

16 Historical Sites - North Side West Main St.

CSX R. R. (former B & O)

Site 1 - 102, 106 West Main St. North Side

Building was erected in 1882

102, 106 West Main St. North Side Dr. H. Huber Block, was a historic commercial building in downtown Ottawa. It was erected for him by the Sutton & Laskey Company. Dr. Hubert Huber, was a native of Villingen-Schwenningen a town in the Schwarzwald-Baar district in southern Baden-Württemberg, Germany, and a graduate of Heidelberg & Berne Universities. He immigrated to Glandorf in 1853. He moved to Ottawa in 1882.

In 1980, the Huber Block was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Building was torn down in 2015 due to the 2007 flood damages.

102 West Main St. North Side

Dr. H. Huber, Medical Practice; Elk Cafe, Charles Huber; Huber's Grocery, C. F. Huber; Huber's Grocery, Frank Kahle (Son-in-law); A & P Grocery; Klaus Grocery; Stennett Antiques.

Second floor: At one time there were apartments that were rented out; Knights of Columbus Lodge.

Third floor: Knights of Columbus Ballroom.

106 West Main St. North Side

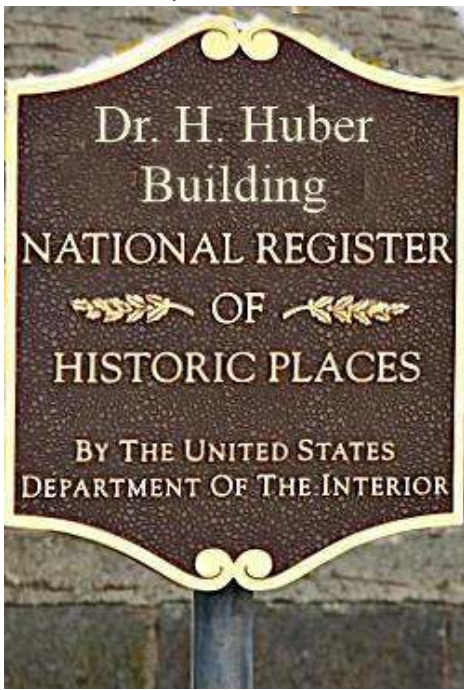
Huber's Drug Store, Louis Huber; Gerding Drugs; Langdon's Drugs; Western Auto;

Second floor: Knights of Columbus Lodge.

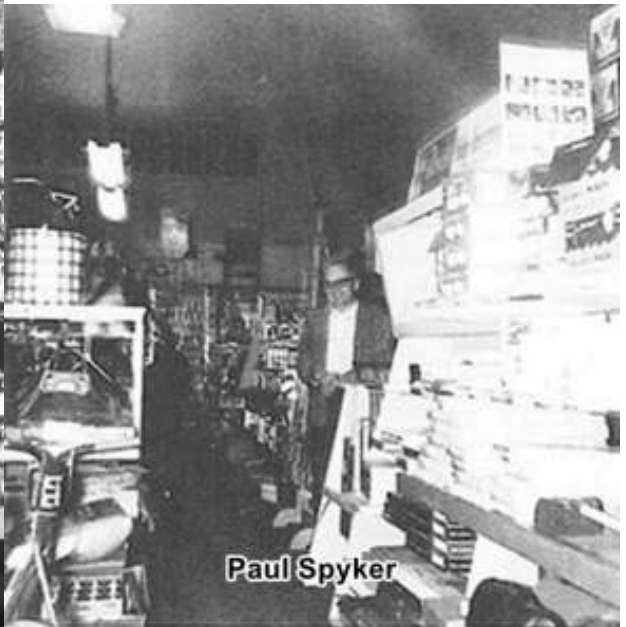
Third floor: Knights of Columbus Ballroom.

2019 - Green Zone (no building)

Site 1 - 102, 106 West Main St. North Side continued

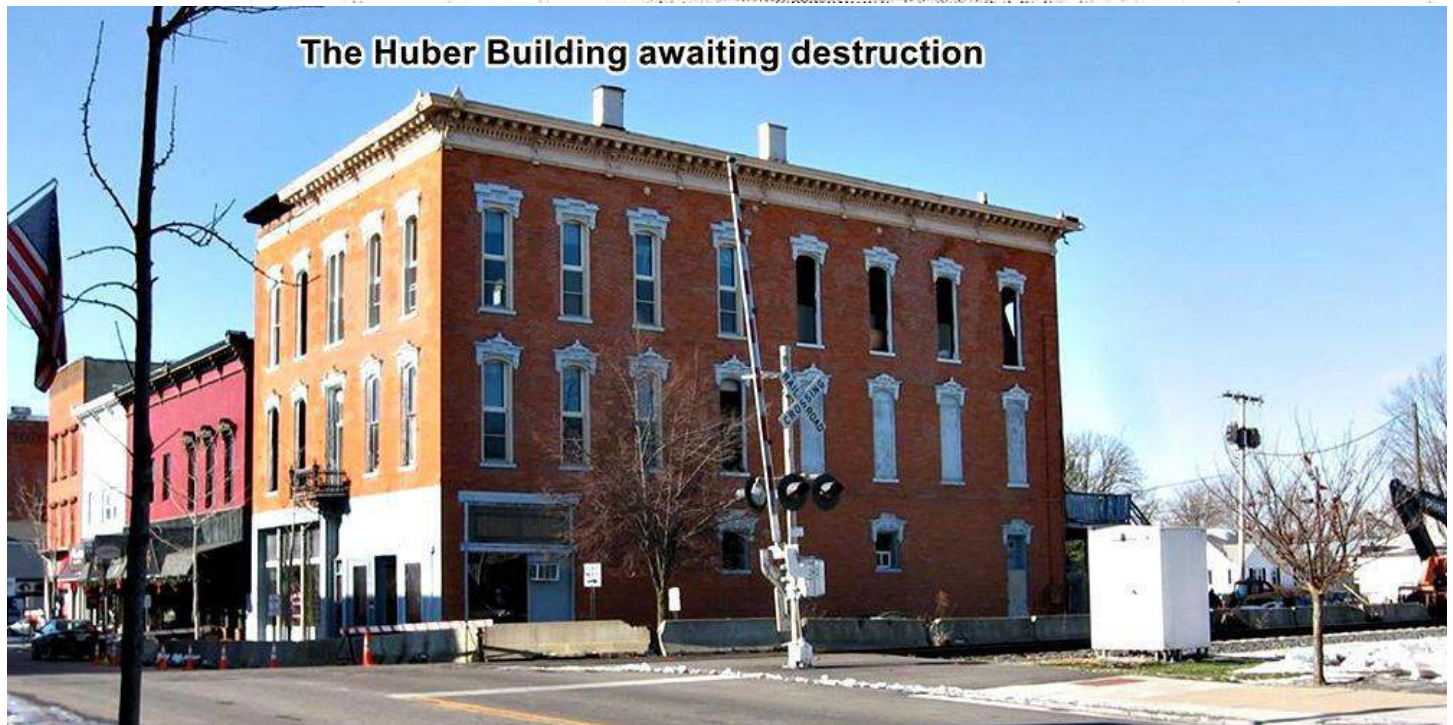
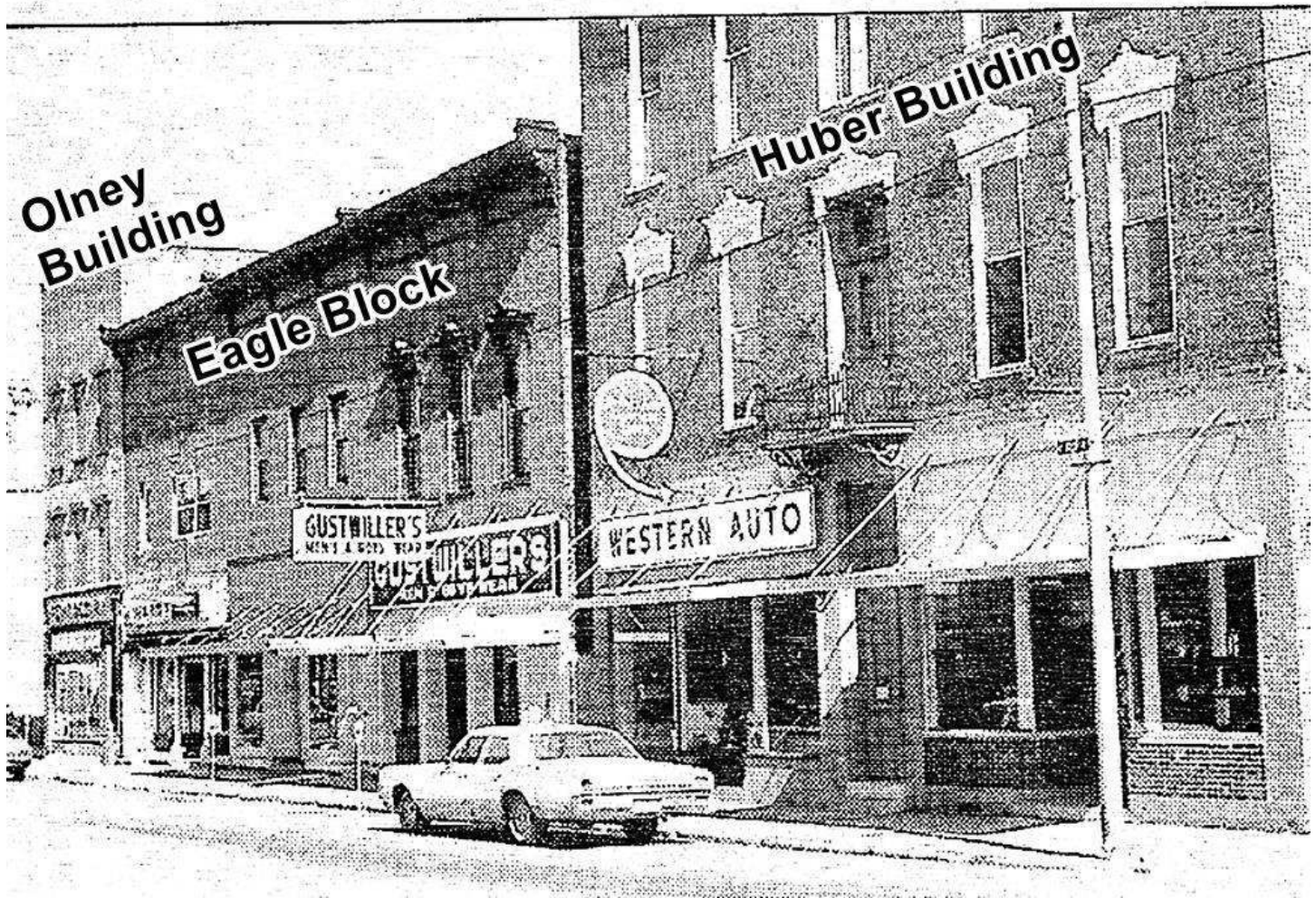


Huber's Grocery - 1932
left to right
Frank Kahle, owner and Paul Weber & John Doecker



Paul Spyker

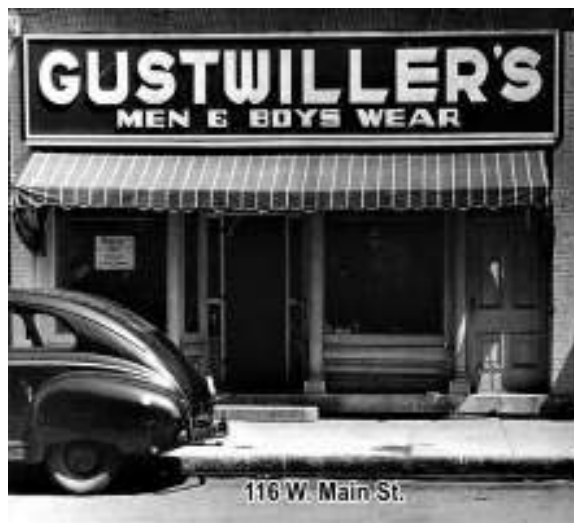
Site 1 - 102, 106 West Main St. North Side continued



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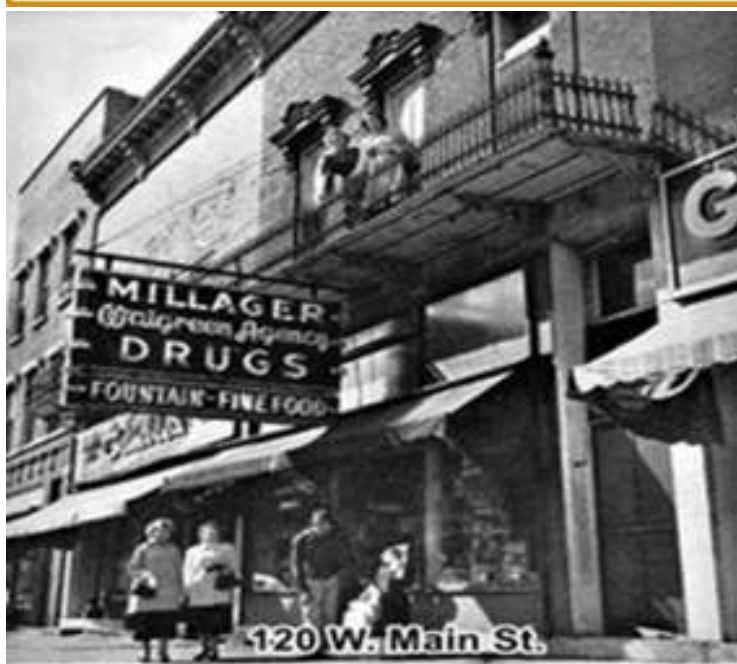
Site 2 - 116, 120, 122, 130 West Main St. North Side

116 West Main St. - East Aide: Joseph Maas Grocery; XC. A. Lockhart, Men's Furnishings; Lockhart & Hissong, Dept. Store; Hissong & Brown Dept. Store (Adv. Eggs, Butter and Chickens taken in trade, terms strictly cash) D. A. Frick, Lucky Clothing Store 1880; D. A. Frick & Sons; Frick's Store, George & Edward Frick; Frick's Store, Edward Frick & Sons; A. & P. Store; Leonard Gustwiller; Gustwiller Inc.



120 West Main St. - West Aide: Fipp Grocery or Market; J. F. Reed Grocery; Reed and Kline; Hamden Grocery and Bakery, Geo. Hamden, Iva Cummer, Isaiah Hamden; Hamden and Fisher, Isaiah and Robert Fisher; Robert Millager; Millager Drug Store, Wm. Tucker, Mgr.

2019 - Gustwiller's Inc. (116, 120)



Some News (left), Doris Johnson stand on one of several wooden balconies on Main Street as it is a 1930s scene. Mary, Harriette Brinkman, Bernard Rosengarten stand below.

Site 2 - 116, 120, 122, 130 West Main St. North Side continued

122 - West Main St. - Palace Drug Store, S. Shoup and Son's; Shoup Crystal Front Drug Store. Note: Mr. Shoup's grandfather was captured by Ottawa Indians, at age 4, he was held prisoner until he was 22 yrs. old.; Huber Drug Store; Kelly and Hauck Drugs; Allen Graham Druggist and Book Seller; Kirk Jewelry; Graham and Hackadorn Drugs; Pool Rooms: Hogan's; P. C. McClure; Wardens; Luttfiring; Gamble Store, Clark James; Montgomery Ward Order Store, Sue Schmenk

2019 - Phantasm Designs

130 - West Main St – The James Olney Building. James Olney succeeded Cobb, Pierce and Squire 1856; Slauson and McCoy, New York Store; Geo. Barnes Meat Market; Groceries and Meats sold by Smith and Son; Fred Trame and Harold Hoffman; Groceries , Harry Rucklos; West Ohio Gas Co.

SECOND FLOOR: Dre. C. E. Beardsley; Day Pugh, Atty: Sentinel Publishing Co. Geo. Kinder; Der Demokrat, 1892-1914, H. F. Rauh; Dentists: McLaughlin, Wildon, Dorwood, Larkworthy.

130 West Main St.

THIRD FLOOR: I. O. O. F. Lodge

130 West Main St.

2019 – Ledgens Food & Spirits



----- End of Site 2 -----

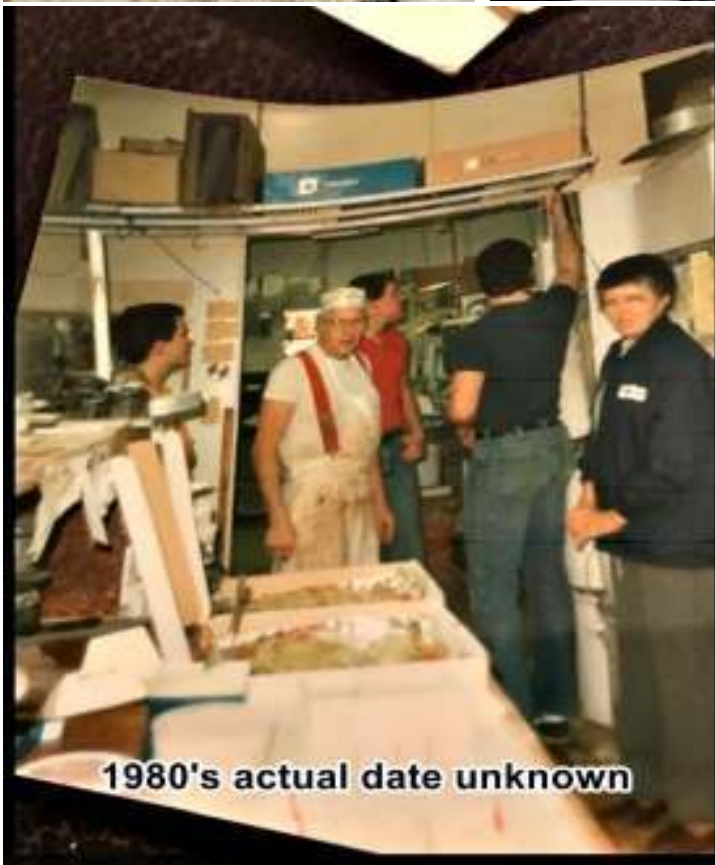
Site 3 - 134, 140 West Main North Side St.

Site 5 - 134 North Side West Main St. Wooden building stood here. W. A. Kober; Harry Ingelright Cigar Store; Geo. Saloum Confectionary; Ellis Balish Confectionary; James Yaufman News Stand; Jiggs Compton News Stand.
2019 - Parking Space

140 North Side W. Main St. - Mrs. Fritz Millinery (Hats trimmed 90 cents and up.); J. Cortright, Gun Smith; Husted Bakery; Schwarz Bakery, Eric and M. L. Schwarz.

Upstairs: Harry Ingelright Cigar Store; John Hornung Tin Shop; Blymyer and Heffner Electric Shop;

2019 - Parking Space



Site 3 - 134, 140 West Main North Side St. continued



----- End of Site 3 -----

Site 4 - 144 West Main St. North Side

144 North Side W. Main St. - Martin's Harness Shop; Gils Knettles Sewing Machines and Gerding Harness Shop; Fox and Moore Gent's Furnishings; Moore and Moore Clothing; Banning and Acker-Tailors for Moore and Moore; Barber Shop; Edwin Kahle Electric Shop; Kahle Electric, John Kahle. 2019 - Vacant



----- End of Site 4 -----

Site 5 - 150, 154 West Main St. North Side

150 - North Side W. Main St. - Jacob Lentzy, General Merchandise; Boehmer and Tupper Druggists; T. E. Smith; Kelly and Hauck Drug and Book Store, 1887; Fred Hauck, Hoxter and Blue Drugs; Hauck; Radabaugh and Otto - Charles Radabaugh, Opal and Jim Otto.

Upstairs: C. S. Arnold Photographer.

2019 - Vacant

Last Soda Fountain Closes



Opal Otto and Rose Williams posed on the last day that the R and O soda fountain and lunch counter was open.



After hundreds of barrels of coffee and tons of ice cream, the R and O soda fountain and lunch counter is gone. It's the end of a long, long era — and with it goes a vestige of the past and one of the few remaining true soda fountains in the area.

Oh, there are still places where ice cream sodas and milk shakes can be obtained — but nearly all today are made with machine-made ice cream, and there's a difference.

The West Main Street store remains open, but no longer will it be a morning and afternoon gathering place for the town's business people to chat over a friendly cup of coffee, or a meeting place for women to have their afternoon snack.

There just aren't any places like that any more.

The announcement was made by the store manager, Mrs. Opal Otto, a couple of weeks ago that the lunch counter would be closed about the middle of the month to make way for expansion of the book and greeting card business.

Customers didn't blame her for the decision, but somehow hoped the sign behind the counter wasn't true.

Mrs. Otto and her right hand lady, Mrs. Rose Williams, have put in thousands of hours at the store and at home evenings preparing food for the lunch counter. The long hours won't be missed, Opal said, but by the end of the first day without the lunch counter she was already missing the traffic it generated.

Mrs. Williams, wife of Ottawa service director Dewey Williams, is probably the most veteran business per-

son on Ottawa's Main Street. Always wearing a pleasant smile, Rose has been an employee in the store under five different owners for 44 years.

"I started in kindergarten," she says jokingly. Actually she was a sophomore in high school when she went to work as a soda jerk for the late Fred and Maud Hauck. Since then she worked for Joann Borgelt, who owned the store for 10 days, Harry Corkwell, Mr. and Mrs. James Otto and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Radabaugh, and most recently for the Brunner News Agency.

During most of its history the store was a patent medicine and sundries store, but many a type of merchandise have gone over its counters — drugs, sundries, sporting goods, books.

But always it had a soda fountain.

Mr. Houck opened the store in the early part of the century and then sold the business about the time of the end of World War I to Art Hoxter and a Mr. Blue who were pharmacists. They operated a drug store until the building was damaged by a fire in the mid 1920's.

Following the fire, Mr. and Mrs. Houck refurbished the building and re-opened the patent medicine store and operated it with their son, Bob, until shortly after World War II. Miss Borgelt (now Mrs. Al Thomas) purchased the business but had it for less than two weeks when she sold it to Harry Corkwell.

The Radabaughs and Ottos (Mrs. Otto and Mr. Radabaugh are sister and brother) purchased it on April 1, 1958, and continued in the patent medicine and sundries business.

In September 1979 the business was sold and the building leased to the Brunner News Agency and it became R and O Readmore Bookstore. Mrs. Otto stayed on as manager and of course Mrs. Williams remained as her helping hand.

The soda fountain also remained. The two ladies would spend their evenings grocery shopping and preparing the next day's lunch specials. Opal says she often worked 14 hour days and seven-day weeks because of the lunch counter.

Those long hours won't be missed, she said.

Rose, who has mixed feelings about closing the soda fountain, feels a tinge of sadness at its passing. After serving so many cups of coffee and mixing so many concoctions at the fountain, she is going to miss that.

But she will stay on at the book store — as will the four young ladies who also have worked there in recent years.

"We are going to have to cut some of their hours, but we are going to keep them on, at least until they can find some other work," Opal said.

The line of books and greeting cards is being expanded at the store, but there will be no other changes — except the hours.

They won't open as early in the morning and will close a little earlier in the evening. Weekday hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. They'll still open early on Sunday for the Sunday paper customers, with hours from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Site 5 - 150, 154 West Main St. North Side continued

154 North Side W. Main St. - Small Bldg. - Charles and Wilber Goodwin's Book Store; Kelly and Hauck Book Store; Matt Schomaeker, barber. 2019 - Vacant



----- End of Site 5 -----

Site 6 - 158, 162 West Main St. North Side

158 - D. D. Gayman; Hatch and Williams; Mrs. Bressler Millinery Shop (Adv. "The latest in dress goods and bonnets. I will have a city woman here next week to show latest style."); J. R. Thompson Music Store and Photograph Gallery; Gmeiner Shoes, Mrs. Ray Kistler; Singer Sewing Machines, Tony Rampe.

162 - T. H. Brockman Grocery; McCoy, Slauson and Bressler, New York Store (moved the from Olney Block) Managed for Bressler by D. A. Frick; Lochart Merchandise Market; Brown and Hissong Dry Goods; J. J. Rampe Store Co.; The Boston Store; The Charles Store; Thrift Way;

Upstairs: Farmers' Mutual Telephone Co.; A. A. Unverferth; Wm. O'Boyle Merchant Tailor; American Legion; Eagles; Knights of St. John.

2019 - 158 Schroeder Arts Center 162 - Cavern Club

Site 6 - 158, 162 West Main St. North Side continued



Site 6 - 158, 162 West Main St. North Side continued



----- End of Site 6 -----

Site 7 - 202 West Main St. North Side

Building was erected 1893

202 North Side W. Main St. --The hotel originally had three addresses, 202, 206, 210 Weber's Monument Works; W. B. Wellen's Cigar Mfg.

DuMont Hotel - (Jake DuMont erected building in 1893, at a cost of \$50,000), Jake DuMont, hotel & bar; Boehme, hotel & bar; Krugh, hotel only (Mom's Place, Bar only, leased by Mrs. "Pop" Giesken); L. A. Labadie, hotel & bar(changed name to Putnam House); Hoctor, hotel & bar; Bert Klausing, hotel & bar; Verhoff, hotel & bar; Davidson and Kimball, hotel & bar; Verhoff, hotel & bar; Jim Schnipke, hotel & bar (changed name to Schnipke Inn). At one time an ice cream parlor was also on west side.

Jennings Furniture also occupied the west side (210) for some time.

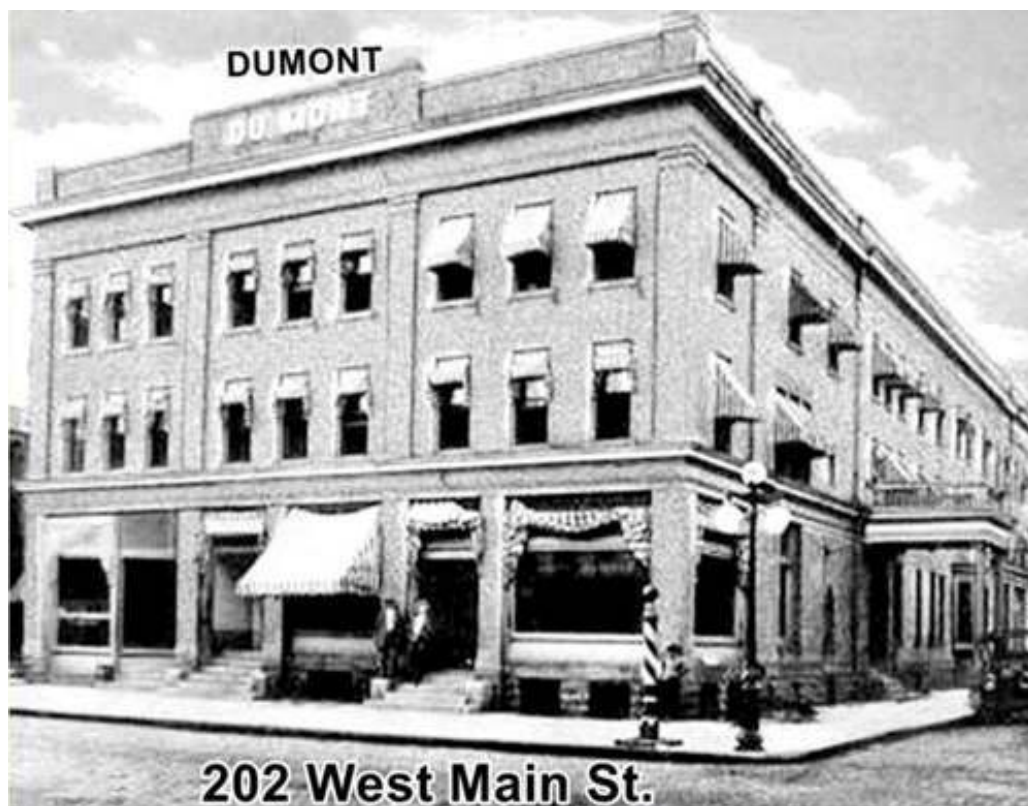
Basement: Barber shop. many barbers including Bill Krouse and Wilbur White.

Bill Krouse had a three barberchair shop for many years. He also offered shaves.

Beauty shop: Bella Donna Beauty Salon; Ted's Beauty Shop.

2019 - Schnipke Inn

Site 7 - 202 West Main St. North Side continued



Site 7 - 202 West Main St. North Side continued



Once upon a time there was a blacksmith shop and a shoe shine shop behind the hotel on Walnut Street. In 1949 the shoe shine shop was moved to the back of the lot (behind the Legion along the alley) and has been a small rental home ever since. The blacksmith shop is long-gone and the Buescher home was built on the lot in 1952.

Site 7 - 202 West Main St. North Side continued



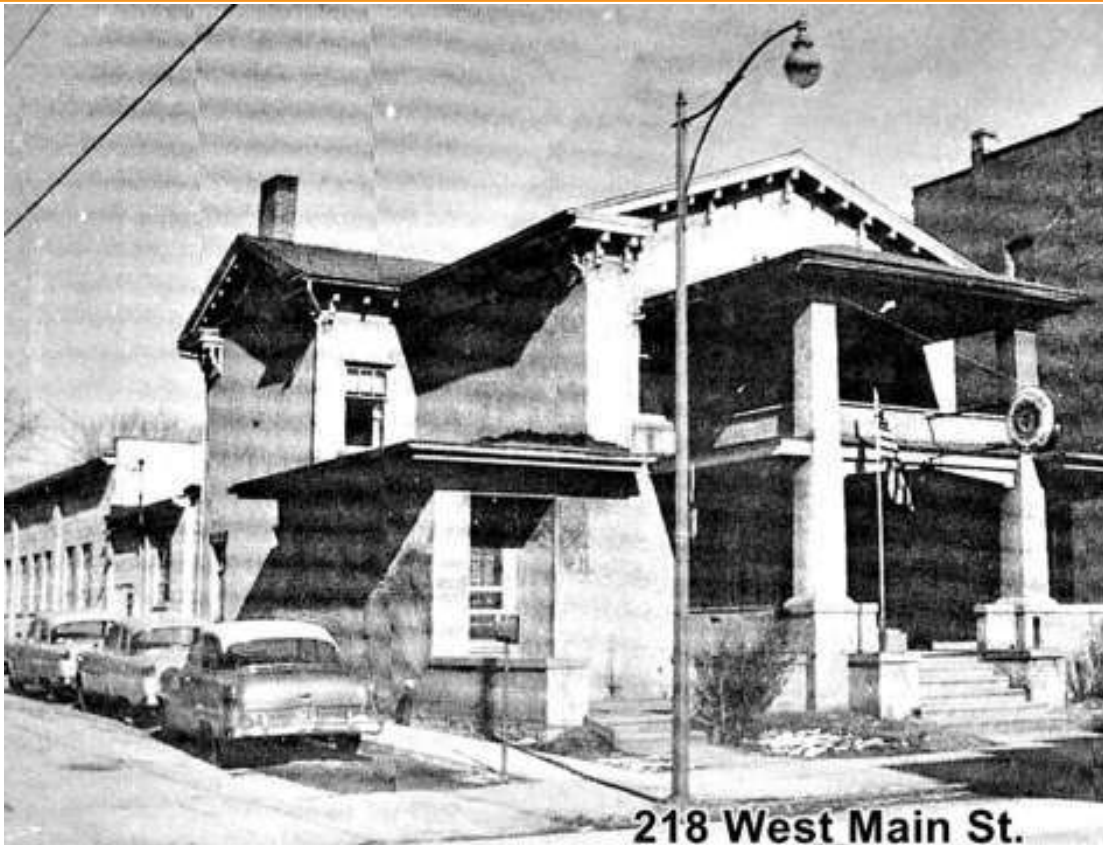
Blacksmith Shop and Livery (Walnut St., back of Hotel)
Robert (Bob) Goedde and his father, John Goedde
(father and grandfather of Joann (Goedde) Ruen



----- End of Site 7 -----

Site 8 - 218 West Main St. North Side

218 North Side W. Main St.- Residence - Dr. Hubert Huber; Bushe Family; Dr. I. A. Harold; Lee and Belle Slusser Radio Shop; Leo Bockrath Tavern; Westrick & Meyers Tavern; Conservation Dept., Mgr. Howard Langstaff and Foster Rothman; American Legion. 2019 - American Legion



218 West Main St.



218 East Main St.

Site 8 - 218 West Main St. North Side continued

Sunday, September 30, 1917

Dave Kersh, Historian

Only a few months after their return from the Mexican border, Company M was called into Federal Service. Company M, and Ottawa, had grown accustomed to parades, but on this occasion the mood must have been more somber. The boys would have to fight in a horrible war, half a world away, and not all would survive.

The departure of the local unit was witnessed by an immense crowd of people. As early as six-o'clock in the morning automobiles came pouring into Ottawa. By eight-o'clock Main Street from Locust St. to Perry St. was so packed with vehicles that it was nearly impossible to cross the street.

Cheers and tears commingled, and over all a spirit of sorrow and regret prevailed. Many appeared dozed as they stared at the departing train.

Aboard the train was Captain Guy Cartwright, who would be one of the founders of Post 63. Many others on the Company M roster of 100 plus would be future members and commanders of Post 63. Private First Class Leo J. Kerner would be the first member of Company M to make the supreme sacrifice.



Company M - WW I

----- End of Site 8 -----

Site 9 - 226, 234, 240, 248 West Main St. North Side

226 North Side W. Main St. - The Beck Bldg. (As nearly as can be Determined)
Lentzy and Waggner Farm Machinery; Hamden Grocery and Steam Laundry;
Reed and Kline, groceries, glassware and wooden ware ; Yontz and Knettle, Machinery;
John F. Cox and Co Gent's Furnishings; John Gallegher, Second Hand Furniture; L. A.
Labadie, Sinclair Station and Storage Garage (People who owned Cars kept them in
storage garages)
Bars in Beck Building: Labadie's; Franklin Highway Grill; Leo Bockrath; Emm's Sandwich
Shop; Evie's Bar; Kaufman's Bar

234 - West Main St. North Side - Following firms used large one-story
bldg., Edward & M. J. Burden; Albert Kahle Pure Oil; Edgar Burner;
Parker Buick Sales; Storage building, burned out.
2019 - Drive and parking area

240 - North Side W. Main St. - Two story brick Bldg. and one-story frame livery
Stable on this site. A livery stable kept horses and buggies for rent. They also fed, curried,
and cared for horses driven to town by their owners. For this they charged
a fee. Most hotels had a livery stable near by so traveling men who sold
merchandise to stores could get from town to town. This stable advertised hacks for hire.
A hack was a two or three seated carriage. A hack with a driver left for Gilboa
at 2:30 pm. A hack also went to Kalida, Sheridan and Dupont.
Gottemeir and Kahle, Stable and Livery, 5 and 10 cents barn; Kratzer Livery stable,
both razed. New brick bldg. housed Lentzy's General Merchandise Store;
J. F. Cox and Co. Men's Clothing and Furnishings; Fox Gent's Clothing;
Gosling Harness Store; T. P. Wren, Dayton Store - Boots and Shoes;
Gray & White Co. (Cream, Poultry and Eggs) Jerry Ruhe

248 - North Side W. Main St. - Sinclair Station, Quinn Bros.; Siefker Car Care;
Arco Service Center, Gary Compton.

Mr. Fenton, a crippled gentleman operated a stand on this corner under a
huge maple tree. His stand, about 6' by 6' with a drop-front, sold penny
candies. Bringing Mr. Fenton, a jug of water from the city pump on the other
corner meant payment in a penny candy.

2019 - Parking Area, Big daddy's Lounge

Site 9 - 226, 234, 240, 248 West Main St. North Side continued



Site 9 - 226, 234, 240, 248 West Main St. North Side continued



Someone asked about the German prisoners of war working in Ottawa during WW II. I don't know the numbers but the tomato canneries in Pandora, Columbus Grove and Ottawa all had Germans working there. The prison camp was in Defiance and Wilson Trucking transported them to & from Pandora. I think this bus parked on West Main probably was used for that, too. There were over 200 prisoners in the camp at Defiance. It is said that the prisoners who were imprisoned in this area were very happy and felt very much at home.

Picture owner comments.

----- End of Site 9 -----

Site 10 - 304 West Main St. North Side

304 - West Main St. North Side -

Original holdings of John & David Cox, on the Northwest corner of Elm St. & Main St. The Cox residence was razed about 1910.

The Lima & Toledo Traction Company which began operations in 1910, had a line running through Ottawa with a terminal and warehouse on this lot. The Lima & Toledo Traction Company ended operations in 1939. No date is available when they no longer had service through Ottawa.

2019 - Village Parking Lot



304 West Main St.

----- End of Site 10 -----

Site 11 - 314, 320, 332, 340 West Main St. North Side

314, 320 West Main St. North

The Ottawa House Hotel, a two story frame building, with a one story el shape running East, was built by Lieurgus McAdow; Wheeler & Houiser; Wm. MsDowell; Rogers, Warden, C. B. Van Cleve purchased the building, turned it around and built apartments; Thomas McElroy; Nienberg Apartments.

332 - North Side W. Main St. - House built at Main St. sidewalk. Lewis Hensel town marshal; Alfred and Mildred Kuhlman.

In 1835, further back on same lot, David Cox established first regular store. Cut a road through the Black Swamp to Perrysburg to purchase goods for store.

340 - North Side W. Main St.- Location of H. T. C. Hipkins General Merchandise Store; Hipkins and Nicewarner; Hipkins and Kline; Koons and Whip; Hipkins and Blizzard, Wagononers; all general merchandise stores. Location of "town Pump" here between sidewalk and street on corner of N. Perry and 340 W. Main St.

2019 - 304 - Parking. 314,320,332, 340 - Huggins Auto Sales

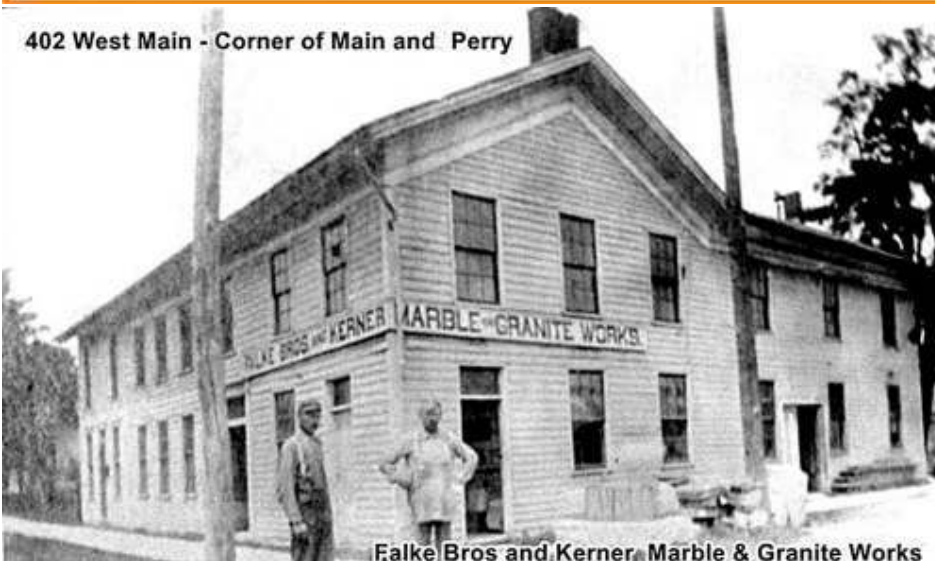
Site 11 - 314, 320, 332, 340 West Main St. North Side continued



----- End of Site 11 -----

Site 12 - 402 West Main St. North Side

402 - North Side W. Main St. - The Row Inn as described in "Putnam County Centennial History - 1873-1973" Michael Row purchased the first lot sold, No. 57, in July 1834. Here he built first hewed log house in Ottawa and occupied it as a house and tavern until 1877. In that year it was weather boarded.; Falke Monument Works; Moening and Wortkotter, Farm Machinery; Olds Agency, Byron Huggins, Ned Rader; Huggins Auto Parts DBA: The Shop, managed by Mary A. Imm and Ronald Huggins.; 1981 Huggins Auto parts bought by Mary A. Imm; 1999 Huggins Auto Parts Inc., comprised of The Shop, Huggins Auto Parts and Huggins Auto Sales, Tony and Tim Imm 2019 - Huggins Auto Parts Inc.



Falke Bros and Kerner, Marble & Granite Works

Site 12 - 402 West Main St. North Side continued



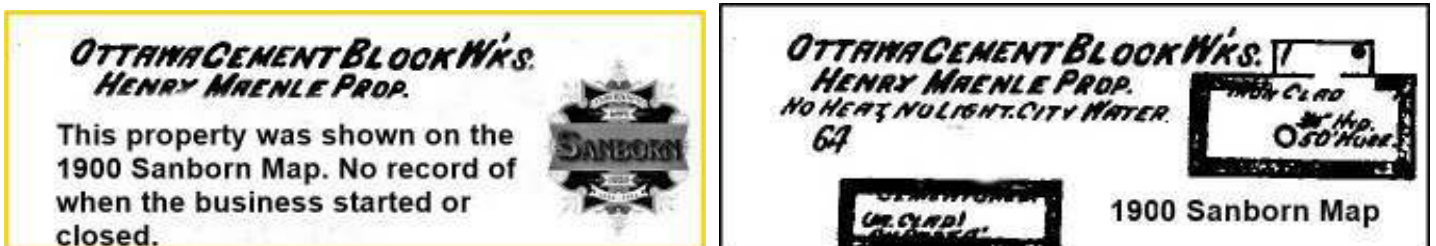
----- End of Site 12 -----

Site 13 - 426 West Main St. North Side

426 North Main St. - Residence of D. I. Brown, Atty.,
Prosecuting Attorney, Member of State Legislature, Staunch Democrat.
In 1856, as Chairman of Central Committee, called a mass meeting of
all Democrats which dismissed all candidates from the ticket as refused
to vote the whole Democratic ticket. Described himself as a democrat
from principle, not for boodle.
2019 - Vacant Property

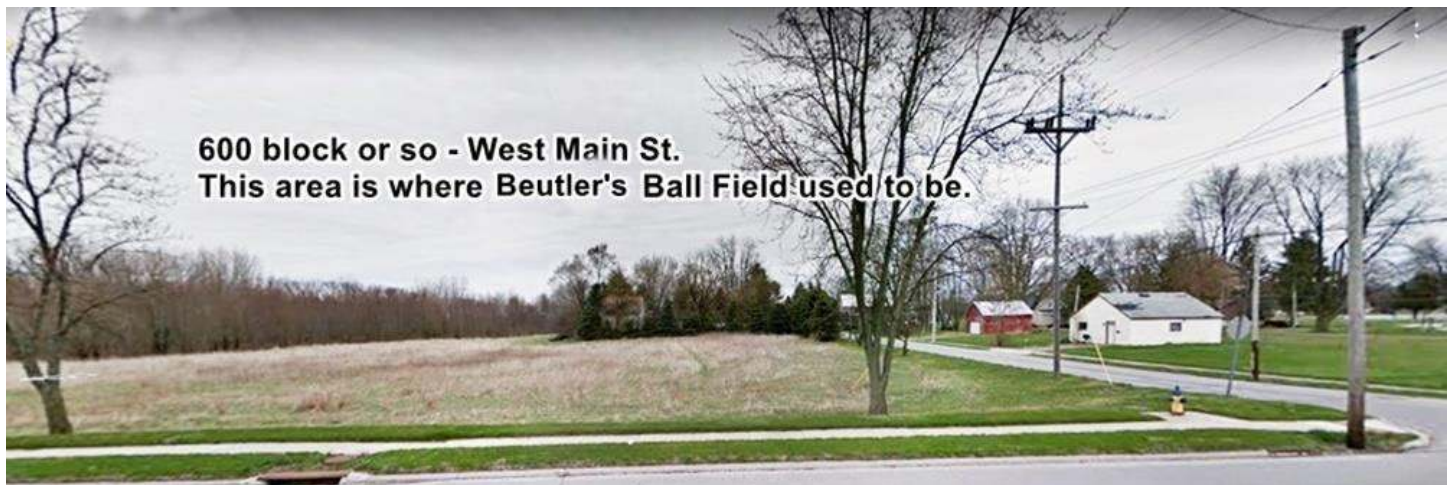
----- End of Site 13 -----

Site 14 - 542 West Main St. North Side



----- End of Site 14 -----

**Site 15 - North corner of West Main St. & Sugar St.
Area where Beutler's Ball Field was located.**



Address Unknown - Samuel Cox operated a tile yard near the State Rt. 224 Blanchard River bridge. It was estimated if all the tile used by Putnam Co. farmers to drain the Black swanp were end to end, it would encircle the earth nine times.

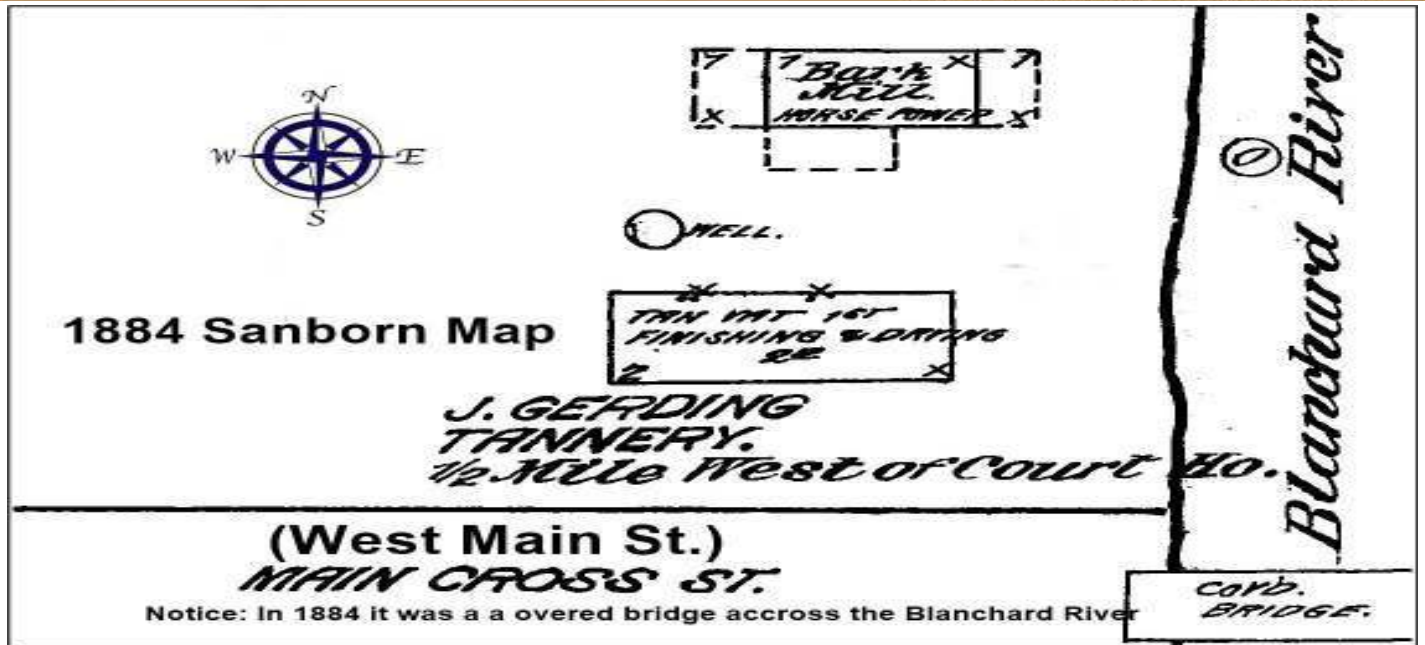
2019 - Vacant Land

It is unknown if the Cox Tile Yard was on the North or South side of Main St.

----- End of Site 15 -----

Site 16 - 834 West Main St. North Side

834 - Across the State Rt. 224 Blanchard River bridge:
Gerding's Tannery;
Riverside Creamery - produced butter;
W. T. Leonard Co.;
Agner Auto Sales;
Douglas Enterprises, Fiber Glass Products;
2019 - Vacant Land



834 - West Main St.

----- End of Site 16 -----

End of West Main Street North Side