

Manufacturing and Wholesale National Historic District



*Stretching from Valley to Elm St between
Main and Fifth Sts*

Named to the National Register in 2012, the distinctive large brick buildings of the “warehouse district” date to the late 19th and early 20th century. They were built by the companies that made Burlington a major hub of manufacturing and wholesaling for products such as furniture, saddles and leather goods, linseed oil, groceries, drugs, chocolate, and candy. Today the district is seeing revitalization with new residential spaces going into these historic buildings.

Downtown Burlington Manufacturing and Wholesale Walking Tour



VisitBurlingtonIowa.com

610 N 4th St, Ste 200, Burlington, IA 52601

Lagomarcino-Grupe Company**101 - 111 Valley St 1868**

The wholesale fruit business of Lagomarcino-Grupe Company acquired the building in 1892 and operated here until 1964. By 1915, the company had ten branches and was known as the “largest fruit house in the Midwest outside of Chicago.”

F.L. & G.L. Unterkircher**219 - 223 Valley St 1896, 1920**

This building was built for Unterkircher brothers’ undertaking business in 1896 with three stories. The fourth story was added in 1920 when it was acquired as an additional factory site for Schramm & Schmieg Dry Goods. It continued to operate as a clothing factory into the 1950s, with stores on the first floor.

John H. Ebert & Sons**317 Valley St 1900**

This three-story brick building was built for a wagon factory and blacksmith shop, and it’s one of the earliest factories in this historic district still in existence.

Churchill Drug Company**100 - 122 N 4th St 1907, 1920**

The south half, closest to the railroad tracks along Market Street, was the original structure built in 1907, and consists of two sections separated by an interior wall. Remnants of the painted Churchill Drug signs are visible on the south side of the building facing the railroad tracks.

Clinton-Copeland Company**100 - 104 S 4th St 1905**

This four-story brick building was built for a candy company, that operated here from 1905 until the late 1930s. The building was then used as a warehouse for the Benner Tea Company from 1939 to 1953 and later for Chittenden & Eastman from 1955 to 1996 as building “K.” Remnants of old painted signs from the Chittenden & Eastman Company are visible on the façade.

Iowa Southern Utilities**115 N 4th St 1926**

Iowa Southern Utilities provided gas and electricity for the city of Burlington and operated in the building from 1926 into the 1980s.

John Blaul and Sons**413 - 425 Valley St 1892, 1903**

The building was built for John Blaul and Sons’ wholesale grocery business. They operated here from 1892 to 1954 when the company was sold.

S.R. and I.C. McConnell Company**312 - 322 Valley St 1907**

The S.R. and I.C. McConnell Company were manufacturers and wholesale dealers of leather, saddlery, and saddle hardware operating here until 1945. Schramm & Schmieg Dry Goods operated here until 1960.

Schramm and Schmieg Dry Goods**201 - 205 N 3rd St 1908**

The company was a wholesale dry goods business and shipped products across the country. They operated here from 1908 to 1947. This was also the first building in Burlington built with reinforced concrete.

Ewinger Plumbing and Heating**115 N 3rd St 1885, 1925**

This two-story brick building was built around 1885, as a paint factory. Ewinger Plumbing and Heating acquired the building in 1925 and updated the façade. In 1932, the company shifted to solely a wholesale business of plumbing and heating supplies.

Chittenden & Eastman Company- Complex**100 - 134 S 3rd St, 101 - 127 S 3rd St, 107 - 117 S Main St 1876 - 1923**

The C&E Company complex consists of 12 buildings built from 1876 to 1923, plus an additional building at 100-104 S 4th Street. Originally based in Burlington, the Chittenden & Eastman Company started in 1866 as H. Bailey & Company, a retail furniture business. The C&E name was later adopted in 1883 and became officially incorporated in 1889.

Burlington Vinegar and Pickle Works**118 - 122 S 3rd St 1881**

This building was built for Burlington Vinegar and Pickle Works in 1881 with two stories, and the third story was added when the Chittenden & Eastman Company acquired the building in 1901. H. Weinrich started the business in 1876 and was the first to process pickles commercially in Iowa.

Burlington Vinegar and Pickle Works Warehouse**225 S 3rd St 1892**

This two-story brick building was built as a warehouse for the Burlington Vinegar and Pickle Works around 1892. They used this warehouse until 1900.

Burlington Buick Company**231 S 3rd St 1913, 1927**

This building was built for Chittenden & Eastman Company as a furniture warehouse in 1913 with two stories, and the third story was added when the Burlington Buick Company acquired the building in 1927. A penthouse was later built on the roof and is only visible from a distance.

Gardner & Gould Company**228 - 230 S 3rd St 1880**

Originally, this brick building was built in circa 1880 for Burlington Linseed Oil Works. In 1904, the candy factory of Gardner & Gould Company acquired the building. They operated at this location from 1904 to 1957. Remnants of old, painted signs are visible on the façade and south side of building.

Iowa Biscuit Company**216 - 220 S 3rd St 1914**

The Iowa Biscuit Company produced crackers, cookies, and cakes using up to 100 barrels of flour per day. They operated here from 1915 to 1934 and shipped products across the country. Remnants of old, painted signs are visible on the north and east sides of the building.

Manufacturing & Wholesale Map

A digital tour is available at
GreaterBurlington.com/WalkingTours

