

Nauvoo

The Way We Were

1250 and 1240 Mulholland

1891 Plat: Temple House
1912 Sanborn Map: Printing (East Side)
Tenements in Rear
2010: Art Gallery

1871 **The Temple House**
Featured lodging, dining,
and livery stable

The building provided the possibility of two separate ground floor business locations, each with its own entrance.

The rounded, Gothic windows were inspired by the clock tower windows of the Mormon Temple

1892 Third floor added

East Side (1250 Mulholland):

1871 Showroom for traveling
salesmen's wares

1900–1973 *Nauvoo Independent*
newspaper office
(Third of its several locations over
the years.)

West Side (1240 Mulholland):

1916–1917 Kraus' Cigars

1930s **Billiard and Recreation
Parlor**

1946–1947 **Kron's Pharmacy**
Second of several locations

1950s **Pitt, Schneider, and
Bruegger's Dry Cleaners**

197_ - 1983 Building vacant

Present **Temple House Gallery**

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.



Photo Courtesy of the Nauvoo Historical Society

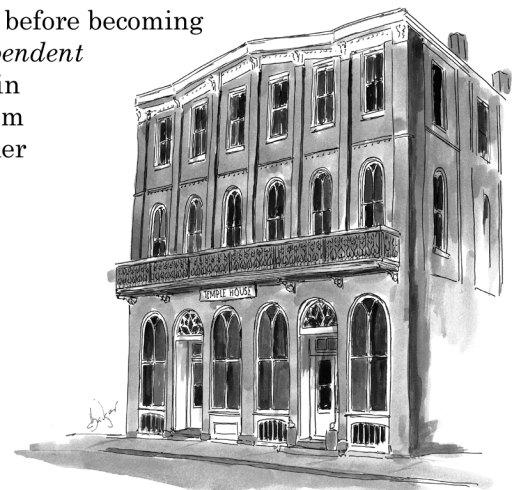
c. 1891 Temple House with two stories - The impressive building is a mirror image, with each side reflecting the other. The rounded Gothic windows were inspired by the clock tower windows of the Mormon Temple.

The building, known as the Temple House, began as a two-story structure when Michael Baumert, Sr., built it for John Engler in 1871. A third floor added in 1893. It offered lodging, meals in two, large dining rooms at the back of the building, as well as a livery stable for buggies, carriages, and teams of horses..



The east side was used as a show room for traveling salesmen's wares; the lobby was on the west side. The population of Nauvoo was about 2,000 in 1871, and salesmen, known as "drummers," would come to town offering their wares. Nauvoo merchants would come to see what the drummers had to offer and purchased what they needed to stock their stores.

For a short time, before becoming the *Nauvoo Independent* newspaper office in 1900, the east room was used as a roller skating rink.



Drawing by David Alan Badger

1250 and 1240 Mulholland



In 1892 a third floor was added to the Temple House for an additional \$500.

Then, in 1900 the building was purchased by the Baumert brothers, George and his younger brother, Mike, Jr. Their slogan for the paper was “The Old Reliable,” and they prided themselves on “always laboring conscientiously for the best interests of the community.”

The Baumert brothers published the Nauvoo Independent together until 1914, when George died. Purchasing George’s share, Michael* continued as proprietor and editor until 1924 when he sold the paper, only to return as part owner with George Deeg in 1931. They remained partners until 1941. Baumert died in 1962, having worked in the newspaper business for 73 years. The Nauvoo Independent remained at the Temple House location until 1973, the publication’s 100th anniversary.

*Mike Baumert, Jr., was one of the witnesses who signed an affidavit verifying Joseph Smith’s and brother, Hyrum’s skeletal remains when they were found in 1928.

1240 Mulholland

Circa 1912, the west side of the Temple House became a confectionary and men’s soft drink parlor. John A. Kraus made his cigars here in 1916-17, Roy Bruegger opened a restaurant for awhile; Kraus rented it again in the 1930’s and used it as a billiard and recreation parlor. Later, from 1946-48, Eldred Kron used the space as the first location of his pharmacy. The 1950’s rolled around and Ruth Pitt, Eileen Schneider, and J. Dale Bruegger ran a dry cleaning establishment on the premises.

From the late 1970’s to 1983, the building was abandoned and in a state of disrepair. Bob Cook purchased the building in 1993, restoring the building and retaining the name “Temple House.” And, in 2008, the owners of Zions Mercantile purchased the property and used the second floor for overnight guests.

