

A Walk to Remember...

Block 1, Lot 9 & 10

C.A. Shaw Insurance



One of the first businesses established when the town of Carnduff moved here in 1891 was the feed and livery barn of John P. Carnduff. Mr. Carnduff built his barn on the two lots here and added his residence on the south end of the corner lot. The first post office in the community was run out of this home.

Mr. Carnduff's West End Livery was a staple for the community and its success resulted in additional barns being established in the town. Fires were always a risk for the barn business it seemed and the first fire to strike occurred after 1905. In addition to claiming West End Livery it destroyed the Henderson & McCluskey barn to the west. Unfortunately, over the course of its history, the West End Livery barn burned to the ground several times.

In 1897, a change in government meant the post office was moved from the home of John Carnduff. He continued to live in the house until 1902, when he purchased the Connell house further up the street. The now empty former house was moved to a location further west on Railway to become one of the first garages in town run by Mr. Walters.

John Carnduff retired from the livery business shortly after the first fire. Among the later owners were Tom and Wes Reid. The two brothers operated the impressively large Reid Livery Feed and Sale Stable but opted to leave the business after it burned down again in 1911. During this fire a valuable horse belonging to Colonel Robinson was lost along with many others. The Reids were followed by Johnson and Lumbard who then ran the barn until Mr. Lumbard passed away in 1914.



Mr. Lumbard's sons continued to operate the livery barn and in 1920 sold out to Frank Kerr from Redvers. The J.B. Wilson building across the street to the east was bought as a residence and the family ran West End Livery for the next 4 years. Business now included renting horse drawn buggies in the summer and cutters in the winter as good winter driving was still a thing of the future for cars which had begun to appear on the scene. A Model T Ford livery van was added to

the inventory and saw many runs from the CPR station to the two liquor warehouses with each arrival of a liquor shipment on the train.

The barn was a four-row horse barn and held up to 120 horses and burned for a third time in 1924. The following year John Walker having already had a reputation for building homes, barns, granaries and even a skating rink, built a new, smaller barn on the location. Mr. Walker added a weigh scale to the barn and sold coal. Mysteriously the new West End Livery once again fell victim to a fire. At this point, with his health already beginning to fail Mr. Walker decided not to rebuild.

In 1962, Archie Reid constructed the present block building on this location to house his expanding insurance business. In 1965, it provided a temporary home to the newly established Carnduff Credit Union before they relocated to their own office on Broadway. In 1974, Mr. Reid sold the business and property to Dave and Pam Weiler who operated the business for five years.

At the same time the Reid building was changing hands in 1974, the Post Office building on Broadway was being sold. The post office acquired the west lot of the original West End Livery property and placed a trailer on the lot to provide postal services while a new Post Office was constructed behind it.

Carnduff Agencies followed the Credit Union to Broadway, but the building continues to serve the insurance industry with CA Shaw Insurance and Travel now owning the property and serving as the major occupant. Office space is leased to David Sheard who operates Carnduff Accounting & Income Tax Service in the building. This office building and the Canada Post building bear little resemblance to the livery barn of the past.