

#45

inventory number: 45

This building was constructed by subscription by an organization calling itself the Gesellschaft Erholung "having for its object the intellectual improvement of its members in literature, science, and arts, and to assist each other in misfortunes,...collect a library...." Shares were twelve dollars and fifty cents, which presumably went towards the construction of the building. The society was incorporated by the state on March 2, 1849. It is likely that the building was erected shortly thereafter; it was certainly in place by the time of the tax assessment of 1851. The building functioned as a community center and meeting place. The early wine judging contests were held in this building in the 1850s.

Interest waned in the organization in the early years of the 1860s and the building was sold to Eduard Cramer just after the Civil War. Cramer used the building as an adjunct warehouse for his store building fronting on Market Street. In 1883 the property was purchased by Dr. Gustav Ettmuller and renovated as a residence.

