

Walking tour map of Rockford, Minnesota

Created by the Rockford Area Historical Society

- 1. Creamery**—Now a concrete slab. Provided products for a 10 mile radius, including powdered milk. Had ice house and silo.
- 2. Centennial Hotel**—In the 1940s it had a grocery store and upstairs ball-room.
- 3. Rockford Village Hall**—Used between 1920s-1960s. Besides City business, it was used for roller skating, basketball, wedding dances, plays, and graduation exercises. Early records of Rockford were lost to flooding.
- 4. Feed Mill**—The first two mills on this site burned down.
- 5. Post Office**—Originally built as a Kaiser-Fraiser dealership and later became a salvage store, storage for Army Reserve tanks and an aerobic studio.
- 6. Cross Lutheran Church**—The corner was an Adventist Church site.
- 7. Johnson Bros. Store**—Big dry goods store that burned down about 1890.
- 8. Brick Building**—Blacksmith shop, bank (failed in 1930s), butcher shop, post office, and market.



9. Post Office/Antique Shop

- 10. House**—This used to be the Episcopal Church
- 11. Grand Army of the Republic Hall**
- 12. Livery Stable**
- 13. Texaco Station**

14. Louver Store—This used to be Giese Harness and Hardware. The upper floor held a telephone exchange.

15. Machine Shop—This was a car dealer. Elmer Schlieff, Proprietor. Part became a hardware store.

16. Café—Also the Masonic Lodge

17. Used to be the Rockford State Bank location

18. Bridge—Used to be a tall, metal structure. Highway 55 used to travel along Bridge Street

19. Ames-Florida-Stork House—Completed in 1860 by the Ames family with the help of their relatives, the Floridas. They built the **Flour Mill (20)** and **Lumber Mill (21)** and owned the land occupied by the **Woolen Mill (22)**. The Stork family purchased the house in 1937 and it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

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24. D.R. Thompson's Lumberyard—Opened in 1886 and sold over 40 different types of wood, as well as picture frames, windows, and doors.

25. Moses G. Warren Hardware Store—In 1886, an arsonist burned the store, but the townspeople rebuilt it. Warren sold hardware, barbed wire, pumps, and stoves. It served as the unofficial city hall after the store closed.

26. Jefferson Benner Store—The building was built in 1861 and Benner took over the store in 1866. The upper level contained a meeting hall and later a residence. A livestock pen was located behind the building (**see inset picture**)

27. School—Built in 1885 and served grades one through 10.

Other businesses in town include: Bolduc's Saloon, A.E. Fish Confectionery, and the Meat Market.

