

RAILROAD Track

17 Historical Sites

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

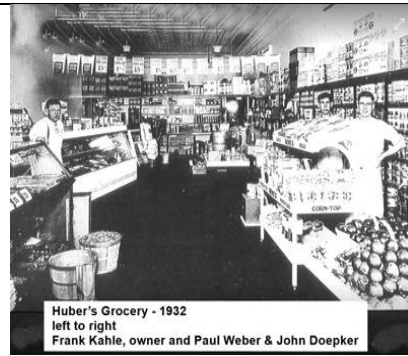
WEST ↓

Taft Ave.

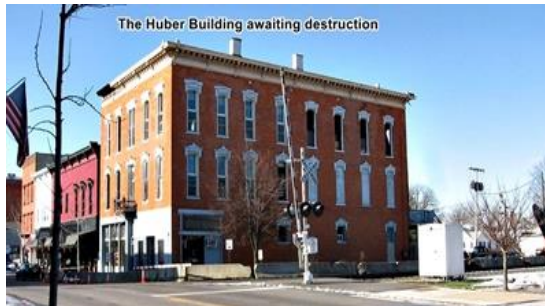
102, 106 - West Main St. - The Huber Building
Purchased from Sutton and Laskey by Dr. H. Huber.

102 - East Side: Elk Café, Charles Huber; Huber's Grocery, C. F. Huber;
Huber's Grocery, Frank Kahle (son-in-law); A & P Grocery; Klaus Grocery;
Stennett Antiques.

106 - West Side: Huber's Drug Store, Louis Huber; Gerding Drugs;
Langdon's Drugs; Western Auto.
Upstairs: Knights of St. John; K of C Lodge. Third Floor: K of C Ballroom
2019 - Green Zone (no buildings) both lots



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



The Huber Building awaiting destruction



Not the Ottawa Store

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Sites 2, 3 & 4 - 116 to 130 North Side West Main St.



Original photo

Eagle Block & Olney Building



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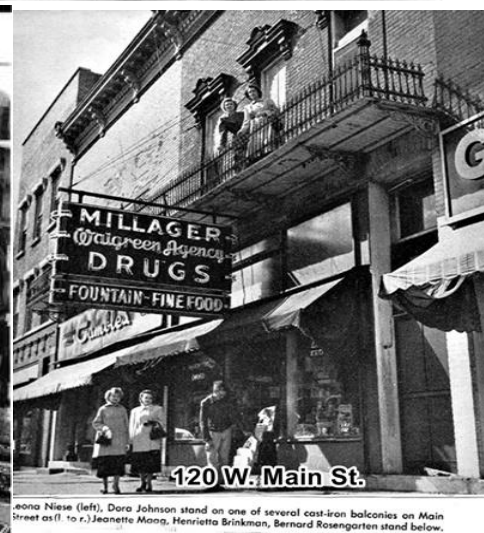
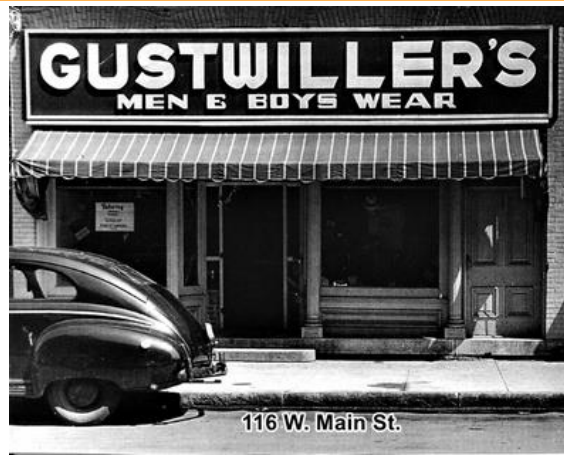
Site 2 - 116, 120 North Side West Main St.

The first two addresses of the Eagle Block

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)



Click Photos to view larger

Site 3 - 122 North Side West Main St.

* 122 is the west end of the Eagle Block *

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



122 W. Main St.

Click Photos to view larger



130 W. Main St.

Site 4 - 130 North Side West Main St.

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 – Ledgends Food & Spirits

- Town Alley -

Site 5 - 134 North Side West Main 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



Site 6 - 140 North Side West Main St.

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



[Click Photos to view larger](#)

Site 7 - 144 North Side West Main St.

144 North Side W. Main St. - Martin's Harness Shop; Gils Knettl's 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



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Site 8 - 150, 154 North Side West Main St.

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, Hoctor 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.



154 150 W. Main St.

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



154 W. Main St.

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 Hoctor 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 reopened 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.

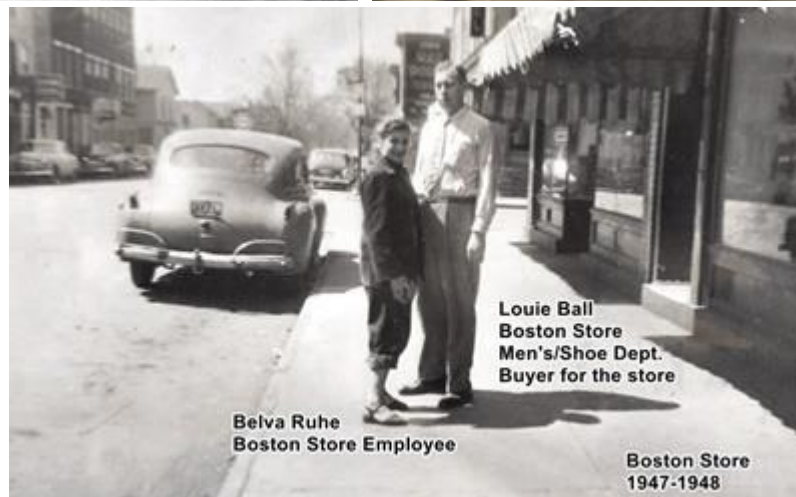
Site 9 - 158, 162 North Side West Main St.

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



Click Photos to view larger
202 - North Side West Main St.

Walnut St.

Site 10 - 202 North Side West Main St.

202 North Side W. Main St. –

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 for a 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



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.



Click Photos to view larger

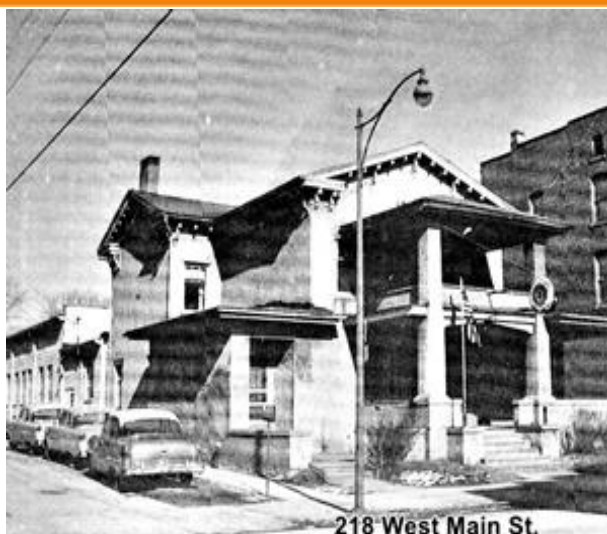
Site 10 - 202 North Side West Main St. continued



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Site 11 - 218 North Side West Main St.

**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**



Site 11 - 218 North Side West Main St. 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 pecked 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 dazed 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.



**Click Photos to view larger
Town Alley**

Site 12 - 226 to 234 - North Side West Main St.

226 North Side W. Main Sat. - The Beck Bldg. (As nearly as can be Determined) Lentzy and Waggoner 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 North Side west Main St. - Following firms used large one story Bldg., Edward and M. J. Burden; Albert Kahle Pure Oil; Edgar Burner; Parker Buick Sales; Storage bldg., burned out.
2019 - 226 - Tin Lizzy Bar; 234 - driveway and parking.



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Site 13 - 240, 248 North Side West Main St.

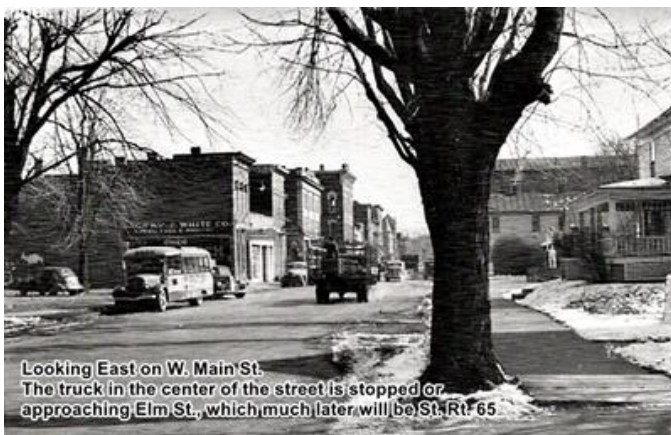
240 - North Side W. Main St. - Two story brick Bldg. and one-story frame livery Stable on this site. A livery stable kept horses and buggies for rent. They also fed, curried, and cared for horses driven to town by their owners. For this they charged a fee. Most hotels had a livery stable near by so traveling 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



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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.

[Click Photo to view larger](#)

Elm St. (St. Rt. 65)

Site 14 - 304 to 340 North Side West Main St.

304 - North Side W. Main St.- Original holding of John and David Cox. Corner lot Elm and Main - The Cox residence - razed about 1910. Ohio Electric Station and Warehouse here. Village Parking Lot.

314, 320 - North Side W. Main St.- The City Hotel - a two story frame bldg. - one story el shape running to east. Ottawa House hotel built by Lieurgus McAdow; Wheeler and Houlserj Wm. McDowell; Rogers, Warden, C. B. Van Cleve purchased bldg., turned it around, 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

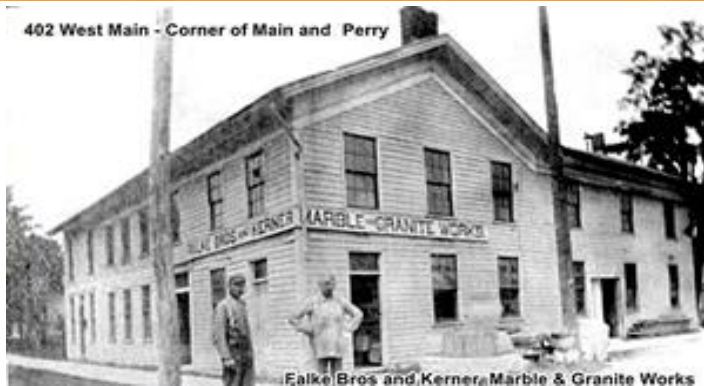


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Perry St.

Site 15 - 402 to 426 North Side West Main St.

**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.**



Click Photos to view larger

No original photo available

**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**

No original photo available

Sugar St.

Site 16 - North Side West Main St. (East to West)

Corner of West Main St. & Sugar St.

Area where Beutler's Ball Field was located.



[Click Photo to view larger](#)

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



[Click Photo to view larger](#)

Rivers edge and Beutler's Bottom - North Side

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

Site 17 - 834 North Side West Main St.

**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**



Click Photo to view larger

END North Side - West Main St.

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