

# The Carlton Building

## The South Main Street Historic District

The Carlton Building is located in the South Main Street Historic District. The area was primarily built during the early 20th century in the heart of downtown Akron. Consisting of nearly two full blocks and 14 contributing properties, the area was named to the National Registry of Historic Places in May 2008.

## The Architecture of Main Street

A range of early-20th-century architectural styles are represented, with notable examples of Classical Revival, Renaissance Revival and Art Deco design dispersed among more common commercial-style buildings. The district is primarily comprised of narrow, deep commercial buildings four stories or fewer in height, anchored by a few substantial mid-rise buildings and one 16-story tower, representing some of Akron's most significant buildings from the period. Many of the buildings have experienced some level of alteration, and others have been demolished in favor of open space or more recent construction, but overall, the district retains its historic character and integrity.

## The Carlton Building

The Carlton Building is an apx. 10,000-square-foot commercial building constructed in 1900. It is the oldest remaining building in the South Main Street Historic District. The architect of the building is unknown, and little is known about its original appearance. All remnants of the original facade have been lost or modified. Its most well-known look, featuring a metal facade, was added in 1937 and also included two horizontal and one vertical projecting signs. More recently, a new facade was added in 2008, which gave the building its current appearance.

Since its original construction in 1900, the building has housed several businesses. It is best known as the home of Carlton's Clothes for over 45 years. However, it has also been home to an auto parts store, a sports equipment store, furniture stores, and an IT solutions company. The building was fully vacant for more than a decade before Pritt Properties purchased and renovated it, starting in 2018.

## The Renovations

The first-floor build-out features a front retail space and a private area in the back for offices, storage and shipping, with additional storage available in the basement. The large front windows provide visibility on Main Street and allow for an abundance of natural light inside the space.

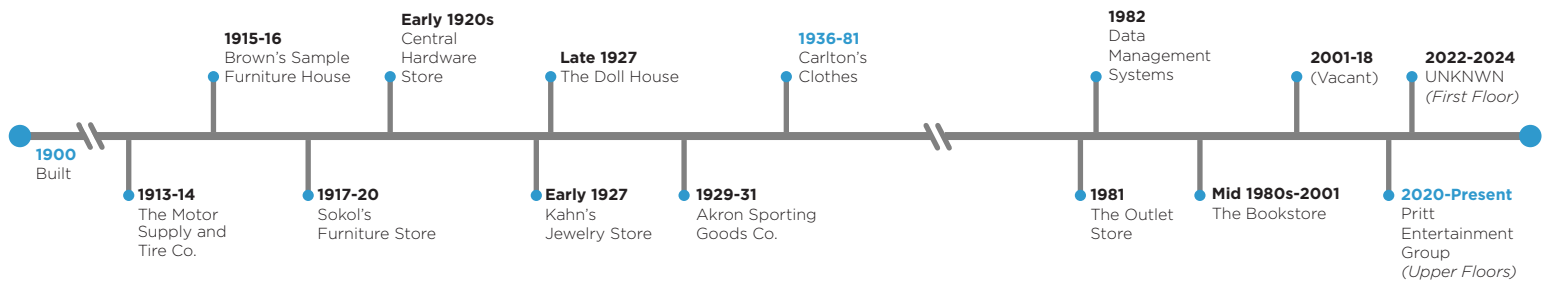
Pritt Entertainment Group has fully renovated the second floor and third floor mezzanine areas and relocated their headquarters to the new space. The second floor of the building includes an open, collaborative production area, private offices and editing suites, a conference room, a kitchen and lounge areas for team members, visitors and clients. The third-floor mezzanine area houses gear and a small studio space that can be utilized for video and photo shoots. These renovations have added to the revitalization and resurgence of the South Main Street Historic District.

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