

Panel 2 Title: Historic Downtown Camas Buildings

Intro: Camas's architecture remains an important cultural contribution to the area and a notable collection of intact architectural typology exemplary of early 20th Century main streets. After the fire of 1923 gutted much of downtown, Camas recognized an opportunity to not only rebuild bigger and better but to modernize the city's esthetics.

Stoller Buildings: A native son of Switzerland, Robert Stoller arrived in Camas in 1903. His interest in the development of downtown Camas began when he purchased the Mountain House Hotel, establishing himself in the area. In the coming years, he also acquired the town's Ford agency. Stoller's influence in the construction of downtown Camas are found in some notable buildings standing today. The Stoller Building, located on 4th Avenue and Birch and designed by famed Clark County architect Day Walter Hilborn, stands as a unique example of a basic two-part block commercial design with Art Deco influences. Directly across the street from the Farrell Building stands a 1935 polychrome brick building, another example of Stoller's ingenuity. Both structures still bear his name.

Farrell Building: Relocating to Camas in 1891, Charles Farrell got his start, like so many others, working in the mill. As the city's first registered voter, Farrell was deeply involved in the community, serving as a city council member for many years. In 1903, Farrell and his wife, Rose, opened C. E. Farrell General Merchandise, stocking clothing, hardware, groceries, and gifts. Rose preferred the finer styles, quickly becoming known for her hat designs that showcased the modern fashions. In the 1940s, after a number of businesses occupied the building, the store was renamed Farrell and Eddy and operated by Rose alongside her sister Anna Eddy. The store closed its doors for the last time in the late 1990s. The Farrell Building is an impressive example of late 19th century commercial architecture and the work of builder John Roffler.

Liberty Theatre: Built in 1927, the then Granada Theatre was a modern marvel consisting of geometrical stylization accompanied by sharply contoured highlights. Designed by P. M. Hall-Lewis and built by Charles Farrell, this building is unique in that it was financed by local business owners and residents who approved of the addition to their city. Original admission was 30 cents for adults and 10 cents for children.

Camas Hotel: The Camas (formerly Commercial) Hotel is the oldest commercial building in Camas. Built in 1911 by Paul Hinz, it was considered a fully modern gem in the community. As one of the few surviving buildings from the 1923 fire, the Camas Hotel remains today a cultural icon in the community.

Call-Out: John Roffler: The Builder of Camas

Well-known for his distinct, concrete building blocks known as "Roffler Rock," which can be seen on the second level of the Farrell Building, Roffler played an integral part in the modernization of downtown Camas. Aside from commercial buildings, Roffler is credited with working on the Pittock-Leadbetter House overlooking Camas Lake, a unique mixture of

Victorian shingle and Colonial Revival architecture. Other design credits to his name include the historic Farrell Building and the Roffler House (1437 NE Everett St). Roffler is also credited with the introduction of Post-Victorian and Neoclassical architecture to the area's surrounding townships.

Image 1: Downtown Camas



Caption 1:Text: These photos of Camas in the 1930s and today illustrate the architectural ingenuity and diversity of the city's buildings. Prominent in the photo, the Farrell Building was home to C. E. Farrell General Merchandise, J.C. Penny's, The Fashionette, and Farrell and Eddy.

Image 2: Granada Theatre



Caption 2 Text: The Granada (Liberty) Theatre opened on June 14, 1927 featuring the silent film *Lost at the Front*. The original theater seated approximately 800 people and cost roughly \$75,000 to construct. The stage was an impressive 25 feet deep and 32 feet wide, with a drop curtain of 22 feet.