

Brickyards

Factory: Hibberd Brickyard

Location: Site of Kearney Catholic, football field; between A & B, 37th & 39th

Years of operation: 1880 - 1932

Comments: Also made paving bricks.

Victim of depression when Richard Hibberd died at age 88 in 1932

Electric trolley ran to the brickyard. Small houses were built by Hibbard near the brickyard and rented to workers. After the Bust, many of those houses were moved to the country

Factory: Billy Mannix Brickyard

Location: East of Hibberd, between B & C

Years of operation: --- 1891

Comments: Eventually taken over by Hibberd

1891 – Mannix bought the Winsor Hotel. Jan 1892 wife died. Mar. 1892 put addition on Winsor Hotel. Sept 1893 remarried

Factory: S E Coleman Brickyard

Location: North of Hibberd on 4 acres for drying yard, kilns and pit

Years of operation: about 1886-1888

Comments: In 1889 city directory Coleman was listed as a brick mason. He is not listed in 1890.

Factory: Kearney (Pressed) Brick Company

Location: south of Campus Lutheran (along Kearney Canal tailrace)

Years of operation: 1888 – 1892 First kiln of bricks ready in early July 1889

Comments: Claimed go be first in the world to be operated by electricity.

July 3, 1889 – electric motor car went to top of grade by clay pits with heavy load and worked all right

Clay dug from side hill where Kearney Country Club stands. Special track carried it down go the kilns and a UP railroad spur. \$40,000 initial investment

Factory: Hurley Brick Works (West Kearney Brick Yard)

Location: Near the cotton mill (maps show a brickyard south of the cotton mill, on west side of tailrace, today it's the south end of Sheen's trailer court)

Years of operation:

Apr 17, 1890 – A. S. Hurley has 20 men employed but has not turned out the first kiln of brick yet.

July 23, 1890 – Bought Midway Brick plant

June 6, 1891 – Employs 50 men in his two brick yards

Oct. 2, 1891 – Hurley to provide vitrified brick for next section of curbs & gutters.

May 6, 1892 – Hurley's brick yard started up this morning and he expects to make 40,000 a day...is furnishing the brick for the Andrews building.

Sept 25, 1893 – A. S. Hurley shipped his household goods to Hamburg, Iowa

Comments

Sept 23, 1891 – Hurley and one of his employees came to blows in a disagreement.
Hurley appeared in police court and paid a fine of \$9.70