

**BOB ETHERIDGE**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA  
 COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
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 Risk Management, Biotech Reform  
 Conservation Credit  
 Rural Development and  
 Research  
 COMMITTEE ON  
 HOMELAND SECURITY  
 SUBCOMMITTEES:  
 International Security Issues  
 Emergency Preparedness,  
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 SENIOR WHIP



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
 Washington, DC 20515

January 23, 2007

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Donald F. Andrews  
 Centennial Chair  
 P.O. Box 130  
 Broadway, NC 27505

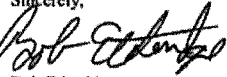
Dear Mr. Andrews:

Congratulations to the Town of Broadway for its 100 years of success!

As your Congressman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District of North Carolina, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the people of Broadway on this milestone. Your ancestors set the foundation for a special town to evolve in the late 1800's and you all have carried on the tradition. The Town of Broadway still carries a sense of timelessness today while continuing to flourish with prosperity.

As you celebrate the Centennial of Broadway, reflect on this growth and all the trials and triumphs the Town of Broadway has faced. From the beginning of the twentieth century to the turn of the new millennium, the Town of Broadway has been a part of the many changes in North Carolina, our great country and the world. I am certain each of you has your own story and history rooted in the Town of Broadway with many wonderful memories that will last forever.

I have no doubt the Town of Broadway's future is bright and holds 100 more years of success. I wish the Town of Broadway a beautiful and memorable day as you celebrate your Centennial.

Sincerely,  
  
 Bob Etheridge  
 Member of Congress

BE:LW

Broadway, NC  
 Population: 1066  
 Area: One square mile

Where the town of Broadway now stands, there was once an area of many pines. The Historic marker in town says:

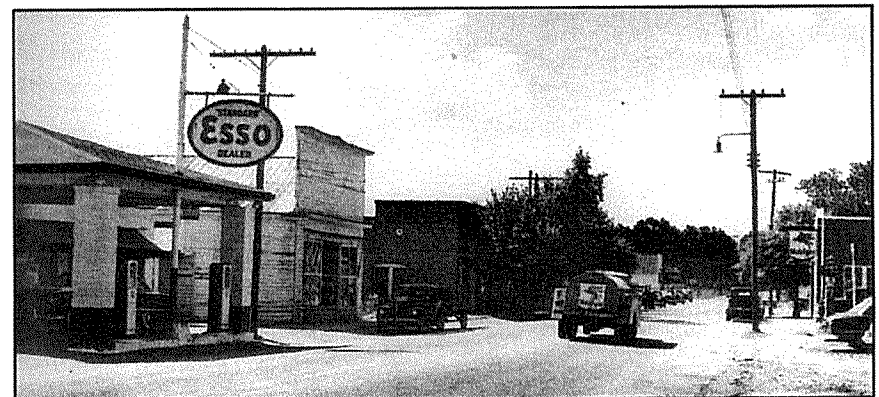
*"Broadway, NC, a town in Lee County Settled in 1870, incorporated in 1907 Named for a broad level opening in the vast pine forest which covered the area."*

One of the first people living in Broadway was Hugh Matthews, born in 1808 in the area. He died in 1887 and is buried in Broadway.

There are many Thomas families in the Broadway area. Mr. Grissom Thomas, born in Virginia in 1783, came to the area and settled. His descendents still live in Broadway.

Broadway was settled in 1870. At that time, it was an area of houses, a few stores, and small businesses. In March 1905, the Atlantic and Western Railroad connected Broadway to Sanford and Jonesboro.

Around 1907, Broadway was still a part of Moore County. It was recognized that a more organized community was needed. The members of the town received a charter, a bill enrolled and ratified in May of 1907 stating that the corporate limits should be a circle, the point of which should be one half mile from the center of the railroad depot. This area would be known as the town of Broadway. The officers of the corporation were to consist of a mayor and commissioners.



The first mayor of Broadway was M. A. McLeod, followed by A. P. Thomas. The town established streets and street lights. In the early 1930s, the charter became inactive and the lights were discontinued because of financial reasons.

Things were reorganized in 1945, S.V. Stevens was elected mayor and Thelma Sloan was made Town Clerk.

The longest serving mayor was Ralph Hunter. He was a write-in candidate in 1963. He served from that time until 1993. While he was mayor, Broadway began using its modern water system as well as a sewage plant that was completed in 1986. Mayor Hunter worked very hard for the town of Broadway. Long time town board member, Woody Beale, helped Mayor Hunter to implement many of these things that are still being enjoyed and appreciated today.

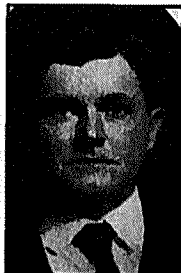
Until 1999, the town had a Mayor and council form of government. In 1999 the town moved to a Town Manager and council form of government. There are presently 5 commissioners in addition to the mayor.

### Broadway Mayors

- M.A. McLeod (1907-1912)
- A.P. Thomas (1912-1932)
- (From 1933-1945 there was no mayor.)*
- S.V. Stevens (1945-1953)
- S.H. Rosser (1953-1955)
- L. I. Rosser (1953-1955)
- H. A. Thomas (1957-1959)
- Thelma Sloan (1959-1963)
- Ralph B. Hunter (1963-1993)
- Henry Green (1993-1997)
- Harold Harrington (1997-present)



M.A. McLeod



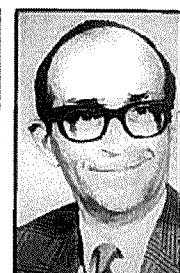
A.P. Thomas



S.V. Stevens



S.H. Rosser



L.I. Rosser



H.A. Thomas



Thelma Sloan



Ralph B. Hunter



Henry Green



Harold Harrington

In 1970 the town celebrated another centennial. The town was founded in 1870. It was not until 1907 that it was chartered. For the foundation celebration, the 1970 Broadway Woman's Club organized many events and they had a town picnic. This was the year the historical marker was unveiled.

Broadway was well known for the education that it offered in the early days. The Broadway Normal School was a private school, paid for by parents. Later, the county helped with it funding for six of its nine months of operation a year. There were three types of students at this school; day students, boarding students, and club house students. Club house students did their own cooking and cleaning. Students learned English, Latin, and Algebra among other subjects.

The first brick school building was built in 1926. This was a two story building with classrooms, offices, storage rooms, and an auditorium. Other buildings were added over the years. The Home Economics department started the first school lunch room here.

On January 3, 1963, fire destroyed the original building. This was the first day back to school after the Christmas break. Many students brought their Christmas toys to show, which were lost in the fire. Only three days of school were missed because of the fire. They used their other buildings and well as the Broadway Presbyterian Church, next door, to hold class. Within a year, a new one story building was built in the place of the building lost in the fire. Broadway went from a K-12 school to an elementary school in 1977.

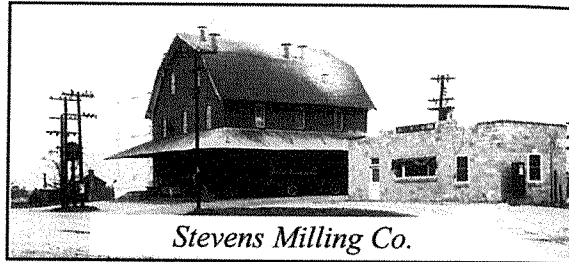
Because of the tragedy of September 11, 2001; the city of New York wanted to give back to the country. Organizers planned "New York loves America". It was to be a show that made stops in major US cities. They wanted to go to a town or city named Broadway. They contacted officials in each of the cities and chose Broadway, North Carolina as the Broadway they wanted. It generated much excitement in the town. They gave away free tickets to town residents. The capacity of the school auditorium was only 500. They set up a projector screen in the adjoining school gymnasium to simulcast the performance for more people. Theatre actors from New York's famed Broadway came to the little town for a quite a show! During the performance they gave a fire hat signed by firemen from New York, former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani, and Mayor Michael Bloomberg. It was given to the town and is on display in the Broadway Town Hall.

To honor Veterans, Dr. Eldon Sloan had the idea to construct a memorial in the location of the Town Park. Fundraising began in 1999 and a ground breaking ceremony was held in 2000. Funds were raised to build a gazebo structure surrounded by brick walls displaying the names of veterans from all of the United States branches of service.

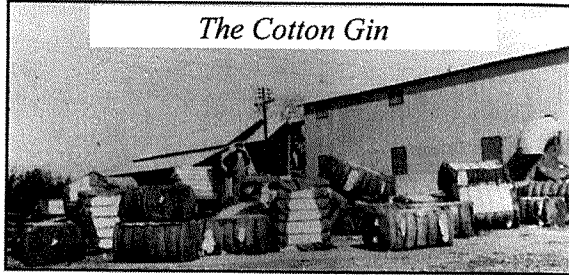
## Town of Broadway Then & Now

### 1. 120 N Main Street

This location is the former Stevens Milling Co (Mill ceased operations in 2000) S.V. Stevens built the Cotton Gin on the site in the 1920s. After it burned, a metal gin house was erected in 1934. During the period of 1943-1945, the flour and feed production building was built.



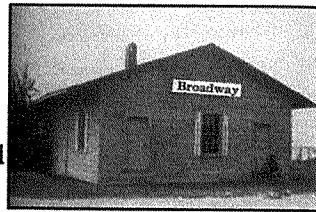
*The Cotton Gin*



### 2. 111 N Main Street

Now: Broadway Community Building

The location was the previous site of a lumber company owned by Mr. Holt. The area between the community building and Thomas Place was the train station. The area of Thomas Place was the site of Chandler Lumber & Saw Mill. In the area was also a wood box factory. In the small triangle of land formed by Main Street, Harrington Ave, and the railroad tracks there was a building that held a small store called Pop's Place.



*The Railroad Depot*

### 3. 100 S Main Street

Now: Turner's Carpet

In the past this location was home to Jones General Store. The small building located on the left side was the Heins Telephone Building.



*The Community Building - Now*

### 4. 102 S. Main Street

Now: Church

In the past this location was the Earnest Moore Store. Later it became the P.L. Morris Dry Cleaners.

### 5. 104 S Main Street

Now: The Dog Spa

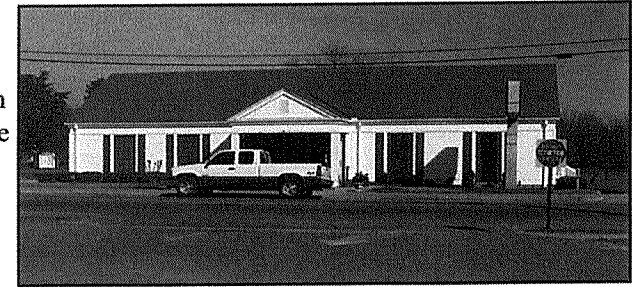
This is the oldest commercial building still standing today. Built in 1909 it was the home of Bank of Broadway.

## Town of Broadway Then & Now

### 6. 106 S Main Street

Now: BB&T Bank

This location was previously the site of John Harrington Garage and the Chandler Store. The area behind the bank was once the location of the town jail up until the 1940s.

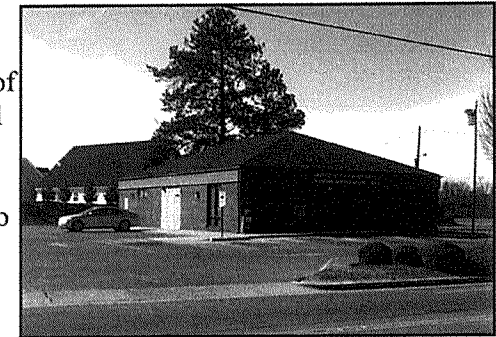


*BB&T Bank - Now*

### 7. 101 S Main Street

Now: US Post Office

This location previously was the site of Thomas Service Station. Later a small grocery store operated by Sion Kelly was here. The area behind the store was a blacksmith shop. There was also a small welding shop in the vicinity.



*The Post Office - Now*

### 8. 116 S. Main Street

Now: Cheryl's Hairstyling

This building was originally the office of Mr. G.T. Chandler, who owned the large lumber sawmill operation.

### 9. 118 S Main Street

Now: Sidewalk Café

This building was originally the Henry Thomas Dry Goods Store

### 10. 117 S. Main Street

Now: Broadway Town Hall

This building was originally built as the Central Bank & Trust Bank. It later became the Carolina Bank.

*Central Bank  
& Trust and  
Thomas  
Service  
Station*



**11. 119 S. Main Street**

Now: Broadway Police Dept.

This building was office to the local physician, Dr. J.H. Patterson. Dr. Patterson practiced until his death in 1960.

**12. 123 S. Main Street**

Now: Church

The building was the Lemon McNeill's Barber Shop.

**13. 125 S Main Street**

Now: Pizza/Sub Shop

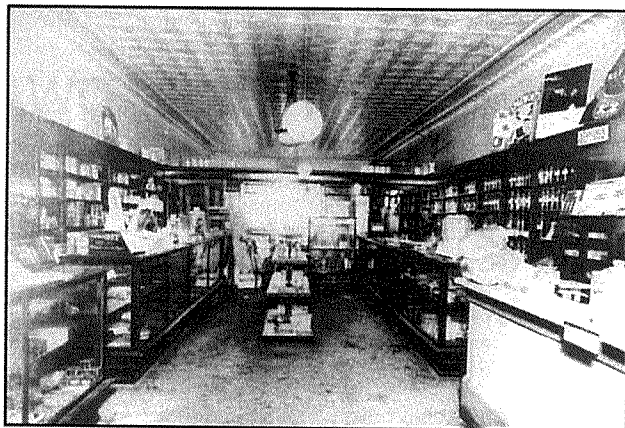
The Cailas McNeill Grill once occupied the space.

**14. 120 S Main Street**

Now: Banquet Room for Sidewalk Café

This building was the Broadway Drug Store built in 1913, by Mr. Crabtree and Dr. Watson. Dr. Leon Watson operated the drug store. Dr. Watson practiced in Broadway from 1901 until 1933.

In 1914, Mr. James L. Burgess became the pharmacist and bought the store in 1919. In 1948, Mr. Burgess sold the store to Mac Stevens. In 1963, Woody Beale purchased the business. In 1985 John Talley bought the drug store.



*The Broadway Drug Store*

**15. 124 S Main Street**

Now: Sidewalk Pizza

The building was home to the US Post Office. Later Archie & Mae Cameron operated a grocery store there until 1979.

**16. 126 S Main Street**

Now: Church

The building was home to the Lacy Shaw Hardware. In 1930, the business became known as Broadway Hardware. Today, Broadway Hardware & Supply is located at 305 N Main Street and owned and operated by Frank McDonald.

**17. 129 S Main Street**

Now: Claude's Paint & Body Shop

The building used by Claude as his office was the Bill Jones Service Station. Prior to that it was the US Post Office. The location included a wood frame building that housed a store, grill, and Woodmen of the World. The body shop was once a garage operated Tom Ussery. The garage built race cars used by Glen McDuffie. The building was later home to Precision Machine Shop operated by Chester Byrd.

**18. 128 S. Main Street**

Now: Wanda's Hair Studio

The building was set up by Mr. Lemon McNeill as beauty shop.

**19. 130 S Main Street**

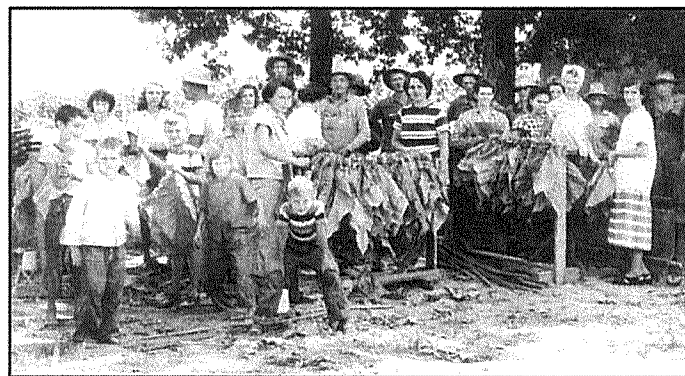
Now: Laundromat

The building was the Buchanan Brothers Grocery Store (first location). It later became the US Post Office.

**20. 132 S Main Street**

Now: Southern Exposure Tanning/Church

This building was originally the Buchanan's Grocery Store (second location). In later years it became offices for Hoover Johnson (local developer of Edgewater Estate, Sunny Acres, Colonial Drive, Johnson Street, and First Street).



*Many of the original families in the Broadway area farmed tobacco. This lineage of tobacco farmers still exists today.*

## Town of Broadway Then & Now

### 21. 138 S Main Street

Now: former H&H Auto Parts

The building was previously the site of Triangle Farm Supply, Stevens Milling Company. Before the farm supply store, the location housed a two story wooden building that included a turret.

### 22. 140 S. Main Street

Now: Mabel's Beauty Salon & Textile Screens

The building was built by Winfred and Nell Shaw. The original occupants were Shaw Insurance and Mabel's Beauty Salon (longest on-going business in the town).

### 23. 131 S Main Street

The building was originally the Preston Morris Home. It later became home of Smith Funeral Home operated by Garland Smith. The building is now residential duplex owned by Claude & Joan Hawes

### 24. 133 S Main Street

The home was built by G.T. Chandler for his mother-in-law Mrs. Gray. Today, the building is residential duplex owned by Gail Dickens.

### 25. 144 S Main Street

Now: Lynco Inc.

The building was built by Wava Mansfield as an appliance store. He later sold it to the Sykes Brothers.

*Home of Virginia Steadman Lasater - Main St., Broadway - constructed in 1900 and burned many years later. This is the site of the present Broadway School.*



## Town of Broadway Then & Now

### 26. 146 S. Main Street

Now: American Legion Post 347

The site at one time was a garage building owned by Frank Gray & Frank Thomas

### 27. 102 Forest Street

The building is the Darden Homesite.

### 28. 135 S Main Street

The residence was the home of G.T. Chandler. Today, it is residential duplex owned by Gail Dickens.

### 29. 200 S Main Street

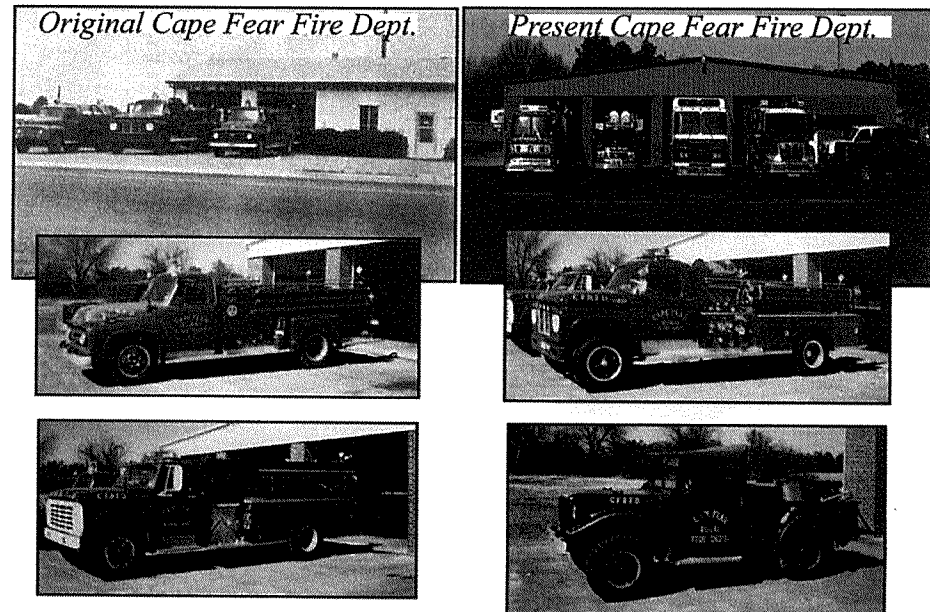
Now: Broadway Realty & Boggs Motor Works

The original building was a Gulf Service Station built by Charles Whitfield. Later Gary Thomas added the service bays to the right and the building to the left as a small convenience store.

### 30. 204 S Main Street

Now: Broadway Maintenance Building

The building originally housed the Cape Fear Fire Dept on one side and the Broadway Town Hall on the other side.



## Town of Broadway Then & Now

### 31. 101 Church Street

Now: Sandhills Family Practice, Dr. Stephen Cox, physician since 1985. The building was known as the Har-Lee Clinic. The first physician was Dr. Don Chamblee. He was followed by longtime town physician Dr. R. Daly.

### 32. 106 Church Street

The Broadway United Methodist Church was originally built starting in 1906, completed in 1908. In 1949 the building was remodeled and completely bricked.

### 33. 206 S Main Street

Now: Broadway Branch of the Lee County Library  
This site was the M.A. McLeod Homeplace.

### 34. 208 S Main Street

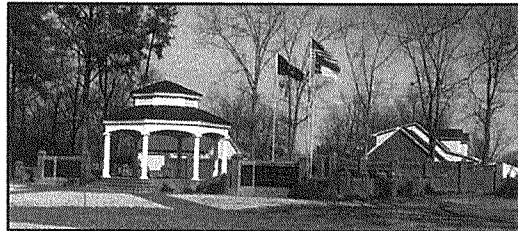
Now: Carols' Accounting  
The building was originally the offices of longtime dentist Dr Bill Tulloch.

### 34. 207 S Main Street

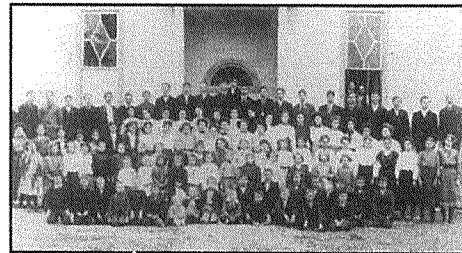
This home was built in 1922, Will & Charlie Lasater for James & Inez Burgess. James Burgess was the town pharmacist. The stone used for the foundation and chimney were brought up from the Cape Fear River. Today, the residence is home to Doris Burgess White our local author & historian.

### 35. 210 S Main Street

Now: North Carolina Veterans Memorial  
The site was the home of the Broadway Town Park.



*The North Carolina Veterans Memorial*



*Left: The first Broadway Academy built in 1911. Above: The second "academy".*

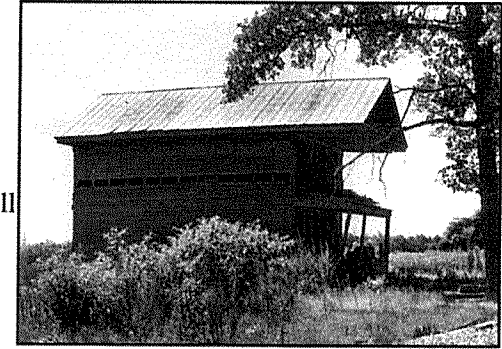
## Town of Broadway Then & Now

### 36. 211 S Main Street

The Broadway Presbyterian Church was founded in 1907. Over the years, three buildings have occupied the site. The current sanctuary was built from designs by UNC School of Architect and completed in 1938.

### 37. 300 S Main Street

Now: Broadway Presbyterian Manse  
The site was the location to the first business in Broadway. The store was operated by M.M. Watson. The store was a grocery store, dry goods, as well as the Post Office. The store took in turpentine in exchange for goods.



*Remnants of the first store*

### 38. 304 S. Main Street

Now: Home of Jeff & Cathy Griffith  
The residence is the oldest home still standing today. The home was originally home to M.M. Watson and Dr. Leon Watson.

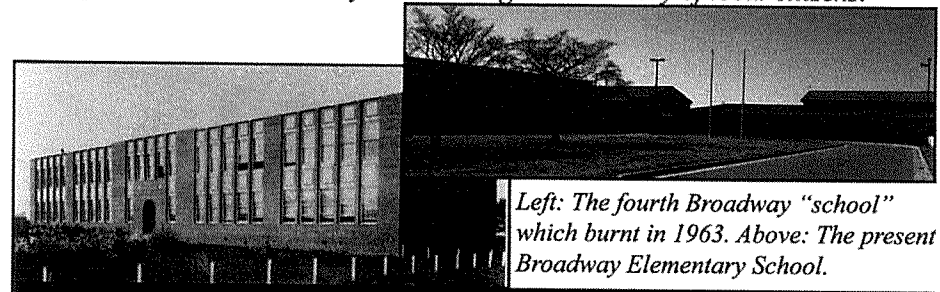
### 39. 310 S Main Street

Now: Home of Bob & Miriam Troxler  
The residence was originally the home of S.V. & Mamie Stevens. Originally a wooden structure, it has been bricked over.

### 40. 309 S Main Street

Now: Broadway Elementary School  
The site was originally the home of Virginia Lasater. Over the years, the site has housed the Broadway Academy, and Broadway School. The brick school building built in 1926 burned in 1963.

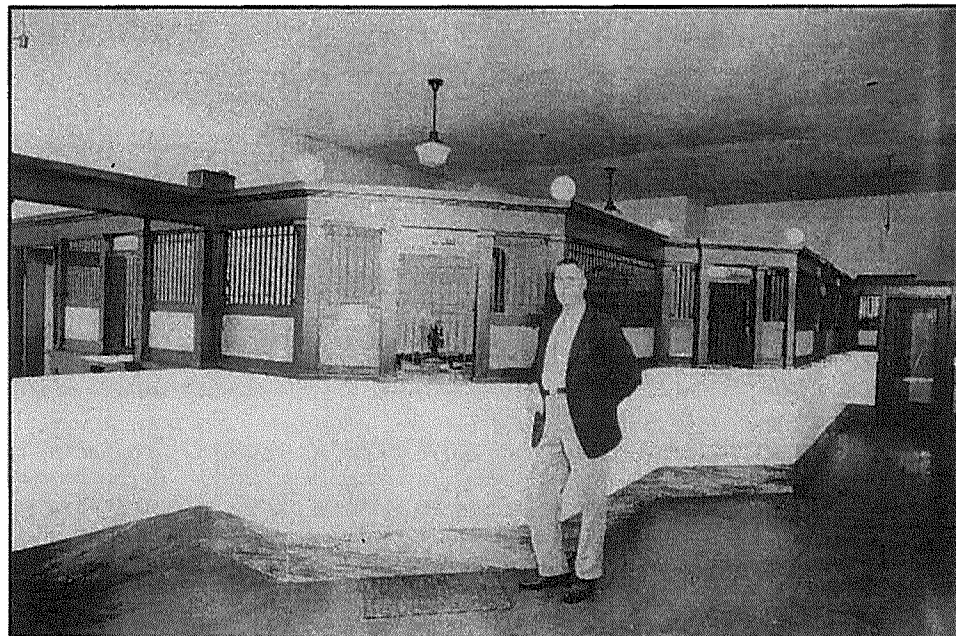
*The Broadway Centennial Committee would like to state the information noted above it not the definitive history of downtown. The history and information presented is based solely on knowledge and memory of local citizens.*



*Left: The fourth Broadway "school" which burnt in 1963. Above: The present Broadway Elementary School.*



Town of Broadway *Then & Now*



*The late D.E. Shaw, founder and first cashier of Central Bank (then the Bank of Broadway) stands in the second Bank of Broadway building - recognize the Town Hall?*