The Ferris building in Downtown Manchester

Hartford architectural firm Curtis & Johnson, designer of the Ferris building, operated from 1891-1903, and designed homes, schools, and warehouses. The building they designed in 1901 for the Ferris brothers originally faced Downtown Main Street at the corner of Oak Street.

Faye Ferris, granddaughter of Edwin T. Ferris, remembers that Watkins brothers bought the building from the Ferrises for $7,000. The Ferris building was then moved down the hill and turned to face Oak Street, and the Watkins furniture building opened in 1920. The buildings were integrated in such a way that they almost look like one building (constructed at the same time).