

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT 150 YEARS

The development time line is only a small representation of Barron's history and economic growth from 1860 to present day. The city of Barron has blossomed from a vast wilderness to a strong community that offers highly-rated schools, churches, and numerous established businesses. With 150 years of strong economic development, it continues to grow.

1860



First settler, John Quarderer, established a logging camp, company store and hotel in the vast wilderness that is now Barron, Wisconsin.

1884



The Soo Line Depot was built for the connected railroad from Barron to St. Paul, Minneapolis and Chicago. This made a significant impact on the city's growth and development.

1916

The First National bank was established and continues to serve the community.

1941



Jerome Turkey Farms was formed by Wallace Jerome. In 1950, a processing plant (Badger Turkey Industries, Inc.) was established then became Jerome Foods, Inc. in 1964, and in 1986, became The Turkey Store.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Wallace Jerome was considered an innovator in the domestic turkey industry. In 1922, after placing 14 turkey eggs under two brood hens, which hatched only one tom turkey, he had the beginnings of a turkey empire. Little did he know, those turkey's would prosper into making the sixth largest turkey business in the United States by 2001. And during that year, the company was sold to Hormel who currently operates the plant as Jennie-O Turkey Store; the largest employer in Barron County.

1959



The Barron Community Memorial Hospital was dedicated.

Rolling Oaks Golf course opens, with 9 more holes added in 2002.

1981



The Barron Area Community Center (BACC) was built with a large donation from the Wallace H. Jerome foundation and a matching amount raised by the community.

2006



Barron Electric Cooperative new headquarters is established.

A wilderness of white pines and hardwood forests. Early settlers arrive. A community is underway. Manufacturing develops. Community strength shown. Opportunities to grow...

1868



The first post office was established with John Quarderer as postmaster. In 1885, a new building was erected on the corner of 3rd and LaSalle which still stands today.

1876



The first courthouse was established on the land now called "Court House Square"

The first city government for Barron dates back to 1887 following the incorporation the same year.

1885

The Bank of Barron was established as a private bank. It continues to serve the community, now as Sterling Bank.

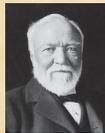
1909



The Barron Men's club established the first public library, which still stands today, along with a \$6,500 donation from Andrew Carnegie.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Andrew Carnegie was one of the richest men in the world. His wealth became from inventing a process to mass produce steel.



He dedicated his life to large-scale philanthropy, with special emphasis on local libraries, world peace, education and scientific research.

"A rich man who dies rich, dies in disgrace."

1954



The Barron Development Corporation was established. Progress shown here in 1969, with the officers and members of the corporation turning over the traditional "first shovel" of earth for the Koser Iron Works new building in the industrial park.

Other occupants in the park include N-Tech, General Beer Northwest, Bell Timber, Inc., Lawrence Truck Leasing and Renting, Trego Machine and Tool, Wisconsin Animal Health Lab, and Barron County Humane Society.

Additional industrial lots are available.

1986



In 1986, Jerome Foods, Inc. expanded their facilities and changed their name to The Turkey Store.



Barron Ice Arena is completed with much community support.

2005



Barron County Justice Center is complete which houses the county employees and a state-of-the-art jail facility.

2007



Kiwanis Skate Park is built.