

Landmarks

Carberry's Significant Heritage Buildings

The **Carberry Special Places project** was inaugurated in 2008-09, with the first major component being a comprehensive and detailed inventory of 101 buildings and sites. Through rigorous analysis and assessment processes suggested to us by the province's Historic Resources Branch, we have identified a collection of buildings that most effectively define and illustrate key aspects of our history and heritage.

The following lists of buildings and sites constitutes the Carberry Heritage Advisory Committee's recommendations and reminders to the community about those places that have claims for heritage significance.

The lists enumerate two sets of historic places: first, those that the Committee recommends as new additions to our list of formally designated municipal sites; and second, those that are already formally designated. This latter list features 26 buildings that have been recognized as having individual architectural significance, and which are key elements of the Downtown Carberry Heritage District. Please note that another

16 buildings and sites in the district are also designated, but only as sites that ensure the whole commercial area is protected; these are not featured as sites of individual heritage significance. One additional site on this latter list is a Provincial Heritage Site – the Ag Society Display Building.

Each building on these lists is presented on the following pages with an accompanying Heritage Value Statement that elucidates that building's key heritage attributes. Some of the buildings in the Downtown Carberry Heritage District have been grouped to save space, and are illustrated with an archival photograph.

New Additions to List of Significant Sites

- St. Agnes Anglican Church
- Knox Presbyterian Church
- Carberry United Church
- White's Sash and Door Factory
- Queen Anne-style House
- Wright Garland House

Formally Designated Sites

- Ag Society Display Building (Provincial Site)
- White House (Gingerbread House)
- Old Bank of Montreal
- Old Town Hall
- Nelson Butt Building
- Modern Bakery
- Davidson Building
- Seton Centre
- Former MTS Building
- Former Carberry Post Office
- CVM Café
- Moon Apartment Building
- Carberry News-Express Building
- Kowalchuk Building
- Forbes Building
- Pharmacy Building
- Wright Building
- McCullough Building
- Calvary Pentecostal Church
- Sid's Garage
- Ray's Diner
- The Style Shop
- Switzer's Red and White Store
- Charlie Sear Building
- Nelson Hotel
- Murphy Block
- Waters Block

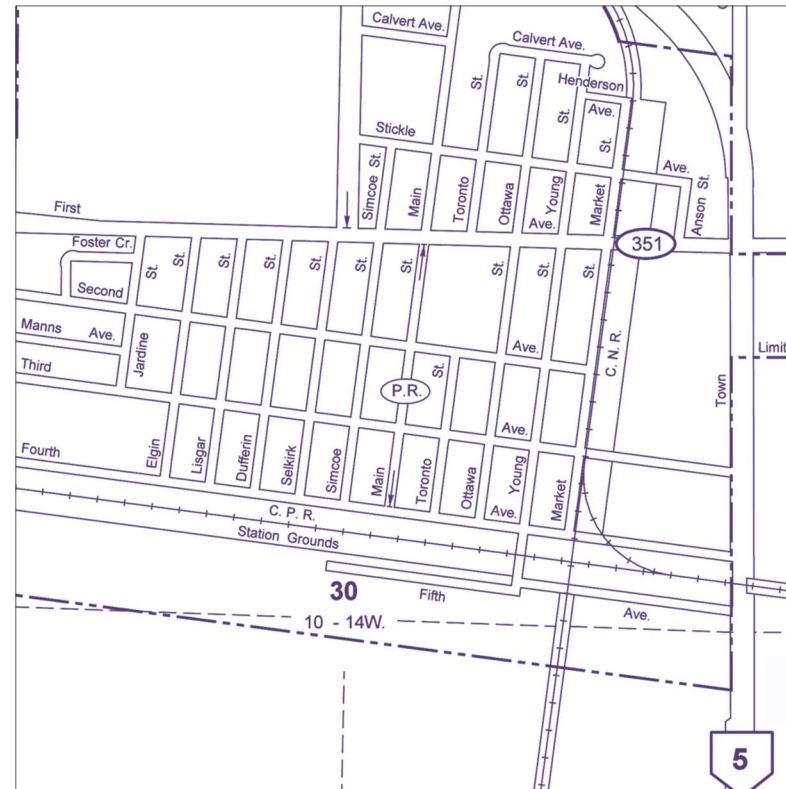


Archival view of Carberry's Main Street, ca. 1900.

As noted, the development of this short list of significant sites was the result of careful and studied deliberations using standard heritage evaluation criteria, processes and scoring regimes. This work was carried out by the Carberry Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee with assistance from staff of the Historic Resources Branch of Manitoba Tourism, Culture, Heritage, Sport and Consumer Protection. We are grateful to the branch for their generous support and patient attention in this endeavour.

As a collection, these 32 buildings define many aspects and themes from Carberry's past, and do so through places that are at once significant, but also interesting and attractive.

The addition of Carberry's three major church buildings, several important houses and a rare surviving industrial site (James White's Sash and Door Factory, now our museum), round out an impressive collection of places that help make our community a distinct architectural destination. The three churches, each a major design, is further amplified by their proximity just west of Main Street, creating a sort of heritage power node. Of course our commercial streetscape is the community's great pride, with its intact southerly block considered one of the best remaining examples of the kind of main street that defined every small Manitoba town, and which have become nearly extinct. All of these buildings remind us of past glories, but also suggest an enduring sense of community, and are a beacon for its future.



This basic street map of Carberry can be co-ordinated to locate sites noted on following pages, which are identified with street addresses.

St. Agnes Anglican Church

Third and Selkirk



St. Agnes Anglican Church (left), is one of Carberry's three impressive brick churches, all situated in a sort of ecclesiastical precinct just west of Main Street. St. Agnes, like the others, is a handsome and dignified building, reflective of the Anglo-Ontario cultural roots of its original congregation. Carefully maintained over its more than 100 years—it was built in 1903 under the direction of noted local contractor James White—the church is an excellent example of the architectural traditions that defined most ambitious small-town church building of the day. With a striking corner tower, steep roof, and wealth of pointed arches employed in windows, doors and in the bell tower, the building is a textbook example of the type. Inside, the church is also a glory, with much coloured glass (in muted pinks and purples) and finely crafted wooden features and details.

Knox Presbyterian Church

211 Main Street



Knox Presbyterian Church (1909) is a striking building, an excellent example of Protestant Gothic Revival architecture, and a proud expression of the congregation's Anglo-Ontarian roots. A fine design, with an elegant bell tower; impressive brickwork—especially in the detail work in the labels over windows—the use of pinnacles with finials on the tower, the church exhibits high levels of physical integrity. Knox Presbyterian is also part of an ecclesiastical precinct, with the nearby United and Anglican churches, all sharing the same cultural traditions and architectural character.

Carberry United Church

608 Third Avenue



Built in 1903 under the direction of noted local contractor James White, Carberry United Church is an excellent example of Protestant Gothic design, and a powerful reminder of the cultural roots of its original Anglo-Ontarian Methodist congregation. Carberry United is part of an ecclesiastical precinct, with the nearby Anglican and Presbyterian churches, all exhibiting the same traditions and character, with this building the most architecturally ambitious of the three. Following a design prepared for Wesley Methodist in Winnipeg, this church has a complex floor plan, with a tall spire above the main entrance and smaller towers with steeples marking the two side doors. The exterior walls are exceptional renditions in brick, with rounded arches; labels and other interesting details. The interior is also fine, with high levels of physical integrity.

White's Sash and Door Factory

520 Fourth



James White's Sash and Door Factory, built in 1900, is a rare and important Manitoba building. The structure (now used as a museum), recalls the kind of manufacturing facility that operated in many small urban centres in Manitoba in the early decades of the 20th century, when a building boom required local production of materials, in this case doors and windows. James White's building contracting business flourished in these decades, and this building is just part of his legacy, which includes his adjacent house, Carberry's big churches and many other buildings throughout the town and in nearby communities as well. The Sash and Door Factory is also a good example of the kind of architectural expression typical of this type of building – Romanesque Revival. With its solid proportions, round-arched windows and expressive use of brick, the building sums up the keys qualities of that style.

Queen Anne-style House

Ottawa Avenue



This special little house on Ottawa Avenue is treasured for its architectural character. An exquisite Queen Anne-style building; the house is a visual delight: dainty, elegant and enriched with exquisite wooden features and details, picked out in white against the red brick of the walls. An example of the kind of small buildings erected for Carberry's middle class at the turn of the 20th century (this one ca. 1905), this house is very different than any others of that type, and still maintains fairly good levels of physical integrity throughout its exterior.

Wright Garland House

Lisgar Street



This tidy house on Lisgar Street is a good example of the kind of modest residential building available for middle-class Carberry families in the early 20th century. In this case the 1910 Wright Garland House also expresses an architectural character and a construction material that were both new and popular throughout Manitoba at the time. A version of a cottage or bungalow, with single storey form and shallow roof with dormers, the house is amply lit and carefully planned inside. The walls are of concrete block, in this case highly patterned so as to suggest a rugged stone wall.

Ag Society Display Building

Carberry Fair Grounds



The Carberry Agricultural Society Display Building (1893), the oldest of its kind in Manitoba, is an excellent example of the type of permanent utilitarian structures erected for agricultural fairs that were often instituted in prairie communities soon after settlement. The octagonal form, introduced in the United States for agricultural buildings in the 1840s, provides a well-lit, accessible and efficient display area. The Carberry facility, which is still used for annual fairs, expresses its wood-frame construction in an uncomplicated manner, with minimal details and finishes save for an ornate, hand-carved interior wood display stand that spans the structure's two levels.

White House (Gingerbread House)

510 Fourth Avenue



The White House (ca. 1900), a large, elaborately decorated structure, is an excellent example of a stately small-town residence from the turn of the twentieth century. Its Queen Anne Revival styling and careful craftsmanship reflect the Ontario heritage of its original occupant, contractor James White, a prominent figure in Carberry's early development. His company erected several of the town's noteworthy buildings, including his own sash and door factory next to the house, three nearby churches and a large business block. White's graceful home, with its generous proportions, expansive verandah, integrated second-floor balcony and expressive wood and brick detailing, all set on a groomed yard, is a key part of the town's architectural heritage.

Old Town Hall

122 Main Street



The Old Town Hall in Carberry, a modest-sized yet well-proportioned Neo-Classical brick building, is a good illustration of the multi-use public facilities erected in small Manitoba centres in the early 1900s. Together with its landscaped site, which includes a solemn war memorial, the structure also is a symbolic centrepiece of the Historic Downtown Carberry heritage district. In design the building displays simplified classical elements: a flat, minimally adorned roofline, a symmetrical facade with pilasters and arched openings and a grand formal entrance. In function the 1907 facility has evolved with municipal government needs to remain a vital part of its streetscape, for many years accommodating the local jail as well as offices and meeting space.

Old Bank of Montreal

33 Main Street



The Old Bank of Montreal (1902) is Carberry's most important building, a landmark and visible manifestation of local pride, and also the most architecturally impressive building from the community's pioneering period. As a Bank of Montreal (originally built as a Union Bank), the building also holds an important place in the history of Manitoba bank buildings – the Carberry enterprise being the largest and most ambitious in its architecture and functions of any bank building constructed in Manitoba's small urban centres. Where other bank operations provided smaller communities with standardized Classical temple fronts carried out in wood, or small but interesting masonry renderings, in Carberry the Union Bank commissioned from Winnipeg architect George Browne a dramatic, even innovative program, that brought together an array of functions within a major building with a complex, appealing external character and a well-appointed, technologically up-to-date interior.

Nelson Butt Building

31 Main Street



The Nelson Butt Building (ca. 1896, right), a compact storefront facility that retains much of its exterior main-street character, recalls an important and early stage of Carberry's business development. Built for Joseph R. Thompson and accommodating numerous commercial enterprises over the years, including law offices, a bank and butcher shop, this building for several decades was the jewellery store of Nelson J. Butt (1946 to 1992). The building is also noted for its rich red brick construction and detailing, which remains as an example of the many brick structures in Carberry today. Recently acquired as a residence and shop, and situated next to the Bank of Montreal and other brick structures erected during the period, the modest building maintains the unique heritage character of Carberry's main street.

Modern Bakery

42 Main Street



The Modern Bakery (ca. 1895), a well-proportioned Romanesque Revival structure situated in the midst of an impressive collection of its contemporaries, is a fine example of a pre-1900 brick business block that still performs yeoman's service in Historic Downtown Carberry. The building displays the essence of its early aesthetics, most evident in the intricately detailed brickwork of its upper facade and in its wide single storefront. In function this facility also maintains a central role in the town's business and social life, having housed for many decades a bakery and cafe operated by the prominent John Crich and Dick Appel families, among others.

Davidson Building

Main Street



The Davidson Building (ca. 1885) is one of Carberry's largest and oldest commercial landmarks, advantageously situated at a major intersection in Historic Downtown Carberry, and visually and physically prominent because of its bold brick proportions and expressive Romanesque Revival features. The expansive two-part complex, which incorporates a one-storey former garage and movie theatre, also is a functional hub that has adaptively housed the goods, services and residential uses vital to life in small prairie centres. Among its occupants have been pioneer merchants, implement dealers, butchers, rental meat lockers, a World War II service club for personnel stationed at a nearby flying school, and, in recent decades, one of the town's major grocery stores.

Seton Centre

116 Main Street



The compact A.E. Gardiner Building (ca. 1915), also known as the Seton Centre, is a fine example of concrete block construction, a method popular in Manitoba up to World War I. The sturdy false-fronted structure, built by Frank Thompson of Austin, is an appropriate and creative use of the technology. Its durable blocks, formed on site using one of a variety of available moulds, feature a floral pattern still crisply defined today. One of the building's early occupants, A.E. Gardiner, operated a harness repair shop from the site for 48 years.

Former MTS Building

121 Main Street



The Former MTS (Manitoba Telephone System) Building (also known as the Henry Carroll Law Office), a tidy building in an eye-catching Spanish Colonial Revival style, is a fine representation of the modest-sized exchanges erected by Manitoba Government Telephones in small rural centres in the early 1940s. Based on a standard design also applied to other exchanges throughout Manitoba, the 1941 structure is distinguished by its well-defined rectilinear form, many windows and contrasting finishes of light-coloured stucco, red tile and red brick. Its presence recalls the pre-automatic era of telephone technology when human operators were essential to daily communications in their communities, working switching equipment that made local and long-distance calling possible. Still in office use, this facility is a bright and familiar fixture in Carberry's business district, a designated historic area.

Former Carberry Post Office

115 Main Street



The Former Carberry Post Office (1938) is a modest-sized masonry structure that otherwise holds a prominent place in Historic Downtown Carberry, because of its locally rare Art Deco architecture and high public use, first as a post office and now as a regional library. The building's solid form, sharply defined geometric lines, fine brick and limestone facades and limited low-relief ornament aptly reflect the simplicity and functionalism of the interwar Modern movement and of the standardized aesthetics then applied to federal government facilities in small urban centres. Subsequent expansion and modifications of a complementary nature have enabled the building to retain a number of its early features as well as its role as a community symbol and focal point.

CVM Café

24 Main Street



The C.V.M. Cafe, a modest mixed-use brick structure adapted to serve for more than a half-century as a local eatery in Carberry, represents the kind of unpretentious dining facilities that are synonymous with many small-town main streets. The highly visible building also complements and supports one end of an intact row of pre-1900 commercial facilities that help define Carberry's historically designated business district. The cafe, established in the 1940s by, and named after, A.R. Calvert, W.H. Vopni and M.P. Menlove, began as a conventional western-style outlet, complete with a formal second-floor dining room. It later became a Chinese restaurant and coffee shop operated by the Kwan Yuen family, members of a long-standing line of local confectioners and restaurateurs. The Yuen's operation of the C.V.M. recalls an important Prairie tradition: the small-town Chinese restaurant. Nearly every small urban centre in Manitoba boasted a Chinese restaurant (and many still do), a source of mildly exotic food in an otherwise conventional North American market of dining-out cuisine.

Moon Apartment Building

30 Main Street



The sturdy Moon Apartments, solid in its brick construction, modest in its aesthetics and capable of multiple uses, is a dignified example of a two-part commercial building that has provided much needed retail, office and residential space since the early development of Carberry's business district. The structure's well-lit main-floor storefronts, upper-storey Classical features and continuity of functions convey a distinct sense of time and place. Because of its wide frontage, the block also has a vital role in maintaining the integrity of its streetscape, an intact section of the designated Historic Downtown Carberry district that contains several buildings of similar age, height, alignment and construction.

Carberry News-Express Building

34 Main Street



The Carberry News Express Building, two brick structures unified on the exterior by brick detailing, is valued for the continuity it provides to the street edge which is occupied by several designated heritage buildings of similar scale and character. Of typical brick construction and straightforward design, featuring corbelled brickwork and drip mouldings, the modest structure is part of a continuous row of brick buildings from the late 1890s that represent an important era in the town's development as an agricultural hub. The two-storey structure, an early bank building, and the one-storey structure, a long-time pool hall and barber shop, also recall an important aspect of the community's business and social life. Now occupied by the Carberry News Express and opened into one large space for its printing operation, the solid structure remains integral to the town's historic business street.

Kowalchuk Building

38 Main Street



The Kowalchuk Building is an appealing red brick structure that reflects the exuberance of the era in which it was built and also relates visually and historically to Carberry's primary business thoroughfare. Through its upper brick finishes and fine detailing, well-lit storefront and continuing commercial use, the building retains much of its main-street character. It also is important as a mid-row member of a densely developed series of mixed-use facilities of similar age, scale, construction and alignment in Historic Downtown Carberry, a designated district.

Forbes Building

40 Main Street

Pharmacy Building

44 Main Street



Forbes Building

The modest-sized Forbes Building (in the centre of this archival photograph) is an important part of a rare collection of late-nineteenth-century commercial structures in Historic Downtown Carberry, a designated heritage district. The enduring building complements its neighbours in type, scale, construction materials and spatial layout, and is a critical element in maintaining the physical and functional continuity of its streetscape. Its association with two long-term occupants, J.B. Davey and Son (Funeral Directors) and Carberry Radio-Electric, also recalls an extended period of the town's business development.

Pharmacy Building

The Pharmacy Building (to the left of the centre of this archival photograph), a serviceable two-part commercial facility physically integrated with the building on its north side, is one of the mainstays in a long contiguous row of early mixed-use structures that forms a defining streetscape in Historic Downtown Carberry, a designated heritage district. The facility is practical in its exterior aesthetics and contains some fine interior wood appointments. It also represents important functional continuity, having accommodated for most of its existence a succession of doctors, dentists and druggists who have provided vital professional services to the town and surrounding agricultural community.

Wright Building

46 Main Street



The Wright Building, an unassuming two-part block that has served assorted business and residential needs in Carberry for more than a century, also is significant because of its contribution to the integrity of a densely developed streetscape in the town's designated heritage district. The building is physically integrated with the structure on its south side through a shared party wall and second-floor entrance, staircase and hallway. It also supports the continuous built edge of the streetscape and is compatible in scale, materials and use with its neighbours in Historic Downtown Carberry.

McCullough Building

48 Main Street



The McCullough Building, a simple, practical brick structure, is part of an important collection of mixed-use buildings from the late 1890s in Historic Downtown Carberry, a designated heritage district. The one-storey facility, altered in recent years to maintain its structural integrity, occupies a highly visible site at the north end of a continuous row of its contemporaries, all erected after a devastating 1896 fire. Long associated with family-owned grocery and meat stores, the building typifies in function as well as form the durable, adaptable storefronts that for many decades have been the backbone of established prairie business centres, offering accommodations to the shops and services that sustain local economies.

Calvary Pentecostal Church

141 Main Street



Calvary Pentecostal Church (1942), crisp and understated in its modern styling and vertical proportions, stands on Carberry's Main Street as a stalwart expression of its congregation's commitment to establish a permanent place of worship and community resource. The facility, built with much volunteer labour during the congregation's formative years, reflects the reserved architectural traditions associated with the Pentecostal faith. In scale, materials and minimal Gothic and Romanesque detailing, including a modest entrance tower, the building, now converted to commercial use, also complements its eclectic streetscape of business and institutional structures of various ages, types and designs in the Historic Downtown Carberry Heritage District.

Sid's Garage

135 Main Street



Sid's Garage is a good example of the kind of commercial operations that sprang up in Manitoba after World War II to serve a new and exciting aspect of North American life – the automobile-driving public. The need for gasoline, as well as inevitable automobile repairs, lead to the erection of hundreds of these kinds of buildings across the province. Sid's Garage is a typical example of the type, with its long, low-slung one-storey form, large doors for automobile access on one side, and large display windows on the opposite side. Recently acquired and adapted for use as an antique shop, the building contributes to the unique heritage character of Carberry's main street.

Ray's Diner

43 Main Street

The Style Shop

41 Main Street

Switzer's Red and White Store

39 Main Street

**Ray's Diner**

Ray's Diner (right in photograph) is a typical example of the kind of modest but effective storefront facilities erected in the early twentieth century on Carberry's Main Street, and represents the type of small merchandising shops established in many small service centres during the period. Along with its nearly identical neighbouring structures (The Style Shop and Switzer's Red and White Store), the building exhibits all the hallmarks of its type, with large storefront openings and recessed entrances. Given its basic utilitarian form and adaptable interior, so typical of its type, the building naturally has provided space for dozens of Carberry businesses over the years, with notable tenants including R.H. Lindsay (auctioneer), A.J. Knuckey (barber), T.D. Stickle (grocer) and Cliff Addison (hardware). Refaced and modernized over time, the building is an important element in Historic Downtown Carberry.

The Style Shop

The Style Shop (centre in photograph) is a typical example of the kind of modest but effective storefront facilities erected in the early twentieth century on Carberry's Main Street, and represents the type of small merchandising shops established in many small service centres during the period. Given its basic utilitarian form and adaptable interior, so typical of its type, the building naturally has provided space for dozens of Carberry businesses over the years, with notable tenants including Jones and Dundas (merchants), Mrs. English (milliner), Webb and Green (bakers), T.D. Stickle (grocer) and Lee Low (restaurant). Refaced and modernized over time, the building is an important element in Historic Downtown Carberry.

Switzer's Red and White Store

Switzer's Red and White Store (left in photograph) is a typical example of the kind of modest but effective storefront facilities erected in the early twentieth century on Carberry's Main Street, and represents the type of small merchandising shops established in many small service centres during the period. Given its basic utilitarian form and adaptable interior, so typical of its type, the building naturally has provided space for dozens of Carberry businesses over the years, with notable tenants including Joseph and Mary Aikenhead (implement dealers), Dingle and Mason (butchers), George Henderson (grocer) and Roy McCaw (furniture dealer). Refaced and modernized over time, the building is an important element in Historic Downtown Carberry.

Charlie Sear Building

19 Main Street



The Charlie Sear Building (1903-05), one of largest early landmarks in the designated Historic Downtown Carberry district, is an imposing special-purpose structure designed to distribute and service farm machinery, vehicles and other equipment for the town and surrounding agricultural community. The substantial Romanesque Revival-style brick building, with its round-arched openings and exquisite corbelled and arcaded cornice-parapet, is especially noted for its rare main-floor plan, divided into two sections, the south side of which is raised and equipped with an internal rear ramp to the basement garage. Built and owned for a period by local entrepreneur James White, the facility is well situated near the Canadian Pacific Railway line and with lane or street access on three sides. These advantages have enhanced its prominence, as has its long-standing association with machinery, fuel and hardware outlets and service garages operated by the White and Charles A. Sear families.

Nelson Hotel

9 Main Street



The Nelson Hotel (1909) is a conspicuous southern anchor in the Historic Downtown Carberry heritage district and a rare juxtaposed example of how Manitoba's hospitality trade evolved in the 1900s in response to a changing marketplace. The complex's unpretentious hotel, set on a strategic corner site across from the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks (and once to the railway's station, which has since been demolished), recalls the time when hostelrys were essential assets in small communities, offering modest short-term lodgings and food and bar services to travellers, itinerant workers and others. The motel, also of practical design and construction, and with side-by-side units conveniently placed at grade around surface parking, represents the trade's mid-century answer to a major shift in business and personal travel from trains to motorized vehicles.

Murphy Block

29 Main Street



The Murphy Block, a solid, serviceable building, is one of Carberry's oldest business facilities, noted especially for the integrity of its early wood-and-glass storefront, a simple representation of a once-common type of commercial design, and for its association with some of the town's pioneer entrepreneurs. The modest-sized brick block, one of two adjacent outlets complementary in type, form and original exterior finishes built prior to 1900 by merchant Joseph R. Thompson, occupies a vital mid-row site on a signature streetscape in the designated Historic Downtown Carberry district. Through a succession of owners and occupants, including prominent Manitoba grain and livestock dealer G.B. Murphy, retailer and rancher W.G. Murphy and hardware merchants Richard Wilkie and Errol Berry, the structure has remained a local fixture, serving as a source of essential goods and services for the town and surrounding agricultural community.

Waters Block

125 Main Street



The unpretentious Waters Block, a two-part brick structure of substantial rectilinear proportions and spacious main-floor storefronts, is representative of the kind of practical mixed-use business properties established in Carberry in the early 1900s and modified over time to accommodate a variety of occupants. The workaday building, adapted for use by farm implement and car dealers, hardware merchants, clubs, residential tenants and assorted shops and services, contributes an image of durability and functionality to its eclectic streetscape of commercial and institutional buildings in Historic Downtown Carberry, a designated heritage district.