

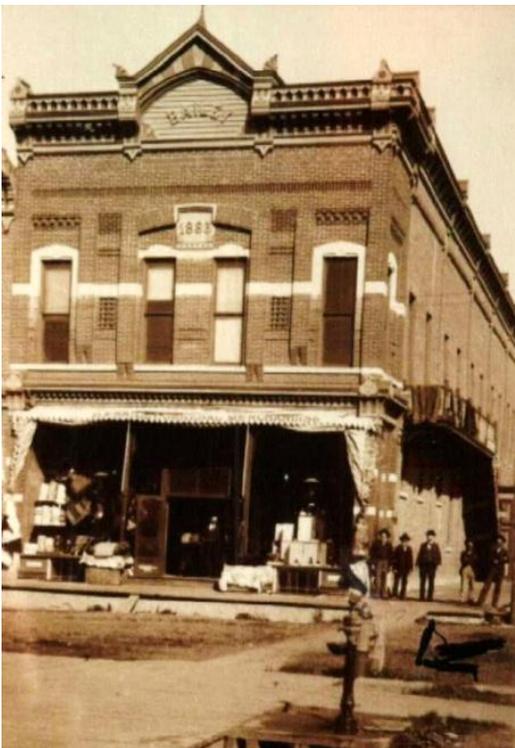


Photos provided by Richland County History Room.

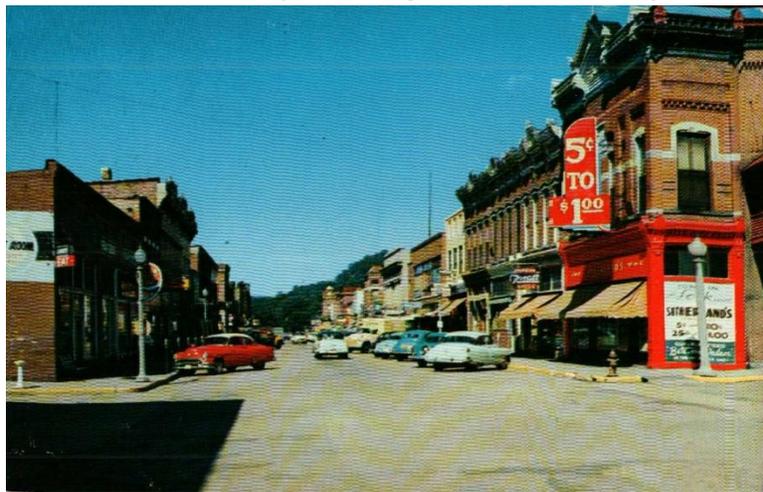
H.T. Bailey Store and Opera House –194 East Court Street, 1883.

Much of the commercial architecture in Richland Center in the nineteenth century reflected the Italianate fashion, generally popular from 1800 to 1880. This style typically features a symmetrical façade, wide eaves with brackets, low pitched hip or gable roof and ornate classical details.

Constructed of red brick from the local Hyatt Brickyard, this two-story highly ornamental Italianate building features a large metal cornice with brackets and triangular shaped pediment, a large segmented brick arch in the same center bay with white keystone inscribed “1883,” and white stone window lintels in an abstract floral pattern. A large projecting iron cornice featuring brackets inscribed with the name “Bailey,” highlights the façade of the H.T. Bailey Store and Opera House.



This well preserved building was designed by Madison architect David R. Jones. Originally built for \$15,000 to house Bailey’s dry goods store, as well as an Opera House and the Masonic Temple on the second floor, the Bailey Building housed the Clark and Elliott Store at the turn of the century, followed for many years by the Edward and Kelly Clothing Store and later by Brown’s.



The most elaborate of six architecturally significant examples of the Italianate commercial style remaining in Richland Center, the former Bailey Dry Goods Store, presently continues to serve as a clothing store.

