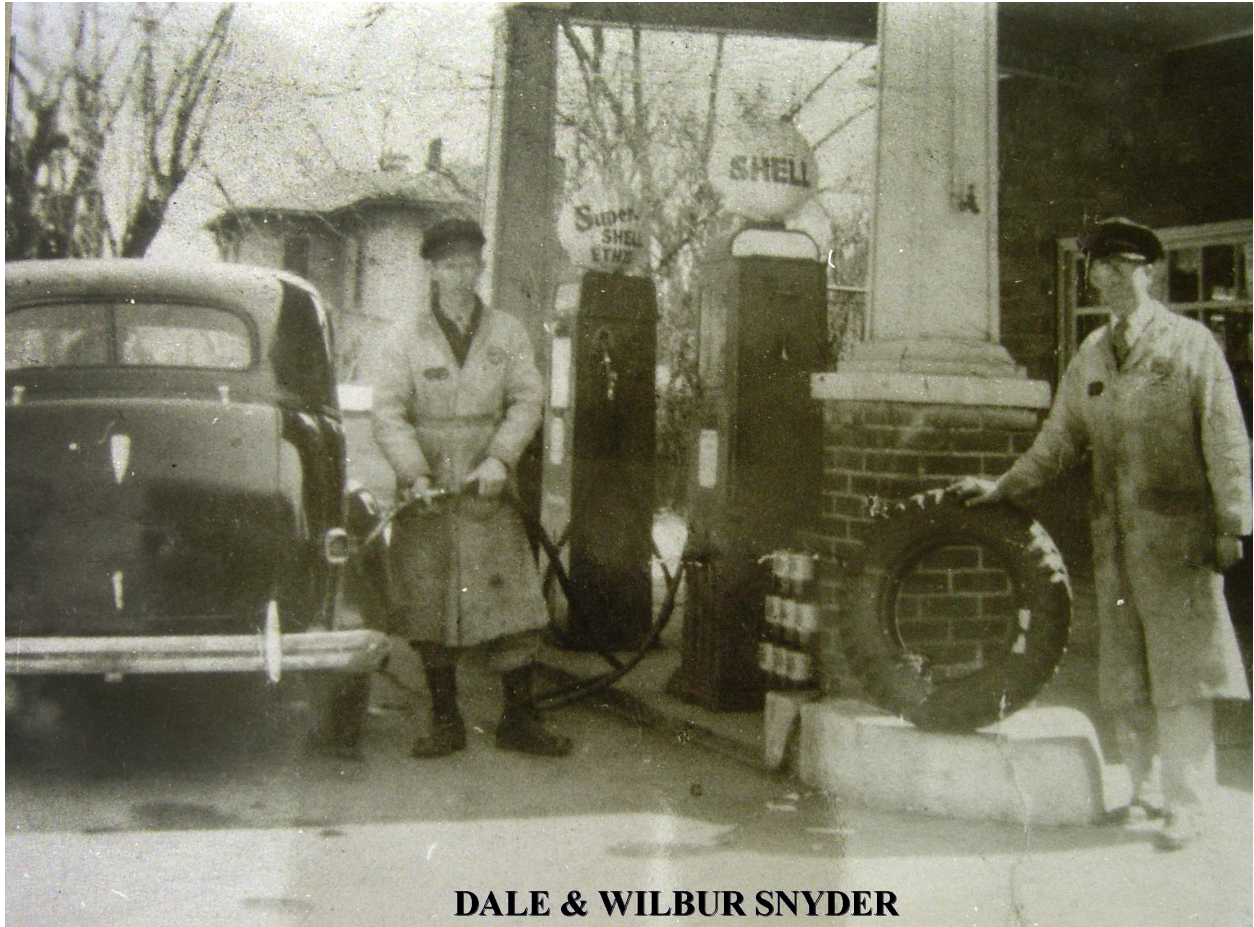


Visitor Center • 100 East Boundary Street



DALE & WILBUR SNYDER

Wilbur and son Dale ran this station for many years as a Shell Station.

This building was the Snyder Service Station built in 1928 by Wilbur Snyder. They also had a radio repair shop in the back. Service stations have changed over the years. Early gasoline pumps had a calibrated glass cylinder on top. The desired quantity of gas was pumped by hand up into the cylinder. Then the pumping was stopped and the gasoline was let into the customer's tank by gravity. There was no such thing as self-serve in those days. Also, years ago, most businesses closed on Thursday afternoons, including banks and stores, but service stations took turns so one would be open Thursday afternoon. (Service stations at that time included Faller Mobil, Snyder Shell, Bryan Blue Sunoco, Anthony Sohio, Wortz Gulf, and Stone Cities Service. Today we have only two gas stations.) Lowell Zimmerman LP Gas also used this location. Snyder Service Station 12 The property was purchased by the Fort Recovery Historical Society in 1997.



Project Recovery restored it back into the look of the 1928 Shell Station, providing a Visitor Center and restrooms for tourists. Memorabilia and information about Fort Recovery are on display.

An interesting artifact is the bell from the ship, WWWabash. The ship was named after the Wabash River, whose source is just a few miles south of town (Mercer-Darke County Line Road) and winds around eventually making its way through Fort Recovery. It was on the Banks of the Wabash that in 1791 the first battle was fought, aptly named the Battle of the Wabash (or St. Clair's Defeat). Fort Recovery was built in 1793 by Major General Anthony Wayne's army right beside the Wabash River. With the protection of the fort, Wayne's army was able to secure the land for the young country and its first president George Washington. Between the Visitor Center and the Sutter Building, in 1844, Dr. John Fair had a one story frame house. Dr. Fair was the first doctor in town. Martin Sudhoff brought in a small building which he used as a barber shop in 1929. Ben Schuh set up a barbershop in the back of the gas station in the 1960s.

