

Stores and Businesses



The first general store in Wayne opened in 1847, followed by J.D. Bunting's store in the 1860s. Bunting's store, pictured above, supplied one with anything you needed from coffee to cloth.



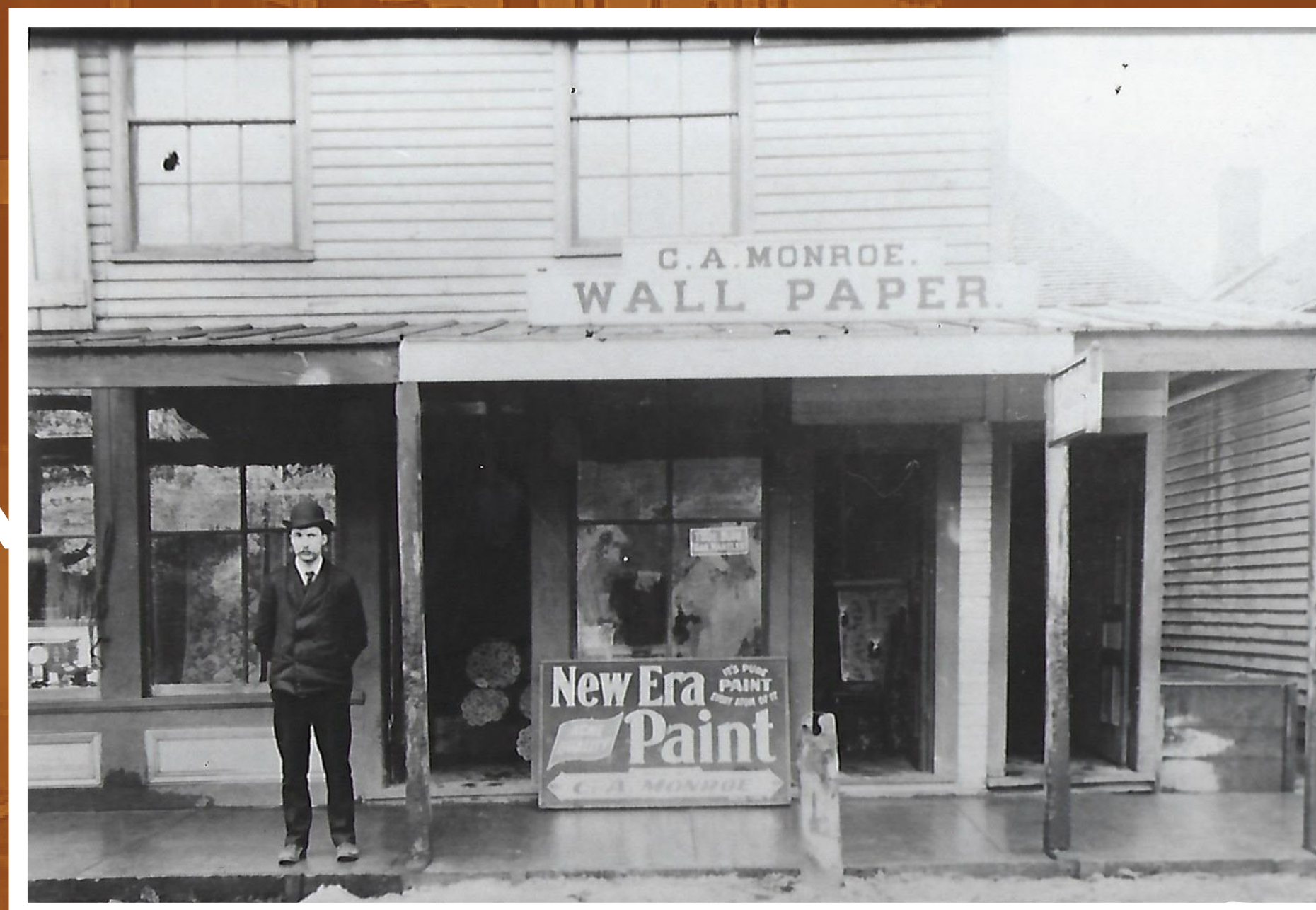
William Steers built a large building in the 1870s to house his general store, a ballroom and a hall for the Masons. It was located on Monroe Street (Wayne Road) and the railroad tracks, until it was torn down in 1914.



As Wayne grew, more specialized stores began to develop. Thomas P. Gorham opened a grocery store in the 1880s, becoming well-known for his selection of fresh meats.



John C. Stellwagen took over an old general store in 1881, building the business up and becoming very wealthy in the process. He retired in 1906, selling the store to his partner Anthony Snyder. Stellwagen & Snyder Farmers Store continued into the 1920s.



In 1905, Charlie Monroe opened a store for decorating supplies. The store carried wallpaper, paints, varnishes, window shades and art goods. Oddly enough, he was also the town optometrist.



Brothers Joe and Peter Snyder opened a dry goods store on Monroe Street in 1906. Peter eventually bought out his brother, and P.J. Snyder's continued into the 1920s, eventually becoming part of Lazar's.