

**RESEARCHED BY JUSTIN WATKINS**

## **202 South Main Street**

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**202**

**1849-1876—St. Charles House**

**1883-1966—Rechtern and Becker Building**

**Edna McElhiney Olson, *Historical Saint Charles, Missouri* (St. Charles, MO: Olson, 1967), 32**

This was the site of the old historic and famous hostelry called the Saint Charles House. It was built in 1849. This building was so badly damaged by the terrible hurricane [tornado] on 26 February 1876 that it was condemned as unsafe and was torn down.

On the site of the old hostelry, the Rechtern and Becker building was built in 1883 for their store. It was the largest store here at that time. Next it was used as the Saint Charles Stay Co. MFG's of Shoe Trimmings.

In 1922, the building was purchased by R. M. Thomson, the owner of the *Banner-News*. The building was torn down in 1966 for the restoration program of the Missouri First State Capitol