

LUTHER

QUASQUICENTENNIAL
125 Years

1908 Panorama



1908 Panorama, looking southeast from somewhere along the Katy RR bed. The row of buildings near the right edge were on the east side of Main Street. The buildings facing the railroad were the original business district. The three-story building just right of center was the brick Hotel, a landmark on the boundary between Luther City and the School Land Addition.

LUTHER

LUTHER
FOUNDERS' DAY

5K

9 AM Nov. 19

Run or Walk



REGISTER



LUTHER

This was the first building on the school grounds, a two-room structure that was sold after the brick school was built in 1908. This is Minnie Belle Downs' class. The boy in the front row is E. J. Canada.





Downtown Luther about 1908. The large 3-story building just left of center was the Brick Hotel. The eastern facade was two stories while the western one had the ground level entrance to the basement. It was on the northwest corner of today's Ash & Second Street South. The cluster of buildings near the bottom of the picture are along the railroad, and were later called the "old main street" because Luther's first business district was centered on the railroad.

LUTHER

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Ross Lovell, Opal Cole, and Cecile Cole on the Will Lovell farm before the original Katy tracks were removed. The tracks ran roughly where the Rt. 66 roadbed is today. The white fence extended to the right of the RR are along today's Luther Rd, by Ulysses Hogg's livery. The building in the background, just on the far side of the tracks, is the old Katy depot. This spot would have been close to where the photographer stood in taking the 1908 panorama.

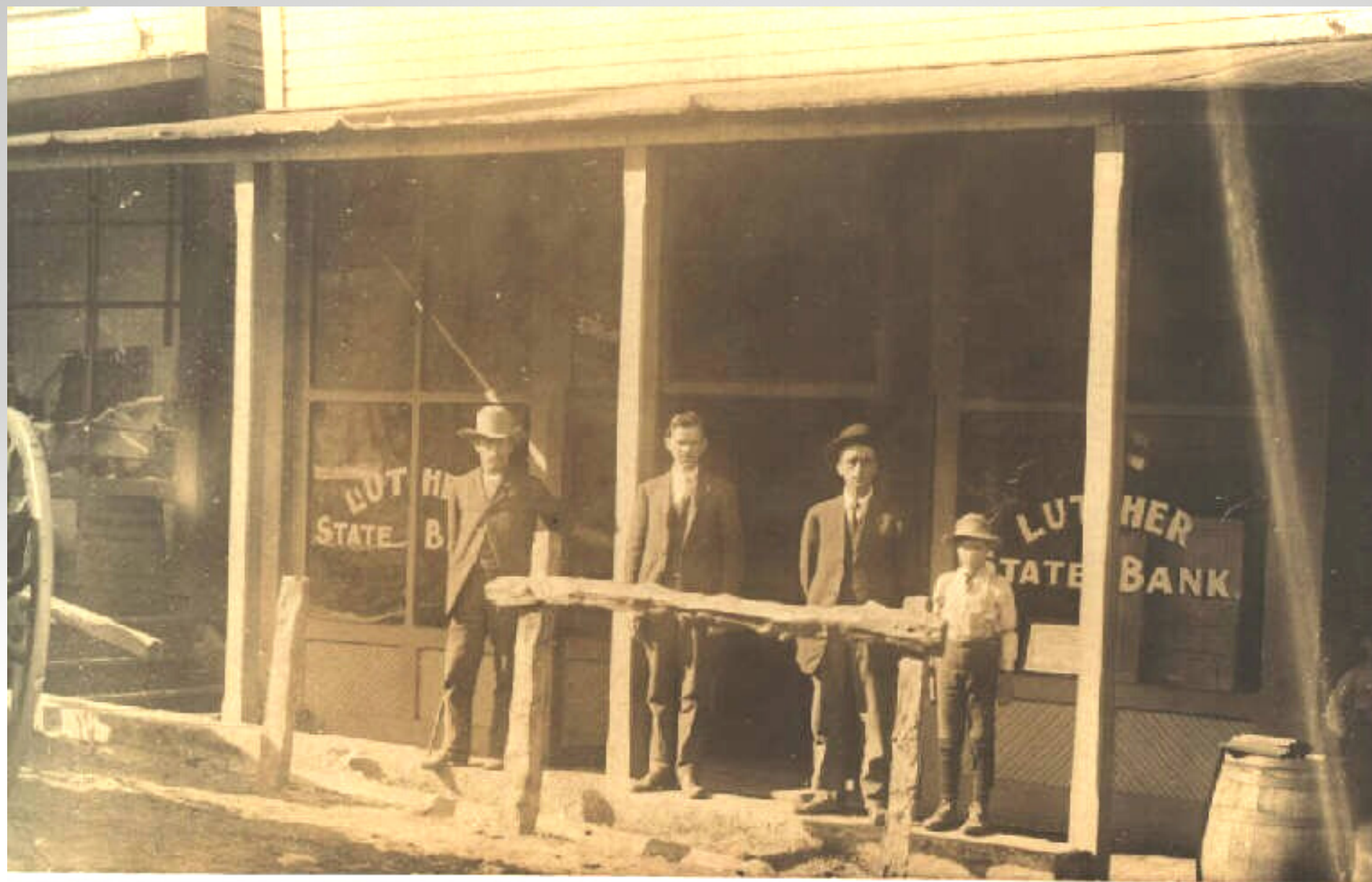


Cotton



LUTHER

Luther School, built in 1908. It was close to the middle of the set-aside block, and its drinking fountains served the playground of the replacement school through the 1960s.



LUTHER

Luther State Bank -- temporary location south of the new brick building that later became the Post Office was being built. It was on the wet side of Main Street, just out of frame in the panorama.

LUTHER

Luther State Bank,
permanent building.
Note the "DEPOSITS
GUARANTEED" sign in
the window. Oklahoma
State Banks had deposit
insurance long before
the FDIC was
established.



LUTHER

First State Bank about 1919.

Built in 1907 on Lot 5 of Block 7, which was on the west side of what is now Main Street. The fourth man from the left is O. M. Cole, one of the founders of the Bank.



LUTHER



The Threatt Filling Station, two miles east on Highway 66, was built in the 1920s on land purchased by Allen Threatt, Senior. The station was a popular stop on Route 66, especially for Black travelers during the Jim Crow Era. The family still owns the property and through a non-profit foundation, is restoring it to reopen as an historic stop.



LUTHER

One of the older houses in Luther that is still standing, in the days of the Ozark Trail it was directly south of the Brick Hotel, on the southwest corner of 2nd Avenue and 1st St. Today, this is the southwest corner of Ash and 2nd Street South. Owner in 1908 not yet determined.

LUTHER

Baird House, remodeled to remove outdoor stairs to second floor and add ramp to front door. Facing Ash between 2nd Street South and 3rd Street South. Its distinctive roof can be seen near the Brick Hotel in the 1908 Panorama, Occupied by Ira and Muriel Baird for many years. Owners in 1908 not yet identified,



LUTHER

Cole House, built before 1905,
photo about 1914-18. L to R:
Opal Cole (later Canada), Anna
Hennessey Cole, Anna Milligan
Cole, and Mary Ann Christy
Hennessey. This part of the
School Land Addition is out-
of-frame to the left in the 1908
panorama.



LUTHER

Original Methodist Church



LUTHER

Plot #203 -- owned by A. F.
Milligan Original stone
for Mary Jane Friend
Milligan. Croslin School
is shown across the road.
Some of the ruins were
still there in the 1950s.



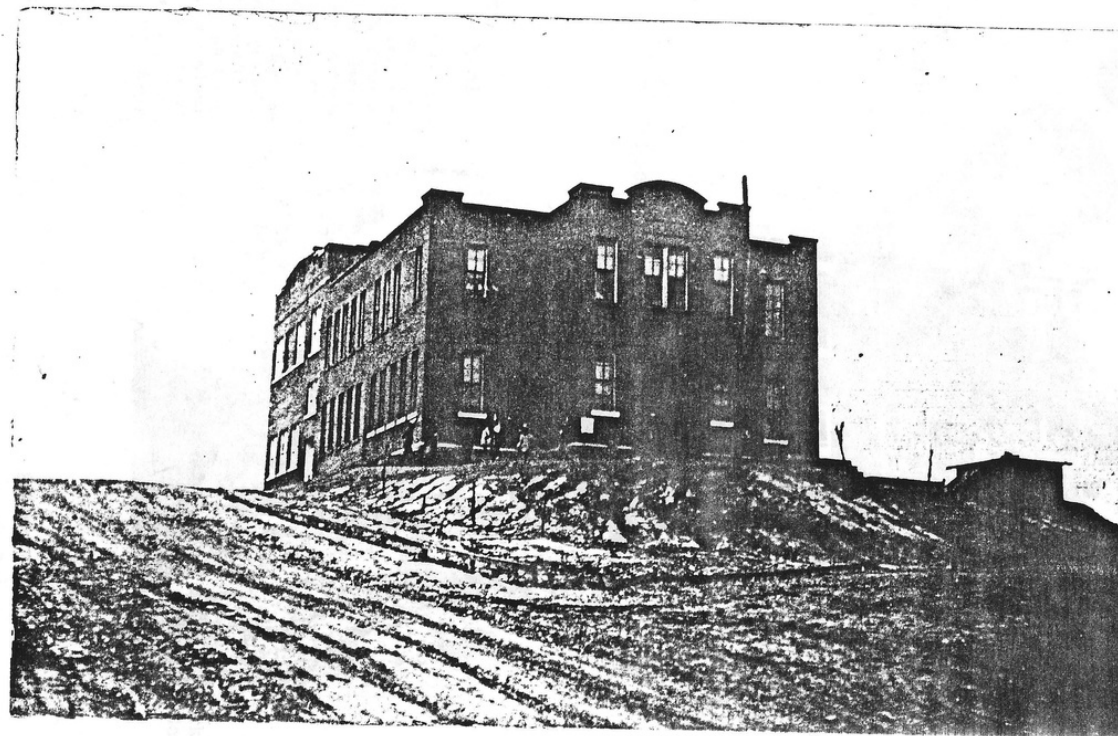
LUTHER

Original First Christian
Church, on the west side of
what is now south Main
Street. It was in the same
block as the Armstrong
houses.



LUTHER

This was not the first public school. There are many references to its predecessor, Chestnut School, but I have found no photos of that one. This was built after the Chestnut school burned, about the time of the creation of the Second Delaporte Addition. This building burned in 1930 and the new Booker T. Washington school was built in 1931.



First Colored Public School of Luther, Ok.
Compliments of Mary Gibson: Luther, Okla. Built 1903 and removed 1930

LUTHER



Luther Main Street during the days of the Ozark trail, The pillar in the intersection is a marker for the Ozark Trail. Undated, but must have been taken between 1915 and 1926.

LUTHER

This view is west from the Ozark Trail, as it approached Luther. It includes the well serving the business district on the old Diagonal "Main Street," which was accessible only by foot or on horseback.

The young ladies are Ethel Arthur (b. 1906) and Mildred Cole (b. 1908). The photo is undated, but as adults Mildred was significantly taller than Ethel.



LUTHER



The corner where the Ozark Trail turned west into Luther. Photo from 2006 trip. This is the oldest location in Luther of a business that has changed owners many times in the past 120+ years. E. J. Canada made a list of the earlier owners, from its founder William Rand, through Standard Lumber, which he worked for as a young man. He bought the business, which operated as Canada Lumber and Hardware for decades. In the mid-1960s, he sold it to Frank LeGrande. It operated as LeGrande Lumber and Hardware for another generation under Frank's son Richard. Then Steve & Vanna Shaw operated it until James and Lisa Kolbensschlag purchased it in 2021. Today this is the southwest corner of 1st & Ash.

LUTHER

Blacksmith Shop in the First School
Land Addition, taken in the 1950s
when it would have been the
southeast corner of 3rd Ave & 1st
Street. This is where the traffic on
the west-bound Ozark Trail, which
had turned south at what is now Rt.
66, turned west again toward Main
Street and the Frisco Depot. Today,
this is First & Ash.



LUTHER

Northwest corner of what is now 1st and Ash. When this was taken in the late 1950s, the original Street and Avenue system was still in use, so it would have been the corner of 3rd Avenue and 1st St. The rock building was a blacksmith shop for many years, even before the Ozark Trail came through. The building to its left was a long-time cafe, last used as the offices of the local newspaper. The third building had been Vorel's store.



LUTHER



These businesses greeted incoming visitors on the Ozark Trail. The blacksmith shop on the corner had several owners. The white building with red window frames was Anderson's Cafe for many years. The Gray building was Vorel's Cash Store. By the 1960s, all of those were acquired by Canada Lumber & Hardware for use as warehouse space. The brick building on the other side of the alley was Dawson & Rogers in the days of the Ozark Trail, a filling station and auto repair place. Photo from 2006.

LUTHER



Dawson & Rogers - Later Rogers' Conoco Station. Photo taken in the heyday of the Ozark Trail. Facing 3rd Avenue in the original system, 1st Street today as S & H Mercantile.

LUTHER

First Christian
Church, built about
1920. Photo is from
the 1950s.



LUTHER

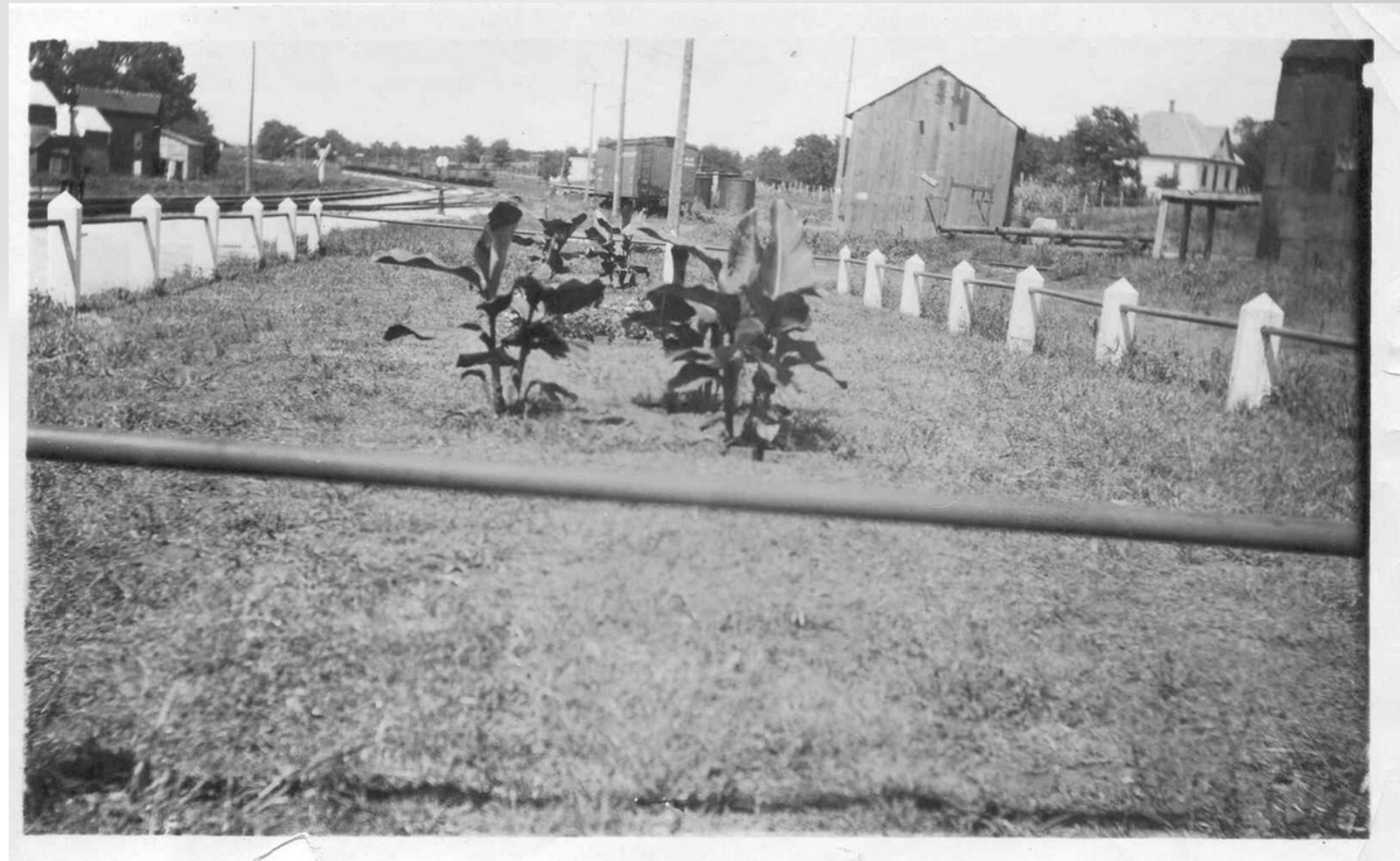
Bank of Luther.
This appears to be
the original
Teller's Window.
Bank President
John Bednar looks
very young so it
must predate 1930.



Old Bank - Teller Window - Luther OK

LUTHER

1920s photo of
crossing of Luther
Road and the
Frisco, now
replaced by the
diagonal portion of
Main Street. The
building south of
the siding was a
cotton gin.



LUTHER

Picnic by the new
Deep Fork channel.
Vorel sisters and
sister-in law Leta
Chamberlain. Taken
near Deep Fork on
the Louis Vorel
place.



LUTHER

Booker T.
Washington
Highschool, built
in 1931, Photo from
rom 1953 Yearbook.



LUTHER

This photo came from the UCO collection. It shows Luther Main Street after Route 66 had replaced the portion of the Ozark Trail, now known as the Hogback Road, as the primary road from Tulsa to Oklahoma City.



Main street, business district. Luther, OK. 1938

FINK 1259

LUTHER

Luther School, taken
soon after it was built
in 1939.



LUTHER

New Katy Depot. Shadows
show that this was
taken from the west.



LUTHER

This photo is not dated,
but I believe that it is
the "new" depot that was
on the north side of
Deep Fork.



LUTHER

Home Ec building, early 1940s. The school bus building can be seen in the background. This had been the Hamilton house, on the land purchased east of the school block when the new school was built (1939). It was remodeled to add the east wing classroom space.



LUTHER

The Mobil station on the corner across from the cafe, which had been the Magnolia Station when Ross Lovell had it.



LUTHER

East side of Main Street about 1960. The corner of the bank shows at the left, then Loman's, Engel's, and Gaskill's or Fent's stores. The two story building that shows at the right edge, was one of the first brick or block buildings on main street, built by Dr. J. T. Jeter with office on the first floor and residence upstairs.



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East side of Main Street about 1960. The corner of the bank shows at the left, then Loman's, Engel's, and Gaskill's or Fent's stores. The two story building that shows at the right edge, was one of the first brick or block buildings on main street, built by Dr. J. T. Jeter with office on the first floor and residence upstairs.



LUTHER

Loman's store to the left of
Engel's, Fent's (formerly
Gaskill's) to the right.



LUTHER

The south wall of the Jeter building and the single story structures that were built after the 1920s fire.

The cafe had been in the one on the left before it moved to the new Country Inn. On the right is the laundry.

Formerly, both buildings had held Ben Huntington's store.

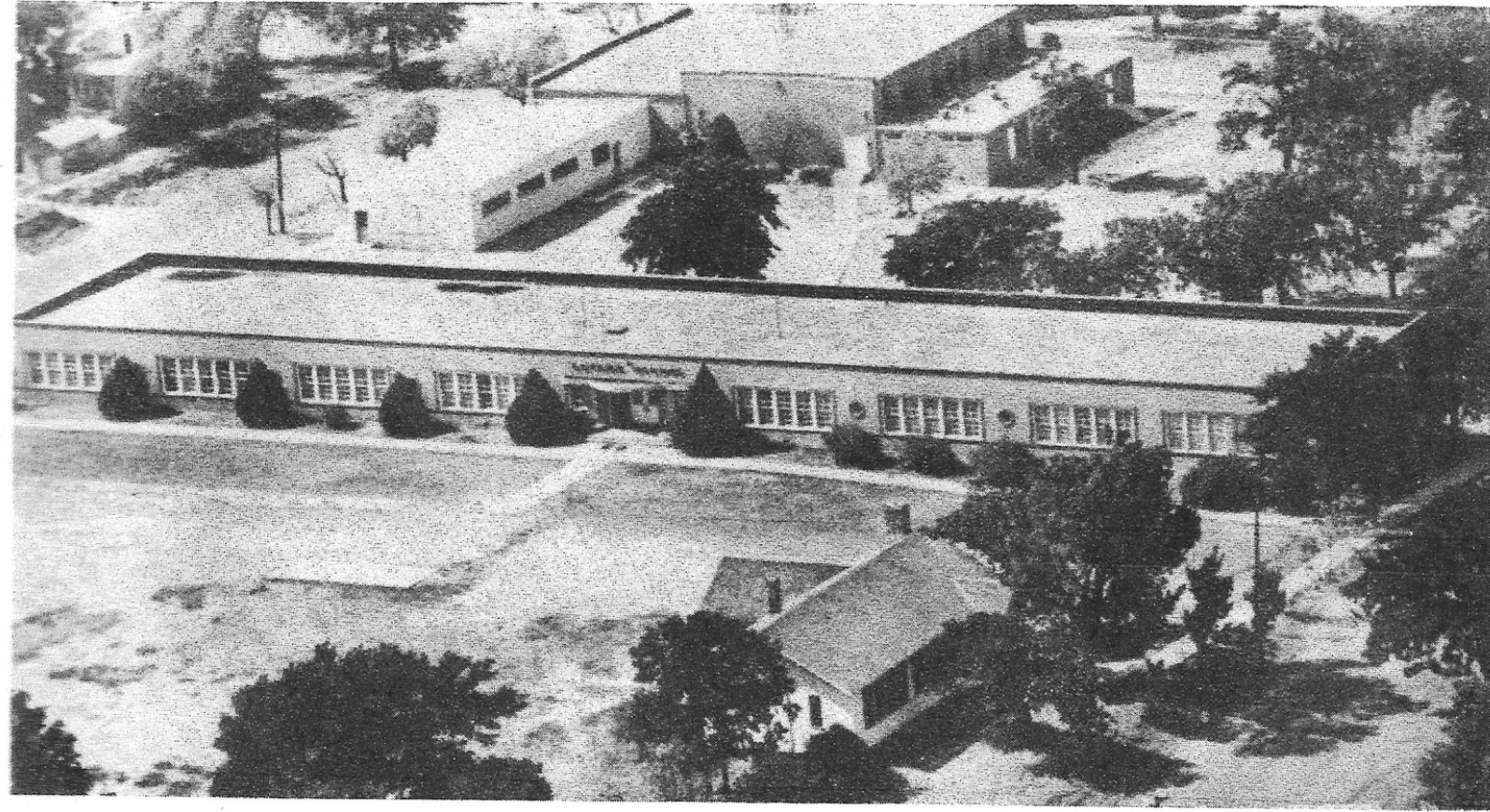


LUTHER

The Country Inn Cafe
mid-1960s



LUTHER



Aerial view of the Luther School grounds in 1963. In the foreground, the Home Ec building. In the middle, the classroom building. The large building near the top of the photo is the gym built in 1922. The wing on the right held the dressing rooms and the larger one on the left was the seating area for the audience. The light-colored building extending from the gym toward the classroom building was the cafeteria/storm shelter, which was built in 1953-54.

LUTHER

West side of Main Street
before the 1970s fire.



LUTHER



West side of Main Street
after the fire.

LUTHER



Lots 13 and 14 of Block 2. The vacant spot is the portion of Lot 14 where the first building built on Main Street once stood. It held Morgan's store and the first Post Office. The larger brick building on the right held John Moore Barber Shop for many years and the smaller one had various businesses including a shoe repair shop. These were built after the 1926 fire.

LUTHER

Corner of S 4th and Cedar,
showing the back of the
Chamberlain house. The grassy
area on the right was the
location of the old baseball
field.



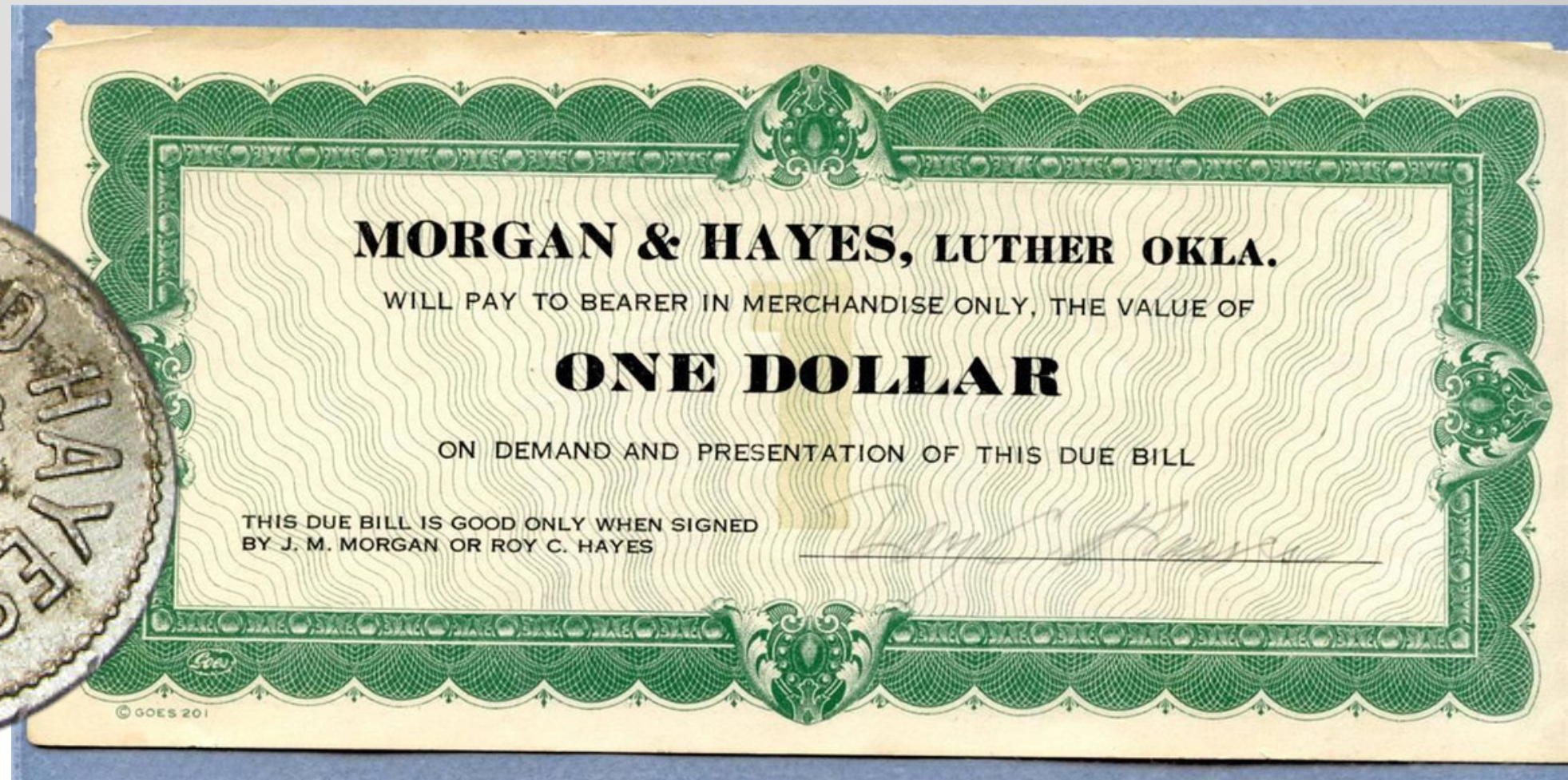
LUTHER



W. R. Arthur, Agr. No. 900 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
1/2 Mi. E of Luther, Okla. Oklahoma Co. Dist 58

Ok-120-9. --7-25-55. Arthur standing in a wildlife
area developed 4 years ago, showing Bi-color
Lespedeza near the fence and Serica Lespedeza in
the middle. The area is located below a silt pond.
Orig. Neg. 1x5 USDA-SCS Photo by R. J. Chance

LUTHER



LUTHER

Thank you Sharon MacAllister,
Luther Historian



LUTHER

March 18

5K

& STREET MARKET

