



*Preservation Alliance
of La Crosse
Presents:*

*Dr. Les
Crocker*

On

*W. H. J. Nichols,
Frontier Architect*



City Hall in 1881

April 15, 7:00 p.m. Pump House Theater

Free and open to the public.

Trained as a heavy timber carpenter in New York state, Nichols came west, first to the Chicago area and then to La Crosse when it was only a tiny settlement. He may have been the first to use stud frame construction in La Crosse. Nichols designed the finest houses in the city between 1856 and 1872. He learned to use structural cast-iron and designed many commercial buildings in the downtown that made use of iron. His design for the First City Hall and Fire Station is one of the best buildings ever designed in La Crosse.