

1. Cyrus Leland Store Building, 102 E Walnut, 1911

This two-story building located at the northwest corner of the Square has buff brick detailing on its front (south) and west façades. Cyrus Leland, Jr. – Troy’s most prominent citizen and a representative to the state legislature – acquired this property in 1869 and began a mercantile business on this site. Cyrus Leland was born in Wisconsin in 1841 and came to Doniphan County with his family at the age of 17. By 1872 he had built a massive brick structure on this corner for the business. The building escaped the 1899 fire that destroyed nearly the entire block on the north side of the Square, but was not spared in February 1911, when Leland’s corner building was destroyed.

2. Opera House, 106 E Walnut, 1900

This three-story brick building was the site of Troy’s first Opera House. The first building burned to the ground in the fire of November 15, 1899 and was rebuilt in 1900 by Cyrus Leland, Jr. It was restored as much as possible to its original appearance as it shares walls with the Leland store and the Leland Commercial building. The Opera House had a few live theater performances prior to the 1930’s, when it was used as a movie theater complete with a second balcony. Both Cyrus Leland and his son served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Cyrus Leland had the distinguished position of quarter master general and his son was a lieutenant.

3. Cyrus Leland Commercial Building, 114 E Walnut, 1900

Originally owned by Cyrus Leland, Jr., the building features several patterns of red and buff brick. It was built after the 1899 fire. The first floor has housed a hardware store, bakery, grocery, and Doniphan County’s electrical cooperative. The second story has served as a meeting space, offices and an apartment.

4. James W. McClellan Mercantile Building, 116 E Walnut, 1900

This two-story building culminates what is known as the “Leland-McClellan” Block. James Woodruff McClellan erected this building for his hardware and implement dealership following the 1900 fire. McClellan, born in 1840 in Pennsylvania, came to Doniphan County in 1856. He worked as a farmer and schoolteacher before establishing himself in the hardware and implement business in Troy in 1855. He established a reputation as an enterprising and fair merchant, working in his trade until he retired.

5. Hotel Avon, 120/122 E Walnut, 1900

This two-story brick structure has pattern laid brick detailing on the façade. The 1899 fire destroyed Troy’s hotel, the Higby House, located on this site. The disaster provided an opportunity to build a house benefiting the town’s status as a successful county seat. A July 12, 1900 copy of the weekly Kansas Chief touted the new building as “a credit to the town and county.” “Messrs Graves and Briggs have spared neither time, labor nor expense to make everything comfortable, convenient, and up-to-date.” The article went on to draw attention to hot and cold running water throughout the building, linoleum floors in the public spaces, oak furniture, heavy



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carpet in the bedrooms and a porcelain bathtub in the bathroom. Rates advertised for the hotel in 1901 were \$2.00 per day. By 1922, the business was renamed New Transit Hotel.

6. M. L. Kemp Undertaking Establishment, 126 E Walnut, 1908, new façade added circa 1928

This building is shown in 1916 as the undertaking establishment of L. T. Hargis. Hargis purchased the building in 1912 from M. L. Kemp. The original metal ornate façade is present in a 1927 photograph; it is likely the façade was altered between 1927 and 1930, when red tile replaced the metal. In 1930, a phone exchange business moved into the building.

7. Cordonier Office Building, 130 E Walnut, 1924

In 1924, Dr. Alfred Cordonier acquired the property and built his office. The design matches the Kemp establishment and it is likely they were built at the same time. Cordonier was born in 1882 and came to Troy to practice medicine in in 1906. This building housed his offices. His estate sold the building to Rober Guier, an abstractor, in 1964.

8. Grocery Store, 134 E Walnut, circa 1901

Local residents remember the building housing a grocery store into the 1950’s. A new façade was added during the 1960’s.

9. Nelson Rodgers Residence, 138 E Walnut, 1856

This one-and-a-half story center-gable house is constructed of hand-hewn timbers. The corner posts are hand-hewn cottonwood, and the windows contain some original hand-made glass. Nelson Rodgers, the town’s first blacksmith and postmaster, built this house out of oak, walnut, and pine in 1856. A rear kitchen space was added in 1863. Regional history identifies the house as the first and oldest remaining house in Troy. The Troy post office was established on March 16, 1857, and Nelson Rodgers was the first official and duly authorized postmaster. The house was sold to Sidney Tennant, a prominent lawyer. Abraham Lincoln came to Troy in December 1859 to give a speech at the courthouse. Local legend states that he walked down the street to visit his acquaintance Sidney Tennant.

10. Office Building, 206 S Main, unknown

The 1911 and 1922 Sanborn maps place a one-story brick-veneered real estate office in the northern corner of the building. The 1930 Sanborn map shows two separate but joined buildings in the present location of this building – an unidentified shop in the northern portion and a one-story battery shop in the southern portion.

11. Commercial/Apartment Building, 107 E Chestnut, circa 1878

Local residents have identified the building as the location of the offices of Albert Perry, a prominent abstractor, attorney and mayor of Troy. A local source reported in 1916 “the brick house in which Al Perry’s office is located on the south side of the court house square was built in May and June 1878,” indicating that the building may have served a dual purpose. The building has been converted into two apartments.

12. William B. and Mabel Perry Campbell house, 115 E Chestnut, 1912

The houses on the south side of the Courthouse Square, likely the most prominent residential location in Troy, provide an excellent example of the social history of a small town. Albert and Mildred owned this property from 1890 until they sold it to their daughter Mabel Perry Campbell in 1906. Albert Perry also owned the house/office building next door to the west at 107 E Chestnut. Mabel married Dr. William Campbell in 1890, so the couple may have lived in the former house on the site, possibly with Mabel’s parents. There is a photograph of the house in a biography of Dr. Campbell. The biography relates “He owns one of the best residences in the town and with Mrs. Campbell is enjoying life in Troy.” Born in 1856 and raised in Ontario, Dr. Campbell came to Troy in June of 1882 and began the practice of medicine and surgery from an office on the west side of the Square. He continued his practice until his death in 1916.

13. Daniel Sinclair/A.B. and Lulu Zimmerman House, 129 E Chestnut, circa 1881, remodeled 1912

Daniel Sinclair came to Troy from Michigan in 1872 with his wife Sara Elizabeth. He immediately set up a drugstore with his partner C. B. Bickford. In 1880, Sinclair purchased the property from Bickford and built a two-story T-plan house. The couple had two children Edward and Lulu. Edward studied pharmacy and took over his father's business. Lulu married A. B. Zimmerman, co-owner of Zimmerman-Williams Mercantile Company. The house was deeded to Lulu in 1911. The Zimmerman's remodeled the house by enlarging the basic T-plan and lived there the rest of their lives.

14. Sol Miller Building, 101 S Main, circa 1870

This two-story brick building sits on the northwest corner of the Square facing Main Street. Its design is very similar to that of the original Cyrus Leland store built on the adjacent corner circa 1870 (not extant). Sol Miller, editor and publisher of the White Cloud Chief, moved his publication from White Cloud to Troy in July 1887. The newly-named Weekly Kansas Chief was first located over a drug store on the southwest corner of the Square, but later moved to this building. From that point on, the building was known for many years as the Sol Miller or Chief Building. Miller expanded the building in 1890 to accommodate his printing operation and eventually leased the first story space to merchants and the second story to the I.O.O.F. Sol Miller was one of a number of newspaper editors that founded the Kansas State Historical Society. The Winzer's purchased the building in 1910 and moved their hardware business from the Leland Building in 1911.

15. Boder Brothers Bank/First National Bank, 137 S Main, 1872

This brick building was constructed on the southwest corner of the Square in 1872. It is likely that concrete cladding was added to the building around 1900. This cladding resembles stone blocks. Brothers Henry and Louis Boder organized the Boder Brothers Bank in a frame building on the site in 1870. The organization thrived, but burned to the ground in a February 1872 fire. Within a week the brothers began construction of a brick building, which cost \$7,000. Henry Boder took over the business in 1890, reorganizing it as the Bank of Troy. In the early 1900's the basement housed a barbershop and bathing rooms.

16. Doniphan County Courthouse, 120 E Chestnut, 1906, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974

The Courthouse built in 1906 is the fourth to serve Doniphan County in Troy. The county offices outgrew the temporary first courthouse by 1858; the second building burned down, and by 1900 the third courthouse was deemed too small and was razed for the present building. The building is an excellent example fo the Romanesque influence on government buildings in Kansas. George P. Washburn, one of the best architects in Kansas, designed it; the construction grant was given to J.H. Wagenknecht of Wathena for a sum of \$42,000. The Courthouse was dedicated on July 4th, 1906 before one of the largest crowds to gather in Troy.

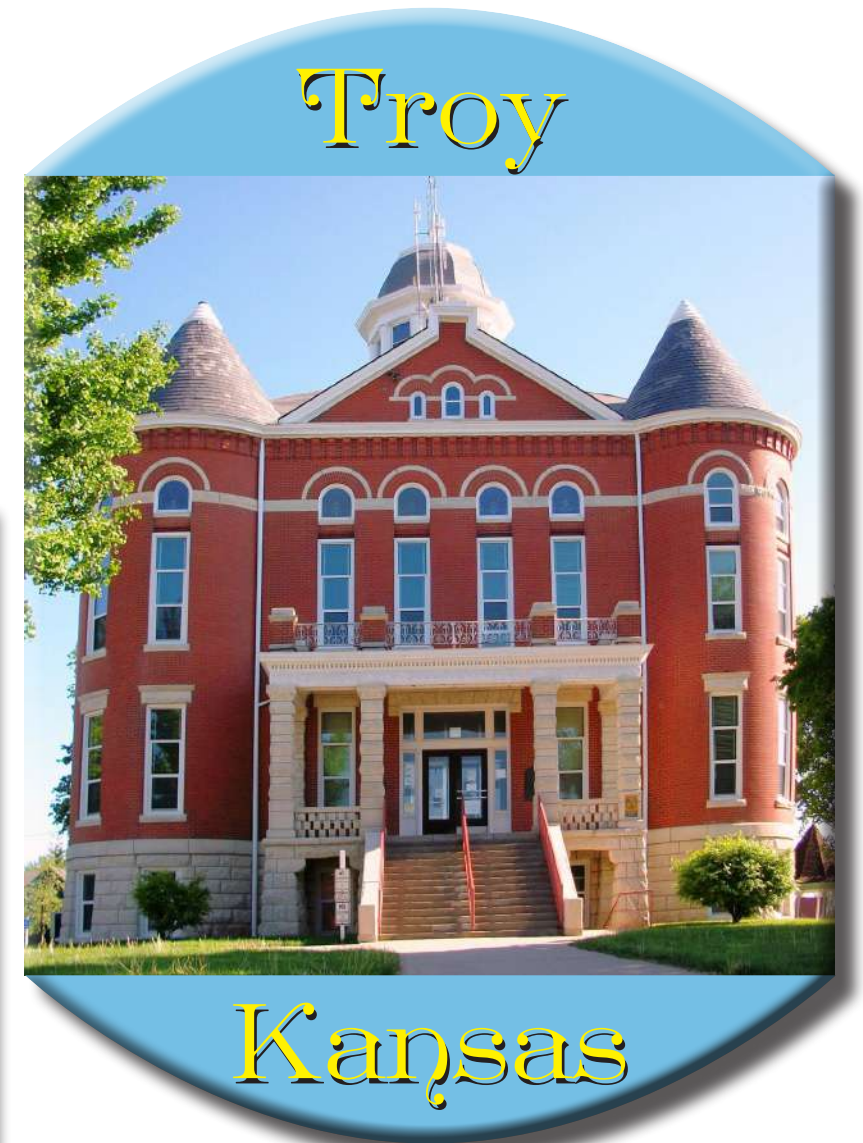
17. Brick Streets, north, south, west and east sides of Courthouse Square consisting of the East 100 blocks of Walnut and Chestnut Streets and the South 100 blocks of Main and Liberty Streets, laid in 1920.

The wide street surrounding the Courthouse Square is laid in a running bond that intersects at street junctions in a herringbone pattern. A March 18, 2910 edition of the Weekly Kansas Chief announced that a car of cement, a cement mixer, and steamroller had arrived in town to begin paving the streets of Troy. The brick streets were laid at the rate of 200 to 300 feet per day. The project began at the north end of Main Street. Ben Williamson, then a high school student, was hired as a "brick turner" to turn the flawed sides of the bricks to the underside.

Also in Troy . . .



The Doniphan County Waddell "A" Truss Bridge is located in Troy City Park. This bridge was originally constructed on Monument Road near Doniphan around 1900. It is significant because it is the only remaining example of this design in Kansas, and it has retained a great degree of integrity. For these reasons, this bridge was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990.



A Walking Tour and Guide

Courthouse Square Historical District

Doniphan County Courthouse