

Waseca Downtown Historic District Virtual Walking Tour

Building Address: **208-210 State Street North**

Built circa 1900

Occupied by:

Note: This is two separate buildings. At times in its past, a single business occupied both spaces. Below is a list of probable businesses at this location, but it's not always clear which business occupied 208 State Street North, which business occupied 210 State Street North, and when a business occupied the entire space. When you scroll down to the photos below, it's a little easier to see how the two buildings were used over time.

- Harness Shop and Grocery Store (1900-1919)
- Tyrholm's Garage / Auto Sales (1920s-1940s)
- Unknown business (1941-??)
- Waseca Sports Shop (1950s)
- Gambles (1950s- early 1980s)
- Hardware Hank (mid 1980s)
- Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce (present day – 210 State Street North)
- Hammer & Stain DIY (2014 - present day – 208 State Street North)

This two-story Romanesque Revival building faces west onto State Street North. The façade is faced with an orange brick, featuring decorative brickwork and stone detailing. The storefront consists of two entrances flush with flanking display windows, which have anodized-aluminum frames. The bulkhead and piers are covered with glazed panels. Stucco covers the signboard across the width of the building. The second story is largely intact. The cornice is adorned with a sawtooth brick band below a band featuring a Greek key motif, and shallow brick corbelling. The façade is topped with a parapet with a molded stone coping. Second story fenestration originally consisted of six rounded-arch window openings separated by pilasters with stone bases and Doric capitals. The southern three window openings are intact, and although the sashes have been replaced with double-hung, anodized-aluminum frames, fitted windows remain within the arches. The northern three window opening have been altered by eliminating the arches and creating two rows of undersized, rectangular window openings with brick infill.

When built circa 1900, this double-storefront building replaced two earlier buildings. A harness shop occupied the south half of the building through at least 1919, and the north half originally housed a grocery store and then an auto sales store by 1919. Other occupants during the following decades are listed above.

Photos of 208-210 State Street North

*From the Waseca County Historical Society Archives



Circa 1900 – This is a postcard print of Waseca’s Main Street (now State Street). You can identify 208-210 State Street North by the bank of six identically arched windows – roughly in the middle of this photo. Identified buildings are I. Jensen, Tailor, and a barber pole. Records indicate 208-210 State Street North was used as a harness shop and grocery store at this time, but this photo does not help to identify the names of any business.



Circa 1940 – This photo shows employees for Jung’s Bakery (located at 206 State Street North), but you can also clearly see the building façade for 208-210 State Street North. This photo also shows the second story arched windows intact across the entire façade. The first story housed Tyrholm’s Garage and Auto Sales during this period.



1941 parade down State Street. You can spot 208-210 State Street North in the background behind the “Bakery” sign. You can see that the window arches have been altered at 210 State Street and the building is no longer occupied by Tyrholm’s Garage, although it’s too blurry to read the name of the business on above the fabric sidewalk awning.



Circa 1955 – Interior of Waseca Sports Shop (this would be at 210 State Street North)



1956 – Waseca Sports Shop occupies 210 State Street North (on the left). A Gambles store occupied the space for 208 State Street North. You can see in this photo at some time in the 1940s, the windows above Waseca Sports Shop were changed and the brick archways were altered.



1965 – Gamble's now occupies both 208 and 210 State Street North.



Approximately 1980 – A photo of the annual Sleigh & Cutter parade. You can see the 208-210 State Street North building on the left.



1983 – Both buildings are combined to operate as Hardware Hank.