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ROCKFORD

ILLINOIS

PHOTO-GRAVURE VIEWS

AND BRIEF

Descriptive Sketch

OF THE

FOREST CITY

Published by the

Rockford Real Estate Exchange

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

1893

226472

* 317.733 R59 log. 3

The City of Rockford.

The Pictures.

HEREIN are shown some of the principal features of Rockford as they appear in the early summer of 1893. This book will speak for itself. The Photo-Gravure pictures of some of the principal business blocks, residences, schools, churches, factories, birdseye views and bits of scenery were made especially for this book, and they give a correct and striking idea of the general appearance of the city. Scores of additional pictures of factories, residences and other buildings could have been added, if the price at which these books have been sold had permitted, but those which are given are fairly representative of what Rockford has to show.

Rockford's Location.

FLOWING southwesterly in the north central part of the state, through a gently rolling prairie country of unsurpassed richness, dotted here and there with fine groves of oak, black walnut, elm and other woods, is Rock river, one of the most beautiful streams to be found in the entire country. The city of Rockford is built almost equally upon both sides of the river, which is here spanned by seven public and railroad bridges. As one looks upon the outspread city and the gracefully meandering river he is at once impelled to the conclusion that the situation is one of rare beauty and of unusual attractiveness. The natural timber which is still left and the thousands of trees which have been planted along the streets and upon private grounds have gained for Rockford the name of the "Forest City," which is most appropriately bestowed. The river and several creeks afford excellent drainage, and Rockford is one of the most healthful cities in the country. The climate of northern Illinois, free alike from the severe cold of winter and the extreme heat of summer, may not be ideally perfect, but it comes as near to perfection as one is apt to find in any country which has anything to offer besides its climate.

Various Statistics.

THE following miscellaneous statistics will give a tolerably clear idea concerning the present condition of Rockford.

The Banks.

The following is a summary of the condition of the banks on May 4, 1893:

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts.....	\$3,016,920 63
U. S. and other bonds.....	431,198 78
Available cash.....	827,502 20
Real estate, furniture and fixtures.....	123,618 37
Total.....	\$4,399,239 98

LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock.....	\$ 850,000 00
Surplus and undiv'd profits	524,408 19
Deposits.....	2,864,431 79
National bank notes outstanding.....	160,400 00
Total.....	\$4,399,239 98

Rockford's Population.

U. S. Census 1850.....	2,093
“ “ 1860.....	6,946
“ “ 1870.....	11,049
“ “ 1880.....	13,129
“ “ 1890.....	23,584
Estimated 1893.....	33,000

The City Vote.

1890, April.....	2,815
1891, “.....	4,421
1892, “.....	4,208
1893, “.....	5,094

It should be noted that as the election in 1890 and 1892 was for Aldermen only, the full vote was not called out. The vote of this year was about as full as ordinarily happens.

School Report.

The enrollment of pupils in the public schools and also the school population for the last four years will appear from the following:

	Total Enrollment.	School Census.
June, 1890.....	3,755	9,912
June, 1891.....	4,010	9,395
June, 1892.....	4,407	10,947
April, 1893.....	4,611	*

*Census for this year not yet completed.

Post Office Figures.

Receipts from the sale of stamps, postal cards and stamped envelopes:

Year ending March 31, 1889,	\$44,116 33
“ “ “ “ 1890,	47,903 57
“ “ “ “ 1891,	54,447 55
“ “ “ “ 1892,	62,779 47
“ “ “ “ 1893,	70,367 74

The money order business is nearly \$400,000 per annum.

Building Record.

	1891.	1892.
New residences.....	\$1,207,000	\$1,638,628
New factories.....	117,000	256,700
Business blocks....	247,000	390,500
City improvements..	278,000	130,678
Churches.....	131,000
Schools.....	54,000	98,000
Street railways....	97,000	159,800
Railroads.....	59,000	43,500
Electric cars.....	60,000	63,500
Miscellaneous.....	115,000	150,000

Total.....\$2,365,000 \$2,930,806



BIRDSEYE VIEW LOOKING EAST FROM COURT HOUSE.



BIRDSEYE VIEW LOOKING NORTH FROM COURT HOUSE.



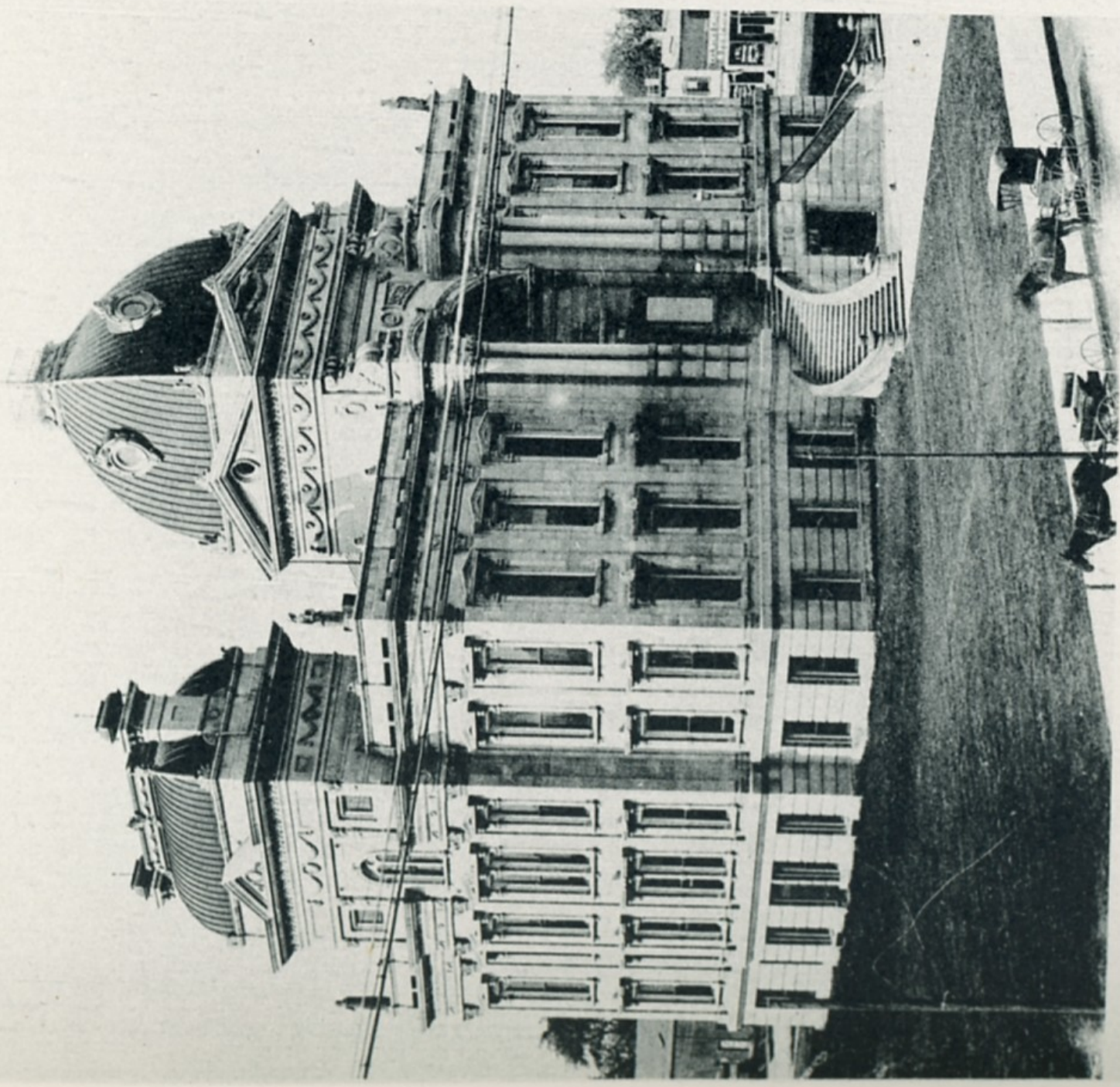
NELSON HOTEL.



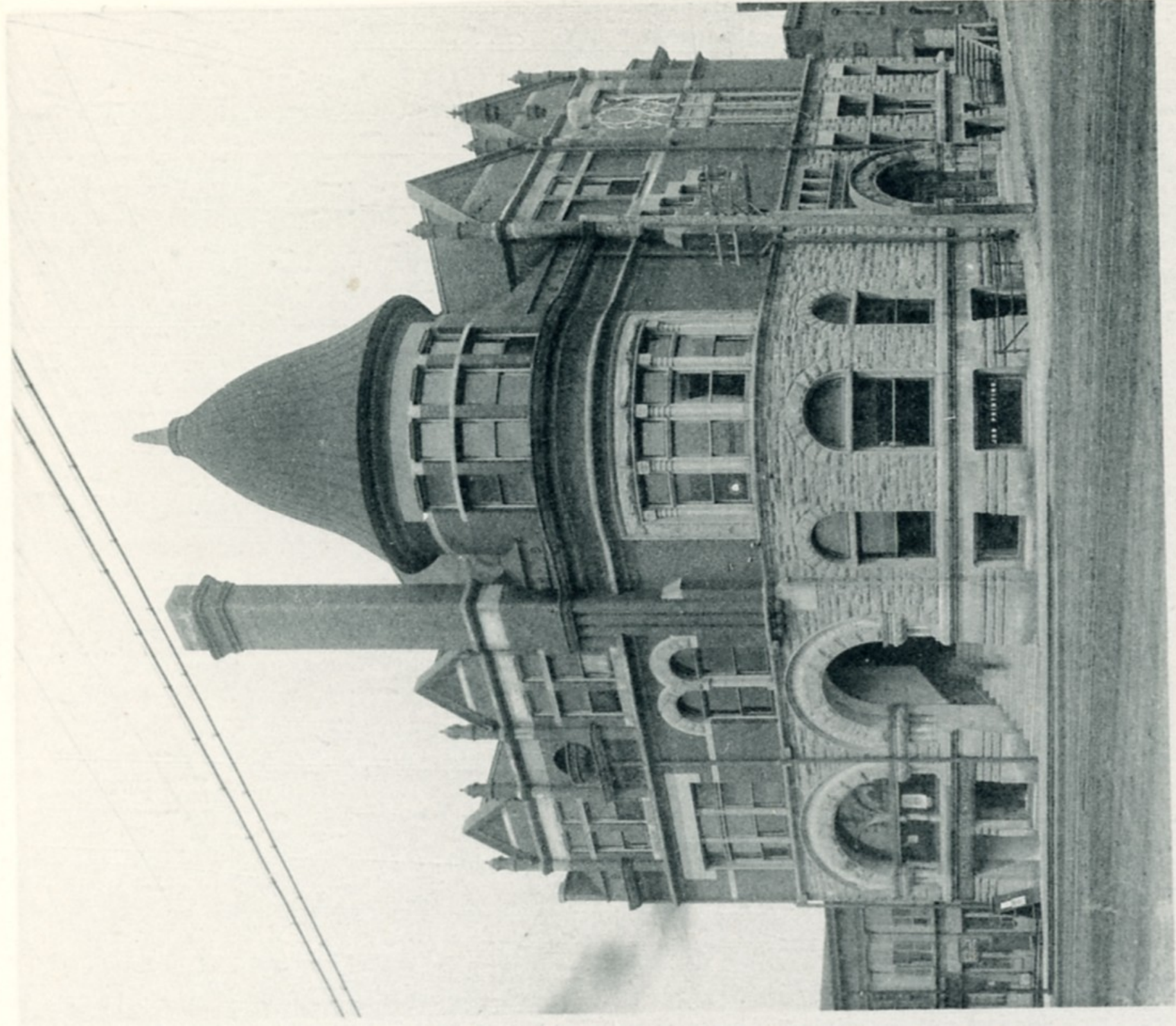
SCENE CORNER WEST STATE AND MAIN STREETS.



BIRDSEYE VIEW LOOKING EAST FROM WM. BROWN BUILDING.



COURT HOUSE.



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING.



THIRD NATIONAL BANK AND BLAKE BUILDINGS.



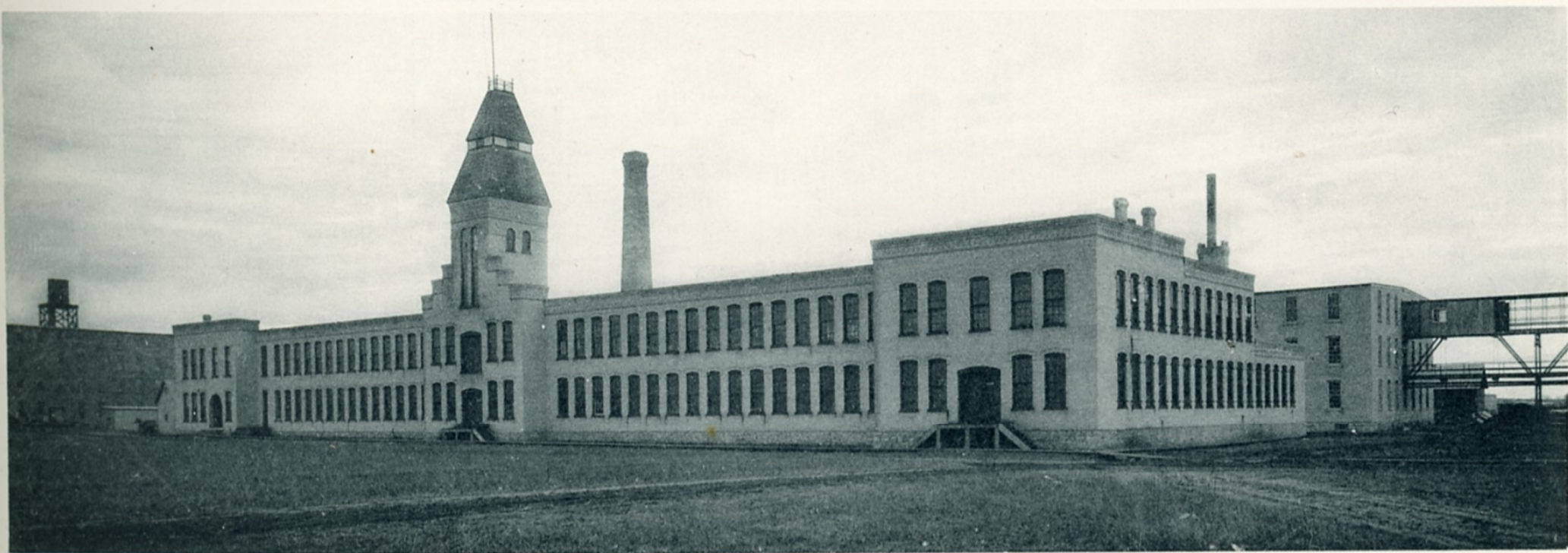
WM. BROWN BUILDING.



PASSENGER STATION ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY.



ROCKFORD UNION FURNITURE COMPANY.



ROYAL SEWING MACHINE COMPANY.



FOREST CITY KNITTING COMPANY.



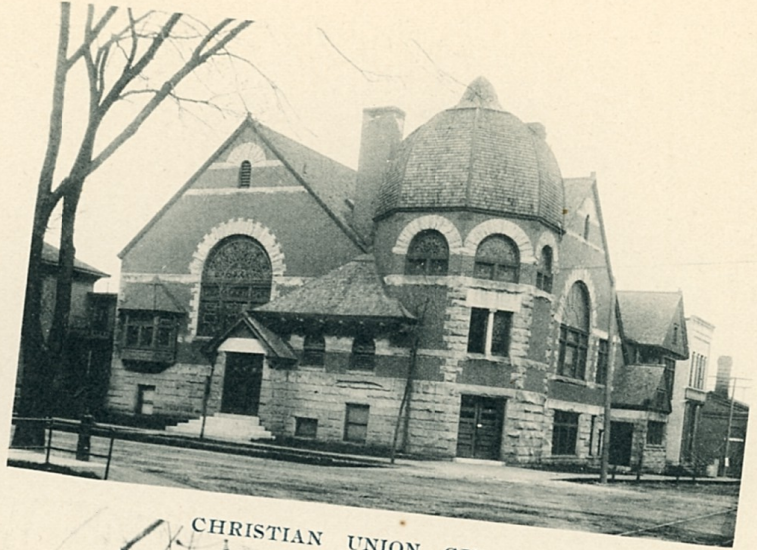
VIEW OF ENGINE HOUSE NO. 1 SHOWING A PART OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.



FOREST CITY NATIONAL BANK AND SUMNER BLOCK SOUTH CHURCH STREET.



CENTENNIAL M. E. CHURCH.



CHRISTIAN UNION CHURCH.



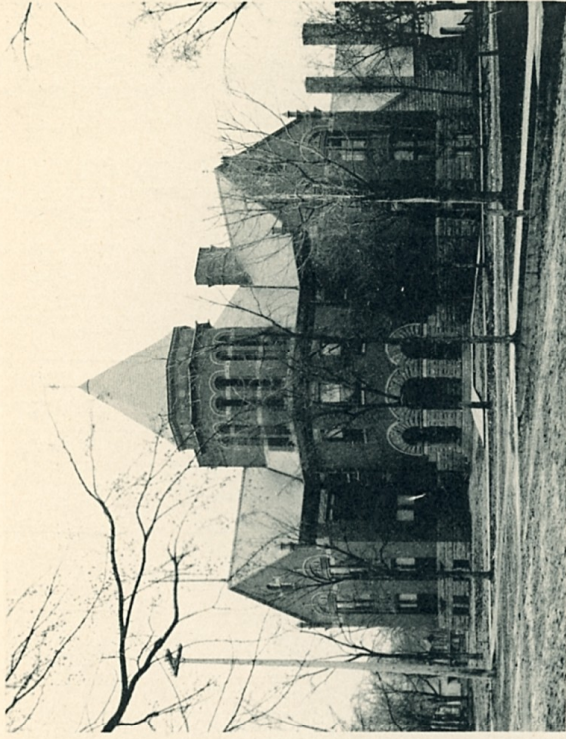
SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.



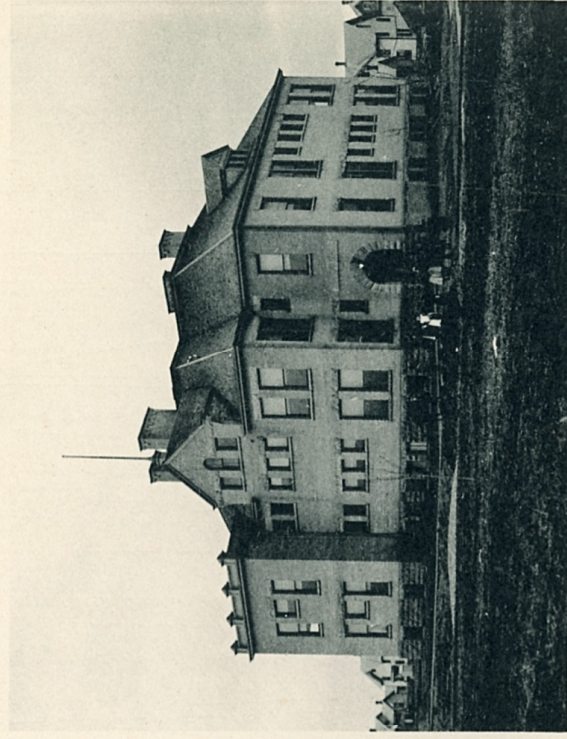
COURT STREET M. E. CHURCH.



FAIRFIELD MEMORIAL PARISH HOUSE OF
EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH.



LINCOLN SCHOOL.



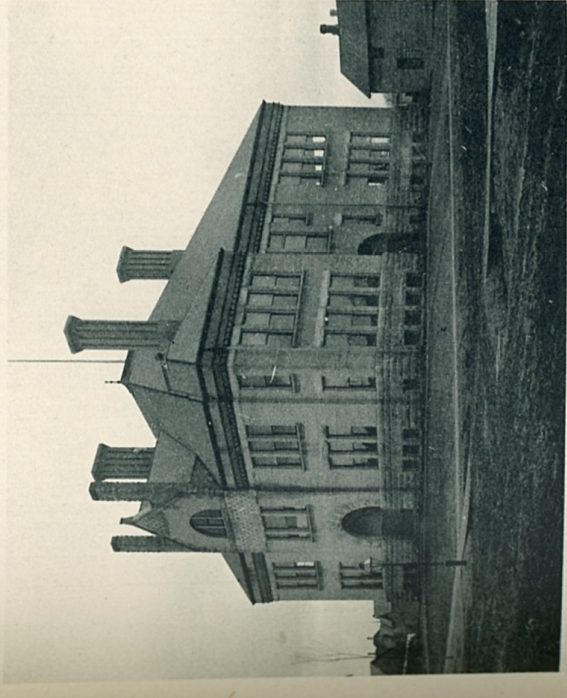
NELSON SCHOOL.



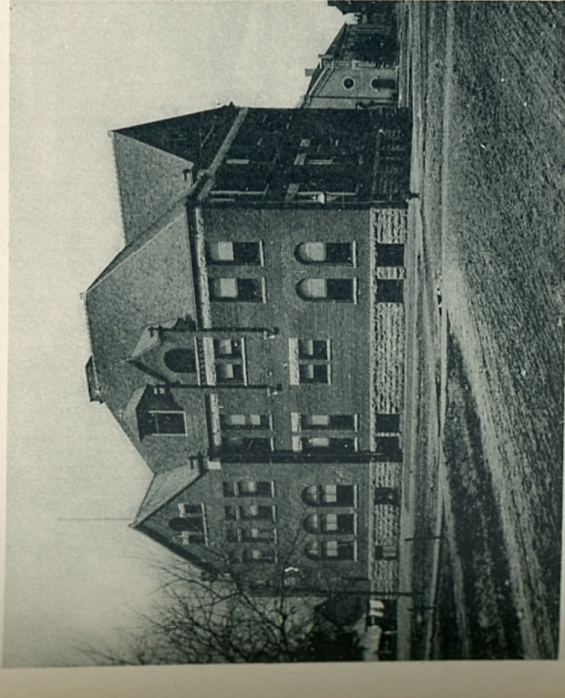
MONTAGUE SCHOOL.



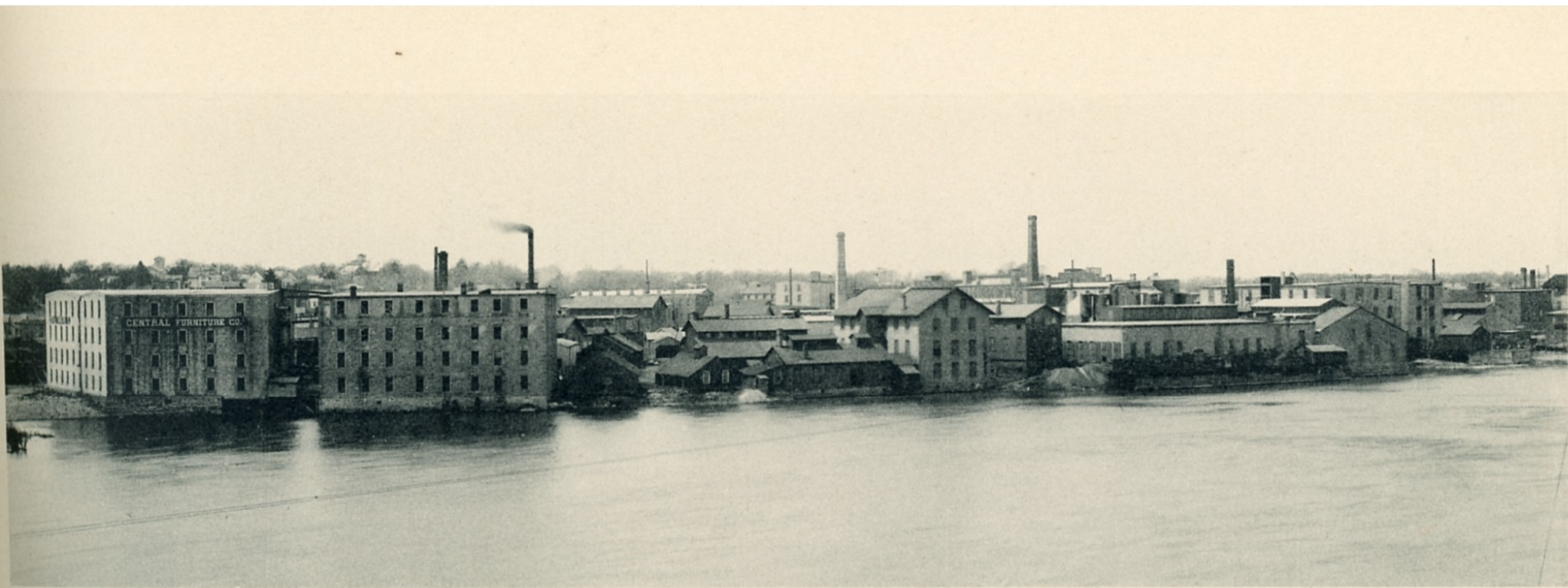
HIGH SCHOOL.



WIGHT SCHOOL.



HALL SCHOOL.



VIEW OF WATER POWER FROM COLLEGE GROUNDS.



VIEW OF ROCKFORD COLLEGE MAIN BUILDINGS.



MEMORIAL HALL.



SILL HALL.

ROCKFORD COLLEGE.



RESIDENCES IN HIGHLAND.



NORTH MAIN STREET RESIDENCES.



RESIDENCE OF T. D. REBER.



STEWART BLOCK ON SOUTH MAIN STREET



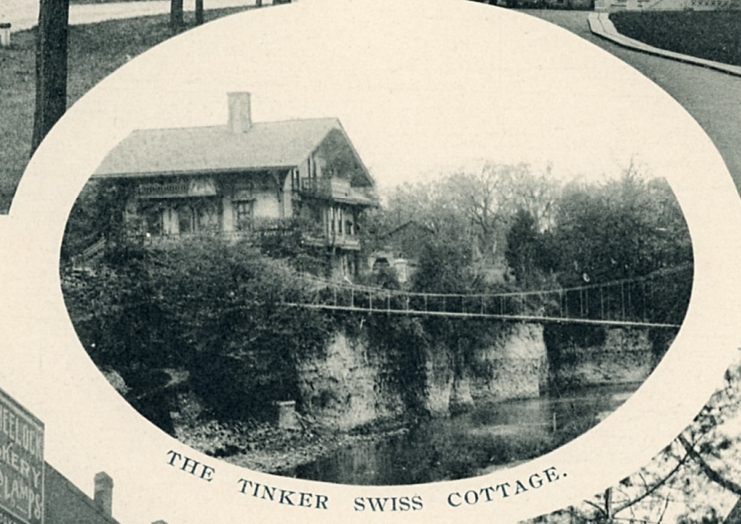
ROCKFORD NATIONAL BANK BUILDING



RESIDENCE OF MRS. SELDEN M. CHURCH.



RESIDENCE OF HENRY W PRICE



THE TINKER SWISS COTTAGE.



WOODRUFF BLOCK, WEST STATE STREET.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN BARNES, NORTH MAIN STREET.



ROCKFORD MITTEN COMPANY'S WORKS.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. SNOW, NORTH MAIN STREET.



RESIDENCE OF HON. L. M. NOLING.



CITY WATER WORKS



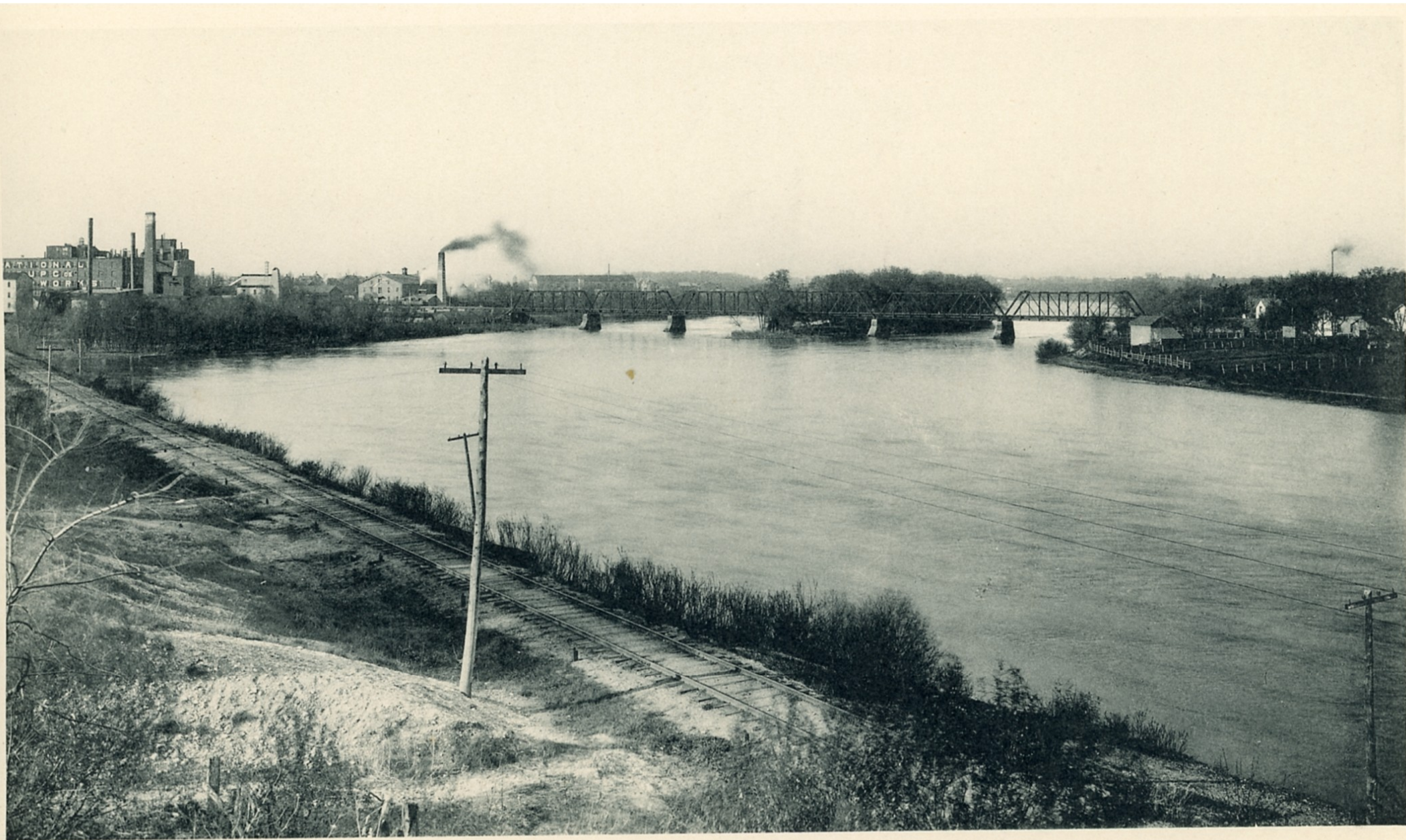
GROUP OF RESIDENCES IN HARLEM PARK.



VIEW ON SEVENTH STREET.



VIEW ON EAST BANK OF ROCK RIVER LOOKING NORTH FROM RAILROAD BRIDGE.



VIEW ON ROCK RIVER LOOKING SOUTH FROM NEAR MORGAN STREET BRIDGE.