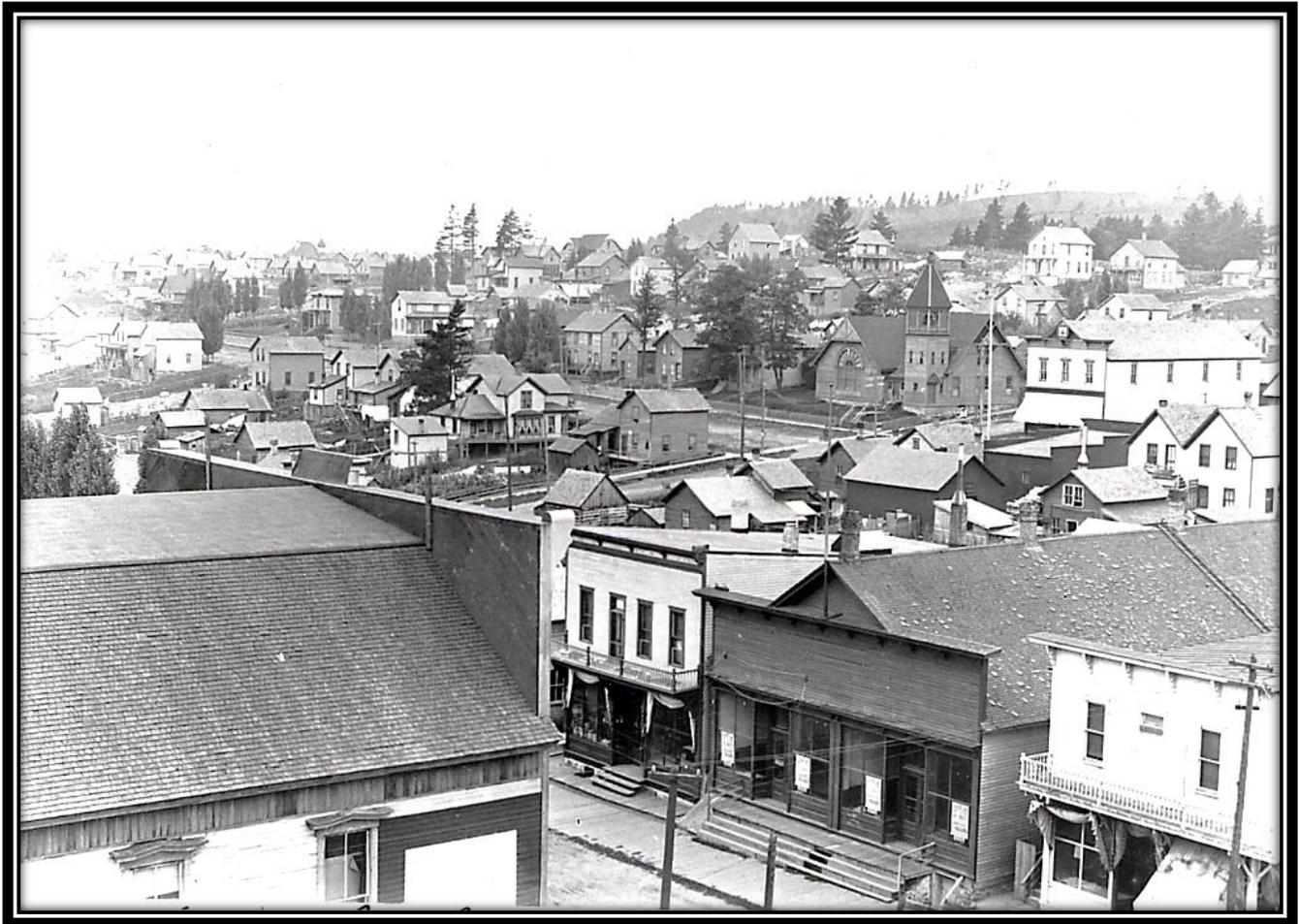


MENOMINEE RANGE MEMORIES 71: DOWNTOWN IRON MOUNTAIN – 100-112 WEST LUDINGTON STREET

By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian



Taken in the **late 1890s** or possibly the **early 1900s**, the camera faces northwest, showing several buildings on the **north side of the 100 block of Iron Mountain's West Ludington Street**. The rooftop in the left foreground was **Rundle's hardware store and opera house** (on the second floor), **101-103 West Ludington Street**. Rundle's Opera House burned on Sunday morning, **September 11, 1915**. The **Iron Mountain Post Office** was built at this location in **1935**. The three buildings facing the camera (dates in parentheses refer to city directories) are, from left to right: **108**, residence of **Mrs. Ann James** and **Mrs. Margaret Kerr** (**1892-1894**); **Daprato & Rigassi** (**John Daprato** and **Charles Rigassi**), grocery store (**1902-1903**); **104-106** (double store), **Thomas Williams**, second hand store (**1902-1903**); **106**, **Moroni & Bena** (**John Moroni** and **James Bena**), saloon (**1892-1894**); **104**, **Daprato & Rigassi** (**John Daprato** and **Charles Rigassi**) grocery store, (**1892-1894**); **102**, **Chinese laundry**, **Charles Wong**, proprietor (**1892-1894**); **100** (probably the same building as 102), **Frank Parent**, saloon (**1902-1903**). In **1905-1906** **Louis Trochinski** ran a bowling alley in the right side of the double building which was known as the **Bijou Theater** by **1907**. In the upper right the **First Presbyterian Church** can be seen at the **northwest corner of West Brown Street and Carpenter Avenue**. Across Carpenter Avenue at **118 West Brown Street** is **T.H. Byrne's meat market**, housed in the two-story white building in **1892-1894**. [*Menominee Range Historical Museum*]

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[NOTE: Dates, placed chronologically, are highlighted in boldface red letters for easier reading, and names of individuals and places are highlighted in boldface black letters to facilitate finding information.]

The 71st installment of Menominee Range Memories, a series of articles by William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation historian, now available on the Dickinson County Library's website, is titled "Downtown Iron Mountain – 100-112 West Ludington Street."

History of 100: In **1902-1903** **Frank Parent** ran **The Bonaparte**, a saloon, at this address. At the same time, **Mrs. William Hanley** took in boarders upstairs. Frank Parent was selling liquors and cigars here in **1907-1908**.



This detail of the **1895-1905** photograph at the beginning of this article shows **Frank Parent's** saloon, called **The Bonaparte**, at **100 West Ludington Street**. *[Menominee Range Historical Museum]*



This detail of a **1916** photograph of the remodeling of the Bijou Theatre (page XX) shows the building formerly housing **Frank Parent's** saloon, called **The Bonaparte**, at **100 West Ludington Street**. *[William J. Cummings]*

There was no listing for this address from **1913 through 1946** in the city directories.

In **1959** **The Recreation Company**, a bowling alley, operated by **Peter Albert Tomassoni (1901-1989)** and **Joseph Crispigna (1896-1984)**, was located at the northwest corner of **West Ludington Street** and **Merritt Avenue**. The building extended from **100-106 West Ludington Street**.

Peter Albert Tomassoni, son of **Antonio Tomassoni (1864-1939)** and **Liberata (Galli) Tomassoni**, was born **October 15, 1901** in Iron Mountain. He married **Violet S. Serena**, daughter of **Domenic Serena (1872-1919)** and **Maria "Mary" Galloto Serena (1877-1915)**, on **November 25, 1929** at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Iron Mountain. Attendants were Miss **Anna**

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“Anne” M. Rainaldi (1905-2004) and Clarence Prenevost.

Peter Tomassoni operated the City Baking Company and later Recreation Lanes.

Peter Tomassoni died January 25, 1989 in Iron Mountain.



Violet S. (Serena) Tomassoni was born October 5, 1905 in Iron Mountain. She died March 26, 2011 in Iron Mountain.

Peter and Violet Tomassoni had one child, Ronald Peter Tomassoni, born April 29, 1932 in Iron Mountain and died October 19, 2010 in Iron Mountain.

In 1961 he took over his father's business at Recreation Lanes. In 1978 he opened Recreation Lanes of Kingsford at 700 East Boulevard and in 1984 purchased the old Iron Mountain Water Filtration Plant on the North Side, transforming a vacant swampy lot into what became Antoine Plaza where Recreation Lanes of Iron Mountain, the Comfort Inn and the Holiday Inn Express are located (2020).

Peter Tomassoni married Angeline “Angie” Tomassoni, who was born in 1931 and died February 28, 2011 in Iron Mountain.



Ronald Peter Tomassoni (1932-2010)

The Recreation Company was still located at 100-106 West Ludington Street in 1961 with Peter Albert Tomassoni listed as owner.

From 1963 through 1969 the Recreation Bowling Lanes & Cocktail Lounge was listed at this address, advertising bowling, liquors and coffee shop with air conditioning and free parking. Peter Albert Tomassoni was still listed as the owner.

The business was listed as The Recreation Company, Inc., DBA Recreation Lanes & Lounge with Ronald Peter Tomassoni, president; Peter Albert Tomassoni, vice-president; and Charles Fournier, assistant manager, from 1970 through 1976. In 1970 in addition to the services listed above professional entertainment was provided in the cocktail

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lounge from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

From **1977 through 1982** the **Recreation Lanes & Cocktail Lounge, Inc.** was operated by **Ronald Peter Tomassoni**, president; **Evangeline Tomassoni**, vice-president-secretary; and **Charles Fournier**, assistant manager.

In **1984 Recreation Lanes & Lounge** was under the management of **Ronald Peter Tomassoni**, president; **Evangeline Tomassoni**, vice-president-secretary; and **Jeff Sorensen** and **Peter J. Tomassoni**, managers. Peter J. Tomassoni was the son of Ronald Peter Tomassoni.

In **1985 Recreation Lanes & Lounge** was still under the management of **Ronald Peter Tomassoni**, president and **Evangeline Tomassoni**, vice-president-secretary. Managers were **Jeff Sorensen**, **Peter J. Tomassoni** and **Charles Fournier**. A pro shop, pool tables and video games had been added and two sites were listed: **100 West Ludington Street** and **700 East Boulevard, Kingsford**.

From **1986 through 1990** the site was listed as vacant.

A-OK Service & Parts Center, operated by **David Kinsella**, provided expert major appliance repair and 24-hour emergency service from **1991 through 1996**. In **1993 The Drug Store, Inc.**, operated by **Gary A. Marsden**, occupied a portion of this building.

The building was listed as vacant in **1997**. There were no listings from **1998 through 2000**.

History of 102: **Charles Wong** operated a Chinese laundry here in **1892-1894**, and **Joseph Bordeau** dealt in real estate, also residing at this address.

There were no entries for this address from **1902-1903** through **1935**. In **1939** the **Viking Tavern**, **J. Anderson**, proprietor, was located here, and the **Recreation**

Bowling Alley was listed next door at **104 West Ludington Street**.

There were no entries listed for **102 West Ludington Street** from **1941-1942 through 1991**.

From **1992 through 1994 Andreini's Carpet Direct**, managed by **Mark Wiederrecht**, did business at this location.

From **1995 through 1999 Superior Carpet & Tile** operated here with **Mark Wiederrecht**, owner. The name was changed to **Superior Carpet, Tile & Hobby** in **2000** under the same ownership.

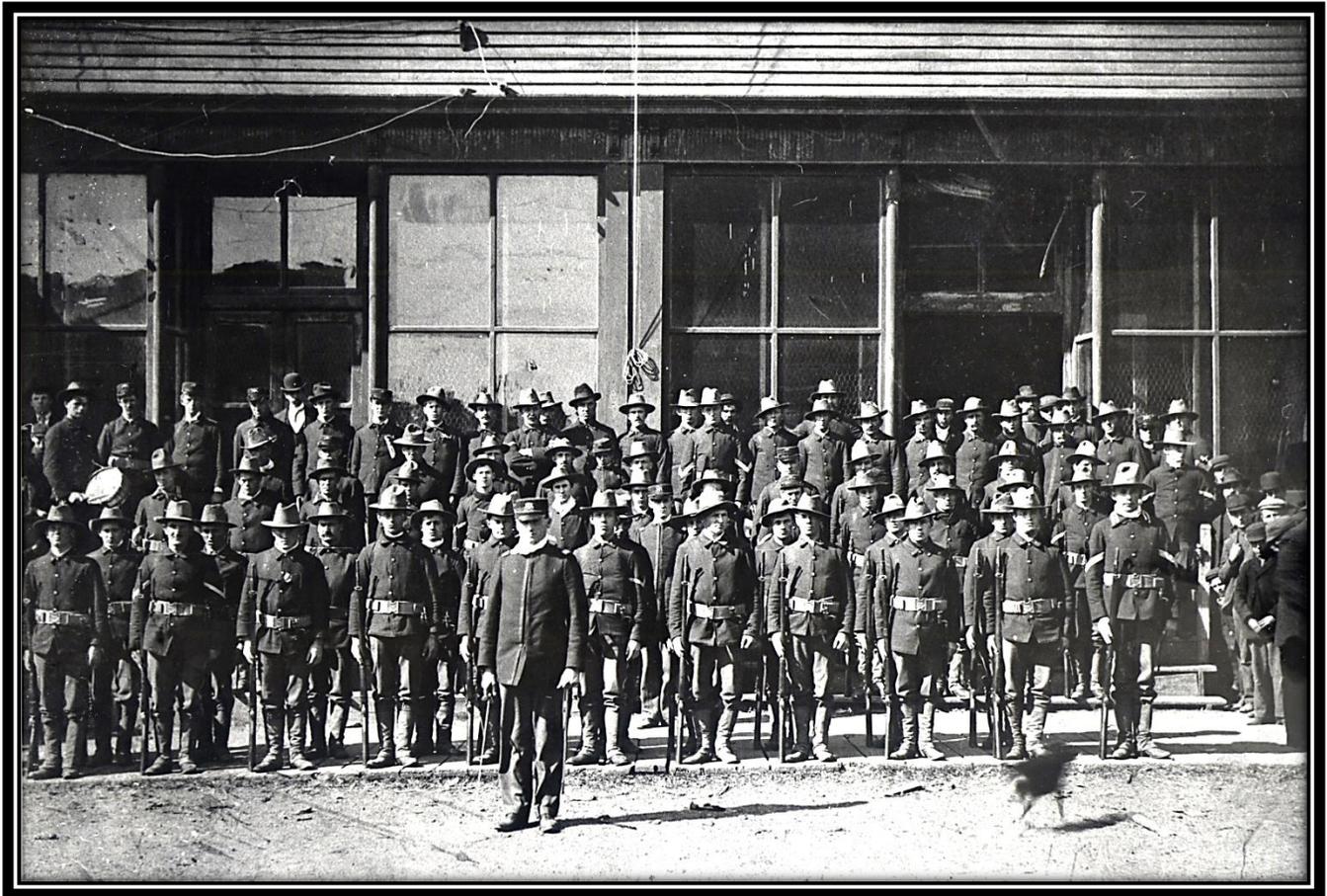
History of 104: In 1892-1894, **DaPrato & Rigassi (John DaPrato and Charles Rigassi)** sold groceries at this site. **Thomas Williams** ran a second-hand store at **104-106 West Ludington Street** in **1902-1903**.



This detail of the **1895-1905** photograph at the beginning of this article shows the double store building at **104-106 West Ludington Street**. [*Menomnee Range Historical Museum*]

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Probably taken in **1898**, Dickinson County's Company E, 34th Michigan Volunteers, stood at attention in front of what became **Armory Hall** at 104-106 West Ludington Street. The reconstructed **Bordeau building** was named **Armory Hall** by **August E. Brauns**, the owner, in **March 1906**, when the structure was used as a roller rink. *[Menominee Range Historical Museum]*

History of 106: **Moroni & Bena** (John Moroni and James Bena) ran a saloon here in **1892-1894**. **Thomas Williams** ran a second-hand store at **104-106 West Ludington Street** in **1902-1903**.

August E. Brauns (**1868-1934**) came to Iron Mountain in **1893** and in partnership with **Ed Vandenbraek** opened the city's first "cash and carry" grocery store at **204 East Ludington Street**. A year later the partners entered the wholesale fruit and grocery business under the name **Brauns & Van**. Vandenbraek died in **1915**, but the business continued until about **1924**, when

it was sold to the **Carpenter-Cook Company** of Menominee. The Carpenter-Cook Company purchased the Brauns & Van building at **109-111 East Ludington Street** in about **1929**.

August E. Brauns purchased the reconstructed **Bordeau building** which he named **Armory Hall** in **March 1906**, when the structure was used as a roller rink. He opened the **Bijou Theatre** at **104-106 West Ludington Street** that same year.

The advertisement on the next page appeared in the **April 25, 1907** edition of *The Iron Mountain Press*.

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By William J. Cummings, Menominee Range Historical Foundation Historian

ARMORY HALL
BIJOU

....PROGRAM....
For Last Half of Week

FRANCIS & ROGERS
Refined Comedy Duo

A. ANDERSON
Impersonator

MILAN & ALVIN
in an entirely new act, entitled
"THE NEW WOMAN"
or "Training a Husband"

Mr. Josh Bridgman
in the beautifully
illustrated song,
Nobody Seems to Love Me Now

New Moving Pictures:
Hero Master's Tea Service
Winter in Switzerland
Amateur Photographer
Chasing a Sausage

Admission 15cts

Matinee Saturday afternoon
at 4:30 o'clock.....
Admission 10c

Note that "Armory Hall Bijou" appeared at the top of the advertisement which included vaudeville acts and "new moving pictures" titled "Master's Tea Service" – "Winter in Switzerland" – and "Chasing a Sausage." The Bijou Theatre was Iron Mountain's first theater to regularly feature motion pictures.

The first short motion pictures began in the **1890s**. In the beginning, motion pictures just emphasized movement. There was no sound, usually no plot and no story – just movement.

The first movie "shows" lasted about five to eight minutes and were a collection of short scenes. **Thomas A. Edison** produced short shows such as water going over Niagara Falls, waves crashing at the ocean or two trains colliding.

For many Americans these primitive movies brought them their first view of a streetcar or the Pacific or the Atlantic Ocean. In one early film a train pulled into a station, coming directly at the audience. Some viewers were scared, thinking the train would come right into the theater. Some in the front rows panicked and ran out.

The first phase of motion pictures, in the **late 1890s** and **early 1900s**, emphasized showing human motion. The second phase – telling a story – began around **1900**. "The Great Train Robbery" was produced in **1903** by **Edwin Porter** and shows a robbery with a chase scene and the inevitable capture of the robbers.

Early films were quite short, usually running five to eight minutes. They were called "one reelers" as they consisted of just one reel of film. These moving pictures typically appeared at the end of the program, as exemplified by this advertisement.

Note the admission price of 15 cents with a matinee on Saturday for 10 cents.

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The photograph on the previous page shows unidentified youngsters awaiting the opening of the **Bijou Theatre's** doors for a Saturday matinee performance, possibly dreaming of winning one of the plump gobblers in the crate, offered as door prizes. Although the photograph is undated, it was taken probably taken after the **1916** remodeling project but **before 1921**, when the theater was extensively remodeled. Note the arch highlighted with electric light bulbs over the doors. *[Menominee Range Historical Museum]*

In **1907-1908** **The Bijou Theatre**, a vaudeville theater, was in operation at **104-106 West Ludington Street** under the management of **Gustaf Holmberg**. **Frank Parent** was also listed at **104 West Ludington Street** selling liquors and cigars in **1907-1908**.

An article in the **August 22, 1907** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press* announced the playbill under the headline "Bijou Theatre" as follows:

Three nights of high-class repertoire and up-to-the-minute vaudeville will be the rule at the Bijou Theatre, starting Monday, Aug. 26th, at which time the McPhee Imperial Stock company open their engagement. The plays are all new and guaranteed by the management. The stock company that can boast of specialists that can be featured are scarce. McPhee Imperials do not have them, but have the kind that pleases the people. This department is headed by the invincible Brothers Spaulding, Parisian novelty acrobats, who stand in a class of their own. The opening play, "For Her Brothers' Sake," is a new comedy-drama of the pleasing kind, overflowing with the best of comedy, a beautiful story, prettily told by a company of players equal to the best. Prices, 15, 25 and 35c [cents].

Under "Brief City News" in the **January 23, 1908** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press*, the following notification appeared:

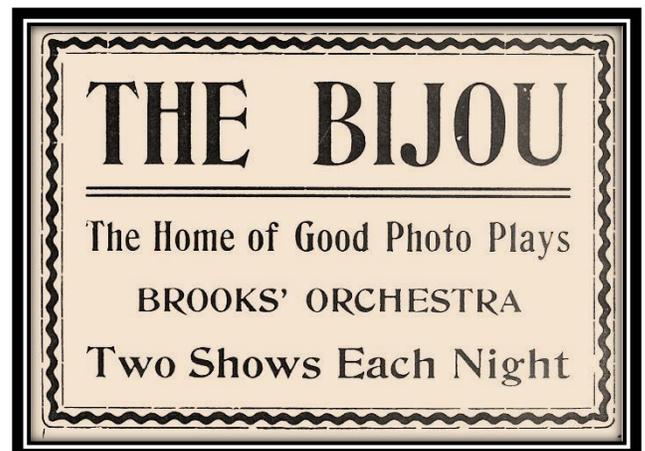
First masquerade of the season at the Bijou roller rink this evening. A good time is assured.

According to the *Iron Mountain Press*, the Bijou was the site of the **St. Joseph's Church Fair** during the week of **November 16, 1908**.

Across the street from the **Bijou Theatre**, where the **United States Post Office** now stands, was the **A.J. Rundle Hardware Store** and **Rundle's Opera House**, without a doubt the Bijou Theatre's biggest competitor.

While the *Iron Mountain Press* regularly featured news articles regarding the performances at **Rundle's Opera House**, as well as frequent reviews, the **Bijou Theatre's** first advertising campaign apparently began in **March of 1911**.

Advertisements noted the Bijou's doors opened at 7:30 p.m. for the two evening performances scheduled at 8 and 9 o'clock. Music was provided by the **Brooks Orchestra** at that time.



April 13, 1911, *Iron Mountain Press*

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On **March 30, 1911** the advertisement noted “The Harmony Four” would appear, as well as “One Illustrated Story.”

By **June 1911** the **Bijou Theatre** billed itself as “The Home of Good Photo Plays” and noted 3,000 feet of moving pictures were shown at each performance.

The opening of a competing theater by the manager of the **Bijou Theatre** was announced in the **October 19, 1911** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press* under the headline “New Theatre” as follows:

J.E. Becknell, who has been conducting the Bijou for several years, is arranging to open a new popular price theatre. He has leased the building on East Hughitt street lately occupied by J.F. Cowling and will remodel the same at once. The place is conveniently located for theatre purposes. Mr. Becknell's management at the Bijou has been very successful and he proposes to make the new house a model from the point of safety.

This new theater, located at **207 East Hughitt Street**, was named **The Marion**, in honor of **Marion Higgin**, who managed the theater with **J.E. Becknell**. The Marion opened Saturday night, **December 30, 1911**. The **Blackstone Pizza Company** occupied this site in **2020**.

Martin Dawe Thomas (1889-1968) was connected with the Bijou Theatre since it opened in **1906**. He leased the theater and soon became a business partner with **August E. Brauns**.

Under the headline “Leased the Bijou” also appearing in the October 19, 1911 edition of the *Iron Mountain Press*, the following article appeared:

Martin Thomas has leased the Bijou and will take possession the first of the month. Mr. Thomas has been connected with the house in various capacities – from manager to electrician – for a number of years. He will leave for Chicago to-morrow

evening to arrange for his films and other attractions. Mr. Thomas promises to conduct the house along first-class lines and his management should be successful.

An item in “Brief City News” in the **November 1, 1911** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press* noted:

Martin Thomas is now in charge of the Bijou Theatre, assuming the management yesterday. During his recent visit to Chicago he arranged for some extra good films.



The above advertisement appeared in the **February 1, 1912** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press*. [William J. Cummings]

Martin Dawe Thomas was still managing **The Bijou Theatre** at **104-106 West Ludington Street** in **1913**.

Renovations to the Bijou Theatre were announced in the September 23, 1915

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edition of the Iron Mountain Press under the headline “To Remodel Theatre” as follows:

*Within a short time, the work of transforming the **Bijou** into a modern opera house will commence. The building will undergo many changes and when the work is completed it will be large enough to accommodate the largest road attraction. The present wooden floor, which is elevated, will be taken out and the new one built of concrete. The present stage will be greatly enlarged and extended to the rear of the building. It will have an opening of forty feet and will be fifty feet long. A loft will be constructed on top of the structure, will be [sic – which will] permit the use of drop scenery. The building will be equipped with a balcony and a new ventilating and heating system. A canopy will be built over the entrance. The new house will seat comfortably 800 people. While the work of construction is going on the building formerly used by the **Marion theatre** will be used by the management of the **Bijou** for motion picture shows. Many of the **Bijou** opera chairs will be transferred to the **Marion**.*

In the **January 20, 1916** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press* the following article appeared under the headline “Matinees for Children”:

*The **Woman’s** [sic – **Women’s**] club has made arrangements with **Manager Thomas** for a special matinee for children at the **Bijou Theatre** each week, commencing next Saturday. The pictures will be of an educational nature and special prices will maintain. Next Saturday, in addition to the educational films, the fairy story of *Cinderella* will be produced as well as a comedy. The club plans to have one of their members deliver a talk explanatory of the pictures.*

Under the headline “**Bijou Changes**” in the **January 27, 1916** edition of the *Iron*

Mountain Press, the following article appeared:

***A.E. Brauns**, owner of the **Bijou Theatre**, has engaged the **Foster Construction company** to superintend the work of rebuilding and modernizing that place of amusement. The work will be done in accordance with plans drafted by **Architect Charlton**, of Marquette, who has designed nearly all the leading show houses of the peninsula. In addition to many interior improvements, including a greatly enlarged stage, the main floor will be lowered to the street grade and a commodious gallery will be provided. Provision will also be made for a large exit on the west side of the building. The work will commence as soon as the weather conditions will permit.*

In the February 10, 1916 edition of the *Iron Mountain Press* under the headline “**Triangle Pictures**” the following announcement was made:

***Manager Thomas**, of the **Bijou**, has closed a contract for the production of the features of the **Triangle Film company** at his house. The incorporators and principle producers of *Triangle plays* are **D.W. Griffith**, producer of “*The Birth of a Nation*,” the most conspicuous photoplay success yet achieved, **Max Sennett** and **Thomas H. Ince**. Mr. Griffith was regarded as a premier producer even before he brought out “*The Birth of a Nation*,” and many of the innovations that have largely revolutionized photoplay production in the past year or two, including the fade away and the double exposure, were worked out by him. In the employ of the company are a notable galaxy of stars, and its offerings have won the highest approval from disinterested critics, to many cities the first releases of these programs have been offered at prices ranging from fifty cents down and at the *Knickerbocker* in New York the scale has*

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been from \$2 down. Manager Thomas says that he hopes to maintain the usual prices of admission at his house.

Under the headline “Bijou Improvements” the following article appeared in the **April 13, 1916** edition of the *Iron Mountain Press*:

It is expected to commence the work of remodeling the **Bijou** at an early date. The house will be lowered to the street grade

and will be provided with a canopy entrance. Large side exits will be arranged for and modern heating and ventilating systems will be installed; also a retiring room for ladies. As planned, the main auditorium will have a seating capacity of 500 and will have the latest opera chairs. The gallery will seat 300. **Architect Charlton**, of Marquette, has made the plans and will superintend the work.



The first remodeling of the **Bijou Theatre** to a “modern opera house” began in the **spring of 1916** when this photograph was probably taken. The structure was again extensively renovated in the **spring of 1921**. **Frank Parent’s** saloon – **The Bonaparte** – at **102 West Ludington Street**, listed as “vacant” in **1913**, can be seen to the east (right) of the theater building. [William J. Cummings]

An extensive remodeling project of the Bijou Theatre was undertaken in the **spring of 1921**. An article in the **April 13, 1921** edition of *The Iron Mountain Daily News* under the headline **BIJOU THEATRE IS**

SOON TO BE OPENED: Early in May Manager Thomas Will Begin Work at Colonial appeared as follows:

*The exterior alterations to the **Bijou Theatre** are nearing completion and*

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Manager Thomas hopes to open the house about the **first of May**. The alterations will include a new stucco front of a pleasing design, a new entrance and lobby and two toilet rooms. The auditorium has been entirely remodeled. It has been provided with a composition incline floor and will be furnished with the latest opera chairs – 600 of them and one of the very latest picture machines. A new heating plant of ample capacity has been placed in the basement. No expense has been spared to make the house comfortable, sanitary and safe. With the *Bijou* open, *Manager Thomas* will close the **Colonial** in order that it may be decorated anew and remodeled in some respects. A notable change will be made in rearranging and enlarging the lobby. It is proposed to place the ticket office in the center, which will greatly expedite the sale of tickets. *Manager Thomas* has in mind some changes in the balcony arrangement that will tend to the comfort of patrons.

More renovation news appeared under the headline "BIJOU THEATRE TO OPEN NEXT MONAY: Wallace Reid, in "The Dancin' Fool," Opening Attraction" in the April 22, 1921 edition of *The Iron Mountain Daily News* as follows:

The **Bijou theatre**, the remodeling and redecoration of which is practically completed, will open Monday, featuring **Wallace Reid** in "The Dancin' Fool," according to **M.D. Thomas**, manager of both the **Bijou and Colonial theatres**. Beginning next week the Rex stock company will open at the Colonial, featuring a number of popular plays on the week's bill.

The Colonial will be closed for a complete remodeling and interior redecoration **May 29**. The improvements planned by Mr. Thomas will transform the theatre into one of the most attractive

playhouses in this section. The partitions at the rear and at both sides of the entrance will be torn out, widening both the foyer and the rear of the theatre proper. The stairs at the left of the entrance, leading to the balcony, will also be torn out and a new and wider flight built in.

New Seats In Balcony.

All new seats will be placed in the balcony, with the addition of a loge box arrangement similar to that used in a number of the more modern picture theatres throughout the country. The loge boxes will accommodate private theatre parties and are used, largely, for that purpose.

New Simplex projectors will be placed in both the *Bijou* and the *Colonial* theatres. The Simplex is the best motion picture projector now in [sic] the market, and the type used for both local theatres will be somewhat similar to that used in the new *Delft* theatre, at Marquette, said to be the best equipped motion picture theatre in the district.

When completed the *Bijou* will seat approximately 700 persons, and the *Colonial* 900. Idealite screens – the latest innovation in motion picture screens – will be installed in both theatres. *Manager Castell*, of the *Colonial* orchestra, will organize a second group of musicians for the *Bijou*.

Features At Colonial.

It is Mr. Thomas' plan to use the Colonial largely, [sic] for showing of the larger feature picture [sic], as well as the road shows, with lighter attractions at the *Bijou*, which will be a motion picture theatre only. The first attraction booked for the Colonial after the redecoration is complete is "Something to Think About," an intensely interesting screen drama and one which is showing to capacity houses throughout the country. In connection with this film Mr.

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Thomas has planned an advertising scheme which will, it is confidently expected, give the residents of Iron Mountain "Something to Think About" besides the actual story of the film.

Wally Reid at Bijou.

In "The Dancin' Fool" Wallace Reid is particularly amusing and entertaining as a youth who invades the "wicked city" in search of employment. He has a distinct liking for "jazz" music and the dance, which characteristically carries him through a series of entertaining episodes, much to the disgust of his staid old uncle. The wind-up, in which Wallie exploits his uncle's stock in trade – earth jugs – by a clever advertising scheme, and his rather abrupt rise to fame, constitutes a story which is unusually interesting. **Bebe Daniels** makes an excellent dancing partner for Wallie – which is an added attraction.

Lack of business caused problems for the Bijou Theatre as explained in the following article in the **November 16, 1921** edition of *The Iron Mountain Daily News* under the headline "OPENING OF BIJOU AWAITS BUSINESS: No Demand Now For Two Movie Houses, Manager Thomas Declares":

Except for intermittent exhibitions, such as the Swedish films to be shown within a few days, the doors of the **Bijou theatre** will remain locked until business improves, Manager **Martin Thomas** declared today. Present conditions do not warrant the operation of another theater here, he avers, and the newly outfitted show house will remain dark.

The Bijou was completely remodeled and refitted last spring and two expensive motion picture exhibiting machines installed. The machines alone represent an investment of more than \$1,000, not including the electric equipment necessary to run them.

Open For Few Days

Following the completion of the alterations the theater was opened to the public but remained open for only a short time as business was not sufficient to keep both the **Colonial** and Bijou going. The theatre was closed and with the exception of one or two evenings when it was used as a lecture hall, has remained dark.

"As soon as business picks up and I find demand for another house, I will reopen the Bijou," Manager Thomas asserted, "but not at the present period of depression. I confidently believe, however, that before the winter is over the Bijou will be running continuously. When the theater is opened I plan to exhibit pictures of the same high caliber as those now being shown at the Colonial.

Further news regarding the Bijou Theatre opening appeared in the **November 30, 1921** edition of *The Iron Mountain Daily News* under the headline "BIJOU TO BE OPEN TWO DAYS A WEEK":

About Christmas time, according to Manager **M.D. Thomas**, the **Bijou theater** will be opened for motion pictures Saturday and Sunday nights. The variety program, at present being shown at the **Colonial**, will be transferred to the other playhouse and a feature will take its place. Thus, patrons who are following the serial may see it Saturday night, and then see the feature Sunday, or the reverse. In fact, they may even see both shows the same evening.

Divergence in the tastes of the theater's patronage is responsible for the change. Some people do not care for the serial and the varied program; others prefer it to a feature. Under the new system, they can take their choice.

Changes are also anticipated in the variety program. The **Harold Lloyd** comedies, the serial, and possibly Aesop's

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fables, will be retained, but interest in other "shorts," Mr. Thomas says, do not warrant their continuance, and a feature will be substituted.

The **Bijou Theatre** was still operating here in **1925**. **Hector Golchic** sold soft drinks in the rear of the **104 West Ludington Street** portion building in **1925** when Prohibition was in effect, and **Celina Gauthier** also operated a restaurant in the rear at the same time.

In **1935** **Charles J. Johnson** operated a grocery store at this location and **Albert [sic – Robert] Scholke, Sr. (1866-1936)** worked as a tailor here.

Charles J. Johnson (Agnes) owned **Johnson Produce Market** at **904 East C Street** in **1939**. In **1941-1942** he sold groceries and meats at **300 South Carpenter Avenue**, and also had **Johnson Produce** at **850 East D Street**.

Robert Scholke, Sr., son of **Anton and Mathilda (Kurtzla) Schokle**, was born **May 14, 1866** in Breslau, Germany. He married **Emily Lannoye**, daughter of **Fred Lannoye**, on **January 7, 1895**.

Emily Lannoye, daughter of **Frederic "Fred" Leopold Georges Lannoye (1848-1906)**, was born **February 27, 1877** in Menominee, Menominee County, Michigan. She died **May 18, 1956** in Iron Mountain.

Robert Scholke, Sr., had a tailor shop at **205 East Hughitt Street** and later at **104 West Ludington Street**. He died **July 12, 1936** in Iron Mountain.

The **Recreation Bowling Alley**, managed by **Peter Albert Tomassoni**, was located at this address by **1939**, and was listed as the **Recreation Bowling Alleys** in the **1941-1942** city directory under the ownership of **Joseph Crispigna, Peter Tomassoni** and **Ray Derham**. The **Recreation Bowling Alleys** were listed at **104 West Ludington Street** in **1946**.

There were no listings for **104 West Ludington Street** from **1959 through 1994**.

From **1995 through 1998** **Tracks & Treads Hobby Shop**, owned by **Mark Wiederrecht**, sold plastic models, military miniatures, model railroading, paints and supplies at this address.

There were no listings for **104 West Ludington Street** for **1999** or **2000**.

History of 106: **Hans Christensen** ran a bowling alley here in 1935. The **Recreation Bowling Alley**, managed by **Peter Tomassoni**, was located at 104 West Ludington Street by 1939 and probably encompassed this address, since the Bijou Theatre building had been located at 104-106 West Ludington Street. Listed as the **Recreation Bowling Alleys** in the 1941-1942 city directory under the ownership of **Joseph Crispigna, Peter Tomassoni** and **Ray Derham**, this address was not found in the city directory, but certainly was a part of this establishment.

There were no listings for **106 West Ludington Street** from **1946 through 2000**.

History of 108: In **1892-1894**, **Mrs. Margaret Kerr**, widow of **Daniel Kerr**, and **Mrs. Ann James**, widow of **Thomas James**, lived here.

Daprato & Rigassi (John Daprato and Charles Rigassi) sold groceries at this address in **1902-1903**. Daprato & Rigassi sold "groceries, fruits, vegetables, shoes, notions, feed, etc." in **1907-1908**, and **Gabriel Oman**, who worked at the City Water Works, resided upstairs at this address. In **1913**, Daprato & Rigassi were selling "general merchandise" and **Gabriel Oman**, now foreman at the City Water Works, still lived here. Daprato & Rigassi

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were still running a general store here in **1925**.



An article in the **April 7, 1925** edition of *The Iron Mountain News* reported a theft at the Daprato & Rigassi store as follows:

*Thieves last night entered the **Daprato & Rigassi store, 108 West Ludington street**, and stole a box of cigars and other merchandise, the amount of which has not been determined. Pennies in the cash register were not touched nor was the safe tampered with.*

Entrance into the store building was made by pushing out a small window in the

basement. A lever catch was found broken this morning. After jumping down into the cellar, the thieves lifted the door leading to the store.

By **1935**, **Calisto Serena** sold “general merchandise” at this location which was listed as the **Serena Grocery Store** in **1939** and as **Serena’s Grocery** in **1941-1942**, **1946** and **1959**, still under the same ownership.

Calisto Serena, son of **David Serena (1865-1927)** and **Mary (Bartole) Serena (1870-1941)**, was born **April 29, 1893** in Cvasso Nuovo, Provincia di Pordenone, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy. He died in **January 1965**. He married **Katherine Rose Garavaglia**, daughter of **Louis Garavaglia (1866-1924)** and **Theresa Josephine (Calcaterra) Garavaglia (1871-1950)**, who was born **March 8, 1893** in Stillwater, Washington County, Minnesota, and died **September 3, 1982**.

In **1961** the property at **108 West Ludington Street** was listed as vacant, and there were no listings from **1963 through 2000**.

History of 110: In **1892-1894**, the following individuals resided at this address: **Daniel McNellis**, the foreman of the *Dickinson County Journal*; **Mary A. McNellis**, a dressmaker; **Mrs. Margaret McNellis**, widow of **John McNellis**; and **William Tremewan**, an engineer, **Appleton Mine**, and **Jennie Tremewan**, a waiter [*sic* – waitress] at the **Commercial Hotel**, lived on the alley side of the building.

Gabriel Oman (1871-1939), a worker at the Water Works Company, lived here in **1902-1903**. **Joseph DeConcini (1876-1921)**, who had a livery and sold feed, as well as cigars and liquor, at **100 West B Street**, lived here in **1907-1908**. **Ida Johnson**, widow of **August Johnson**, resided here in **1913**.

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There were no listings for this address from **1925 through 2000**.

History of 112: **Thomas W. Hayes** (1854/1855-) ran a restaurant, confectionery and bakery, and also lived here in **1892-1894**. Thomas Hayes continued residing here, listed as a painter in **1902-1903**, and as a painter and paper hanger in **1907-1908** and **1913**.

In *History of Iron Mountain, Michigan* by the Iron Mountain Women's Club dated **February 20, 1914**, the following entry appeared for **1880**:

Frank Ayers, a bachelor from the state of Maine, who had been exploring in this vicinity, with a churn drill, was the first to have a building ready for occupancy. It was located on the **southeast corner of Stephenson Avenue and Ludington Street**, where the hardware store of **G.F. Gensch** now stands. Ayers procured lumber from **Marinette** and cut cedar in a nearby swamp for studding and floor stills. After the building was completed he put in a small stock of "Lumber-Jack" furnishings, including mittens, over-alls, stockings, shoe packs, tobacco, liquors, etc. Later he started a restaurant, the first in the place, **Thomas Hayes** being hired as cook. He next added groceries and meats. In the **spring of 1880**, he sold a half interest to **William Doucette**.

The **Thomas Hayes** referenced above as the cook in **Frank Ayers'** restaurant was probably the same man who was running a restaurant at **112 West Ludington Street** in **1892-1894**.

Thomas W. Hayes, son of **John and Julia (Bell) Hayes**, married **Ellen E. Garrity**, daughter of **Austin and Mary (Fenegan – Finnigan) Garrity** (parents born in Ireland) on **September 29, 1879** in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Thomas W. Hayes was born in **about 1854/1855** in Wisconsin. **Ellen E. (Garrity) Hayes**, born **April 16,**

1853 in Vermont, died **March 3, 1923** in St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota.

Children of **Thomas W. and Ellen E. (Garrity) Hayes** included:

William P. "Willie" Hayes, born **June 27, 1880** in Iron Mountain, died **January 29, 1944** in Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan;

Mary Julia Hayes, born **November 16, 1882** in Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan;

Mayme Hayes, born in **1884** in Michigan according to the **1910 U.S. Federal Census**.

Gust R. Sandberg, a cement worker, lived here in **1925**, as did **Mrs. Hilda J. Sand**, widow of **Oscar Sand** and mother of **Mrs. Astrid (Sand) Sandberg**. Hilda Sand was still living here in **1935**, together with **Esther M. Sand** and **Lillian E. Sand**, a stenographer for the **W.D. Cochran Freight Lines**. In **1939** Hilda Sand was residing at this location with daughter **Astrid Sand** and son **Bertel O. Sand**, a driver for the **W.D. Cochran Freight Lines**. Hilda Sand and Bertel O. Sand, a driver for the **W.D. Cochran Freight Lines** were still listed at this address in the **1941-1942** city directory, as was **Ward Korten**, a driver for the **Express**, and his wife, **Lillian Korten**, daughter of Hilda and a bookkeeper for the **W.D. Cochran Freight Lines**. Hilda J. Sand and **Astrid Sandberg** resided here in **1946** and **James LaCourt** lived upstairs at 112½ West Ludington Street. Mrs. Hilda J. Sand lived here in **1959**. From **1961 through 1971** Mrs. Hilda J. Sand and Bertel O. Sand lived at this address. In **1972** Mrs. Astrid M. Sandberg lived here and Bertel O. Sand lived upstairs at 112 ½ West Ludington Street. In **1973** **David J. Wicklund** lived downstairs and Bertel O. Sand lived upstairs. In **1974** Bertel O. Sand lived downstairs and David A. Sand lived upstairs. In **1975** Bertel O. Sand lived

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downstairs and **Mrs. Agda Carlson** lived upstairs. From **1976 through 1992** Mrs. Ruth M. Sand lived downstairs and Mrs. Agda Carlson lived upstairs. In **1987** three other apartments were listed with **Tracey Harju** in No. 1, **Don H. Jones** in No. 2 and No. 3 listed as vacant. From **1993 through 1998** Mrs. **Ruth M. Sand** lived downstairs and the upstairs was vacant. In **1999** Bertel sand and Ruth M. Sand lived here and the upstairs was not listed. There was no listing for this residence in **2000**.

Oscar Sand, son of **Carl and Sofia (Holmquist) Sand**, was born in **1867** in Sweden. He died in **1922**.



The **Oscar Sand** family lived at 112 West Ludington Street. Pictured standing are **Oscar Sand**, daughter **Astrid Sand** and wife **Hilda (Jacobson) Sand**. Seated are **Lillian Sand** and **Bertel "Sandy" Sand**.
[Greta Patrick]

Oscar Sand and **Hilda Jacobson**, daughter of **John Jacobson**, were married in Iron Mountain by **Rudolph Theodore Miller**, justice of the peace, on **September 7, 1901**. Attendants were **Charles W. Johnson** and **Mrs. Hulda Lundin**, both of Iron Mountain.

Oscar Sand operated a saloon at **101 West Brown Street** by **1907** and at **203 South Stephenson Avenue** by **1913**.

Hilda (Jacobson) Sand was born in Sweden in **1881** and died in **1971**.

Oscar and Hilda (Jacobson) Sand had the following children: **Gerda "Gertie" Sand (1902-1908)**; **Astrid (Sand) Sandberg (1904-1972)**, married **Gust Sandberg** in Menominee, Michigan, on **October 18, 1924**; **Bertel Oscar Sand (1905-1975)**, who married **Ruth (Roth) Sand (1914-2004)**; **Lillian (Sand) Korten (1908-1996)**, who married **Ward Korten (1906-1979)**.

History of 114: **Fred Cerelle**, a laborer, lived at this address in **1892-1894**. There were no listings for **114 West Ludington Street** from **1902-1903 through 2000**.

History of 116 and 118: Entries from the city directories from **1892-1892 through 1941-1942** show the address as **118 West Ludington Street** with no further listings from **1946 through 2000**. There were no listings for **116 West Ludington Street** until **1946** and listings continued for this address through **2000**. The residents in the **1941-1942** listing and the residents in the **1946** listing are the same.

History of 118: In **1892-1894** **Charles Rawn**, a mason, and **James Granville**, a vocalist, resided at this address.

Louis DeHate (1838-1907), a laborer, lived here in **1902-1903**. By **1907-1908** **Mrs. Louise DeHate (1846-1926)**, widow of **Louis DeHate**, son **Archie Joseph DeHate (1879-1948)**, an electrician, **Emil DeHate**, a

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railroader, and **Georgiana DeHate**, a dressmaker, lived here.

Louis DeHate, son of **Thomas and Lucy DeHate/DeHote/D'Hate**, was born **April 14, 1838** in Canada and was the father of 17 children, seven of whom were living at the time of his death on **April 28, 1907** in Iron Mountain. **Louise DeHate** was born **January 13, 1846** in Canada and died **August 3, 1926** at the home of her son **Archie DeHate (1879-1948)** in Stambaugh, Iron County, Michigan. She had lived in Iron Mountain for 42 years, residing with her daughter **Mrs. Alphonse (Natalie) LaJeunesse (1867-1934)** for the two years prior to her death.

R. Lefebvre (possibly **Real LeFebvre – 1853-1920**), a watchman, and **William John Cocking (1862-1925)**, a miner, lived here in **1913**. **Eugene Joseph Groleau (1884-1965)**, a foreman, lived here by **1925**, and **Emma Stevenson**, widow of **Charles Stevenson**, and **Ile [sic] Stevenson** lived here by **1935**. In **1939** **Emma Stevenson**, widow of **Charles Stevenson**, and **Miss Aili [sic] Stevenson** still resided at this address.

In the **1941-1942** city directory **Joseph Horn** and his wife **Marte Horn**, as well as **Joseph J. Horn**, a salesman, and his wife **Marie Horn** were listed here.

History of 116: In **1946** **Joseph Horn** resided at this address. From **1959 through 1978** **Horn's Bath House**, operated by **Joseph J. Horn (1894-1979)** and **Mrs. Marion A. Horn (1895-1975)** was located here. In **1959** **James R. and June B. Moddie** also resided here. James was a laborer at **Miller Manufacturing & Supply**. In **1961** **Edward J. Brown** also lived here.

In **1979**, the year **Joseph J. Horn** died, the residence was listed as vacant. In **1980** **Michael Sadler** was listed at this address, but there was no return in **1981** and the residence was again listed as vacant in

1982. From **1984 through 1985** **Jean Dorman** lived here, but the residence was again vacant in **1986**. From **1987 through 2000** there were three apartments in this house with a variety of tenants.



History of 120: There were no listings for this address from **1892-1894 through 2000**.

History of 122: **Henry McDermott**, superintendent of the **Lumberman's Mining Company**, **Henry McDermott, Jr.**, a machinist at the **Ludington Mine**, **Josephine** and **Mary McDermott**, all lived here in **1892-1894**. By **1902-1903** **Henry McDermott, Jr.**, the machinist, and **Mae McDermott**, a teacher, resided at this address. **Henry McDermott**, superintendent of the **Munro Mine** lived here in **1907-1908**.

Izidor E. Zacks (1876-1949), a cattle buyer and slaughterer, made his home here in **1913** with his wife **Reva Leah (Cohodes) Zacks (1880-1963)**, and was still here in **1925**, working as a livestock dealer and living with his wife **Leah Zacks**, **Max Zacks (1902-1956)** and **Nina (Zacks) Koffman (1901-1996)**, a bookkeeper. By **1935** **Izidor Zacks**, who bought and slaughtered cattle for his wholesale meat business and made deliveries to customers' stores and restaurants, still resided at this address with his wife **Leah Zacks**, together with **Max Zacks**, a driver, **Maurice Zacks**, a driver, and **Nina Zacks**. In **1939** **Izidor Zacks**, of **I. Zacks & Son (Izidor Zacks and Max Zacks)**, sold meats and fruits at **100 East Brown Street**, but still lived with his wife

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Leah Zacks at this address, where their son Max Zacks also resided. Son **Maurice Zacks** also worked at I. Zacks & Son, but lived with his wife **Naomi Zacks** at 311 ½ **East Smith Street**. In the **1941-1942** city directory **I. Zacks & Sons (Izidor Zacks, Max Zacks and Maurice Zacks)** still dealt in meats and fruit at 100 East Brown Street. Izidor Zacks and his wife Leah Zacks and their son Max Zacks continued to live at this address, while Maurice Zacks and his wife **Naomi Zacks (1918-2010)** resided at **1229 Crystal Lake Boulevard**. I. Zacks was still listed at this address in **1946**.

On the **1920 U.S. Federal Census** the **Isadore Zocks [sic – Izidor Zacks] family**, living in Dickinson County, Michigan, was listed as follows: **Isadore Zocks [sic – Izidor Zacks]**, head of household, 44 years old, born in about **1876** in Russia, immigrated to the United States in **1906**; **Loe [sic – Leah] Zocks [– Zacks]**, wife, 39 years old, born in about **1881** in Russia, immigrated to the United States in **1906**; **Nina Zocks [sic – Zacks]**, daughter, 18 years old, born in about **1902 [sic – 1901]** in Russia; **Max Zocks [sic – Zacks]**, son, 17 years old, born in about **1903 [sic – 1902]** in Russia; **Bertha Zocks [sic – Zacks]**, daughter, born in about **1905 [sic – 1904]** in Russia; and **Morris [sic – Maurice] Zocks [sic – Zacks]**, son, born in about **1912 [sic – 1911]** in Michigan.

On the **1930 U.S. Federal Census** the **Isadora [sic – Izidor] Zacks family**, living in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, was listed as follows: **Isadora [sic – Izidor] Zacks**, head of household, 52 years old, born in about **1878 [sic – 1876]** in Russia, immigrated to the United States in **1906**; **Leah Zacks**, wife, 48 years old, born in about **1882 [sic – 1880]** in Russia, immigrated to the United States in **1910 [sic]**; **Max Zacks**, son, 27 years old, born in about **1903 [sic – 1902]** in Russia,

immigrated to the United States in **1910 [sic]**; **Maurice Zacks**, son, 18 years old, born in about **1912 [sic – 1911]** in Michigan; and **Amie Delick**, servant, 19 years old, born in about **1911** in Czechoslovakia, immigrated to the United States in **1920**.

On the **1940 U.S. Federal Census** the **Isadore [sic – Izidor] Zacks family**, living in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, was listed as follows: **Isadore [sic – Izidor] Zacks**, head of household, 62 years old, born in about **1878 [sic – 1876]** in Russia; **Leah Zacks**, wife, 58 years old, born in about **1882 [sic – 1880]** in Russia; and **Max Zacks**, son, 37 years old, born in about **1903 [sic – 1902]** in Russia.

Izidor E. Zacks, son of **Max and Ida (Silverman) Zacks**, was born **May 3, 1876** in Vilna, Russia. Izidor married his wife **Reva Leah (Cohodes) Zacks** and they had three children born in Russia – **Nina, Max and Bertha**. Izidor immigrated to the United States in **1906** and, according to his obituary, his wife and three children arrived in Iron Mountain six months later. The **1930 U.S. Federal Census** reported that wife Leah and son Max immigrated in **1910**. Nina and Bertha were no longer living at home when that census was taken. A fourth child, **Maurice Zacks**, was born **October 10, 1911** in Iron Mountain. Izidor was the founder of **I. Zacks & Son**. Izidor died at his home at **122 West Ludington Street** in Iron Mountain on **April 15, 1949** following a serious illness of the previous two months. He was buried in Monte Fiore Section of the Forest Home Cemetery, Marinette, Marinette County, Wisconsin.

Izidor E. and Reva Leah (Cohodes) Zacks had the following children:

Nina (Zacks) Koffman was born **April 7, 1901** in Russia. She moved to Iron Mountain as a child. Nina Zacks married **Elmer Koffman** on **February 13, 1936** in Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois, and he

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preceded her in death in **1958**. She worked with her husband at **Koffman's Clothing Store**. She was a member of the Anshe Knesseth congregation. She died **February 28, 1996** at the Americana Health Care Center in Kingsford. She was buried at the Montefiore Section of the Forest Home Cemetery in Marinette, Marinette County, Wisconsin.

Max Zacks, born in **1902** in Russia, enlisted in the U.S. Army at Marquette, Marquette County, Michigan on **September 12, 1942**. Max Zacks never married. Following his service in the army he returned to Iron Mountain, where he lived for the rest of his life. He was co-owner of I. Zacks & Sons, where he worked for his whole adult life with his father Izidor and his brother Maurice. He died in **1956**.

Bertha Basche Zacks, born **March 19, 1904** in Russia, left Iron Mountain to attend Northwestern University. She subsequently moved to Milwaukee, where she worked as a switchboard operator. She met **Jack Glickman** there and they married **August 30, 1930**, at the Nightengale Ballroom, located at Badwater, near Iron Mountain. She spent the remainder of her life in Milwaukee. She died **December 12, 1976**.

Maurice Zacks was born **October 10, 1911** in Dickinson County, Michigan, and died **February 24, 1981** in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan. He married **Naomi Chudacoff** on **January 15, 1939** in Marinette, Marinette County, Wisconsin. Maurice Zacks died **February 24, 1981** in Iron Mountain. The daughter of **James and Rose (Kron) Chudacoff**, Naomi was born **October 8, 1918** in Marinette. She died **July 5, 2010** in Iron Mountain.

From **1959 through 1982** **Tony and Linnea Vespa** lived at **122 West Ludington Street**. From **1970 through 1982** the **Vespa Delicatessen** was

operated at this address by **Mrs. Linnea A. Vespa**.

Tony Vespa was born **June 12, 1907** in Iron Mountain. He worked as foreman for the Iron Mountain Public Works Department for 45 years, retiring in 1969.

His wife, Linnea, preceded him in death in **December 1974**.

From **1984 through 1986** the residence was listed as vacant.

From **1987 through 1990** **Electro-Tec, Inc.** was operated by **Douglas Edlund**, president, and **James B. Pouliot**, vice-president, who worked as electrical contractors here.

In **1991** the address was listed as vacant.

In **1992 and 1993** **Skis Music** was located here but no owner was listed.

From **1994 through 1999** **Scott P. Kwetkowski** resided here, as did **Chris M. Colavecchi** in **1994**. From **1996 through 1999** **Sandra L. Kwetkowski** also resided at this address. In **1999** **Paul B. Colavecchi and Sandra** ----- resided here.

In **2000** there was no listing for **122 West Ludington Street**.