



FREE LIBRARY ----- The Wausauke Free Library Building, as it looked in the 1800's, was located next to the old Wausauke Bank building on Main Street. Miss Edna Nichols acted as librarian. It was a project of the late H.P. Bird. A restaurant was located on the first floor and operated by a Mrs. Brooks, after which it was operated by some members of the E.S. Wheelock family. A bowling alley was located in the basement of the building. When the library ceased operation, the books were given to the Wausauke High School which was located on High School Hill. The school building was destroyed by fire as well as all the contents. In 1902 the late Dr. D.E. Thomas, a dentist, and Dr. U.M. Horsewell, a medical doctor, set up offices in the library quarters. The late George E. Bogrand purchased the building and set up a print shop and published , "The Independent" for many years and operated the post office on the First floor. Bogrand's son, George, took over operation of the printing shop and remodeled the building by taking off the top section and building an addition behind where he continued to publish the paper. In 1949 R.L. Barron and Norm Smith purchased the paper rights, and building, from George Bogrand and after two attempts were made to publish the paper, without success, the PESHTIGO TIMES, bought the printing equipment and Independent files from Smith and Barron in 1957. A beauty parlor presently operated in the print shop area of the building and the front section is now the office of Barron Insurance Co. who are the sole owners of the building, having bought out the Norm Smith share in 1974. Photo Courtesy of Mrs. D.E. Thomas