



### **The Larson House, 691 East Haseltine Street.**

The Larson House at 691 Haseltine Street has been a landmark on the east side of Richland Center for many years. It was not in the original plat of Richland Center but in Orrin Haseltine's addition which had been given to Samuel T. Mix for the military service of his son in the Mexican War. August Larson built the house of local brick and in its time was considered quite large and well appointed. The woodwork of butternut wood is said to have never been varnished. The house is indicative of a structure not designed by an architect and exhibits some stylistic features suggestive of Georgian and Greek Revival Style in its simple 2 story box configuration, but does not otherwise conform to the pattern typical of those styles. It has none of the Victorian artistry of decoration but it gives an appearance of dignity in its simplicity.

August Larson was born in Stockholm, Sweden, August 2, 1842. He learned the trade of cabinet making and resided in Sweden until 1866, when he immigrated to the United States in 1866. He first worked in New York City and then moved to a number of different cities including Chicago, St. Paul, Minn., LaCrosse, Buffalo, N.Y., Detroit, Mich., Milwaukee and Ontario. He came to Richland Center from the Vernon County town of Ontario in 1873. He was employed by Captain Henry Toms, a well-known and prosperous Civil War veteran, in the furniture making trade. He left Captain Toms employ in 1880 and opened his own cabinet shop located across from the Mitchell Hotel on South Church Street.

Larson married Rosa Mayfield in 1872. Rosa Mayfield was one of five children of David and Almira Mayfield who had come to Richland County from Tennessee and settled in the Ash Creek community. Larson has been described as a small, odd, little man who wore an apron as he worked. Two streets in the East Haseltine neighborhood are named for August and Rosa Larson; Larson Street and Rosa Street.

*(Keep in mind the homes listed are private residences which are not open to the public. Please respect the occupants' privacy when viewing their homes from the sidewalk).*





Looking North - Intersection of Court and Church Streets – H. Toms Furniture and Undertaking.

