

# Old Fort Coins •

## 131 North Wayne Street

David Beardslee opened a General Store here in 1832. The building was also his home, a 2-story dwelling. Martha Rohr writes, "Aunt Betty (David's wife) kept the store, bartering with the Indians and early settlers. Part of the stockade still stood and offered some protection. After the death of David Beardslee, his widow continued in the store and tavern business, and as was the custom, also dispensed liquors. There were still many Indians coming and going in these parts, and Aunt Betty feared having them become intoxicated, as she had not too much faith in their good intentions, even when sober. She would, therefore, water the whiskey which she served them. On one such occasion, the big buck drank and set down his mug with a scowl, rumbling, "Too much Wabash."

In 1879 Charley Schneider had a saloon at this location. Next George Gebele owned and operated the saloon. George and his wife Mayme Gebele lived above the saloon for a while.



*Gebele Saloon*

Information obtained from: *Fort Recovery Businesses Then & Now: 225 years of Adventure!* By Helen LeFevre (2016)

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Frank Sonderman began Frank J. Sonderman & Co. Sonderman's was here from 1893-1903, then moved to the location where the library is today.



In 1908 People's Bank opened and operated from this location. In 1972 they merged with Citizen's Commercial Bank and changed their name to the People's Branch of Citizen's Commercial Bank. The bank was here for 81 years. By 1989 Citizen's Commercial Bank moved to a new building on the corner of Wayne and Broadway, giving it a much larger location and room for drive through lanes.



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Coming from across the street the Video Shack opened here in 1990, operated by Brenda Kaup and later Cindy Leverette. The Video Village followed with Jerry and Deb Link owning it. Later Bob and Cheryl McClain ran it and moved it to West Butler Street. McClain worked on auto repairs in the basement at that location.



Old Fort Coins with owner Roy Emery moved to this location and is still in operation today. He sells coins and collectibles.

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