

Home Mutual Insurance Assn



Above is a historic photo (circa 1915) of the German Bank which is now (below) Home Mutual Insurance Association, 721 Third St. Historic names: The Bennett Bank; German Savings Bank, Iowa State Savings Bank



The Bennett Bank was established in 1897 and the building built in 1898. The *Carroll Sentinel* described the building as “one of the finest in town. The first floor is occupied by the bank and law office of A.T. Bennett, and the basement floor, which is built half above ground, occupied by the Monitor printing office. The officers of the bank were A.T. Bennett, president; W.F. Carpenter, cashier; F.W. Kem, assistant cashier.

By 1899, Bennett was considering giving up banking in favor of his law practice, when a group of investors approached him with an idea to organize a state savings bank. Bennett agreed, and the German Savings Bank opened on July 1, 1899, in the former Bennett Bank building. Anti-German sentiment during World War I caused the officers of the German Bank to reincorporate in 1918 under a new name: Iowa State Savings Bank. The Iowa State Savings Bank discontinued operations in 1923. A mid-twentieth century photograph shows the building then housing the Manning Trust and Savings Bank. By that time, the dark red brick of the building had been painted white.

Home Mutual Insurance Association, which occupied the east building since 1956, purchased the west building and expanded its insurance business into the space in 1983.