United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

   historic name          Downtown Peotone Historic District

   other names/site number

2. Location

   street & number         East side of North First Street and both sides of North Second Street roughly bounded to the south by the alley south of Main Street and to the north by North Street
   city or town            Peotone
   state                   Illinois
   code                    IL
   county                  Will
   code                    197
   zip code                60468

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ______ meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant __ nationally __ statewide X locally. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

   Signature of certifying official
   Date

   Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
   State or Federal agency and bureau

   In my opinion, the property ______ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

   Signature of commenting or other official
   Date

   State or Federal agency and bureau American Indian Tribe
Downtown Peotone Historic District

Name of Property

Will County, Illinois
County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register
____ See continuation sheet.
____ determined eligible for the National Register
____ See continuation sheet.
____ determined not eligible for the National Register
____ removed from the National Register
____ other (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

____ private
____ public-local
____ public-State
____ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

____ building(s)
____ district
____ site
____ structure
____ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>5   buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0   sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0   structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0   objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>5   Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register  N/A

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A
Downtown Peotone Historic District
Name of Property

Will County, Illinois
County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- Commerce/Trade/business
- Commerce/Trade/professional
- Commerce/Trade/specialty store
- Commerce/Trade/restaurant
- Domestic/single dwelling
- Recreation and Culture/theater
- Recreation and Culture/sports facility
- Meeting Hall/fraternal organization

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

- Commerce/Trade/business
- Commerce/Trade/professional
- Commerce/Trade/specialty store
- Commerce/Trade/restaurant
- Domestic/single dwelling
- Domestic/multiple dwelling
- Recreation and Culture/sports facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements
Queen Anne

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation
- limestone
- brick
- concrete

Roof
- oil based membrane
- composition shingles

Walls
- brick
- wood

other
- enameled steel panels

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- **X** A  
  Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

- **B**  
  Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

- **X** C  
  Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

- **D**  
  Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- **A**  
  owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

- **B**  
  removed from its original location.

- **C**  
  a birthplace or a grave.

- **D**  
  a cemetery.

- **E**  
  a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

- **F**  
  a commemorative property.

- **G**  
  less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
- Commerce
- Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance  
1886-1962

Significant Dates  
1913, 1914

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
N/A

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
various

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)  
See Continuation Sheet
Downtown Peotone Historic District
Name of Property

Will County, Illinois
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
____ previously listed in the National Register
____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
____ designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data
____ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other

Name of repository Will County Land Use, Preservation Planning, 58 East Clinton Avenue, Joliet,
Illinois 60435, 815-727-8430

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 7.5 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
1 16 433781 4576104 3 16 433836 4575840
2 16 433872 4576099 4 16 433699 4575835
____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

See Continuation Sheet
Downtown Peotone Historic District
Name of Property

Will County, Illinois
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title
Tom Adamsick, Scott Brooks-Miller and Nina Klekner

Organization
Peotone Historical Society
Will County Historic Preservation Commission

date 1-26-05

city or town  Joliet
state  Illinois
zip code  60432

telephone  815-727-8430

Submit the following items with the completed form:
Continuation Sheets
Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name  multiple owners

street & number

telephone

city or town

state

zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Narrative Description

The Downtown Peotone Historic District is located in southern Will County between Interstate 57 on the west and Illinois 50 on the east, just north of the Kankakee/Will County line. Peotone evolved out of the introduction of the railroad (now the Canadian National) and the continuing settlement of the northeastern Illinois prairie. In some respects, Peotone was a latecomer to the Illinois landscape with the railroad cutting across the countryside in 1855. It was not surveyed until 1857 and incorporated in 1869. Peotone’s commercial building evolution mirrored the construction technology of the day. Initial wood frame building began in the 1850s and when demolished, or destroyed by fire, more substantial/permanent structures were built. Only two nineteenth century wood frame structures remain today. By the 1880s, the mode of construction followed a national pattern of masonry construction with cast iron column storefronts and second stories with ornate pressed metal cornices. When fire struck again in 1913, new construction followed the dominant trends of the era incorporating plumbing, electricity and central heating within the new construction. For the remainder of the first half of the twentieth century, new commercial structures reflected the current building trends of the contemporary period. The Downtown Peotone Historic District contains 42 resources in a three-block area running roughly along North Second Street. Thirty-seven buildings are contributing and five are non-contributing. The district is “L” shaped and consists of the 100 & 200 blocks of North Second Street, the 100 block of West Main Street and parts of the 100 block of West North Street.

The Downtown Peotone Historic District is a mix of mostly one and two story buildings built between 1886 and 1914. Although only one building in the district was built in the 1920s, alterations, modifications and improvements were happening to the downtown buildings throughout the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. The remaining buildings in the district were built post 1945, about half before 1955 and half after 1955. Several two-story structures are a combination of commercial on the first floor and residential on the second. The district’s eastern boundary is the Canadian National (formerly the Illinois Central) railroad track (running north/south) and beyond that residential neighborhoods surround this more than a century old central business district. A majority of the contributing structures were built between 1885 and 1914 and utilize the cast iron column storefront with recessed entry and wooden bulkheads. The oldest structure is a former blacksmith shop, since converted for contemporary use. The non-contributing buildings include a 1905 building and a 1914 building that have been remodeled voiding out any historic features, the garage associated with the Lustron House that has been converted into a beauty salon, the more recent garage associated with 108 West North Street and the 1981 Mayberry Junction Building.

Architectural styles and building forms include a simple wood frame gabled roof structure, Two-Part Commercial Block buildings of common bond masonry with cast iron storefronts and pressed metal cornices, residential and commercial properties with Queen Anne details and more modern one story brick buildings with aluminum storefronts. Those structures built after the 1913 fire utilize poured concrete foundations in lieu of the limestone block found on earlier structures. While many structures have undergone modifications over the years, the collection of structures, as a whole, conveys a sense of the architectural history and transition in style.
from the late nineteenth century through the middle of the twentieth century. Additionally, the structures reflect the evolving commercial growth of Peotone.

List of Properties

1. **214-216 North Second Street**-Ministry Center (Lustron House)-Contributing
   Constructed in 1949, this Lustron House has yellow porcelain panels, a gabled roof of cement fiber shingles and rests on a concrete foundation. The primary entry has been modified. A wood frame garage (1A) built circa 1950 in the rear of the property has been converted to the Before and After Beauty Salon and is Non-Contributing.

2. **213 North Second Street**-Hallock House-Contributing
   Constructed in 1895, this two-story common bond masonry house with Queen Anne massing has a composition shingle hipped roof with a gabled dormer on the primary façade. Fenestration consists of nine over nine double hung windows on the first and second levels and an offset covered porch with a Palladian entry centered on the porch.

3. **211 North Second Street**-Dental Office-Contributing
   Constructed 1959, this one story blonde brick modern style structure has an extended flat roof giving a Prairie Style-like appearance. A precast concrete belt course divides the façade with all windows above the belt course with the exception of a picture window to the right of the front entry. Projecting brick walls enclose a small front courtyard.

4. **210 North Second Street**-Peotone Bowling Center-Contributing
   Constructed 1946, this one story blonde brick structure has an asymmetrical entry on the south side of the primary façade. A second entrance was built not long after the original construction for a separate entry to the bowling alley's lounge. A masonry parapet sets atop the original structure and fenestration is minimal with only two horizontal openings above shoulder level on the original façade. The simplicity of construction and minimal detail is indicative of this type of recreational facility of the post-World War II era. The cornice is capped with an aluminum cover.

5. **209 North Second Street**-JDT Repair Services-Contributing
   Constructed in the 1880s, this two-story, flat roof, wood frame Two-Part Commercial Block structure has a hipped porch roof that extends the width of the primary façade interrupted for a garage door opening centered on the first level. The second floor windows remain, though plywood covers openings that are missing glass. The original bulkhead has been replaced with masonry. The original wood clapboard on the sides of the structures has been covered with vinyl siding.
6. **207 North Second Street-Carstens Insurance Office-Contributing**
   Constructed 1899, as a wood frame front gabled commercial structure, the front façade has undergone some modifications, while the rear of the property appears to be intact. The basic overall form of the building remains.

7. **206 North Second Street-Chessar Travel Agency-Contributing**
   Constructed circa 1898, this two story transitional Queen Anne house has a cross-gabled dormer, hip roof, clapboard siding and sits on a stone foundation. Fenestration consists of paired one-over-one double hung windows symmetrically balance on both the east and southern exposure. A small porch provides entry to the interior and has been modified to include a foyer space.

8. **205 North Second Street-Commercial Building (Vacant)-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1945, this small wood frame post war residence has a hipped roof, one-over-one double hung windows, offset porch and entry with clapboard siding and concrete block foundation reflects the residential and commercial mixed use of this block.

9. **203 North Second Street-House-Contributing**
   Constructed circa 1890, this small transitional wood frame gabled ell house with dormers rests on a stone and block foundation. The primary façade has an offset porch with entry made from the right or south side of the structure. The roof is composition shingle, exterior sheathing is clapboard, fenestration is consists of symmetrically balanced one-over-one double hung windows beneath the gable ends.

10. **201 North Second Street-NAPA Auto Supply Store-Contributing**
    Constructed circa 1890, this classic wood frame commercial structure with a gabled roof behind a false front parapet has clapboard siding and a symmetrically balanced first level commercial storefront with a centered entry supported by two picture/display windows on either side of the main door. The roof has contemporary composition shingles and some modern modifications have been made on the rear of the structure.

11. **124 North Second Street-Commercial Building-Contributing**
    Constructed in circa 1898 with the front extended by eight feet around 1914, this two story wood frame clapboard sided structure has undergone alteration over time. However, the massing of the structure and window openings retain the original building characteristics.

12. **122 North Second Street-Guns and Gadgets-Contributing**
    Constructed 1902, this is a two story rowhouse style structure with Queen Anne details, a bayed pavilion and shingled fish scale detail on the second level to the cornice line is an unusual building in downtown Peotone. Only the first level elevation has undergone modification with stucco applied around the entry and fenestration. A second level entry door has been replaced with a modern steel replacement.
13. **120 North Second Street-House/Hotel Royal-Contributing**
   Constructed circa 1890, this wood frame, clapboard sided residence has a bay with an inverted mansard roof set asymmetrically in the gabled front of the structure. The roofline has bracketed overhang supports under a composition roof. The pavilion bay segments a front porch with two entry doors on either side of the pavilion. Fenestration consists of one two-over-two, double hung window on the south end of the second level and paired one-over-one, double hung windows centered in the pavilion bay. The first floor windows consist of a squared plate glass window in the first level of the pavilion bay with a transom window above it and a second, similar window, immediately to the right of the door on the south of the façade.

14. **119 North Second Street-Roberts Law Office/Peotone Realty-Contributing**
   Constructed 1962, the modern building as brick façade with masonry parapet covered with enamel panels, a recessed entry with double door entry symmetrically centered with glass transom and a single aluminum framed plate glass window on either side of the entry. This structure retains its original character from its period of construction.

15. **115-117 North Second Street-Jurres Brothers Building-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1912, this two-story, Two-Part Commercial Block, masonry structure has “JURRES BROS” in precast concrete centered on the cornice line. Second story fenestration originally had Chicago style windows that have been modified by reducing their height in half, but the original openings are intact. The first level transom windows have been covered, but the recessed entries remain and fenestration now consists of aluminum-framed plate glass. The bulkhead has been modified with the introduction of a contrasting red brick. This is one of the larger buildings in the historic district.

16. **116 North Second Street-Peotone Vision Center/Jones Enterprises/Apartments-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1903, this two and a half story masonry building possesses a high degree of integrity. An elevated first floor reveals an English basement used for office space just below street level. The cast iron store front with recessed entry and transom windows supported by cast iron columns supports a second level consisting of a centered pair of twelve over twelve double hung windows flanked on each side with a single twelve-over-twelve double hung window. Stained glass transoms are above all the second floor windows and the second floor entry. A pressed metal entablature with dentil molding above a plain frieze with symmetrically placed circles beneath a masonry parapet with a second narrower pressed metal dentil molding cornice, flanked by masonry towers. A cloth retractable awning hangs above the first floor entry and fenestration.

17. **114 North Second Street-Commercial Building(Vacant)-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1928, this two-story masonry structure has a simple cornice line of pressed metal dental molding with the date “1928” in raised letters centered beneath the cornice on the masonry plane. Second level fenestration consists of three paired double hung one-over-one windows symmetrically balanced on the second level with precast concrete lintel, brick mold and sill. The street level has three
separate entries with the center entry providing access to the second floor and the doors on either side giving entry to two retail spaces on each respective side. First level fenestration consists of two large plate glass windows with aluminum surrounds. The transom windows above the second floor entry has been removed and covered with a wooden panel. The masonry accentuation in this structure contributes to its architectural significance.

18. 113 North Second Street-Commercial Building-Contributing
 Constructed in 1896, this three-story, Two-Part Commercial Block, masonry structure is the tallest of the commercial structures in downtown. The cornice is an embellished masonry atop four brick pavilions that rise off the second/third floor level. Third floor fenestration consists of three, one-over-one, double hung windows with a limestone lintel and sill. Second level fenestration consists of a central paired, double one-over-one window with a single one-over-one double hung balanced on either side. The street level retains its original architectural integrity with original bulkhead, recessed entry, transom windows, cloth awning and cast iron post and lintel supported display windows.

19. 111 North Second Street-Suzy’s Saloon-Contributing
 Constructed in 1894, this simple two-story, Two-Part Commercial Block, masonry building was remodeled in the early 1950s. While the recessed opening remains, the façade was covered with a blond brick veneer with faux limestone at street level. Second story fenestration consists of three one-over-one double hung windows centered at the second level.

20. 110 North Second Street-Inland Printing-Contributing
 Constructed 1886, this two-story wood frame, Two-Part Commercial Block structure retains its cornice detail with a cornice capitol of pressed metal with the date “1886” in raised letters in its pediment. The entablature consists of three, wood detailed, belt courses with the base line having an inverse diamond pattern. The second floor fenestration consists of three window openings, the center three six-over-six double hung windows with a small fixed transom above and wood framing. To either side of the central window are two six-over-six double hung windows again with the small transom window above the double hung windows. The street level façade has had several remodelings over the years and currently has plate glass windows, a brick veneer and two aluminum framed doorway entries to two ground level retail spaces and a third steel door providing entry to the second floor.

21. 108 North Second Street-Judi’s Shear Pleasure Salon and Spa-Contributing
 Constructed circa 1890, this is a two-story, red brick, Two-Part Commercial Block building has a recessed entry and embellished brick cornice capped with terracotta tiles. The second story fenestration has been modified from four separate window openings, as evidences the arched masonry detail, to two paired one-over-one double hung windows. The entry and display window has been modified for contemporary use and an awning conceals detail above the display window.
22. **106 North Second Street**-Second Street Saloon and Grill-Contributing
   Constructed circa 1910, this structure is a two-story rusticated concrete block masonry structure with a raised parapet and pressed metal cornice embellished with brackets and relief detail in the frieze line. Second floor fenestration consists of four openings with precast lintels and sills, though the windows themselves have been boarded over. The street level has undergone several remodelings leaving some evidence of the cast iron column and lintel evident. The current entry to the south of the building is a aluminum framed glass door and the façade has been covered in wood with aluminum framed windows with brackets between the cast iron columns.

23. **105 North Second Street**-Commercial Building(Vacant)-Contributing
   Constructed in 1906, this two and one half story building has common bond red brick masonry façade with precast concrete lintels above second and third story fenestration with a terracotta cap on the masonry parapet. The main entry is modified from its original construction and has two entries—a centered entry for the first floor commercial space and a second entry on the north (left) side for second floor access. Both have concrete steps up to the entry doors. The original cast iron columns have been encased and the transom window above the display window have been enclosed. Fenestration on the second floor consists of five one-over-one double hung windows with a larger arched window in the center, all appear original. Third story fenestration consists of three single pane fixed windows.

24. **104 North Second Street**-Second Street Saloon and Grill-Contributing
   Constructed circa 1890, this structure is a two-story, rusticated concrete block, Two-Part Commercial Block building. The street level remodeling of this structure includes the introduction of siding, a steel door and two aluminum framed picture windows. The cast iron column capitol and lintel remain visible reflecting the two-part division of this building. The second level and cornice still possess some original detail, which includes a pressed metal cornice and three window openings—one smaller paired one-over-one double hung window to south and two taller one-over-one double hung windows, one centered on the plane of the façade, the other to the north above the entry door on the first level.

25. **102 North Second Street**-Mayberry Junction-Non-Contributing
   Constructed 1981, this wood frame, vinyl clad gable end structure sits on the northwest corner of Second and Main Streets.

26. **101 North Second//101-103 West Main Streets**-Tongen Law Offices/Knuth Law Office-Contributing
   Constructed 1895 and added onto in 1897, this building is a two-story, common bond masonry, Two-Part Commercial Block structure with masonry detailed cornice and recessed entry centered on the Second Street façade. It dominates the corner and possesses a high degree of integrity. A stone belt course above the 101 Main Street address highlights the distinguishing characteristics and separates it from the 101 Second Street address. Street level fenestration has been remodeled with new frames and some glass block. Parts of the front façade still retain the stone lintels and sills on first and second floor fenestration. Some original windows have been removed with smaller double hung one-over-one...
window in their stead and louvered vents above the windows. Transom windows on the Second Street façade have been removed and replaced with glass block in their place. The three-bayed second floor has recessed panels inside masonry columns and fenestration symmetrically balanced with paired double hung one-over-one windows.

27. 122 West Main Street-Rad Haus Bike Shop-Contributing
   Constructed in 1929, this One-Part Commercial Block, wide horizontal masonry structure is embellished by vertical and decorative brickwork in its cornice. A contemporary fix awning with composition shingles masks the transom windows and the cast iron columns have been removed for steel supports. The masonry bulkhead remains along with the original recessed entry though a modern aluminum door has replaced the wooden entry.

28. 121 West Main Street-JTR Heating, Cooling and Plumbing-Contributing
   Constructed in 1948, this One-Part Commercial Block structure typifies early post World War II construction with its red brick façade, concrete block sidewalks and rear, raised parapet with an elevated center and vertical brick highlighting the cornice line. The entry to this one level building is centered on the façade with three large aluminum framed picture windows on either side of the entry.

29. 118-120 West Main Street-Auto Dealership/Vacant-Non-Contributing
   Constructed 1905, this two-story masonry building is hidden behind a contemporary façade. Only elements of the cornice are visible.

30. 117-119 West Main Street-Natural Health Chiropractic Center-Contributing
   Constructed in 1957, this One-Part Commercial Block building is a small one level commercial structure with a brick façade, a precast cap and concrete block side and rear walls. The single front aluminum entry with side lights and transom is located on the right of the façade and two large aluminum picture windows offset the left of the structure.

31. 116 West Main Street-Teresa Foods, Inc.-Contributing
   Constructed in 1914, this building is a one story masonry structure with masonry piers wrapping a cast iron column storefront. The storefront is covered with newer wood panels and entry is made through a contemporary aluminum door. The masonry cornice is highlighted by three precast belt courses with a terra cotta cap and precast ornamentation on the pavilions between the belt courses.

32. 111 West Main Street-Fedde House-Contributing
   Constructed in circa 1898, this wood frame transitional Queen Anne influenced house has a cross-gabled, hipped roof with elements of Arts and Crafts detail in its fenestration on the first floor and traditional one-over-one double hung windows on the second story. The house is covered in a narrow clapboard siding and sits atop a stone foundation.
33. **110-112 West Main Street-Fedde's Furniture and Carpeting/Fedde-Helfrich Chapel-Non-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1914, this masonry veneered structure with poured concrete foundation has been remodeled on numerous occasions so that a contemporary masonry veneer from grade to cornice has obscured all character defining features.

34. **107-109 West Main Street-Daum Appliance-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1961, this modern building is a typical commercial masonry structure of the era with aluminum clad display windows and blonde brick veneer over concrete block on the first level and textured siding on the second level.

35. **108 West Main Street-Hupe True Value Hardware-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1914, this structure possesses its original architectural character. The two-story masonry building has a raised parapet with a precast cap. A cornice belt of precast entablature and dental molding separates the second floor from the parapet. Second level fenestration consists of seven one-over-one double hung windows, a fixed eight pane transom above recessed in the façade with precast sill and lintel. A belt course differentiates the first story from second story and beneath it is a cast iron lintel offset to the right or west side of the structure. The storefront features a separate wooden two-door entry to the second floor on the left or east side of the structure. The transom it currently covered with a plastic awning. A concrete base distinguishes this entry from the primary storefront access. The storefront is a classic cast iron post and lintel with recessed wooden bulkhead and large glass display windows. The only modification is that the transom window is currently covered with signage, though it is viewable from the interior.

36. **102 West Main Street-Teske Family Chiropractic Center/Kankakee Journal-Contributing**
   Constructed in 1914, this two story red brick masonry building with precast concrete detail is located on the corner of Railroad Street, Main Street and the foot of Second Street. It is a prominent structure when entering the downtown from Route 50. The building is divided into three commercial spaces on the first floor and a vacant space on the second. Its position on the angle of Main and Railroad Streets provides an angular appearance and is accentuated with masonry pavilions with concrete capitolts appearing to support a concrete belt course that runs on both the east and north side of the structure. Fenestration has been modified with glass block on the east side first floor. Second floor windows have been replaced with smaller units utilizing wood infill. Sills are precast with vertical concrete supports on each end of the sill. The main entrance at the northeast corner and the north side of the structure retain original architectural character with the recessed entry's transom windows above and decorative masonry, both brick and concrete, on the parapet and primary facades.

37. **101 West North Street-House-Contributing**
   Constructed circa 1910, this two-story frame house has a hipped roof, wood siding and Queen Anne details.
38. **108 West North Street**-House-Contributing
    Constructed between 1907 and 1904, this house is a one story gabled ell cottage with artificial siding and a small newer garage (38a) directly behind the house. The garage is non-contributing.

39. **116 West North Street**-House/Stewart House Hotel-Contributing
    Constructed circa 1907, this house is a two-story Queen Anne with a limestone foundation. The house has vinyl siding and a remodeled porch. But, some original decorative shingles are still visible in the front gable.

40. **120-122 West North Street**-Peotone Vedette Building-Contributing
    Constructed in 1906, this building is a 2 rock face block structure with later cinder block two and one story additions to the rear. The first floor windows of the original building are boarded up, but upper story windows are wooden one-over-one double hung windows. The addition has one-over-one double hung wood windows. The front facade is mostly covered with ivy, but the front entry has decorative fluted pilaster on either side with decorative stepped brick work under the windows.
Statement of Significance

The Downtown Peotone Historic District meets Criteria A and C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Under Criterion A, the district is locally significant because of its association with the commercial growth and development of Peotone. Today, the district conveys the feeling of a successful small town commercial district that serves into the twenty-first century. Under Criterion C, the district is locally significant for its variety of architectural styles and building forms that represent the evolution of the community. The period of significance for the Downtown Peotone Historic District is from 1886, when the earliest building in the district was built, to 1962, the year the last building in the district was constructed. The four contributing buildings less than fifty-year-old buildings in the district represent that last significant construction episode of downtown. While a few buildings within the district are less than fifty-years old, the majority of contributing resources are more than fifty years old.

History

In 1856, the Illinois Central Railroad finished construction and started service across Eastern Will County. The railroad provided the fuel for growth and development in an otherwise sparsely populated portion of the county. Peotone, located on the Northeastern Illinois prairie (now farmland), immediately west of the Indiana border, south of Lake Michigan and Cook County, was surveyed in 1857. The Village of Peotone founded by David Goodwillie was one of the small towns formed along the Illinois Central Railroad. The first residential structure was erected in 1858. In 1859, the first commercial structure was completed and opened for business. As Peotone grew, nearby communities such as Twelve Mile Grove (eight miles to the west), settled as early as 1832, diminished in size and eventually ceased to exist.

By the end of the Civil War, Peotone was home to numerous businesses that included several grain elevators, warehouses, shops, a post office, and other conveniences for its growing population. Over the course of the next century it was home to ten hotels, interurban trolleys, the Peotone windmill, John Dillinger, an Opera House, and the Will County Fair. All were part of the Village of Peotone's "Golden Age." The height of community growth was around the turn of the 19th century and lasted about four decades, from 1890 to 1930, although new buildings were constructed in the district until the mid-twentieth century.

With rich soil for growing grain and a depot for shipping it, the eastern portion of Peotone Township grew rapidly with farmers meeting a demand in the larger cities for their grain. Merchants were also needed to service the farmers. Peotone was eventually incorporated in 1869.1

The "heart" of the business district from 1860 through 1880 was along Railroad Street. Practically all the businesses in town transacted their trade in the buildings facing the railroad, between Main and North Streets. Many buildings had platforms and ramps in front, so goods could be transported from the railroad cars to the
stores. In 1890, the intersection of Second and Main Streets became the "new" shopping district of the village. In March of 1928, the last landmark along Railroad Street was torn down. It was the E. B. Cowing Building, which was built between 1860 and 1870. It was once a popular hotel and restaurant, in the very center of the town's activities.

In May of 1913, a fire started on the south side of Main Street, behind John Conrad's Sons Hardware Store. Most of the buildings along the block were destroyed. One year later, an article in the Peotone Vedette said,

Today, the burned over district is covered with modern buildings of heavy brick construction. These buildings are as fine as can be found anywhere.... No town of this size anywhere has better stores than Peotone. No town has better business buildings. No town has handsomer residences. Come and see these things for yourself.

If a 1914 resident could see Peotone today, he would see, basically, the same business district.

A number of public improvements aided Peotone in its growth and continued development. By 1894, Peotone had its own electric generating plant. The streets of the village were, according to the Peotone Vedette of September 21, 1894, "as well lighted as any town of its size in the state.... a large number of stores and residences have put in...light[s]." By 1895, Peotone had a brick tower that supplied water to its residents. The brick water tower was finally taken down in 1990.

Concrete crossings at street corners and cement sidewalks were laid in Peotone in 1902. Evidence of this can be seen in many of the early photographs and postcards of downtown Peotone. In 1921, Peotone began street paving and according to an article in the Peotone Vedette, "It has been a good thing for Peotone, too. She has been pulled out of the mud and her progressiveness in doing the work right has been an example to other towns." Two years later, in 1923, sixteen additional streets were paved. Specifications called for a tarvia bound macadam pavement 24 feet wide with cement curbing and gutters.

Concurrent with road improvements, the Interurban Trolley provided service from 1907 until 1927. Peotone had daily interurban trolleys that ran through the village. The trolleys ran from 63rd & Halsted in Chicago to Court Street in Kankakee.

In 1904, the Eastern Will County Fair began in Peotone. The fairground is located southwest of downtown. This local fair was labeled "The Biggest Little Fair in Illinois." The interurban trolley, which ran tracks parallel to the Illinois Central tracks, would make stops at the front gate of the fair. In the early 1920s, the fair was incorporated with the Will County Fair, and has remained in Peotone for over 100 years.
A number of businesses and companies contributed to the growth and development of Peotone over the years. In 1872, a "Dutch" style mill for grinding grain was built in Peotone, west of downtown. The 50-foot fans were taken down in 1886 when the mill transitioned to steam power. Grading ceased at the mill in the early 1920s. The mill still survives and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. Another mill was located in Peotone at the Fedde furniture store (110-112 West Main Street). This store has been in operation at the same location for over 137 years. The store built a large windmill in 1878 that powered tools necessary to make furniture and coffins. The windmill was destroyed by fire in 1883.

Peotone was also home to the Continental Bridge Company. The main factory and offices were in the village, while the sales office was located in the Monadnock Building in Chicago. The Peotone Vedette of January 29, 1920, said, "Continental bridges span streams in nearly half the states of the union and two bridges went from Peotone to the Yukon country." The company was involved in the production of steel bridges, barges, shipparts, buildings, signal and radar towers, dams, dirigible, hangars, conveyors, and sewage equipment. Federal, state, and local projects were part of the contracts filled by their manufacturing and fabricating plants. During World War I, the company fabricated 2,300 tons for the U.S. Shipping Board and the U.S. Emergency Fleet, carrying cargo to Europe. The company provided steel for 31 ships of the Submarine Boat Corporation. One was named "The Continental Bridge." The company employed 110 men working two shifts in 1926. In 1946, the factory was purchased by S. A. Bennett and called Bennett Industries, Inc. It became a great and very valuable home-industry. In 1956, the company employed 200 men and women. Today, it is owned by Cleveland Steel Container Corporation.

Another important business in Peotone was the Jostam Manufacturing Company which began operating in Peotone in 1914. The company manufactured recoil pads for shotguns and rifles. John Kruger (who made the first recoil pads in his garage) was in charge of operations. Jostam Manufacturing shipped their recoil pads all over the world. The company remained in Peotone for 35 years before moving to Dallas, Texas, in 1955.

The Poultry Publishing Company of Freeport, Illinois, decided to move their plant and offices to Peotone in 1905. Their magazine, Poultry, had international subscribers. The Peotone Vedette on May 26, 1905 wrote, "It is the finest magazine of any kind west of New York and Philadelphia, being mechanically equal to Country Life in America and The Ladies Home Journal. It is far and away the finest poultry magazine in the world." The last issue published in Peotone was in September of 1913. After the May 1913 fire on Main Street, the Peotone Vedette moved into the same building as Poultry Publishing and has been publishing there ever since.

One interesting aspect of Peotone's history involves John Dillinger. On March 3, 1934, the famous bank robber escaped from the Crown Point Jail in Indiana, using a "wooden gun" as a bluff. He took with him a fully "gassed-up" automobile from the garage next door, two hostages, and two machine guns. Later in the morning, he released the two hostages just outside of Peotone. A local farmer picked up the two and brought them to
town, where they telephoned from Dan Knowlton's Drug Store that "Public Enemy Number One" was just outside of Peotone.18

Today, the village population has not yet reached 3,500 people. Back in 1928, however, the historian August Maue wrote in his History of Will County, Illinois, "The City of Peotone is the most prosperous perhaps outside of Joliet. The merchants are energetic up-to-date in every way."19 Present today are a majority of the buildings in which those "energetic and up-to-date" merchants worked. The exteriors do not look exactly the same, as there has been change over time, but the area still has integrity.

Architecture

The Downtown Peotone Historic District possesses several examples of architectural styles and vernacular building types from the last quarter of the nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century. This eclectic assortment of buildings reflects the transition in rural architecture, as influenced by local, regional and national building trends and materials. The buildings range from simple wood frame commercial structures to One- and Two-Part Commercial Block structures with a variety of architectural details to a 1949 Lustron home to the 1962 construction of a one story brick drug store.

The earliest examples of Peotone's commercial architecture are represented by a few wood frame structures within the historic district including false front store buildings (201 North Second Street) and houses (120 North Second Street and 203 North Second Street). Fire, which influenced the character of numerous communities across the region (most notably Chicago), resulted in the increase of load bearing masonry construction. Second generation buildings, mostly built at the turn of the century and early twentieth century, comprise the majority of the structures in the district. Cast iron storefronts with embellished masonry and pressed tin cornices are readily evident, especially Hupe Hardware and a row of structures on the east 100 block of Second Street. While Peotone does not have tall buildings, several masonry structures within the district possess decorative elements that reflect contemporary building trends of the time period, as well as a pride in construction and ownership. Later architectural development is represented by the construction of a dental office (211 North Second) and later Rexall drug store (119 North Second Street) in 1959 and 1962, respectively. The houses in the district are usually gabled ell in form or have some Queen Anne details or massing. Of the ten houses within the boundaries of the historic district, only two have never had any historic commercial use. Most houses appear to have transitioned relatively quickly into commercial use or always had some business operating in the house along with the residential use.

The architecture of Peotone’s commercial district reflects the prosperity of building trends and the economy of rural Illinois. Buildings in this Will County community also reflect economic prosperity and diminished farm prices, as well as a number of building materials and styles. The railroad contributed significantly to keeping
Peotone in touch with the current events, trends, fashions and other aspect of the greater American culture during the past 150 years. The architecture of downtown Peotone reflects its social and economic development.

**Individual Building Histories**

**214-216 North Second Street**
The yellow, porcelain clad steel Lustron house was built for druggist John Crook around 1949. The Lustron Corporation began production in Columbus, Ohio, in March of 1948, and shipped their last prefabricated home in July of 1950. After being used as a residence, the building had a variety of other uses including Andy's Pizza, Rosenthal Collins Group (commodity brokers), Chesser Travel, and is presently a ministry center for a local church. The present secondary building is used as a beauty salon, Before & After Salon. It was built around 1950, as a garage for owners of the Lustron house, to the north of the building. For many years the building was Just Jeannie's beauty shop.

**213 North Second Street**
Addison B. Hallock built this two-story brick building for his photographic gallery, studio, and his residence in 1895, the same year he was elected to the General Assembly in Springfield. The building was coined The Brick Gallery. Many families in Peotone had their pictures taken on the second floor, where the gallery, reception room, operating room, toilet room, printing room and dark room were located. Hallock served three times as postmaster of Peotone, was the village's first owner of an auto garage, a lawyer, auctioneer, police magistrate, and justice of the peace. In 1905, he sold the building to Sam Pearson, who was a businessman and horse trader. James Morrison, a retired farmer from West Peotone, owned the property from 1922 until he died in 1944. Finally, the home was then purchased by another retired farmer, Albert Zirzow, and has been in the Zirzow family ever since.

**211 North Second Street**
On August 24, 1959, Frank P. Cowing sold his vacant property to Dr. Richard Davies, who built a dental office building. He practiced until the mid 1990s when Dr. R. A. Lombardi took over the practice. By 2003, Dr. Keith Wilson purchased the building and practice.

**210 North Second Street**
In 1946, Harry Koenning built the bowling alley. The new facility includes a modern soda fountain, a grill and sanitary restrooms. Later, Wally Stuenkel acquired the business and operated it, until he was killed in an automobile accident. Milt Nietfeldt continued running the business for many years. Later, new owners called it Peotone Bowling Center & Uncle Ardie's Lounge. In 2000, Bob Jurres and his son Gary bought the bowling alley and renamed the lounge Milt's Again Lounge in honor of Milt Nietfeldt.
209 North Second Street
In the 1880s, Peter Schlauder was operating his blacksmith shop in the building. He operated the blacksmith shop until he sold the business to his son Frank, around 1900. In 1911, Conrad Grabe purchased the building, stock, and good will of the business for $9,000. He continued operating the blacksmith shop and added an auto garage, since they also repaired and sold cars, such as the Empire and Briscoe. From time to time, the second floor was used as a roller skating rink. Through the years, the businesses in the building have basically been related to cars: repairing, selling, fueling, and presently for the repair of small engines. Owners through the years have included Stacy Barton, Leroy Grabe, Albert Stuehm, E. C. Younker, Walter Klenz, Emil Koeneche, Dr. Alex Johnson, Henry Lindemann, and Gerald Gersch.27

207 North Second Street
Built in 1899, the building began as the Peotone Steam Laundry, and was owned and operated by George Rehkopf and Harry Tobias (for a short while). Mr. Rehkopf operated the steam laundry for many years until he closed it in 1926. Wally Schuetz purchased the building in 1926, as a residence for his in-laws, the Remus family. Later Lloyd Bates owned the building and used for his real estate business and as a residence.28 His son, Don, continued to operate the real estate business for many years until he retired. Lyle Carstens is the present owner of the building and he operates an insurance business.

206 North Second Street
Built before 1898,29 this house was the home (for over 50 years) of the Schroeder family. Between Ernest Schroeder and his son Bob, they operated the saloon (one block to the south) for more than 70 years. Presently, Marian Chesser, who currently owns the home, operates a travel agency there.

205 North Second Street
On March 14, 1945, Stanley Arnold sold vacant land to E. P. Cowing, who built a small building for his real estate business. Maurice Cowing sold the property to Ivy Dick in 1955. Dick, according to memory, operated a sewing-seamstress business there. Fred Boden purchased the building in 1968. Since then, it has been: Ernst Gem Shop, Gentleman’s Choice Barber Shop, Chesser Travel, 2 Scoops Ice-Cream Parlor, and is presently vacant.30

203 North Second Street
From 1890 until failing health caused her to retire in 1908, Mrs. Helen Dunning conducted a millinery shop in the building. More millinery shops (and for a brief time an undertaking business) continued in the building until the Harms family made it their residence.31 The Harms family conducted a plumbing and heating business next door, to the south. The building is still used as a residence.
201 North Second Street
Well-known village family photographer, Thomas Perry, moved his photography gallery here in 1892. The following year he sold his business and the use of his name to Addison B. Hallock. A. B. Hallock's Photography Gallery continued until the building was sold to James Barnhart in 1895, for his Emporium & Notion Store. Mr. Barnhart was the publisher of Peotone's first newspaper, The Peotone Eagle. From 1870 to 1885, he was also Peotone's postmaster and operated the post office in his store on Railroad Street. The old post office pigeonhole mailbox shelving was moved to 201 North Second in 1895. By 1903, the business in the building became the J. H. Fletcher Music Store. By 1914, it was the S. D. Barton Egyptian Trail Garage. Next the building was occupied by B. A. Harms Plumbing & Heating, which the family operated from 1923 until the late 1990s, when Al Harms retired. Presently the building is a NAPA Auto Supply Store.

124 North Second Street
The building was built before 1898, perhaps as early as 1881. In 1881, Peter Schauder and Frederich Schroeder operated a wagon and carriage factory on the corner. Through the years the building was professional office space and residential. Around 1914, the building was expanded eight feet in the front. A new façade was added and still exists. Some of Peotone's best-known doctors and dentists have practiced in this building. Two of the most famous were Dr. J. W. Turner (1915-1925) and Dr. Frank Daugherty.

122 North Second Street
In 1902, the U.S. Post Office moved into Peter Schauder's new two-story brick building. The post office remained in the Schauder Building until December of 1912. After the post office moved across the street, Mrs. Hattie Schauder moved her Ladies Millinery & Furnishings Shop into the vacated store. In 1916, August Schroeder relocated his piano store here. He sold pianos, player pianos, and song rolls to many Peotone families. Later, Tom Ivanoff had a gun shop in the building. His son, Tom, currently runs a gun shop, Guns & Gadgets, in the same location. Between the years of 1976 and 1992, Evan Robert, attorney at law, occupied the structure with his law firm and real estate business before moving across the street.

120 North Second Street
The building was built before 1898, perhaps as early as 1886. Peter Schauder and family lived in the house, until he built a new building on the lot to the north. On October 1, 1902, Ed Storch (a barber) purchased Peter Schauder's building and moved his family into it. A few days later, he opened his Hotel Royal in the building. Mr. Storch operated Hotel Royal for a number of years before turning the building entirely into his family residence. Later Emma Hauert lived there. It has continued to be a residence.

119 North Second Street
During the summer of 1962, druggist John Crook built his new Crook's Rexall Drug Store on the property. Previously, his drug store was located in the building to the south. Next, Bob Hilsenhoff took over the drug
store and eventually moved to the larger Jurres Bros. Building, one store to the south. Evan Roberts, who converted it into his law office and real estate business, purchased the building in 1992.36

115-117 North Second Street (Jurres Bros.)
William and Fred Jurres built the Jurres Bros. Building at the end of 1912. It was divided into two stores. The north store was the Jurres Bros. Hardware Store, which was formerly located two stores to the north. In 1920, Gilbert Jurres and Stacey Barton, who continued the hardware business for many years, bought out the Jurres Brothers. Eventually the north and south stores became a drug store, Hilsenhoff Peotone Pharmacy. The pharmacy continued for many years until Bob Hilsenhoff retired. He sold the business to Doc's Drugs, which operated in the building until moving to a vacant building on Route 50 in Peotone. Today, the north store is Biker's Attic. In 1912, the south store became the U. S. Post Office, which continued in that location until moving to a new building on Main Street in 1957. The Jurres Hall (which was located on the second floor of the building), like many large halls of the time, was used for a variety of social functions and activities. After, Pearson's Hall/Peotone Opera House was leased to the Odd Fellows for their lodge meetings and offices. In early 1919, the Jurres Hall became the primary location for many of Peotone's meeting and entertainment activities.37

116 North Second Street
Fred Carstens purchased the lot from H. D. Crawford and John Diedrich in 1902. He erected a two-story brick building the following year. Between 1903 and 1909, the Reitz brothers operated their Reitz Brother Buffet & Saloon on the first floor. In 1909, the Reitz brothers vacated the building and Henry Wiechen moved his Wiechen & Schroeder Saloon into the space. The second floor was temporarily used, in 1905, by the Poultry Publishing Co. before moving into their new building around the corner. Thomas Armstrong also used it for his pool and billiards parlor. The second floor was known as Carstens Hall. It was used for a variety of purposes including basketball games. Ben Harms rented the basement for a plumbing shop from 1912 until 1923. From 1914 until 1928, the first floor was used as a motion picture theater, first the Elite Theater (1914-1918) and then Charles Stewart's Victory Theater (1919-1928). In the 1920s and 1930s, Illinois Bell Telephone Co. had its switchboard on the second floor. The first floor has had several occupants including; J. Earl Smith's Men's Store, George Kwain's Photography, and Walter Irl's Variety Store (1956-1961). Presently, the building has luxury apartments on the second floor, Peotone Vision Center on the first floor, and Jones Enterprises on the lower level.38

114 North Second Street
On March 16, 1927, fire completely destroyed Frank Schlauder's auto garage. He rebuilt the garage within a year. His son, Charles (Catsy), also worked there and sold new cars, especially Pontiacs. In 1944, Lyle Bertrand and Ralph Grubbs opened the Peotone Theater in the structure. The first show was held on February 18, 1944, and the last show was held on December 3, 1951. The Bertrand's sold the building to St. Paul's Catholic Church in November of 1951. The priest's residence was an apartment above the lobby of the church.
The Catholic Church sold the building in the early 1970s. Daum’s Appliance and The Illinois Training Center then used the building. Currently, the building is under going rehabilitation.39

113 North Second Street
E. B. Cowing completed negotiations with the Masonic and Woodsman Lodges for the lot in early 1896; and shortly thereafter, he began construction of his three-story brick building. The first tenants were George Renkert and Herman Frahm, with their Dry Good & Groceries Store in 1896. It became the Frahm & Fletcher Dry Goods Store from 1903 until 1913. George Grice and John Stassen rented the building in 1913 for a motion picture theater. Martin Koenning’s (Men’s Clothing) Quality Store operated in the building from 1915 until 1918. Then it became A. J. Foster & Co. Drug Store. Mrs. Nellie Foster ran the store until 1925. Then Dan Knowlton moved his drug store from across the street into the building. It was in D. V. Knowlton’s Drug Store on March 3, 1934, that the two hostages, John Dillinger took when he escaped from the Crown Point Jail, called the “nation” and said that “Public Enemy Number One” was outside of Peotone. After Mr. Knowlton’s ownership, Everett and Elsie Munger acquired the building. The Munger operated a very popular restaurant, as did Ted and Gladys Valentine who ran Valentine’s Cafe in the 1950s. In the early 1980s, Michael Morrison operated his Old Mill Flowers Shop in the building. In the 1990s, the store was occupied by a variety of restaurants including: Iuozzo’s Pizza, Chef’s Table, My Sister’s Bakery, and presently Nick’s Licks Ice Cream Parlor.40

111 North Second Street
Dr. William Elliott built the building in 1894 for his medical office and drug store. It was Elliott & Krause Drug Store by 1895, and Elliott & Howe Drug Store from 1901-1904. The building was purchased in 1904 by the druggist, Albert J. Foster. Mr. Foster was responsible for a great number of excellent photographs and postcards of early Peotone. He ran A. J. Foster & Co. Drug Store from 1904 until he died in 1917. His wife, Nellie, ran the business for another year, until she moved it one store to the north. "Gus The Taylor" operated his clothing store in the building from 1919 until 1925. George Dick opened Dick’s American Restaurant & Ice Cream Parlor in October of 1925. He operated it until he died in 1936. From 1950 until the present, taverns occupied the building: Walter Carstens’ Walt’s Tap, Hanrahain’s Tap, and presently Suzy’s Saloon.41

110 North Second Street
The building was built before 1898. Harry Conrad and his sons, Earle and Chester used the building as a grocery store and meat market. Harry Conrad is credited as the first merchant to pack merchandise into cellophane bags. The DuPont Company donated the cellophane before it was put on the market. The Schluder Brothers used the second floor showroom for carriages and buggies in 1895. Peotone’s Commercial Club, a private members club, used the second floor in 1902. In the 1950s, Dorothy Minger was the proprietor of the clothing store. Franklin and Vera Klenz succeeded Minger and added a shoe store to the business. They sold the building to Gilbert Sippel in 1976.42 Today Inland Printing occupies the structure.
108 North Second Street
In the 1890, this building was used for Mrs. Shumway's Millinery Shop and Paul Morin's Confectionery & Fruit Store. From 1906 until 1915, George Grice's Restaurant & Ice Cream Parlor, along with the ticket office and waiting room for the interurban trolley, utilized the building. The trolley ran through Peotone from 1907 until 1927. From 1915 until 1925, the building was home to the Peotone Pharmacy, which was owned by James Loukota and later Dan Knowlton. In 1925, Ed Duclos purchased the store and re-established the ice cream parlor and lunchroom that lasted there until the late 1930s. Starting in the 1950s, Harold Heyerman operated his jewelry store in the building. Bower's Art Supply & Sundries moved into the building in the mid-1990s, followed by Judy Austell's Judi's Shear Pleasure beauty shop which continues there today.43

106 North Second Street
From the 1890s, the building was used as a store for "general merchandise" (dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes, groceries, etc.). Owners included Hugh Smith, George Renkert, and Herman Frahm. In 1896, John Stassen opened his furniture store and undertaking business (second floor), which he operated until a fire in 1910. After the fire, Ernest Schroeder purchased the building. He repaired and remodeled it for his saloon business. From 1910 until the present, the building has been used as a saloon. However during the "Prohibition" years, it was used only as a poolroom. Ernest Schroeder and his son, Bob, ran the saloon for over 70 years. Some of the partners included Poppenhagen, Meyer, Wiechen, Peterson, and Jack Gast (for 30 years).44 Al Meyer is the present owner and runs the Second Street Saloon and Grill.

105 North Second Street
August Gebhardt built the two-story brick building for his meat market in 1906. The store was used as a meat market for many years: Gebhardt's Meat Market (1906-1911), Hirt & Brandl's Peotone Meat Market (1911-1913), E. C. Younker's Meat Market (1913-1919), and Krugers Peotone Market (1919-1949). Later, the front part of the building was divided into two stores; one became Irene Clark's Modern Beauty Shop and the other Glen Yost's Glen's Barber Shop. Around 1990, the building reverted back to one store: Quality Frozen Foods. Presently, the store is vacant.45

104 North Second Street
Built before 1898, the building was used by Moritz Fleischer as a harness shop. In 1899 it was the Peotone Hotel. From 1908 until the 1940s, the building was primarily used as a bakery and/or ice cream parlor. The owners included Ed Duclos (1908-1911), Lester Morrison (1911-1913), Harry Ammann (1913-1917), Charles Younker (1917-1918), and Richard Finke (1924-1946). In 1947, Russell Kruger opened the Cottage Bakery in the building. He combined that building with the adjacent structure to the south.46 After Mr. Kruger retired, the building became part of the adjacent saloon located to the north. Today, the two buildings are still combined as the Second Street Saloon & Grill.
102 North Second Street
In November of 1980, the building (that was Ed Storch's former barber shop for 40 years and later part of the Cottage Snack Shop) was torn down. Three month later, Gary's Cottage Cafe opened in a new building. Since then, the building has been a restaurant. Today, it is Mayberry Junction.

101 North Second Street/ 103 West Main Street
In 1895, Frederick Schroeder tore down his old store and replaced it with this two-story brick building. He and/or his sons operated the mercantile store on this corner for 45 years. Through the years, he had different partners: Rathje, Smith, Collins, Stassen, Sulzbaugh, and Yung. In 1909, Franz Brandt and August Schlauder purchased the business. The following year, Mr. Brandt and his son bought out the business, F. J. Brandt & Son General Merchandise Store. In October of 1912, the firm of Arnold, Harken & Co. purchased the building and business for $13,200. They continued operating it until the business was sold in 1946 to Chester Kruger. Mr. Kruger bricked-up the front entrance, made a spacious dual entrance on the west side and made apartments on the second story, and a frozen food locker in the chicken house. He carried on the business as a self-serve market. More "food marts" followed: Cardinal Food Mart and then Bob Wallace and Ozzie Pianti's B & O Super Market. Later the building became The Fabric Corner, then Take 1 Video, and is presently a fitness center and Tongren Law Offices. In 1897, Frederick Schroeder & Sons added an east side addition to the building. It became the new Village of Peotone Post Office with Addison B. Hallock, as postmaster. By the end of 1902, Hallock moved the post office into a building on Second Street, and Peotone's new bank, Bank of Peotone, took possession of 103 West Main. Popular doctors John B. Howe (physician) and his brother Ralph S. Howe (dentist) occupied offices on the second floor for many years. The physician Dr. J. W. Turner relocated here in 1925 and remained for many years. The insurance firm of Yung & Hoenik had their office in the Bank Of Peotone, along with Frank J. Hinrichs. For many years, the building was occupied by the law offices of Clinton, Tongren, & Knuth. Thomas Clinton sold the building to Thomas Knuth, where he has his current law offices.

122 West Main Street
In 1929, the Meyer brothers (Lester, Irvin, and Farris) purchased the Harken residence on Main Street for $4,000. The home was torn down and a new 65 feet by 155 feet building was erected along side of the Meyer brothers' auto garage. Presently, the Rad Haus Bike Shop occupies the west side of the old dealership.

121 West Main Street
P. J. Matthews had the Ford dealership built in 1948. Previously, his dealership had been on Route 50 in Peotone. Mansell-Fox Motors succeeded him. Vic Katis Ford followed them. In the 1990s, Terry's Ford Lincoln Mercury was located in the building. They eventually moved to the corner of Route 50 and the Peotone/Beecher Road in the mid-1990s. Presently, JTR Heating, Cooling & Plumbing, occupies the building.
117-119 West Main Street
In 1957, the Peotone Post Office was moved from the south store of the Jurres Brothers Building, where it had been for 45 years, to the newly constructed post office on Main Street. At the time of the move, Hugh Gorman was postmaster, a position he held since 1934. In 1963, Hugh handed the post office keys to his son, Patrick, who continued as postmaster until he retired in 1986. The building is presently owned and operated by Christine Hoch for her Natural Health Chiropractic Center.51

118 West Main Street
Dick Meyer operated a livery barn and stable along Railroad Street before he built this building in 1905. In this building, he kept horses and buggies for hire for traveling salesmen and doctors that made house calls in the country. In 1906, he also started a bus line for travelers to the depot in the southwest side of the village. By 1916, Lester and Irvin Meyer were running the livery barn. Three years later, they were totally out of the horse business and fully into the auto business. Lester and Irvin’s brother, Farris Meyer, returned from World War I and joined them in the auto business. In 1929, the three brothers purchased the adjoining Harken residence, west of the auto garage. They razed the home and built an addition, 65 feet by 155 feet to the garage. They sold Chevrolets and had one of the finest dealerships in the county. The brothers also became representatives for International Harvester and sold the McCormick-Deering line of farm machine until 1960. Dralle Chevrolet & Buick succeeded them in business and moved to Route 50 in Peotone. Presently, the east side (118 West Main Street) of the old dealership is vacant.52

116 West Main Street
The building was built after the "great" Peotone fire of 1913. The front of the store was identical to the building to the east. The building was used as a meat market and grocery store from 1910 through the 1930s. Some of the owners included Chester Kruger, Leslie Howlett, Adolf Hornung, Louis Stassen, and Paul Meier. The building was also the home of The Imperial Restaurant, Dick’s American Restaurant & Ice Cream Parlor, Catterlin’s Variety Store, and Walter Irle’s Irle’s Variety Store.53 Today, Teresa Frozen Pizza occupies the building, and has been there for over 20 years.

110-112 West Main Street
In 1867, Henry Fedde started a furniture business at this location. One hundred and thirty years later Fedde’s furniture store is still at this site. However the buildings have changed. The present one was built after the "great" Peotone fire of 1913. The east half was and still is the furniture showroom, featuring a three-wall surrounding balcony and tin ceiling. The west half was originally Fedde’s undertaking establishment and rug store. Today, the west half is used as the funeral chapel. Harry Helfrich and Steven Cross presently operate the businesses. The building is known as Fedde’s Furniture & Carpeting and Fedde-Helfrich Chapel. The Fedde and Helfrich family-owned businesses are the longest running business in Peotone’s history.54
111 West Main Street
The Fedde family built this residence before 1898. In the mid-1890s, the single-family residence was made into a duplex and shared by the Fedde and Arnold families.

107-109 West Main Street
In 1947, Allen Carstens and Ralph Daum purchased the Jurcs-Glade Appliance business. Ralph Daum became sole owner and purchased the building in 1955. By the spring of 1960, he had torn down the old "post Civil War" building and constructed a one-story brick building for his appliance business. Later, he added a second floor. Although ownership has changed hands a couple of times, the business is still called Daum Appliance.

108 West Main Street
Since 1874, there have only been hardware stores at this location. The majority of the time, they were operated by the Conrad family and then by the Hupe family. The original building was replaced in 1899, with a brick building. The masonry structure was destroyed in the fire of 1913. Within one year, it was replaced with the present building. After 130 years, there is still a hardware store in that location. It is owned and operated by Dan Hupe.

102 West Main Street
On May 8, 1913, fire destroyed the Wiechen Building (hotel) along with other buildings on the south side of Main Street. In less than a year, the entire block was rebuilt with brick construction. The Wiechen Building cost $25,000 to rebuild. By 1917, the Wiechen hotel had closed, and the new Peotone State Bank became the building's new occupant. The bank remained in the building for the next 45 years. On the west side of the building were stores. They were occupied through the years by Cavallini Hotel, Restaurant & Ice Cream Parlor, A&P Grocery Store, Thomas Armstrong's Billiard & Pool Hall (basement), and Service Drug Co. Store. Presently, Teske Family Chiropractic Center and the Kankakee Journal occupy the building.

120-122 West North Street
In May of 1905, the Poultry Publishing Company purchased the lot for $600. Construction of the concrete block building was completed by the following June. The company published the magazine Poultry, which had international subscribers. In September of 1913, the last issue was published in Peotone. Soon after fire destroyed the Peotone Vedette Building, the Vedette moved their office and equipment into the first floor of the Poultry Publishing Company Building, and have been publishing the newspaper there ever since.

116 West North Street
The house was built between circa 1907 and functioned as a hotel. By 1914, it was the Stewart House Hotel. Today it is a residence.
108 West North Street
The house was built between 1907 and 1914. It is still used as a private residence today. This house along with 101 West North Street is one of the few houses in the district that has never had any commercial use.

101 West North Street
The home was built between 1907 and 1914. It has always been a residence. Presently, Eilene Wichtendahl owns the home. The local drug store has employed Wichtendahl for over 50 years.

Endnotes


22 *Peotone Vedette*, Peotone, Illinois, September 27, 1895, page 1


29 *Sanborn-Perras Map Co., Limited*, 117 & 119 Broadway, New York, February, 1898, PEOTONE, WILL CO. ILL.


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 25

Downtown Peotone Historic District
Will County, Illinois


Downtown Peotone Historic District
Will County, Illinois


50 Deed, Will County, Illinois, August 19, 1929; Adamsick, Tom, Local Resident's Personal Account, December 9, 2004.


55 Sanborn-Perris Map Co., Limited, 117 & 119 Broadway, New York, February 1898, PEOTONE, WILL CO. ILL.


60 Sanborn-Perris Map Co., Limited, 117 & 119 Broadway, New York, February 1898, and March 1914, PEOTONE, WILL CO. ILL.
Bibliography


Deed, Will County, Illinois, August 19, 1929.

Deed, Will County, Illinois, March 14, 1945.


Deed, Will County, Illinois, August 24, 1959.

Deed, Will County, Illinois, January 8, 1968.

The History of Will County, Illinois, Wm. LeBaron, Jr., & Co., 186 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, 1878.


Peotone Eagle, Peotone, Illinois.


Geographical Data

UTM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone Easting Northing</th>
<th>Zone Easting Northing</th>
<th>Zone Easting Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 16 433781 4576104</td>
<td>3 16 433836 4575840</td>
<td>5 16 433704 4575982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 16 433872 4576099</td>
<td>4 16 433699 4575835</td>
<td>6 16 433780 4575982</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boundary Description
Beginning at the rear lot line of the property at the southwest corner of the intersection of Crawford Avenue and North Second Street running east across Second Street to the rear lot line of the property at the southeast corner of Crawford and North Second turn ninety degrees and run south along the rear lot lines of the properties along Second Street until Second Street intersects with Main Street. Cross Main Street to the rear property lines of the buildings along the southern edge of Main Street turn ninety degrees and run west to the intersection of First Street turn ninety degrees and run north across Main Street to the intersection of North Street, turn ninety degrees and run east to the rear lot line of the property on the northwest corner of North Street cross North Street and run along the rear property lines of the buildings along the west side of North Second Street until the point of beginning, SW 1/4, NE 1/4 of Section 24, Peotone Township, Will County, Illinois

Boundary Justification
The boundary includes those buildings which maintain the historic integrity of the period of significance in the commercial center of Peotone. To the north and west are residential areas. To the south and east are commercial buildings and vacant land, which does not have integrity.
Entire block rebuilt within one year after 1913 fire
August 9, 2005

Ms. Tracey Sculle
National Register Coordinator
IL Historic Preservation Agency
Preservation Services
#1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield IL 62701-1507

RE: Peotone Historic District National Register Nomination.

Dear Ms Sculle:

Pursuant to CLG regulations, Will County would like to forego it’s right to review the above referenced National Register of Historic Places nomination. This request is being made so that the nomination can be placed on the Review Board’s September agenda. Thank you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, at 815-774-3364, if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully

Scott Brooks-Miller, M.Arch.
Historic Preservation Planner

C: Tyson Warner
Virginia Ferry, Chair, WCHPC
August 9, 2005

Ms. Tracey Sculle
National Register Coordinator
IL Historic Preservation Agency
Preservation Services
#1 Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield IL 62701-1507

RE: Peotone Historic District National Register Nomination.

Dear Ms Sculle:

Pursuant to CLG regulations, Will County would like to forego it’s right to review the above referenced National Register of Historic Places nomination. This request is being made so that the nomination can be placed on the Review Board’s September agenda. Thank you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, at 815-774-3364, if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully

[Signature]

Scott Brooks-Miller, M.Arch.
Historic Preservation Planner

C: Tyson Warner
Virginia Ferry, Chair, WCHPC
ILLINOIS, COOK COUNTY,
Anderson--Carlson Building,
2044-48 W. Farwell Ave.,
Chicago, 05001259,
LISTED, 11/15/05

ILLINOIS, COOK COUNTY,
Pacesetter Gardens Historic District,
13604--13736 S. Lowe Ave.,
Riverdale, 05001252,
LISTED, 11/16/05

ILLINOIS, COOK COUNTY,
Rogers Park Manor Bungalow Historic District,
Roughly bounded by W. Lunt Ave., N. Western Ave., both sides of W. Farwell Ave. and N. California Ave.,
Chicago, 05001258,
LISTED, 11/15/05
(Chicago Bungalows MPS)

ILLINOIS, JACKSON COUNTY,
Murphysboro Elks Lodge,
1329 Walnut St.,
Murphysboro, 05001255,
LISTED, 11/15/05

ILLINOIS, LAKE COUNTY,
Linn, Howard and Lucy, House,
555 Shoreacres Dr.,
Lake Bluff, 05001257,
LISTED, 11/15/05

ILLINOIS, LAKE COUNTY,
Swift, Louis F., House,
255 E. Foster Place,
Lake Forest, 05001256,
LISTED, 11/18/05

ILLINOIS, PEORIA COUNTY,
International Harvester Building,
1301-1309 Southwest Washington St.,
Peoria, 05001254,
LISTED, 11/15/05

ILLINOIS, RANDOLPH COUNTY,
Shiloh College,
13043 Walnut St.,
Shiloh Hill, 05001251,
LISTED, 11/15/05

ILLINOIS, WILL COUNTY,
Downtown Peotone Historic District,
Roughly N. First St. and both sides of N. Second St., roughly bounded by the alley S of Main and N by North St.,
Peotone, 05001253,
LISTED, 11/16/05