

jewelry store on Canal street, in Powers' Opera House, and from 1876 to the completion of the city hall in the Morey Block on Pearl street where now are the Lincoln Club rooms. The offices of the city officials were generally kept at the places of the private business of the officers until the city business required the entire time of its officials, after which the city rented offices as they could be obtained until the city hall was completed. The City Clerk and the clerk of the Superior Court kept their offices in the Morey Block from 1876 until 1888 during which time the Superior Court also held its sessions there.

The first effort of Grand Rapids to obtain a home for its government was in October, 1854, when the city bought from J. F. Chubb lot 4 of Block 15 of Campau plat for \$450. That plat now forms a part of the site of the Gilbert Block at the corner of Monroe and Commerce streets. In 1868 the city traded that lot to Thomas D. Gilbert and Frank B. Gilbert for the east half of lot 9 of Block 8 of Campau plat, which lot is now a part of the site of the Ledyard Block at the corner of Ottawa and Pearl streets. In 1872 the city sold that lot to W. B. Ledyard for \$9,000 and then purchased a portion of lot 1 of Block 9 of the Campau Plat which is now a part of the site of the Michigan Trust Company Building. The city afterward purchased a strip of land ten feet wide from Charles Shepard adjoining its lot on the south. In July, 1883, the city sold its holdings where the Michigan Trust Company Building now is for \$15,000, and purchased lots 59-68, and the south half of lot 73 the same being 100 by 125 feet at the corner of Ottawa and Lyon streets and a part of the present site of the city hall. It was known as the Dr. Spaulding property. To the lots obtained from Dr. Spaulding were added by subsequent purchase the lands now constituting the site of the city hall as follows: September 15th, 1883, from S. A. Winchester 50 by 100 feet, being parts of lots 82 and 83; March 1st, 1884, from John Bertsch 50 by 150 feet, being parts of lots 58-69 and 72; July 3rd, 1884, from John Bertsch 50 by 150 feet, being part of lots 58-69 and 72; and May 6, 1885, from Anthony Bodelaek 25 by 100 feet, being part of lot 83. The site of the city hall is 220 feet on Lyon street and 175 feet on Ottawa and Ionia streets. Its total cost was \$34,450.00.

The construction of a city hall for Grand Rapids was first declared a necessary public improvement May 10, 1873. At that