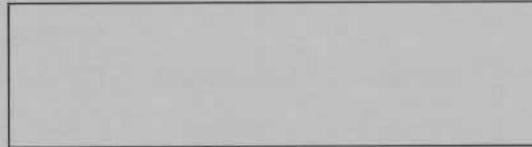


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Brighton's Main Four Corners (Part 4)

Seth Jacobs, owner/editor of the Brighton Argus, writes of the southwest corner of the Main Four in the 1907 Homecoming issue: "In 1838, Robert Thompson, a typical Scotsman, erected the building which stands on the corner of Grand River and Fitch known as the Weichers Building." This was a two-story hip-roofed structure with six large six-over-six windows on the second floor.

May 21, 1874, the Brighton Citizen included an ad "J.E.Weichers, dealer in crockery, glass, lamps, tableware, wall paper ... at reasonable prices." An 1883 ad announced "Received new stock. Carrying spring millinery goods." By April 1886, it is noted "A variety of Easter cards at John E. Weichers."

The Model, a two-story building in 1893, has a 1 ½ story gable roof addition to the south and is advertising hats, caps and clothing. In a photo, cement sidewalks are evident, as are the hitching rails and a dirt Grand River Road. Very tall, mature elm trees line the road from the top of the hill at Spencer Road down beyond Fitch Street. Later, a Silent Sentinel at the intersection of these two major roads indicates right-of-way.

The Model, in 1918, has the hip-roof extended over an entire two-story building, with ample windows and entrances to businesses. Before long, the Model also offers cleaning and pressing.

June 20, 1920, the Argus announces the sale of Dr. H.P. Mellus' Drug Store to Mr. George Wood. The ice cream fountain business was included and soft drinks would still be available. Evidence indicates it is the same building as The Model. Mellus came to Brighton in 1914 and built a hospital in 1931.

A new sign, about 1927, announces the C.F. Weiss Barbecue also has drugs and sodas available. January, 1928, "...the Weiss Barbecue opened its new addition to the public the latter part

of the week. With artistically finished interior, shaded lights and potted ferns, it presents a very pleasing appearance."

It was also treated to a fresh coat of paint. A dance floor was installed above the restaurant. The barbecue becomes so popular, carry-outs are available. In April, Weiss was "... building an addition in the form of a modern bakery, which will supply all baked goods used in the house." Approximately \$5,000 was being expended for the addition and equipment. (To be continued.)

Compiled by Marieanna Bair from clippings in the Historical Society's Historic Resource Survey file; Brighton Argus 1907 Homecoming issue. Additions and corrections are requested. (810) 229-6402.

New on Our Web Site

We have been updating our web site with new articles and information. You can find the archive of many of our past Historical Perspective articles, such as "Brighton's Main Four Corner's" above. We currently have around one hundred articles online and will be adding more in the near future.

Another feature you might enjoy are the historical plat maps. We have the original plats all of Livingston County for 1875 and 1895. We will be adding the 1915 plats soon.

If you enjoy old cemeteries, then you will find our cemetery list very interesting. We have published a list of all known cemeteries for Livingston County on our site. We have added some notes and location information as is available. We hope to add Google Map links, photos and history in the future.

Finally, in the next month or so, we hope to have PayPal enabled for our online store purchases and dues payments. A lot is planned so visit our web site today.