

THE EARP HOUSE::: Princess ST. Fort Erie. 1870's.

This large frame building started out as a private home for a Gentleman from the U.S.A. a Mr. Charles Edward Howard EARP & his wife J ennette. Before he could complete the home his funds ran out and he sold to "The Jewette C ompany in 1875. They completed the building, but not completely as Mr. Earp had planned. The home changed hands many times before the turn of the century; then in 1908 it went to Orin E. Foster, who ran a patent medicine business from this address. In the same year he sold out to the "R.T. Booth & company." It was, then notoriously ran as a Gambling House. Here w as held the famous Mississippi Lottery. To give the place a air of respectability, art classes were held here for the pupils of the old John S t. School, which was directly behing in the "Alley". In the early 1900's the village's first Library "The Mechanic Institute" operated from this building.

The building remained empty for some time; then through the efforts of Mr. Wm. Hunt , it was sold by the R. T. Booth Company to Arthur C. Rose; in 1912. Mr. A.E. Rose was married to Annie Kraft; and he was an executive with the Cheese Company in the U.S.A. The had a family of six children, and once more the building was used for it's original purpose.

In 1928 A.E. Rose sold to Howard Meyer, who in turn lost the property to the Town for taxes in 1936.

In 1937 Robina White bought the place from the Town, and the gracious old home w as turned into a hotel, and has remained as such ever since. Many of the original furnishings were sold at the time Mrs. White and her husband converted it into a drinking establishment.

In 1942 Annie Hunt left the Anglo American Hotel on the blvd. and moved to this place on Princess. She stayed till 1946.

Since that time the Hotel has had many owners , and is now known a s " The Erie Lane House".

*Arthur Rose*

Below it, the old Erp House, built by an American, now the Erie Lane Hotel, remembered once for its two iron deer, brought from the Pan American grounds in Buffalo, and its spacious lawns, and "the Mississippi Lottery" held on there.