

The Corktown Historical
Society Presents



Corktown

NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR

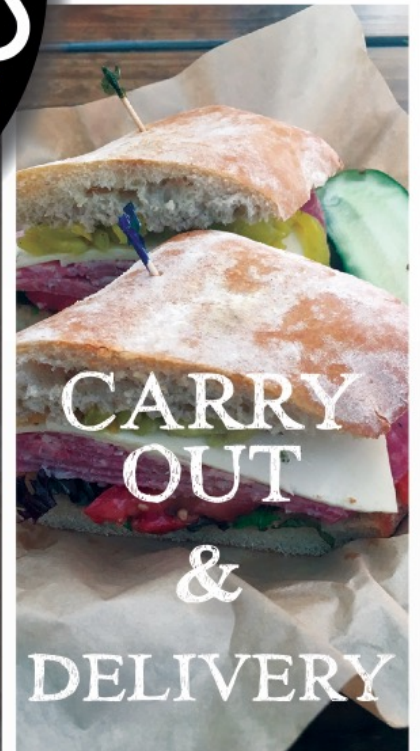
SUNDAY, JUNE 3rd
• 12pm - 5pm

Tickets available online at
historiccorktown.org & eventbrite.org

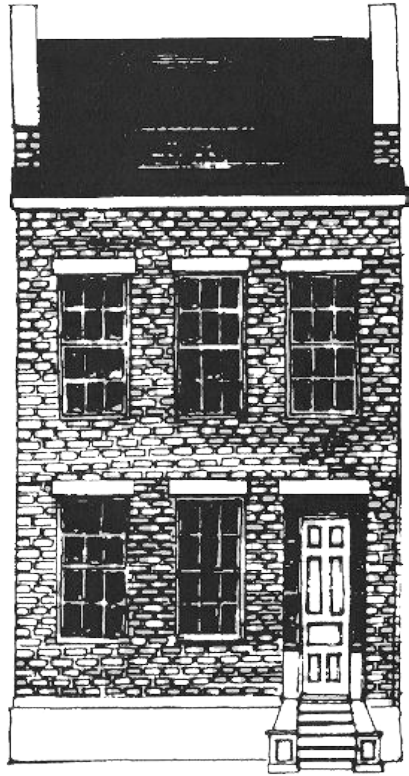
To purchase or pickup tickets we have two options
available on the day of the tour located at:

Farmer's Hand Market **1701 Trumbull Ave.** OR The Gaelic League
2068 Michigan Ave.

Proudly established in Corktown in 2008.



1417 Brooklyn St. Corktown, Detroit
313.961.2000 mudgiesdeli.com



Corktown Historical Society

The Corktown Historical Society was founded in 1979 to preserve data touching on the history of Detroit's Corktown neighborhood, disseminate information about such history, advocate for the restoration and preservation of historic buildings, and to perpetuate the memory of those who, by their labor and heroism, contributed to make the history of this neighborhood.

We welcome you to our neighborhood and hope you enjoy your tour!

A brief History of Corktown Detroit

The Corktown historic district located just west of Downtown Detroit, Michigan. It is the oldest extant neighborhood in the city. The current boundaries of the district include I-75 to the north, the Lodge Freeway to the east, Bagley and Porter streets to the south, and Rosa Parks Boulevard (12th Street) to the west. The neighborhood was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

The Great Irish Potato Famine of the 1840s resulted in extensive Irish migration to the United States and Canada. By the middle of the 19th century, they were the largest ethnic group settling in Detroit. Many of these newcomers settled on the west side of the city; they were primarily from County Cork, and thus the neighborhood came to be known as Corktown. By the early 1850s, half of the population of the 8th Ward (which contained Corktown) were of Irish descent. Historically, the neighborhood was roughly bounded by Third Street to the east, Grand River Avenue to the north, 12th Street to the west, and Jefferson Avenue/Detroit River to the south. By the Civil War, German immigrants had begun making inroads into the Corktown neighborhood. Many immigrants had come from German provinces after the revolutions of 1848. By the turn of the century, the original Irish population had diffused through the city, and new immigrants, notably Mexican and Maltese, moved into the older housing. As the century progressed, migrants from the American South, both black and white, were lured by the jobs in the automobile industry. By the middle of the 20th century, the area of Corktown was reduced through urban renewal schemes, the building of light industrial facilities, and the creation of the Lodge Freeway and Fisher Freeway.

The original buildings in Corktown are Federal-style detached homes and rowhouses built by Irish settlers. A worker's row house featured on this tour from circa 1840 is located on Sixth Street and is one of the oldest existing structures in the city of Detroit. In later years, modestly sized Victorian townhouses with Italianate, Gothic, and Queen Anne elements were constructed in the district.

Thank you also to

- Michelle and Chris Gerard for tour photography
<http://www.michelleandchrisgerard.com>
- Every year we collaborate Detroit College for Creative Studies Illustration students to create a unique design, this year we're thrilled to feature artist Kaylin Mahoney.
- A special Thank you to the members and volunteers of the Corktown Historical Society.

Tour Key Sponsors:







1460 Michigan Avenue Detroit, MI (313) 961-1960

Stop 1 (Ticket Sales & Retail Fair)

2068 Michigan Ave The Gaelic League (*circa 1880*)



In the early 1880's this site was home to a butcher shop and later a grocery. Listed as Stead Meats and later Stead Brothers, it remained in that family until the late 1920's and then changed hands. The current structure is the home of the Irish American Club which was formed in 1920 to preserve and promote Irish culture in Detroit and restore Ireland as a nation. World War I had just ended and Ireland was fighting desperately for its independence. In an area of Detroit settled mostly by Irish immigrants, called Old Corktown, people met to discuss the latest developments in Ireland.

Stop 2

2256 Wabash
Michenfelder Duplex (*circa 1890*)
Tour Doors Open at 1:30



The Detroit architectural firm of Hess & Raseman designed this two-story brick duplex for owner Anton Michenfelder in 1890. Michenfelder had been the owner of the Bavarian Brewing Company, but was retired by the time he built this income property. Francis J. J. McHugh, a physician, was the first tenant of 2256 Wabash; 2250 Wabash was first occupied by James Scott, an awning and tent manufacturer.

Stop 3

2002 Dalzelle Unit #11 Dorr Apartments (*circa 1916*)



On March 20, 1916, building permit number 1150 was issued to contractor Thomas Ricketts to build these apartments, which were then addressed as 40-46 Dalzelle. The estimated cost to built them was \$6,800. The owner, John Henry Dorr, lived next door in a brick two-family flat that was demolished in 2013. Dorr was employed by the Michigan Central Rail Road as a gateman. Early occupants included William H. King, machinist; William R. McMillan, switchman; and George F. Otto, draftsman. This building was purchased in 2013 by David and Kelly Larson, who have since renovated the apartments.

Stop 4

1832 CHURCH
Girvin & Sarah Irwin House (*circa 1897*)



This two-story wood frame residence was constructed by Thomas M. Cattel, a prolific Detroit home builder. The building permit was issued to Cattel on March 20, 1897, and the job was estimated to cost \$1,400. Before 1921, the address of this home was 116 Church. Its first residents were Girvin H. and Sarah Ann (Siggins) Irwin. Mr. Irwin was employed as a railroad engineer.

Stop 5

2036 11th Street
The Dunn House (*circa 1897*)



Irish newlyweds James and Delia (Rahley) Dunn were the first occupants of this house, which was built in late 1899 and early 1900. Mr. Dunn co-owned a corner grocery store nearby on National Avenue, which was later renamed Cochrane Street. The building permit for this home, originally addressed as 52 Eleventh Street, was issued to Charles B. Ward on November 29, 1899. Ward, a real estate developer, also constructed several other homes on Church and Eleventh Streets.

Stop 6 (Ticket Sales & Information Stop)

1701 Trumbull Bagley-Trumbull Market



William Woodbridge sold the lot on which this building was constructed in 1859 to Mr. Henry Smith, whose heirs owned the property until 1929. The original address was 183 Trumbull. Its exact construction date is unknown, but by 1877 George F. Steadley & Co., grocers, were listed at this address. The building has served as a neighborhood grocer for most of its existence ever since. An addition was added to the north side of the building in the early 20th century.

In the 1930s, Joseph Vella opened the Bagley-Trumbull Market in this space. His son-in-law, Felix Formosa, took over the family business, who left it to his children Felix and Anthony, who in turn sold it in 2005. In 2012, Brian Mulloy purchased the building and performed extensive renovations between 2015-2016, restoring the facade to its historical appearance.

Stop 7

1514 Brooklyn Street Flum Townhouses



These townhouses, designed by Corktown architect Steve Flum, were constructed in 1995. Rather than bringing suburban-style housing to the site, this project aimed to maintain the urban character of the neighborhood and include architectural details consistent with its historical surroundings, including bay windows, brick facades, front porches, recessed entry ways, and rear-facing garages.

Stop 8

1050 Porter MOST HOLY TRINITY CHURCH



Most Holy Trinity is Detroit's second-oldest Catholic parish, founded in 1834. The original building was a wood structure on Michigan Ave. and Bates Street downtown, which was moved to this location in 1849. In June of 1856 the old structure was demolished as work began on the brick building that stands here today. The Gothic Revival church was designed by Irish-born architect Patrick C. Keely.

Stop 9

1430 Sixth St WORKERS' ROW HOUSE



Row houses are series of attached houses commonly found in industrialized American cities in the 18th and 19th centuries. This structure contains three small units that would have housed working families. It was probably built not long before its appearance on a map of the city drawn in 1853. Surviving working-class, wood-construction row houses from this period are exceptionally rare.

Stop 10

1244 Beech Street Happier Camper



California native Derek May got into vintage campers after borrowing one from his father in 2009, and later developed a knack for restoring them. In 2014, May founded Happier Camper Inc. to manufacture new camper trailers, using the best design features of the classic models. All units sold east of Utah are assembled here, at Happier Camper's Detroit showroom.

We're excited to share this location since Corktown has always been a mixture of residential, commercial and manufacturing.

Stop 11

1680 Michigan Ave. The Corner Ballpark

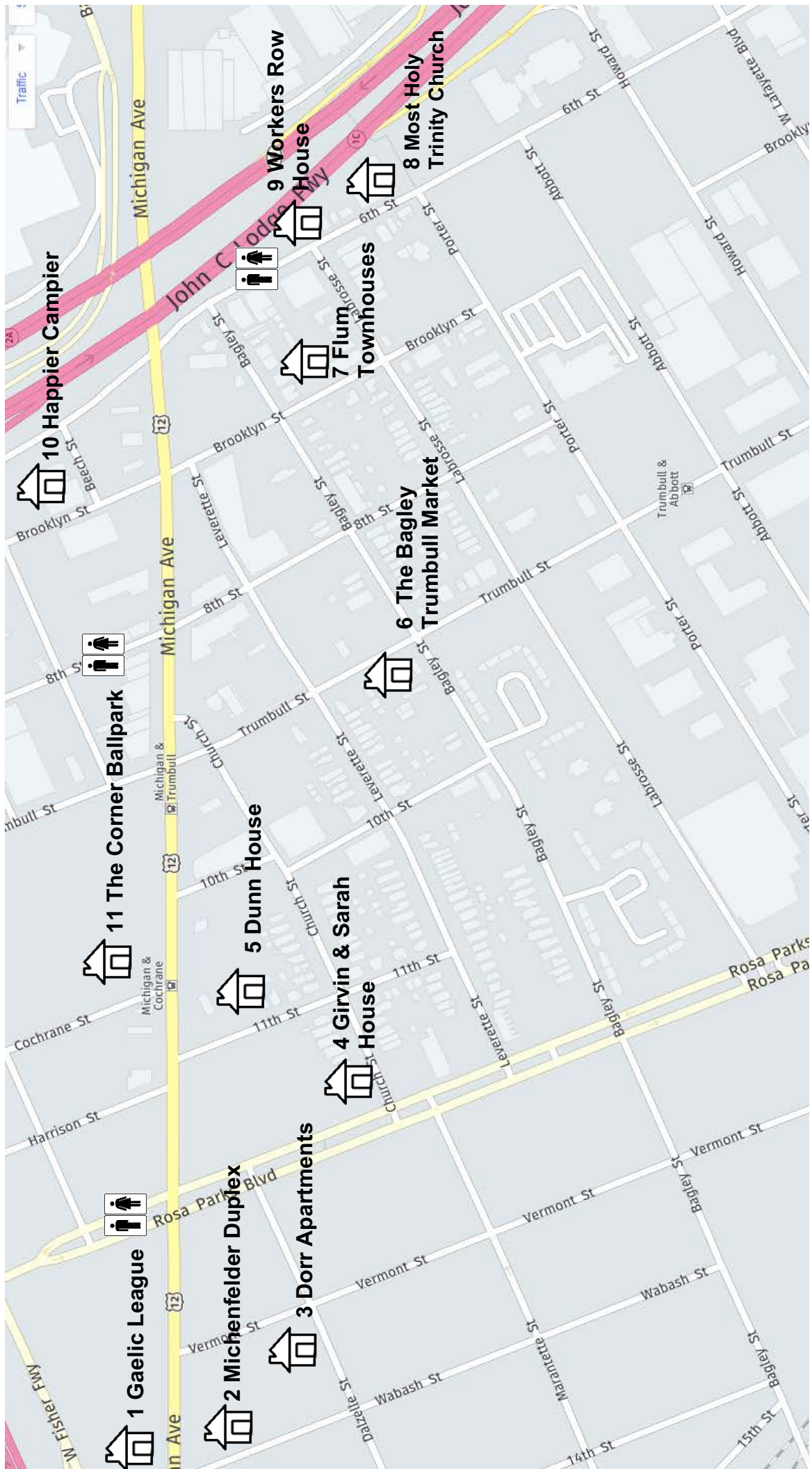


Detroit's Police Athletic League was founded in 1969 with the aim of building character in young people through athletics programs. In 2010, the league merged with a similar organization, Think Detroit, to form Detroit PAL. The organization obtained this property in 2015 to construct a 9,300 square foot headquarters and athletic facilities for youth baseball, football, and soccer. Once the home of Tiger Stadium (demolished between 2008-2009), this site was lovingly maintained by the all-volunteer Navin Field Grounds Crew from 2010 to 2016.

Make sure to visit the two history displays after you enter through the front gates. They showcase fantastic artifacts including seating from the original Navin Field, catcher mitts, hot dog vendor cases and much more!

CORKTOWN 2018 TOUR STOPS

- 1 – 2068 Michigan Ave. Ticket Sales and Retail fair - Gaelic League
- 2 – 2256 Wabash - Michenfelder Duplex: *Tour Doors Open at 1:30pm*
- 3 – 2002 Dalzelle – Dorr Apartments - Unit #11
- 4 – 1832 Church Street - Girvin & Sarah Irwin House
- 5 – 2036 11th Street - Dunn House
- 6 – Ticket Sales – Bagley Trumbull Market Building - 1701 Trumbull Ave
- 7 – 1514 Brooklyn Street - Flum Townhouses
- 8 – Most Holy Trinity Church – 1050 Porter Street
- 9 – Workers Row House
- 10 – Happier Campier – 1244 Beech Street
- 11 – The Corner Ballpark Presented by Aentia



1 Gaelic League



2 Michenfelder Duplex



3 Dorr Apartments



4 Girvin & Sarah House



5 Dunn House



6 The Bagley Trumbull Market



7 Flum Townhouses



9 Workers Row House



10 Happier Campier



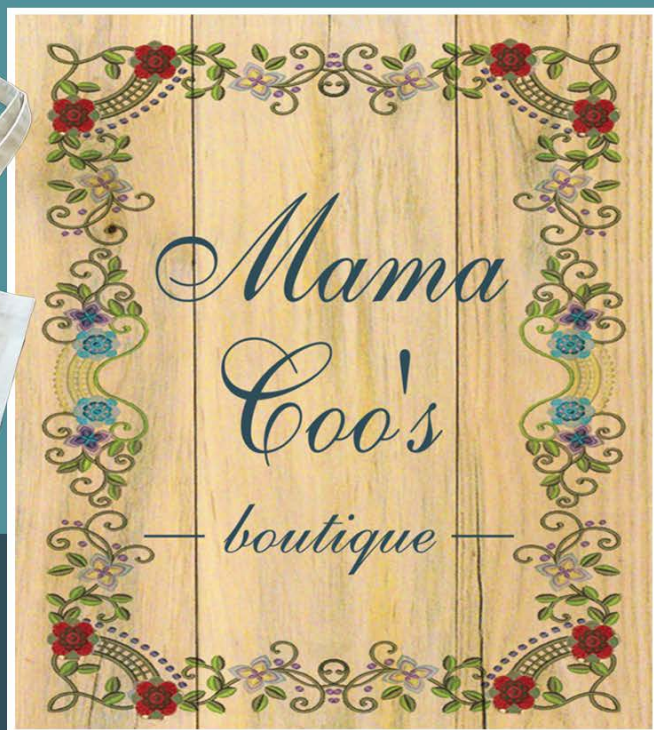
11 The Corner Ballpark



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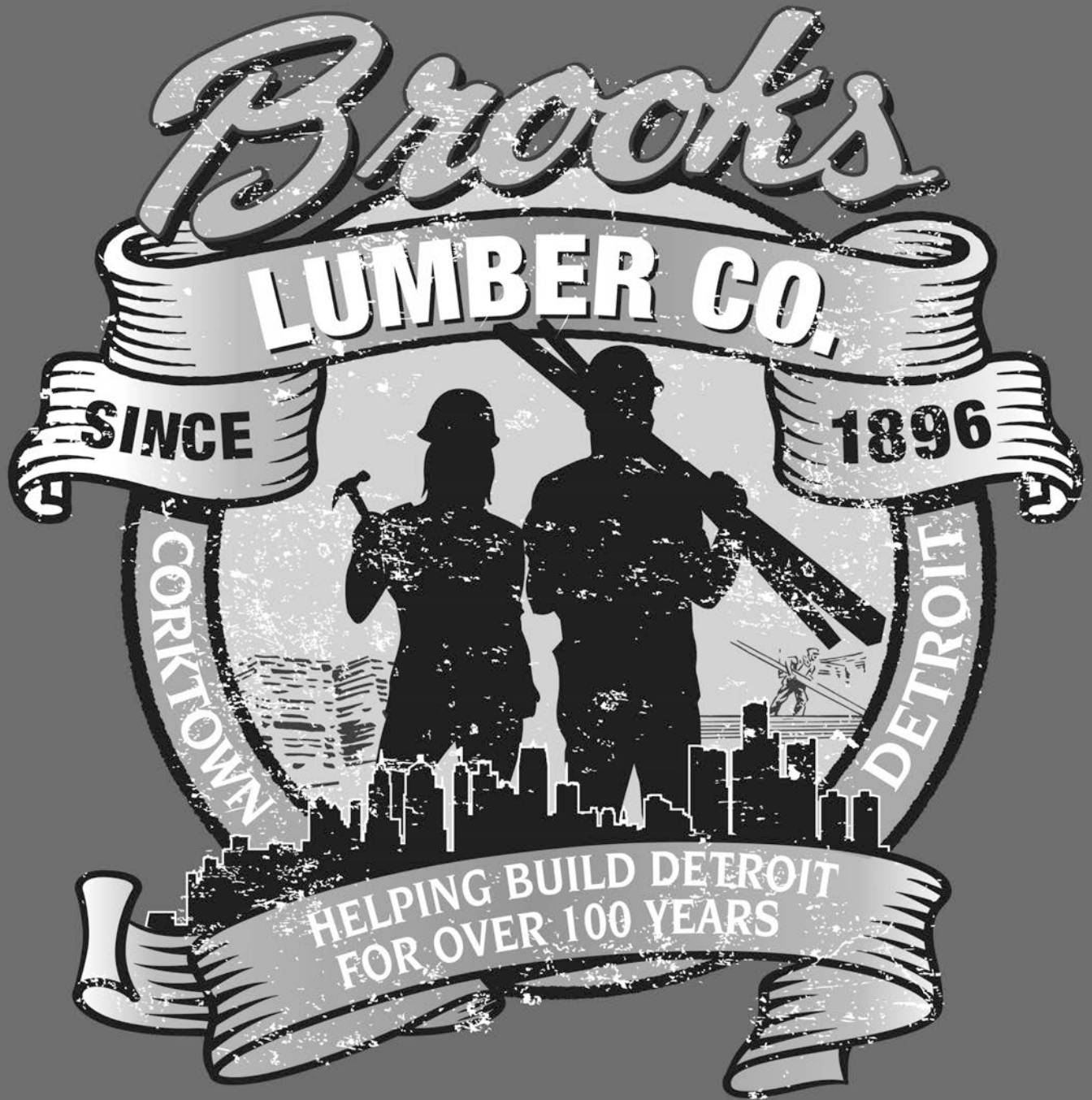
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