

Downtown Lewisburg

Before the mall and the internet where did people shop? Downtown! The 1948 Directory shows just how busy downtown Lewisburg was.

Menswear and hats were sold at Prowant's, Ralph Brough's and Louis Harris' shops. Women's clothing could be found at Arthur Koons', Esther Neidermyer's and Schlow's Quality Shop. The perfect chapeau came from Margaret Gundy's Hat Shoppe.

Should your new outfit need alterations, Johnathan Pittenturf, and the Lewisburg Sewing Center provided tailoring services. Clothes could be cleaned and pressed at one of five professional cleaners. Fabric and notions to make your own clothes, your curtains or decorating accessories, could be bought at Jonathan Brouse's, and Herman & Leiser Dry Goods.

New shoes were available at Haines Shoe Co., Mrs. Maudlee Suloff's and Thomas Shoes. Between 222 and 226 Market Street, you could get old shoes repaired by Henry Bensinger or Samuel Guinta, and shined by George Johnson; Joseph Kifolo's shoe repair shop was up the street at 512 Market.

To complete your outfit, or for gifts, there were five jewelers along Market Street: Wm. Chappell at 610, Grenoble Bro's at 209-213, Ernest Snyder at 417, Glenn Wolf at 336, and Fred Zeller at 318.

Ladies could look their best for the holidays as there were nine beauty shops. Cosmetics could be purchased at three druggists: Bennett-Moyer, Lentz, and Rea & Derrick. Men could get a shave and haircut at one of six barbershops.

If you needed cards or writing paper, there was Focht Printing and Royal Stationary. For bibliophiles, there was Keeler's Books at 225-227 Market Street. For music lovers, perhaps a radio from Paul Gearhart's or Dodd's, or an instrument from Grenoble Bro's or the Music Mart.

JJ Newberry department store at the corner of 3rd and Market sold everything else you might want.

During a busy day of shopping, refreshment might be needed, and there were many choices of restaurants along Market Street: Bechtel's, The Coffee House, Colonial Lunch, The Donut Shop, Lydia Hackenberg's, Hotel Lewisburger, Lewisburg Inn, New Marvel Lunch, Nিকেlette Lunch, Sam's, Steininger's, Wagner's, and Wainright's. Elsewhere in town were the College Inn on University Avenue, Harvey Huber's on St. Catherine, Chester Kendter's on S. 7th, Frank Lauver's on St. George, Locust Inn Barbeque on N. 9th, and Walter Montgomery's on N. 2nd.

If you were redecorating your home, wallpaper was found at Donehower's, and paints and other supplies were at Daubert's, Dreisbach's, Heimbach's, Lewisburg Builders, and Lewisburg Hardware. Furniture was sold at Donahue's, Reedy's and Reliable Furniture Store, and George Erb did upholstering.

Entertainment was provided at the Campus Theatre on Market and the Roxy Theatre on N. 3rd. In December 1948, you might have seen "The Adventures of Don

Juan," a swashbuckling romance with Errol Flynn; "Command Decision," a drama that explored the emotional consequences of war, with Clark Gable; and "Mexican Hayride" a comedy with Bud Abbott and Lou Costello.

The holiday dinner fixings were purchased from any of eleven grocers: Thomas Baney on N. Water Street, Cameron Bieber on N. 9th, Earl Feese on N. Front, Chester Fertich on N. 4th; Good & Maurer, Charles Keiser, Charles Kunkle, Clarence Stahl, Wagner Food Market, American Stores Co. or Weis Pure Food Store on Market Street. In addition, Michael Flavio supplied produce, Robert Meckly provided meats, Bechtels and Sheffield Farms sold dairy products, and Bennett-Moyer sold ice cream. Purity Candy, as well as Bechtel's, Beck's, and George McPherson made confections.

Really, there was nothing you could not get downtown. Some of these businesses continued for many years. Which do you remember?



Market Street, Lewisburg, looking west from the corner of Third Street.
Rea & Derick Drug Store is on the near right.
The stop light stands in the intersection.



At the corner of Market and Third, this brick building constructed in 1835 housed a succession of businesses including a jewelers, drug store, the Banner dry goods shop, and later Prowant's men's clothing.



Herman and Leiser Dry Goods Store at 332 Market. Among the goods for sale were fabric, ribbons and notions, table linens, ladies purses and umbrellas and much more.