



A.D. German Warehouse, 177 East Haseltine Street-1912.

John German came from Wales to America in 1840 with his parents when he was eleven years old. The family took up residence in New York state where he lived for twenty-seven years before moving to Richland County, Wisconsin. German was an inventor of a number of items including a corn planter, an adjustable hospital bed and a cheese factory milk can. The large family home still stands near Aubrey Corners just off Highway 58. Albert German, who built the warehouse on Haseltine Street, was the youngest of seven children born to



Front row L-R: Minnie, Albert, Louisa, John Sr, Fred, Anna. Back row L-R: Daniel, John Jr, Grant - Trudy Kinyon photo.

John and Louisa German: John, Fred, Daniel, Grant, Anna, Minnie and Albert.

Albert stayed on the farm until he married his first wife Grace Alta Moore in 1899. He started his German Jobbing Service soon after locating in Richland Center. In 1909, Alta died leaving him with two daughters, Anna and Veva. He had built a home on Church Street in 1906 and in 1907 bought the Mitchell Hotel located on the corner of Haseltine and Church Streets. In 1909 he built another home almost like the first next to the hotel; renamed the Hotel Badger.

A.D. German married a second time to Mae B. Joslin the youngest daughter of Major W.H. Joslin. Major Joslin had served in the civil war and his family was well known in Richland Center. Albert and Mae married in 1912,

which coincided with building the first German Warehouse directly adjacent to the Hotel Badger. German's business in 1912 was quite successful with additional operations in Platteville and Prairie du Chien.

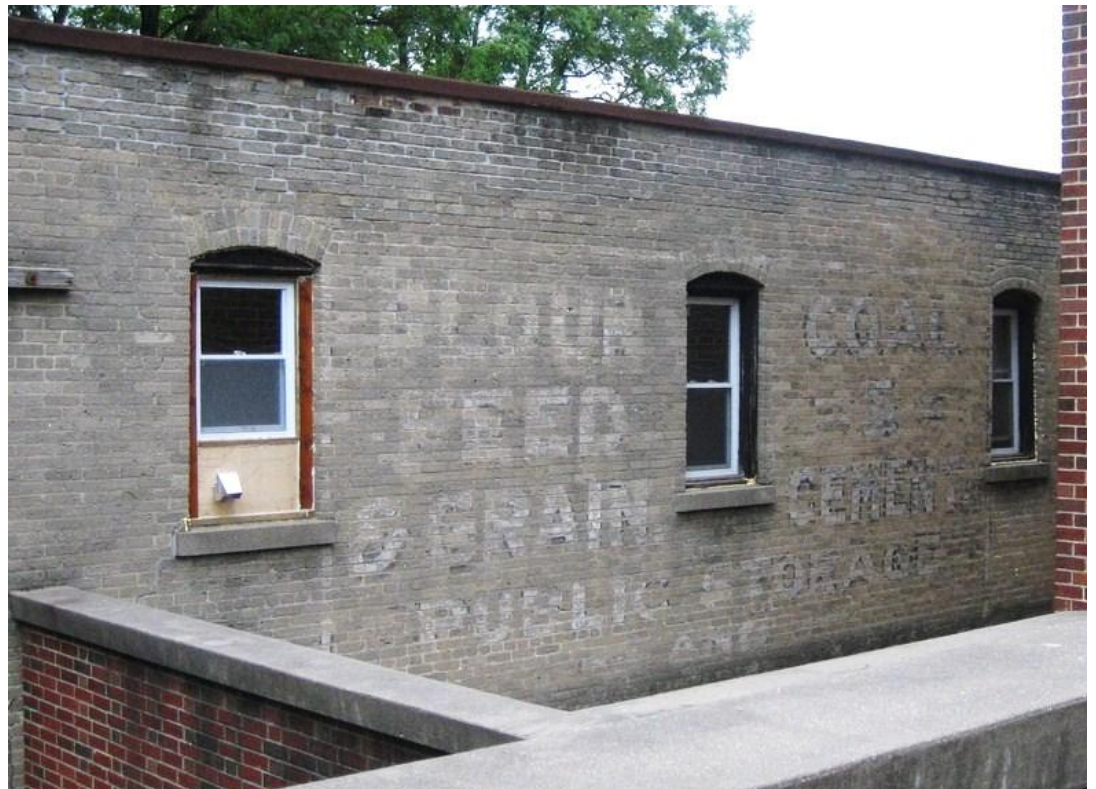
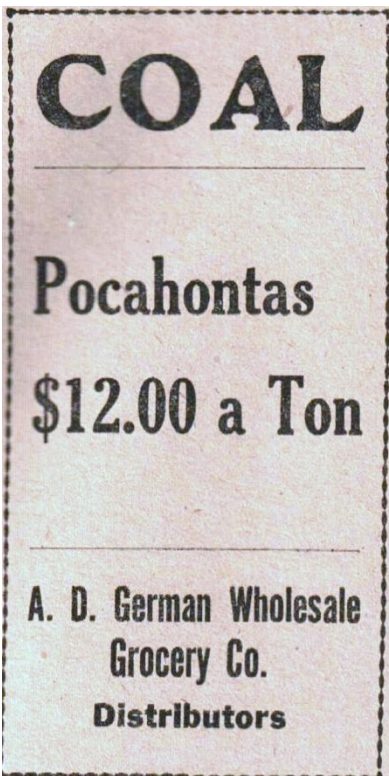


The Hotel Badger in 1909. Arbegust photo.

were being prepared by the Architect Frank Lloyd Wright and that the building would cost approximately \$30,000. The building eventually cost \$125,000 when construction had to be stopped in 1921 and the functions other than a wholesale grocery warehouse never came to fruition. German used the warehouse for wholesale storage of sugar, flour, feed, coal, cement and groceries from 1921 through 1927.

A.D. German is primarily known for his relationship with Frank Lloyd Wright and the subsequent design and partial construction of the German Warehouse which began in 1917 on the space formerly occupied by the Hotel Badger. In the Richland Democrat of Oct. 4 1916, German explained his plans to build a warehouse to house the commodities he traded, flour, sugar, feed, and other grocery

items. He announced the plans



Mae Joslin German also died prematurely at age forty four from a stroke. Mr. German's third marriage to Lucille Haas was short lived. A.D. German relocated to Florida, then Cincinnati, eventually settling in New York City. He died while on a trip to Holland, Michigan in 1945 at the age of sixty-nine and burial was made in New York City.



All four German properties today - Shirley Steiner photo.