place the bulk of this material in a separate series of documents. At present, I am planning to produce a total of five documentary histories on this subject. When Part 7 of “A Draft Documentary History of Trackside Industries in Johnson City” is posted, it will include most, if not all, of the maps, tables, and photographs incorporated into this new series, but little or nothing of the text and advertisements.

For the present document, I have attempted to collect relevant documents and place them in roughly chronological order for each geographic location. Maps and figures of the exterior of the buildings for each location are generally grouped together and presented first, while figures of the interior and advertisements are generally integrated with the text and are presented second.

Regrettably, I have failed to find much information on some of these businesses. Perhaps more can be accomplished on this portion of the subject. I invite other members of the Historical Society to add any missing material to this document and discuss/correct any deficient interpretations of the information at hand (particularly the dating and interpretation of the photographs). For those who wish to research the documents and photographs further, I have provided links, when available, to expedite such attempts. I wish to thank Chris Ford for his assistance and encouragement to bring this document into a presentable state.

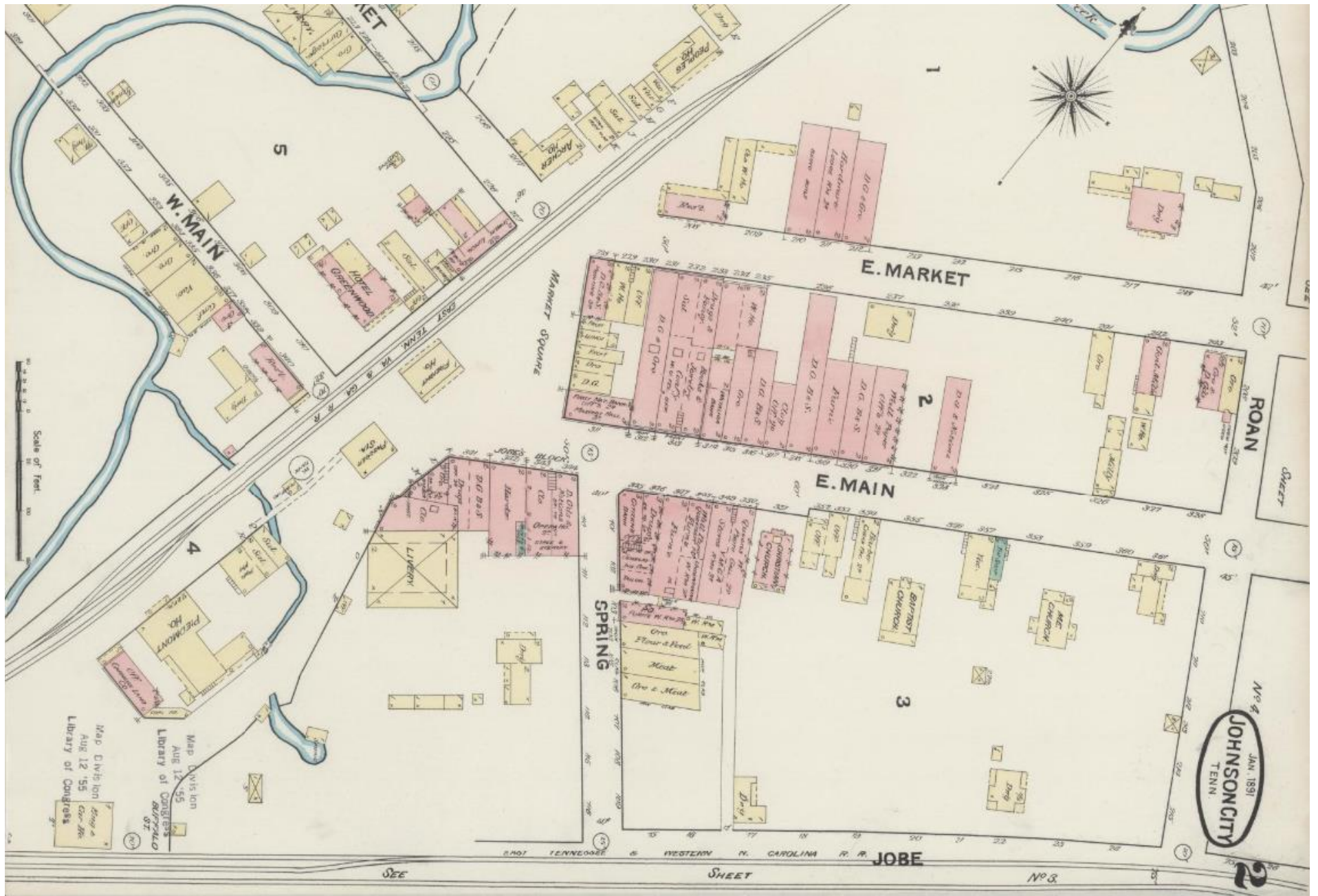
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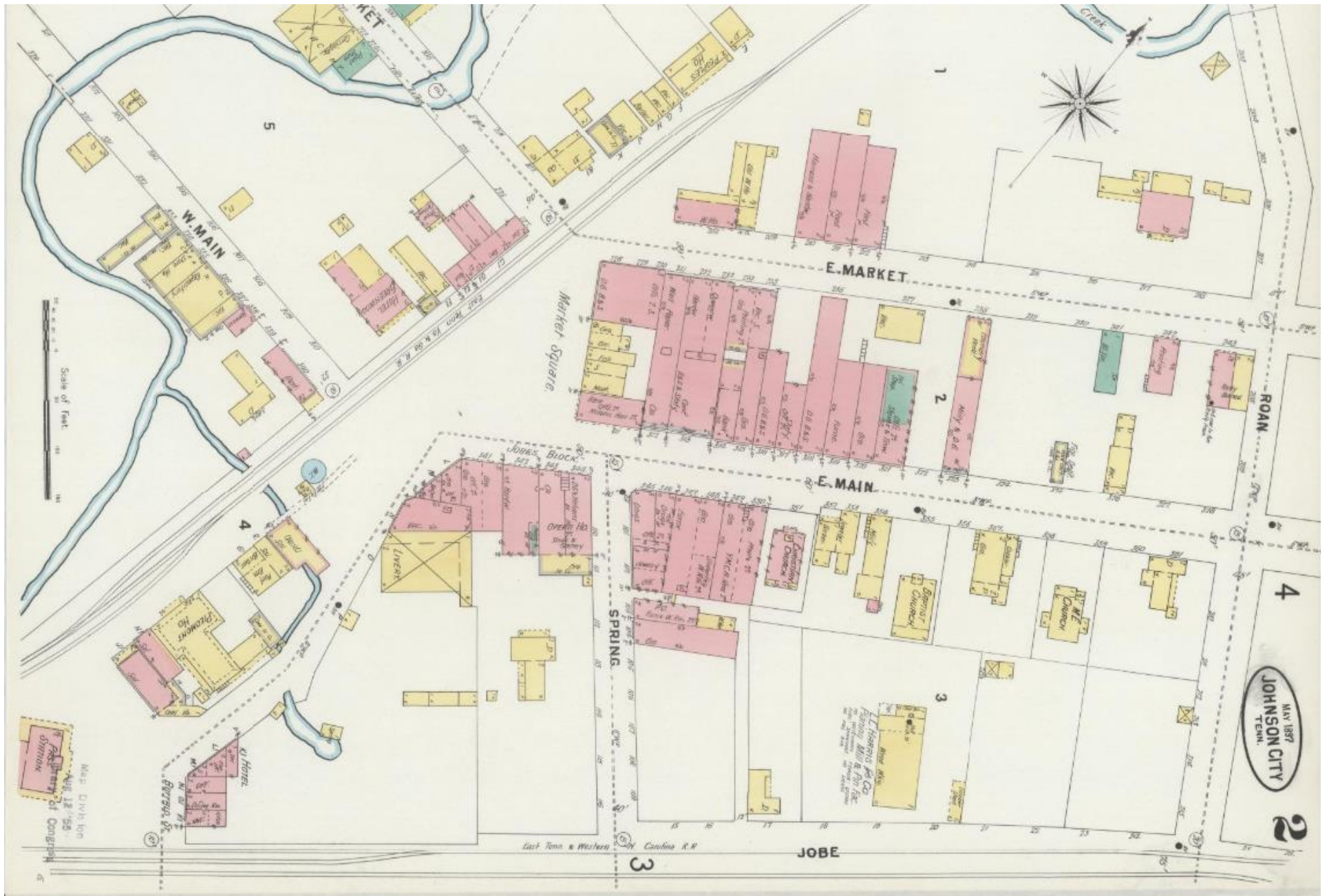
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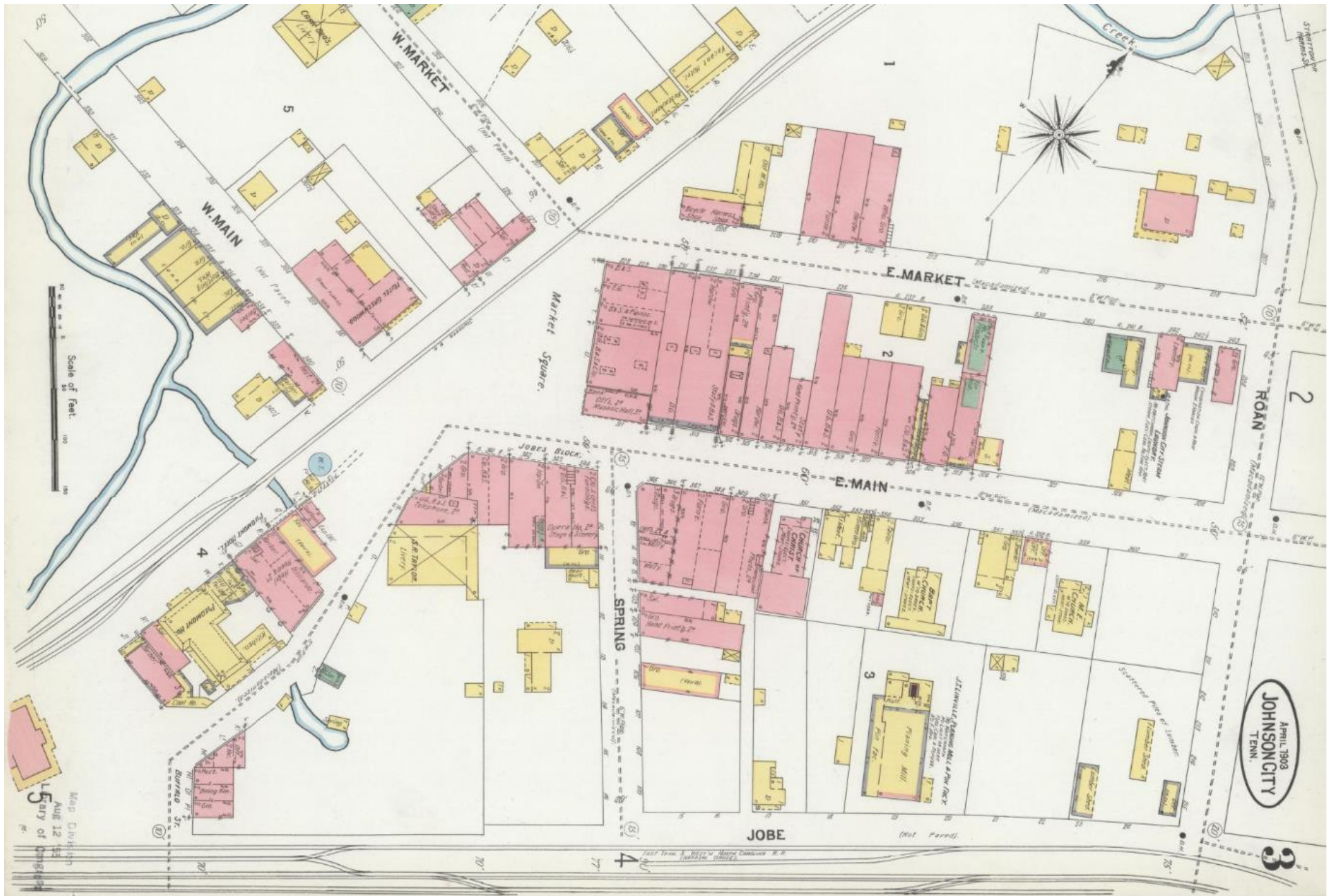
1.1. Maps of Downtown Johnson City, 1891 – 1920



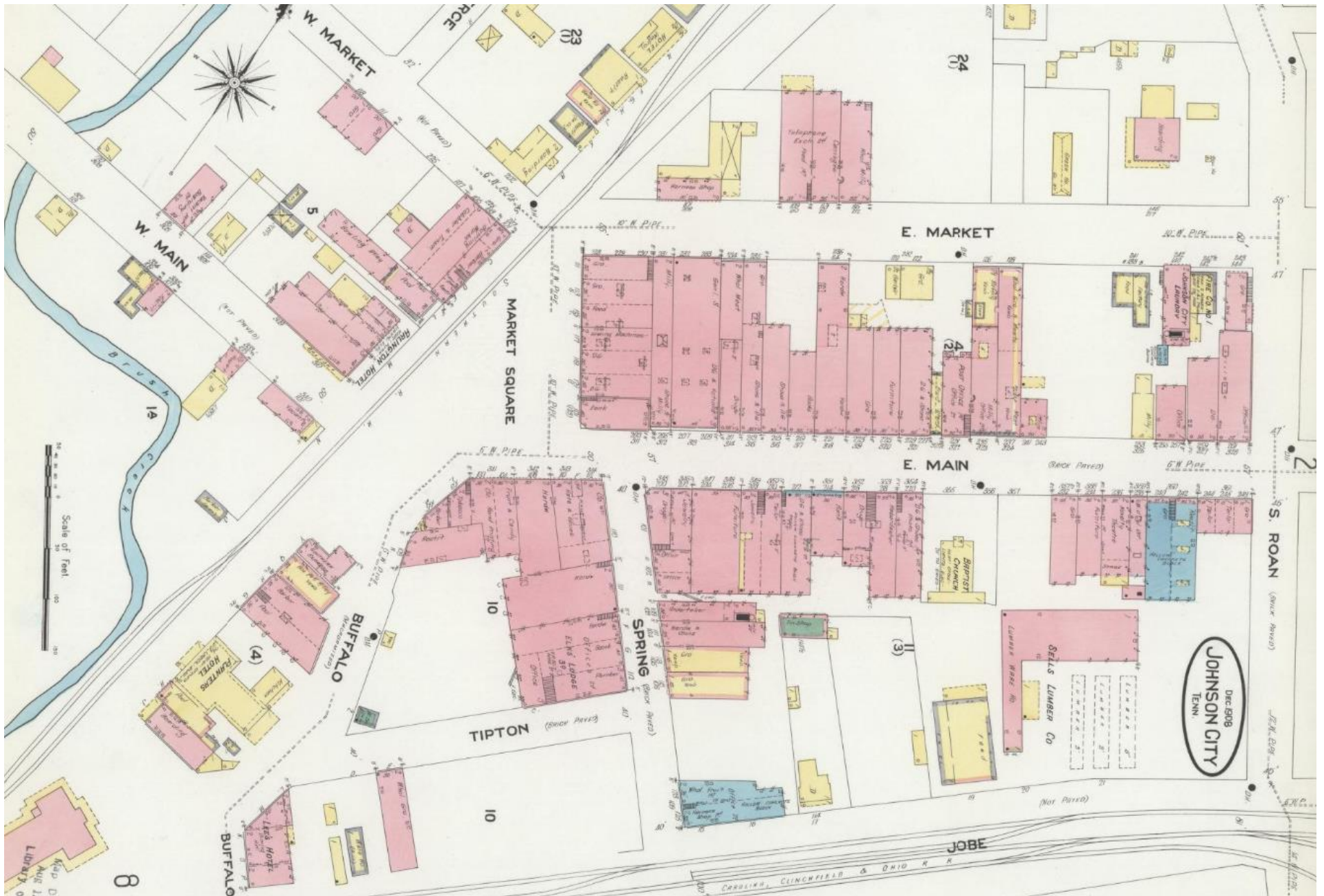
Map 1. Downtown Johnson City, January 1891. Note the “Piedmont Ho.” is in the lower left part of this image, east of the E.T.V. & G. mainline.¹



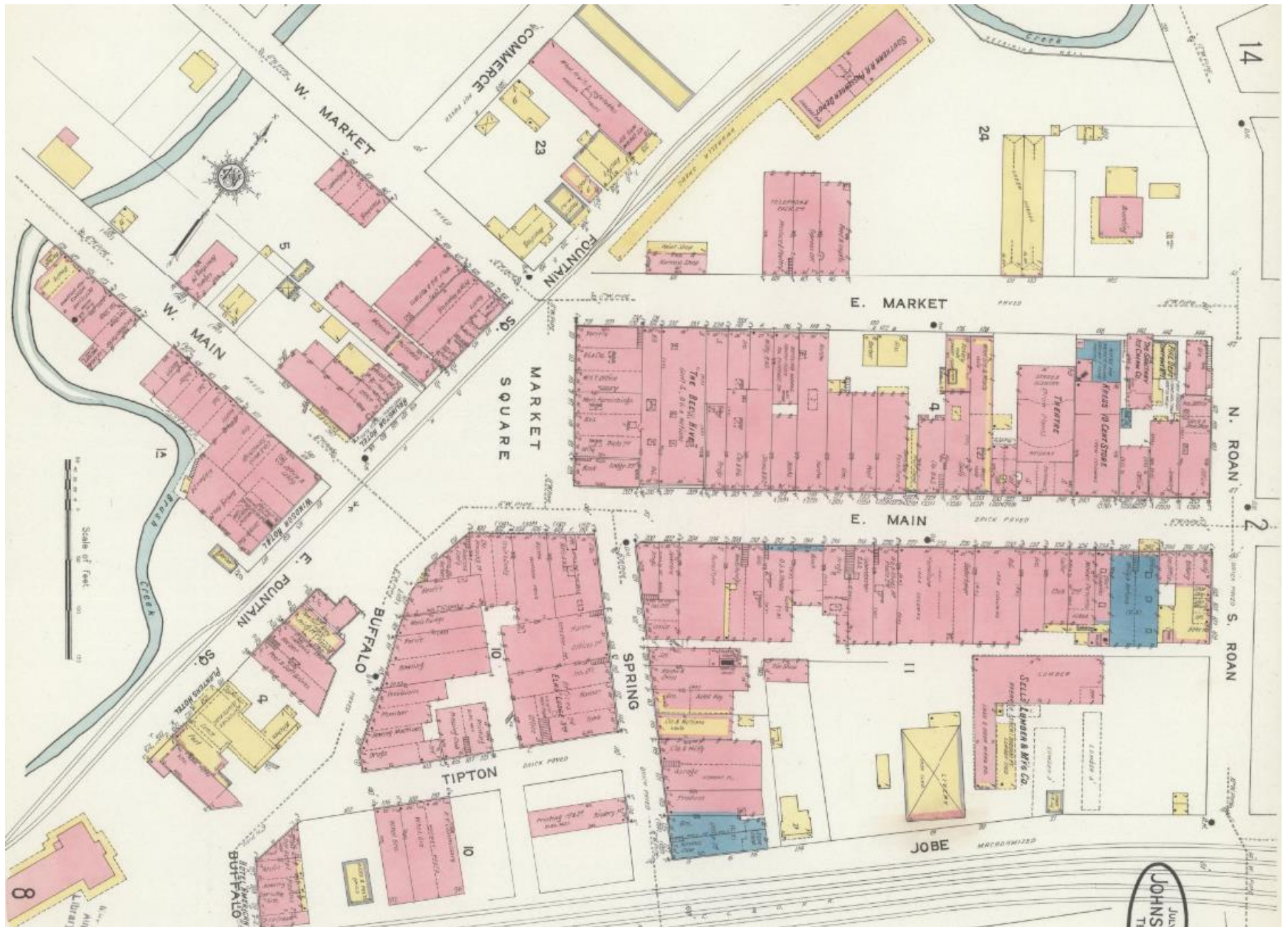
Map 2. Downtown Johnson City, May 1897.²



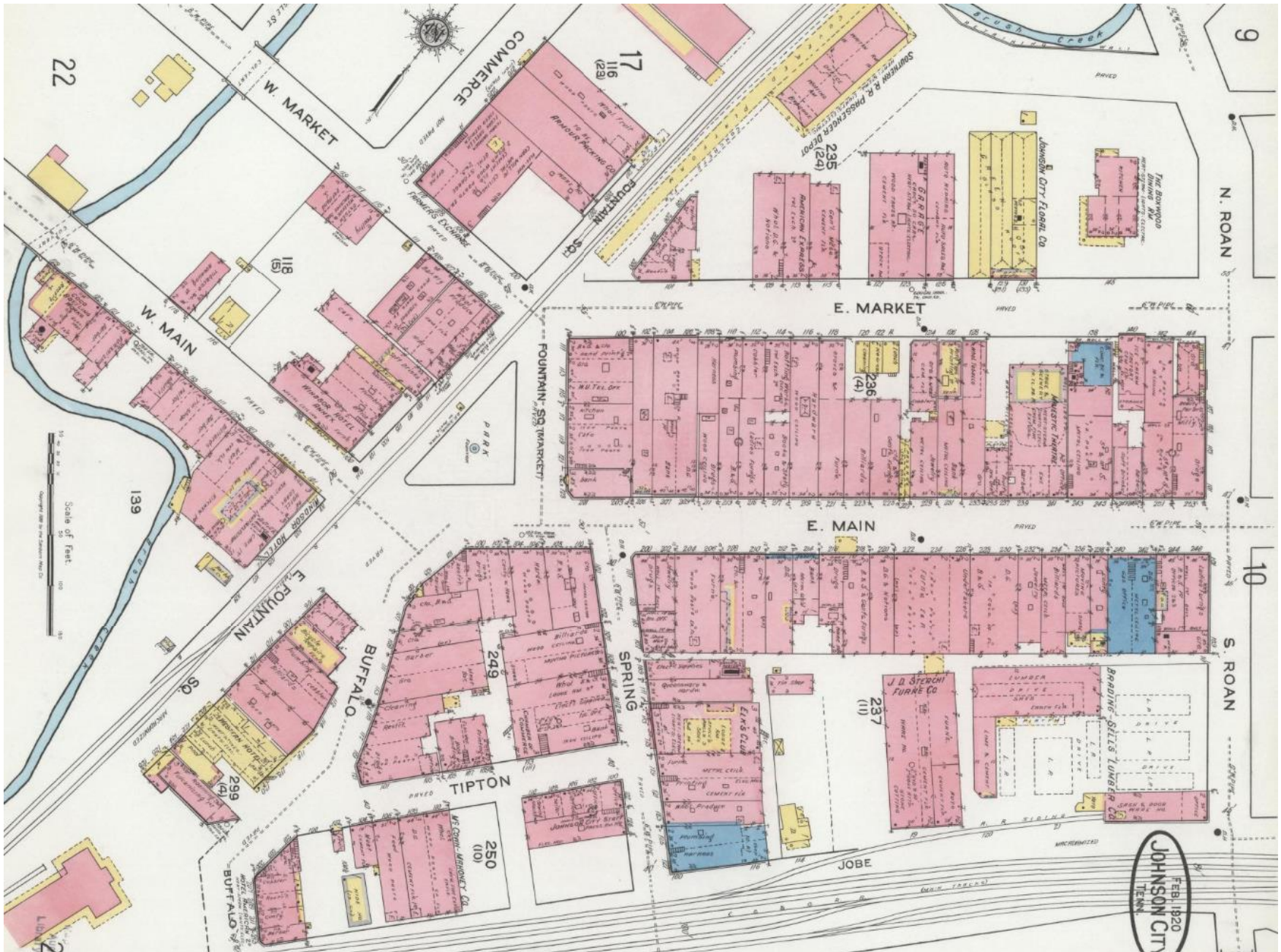
Map 3. Downtown Johnson City, April 1903.³



Map 4. Downtown Johnson City, December 1908.⁴



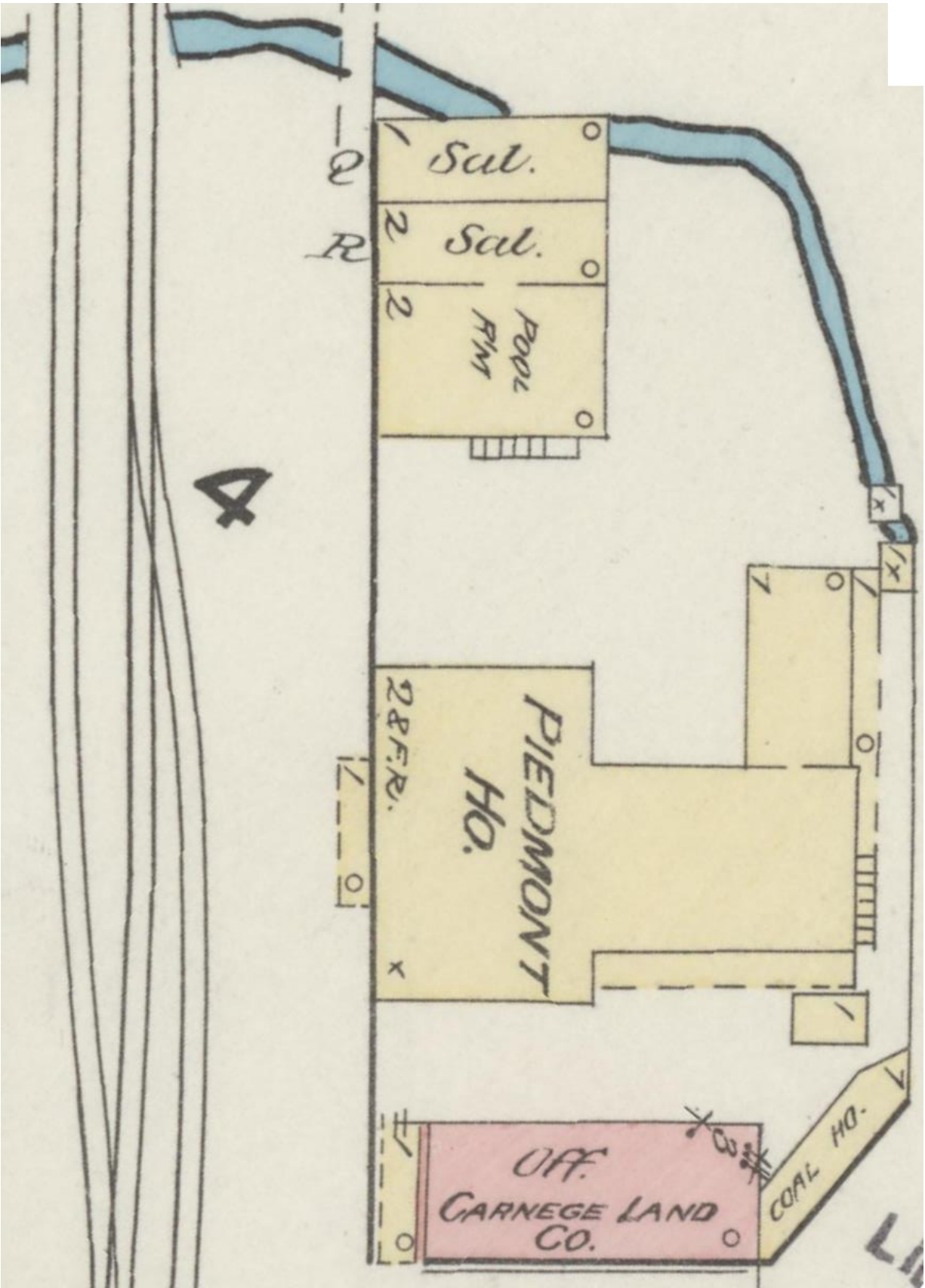
Map 5. Downtown Johnson City, July 1913.⁵



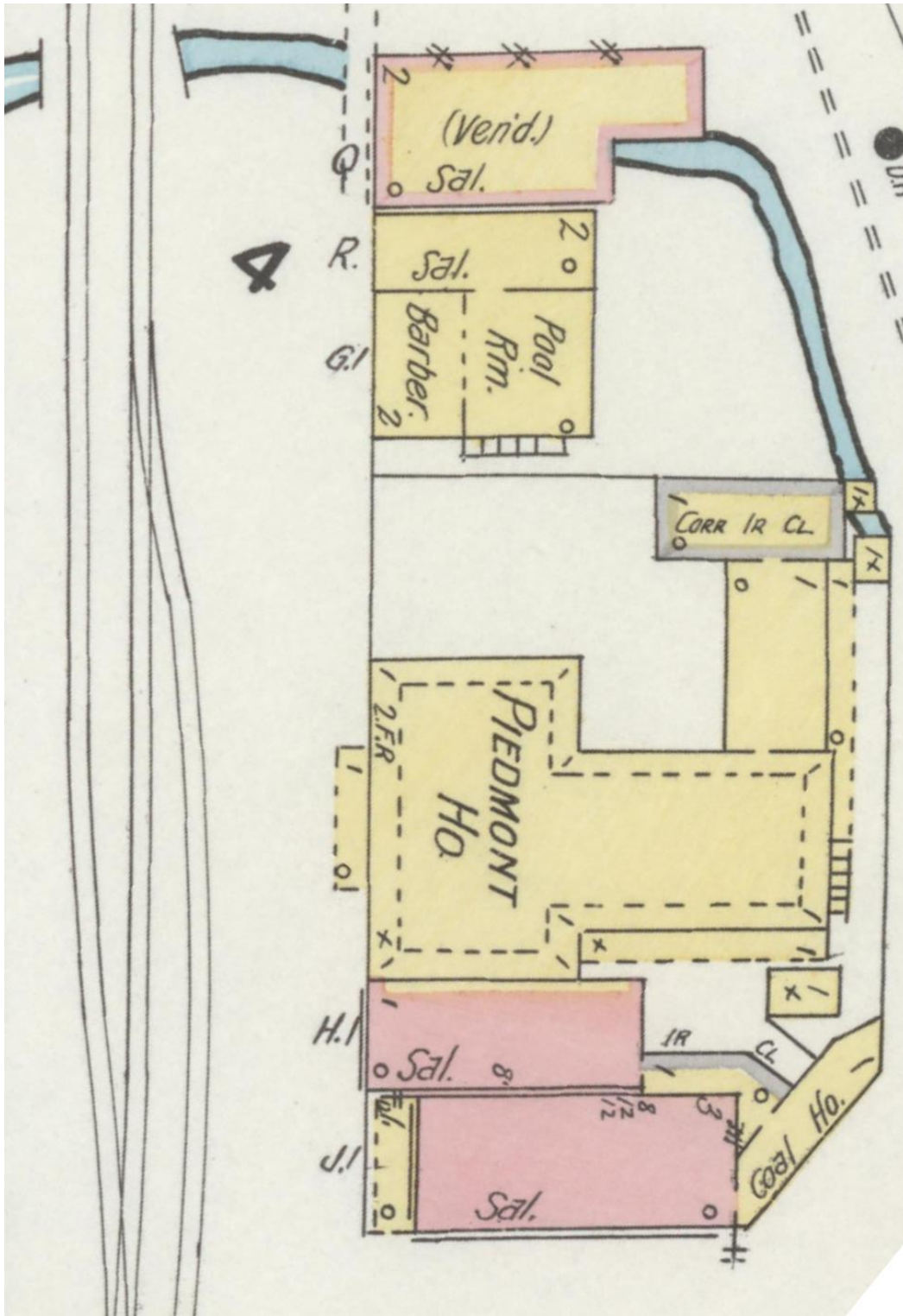
Map 6. Downtown Johnson City, February 1920.⁶

1.2. Maps and Aerial Photographs of the Hotel Piedmont Block and Associated Buildings,
1891 – 2006

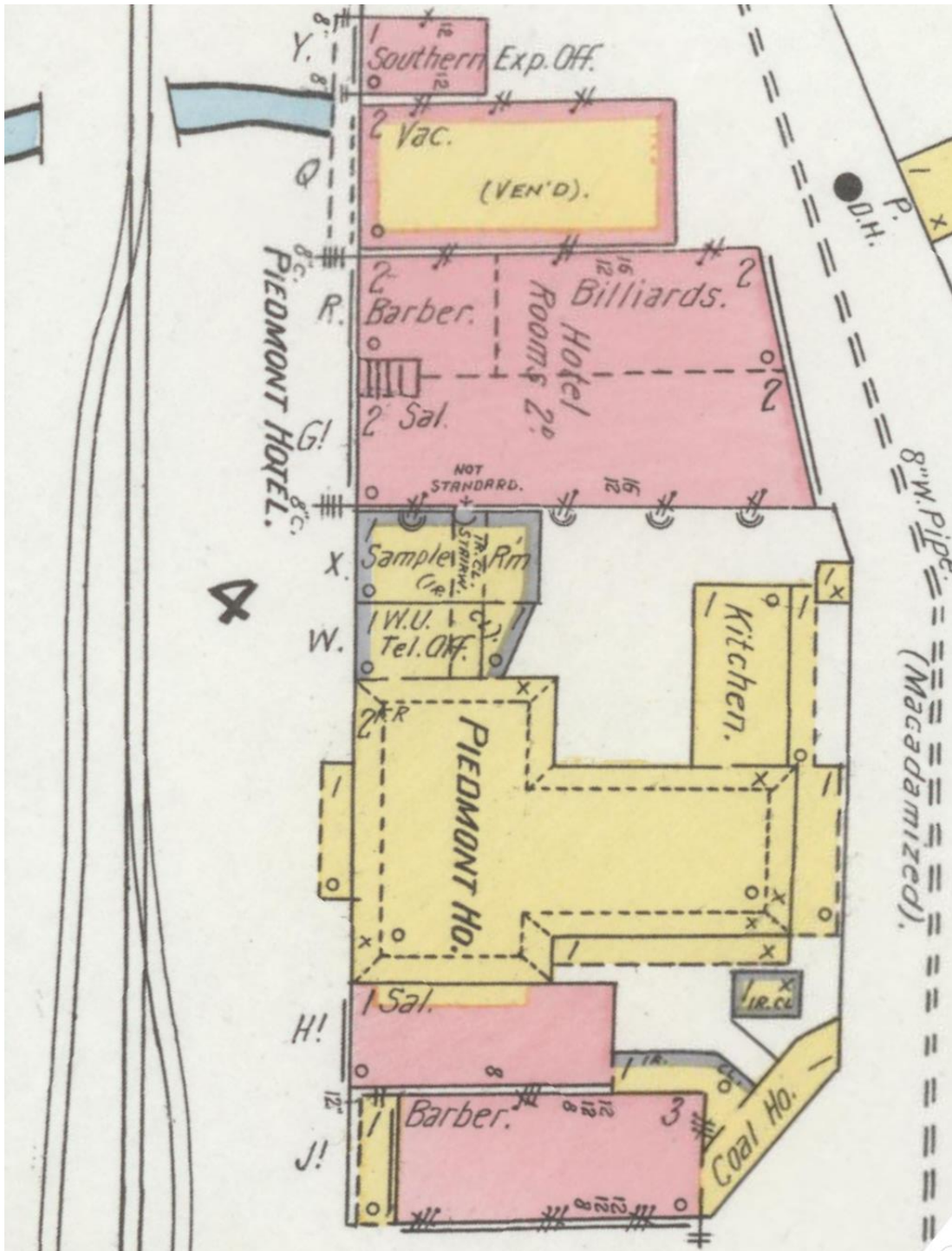
Note: Although the central building in this block was known as the Hotel Piedmont only from 1887 to 1905, the term “Hotel Piedmont Block” will be used generally in the interest of clarity.



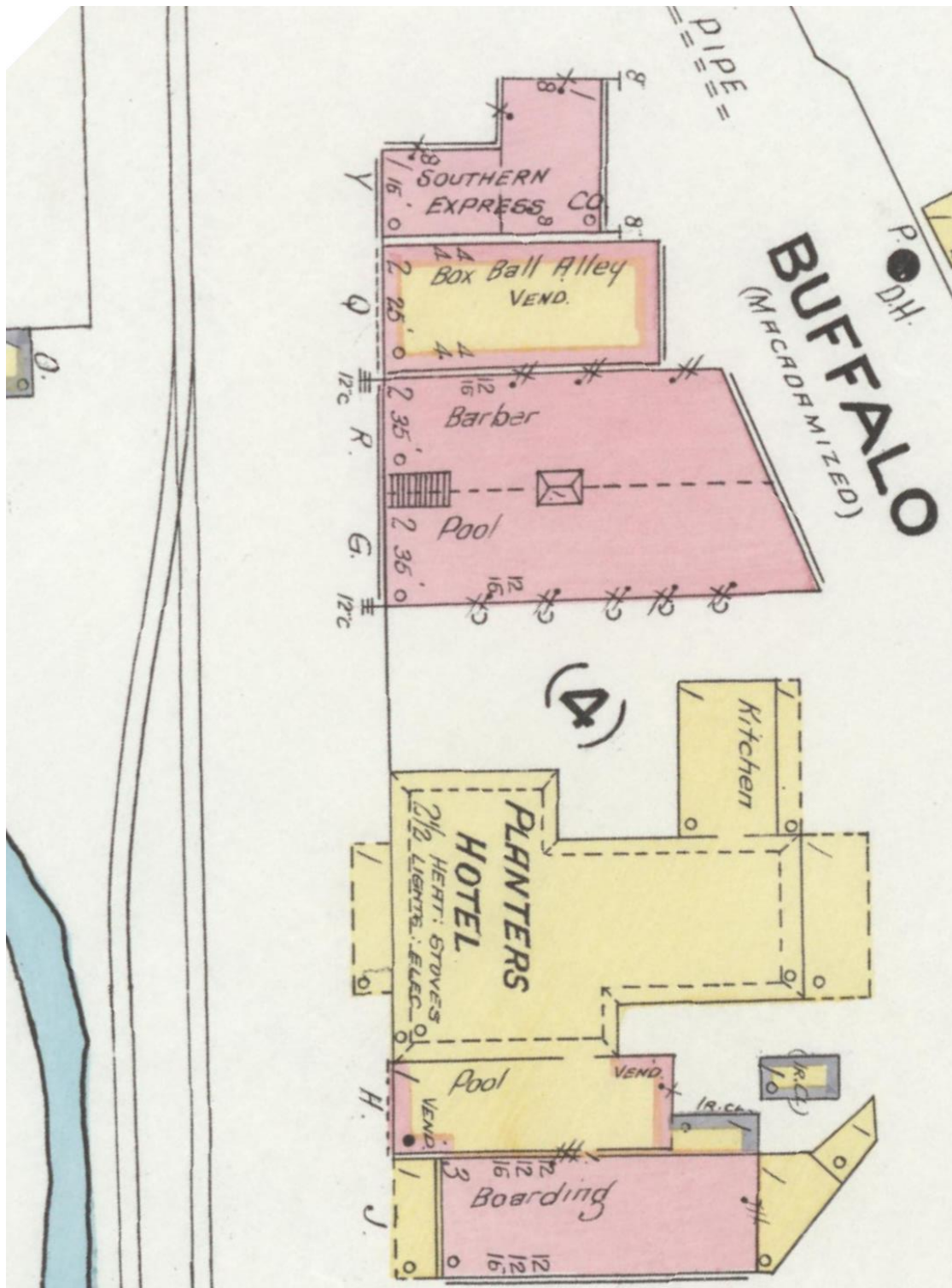
Map 1A. The Hotel Piedmont block and associated buildings, January 1891. It appears that the “Sal.” at “Q” was John Gregg’s saloon, while the “Sal.” and “Pool R’m” in the two-story wood-framed building at “R” belonged to W.O. Phillips.



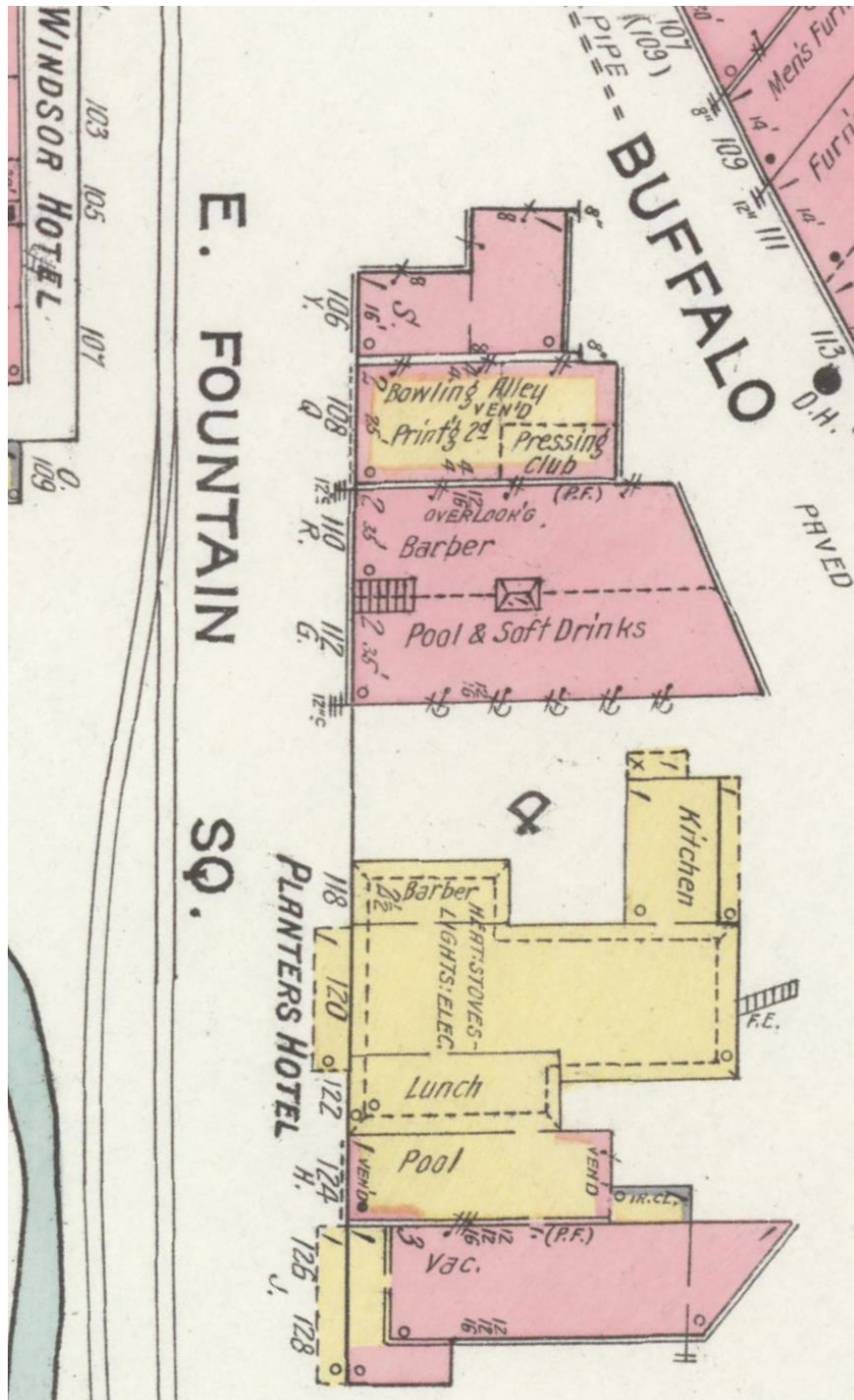
Map 2A. The Hotel Piedmont block and associated buildings, May 1897. It appears that the “Sal.” in Hugh O’Boyle’s two-story brick building at “Q” was operated by Anderson and Tolbard, while the adjacent two-story wood-framed building was occupied by a “Sal.” at “R”, as well as a “Barber” and “Pool Rm” at “G!”. It appears that either Mike Dyer or “Phillips & Walters, Retail Liquor Dealers” operated this saloon and pool room at this time, while the other was the “Comic Barber Shop”. Note that the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!); and the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street (H!) were both apparently occupied by the Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon at this time.



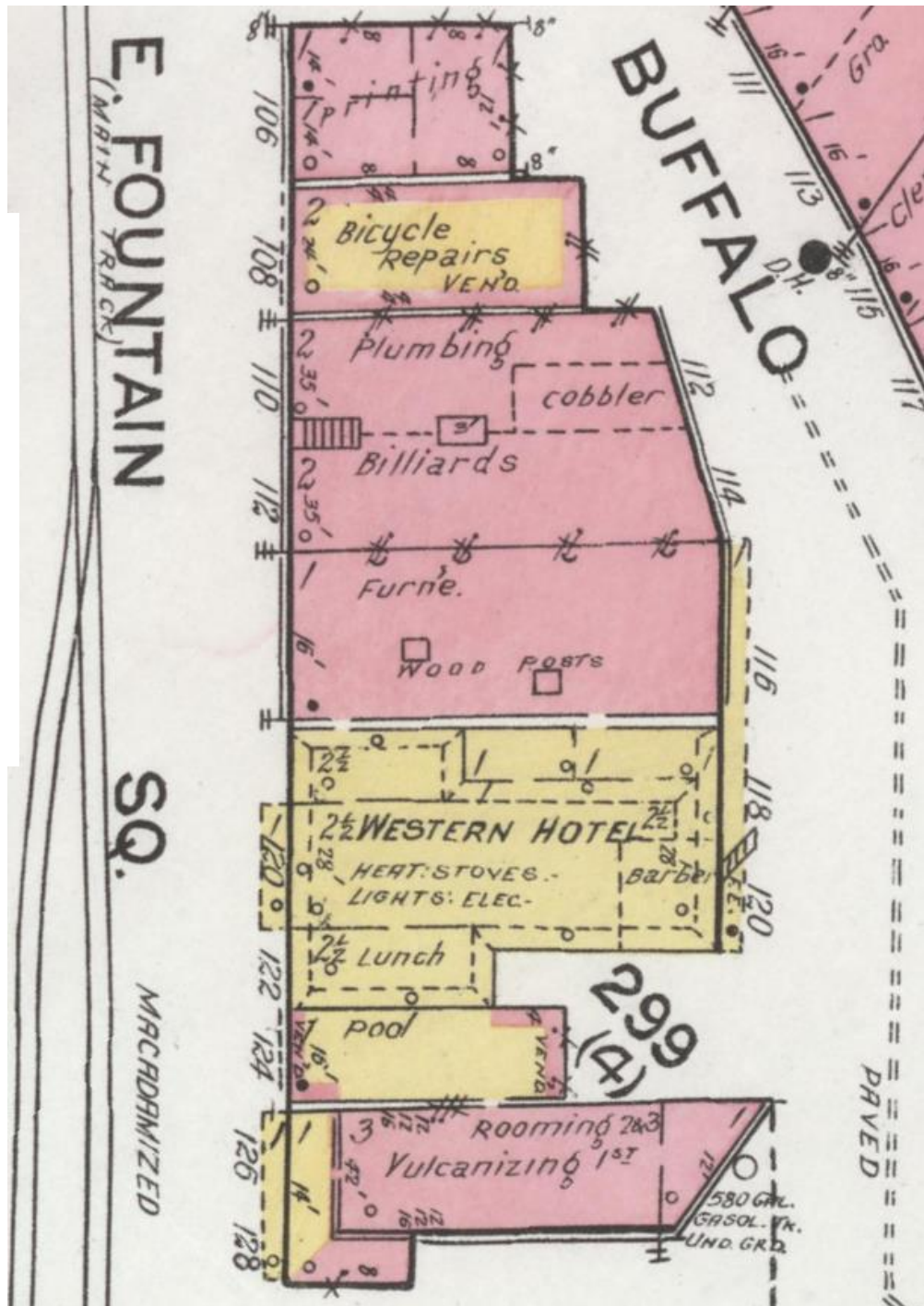
Map 3A. The Hotel Piedmont block and associated buildings, April 1903. Note that the two-story brick building at “Q” (formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is vacant, while in the W.O. Phillips building (labeled “Piedmont Hotel”) at “R” there is the Central Barber Shop and W.O. Phillips’ Billiards hall, and at “G!” is the “Phillips & Walters’ Retail Liquor Dealers” “Sal.”; the second floor was used as an annex to the Piedmont Ho. (with an enclosed hall way connecting it to the second floor of the main hotel). Also note the “Sample R’m” and the “W.U. Tel. Off.”, at “X” and “W”, respectively, between the Piedmont Ho. and the Phillips building. Finally note that the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!), appears to be occupied by the American Barber Shop, while the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street (H!) appears to be occupied by the Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon.



Map 4A. The Hotel Piedmont block and associated buildings, December 1908. Note that the two-story brick building at “Q” (formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is occupied by a “Box Ball Alley”, apparently operated by G.W. Newhouse; while in the W.O. Phillips building “R” appears to be occupied by the Antiseptic Barber Shop, and “G!” it appears to be Phillips’ Pool hall. Finally note that the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!), appears to be occupied by the Tennessee Restaurant (which also appears to have operated a “Boarding” house on the second and third floors), while the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street (H!) appears to be occupied by Mike Dyer’s pool hall.



Map 5A. The Hotel Piedmont block and associated Buildings, July 1913. Note that the two-story brick building at “Q” (formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is occupied by a “Bowling Alley”, with a “Print’g” enterprise on the 2nd floor. The printing enterprise was that of the Johnson City Comet. This map also depicts a “Pressing Club” in this building (perhaps the “Enterprise Pressing Club”), but it is unclear if it was on the 1st or 2nd floor (the 1st floor seems most likely). The W.O. Phillips building at “R” appears to be occupied by the Antiseptic Barber Shop, and at “G!” appears to be Phillips’ “Pool & Soft Drinks”. Finally note that the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!), is vacant, while the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street (H!) appears to be occupied by Mike Dyer’s pool hall.



Map 6A. The Hotel Piedmont block and associated buildings, February 1920. Note that 106 East Fountain Square (previously occupied by an unidentified store) is now occupied by a “printing” enterprise (apparently the Johnson City Comet), and the two-story brick building at 108 East Fountain Square (formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is occupied by a “Bicycle Repairs” enterprise (apparently the “H.M. Smith Company”). The W.O. Phillips building at 110 East Fountain Square is occupied by unidentified “Plumbing” and “Cobbler” enterprises; while 112 East Fountain Square appears to be occupied by Phillips’ Billiard hall. Also note that a new, one-story brick building, apparently at 114 and 116 East Fountain Square, is occupied by an unidentified “Furn’e” (furniture) enterprise. Finally, note that the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 East Fountain Square, is occupied by a “Vulcanizing” enterprise (Free Service Tire Company), with an unidentified boarding house enterprise on the 2nd and 3rd floors; while the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square appears to be occupied by Mike Dyer’s pool hall.



Figure 1. “1958 Aerial Photo – Downtown”. Visible from right to left, the E.T. & W.N.C. depot (lower right corner of the image), the William Harr building, the light-colored Free Service Tire Company building and its three-story addition, the Phillips building (also light-colored), the Hotel Windsor, and the Hotel Arlington. Across Fountain Square, the former Unaka National Bank building, the Crouch block and Parks – Belk are visible.⁷

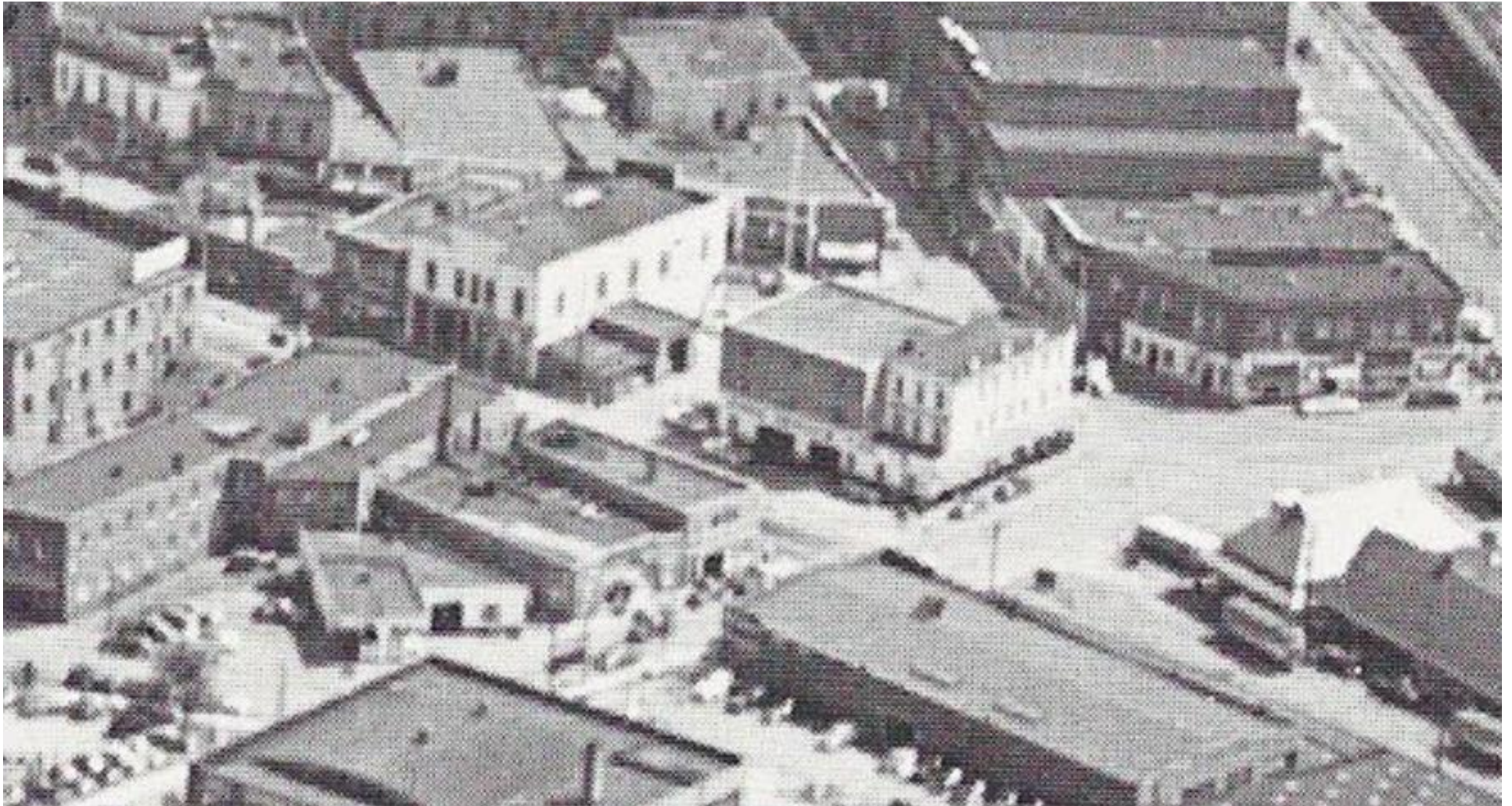


Figure 1A. A detail showing, from left to right, the Hotel Windsor (with a billboard sign on its roof), across the track is the former O'Boyle building, a lightly-colored Phillips building (with what looks like a couple of out-buildings to its right), the Free Service Tire Company building (with its three-story brick addition). To the left of the Free Service Tire Company building, across the tracks, is their recapping plant building at 101 Wilson Avenue. Across Wilson Avenue is the building once occupied by the Automobile Sales and Service Company. In the lower right corner is the building that formerly held the E.T. & W.N.C. depot. Above the depot is the William Harr building, next to the Clinchfield Railway trackage.



Figure 2. “Downtown Johnson City (Aerial View)” looking east, with the Clinchfield depot and its curved platform in the lower right corner. To the left of the Clinchfield depot is the E.T. & W.N.C. depot (with a rare view of the west side of the building). The light-colored building of the Free Service Tire Company (with its three-story addition) is above and to the left of the E.T. & W.N.C. depot and the William Harr building is to the right of the Free Service Tire Company building. To the left of the Free Service Tire Company building is the W.O. Phillips building. This photograph appears to slightly predate that in Figure 1, so apparently pre-1958.⁸ Perhaps also of interest, the northwest and southwest sides, as well as the roofs, of the Windsor and Arlington hotels are visible on the left side of this photograph.



Figure 2A. A detail, note that there is a three-story addition to the Free Service Tire Company building on its left and that the Phillips building is of a darker color.



Figure 3. This aerial view, looking northeast, includes (along the bottom of the image from left to right) the “Automobile/Auto Sales and Service Co. 103 Wilson Ave... Distributors for De Sotos and Plymouths” (just to the left of the Southern Railway mainline), the E.T. & W.N.C. depot, the Clinchfield depot, now with a curved platform to its left, and the Summers Hardware & Supply Company. Near the middle of the image is the light-colored Free Service Tire Company building (just above/behind the E.T. & W.N.C. station), the W.O. Phillips building (behind the Free Service Tire Company building), and the William Harr building, to the right. This photograph was taken on 19 April 1941.⁹



Figure 3A. A detail, note that the ground once occupied by the Hotel Piedmont, between the Free Service Tire Company building and the W.O. Phillips building appears to be a parking lot. Also note what appears to be a single-story building immediately behind the Free Service Tire Company. On 21 October 1926, the Manufacturers Record included: “Free Service Tire Co... plans erecting 1-story building with steel shed over gasoline drives and working shed, 65 x 90 ft., concrete floor, tile or asphalt roof for retail gas, tires, batteries and vulcanizing...” This single-story building appears to be the one in this photograph. Also note the building across the railroad tracks at 100 Wilson Avenue, which housed the recapping plant of Free Service Tire Company. Finally, note what appears to be graffiti on the Phillips building.



Figure 4. An aerial view of the Summers Hardware & Supply Company building, Clinchfield depot (just behind Summers Hardware), E.T. & W.N.C. depot (surrounded by tractor trailers), the Automobile Sales and Service Company (with the Plymouth and Desoto sign, on the left), Free Service Tire Company (the light-colored building near the top center of the image), the W.O. Phillips building (behind and to the right of the Free Service Fire Company, by what appears to be a Pepsi-Cola sign), and the William Harr building (just above Summers Hardware), on 1 March 1947.¹⁰



Figure 4A. A detail, note that there is a three-story addition to the Free Service Tire Company building and what appears to be a single-story building on the ground that was previously occupied by the Hotel Piedmont.¹¹ Apparently, this building was occupied by the Diamond Cab Company at this time. Also note the building across the railroad tracks from the Free Service Tire Company, at 100 Wilson Avenue, which housed their recapping plant.



Figure 5. “Downtown Johnson City – 2006”, note that the blocks of buildings that once included the Hotel Windsor and the Hotel Arlington have been demolished and replaced with parking lots. The following buildings are visible: the Post Office (lower left corner), the Summers Hardware & Supply Company building, the Clinchfield depot, the former E.T. & W.N.C. depot, the white Free Service Tire Company building, the Farmers Exchange Building, the Western Auto store building, the Crouch block, the former Unaka National Bank building, the Unaka and City National Bank Building, the McCown – Mahoney Company Building, the Hannah – Dossler/Hannah Brothers building, and the Ferguson Transfer Company building.¹²



Figure 5A. A detail.



Figure 6. “Aerial Photo – 1960”. This image offers a rare view of the side of the Hotel Piedmont block that faces Buffalo Street, in the top left of this image. It appears that a single-story built has been built where the Hotel Piedmont once stood (perhaps still occupied by the Diamond Cab Company). It also appears that the W.O. Philips building has been removed and been replaced with another two-story building. Finally, it appears that the former O’Boyle building is still standing, while the Southern Express Company building appears to have been removed.¹³ The Hotel Windsor and Annex (formerly the Hotel Arlington) are visible on the west wide of the Southern Railway mainline.



Figure 6A. A detail of the Hotel Piedmont block as it faces Buffalo Street, in the top left of this image. It appears that a single-story built has been built where the Hotel Piedmont once stood (perhaps still occupied by the Diamond Cab Company). It also appears that the W.O. Philips building has been removed and been replaced with another two-story building. Finally, it appears that the former O'Boyle building is still standing, while the Southern Express Company building appears to have been removed.

2. The “Carnegie Land Company” Building and the Dyer Building,
126/128 Fountain Square and 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street, Respectively,
1887 to Present

Maps and Photographs

Note: The street addresses used throughout this document are those given in the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area for February 1920, or interpolations thereof. See Map 6A.

The “Carnegie Land Company” Building, 126 and 128 Fountain Square, 1887 - 2012

Baxter, Stratton & Gilliam (and related enterprises), Real Estate Office, here 1887 – 1889

Carnegie Land Company Office, here by 1889 – 1892?

Hotel Delmonico, here (?) by 1893 to at least 1894

Nat Brewer/Nelson Gray’s Barber Shop, by 1897

Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon?, here 1897

American Barber Shop, 1898 to at least 1903

Tennessee Restaurant/Watauga Restaurant/Hotel, 1905 – 1909

The Exchange Hotel, 1909

Vacant, by 1913 to perhaps 1919

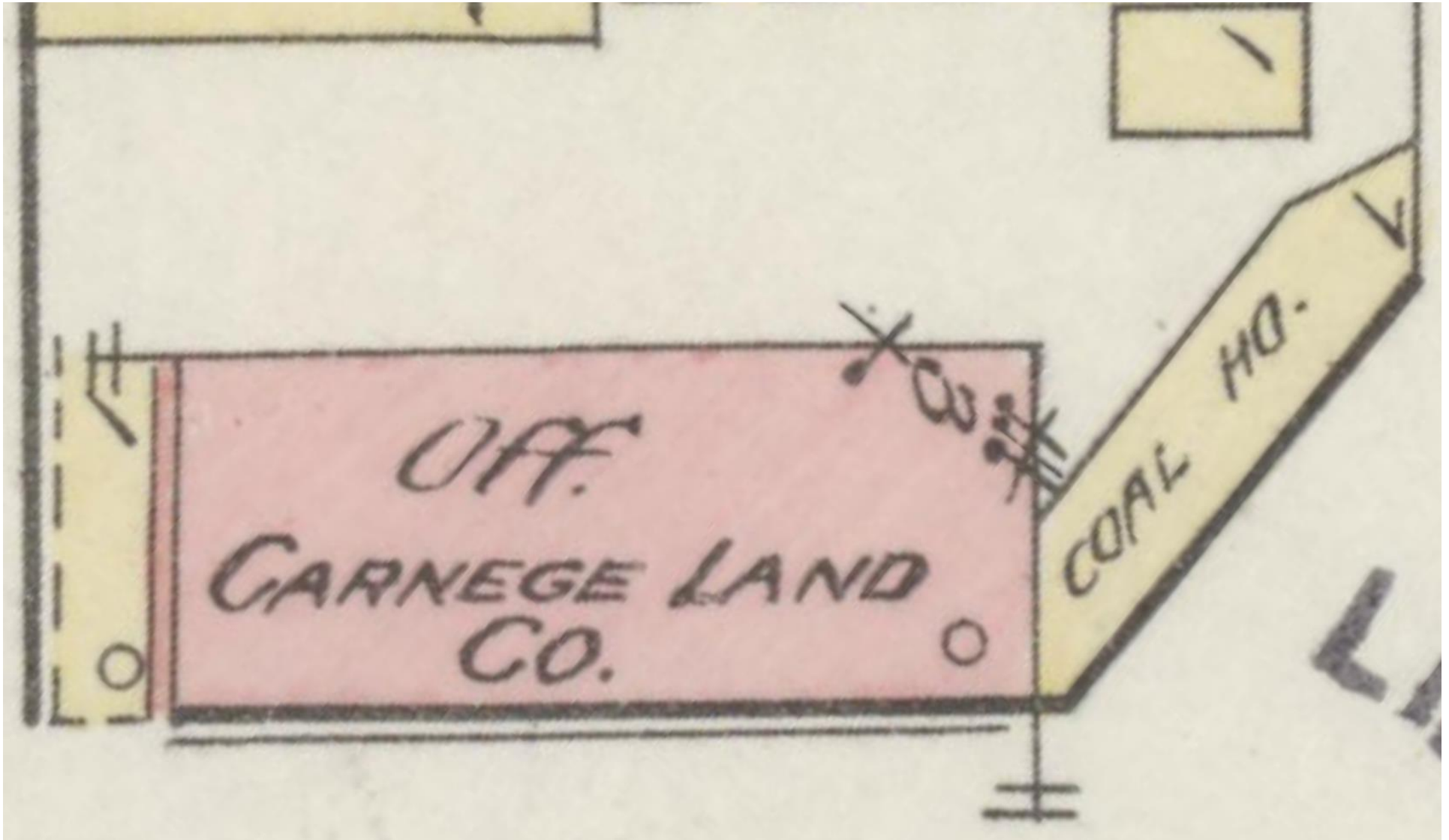
Free Service Tire Company, 1919 to no later than 2012

The Dyer Building, 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street, by 1893 to at least 1920

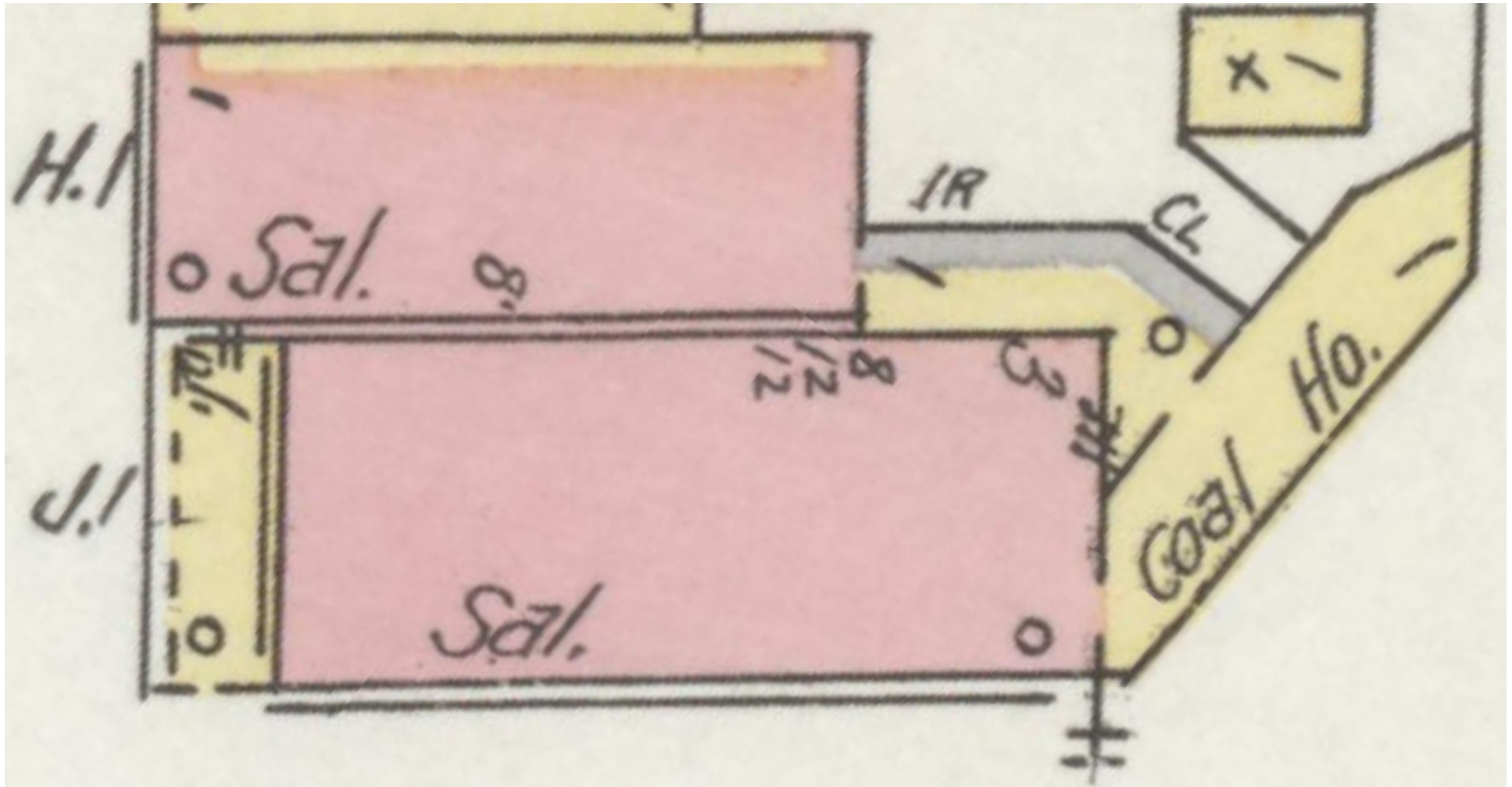
Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon, by 1893 to perhaps 1903

Charles Longley’s Barber Shop, 1903 – 1906

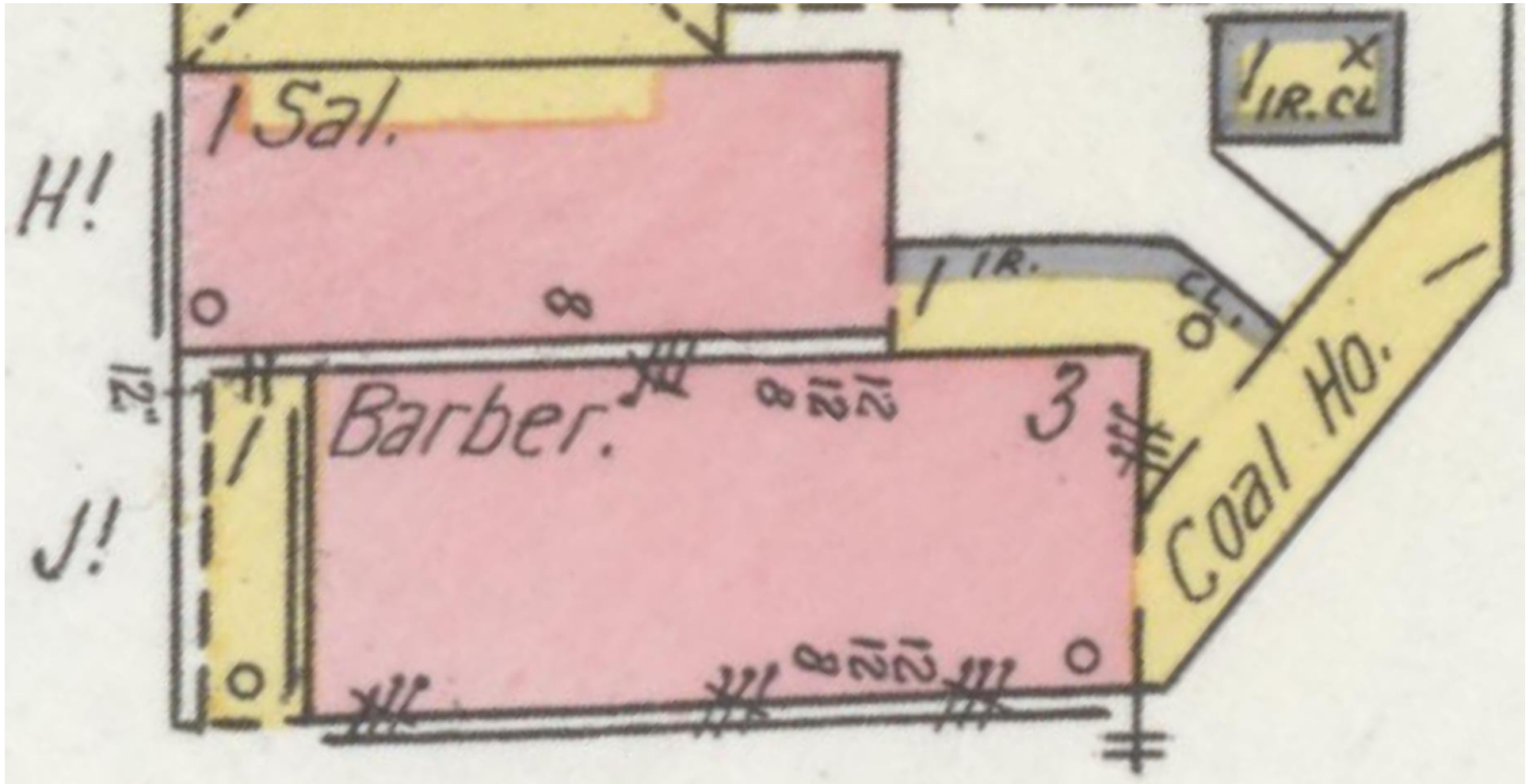
Mike Dyer’s Pool Hall, no earlier than 1906 to perhaps 1920 or later



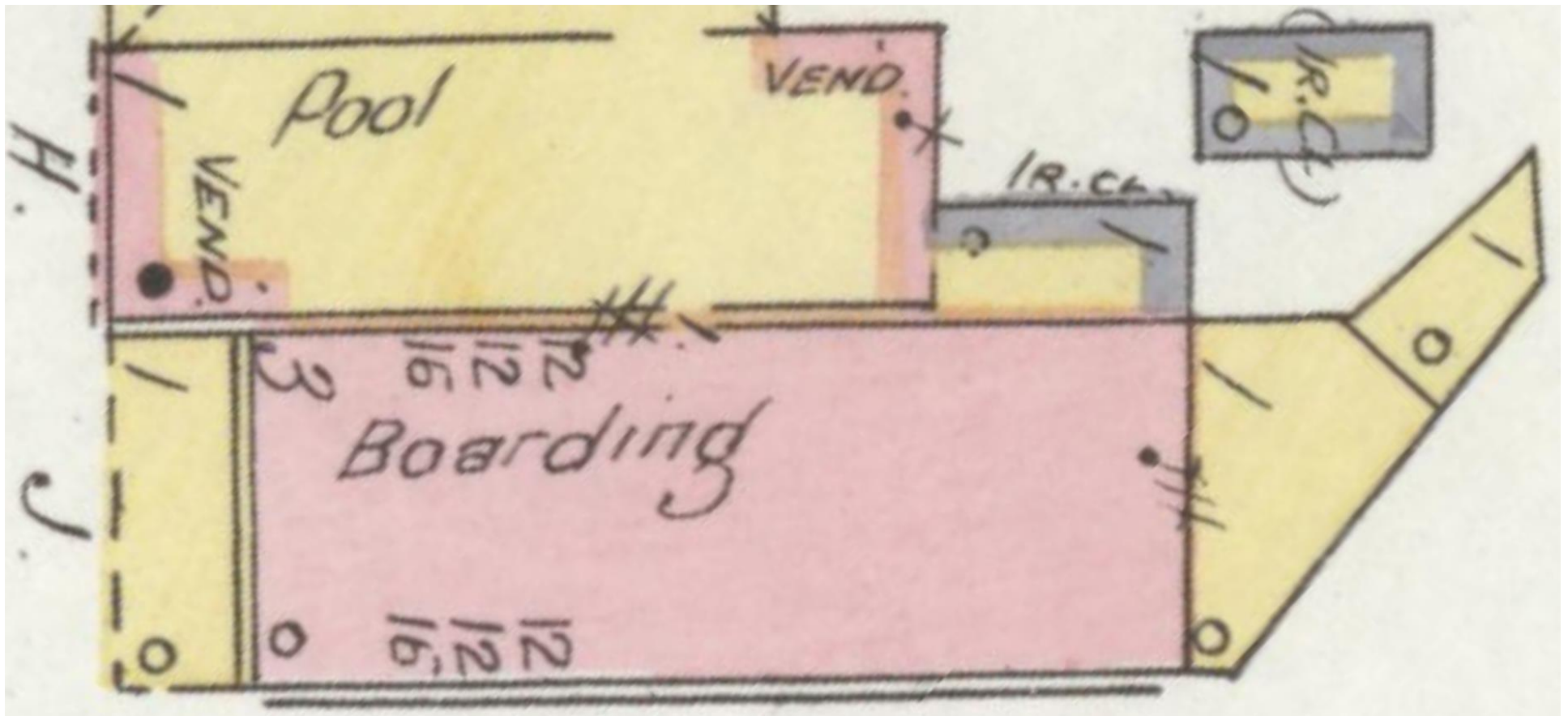
Map 1B. A detail of the Carnegie Land Office building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square, January 1891.



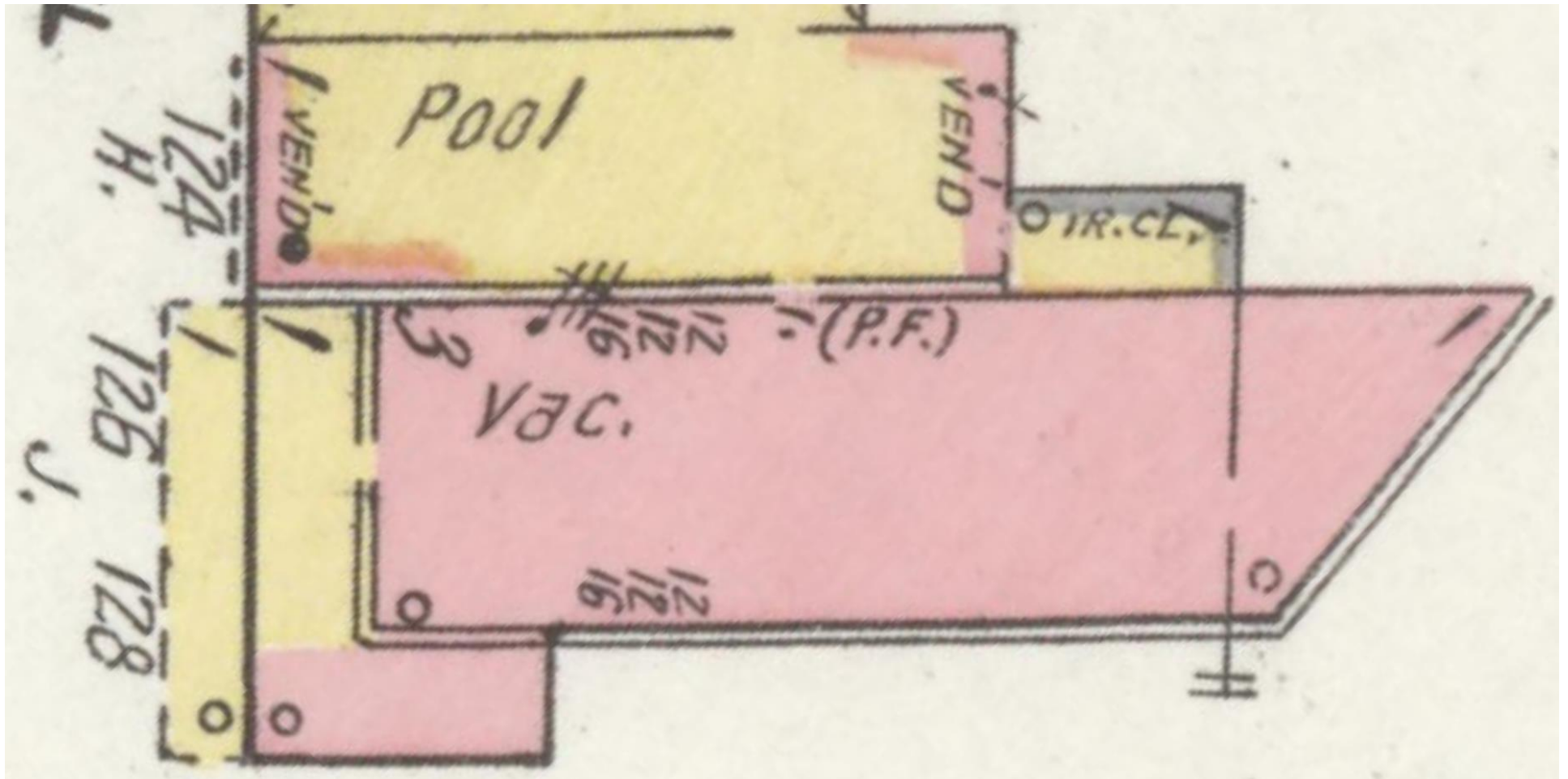
Map 2B. A detail of the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!); and the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street (H!). Both of these buildings appear to have been occupied by the Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon at this time in May 1897.



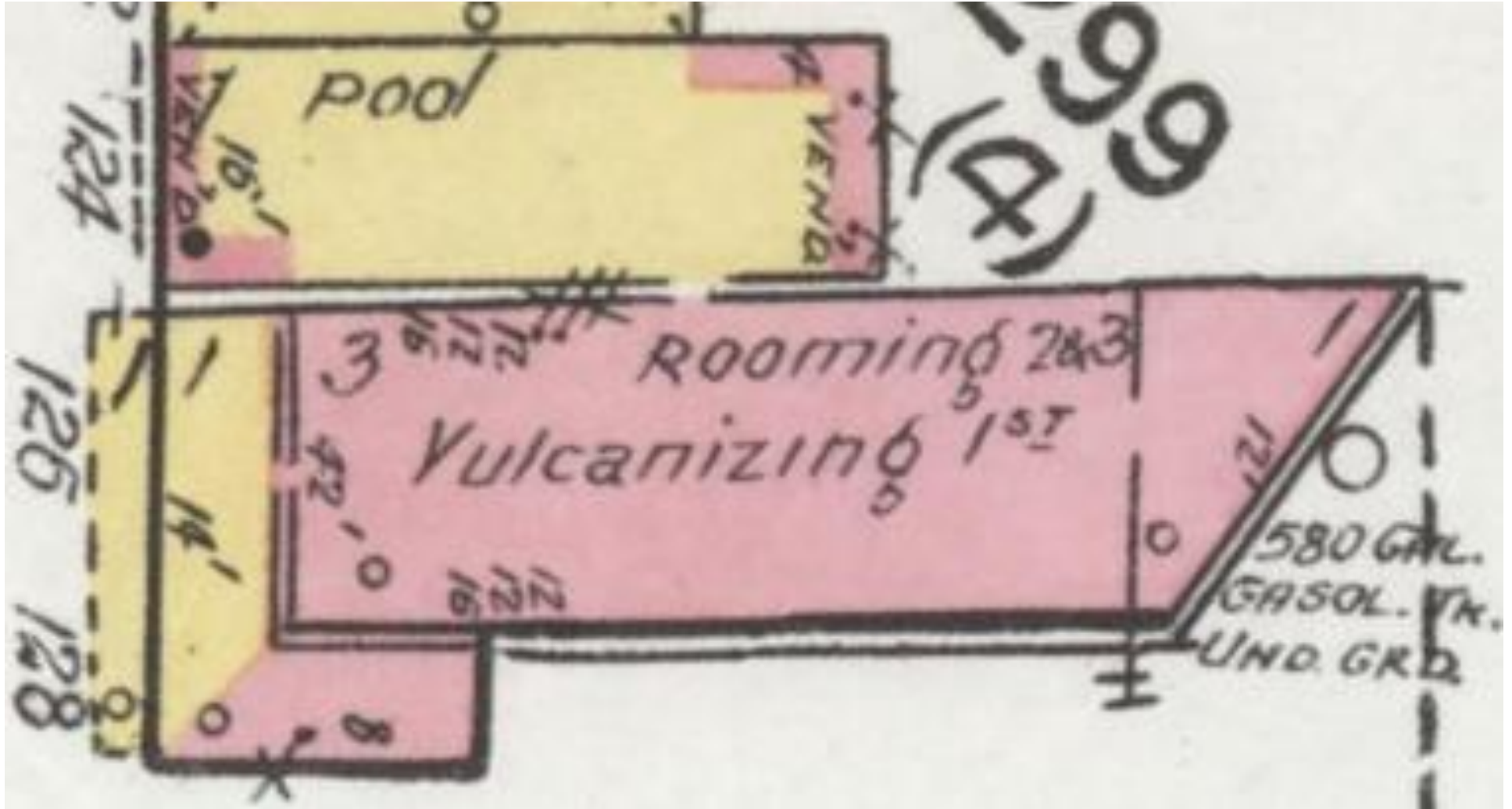
Map 3B. A detail of the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!); and the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street (H!). It appears that the former Carnegie Land Company building was occupied by the “American Barber Shop”, while the Dyer building appears to have been occupied the Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon at this time in April 1903.



Map 4B. A detail of the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!); and the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street (H!). The former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!), appears to have been occupied by the Tennessee Restaurant (which also appears to have operated a “Boarding” house on the second and third floors), while the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street (H!) appears to be occupied by Mike Dyer’s pool hall at this time in December 1908.



Map 5B. A detail of the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J.); and the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street (H.). It appears that the former Carnegie Land Company building was vacant as early as 1909 and remained so until perhaps 1919, while the Dyer building appears to have been occupied by Mike Dyer's pool hall at this time in July 1913. See Figure 12.



Map 6B. A detail of the former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square (J!); and the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street (H!). The former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 Fountain Square, is occupied by a “Vulcanizing” enterprise (Free Service Tire Company), with an unidentified boarding house enterprise on the 2nd and 3rd floors; while the Dyer Building at 124 East Fountain Square appears to be occupied by Mike Dyer’s pool hall at this time in February 1920.



Figure 7. A tractor (which appears to be No. 125) with a trailer. Note the Free Service Tire Company building on the left, and the William Harr building and E.T. & W.N.C. depot on the right. Tractor No. 125 was acquired in August 1934 and was wrecked on 31 July 1938, which would indicate that those photograph dates to between 1934 and 1938. Since the tractor looks new, this photograph may have been taken about the time of the tractor's arrival in 1934.¹⁴ See Map 6A.



Figure 8. "Tractor Trailer Front View Johnson City, Free Service Tire Store in Background". This appears to be the same tractor depicted in Figure 7 and, if so, this photographic was almost certainly taken at about the same.¹⁵ See Map 6A.



Figure 8A. A detail of the Free Service Tire Company, note that the sign on the left above the first floor appears to read “Vulcanizing” and “Goodyear”. Also note the overhead cover.



Figure 9. A view of the southwest corner of the Carnegie Land Company building, with the union depot on the right. This photograph was taken from near the tracks of the E.T.V. & G., looking southwest.¹⁶ Reportedly, this photograph was taken in 1891, however, this is inconsistent with the information depicted on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps, which indicate that it was taken no earlier than 1897 to 1903. From 1897 to 1903, this building was occupied by Mike Dyer's saloon (1897) and the American Barber Shop (by 1898 to at least 1903). See maps 2 & 3.



Figure 10. Southern Railway #5249 (with a 2-10-2 “Santa Fe” wheel arrangement) on 18 May 1933. The structure on the right is the William Harr Building, the structure above the engine is the top of the Free Service Tire Company building, and the structure on the left is the W.O. Phillips building. Note that the Western Hotel, which would have been visible between the Free Service Tire Company building and the W.O. Phillips building, had been removed in 1927.¹⁷ See Map 6A.



Figure 11. “Non-ET&WNC Bus at Johnson City Terminal, Knoxville Bound Bus, Side Reads: New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Jacksonville, New Orleans, Mexico, Tennessee Coach Co. #65”.¹⁸ The sign along the top of the bus appears to read “Tennessee Coach Express ...” Note the Free Service Tire Company facility in the background, with the light-colored paint and overhead cover, which indicates that this photograph dates to 1927 or later.



Figure 12. This appears to be a photograph of the Carnegie Land Company Building, constructed in 1887 and 1888. Note that this building appears to be vacant. Map 5B indicates that this building was vacant in July 1913. By 1919, the Free Service Tire Company had occupied this building.¹⁹ See Map 5B.



Figure 12A. A detail of the old Carnegie Land Company building. Note the posters which include “Sept. 26” and apparently “Tuesday” and “Robinson” (also note the banner partially visible on the left of this image, which also appears to read “Robinson”). The John Robinson Circus was scheduled to perform in Johnson City on Tuesday, September 26, in 1916, see [Johnson City Comet](#), 21 September 1916. Also note the garden, which appears to be the same one depicted in different photograph (of the E.T. & W.N.C. depot), which dates to 1914.²⁰



Figure 13. “Engine #12”.²¹ Historian Johnny Graybeal wrote of this photograph: “dated June 20, 1925, a short two weeks after the accident. The front section of the engine is clean and there is fresh paint on the cylinder casings. The lettering on the tender is almost completely faded out however... photo Curtis Brookshire Collection.”²² Note the Free Service Tire Company building in the left background (formerly the Carnegie Land Company building), which does not appear to have been painted a lighter color by this time. Also note “The New York Restaurant” sign on the south side of the William Harr building. The portion below shows “CK CH FUR HED OOMS QUICK...”, and perhaps reads: “Quick Lunch Furnished Rooms Quickly...” See Map 6.



Figure 13A. A detail of the Free Service Tire Company building. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area in February 1920, shows a barber shop at 213 Buffalo Street (northeast corner of Buffalo and Jobe streets). In 1923, Old Hickory included an advertisement for the “Sanitary Barber Shop... Buffalo Street – Near C.C. and O. Ry. Station”, with other advertisements appearing until at least 1925.²³



Figure 14. This photograph looks north on Buffalo Street. Note the Free Service Tire Company on the left and the William Harr building (with what appears to be “Worley’s Shoe Repair Shop”, at 207 Buffalo Street by 1925 to at least 1938) on the right, with the Jones – Vance Drug store to its left, across Tipton Street. The Jones – Vance Drug store was at this location from 1912 to between 1931 and 1935 (when it moved to 110 East Main Street, in the old Tennessee National Bank building). The two-story building behind the Free Service Tire Company appears to be the W.O. Phillips building at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square and 112 and 114 Buffalo Street. Also note that the trolley tracks, which were reportedly removed in 1931, do not appear to be present. Consequently, this photograph appears to date to 1931 and 1935.²⁴ See Map 6.



Figure 14A. A detail of the Free Service Tire Company, note the sign at the corner of the building along the top two stories.



Figure 15. An image with the Union depot, the Free Service Tire Company building, and the William Harr Building, from left to right. Also note the W.O. Phillips building, in the background, to the right of the Free Service Tire Company building. Finally, note the absence of the Western Hotel, which was demolished in 1927. This indicates that this photograph dates to 1927 or later.²⁵ See Map 6.



Figure 15A. A detail.



Figure 16. This photograph was taken by 1966. At this time, the Free Service Tire Company occupied at least four of the large buildings near the junction of the Southern and Clinchfield railways. Note the former E.T. & W.N.C. depot in the left foreground. Behind it, one can see that the building at 103 Wilson Avenue, once occupied by the Chevrolet Sales Company and the Automobile/Auto Sales and Service Company (1926 to at least 1951), has signs that read: "Free Service Tire Co. Warehouse" "Goodyear" and "Farm Tire Service". The building across the street at 100 Wilson Avenue has signs on the east side that read: "Free Service Tire Co." "Recapping Plant" and "Goodyear".²⁶ This image was part of an advertisement that ran until at least 1969.



Figure 16A. A detail, note the building to the right of the light-colored Free Service Tire Company building, which appears to occupy the ground once upon which the W.O. Phillips building once stood, see Figure 6A. Also note the Clinchfield trackage in the lower right corner of the image.²⁷



Figure 17. A detail of the Free Service Tire Company. This photograph was taken in September 1946 or later.²⁸



Figure 18. “The building that housed the Free Service Tire Company in this early 1920s photo... and is now part of the corporate office building at the corner of Buffalo Street and Wilson Street. The grand opening announcement for Free Service Tire Company advertised ‘service of the automobile public from daylight to midnight.’ (Courtesy of Lewis Wexler Sr.)”²⁹ Note the lighter color of paint which begins at the second floor. The building in the right background appears to be the Western Hotel, formerly the Hotel Piedmont, which was demolished in 1927. See Map 6A.



Figure 18A. A detail of the Free Service Tire Company building, note the apparent change of color at the base of the second story windows.




Figure 18B. Another detail, this one of the vehicles. Note the sign at the top right which appears to read in part “Rooms... Boarding...”



Figure 18C. A detail of the portion of the Free Service Tire Company building at the corner of Wilson and Buffalo streets. The building in the right background appears to be the Western Hotel, formerly the Hotel Piedmont, which was demolished in 1927.



Figure 19. “Free Service Tire employee, c. 1920”. The weathering of the “Free Water” sign indicates that this photograph was taken after that depicted in Figure 18.³⁰



**FREE SERVICE
TIRE CO.**

**GAS, OILS, ACCESSORIES
and
VULCANIZING.**
Kelly Springfield
and
**GOODYEAR TIRES
SUDDEN SERVICE**

**"DONT Cuss CALL Us"
PHONE 5158**

Figure 20. A Free Service Tire Company advertisement from mid-August 1927.³¹



Figure 20A. A detail of the Free Service Tire Company building. Note the absence of overhead cover at the ground floor, indicating that this photograph predates those depicted in figures 11 and 15. The building in the right background appears to be the Western Hotel, formerly the Hotel Piedmont. The Western Hotel was reportedly demolished in 1927, apparently within five months of when this photograph was taken.



Figure 21. This photograph depicts the Diamond Cab Company, which was at 116 Buffalo Street. Note the view of the north side of the Free Service Tire Company building, which appears to have a Goodyear sign on its east side between the second and third floors. Also note the three-story building between the Free Service Tire Company and the Diamond Cab Company, which appears to have been an addition that was built on top of a single - story building that was attached to the Fire Service Tire Company building between 1941 and 1946. The Diamond Cab Company was at this location by 1942 and remained here until at least 1959. This photograph dates to 1952 or earlier.³² See Figure 6A.

Photographs from Google Maps of the Free Service Tire Company Building at 126 and 128 Fountain Square, 2012 – 2024

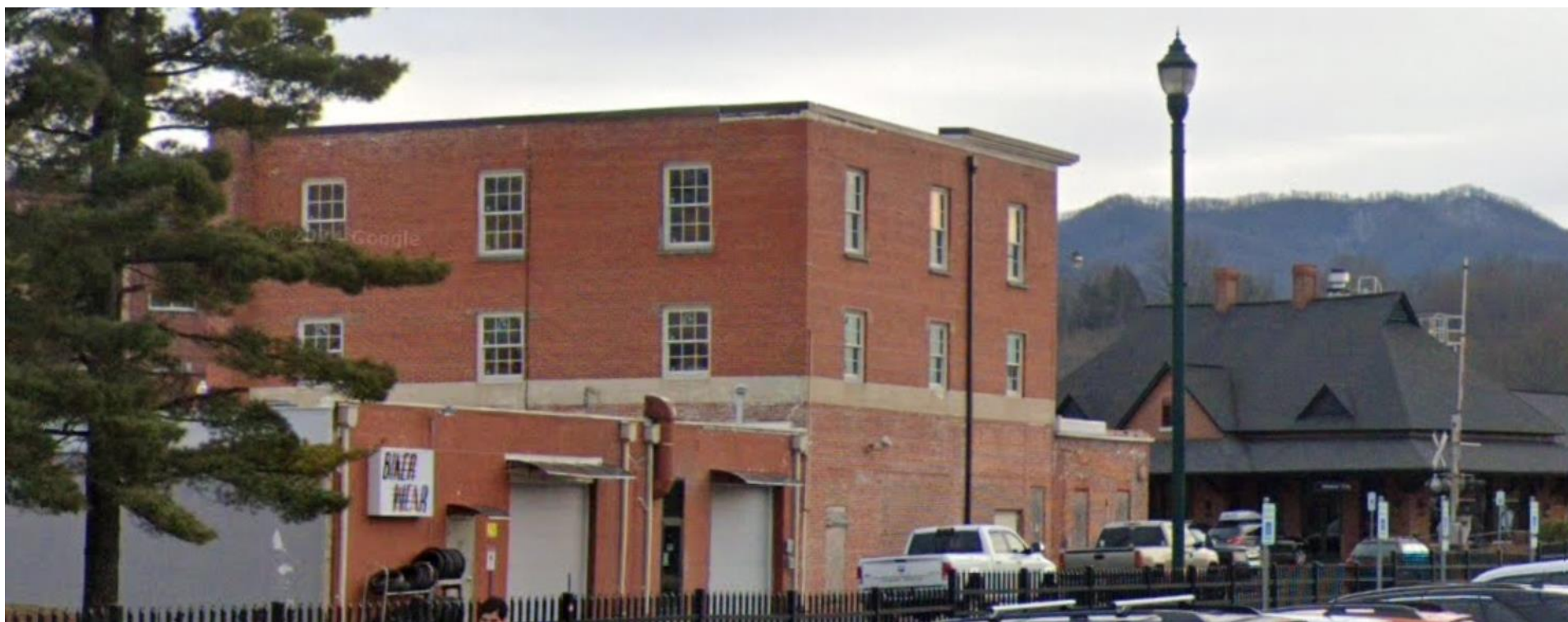


Figure 22. This view looks across the Southern Railway mainline at the northern and western sides of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company building and its three-story addition, in January 2024. In 1926, the Free Service Tire Company constructed a one-story building at this location. Note the difference in brick color on the addition, which appears to indicate that the top two stories were added at a later date. Also note the former E.T. & W.N.C. depot in the right background.



Figure 23. A view of the western and southern sides of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company and its three-story addition, in September 2018. Note the Southern Railway mainline on the left side of the image.



Figure 24. A view of the southern side of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company, in April 2012.



Figure 25. A view of the southern side of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company, in September 2018. Note that the windows on the second and third floors have been restored. Also note that the trim along the roofline have been restored since the image in Figure 24 was taken in 2012. Finally, note that the white paint has been removed.



Figure 26. A view of the southern and eastern sides of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company, in April 2012. Also note the building that was once occupied by the recapping facility of the Free Service Tire Company in the left background, just across the Southern Railway mainline.



Figure 27. A view of the southern and eastern sides of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company, in September 2018.



Figure 28. A view of the eastern side of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company, in September 2018.



Figure 29. A view of the eastern side of the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company, in April 2012. Note the former E.T. & W.N.C. depot in the left background.



Figure 30. A view of the northern side of the three-story addition to the building formerly occupied by the Free Service Tire Company, in January 2024.

Table 1. Occupants of 124 and 126/128 East Fountain Square, 1887 to perhaps 2012

Date	Address on East Fountain Square	
	124	126/128
1887	Vacant lot	Constructed
1888		Baxter, Gilliam & Stratton Real Estate (here 1888 – 1889)
1889		Carnegie Land Company Office (here 1889 – 1892)
January 1891		Carnegie Land Company Office
1893	Built between 1891 and 1893 Piedmont Hotel/ House Saloon (by 1893 to perhaps 1903)	Hotel Delmonico (here (?) by 1893 to at least 1894)
May 1897	Saloon (Piedmont Hotel/ House Saloon)	Saloon (Mike Dyer)
1898	Piedmont Hotel/ House Saloon (by 1893 to perhaps 1903)	American Barber Shop (by 1898 to at least 1903)
April 1903	Saloon (Piedmont Hotel/ House Saloon)	Barber (American Barber Shop?)
1903	Longley's Barber Shop (1903 to at least 1906)	Vacant? 1903? – 1905?
1905		Tennessee Restaurant/ Watauga Restaurant/Hotel (1905 – 1909)
December 1908	"Pool" Hall (Mike Dyer's?)	Boarding (Tennessee Restaurant)
1909	Mike Dyer's (?) pool hall	The Exchange Hotel (1909)
July 1913	"Pool" Hall (Mike Dyer's?)	Vacant (Apparently from as early as 1909 to perhaps 1919)
1916	U.S. Army Recruiting Office (here 1916 to perhaps 1918)	Vacant?
1919	Mike Dyer's (?) pool hall	Free Service Tire Company (here 1919 to no later than 2012)
February 1920	"Pool" Hall (Mike Dyer's?)	Vulcanizing (Free Service Tire Company)

Note: In the left column, years with months reflect information on the Sanborne Fire Insurance Company map for that time.

2.1. The “Carnegie Land Company” Building, 126 and 128 Fountain Square, 1887 to 2012
(See figures 1 to 30 and maps 1B to 6B)

Baxter, Stratton & Gilliam (and related enterprises), Real Estate Office, here 1887 – 1889
Carnegie Land Company Office, here by 1889 – 1892?
Hotel Delmonico, here (?) by 1893 to at least 1894
Nat Brewer/Nelson Gray’s Barber Shop, by 1897
Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon?, here 1897
American Barber Shop, 1898 to at least 1903
Tennessee Restaurant/Watauga Restaurant/Hotel, 1905 – 1909
The Exchange Hotel, 1909
Vacant, by 1913 to perhaps 1919
Free Service Tire Company, here 1919 to no later than 2012

2.1.1. Construction of the “Carnegie Land Company” Building, 1887 – 1888

24 November 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“New Real Estate Office. Last Thursday night Messrs. Frank Baxter, Frank Gilliam and Frank Stratton, our enterprising real estate agents, contracted with Mr. J.J. Adams for the erection of the three story brick building 25 x 60 feet on the corner of the Piedmont House lot to be used as a real estate office by the above named firm. Work was commenced on the building Wednesday morning and it is under contract to be completed by the fifteenth of January. The first floor will be devoted exclusively to a real estate office. The second floor will be used as a office for surveyor and draughtsman and the third floor will be used by the officials of the Three C’s [Railroad]. The building is to be finished in modern style, plate glass front &c., and will be the best exclusive real estate building in the State. This is a big undertaking for these young men and serves to show their faith in Johnson City. As soon as they get ready for work they will have a complete map made of the city and in addition to this will have a large and perfect geological map made of this section both of which will be displayed in their office. The land owners in this city encourage these gentlemen by placing their property in their hands. It is to their advantage to do so as these gentlemen will have every facility for advertising their property.”³³

24 November 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“Henderson & Pierce have just completed the tin work, roofing, guttering, &c., on the tobacco factory and Alf Taylor’s residence and have secured the contract for putting up cornice and covering the store houses of A.B. Bowman, S.T. Harris and Geo. Reeves and the new real estate office of Baxter, Gilliam & Stratton.”

3 December 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The Three Franks are building a large three story brick office building preparatory to the coming of the 3 C’s...

The Three Franks. Frank Baxter, Frank Stratton and Frank Gilliam will soon be ready to do a lively real estate business.”

12 January 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“J.J. Adams has completed the brick work on the Real Estate and R.R. office.”

12 January 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“The C.C. & C. R.R. have rented the second and third stories of the Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam Real Estate Office.”

26 January 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Henderson and Pierce, the tanners, have about completed the cornice work on the new Real Estate office. These gentlemen do first-class work...”

16 February 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. Sharp, of Philadelphia, has just completed a neat job of lettering on the new real estate office. He is a fine workman and will locate here...”

Messrs. Henderson & Pierce, the tanners, have just completed the cornice work on the new real estate building of Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam. It is a nice piece of work and shows these gentlemen understand their business.”

23 February 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“There is no longer any question about the [3C’s rail] road running through Johnson City. The company propose to build the shortest and cheapest line, and Johnson city is so located as to be on that line. The second and third stories of the new real estate building and the second story of Jobe’s building, over C.K. Lide & Co., have been rented by the C.C. & C. Co., and will be occupied as offices for the Chief Engineer and Vice-President. Col. [Thomas E.] Matson expects to move his draughtsmen to Johnson City from Rock Hill, S.C., some time during May.”

2.1.2. Baxter, Stratton & Gilliam (and related enterprises), Real Estate Office, here 1888 – 1889

Note: Not all advertisements related to Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam are included.

1 March 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam are now in their new office. Prospectors and buyers will receive prompt attention. Property received on commission.”

Note: Previously, beginning in 1887, this enterprise had operated out of the Hotel Piedmont.

8 March 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. F.A. Stratton has retired from the real estate firm of Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam. The business will be continued under the firm name of Baxter & Gilliam.”

15 March 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Prof. W.A. Kite has secured the contract to make a complete map of Johnson City for the office of Baxter & Gilliam.”

22 March 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. E.H. Laughlin, formerly editor of the News, has opened a law and real estate office in Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam’s new building.”

10 May 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Prof. W.A. Kite has made a complete map of Johnson City. The map is for Baxter & Gilliam, real estate dealers of Johnson City. The map is a good one, and the work of months. It can be seen in the real estate office.”

5 July 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Three C’s Office. Col. T.E. Matson, Chief Engineer of the Three C’s Railroad, arrived in the City Sunday night. The work of fitting up the rooms that had been rented for the offices here was completed last week, and since Monday men have been at work moving office furniture, &c., that had been shipped from Rock Hill, S.C., into the new offices. The room over C.K. Lide & Co.’s store has been rented and also the third floor of the real estate building. The road is nearly completed in South Carolina and the office of the Chief Engineer will remain until the line is built to the Ohio River. The office of the Vice-President, Gen. Wilder, is also here. The Gen. will return from New York Saturday and just as soon as some preliminary matters can be arranged contracts for grading will be awarded and work will begin in earnest. The Comet will keep the people posted in regard to progress made and will only give reliable news.”

4 October 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Johnson City, Tenn. – The Gateway to the Heart of the Alleghanies! What it has and What it Wants... It has the finest real estate office in the State, in which is located the Charleston, Cincinnati and Chicago Railway Office...”

6 December 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“F.P. Baxter has retired from the firm Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam.”

1 August 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“Real Estate Transfers. Real estate has been active during the past week. Several large tracts of land in the suburbs have been sold at fair figures.. Prices, generally, are good, and the market is firm. Following are some of the transfers:

S.H. Pouder to J.F. Gilliam, 200 acres, \$11,000.

Barnes, widow and heirs to J.F. Gilliam, 400 acres, \$12,000.

J.W. Boring to J.F. Gilliam, 16 lots.

Jesse Beam to Gilliam, 2 lots, \$620.
R.S. Boyd to J.F. Gilliam, 13 lots on Watauga avenue, \$3,700.
Johnson City Real Estate Co. to J.F. Gilliam, 2 lots...”

Note: This is the last activity, found by the author, of this enterprise.

31 October 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“Important Notice. Notice is hereby given that the will of the late John Franklin Gilliam will be contested by Mrs. Gilliam, and all persons are warned against trading for any property, real or personal, that belonged jointly to the said Gilliam and F.A. Stratton, or any property whatever, belonging in part or in whole, to the said J.F. Gilliam. A violation of this notice will be done at risk and responsibility of purchaser. J.L. Wofford, Attorney in fact for Mrs. Frances V. Gilliam.”

Note: J.F. Gilliam had died by 5 September 1889.

2.1.3. Carnegie Land Company, here by 1889 – 1892?³⁴

5 December 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“W.C. Smith, of Toledo, Ohio, has located in Johnson City, and opened a real estate office in the Carnegie Land Co.’s building. He is a live man and will push his business.”

W. C. SMITH,
REAL ESTATE.
PROPERTY OF ALL KINDS HANDLED.
Be sure to see me before Buying or Selling.
OFFICE:—In Carnegie Land Campanp's
Building,
JOHNSON CITY, TENN.

Figure 31. Johnson City Comet, 2 January 1890.
This advertisement ran until at least 16 January 1890.

Note: 16 January 1890 is the last mention, found by the author, of this enterprise at this location. By 23 January 1890, W.C. Smith Real Estate had moved into the Piedmont House.

6 March 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“The new real estate firm of Singiser, Scott & Chandler has a card in this issue. The office is in the Piedmont House block and to say that the gentlemen composing the firm are hustlers would be putting it mild.”

SINGISER, SCOTT & CHANDLER,
REAL ESTATE AGENTS.
Office--Piedmont House Bl'k.
(Next door to office of Carnegie Land Company.)
—§§—
IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SELL, COME AND SEE US.
IF YOU WANT TO BUY ANYTHING, COME AND SEE US.
Choice Property for Sale in all parts of the city. Agents for the Sale of Lots
in the
CARNEGIE LAND COMPANY'S ADDITION.

Figure 32. Johnson City Comet, 6 March 1890.
This advertisement ran until at least 27 March 1890.

Note: “Next door to office of Carnegie Land Company” appears to mean that this enterprise was located in an adjacent office, in the same building, as the Carnegie Land Company; otherwise, this implies that the office Singiser, Scott & Chandler was located in the Hotel Piedmont. See Map 1A.

SINGISER & CHANDLER,
REAL STATE AGENTS.
Office--Piedmont House Bl'k.
 (Next door to office of Carnegie Land Company.)

—§§—

If You Have Anything to Sell Come and see Us.
IF YOU WANT TO BUY ANYTHING, COME AND SEE US.

Choice Property for Sale in all parts of the city. Agents for the Sale of Lots
 in the
CARNEGIE LAND COMPANY'S ADDITION.

Figure 33. Johnson City Comet, 3 April 1890.
 This and similar advertisements ran until at least 9 April 1891.

Note: 9 April 1891 is the last mention found, by the author, of this enterprise at this location. On 16 April 1891, the Johnson City Comet included: "Singiser & Chandler, Real Estate Brokers. Office – Room 2, Harr Block...", apparently the John Harr building at 100 and 102 East Main Street, adjacent to the Jobe Block.

January 1891. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 126 and 128 Fountain Square was occupied by the "Off." of the "Carnegie Land Co." See Map 1B.



Figure 34. Johnson City Comet, 1 October 1891.
This advertisement ran until at least 7 April 1892.

10 March 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“The Carnegie Land Company has moved into its new offices in Gen. Wilder’s new building. These are elegant quarters for the company.”

2.1.4. Hotel Delmonico, here(?) by 1893 to at least 1894

Note: The evidence for placing this enterprise in the old Carnegie Land Company building is relatively weak. It is possible that this enterprise may have been in the nearby William Harr building, on the northeast corner of Buffalo and Jobe streets.

14 September 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“How’ll You Have Your Oysters? Already this question is being asked in Johnson City. It is scarcely necessary to state by whom. Everybody knows George Brown always leads and he is not slow to furnish all the market affords at the Delmonico restaurant. He is prepared as usual, to furnish fresh oysters daily to families in any qualities or to serve them at the restaurant at all hours

in any desired style. With his accustomed enterprise he is arranging to come over in town, as it were, and is fitting up the store room on Spring street, recently occupied by T.E. Hurst & Co. It will be ready for use in a few days. Until that time all customers will be accommodated at the Delmonico.”

21 September 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“Oyster Season Open. Geo. R. Brown wishes to correct the mistake made by The Comet last week by saying that he is not going to move as was reported nor never made any such statement, but is going to run the Delmonico Hotel and wishes all his friends to come and see him, and you can get oysters or any thing else you wish to eat and served as you wish yours to please Geo. R. Brown.”

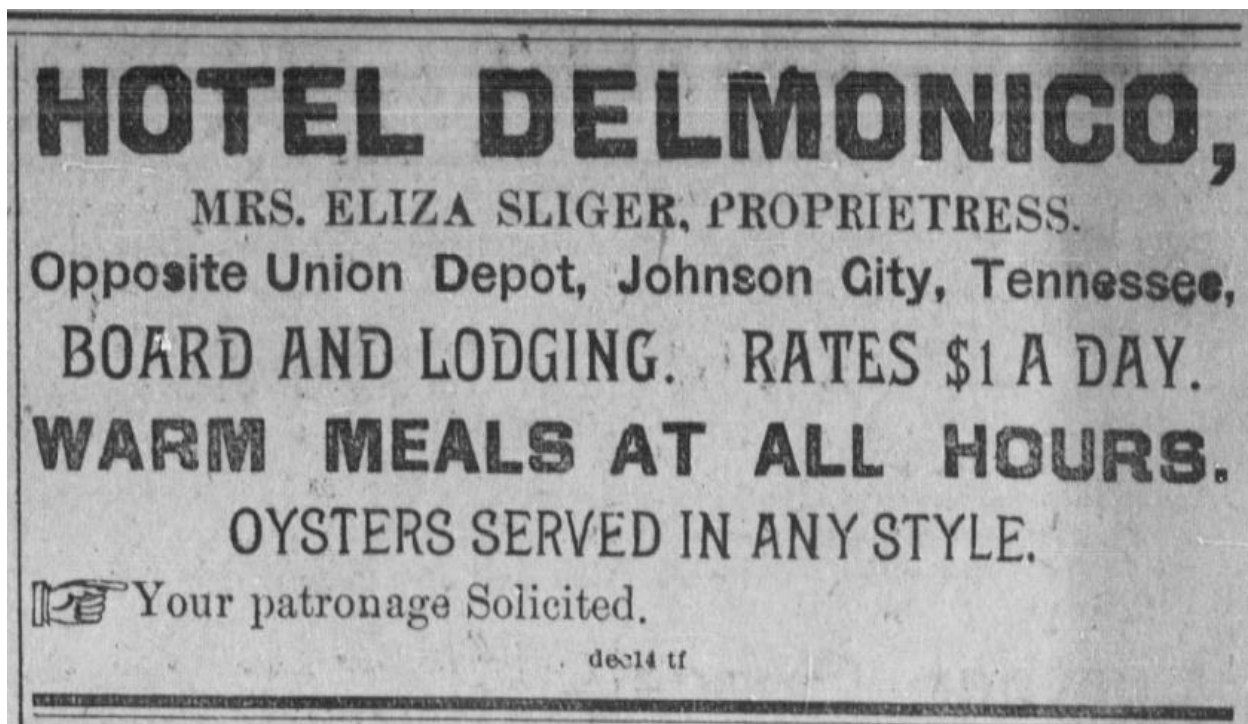


Figure 35. Johnson City Comet, 14 December 1893.

This advertisement ran until at least 28 June 1894.

Note: The last mention, found by the author, of this enterprise occurred on 28 June 1894.

2.1.5. Nat Brewer/Nelson Gray’s Barber Shop, by 1897

4 March 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Nelson Gray, one of Bristol’s first class colored barbers, has moved to Johnson City and opened up a tonsorial parlor in the old Nat Brewer stand near the Piedmont hotel.”³⁵

Note: This was the only mention of Nelson Gray as a barber. This is the first reference to Nat Brewer and his barber shop near the Hotel Piedmont since 1887. Also, the information in this article appears to conflict with that on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area, which was prepared in May 1897, shortly after this article was published. In May 1897, the former Carnegie Land Company building was occupied by a saloon.

2.1.6. Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon?, here 1897

May 1897. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 126 and 128 Fountain Square occupied by a “Sal.” See Map 2B.

Note: The saloon in this case appears to be the Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon, which was operated by Mike Dyer. The Johnson City Comet strongly supported the temperance movement. Consequently, it seems that its coverage of the local saloons was more limited than its coverage of other more “reputable” businesses. The Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon is addressed in Section 2.2.1., below.

2.1.7. The American Barber Shop, by 1898 to at least 1903

19 May 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“Changed Hands. Since the death of Nat P. Brewer [announced in the 28 April 1898 Johnson City Comet], the barber shop he owned has been sold and reorganized. It is now run in the same place, the old Carnegie Land Co. office near the Piedmont, by Professors Longly and Grasty, two colored artists of established reputation. They will be delighted to have their friends give them a call.”³⁶

26 May 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“Announcement. Nat Hyder desires to announce to his friends that he can now be found at the barber shop of Longly & Grasty, near the Piedmont Hotel. For reasons satisfactory to all concerned he decided not to take a chair at the Watauga bank shop as advertised. He will be glad to have his friends call and see him in his new quarters.”

2 June 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“Nat Hyder, the congenial and accommodating barber says he is a little disfigured but is still in the ring, and can be found at his usual occupation at the American Barber Shop, and on rear chair, with Profs. Longly and Grasty – Brewer’s old stand...

The American Barber Shop. Located two doors south of Hotel Piedmont and in front of the union depot – Brewer’s old stand. Chas. Longly manager and A.G. Grasty and Nat Hyder, the accommodating barbers will be found as assistants.”

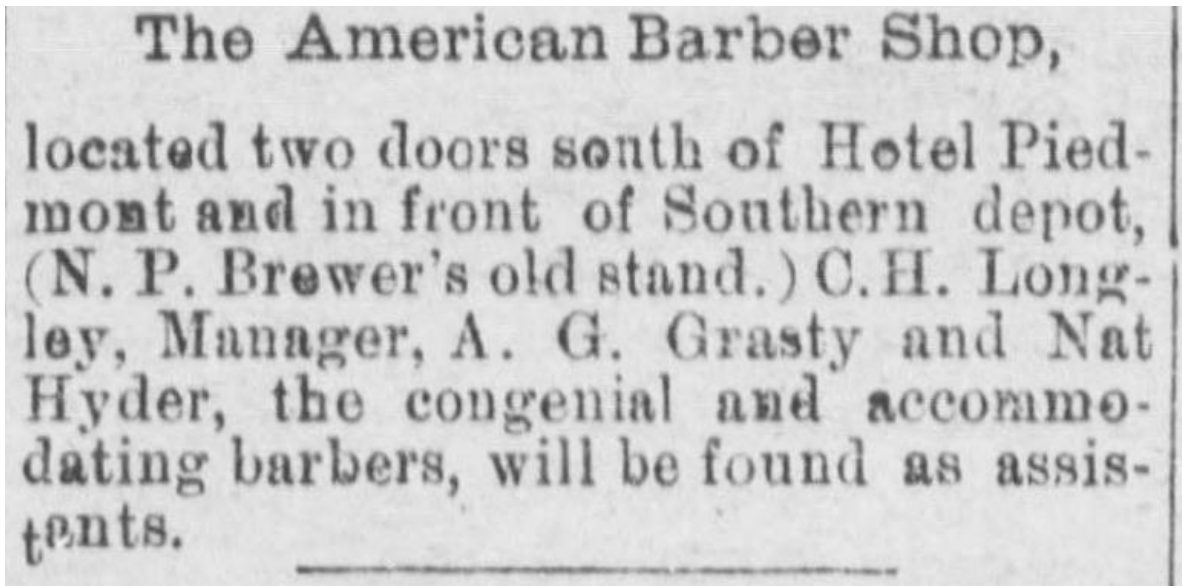


Figure 36. Johnson City Comet, 16 June 1898.³⁷

This and similar advertisements ran until at least 19 February 1903.³⁸

April 1903. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 126 and 128 Fountain Square was occupied by a “Barber” shop. See Map 3B.

14 January 1904. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Move Offices to This City – For some time it has been known that the E.T. & W.N.C.R.R. Co. was negotiating for the purchase or lease of the three-story building opposite the union depot [the former Carnegie Land Office building at 126 and 128 East Fountain Square] to be used as the general offices of the company. This building is owned by M.P. Dyer and he has not yet decided to sell.

A few days ago Superintendent Geo. W. Hardin made the official announcement that the headquarters of the company would be moved from Cranberry to this place. Mr. Hardin has already moved to the city. It looks to the general public like the move is the proper thing in view of the fact that a third rail will be laid from here to Elizabethton in order to make a standard gauge connection with the Virginia & Southwestern, thus bringing the L. & N. to Johnson City.”³⁹

Note: It appears that this deal was never implemented.

2.1.8. Tennessee Restaurant/Watauga Restaurant/Hotel, 1905 – 1909

8 June 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“New Restaurant. The Tennessee Restaurant is the latest thing in the hotel line in Johnson City. It is located in the Dyer building [apparently the former Carnegie Land Company building] at the depot and is run on the European plan exclusively by J.A. Kleppisch, formerly of Bristol. The building has been overhauled and very much improved and the public may expect a first-class resort.”

Note: It appears that, sometime between 1892 and 1897, Mike Dyer acquired the old Carnegie Land Company building and placed his Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon on the first floor of it. Additionally, it appears that, between the old Carnegie Land Company building and the Hotel Piedmont, he built a new, single-story brick structure, during the period 1891 and 1897, which was also occupied by his Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon. Regrettably, the author has not found much information to support, or disprove, this assessment.

CHESAPEAKE BAY OYSTERS
THE FINEST IN THE WORLD

Will begin to arrive **Sunday, December 17th.** If you wish a Raw Stew or Frie of something that is Delicious call at the only First Class Restaurant in the city. We expect a Deer in a few days which we will serve. Wouldn't you like a nice

QUAIL ON TOAST

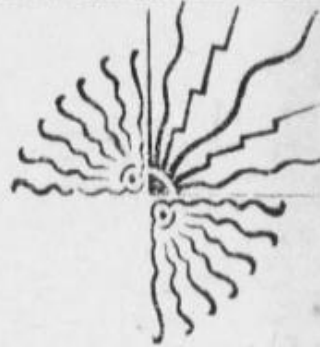
A Spanish Mackrel Broil on Toast, one of the finest dishes served.

TENNESSEE RESTAURANT.

Opp. Union Depot. M. C. Leach & Co.

Figure 37. Johnson City Comet, 14 December 1905.
This advertisement ran until at least until 4 January 1906.

Do You Want
Something
Good to Eat



At the only first-class, up-to-date place in the City ?

o — THEN CALL AT — o

The Tennessee ❁ ❁

(ANNEX TO UNION DEPOT)

Where we will be glad to serve you
with the best the market affords at **Popular Prices**



First-Class Pool Room in Connection



M. C. LEACH

Figure 38. Johnson City Comet, 12 July 1906.
This advertisement ran until at least 18 July 1907.

THE
Watauga
 (Successor To Tennessee Resturant)
M. C. LEACH

E U R O P E A N

OUR BILL OF FARE—Can you equal it in any city. Come and join the people and eat at the WATAUGA, The only up-to-date first class place in the city. All milk we serve comes from our own dairy, frogs and chickens raised on our own farm.

What You Get Here Is Fresh

Fresh Fish, Spanish Mackerel, a delicious hot weather dish, on toast one half or whole; Red Snapper and Sturgeon, a fine sea food; Lake Trout, Boiling Rock Bass, the very best Jumbo Frogs, Spring Chickens, Clams on the shell, Clam Chowder, Prime Hard Shell Crabs, Soft Shell Crabs, a delightful dish, Crab Salad, Ice Cream and Ice Tea, always on hand; Home Made Cake, Jelly Roll, Green Apple Pie, Blackberry Pie, Peaches and Cream, Tomatoes.

Bring your wife or wife to be, your sweet heart or sister and dine at the most popular dining room in the city—in fact the only place that you can get every thing good to eat. We are expecting a shipment of fresh oysters this week to be served Raw, Stew or Fry

•••••

M. C. LEACH

Figure 39. Johnson City Comet, 25 July 1907.
 This advertisement ran until at least 26 September 1907.

7 November 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“W.O. Phillips is having a granolithic sidewalk put down on the Buffalo street front of his buildings [at 108, 110, and 112 East Fountain Square]. The sidewalk will probably be extended along the Planters’ Hotel to the corner of the Watauga restaurant [previously the Tennessee Restaurant].”

**At THE
WATAUGA**
Opposite Union Depot
The Only Up-to-date First-Class
Restaurant in the City

*Does Not Our Bill-of-Fare Justify Us in Saying So?—
For the Next Few Days Our Bill-of-Fare Will Be:*

NEW FLORIDA STRAWBERRIES
and NEW TOMATOES
FRESH OYSTERS, Extra Selects,
Large, Fat and Juicy
BLACK BASS and SHAD ROE
BRANDT QUAIL WILD GEESE
Good Old Country Ham—Home-made Country
Sausage—Pork Chops—Beef Steaks, fancy
sizes or any Thickness and Cooked Just as
You Like—Turkey, with Cranberry Sauce—
Young Chicken, Broil or Fry

SPECIAL

For the remainder of the season and through
our appreciation of the trade given us by
the people we will serve Quail on Toast at **25c**

No one else can serve as GOOD Club Sand-
wiches as ours—it takes the INGREDIENTS to
make them and THEY HAVE NOT GOT IT.
Ladies call and be served with a Club Sand-
wich—you will be a regular patron.

FRESH MILK TWICE A DAY FROM OUR OWN FARM
Our Service is Unsurpassed---Quick Service and Close Attention to All
Open All the Time---We Never Sleep
M. C. LEACH

Figure 40. Johnson City Comet, 9 January 1908.

At the Watauga European

OPPOSITE UNION DEPOT

FRESH OYSTERS

Large, fat and juicy. As the price of oysters is lower we will give our patrons the benefit:

Whole stew, 12 oysters	.	25c
Half stew, 6 oysters	- -	15c
Whole fry, 12 oysters	- -	25c
Half fry, 6 oysters	- -	15c
Scalloped oysters	15c
Broiled on toast, 12 oysters	-	25c

At the Lunch Counter:

Hot egg sandwich, 5c.	Ham sandwich, 5c
Turkey sandwich, 10c.	Wild goose, 15c
Extra select oysters, fat and juicy, 40c quart	

M. C. LEACH.

Figure 41. Johnson City Comet, 9 January 1908.

28 May 1908. Johnson City Comet.

“For Sale – The Watauga Hotel. On account of having rheumatism, I desire to dispose of the hotel, restaurant and pool business in Johnson City. Any one desiring a very profitable business, immediately call or write me. M.C. Leach, Proprietor. M.P. Dyer, Agent.”



THE WATAUGA
(EUROPEAN)

We are Serving our Patrons the best of everything in our line.

Boiling Rock Bass,
Roe Shad,
Shad Roe
Soft Shell Crabs,
Melts and Eggs

Croakers,
Old Country Ham.
Strawberries,
Switzer Cheese,
Limburger Cheese

SPRING CHICKEN BROILERS

M. C. LEACH.

Figure 42. Johnson City Comet, 14 May 1908.
This advertisement ran until at least 23 July 1908.



THE OLD RELIABLE
TENNESSEE
RESTAURANT

Opposite Union Depot
WE LEAD, OTHERS FOLLOW!

Fresh Oysters

The first in the Market—The first of the Season
That is why we lead and others follow

Beginning Sunday, July 26, we will
Serve FRESH OYSTERS Daily

Stew, Raw or Fry

Our Big
DINNER
Is Not Equalled
Try One at 25 cents

M. C. LEACH.

Figure 43. Johnson City Comet, 30 July 1908.

If You RELISH

A delicious Oyster Stew made up of the fresh oysters and pure milk from our own dairy and pure sweet country butter, and not of condensed milk and ole-butterine, TRY US and you certainly will know what a good delicious Oyster Stew is.

THEN AGAIN, IF YOU

Prefer a good juicy, fat Oyster Fry, one that will make you feel a good will to the world, you certainly will find the kind with us. Our way of putting up an Oyster Fry has no equal. We do not dope the Oyster and give you batter. TRY US and you will know what a good oyster fry is.

Let Us Put You

Up an Oyster Fry to take home to dear mother or dear wife or little sweetheart and happiness will be yours. Our oysters are fresh daily, just as they come from the shell, in sealed cans and not open buckets. The sealed cans keep the oyster in its natural flavor—no ice to de-lute, no exposure to contamination, but sanitary. We would like to serve everybody with a raw, stew or fry, for we know our oysters are not equalled. "THE OLD RELIABLE"

TENNESSEE RESTAURANT

M. C. LEACH, Proprietor.

Figure 44. Johnson City Comet, 29 October 1908.

FRESH OYSTERS!

Again we are before you about FRESH OYSTERS. Have you noticed the newspapers from all over the country talking about Oysters under the Pure Food Law?

Even the catchers are advising of shipping under the Pure Food Law, or as the Pure Food Law requires. One of these days a pure food agent will drop in Johnson City and make a clean sweep of these open Bucket or Keg oysters, which are adulterated by water or ice.

We ship Oysters only under the Pure Food Law in Sealed Cans in a box ice-packed around the can. No water or ice to dilute them. Better even than Oysters in shell, for Oysters shipped in shell are not fresh, but stale, as they are two or three days old coming, and are water-soaked from having ice on them.

Eat our OYSTERS and you will eat the very Best and Cleanest Oysters on the Market. You will certainly get the full flavor of the Oyster, and just as fresh as if you ate them at Norfolk just from the shell. Why? Because they come in Sealed Cans. How often is a bucket or keg of oysters upset in the cars, on trucks, or wagons, and scooped up and put back in the bucket and delivered to the dealer? Our oysters are shelled into the can, the can sealed, put in a box and ice packed around them—sanitary and clean.

Why not eat the very Best? That is the only kind we Serve.

Try a RAW, STEW or FRY, and you will see the difference.

Yours for business,

"Old Reliable" Tennessee Restaurant

M. C. LEACH

Fresh QUAIL on Toast Daily

Figure 45. Johnson City Comet, 29 October 1908.
This advertisement ran until at least 11 March 1909.

December 1908. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 126 and 128 Fountain Square was occupied by a “Boarding” house. See Map 4B.

18 March 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“F.H. Griffin, of Harriman, Tenn., has bought the Tennessee restaurant from M.C. Leach, who retires on account of poor health.”

2.1.9. The Exchange Hotel, 1909

6 May 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“New beds and fixtures have been put in the Exchange Hotel, next to union depot...”

The Exchange Hotel has been thoroughly overhauled and is now up-to-date in every particular...

Go to the Exchange Hotel for your next breakfast, dinner, supper, lunch, cold drinks, cigars and tobacco, open day and night. Everything new...”



Figure 46. Johnson City Comet, 20 May 1909.
This advertisement ran until at least 25 November 1909.

2 December 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“Popular Hostelry Burned – Caught from a Defective Flue – Was no Loss of Life. – Was a Very Popular and Convenient Stopping Place for the East Tennessee Public. – The Dyer building on Railroad Avenue next to the Southern railroad station and occupied by the Exchange Hotel caught fire early Monday morning.

At 5:45 a.m., Monday the surrounding whistle and shouts of fire by the few people that were up brought the fire laddies to the Exchange Hotel on Railroad street where they found the kitchen and a majority of the building afire. Men and women were running out; some jumping from the 3rd story clad only in their sleeping garments and those coming out with the clothes under their arms and dressing in front of the building. But for the heroic work of the fire laddies it might have caused the destruction of the Planters Hotel and a pool room [at 124 East Fountain Square] adjoining the building. The origin of the fire is unknown but it is thought it was caused from a defective flue in the kitchen as that is where the fire started. The loss to the building and contents is not known but the majority of the fixtures were damaged by water. Little if anything was saved.

The hotel was run by W.W. Whalen and had recently been overhauled and was a very nice place and will be missed by the travelling public, as this place was run for a number of years by M.C. Leach, and was convenient to trains for the travelling public.”

July 1913. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 126 and 128 Fountain Square was “Vac.” (Vacant), see Map 5B. It appears that this building remained vacant until at least 1916, see Figure 12.

2.1.10 Free Service Tire Company, here 1919 to no later than 2012
See figures 1 to 30 and Map 6B.

25 June 1919. Johnson City Press.

“Free Service Tire Co. opened June 25, 1919, on Buffalo Street in downtown Johnson City. This year is the brand’s 100th anniversary...”⁴⁰

February 1920. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 126 and 128 Fountain Square was occupied by a “Vulcanizing” enterprise on the 1st floor and “Rooming” on the 2nd and 3rd floors. See Map 6B.



FREE SERVICE TIRE CO.

Both Phones. Johnson City, Tenn.

Kelly-Springfield and Racine Tires

Gasoline, Oils, Accessories and Tube Repair Work

1922		JANUARY						1922	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
	30	31	HOLIDAY		LAST DAY				
		FIRST MONTH							

Figure 47. "Free Service Tire Co." calendar for 1922.⁴¹



Figure 48. “1924 – Dan B. Wexler – Bernice [?] Cooper – Robt M. Wiley” “General Office – Free Service Tire Co. – Buffalo Street & Tipton St. Johnson City, Tenn.”⁴²

Dan B. Wexler, Pres.	Robt. M. Wiley, Sec. & Treas.	
FREE SERVICE TIRE CO.		
Gas, Oils, Accessories and Vulcanizing		
KELLY SPRINGFIELD, GENERAL, GOODYEAR AND BRUNSWICK TIRES		
SUDDEN SERVICE		
JOHNSON CITY,	: : : : :	TENNESSEE

Figure 49. Old Hickory, 1925.⁴³

21 October 1926. Manufacturers Record.

“Tenn., Johnson City – Free Service Tire Co., Dan Wexler, reported, acquired site on Buffalo St., erect filling, repair and accessory station...

Dan B. Wexler, 126 Buffalo St., plans erecting 1-story building with steel shed over gasoline drives and working shed, 65 x 90 ft., concrete floor, tile or asphalt roof for retail gas, tires, batteries and vulcanizing; address proposals to Colle & Cardwell, Archts., Main St.; present equipment will be used in new building with exception of new retreading plant...

Retreading Plant. – Dan B. Wexler, 126 Buffalo St., Johnson City, Tenn. – Wants prices on one complete retreading plant, suitable for retreading all sizes of balloons and high-pressure casings.”⁴⁴

Note: It appears that the one-story building mentioned in this article was built between the Free Service Tire Company building and the Phillips building, see Figure 3B.



Figure 50. Old Hickory, 1928.⁴⁵

FREE SERVICE TIRE CO.

**Goodyear Tire and
Esso Products**

No. 1 Store Cor. Buffalo St. & Wilson Ave. Phone 5158	No. 2 Store 102 S. Roan Street Phone 12
---	---

Figure 51. The Chalk Line, 1935.⁴⁶

**FREE SERVICE TIRE
CO.**

**GOODYEAR TIRES AND
ESSO PRODUCTS**

Home of Delco Radios

Figure 52. The Buccaneer, 1937.⁴⁷



Figure 53. The Buccaneer, 1943.⁴⁸



Figure 54. The Buccaneer, 1960.⁴⁹

22 May 2018. The Business Journal of Tri-Cities Tennessee/Virginia.

“Monro completes purchase of Free Service Tire Company... Monro, Inc. (NASDAQ: MNRO), the nation’s largest independently owned and operated auto service chain last week closed the purchase of 99-year-old Johnson City, Tenn.-based Free Service Tire Company. Monro will keep the Free Service branding in place along with 96 percent of the existing Free Service employees. The transaction closed on May 13, and is expected to add approximately \$47 million in annualized sales, representing a sales mix of 15 percent service and 85 percent tires to Monro...”⁵⁰

Note: It appears that the Free Service Tire Company had moved out of their buildings near the intersection of Buffalo Street and Wilson Avenue before April of 2012, see figures 24, 26, and 29.

2.2. The Dyer Building, 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street,
by 1893 to at least 1920

See Figure 64A.

Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon, by 1893 to perhaps 1903
Charles Longley's Barber Shop, 1903 – 1906
Mike Dyer's Pool Hall, no earlier than 1906 to perhaps 1920 or later

Note: Regrettably, the author did not locate any good images of this building.

January 1891. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 124 East Fountain Square/122(?) Buffalo Street was a vacant lot, see Map 1B. Consequently, it appears that this building was constructed at some time between January 1891 and 1893.

2.2.1. Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon, by 1893 to perhaps 1903

8 April 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“Arrested for Forgery. – A Young Man from Bristol in Apparent Trouble. – A warrant was sworn out yesterday morning by M.P. Dyer, proprietor of the City Hotel, for the arrest of one, E.A. Haidly, Jr., for forgery.

Young Haidly, it seems, was somewhat in arrears on his board bill, and, being in close financial circumstances, resorted rather injudiciously to the use of his father's name, E.A. Haidly, Sr., on a check to the amount of \$16. The check being protested led to the arrest and he was yesterday taken, in charge of Policeman Scaif, to Bristol, his home, where the matter will be further investigated. His father is a business man in Bristol and it will evidently be settled without serious consequences.”

Note: M.P. Dyer was not the proprietor of the “City Hotel” in Johnson City at this time, presuming that this is a reference to the former name of the Hotel Piedmont. See Section 3.4., below, for the proprietors of the Hotel Piedmont around this time. Perhaps this “City Hotel” was in Bristol and E.A. Haidly had been caught in Johnson City. However, this seems unlikely as it appears that M.P. Dyer was living in Johnson City at this time.⁵¹ Perhaps M.P. Dyer was operating a hotel/boarding house on the second and/or third floors above his saloon on the first floor of the former Carnegie Land Company building around this time, which was called the “City Hotel.” However, the author did not find anything to support this in the Johnson City Comet; additionally, it appears that the Hotel Delmonico occupied the former Carnegie Land Company building by September 1893 to at least June 1894, see Section 2.1.4. above.

18 May 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“Minor Law Violation. Dan Kresher, of the Piedmont saloon, was tried before Esquire J.M. Martin Wednesday for a violation of the State minor law, submitted and was fined, which, with costs, amounted to \$22.15.”

5 July 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“Seized the Stuff. A wagon from North Carolina drove up to Mike Dyer’s [Piedmont Hotel/House] saloon last Thursday and unloaded the eight kegs of mountain dew which it contained.

About this time Chief Raider Chas. Taylor happened along and noticed an irregularity about the stamps. An investigation led to the seizure of the whisky. It had been sent here by Gutman & Abramson, who are amenable to North Carolina for the violation of the law in regard to the use of stamps.”

26 December 1895. Johnson City Comet.

“Mike Dyer presented his friends with a nice sample bottle of ‘Puritan Rye Whiskey’ Christmas morning.”

7 January 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“Special Premiums. The following premiums are offered in the Game Department of the East Tennessee Poultry Show to be held at Johnson City, Jan. 13th, 14th and 15th, 1897... Best Cockerel... M. Dyer & Co., cash, [\$] 1.00.”

16 January 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“There is one peculiarity about every Monday morning in our midst. It is that the small boy invariably has his pockets full of whiskey flasks picked up here and there. We are told that Mike Dyer knew what it was to buy two particular flasks last Monday morning. Ask Mike.”

19 August 1896. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

“Circuit Court. The following cases were tried and disposed of at the last term of Circuit Court, which adjourned last Thursday... Mike Dyer – Giving liquor to minor – not guilty...”



Figure 55. Johnson City Comet, 18 February 1897.
This advertisement ran until at least 31 May 1900.

19 May 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“M. Dyer & Co. are always introducing new things. They are now furnishing bottled beer for family use at 5 cents a bottle. The beer is first-class and bottled in Johnson City. This price does not include the bottle. It must be returned.”

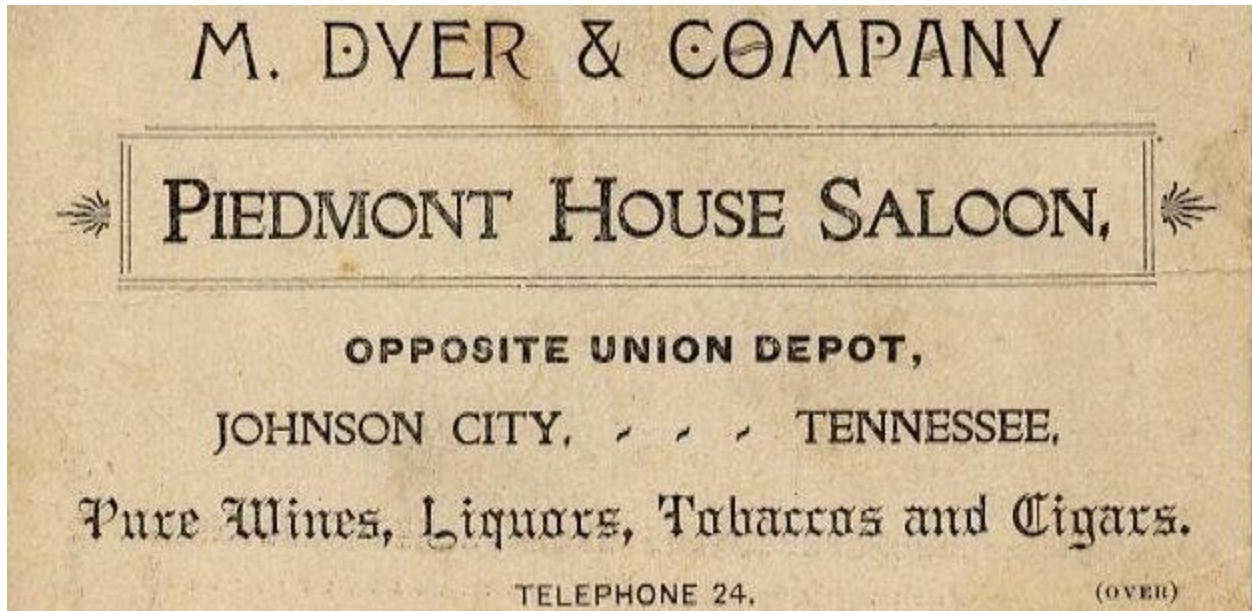


Figure 56. “M. Dyer & Company” “Piedmont House Saloon”, undated.⁵²

May 1897. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Sal.” Of note, the adjacent building at 126 and 128 Fountain Square was also occupied by a “Sal.” at this time. It appears that the Piedmont Hotel/House Saloon simultaneously occupied these two structures around May 1897. See Map 2B.

26 August 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“A Cheerful Place. There are, and always will be, good people who enjoy a few minutes at a legitimate resort. The pool table comes in for its share of patrons. Mike Dyer, the hospitable proprietor of the Piedmont Hotel saloon, has arranged his house in a most inviting manner. In fact he has one of the most elaborate and neatly arranged places between Bristol and Chattanooga. It is a wholesome pleasure to meet and know Mike, and the traveling fraternity has long since acknowledged the quality of his goods and his courtesy.

Call and see him, and you will call again.”

9 September 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“M. Dyer & Co., are riding on the top wave of prosperity. They have recently added a new arc light and have practically driven darkness from their sample room. Mike is the most popular ‘Irish gentleman’ that ever wore the shamrock or observed St. Patrick’s day, and has a Klondike at his door.”

23 June 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“While thinking of the war yesterday we dropped into Mike Dyer’s to ‘Remember the Maine’ by sinking a few schooners, and we are now remembering Mike for a handsome souvenir. That’s all right, ‘Moike,’ so far as it goes, but arn’t you afraid we will forget Hobson, Blue, Sampson and Schley? Isn’t something Dewey on them?”

9 March 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“He Always Leads. It can be truthfully said of M. Dyer & Co., that they always lead, never follow. They walk bravely where others, less enterprising, fear to tread. They are constantly adding new and up-to-date features and spare no expense to please their customers. They believe in the first law of nature, ‘that we live to eat and eat to live’ and also that the purity and wholesomeness of what one eats has a deal to do with lengthening one’s years on old mother earth. The same rule applies to the various liquids used either as a beverage, stimulant or otherwise. Therefore a natural desire to meet a growing demand among his numerous patrons for a purer and more wholesome article of beer than has ever been dispensed in upper East Tennessee has caused this enterprising house to place in the Piedmont House bar a ‘Carbonic Automat’ beer pump, the latest and most complete outfit for using liquefied carbonic acid gas in drawing and preserving beer in its original purity. Carbonic acid gas is an essential and natural element of beer, rendering it pungent, healthful and refreshing. The last drawn from the keg by this process being as fresh and pungent as the first. Besides having the best apparatus they dispense the famous ‘Sunny South’ beer and there is no cause for complaint. Having the reputation of being the leading dealers they spare neither time or expense to get the best of everything for their friends and customers. This latest device must be seen and tried before any idea can be formed of its superiority over the old method of keeping and drawing beer.”



Figure 57. Johnson City Comet, 7 December 1899.
This advertisement ran until at least 26 April 1900.

1 February 1900. Johnson City Comet.

“Take Tate Epsom Spring Water – Absolutely Cures Indigestion – In fact all Troubles of Stomach, Liver, Kidneys and Bladder. Testimonials... For sale by H.W. Pardue, Grocer. M. Dyer & Co., Saloon.”

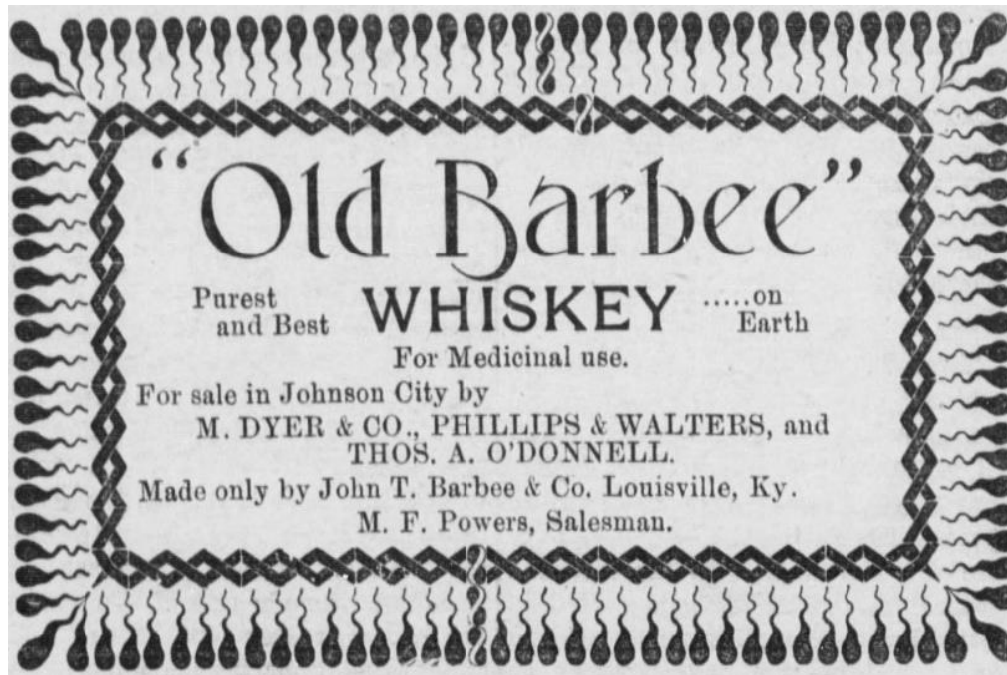


Figure 58. Johnson City Comet, 15 February 1900.
This advertisement ran until at least 10 January 1901.



Figure 59. Johnson City Comet, 15 March 1900.
This advertisement ran until at least 28 February 1901.

12 April 1900. Johnson City Comet.


“Mike Dyer is up-to-date, and never leaves anything undone that will add to the comfort or convenience of his customers. He has just had the front door of his bar changed from the middle of the front to one side, and thus thrown two windows together.”

3 May 1900. Johnson City Comet.

“Always Progressing. In the march of improvement there are none who keep nearer the front than our old friend and patron, Mike Dyer. He has just had his saloon repapered and otherwise improved, and when completed the change will make his place as inviting as his drinks are tempting. He is not only well supplied with the very best liquors and cigars, but is just as full of good nature as he is of business. He not only knows how to make friends but how to retain them, and is always happy in the belief that ‘it is better to laugh than be sighing.’ Mike says he will not be satisfied until he has the neatest bar between Knoxville and Lynchburg, and means just what he says. He has an affable and competent assistant in Mr. L.C. Million, of Cleveland, Tenn., who, although he has been here but a short while, has, by his good conduct and proper attention to business, made friends of all whom he has met.”

7 June 1900. Johnson City Comet.

“Rejuvenated. The spring of 1900 has made Mike Dyer feel young again, as it were, and deciding to make the Piedmont saloon the most attractive resort in East Tennessee, he set to work some weeks ago with plenty of means and talent, and today he has a bar that would be a credit to any city with much larger pretensions. The building has been repapered and the fixtures have been retouched by the hand of an artist. The floor has been covered with the best quality of linoleum and rubber mats, the front door put on one side and vestibuled, and the front has been handsomely done in black and gold. The genial and whole-souled proprietor is one of the most accommodating men in the city, and runs a high-toned place, strictly complying with the law in every particular. Mike is not responsible for the appetites of his fellow men, but he caters to the most exacting and is creating a handsome fortune by doing so. He carries the best and purest articles in his line, including all the well known brands, and makes a specialty of supplying good goods for medicinal purposes.”



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THE BEST PLACE IN
THE CITY FOR * * *

WINES and LIQUORS

is not where they can be had at the lowest prices but where they can be had of the best quality.

We have proved to the satisfaction of many that our goods are both good and moderately priced. Perhaps nowhere can better value be had.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 60. Johnson City Comet, 7 June 1900.

This and similar advertisements ran until at least: 19 December 1901.
See Appendix B for additional advertisements from M. Dyer & Company.

29 August 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“Tri-County Fair – Johnson City, Tenn., Oct. 8, 9, 10, 11, 1901... Premium List... Best gentleman driver, single turnout, special premium by M. Dyer & Co., 1 box Mike’s Choice Cigars...”

Note: The last mention, found by the author, of “M. Dyer & Company” occurred on 19 December 1901.⁵³

25 September 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“Barroom Burned. The barroom of J.H. Peterman, situated on the public square, was burned early Wednesday morning. The alarm was turned in at 1:30 o’clock, but a freight train delayed the department from getting to the fire until the building was about destroyed. The building belonged to Mike Dyer. The stock and building were insured. The origin of the fire is unknown.”

Note: The author did not find any additional information on J.H. Peterman and his barroom. This article has insufficient information to pinpoint which building this barroom occupied.

26 February 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“Johnson City Dry. – The Legalized Saloon Must Go Hence From Johnson City... The expected has taken place and on schedule time. The temperance bacilli has been at work in Johnson City for years and when the opportunity presented itself those inoculated swept everything before them. We have frequently said that Johnson City has fewer drinking men than any town in the state, but must confess that we thought there were more than eleven. Those eleven fellows sustained seven saloons with what little assistance they got from neighboring towns and sustained them well...”

9 April 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“First to Close. The saloon of T.A. O’Donnell was not opened Friday morning of this week. The corporation license expired the night before. Mr. O’Donnell secured state and county license for three months about the first of this month and has since purchased the unexpired license from a saloon firm that has quit business, but the recorder has refused to make the necessary transfer and Mr. O’Donnell will institute legal proceedings to compel him to do so. From now on the saloons will drop out one by one until June 23d, when the town will be dry.”

April 1903. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Sal.” It appears that the Dyer & Company’s saloon continued to operate at 124 East Fountain Square until at least May 1903. See Map 3B.

7 May 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“Barrooms Leaving. One by one the saloons are closing. T.A. O’Donnell closed Thursday under litigation and M. [Mike] McGinley’s license expired Friday. It is understood that Geo. W. Holmes will go to Knoxville at once and that will leave only three saloons in the city.”⁵⁴

2.2.2. Charles Longley’s Barber Shop, 1903 – 1906

16 July 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“Charley Longley has moved his barber shop into the room recently occupied by Mike Dyer [at 124 East Fountain Square as a saloon] and is now very comfortably located. In connection with the shop he is conducting a cigar stand and is carrying all brands of cigars and tobacco.”



Figure 61. Johnson City Comet, 30 July 1903.
This advertisement ran until at least 14 June 1906.



Figure 62. Johnson City Comet, 5 September 1907.

Note: This was the first and only mention, found by the author, of the “Antiseptic Barber Shop” before 8 April 1909, when it was stated that it was in the Phillips building at 112 Buffalo Street. Perhaps, this enterprise was actually in the Dyer building at 122 Buffalo Street in 1907 and advertised just once over a year and a half; or this advertisement misprinted the address and it should read “112 Buffalo Street”. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for December 1908 does show that an unidentified barber shop (which could be the “Antiseptic Barber Shop”) was present in the Phillips building at that time. The same map shows a “Pool” hall at what appears to be 122 Buffalo Street. It appears to the author that a misprint is most likely. The author has found no other information that could help clarify this matter. See Map 4A.

2.2.3. Mike Dyer’s Pool Hall, no earlier than 1906 to perhaps 1920 or later

2 December 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“Popular Hostelry Burned... The Dyer building on Railroad Avenue next to the Southern railroad station and occupied by the Exchange Hotel caught fire early Monday morning.

At 5:45 a.m., Monday the surrounding whistle and shouts of fire by the few people that were up brought the fire laddies to the Exchange Hotel on Railroad street where they found the kitchen and a majority of the building afire... But for the heroic work of the fire laddies it might have caused the destruction of the Planters Hotel and a pool room [at 124 East Fountain Square] adjoining the building...”

July 1913. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Pool” hall. See Map 5B.

23 March 1916. Johnson City Comet.

“Recruiting for the United States army is expected to be brisk in the Knoxville district for a while, and a number of men are expected to be enlisted, following the reopening of the auxiliary recruiting stations yesterday at Chattanooga, Johnson City, Middlesboro and Corbin... Captain [Thomas M.] Moody will resume his trips to the stations reopened. Those reopened yesterday had been closed for a year, and during that time Knoxville was the only place in the district where recruits were accepted. – [Knoxville] Journal – Tribune.”

23 March 1916. Johnson City Comet.

“The U.S. Army recruiting Station was reopened at Johnson City, Monday noon, March 20. This station was temporarily closed March 19th, 1915. Prospects are very bright for securing a number of men for the Army. Several men have already been accepted. The first applicant was Hobert Harris, of Erwin Tenn. This station is an auxiliary station to the Knoxville Station, and is under the command of Captain Thomas M. Moody and Sergeant Alonzo McNealea is in charge of the station. Captain Moody will visit the new station Friday, March 24th, and will visit the station weekly to accept men as they come in. Applicants go from here to Columbus Barracks, Ohio.”

20 April 1916. Johnson City Comet.

“Wanted for U.S. Army: Able-bodied unmarried men under age of 35; citizens of United States, of good character and temperate habits, who can speak, read and write the English language. For information apply to Recruiting Officer... 122 Buffalo St., Johnson City...”

Note: This and similar items ran until at least 30 August 1917. By 24 May 1917, the maximum age had been raised to 40. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps do not depict which building had an address of 122 Buffalo Street, but it appears to be the Dyer building that was located between the Western Hotel and the old Carnegie Land Company building. See Map 6A.

20 April 1916. Johnson City Comet.

“U.S. Army Officer Visits Local Station – Captain Thomas M. Moody, of the United States Army and stationed at Knoxville, visited the local recruiting station on Wednesday. The recruiting station at this place is under the charge of Sergeant Alonzo McNealea, U.S. Army, and has received a large number of recruits and the indications are that the station will be kept pretty busy during the coming months.”

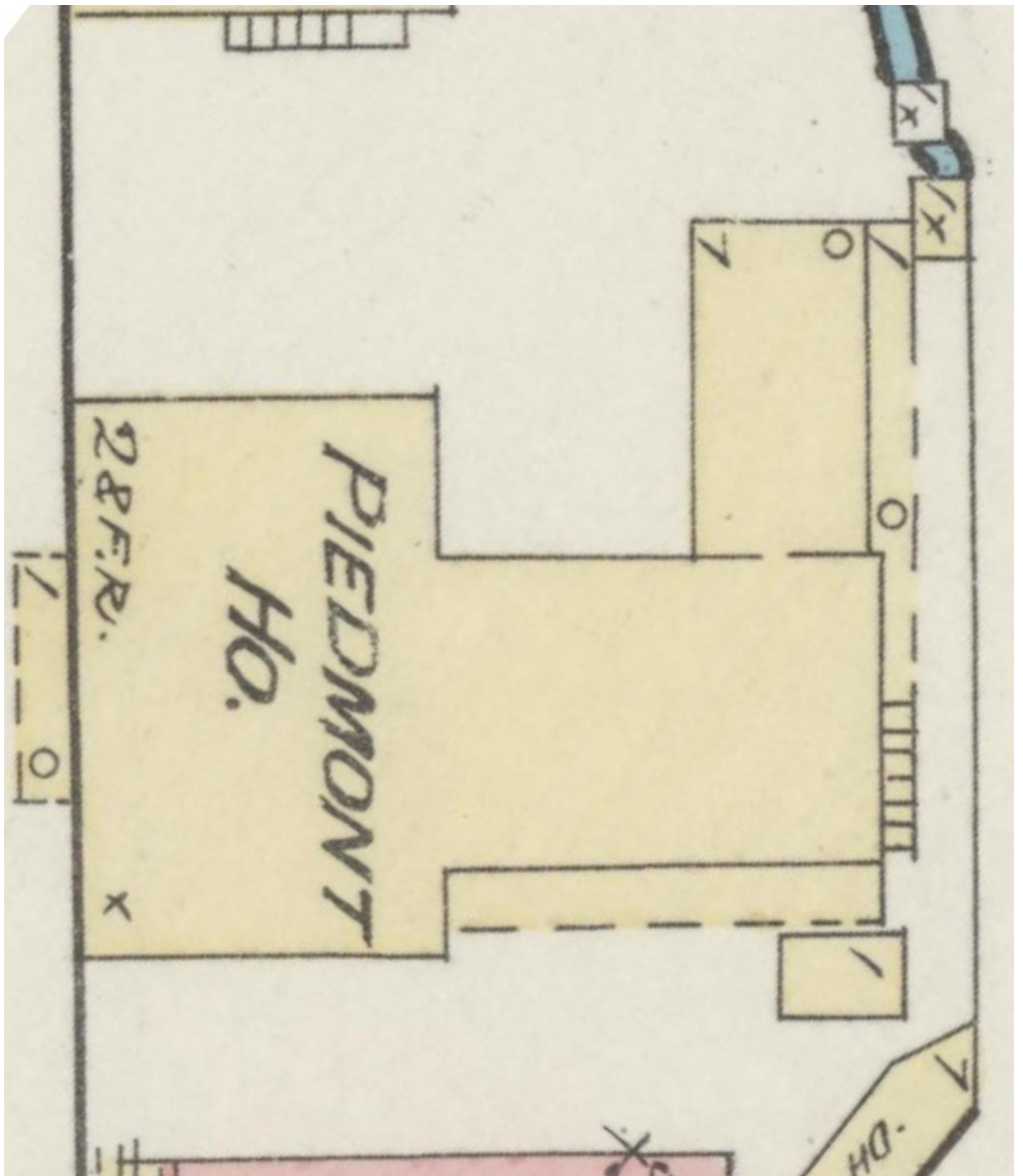
Note: The Johnson City Comet had numerous short articles on local recruiting activities during the First World War, which have not been included in this document. By 13 July 1918, this recruiting station had relocated to the Phillips building (110 and 112 East Fountain Square and 112 and 114 Buffalo Street). The Tennessee Army National Guard opened a separate recruiting at the armory on West Main Street in Johnson City.

February 1920. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 124 East Fountain Square/122 (?) Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Pool” hall. See Map 6B.

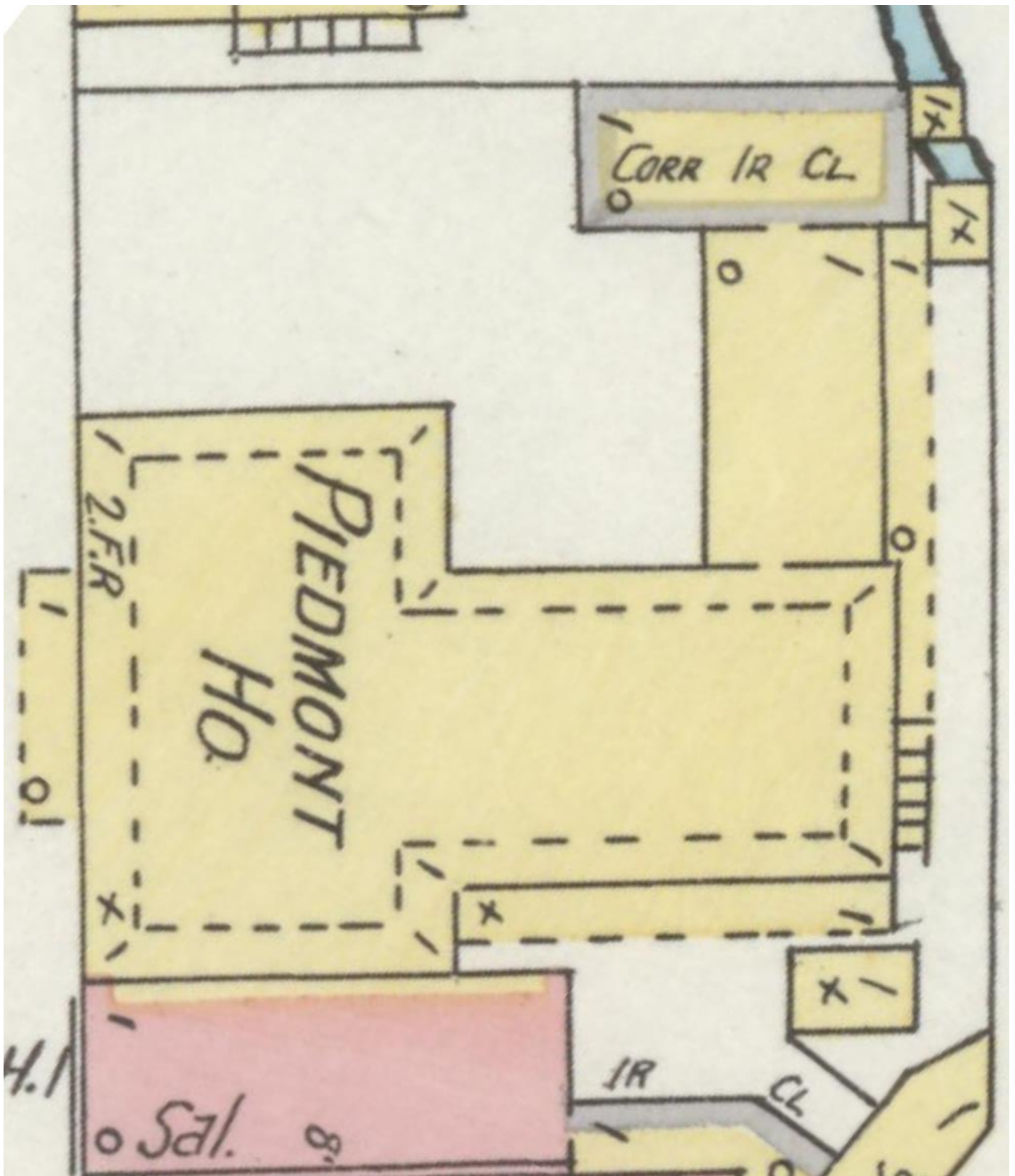
3. Hotel Piedmont, 118, 120 & 122 East Fountain Square and 118 & 120 Buffalo Street,
1871 – 1927

Maps and Photographs

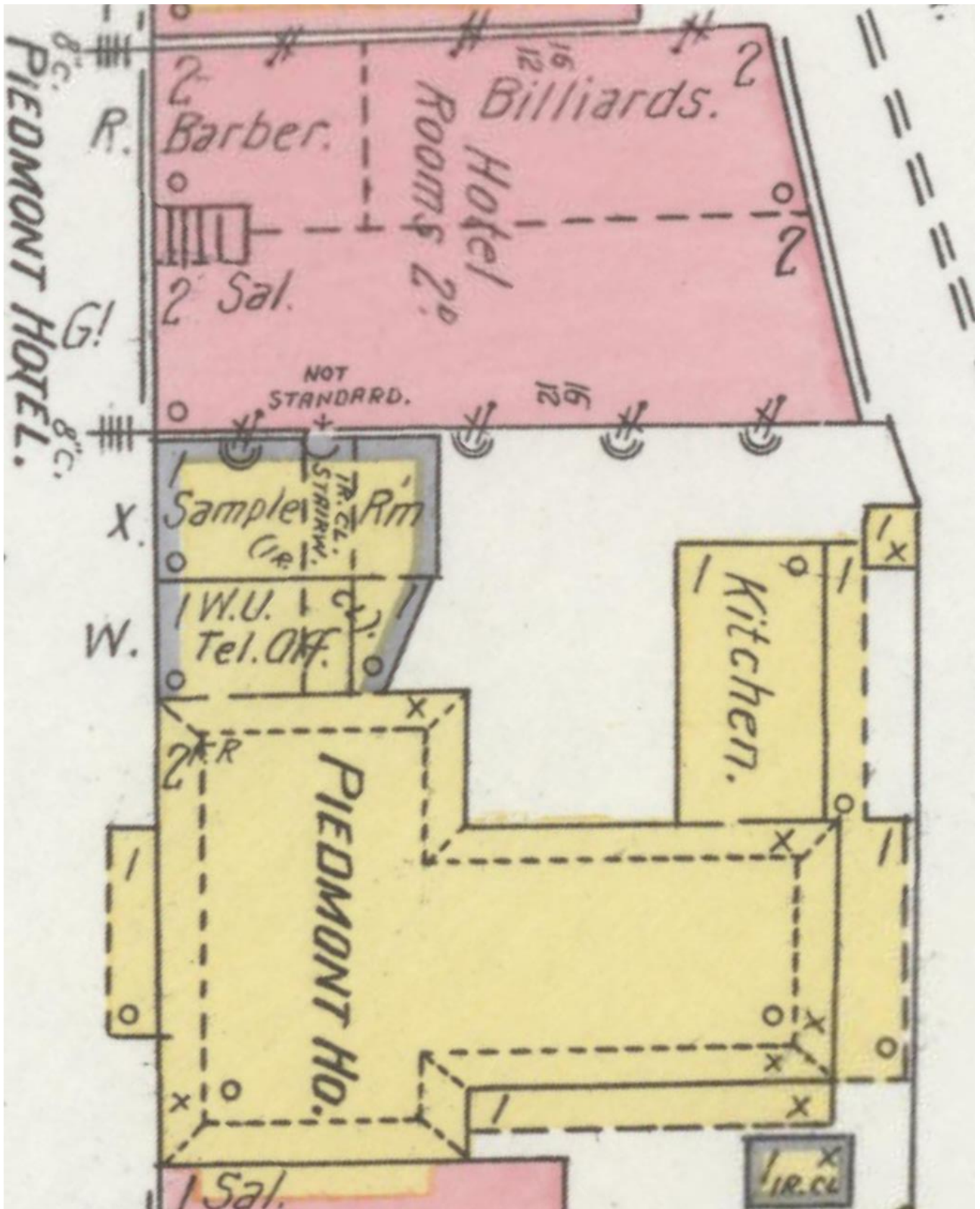
Hotel at Johnson City, 1871 – 1874
Austin House, 1874
City Hotel, 1874 – 1887
Piedmont Hotel/House, 1887 – 1905
Planters' Hotel, 1905 – 1914
Western Hotel, 1914 – 1927



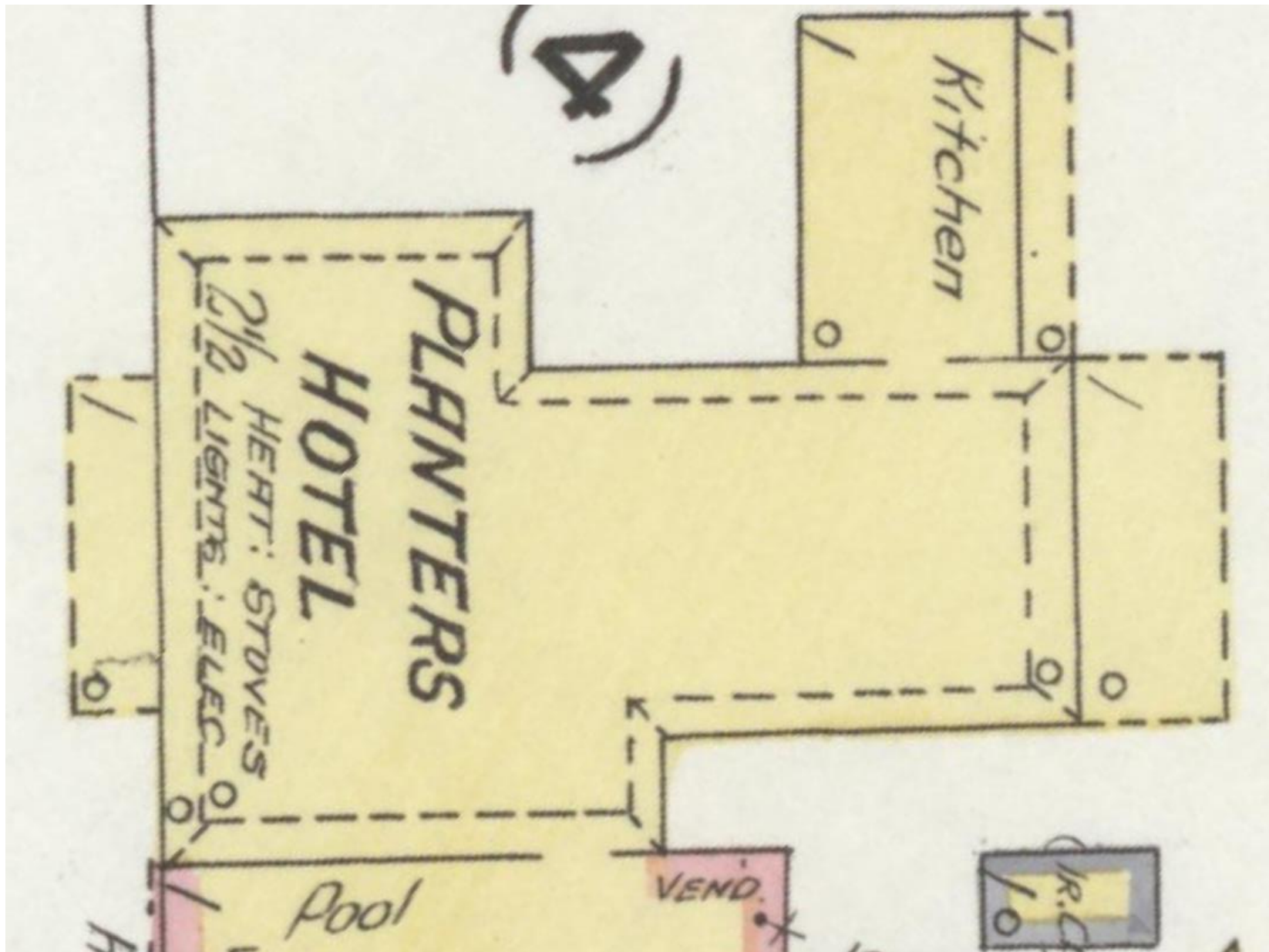
Map 1C. A detail of the "Piedmont Ho." in 1891.



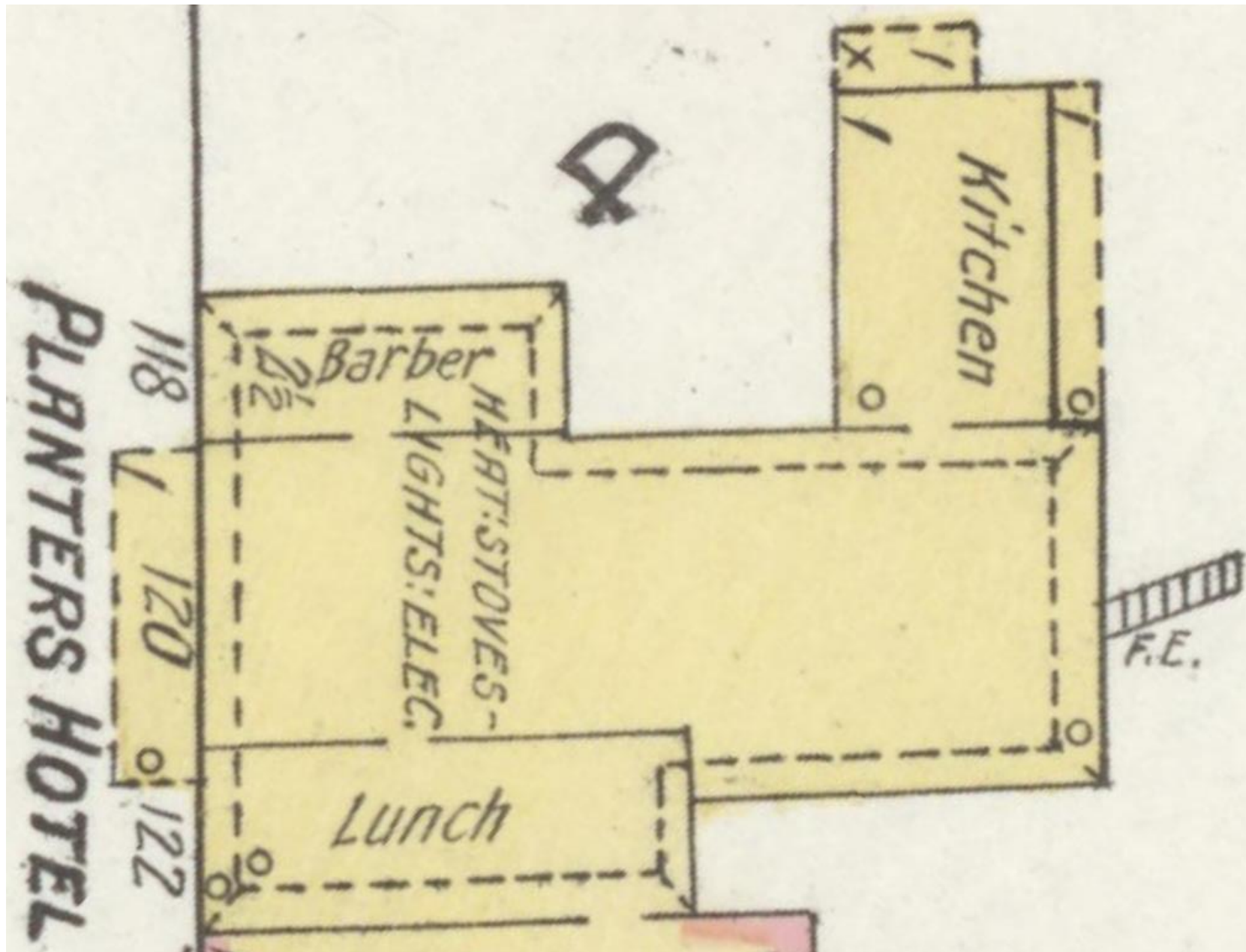
Map 2C. A detail of the "Piedmont Ho." in 1897. Note the addition of a corrugated iron clad structure.



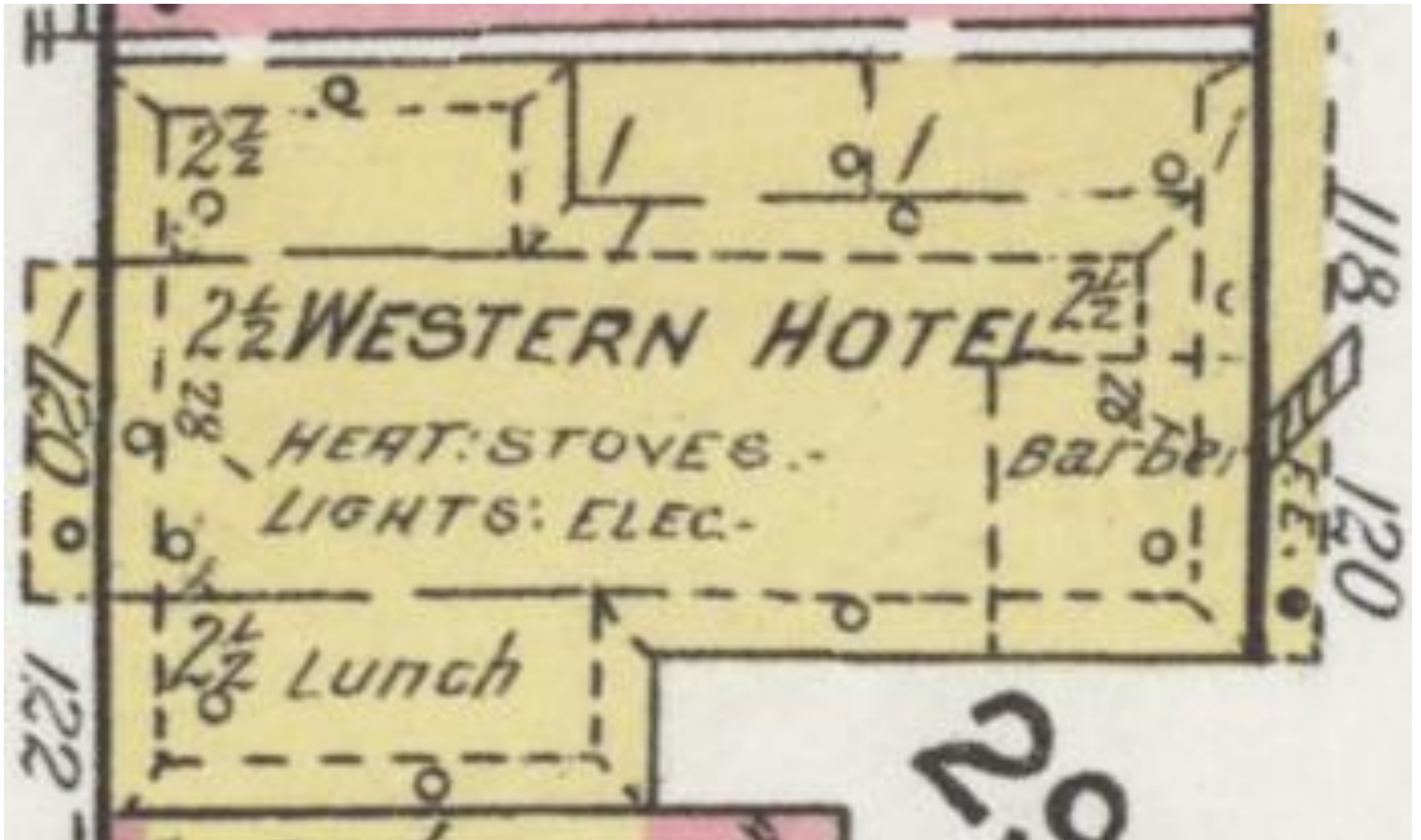
Map 3C. A detail of the "Piedmont Ho." and annex in 1903. Note the addition of the "W.U. Tel. Off" (Western Union Telegraph Office) and the "Sample R'm", each with an iron clad exterior. Also note the iron clad "stairway" running over top of them and connecting the hotel with its annex on the 2nd floor of the W.O. Phillips building. Finally, note that corrugated iron clad structure that was north of the kitchen has been removed.



Map 4C. A detail of the “Planters Hotel” (formerly the Piedmont House) in December 1908. Note that the “W.U. Tel. Off” (Western Union Telegraph Office) and the “Sample Rm” are not present (it appears that both were destroyed by the fire of 6 March 1907). Also note that the annex is no longer a part of the hotel.



Map 5C. A detail of the “Planters Hotel” in 1913. Note the internal partitioning of the hotel to allow space for the Nat Hyder’s barber shop and “Lunch”. The Star Restaurant may have occupied the space labeled “Lunch”; however, the last mention of this enterprise, found by the author, occurred in 1906.



Map 6C. A detail of the “Western Hotel” (formerly the Planters Hotel) in 1920. Note the barber shop on the right; the last one that the author identified at this location was the “Lone Tree Barber Shop”, run by Nat Hyder, for which the last mention found dates to 1915.



Figure 63. Historian Johnny Graybeal captioned this photograph: “This view of the City Hotel and the Hart – Range Saddle and Harness Shop dates from the 1870s. The photographer is set up in what was known then as Market Square, a large open area at East Main Street and the ETV&G Railroad. The building on the extreme right of the photo is the back side of the ETGV&G passenger depot, a two story affair that was also an eating establishment. The freight depot is to the right of the camera and the water tank is just out of view beyond the depot. Clifford Maxwell Collection, Archives of Appalachia, ETSU.” However, one version of this photograph was annotated “1880”. It appears that Henry Hart and Peter Range operated this “Saddle and Harness Shop” and that the “Hart – Range Saddle and Harness Shop” building had been removed prior to the construction of the new buildings near the southeast corner of Main and Buffalo streets in the late 1880s.⁵⁵ Of note, it appears that the building on the right was not used as a passenger depot until after 1887. On 15 December 1887, the Johnson City Comet included: “Mr. Platt, road master of the E.T.V. & G.R.R., was in the city last week making arrangements to have the old Aiken house turned into a ticket office and waiting room. It is intended to be used only temporarily but will be fixed up comfortably and separate waiting rooms arranged for ladies, gentlemen and colored people. This will be a convenience long needed here. Heretofore passengers have been at the mercy of the hotels as there is no waiting room in the depot...” Previously, on 30 May 1885, the Johnson City Comet included: “The old depot and the old railroad house now occupied by Jno. W. Eakin [and T.J. Jobe] are soon to be torn down and cleared away...” which indicates that this structure had been associated with the E.T.V. & G. Railroad prior to its conversion into their passenger at Johnson City.



Figure 63A. A detail of the “Piedmont Hotel (originally ‘City Hotel’ built by Colonel Robert Love, Elijah Simerly, W.M. Taylor, and others; three story building with 40 rooms; stood on the south side of the railroad between the public square and Wilson Avenue)” in 1871. The structure between the “Hart and Range” shop and the hotel, above and behind the wooden (?) retaining wall along Brush Creek, appears to be the part of the hotel that was later (by 1903) used as a kitchen, see maps 1C and 3C. The lightly colored building behind the tree on the right may have been one of the structures owned by the O’Brien Brothers and Nat Hyder, which burned down in December 1884, or it is the structure that was rebuilt after the fire and housed two saloons and a pool room by 1891, as depicted on maps 1A and 1D (which also depicts the small dark shed in the right foreground).⁵⁶



Figure 64. On the right side of this photographs is a portion of the union passenger station and freight depot. Map 4A indicates that the other buildings (from left to right) in this photograph are the “Southern Express”, the “Box Ball Alley” (occupied by the “Star Bottling Works” according to the signs), the next building was occupied by a barbershop (on the left) and a pool hall (on the right), a gap of about 35 feet (occupied by two small buildings housing a sample room and a Western Union Telegraph Company office in 1903), and then the “Planters Hotel”. Out of sight beyond the hotel are Mike Dyer’s (?) pool hall as well as the Watauga Hotel and Restaurant. Of note, the “Star Bottling Works” only operated in 1908.⁵⁷



Figure 64A. A detail of the western front of the Planters Hotel. The western front of Mike Dyer's pool hall is apparently visible behind the utility pole on the right. Regrettably, not much can be discerned.



Figure 18D. A detail of the portion of the Free Service Tire Company building at the corner of Wilson and Buffalo streets. The building in the right background appears to be the Western Hotel, formerly the Hotel Piedmont, which was demolished in 1927. Reportedly, this photograph dates to the early 1920s.



Figure 20B. A detail of the Free Service Tire Company building. The building in the right background appears to be the Western Hotel, formerly the Hotel Piedmont. The Western Hotel was reportedly demolished in 1927, apparently within five months of when this photograph was published in August 1927.



Figure 65. This photograph looks north along Buffalo Street toward Main Street, with Tipton Street on the right. The partially visible sign on the left side of this image appears to read “Western Hotel”, which operated from 1914 to 1927. The building to the right of the “Western Hotel” appears to be the one-story brick building at 116 Buffalo Street, which was occupied by an unidentified furniture enterprise in February 1920, according to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area (see Map 6A). This structure was not present on the map from 1913 (see Map 5A). The next building to the right is the two-story brick W.O. Phillips building at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square and 112 and 114 Buffalo Street (this is one of only a few images that the author has found of the east side of this building). The two-story building on the right (east) side of Buffalo Street appear to be the one at 109 Buffalo Street, which was occupied by a clothing store in February 1920, according to the Sanborn Fire insurance Company map for this area (see Map 6A). The Jones – Vance Drug Company, with a sign reading “Drugs” on the right of this photograph, was established on the northeast corner of Buffalo and Tipton street by 1912 and continued in operation here until sometime between 1931 and 1935. Also note the presence of the trolley track, which was reportedly removed in 1931 and the 1920s (?) vintage automobiles. Consequently, this photograph appears to date to before 1927.⁵⁸



Figure 65A. A detail.

3. Hotel Piedmont, 118, 120 & 122 East Fountain Square and 118 & 120 Buffalo Street,
1871 – 1927

See figures 18D, 20B, and 63 to 65, as well as maps 1C to 6C.

Hotel at Johnson City, 1871 – 1874
Austin House, 1874
City Hotel, 1874 – 1887
Piedmont Hotel/House, 1887 – 1905
Planters' Hotel, 1905 – 1914
Western Hotel, 1914 – 1927

Note: The Johnson City Comet frequently published guest lists for this hotel, these have not been included.

3.1. Construction of the Hotel Piedmont, 1871 – 1872

1871. History of Johnson City and Its Environs.

“First Hotel Built By Syndicate in '71. 1871 – A syndicate, formed and headed by Colonel Robert Love and composed of E. Simerly, W.M. Taylor and others built a hotel for the town, the first real hostelry. It was a three-story frame building with 40 rooms, described by Killebrew in his ‘Resources of Tennessee,’ written in 1872, as a ‘fine hotel.’ Indeed, it was the finest between Knoxville and Lynchburg at that time, thus setting a pace for the John Sevier hotel of 1924. The hotel stood on the south side of the railroad between the public square and Wilson avenue, one lot removed from that avenue. Across the railroad and creek was the home of Col. Love, on a small hill which has been cut down to street level. The contractor who built the hotel was Henry Hoss Crouch. Its first name was ‘City Hotel’; soon changed to Piedmont Hotel.”⁵⁹

7 July 1871. Bristol News.

“New Hotel. – Johnson City is to soon have a large, fine hotel, principal part of the building will be thirty six feet by sixty five, and an L thirty four by sixty feet, all three full stories high. – Greenville Sentinel.” See Map 1C.

11 August 1871. Bristol News.

“Special Correspondence of the News. Johnson City, July 28, 1871. This sterling little village, of sonorous name, is of recent growth. It assumed corporate dignity less than two years ago. Its situation is pleasant, on the E. Tenn Va. & Ga. R.R. some twenty-six miles from the city of Bristol. About five hundred souls constitute its population. The spirit of industry which pervades it is commendable. Its half dozen dry-goods merchants carry on a profitable business; Its two liquor-shops do, as a matter of course. A considerable trade comes across the mountains from the direction of North Carolina. This would have been lost to the merchants here, had not the Western N.C. R.R. proved a failure. Improvements of a permanent and respectable kind are being added with moderate progress. A first-class hotel of ample dimensions is looked forward to with

considerable interest. It is now raised and partially weatherboarded. If completed according to original calculations, it will present a handsome appearance [this could be a reference to either the Hoss House or the City Hotel]. Several brick-kiln in the vicinity promise additional buildings soon. Two churches were in process of erection. One is still receiving the attention of workmen, and will doubtless be finished within a reasonable period; the other, a good brick wall, nicely located and just ready for roofing, will not be completed. The denomination to which the latter belongs counts at least twice as many members as any other in the place, but, with a very few exceptions, they are destitute of church enterprise – will permit an excellent frame of their building to crumble to the ground, when the slight trouble of putting on a roof would, at least, preserve it. – There is a good school-building here unfinished also. Perhaps it will never present that elegant appearance which a little more work would secure for it. It is tolerably comfortable, but lacks the plastering inside, and the finishing work without. Another building of which this burg stands very greatly in need is a first-class flour mill. It is very strange that no one has yet made an investment in this direction. There is a sufficient water-power just at hand, while many bushels of grain are constantly being shipped to a distance. – The village has not had an adequate supply of flour and meal for weeks past. Breadstuffs can be had by the citizens now only by making repeated trips to mills in the country. Will not some enterprising individual embrace, at once, the opportunity of erecting the most paying piece of property in the locality? Johnson City, although it will never be large enough to wear its large name gracefully, will yet surpass the oldest town in the state. This, perhaps, will be glory enough.

A highly respectable old gentleman, one of the best citizens of Johnson City, has recently been charged with Hoss-stealing. He has not yet been brought to trial.

A camp-meeting of the M.E. Church South will begin at Rockhold's campground, near Union Depot, on Friday, the 18th of August.

A considerable number of visitors are now at Easley's Springs, two miles from Johnson City. W.”

1 September 1871. Bristol News.

“Points About Johnson's. Johnson City. Aug. 28, '71. Our parched, dusty locality has at length been relieved. The dry earth's burning thirst has been quenched by a long, steady rain. Corn, though dwarfed beyond remedy, puts on a more cheerful aspect. Complaints of the season, though too numerous still, are in a great measure banished from the lips of the agricultural brotherhood. During half the day Sunday, and a part of the preceding night, the rain fell at a gentle yet constant rate, allowing the arid fields full time to absorb an ample supply.

On Saturday, the 26th inst., began the fourth Quarterly Meeting for Jonesboro' circuit...

Our city, (?) too, professes to be looking toward her educational interests. To this end she now has a mixed school numbering sixty-six pupils. This comprises about one-half of the school population among the whites. The remainder will, for the most part, be reached only by the Free-school system, for which there is but little chance at present. – Yet this is probably about as well as the case stands at other points. Improvements seem to be the order of the day at Johnson City. Two commodious hotel are in rapid process of erection [apparently a reference to the Hoss House and the City Hotel]. S.H. Hale has erected, on his old site a very neat building, comprising store-room and dwelling combined. J.M. Johnson has made an addition to his previously large and commodious house. F.A. Faw's new brick residence begins to put on a handsome appearance, as the work approaches completion. Mr. J. Rankin has the brick-layers employed on his boot and

shoe shop. N.P. Chedester's new store-house will be a commendable addition when completed. The Methodist and presbyterian churches are about in statu quo. With a little of Bristol's present liberal spirit and enterprise on the land question, Johnson City might greatly promote her growth. It is a great misfortune for many promising villages that a large number of their land-holders conclude that a few lots, simply because they seem to be in demand, should make their owners immensely rich. Still such is the case and, frequently dwarfishness is the result. W."

2 September 1871. Nashville Union and American.

"Two large hotels [apparently a reference to the Hoss House and the City Hotel] are being erected at Johnson City, and other improvements are going on at that place. The city can boast more good improvements under way than any town on the line from Bristol to Knoxville."

19 July 1872. Bristol News.

"Struck by Lightning. On last Thursday, the new Hotel [apparently either the Hoss House or the City Hotel] at Johnson City, was struck by lightning. Several persons were severely shocked, but no one seriously injured. The lightning struck several other points in the city and vicinity. – Jonesboro Herald."

3.2. Austin House, 1874

15 January 1874. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

"Johnson City. During the holidays, we paid this ambitious and prosperous little city a brief visit, and are happy to say that we were the honored guest of W.H. Taylor, the urbane and gentlemanly proprietor of the Austin House... The Presbyterian Church is one of the most capacious and tasteful edifices in the county, and reflects high credit upon the liberality and progressive spirit of the community.

Johnson City has five lawyers, four physicians, two churches, a good school, and Mayor and Board of Alderman.

The location is beautiful for situation, in the midst of a broad level plain surrounded by forests, and the landscape in the South and East romantically relieved by 'sweet blue hills' and a towering wall of mountains. The private residences are tastefully and elegantly constructed, and the business houses would adorn towns of greater pretensions and larger populations.

The Austin House is one of the largest and most conveniently constructed hostleries in the country, and is kept in a most handsome and attractive manner by W.H. Taylor, Esq.

Johnson City is rapidly improving and the spirit of improvement permeates the whole community and there is every indication that it will be ere long one of the most important commercial points in East Tennessee."

19 March 1874. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

"Austin House. We learn that Mr. Geo. W. Hickey has become the proprietor of this large Hotel at Johnson's City. The house has been recently built, and contains more rooms, and is better arranged than perhaps any hotel in the State east of Knoxville. We are inclined to believe that Mr.

Hickey will make an accommodating landlord, that he will spare no pains or expense to make his guests comfortable. We know him to be a clever gentleman and worthy of public patronage.”

By 28 July 1874. Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee.

“Jonesborough and Johnson City are the only incorporated towns in its [Washington County’s] limits, though there are several villages. Jonesborough was laid off in 1779, is the oldest town in the State, and was its first capital... Johnson City is a new and enterprising town, seven miles east of Jonesborough, on the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railway. It contains three churches, several stores, a large hotel [this could be a reference to either the Hoss House or the City Hotel], is situated in a rich agricultural region, and enjoys a high degree of prosperity. The population is 800.”⁶⁰

3.3. City Hotel, 1874 – 1887

26 November 1874. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

“The City Hotel at Johnsons City is one of the largest public houses in East Tennessee, still our friend Mr. Geo. Hickey could not possibly accommodate a prominent gentleman who wished to become a guest last week. George, you must learn to do better or we will take the Quartermasters place from you.”

27 January 1875. Knoxville Weekly Chronicle.

“Johnson City News... Special Correspondence to Knoxville Chronicle. Johnson City, Tenn., Jan. 20, 1875. To the Editors of the Chronicle... The Grangers have a grand mass meeting at this place, November 2d. Three delegates from each grange in the Eastern Division of the State are expected to be present. Mr. Geo. W. Hickey will entertain them at the City Hotel.”

24 February 1876. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

“Mr. Porter, a gentleman from North Carolina, and who is entirely blind, is at the City Hotel. His business is to secure a music class...”

The City Hotel has some twelve or fifteen regular boarders besides their transient custom. They average about twenty persons at each meal. Mrs. Berry knows exactly how to prepare a good meal, to please the hungry wayfarer. – Everything about the house is nice and clean. All who stop at this house go away in a good humor.”

CITY HOTEL,

Johnson, City,

East Tennessee.

The undersigned having recently opened the **CITY HOTEL**, respectfully solicits the patronage of the former friends of the house and the public generally.

This House is the Largest and Handsomest Building in upper East Tennessee, is centrally located, convenient to Depot, Telegraph, Express and Post Office, and has all the conveniences for **Pleasure and Comfort.**

The Table will always be supplied with the best that the country affords, and no pains will be spared to make the **City Hotel First Class** in all respects.

Stages leave this Hotel for Roan Mountain, Bakersville, Easley's or King's Spring, Austin's Springs, and all the good fishing streams in the mountains. Good Livery Stables Adjoining.

TERMS REASONABLE.

D. A. PATTON, Prop'r.

S. Frank Patton, Clerk.

Figure 66. Knoxville Daily Chronicle, 20 May 1879.⁶¹
This advertisement ran until at least 13 February 1880.

4 June 1879. Knoxville Daily Chronicle.

“From Johnson City. Johnson City, June 2, 1879. Mr. Editor... We are looking for a large number of boarders to spend the hot season in our pleasant little city. There are three hotels with open doors inviting Memphis, Vicksburg, Grenada and everybody else, to come. Mr. D.A. Patton is the gentlemanly proprietor of the City Hotel. Dave is a splendid fellow and will give you an old fashioned hearty welcome that will make you glad and thankful that you are in his house, and when you sit down to his rich table all covered with the most delicious viands, you will feel deeply impressed with the fact that you are in one of the best houses in the State...”

27 May 1880. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

“City Hotel. Johnson City, Tenn., Col. J.K. Miller, Proprietor. This magnificent house, near the center of the town, within thirty feet of the railroad, and but a few steps from the depot, is one of the largest and finest buildings in East Tennessee, and having leased the same, which is well furnished, I respectfully invite my friends and travelling public to give me a call, assuring each and every one that I will do all I can to contribute to their pleasure and comfort.

The town of Johnson City is in a beautiful valley at the junction of the E.T. & W.N.C. with the E.T., & Va. & Ga. Railroad, within five miles of Austin’s Springs, and two miles of King’s Springs, the very finest of mineral waters, and both popular resorts. Is also immediately on the route to Roan Mountain, with a regular line of hacks, which stop at this Hotel running to and from Cloudland, and Visitors Seeking Health or Pleasure cannot find anywhere in East Tennessee, with all its varied scenery, its pure atmosphere and salubrious climate, a more pleasant place to spend the summer.

Commercial Travelers will here find not only a good resting place to spend their leisure hours, but also well arranged sample rooms for the exhibition of their goods.

There are five Livery Stables in the place, well supplied with good saddle and harness horses, buggies, hocks [?] etc. and safe and cheap conveyance can be readily and easily obtained by persons desirous of visiting other points of interest in surrounding country.

A polite porter will attend each train.

Visitors stopping with me and wishing to change, will be cheerfully afforded all information and facilities for doing do. John K. Miller.”

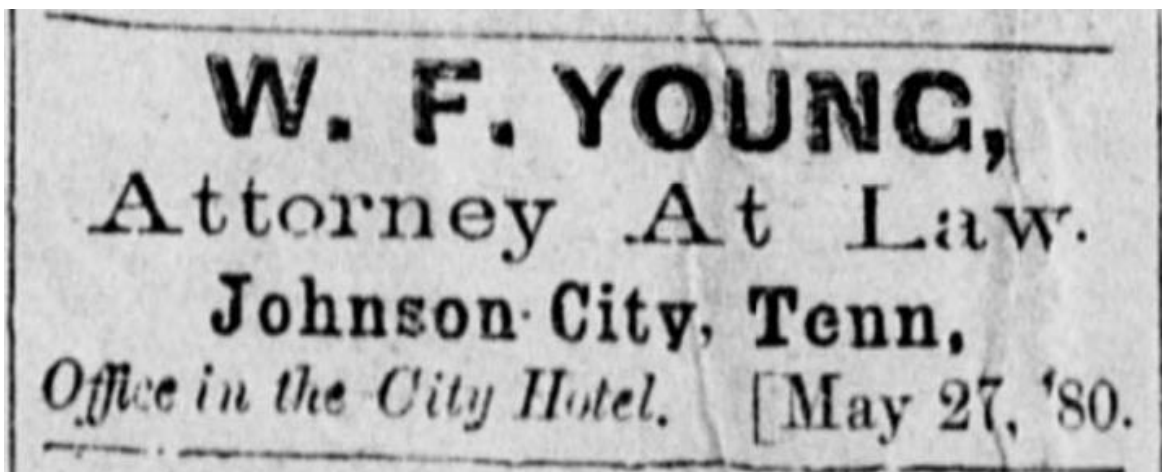


Figure 67. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune, 27 May 1880.

30 April 1881. Knoxville Daily Chronicle.

“The City Hotel at Johnson’s. We understand that the Harr Brothers have leased and taken charge of the City Hotel at Johnson City and are overhauling and putting it in thorough repair, with a view to making it one of the best hotels on the line of railroad. Johnson City is looming up as a point of importance, and will some day be a city sure enough. The Harr brothers are men of experience and enterprise and will make the City Hotel a model house, no doubt.”

CITY HOTEL,
JOHNSON CITY TENN
HARR BROTHERS Proprietors,
— O —
THIS HOUSE has just been re-pain-
ed and re-furnished. Polite and ac-
commodating porters always on hand.
A mammoth livery stable in connec-
tion with the hotel.

Figure 68. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune, 24 August 1881.
This advertisement ran until at least 15 December 1881.⁶²

4 November 1882. Knoxville Daily Chronicle.

“Messrs. R.S. Patty and Wm. Dickinson have, we understand, taken charge of the City Hotel at Johnson City, and will keep it hereafter in first-class style. It is one of the best hotels on the road.”

15 March 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“The City hotel is now in splendid condition, its table is inviting and always plentifully provided with good things to eat, its rooms are kept neat and comfortable, its proprietor has yellow locks and a rosy face, a warm heart, a happy temperament and entertains his guests royally.”

CITY HOTEL,
JOHNSON CITY, - TENNESSEE.
W. A. DICKINSON, Proprietor.
Hotel at depot. Porters at all trains.
Splendid sample room free.
Special attention given to comfort of Guests.

Figure 69. Johnson City Comet, 15 March 1884.
This advertisement ran until at least 14 April 1887.

Luscious Fruits!

Improve your Fruit. Pay more attention to your orchards and you will prosper more, and live better.

We will make our headquarters at **The City Hotel in Johnson City for 4 Weeks,** and will make every lover of a good apple, a luscious peach, a juicy pear, happy.

We will sell you any variety of grapes, all sorts of plumbs and every kind of fruit you want, besides all kinds of yard trees.

We represent

**VAN LINDLEY'S NURSERIES,
SALEM JUNCTION, N. C.**

Come and see us, or let us come and see you. We will sell at lowest prices, and guarantee our trees true to name, and of the very best quality.

**L. L. LAWRENCE,
S. M. WILLIS.**

Figure 70. Johnson City Comet, 26 April 1884.
This advertisement ran until at least 6 September 1884.

17 May 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“The New England Editors – Stop at Johnson City and Visit Cranberry. The thirty-five editors from way up North, who are making an extended trip through the South, arrived at Johnson City last Saturday on the midnight train. The special sleeping cars in which they were journeying were switched off on a side track. Sunday morning they were breakfasted at the City Hotel and Hoss House by the citizens of Johnson City. A special train had been furnished them by Col. T.E. Matson Sup’t. of the E.T. & W.N.C. R.R., and at 7:30 o’clock Sunday morning they started for Cranberry...”

26 July 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“The City Hotel, under the management of Will A. Dickinson, has become first class. A warmer hearted landlord never opened a register. But the light of the hotel, and Will’s guardian angel, is the laughing lady Dickinson. The City Hotel is prosperous.”

13 December 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Dickinson, proprietor of the City Hotel, pays 20¢ per dozen for eggs.”

20 December 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“The Fire. About half past 10 o’clock Thursday morning, a fire broke out in the roof of O’Brien’s Pool Hall [at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square]. It is supposed that the fire originated from a defective flue. Immediately after the alarm had been given, several hundred men rushed to the place where the fire was burning. Vigorous efforts were made to extinguish the flames but without avail. They City Hotel, about twenty steps from the burning building was in great danger. Everybody began to cry, ‘save the City Hotel.’ Everybody went to work and thousands of buckets of water were dashed on the roof and side of the hotel. The heat became intense. It was impossible to stand on the roof of the hotel. Twice it caught fire and was twice extinguished. It was thought that it would burn despite all the efforts to prevent it. A great deal of the furniture was carried out. The Tannery Company furnished a hose which was joined to the force pump in the engine room of the E.T. & W.N.C. Railroad Co., and a sufficient quantity of water was thus furnished to prevent the mad flames from igniting the roof of the hotel...”

Mr. Dickinson returns his sincere thanks to the citizens who by their vigorous efforts on Thursday morning, saved the hotel from burning.”

3 January 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“Wm. A. Dickinson, proprietor of the City Hotel, has developed into a magnificent ‘yarn’ teller. Any person afflicted with sleeplessness can get a good nap by listening to Bill’s tales for ten minutes.”

13 June 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“City Hotel. – Mr. W.A. Dickinson has had the offices and halls of the City Hotel white-washed, and a nice awning put in front of the building, which adds much to its appearance and comfort.”

20 August 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“W.A. Dickinson, the proprietor of the City Hotel, is having a new balustrade erected around the balcony in front of the hotel, which will add much to its appearance when completed.”

1 October 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“W.A. Dickinson, killed a blowing viper on the railroad in front of the City Hotel last Tuesday that measured two feet long. It is supposed to have come out of Love’s grove.”

25 March 1886. Johnson City Comet.

“In the election held here yesterday the following ticket was elected: W.A. Dickinson, Mayor; Dr. Hash, Joe Morrell, O.E. Lyle, Ike T. Jobe, and Eli McNees, Aldermen, and W. Hodge, Constable.”

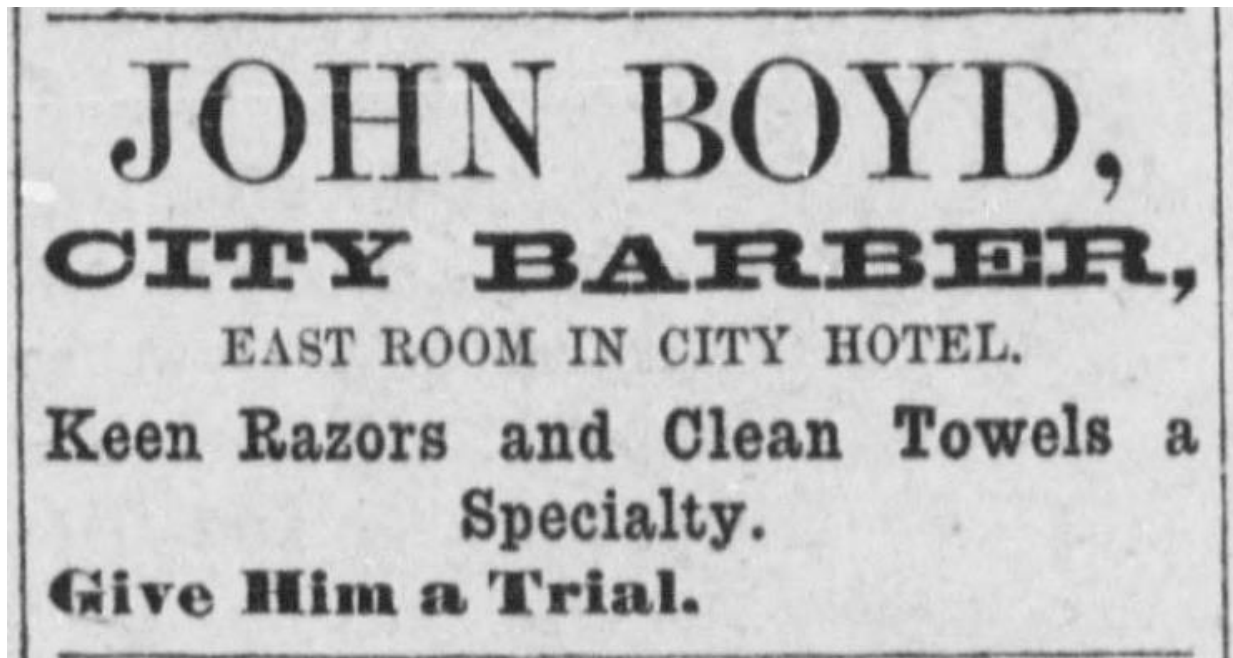


Figure 71. Johnson City Comet, 13 May 1886.

This and similar advertisements ran until at least 15 December 1887.

Note: On 20 October 1887, the Johnson City Comet included: “John Boyd has moved his barber shop to the Truslow Block.” On 3 November 1887, the Johnson City Comet included: “Nat Brewer and John Boyd are the proprietors of the shaving parlor on Railroad street...” Apparently indicating that this barber shop had moved back into the City Hotel.

17 June 1886. Johnson City Comet.

“Mayor Dickinson, proprietor of the City Hotel has had new awnings put up in front of the Hotel.”

24 June 1886. Johnson City Comet.

“Jno. Boyd has moved his barber shop to the east front room of the City Hotel, where he is better prepared than ever to accommodate his customers. He keeps what he advertises clean towels and sharp razors. Give him a call.”

28 October 1886. Johnson City Comet.

“The City Hotel has been sold to a Mr. Wiler, of Ohio. W.A. Dickinson, former proprietor, will continue in charge for sometime. Mr. Wiler will raise the building two or three feet and make other improvements at an early day. It can be made one of the nicest hotels along the line of the E.T.V. & G.R.R. It is already the best paying.”

10 February 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The City Hotel. In a central location, and fronting the railway tracks, stands Johnson City’s leading hotel. The building is a frame structure and affords accommodation to a large number of guests. It is the headquarters for nineteen-twentieths of the traveling men who find ample sample rooms at their disposal and attentive servants to wait upon them.

The landlord is Mr. W.A. Dickinson, a gentleman that takes personal interest in promoting the comfort of his guests. He has had a number of years experience in this vocation, and he is certainly untiring in his efforts to give satisfaction to every patron. The table is well supplied; the rooms are comfortable and the beds inviting enough to tempt an occupant to just one more nap. In brief, the City Hotel is one of the institutions of Johnson City concerning which we can say a pleasant word.

Mr. Dickinson is deeply interested in the welfare of his chosen home and he is devoting himself earnestly toward securing legislative enactments in the interest of the city and its new railway enterprise. He is not a man given to making display, but he is a worker, and a persistent one.”

17 March 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. J.J. Weiler and family, and Mr. L.J. Williams, of Smithville, Ohio, arrived in the city last night. Mr. Weiler recently bought the City Hotel and has come to take charge of it. He will remodel the building, will refurnish it throughout and will otherwise improve it. We welcome Mr. Weiler and trust that his venture will prove a financial success.”

24 March 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“Retiring from the hotel business I have on hand a lot of furniture, bedding, stoves, etc., that I will dispose of in any quantity very cheap. W.A. Dickinson.”

3.4. Piedmont Hotel/House, 1887 – 1905

21 April 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. J.J. Weiler took charge of the Piedmont House formerly the City Hotel last Monday morning. The hotel is undergoing repairs, in fact, is being literally made new throughout, and when finished will be the neatest hotel building in East Tennessee, east of Knoxville, and will be the pride of Johnson City. Mr. W.K. McCalmon, a fresco artist from Cincinnati, is doing the inside painting and frescoing, and is doing [a] nice job. We will have more to say of the hotel when it is completed.

Last Monday Mayor W.A. Dickinson retired from the management of the City Hotel. For more than four years Mr. Dickinson and his good lady have acted as host and hostess of this hotel and they have not only given general satisfaction but have made a number of friends among the traveling public by their kind attention to guests and their natural kindness to all. They have moved to their elegant cottage home on Walnut street, and will keep open house to their friends.”

23 June 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The workmen have at last reached the office at the Piedmont House. The partition between the barber shop and the office has been removed and the two rooms will be thrown into one. All the improvements being made will add greatly to the appearance of the Hotel.”

14 July 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The Piedmont House has proven itself equal to any emergency and the proprietor, Maj. J.J. Weiler, deserves to be congratulated. Yesterday morning he had 115 for breakfast and fed them in less than an hour and did it as easily and as satisfactorily as any hotel in a city could have done.”

21 July 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The register at the Piedmont House shows that 618 persons have been accommodated at that hotel in the first 18 days of July. This list does not include about 50 that took supper there Saturday night and did not register. This is a remarkable showing and serves to show that a larger number of people pass through Johnson City than even the citizens have any idea of. This is only one hotel – the Hoss House has also had a good run – but we do not believe there is any two hotels in East Tennessee that can touch this record.”

21 July 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The new wash room at the Piedmont House is a model of neatness and is a marked improvement. Two new marble basins have been received and as the water is supplied by the water works it looks real cityfied.”

11 August 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The office of the Piedmont House is now complete, with the exception of the chandeliers, which will arrive in a few days. The new counter was finished last week and is a fine piece of

workmanship. It was made by E.N. Keen and C.C. Campbell. It is made of cherry and finished up natural. The inside of it is cut up into closets for baggage. Altogether it is one of the neatest and best arranged hotel offices east of Knoxville.”

20 October 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“John Boyd has moved his barber shop to the Truslow Block [“just across the R.R.”].”

27 October 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“Barber Wanted. There is a good opening for a good barber in this city. Address, Piedmont House.”

3 November 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“The firm of Brewer & Rogers, barbers, has been dissolved. Tom Rogers may be found at the old stand on main street, however and will give you a clean shave or neat haircut.

Nat Brewer and John Boyd are the proprietors of the shaving parlor on Railroad street. They are both good barbers and will run a first class shop. They have fitted up a nice shop and have two of the latest improved chairs. Give them a call.”⁶³

Note: Apparently, the last mention of this enterprise at the City Hotel, found by the author, occurred on 15 December 1887.

3 November 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“A Year’s Progress. – Building and Improvements in Johnson City in Ten Months. – every Citizen Should be Proud of the Record. – There has been no Boom, Only a Determination to go to the Front. – the Secret of this Magic Growth Lies in the Fact that Johnson City is Backed by the Finest Beds of Iron and Coal the World Affords. The List Embraces Factories, Business Houses and Dwellings Built and Improved. Below will be found a complete list of factories, business houses and dwellings built and improved in Johnson City since January 1st, 1887... Piedmont House. \$3,000... Grand total. \$134,025”.

PIEDMONT HOUSE,
Johnson City, Tenn.

Is large and elegant and has been thoroughly refitted and newly furnished in modern style.

BEST STARTING POINT FOR THE CELEBRATED TROUT STREAMS OF N. C.

THE COMFORT OF THE PATRONS

Will be made complete. Parties en-route to the famous "Cloudland Hotel," on Roan Mt., or the celebrated "Cranberry" iron district will find the Piedmont House the best in East Tennessee.

J. J. WEILER, Proprietor.

Figure 72. Johnson City Comet, 3 November 1887.
This advertisement ran until at least 10 October 1889.

22 December 1887. Johnson City Comet.

"The advertisement of Messrs. Stratton, Baxter & Gilliam, real estate agents, appear in this issue. These gentlemen are reliable and have every facility for advertising and selling property."

F. A. STRATTON.

F. P. BAXTER.

J. F. GILLIAM.

REAL ESTATE CO.

—TRANSACTS A—

GENERAL REAL ESTATE BUSINESS.

OFFICE :---PIEDMONT HOUSE.

STRATTON, BAXTER & GILLIAM.

Figure 73. Johnson City Comet. 22 December 1887.

This advertisement ran until at least 19 January 1888.

Note: This enterprise had moved into their new three-story brick building, by the depot at 126 and 128 East Fountain Square, by 1 March 1888.

5 January 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“The Piedmont Hotel tonsorial artist has received his accoutrements and is now ready for business.”

16 February 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“The new advertising clock at the Piedmont House has been attracting quite a good deal of attention. It is a very handsome clock and the advertisements are neatly gotten up on three rollers that change every five minutes. Thirteen of our leading firms are represented. Mr. J.F. Sharp, of Philadelphia, furnished the clock.”

1 March 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Attention is called to the advertisement of the Piedmont House barber shop. It is first class in every respect.”

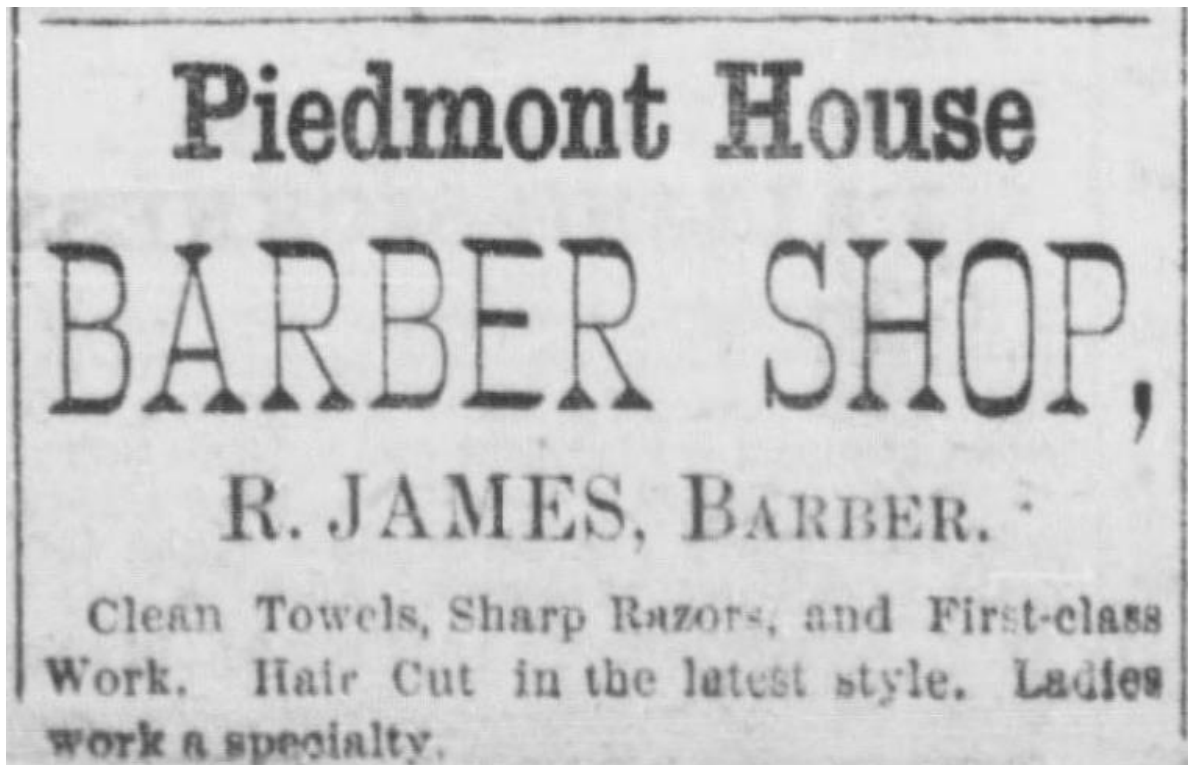


Figure 74. Johnson City Comet, 1 March 1888.
This advertisement ran until at least 9 August 1888.

22 March 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“A Change for the Better. Not being satisfied with repainting and almost rebuilding the Piedmont House until it is now one of the best hotels in East Tennessee, Maj. Weiler, the gentleman proprietor, has made another important change, and this time he looks after the comfort of the ‘inner man.’ Hereafter Mr. W.H. Hallam will reign over the culinary department, and the

dissatisfaction so often expressed by the traveling public about hotels in general will never more be heard about the Piedmont House. Mr. Hallam is thoroughly competent and comes well recommended from St. Augustine, Fla., where he has been employed in one of the finest hotels in the South.”

22 March 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“A Satisfactory Test. An experimental test was made of the efficiency of the fire extinguishing system at the Piedmont House and the result was most satisfactory. The stream not only reached every part of the building, but ascended 30 feet above the structure.”

5 April 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“The Piedmont Hotel barber shop has been carpeted and otherwise improved.”

5 April 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Be sure and go to John Crowell’s for Oranges, Bananas, etc. The most popular Magazines and Novels always on hand at Piedmont House.”

19 April 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Johnson City Hotels. It is an index of a city’s prosperity to note what kind of hotel business it does. The Piedmont, a beautiful, new and commodious hotel, has an average of about thirty arrivals per day, and stored in the wide halls are full supplies of cots, necessary sometimes to accommodate the rush. Major J.J. Weiler, a veteran in the late unpleasantness, is the genial and enterprising proprietor, and first saw Tennessee about the year 1863. He was with the Seventeenth Indiana and relates how his company charged a Confederate brigade behind a stone wall in Middle Tennessee, on Oct. 7, 1863. He got a minnie ball in his arm for his pains and his company was cut to pieces. The major, in relating the experience, however, said: ‘You bet I didn’t know it was a brigade. We could see only a few men and thought we would take them in.’ Major Weiler, notwithstanding his cool reception in 1863, still liked the State so well that he moved down and is as earnest a man in building up Tennessee as any to the manner born. The hotel is one of the nicest kept in Tennessee and is worthy of all the patronage it receives...”

3 May 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Train No. 1 to Breakfast Here. Maj. F.K. Huger, Superintendent of the E.T.V. & G. R.R. writes Maj. J.J. Weiler, proprietor of the Piedmont House, that on and after Sunday the 13th inst., he has arranged to give him train No. 1 for breakfast at 8:45 o’clock. Fifteen minutes will be allowed for that purpose. This is a deserved recognition of Maj. Weiler’s ability as a hotel man and of the fact that the Piedmont House is the best hostelry in East Tennessee.”

3 May 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Maj. Weiler is having the kitchen of the Piedmont House covered with tin.”

3 May 1888. Johnson City Comet.

Militia "Company Attention. All the members of the Johnson City Guards are requested to meet at the Piedmont House Friday evening at 7 o'clock. Business of importance. J.J. Weiler, Capt."

7 June 1888. Johnson City Comet.

"A High Compliment. The 'Hotel Man's Guide' has the following to say of the Piedmont House of this city:

The Piedmont House, Johnson City, Tenn., is now considered the best \$2,00 per day hotel in that portion of the State. The able proprietor, Mr. J.J. Weiler late of Weildersville, Ohio, is one of the few entirely faultless landlords who always succeeds in building his hotel to the very highest standard of excellence. He pays particular attention to the commercial boys, who talk with the greatest earnestness about its many excellent and homelike qualities."

12 July 1888. Johnson City Comet.

"Boyd & James have moved their barber shop next door to the Piedmont House." It appears that this enterprise moved to 110 and 122 East Fountain Square.

16 August 1888. Johnson City Comet.

"The Piedmont House register shows that that hotel is full every night. Forty-five registered there yesterday."

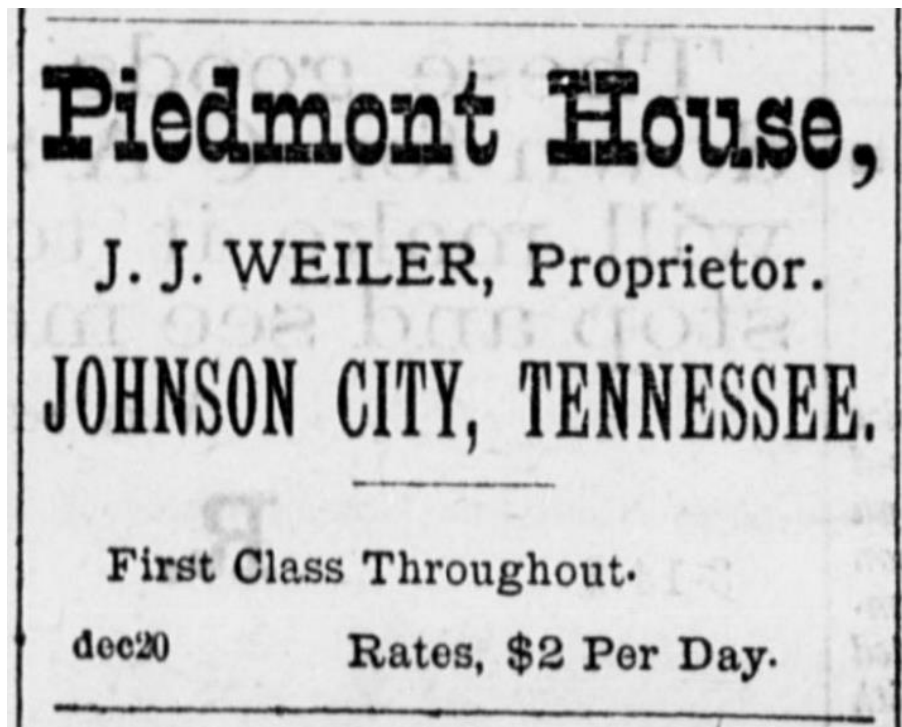


Figure 75. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune, 18 April 1889.

15 August 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“Read and Take Notice. W.C. Price, a well known barber of Johnson City, has opened a shop at the Piedmont Hotel. Everything clean and neat. Come and get a good clean and easy shave.” This item ran until at least 17 October 1889.

5 September 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“A Notice to Ladies. If you want a neat hair-dress or shampoo, call at the Piedmont House, and W.C. Price will be glad to wait on you. Everything nice and clean.”

17 October 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“Clerk and Master’s Sale of Land. In the Chancery Court at Jonesboro, Washington county, Tennessee. J.C. Hardin, Executor of Samuel W. Williams, dec’d, et al. vs. J.J. Weiler.

Pursuant to the decree of said court at its July special term, 1889, in the above cause, I will on Friday, the 22d day of November, 1889, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder, in front of the City Hotel now Piedmont House, in Johnson City, Washington county Tenn., the property mentioned and described in the pleadings and said decree, and ordered to be sold, to-wit: The House and Lot known as the City Hotel now Piedmont House, property situated in the said town of Johnson City, 9th civil district of Washington county, Tenn., adjoining the property of the East Tenn., Va. & Ga. Railway co., and of the E.T. & W.N.C. railway depot grounds, and a lot formerly owned by – O’Brien to satisfy the judgments in favor of complainants and the costs of said cause unless said debts and costs are sooner paid.

Terms of Sale.

Said property will be sold on a credit of six and twelve months time in bar of the equity of redemption. Notes with approved security required of the purchaser for the purchase money in two equal installments bearing interest from date and a lien retained on the land therefor, until fully paid. This October 16, 1889.

A.B. Bowman, C. & M.

By W.F. Young, D.C. & M.”

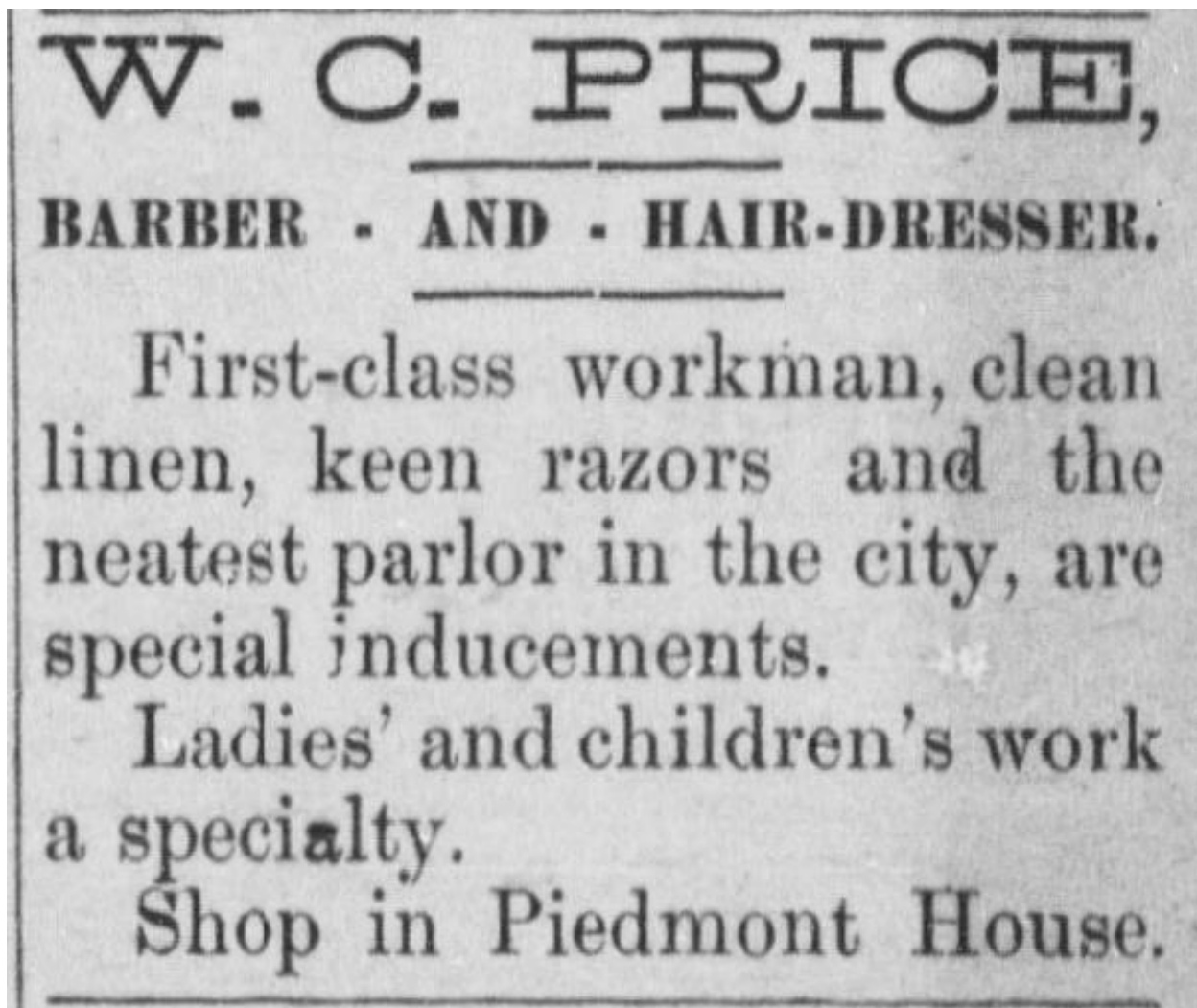


Figure 76. Johnson City Comet, 24 October 1889.
This advertisement ran until at least 14 November 1889.

24 October 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“W.M. Mathews, of Lynchburg, Va., is assisting W.C. Price at the Piedmont tonsorial parlors.”

2 January 1890. Johnson City Comet.


“W.A. Dickinson has bought the Piedmont House and will take charge of it Monday. The price paid was \$10,000.”

16 January 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“Maj. J.J. Weiler has turned the Piedmont House over to his successor and moved into the residence on Watauga avenue lately occupied by W.S. Campbell’s family. Mr. Campbell is boarding with him.”

W. C. SMITH,

REAL ESTATE.

PROPERTY OF ALL KINDS HANDLED.
 Be sure to see me before Buying or Selling.

OFFICE:—In Piedmont House.
JOHNSON CITY, TENN.

Figure 77. Johnson City Comet, 23 January 1890.
 This advertisement ran until at least 28 May 1891.

Note: 28 May 1891 was the last mention of “W.C. Smith, Real Estate”, found by the author.

6 February 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“Jerome Greenwood, the gentlemanly barber, has left us and gone to Johnson City. We wish Greenwood well always and everywhere. He is the best barber we ever saw, and a perfect gentleman. – Athens Post.

Mr. Greenwood has opened a barber shop in the Piedmont House. He is the first white barber Johnson City ever had.”

27 February 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“W.C. Smith, the real estate agent, has returned from a business trip to Iowa, and may now be found at his desk at the Piedmont House, but always busy.”

13 March 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“Jerome Greenwood, the Piedmont House barber is around again after a few days illness with measles. He has added a new chair and other new furniture to his shop and is determined to keep pace with the times.”

17 April 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“Jerome Greenwood has decided to quit scraping faces at the Piedmont House barber shop. He has accepted a position with the Johnson City Manufacturing Company, and will go on the road and talk live for a machine. He can do it.”

25 September 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“Attention! Company A. All members of company A., S.G.S.T., are requested to deliver all guns, swords and uniforms in their possession to me at the Piedmont House. Col. W.A. Dickinson.”

23 October 1890. Johnson City Comet.

“Mine Host, Dickinson, has had the Piedmont House fitted up with electric enunciators.”

25 June 1891. Johnson City Comet.

“Capt. Dickinson is putting up a bath room in connection with the Piedmont House.”

26 November 1891. Johnson City Comet.

“C.M. Harris, the new proprietor of the Piedmont, went to Big Stone Gap, Va., this morning.”

25 February 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. Harris, of the Piedmont, is fitting up additional sample rooms.”

3 March 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“The Piedmont Leased. A.W. Harris, proprietor of the Piedmont hotel has leased it to John Hardin, of Big Stone Gap and the latter will take charge at once. Mr. Harris will return to Big stone Gap, as was his intention when he came here.”

3 March 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Take Charge. John Hardin, who leased Hotel Piedmont, arrived in the city yesterday and will take charge of the hotel today. Mr. Hardin is from Big Stone Gap, Va.”

10 March 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. Hardin, the new landlord, is now in charge at the Piedmont.”

26 May 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Piedmont has changed hands again. Finley Toy is proprietor.”

21 July 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Piedmont has had new awnings put up around the porch... W.M. Sexton, of Knoxville, is behind the desk at the Piedmont during the day, and the jovial ‘Phil’ Barnett is acting as host at present.”

Hotel Piedmont

Headquarters for Commercial Men.

Centrally Located in Business Part of City.

Newly Fitted up with Sample Rooms, and
under New Management,

Supplied with all Modern Conveniences.

Rates, \$2.00 per day.

W. M. SEXTON, Chief Clerk and Treasurer,
M. F. BARNETT, Manager,

J. A. WHITE, Prop.

JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE.

Figure 78. Johnson City Comet, 4 August 1892.
This advertisement ran until at least 15 September 1892.

6 October 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“Fred Russell, an expert tonsorial artist from Greeneville, has taken charge of the Hotel Piedmont barber shop, and promises his patrons first class work in every respect.”

26 October 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“Changed Hands. – Mr. W.M. Sexton Now Proprietor of Hotel Piedmont. – On yesterday W.M. Sexton, who for the past few months has been connected with Hotel Piedmont as secretary and manager, secured the lease of this popular hostelry and is now sole proprietor.

Since coming to Johnson City Mr. Sexton has made many friends who are glad to see him take charge for himself of the house, and expect to see a higher standard of excellence attained under the new regime than has ever been reached before. This is saying a great deal, but judging from the ability he has displayed I am sure their expectations will be realized.”

25 May 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“Piedmont Vacated. W.M. Sexton, the genial and popular young proprietor of the Piedmont, closed out his business at the hotel yesterday. His successor is not yet known.”

1 June 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“W.E. Harris, of Big Stone Gap, Va., owner of the Piedmont Hotel, is in the city. No disposition has yet been made of the hotel, but it is more than likely that it will be reopened by the first of next week at the farthest.”

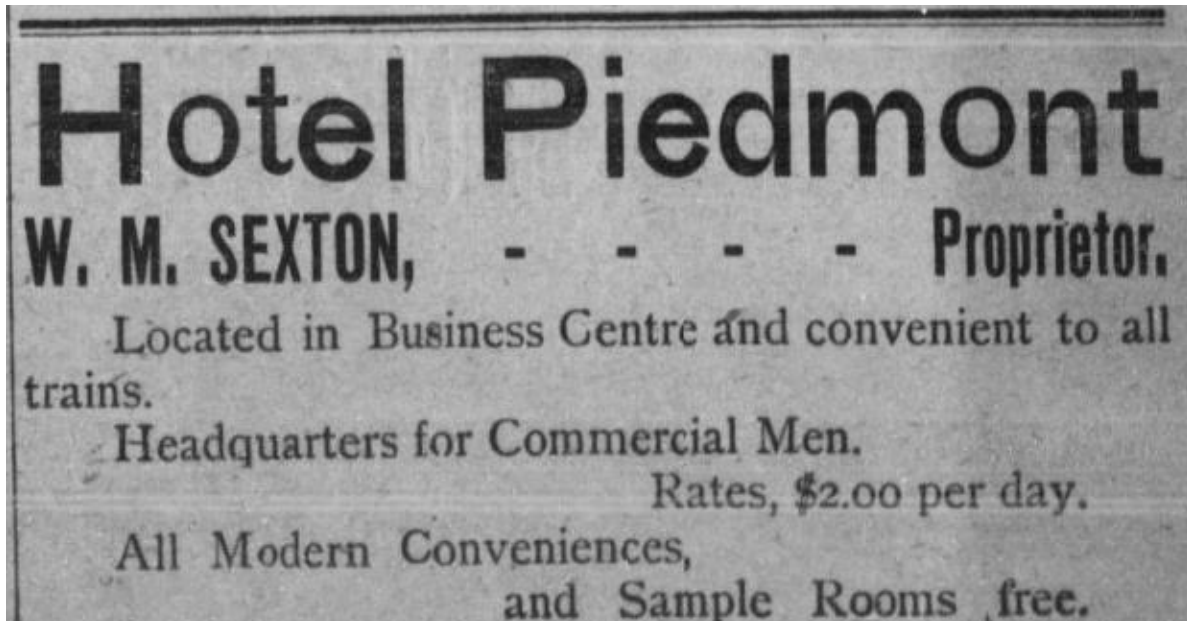


Figure 79. Johnson City Comet, 8 June 1893.

Note: On 25 May 1893, the Johnson City Comet included: “Piedmont Vacated. W.M. Sexton, the genial and popular young proprietor of the Piedmont, closed out his business at the hotel yesterday...”

29 June 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“Piedmont Hotel. Mr. Charles S. Harris, of Big Stone Gap, returned from Johnson City yesterday evening, and went home this morning.

Mr. Harris had been to Johnson City to make arrangements for the reopening of Piedmont hotel, which was closed a month ago, the time of the lessees having expired. He stated to a News reporter that he had about closed a deal with some Jonesboro parties who wished to lease the Piedmont. In case the trade is not made he will move to Johnson City and run the hotel himself. Anyhow the Piedmont will be open to the public in a few days. – News.”

24 August 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“W.G. McKenzie has leased the Piedmont Hotel and took charge last Monday.”

30 August 1893. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

“Hotel Piedmont is under new management, W.R. McKenzie, proprietor; he is a hustler and will give general satisfaction and deserves the commercial travel.”

21 September 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“Mine Host McKenzie is making some needed improvements at the Piedmont Hotel. The new desk adds greatly to the appearance of things in the office. The table is not forgotten in the list of improvements and all the market affords is constantly supplied his guests in the most approved style.”

26 October 1893. Johnson City Comet.

“Comes Highly Recommended. – A Rare Opportunity to get Advice of an Expert Physician and Surgeon Free of any Cost. – Dr. Isham, who will have an office at the Piedmont Hotel Nov. 2, 3 and 4, comes highly recommended as an expert in examining and diagnosing diseases, having had 14 years experience in our large city hospitals, where every manner of disease is treated in the most scientific manner.”

4 January 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“New Barber Shop. W.C. Price, the popular tonsorial artist, has opened a new barber shop in the Piedmont Hotel, where he will be pleased to meet his old patrons.”

8 March 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“Early Morning Fire. – Phillips’ Saloon and Pool-Room Rifled [?] by Fire and Water. Fire broke out about 2 o’clock Tuesday morning in a two-story wooden building belonging to W. [William] O. Phillips on Railroad street near the Piedmont Hotel... At one point it looked as though the entire block of buildings was doomed to destruction, which, had the flames not ben subdued, would have greatly endangered the Hotel Piedmont and the livery stable of Snapp & Englesing [on Buffalo Street]. Our fire company deserves great credit for the efficient work, which was done in the most systematic way, playing the streams where they did their duty most effectively...”

5 April 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“Changed Hands. John E. Oliver took charge of the Piedmont hotel Tuesday. Mr. McKenzie, who has been lessee for some time, has retired, turning over the entire management to Mr. Oliver. Mr. Mc. does not know definitely what he will do. He was a popular host, and his many friends will regret to miss him when they come to Johnson City. His successor, Mr. Oliver, was raised in this county, was a member of the legislature a few years ago, is a popular, young business man and will no doubt make himself many friends in his new field.”

18 April 1894. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

“Mr. Oliver, of the Piedmont Hotel, is a good hotel man.”

10 May 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“Nat Hyder, the barber, has acquired new territory. Within the last few days he has completed arrangements by which he has gotten control of the barber shop in Hotel Piedmont.

Hereafter that shop will be under his personal supervision, and will be supplied with experienced artists capable of maintaining the reputation Nat has made for high class work in all branches of the profession.”

13 June 1894. Jonesborough Herald and Tribune.

“J.E. Oliver, the popular host of Hotel Piedmont, Johnson City, was in our town a few hours last Saturday. John is succeeding in making the Piedmont one of the most popular hotels in East Tennessee.”

18 October 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“Jake Nunnely has made a wonderful improvement on the Piedmont Hotel by shingling the ‘manee-hip’ of the building, whatever that is.”



PALACE - LIVERY - STABLE.
(OLD JOBE STABLE).

Handsome Turnouts for all Occasions.
Polite and Attentive Drivers Supplied.

Stable on Buffalo Street, back of Piedmont Hotel and opposite the Oxford. Special inducements offered traveling men. Orders by telegraph given prompt attention.

W. C. SNAPP, M'g'r, Johnson City, Tenn.

Figure 80. The Johnson City Comet, 28 March 1895.

This advertisement ran until at least 19 March 1896.

“Stable on Buffalo Street, back of Piedmont Hotel and opposite the Oxford...”

4 April 1895. Johnson City Comet.

“Original Attachment Suit. – J.R. Crawford for use of C.J. St. John vs. W.E. Harris and Caroline W. Harris... A writ of attachment was, on the 16th day of March, 1895, issued against you by me, J.M. Martin, justice of the peace for Washington county, Tennessee, which writ came to the hands of G.F. Campbell, deputy sheriff for Washington county, Tennessee, and was executed by levying said attachment on the following personal property, the property of W.E. Harris and Carolina W. Harris: One Baldwin square piano, consisting of seven pieces, the same being now in the parlor of the Piedmont Hotel in Johnson City, Tennessee; also one set of bar room fixtures, consisting of two counters, sinks, etc., one show case, 1 refrigerator, one wall case, one back sideboard with large glass, one screen, one barrel rack and one fire proof safe and one office clock; one set or suit of furniture in room 31, consisting of two bed steads, one bureau and one washstand; one set or suit in room 14, being a duplicate of that in 31; also a like suit in room 15; also suits in rooms Nos. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, each of said suits consisting of one bed stead, one bureau and one wash stand, as appears by the return of said officer on the 16th day of March, 1895...”

9 May 1895. Johnson City Comet.

“Original Attachment Notice. – First National Bank of Bristol, Tenn., vs. W.E. and Carolina W. Harris. – To W.E. and Carolina Harris: In pursuance of an order heretofore made and entered by me, J.M. Martin, a justice of the peace of Washington county, in an attachment suit wherein the First National Bank of Bristol is plaintiff and you all are defendants, you are hereby notified that upon the affidavit of Robert Burrow, attorney of the plaintiff, in which it is alleged that you all are non-residents of the state of Tennessee, so that the ordinary process of law can not be served upon you; and that you are justly indebted by note to the amount of \$98.85, principal, interest and attorney fees. A writ of attachment was on the 30th day of March, 1895, issued in this cause against you by J.M. Martin, a justice of the peace of Washington county, which writ came to the hands of G.F. Campbell, deputy sheriff for said county, and was by him, on the 30th day of March, 1895, at ten o’clock a.m., duly levied on certain property of yours, viz: One suit of furniture in room No. 24, consisting of one bedstead, one bureau, one washstand, bowl and pitcher &c.; also suits of like description in rooms Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12; also in rooms Nos. 2, 3, and 4, consisting of two bedsteads, one bureau and washstand, bowl and pitcher for each; also one office and dining room stove – all said property is now in the Piedmont Hotel, as appears by the return of said deputy sheriff made on the 30th day of March, 1895, to said J.M. Martin, justice as aforesaid. Now, then, you, the said W.E. and Carolina W. Harris, are required to appear at noon on the 24th day of May, 1895, at the office of the said J.M. Martin, Esq., in Johnson City, Jobe’s opera house, before him as the justice having cognizance of this cause, then and there to defend this action so commenced against you by attachment, otherwise the case will be proceeded in against you ex parte. April 17, 1895. J.M. Martin, J.P. for Washington county. Johnson City, Tenn.”

9 May 1895. Johnson City Comet.

“Non-Resident Notice. – State of Tennessee, Washington county. – H.C. Wood vs. W.E. and Carolina W. Harris et al. – In pursuance of an order heretofore made and entered by M.I. Gump, an acting justice of the peace for Washington county, Tennessee, in an attachment suit wherein H.C. Wood is plaintiff and W.E. and Caroline W. Harris are defendants, you are hereby

notified that, upon affidavit of Robert Burrow, agent and attorney for H.C. Wood, plaintiff, in which it is alleged that you are justly indebted to the said plaintiff in the sum of one hundred and forty-three dollars and ninety seven cents (\$143.97) and interest from October 3, 1893, and 10 per cent attorney fees, by note, and that you are non residents of the State of Tennessee, and that said note is just and unpaid, a writ of attachment was on the 1st day of May, 1895, issued in this cause against you by M.I. Gump, an acting justice of the peace for Washington county, Tennessee, which writ came to the hands of G.F. Campbell, a deputy sheriff of said county and State, and was by him executed by levying this attachment on certain property of yours, viz: Twenty-four comforts, twenty-four mattresses, 20 bed springs, twenty five carpets, same being in rooms 1 to 24 and parlor, inclusive, of the Piedmont Hotel, sixty-two chairs and five rocking chairs, three barber chairs and four barber's mirrors; twelve small, one office and five dining room tables; two refrigerators, one kitchen range, a quantity of dishes and silverware belonging to the said hotel, eight bowls and pitchers, one settee and one bench, all of the said property being in the Piedmont Hotel, as property of W.E. and Carolina W. Harris, as appears by the return of said deputy sheriff made on the 2nd day of May, 1895, at eight o'clock a.m., to M.I. Gump, justice of the peace aforesaid. Now, then, you, the said W.E. and Carolina W. Harris are required to appear at noon on the 6th day of June, 1895, at the office of M.I. Gump, justice of the peace, in Johnson City, Tennessee, before him as the justice having cognizance of this cause, then and there to defend this action so commenced against you by attachment, otherwise it will be proceeded in against you ex parte. This 3rd day of May, 1895. M.I. Gump, J.P., Johnson City, Tenn."

16 May 1895. Johnson City Comet.

"Hotel Piedmont has changed hands again. T.E. Hurst succeeds W.A. Dickenson as host. Dickenson goes to Bristol to take charge of the St. Lawrence."

15 August 1895. Johnson City Comet.

"Partnership Dissolved. The partnership heretofore existing between Messrs. J.P. Davis and W.A. Dickenson, managers of the Hotel St. Lawrence, has been dissolved, Mr. Davis becoming sole manager of the hotel. Mr. Dickenson, who was manager of the Piedmont hotel at Johnson City before coming to Bristol, will return to Johnson City and resume the management of the Piedmont. – Bristol Courier."

15 August 1895. Johnson City Comet.

"Capt. W.A. Dickenson and his estimable wife have come back from Bristol, and are at home in the hotel Piedmont."

PILES
OR
HEMORRHOIDS!

Cure guaranteed by

Dr. Wm. Dana,
RECTAL SPECIALIST.

BLIND OR BLEEDING PILES—no matter of how long standing, or how many doctors have failed. Very little inconvenience or pain to patient, or loss of time from business.

No Cutting, Tying or Cauterizing.

All Rectal Diseases treated. Ladies attended at their homes if desired. Best of local references given. Dr. Dana will be at the

Piedmont Hotel, Johnson City, Tennessee,
on his second visit

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4th and 5th.

TERMS REASONABLE.

CONSULTATION FREE.

Figure 81. Johnson City Comet, 3 October. 1895.

5 December 1895. Johnson City Comet.

“Mrs. Radcliff and daughter, of Lexington, Ky., will spend the winter in Johnson City. They are now boarding at the Piedmont.”

16 January 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“The Piedmont is determined to keep out intruders, having erected on the porch thereof a barricade. That’s right – close your doors and shut up shop. Keep out the drummers and Billy goats.”

16 January 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“Foster Brewer, Butler Taylor, Dave Jarnagin and Harvey Hightower certainly know how to make good music, as was evidenced by a number at the Piedmont the other night. That fellow, Hightower, is wonderfully low on his instrument, not base, but bass – low down.”

12 March 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“F.P. Burch and Mine Host Simpson of the Piedmont hotel, have inaugurated the fishing season by a trout angling trip on Indian creek near Unicoi City. They had fairly good luck.”⁶⁴

6 August 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“What is to be Done? Saturday night Jas. L. Sutton and A.J. Shipley engaged in an altercation in front of the Piedmont Hotel which would most likely terminated seriously but for the intervention of bystanders. Sutton was rather worse for the meeting, while Shipley received a knife thrust in the abdomen which more force would have rendered fatal. Sutton is said to have been the aggressor. It was one of several instances lately where he has precipitated trouble of this kind, and our people are anxious to know what action will be taken in the premises. No blame is in any way attached to Policeman George Campbell, as he was prompt in the discharge of his duty.”

10 September 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“Change of Management. Wm. F. Simpson, the genial host of the Piedmont Hotel for the last year, moved out Monday to make room for V.B. Bowers who has bought the hotel property and who will continue it in future. The property belonged to W.E. Harris at Big Stone Gap, Va., and it changed hands on the basis of \$12,000. It is the aim of the new owners to continue it as a first class hotel.

Mr. Simpson and family moved into the Kinney Martin property, on Poplar street.”



Figure 82. Johnson City Comet, 10 September. 1896.
This advertisement ran until at least 27 January 1898.

4 February 1897. Johnson City Comet.

"A Barber in Trouble. Jos. Alexander, who until a few weeks ago conducted a barber shop in the Piedmont Hotel, finds himself in a dilemma that may prove anything but pleasant. He contracted a bill for board at the Piedmont to the amount of about \$30 and neglected to liquidate before making his departure. He was apprehended in Greene county last week and brought to the city Sunday..."

25 February 1897. Johnson City Comet.

"The Maryland Projectoscope Co. entertained the guest of the Piedmont hotel Saturday evening with a sacred concert on the Graphophone. It broke up the dull monotony and was certainly appreciated."

29 April 1897. Johnson City Comet.

"Hickey Out. Tobe Hickey has resigned his position as clerk at the Piedmont Hotel, and the vacancy has been filled by John Short, of Birmingham, Ala.

Mr. Hickey was one of the most popular clerks along the line, and 'der drummer,' who has learned to love him, will be sad when he misses his red head behind the counter.

Mr. Short seems to be a nice gentleman, but he will have to get long and wide too, if he is to fill Tobe's place. Hickey has been talking 'fishing' for some time, and his quitting work is no surprise to those who know his love for the sport."

17 June 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Changes Hands. John Short, the hotel clerk at the Piedmont, has about proven that he is all his name implies. He was imported here from Franklin, Tenn., by Mr. Bowers about six weeks ago to take charge of the hotel as clerk, and to assume partial management in the absence of Mr. Bowers, who is in business at Elk Park. Mr. Short evinced a dislike for the place from the very start, and finally left last Friday over the wired protest of his employer, who was anxious for him to make settlement.

Short left on No. 5 and Bowers arrived from Elk Park a few hours later. He found the hotel out of funds and quite an amount of outstanding bills. The inner drawers of the safe were locked and the keys carried away. So it was several days before keys could be made and the safe opened. When at last it was opened it found empty.

It is not known how much Short owed the hotel, as all the cash was gone and no settlement could be made.

Mr. Bowers immediately put M.F. Hickey, his former clerk, as manager of the hotel, and it at once opened up with an air of prosperity and cleanliness which was noticeable.

Mr. Hickey is one of the most popular hotel clerks along the line, and will be none the less popular with the entire management in his hands. He at once set out to renovate the premises, putting down new carpets and furniture in the rooms. The change in the cleanliness and comfort of the place is very perceptible.

Mr. Hickey as ‘mine host’ is going to be so popular that the traveling public will raise a great kick when he is appointed postmaster.”

16 December 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“H.R. Meade, of the Piedmont Hotel, made a business trip to Bristol Monday.”

24 February 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“The hotels of the city have suffered their part of the losses, which has been occasioned by the smallpox scare for the past few weeks. But Mr. Mead proprietor of Hotel Piedmont, is taking advantage of the dull times, and is renovating all of the rooms of his hotel and is improving in many ways, which will be the means of giving him better facilities for taking care of the traveling public in the future.”

24 March 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Piedmont. The Piedmont Hotel is under better management now than it has been for several years. Mr. H.R. Meade, the present proprietor, is a thorough gentleman, having had a great deal of experience in the Hotel business, The table is furnished with all the luxuries the market affords, and the comforts of the guests are carefully looked after at all times. A good Hotel does as much or more to advertise a town than most anything else in it, and the way to have a good hotel is for the citizens to help support and patronize it occasionally.”

21 April 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“Growing in Popularity. The Piedmont hotel is growing in popularity and is gaining custom [customers?] every day. Mr. H.R. Meade, who is the manager of the above hotel, informs us that his business has been better so far this month than at any time during his management. Mr. Meade

is a good hotel man, and, with his untiring energy, there is no doubt but what he will make a success of the hotel business in this city.”

5 May 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“The management of the Piedmont hotel are making preparations and enlarging their room capacity to such an extent that they will be prepared to accommodate a large number of southern visitors this summer. Mr. Meade, the manager, is a first-class hotel man, and he’s going to make a special effort this season to run the best hotel in East Tennessee.”

19 May 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“H.R. Meade has a fine collection of Indian rocks and historical curiosities on exhibition at Hotel Piedmont. He will take great pleasure in showing them to the public.”

25 August 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Go to Greeneville. H.B. Meade, proprietor of Hotel Piedmont, will give up the property on October 1st., and move to Greeneville. He has leased the Grand Central hotel and will operate it. Mr. Meade is a good hotel man and will make a success of his new undertaking.”

22 December 1898. Johnson City Comet.

“Music. The event of the week was the song recital given by Miss Louise Estelle Scott in the parlors of the Piedmont Hotel, Tuesday evening...”

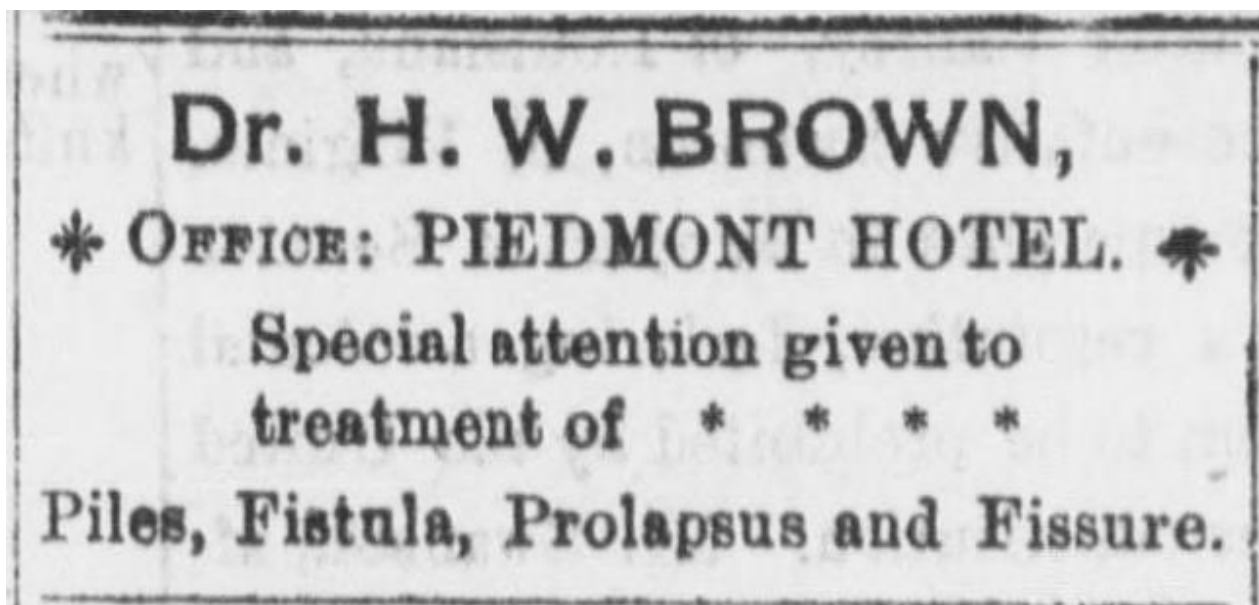


Figure 83. Johnson City Comet, 12 January 1899.
This advertisement ran until at least 26 January 1899.

8 June 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“Marriage Bells. Mr. Isaac Brown, the popular clerk at Hotel Piedmont, and Miss Ida Grant, the attentive telephone girl, were married at the residence of the bride last Sunday evening by Rev. L.B. Caldwell.”

6 July 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“George Hicks has accepted a position as clerk at the Piedmont Hotel...”

Isaac Brown has resigned his position as clerk at Hotel Piedmont to accept a more lucrative one with the Nolachucky telephone company.”

6 July 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“Fount Russell Arrested. Tuesday night about 10 o’clock Deputy Marshall McCall, of Knoxville, arrested Fount Russell in the office of Hotel Piedmont on a charge of counterfeiting. When arrested Russell had one spurious half-dollar on his person. He was arraigned before U.S. Commissioner Taylor and held to answer at the next term of the U.S. court at Knoxville. In default of bail he was taken to Knoxville and placed in jail. Russell is well-known in Johnson City and was night clerk at Hotel Piedmont some mouths ago. He is a nephew of Col. W.A. Dickinson and has many friends here who will learn with surprise and regret of his trouble...”

18 January 1900. Johnson City Comet.

“The young society folks enjoyed themselves at Hotel Piedmont again Tuesday evening. These evenings occur with pleasing regularity and are delightful occasions. A high-class stringed orchestra is always in attendance and the sweet strains of quick-steps and other steps that permeate the atmosphere are more or less contagious...”

1 March 1900. Johnson City Comet.

“Joe Hicks Dead. Joe Hicks died Monday after a short illness of inflammatory rheumatism at his home in this city. He was about 15 years of age and was an honest, unassuming and industrious young man and had been the night clerk at the hotel Piedmont for some time. He was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. R.S. Hicks, who moved to this city several years ago from Sullivan county. The funeral occurred at the late residence Tuesday. Interment in Oak Grove cemetery.”

21 February 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Piedmont will be repapered, repainted and refurnished throughout at once, in order to furnish commodious quarters for the managers of the Soldiers’ Home when they visit the city.”

4 April 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“The Committee Here. On last Tuesday morning the sub-committee of the Board of Managers of the Soldiers’ Home arrived in the city and were quartered at the Piedmont...”

17 April 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Piedmont Annex. Capt. W.A. Dickinson has leased the second floor of the new Phillips block, and will fit up the rooms and use it as an annex to Hotel Piedmont. The rooms in this building are handsomely finished, are large and comfortable, and all have outside light. The sanitary arrangements on this floor are complete.

A granolithic sidewalk will be laid in front of the building ten feet wide and the vestibule entrance to the building will have a tile floor. It is the finest building in the city and Capt. Dickinson has displayed good taste in renting the second floor for hotel purposes.”

Note: It appears that this plan was not implemented until April 1903.

27 November 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“Modern Hotel. W.O. Phillips has decided to build a modern hotel in this city. He will tear down the building now occupied by his barroom and erect in its stead a handsome four story structure, putting two more stories upon his new building adjoining. The whole block will be converted into one of the most modern hotels in East Tennessee and will be handsomely finished throughout in hardwood and fitted with all up-to-date appliances, including a passenger elevator and steam heat. The plans are now being made and work will commence in a short time. Arrangements are now being made to move the bar into the room in the new [Dyer] building next to Hotel Piedmont and the adjoining room [in the new Phillips building] is to be fitted up for barber shop and billiard room. As soon as the bar can be moved the old building will come down to get out of the way of the new hotel. Mr. Phillips never does anything by halves and the building he will erect will be an ornament to Johnson City. It will be run by one of the best hotel men the city has ever known, the popular and polite host, Col. W.A. Dickinson.”

Note: The Phillips building was completed as a two (not four) story building, and, apparently, without the elevator, see Map 3D.

15 January 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“For good meals at all hours go to the Star restaurant... Fresh oysters served palatably in any style at the Star restaurant.” This and similar items ran until at least 27 August 1903.⁶⁵

Note: This enterprise is tentatively placed in the southern portion of the Hotel Piedmont, perhaps with its own door opening on to East Fountain Square; see Figure 85 and its associated note.

12 February 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“The Western Union Telegraph Co. has moved from the Hotel Piedmont lobby to more convenient quarters next door north. A nice room has been fitted up and the service greatly improved. Bert Poudier has been appointed assistant to Miss Pamphlin and both are kept busy.” See Map 3C.

9 April 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“W.A. Dickinson has leased the old Phillips building and had the second floor fitted up with sleeping rooms to be used in connection with Hotel Piedmont. An entrance has been made through the annex.”

9 April 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“George R. Brown has leased the dwelling [apparently the Dyer building at 124 East Fountain Square] next door to the Star Restaurant and will conduct a first-class lodging house in connection with the Star Restaurant, where meals will be furnished. He has given up the restaurant in the building on Buffalo street opposite the union depot.”

Note: It appears that this arrangement fell through.⁶⁶

18 June 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“Brownlow Orr fell out of a second floor window at the Star restaurant last week and broke his ankle.”

Note: This seems to be an odd way to describe this event if the Star Restaurant was actually in the Hotel Piedmont. Perhaps this enterprise had not yet moved into the Hotel Piedmont.

25 June 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Arlington Leased. The Arlington Hotel Company has leased their property to Col. W.A. Dickinson for five years. For years Colonel Dickinson has been identified with Hotel Piedmont and he will now conduct both, and will take charge of any others that may be built...”

10 September 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“For good meals at all hours go to the Star restaurant... The first oysters of the season will be served at the Star restaurant Saturday evening and continually thereafter.”

1 October 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Piedmont to Open. Hotel Piedmont will be run as an independent hotel again by the owner, Mrs. W.P. Eaton. Col. W.A. Dickinson surrendered his lease. Mrs. Easton is now in the city with her husband and they are arranging to have the hotel put in thorough repair and have it open for guests at an early date.”

1 October 1903. Johnson City Comet.

“Fresh oysters in any style at the Star Restaurant... Fresh oysters served at all hours at the Star Restaurant.” This and similar items ran until at least 16 June 1904.

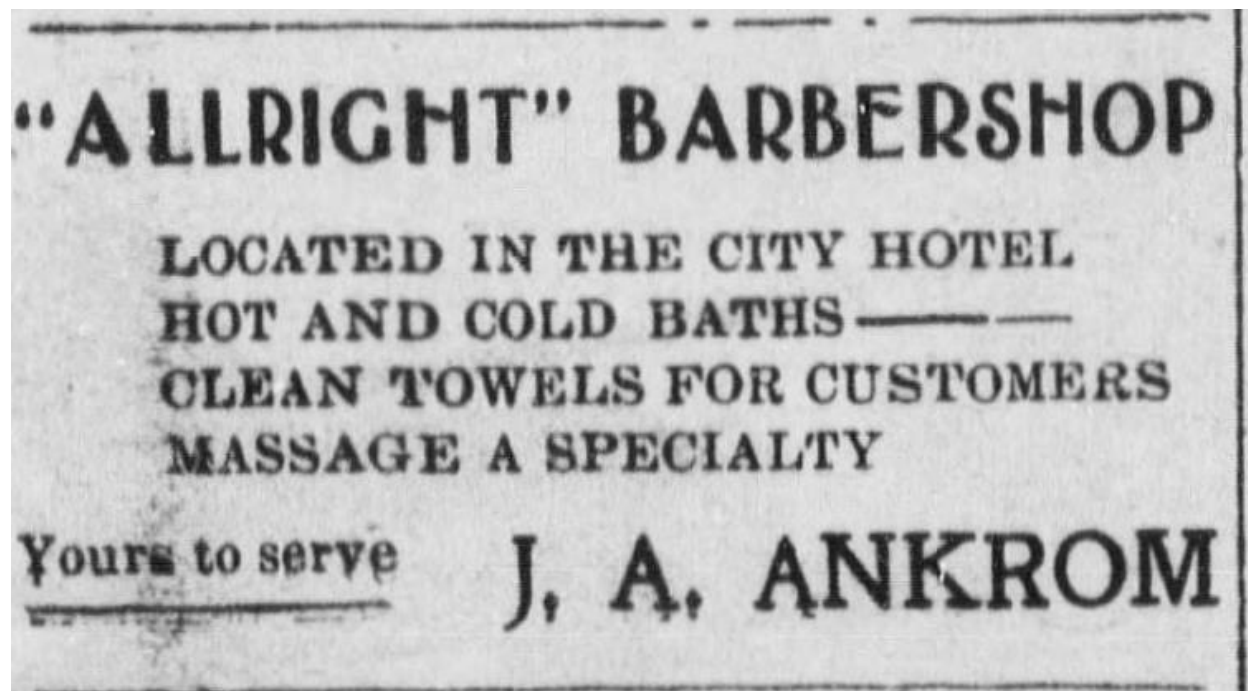


Figure 84. Johnson City Comet, 4 May 1905.
This advertisement ran until at least 5 September 1907.

Note: "The City Hotel" appears to refer to Hotel Piedmont, which was previously (1874 – 1887) known as the "City Hotel". Prior to this, in 1904 and 1905, J.A. Ankrom was the proprietor of the Central Barber Shop, which was located in the Phillips building at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square and 112 and 114 Buffalo Street.

FARMERS

Bring your Chickens, Butter and Eggs to

STAR Lunch COUNTER

Between Piedmont Hotel and Southern Depot. We pay you
Cash and the Best Prices in Town

If you are hot, tired or hungry, we have a neat, clean,
cool, place where you can get anything to eat
at the right prices

LISTEN WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY:

"Just what our town needs"---J. W. Crumley, Mayor.
 "Everything is clean and inviting"---A. B. Crouch, Unaka National Bank
 "You can't beat their prices"---F. A. Patton, Druggist
 "Don't fail to visit them"---J. A. Cargille, Photographer

COME. We please others, we will please you

Figure 85. Johnson City Comet, 14 July 1904.
 This advertisement ran until at least 11 August 1904.
 "Between Piedmont Hotel and Southern Depot..."

Note: The precise location of this enterprise is difficult to determine. During the period 1903 to 1906, there were only two buildings "Between Piedmont Hotel and Southern [union] Depot..." These two buildings were the former Carnegie Land Company building and the Dyer building. The former Carnegie Land Company building, at 126 and 128 East Fountain Square, was three-stories tall and was occupied by the Tennessee Restaurant and related enterprises from 1905 to 1909; while the one-story Dyer building at 124 East Fountain Square, next door to the Piedmont Hotel, was occupied by the Charles Longley's barber shop from 1903 to 1906, see Map 3. Consequently, it appears that the Star Lunch Counter/Fox's Café/Star Restaurant was in the Piedmont Hotel by the time the advertisement in Figure 85 was published in 1904 and perhaps as early as 1903. It appears that the Star Lunch Counter/Fox's Café/Star Restaurant continued in business in the Hotel Piedmont until at least 1906 (and possibly until 1920 or later; possibly an unidentified successor).⁶⁷

FOX'S CAFÉ
OR
"Star Lunch Counter"
BAKERY DEPARTMENT ADDED

ORDER LIST

Bread	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salt-Rising—famous, nothing like it Mother's—what our grannies used to make Home—modern bakery bread Vienna—restaurant and boarding house Whole Wheat—good for the health Graham—between Whole Wheat and home-baked Rye—old fashioned Cream—extra fancy
Cakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two-layer Chocolate, Coconut or Caramel, 35c Three-layer Chocolate, Caramel, Coconut or Jelly..... 50c Three-layer Marshmallow..... \$1.00 Three-layer Ice Cream Cake..... 90c Yellow or White Pound Cake, ... per pound, 30c "Chocolate Marble" or "Pink Marble" Pound Cake..... per pound, 30c White Fruit Cake..... " 30c Yellow Raisin Cake..... " 30c Citron Cake..... " 30c Scalloped Pound Cake..... each, 25c Ginger or Yellow Cup Cake..... " 5c Sponge Cake..... " 25c Jelly Roll..... per pound, 25c Doughnuts..... per dozen, 10c Penny Pound Cakes..... " 10c Tea Sugar Cakes..... " 15c

PIES—Lemon, Apple, Peach, Berry..... 5c and 10c

KEEP THIS AND SEND OR 'PHONE US SATURDAY'S ORDER ON WEDNESDAY

We fill everything above on three days' notice and a variety almost immediately. We are going to please you and we want your patronage. ✦ **WAIT FOR OUR WAGON.** ✦ We will carry on the wagon, extra, a nice line of Fruits.

Purchases amounting to over 20c will be delivered at any time from the Cafe. ✦ **OPEN DAY AND NIGHT**, except Sunday. ✦ Stop and see our neat, clean place and try a dish of our Cream. ✦ Between Piedmont Hotel and Depot.

'Phone 270

Figure 86. Johnson City Comet, 18 August 1904.
"Between Piedmont Hotel and Depot..."

18 August 1904. Johnson City Comet.

“Small Pox Suit. Of the transcript, the one styled A.P. Lynch vs county Board of Health, is from Washington county, and the plaintiff is seeking to recover from the defendants a bill of some \$500 or more for the expenses and damages caused him by a quarantine placed by the board of health on the Piedmont hotel at Johnson City, of which Lynch is the proprietor.

The board of health placed a quarantine on the hotel last March because it was claimed that a case of small-pox had developed there. The quarantine ran the usual time, and the bill sued for is to recover the board of parties at the hotel, and other expenses, the board being at the usual rate of \$2 per day, during the time the quarantine was on. It is a novel suit, because it was proven that the money was owing from the defendants. – Journal and Tribune.”

Note: This is the first mention of A.P. Lynch in relation to the Piedmont Hotel, found by the author.

15 September 1904. Johnson City Comet.

“Fox – McMackin. H.S. Fox and Miss Annie McMackin were married in the parlor of Hotel Piedmont Wednesday afternoon, Rev. J. Lem Keevil officiating. Mr. Fox is the popular proprietor of Fox’s café and is receiving the congratulations of his many friends...”

15 September 1904. Johnson City Comet.

“New Management. Hotel Piedmont has again changed hands and the indications are that the present management will be permanent. Wm. Hughes, of Henderson, Ky., has taken charge, having purchased the lease from A.P. Lynch. Mr. Hughes comes to us highly recommended as a gentleman and hotel man and the public may expect good treatment at his hands. He will make some extensive repairs about the premises and throughout the building that will add much to the comfort and appearance of the hostelery.”

9 March 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“J.A. Guyer is now operating the Star Restaurant and has very much improved this popular resort. He has had sufficient experience to make a success and believes a good table is the surest way to do it.”

15 June 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“Meals served at all hours at the Star Restaurant at popular prices... When you are in the city for a day drop into the Star Restaurant and get a good meal for 25 cents.” This and similar items ran until at least 7 September 1905.

14 September 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“You get a good meal at the Star Restaurant for 25 cents every day... Meals served at all hours at the Star Restaurant at popular prices... If you stop at the star Restaurant you will be properly treated and go away pleased... The Star Restaurant has been thoroughly renovated throughout and invites you to eat and sleep there while in the city. You will always get clean

rooms, comfortable beds and good meals at the Star Restaurant.” These and similar items ran until at least 2 August 1906. 2 August 1906 was the last mention found by the author for this enterprise.

3.5. Planters Hotel, 1905 – 1914

19 October 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Changes Hands. The Piedmont Hotel has been leased by Mr. A.D. McKee, of Chattanooga, and he has taken charge, Mr. McKee has been in the hotel business for a number of years and made quite a reputation in Chattanooga as manager of the Northern Hotel. He has come to Johnson City to stay as is evidenced by the way he is taking hold of things. He is having the building thoroughly overhauled and rejuvenated. It will require thirty days to make the necessary repairs before he can have his formal opening. Not the least of the good things contemplated is the item of beds, he will fit the hotel throughout with new and comfortable springs and mattresses. Mr. KcKee is a pleasant gentleman and impresses you at once with the fact that he understands how to conduct a hotel. He will change the name to the Planter’s Hotel when he gets to going.”

28 December 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“Mrs. A.D. KcKee, the charming hostess of Planters Hotel, made the hearts of many little guests glad last Saturday afternoon with a Christmas tree.”

Sunday Dinner.

The Planters' Hotel will hereafter make a specialty of Sunday dinners in order to give Johnson City people an opportunity to save the time and trouble incident to preparing a noon meal. The following menu will be served Sunday, January 14th, for 50 cents:

MENU

Consomme aux Fine Herbs

Cucumber Pickles

Olives

Sweet Pickles

Tenderloin of Trout, au Vin Blanc

Potatoes Saratoga

Roast Tenderloin of Beef, au Jus

Corn Bread

Candied Yams Petit Pois

Asparagus Tips on Toast

Roast Loin of Pork, Apple Jelly

POTATOES

Creamed Mashed Plain Boiled

Baked Young Gobbler, Stuffed,

Giblet Sauce

Waldorf-Salad

English Plum Pudding, Claret Sauce

Pine Apple Sherbet

Lady Fingers Macaroons

Mince Pie Apple Pie

Mixed Nuts

Oranges Apples Bananas

Cream Cheese, Crackers

Figure 87. Johnson City Comet, 11 January 1906.

1 February 1906. Johnson City Comet.

“Dining to Music. The Planters Hotel has a new feature that is sure to add very greatly to its popularity. A.D. McKee, the proprietor of the newly equipped hotel, has engaged the Johnson City orchestra to play during the dinner hour Sunday. This orchestra, which is composed of seven musicians, is one of the best in the south. New Yorkers and others who were guests of the hotel compared it favorably with a metropolitan orchestra last Sunday. The music was as enjoyable as the menu, and Mr. McKee deserves all the success that is coming to him.

The following excellent program will be rendered during dinner at the Planters Hotel, Sunday, February 4, from 12 to 2 p.m., by the Johnson City Orchestra:”

March	“Naval Reserves.”	Bennett.
Overture	“If I were King.”	Adams.
Waltz	“On the Beautiful Rhine.”	Kela Bela.
Characteristic	“Moonlight.”	Nevin.
Selection	“Bohemein Girl.”	Balfe.
Largo	“... ..”	Haendel.
Garotte	“Princess.”	Offenbach.
March	“The Black Prince.”	Collins.

“The price of dinner will be 50 cents.”

26 April 1906. Johnson City Comet.

“The special Sunday dinners at the Planters Hotel are increasing in popularity, and the local and traveling public are highly appreciative of the excellent menu served.”

16 August 1906. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Property Purchased. M.P. Dyer has purchased the old Piedmont hotel property from the Bowers estate for \$15,000. He has not yet announced his plans for improving the property.”

6 September 1906. Johnson City Comet.

“Mike Dyer is making the Planters Hotel look as bright as a new dollar inside.”

7 March 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“Fire Burns Two Shops. Last Monday night the barber shop of Nat Hyder, near the Planters Hotel [“Central Barber Shop – Located in W.O. Phillips’ new building, three doors south of water tank and fronting Southern Ry.”, see Figure 64B], was discovered to be on fire about 10 o’clock. The flames were extinguished and the building [at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square and 112 and 114 Buffalo Street was] left for safe, but fire again broke out about 3 o’clock and the shop was destroyed. The [“Alright”] barber shop of J.A. Ankrom, adjoining [apparently in the former “Sample R’m” of the Hotel Piedmont], was also destroyed and the Planters Hotel was badly damaged. The contents of the hotel were so badly damaged by fire and water that the hotel is

temporarily closed until it can be repaired. This will be done at once. The buildings burned belonged to Mike Dyer.

Ankrom's loss is complete, as he had no insurance. Hyder was insured sufficiently to make his loss small."⁶⁸ See Map 3C.

Note: It is possible that the Allright Barber Shop occupied the facilities occupied by the Western Union Telegraph Company office, as well as the Sample Room of the Piedmont Hotel. No mention was made of the telegraph office in the above article, perhaps indicating that it had moved to a different location prior to this fire. However, no mention of such a move was found by the author in the Johnson City Comet.

2 May 1907. Johnson City Comet.

"Hotel Planter's Again Open. The Planter's Hotel has emerged from the recent fire very much improved and is again open for business. All traces of the fire have been removed by careful artisans and the new Planter's is a great improvement over the old. Many new baths, toilets and lavatories have been put in on each floor and everything possible done to make it convenient for the public. Mine Host McKee will see to it that the table is constantly supplied with the delicacies as well as the substantial of life, and that they are prepared in a palatable manner."

23 May 1907. Johnson City Comet.

"Female Help Wanted – Dining room girls wanted at Planter's Hotel at satisfactory wages. Address, A.D. McKee, Johnson City, Tenn." This advertisement ran until at least 20 June 1907.

18 July 1907. Johnson City Comet.

"Col. Henry DeArmond makes a popular hotel clerk and the Planters is fortunate in securing his services."

15 August 1907. Johnson City Comet.

"No extra charge is made for neck shaving at Ankrom's barber shop. Three first-class barbers always at your service." This item ran until at least 12 September 1907. 12 September 1907 was the last mention found, by the author, of this enterprise.

26 December 1907. Johnson City Comet.

"Christmas Tree Enjoyed. Tuesday afternoon from four to six the parlors of the Planters' Hotel were filled with children on pleasure bent. Mr. and Mrs. McKee were giving a Christmas tree to the schoolmates of their children, Louis and Adolph.

The tree and parlor were beautifully decorated and after two hours spent at play each guest received a package from the tree and went their way rejoicing."

21 February 1908. Johnson City Comet.

“The Western Union Telegraph Co. is moving [perhaps from its office beside the Planters Hotel] into the Burrow building on Main street, having leased quarters for a term of five years. It will be nicely situated in the new quarters.” See the Johnson City Comet article from 7 March 1907, above.

25 February 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“An interesting lecture on illumination was given by M.G. Whitman, illuminating engineer, in the parlors of the Planters Hotel, Tuesday a.m. He was assisted by Amzi Smith, manager for the Watauga Electric Company. Mr. Whitman was advertising Tungsten lamps. His talk was both interesting and instructive. Quite a large crowd was in attendance.”

20 May 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Build a Big Hotel. – H.W. Pardue decides to Construct a Modern Hotel and has Plans Made Accordingly. For sometime H.W. Pardue has been undecided just what sort of a building to construct on the corner of West Main street and Southern Railway, but he has now definitely decided to build a hotel and has plans made for a three story building, containing 60 or 65 rooms. The building will have 100 feet frontage on West Main street and 19 feet on the Southern Railway and will be called the Clinchfield. It will be modern in every detail, with tile floors, electric elevators and steam heated throughout, and will cost about \$50,000. It has been leased to McKee, proprietor of the Planters, for a term of years and be furnished in keeping with the building and operated as a high class hostlery. The work is well under way and the building will be completed by early fall.”

Note: This is the last mention, found by the author, in which A.D. KcKee is mentioned as the proprietor of the Planters Hotel. It appears he gave up that role as a consequence of his lease on the Hotel Pardue.



Figure 88. Johnson City Comet, 9 September 1909.

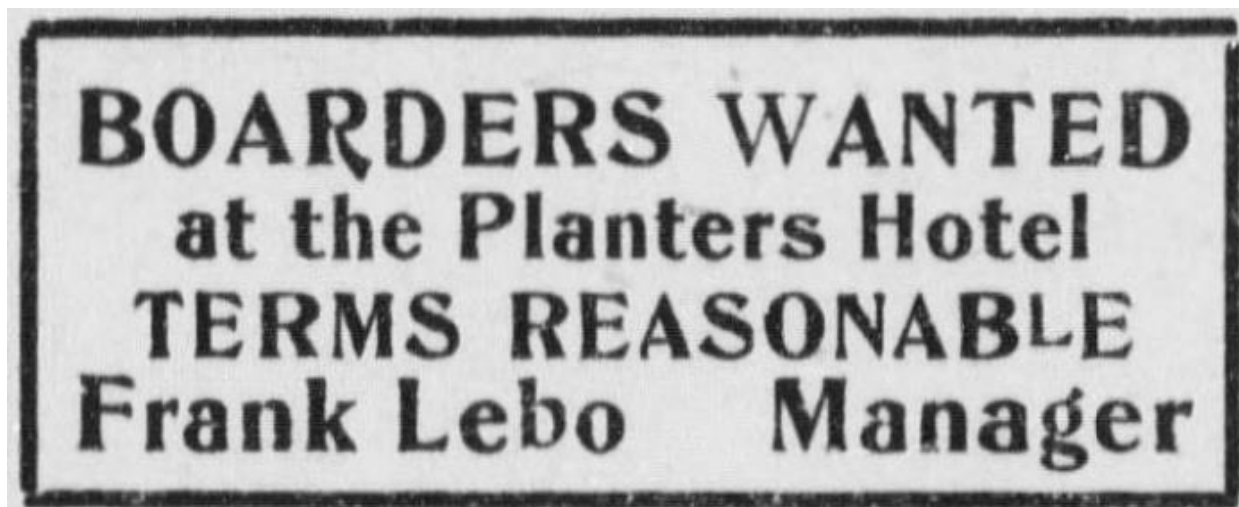


Figure 89. Johnson City Comet, 11 November 1909.
This advertisement ran until at least 2 December 1909.

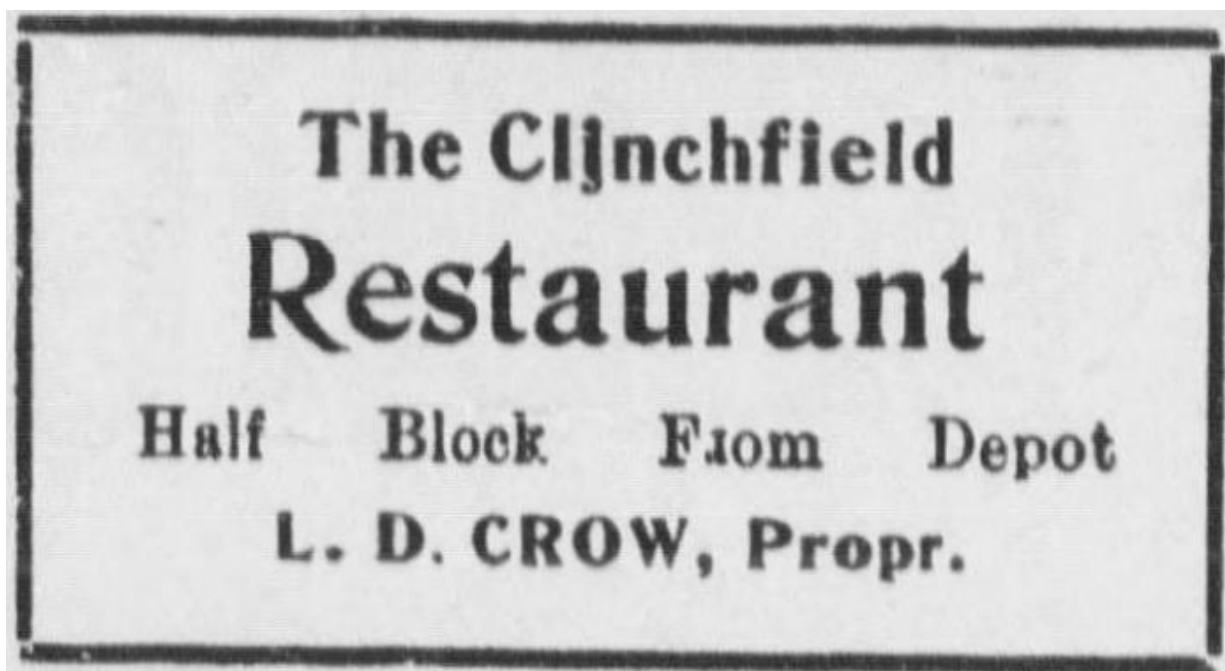


Figure 90. Johnson City Comet, 2 December 1909.
This advertisement ran until at least 23 December 1909.

Note: This enterprise is tentatively placed here, since “half block from Depot” is a reasonable description of the location of the Planters’ Hotel. It should be noted that this is also a reasonable description of the location of the William Harr building on the northeast corner of Buffalo and Jobe streets. The author did not find any additional information on this enterprise.

5 May 1910. Johnson City Comet.

“C.E. Giles, of Big stone Gap, Va., has accepted and is now filling the position as clerk at the Planter’s Hotel.”

20 April 1911. Johnson City Comet.

“Don’t forget to stop at the Planters Hotel when in town. Up-to-date meals 25 cents, rooms 50 cents. J.C. Dougherty, Prop.”

20 July 1911. Johnson City Comet.

“J.C. Dougherty, proprietor of the Planters hotel, spent Monday on business at Church Hill and Kingsport.”

10 August 1911. Johnson City Comet.

“M.T. Hash, a prominent contractor and builder , of Gate City, Va., spent Tuesday night in the city, the guest of his friend, J.C. Dougherty, at the Planters.”

Note: This was the last mention found, by the author, to J.C. Dougherty and the Planters Hotel.

14 December 1911. Johnson City Comet.

“At It Again. I will be located in the Planters hotel on or before Saturday, the 16th instant, ready to serve the public in tonsorial work. Respectfully, Nat Hyder, Barber.”



Figure 91. Johnson City Comet, 1 February 1912.
This advertisement ran until at least 10 September 1914.⁶⁹

15 August 1912. Johnson City Comet.

“Judge P.Q. Miller Tied the Knot. R.H. Stallard and Miss Sophia Evans, of Virginia City, Va., were married Sunday in the parlor of the Planters hotel by Judge P.Q. Miller...”

24 October 1912. Johnson City Comet.

“Old Soldier Dies Suddenly and alone. Patrick Bohen, a veteran of the soldier’s home was found dead in bed Wednesday at the Planters hotel. The deceased has just returned here from the home at Dayton, Ohio. He had \$75 on his person and his remains were taken to the Mountain Branch Soldier’s home for burial.”

3.6. Western Hotel, by 1914 – 1927

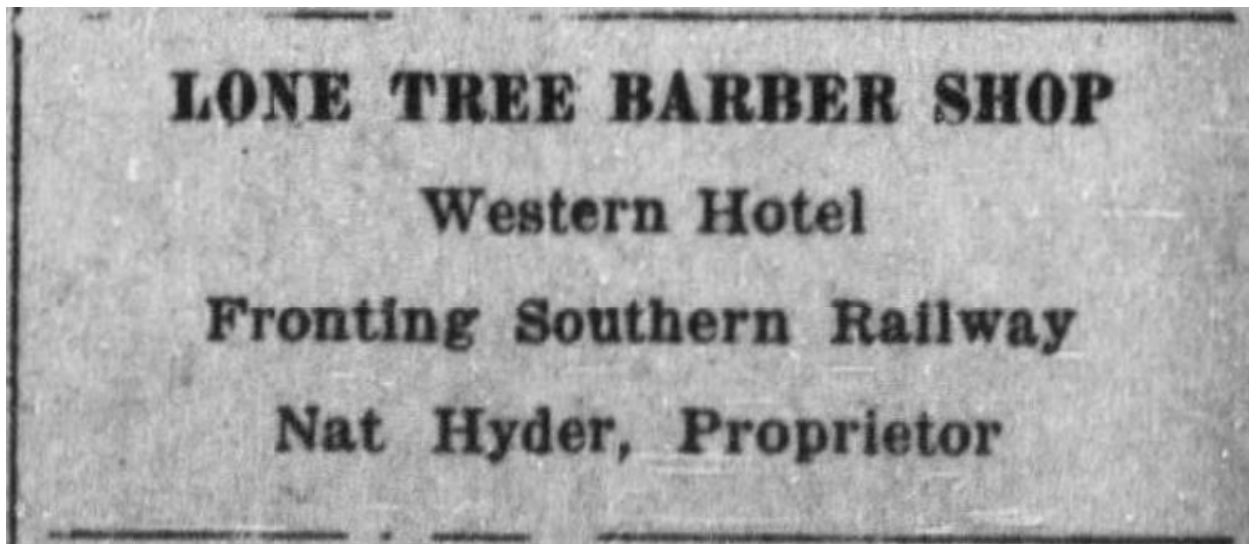


Figure 92. Johnson City Comet, 17 September 1914.
This advertisement ran until at least 15 July 1915.⁷⁰

16 June 1927. Manufacturers Record.

“Tenn., Johnson City – T.A. Cox and W.F. Carter razing Western Hotel, Buffalo St. and Wilson Ave., replace with business block.”⁷¹

Note: It appears that this business block was never constructed at this location, see figures 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, and 14.

4. The W.O. Phillips Property and Related Structures,
114/116(?) East Fountain Square and 116 Buffalo Street,
110/112 East Fountain Square and 112/114 Buffalo Street,
108 East Fountain Square and 110(?) Buffalo Street,
106 East Fountain Square and 104(?) Buffalo Street,
By 1884 to at least 1959

Maps and Photographs

The Diamond Cab Company Building, 114/116(?) East Fountain Square and 116 Buffalo Street,
by 1920 to at least 1959

Unidentified Furniture Store, by 1920
Diamond Cab Company, by 1942 to at least 1959

The W.O. Phillips Building, 110/112 East Fountain Square and 112/114 Buffalo Street,
by 1884 to at least 1947

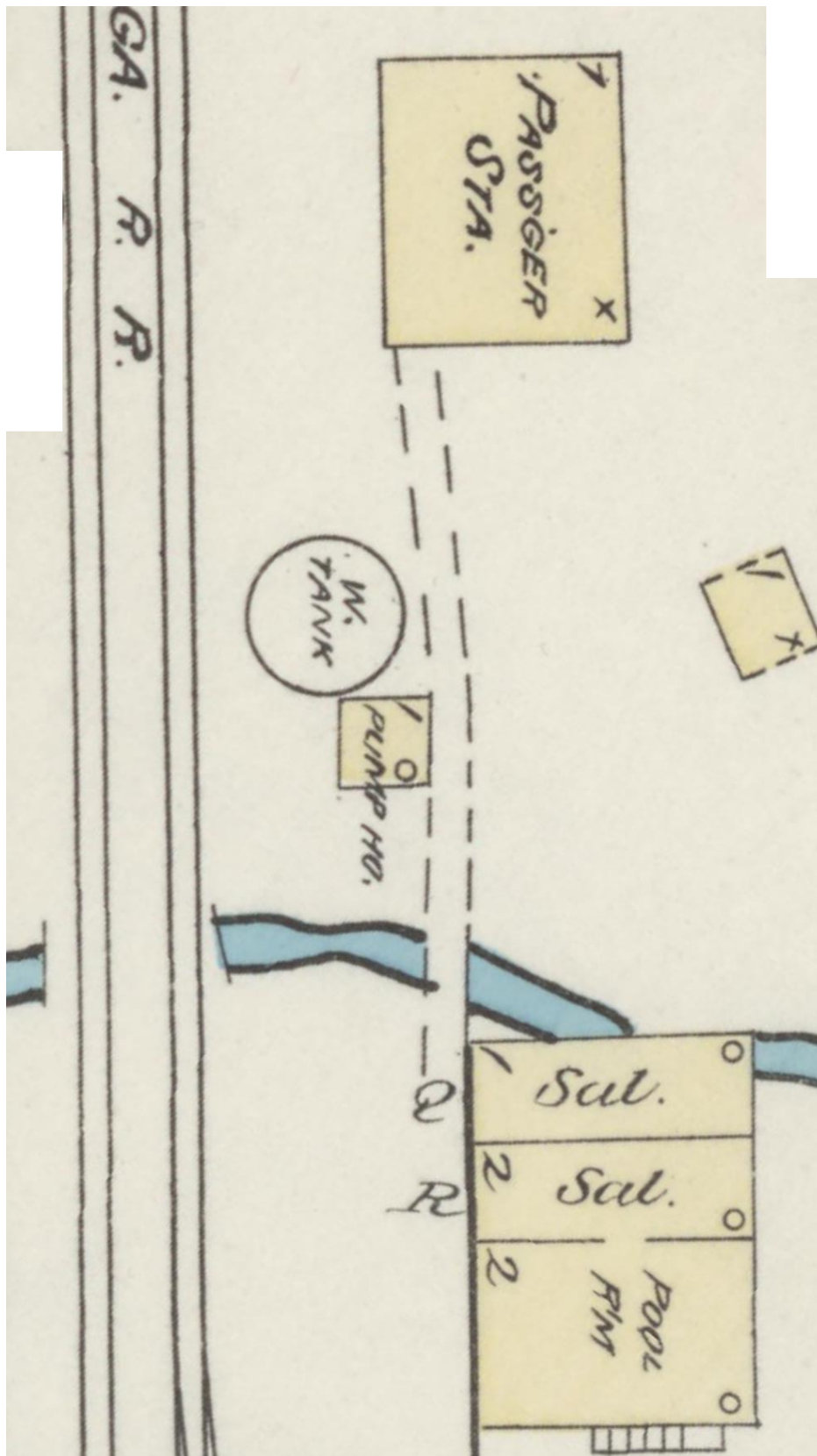
W.O. Phillips' Wood-Framed Saloon and Pool Hall, 1886 – 1901
W.O. Phillips' Brick Building, 1901 to at least 1947

The O'Boyle Building, 108 East Fountain Square and 110(?) Buffalo Street,
by 1884 to at least 1941

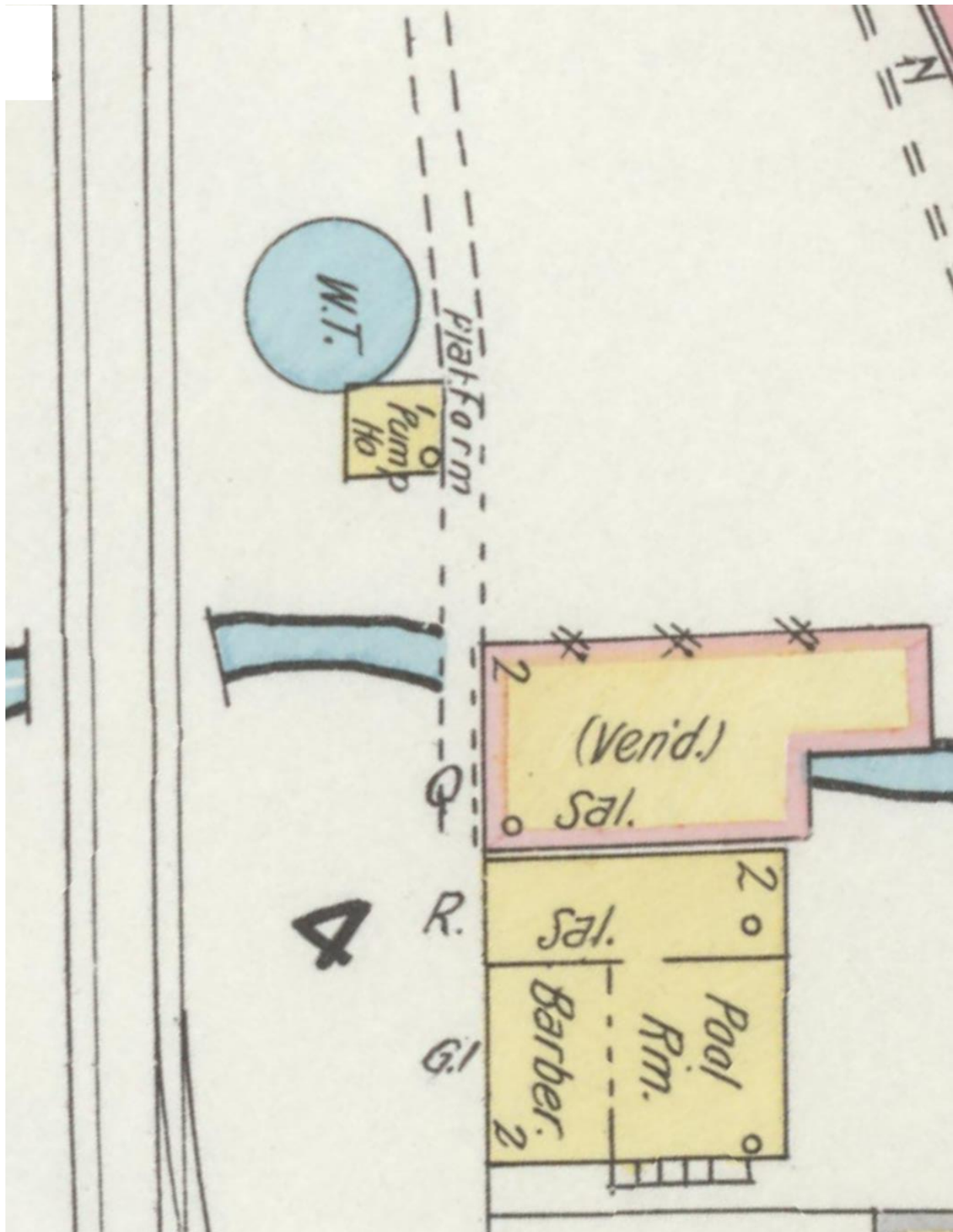
Nat Hyder's Shoe Shop, here(?) by 1884
Allen's Climax Saloon, 1885 – 1889, and Fulsom's Saloon, by 1884
John Gregg's Saloon, 1889 – 1897
Anderson & Tolbard's Saloon, 1897
Hugh O'Boyle's Bar, by 1899
Phillips & Walters Retail Liquor Dealers, here 1899 to perhaps 1903
Star Bottling Works, 1908
G.W. Newhouse's "Box Ball Alley," here? 1908 to perhaps 1909
Utopia Café, 1909, and Central Café, 1910
Unidentified Box Ball Alley, here 1912? to at least 1913
City Fish Company, 1914
Johnson City Bicycle Company, here 1914
H.M. Smith Motor Company, 1914
H.M. Smith Company, 1915 to at least 1918 and perhaps to 1920 or later
Home Federal Savings & Loan Association, by 1933 to at least 1941

The Southern Express Company Building, 106 East Fountain Square and 104(?) Buffalo Street,
1902 to at least 1938

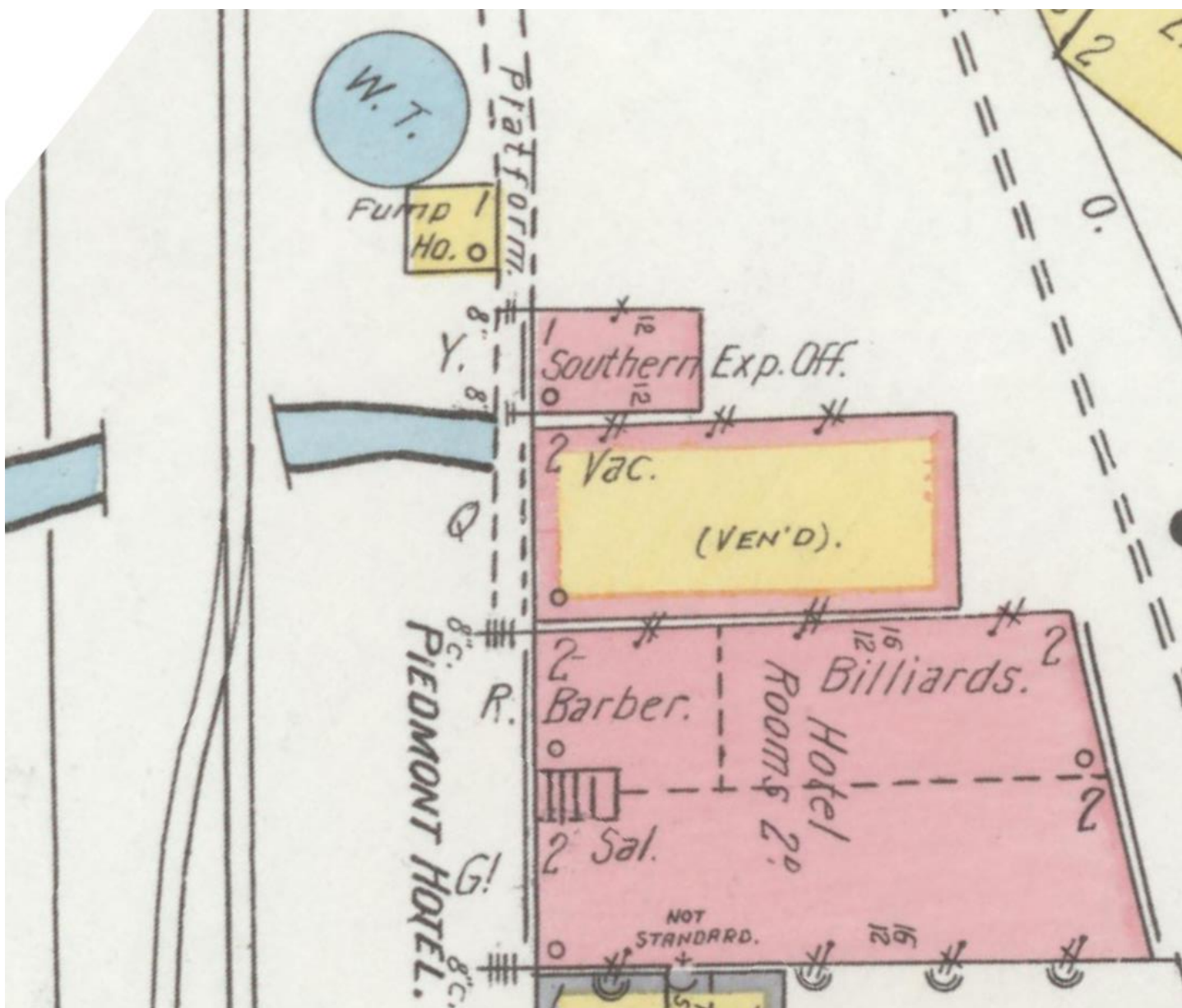
Southern Express Company Office, 1902 to at least 1912
Johnson City Comet Printing?, here by 1919 to at least 1920
Pierce & Pierce High Class Shoe Repair Shop, by 1921 to at least 1938



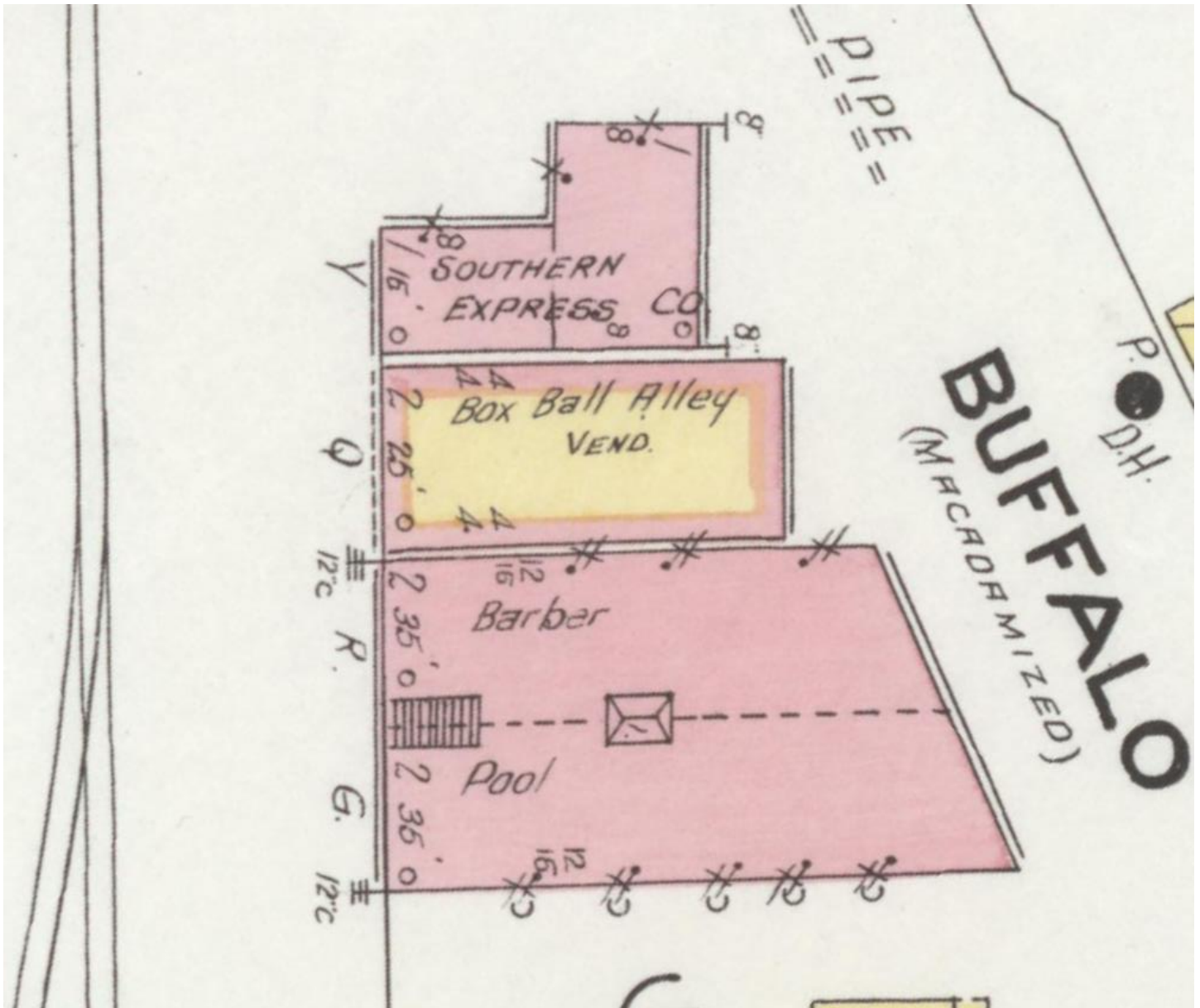
Map 1D. Buildings at the northern end of the Piedmont Hotel/House block, January 1891. It appears that the “Sal.” at “Q” was John Gregg’s saloon, while the “Sal.” and “Pool R’m” in the two-story wood-framed building at “R” belonged to W.O. Phillips. Note the water tank and the passenger station of the E.T.V. & G. Railroad.



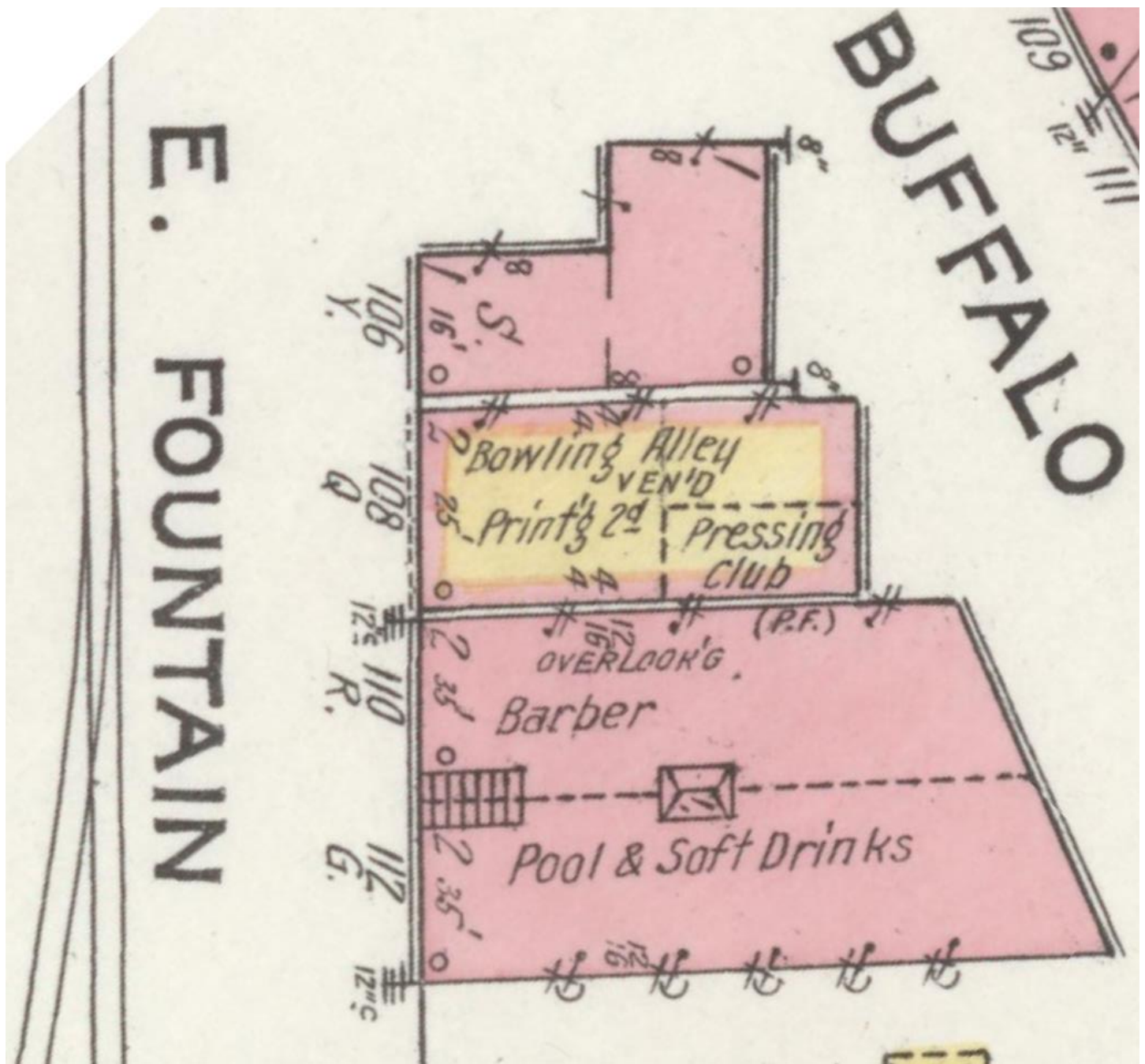
Map 2D. Buildings at the northern end of the Piedmont Hotel/House block, May 1897. It appears that the “Sal.” (Saloon) in Hugh O’Boyle’s two-story brick building at “Q” was operated by Anderson and Tolbard, while the adjacent two-story wood-framed building was occupied by a “Sal.” at “R”, as well as a “Barber” and “Pool Rm” at “G!”. It appears that either Mike Dyer or “Phillips & Walters, Retail Liquor Dealers” operated this saloon and pool room, while the other was the “Comic Barber Shop”. Note that the E.T.V. & G. passenger station has been removed.



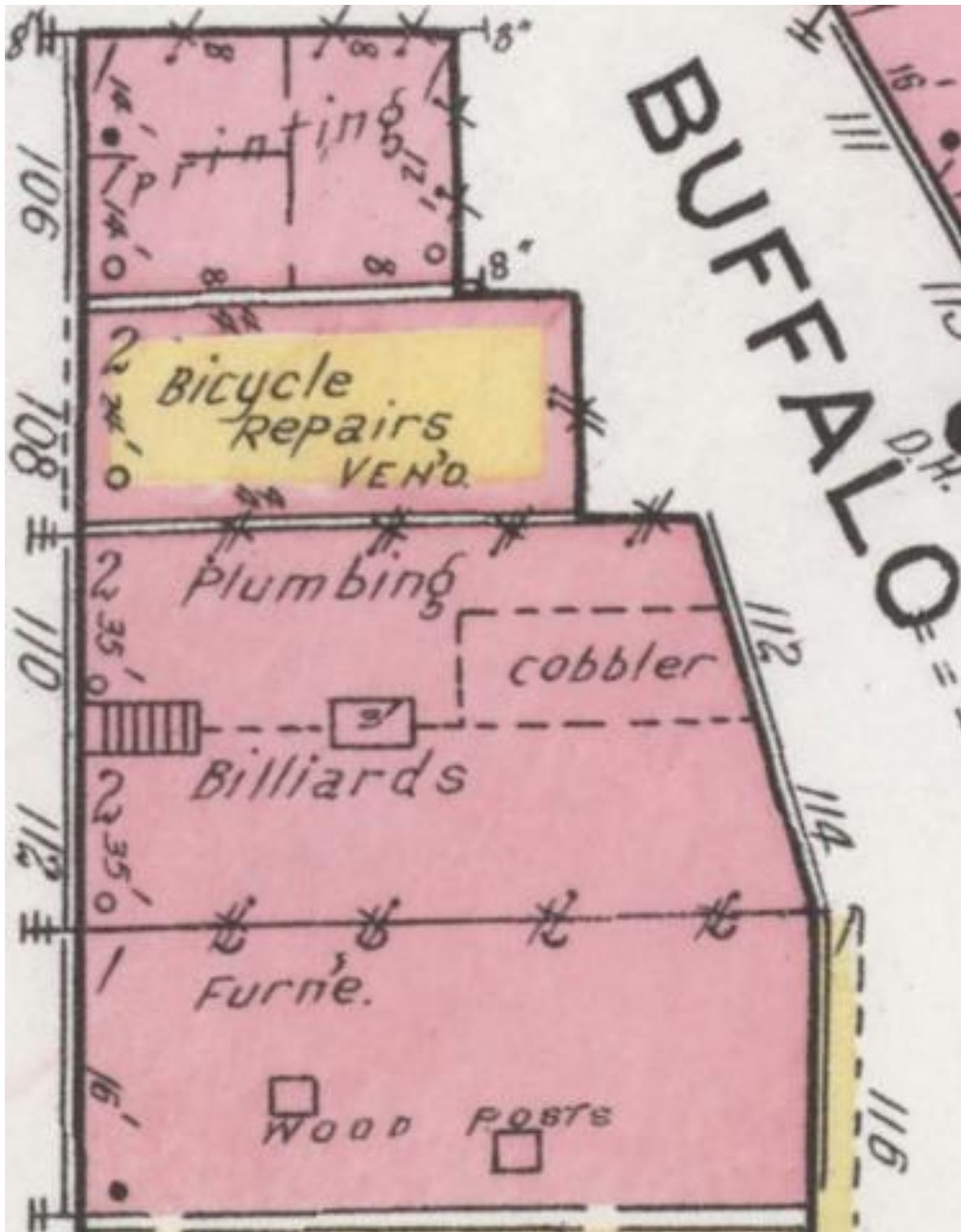
Map 3D. The W.O. Phillips Building and related structures, April 1903. Note that a building for the “Southern Exp. Off.” has been constructed at the northern end of the block. Also note that the two-story brick building at “Q” (formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is vacant. Finally, note that in the W.O. Phillips building (labeled “Piedmont Hotel”) at “R” there is the Central Barber Shop and Phillips’ Billiards hall, and at “G!” is the “Phillips & Walters’ Retail Liquor Dealers” “Sal.”; and that the second floor was used as an annex to the Piedmont Hotel.



Map 4D. The W.O. Phillips Building and related structures, December 1908. Note that the creek, depicted in 1903 on Map 3D, has been enclosed and that the Southern Express Company building (at “Y”) has been expanded. Also note that the two-story brick building at “Q” (formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is occupied by a “Box Ball Alley”, apparently operated by G.W. Newhouse; while in the W.O. Phillips building at “R” it appears to be occupied by the Antiseptic Barber Shop, and at “G!” it appears to be Phillips’ Pool hall. Finally, note that the E.T.V. & G. water tank has been removed.



Map 5D. The W.O. Phillips Building and related structures, July 1913. Note that the building at 106 East Fountain Square (“Y”), formerly occupied by the Southern Express Company, is now occupied by an unidentified store (“S”). Also note that the two-story brick building at 108 East Fountain Square (“Q”, formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is occupied by a “Bowling Alley”, with a “Print’g” enterprise on the 2nd floor. The printing enterprise was that of the Johnson City Comet. This map also depicts a “Pressing Club” in this building (perhaps the “Enterprise Pressing Club”), but it is unclear if it was on the 1st or 2nd floor (the 1st floor seems most likely). The W.O. Phillips building, at 110 East Fountain Square (“R”) appears to be occupied by the Antiseptic Barber Shop, and 112 East Fountain Square (“G”) appears to be occupied by Phillips’ “Pool & Soft Drinks”.



Map 6D. The W.O. Phillips Building and related structures, February 1920. Note that the building at 106 East Fountain Square (previously occupied by an unidentified store) has been expanded and is now occupied by a “printing” enterprise (apparently the Johnson City Comet), and the two-story brick building at 108 East Fountain Square (formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building) is occupied by a “Bicycle Repairs” enterprise (apparently the “H.M. Smith Company”). The W.O. Phillips building at 110 East Fountain Square is occupied by unidentified “Plumbing” and “Cobbler” enterprises; while 112 East Fountain Square appears to be occupied by Phillips’ Billiard hall. Finally, note that a new, one-story brick building, apparently at 114 and 116 East Fountain Square, is occupied by an unidentified “Furn’e” (furniture) enterprise.



Figure 93. “Fountain Square Train” that appears to be a Southern Railway passenger train that has stopped at the union depot, which indicates that this photograph was taken before the new Southern Railway passenger station began operations in 1913. One sign, hanging off the right side of the buildings, appears to read “Central Restaurant & Café”, which was at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street (former O’Boyle building) and only appears to have been in business in 1910. Consequently, this photograph appears to date to 1910.⁷² In 1910, the one-story building (at 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street), closest to the camera, was occupied by the Southern Express Company; while the two-story Phillips building (at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square/112 and 114 Buffalo Street) in the background was probably occupied by the Antiseptic Barber Shop and a pool hall. Also in the background, to the left of the train, can be seen the roof of the union depot. This image depicts the same buildings seen in figures 94 and 95.



Figure 94. "Fountain Square Show Day". Barnum and Bailey Circus performed in Johnson City of Friday, 8 October 1909. This postcard was dated 26 October 1909.⁷³ This image depicts the same buildings described in figures 93 and 95.



Figure 95. “Crowd Gathering (End of World War I)...”. This photograph appears to have been taken at the welcome home celebration given for the soldiers in April 1919.⁷⁴ Note the signs that read: “White House Restaurant” (apparently at 101 Buffalo Street), “The Comet – Job Printing” (106 East Fountain Square/108 Buffalo Street), and, perhaps, “H.M. Smith Co.” (near the top left of the image, on the former O’Boyle building at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street). Also note the trolley car on Buffalo Street. This image depicts the same buildings seen in figures 93 and 94.

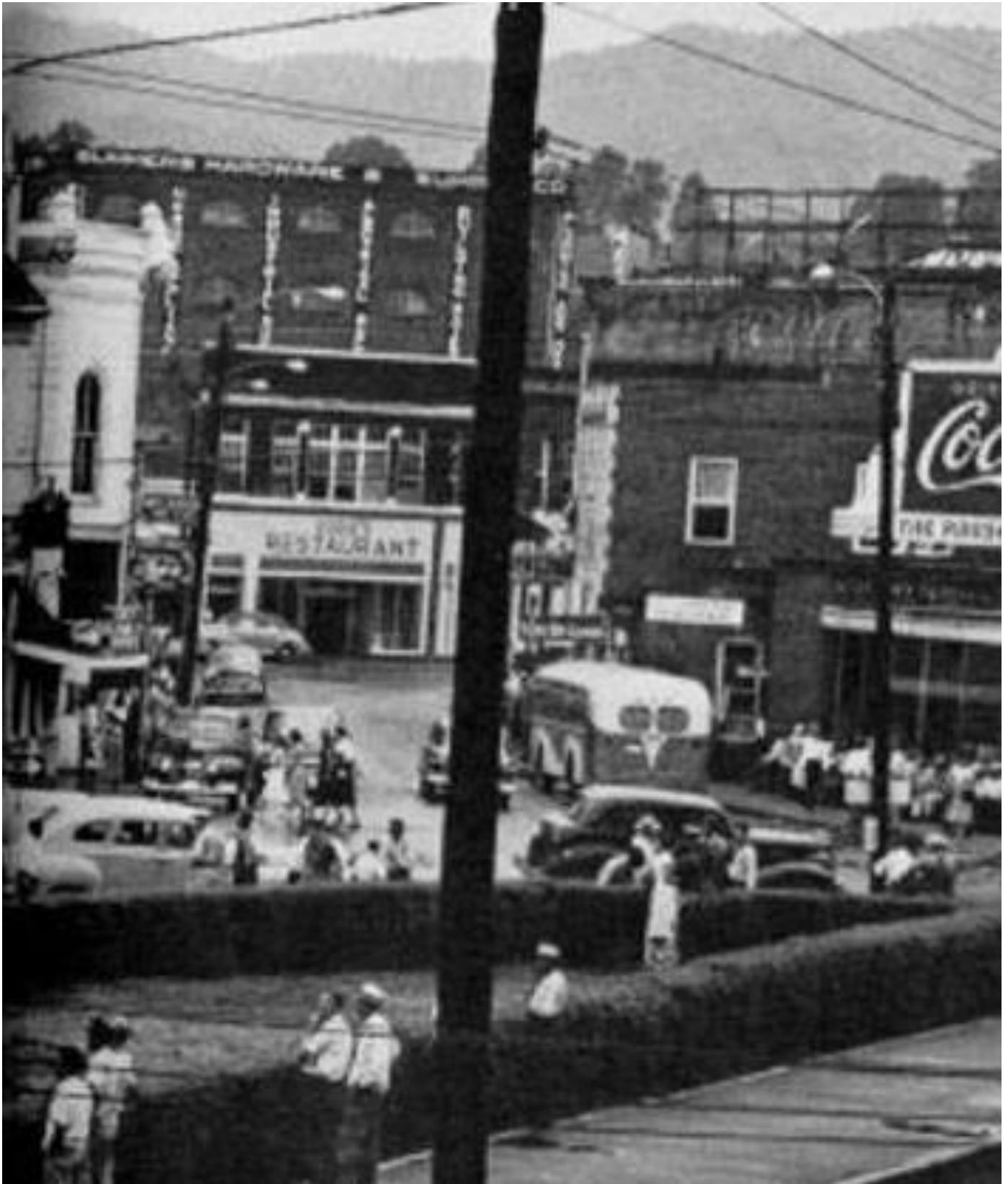


Figure 96. A view from Fountain Square south along Buffalo Street. Note what appears to be a two-story brick building on the right (perhaps the former O'Boyle building at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street). Also note the restaurant on the left, which appears to be at 100 Tipton Street, adjacent to the William Harr building, on the southeast corner of Tipton and Buffalo street. Finally, note the Summers Hardware building in the background.⁷⁵



Figure 64B. On the right side of this photograph, a portion of the union depot is visible. Map 4A indicates that the other buildings (from left to right) in this photograph were occupied by the “Southern Express” Company, and a “Box Ball Alley” (occupied by the “Star Bottling Works” according to the sign). The next building (Phillips’) was apparently occupied by the Antiseptic Barber Shop (on the left) and Phillips’ (?) pool hall (on the right). Next, there was a gap of about 35 feet and then the “Planters Hotel”. By 1903, this gap was occupied by two small buildings housing a sample room and a Western Union Telegraph Company office. Both of these buildings were apparently destroyed by a fire in 1907. Of note, the “Star Bottling Works” only operated in 1908.⁷⁶

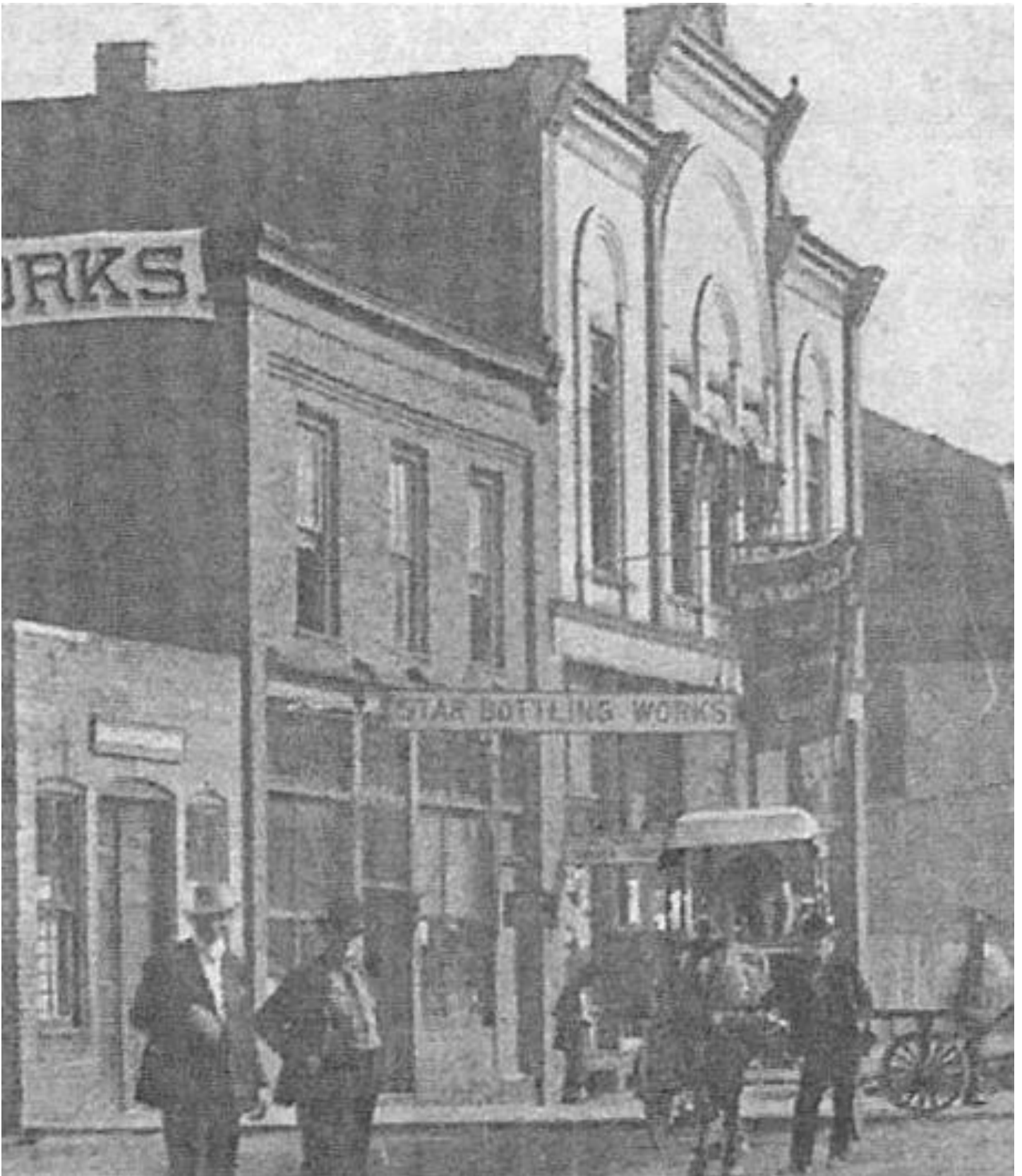


Figure 64C. A detail, from left to right, the Southern Express Company (106 East Fountain Square, 1902 to at least 1912), the Star Bottling Works (108 East Fountain Square, 1908), and the W.O. Phillips Building (occupied at this time by the Antiseptic (?) Barber Shop on the left, and a pool hall on the right, at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square, respectively).



Figure 1B. A detail showing, from left to right, the Hotel Windsor, across the track is the former O'Boyle building, adjacent to a lightly-colored Phillips building (with what looks like a couple of out buildings to the right of it), and the Free Service Tire Company (with its three-story brick addition).



Figure 10A. A detail of the south and west sides of the Phillips building, taken in 1931.



Figure 3B. Another detail, note the W.O. Phillips building near the top center of this image. Also note that the ground once occupied by the Hotel Piedmont, between the Free Service Tire Company building and the W.O. Phillips building appears to be a parking lot. Finally, note what appears to be graffiti on the W.O. Phillips building.



Figure 4B. A detail, note the Free Service Tire Company (the light-colored building in the foreground of the image) and the W.O. Phillips building (behind and to the right of the Free Service Fire Company, by what appears to be a Pepsi-Cola sign), on 1 March 1947. Also note the three-story addition to the Free Service Tire Company building and what appears to be a single-story building on the ground that was previously occupied by the Hotel Piedmont. Apparently, this building was occupied by the Diamond Cab Company, 116 Buffalo street, at this time. Also note the Hotel Windsor, just across the Southern Railway mainline, in the top left of this image.⁷⁷



Figure 14B. A detail of the southeast corner of the W.O. Phillips building. This photograph appears to date to 1931 and 1935



Figure 97. "Buffalo Street," looking north.⁷⁸ This photograph appears to date to the 1960s. Note the Diamond Cab Company on the left.



Figure 97A. A detail of the Diamond Cab Company (on the left), note the two-story building at 109 Buffalo Street in the left background.



Figure 21 (reproduced here for convenience). This photograph depicts the Diamond Cab Company, which was at 116 Buffalo Street. The Diamond Cab Company was at this location by 1942 and remained here until at least 1959. This photograph dates to 1952 or earlier.⁷⁹



Figure 98. This view shows, from left to right, a portion of the Free Service Tire Company building, the W.O. Phillips building (with its shutters closed), and the William Harr building, after September 1946. Note the Esso sign near the center of the image, as well as what appears to be the “New York Restaurant” sign to the left of the Coca-Cola sign.⁸⁰



Figure 65A (reproduced here for convenience). The portion of the two-story building visible in this image is of the south and east sides of the W.O. Phillips building. The road on the right is Buffalo Street.



Figure 6A (reproduced here for convenience). “Aerial Photo – 1960”. This detail offers a rare view of the side of the Hotel Piedmont block that faces Buffalo Street, in the top left of this image. It appears that a single-story built has been built where the Hotel Piedmont once stood and was occupied by the Diamond Cab Company. It also appears that the W.O. Philips building has been removed and been replaced with another two-story building. Finally, it appears that the former O’Boyle building is still standing.⁸¹

4.1 The Diamond Cab Company Building,
114/116(?) East Fountain Square and 116 Buffalo Street, by 1920 to at least 1959

Furniture Store, by 1920
Diamond Cab Company, by 1942 to at least 1959

4.1.1. Unidentified Furniture Store, by 1920
See Figure 65A.

February 1920. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 114 & 116 (?) East Fountain Square/116 Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Furn’e” store. The author has not been able to identify this enterprise. See Map 6D.

4.1.2. Diamond Cab Company, by 1942 to at least 1959
See Figure 21.

DIAMOND CAB CO.
Day and night service
Telephone 5206 116 Buffalo Street

Figure 99. The Buccaneer, 1942.⁸²

This is the first mention of this enterprise at this location, found by the author.

All New Cabs - Courteous Drivers

OUR CABS ARE INSURED

**DIAMOND
CAB CO.**

TELEPHONE
5 2 0 6

DAY AND NIGHT SERVICE

116 Buffalo Street

AMBERS WILSON, Mgr.

Figure 100. The Buccaneer, 1946.⁸³

All New Cabs **Courteous Drivers**

Our Cabs Are Insured

DIAMOND CAB CO.

Cabs Equipped with Two-way Radio

Phone 5206

DAY AND NIGHT SERVICE

Amber Wilson, Mgr. 116 Buffalo St.

Figure 101. The Buccaneer, 1947.⁸⁴



Compliments of

**DIAMOND CAB
COMPANY**

Figure 102. The Buccaneer, 1952.⁸⁵
This advertisement ran until at least 1956.

Compliments
of

**DIAMOND CAB
COMPANY**

116 Buffalo

Phone 5206

Figure 103. The Buccaneer, 1959.⁸⁶

4.2. The W.O. Phillips Building and Related Structures, by 1884 to at least 1947

The Early Wood-Framed Structures, 1884 – 1886
 W.O. Phillips’ Wood-Framed Saloon and Pool Hall, 1886 – 1901
 W.O. Phillips’ Brick Building at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street,
 1901 to at least 1947

Table 2. Occupants of 108 and 110/112 East Fountain Square, 1884 to at least 1941

Date	108	110	112
1884	W.C. Allen’s saloon Folsom’s saloon, (burned down 1884)	The O’Brien Brothers’ Saloon and Pool Hall, (burned down 1884)	
1885	“A new and better building stands where the fire recently burned down the property belonging to N.G. Hyder and O’Brien Bros.”		
1885	Allen’s Climax Saloon, (1885 – 1889)	The O’Brien Brothers’ Saloon and Pool Hall, (1885 – 1887)	
1887		W.O. Phillips’ Saloon and Pool Hall, (1887 – 1894, damaged by fire)	
1889	John Gregg’s Saloon (1889 – 1897)		
January 1891	Saloon (John Gregg’s)	Saloon/Pool Room (W.O. Phillips)	
1891	John Gregg’s Saloon (1889 – 1897)	W.O. Phillips’ Saloon and Pool Hall, (1887 – 1894, damaged by fire)	
1894			
1897	Anderson & Tolbard’s saloon (1897)	Mike Dyer’s Saloon and Pool Room (1894 – 1897)	
May 1897	Saloon (Anderson & Tolbard)	Saloon/Barber/Pool Room (Mike Dyer’s Saloon and Pool Room) (Comic Barber Shop?)	
1897		Phillips & Walters’ Retail Liquor Dealers (1897 to 1903?)	
1898	Hugh O’Boyle’s bar (by 1898? – 1899)		
1899	W.O. Phillips’ bar (1899 – 1902)		
1902		The Phillips building was rebuilt in 1902	
April 1903	Vacant	Billiards and Barber (Phillips’ pool hall?) (Central Barber Shop)	Saloon (Phillips & Walters’ Retail Liquor Dealers?)
1903	Vacant	Central Barber Shop (1903 – 1908?)	Phillips’ pool hall? (1903 to at least 1920?)

Note: In the left column, years with months reflect information on the Sanborne Fire Insurance Company map for that time.

Table 2. Occupants of 108 and 110/112 East Fountain Square, 1884 to at least 1941 (Continued)

Date	108	110	112
1908	Star Bottling Works (1908) G.W. Newhouse's "Box Ball Alley" (here? 1908 to perhaps 1913)	Central Barber Shop (1903 – 1908?)	Phillips' pool hall? (1903 to at least 1920?)
December 1908	Box Ball Alley (G.W. Newhouse?)	Barber (Antiseptic Barber Shop?)	"Pool" Hall (Phillips?)
1909	Utopia Café (1909)	Antiseptic Barber Shop (by 1909 – 1915?)	Phillips' pool hall? (1903 to at least 1920?)
1910	Central Café (1910)		
July 1913	Bowling Alley (G.W. Newhouse?)	Barber (Antiseptic Barber Shop?)	Pool & Soft Drinks (Phillips?)
1914	City Fish Company (1914) Johnson City Bicycle Company (1914) H.M. Smith Motor Company (1914)	Antiseptic Barber Shop (by 1909 – 1915?)	Phillips' pool hall? (1903 to at least 1920?)
1915	H.M. Smith Company (1915 to at least 1918 and perhaps to 1920 or later)	Palace Barber Shop (1915 – 1917)	
February 1920	Bicycle Repairs (H.M. Smith Company?)	Plumbing/Cobbler (unidentified)	Billiards (Phillips?)
1933	Home Federal Savings & Loan Association (by 1933 to at least 1941)		

4.2.1. Early Wood-Framed Structures, by 1884 – 1886

29 November 1884. Johnson City Comet.

"Johnson City is to have an oyster saloon. Ex-Register Smith will oysterize all oyster seeking sinners."

13 December 1884. Johnson City Comet.

"Lewis and Smith have opened an oyster saloon in the city. Oysters prepared in the best style. Fresh oysters received daily... at all hours at the Oyster Saloon."

20 December 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“The Fire. About half past 10 o’clock Thursday morning, a fire broke out in the roof of O’Brien’s Pool Hall [at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street]. It is supposed that the fire originated from a defective flue. Immediately after the alarm had been given, several hundred men rushed to the place where the fire was burning. Vigorous efforts were made to extinguish the flames but without avail. The City Hotel, about twenty steps from the burning building was in great danger. Everybody began to cry, ‘save the City Hotel.’ Everybody went to work and thousands of buckets of water were dashed on the roof and side of the hotel. The heat became intense. It was impossible to stand on the roof of the hotel. Twice it caught fire and was twice extinguished. It was thought that it would burn despite all the efforts to prevent it. A great deal of the furniture was carried out. The Tannery Company furnished a hose which was joined to the force pump in the engine room of the E.T. & W.N.C. Railroad Co., and a sufficient quantity of water was thus furnished to prevent the mad flames from igniting the roof of the hotel.

The buildings which burned down belonged to O’Brien Bros., and N.G. Hyder. In the eastern room Mr. Allen kept a saloon. In the room adjoining his, Mr. Folsom kept a saloon [both apparently at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street]. In the room adjoining Mr. Folsom’s Mr. O’Brien kept a saloon. The far room was used as a Pool Hall. Lewis & Smith used the upstairs room as an Oyster Saloon. All the contents of building were removed. The loss is estimated at \$2,500. There was no insurance on the property. Had the men who were attempting to stop the fire not been so excited, had they acted with judgment, the flames might have been extinguished...

Mr. Dickinson returns his sincere thanks to the citizens who by their vigorous efforts on Thursday morning, saved the hotel from burning.”

“It is reported that during the fire Cargille’s clerk struggled to roll a barrel of brandy out of the burning saloon until the flames burned a hole in his coat clear to his back bone.”

Note: Based on subsequent reporting, below, and the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area from January 1891 (Map 1D), it appears that the saloons of W.C. Allen and Folsom were at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street, while the saloon and pool hall of the O’Brien Brothers were at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street. Also, it appears to be the case that the O’Brien Brothers and Nat Hyder owned all of these buildings jointly at the time of the fire. It is also possible that the O’Brien Brothers acquired Nat Hyder’s property after the fire, as the author found no further reference to Nat Hyder with respect to the rebuilt structures.

10 January 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“O’Brien Bros., whose house was recently destroyed by fire, have commenced to build a new one on the spot where the old house stood. It is to be a two story frame building, 26 x 40 feet.”

31 January 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“A new and better building stands where the fire recently burned down the property belonging to N.G. Hyder and O’Brien Bros.”⁸⁷

28 January 1886. Johnson City Comet.

“The report that the Johnson City saloon keepers will not take out licenses for another year is incorrect. All of them will renew their licenses except O’Brien & Bro.”

4.2.2. W.O. Phillips’ Wood-Framed Saloon and Pool Hall, 1886 – 1901

3 June 1886. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. W.O. Phillips was in town the first of the week. He has purchased the O’Brien property near the City Hotel.”

Note: This may indicate that W.O. Phillips acquired the two properties at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street and 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street. See Map 1D.

23 June 1887. Johnson City Comet.

“W.O. Phillips has had his saloon repainted and the ceiling frescoed. The improvements are made, however, with a view of using the building for something else perhaps after September.”

26 January 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“C.G. Mitchell has the contract for putting in a plate glass front at W.O. Phillip’s billiard hall.”

12 July 1888. Johnson City Comet.

“Boyd & James have moved their barber shop next door to the Piedmont House.” Apparently at 110 and 122 East Fountain Square.

Note: This is the only mention of this enterprise, found by the author, for this location.

January 1891. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 110 and 112 East Fountain Square/112 and 114 Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Sal.” and “Pool R’m”. See Map 1D. The “Sal.” and “Pool R’m” in this two-story wooden-framed building belonged to W.O. Phillips. On 8 March 1894, the Johnson City Comet, reported that this block of buildings had been destroyed by a fire.

THE COMIC BARBER SHOP.

Three First-Class Barbers.

We respectfully solicit the patronage of all in search of first-class work in our line. We are now better than ever prepared to furnish excellent service, both as to Shaving, Hair Cutting, &c., at prices to suit the times. Give us a call.

THE COMIC BARBER SHOP,

Next to the Piedmont Hotel.

Figure 104. Johnson City Comet, 16 November 1893.
This advertisement ran until at least 30 November 1893.

THE COMIC BARBER SHOP.

We respectfully solicit the patronage of all in search of first class work in our line. We are now better than ever prepared to furnish excellent service.

Figure 105. Johnson City Comet, 7 December 1893.
This advertisement ran until at least 4 January 1894.

8 March 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“Early Morning Fire. – Phillips’ Saloon and Pool-Room Rifled [?] by Fire and Water. Fire broke out about 2 o’clock Tuesday morning in a two-story wooden building belonging to W. [William] O. Phillips on Railroad street near the Piedmont Hotel. If the fire was not incendiary it must have originated in some way from the stove in the barroom, and was making considerable headway when discovered. The interior of the rooms used as a bar and pool room were considerably damaged by the heat and smoke, it charring and scorching the fine counter and fixtures, and what escaped the bounds of the fire was soaked and flooded by water. At one point it looked as though the entire block of buildings was doomed to destruction, which, had the flames not ben subdued, would have greatly endangered the Hotel Piedmont and the livery stable of Snapp & Englesing. Our fire company deserves great credit for the efficient work, which was done in the most systematic way, playing the streams where they did their duty most effectively. Damage to the building, about \$500; stock, \$1,000; insured for \$3,500.”

Note: This article does not make any mention of a barber shop in Phillips’ building, perhaps indicating that it was no longer present.

15 March 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“The damage to Phillips’ saloon and billiard hall by fire last week was referred to John Sanders and Charley Mitchell, carpenters, and they reported that it could be repaired for \$75, which Mr. Phillips accepted. When it is repaired, it is said that Dyer & Co will move into it and proceed to dispense bug juice from over its counters.”

22 March 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“Sensational Arrest. – Charles Phillips and Alexander Campbell Charged with Firing W.O. Phillips’ Saloon. Quite a sensation was produced last week by the arrest of Charles Phillips and Alexander Campbell on a warrant of the insurance company charging them with setting fire to the saloon and billiards room of W.O. Phillips on railroad street March the 6th.

That the torch was applied by some one, there is no doubt, but, whether the right parties have been apprehended or not, remains to be seen. The parties who worked up the case claim that they have ample proof against the suspects to let the insurance company out and probably enough to convict them of arson. The boys, however, claim that they knew nothing at all about the fire until they were aroused by the shouts of the firemen. Both waived the right to a preliminary trial and were bound over to court in a bond of \$2,000, which was promptly given.

Phillips is a brother of W.O. Phillips, who owned both the stock and building, and had charge of the business when the fire occurred.”

5 April 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“There has been very little building going on in our city lately... During the last week the carpenters, plasterers, paper-hangers and painters completed repairs on the W.O. Phillips building, and it was moved into by another whisky firm, King & Co. We don’t know anything about the vitalizing effects or qualifications of their ‘Mountain Dew’ and ‘Russian Process,’ but we do know what it is to make the smoke curl from the mild and pleasant cigar Mike [apparently Mike Dyer] keeps.”

Note: This was the only mention of “King & Co.” found by the author, in the context of the Phillips building.

1 April 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Mike Dyer has a monopoly on the pool table business, his table now being the only one running in the town. He has purchased a new set of balls, covered the table anew and otherwise improved his outfit.”

Note: It appears that Mike Dyer moved out of this facility by 20 May 1897.

May 1897. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that the building at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square/112 and 114 Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Sal.,” “Pool R’m”, and “Barber” shop. It appears that the saloon and pool room in this two-story wooden-framed building were operated either by Mike Dyer or Phillips & Walters, Retail Liquor Dealers, the “Comic Barber Shop” was the barber shop.

20 May 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Elsewhere in this paper will be found the advertisement of Phillips & Walters, retail liquor dealers. They handle a full stock of the best goods in this line and solicit the patronage of the public. A pool table is run in connection with their bar.”⁸⁸ See Figure 106.



Figure 106. Johnson City Comet, 20 May 1897.
This advertisement ran until at least 24 June 1897.

12 January 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“Enlarging the Business. W.O. Phillips has made up his mind that 1889 is to be a banner year in Johnson City’s history and he is arranging to meet the demand in his line. Last Friday he closed a trade by which he became the sole owner of the Hugh O’Boyle bar, [brick] building, fixtures and stock [at 108 East Fountain Square and 110 Buffalo Street, see “Q” on Map 2D]. We were not given the figures but it was a cash transaction and Saturday morning the familiar face of Dan Walters was seen behind the counter. Mr. Phillips will continue the two bars under Walter’s management for the present. It is rumored that he will shortly tear away the frame buildings between the O’Boyle saloon and Hotel Piedmont and build a four story brick hotel on the entire block, adding two stories to the O’Boyle building. This would make a valuable piece of property and give to Johnson City people something it badly needs. Mr. Phillips is well able to build a handsome structure here, and having accumulated his wealth in Johnson City has great faith in its future.

Mr. Phillips lives at present at Fish Springs, Tenn., where he has a large and modern distillery, but it is temporarily out of blast. He owns the only store in the neighborhood and does a large business. Everybody knows ‘Bill’ Phillips and his friends are limited to his acquaintances. In his two saloons in Johnson City he will continue to handle high grade, strictly pure goods for medicinal purposes. The O’Boyle building is being renovated and will be overhauled and made one of the finest bars in upper East Tennessee.”

Note: W.O. Phillips did not tear down the old wooden-framed buildings and construct a new brick building at this site until 1901 and 1902; and even then, the new brick building was only two-stories tall and the former Hugh O’Boyle building did not receive any additional stories at that time.

W. O. PHILLIPS. DANIEL WALTERS.

PHILLIPS & WALTERS,

RETAIL DEALERS IN

Old Copper Distilled

Whiskies and Brandies.

North of Piedmont Hotel, Johnson City, Tenn.

Fine Cigars, Tobaccos and everything kept in
a First class Bar.

I SELL DIRECT FROM THE DISTILLERY
Which is situated at Fish Spring, Carter County, Tenn.

Respectfully,
DAN WALTERS, Manager.

Figure 107. Johnson City Comet, 19 January 1899.
This advertisement ran until at least 15 March 1900.

29 June 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“Phillips & Walters are having their drawing room re-papered.”

7 September 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“J.S. Loeb, representing Loeb Bros. & Co., Cincinnati, was in the city last week and sold to Phillips & Walters a barrel of Edgewater whiskey made in April, 1881. It is guaranteed absolutely pure for medicinal purposes.”

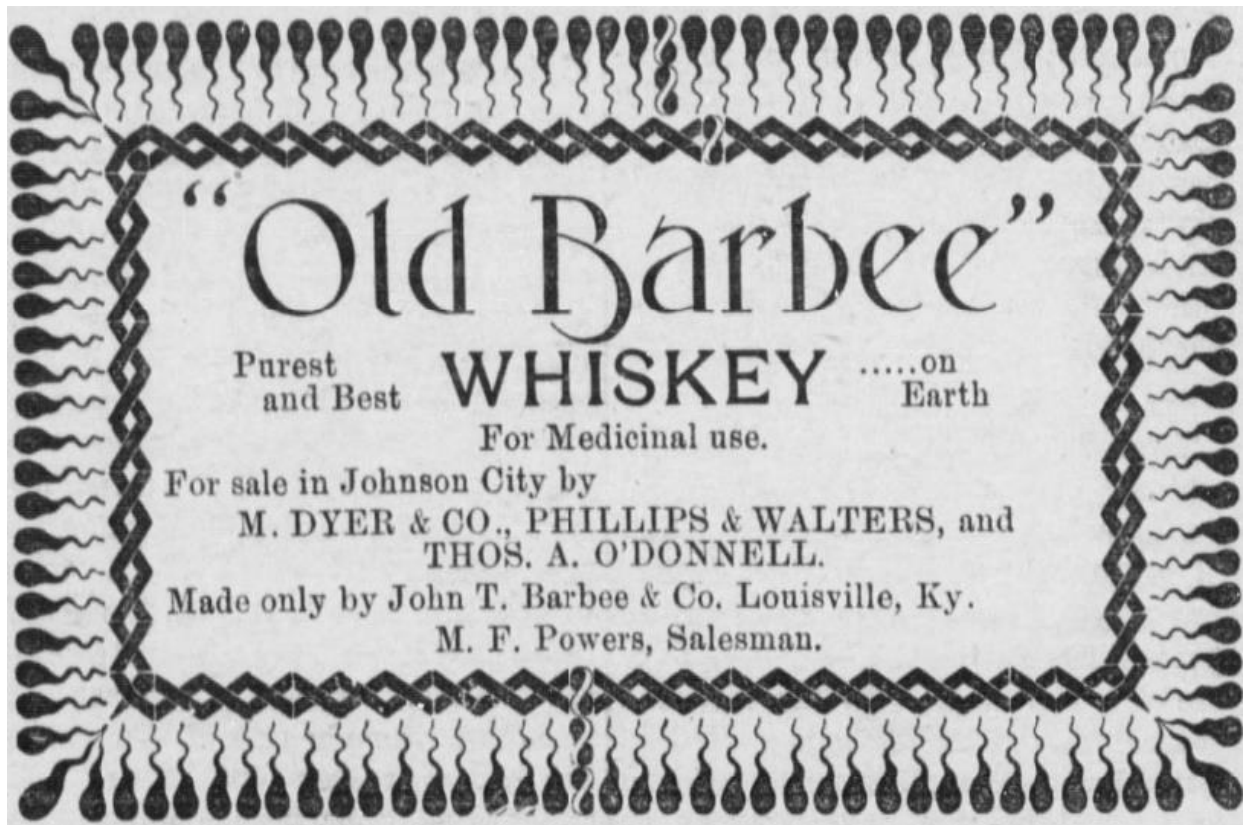
An advertisement for Edgewater Whiskey. The text is arranged in several lines. The top line reads "Edgewater Whiskey." in a large, stylized font, followed by two asterisks. Below this, it says "OVER 18 YEARS OLD." in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. A decorative horizontal line with a repeating scroll pattern separates this from the next line of text: "Distilled April, 1881; strictly pure. Especially recommended to Physicians and their Patients Sold only by". The name "Phillips and Walters," is printed in a large, bold, serif font. Below the name, the address "792 804 Johnson City, Tennessee." is written in a smaller font. The entire advertisement is enclosed in a double-line border.

Figure 108. Johnson City Comet, 14 September 1899.

This advertisement ran until at least 15 March 1900.

28 December 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“Our cordial friend, Dan Walters, the polite and popular manager for Phillips & Walters, manufacturers and dispensers of liquid corn, etc., remembered The Comet during the holiday rush and has our thanks for a large and palatable bottle of imported cherries. Here’s wishing ourselves many returns of the season and the donors long life and prosperity.”



“Old Barbee”

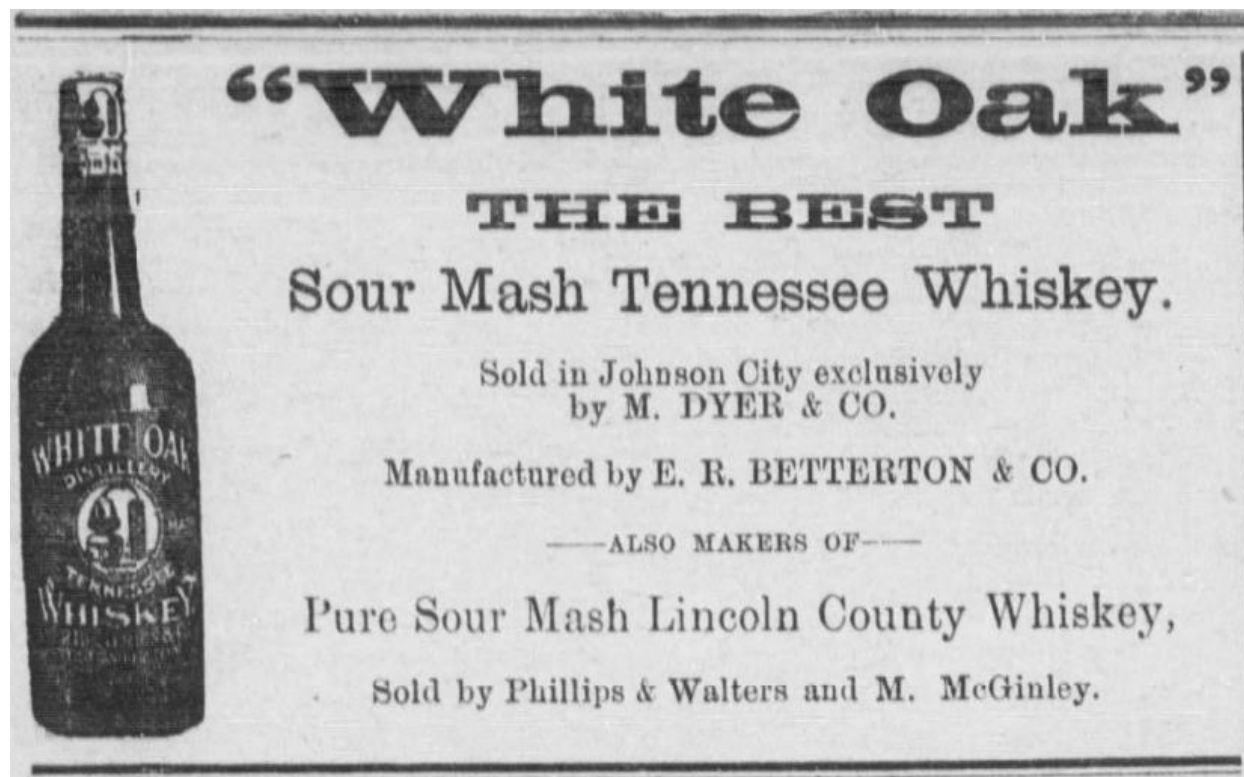
Purest and Best **WHISKEY**on Earth

For Medicinal use.

For sale in Johnson City by
**M. DYER & CO., PHILLIPS & WALTERS, and
 THOS. A. O'DONNELL.**

Made only by John T. Barbee & Co. Louisville, Ky.
 M. F. Powers, Salesman.

Figure 58 (reproduced here for convenience). Johnson City Comet, 15 February 1900.
 This advertisement ran until at least 10 January 1901.



“White Oak”

THE BEST

Sour Mash Tennessee Whiskey.

Sold in Johnson City exclusively
 by **M. DYER & CO.**

Manufactured by **E. R. BETTERTON & CO.**

—ALSO MAKERS OF—

Pure Sour Mash Lincoln County Whiskey,

Sold by Phillips & Walters and M. McGinley.

Figure 59 (reproduced here for convenience). Johnson City Comet, 15 March 1900.
 This advertisement ran until at least 28 February 1901.

5 July 1900. Johnson City Comet.

“Dissolution of Partnership. The firm of Phillips & Walters has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. W.O. Phillips has purchased the entire interest of D.N. Walters, and will assume all liabilities and collect accounts due the firm. The business will be continued at the old stand with D.N. Walters as manager. This July 2nd, 1900.

W.O. Phillips,
D.N. Walters.”

25 April 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“New Business Block. W.O. Phillips was in the city yesterday and told The Comet that he would build at once a brick business block on ground now occupied by the frame buildings between his brick [formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building at 108 East Fountain Square and 110 Buffalo Street] and the Piedmont Hotel. He will sell the frame building to be removed by May 21st and hopes to begin work on the new block as soon as the ground is cleared. The new block will cover the entire lot, fronting on Buffalo and Front streets, be two stories high and modern throughout. Plans are now being drawn and when completed it will be one of the handsomest blocks in the city.”

25 April 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“Old Building for Sale – I will sell to the highest bidder the frame building on Front street between the Phillip’s brick [formerly Hugh O’Boyle’s building, 108 East Fountain Square and 110 Buffalo Street] and the Piedmont Hotel. Bids will be received by Dan Walters until Saturday, May 11th at 6 p.m. The successful bidder will be requested to remove said building before May 21st, 1901. W.O. Phillips.”

4.2.3. W.O. Phillips’ Brick Building, 110/112 East Fountain Square and 112/116 Buffalo Street, 1901 to at least 1947

See figures 1B, 3B, 4B, 10A, 14B, 64C, 93, 94, 95

Tenants:

Hotel Piedmont Annex (2nd floor), mentioned in 1903

Central Baber Shop, 1903 – 1907

F.S. Hamlin, Realtor (2nd floor?), 1905

Antiseptic Barber Shop, 1907 – 1913?

Palace Barber Shop, 1915 to at least 1917, but no later than early 1920

U.S. Army Recruiting Office (2nd floor?), here by 1918

13 June 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“Stone foundations are being laid for W.O. Phillips’ new block between Buffalo street and the Southern railway.”

1 August 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“W.O. Phillips was down from Fish Spring this week to look after the erection of his block of business houses in this city.”

5 September 1901. Johnson City Comet.

“The repressed brick for the front walls of the W.O. Phillips block have arrived, and the brick work will be begun next Monday. Curtis Bros. have the contract for building the block and have sub-let the brick work to M. Campbell & Son. It is to be the handsomest and most expensive block in city.”

27 February 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“W.O. Phillips was down from Fish Springs Monday to look after his interests in this city. His new block is now nearing completion and will be the handsomest building in the city.”

17 April 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“Hotel Piedmont Annex. Capt. W.A. Dickinson has leased the second floor of the new Phillips block, and will fit up the rooms and use it as an annex to Hotel Piedmont. The rooms in this building are handsomely finished, are large and comfortable, and all have outside light. The sanitary arrangements on this floor are complete.

A granolithic sidewalk will be laid in front of the building ten feet wide and the vestibule entrance to the building will have a tile floor. It is the finest building in the city and Capt. Dickinson has displayed good taste in renting the second floor for hotel purposes.”

Note: It appears that this plan was not implemented until April 1903.

29 May 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“Some Nice Contracts. Curtis Bros., contractors... have just completed the Phillips building, one of the handsomest business blocks east of Knoxville. The Curtis boys are first class workmen and do not let contracts escape when good work is wanted.”

27 November 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“Modern Hotel. W.O. Phillips has decided to build a modern hotel in this city. He will tear down the [former Hugh O’Boyle] building now occupied by his barroom [at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street] and erect in its stead a handsome four story structure, putting two more stories upon his new building adjoining [at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street]. The whole block will be converted into one of the most modern hotels in East Tennessee and will be handsomely finished throughout in hardwood and fitted with all up-to-date appliances, including a passenger elevator and steam heat. The plans are now being made and work will commence in a short time. Arrangements are now being made to move the bar into the room in the new [Phillips] building [at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street] next to Hotel Piedmont and the adjoining room [in the Phillips building] is to be fitted up for barber shop

and billiard room. As soon as the bar can be moved the old [O'Boyle] building will come down to get out of the way of the new hotel. Mr. Phillips never does anything by halves and the building he will erect will be an ornament to Johnson City. It will be run by one of the best hotel men the city has ever known, the popular and polite host, Col. W.A. Dickinson." See Map 3A.

Note: It appears that the portion of the above plan that called for the demolition of the former Hugh O'Boyle building (at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street), with a new four-story building to be construct on that lot and the addition of two stories to the adjacent Phillips building (110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street) was never implemented. However, it does appear that W.O. Phillips' saloon was moved from the old O'Boyle building and into the Phillips building, along with the Central Barber Shop and a billiards hall. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area shows that the former O'Boyle building was vacant in April 1903. See Map 3D.

29 January 1903. Johnson City Comet.

"Nat Hyder, colored, one of Johnson City's oldest and best known barbers, has arranged to open a new shop just as soon as the outfit arrives. All appointments will be strictly first-class."

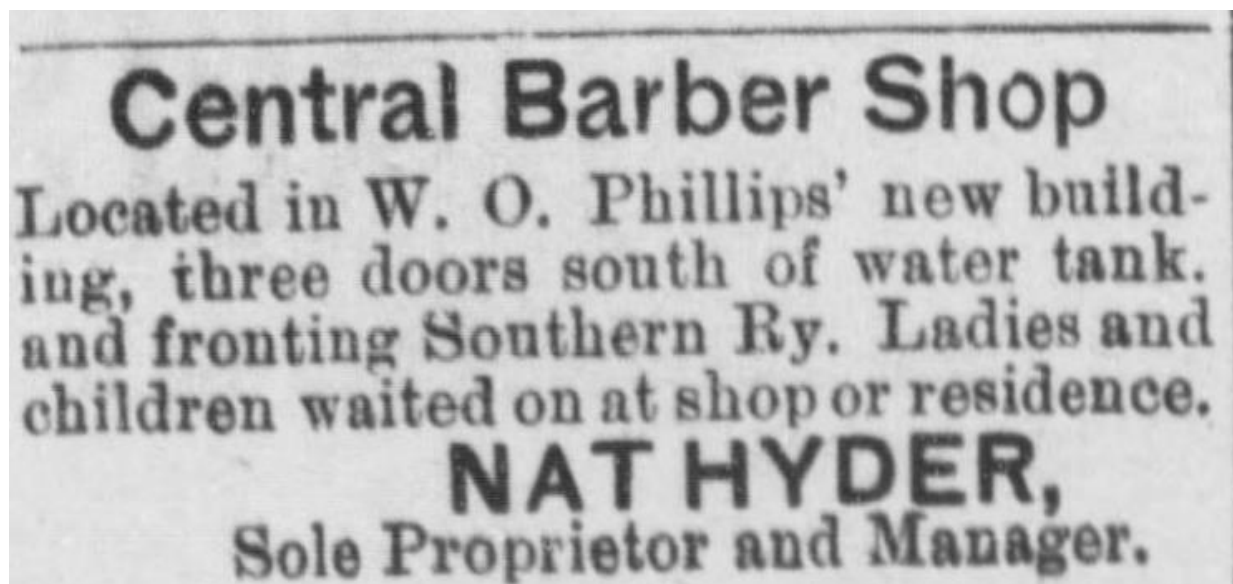


Figure 109. Johnson City Comet, 19 February 1903.
This advertisement ran until at least 3 November 1904.

"Central Barber Shop – Located in W.O. Phillips' new building, three doors south of water tank and fronting Southern Ry... Nat Hyder, Sole Proprietor and Manager."

26 February 1903. Johnson City Comet.

"Johnson City Dry. – The Legalized Saloon Must Go Hence From Johnson City... The expected has taken place and on schedule time. The temperance bacilli has been at work in Johnson City for years and when the opportunity presented itself those inoculated swept everything before

them. We have frequently said that Johnson City has fewer drinking men than any town in the state, but must confess that we thought there were more than eleven. Those eleven fellows sustained seven saloons with what little assistance they got from neighboring towns and sustained them well..."

9 April 1903. Johnson City Comet.

"First to Close. The saloon of T.A. O'Donnell was not opened Friday morning of this week. The corporation license expired the night before. Mr. O'Donnell secured state and county license for three months about the first of this month and has since purchased the unexpired license from a saloon firm that has quit business, but the recorder has refused to make the necessary transfer and Mr. O'Donnell will institute legal proceedings to compel him to do so. From now on the saloons will drop out one by one until June 23d, when the town will be dry."

9 April 1903. Johnson City Comet.

"W.A. Dickinson has leased the old Phillips building and had the second floor fitted up with sleeping rooms to be used in connection with Hotel Piedmont. An entrance has been made through the annex."

April 1903. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that "R" was occupied by a "Barber" shop and "Billiards" hall, and "G!" was occupied by a "Sal." The Phillips building (labeled "Piedmont Hotel") at "R" (110 East Fountain Square/112 Buffalo Street) was occupied by the Central Barber Shop and Phillips' Billiards hall, and that "G!" (112 East Fountain/114 Buffalo Street) was occupied by the "Phillips & Walters' Retail Liquor Dealers" "Sal."; while the second floor was used an annex to the Piedmont Hotel.

7 May 1903. Johnson City Comet.

"Barrooms Leaving. One by one the saloons are closing. T.A. O'Donnell closed Thursday under litigation and M. McGinley's license expired Friday. It is understood that Geo. W. Holmes will go to Knoxville at once and that will leave only three saloons in the city."⁸⁹

16 July 1903. Johnson City Comet.

"Nat Hyder is gratified to announce to the shaving public that he has secured the services of Fayette Carson, of Knoxville, for the front chair in his emporium in the Phillips building and will be glad to have your patronage."

14 January 1904. Johnson City Comet.

"Communicated. The article in the Staff by 'Veritas' has excited from those who read it many funny remarks. There is no desire on the part of the reading public, we should say, to know the name of the writer, as it is very evident that the writer belongs to a very peculiar class of people.

From reading the article one would decide that the writer had a twofold purpose in writing the said article. One purpose, no doubt, was to inform the public just how awful a board of mayor and aldermen we have, and just how awful a thing that board has done... The board did request, by resolution, the city attorney to order the recorder to dismiss the warrants against Phillips & Walters. Phillips & Walters did test the law and that is all they did. They are not malicious criminals. There can be no doubt that Mr. Walters has as many friends in the town of Johnson City as does 'Veritas.' At any rate his conduct in testing the law and abiding by its terms after it was decided good and valid has been commendable. Mr. Walters is not shipping whiskey into our towns for our minor children to drink and become drunkards on; but he is on his farm molesting none. Neither of these men are trying to evade the law. They tested the law as they had a right to do. I presume there is not a sensible, unprejudiced man in the town who is not glad that they did test the law. Then if they did do something and e are glad they did it why should we want to collect from them a fine of \$600?

The second purpose was undoubtedly to help the temperance cause? In this we must say that 'Veritas' signally failed..."

22 September 1904. Johnson City Comet.

"J.A. Ankrom has purchased the Central Barber Shop from Nat Hyder and will continue the business. This makes the second white shop in the city. Mr. Ankrom is a popular barber and will be assisted by Will Shoemaker and Nat Hyder."⁹⁰

13 October 1904. Johnson City Comet.

"A Change. Having sold the Central barber shop to J.A. Ancrum [Ankrom] and being retained in his service as a journeyman barber, I solicit a continuance of your patronage. Respectfully, Nat Hyder."

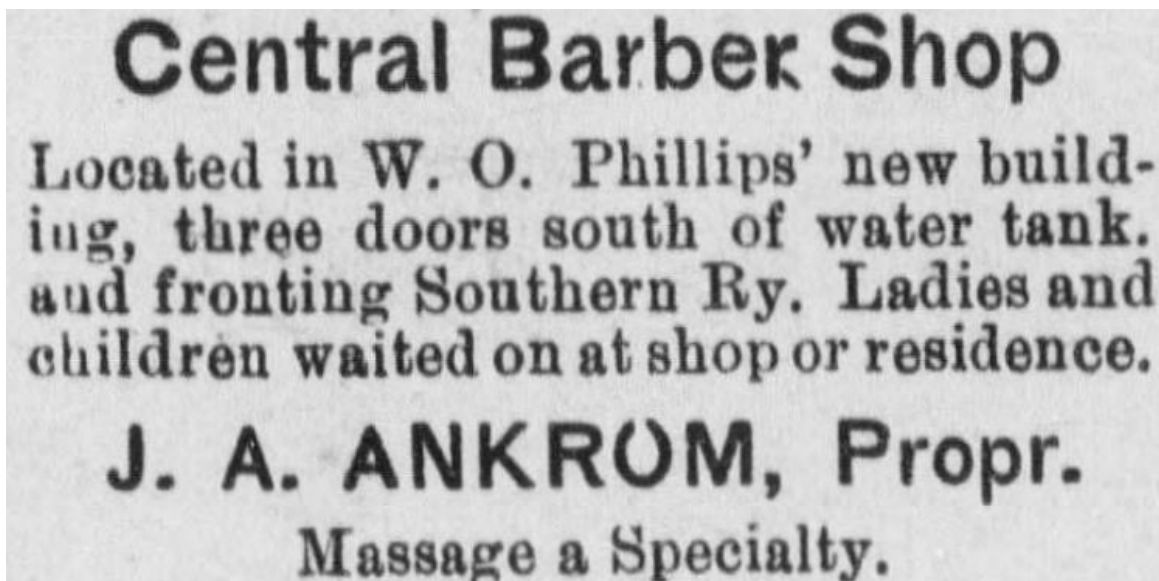


Figure 110. Johnson City Comet, 10 November 1904.
This advertisement ran until at least 27 April 1905.

Note: J.A. Ankrom moved to the “Allright” barbershop by 4 May 1905, apparently into the location previously occupied by the sample room and/or the Western Union Telegraph Company office, attached to the Hotel Piedmont, see Map 3A.

2 February 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“New Passenger Station. While in the city Tuesday Supt. Loyall and C.B. Allen, president of the commercial Club, talked over the matter of a new passenger station and Mr. Loyall said he saw no reason why Johnson City should not have a new and modern station. He would not agree to putting it any place but in the square and it will be so planned as to leave a forty-foot street all around except on the track side, and the shed would extend from Main to Market streets. The plan includes the removal of the tank and the filling in of the land in front of the Phillips building. The matter will be taken up with other officials at once.”

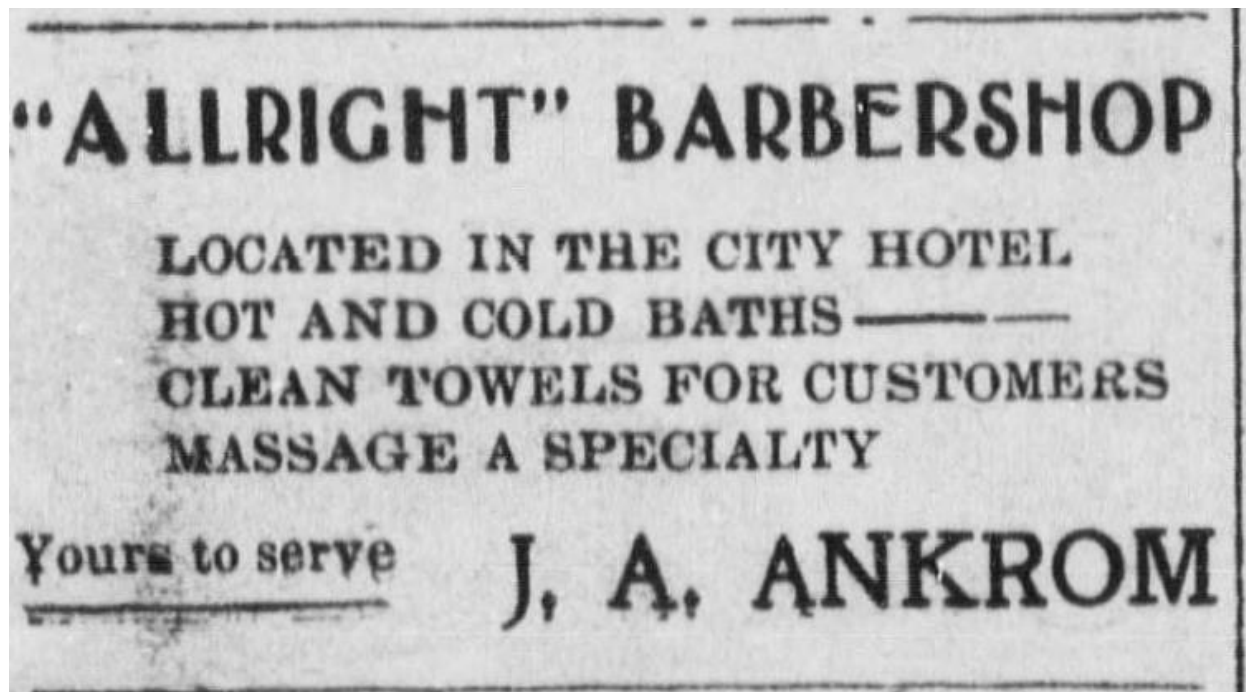


Figure 111. Johnson City Comet, 4 May 1905.
This advertisement ran until at least 5 September 1907.

Note: “The City Hotel” appears to refer to Hotel Piedmont, which was previously (1874 – 1887) known as the “City Hotel”.

Central Barber Shop
Located in W. O. Phillips' new building, three doors south of water tank, and fronting Southern Ry. Ladies and children waited on at shop or residence.
Massage a Specialty.
Nat. Hyder, Proprietor.

Figure 112. Johnson City Comet, 4 May 1905.
This advertisement ran until at least 21 March 1907.

Note: It appears that Nat Hyder moved to 115 and 117 Fountain Square, a few doors north of the Arlington Hotel by 23 January 1908, see Map 4.

For Sale at a Bargain.
Desirable residence property in Johnson City on Watauga Avenue corner Baxter street. Lot 100x150, lots of shade trees and flowers, granolithic sidewalk. House contains thirteen rooms with new bath-room fully equipped, new hardwood floors below, all in good repair. Owner is leaving the city and will sell cheap to a quick buyer. Inquire of
F. S. HAMLIN,
Phillips Building.

Figure 113. Johnson City Comet, 2 November 1905.
According to the Johnson City Comet of 30 November 1905,
F.S. Hamlin moved to Bridgton, Maine.

7 March 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“Fire Burns Two Shops. Last Monday night the barber shop of Nat Hyder, near the Planters Hotel [“Central Barber Shop – Located in W.O. Phillips’ new building, three doors south of water tank and fronting Southern Ry.”, see Figure 64B], was discovered to be on fire about 10 o’clock. The flames were extinguished and the building [at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square and 112 and 114 Buffalo Street was] left for safe, but fire again broke out about 3 o’clock and the shop was destroyed. The [“Allright”] barber shop of J.A. Ankrom, adjoining [apparently in the former “Sample R’m” of the Hotel Piedmont], was also destroyed and the Planters Hotel was badly damaged. The contents of the hotel were so badly damaged by fire and water that the hotel is temporarily closed until it can be repaired. This will be done at once. The buildings burned belonged to Mike Dyer.

Ankrom’s loss is complete, as he had no insurance. Hyder was insured sufficiently to make his loss small.”⁹¹ See Map 3C.

Note: It appears that the Allright Barber Shop occupied the facilities previously occupied by the Western Union Telegraph Company office, and, perhaps, the Sample Room of the Piedmont Hotel, see Map 3A. Interestingly, no mention was made of the Western Union Telegraph office in the above article, perhaps indicating that it had moved to a different location prior to this fire. However, no mention of such move was found by the author in the Johnson City Comet. It is also interesting that there was no mention of the Piedmont Hotel Annex, which was on the second floor of the Phillips building in 1903. Perhaps this indicates that the lease on the second floor had expired at some time prior to the fire.

23 May 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Spend Some Money. The Southern Railway Company has set aside \$72,000 for improvements in Johnson City. The sum will be available after June 1st, and the improvements will begin...

The tank is to fade away and the branch under the track near the tank will be hidden with a stone culvert. The space between the tracks and the Phillips building will be filled up and granolithic pavements put down...”

23 May 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“Barber Shop Moved. Nat Hyder has moved his barber shop to [115 and 117 Fountain Square in] the O’Boyle building on the Southern railway. He is nicely fitted up with modern equipment and would be glad to have his old customers and many new ones call for business.”⁹² See Map 4.

11 July 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“Policeman Marion Wilson disturbed a gambling den in the Phillips building last Sunday and captured the proprietor and two fellows trying to break the bank. The city is \$80 better off.”

4.2.3.1. Antiseptic Barber Shop, 1907? to perhaps July 1913, or even as late as early 1915

The advertisement is enclosed in a decorative border of repeating leaf motifs. At the top, the text "ANTISEPTIC BARBER SHOP" is written in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, the word "AND" is in a smaller font, followed by "SHOE SHINING PARLOR" in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters. In the center is a black and white illustration of the interior of a barber shop. The room has a checkered floor, a counter with a mirror, and several people, including a barber and customers. At the bottom of the advertisement, the address "122 Buffalo Sreet, JOHNSON CITY, TENN." is printed in bold, sans-serif capital letters.

Figure 62 (reproduce here for convenience). Johnson City Comet, 5 September 1907.

Note: This was the first and only mention, found by the author, of the “Antiseptic Barber Shop” before 8 April 1909, when it was stated that it was in the Phillips building at 112 Buffalo Street. Perhaps, this enterprise was actually at 122 Buffalo Street, in the Dyer building, in 1907 and advertised just once over a year and a half; or this advertisement misprinted the address and it should read “112 Buffalo Street”. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for December 1908 does show that an unidentified barber shop (which could be the “Antiseptic Barber Shop”) was present in the Phillips building at this time. The same map shows a “Pool” hall at what appears to be 122 Buffalo Street. It appears to the author that a misprint is most likely. The author has found no other information that could help clarify this matter.

7 November 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“W.O. Phillips is having a granolithic sidewalk put down on the Buffalo street front of his buildings. The sidewalk will probably be extended along the Planters’ Hotel to the corner of the Watauga restaurant.”

Note: The Watauga Restaurant occupied the former Carnegie Land Company building at 126 and 182 East Fountain Square, at this time.

December 1908. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that the building at “R” was occupied by a “Barber” shop, while the building at “G!” was occupied by “Pool”. The Phillips building at “R” (110 East Fountain Square/112 Buffalo Street) appears to have been occupied by the Antiseptic Barber Shop, and at “G!” (112 East Fountain/114 Buffalo Street) appears to have been occupied by Phillips’ Pool hall.

8 April 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“Barber Shop being Renewed – The Antiseptic Barber Shop is being generally overhauled and new fixtures are being installed. A steel ceiling in appropriate design has been put in the room and adds very much to the appearance of the building. A battery of bath tubes [tubs?] with shower fixtures are now being installed and commercial baths will be a distinctive feature of the new shop. There will be many new appliances added to the outfit including lavatory for each chair with hot and cold water always ready. Nothing will be left undone by Will Reynolds, the genial proprietor, to make the Antiseptic Barber Shop a high class tonsorial parlor and only first-class white barbers will be employed.”

1909 – 1910. The Utopia/Central Café at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street was “next to the Antiseptic Barber Shop...”, which would appear to confirm that the Antiseptic Barber Shop was located at 110 East Fountain Square/112 Buffalo Street.

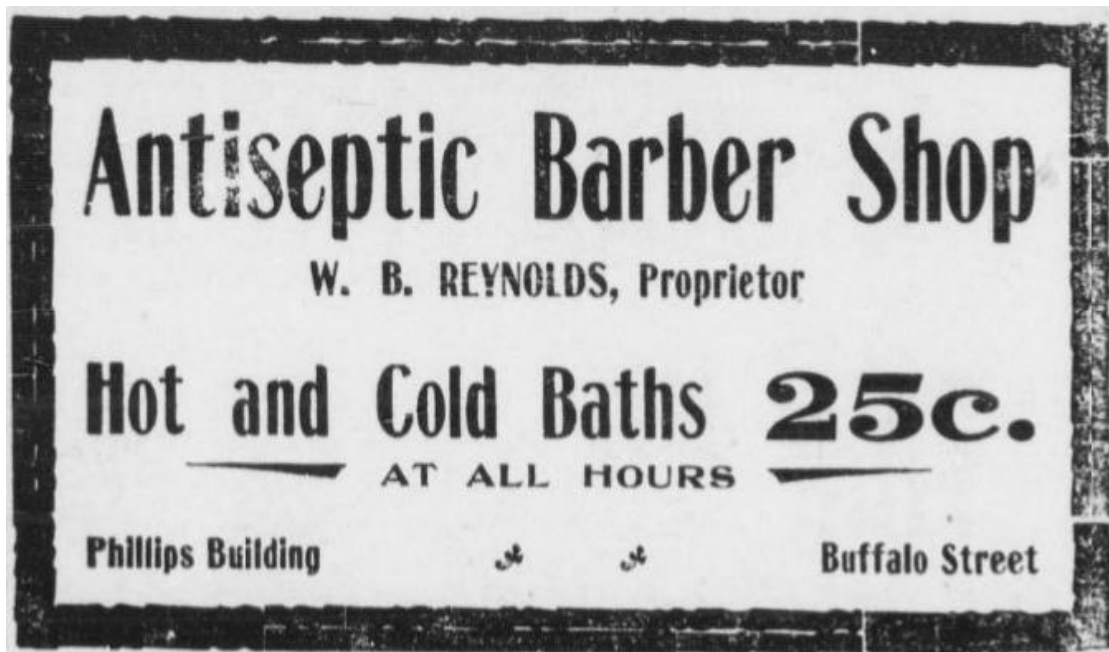


Figure 114. Johnson City Comet, 15 April 1909.
This and similar advertisements ran until at least 5 January 1911.



Figure 115. Johnson City Comet, 18 May 1911.
This advertisement ran until at least 26 December 1912.

Note: The last mention of this enterprise, found by the author, dates to 26 December 1912. Nevertheless, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map, for this area in July 1913 indicates that the building at 110 and 112 East Fountain Square/112 and 114 Buffalo Street, was occupied, in part, by a "Barber" shop. Consequently, the Antiseptic Barber Shop may have remained in operation at this location until July 1913, or even as late as early 1915.

July 1913. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 110 East Fountain Square/112 Buffalo Street, was occupied by a "Barber" shop. 112 East Fountain/114 Buffalo Street was occupied by "Pool & Soft Drinks". See Map 5D.

4.2.3.2. Recruiting Office, McKane and Baker's Tailor Shop,
and the Enterprise Pressing Club, 1908 – 1915
(Apparently on the second floor of the W.O. Phillips building
110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street)

4 June 1908. Johnson City Comet.

“David Senters has been transferred from the Bristol recruiting station to Johnson City and is getting recruits for Uncle Sam’s army and navy at this place now.”

Note: The author has tentatively placed the recruiting office here because “The Enterprise Pressing Club” was “In the Phillips Building – Same Floor as Recruiting Office” in 1909, see Figure 116.

17 September 1908. Johnson City Comet.

“Tailors – Tailor-made Suits – the made to measure suits – at The Nifty Tailoring Co.’s from \$7.50 to \$10, and \$15. Trousers from \$2.50 to \$3.50. Overcoats \$10, \$12 and \$15. McKane and Baker, rooms and parlors in Phillips building, same floor as the Recruiting Office.”

25 March 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“Frank W. Baker has been promoted from corporal to sergeant and has returned from Knoxville to again take charge of the recruiting station here.”

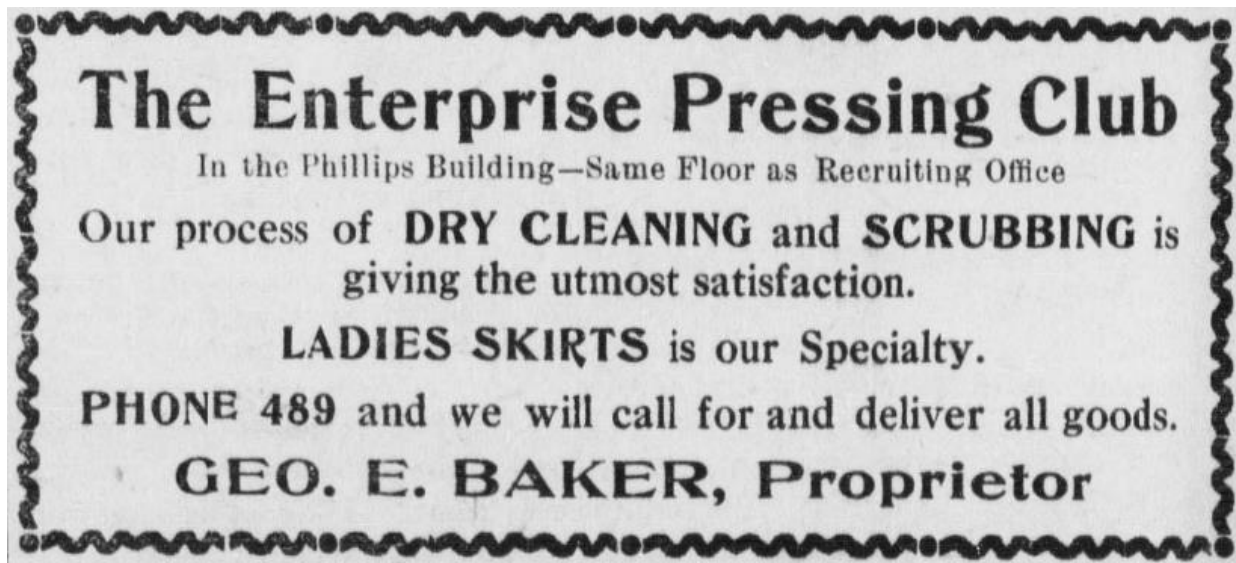


Figure 116. Johnson City Comet, 14 October 1909.
This advertisement ran until at least 21 April 1910.

Note: The last mention, found by the author, to this enterprise occurred on 21 April 1910. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map, for this area in July 1913, shows a “Pressing Club” at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street. Perhaps the Enterprise Pressing Club had moved to that location by July 1913.

6 July 1911. Johnson City Comet.

“Recruiting Officer Baker sent twelve recruits to the United States army from this city during the month of June.”

Note: This appears to be the last mention of a recruiting office at this location. On 23 March 1916, the Johnson City Comet, included: “This station was temporarily closed March 19th, 1915.”

4.2.3.3. Palace Barber Shop, 1915 to at least 1917

15 April 1915. Johnson City Comet.

“New Barber Shop – Johnson City is first in many things, and when it comes to barber shops, the New Palace has the territory between Knoxville and Roanoke shaved clean. The occupies an entire floor in the Phipps [Phillips] building on Buffalo street, and is the handsomest and most expensive fine chair outfit made by Koken, the greatest barber supply house in America. The shop was equipped by W.O. Phillips and includes a battery of tub and shower baths. The shop has been leased by Sam E. Cassida & Co., and each chair will be in charge of a high class artist, and the public can confidently expect expert workmanship and courteous treatment at all times. The public is cordially invited to call and be treated.”

6 May 1915. Johnson City Comet.

“New Barbers at the Palace Barber Shop – Mr. Cassida, proprietor of the Palace, announces that he has secured the services of two additional barbers, Mr. Burgess, of Roanoke, and Mr. Gardner, of Louisville. They are both competent artists and will more than maintain the splendid reputation this shop bears for gentlemanly work men and competent service.”

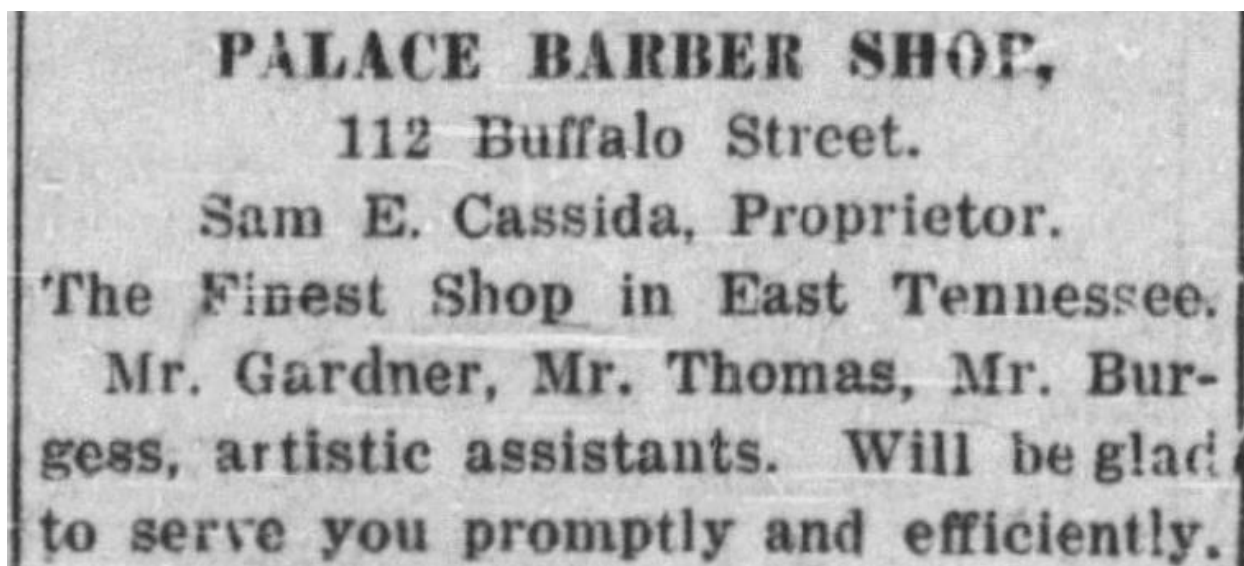


Figure 117. Johnson City Comet, 20 May 1915.
This advertisement ran until at least 7 October 1915.

16 August 1917. Johnson City Comet.

“J.E. McLain, manager of the Palace Barber shop, left Sunday for a week’s visit with his family at Black Mountain, N.C.”

13 July 1918. Johnson City Comet.

“Notes From United States Army Recruiting Station – Lieutenant Reese W. Patterson, Assistant Recruiting Officer visited the local station Saturday and accepted the following men for the United States Army, and forwarded them to Fort Oglethorpe, Ga:

William H. Carroll, Dante, Va., Field Artillery.
Floyd Fisher, Marshall, N.C., Field Artillery.
Bert Rains, Carter, Tenn., Coast Artillery.
Donley White, Elizabethton, Tenn., Coast Artillery.
Dee Sams, Elizabethton, Tenn., Coast Artillery.
Robert Wells, Chestoa, Tenn., Coast Artillery.
David Keplinger, Jonesboro, Tenn., Coast Artillery.
Boyd Warrick, Relief, N.C, White Infantry.

We want the of every one in Johnson City, in helping to get recruits for the Army. It is to your advantage as well as ours. If your son is 18 years’ old it is his duty to his country to enlist. If he can’t see it kindly remind him of it, I assure you would never regret that he offered himself like a man. Girls, speak to your sweetheart about enlisting see if he is willing to go and fight for you, if not turn him down for he is unworthy of your love or company, a man that would refuse to go in a time of need, would turn his back if he was to see a Hun run a bayonet through you.

Young man do you know of anything that would be any more honor to you than enlist today?

Apply at Recruiting Station, Phillips Building, Johnson City, Tenn.”

Note: This recruiting office had moved into the Phillips building from 122 Buffalo Street (apparently the Dyer building that was located between the Western Hotel and the old Carnegie Land Company building) between August 1917 and July 1918. It is also possible that this recruiting office moved into the adjacent Phillips building (formerly known as the Hugh O’Boyle building), at 108 East Fountain square and 110 Buffalo Street. However, given the presence of the H.M. Smith Company’s bicycle and motorcycle shop on the first floor and the Johnson City Comet’s printing facility on the second floor at this address, at this time, this seems unlikely.

27 July 1918. Johnson City Comet.

“Notes From the Recruiting Station – Captain Geo. R. Armstrong, Retired R.C., visited the local station Saturday and accepted the following men for the army... Now is the time to enlist if you don’t want to be drafted, if you wait to register we cannot take you, get on the honor roll today. Apply at recruiting station, Phillips Building, Johnson City, Tenn.”

10 August 1918. Johnson City Comet.

“Recruiting News – Captain George R. Armstrong, visited the local station Thursday and accepted the following men for the army... Johnson City leads all the stations in the district for recruits last month except Knoxville, Knoxville furnished 40, Johnson City, 22; Chattanooga, 19; Harriman, 12; Jellico, 11; Middleboro, 9; Total 113.” This was the last mention of recruiting, found by the author, in Johnson City during this period.

February 1920. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area that 110 East Fountain Square/112 Buffalo Street, was occupied by “Plumbing” and “Cobbler” enterprises. 112 East Fountain/114 Buffalo Street was occupied by “Billiards”. See Map 6D.

4.3. The O’Boyle Building and Related Structures, 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street, by 1884 to at least 1941

Allen’s Climax Saloon, 1884 – 1889
Fulsom’s Saloon, by 1884
John Gregg’s Saloon, 1889 – 1897
Anderson & Tolbard’s Saloon, 1897
Hugh O’Boyle’s Bar, by 1899
Phillips & Walters Retail Liquor Dealers, here 1899 to perhaps 1903
Star Bottling Works, 1908
G.W. Newhouse’s “Box Ball Alley,” here? 1908 to perhaps 1909
Utopia Café, 1909
Central Café, 1910
Unidentified Box Ball Alley, here 1912? to at least 1913
City Fish Company, 1914
Johnson City Bicycle Company, 1914
H.M. Smith Motor Company, 1914
H.M. Smith Company, 1915 to at least 1918 and perhaps to 1920 or later
Home Federal Savings & Loan Association, by 1933 to at least 1941
Johnson City Comet (2nd Floor), 1907 to at least 1920?

4.3.1. The Early Wood-Framed Structures, 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street, by 1884 – 1886

Nat Hyder’s Shoe Shop, here(?) by 1884
Allen’s Climax Saloon, by 1884
Fulsom’s Saloon, by 1884

4.3.1.1. Nat Hyder's Shoe Shop, here(?) by 1884

15 March 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“Strange that Nat Hyder will make beautiful shoes to put on the exquisite feet of the lovely maidens and is yet too cowardly to marry a pair of exquisite feet to put into his beautiful shoes. See ad.”

Note: The material on Nat G. Hyder's shoe business is placed here because he apparently had some degree of ownership in this building (at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street). Perhaps, he had his cobbler's shop on the second floor. However, the author found no direct evidence that this business was located here. It could have been located elsewhere.



Figure 118. Johnson City Comet, 15 March 1884.
This advertisement ran until at least 2 May 1885.

4.3.1.2. Allen's Climax Saloon, 1885 – 1889,
And
Fulsom's Saloon, by 1884

20 December 1884. Johnson City Comet.

“The Fire. About half past 10 o'clock Thursday morning, a fire broke out in the roof of O'Brien's Pool Hall [110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street]. It is supposed that the fire originated from a defective flue. Immediately after the alarm had been given, several hundred men rushed to the place where the fire was burning. Vigorous efforts were made

to extinguish the flames but without avail. The City Hotel, about twenty steps from the burning building was in great danger. Everybody began to cry, 'save the City Hotel.' Everybody went to work and thousands of buckets of water were dashed on the roof and side of the hotel. The heat became intense. It was impossible to stand on the roof of the hotel. Twice it caught fire and was twice extinguished. It was thought that it would burn despite all the efforts to prevent it. A great deal of the furniture was carried out. The Tannery Company furnished a hose which was joined to the force pump in the engine room of the E.T. & W.N.C. Railroad Co., and a sufficient quantity of water was thus furnished to prevent the mad flames from igniting the roof of the hotel.

The buildings which burned down belonged to O'Brien Bros., and N.G. Hyder. In the eastern room Mr. [W.C.] Allen kept a saloon [the Climax]. In the room adjoining his, Mr. Folsom kept a saloon [both apparently at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street]. In the room adjoining Mr. Folsom's Mr. O'Brien kept a saloon. The far room was used as a Pool Hall. Lewis & Smith used the upstairs room as an Oyster Saloon. All the contents of building were removed. The loss is estimated at \$2,500. There was no insurance on the property. Had the men who were attempting to stop the fire not been so excited, had they acted with judgment, the flames might have been extinguished...

Mr. Dickinson returns his sincere thanks to the citizens who by their vigorous efforts on Thursday morning, saved the hotel from burning."

"It is reported that during the fire Cargille's clerk struggled to roll a barrel of brandy out of the burning saloon until the flames burned a hole in his coat clear to his back bone."

Note: Based on subsequent reporting, below, and the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area from January 1891, it appears that the saloons of W.C. Allen and Folsom were at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street, while the saloon and pool hall of the O'Brien Brothers were at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street. Also, it appears to be the case that the O'Brien Brothers and Nat Hyder owned all of these buildings jointly at the time of the fire. It is also possible that the O'Brien Brothers acquired Nat Hyder's property after the fire, as the author found no further reference to Nat Hyder with respect to the rebuilt structures. See Map 1D.

31 January 1885. Johnson City Comet.

"A new and better building stands where the fire recently burned down the property belonging to N.G. Hyder and O'Brien Bros."⁹³

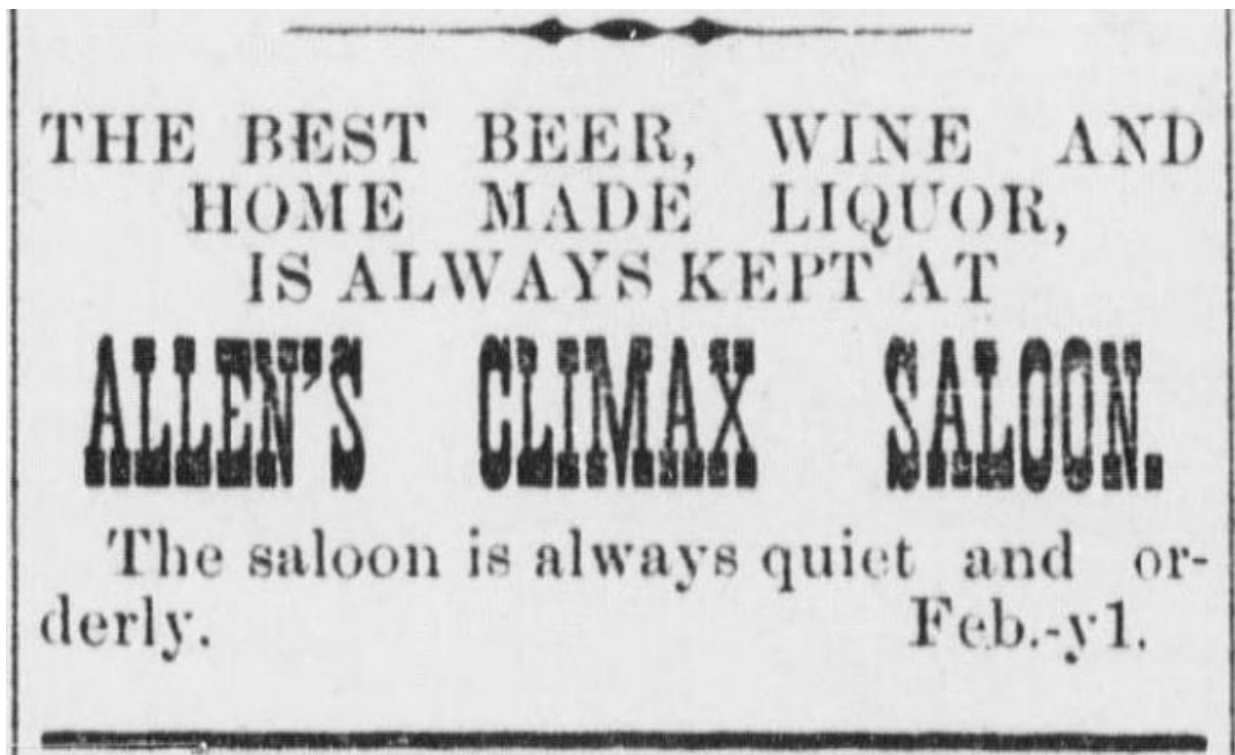


Figure 119. Johnson City Comet, 21 February 1885.
This advertisement ran until at least 11 February 1886.

8 October 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“The Curse of Johnson City. The curse of Johnson City is it’s bar-rooms. No other proof of this is needed than to notice the drunk men who reel and stagger about the streets and fill the calaboose Saturday afternoons, and frequently on week days, and sometimes even on Sunday. Old men, middle-aged men, young men, and even boys haunt these saloons, when they ought to be, and no doubt would be, but for them, engaged in something useful and profitable. But this is not all, some of the bar-keepers violate the law of the country almost daily, by selling liquor to minors, by selling to men whose wives have notified them not to do so, and by selling on Sunday. We would not do the saloon-keepers injustice, if injustice could be done them, but we know they are destroying the peace, blighting the happiness, retarding the growth, and injuring if not destroying the prosperity of Johnson City. If they have not violated the law as stated, the columns of The Comet will be open for them next week to say so. If they have violated the law, then they do not deserve to be trusted as law abiding citizens are trusted, and every restraint that can be legally thrown around them, ought to be used by the municipal and State authorities, as a protection to the people. The winter is coming on; the nights will be long, cold and dreary, and the warm room, the brilliant lights and the sparkling liquors will be a great temptation – and many will yield and fall by the wayside. We hope the Board of Mayor and Aldermen will do what they can to protect the homes and save the boys of Johnson City, by passing an ordinance requiring the bar-keepers to stop business and close their doors from sun-down until sun-rise. It would make many a mother happy. It would keep many a poor wretch from the calaboose, and would preserve the quiet, peace, and good order of the town. And above all and over all, it would be right. We hope the people will speak out on the subject.”

15 October 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“Only One. To the charge made against the barrooms of Johnson City in last week’s Comet, there has been but one answer and one denial, that of Mr. W.C. Allen. We publish his communication in this issue verbatim et literatim. We do not want to injure Mr. Allen. He seems to be a clever man, and we rather like him. If he was engaged in a better business we would be glad to see him succeed. The bar-keepers of Johnson City have been violating the law; if Mr. Allen is not guilty, he has the misfortune, like poor Tray, of being in bad company and must suffer with the others. He thinks we have done Johnson City great injustice, and that it is one of the most orderly and quiet towns in East Tennessee. In this we think he is mistaken. One sees more drunkenness in Johnson City, with its two thousand population, than in Knoxville with twenty thousand. No longer than last Sunday, to our shame be it said, the town calaboose was crowded with drunken men and women. There is a great wrong somewhere, and the people are determined to remedy it. Mr. Allen thinks the law as it is, affords a remedy, if we could always know of the violations, and there was some one always ready to prosecute. The safest way to do is to throw around the bar-rooms every legal restraint. It is too late to shoot a vicious dog after he has bitten some one. It would have been much better to have chained him at the start. The people of Johnson City have become aroused on the subject. A petition has been circulated and signed by a majority of the voters of the town, asking for an ordinance requiring bar-rooms to be closed from sun-down to sun-up. There is great unanimity in favor of the ordinance, and it our municipal authorities voice the sentiments of the people they represent, we will have it before the ides of November.”

15 October 1885. Johnson City Comet.

“The Answer ‘asked for.’ To the article which appeared in last weeks Comet, Baring the title, The Curces of Johnson City, in the first place; I know not the Author; neather do I ceare, But will say to him; that I consider myself, as the man called upon to answer (in this Ishue) as I am not guilty of the charges he makes, in the article for I do not sell Liquor to miners, neather do I sell on Sunday, (as my coustmers all Know) I beleave I respect the Sabath as much as the Author Because I was taught to do so. I am surprised at the unthinking writers; why sir you would have the public who do not know Johnson City, to beleave it almost dangerous to stop off in our city (eaven on the Lords day) why sir you are certainly unaquainted with city life, for I will venture to say, that there is not an incorporated City ar Town in East Tennessee that will excell Johnson City, in a point of ordaly conduct & law abiding Citizens. As to the apeal to the athorits for a strenies law I will just Impute that to the authars Ignerece in not knowing the State law far we are under bond to keep an ordely house, and it we fail to do so, the law provides the remedy sufficent to the emergency, without any further Legislation. So as this article was forced upon me in what I call self Defence, I will just add, that I hope I will not be called upon to answer another as Silly, (if not Idiotic) as article as the one this in intended to answer. With all due respect to the Comet I sign W.C. Allen.”

3 June 1886. Johnson City Comet.

“Mr. W.O. Phillips was in town the first of the week. He has purchased the O’Brien property near the City Hotel.”

Note: This may indicate that W.O. Phillips acquired the two properties at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street and 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street.

4.3.1.3. John Gregg's Saloon, 1889 – 1891

8 August 1889. Johnson City Comet.

“W.C. Allen has sold out his stock of liquors and bar room appurtenances to John Gregg, and retired from the business. He will remain a citizen of Johnson City and look after his real estate interests.”⁹⁴

January 1891. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that “Q” was occupied by a saloon in a single-story wood-framed building. It appears that the “Sal.” at “Q” (108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street) was John Gregg's saloon. See Map 1D.

Note: See Section 4.3.2.1. below, for subsequent information on this enterprise.

4.3.2. The Hugh O'Boyle Building, 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street, by 1892 to at least 1941

4.3.2.1. John Gregg's Saloon, by 1892 – 1897

4 February 1892. Johnson City Comet.

“\$1,288,051. – These are the Startling figures which tell of the Growth and Activity of the Plucky, Magnetic City in 1891 – Complete List of Improvements during the Year... Hugh O'Boyle business block, Buffalo street – [\$] 3,000”.

Note: It appears that at some point between 1886 and 1892, W.O. Phillips sold the plot and facilities at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street to Hugh O'Boyle. By May 1897, it appears that Hugh O'Boyle had replaced his wood-framed structures with a two-story brick building. Apparently, based on the above information, this was done in 1891 or early 1892.

11 October 1894. Johnson City Comet.

“We don't know whether it is considered a revival of business or not, but it is a fact that two new barrooms have been established recently. [John] Gregg has withstood the roasting which the traveling evangelist, the Rev. Mr. Boyd, inflicted upon the barkeepers of this town and established a bar on West Main [apparently at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street]; and [Hugh] O'Boyle has done likewise at the old stand recently vacated by Dan McCoy.”

Note: It appears that Dan McCoy's saloon, which Hugh O'Boyle moved into, was located at Market Street and the Southern Railway, see Map 2.⁹⁵ Also note that John Gregg's “bar on West Main” actually appears to have been on East Main Street, in the Hotel Piedmont block, as this is the western most bar on Main Street, at this time, according to the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps of this area and was “near the depot”, see 29 April 1897, below. Indeed, it appears that he reoccupied the same location that he acquired from W.C. Allen in 1889.

25 June 1896. Johnson City Comet.

“John M. Gregg, proprietor of the Cold Spring Distilling Company, through The Comet, presented to the members of the Press Association several dozen flasks of the finest brand of pure corn whiskey, made at his celebrated distillery. The boys pronounced it A1 and of excellent flavor.”

11 February 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Tuesday Mornin’s Fire. Fire was discovered in John Gregg’s saloon near the depot about 2 o’clock Tuesday morning and before it could be extinguished considerable damage was done. As soon as the alarm was given the fire company responded and did very effective work, preventing what bid fair to be a big fire.

The building, which is worth about \$3,500 and was insured for \$2,500, was damaged about \$300. The stock was insured for \$1,000, and was almost a total loss. The fixtures which cost a thousand dollars and only had \$500 insurance on them, were almost rendered worthless by fire and water.

The insurance had all been placed by Wofford Bros., of this place, and was in following companies:

The building – Firemans Fund and Continental,

The fixtures – Virginia Fire and Marine.

The stock – Scottish Union.

The fire was undoubtedly of incendiary origin, as the quick work of the fire company revealed. Everything about the interior seemed to be saturated with coal oil and the fire started in the opposite corner of the room from the stove in a dumb water [should probably read: “waiter”] shaft.

Mr. Gregg says that he has no knowledge of the fire, as everything was all right when he went home at 10 o’clock. The place seemed to have been rifled before fired. The cocks in all the barrels had been turned and their contents allowed to run out upon the floor.”

18 February 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Arrested for Arson. Deputy Sheriff Geo. Campbell served warrants on John Gregg, James Gregg and Henry Ray, charging them with being accessory to the burning of Gregg’s saloon a few days ago. The men appeared before ‘Squire Martin last night and gave a bond of \$1,000 each for their appearance at 1 o’clock today. They ridicule the idea of being implicated in the arson.”

25 February 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“The Gregg Arson Case. The trial of John Gregg, Jas. Gregg and Henry Ray was concluded about 5 o’clock last Friday afternoon, consuming about a day and a half. ‘Squire Martin took the case under advisement and at 9 o’clock Saturday morning he announced his decision. He held John Gregg and Henry Ray in a bond of \$1,000 each for their appearance at the next term of the circuit court and discharged Jas. Gregg, as the evidence in his case was not regarded as sufficient to bind him.

The evidence was purely circumstantial but was rather damaging. A.R. Johnson defended the men in an able manner, while Robt. Burrow prosecuted with a vengeance. The men had no trouble to give bond.”

18 March 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Preparations are being made to repair the damages on the Gregg building recently caused by fire.”

4.3.2.2. Anderson & Tolbard’s Saloon, 1897

25 March 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“[Charles A.] Anderson & Toliver, of Pennsylvania, have purchased the Gregg saloon property and are having it remodeled. The property when completed will be used as a hotel and will be conducted by Geo. R. Brown.”

Note: The author did not find any evidence that any agreement between Anderson & Toliver with George R. Brown was ever implemented.⁹⁶

29 April 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Messrs. Anderson & Tolbard, who purchased the Gregg property, near the depot, have fitted up an elegant saloon on the ground floor, and later, when the remodeling is complete, will conduct a first class boarding and lodging house. They are both clever gentlemen and we welcome them to our city.”

May 1897. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street was occupied by a saloon in a two-story brick building. It appears that Hugh O’Boyle had replaced his wood-framed structures at this location with a two-story brick building. Apparently, this was done in 1891 or early 1892, see 4 February 1892 above.

3 June 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“Original Attachment Suit. – The Chattanooga Brewing Co. vs. Chas. A. Anderson. – In pursuance to an order heretofore made and entered by me, M.I. Gump, a Justice of the Peace for Washington county, Tenn., in an attachment suit wherein M.F. Powers, agent for the Chattanooga Brewing Company is plaintiff and you, Chas. A. Anderson is defendant, you are hereby notified that upon the affidavit of plaintiff, in which it is alledged that you are indebted to The Chattanooga Brewing Co. for \$100 due by probated account and that he (Chas. A. Anderson) has concealed himself so that the ordinary process of law can not be served on you and that said debt is just. A writ of attachment was on the 27th day of May, 1897, issued against you by me, M.I. Gump, Justice of the Peace for Washington county, Tennessee, which writ came to the hands of G.F. Campbell, deputy Sheriff for Washington county, Tennessee, and was by him executed by levying said attachment on the following personal property the property of Chas. A. Anderson, one stock of

Whiskies, Wines, &c. and fixtures now in what is known as the John Gregg saloon in Johnson City, Tennessee, to wit: 1 barrel of Corn Whiskey (on tap), 1 barrel Export Bourbon Whisky, a barrel Cates 1888 Bourbon, 1 barrel Apple Brandy, 1 keg of Port Wine, 1 keg of Blackberry Brandy, 1 keg of Gin, 1 keg of Fleuce Brandy, 1 keg of Sherry Wine, 112 bottle of Whisky and Cordial on shelves, 20 dozen (more or less) bottled beer, 2 full casks of Bottle Beer (in cold storage house), 11 bottles of Augusturo Bitters, 17 boxes of L.P.O. Club Cigars, 7 boxes of Pride of Ano, 2 boxes of Mckebby, 2 boxes of Richmond cheroots, 3 boxes in part, 1 box of Havanna Jewells Cigars, 1 box of Aristocratic Friend Cigars, 2 boxes of Boquet Cigars, 1 box of M. Dyre & Co. Cigars, 2 boxes of Our Track Cigars, 1 box of Police Gems, 1 ham of Bacon, 7 cans of peaches, 2 cans of corn, 30 boxes of Sardines and 11 cans of Oysters, 25 bottles Tomato catsup, 10 cases of Corn Beef, 4 cans of Peaches, ½ box of Sea Foam Soap, 3 Soup Bowls, 1 large meat dish, 10 small plates, 2 sets of Bar Fixtures, 1 folding writing desk, 1 National Cash Register, 1 Cooler, 1 show case, 4 stools, 6 chairs, 1 drop leaf table, 1 whisky rack, 2 cases of corks, one pool table, 4 boxes of empty flasks, 1 one-half box of tobacco. This levy made at 3:30 o'clock, p.m. May 27, 1897, subject to former levy (by J.E. Strain, constable) in favor of Housely, Cate & Co., and returned to the office of M.I. Gump, Justice of the Peace. Also levied upon 2 boxes of Soda-water and 2 cases of Done Wine, done at 4:30 o'clock, p.m., May the 27th, 1897, as appears by the return of said officer on the 27th day May 1897 at the office of M.I. Gump, Justice of the Peace aforesaid. Said Chas. A. Anderson is requested to appear on the 2nd day of July, 1897, at the office of M.I. Gump, Esq., in Johnson City, Tenn., before him as the Justice having cognizance, then and there to defend this action so commenced against you by attachment, otherwise the cause will be proceeded in against you ex parte. This June 2nd, 1867. M.I. Gump, Justice of the Peace”.

23 December 1897. Johnson City Comet.

“John Gregg Acquitted. The case of George Allen vs. John Gregg was tried last week in circuit court at Jonesboro. It was a case of arson, Gregg being charged with having burned his barroom in this city last winter. The case created considerable excitement at the time of arrest and has been full of sensations. Henry Ray and Jim Gregg were also implicated, but their trials were put off until next term of court. The evidence against John Gregg was necessarily of a purely circumstantial nature and not strong enough to convict, the jury believed, and therefore he was acquitted.”⁹⁷

4.3.2.3. Hugh O’Boyle’s Bar, by 1899,
And

Phillips & Walters Retail Liquor Dealers, here 1899 to perhaps 1903

12 January 1899. Johnson City Comet.

“Enlarging the Business. W.O. Phillips has made up his mind that 1889 is to be a banner year in Johnson City’s history and he is arranging to meet the demand in his line. Last Friday he closed a trade by which he became the sole owner of the Hugh O’Boyle bar, building, fixtures and stock [at 108 East Fountain Square and 110 Buffalo Street, see Map 2A]. We were not given the figures but it was a cash transaction and Saturday morning the familiar face of Dan Walters was seen behind the counter. Mr. Phillips will continue the two bars under Walter’s management for the present. It is rumored that he will shortly tear away the frame buildings between the O’Boyle

saloon and Hotel Piedmont and build a four story brick hotel on the entire block, adding two stories to the O'Boyle building. This would make a valuable piece of property and give to Johnson City people something it badly needs. Mr. Phillips is well able to build a handsome structure here, and having accumulated his wealth in Johnson City has great faith in its future... In his two saloons in Johnson City he will continue to handle high grade, strictly pure goods for medicinal purposes. The O'Boyle building is being renovated and will be overhauled and made one of the finest bars in upper East Tennessee."

Note: W.O. Phillips did not tear down the old wood-framed buildings and construct a new brick building at this site until 1901 and 1902; and even then, it was only two-stories tall and the former Hugh O'Boyle building did not receive any additional stories at that time.

27 November 1902. Johnson City Comet.

"Modern Hotel. W.O. Phillips has decided to build a modern hotel in this city. He will tear down the [former Hugh O'Boyle] building now occupied by his barroom [at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street] and erect in its stead a handsome four story structure, putting two more stories upon his new building adjoining [at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street]. The whole block will be converted into one of the most modern hotels in East Tennessee and will be handsomely finished throughout in hardwood and fitted with all up-to-date appliances, including a passenger elevator and steam heat. The plans are now being made and work will commence in a short time. Arrangements are now being made to move the bar into the room in the new [Phillips] building [at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street] next to Hotel Piedmont and the adjoining room [in the Phillips building] is to be fitted up for barber shop and billiard room. As soon as the bar can be moved the old [O'Boyle] building will come down to get out of the way of the new hotel. Mr. Phillips never does anything by halves and the building he will erect will be an ornament to Johnson City. It will be run by one of the best hotel men the city has ever known, the popular and polite host, Col. W.A. Dickinson." See Map 3A.

Note: It appears that the portion of the above plan that called for the demolition of the former Hugh O'Boyle building (at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street), with a new four-story building to be construct on that lot and the addition of two stories to the adjacent Phillips building (at 110 & 112 East Fountain Square and 112 & 116 Buffalo Street) was never implemented. However, it does appear that W.O. Phillips' saloon was moved from the old O'Boyle building and into the Phillips building, along with the Central Barber Shop and a billiards hall. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area shows that the former O'Boyle building was vacant in April 1903. See Map 3D.

April 1903. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street was "Vac." (vacant). See Map 3D.

Note: The author did not find any information on the occupants of this building between 1903 and 1908. Perhaps it remained vacant until 1908.

23 May 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Spend Some Money. The Southern Railway Company has set aside \$72,000 for improvements in Johnson City. The sum will be available after June 1st, and the improvements will begin...

The tank is to fade away and the branch under the track near the tank will be hidden with a stone culvert. The space between the tracks and the Phillips building will be filled up and granolithic pavements put down...”

4.3.2.4. Star Bottling Works, 1908 (See Figure 64C)

1908. “Star Bottling Works.”

“Our story begins in the town of Elizabethton Tennessee in 1905 when Thomas P. Crow purchased the Watauga Bottling Works. He operated the company until April 13, 1908 when a fire broke out in the plant destroying everything. Crow announced in the May 1908 issue of the American Bottler that he was looking for new bottling equipment which he obtained. Crow decided that instead of reestablishing his operation in Elizabethton he would establish a new bottling plant in Johnson City, Tennessee which was operational by July 1908. This company was known as the Star Bottling Works which operated... under the partnership of Crow & Lusk.

The Crow & Lusk partnership consisted of T.P. Crow and R.A. Lusk who are living in the same building that houses the bottling operation. Their leaders were Jersey Cream, a product of the Jersey Cream Company of Ft. Worth, Texas, and Iron Brew, produced by the Maas & Waldstein Extract Company of New York. They also bottled Lemon, Peach, Chocolate, Lemon Sour, Blood Orange, Cream Soda, Strawberry, Ginger ale, Root Beer flavored sodas. They weren’t just bottling soft drinks, among the products they offered were digestive specialties, high grade ciders, and vinegar...”⁹⁸

23 July 1908. Johnson City Comet.

“Three Shots Fired. – Tom Crow Shoots at Barney Christie as He Flees but His Aim was Bad – Tuesday afternoon about five o’clock pedestrians near the Southern Express office were startled by three shots in rapid succession and every fellow run to cover. Tom Crow, proprietor of the Star Bottling Works, was shooting at the fleeing form of Harney Christie, but neither shot took effect. Every time that 44 barked Christie quickened his pace. The trouble arose over a settlement and several rocks and other missiles were thrown by Christie before Crow decided to use his gun. Crow was arrested by Officers Wilson and Swadley and while being taken to the recorder’s office to give bond he was met by Christie, who struck him a terrific blow over the eye before the officers could prevent it, but Wilson proceeded to test a pair of knucks on Christie’s head in the latest approved manner. Both men were considerably bruised. Crow gave bond and Christie was locked up but gave bond Wednesday.”

STAR BOTTLING WORKS
JOHNSON CITY, TENN.

Manufacturers and Shippers of

Lemon	Lemon Sour	Strawberry
Peach	Blood Orange	Ginger Ale
Chocolate	Jersey Cream	Root Beer
Iron Brew	Cream Soda	Cider, Etc.

OUR are given up to be **ON**
SOFT the most delicious **THE**
DRINKS **MARKET**

Order case lots from Us. Ask your Dealer for our goods

Figure 120. Johnson City Comet, 27 August 1908.

17 September 1908. Johnson City Comet.

“Business Failures for the Week... The Star Bottling Works was placed in the hands of a trustee Wednesday. The stock and fixtures will invoice about \$3,0000 and the liabilities are slightly above this figure. T.A. Cox was made trustee.”

14 January 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“Johnson City Bottling Works has purchased the Star Bottling Works of the receivers and has leased same to Pepsi-Cola Bottling Works, and will be managed by C.S. Crockett. It [the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Works] will remain where it is at present located [on West Market Street].”

4.3.2.5. G.W. Newhouse’s “Box Ball Alley,” here? 1908 to perhaps 1909

10 September 1908. Johnson City Comet.

“G.W. Newhouse has purchased the box ball alley and will continue it as a place of amusement.”

Note: This was the only mention found, by the author, of this enterprise. Presumably, this is the same “Box Ball Alley” enterprise depicted at 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area from December 1908. The author did not find any references to a “Box Ball Alley” anywhere else in Johnson City around this time. However, the Johnson City Comet only announced the failure of the Star Bottling Works on 17 September 1908 (a week after the above article was published) and the 10 September 1908 article indicates that G.W. Newhouse purchased an established box ball alley enterprise. See Map 4D.

December 1908. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Box Ball Alley”. Regrettably, this map does not include any information on the occupants of the second floor of this building.

4.3.2.6. Utopia Café, 1909, And Central Café, 1910

4 November 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“The Utopia cafe is moving into the room under The Comet office.”⁹⁹

Note: The Johnson City Comet had been on the second floor of 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street since 1907.

THE PLACE TO EAT

The Utopia

Best Equipped Cafe in the City

Now in their new rooms on Buffalo Street next to the Antiseptic Barber Shop. Come in and call for what you want, We Have It, and will serve you in the best of style. White Cooks and Courteous Waiters to serve your every want. Give us a call.

Try Our 25c. Dinner

The Best in Town

Fresh Oysters

Figure 121. Johnson City Comet, 25 November 1909.

This advertisement ran until at least 23 December 1909.

“Now in their new rooms on Buffalo Street next to the Antiseptic Barber Shop...”
The Antiseptic Barber Shop was at 110 East Fountain Square/112 Buffalo Street, see Map 4D.

THE PLACE TO EAT

Central Cafe

Best Equipped Cafe in the City

Now in their new rooms on Buffalo Street next to the Antiseptic Barber Shop. Come in and call for what you want, We Have It, and will serve you in the best of style. White Cooks and Courteous Waiters to serve your every want. Give us a call.

Try Our 25c. Dinner

The Best in Town

Fresh Oysters

Figure 122. Johnson City Comet, 6 January 1910.

This advertisement ran until at least 13 January 1910.

“Now in their new rooms on Buffalo Street next to the Antiseptic Barber Shop...”

Note: 13 January 1910 was the date of the last mention, found by the author, of this enterprise.

4.3.2.7. Unidentified Box Ball Alley, here 1912? to at least 1913

18 July 1912. Johnson City Comet.

“Man Cut Over Box Ball Game. John Goodwin and Sherman Taylor became involved in a little difficulty over a box ball game Monday afternoon. The latter whipped out his knife and cut several gashed over the heart of the former. A doctor was called and took eighteen stitches in sewing up the wounded man. Up to this time the man who did the cutting has not been apprehended.”

Note: There is insufficient information on the location of this enterprise in this article. Since the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map of this area for July 1913 identifies a bowling alley at this location, this article has been tentatively placed here. See Map 5D.

July 1913. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Bowling Alley”, with a “Print’g” enterprise on the 2nd floor. The printing enterprise was that of the Johnson City Comet. This map also depicts a “Pressing Club” in this building, but it is unclear if it was on the first or second floor, but the 1st floor seems most likely. See Map 5D.

4.3.2.8. City Fish Company, 1914



Figure 123. Johnson City Comet, 18 June 1914.

“We have opened a first-class fish market at 110 Buffalo street...”

CITY FISH CO.

We have opened a first-class fish market at 110 Buffalo street and will be glad to have you visit our place and give us your trade. We will receive all kinds of fish daily and can supply your wants at any time for any occasion. Telephone or call. Fish dressed and delivered to any part of the city; no extra charge.

City Fish Co.

Figure 124. Johnson City Comet, 25 June 1914.

Go to the City Fish Co., 110 Buffalo street for Fresh Fish. They Sell the Best. We dress and deliver free. Both tele-
phones.

Figure 125. Johnson City Comet, 9 July 1914.

Note: This is the last mention, found by the author, of this enterprise.

4.3.2.9. Johnson City Bicycle Company, here 1914,
H.M. Smith Motor Company, 1914,
And
H.M. Smith Company, 1915 to at least 1918 and perhaps to 1920 or later

Removal Notice

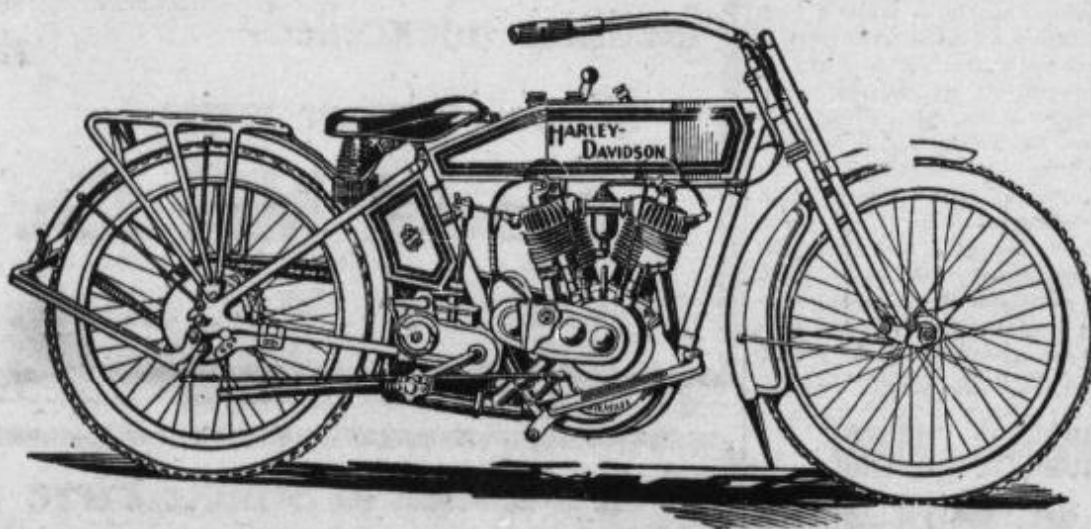
The Johnson City Bicycle Company desires to announce than it has moved from 105 West Market Street to the Phillips building, under The Comet office, on Buffalo street, where it is better than ever prepares to serve its patrone with a full line of bicycles, motors and assessories.

JOHNSON CITY BICYCLE CO.

Agent for the Celebrated Harley-Davidson Motorcycle.

Figure 126. Johnson City Comet, 1 October 1914.

“The Johnson City Bicycle Company desires to announce that it has moved from 105 West Market Street to the Phillips building, under The Comet office, on Buffalo street... Agent for the Celebrated Harley-Davidson Motorcycle.”



1915 HARLEY-DAVIDSON

"During the thirteen years that we have been engaged in the manufacture of motorcycles we never have introduced a more important improvement than the three-speed," said Walter Davidson, president of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. "I consider this the greatest achievement of William S. Harley, our chief engineer.

"The 1915 twin cylinder motor, rated at 11 horsepower, develops nearly double the horsepower of our 1914 motors. With the three-speed Harley-Davidson it is impossible to go anywhere that traction can be obtained. On high speed the gear ratio is 2.89 to 1. For good, smooth roads this gear is ideal.

"The intermediate gear provides a ratio of 5.83 to 1 for traveling in congested traffic in the cities and over rough country roads. This gear can be used constantly, if required. Every motorcyclist can appreciate the suitability of this gear, especially when the motorcycle is used with a sidecar.

"On low gear, 8.75 to 1, the 1915 three-speed will go anywhere. The 1915 machine climbs hills as steep as 60 per cent. There are 66 improvements on the three-speed model alone. Great credit must be given to Mr. Harley for his invention of the first mechanical oil pump capable of feeding oil at all speeds, without any check or ball valves.

"All 1915 models are equipped with the well known Step-Starter which makes it possible to start the motor with both wheels on the ground and with either pedal. This device is positive in action. It starts the motor without fail.

"The great power of the new motor in combination with the three-speed requires ample braking facilities. The Harley-Davidson 1915 brake is double acting and capable of holding a motorcycle and sidecar positively. The importance of having a brake that can be relied upon absolutely is generally recognized. Safety First requires it.

"Noiselessness and cleanliness are two important features which have been kept constantly in mind by the Harley-Davidson engineers. The transmission is so quiet that it cannot be heard in ordinary street traffic. Considerable of the credit for the noiselessness of the 1915 Harley-Davidson motorcycle is due to the muffler of improved design."

1915 Catalogue on request.

H. M. Smith Motor Co.

110 Buffalo Street,

Johnson City, Tenn.

Figure 127. Johnson City Comet, 8 October 1914.

BICYCLE SHOP OPEN

**Our New Quarters at
110 BUFFALO STREET**

are now open and ready to do
all kinds of repair work on
bicycles and motorcycles. You
can get everything here that is
necessary to get pleasure and
service out of your bicycle.

**Our line is complete for
BICYCLE SUNDRIES**

**Every Bit of our Work is
GUARANTEED**

**Our Prices Are
LOWEST**

**Harley-Davidson
Motorcycle Dealer**

H. M. SMITH CO.

110 BUFFALO STREET

Figure 128. Johnson City Comet, 11 March 1915.
This advertisement ran until at least 2 September 1915.

Smith
MOTOR WHEEL
THE BICYCLE BOOSTER

"Let's Go Motorwheeling"

YOU will hear this invitation many, many times this season, because Motorwheeling with a Smith Motor Wheel is fast becoming the greatest of all outdoor sports. The

Smith MOTOR WHEEL *"The Bicycle Booster"*

means all the pleasures of bicycling with the hard work left out. It is a wonderful, new appliance that can be attached to and detached from any bicycle in a few moments. Goes 20 miles an hour and will run 80 miles on one gallon of gasoline.

The Smith Motor Wheel is so safe, cleanly and efficient that any member of the family, from children to grown-ups of both sexes, may ride in perfect comfort and safety.

Both motor and control are very simple, so that you can start, stop and go faster or slower at will, simply by pressing a small thumb lever that is conveniently attached to the handle bar of the bicycle.

You will surely like the Smith Motor Wheel. It will mean to you all the joys of the big outdoors.

Drop in any time for a demonstration.

H. M. Smith Co. JOHNSON CITY
TENNESSEE

Figure 129. Johnson City Comet, 2 March 1916.

MOTOR-WHEELING is the new way of travel--the clean, quick, easy, graceful, economical way. It gives a new life to the bicycle and miles of new joy and service to the rider. The work of pedaling is removed, the Smith Motor Wheel being the propelling power, and the bicycle's pedals become foot-rests. No special riding apparel is necessary, the motor being below and behind the rider and does not soil one's clothing.

Up hill and down, o'er boulevards and through parks and suburbs, out onto country highways and into shady by-ways you can go a-coasting, for all roads are alike to the Smith Motor Wheel.

Starting, stopping and regulating of speed are operated by the Motor Wheel's thumb lever, which clamps to the bicycle's handle bar, and you become unconscious of its operation even upon your very first ride, it is all so simple.



You may have heard of the joys of Motor-Wheeling, but words of praise are faint compared with the touch of a ride.

"Let's Go Motor-Wheeling!" is the new greeting among 10,000 Motor-Wheelists to-day in all parts of the world.

Indian and Pope Bicycles. A complete line of supplies and repair parts.

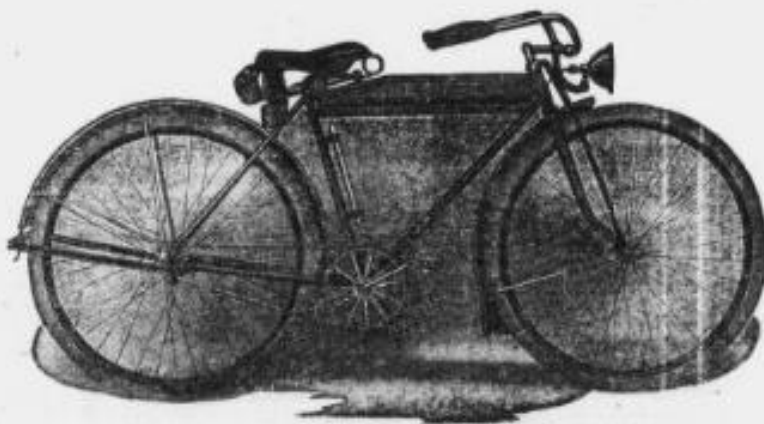
H. M. SMITH CO.

FACTORY DISTRIBUTORS

110 Buffalo St. Johnson City, Tenn.

Figure 130. Johnson City Comet, 9 March 1916.

H.M. Smith Company



FACTORY DISTRIBUTORS

Harley-Davidson and Indian Motorcycles

Complete Line of Accessories

=== **FISK BICYCLE TIRES** ===

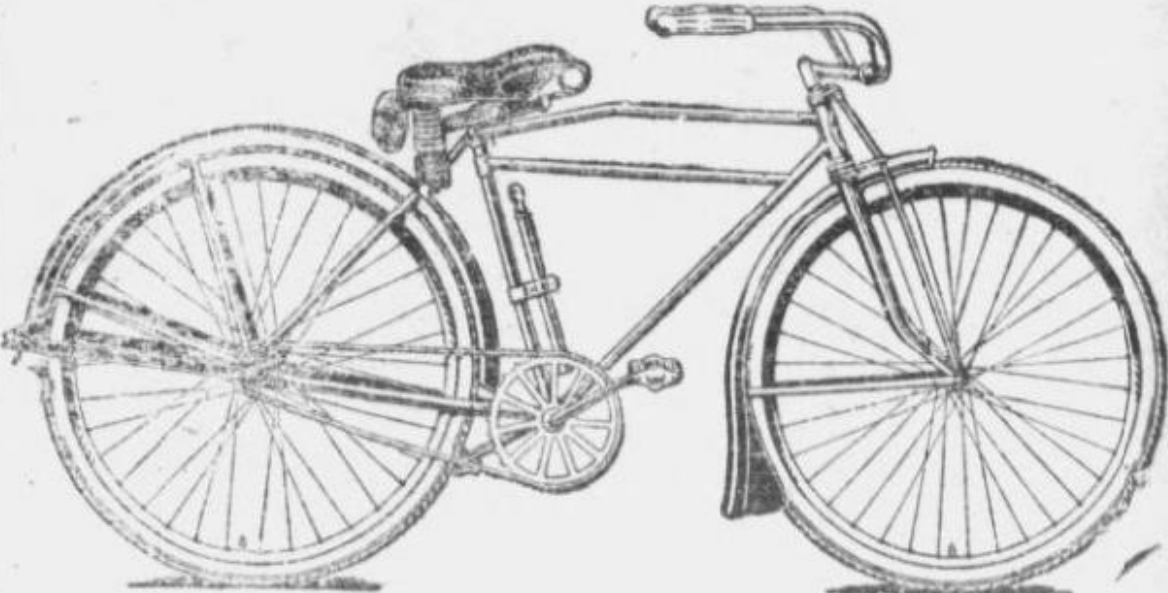
110 Bufralo street

Johnson City, Tenn.

Phone 314

Figure 131. Johnson City Comet, 6 September 1917.

Ride A Bicycle



Ride A Bicycle

H. M. SMITH COMPANY

EXCLUSIVE MOTORCYCLE AND BICYCLE DEALERS
110 BUFFALO ST.

Figure 132. Johnson City Comet, 1 June 1918.
This advertisement ran until at least 5 October 1918.

18 September 1919. Motor Cycle and Bicycle Illustrated.

“H.M. Smith and P.C. Muse came 400 miles from Johnson City, Tenn., over bad mountain roads.”¹⁰⁰

February 1920. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Bicycle Repairs” enterprise. This “Bicycle Repairs” enterprise was most likely that of H.M. Smith Company. See Map 6D.

4.3.2.10. Home Federal Savings & Loan Association, by 1933 to at least 1941

By 31 December 1933. “First Annual Report of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board Covering the Operations of the Federal Home Loan Banks, The Home Owners’ Loan Corporation, Federal Savings and Loan Promotion Activities from the Date of their Creation Through December 31, 1933,”

“District No. 5. Federal Savings and Loan Member Institutions of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati as of December 31, 1934... Home Federal Savings & Loan Association, 110 Buffalo Street, Johnson City...”¹⁰¹

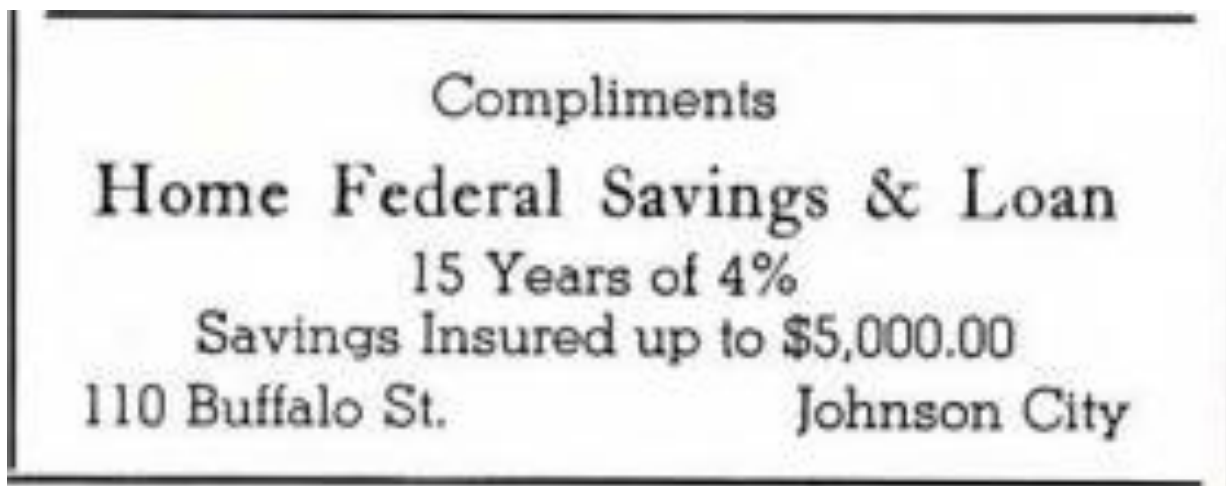


Figure 133. The Buccaneer, 1939.¹⁰²

It appears that this enterprise continued at this location until at least 1941.

4.3.2.11. Johnson City Comet Printing on the 2nd Floor of 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street, 1907 to at least 1920?

14 March 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“Johnson City Sensations – Cy Lyle Takes a Tumble Down a Flight of Stair. ‘Johnson City is enjoying two sensations,’ said Geo. A. Ross, a Memphis newspaper man, formerly connected with the Journal and Tribune... ‘One of the most thrilling events to occur in that town since it voted out the saloons was the fall of Cy Lyle, editor of the Comet, which occurred Wednesday afternoon. The accident happened while Cy was attempting to move his printing office from its old quarters to its new home on Railroad street [2nd Floor of 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street]. Cy and three laborers were in the act of letting the big cylinder of the Campbell press which weighed 2,000 pounds down the stairs. When it had barely started down the long flight leading to the sidewalk it became unmanageable and ran wild to the street. Cy was in front of the cylinder and tried to get away from it, but quick as he was it struck him. Like a shot the witty editor was hurled to the street below. A wagon was backed up to the curb in front of the stairway ready

to be loaded with the machinery. In his fall Cy struck the top of his head against the bed of the wagon, knocked it, and the team hitched to it, half way across the street. For a moment Cy was unable to tell just what had happened, and was picked up and carried into a store next door. Two doctors were sent for. When the first arrived he rushed up to Cy who had regained consciousness and asked him if he was hurt. Cy replied that he was not, and asked the doctor to examine the wagon. His injury consisted of a scalp wound about two inches long. After it was dressed he proceeded with the moving of the Comet office. That such a thing should happen in a dry down without more serious results is enough to challenge the credence of Jack Reeves, of the Hardeman Free Press.

The fall of Cy Lyle added to the question which some one has sprung as to Johnson City, and the Adams law about broken up all the monotony which has been hovering about the place since the saloon folded its tents and stole away.

Johnson City went dry under a special act of the legislature which had a provision forbidding the opening of saloons within four miles of the Soldiers' home. The citizens voted out the saloons under that act, and did not surrender the charter as provided by the Adams law... 'Knoxville Journal and Tribune.'

5 November 1908. Johnson City Comet.

"Announcement – We have purchased the printing outfit and good will of the J.W. Cass Printing Company and have merged it with The Comet and feel that it is no exaggeration to claim that we have now the best equipped printing plant in this section for commercial and book printing. It is our aim to do only high class work and at a price as low as similar work can be had elsewhere. Will make a specialty of delivering jobs when promised. We did not buy the customers of J.W. Cass, but we desire to have them follow the plant and expect to hold them by the same prompt and careful service they have been accustomed to receive at his hands.

'Having sold my entire printing plant to Cy H. Lyle, I unhesitatingly suggest to my many customers that they send their orders to The Comet, believing that the equipment and ability of the united plants make it possible for them to be given satisfaction, and can assure them of prompt and courteous service. Respt., J.W. Cass.'

Bring your work or call us up and we will send for it. Orders can be left at J.E. Crouch's book store and will be promptly executed... The Comet – Buffalo Street – Telephone No. 71 – Johnson City, Tenn."

December 1908. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that "Q" (108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street) was occupied by a "Box Ball Alley". This map provided no information on the occupants of the 2nd floor of this building at this time. See Map 4D.

7 January 1909. Johnson City Comet.

"The Comet is better equipped to do your job work than any printing office in Johnson City. A better and larger assortment of type, more different sized presses, cutting, stapling, puncturing and numbering machines than all others combined. Not how cheap, but how good. Try us on your next order. Phone us, we will come after it."

**Get
the
Habit**

Of having your

**JOB
PRINTING**

Neatly executed
the Right Way

**The
Comet**

Printing of Quality

Figure 134. Johnson City Comet, 11 March 1909.
This advertisement ran until at least 27 January 1910.

Bring Your next Order of Printing

To The **Comet** Job Office.

Figure 135. Johnson City Comet, 1 July 1909.

69 69 69 69

**Take Advantage
of this
BIG OFFER**

A Year's Subscription to The COMET For

Johnson
City's
OLDEST
News-
Paper

69

Prints
The
News
WHEN
Its News

The
COMET

CENTS

The COMET

The COMET will conduct a special Bargain Week from November 15th to 21st for the purpose of securing as quick as possible new and renewed paid-up subscribers.

- To New Subscribers -

Mail or send 69c to The COMET Office between November 15th to 21st and we will place your name on the COMET'S mail list for a year's subscription.

- To Old Subscribers -

If your subscription is past due, take off 10 per cent of the amount, remit us the balance with 69c and we will mail you the COMET to January 1st 1911.

A Nice X-mas Present What More Delightful Way To Remember Friends And Relatives Than A Year's Subscription To The COMET.

Remember This This Special Offer Is Limited To Bargain Week November 15th to 21st And WILL NOT Be Repeated.

You Can Instruct Us To Begin Subscriptions At Any Time

69 69 69 69

Figure 136. Johnson City Comet, 11 November 1909.

July 1913. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that “Q” (108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street) was occupied by a “Bowling Alley”, with a “Print’g” enterprise on the 2nd floor. The printing enterprise was that of the Johnson City Comet. This map also depicts a “Pressing Club” in this building, but it is unclear if it was on the first or second floor, but the 1st floor seems most likely. See Map 5D.

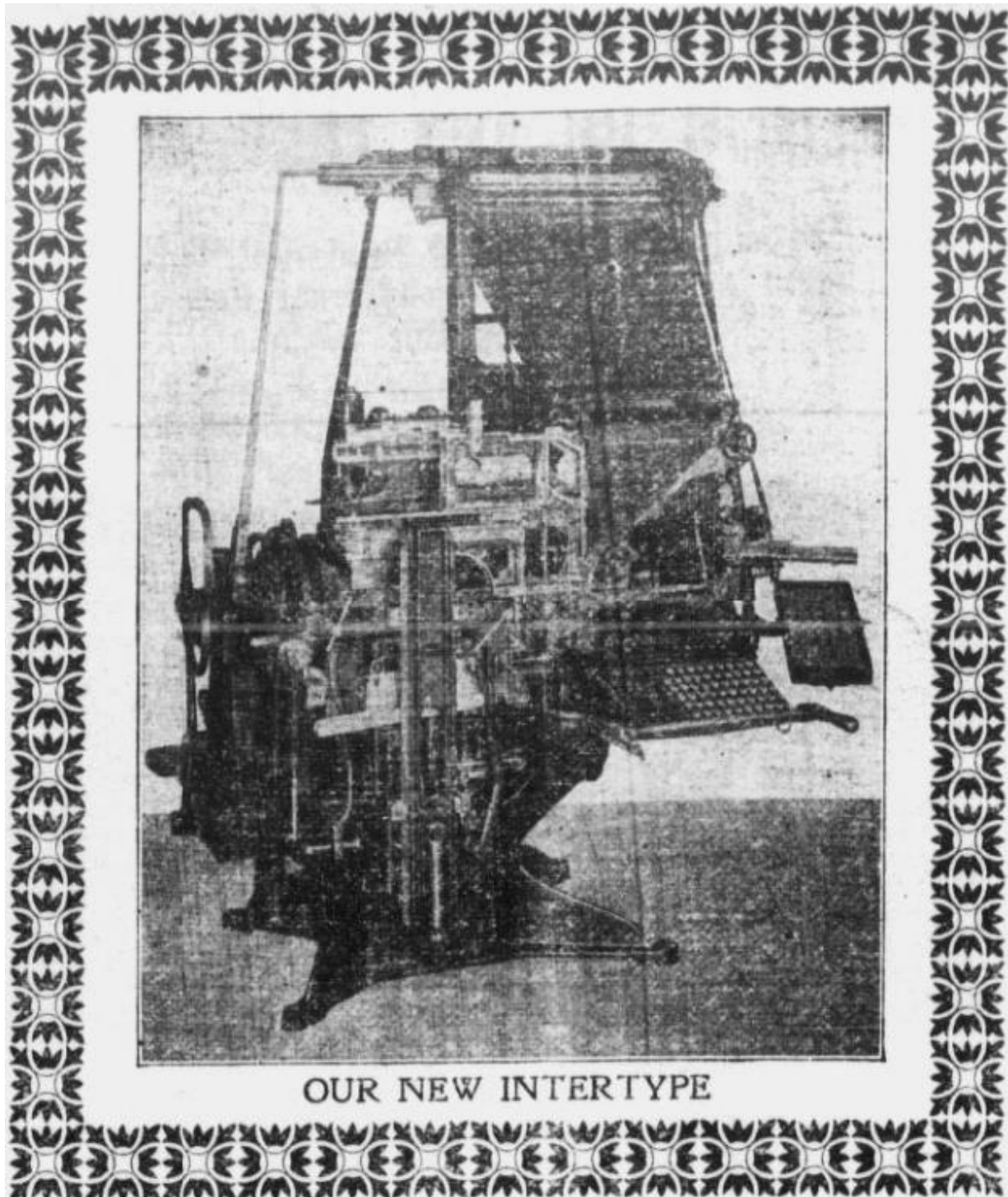


Figure 137. Johnson City Comet, 18 June 1914.

18 June 1914. Johnson City Comet.

“The Comet is pleased to announce that it has installed a new Intertype, the latest improved typesetting machine on the market, and if you would like to see a marvel of mechanical ingenuity you are invited to step in and look it over. Mr. D.B. Adams, the expert machinist-operator, will take pleasure in telling you all you don’t know about it. We are also erecting a much larger and faster printing press and within a few weeks The Comet will be made an eight-page, all home print, paper, with increased capacity as the advertising demands. The increased size of the paper will give us an opportunity to devote sufficient space to various departments, particularly country correspondents, and it is our intention to have an interesting weekly letter from all points worth while in Washington, Carter, Unicoi, Johnson, Sullivan and Greene counties and to make the page devoted to this department the greatest feature of the paper.

This does not mean that Johnson City news will not be given due consideration for it will be our constant aim and determination to boost every worthy cause in the city, and some not so worthy – hoping to make them so – and this we will do with all our might and main.

With the continued patronage of our enterprising merchants we hope to make The Comet the biggest and best weekly newspaper in East Tennessee. Our polite and gentlemanly agents will soon canvass the above counties and place the paper in every home visited.

Just as soon as Johnson City wants a morning daily newspaper just that soon will The Comet be ready to issue one, and the people will be permitted to decide this question at once.” See Figure 137.

1 October 1914. Johnson City Comet.

“Removal Notice – The Johnson City Bicycle Company desires to announce that it has moved from 105 West Market Street to the Phillips building, under The Comet office, on Buffalo street...”

9 December 1915. Johnson City Comet.

“New Management. We are pleased to announce that The Comet has been placed under new management beginning with this issue. Mr. T.L. Anderson and Mr. John A. Everett have taken charge and will conduct the newspaper and job printing department and will merit the patronage of the public. Mr. Anderson has been with the Cumberland Telephone and Telegraph Co. for some time and needs no introduction to the business public. Mr. Everett is a practical printer and comes from Maryville, Tenn.. highly recommended as a citizen and gentleman. He will have charge of the mechanical department and is thoroughly competent to supply your demands for any kind of printed matter. These gentlemen will continue to conduct The Comet in the Interest of Johnson City and community at all times and will appreciate the of all citizens who feel an interest in the welfare of the city. Cy H. Lyle.”

30 December 1915. Johnson City Comet.

“Municipal Tree a Great Success – Johnson City’s first municipal celebration of Christmas occurred Monday night, under the auspices of the Monday Club, around the big cedar tree placed on the square in front of The Comet office and Windsor Hotel. The tree was an unusually pretty one and was decorated with many electric lights. The large star near the top of the tree was lighted and was almost a blaze of glory. The star represented the Star of Bethlehem. The exercises had been postponed from Friday because of the very bad weather. Hundreds of people thronged the square. The exercises were simple but very impressive and perfect order was maintained by the many children present. The interest shown by all the classes composing the throng assures its repetition next year...”

JOHNSON CITY COMET

CY. H. LYLE Owner

T. LYLE ANDERSON

Editors and Publishers

JOHN A. EVERETT

Date of Publication Thursday

Office..... Railroad St. and Buffalo St.

Both Telephones No. 71

Entered at the postoffice at Johnson City, Tennessee, as second class matter.

Figure 138. Johnson City Comet, 20 January 1916.
This item ran until at least 10 February 1916.

PRINTING

The COMET is equipped to do
all kinds of High Class Printing

WE MAKE A SPECIALTY OF

Bill Heads, Letter Heads, State-
ments, Envelopes. Book Work,
Catalogues, School Annuals and
Periodicals of all kinds.

NEAT WORK - PROMPT ATTENTION

Figure 139. Johnson City Comet, 14 June 1917.
This and similar advertisements ran until at least 15 November 1917.



Figure 140. Johnson City Comet, 14 June 1917.

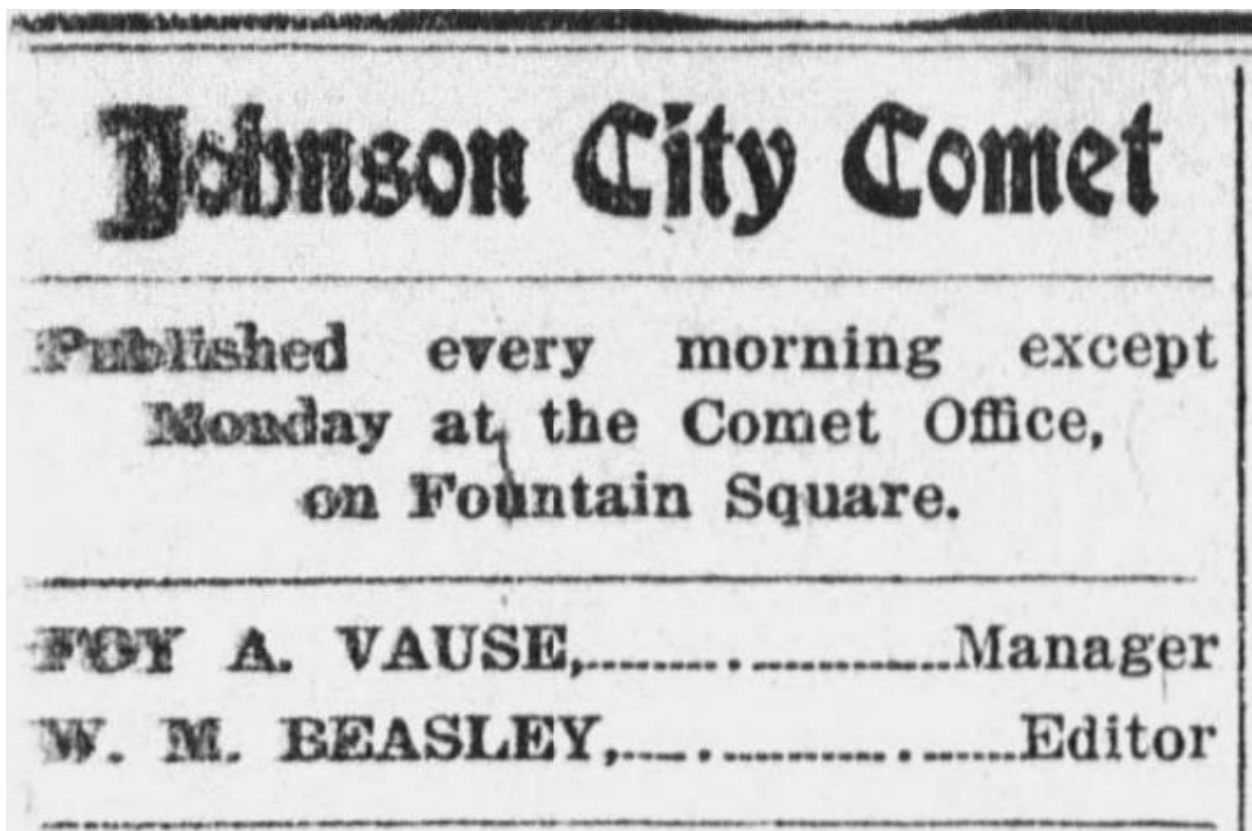


Figure 141. Johnson City Comet, 7 February 1918.

11 May 1918. Johnson City Comet.

“A City Beautiful – Another park and flower garden is being made directly in front of The Comet office, opposite the Windsor Hotel. The work is being done by the Southern Railway, and the City and will be a thing of beauty when finished.”

18 May 1918. Johnson City Comet.

“The work on the new park in front of The Comet office is being done by Gunner Teilman, of the Johnson City Floral Company. Alderman Martin has also been on the job and the indications are that this is going to be one of the down town beauty spots. The hedge border has been set and the centre piece for display laid out, and shrubbery of different kinds planted.”

February 1920. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 108 East Fountain Square/110 Buffalo Street was occupied by a “Bicycle Repairs” enterprise. This map provides no information on the occupants of the 2nd floor of this building at this time. See Map 6D.¹⁰³

4.4. The Southern Express Company Building, 106 East Fountain Square/108 Buffalo Street, 1902 to at least 1938

Southern Express Company Office, 1902 to at least 1912
Unidentified Store, 1913
Vacant, 1917
Johnson City Comet, here by 1919 until at least 1920
Pierce & Pierce High Class Shoe Repair Shop, by 1921 to at least 1938

(See figures 64C, 93, 94, and 95)

4.4.1. Southern Express Company Office, 1902 to at least 1912 (See Figure 64C)

January 1891. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street was occupied was a vacant lot. See Map 1D.

May 1897. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street was a vacant lot. See Map 2D.

20 November 1902. Johnson City Comet.

“Curtis Bros. are erecting a brick office building near the W.O. Phillips block on public square. It will be occupied by the Southern Express Company when completed.”

April 1903. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street was occupied by the “Southern Express Co.” See Map 3D.

24 November 1904. Johnson City Comet.

“Will Build Addition. The Southern Express Company has determined to enlarge its quarters in the city. Plans have been made to put a building in the rear 29 feet wide and extending toward Public Square 30 feet. It will have a pressed brick front and the entrance will be on the east, facing the square. The contract will be let for the construction at an early day. The building can not be finished before it is needed, because the increasing business has rendered the present building inadequate from any viewpoint.” Compare maps 3D and 4D.

4 May 1905. Johnson City Comet.

“The Southern Express Company is putting on city airs and handling the Johnson City business by a wagon.”

23 May 1907. Johnson City Comet.

“A granolithic sidewalk is to be laid on the north side of Buffalo street from the [Southern] express office to the depot.”

December 1908. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street was occupied by the “Southern Express Co.” See Map 4D.

25 February 1909. Johnson City Comet.

“The Southern Express Company is having an addition built to their office. The business has become so large that more room is needed, so the ‘L’ space on the right is being walled in for another room. S.H. Pouder has the contract.”

15 August 1912. Johnson City Comet.

“A New Express Wagon. The Southern Express company has put into service another delivery and collecting wagon. No packages will be delivered to residences unless so addressed.”

4.4.2. Unidentified Store, 1913

July 1913. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street was occupied by an “S” (an abbreviation for store). The author did not find any information on this store. See Map 5D.

Note: The author has not found any information on any occupants of this building between 1913 and 1919.



Figure 142. Johnson City Comet, 2 August 1917.
This advertisement ran until at least 15 November 1917.

4.4.3. Johnson City Comet Printing?, here by 1919 to at least 1920

Note: The last issue of the Johnson City Comet, available online through the Library of Congress, was published on 5 October 1918. However, by 1919, it appears that the Johnson City Comet had occupied the building at 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street and was still in the printing business at least, see Figure 95. At a minimum, the Comet had put a sign on this building.

February 1920. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map for this area indicates that 106 East Fountain Square/106 Buffalo Street was occupied by “printing”. This appears to indicate that the

Johnson City Comet maintained some sort of business at this location until at least 1920.¹⁰⁴ See Map 6D and Figure 95.

4.4.4. Pierce & Pierce High Class Shoe Repair Shop, by 1921 to at least 1938



Figure 143. Old Hickory, 1921.¹⁰⁵

Note: 106 Buffalo Street appears to be part of the same building as 106 East Fountain Square.

1921 – 1935. “Bob Cox’s Yesteryear”.

“Norma Myers, resident history sleuth and director of ETSU’s Archives of Appalachia” stated: ‘The first time that anything shows up in the city directory about ‘Pierce’... is 1921. In that directory, it shows ‘Pierce & Pierce, first class shoemakers and repairers, 106 Buffalo.’ The owners are listed as William C. Pierce and Rex D. Pierce. The company was still on Buffalo in 1931...’ In 1928 and 1932... Pierce & Pierce still doing business at 106 Buffalo. In 1935, the shoe firm was still in business with Rex listed as the sole owner of the establishment.”¹⁰⁶

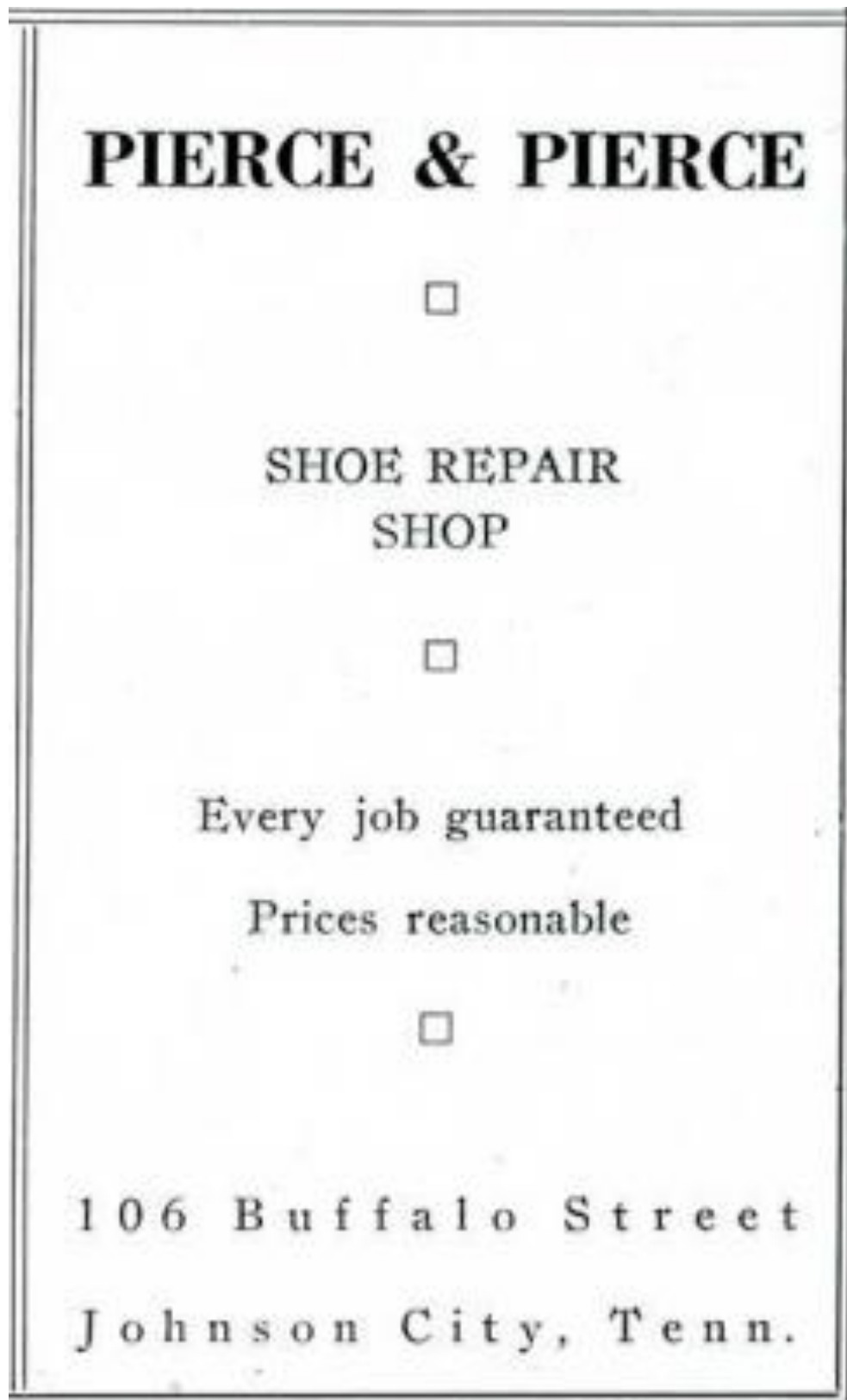


Figure 144. Old Hickory, 1922.¹⁰⁷
This and similar advertisements ran until at least 1938.

It appears that this building had been removed by 1941.

Appendix A.
Map Legends and Abbreviations


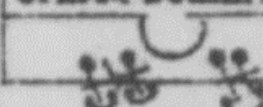


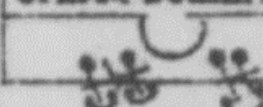


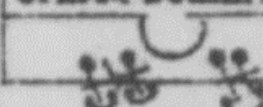

KEY																	
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>NO. OF STORIES</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHINGLE ROOF</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>COMPOSITE ROOF</td> <td>•</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SLATE OR TILE ROOF</td> <td>○</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">STEAM BOILER</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">  </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">  </td> </tr> </table>	NO. OF STORIES	3	SHINGLE ROOF	X	COMPOSITE ROOF	•	SLATE OR TILE ROOF	○			STEAM BOILER						FIRE WALL 6 IN. AB. ROOF " " 12 " " " " " 18 " " " FRAME PARTITION OPENING & IRON DOOR WINDOWS " " SHUTTERS STABLE WINDOW IN 1 ST STORY " 1 ST & 3 RD " " 2 ND & 4 TH "
NO. OF STORIES	3																
SHINGLE ROOF	X																
COMPOSITE ROOF	•																
SLATE OR TILE ROOF	○																
																	
STEAM BOILER																	
																	
																	
COUNTING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT WHILE LOOKING TOWARDS BUILDING BUT REPRESENTS OPENING	B'LD'GS COLORED YELLOW ARE FRAME " " RED " BRICK " " BLUE " STONE " " GREY " IRON " " BROWN " ADOBE " " GREEN " SPECIALS " MARKED (Cl) ARE CLOTH LINED (5) (19) INDICATE RELATIVE HEIGHTS ALTERNATE STREET NO'S ARE ACTUAL CONSECUTIVE " " " ARBITRARY BROKEN LINE NEAR B'LD'G - WOOD CORNICE SOLID " " " METAL "																

Figure 145. Map Legend for January 1891.¹⁰⁸



Figure 146. Map Legend for May 1897.¹⁰⁹

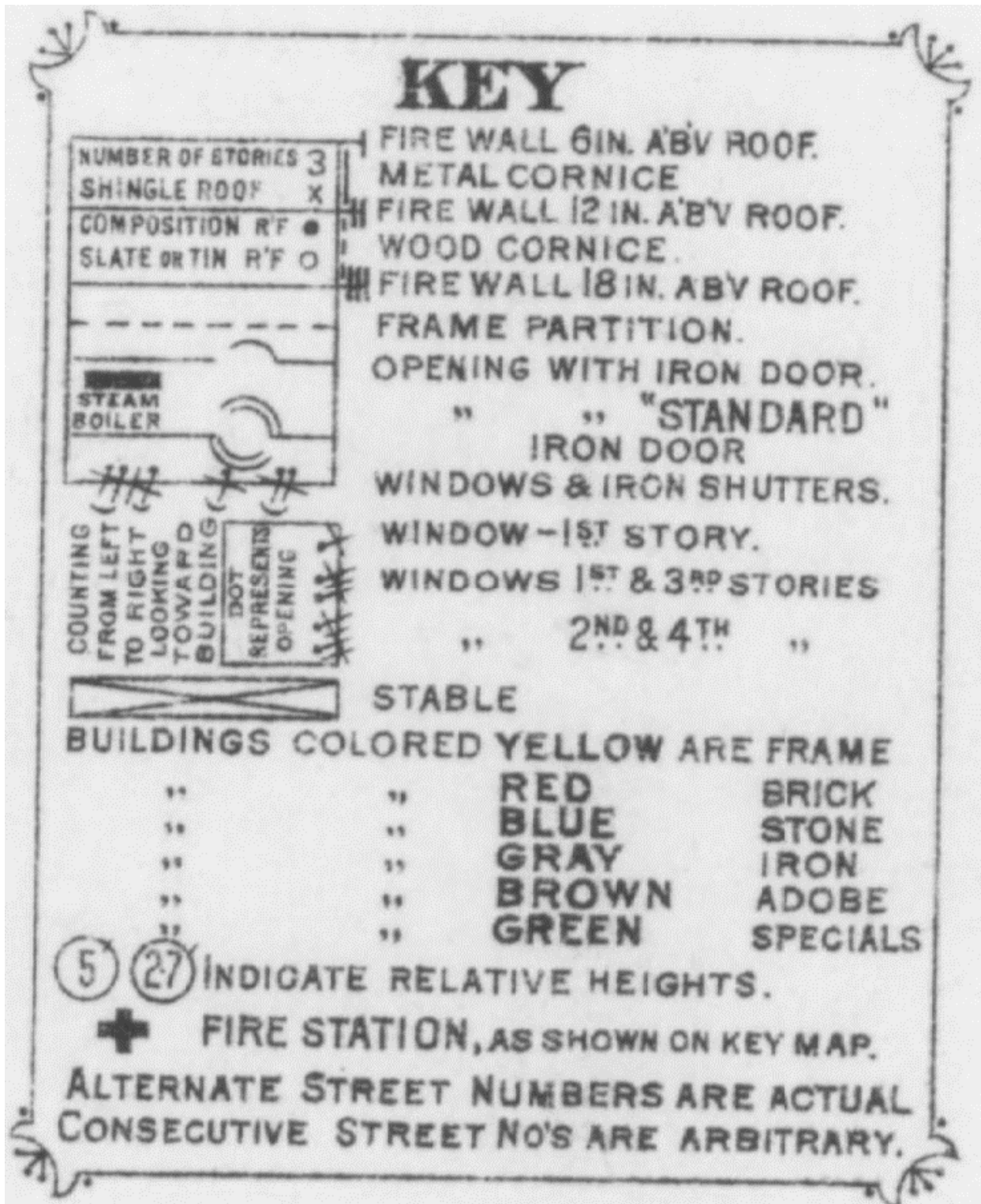


Figure 147. Map Legend for April 1903.¹¹⁰

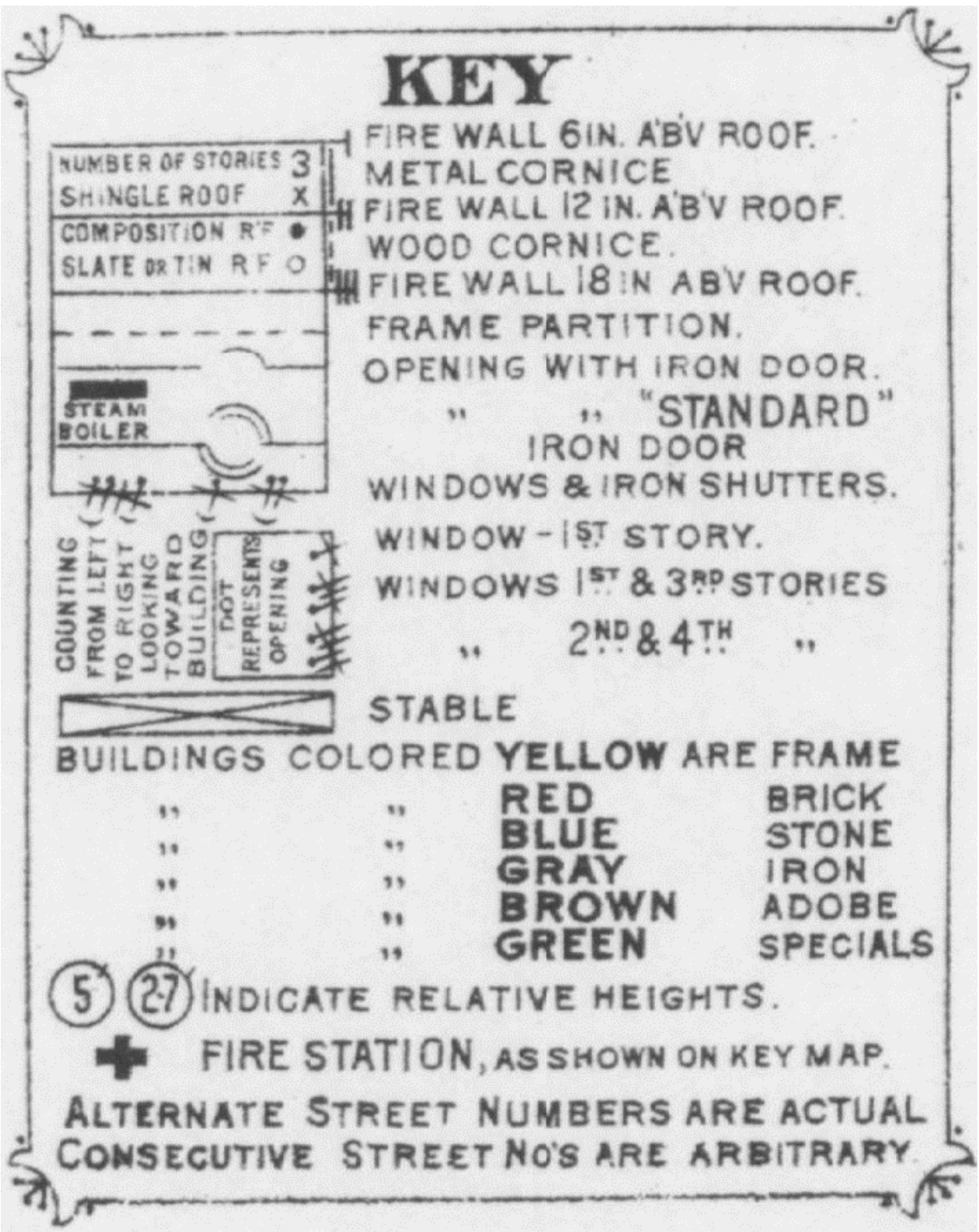


Figure 148. Map Legend for December 1908.¹¹¹



Figure 149. Map Legend for July 1913.¹¹²

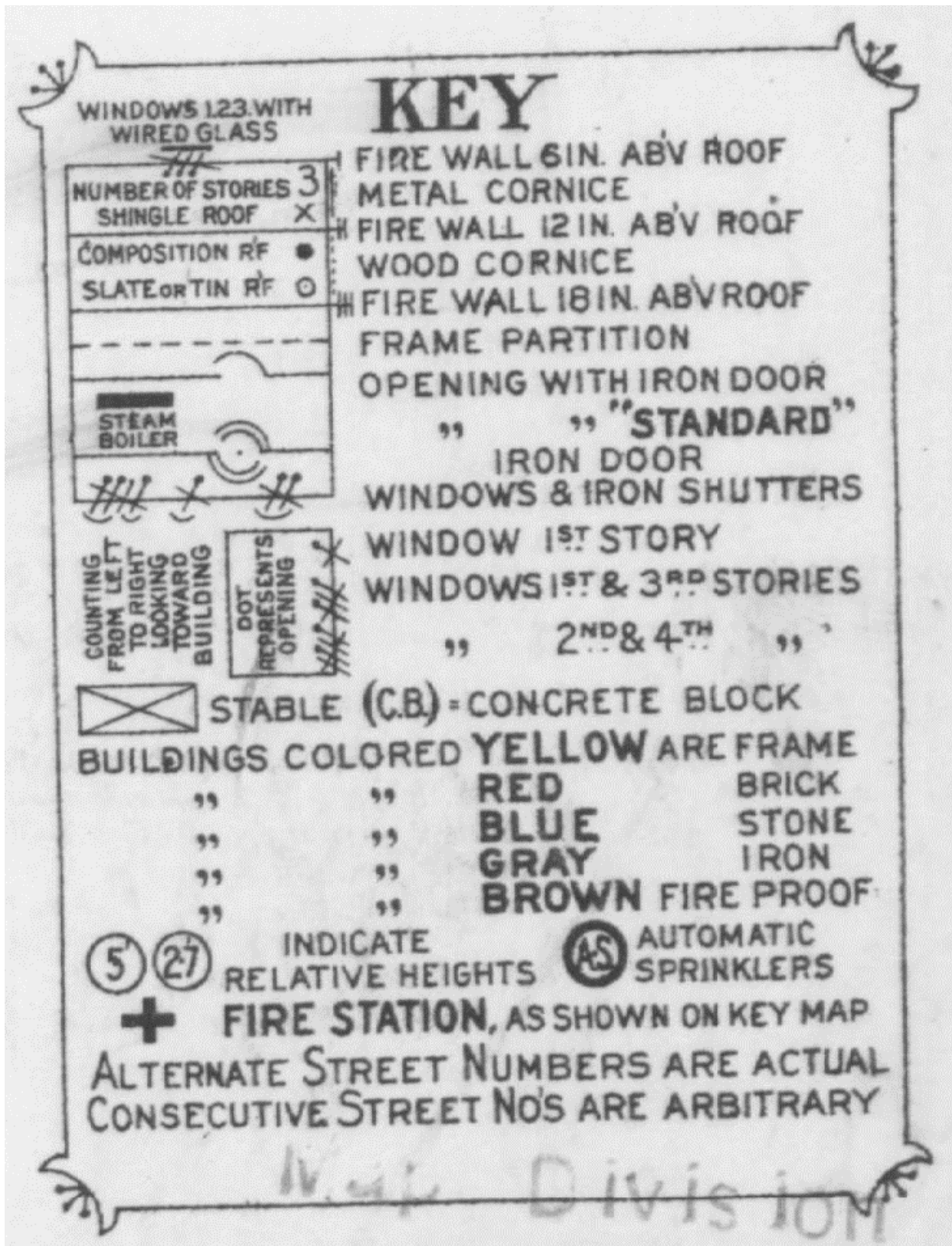


Figure 150. Map Legend for February 1920.¹¹³

Table 3. "Sanborn Map Abbreviations"¹¹⁴

Abbrev.	Meaning	Abbrev.	Meaning
A	Automobile (usually designates the location of a garage)	Co	Company
A in B	Automobile located in basement	Comp	Composition construction (i.e. stucco) or compressor
A S	Automatic sprinkler	Conc	Concrete
Abv	Above	Conf'y	Confectionary (candy store)
ACS	Automatic chemical sprinkler	Confec'y	Confectionary (candy store)
AFA	Automatic fire alarm	Constr'n	Construction
Agr	Agricultural	Corp'n	Corporation
Appts	Apparatus		
Apts	Apartments	D	Dwelling
Asb Cl	Asbestos clad	DH	Double (fire) hydrant
Att'd	Attended	DG	Dry goods
Aud'it'm	Auditorium	Drs	Doctor's office
Auto Ho	Automobile house, or garage	Dwg	Dwelling
B	Basement, boiler or occasionally brick	E	Open elevator
B & S	Boots and shoes	E Fl	Each Floor
BPOE	Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks	El	Electric
B Sm	Blacksmith	Elec	Electrician
B'ld'g	Building	Eng	Engine
B'lr	Boiler	Ent	Entertainment
B's't	Basement	Episc'l	Episcopal
Bak'y	Bakery	ESC	Elevator with self-closing traps
Balc	Balcony	ET	Elevator with traps
Bap	Baptist	Exch	Telephone exchange
Bbl	Barrel	Expr	Express (as used to designate a delivery service)
Bbls	Barrels		
BE	Brick enclosed elevator	F	Flat (as used to designate a delivery service)
Bill'ds	Billiards	FA	Fire alarm
Bl Sm	Blacksmith	FE	Fire escape
Blk Sm	Blacksmith	FP	Fire pump
Bst	Basement	Fill'g Sta	Filling station, or gas station
		Fl	Floor
C B	Cement brick or concrete block construction	Fr Attic	Frame constructed attic
C Br	Concrete brick or cement block construction	Frat	Fraternity
Cap'cy	Capacity	Fur	Furnishings
Carptr	Carpenter	Furn'g	Furnishings
CBET	Concrete enclosed elevator with traps	Furne	Furniture
Chem	Chemical		
Chinaw	Chinaware or porcelain	GAR	Grand Army of the Republic
Chine	Chinese	GT	Gasoline tank
Cl	Clad	Gal	Gallery
Clo	Clothing	Gall	Gallery
		Gall'y	Gallery
		Gen'l	General (as used to designate a general store)

Table 3. "Sanborn Map Abbreviations" (Continued)

Abbrev.	Meaning	Abbrev.	Meaning
Gents	Gentlemen's	Paint'g	Painting
Greas'g	Greasing	Pat Med	Patent medicines
Gro	Grocery or groceries	Plumb'g	Plumbing
		Print'g	Printing
HPFS	High pressure fire service		
H'dw	Hardware	QH	Quadruple (fire) hydrant
Hack	Hackney or delivery service		
Hardw	Hardware	RC	Roman Catholic
Ho	Hotel or house (as used to designate a warehouse)	R'f	Roof
Htr	Heater	R'm	Room
Hyd	Hydrant	Rep	Repair
		Rep'g	Repairing
ICRR	Illinois Central Railroad	Repos'ry	Repository
Imp	Implements	Restr't	Restaurant
Ins	Insurance	Rf	Roof
Insts	Instruments	Rm	Room
Ir Cl	Iron clad		
		S	Store
K of C	Knights of Columbus	SA	Spark arrestor
		S Vac	Store portion of building is vacant
Lab	Laboratory	Sal	Saloon
Lodg'g	Lodging	Sky'ts	Skylights
Luth	Lutheran	Sm	Smith, as in gunsmith or blacksmith
Luth'n	Lutheran	Sm Ho	Smokehouse
		Sp'k'l'rs	Sprinklers
ME	Methodist Episcopal	St'ge	Storage
Mach'y	Machinery	St'y	Story
Mak'r	Maker	Sta	Station
Manf'y	Manufactory or factory	Stat'y	Stationery
Mdse	Merchandise		
Mfy	Manufactory or factory	TH	Triple (fire) hydrant
Mill'y	Millinery	Tel	Telephone
Mkg	Making	Tenem'ts	Tenements
Mo	Motor	TESC	Tile enclosed elevator with self-closing traps
		Tinw	Tinware
NS	Not sprinklered	Trimm'g	Trimming
OU	Open under	U	Upright
Off	Office	Up	Upright
PO	Post office		

Table 3. "Sanborn Map Abbreviations" (Continued)

Abbrev.	Meaning	Abbrev.	Meaning
Vac	Vacant	W Ho	Warehouse
Ven'd	Veneered	WPA	Works Progress Administration
Ven'r'd	Veneered	W'ks	Works
VP	Vertical pipe	Whol	Wholesale
		Wkg	Working
W	Ware, as in warehouse or wareroom	Woodwkg	Woodworking
WC	Water closet or toilet		
WG	Wire glass skylights		

Consolidated Sanborn Map Legend¹¹⁵

TILE 1st ----- BRICK 1st ----- PYROBAR 1st -----	Fire proof construction (OR FIRE RESISTIVE CONST'N)
ADOBE	Adobe building
HEIGHT OF BUILD- ING IN FEET FROM GROUND TO ROOF LINE 57	Stone building
(C.BR.)	Concrete, lime cinder or cement brick
(C.B.)	Hollow concrete or cement block const'n
(CONC.)	Concrete or reinforced concrete const'n
(TILE)	Tile building
NUMBER OF STORIES 4	Brick building with frame cornice
TWO STORIES 2B AND BSMT COM- POSITION ROOF ●	Brick building with stone front
----- SHINGLE ROOF X	Brick building with frame side (DIVIDED BY FRAME PARTITION)
(VEND)	Brick veneered building
BRICK 1ST	Brick and frame building
FRAME, BRICK LINED	Frame building, brick lined
F = FLAT S = STORE	Frame building, metal clad
D = DWELLING	Frame building
A in B =AUTO. IN BSMT	Iron building
LOFT	Tenant building occupied by various manufac- turing or occupancies
(ASB.CL.)	Frame building covered with asbestos

NON COMBUSTIBLE ROOF COVERING OF METAL, SLATE, TILE OR ASBESTOS SHINGLES ○	Brick building with brick or metal cornice
SKYLIGHT LIGHTING TOP STORY ONLY	Fire wall 6 inches above roof
3. SKYLIGHT LIGHTING THREE STORIES	Fire wall 12 inches above roof
W.G. WIRED GLASS SKYLIGHT	Fire wall 18 inches above roof
	Fire wall 36 inches above roof

FIRE WALL 48 INCHES ABV. RF. 48

	Figures 8,12,16 indicate thickness of wall in inches
	Wall without opening and size in inches
	Wall with openings on floors as designated
	Opening with single iron or tin clad door
	Opening with double iron or tin clad doors
	Opening with standard fire doors
	Openings with wired glass doors
	Drive or passage way
	Stable
	Auto. (House or private garage)
	Solid brick with interior walls of C.B. or C.B. and brick mixed

C.B. & BR. CONST'N
∞

Mixed construction of C.B. and brick with one wall of solid brick.

C.B. & BR. CONST'N
(BR. FACED)

Mixed construction of C.B. and brick with one wall faced with 4" brick.

C.B. & BR. CONST'N

Mixed construction of C.B. and brick throughout.

6" W.PIPE

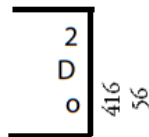


Water pipes and size in inches.

6" W.PIPE (PRIVATE)



Water pipes of private supply



House numbers shown nearest to buildings are official or actually up on buildings.

Old house numbers shown furthest from buildings.

FP-1962
(conc.)
A-1-a

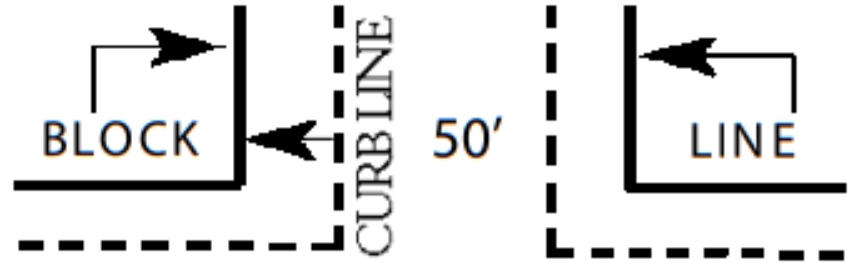
A fire-resistive building built in 1962 with concrete walls and reinforced concrete frame, floors and roof.

FPX-1962
(METAL PANELS)
E-2-b
NONCOMB CEIL'S

A fire-resistive building built in 1962 with metal panel walls, indirectly protected steel frame, concrete floors and roof on metal lath, noncombustible ceilings.

NC-1962
(C.B.)
H-2-d

A noncombustible building built in 1962 with concrete block walls; unprotected steel columns and beams; concrete floors on metal lath and steel deck roof.



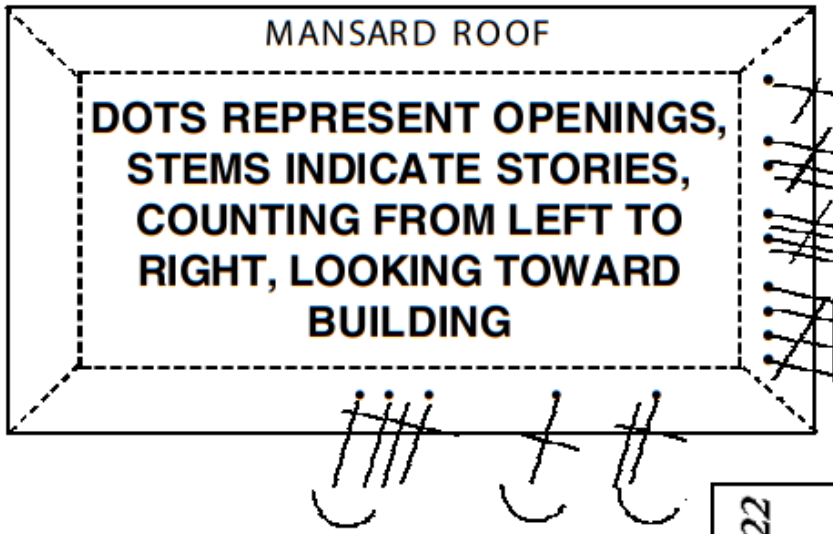
Width of street
(BETWEEN BLOCK LINES, NOT CURB LINES.)

24 Reference to adjoining page.

+ Fire engine house, as shown on key map.

● Fire pump.


(36) Under page number refers to corresponding page of previous edition.



- Window opening in first story.
- Window openings in second and third stories.
- Window openings in second, fourth stories.
- Windows with wired glass.
- Windows with iron or tin clad shutters.
- Window openings tenth to twenty-second stories

- E Open elevator.
- FE Frame enclosed elevator.
- ET Frame enclosed elevator with traps.
- ESC Frame enclosed elevator with self closing traps.
- CBET Concrete block enclosed elevator with traps.
- TESC Tile enclosed elevator with self closing traps.
- BE Brick enclosed elevator with wired glass door.


5 Block number.


 V.P. Vertical pipe or stand pipe.


AFA Automatic fire alarm.


IEP Independent electric plant.


 Automatic sprinklers.

 Automtc. chemical sprinklers.


 Automatic sprinklers in part of building only.
1ST ONLY (NOTE UNDER SYMBOL INDICATES PROTECTED PORTION OF BUILDING)

 Not sprinklered.


 Outside vertical pipe on fire escape.


 Fire alarm box.


 Single hydrant.

D.H.  Double hydrant.


T.H.  Triple hydrant.

Q.H.  Quadruple hydrant of the "High Pressure Fire Service."
H.P.F.S.


 Fire alarm box of the "High Pressure Fire Service"
H.P.F.S.

 Water pipes of the "High Pressure Fire Service"
20"W.Pipe (H.P.F.S.)


 Water pipes and hydrants of the "High Pressure Fire Service" as shown on key map.


IR. CH.  Iron chimney

 Iron chimney (WITH SPARK ARRESTOR)

IR. CH.S.A.  Brck. chmny.


 Ground elevation

U.P.B.  Vertical steam boiler

G.T.  Gasoline tank

(O.U.)  Open under

 Siamese fire dept. connection

 Single fire dept. connection.

FRAMING

<u>CODE</u>	<u>STRUCTURAL UNIT</u>
A.	Reinforced Concrete Frame.
B.	Reinforced Concrete Joists, Columns, Beams, Trusses, Arches, Masonry Piers.
C.	Protected Steel Frame
D.	Individually Protected Steel Joists, Columns, Beams, Trusses, Arches.
E.	Indirectly Protected Steel Frame.
F.	Indirectly Protected Steel Joists, Columns, Beams, Trusses, Arches.
G.	Unprotected Steel Frame.
H.	Unprotected Steel Joists, Columns, Beams, Trusses, Arches.
O.	Masonry Bearing Walls.

The coding for framing, floor and roof structural units as shown above is used in describing the construction of fire-resistive buildings. In addition, reports for fire-resistive buildings will show the date built and wall construction when other than brick.

FP buildings have masonry floors and roof; concrete and/or directly or indirectly protected steel framing; and clay brick, stone or poured concrete walls.

FPX buildings are FP buildings with inferior walls such as concrete block, cement brick, metal or glass panels, etc.

NC buildings have unprotected steel framing and fire-resistive but non-masonry floors and roof.

FLOORS

CODE STRUCTURAL UNIT

1. Reinforced Concrete.
Reinforced Concrete with Masonry Units.
Pre-cast Concrete or Gypsum Slabs or Planks.
2. Concrete on Metal Lath,
Incombustible Form Boards,
Paper-backed Wire Fabric, Steel Deck,
and Cellular, Ribbed or Corrugated
Steel Units.
3. Open Steel Deck or Grating.

LAND USE CODE APPLICABLE TO CHANGES DIAGRAMMED AFTER 5/69

<i>R</i>	RESIDENTIAL	<i>M</i>	MANUFACTURING
<i>RT</i>	RESIDENTIAL- TRANSIENT	<i>P</i>	PUBLIC OR INSTI- TUTIONAL
<i>C</i>	COMMERCIAL	<i>U</i>	UTILITY
<i>W</i>	WAREHOUSE	<i>T</i>	TRANSPORTATION


NUMERICAL PREFIX INDICATES THE NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS IN EACH CATEGORY

ROOF

<u>CODE</u>	<u>STRUCTURAL UNIT</u>
-------------	------------------------

- | | |
|----|---|
| a. | Reinforced Concrete.
Reinforced Concrete with Masonry Units.
Reinforced Gypsum Concrete. Pre-cast
Concrete or Gypsum Slabs or Planks. |
| b. | Concrete or Gypsum on Metal Lath,
Incombustible Form Boards, Paper-backed
Wire Fabric, Steel Deck, and Cellular,
Ribbed or Corrugated Steel Units. |
| c. | Incombustible Composition Boards with or
without Insulation.
Masonry or Metal Tiles. |
| d. | Steel Deck, Corrugated Metal or Asbestos
Protected Metal with or without Insulation. |

Appendix B.
Additional Advertisements by "M. Dyer & Co.", 1900 – 1901



IN OLDEN TIMES
only the rich could drink
WINES AND LIQUORS
of good quality. The poor had to be
content with stuff as poor as themselves.
Now any one can enjoy the best. Our
cellars contain a stock of
Imported and Domestic
Wines, Brandies,
Whiskies, Liquors,
Cordials, ets ,
which are the finest made, yet any of
them are to be had at a very reasonable
price.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 151. Johnson City Comet, 28 June 1900.



A TEN STRIKE
is made by the man who "strikes"

Our Wines and Liquors.

All the well-known brands are carried in stock and sold at the lowest prices.

There are some choice goods, too, found under names which are not familiar. Haven't won a national reputation yet but have won the approval of everyone who tried them.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 152. Johnson City Comet, 12 July 1900.

A GUARANTEE
 that those who drink our
WINES and LIQUORS
 will improve in health and strength,
 might be put up in every bottle.
 These goods are so rich, pure and
 mellow that they take the place of food
 and medicine in many cases. They
 build up the system and increase vitali-
 ty. And as table beverages the lighter
 kinds are unexcelled.
 Our quality is better than that usually
 sold at these prices.
M. DYER & CO.,
 Piedmont Bar.

Figure 153. Johnson City Comet, 26 July 1900.



Requirements of the sick.

or the demands of the strong can be easily and satisfactorily filled from our stock of

WINES and LIQUORS.

Our list contains a very pleasing collection of well known and highly appreciated brands. These are sold at prices which should not permit goods of inferior quality to enter the home.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 154. Johnson City Comet, 6 September 1900.



THE HEADS OF FAMILIES
should sample our goods and study our
prices. The figures given are for

**WINES
and LIQUORS,**

which will prove much superior to any
bought elsewhere at equal prices. The
more these goods are used the more
favorable points will be discovered.
Their excellencies make them prime
favorites with those of taste and judg-
ment.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 155. Johnson City Comet, 25 October 1900.



WET YOUR WHISTLE

with something from our stock. We carry a particularly fine line of

Wines and Liquors

and suit the requirements of those with a cultivated taste and fat pocketbook or satisfy those with less cash who merely like something real good at moderate prices.

From this list can be selected a very pleasing assortment.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 156. Johnson City Comet, 29 November 1900.

NEW YEAR



WINES

THE GLASS OF TIME

reveals little as pleasing as a glass of wine—our wine. Whatever the brand selected if it is from our stock, it's good. Here are the rich, full bodied

—o WINES o—

of Spain, the sparkling wines of France and the light wines of Germany. Simply a matter of taste which is best. All are good.

Celebrate the New Year with some of these.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 157. Johnson City Comet, 27 December 1900.



[8564]

WHISKEY COCKTAILS.

Ever try our famous brand? Has met with approval of all who tasted and tested it. Made by experts from old—
Whiskey and the best flavorings.

Has the right amount of each. Price
—per pint bottle.

WINES

Of special merit fill our cellars. All are particularly well adapted to family use.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 158. Johnson City Comet, 17 January 1901.



PHYSICIANS RECOMMEND

a stimulant for those run down by
overwork and worry. We have some
brands of

WINES and LIQUORS

which by reason of purity and great
age, are especially adopted to this pur-
pose. Cheers, comforts, refresh and
strengthen. Tone and invigorate the
entire system.

Our price list of high priced Wines
and Liquors mailed on application.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 159. Johnson City Comet, 31 January 1901.



EVIDENCE OF AGE

is not lacking in our

WINES and LIQUORS

Does not take an expert to detect its mellowing influence.

The goods we carry were pure when made and are now fully matured. They are of rich, full body and fine flavor. Qualith disappoints nene. Price pleases all.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 160. Johnson City Comet, 14 February 1901.



NO FAIRY STORIES

but simple, though very interesting facts are presented for the benefit of purchasers of

WINES and LIQUORS

Our stock consists of goods which were of excellent quality when made and have aged in our own cellars. They are of fine, full body and rich, mellow flavor. Unexcelled for family and medical use.]

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 161. Johnson City Comet, 28 February 1901.



THE BIGGEST STOCK

means the best variety, the widest range of qualities and consequently the best buying for purchasers.

The largest stock of

WINES and LIQUORS

in the city is within the walls of our store. We carry all the well-known and many other desirable brands of Whiskies.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 162. Johnson City Comet, 7 March 1901.



YOU'RE INVITED To try the several brands of
American and German Wines

which we carry, and pass upon their quality. If not already a customer of ours a single trial order will make you one. The high quality of these goods and the fine flavor will influence those of taste and judgment,

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 163. Johnson City Comet, 23 May 1901.



Have something
in the house for quick relief in cases of
sudden illness. Our

Blackberry Cordial

is one of the best remedies for many
spring and summer ailments. It is a
cure, a tonic and a refreshing beverage.
Everything that is good for health and
hospitality is found in our large stock of

WINES

and **LIQUORS.**

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 164. Johnson City Comet, 30 May 1901.



AFTER DINNER

take a glass of our celebrated Claret. It will aid digestion. Excellent for those in poor health. Has strength giving qualities without the heaviness of stronger

Wines.

The weak need it. The strong like it.

Our Wine List

is a revelation to many people. It includes the names of several brands which have always been considered high priced. Our figures are lower than those of other dealers.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 165. Johnson City Comet, 6 June 1901.

LIQUORS

A MATTER OF TASTE
 in wines will often warp the judgment
 as to quality.

The favorite beverage can be selected
 from our stock without giving
 a thought to quality.

That will be found of the best in every
 case. Our

Wines.

are rich, fine flavored and mellow. Best
 for health and hospitality.

OUR WHISKEY is known as a smooth
 article.

M. DYER & CO.,
 Piedmont Bar.

Figure 166. Johnson City Comet, 13 June 1901.



FROM only when a good age
BARREL TO has been attained, and
BOTTLE to purchasers when that
age has been increased by a more or
less lengthy period of time spent in our
stock. We have no hesitation in reco-
mending any of these brands of

Whiskies

to particular customers. Good when
made. Better now. Mellow
and fine flavored.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 167. Johnson City Comet, 4 July 1901.



THE EXPERIENCED BUYER

of wines and liquors considers these points of the first importance—Old age and Purity. The goods that possess these qualifications are certain to have many others equally desirable.

Our Wines and Liquors

have the approval of all classes. They please, whether taken for health or pleasure.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 168. Johnson City Comet, 11 July 1901.



THE GOODS ORDERED

from our store are delivered promptly and never fail to come up to your expectations in the matter of quality.

Our Wines and Liquors

are good when made and being allowed ample time to mature they have become mellow and acquired a delightful flavor.

This list of brands and prices speak loudly of values.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar,

Figure 169. Johnson City Comet, 18 July 1901.



RELIABLE GOODS

fill every shelf in the store. We have many grades of

Wines and Liquors

in stock. Some are very low priced but possess qualities not usually found in goods sold at equal figures.

None are high priced because we believe in selling as low as consistent with fair dealing.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 170. Johnson City Comet, 1 August 1901.



BOTTLE, JUG, OR BARREL.

We supply Wines and Liquors in any way desired by purchaser—from pint bottles or flasks, gallon or five gallon demijohns, or your favorite beverage can be drawn.

OUR STOCK OF

Wines and Liquors

Consists of goods of sterling merit. They always delight and never disappoint. Low price does not mean low quality.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 171. Johnson City Comet, 15 August 1901.

WHAT WILL YOU TAKE?
 Is your beverage to be good, bad or indifferent?
 Depends upon where you send your order. If we get it the

Wines and Liquors

sent to fill it will be of very high grade and in every way worthy of your table, your guests and yourself and the cost will be rather less than you usually pay.

M. DYER & CO.,
 Piedmont Bar.

Figure 172. Johnson City Comet, 22 August 1901.



TABLE BEVERAGES.

Selections from our choice as-
sortment of

Wines 

Will enable anyone to drink the best of the home and foreign vintages without being guilty of extravagance. We offer a fine line of imported and domestic wines at very moderate prices. They are of full, rich body, fine flavor and fully aged.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 173. Johnson City Comet, 29 August 1901.



A SAMPLE ORDER

sent us will be filled from our regular
stock of

Wines 
and **LIQUORS**

The goods will meet with approval and
secure future orders which will be
filled with goods of merit. Our
Wines and Liquors are pure
rich and mellow by age.
None so good can be
bought at these
prices.

M. DYER & CO.,
Piedmont Bar.

Figure 174. Johnson City Comet, 5 September 1901.



A REAL TREAT =

for the connoisseur is found in our brand of Anderson County 10-year-old Rye. Has the ripeness and fullness of flavor which age alone gives. Is delightfully mellow. Good when made and better for its ten year seclusion.

Price \$6 per gallon.

This is only one of the good things to be found in our stock of wines and liquors. We carry an excellent line.

Johnson City Club \$1 Quart.

M. DYER & CO.,

Piedmont Bar.

Figure 175. Johnson City Comet, 12 September 1901.

Endnotes

¹ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” January 1891, image 2, U.S. Library of Congress, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261891. For map legend and abbreviations, see Appendix A. For map scale, please refer to the link above.

² “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” May 1897, image 2, U.S. Library of Congress, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261897. For map legend and abbreviations, see Appendix A. For map scale, please refer to the link above.

³ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” April 1903, image 3, U.S. Library of Congress, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261903. For map legend and abbreviations, see Appendix A. For map scale, please refer to the link above.

⁴ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” December 1908, image 5, U.S. Library of Congress, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261908. For map legend and abbreviations, see Appendix A. For map scale, please refer to the link above.

⁵ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” July 1913, image 5, U.S. Library of Congress, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261913. For map legend and abbreviations, see Appendix A. For map scale, please refer to the link above.

⁶ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” February 1920, image 19, U.S. Library of Congress, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261920. For map legend and abbreviations, see Appendix A. For map scale, please refer to the link above.

⁷ *The Buccaneer*, 1960, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, page 221, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/43>. Also at “1958 Aerial Photo – Downtown”, available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/maps/jcaerial2a.pdf>, labeled “Kinch Photo Service”.

⁸ “Downtown Johnson City (Aerial View),” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/19003>.

⁹ “An Aerial View of Johnson City, Tennessee,” 19 April 1941, Tennessee Virtual Archive, RG 82: Tennessee Department of Conservation Photograph Collection, 1937 – 1976, ID# 15551, available online at: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll28/id/5429/rec/2>.

¹⁰ “An Aerial View of Johnson City, Tennessee,” 1 March 1947, Tennessee Virtual Archive, RG 82: Tennessee Department of Conservation Photograph Collection, 1937 – 1976, ID# 15598, available online at: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll28/id/1039/rec/14>.

¹¹ “An Aerial View of Johnson City, Tennessee,” 1 March 1947, RG 82: Tennessee Department of Conservation Photograph Collection, 1937 – 1976, Box 15, File 135, ID# 15598, available online at: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll28/id/1039/rec/13>.

¹² “Downtown Johnson City – 2006”, “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/photos/photos7/downtown06.jpg>.

¹³ “Aerial Photo – 1960”, “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/photos/photos5/aerial1.jpg>.

¹⁴ “Tractor Trailer Front View Johnson City,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at:

<https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/16627>. The information on the tractor is from: “If You can’t Beat ’em, Join Them – The Story of the ET&WNC Motor Transportation Company,” by Johnny Graybeal, in *Every Time with No Complaint*, 2018 – 2019 (Volume 11, No. 12). Note, if the number on the tractor is not 125, it certainly appears to be in the 120s (with 123 appearing to be the second-best guess). All of the tractors numbered in the 120s were bought in 1934, with all of them retired by 1939.

¹⁵ “Tractor Trailer Front View Johnson City, Free Service Tire Store in Background,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/16628>.

¹⁶ “East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Station,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/19116>. Similar at: “Early Johnson City Depot,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/16608>. Also at: “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/photos/photos1/etwnc1.jpg>, which captioned this photograph: “ET&WNC – Southern Railway Depot 1891”.

¹⁷ “This photo was posted to alt.binaries.pictures.rail by Bud Laws”, available online at: <http://southern.railfan.net/images/archive/southern/steam/2102/sou5249.html>.

¹⁸ “Non-ET&WNC Bus at Johnson City Terminal, Knoxville Bound Bus, Side Reads: New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Jacksonville, New Orleans, Mexico, Tennessee Coach Co. #65,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/16626>.

¹⁹ “Johnson City, Undated,” James T. Dowdy, Sr. Photographs, 1890 – 1950, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/21152>.

²⁰ “Railroad depot,” 1914, Looking Back at Tennessee Photograph Collection, 1890 – 1981, ID# 7052, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Tennessee Virtual Archive, available online at: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll50/id/4030>, which included: “1914 – E.T. & W.N.C.R. Station, Johnson City, Tenn.” This photograph is also at: “Johnson City Depot,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/16606>, and “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/photos/photos3/etwnc.jpg>, without annotation.

²¹ “Engine #12,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/17327>.

²² *Along the ET&WNC. Volume II: The Ten Wheelers*, by Johnny Graybeal, 2001, page 84.

²³ *Old Hickory*, 1923, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/5>.

²⁴ “Present Buffalo Street – 1920s”, Little Chicago – Johnson City, TN during Prohibition,” available online at: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1560500194208766&set=a.1407806792811441>. Also at “Johnson City – Street Scene,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/12231>. A photograph that includes a sign for “Worley’s Shoe Repair Shop...”, was posted 6 September 2014, available online at: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=573816126063418&set=a.573816136063417>. *Old Hickory*, 1928, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/9>, included: “Worley’s Shoe Shop... Phone 1220 – 207 Buffalo St.”

²⁵ “View of Tracks From ET&WNC Depot Platform,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/12229>.

²⁶ “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at:

<http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/photos/photos6/freeservice1.jpg>. Also at The Buccaneer, 1966, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/53>, this image has a slightly wider field of view than the one at “Johnson’s Depot”, but the signs were less legible.

²⁷ This detail was taken from image in The Buccaneer, 1966, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/53>, since it included the building on the right of this image, with its slightly wider field of view.

²⁸ “Roller (side view), digger in background at Johnson City, making street repairs after 3rd rail removed,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/17448>.

²⁹ Image from: “Free Service Tire Co.: Secrets to 99 Years of Success,” by Bob Ulrich, 16 October 2019, available online at:

<https://www.moderntiredealer.com/industry-news/service/article/11529539/free-service-tire-co-secrets-to-99-years-of-success-2019-10-16>. Caption from Johnson City, by Sonya A. Haskins, 2005, page 95, which included: “The building that housed the Free Service Tire Company in this early 1920s photo began as a railroad depot”. However, this statement is not completely accurate. This building was constructed as a real estate office, while the second and third floor offices were occupied by the C.C.& C. Railroad for a few years. The author did not find any information that supports the claim that this building was ever used as a railroad depot.

³⁰ “Free Service Tire employee, c. 1920,” James Agee Film Project Photographs, 1875 – 1956, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/799>.

³¹ “Free Service Tire Company’s “Blowout” and Other 1927 Ads,” “Bob Cox’s Yesteryear”, 2 July 2012, available online at: <https://bcyesteryear.com/free-service-tire-companys-blowout-and-other-1927-ads/>.

³² The Buccaneer, 1952, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/35>.

³³ Unless otherwise noted, all newspaper articles in this documentary history were accessed from “Chronicling America, Historic American Newspapers,” U.S. Library of Congress, available online at: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>.

³⁴ On 18 April 1889, the Johnson City Comet included: “The Carnegie Land Company has been chartered. It is comprised of gentlemen interested in the Three C’s. road and they have nearly a thousand acres of land lying just below the city that they will have laid off at once and will grade streets, put in sewers... C.K. Lide & Co. have ordered wheeled scrapers, rollers and other implements for that purpose and \$25,000 will be spent in that addition at once.”

³⁵ On 4 March 1897, the Johnson City Comet included: “Nat Brewer has moved his barber shop into the old building near the Christian Church. His boss tonsorial artist, Charlie Longley can be found at the shop ready to accommodate the patrons what time he is not looking after Sunday School and church work.”

³⁶ Johnson City Comet, 28 April 1898, included: “Nat Brewer Dead. Nat. P. Brewer, a colored barber, died last night at 9 o’clock of heart failure. ‘Nat.’ was a highly respected colored man, and has conducted a first-class barber shop here for many years. When he closed the doors of his shop last evening at 8 o’clock he was apparently a well man, but on the road home he became very sick, and had to have the assistance of friends. After reaching his home he died within one hour.”

³⁷ “The American Barber Shop, located two doors south of Hotel Piedmont and in front of Southern depot, (N.P. Brewer’s old stand.) C.H. Longley, Manager, A.G. Grasty and Nat Hyder, the congenial and accommodating barbers, will be found as assistants.”

³⁸ On 29 January 1903, the Johnson City Comet included: “Nat Hyder, colored, one of Johnson City’s oldest and best known barbers, has arranged to open a new shop just as soon as the outfit arrives. All appointments will be strictly first-class.” On 19 February 1903, the Johnson City Comet included: “Central Barber Shop – Located in W.O. Phillips’ new building, three doors south of the water tank, and fronting Southern Ry. Ladies and children waited on at shop or residence. Nat Hyder, Sole Proprietor and Manager.” On 16 July 1903, the Johnson City Comet included: “Charley Longley has moved his barber shop into the room recently occupied by Mike Dyer [at 124 East Fountain Square as a saloon] and is now very comfortably located...” The author did not find any subsequent mentions of A.G. Grasty.

³⁹ On 21 April 1904, the Johnson City Comet included: “Will Move to Johnson City. It has been known for some time that the E.T. & W.N.C. people would move headquarters from Cranberry to Johnson City. Offices have been leased in the Unaka Bank building and will be occupied by the officers after May 1st.”

⁴⁰ “Johnson City Press,” 29 June 2019, available online at: https://www.johnsoncitypress.com/news/business/free-service-tire-where-the-rubber-met-the-road-for-100-years/article_d7a21577-eb27-579e-bebb-db10ca8e2846.html.

⁴¹ “Free Service Tire Co.,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/12179>.

⁴² “General Office – Free Service Tire, Johnson City, Tenn. 1924,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/12178>. Also at: “Free Service Tire Company (woman in middle is Sobu Hagy), c. 1920,” James Agee Film Project Photographs, 1875 – 1956, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/833>. Note, the writing on the Maxwell version of this photograph does not support “woman in middle is Sobu Hagy”.

⁴³ Old Hickory, 1925, page 145, available online at: Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/7>.

⁴⁴ Manufacturers Record, 21 October 1926 (Volume XC, No. 16), pages 93 and 105, available online at: <https://books.google.com/books?id=aDYg9wrFDcC>.

⁴⁵ Old Hickory, 1928, available online at: Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/9>.

⁴⁶ The Chalk Line, 1935, page 40, available online at: Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/13>.

⁴⁷ The Buccaneer, 1937, page 42, available online at: Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/20>. Image from The Buccaneer, 1938, page 54. Also in the 1939 to 1941 editions of The Buccaneer, page 71, 71, and 72, respectively.

⁴⁸ The Buccaneer, 1943, available online at: Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/26>. Similar advertisements appeared in the 1944 to 1951 editions of The Buccaneer.

⁴⁹ The Buccaneer, 1960, available online at: Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/43>.

⁵⁰ The Business Journal of Tri-Cities Tennessee/Virginia, 22 May 2018, available online at: <https://bjournal.com/monro-completes-purchase-of-free-service-tire-company/>.

⁵¹ On 18 May 1893, the Johnson City Comet included: “Tax Attorney’s Notice. – The delinquent taxes for the year 1891 having been placed in my hands for collection... District No. 9. [Washington County]... Dyer, M P”.

⁵² “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/postcards/post1/piedmont1.jpg>. The back of this card had a table of “Distance From Johnson City, Tenn., to” 47 or so different cities in miles.

⁵³ On 19 November 1903, the Johnson City Comet included: “Charges Not Sustained. In connection with the war being waged on the ‘green cloth brigade’ in Bristol, the statement has gained currency that Mike Dyer was implicated, inasmuch as the gambling room was located over Mr. Dyer’s saloon. Mike desires that his friends here should know that he is in no way connected with the affair, as he has nothing to do with renting or collecting rent for the rooms over his business, this being done by one of the leading real estate agents in Bristol. Mike says he can always be found at his place of business ready to serve his friends, and obeying the law strictly.”

⁵⁴ “E. TN Saloon Owners,” available online at: <https://tennevaguy.tripod.com/id62.html>, includes the following with respect to saloon owners in Johnson City: Robert Beasley – 1891, Templeton & Carson – 1891, J.M. Smith – 1891, W.O. Phillips – 1891, Phillips & Waters, Big Spring Saloon, C.K. Rowan – 1891, Hugh O’Boyle – 1891, J.C. & J.B. Bacon – 1891. On 1 January 1903, the Johnson City Comet included that “Geo. W. Holmes was duly adjudicated bankrupt...” On 23 April 1903, the Johnson City Comet included: “T.A. O’Donnell, Dealer in Wines, Liquors, Cigars and Tobacco. Spring Street, (Old P.O. Building)...”

⁵⁵ Image from: “Hart-Range Saddle and Harness Shop, City Hotel in Background,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/20455>. Also at: “Hart and Range Saddle and Harness Shop, Piedmont Hotel (originally ‘City Hotel’ built by Colonel Robert Love, Elijah Simerly, W.M. Taylor, and others; three story building with 40 rooms; stood on the south side of the railroad between the public square and Wilson Avenue) in background, c. 1871; local gathering place,” Burr Harrison Photographs, circa 1881 – 1958, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/200>, however, note that Clifford A. Maxwell version of this photograph is specifically labeled “1880”, not “c. 1871”, which was when the City Hotel was built. Caption from: The Railroads of Johnson City, by Johnny Graybeal, 2007, page 35.

⁵⁶ Quote from: “Hart and Range Saddle and Harness Shop, Piedmont Hotel (originally ‘City Hotel’ built by Colonel Robert Love, Elijah Simerly, W.M. Taylor, and others; three story building with 40 rooms; stood on the south side of the railroad between the public square and Wilson Avenue) in background, c. 1871; local gathering place,” Burr Harrison Photographs, circa 1881 – 1958, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/200>. See note above.

⁵⁷ Image from: “Johnson’s Depot,” posted 22 July 2012, available online at: <https://www.facebook.com/119648221482311/photos/pb.100052046000656.-2207520000/267219523391846/?type=3>, which included: “This postcard shows the SR/ET&WNC passenger depot as seen from Market Square. There is barely room for a street between the railroad and the buildings. Courtesy, Clifford Maxwell Collection, Archives of Appalachia, ETSU.” Also at “Henry Johnson, ‘White Elephant Building,’ Johnson City Articles, and Southern Depot Postcard,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/19065>. On 23 July 1908, the Johnson City Comet included: “Three Shots fired. – Tom Crow Shoots at Barney Christie as He Flees but his Aim is Bad – Tuesday afternoon about five o’clock pedestrians near the Southern Express office were startled by three shots in rapid succession and every fellow run to cover. Tom Crow, proprietor of the Star Bottling Works, was shooting at the fleeing form of Barney Christie, but neither shot took effect...” On 17 September 1908, the Johnson City Comet included: “Business Failures for the Week... The Star Bottling Works was placed in the hands of a trustee Wednesday. The stock and fixtures will invoice about \$3,000 and the liabilities are slightly above this figure. T.A. Cox was made trustee.” And on 14 January 1909, the Johnson City Comet included: “The Johnson City Bottling Works [then on West Market Street] has purchased the Star Bottling Works of the receivers and has leased same to Pepsi-Cola Bottling Works, and will be managed by C.S. Crockett. It will remain where it is at present located.” By 1913, the building that had been occupied by the Star Bottling Works had become a bowling alley. See also “Star Bottling Works 1908,” available online at: <http://www.tazewell-orange.com/starbott.html>.

⁵⁸ “Jones-Vance Drug Company Was a Credit to the City and the Proprietors,” Bob Cox’s Yesteryear, 23 February 2009, available online at: <https://bcyesteryear.com/jones-vance-drug-company-was-a-credit-to-the-city-and-the-proprietors/>.

⁵⁹ History of Johnson City and Its Environs, Samuel Cole Williams, 1954, page 23, available online at:

<https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uva.x030227825>. However, Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee was published in 1874, not 1872, and only noted a “large hotel”: “Johnson City is a new and enterprising town, seven miles east of Jonesborough, on the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railway. It contains... a large hotel...” See Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee, Volume 1, by J.B. Killibrew, 1874, page 616, available online at: <https://books.google.com/books?id=tAYoAAAAYAAJ>.

⁶⁰ Introduction to the Resources of Tennessee, Volume 1, by J.B. Killibrew, 1874, page 616, available online at: <https://books.google.com/books?id=tAYoAAAAYAAJ>.

⁶¹ “City Hotel, Johnson, City, East Tennessee. – The undersigned having recently opened the City Hotel, respectfully solicits the patronage of the former friends of the house and the public generally. This House is the largest and Handsomest Building in upper East Tennessee, is centrally located, convenient to Depot, Telegraph, Express, and Post Office, and has all the conveniences for Pleasure and Comfort. The Table will always be supplied with the best that the country affords, and no pains will be spared to make the City Hotel First Class in all respects. Stages leave this Hotel for Roan Mountain, Bakersville, Easley’s or King’s Spring, Austin’s Springs, and all the good fishing streams in the mountains. Good Livery Stables Adjoining. Terms Reasonable. D.A. Patton, Prop’r. S. Frank Patton, Clerk.”

⁶² On 15 March 1884, the Johnson City Comet included: “Prominent among the wide awake irrepressible young men of this end of the State are those who make the trio under the firm name of Harr Bros., Will alias Bill Arp. Ed the livery man, and John the evangelist, all worked themselves up in business through difficulties that would blanch the cheeks of less courageous men, and have conquered circumstances. To-day they stand among the first and best business men in Johnson City or any other city. They deserve the good will and patronage of the people.”

⁶³ On 22 September 1887, the Johnson City Comet included: “Tom Rogers has opened a barber shop on Main Street and invites the public to give him a call...” On 6 October 1887, the Johnson City Comet included: “Brewer & Rogers. – Barbers and Hair Dressers. – For a first-class shave, shampoo or hair cut call on us. We keep keen razors and clean towels and guarantee satisfaction. Opposite Gump & Co.”

⁶⁴ On 25 June 1896, the Johnson City Comet included: “Our old friend Will Dickinson, of this city, has forsaken us, but we trust it will be only temporary. He has assumed the management of the Merchants Hotel in Chattanooga, and will, in his usual pleasant and accommodating way, cater to the wants of the patrons of that popular caravansary. We wish him all the success he deserves, and that is much.”

⁶⁵ The first mention, found by the author, of this enterprise occurred on 23 March 1899, when the Johnson City Comet included: “Under New Management. Sam F. Smith has taken charge of the Star Restaurant, succeeding Mr. and Mrs. Skinner. He will continue to operate it as a first-class restaurant and lodging house. Sam is well known here and will no doubt deserve and receive a liberal share of patronage.” The next mention of this enterprise, found by the author, does not occur until almost four years later, on 15 January 1903. The resources available to the author, primarily the Johnson City Comet, do not provide an exact location for this enterprise between 1899 and 1903, or even provide evidence that it remained in business between 1899 and 1903. Also of note is the statement that the Star Restaurant was “a first-class restaurant and lodging house”; which, perhaps, indicates that it was not located in the Hotel Piedmont in 1899. It is possible that this enterprise was at a different, unspecified location in 1899 and had moved into the Hotel Piedmont in 1903 or 1904. However, the author found no mention of this in the Johnson City Comet.

⁶⁶ On 16 April 1903, the Johnson City Comet included: “Removal – April 15th to 20th I will move from my present location to the [William Harr] building now occupied by Geo. R. Brown, where I will continue to serve the patrons of the Lee House with the best the market affords. W.C. Lee.” It appears that George R. Brown’s “Hotel Brown” occupied the second floor of the William Harr Building at 207, 209 and 211 Buffalo Street, alongside the E.T. & W.N.C. yard and Jobe Street, from 1897 to 1903. The next mention of George R. Brown in a business context occurred on 7 April 1904, when the Johnson City Comet included: “The Board Meets. The city council met Thursday evening in regular session... A contract was made with Geo. R. Brown for putting in granolithic curb and gutter for all sidewalks that will be put down...” On 20 June 1907, the Johnson City Comet included: “If you want any concrete work done call on Geo. R. Brown... When you want crushed rock for concrete work phone 334...”

⁶⁷ It appears to be most likely that this enterprise operated out of the southern portion of the Hotel Piedmont, perhaps with its own door opening on to East Fountain Square. This is weakly supported by maps 5C and 6C, which date to

1913 and 1920 (seven and fourteen years after it was last mentioned in the Johnson City Comet). These maps show this area was occupied by “lunch”, which may indicate that the Star Lunch Counter/Fox’s Café/Star Restaurant, or an unidentified successor continued in operation at this location until at least 1920. However, the Johnson City Comet states that the Hotel Piedmont began offering “Sunday dinners” by early January 1906, without mentioning the Star Restaurant, which continued operations into later 1906, at least.

⁶⁸ On 16 August 1906, the Johnson City Comet included: “Hotel Property Purchased. M.P. Dyer has purchased the old Piedmont hotel property from the Bowers estate for \$15,000. He has not yet announced his plans for improving the property.” It appears that this or a similar purchase included the two small buildings adjacent to the north side of the Hotel Piedmont that were occupied by a “Sample R’m and the “W.U. Tel. Off.”, as depicted in the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map of this area for April 1903. See Map 3C.

⁶⁹ On 2 December 1915, the Johnson City Comet included: “Market St. Barber Shop – In Reeves Building. The Old Reliable Barber Shop. Nat Hyder, Proprietor.”

⁷⁰ Johnson City Comet, 26 August 1915, includes an advertisement that notes that Nat Hyder had established a new barber shop in the Reeves Building on Market Street.

⁷¹ Manufacturers Record, 16 June 1927 (Volume XCI, No. 24), page 113, available online at: <https://books.google.com/books?id=VuFlbdgybQMC>.

⁷² “Fountain Square Train,” Mildred S. Kozsuch Papers, 1867 – 2007, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/6245>. Also at “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/ftnsquare/fsquare3.jpg>.

⁷³ “Fountain Square Show Day,” Mildred S. Kozsuch Papers, 1867 – 2007, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/6242>. Also at “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/ftnsquare/showday.JPG>. For more on this show, see Johnson City Comet, 30 September 1909.

⁷⁴ “Crowd Gathering (End of World War I), 1918,” James T. Dowdy, Sr. Photographs, 1890 – 1950, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/21151>.

⁷⁵ Available online at: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=1706288542963263&set=a.1407806792811441>.

⁷⁶ Image from: “Johnson’s Depot,” posted 22 July 2012, available online at: <https://www.facebook.com/119648221482311/photos/pb.100052046000656.-2207520000/267219523391846/?type=3>, which included: “This postcard shows the SR/ET&WNC passenger depot as seen from Market Square. There is barely room for a street between the railroad and the buildings. Courtesy, Clifford Maxwell Collection, Archives of Appalachia, ETSU.” Also at “Henry Johnson, ‘White Elephant Building,’ Johnson City Articles, and Southern Depot Postcard,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/19065>. On 23 July 1908, the Johnson City Comet included: “Three Shots fired. – Tom Crow Shoots at Barney Christie as He Flees but his Aim is Bad – Tuesday afternoon about five o’clock pedestrians near the Southern Express office were startled by three shots in rapid succession and every fellow run to cover. Tom Crow, proprietor of the Star Bottling Works, was shooting at the fleeing form of Barney Christie, but neither shot took effect...” On 17 September 1908, the Johnson City Comet included: “Business Failures for the Week... The Star Bottling Works was placed in the hands of a trustee Wednesday. The stock and fixtures will invoice about \$3,000 and the liabilities are slightly above this figure. T.A. Cox was made trustee.” And on 14 January 1909, the Johnson City Comet included: “The Johnson City Bottling Works [then on West Market Street] has purchased the Star Bottling Works of the receivers and has leased same to Pepsi-Cola Bottling Works, and will be managed by C.S. Crockett. It will remain where it is at present located.” By 1913, the building that had been occupied by the Star Bottling Works had become a bowling alley. See also “Star Bottling Works 1908,” available online at: <http://www.tazewell-orange.com/starbott.html>.

⁷⁷ “An Aerial View of Johnson City, Tennessee,” 1 March 1947, RG 82: Tennessee Department of Conservation Photograph Collection, 1937 – 1976, Box 15, File 135, ID# 15598, available online at: <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll28/id/1039/rec/13>.

⁷⁸ “Buffalo Street” at “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/photos/photos5/buffalo2.jpg>.

⁷⁹ The Buccaneer, 1952, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/35>.

⁸⁰ “Roller (front view) at Johnson City making repairs to Buffalo Street after 3rd rail removal,” East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society Collection, 1883 – 2005, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/17446>.

⁸¹ “Aerial Photo – 1960”, “Johnson’s Depot,” available online at: <http://www.stateoffranklin.net/johnsons/images/photos/photos5/aerial1.jpg>.

⁸² The Buccaneer, 1942, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/25>.

⁸³ The Buccaneer, 1946, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/29>.

⁸⁴ The Buccaneer, 1947, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/30>.

⁸⁵ The Buccaneer, 1952, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/35>.

⁸⁶ The Buccaneer, 1959, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/42>.

⁸⁷ On 30 September 1886, the Johnson City Comet included: “N.G. Hyder, Fashionable Boot, Shoe and Gaiter Maker (Next Door to R.S. Patty’s Office.)...” The author did not find any information on the location of “R.S. Patty’s Office.”

⁸⁸ On 19 August 1896, the Jonesborough Herald and Tribune included: “Circuit Court. The following cases were tried and disposed of at the last term of Circuit Court, which adjourned last Thursday... Dave Walters – Giving liquor to minors – not guilty...” This article might pertain to Phillips & Walters; however, the Walters of Phillips & Walters appears to have been named Dan, not Dave.

⁸⁹ “E. TN Saloon Owners,” available online at: <https://tennevaguy.tripod.com/id62.html>, includes the following with respect to saloon owners in Johnson City: Robert Beasley – 1891, Templeton & Carson – 1891, J.M. Smith – 1891, W.O. Phillips – 1891, Phillips & Waters, Big Spring Saloon, C.K. Rowan – 1891, Hugh O’Boyle – 1891, J.C. & J.B. Bacon – 1891. On 1 January 1903, the Johnson City Comet included that “Geo. W. Holmes was duly adjudicated bankrupt...” On 23 April 1903, the Johnson City Comet included: “T.A. O’Donnell, Dealer in Wines, Liquors, Cigars and Tobacco. Spring Street, (Old P.O. Building)...”

⁹⁰ On 28 January 1904, the Johnson City Comet included: “Russell & Hamsch, the barbers, have secured the services of James Ankrom, of Meridan, Miss., to preside over the fourth chair in their shaving parlor. He is a splendid workman and will easily maintain the reputation of the shop for first class work and gentlemanly treatment.”

⁹¹ On 16 August 1906, the Johnson City Comet included: “Hotel Property Purchased. M.P. Dyer has purchased the old Piedmont hotel property from the Bowers estate for \$15,000. He has not yet announced his plans for improving the property.” It appears that this or a similar purchase included the two small buildings adjacent to the north side of the Hotel Piedmont that were occupied by a “Sample R’m and the “W.U. Tel. Off.”, as depicted in the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map of this area for April 1903. See Map 3C.

⁹² On 25 July 1907, the Johnson City Comet reported that Nat Hyder was running the Third Ward Barber Shop, on Claiborne Street near Maple (this was the only mention of this barber shop, found by the author). On 19 September 1907, the Johnson City Comet included: “Nat Hyder, the barber, is now located on the public square, west side of Southern railway. He will appreciate a share of your patronage.” On 26 September 1907, the Johnson City Comet included: “Nat Hyder, the old reliable, has purchased the barber shop in the O’Boyle block, on the square, and is giving patrons and friends his customary attention.” This item ran until at least 24 October 1907.

⁹³ On 30 September 1886, the Johnson City Comet included: “N.G. Hyder, Fashionable Boot, Shoe and Gaiter Maker (Next Door to R.S. Patty’s Office.)...” The author did not find any information on the location of “R.S. Patty’s Office.”

⁹⁴ On 19 October 1893, the Johnson City Comet included: “J.H. Faucette has been appointed storekeeper and gauger under Collector Essary and has been notified to go to work. He left Monday for Stump’s Knob, Johnson County, to take charge of John Gregg’s distillery at that place. John’s appointment will give general satisfaction to the Democrats of upper East Tennessee.” On 10 May 1894, the Johnson City Comet included: “Trustee’s Sale. – By virtue of the power vested in me by a certain trust deed, executed by Geo. O’Brien on the 31st day of October, 1892, and recorded in Deeds of Trust book number 7, page 403, in the registry at Jonesboro, Tenn., given to secure John M. Gregg in the sum of six hundred dollars, due October 31st, 1893, by note, I will on the 12th day of June, 1894, expose to sale and sell the property described in said trust deed, bounded as follows: ‘Beginning at an iron stake in said southwestern margin of said street and corner of J.M. Martin’s lot, thence north 79 degs. west along said West Main street 30 feet to George W. McCay’s line, then with his line south 11 degs., west 103½ feet to the center of Brush creek, thence up said creek north 71 degs., east 35 ft. thence north 11 deg., east with the line of said J.M. Martin’s lot 85 feet to the beginning.’ Said property is situated in Johnson City, Tenn. Said property will be sold for cash in hand and in bar of the equity of redemption, in front of Jobe’s opera house in Johnson City, Tenn., at time above named, if said debt and costs are not sooner paid. W.W. Faw, Trustee...” On 20 September 1894, the Johnson City Comet included: “Dan McCoy has become tired and disgusted with selling liquor, and disposed of the contents of his saloon (the whole thing) to John Gregg. Dan will now go into the banking business.” This deal appears to have fallen through, as it appears that Hugh O’Boyle actually moved into this property.

⁹⁵ See “Liberty Bell Train,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/20479>, “Hugh O’Boyle Saloon (Corner of West Market and the Railroad), Interior View,” Clifford A. Maxwell Photographs, 1940 – 1986, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/12337>, and “Little Chicago – Johnson City, TN during Prohibition”, posted 11 February 2019, available online at: https://www.facebook.com/LittleChicagoJC.TN/photos/oboyles-saloon-photo-from-the-march-24-1940-sunday-press-chronicle-hugh-o-oboyle/2276973895894722/?_rdr, which included: “O’Boyle’s Saloon photo from the March 24, 1940 Sunday Press-Chronicle. Hugh O. O’Boyle is listed as the owner in the 1902 R.G. Dun Mercantile Agency Reference Book.”

⁹⁶ On 4 March 1897, the Johnson City Comet included: “The Inauguration is over, and an early change in the policy of the government may be expected; but Geo. R. Brown will continue to give the best meals in the city for 25 cents. Every thing nice and clean and of the best. Clean beds and rooms. Come and see me...” This advertisement ran until at least 3 June 1897. On 6 May 1897, the Johnson City Comet included: “Geo. R. Brown, the popular European Hotel man, is moving his restaurant from the [S.T.] Harris block to the Harr block this week. He is remodeling and fitting up a nice, convenient and commodious place in his new home.”

⁹⁷ On 8 September 1898, the Johnson City Comet included: “Stopped Making Corn Juice. The distillery of Joe H. Gregg at Stump Knob has been mustered out of service for awhile. It has run continuously for four years and now has such a quantity of corn juice on hand that he decided to close awhile and let the drinkers catch up.”

⁹⁸ Available online at: <http://www.tazewell-orange.com/starbott.html>. The American Bottler, 15 May 1908 (Volume XXVIII, No. 5), page 58, available online at: <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/008607376>, included: “To Manufacturers... The Watauga Bottling Works, Elizabethton, Tenn., are in the market for bottling machinery.”

⁹⁹ On 12 March 1908, the Johnson City Comet included: “The D. & A. The New Cafe, being fixed up in the Burrow building [on Main Street] by Dugan & Allen will be named ‘The D. & A. Cafe,’ and will be ready for business

Thursday evening, the inaugurating meal being served the Johnson City Dancing Club. Every detail is perfect and Johnson City can now claim and present the most handsomely appointed cafe of any town of its size in the South.” On 9 April 1908, the Johnson City Comet included: “Notice of Dissolution of Partnership. The copartnership heretofore existing between Dugan & Allen has this day been dissolved by mutual consent, I.A. Allen assuming all the assets and liabilities of the grocery store and R.L. Dugan the assets and liabilities of the Dugan and Allen Cafe. (Signed) R.L. Dugan, I.A. Allen.” On 14 May 1908, the Johnson City Comet included: “Eat at the D. & A. cafe... Let the cook have the day off Sunday and take dinner at the D. & A. Cafe... There is no use going hungry so long at the D. & A. Cafe is doing business.” This and similar items ran until at least 11 June 1908. On 18 June 1908, the Johnson City Comet included “Cafe Changes Hands. The D. & A. Cafe has been purchased by H.W. Pardue and has been discontinued as a restaurant. It will be conducted as an ice cream parlor and for a bakery display.” On 5 November 1908, the Johnson City Comet included “D. & A. Rechristened the Utopia – The D. & A. Cafe has ceased to exist and the place will hereafter be called Utopia. This name was selected Wednesday night by a committee of young ladies from a large list of names supplied in response to the announcement that the management would give a prize to the party suggesting the most appropriate name. The committee was Mrs. Fanni Moser Snapp, Misses Bertha Rosenblatt, Pearl and Mary Lyle. They met at the cafe Wednesday night at the request of Manager DuBois, after visiting the Edsonia as his guests, and with Dr. and Mrs. L.E. Clark, Misses Wilds and Mitchell, H.W. Pardue and Cy H. Lyle, enjoyed a delightful luncheon during the process of deciding upon the name. The several suggestions were gone over carefully and it required considerable time to make the selection from the number of appropriate ones sent in. The Utopia, as its name indicates, is an ideal place to dine under its new management and will be maintained as a strictly high class cafe. Dinner parties will be given special attention and banquets will be served to suit any occasion. As a chef Mr. DuBois has never had an equal in Johnson City, and the town can now boast of having the best restaurant in East Tennessee. See for yourself.” On 7 January 1909, the Johnson City Comet, ran an advertisement that included: “Utopia Café – Best Place to eat in the City – Anything the Market Affords – Quail – Spanish Mackerel – Soft Shell Crabs – Little Neck Clams – Oysters – Good Tender Juicy Steaks – Cooked right – Good Service – W.J. DuBois, Mgr. – H.W. Pardue, Prop.”

¹⁰⁰ Motor Cycle and Bicycle Illustrated, 18 September 1919 (Volume 15, Number 38), page 18, available online at: <https://books.google.com/books?id=XXsAAAAAMAAJ>.

¹⁰¹ “First Annual Report of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board Covering the Operations of the Federal Home Loan Banks, The Home Owners’ Loan Corporation, Federal Savings and Loan Promotion Activities from the Date of their Creation Through December 31, 1933,” 1934, page 65, available online at: https://books.google.com/books?id=v_04SC16c_IC. Also in “Second Annual Report of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board on the Operations of the Federal Home Loan Bank System for the Year 1934,” 1935, page 66, available online at: <https://books.google.com/books?id=SZHPAAAAMAAJ>.

¹⁰² The Buccaneer, 1939, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/22>.

¹⁰³ See “Old ‘Comet’ newsroom, upstairs Jones Vance Drugs, corner of Main and Spring Streets,” Burr Harrison Photographs, circa 1881 – 1958, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/166>. Similar at “Old ‘Comet’ newsroom, upstairs Jones Vance Drugs, corner of Main and Spring Streets,” Burr Harrison Photographs, circa 1881 – 1958, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/165>. The Johnson City Comet appears to have stopped publishing a newspaper at some time in 1918. The last issue available online through the “Chronicling America” website of the Library of Congress, was published on 5 October 1918. It is possible that the Johnson City Comet continued in business as a printing company, however, the author did not find any evidence that this was the case. The “Jones Vance Drugs, corner of Main and Spring Streets” moved into the Tennessee National Bank building no earlier than 1931. Consequently the claim that the Johnson City Comet occupied the second-floor of the Tennessee National Bank building at some time after 1931 may not “add up”.

¹⁰⁴ See “Old ‘Comet’ newsroom, upstairs Jones Vance Drugs, corner of Main and Spring Streets,” Burr Harrison Photographs, circa 1881 – 1958, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/166>. Similar at “Old ‘Comet’ newsroom, upstairs Jones Vance Drugs, corner of Main and Spring Streets,” Burr Harrison Photographs, circa 1881 – 1958, Archives of Appalachia, available online at: <https://archivesofappalachia.omeka.net/items/show/165>. The Johnson City Comet appears to have

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¹⁰⁵ Old Hickory, 1921, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/3>.

¹⁰⁶ “Two Old Tin Signs Shed New Light on Early Johnson City Businesses,” 3 September 2007, “Bob Cox’s Yesteryear”, available online at: <https://bcyesteryear.com/two-old-tin-signs-shed-new-light-on-early-johnson-city-businesses/>.

¹⁰⁷ Old Hickory, 1922, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/4>. The Chalk Line, June 1930, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/19>. By 1939, this shop had moved to “10 Buffalo Street”, see: The Buccaneer, 1939, Archives of Appalachia, East Tennessee State University, available online at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/yearbooks/22>.

¹⁰⁸ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” U.S. Library of Congress, January 1891, image 1, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261891.

¹⁰⁹ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” U.S. Library of Congress, May 1897, image 1, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261897.

¹¹⁰ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” U.S. Library of Congress, April 1903, image 1, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261903.

¹¹¹ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” U.S. Library of Congress, December 1908, image 1, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261908.

¹¹² “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” U.S. Library of Congress, July 1913, image 1, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261913.

¹¹³ “Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Johnson City, Washington County, Tennessee,” U.S. Library of Congress, February 1920, image 1, available online at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3964jm.g3964jm_g083261920.

¹¹⁴ Adapted from: “Sanborn Map Abbreviations,” available online at: https://web.mit.edu/thecity/resources/abbreviations_for_sanborn_maps.pdf.

¹¹⁵ Adapted from: “Sanborn Map Abbreviations,” available online at: https://web.mit.edu/thecity/resources/abbreviations_for_sanborn_maps.pdf.