



ST. CHARLES
SINCE 1834

AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title:	Downtown Partnership Historical Marker Installation – Information only
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Presenter:	Richard Gallas
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Please check appropriate box:

	Government Operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government Services 05.29.12
	Planning & Development		City Council
	Public Hearing		

Estimated Cost:	\$ 0	Budgeted:	YES		NO	
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If NO, please explain how item will be funded:

Executive Summary:

Recently, the Downtown Partnership approached City staff with a proposal to install a historic marker highlighting the history of the municipal center. The Downtown Partnership has received a \$5,000 grant for this purpose. In support of this initiative, City staff has proposed assisting with the installation of the foundation for this new historical marker. City staff will install the sign, and the city will assume the maintenance role for the marker in the future.

Attachments: *(please list)*

Historic marker location map
Sample sign information

Recommendation / Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

For information only.

<i>For office use only:</i>	<i>Agenda Item Number: 4.a</i>
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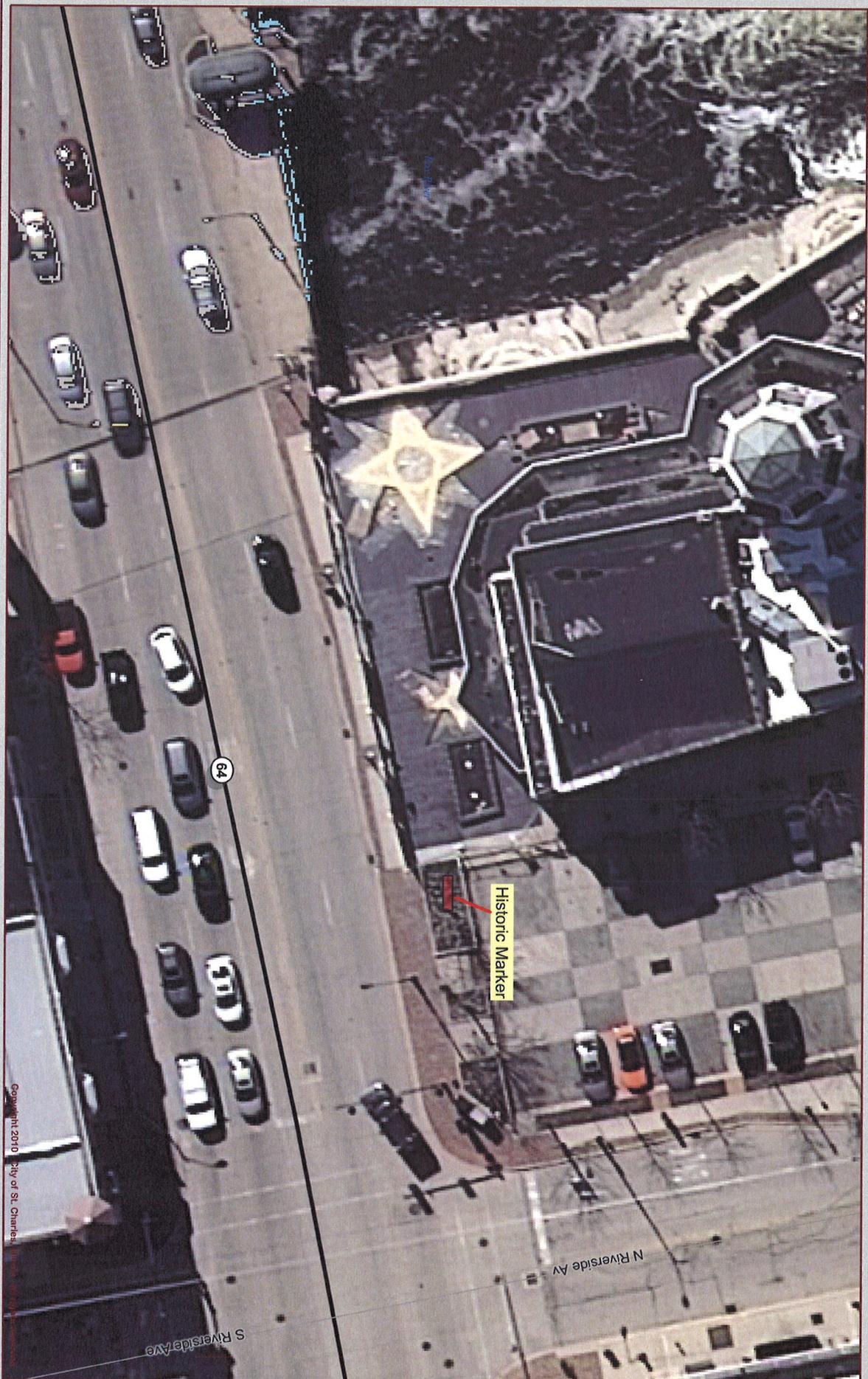


City of St. Charles, Illinois

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Precision GIS

DONALD P. DEWITTE Mayor
BRIAN TOWNSEND City Administrator



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Data Source:
 City of St. Charles, Illinois
 Dupage County, Illinois
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 North American Datum 1983
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Historic St. Charles

The Municipal Plaza



A. Fredenhagen
Flour & Grain Mill
circa 1877-1895

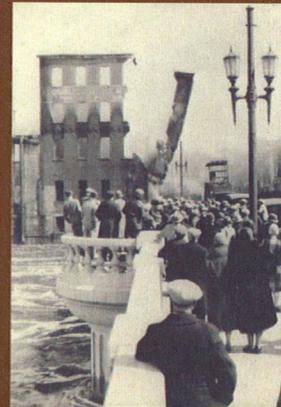
The site of Municipal Plaza in St. Charles has undergone numerous dramatic transformations.

The first dam and a sawmill were built in 1836. By 1866 a flourmill, operated by civil war veteran Major W. G. Conklin had replaced the sawmill. In 1877, A. Fredenhagen took over operation of the flour & grain mill.

Fire destroyed the mill in 1895; one year later Crown Electric rebuilt on the site. In 1908, the St. Charles Fixture Co., a manufacturer of gas and electric light fixtures operated on the site for 21 years before fire destroyed the building in 1929.

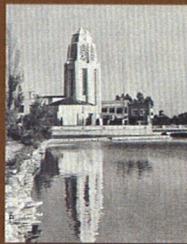


Crown Electric Co.
circa 1896



In 1929 fire destroyed the St. Charles Fixture Manufacturing building

In 1940 the Municipal Building was completed, its construction funded by local philanthropic donations. The Municipal Building is a one-of-a-kind masterpiece reflecting the Art Moderne style, identifiable by the combination of 'modern' machine age technology and the artistic expression of the late 1930's. Designed by notable local architect R. Harold Zook and nephew D. Taylor Cody. Zook's buildings are creative, reflective of the era and constructed using natural materials as well as the highest quality craftsmanship. The Municipal Building clad in Georgian marble leaves a lasting impression.



Municipal Building

The Municipal Building is a Designated Landmark and listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



Train Accident on Main Street
In 1915, across the street from current day Municipal Plaza, Great Western Engine #214 jumped the track on the riverfront spur line, crashing into the St. Charles Fruit & Confectionery Shop. No one was injured; the shop was only slightly damaged.



More of the story available for download here!

Downtown St. Charles Partnership
City of St. Charles