

Historic Image Analysis of Deadwood Main Street

This document is a working paper, which illustrates the history of Main Street in a series of different topics. Topics include “Street & Sidewalk Paving,” “Street Lighting,” “Utilities,” “Special Structures,” “Vehicles,” “Street Furnishings,” and “Signs.” Within each topic, photos are arranged in chronological order, to the extent feasible. The focus is on the street itself, not the buildings that frame it.

Image Sources

Many of the images are from Deadwood’s Adams Museum. Others come from a variety of sites online, including the South Dakota Archives and the Library of Congress. Many of these are low-resolution. Once it is determined which images will be used in a more formal timeline, higher-resolution images will be obtained. Also note that several images appear as duplicates from various sources. To the extent feasible, it is preferred to use those available from Deadwood History, Inc. (the Adams Museum).

Themes associated with the history of Main Street

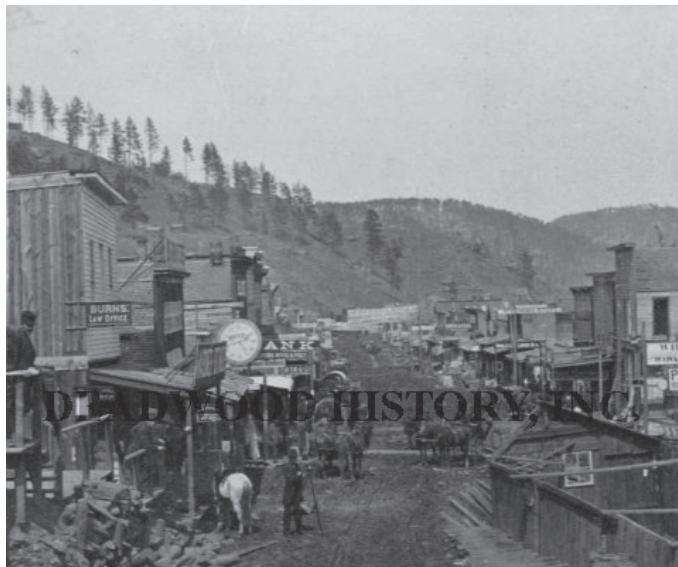
In reviewing the photos, these themes emerge:

- It has been, and remains, a dynamic Place.
 - It has always been lively and a center of activity.
- Evolution and change are part of its heritage.
 - Changes have occurred in paving materials for travel lanes and sidewalks, various streetlights have been installed over time and a range of furnishings have come and gone.
- It has been adaptable, accommodating different uses.
 - It has supported commerce, public gatherings and entertainment, as well as some residential uses.
- The street itself has been an armature for utilities (above and below ground).
 - Overhead power lines have come and gone and a network of underground utilities has grown over time.
- It has always been a corridor for movement of people in a variety of ways.
 - This includes people on foot and in various types of conveyances including horses, autos and trolleys.
- It has always been a place for celebrations and community gatherings.
 - Parades, festivals, exhibitions and rallies are ongoing traditions that bring with them decorations, special structures and programmed activities.

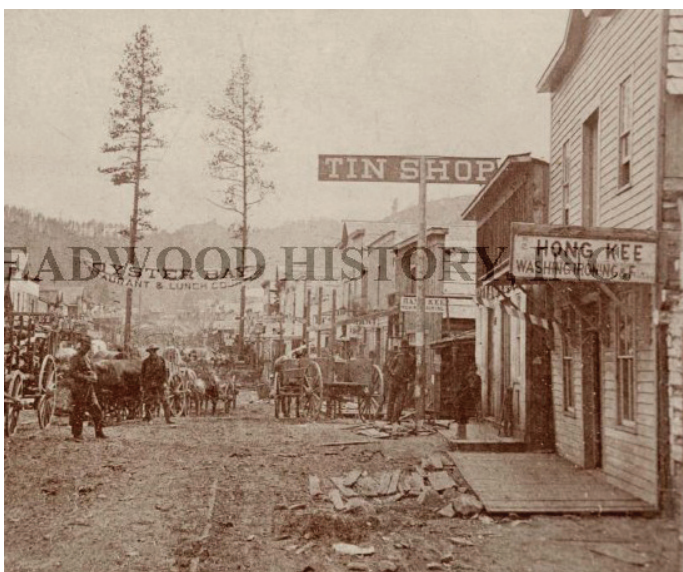
Street & Sidewalk Paving



Early 1870s: Early Main Street with no paving. ("PHO.2009.69.1.22 early street no paving.tif")



1877-1879: Dirt street. ("877-1879 0070750001 dirt street DHI.jpg")



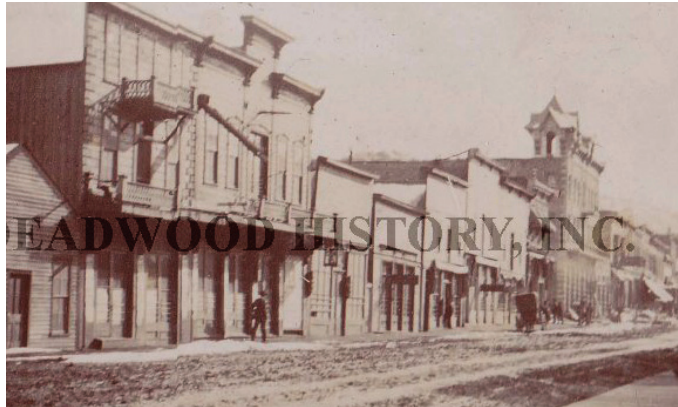
1877: Random boardwalks at individual buildings. ("1877 0070823001 Chinatown Board entry DHI.jpg")



1870s-1880s: Boardwalk detail. ("1870s-1880s 0070131001 boardwalk detail DHI.jpg")



1890s: Macadam street paving in the core of Main St with a continuous boardwalk. ("1890s hmcc 46125 dirt street DHI.jpg")



1896: Continuous boardwalk detail on Lower Main St. ("1896 0070194003 boardwalk detail DHI.jpg")

Street & Sidewalk Paving



1890: City Hall sidewalk at the corner of Deadwood and Main Streets with board extensions over the gutter - early bump-outs. ("PHO.2000.0031.2 bumpouts 1890 city hall.jpg")

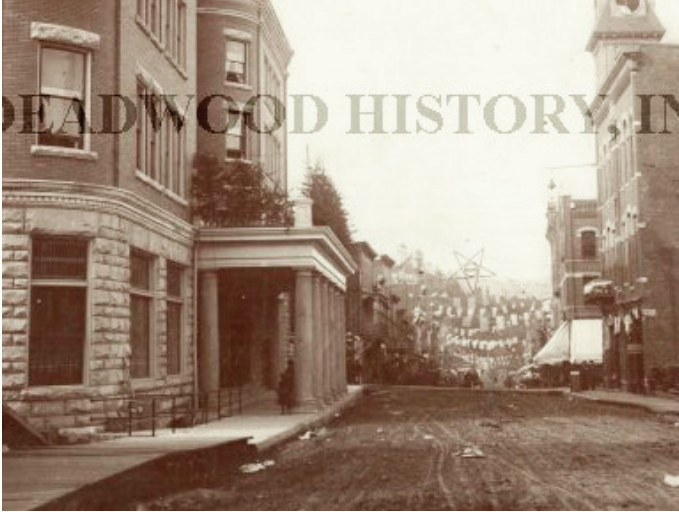


After 1896: Boardwalk reconstruction after a fire. Bullock Hotel in the background. ("The Bullock 1895 2008-01-16-014 SDDA Street construction?.jpg")

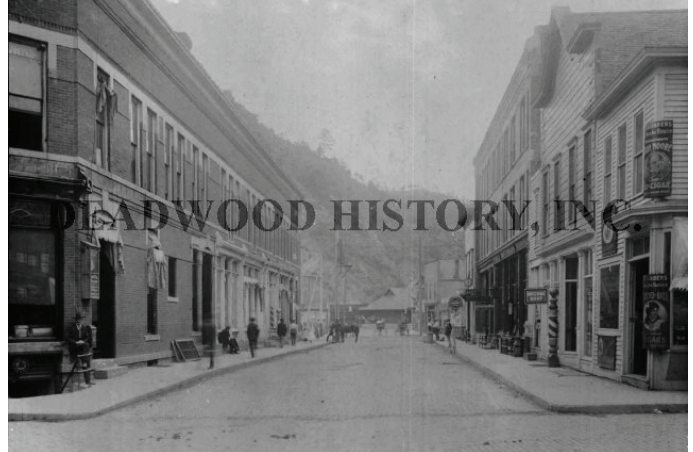


DATE?: Lower Main St. boardwalk with ramp across gutter. ("PHO.2000.0079.1 lower main boardwalk and ramp.jpg")

Street & Sidewalk Paving



1903-1905: Concrete in front of hotel; boardwalk to the south of it. Franklin sidewalk change extends further South. ("1903-1905 0070016001 Franklin sidewalk change DHI.jpg")



DATE?: Brick street paving. Concrete sidewalk, no curb and gutter on Lee St. ("Lee St 0070066001 brick paving.jpg")



1930s: Franklin Hotel concrete sidewalk. ("2008-01-10-002 Franklin hotel 1930s conc sidewalk SDDA.jpg")



1960s: Asphalt paving & cobra street lights. ("2012-07-02-325 asphalt & cobra lights 1960s? SDDA")

Street Lighting



DATE?: Unshielded Edison lights at night. ("PHO.2000.0102.1 Edison lights at night.jpg")



DATE?: Unshielded Edison lights. ("Stemin Photos_4.jpg")



1902: Shielded Edison lights. ("1902 0070019001 shielded lights DHI.jpg")



After 1912: Original 5-Globe lights. ("PHO.2000.0173.1 original 5 globe lights.jpg")



Date?: Shielded Pole Mounted Lights ("Pho-2000.439.jpg")

Street Lighting



1928: 3-Globe lights on dark poles along Lower Main St. Note the “basin” on sidewalk to the right. (“PHO.2018.22.1 Lower Main 3 globe lights 1928.tif”)



1950s: Combination of 3-globe and 1-globe lights on white light poles. (“PHO.2000.0309.1 white light poles 1950s?.jpg”)



1974: Cobra light poles. Note the parking meters. (“cobra light DWD archives 1974_survey_23.jpg”)

Street Lighting

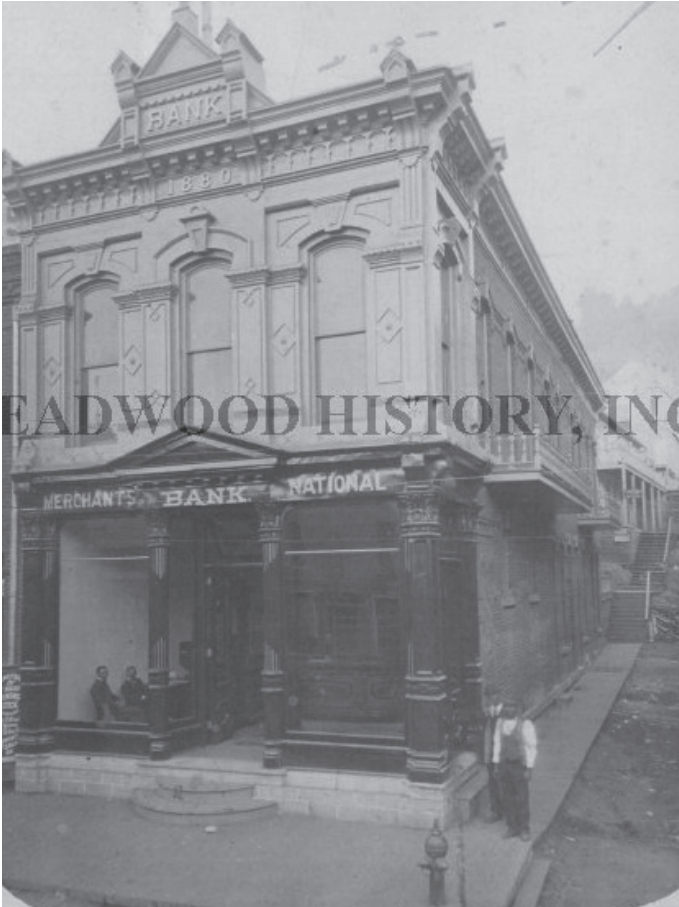


DATE: Cobra light poles and traffic lights. Also note audio speakers on the pole. ("2008-03-06-060 cobra and traffic lights SDDA.jpg")

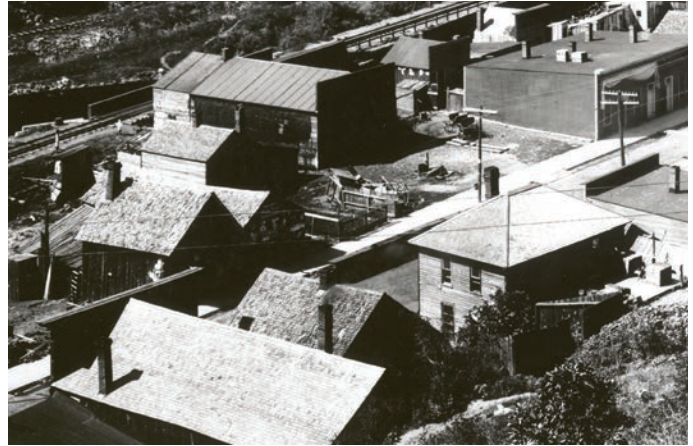


2019: New (replica) 5-globe lights. ("2008-03-06-060 cobra and traffic lights SDDA.jpg")

Utilities



1880-1885: Note the hydrant at the bottom of the image. Concrete sidewalk on Main St. and a boardwalk on Shine St. ("1880-1885 0070021001 hydrant DHI.jpg")



DATE?: Utility poles along lower Main Street. ("Stemin Photos_3")



DATE?: Manholes at the Masonic Building. Main Street has brick paving; Deadwood Street does not. ("PHO.2000.0075.1 manholes Masonic Bldg.jpg")

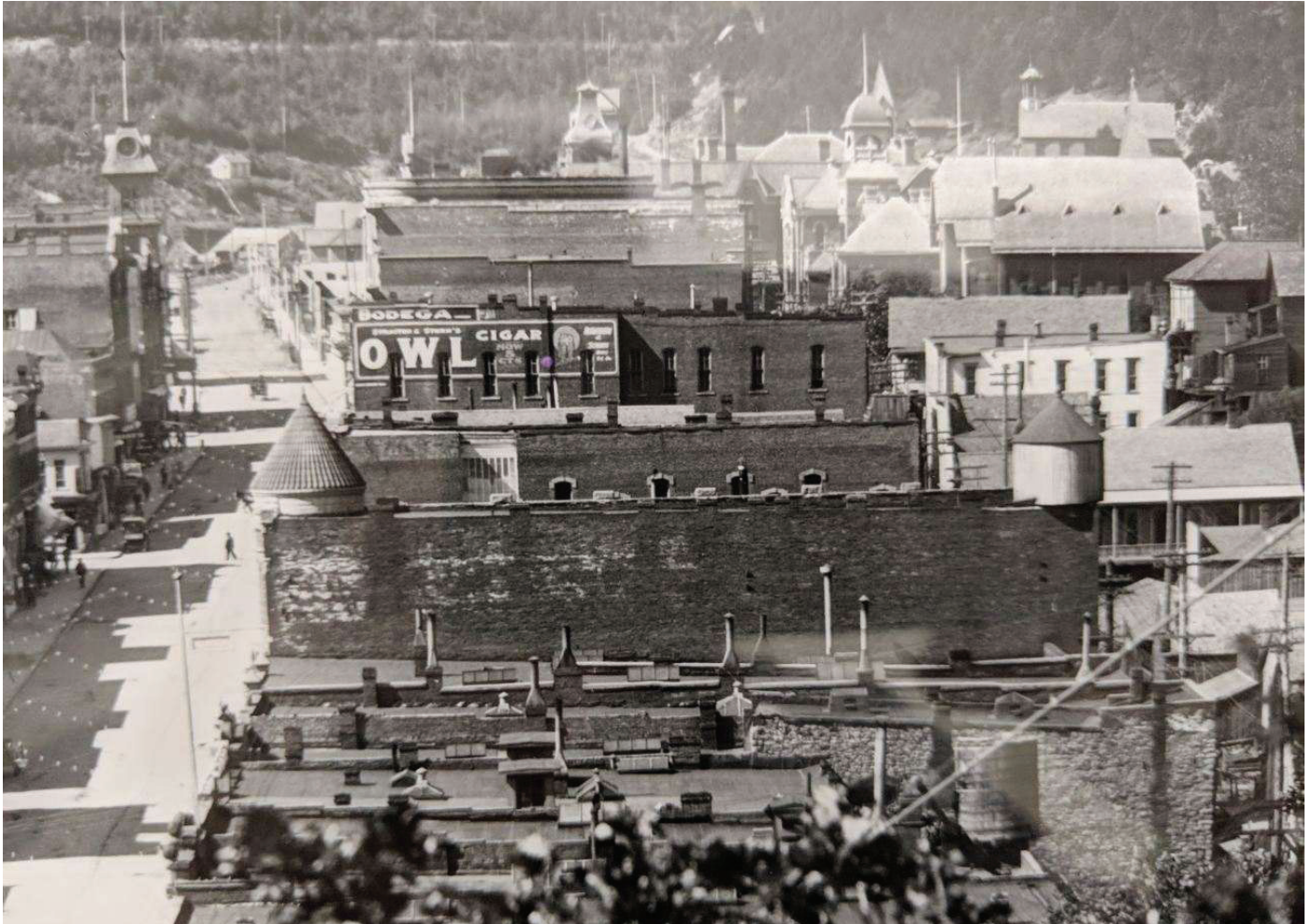


DATE?: Storm sewer grate. Concrete sidewalk with no curb and gutter, brick street. ("2019-10-28-319 storm sewer grate SDDA.jpg")



DATE?: Utility poles along Deadwood Street to Main Street. (2000.0221.1.jpg)

Utilities



DATE?: The following features in this image are more related to buildings but certainly had a presence along Main Street; they include water towers and flag poles (lightening rods?). (Water Tower 2.jpg)



2009: Gas meter located in front of the building. (Winter & Company).

Utilities



2018: Outside view of sidewalk vault with restored glass pucks. (Winter & Company)



2018: Outside view of sidewalk vault covered with concrete coating. (Winter & Company)



2018: Inside view of sidewalk vault cover. (Winter & Company)

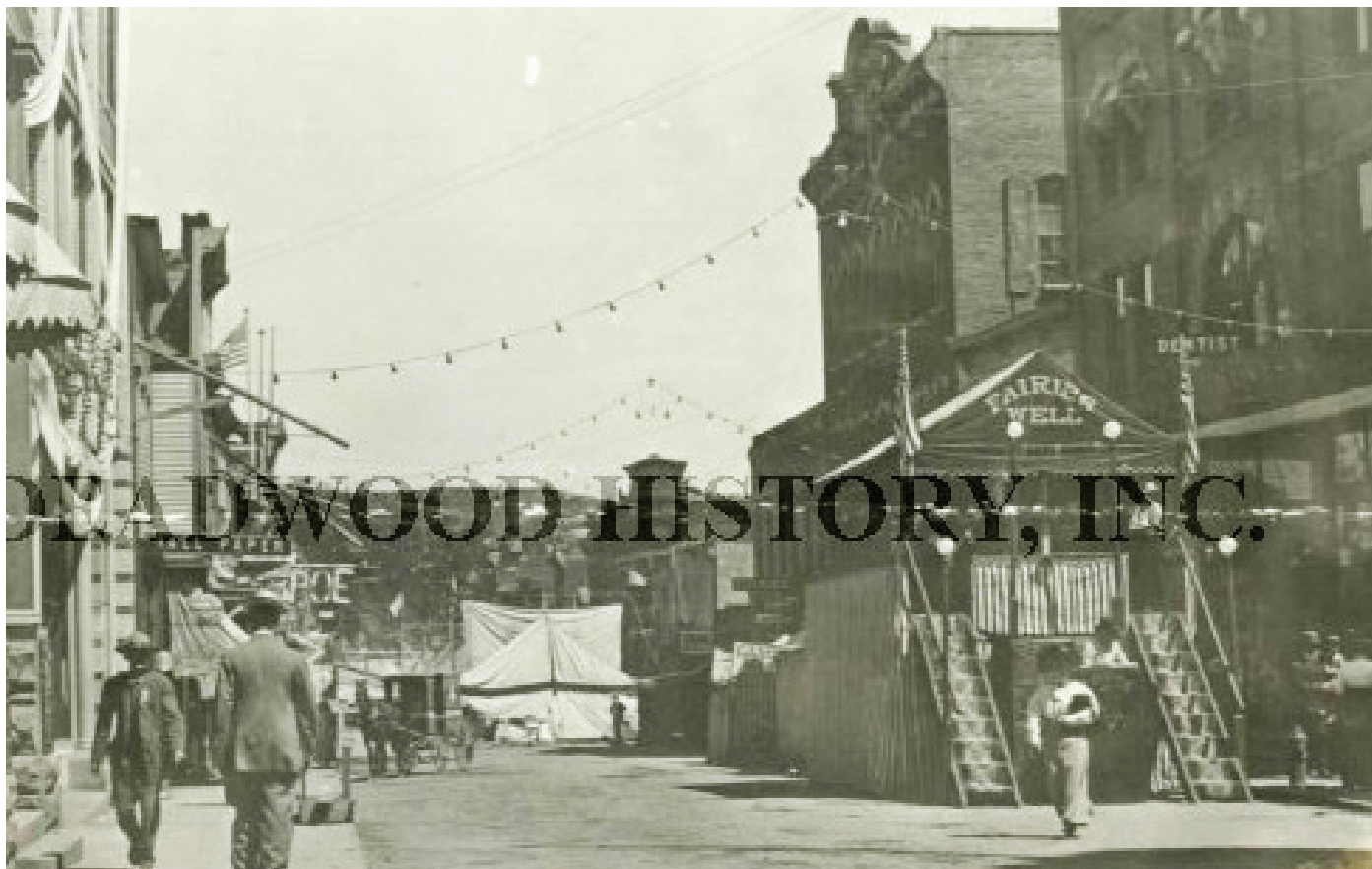


2018: Inside view of restored sidewalk vault cover along Franklin Hotel. (Winter & Company)

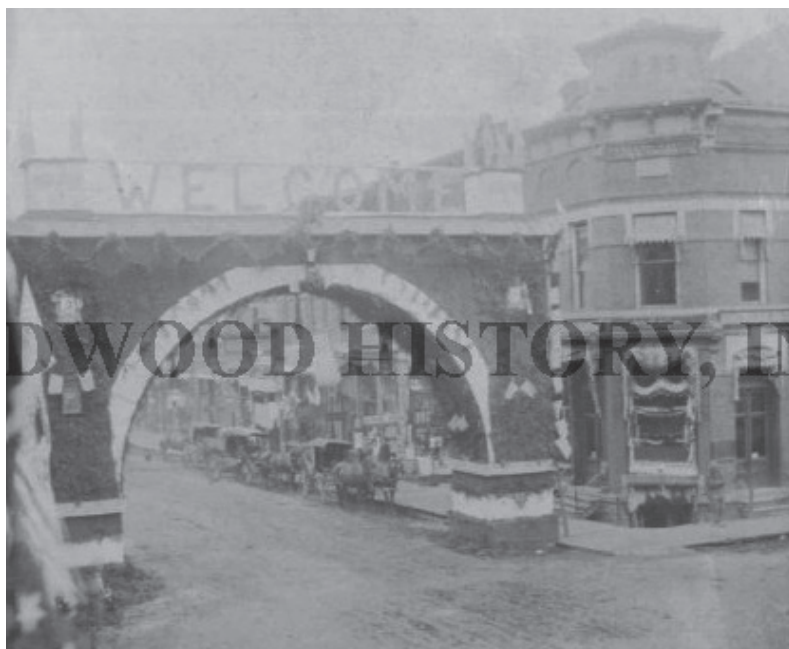


2018: Restored sidewalk manhole cover. (Winter & Company)

Special Structures



1880s-1890s: Booths in the street. Note the unshielded Edison lights. ("1880s - 1890s 0070163001 booths in street DHI.jpg")



1900: Welcome arch over Main St. Note the ramp at the corner. ("1900 0072105001 welcome arch DHI.jpg")



2020: Welcome arch over Main St. (Winter & Company)

Special Structures



DATE?: A wood balcony overlook is attached to the side of the building and stretches from the front to the back of the building. ("PHO.2000.0123.1.jpg")



DATE?: Masonic building sidewalk chairs. Nearby, recessed storefront with small plaza space, planted retaining wall across the street and wood framed pass-through. ("PHO.2000.0075.jpg")

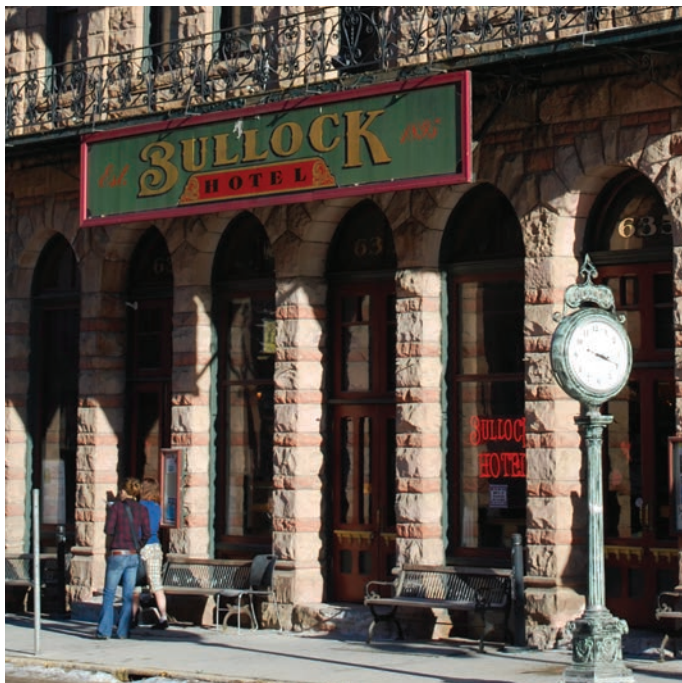


2018: Balcony reconstruction along Gold Street. (Winter & Company)



1950s: Sidewalk booth with windows. ("PHO.2000.0309.1 white light poles 1950s?.jpg")

Special Structures



2009: Bullock Hotel clock, benches and wrought iron balcony.
(Winter & Company)



2009: Franklin Hotel covered walkway, with lighted balcony.
(Winter & Company)

Vehicles



1877: Horse drawn vehicles. ("Main Street 1877.tif")



Date?: Trolley. ("PHO.2000.0315.1.jpg")



DATE?: Early Automobiles. ("PHO.2000.0080.1 early autos. jpg")



1925: Early Automobiles. Note the 3-globe light and booths in the parking lane. ("Deadwood in 1925.jpg")



1930s: Early Automobiles. Note the 3-globe light. ("1930_EarlyVehicles_Franklin hotelDDA.jpg")

Vehicles



2000s: Trolley in front of Fairmont Hotel. (City of Deadwood)



2008: Traffic lights at Spine and Main. (Winter & Company)



2018: Stagecoach along Main Street. (Deadwood History Museum)



2009: Painted pedestrian crosswalks. (Winter & Company)



2020: Motorcycles along Main Street. (Brittany Schoenfelder)

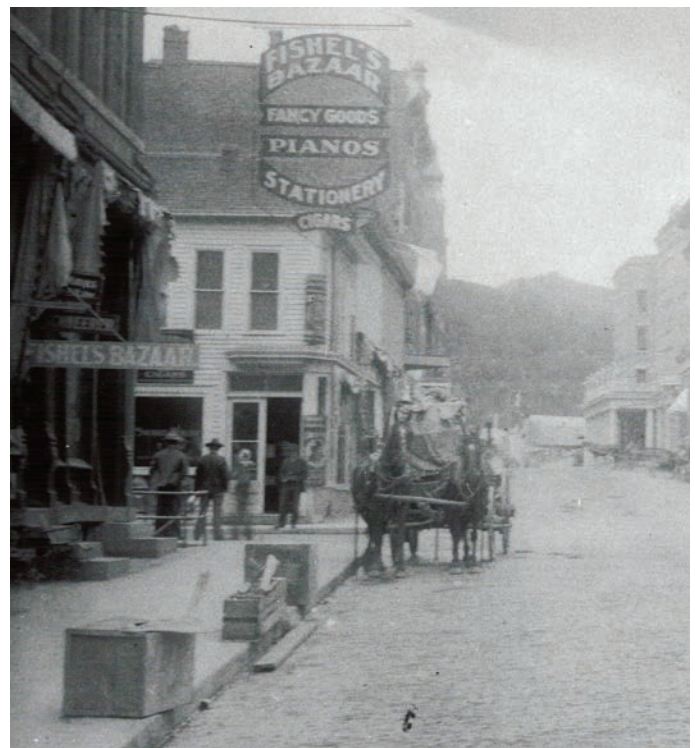
Street Furnishings



1890s: Wire fencing at sidewalk edge on wooden posts with bracing. Also note wood ramp over gutter. ("1890s 0070002001 wire fence DHI.jpg")



DATE?: Water basin and stone step at the curb. ("PHO.2000.0088.1 stone step and basin.jpg")



DATE?: Boxes at the curb. Also note steps at building entries. ("PHO.2000.0151.1 boxes at curb.jpg")

Street Furnishings



July 4, 1888: LibCon Race with wire fencing along Main St. Also note wire fencing in street to separate running teams. ("service-pnp-ppmsc-02600-02678v LibCon Race with fences.jpg")

Street Furnishings



DATE?: Anchored sidewalk posts (2000.0215.1)



DATE?: Chairs along the sidewalk. (PHO2014.18.02.12a)



2020: Benches along the sidewalk. (Winter & Company)

Street Furnishings



2018: Temporary crowd control for an event along Main Street (metal & plastic fencing). (Winter & Company)



2020: Removable bollards are located along the sidewalk edge of Deadwood Street (metal). (Winter & Company)



2018: Temporary vehicular control for an event along Main Street (concrete barrier). (Winter & Company)



2020: Temporary dining along the sidewalk edge of Deadwood Street. (Brittany Schoenfelder)

Signs



1928: Sandwich boards and other free-standing signs at curb edge. ("PHO.2018.22.1 1928 sandwich signs.tif")



DATE?: Canopy posts and signs for Theatre on sidewalk. ("PHO.2000.0071.1 canopy posts Theatre.jpg")