

Factory: Hecht Beef & Pork Packing Company

Location: Packing house on Central, slaughter house on tail race south of 11th, east side of tailrace

Years of operation: 1879 -

Comments: Involved in court case in 1879 suing someone for payment for work he had done.

- July 1, 1889 – packing house had burned. Iron and bricks were being separated and stacked up. Unknown whether he would rebuild
- July 13, 1889 – Hecht had a carload of old steel and iron for sale, salvaged from the fire.
- July 25, 1889 –Kuehn Bros got contract to repair machinery after fire at Hecht's
House movers were preparing to move Hecht Hotel from packing house site to 19th and Central
- Aug. 10, 1889 – Lost 45 acres of vegetables to hail, worth about \$2000. Raising for the canning factory
- Aug. 21, 1889 – ordered a carload of meat to sell during reunion week on the grounds but sold very little and took a \$250 loss. He had also built a grandstand for viewing parades and other events connected with the reunion
- Aug. 31, 1889 – Purchased a monument from James Crawford for his lot at the cemetery
- Sept 30, 1889 – Large hotel Hecht built for the packing house was being moved to Central Ave a few blocks north of the courthouse to be opened as a hotel operated by R. F. Francis. No name for it yet
- Oct. 11, 1889 – Erecting several tenement houses near 2nd ward school
- Mar 5, 1890 – Will rebuild the packing house as soon as the UP relocates its stockyards
- Aug 13, 1890 – Started work on new building
- Sept 1, 1890 – Went to Chicago to buy packing house supplies
- March 20, 1891 – shipped a ton of meat west
- June, July, August, Sept – Front page ad for vegetables, ham, bacon and lard, and for cold storage rental
- Sept 12, 1891 – Wm. Hecht in serious mental condition due to financial reverses he has had recently
- Sept 23, 1891 – died at asylum in Lincoln. Reportedly not sane during much of the time before his death. Refused to eat and would throw himself against the walls and floor of his cell, thus accounting for the bruises on his head and face.
- Sept 25, 1891 – funeral at Congregational church, burial in Kearney cemetery. Cause of death was given in cemetery records as exhaustion. He was 38 years old