



Farmers prospered through the Second World War, but the trend toward suburbanization afterwards soon made it clear that Hartland could not base its future on agricultural support. Developers began offering the farmers good prices for their land, with the intention of building subdivisions for people who worked in metropolitan Milwaukee, but wanted to live in the country. Starting with the opening of 76 lots in the Northfield Subdivision in 1949, Milwaukee area commuters began to compete with the agricultural community for the village's products. The transition began slowly, but increased rapidly. Today Hartland looks back on its heritage as a farm support community with pride, but it embraces its future as a haven for metropolitan commuters.

The historical development of Hartland as an agricultural support community and retail trade center is reflected in its fine architectural heritage. Structures dating from as early as 1850 still remain in Hartland. The greatest wealth and diversity shown in the village's architecture dates from the early twentieth century, however, a time during which Hartland experienced rapid growth and prosperity.



Photographs courtesy of the Local History Room of the Hartland Public Library. Information originally compiled by the WI Historical Society in 1985.

## SUMMARY OF STYLES

### Greek Revival: 1850's

Derived from the classic Greek temple front. Columns of pilasters with an entablature, low-pitched pediment, and returned eaves. Classical ornamentation such as dentils. Rectangular window lintels.

### Italianate: 1860-1880

Symmetrical façade, wide eaves with brackets, low-pitched hip or gable roof, ornate classical details.

### Queen Anne: 1880-1920

Irregular silhouette with turrets, bays, and tall chimneys. A variety of materials, textures and colors juxtaposed.

### Gothic Revival: 1870-1920

Typical of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century churches. Pointed tracery windows with leaded glass, towers with spires and battlements. Later examples of the gothic are often termed "Neo-Gothic".

### Romanesque Revival

Also utilized in the design of late-nineteenth and early twentieth century churches. Monochromatic stone or brick. Heavy massing.

### Bungalow: 1900-1940

Often one story in height with broad gables extending to cover a porch. Battered porch piers. Exposed structural members.

### Craftsman: 1900-1940

Brick or timber finished with stucco. Wide eaves, low-pitched roof, horizontally, grouped casement windows.

### Spanish Colonial Revival: 1910-1940

Walls with a smooth unpainted stucco finish. Arcaded porches, curvilinear parapet, red tile roof, and wrought iron grilles and balconies.

### Tudor Revival: 1900-1940

Inspired by sixteenth century English Architecture. The wall treatment combines stucco and applied half-timbering with stone or brick. Steeply pitched or "thatch" roof, diamond-pane windows, round-arched doorways.

### Utilitarian

Functional, does not display elements of any style.

### Vernacular

Indicative of a structure not formally designed by an architect. Usually very simple, and may exhibit ornamentation suggestive of a particular style, but does not otherwise conform to the pattern typical to that style.



# Historical and Architectural Heritage Tour of Hartland Wisconsin

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## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Hartland's history is inextricably tied to the area's agricultural heritage. Founded in 1838 when Stephen Warren selected the future town site for his family's new home, farmers moving to the area quickly began planting wheat, perhaps Wisconsin's most famous cash crop. Christian Hershey, an enterprising entrepreneur, decided to capitalize on the farmer's needs to market their wheat. He bought land from Warren and built a grist mill in the early 1850's.

The grist mill, the Watertown Plank Road (the village's first improved transportation way in the early 1850's) and the railroad (that reached the village in 1854) conspired to make Hartland an ideal trade center for those moving into and farming the immediate area. Wheat soon exhausted the soil, however, so the farmers next turned to hops farming, to some extent, but primarily to dairying. The village soon had a hops kiln and a creamery, thus assuring its ability to meet the farmer's needs.

The Village grew in its role as an agricultural support center. Congregational, Lutheran and Episcopal congregations were established in the nineteenth century and a Roman Catholic one was created shortly after the turn of the century. School attendance grew from Mary Warren's (Stephen's wife) first class of twelve students, taught in her home in 1840, to 221 students in six departments in 1907. A new high school was built in 1923. Merchants offered a wide variety of wares from plows and other implements, necessary for the agriculturists, to clothes, shoes, groceries, even millinery. The village's population was 629 in 1910, and grew to 999 in 1940.



**1. VILLAGE OF HARTLAND WELL NO. 1**

614 W. Capitol Drive (1933): Utilitarian

Designed to be compatible with the residential character of the neighborhood in which it is situated, the rectangular well house features multi-paned round-arched windows with red brick trim, a single round-arched door on the main façade, a concrete chimney, and a hipped roof.

**2. DANSK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN KIRKE**

400 W. Capitol Drive (1910): Gothic Revival

Hartland's Danish and German residents joined to create a Lutheran congregation in 1867. Their strong ethnic identities soon made it difficult for them to worship together so they formed two distinct congregations with both groups using the same building. In 1910, the Danes bought the old building from the Germans, removed it and built a new edifice, the Dansk Evangelical Lutheran Kirke. The new building was formally dedicated on May 7, 1911. Built of coursed concrete block with a rock face finish in the Gothic Revival style, the church is one tall story in height with a raised basement and a gable roof. A concrete block and shingle tower rising to a height of forty feet dominates the main façade. The main entrance is located at the base of the tower. Above the doorway there is a panel with the inscription "Dansk Ev. Luthe. Kirke." The Danish Kirke has been known as the Lake Country Congregational Church since 1975.

**3. ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

403 W. Capitol Drive (1910): Gothic Revival

The church was built for Hartland's German-speaking Lutheran congregation, which formerly shared another church building located at 400 W. Capitol Drive with Hartland's Danish-speaking Lutheran congregation. The new church was formally dedicated in December of 1910. Built of cream brick and set on a fieldstone foundation, the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church is one tall story in height with a raised basement and a gabled roof. Dominating the main façade of the church is a tower and shingled spire rising to a height of fifty feet. Above the pair of wooden doors at the main entrance there is a panel with the inscription "EV. LUTH. ZIONS, 19. GEMEINDE. 10". The church was built primarily by the parishioners of the German Lutheran congregation.

**4. TRAPP FILLING STATION**

252-256 W. Capitol Drive (1910): Tudor Revival

The foundation and lower story of the two-story structure is made of stone and the upper story is stucco and applied half-timbering. The structure was built as a gasoline station with living quarters upstairs. The gasoline station, garage and office were located in the eastern portion of the lower story of the structure. A free standing round arch of stone at the west end of the main façade marks a flight of exterior stairs that led to the living quarters.

**5. THE BANK OF HARTLAND**

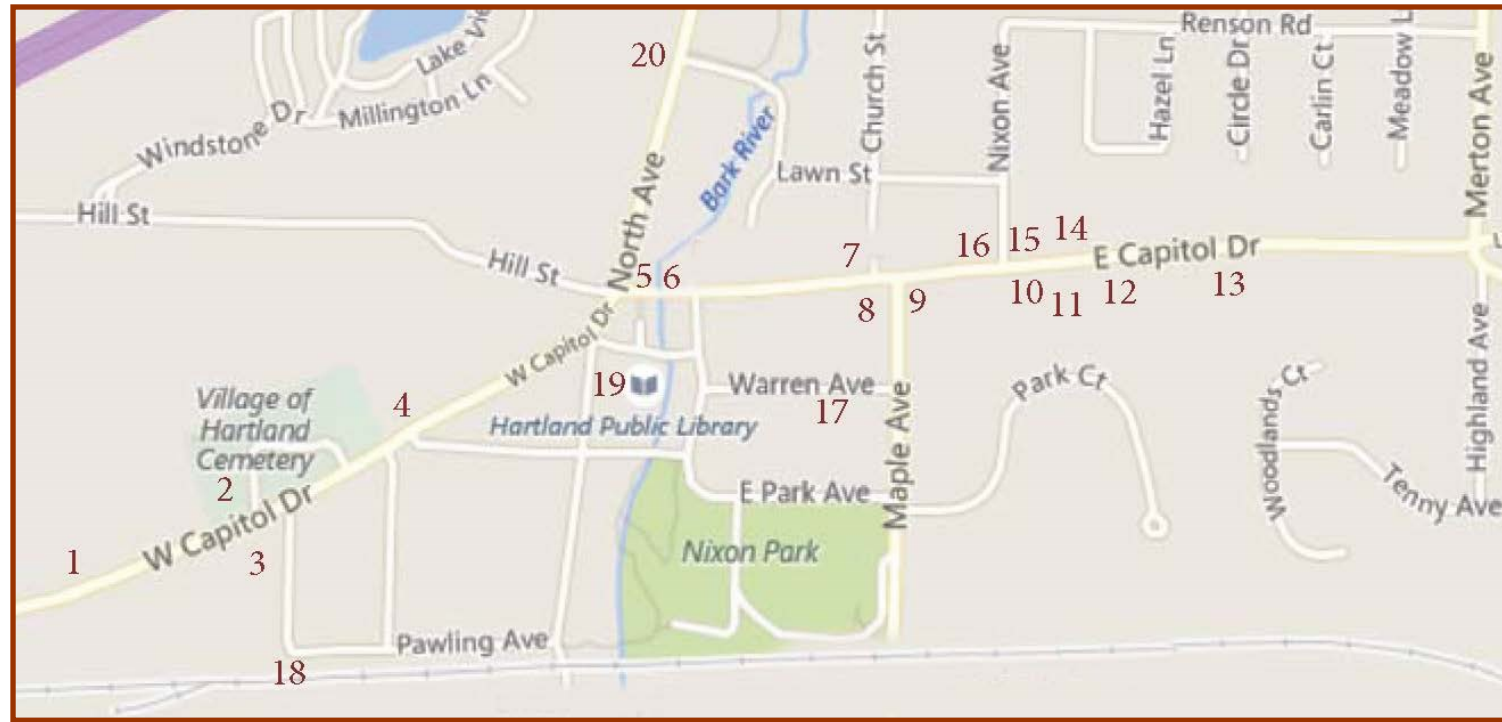
112 E. Capitol Drive (1930): Georgian Revival

The Bank of Hartland (BMO Harris) is the sole example of Georgian Revival commercial architecture in the village. The monumental scale of the bank makes it a visual landmark in the village's central business district. In 1930, the bank was refurbished according to plans prepared by the firm of Eschweiler and Eschweiler, prominent Milwaukee architects of the early twentieth century. The bank incorporates an earlier structure and additions dating back to 1906.

**6. THE SIGN OF THE WILLOWS**

122 E. Capitol Drive (1923): Tudor Revival

The Sign of the Willows (Palmer's Steakhouse) was constructed in 1923 as a restaurant with living quarters on the second floor for the Weinkauff family. The structure is an uncommon variant of the Tudor Revival style on hunting lodge theme. The main façade of the one-and-one half story structure has a cobblestone veneer on



the lower story and stucco applied with half-timbering on the upper story. Grouped sets of four multi-paned windows appear at both levels. Much of the original interior of the restaurant has been retained. Dark wood paneling and trim and plastered walls predominate throughout the restaurant. There is a cobblestone fireplace in the rear dining room.

**7. FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

214 E Capitol Drive (1923): Gothic Revival

The church is a rectangular brown brick multi-gabled structure on tall story on height on a stone foundation. It was designed by architect William J. Redden. A thirty-four foot brown brick tower with a crenellated parapet rises on the southeast corner of the building. Double doors set in a round arch form the main entrance located at the base of the tower. The structure features lancet and tracery windows with leaded glass.

**8. STEPHEN WARREN HOUSE**

235 E. Capitol Drive (1850's): Greek Revival

The house was built for the founder of Hartland, Stephen Warren. The two-story cream brick house has an asphalt-shingled hipped roof and is set on a stone foundation. Also, the house features pilaster supporting a wood entablature and multi-paned windows with stone lintels. The house retains good exterior integrity and represents the best preserved vernacular Greek Revival residence in the village, a type of residential architecture which was prevalent in Hartland's early history.

**9. BURR OAK TAVERN**

315-317 E. Capitol Drive (C. 1853-1855): Greek Revival

The building was originally constructed as an inn in 1853-55 to capitalize on the trade that the Watertown Plank Road was expected to bring to the village. Over the years, however, the building has served a variety of functions. Perhaps the most significant in this century was its role as an emergency hospital. The hospital was started by Dr. Henry G. B. Nixon in 1937, and was equipped with most of the amenities of the time. The hospital was discontinued shortly after Dr. Nixon's death in 1939.

**10. HAMILTON E. SALSICH HOUSE**

407 E. Capitol Drive (1897): Queen Anne

The house was built for Hamilton E. Salsich, owner of the largest lumber companies in Waukesha County. Following the death of

Mrs. Salsich in 1949, the house was converted to a nursing home. Today the house serves as a private residence. The two-and-one-half story frame Queen Anne house has a stone foundation and a multi-gable roof. Clapboard appears on the lower story of the house, shingles on the upper stories and gable ends. On the interior of the house elaborate late-nineteenth century details prevail. An open newel staircase of light wood dominates the entry hall. Other features include a fireplace of Chinese red brick, egg-and-dart ceiling molding and raised plaster ceiling ornamentation in many of the rooms, and door and window surrounds with corner blocks.

**11. SALSICH CARRIAGE HOUSE**

409 E. Capitol Drive (1897): Vernacular

The structure originally served as the carriage house for the Salsich estate. Following the death of Mrs. Salsich in 1949, the carriage house was converted into an apartment.

**12. DR. EDWIN G. BENJAMIN HOUSE**

511 E. Capitol Drive (1854): Vernacular

One of the oldest homes remaining in Hartland, this modest brick residence was built for Dr. Benjamin, one of Hartland's first physicians, and served as a post office during the 1850s. The plan of the structure consists of a central block, dominated by three very large multi-paned sash windows, flanked on either side by a one-story rectangular brick addition. The main block has a gable roof and is trimmed with a simple wooden barge board.

**13. AUGUST SCHRAUDENBACH HOUSE**

551 E. Capitol Drive (1907): Queen Anne

The two-and-one half story house features a fieldstone chimney, and a wide one-story porch with a fieldstone foundation and simple posts on each of the main and east facades. A gable with a set of triple windows forming a stylized Serlian motif accents the hipped roof on both the main and east facades. The Schraudenbach House is a prime example of highstyle Queen Anne in Hartland, and retains excellent architectural integrity.

**14. CHARLES WITTENBERG HOUSE**

424 E. Capitol Drive (1926): Spanish Colonial Revival

The square two-story house has a concrete foundation, a stone veneered first story, and a stucco upper story. Red tile covers the hipped roof. A wide orange brick chimney with stone quoins pierces the red tile eave of the one-story section on the main façade. hipped

Northeast of the house is a detached matching garage with a hipped red tile roof. The combination of an architectural style indigenous to the southeastern and southwestern United States, with stone and brick native to southeastern Wisconsin, lends the Wittenberg House a distinctive and striking appearance.

**15. OTTO WILLS HOUSE**

400 E. Capitol Drive (1916): Bungalow

The house is a one-and-one half story stucco bungalow dominated by a wide-eaved multi-gable roof with simple eave brackets, accented with hipper dormers. It is representative of the many bungalows in Hartland and retains excellent architectural integrity.

**16. DR. HENRY G. B. NIXON HOUSE**

338 E. Capitol Drive (1893-1895): Queen Anne

The house was built for the prominent Hartland physician Dr. Henry G. B. Nixon. Built reputedly according to award-winning plans obtained at the 1890 Chicago World's Fair, the irregular silhouette features a three-story shingled turret with a conical roof on the southwest corner of the house, a field-stone chimney, and a small leaded glass round-arched window on the west façade. According to the owner, in the course of a geological survey conducted by the State of Wisconsin in 1950, the house was discovered to be one of only three remaining in the State with a foundation built in the traditional Welsh manner, in which all the stones are laid first, and subsequently the mortar is applied.

**17. HAROLD HORNBURG HOUSE**

213 Warren Avenue (1928): Tudor Revival

The one-and-one-half story lannon stone veneered residence is set on a concrete foundation and has a multi-gable roof with "weather best thatched stained shingles", suggesting the appearance of thatch. Attached to the east façade is a stone wishing well with a "thatch" roof. The house was designed by William Brockmeyer and Edna Hornburg. Harold Hornburg established the Hornburg Ford auto dealership, a prominent business in the village for many years.

**18. CHICAGO, MILW. AND ST. PAUL RAILROAD DEPOT**

301 Pawling Avenue (1878): Italianate

In 1879, train traffic in Hartland was increasing and a one-story gabled brick structure was built to accommodate the increasing number of passengers. Set on a stone foundation, the depot incorporated an agent's quarters, waiting room and freight area. There is a bulls-eye window in each gable end and a bay ticket window on the south façade. In 1899, the building was moved back from the road six hundred feet to its current location .

**19. MUNICIPAL GAS PLANT**

134 Cottonwood Avenue(1905): Vernacular

The Village Board approved a \$7,000 appropriation for a municipal gas plant and this two-story 29 x 24 foot brick building was constructed. The gas plant is a two-story, flat-roofed brick structure showing the inspiration of the 19th century Italianate-derived commercial style. The structure has tall double-hung sash windows with those on the main façade having brick relieving arches and stone lintels.

**20. JACKSON HOUSE**

235 North Avenue (1935-36): Tudor Revival

The steeply pitched multi-gabled roof of the house rises to a peak at each gable end, and there is a round bay window with leaded diamond-pane windows on the south façade. A gabled brick entrance portal frames the round-arched main entrance. A matching garage with a peaked gable roof stands to the rear of the house.