

Gary, South Dakota, Deuel County Date 1982 Info gathered by Irene Heaton, Eldeen Baer and the Go Getters 4-H Club

- 1877 Huffman building
- 1878 Gary Inter State (This building part of Glen Cole home 1982)
- 1878 Original School Site (Outhouse and shed still remain Warner Volk home)
- 1879 Courthouse built
- 1882 Presbyterian church organized. Built in 1883. Shown on 1883 map.
- 1883 M.E. Church built
- 1887 Addition built to Agricultural Hall, new ticket office and fifty feet of new cattle shed.
- 1887 Stone culvert put in under Herrick bridge
- 1887 Church ball installed in M.E. Church, first in Deuel County
- 1897 Presbyterian church bell installed. 700 #
- 1898 Odd Fellows building
- 1899 Blind Asylum began construction
- 1900 Blind Asylum opened
- 1900 Presbyterian church moved to new location. Corner of Main and Coteau St.
- 1900 Greene Block built of Gary brick
- 1900 New laundry being built at rear of Blind School
- 1901 C.M. Youman puts in lumber yard
- 1901 Presbyterians build parsonage
- 1901 Benner and Bassett Meat Market
- 1901 Gary State Bank (west side)
- 1901 Dr. McPeck
- 1901 Doxeys building (west of Greene Block, Gary brick)
- 1902 Bartels building (Gary brick, Peacheys Yard) corner stone laid for new saloon. (The pillars and dark red brick came from Youmans Lumber Co.
- 1902 Benner and Basset enlarge meat market. Old building moved back. Stone and brick being hauled for new front.
- 1903 New public school built on hill, of three rooms
- 1903 Courthouse moved back, brick building constructed between the two buildings
- 1904 I.B. Kerr, head masonry, commenced filling in the railroad bridge
- 1904 Bells rang out in belfry of new school building (Jan.)
- 1904 New M.E. parsonage built.
- 1904 Farmers Elevator is completed
- 1906 Catholics gathered in Town Hall

- 1906 New steel bridge at old school house completed
- 1906 A.A. Herrick tears down old school house and builds house from the material
- 1908 Hospital 70 X 25 (Dr. Fongers) of Springfield brick
- 1908 Bartels building 70 X 47
- 1908 Catholic Church built (presently used for taxidermy shop, 1982)
- 1908 Exchange Bank (East side)
- 1910 Large Fire Bell received by State School
- 1910 Girls Dormitory built at State School
- 1911 Huffman's Hardware moved to new site to East side of Coteau St.
- 1911 New Huffman building completed
- 1912 Addition 25 X 60 feet east of Exchange Bank
- 1912 Town Hall 24 X 40 Blocks made by A.D. Chaon.
- 1913 Wm. Banwarth and sons new blacksmith shop 25 X 50, two stories high making own blocks
- 1913 Electric light plant, east of Banwarth garage
- 1913 Brick building 60 X 60, north of McPeek building
- 1913 New bell, 1200# for Town Hall
- 1913 Standard Oil Building erected (across from Banwarths)
- 1913 Warehouse west of crossing coming down to erect new coal building.
- 1913 Mason Hall
- 1914 New bridge built across Gary Creek, 16 feet long, 20 feet wide, widest in county.
- 1914 Otto Banwarth house built. First cement residence in Gary. Making blocks
- 1915 New laundry at State School
- 1916 Frank Banwarth builds home. Making cement blocks
- 1916 Wm. Banwarth and sons to erect new garage, 50 X 65, cement blocks
- 1917 New First National Bank erected. Old one torn down.
- 1919 B.H. Jensen opens garage in old power plant building.
- 1919 Barn erected for school wagon
- 1919 Large artificial pond made at State School
- 1920 Dam constructed at State School
- 1920 8 X 15 oil painting of Lake Elsie by Rev. W.J. Hoare of Presb. Church
- 1921 New Band Stand completed
- 1923 Standard Oil Station moved farther north of old location, nearer street
- 1923 Catholic Cemetery consecrated, 6 X 13 cross placed in center
- 1924 L.A. Humbert moves Studio Building to his farm west of town, tenant house
- 1925 Boys Dormitory built
- 1926 Lutherans purchased Presbyterian Church

- 1926 Dist #61 completed, moved into Gary to the museum park
- 1926 M.E. Church remodeled, moved back on lot, an addition built
- 1928 Telephone people purchase Humbert Cottage on Coteau St. for Central
- 1929 New fire siren placed on top of Fire Hall
- 1929 Aquarium built by Mr. Woodbury, east side of State School
- 1938 Improvements made in park. Lake Elsie shores rip rapped, two rustic bridges constructed
- 1945 July 1 State School placed under supervision of Board of Regents in Education
- 1948 Built addition to east of Lutheran Church, also choir loft to north
- 1952 Sexauer Co. Elevator
- 1953 M.E. parsonage and Sanctuary redecorated
- 1954 Unused dairy barn at State School renovated into gym for wrestling
- 1956 Municipal Liquor Store built
- 1957 Auditorium built on east side of public school
- 1958 Farmers Co-op built
- 1959 Blind School removed from Gary
- 1963 New Catholic Church dedicated. Taxidermist occupies old church building
- 1963 Railroad tracks removed west of Gary
- 1964 Began cleanup of Pioneer Park
- 1965 Depot torn down
- 1966 Shady Rest Lodge Inc. opened on former Blind School buildings
- 1967 Gary Historical Ass'n Inc. Feb 12 Museum in Huffman Bldg.
- 1967 Added west entrance to Lutheran Church
- 1968 M.E. Church Chancel remodeled
- 1969 American Legion Hall new addition and basement
- 1972 Laundromat moved to Shady Rest (Blind School) from Banwarth building
- 1972 Apartment house built

Watertown Public Opinion July 27, 1973: Editorial Opinion

Gary merits designation as "historic city". Gary, one of the states easternmost communities, has placed itself well toward the center of stage in South Dakota's planning for the 1976 Bicentennial celebration.

Gary has been designated a "historic city" by the S.D. Bicentennial Commission, a distinction which recognizes its pioneer role as a center in the western march of the 1870's and '80's, and also gives it a prominent part to play three years hence when the nation and the state observe the United States' 200th birthday.

The designation of "historic city" was approved for Gary only after residents of that community appeared before the commission and made a convincing and detailed showing of Gary's historical heritage and its plans to justify the designation. The community's spirit and determination was most evident and its presentation convinced the commission that it indeed merited the "historic city" category.

Thus designated, Gary became by far the smallest community in South Dakota to be approved and one of the smallest in the entire United States. Almost without exception, the "historic city" category, under the guidelines established for it, presupposed a considerable larger community with more people and resources upon which to draw. Gary satisfied the commission that it not only has the historic assets but the energy and enthusiasm to devise a program which can make it a center of interest during the bicentennial year.

Work toward that objective has already begun; it has in fact been in motion since the organization of the Gary Historical Society in 1967. Considerable groundwork has been completed and the overall outlines of a bicentennial program have been drawn.

Through it, Gary will recall the days when it was a major supply point for much of this part of Dakota Territory. Then the western terminus of the Winona and St. Peter Railroad, it was the only railroad link with eastern points and as such played a prominent part in the origins of most of the area communities.

One was Watertown. The lumber and other building materials for the Lade City's first buildings were hauled overland from the Gary railhead in the late 1870's and until the railroad later was extended here; Gary remained a vital focal point for Watertown supplies.

Through the years, picturesque Gary has retained much of its early-day vitality and today is peopled with residents whose enthusiasm and persistence on behalf of their town has achieved distinction held by only a few municipalities, all of them considerably larger.

These Gary people reflect... and will continue to reflect.... great credit upon their home town.