

Wayne IGA • 206 North Wayne Street



East side of North Wayne Street - 1891

Harmon Meyer was in the grocery business in the 1870-80s in what people referred to as the Meyer Building. Around 1910 Charles Faller operated a grocery store.



This picture shows Cecil Bickel Garage. In this location, Manuel Breymaier had a well drilling shop and plumbing business in the 1940s. Paul Franks and Harold Rammel took over the plumbing

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

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business in 1947, and called it Fort Recovery Plumbing Shop. It moved across the street a year later. In 1950 Tom Timmerman bought two lots including the plumbing shop north and demolished the buildings.

Agricultural implements were kept in a lot by the alley. The Roesner Hotel was here in the late 1800s to early 1900s. A dining room was located within the hotel. Also found here were a saloon, perhaps the John Krebs Saloon, and a variety store.



Zehring Building

In 1900 John H. Zehring purchased the hotel and after demolishing it in 1912, he built a new hotel, the Old Fort Hotel. The Zehring Building was built as a more modern and larger hotel and bar.

This building remains today with only the top of the building showing “Zehring” and the year “1912”. The Old Fort Hotel building had two store fronts with various businesses occupying the space and the door for the hotel in the middle. As most hotels, a saloon/restaurant was part of it.

Over the years, the hotel name changed to Hilliard Hotel, St. Clair Hotel, and Douglas Hotel and Restaurant and then back to Old Fort Hotel. Ivo Thobe purchased the Old Fort Hotel in 1938, and he assured folks that there would be orchestra music every Saturday night, just like before.

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Kroger's located in the Zehringer Building

In 1947 Kroger's moved to the Zehringer building after extensive renovation.

Fort Recovery's Most Modern Store Building ...



They used both sides of the stores and created residences on the second floor. The lot to the north of the building became a parking lot. Pinky Gebele was the manager for many years. It then became an IGA store. Jerry and Catherine Adams purchased the Zehringer Building, built an addition to the north and in 1969 began Wayne IGA. The front of the store was now facing St. Clair Street with only a side entrance from Wayne Street. The old IGA sign still hangs on the Zehringer Building on Wayne St. Later John Sutter changed the name to Ole Fort IGA. In 2012 owners Chad and Anne Guggenbiller renamed it Wayne IGA, as it remains today.

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Kroger's 1950's



Zehringer Building, now part of Wayne, IGA

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Wayne IGA, entrance on St. Clair Street

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