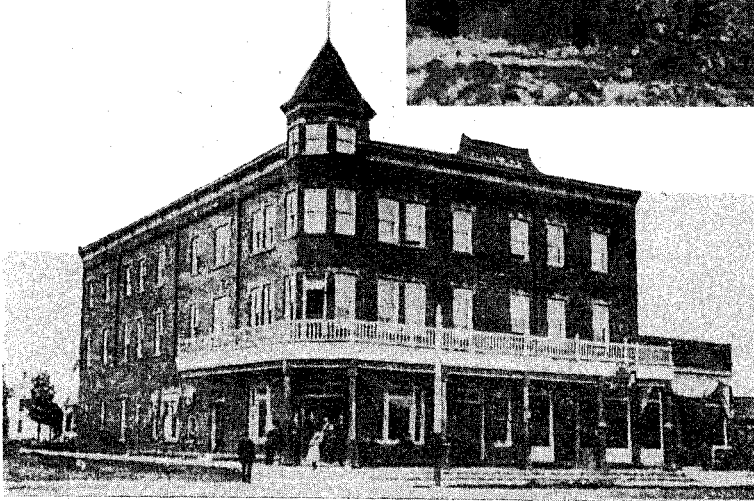


The Fire of '99

GAYLORD RESIDENTS swarmed into the street on the morning of Friday, Oct. 28, 1899, to witness the demise of the Mansard House and several smaller stores nearby. It was Gaylord's greatest fire, destroying an entire block of businesses on the north side of Main between Court and Center streets. The tower of the four year-old New Gaylord Hotel, which also would succumb to a fire just seven years later, is visible through the smoke.



Early elegance

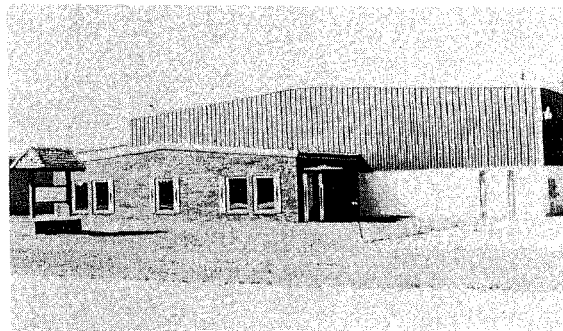
THE NEW GAYLORD Hotel, with a second-story porch which wrapped across its entire front, was one of the city's most elegant buildings when it was built in 1895. With hitching posts out front and the Ten Cent Feed Store and Livery just down the street, it provided the ultimate in visitor convenience and comfort Gaylord had to offer. Located on the northeast corner of Main and Center, its chapter in the city's history was destined to be a short one. It was destroyed by fire on Jan. 12, 1907.

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