



Amery Area Historical Society

Historical Sites



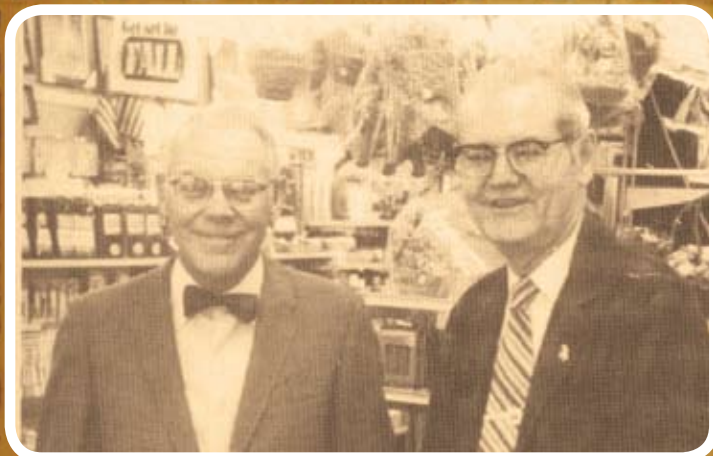
Burman Building
1888

Burman Building Dedication

John G. Burman was born in Linneryd, Sweden, in 1862 and came to the United States in 1882. In 1888, he moved to Amery from Stillwater and opened a furniture store on Harriman Avenue which was the main street at that time. When the business district shifted to Keller Avenue, Mr. Burman built a frame store building in 1889 and moved his furniture business into it. In 1895, he built the present Burman brick building beside the frame one and it became a general store, selling hardware, farm tools, equipment and housewares. During the 1920's, the second floor was used for social events and movies, and also had a net so it could be used as a golf practice range.

Mr. Burman and son-in-law A. O. Dalberg and later his sons, John and William, operated the store until 1941 when the sons purchased the business. In 1951, the Ben Franklin store was added. Both stores continued sharing the building until 1966 when Our Own Hardware was sold to Rick Rehm who moved it across the street.

The "Burman boys" were in partnership until 1984 when William bought out his brother, John, and turned the management of the Ben Franklin over to his daughters, Patricia Burman Canham and Nancy Burman Olson. The family business operated continuously in Amery for nearly 115 years.





“I would have liked to have walked the path through Amery in 1887 with my grandpa and had seen what he saw for the future of the City of Lakes.”

PAT BURMAN CANHAM

HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP OF BURMAN BUILDING FROM 1885-2012

Information derived from Polk County Register of Deeds records

- August, 30, 1889
Sold by Sault Ste. Marie Land Improvement Co. (Soo Line Railroad) to L. N. Horton for \$100
- December 21, 1889
South half of lot 10 sold by W. R. Ingalls and Fannie L. Ingalls to L. N. Horton of Barron for \$50
- April 27, 1893
South half of lot 10 and 11 sold by E. H. Brown to John G. Burman for \$142.82
- January 6, 2003
Jeanne M. Burman to Worn Again, Inc.



The Amery Area Historical Society (AAHS)
collects and preserves the heritage of the local area.



This historic site brochure is an activity of the
Cathy Haug Memorial Project of the AAHS.



The AAHS welcomes your participation
as donors and members.



Amery Area Historical Society
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(lower level of the Amery Area Public Library)