



The Way We Were

**“1430” Mulholland**

**1891 Plat:** Site Empty  
**1912 Sanborn Map:** Blacksmith  
**2010:** Manufacturing  
**Present:** Nauvoo Products

c. 1912 – 1930s Argast’s Blacksmith Shop

**1420 Mulholland**

**1891 Plat:**  
**1912 Sanborn Map:**  
**2010:** Manufacturing

c.1912 – 19\_\_ Robert Kuhn Residence

1950s Horton’s Service Station and Garage

1958 – 1995 Starr’s Garage

Present Nauvoo Products

**1410 and 1400 Mulholland**

**1891 Plat:**  
**1912 Sanborn Map:**  
**2010:** Gift Store

1860 – 1910 Kuhn’s Furniture Store and Undertaking Parlor  
 Furniture makers of the time often “undertook” the responsibility of not only making the coffin but also allocating a place in the store for the viewing of the deceased.

1940s – 1950s Horton and Kelly’s Chevrolet Dealership

Present The Allyn House

1. 1891 Plat and 1912 Sanborn Maps were used as baselines for building locations. They are available for viewing at the Nauvoo Historical Society’s Weld House Museum, 1380 Mulholland.

2. Addresses in quotation marks indicate no existing structure at this location in 2010.

“1430” Mulholland

From c. 1912 to the late 1930’s, Conrad Argast ran a blacksmith shop at this location. Argast moved his business from the “Flats” after a fire c. 1909 ravaged one of the major remaining businesses located in the area. Around that time, many businesses located on the Flats moved to the new Central Business District on Mulholland.

1420 Mulholland

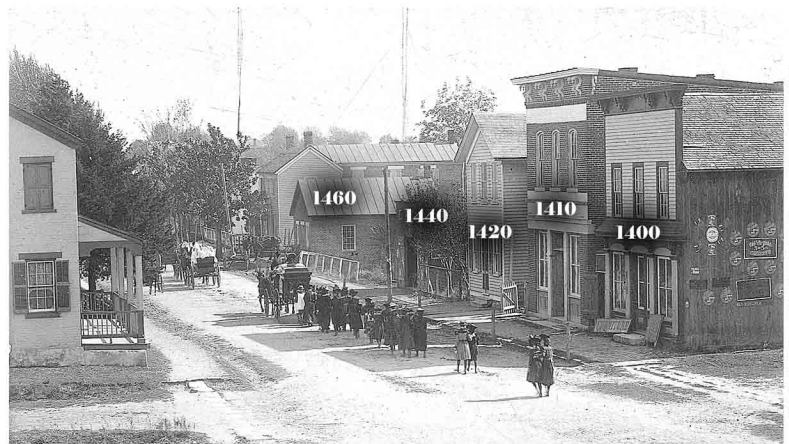


Photo Courtesy of L. Tom Perry Special Collections, BYU

1400 block, south side of Mulholland, c. latter 1800’s

Circa 1912, the Robert Kuhn house stood at this location (1420). It was a frame dwelling attached to brick structure, “Kuhn’s Furniture Store and Undertaking Parlor” to the west (1410). Later, it was the George Peak residence.

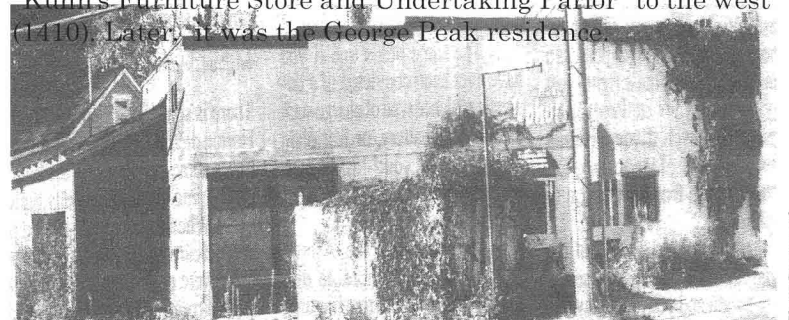


Photo Courtesy of

Lowell Horton’s original service station, c. early 1940’s

Lowell Horton’s bought the lot to the east and built a service station and garage c. 1950’s.. Lloyd “Stubb” Starr, who had worked at the garage as a mechanic, purchased the garage business in 1958. Starr had a shop at this location for 37 years (1995). “Stubb’s” was a place a local person or tourist could go

(1410 and 1400 Mulholland continued on side 2)

## 1410 and 1400 Mulholland

c. 1881 Robert Kuhn and his new hearse in front of Kuhn's Furniture Store and Undertaking Parlor



The original Kuhn Furniture Store actually stood on the second lot from the corner (the building on the corner was added to the original building, 1400 Mulholland. See picture on side 1.) Kuhn was in business here from 1860-1910.

A cabinet maker, noted for making furniture with secret drawers and doors, Robert Kuhn had a cabinet-making shop before he owned a furniture store.

In 1881, Kuhn "undertook" the making of coffins (typical of furniture makers of the time). He also did embalming (for \$5) as a sideline. Eventually, Kuhn allocated a portion of his furniture store for the corpse to be viewed; i.e., "undertaking" the responsibility that used to be the family of the deceased's, that of presenting the body in the home or church for viewing by family and friends. Kuhn continued in the business until 1915. He carved the top of his horse-pulled hearse, which is on display at the Historical Society's Weld House at 1380 Mulholland. Motorized hearses came into vogue after World War I (c. 1918).

Note: Fred Wiesener was also in the undertaking business in Nauvoo from 1893 until 1898. Nauvoo's first "real" funeral home wasn't until 1939.

Later, c. 1940's to mid 1950's, Horton and "Bub" Kelly expanded into the old Kuhn property to the west (1410), which became "Horton and Kelly's Chevrolet Dealership" in the early 1950's. He also sold appliances and offered plumbing services. Later, the dealership was owned and operated by Kelly.

R. KUHN'S NEW HEARSE.

ROBERT KUHN.

Mr. Kuhn is one of Nauvoo's leading business men whom we take pleasure in giving favorable mention. He was born in Nauvoo in 1853, and lived here all his life, except for six years, which he spent in Burlington, Iowa, where he learned the cabinet makers' trade. In 1879 he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in this city. During these years his transactions with the citizens and farmers here have given him a highly honorable place among

our business men. He carries a large stock of furniture, everything used to furnish a house very comfortably, and at honest prices. He makes a specialty of undertaking, and uses the most modern and improved methods. As a mechanic he enjoys a wide reputation for his skill. The elegant new hearse he possesses was carved and made by himself, and is a piece of work that few mechanics could equal. As a citizen he holds the esteem of a large circle of friends and surely there is no man more deserving of such friendship.

A newspaper ad featuring Kuhn's new hearse.