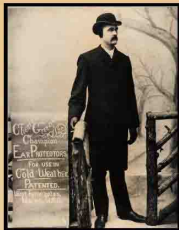


Downtown



Courtesy of Farmington Historical Society

A number of fires destroyed parts of Farmington's downtown, culminating with the blaze of 1886, which destroyed 32 dwellings, 42 businesses, three churches, three hotels, and the post office. Remarkably, the downtown was quickly rebuilt, and many of the brick buildings you see on Main Street today date from this recovery. Farmington's early sense of style in architecture was such that today the entire downtown is on the National Register of Historic Places.



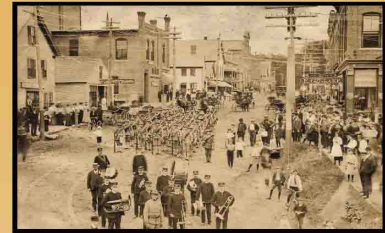
Courtesy of Farmington Historical Society

Chester Greenwood - Farmington native and entrepreneur, gained national fame at age 15 as the inventor of the earmuff. He manufactured these in Farmington and supplied the military during WWI. Chester was credited with designing many other inventions but only patented five. He owned several businesses, and was involved with establishing one of the first telephone systems in Farmington. Chester Greenwood Day is celebrated on the first Saturday in December.

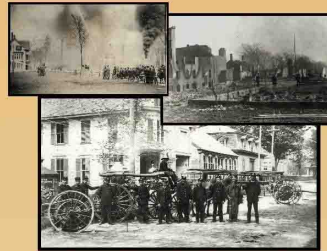
The first settlers in Farmington produced or raised much of what they needed to keep body and soul together. However, they had to barter surplus agricultural goods for hardware, fancy cloth, and basic commodities such as sugar, salt, and rum. Stores were established to accommodate this early trade, and Farmington's downtown prospered as a regional commercial hub.



Courtesy of Tom Sawyer's Collection



Courtesy of Farmington Historical Society



Courtesy of Farmington Historical Society

