Remembering

Chuck's Place

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by

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Prophetstown Area Historical Society
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Introduction

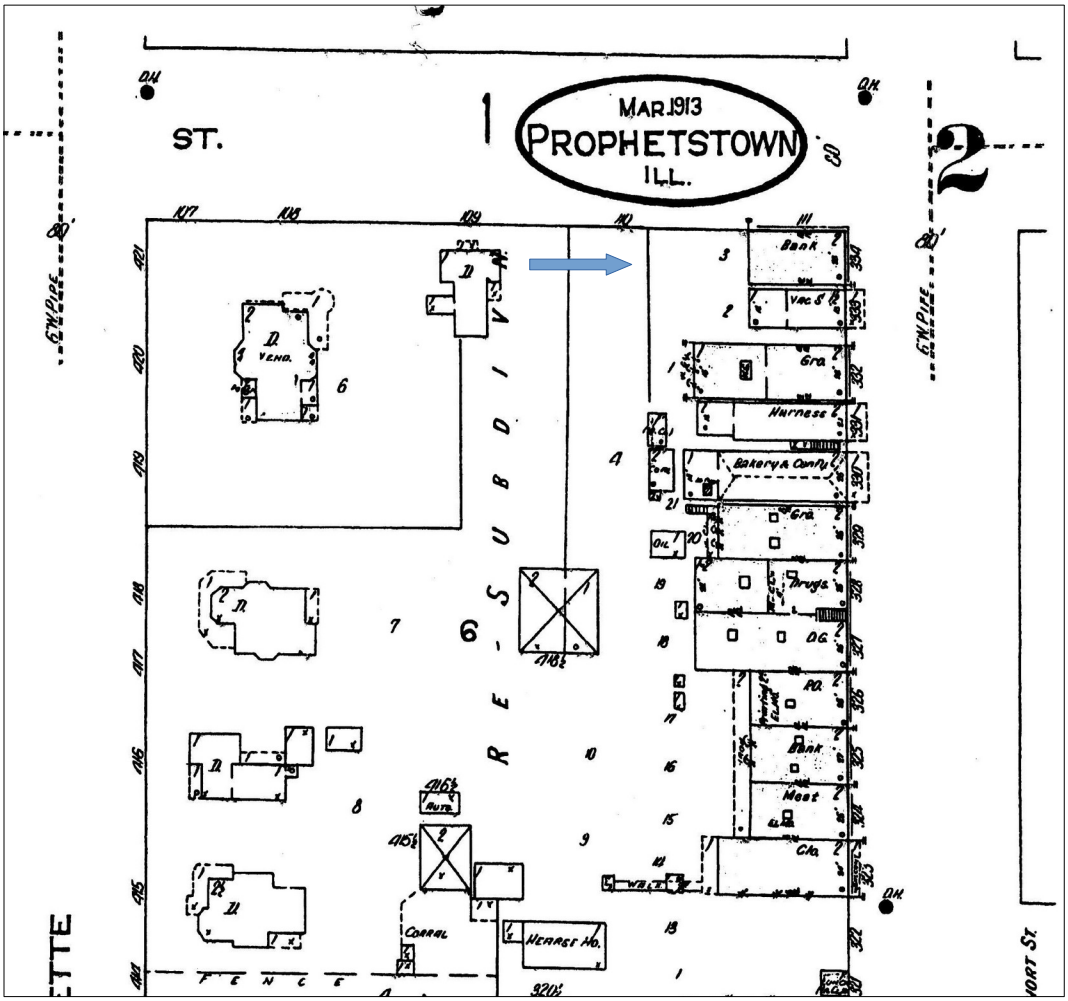
One of the most popular gathering places in Prophetstown was what we knew as Chuck's Place located at 105-107 W. 3rd Street. Not only was it a frequent hangout for young people even the older generation spent time there.

Here we will take a look at what we know about that once famous spot.



In 1908 the Annis House which had been a hotel for over 60 years was demolished. It sat behind what was then the Bank of Prophetstown in this 1890s picture. For 40 years that space remained vacant.

The old Bank of Prophetstown building is now home to the Prophetstown Area Historical Society.

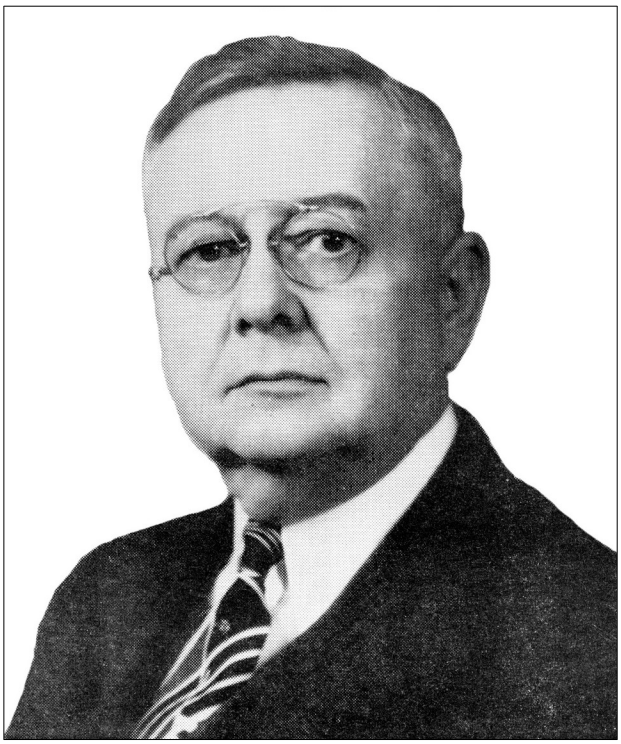


New Lunch Room Will Open Thursday in Brydia Building

July 28, '48

Page 4 of this Echo contains the announcement of the opening Thursday evening, July 29, of the Coke Cottage to be operated by Wesley Middleton of Morrison in the new building erected by George S. Brydia on Third Street at the rear of the Farmers National Bank building. Fixtures and decorations are complete and Mr. Middleton expects to have everything in readiness by tomorrow evening, when 1,500 ice cream cups will be given away free to visitors to the new enterprise.

The Coke Cottage occupies a space 21x23 in the west end of the new Brydia building. Attractively done with knotty pine walls, paneled ceiling and a red concrete floor, it has a 17 foot foutain and lunch bar across the south wall opposite the entrance, and has booths along the east and west walls. Mr. Middleton, who has had 12 years of experience in the lunchroom business, will carry a line of Goodenough ice cream, both bulk and package, and offer a complete soda fountain service, and serve sandwiches, salads, etc. He will devote his entire time to the business and will be open every day and every evening in the week.



We Invite You to Attend the

OPENING

of Prophetstown's New

COKE COTTAGE

Just West of the Farmers National Bank Bldg.

Thurs., Evening, July 29

A cup of delicious Goodenough Ice Cream will be given free to every visitor from 7 o'clock until 1500 cups have been given out.

We will have at all times a complete line of Goodenough's Ice Cream in bulk and packages. Complete fountain service and lunches. Open every day and every night in the week.

The Coke Cottage

WESLEY MIDDLETON, Proprietor

George Brydia had been mayor of Prophetstown, then served many years in the Illinois General Assembly

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7:00 A.M. OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 12:00 P.M.

CHUCK'S PLACE

FOUNTAIN SERVICE SANDWICHES

HOME MADE PIES

Illinois Valley

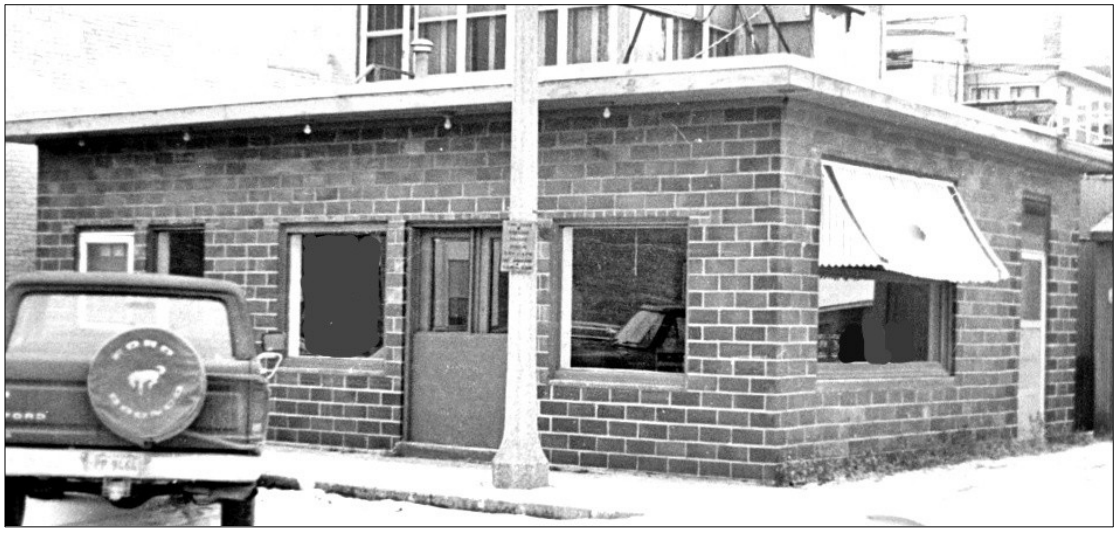
DAIRY PRODUCTS

ICE CREAM

PINTS - QUARTS - HALF GALLONS - BULK



"CHUCK" MULCAY, Owner





Written on the back of this photo is: "Taken in Chuck's Place September 18, 1958, Gary Sutphin, Eddie Selander, Cecil Gardner, Arlyn Brackemeyer, Jerry Reynolds, Bill Brinkman, Dale James."

The building that once housed the Coke Cottage and Chuck's Place hosted a number of other businesses. But there is no doubt that Chuck's Place was its most famed occupant. BTW notice what a half-gallon of ice cream sold for. That would be about $7.18 in 2023 dollars.

Address: 105-107 W. 3rd St.

Annis House Hotel

In the first issue of the Spike, September, 1871, there were two hotels listed in Prophetstown. One was the Rock River House, the other was the Annis House. H. E. Sturtevant was the landlord.

A vacant lot on the 1913 map.

A building was built on that empty lot by George Brydia in 1948. He was to use the 105 W. 3rd entrance and the Coke Cottage used the 107 W. 3rd entrance. 105 was on the left and 107 on the right.

Coke Cottage (opens in July 1948)

Also sold Goodenough Dairy products.

Sterling Gazette (there in 1955, 63) Emily Adolf Correspondent)

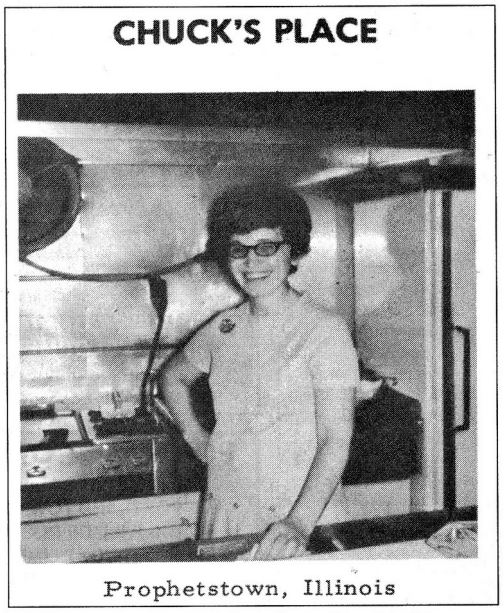
105 W. 3rd St.

Adolf Bookkeeping and Steno Work (there in 1960)

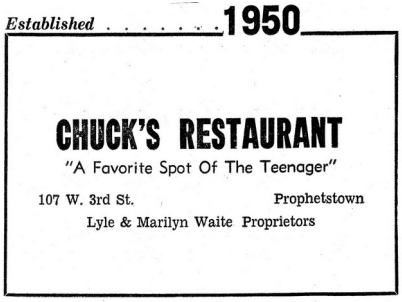
Emily Adolf owner. Located at 105 W. 3rd St.

Chuck's Place

Chuck Mulcay owner from 1950-1966. Jack & JoAnne Melton purchased in September 1966. Owned by Lyle and Marilyn Waite 1967-1971. Owned by Bill & Margaret DeVries in 1971. Dick Hummel took over 1975.



Pictured is Mrs. Melton from Chuck's Place.
Picture is courtesy of Jim Boonstra



The Jean Shack

Opens in September 1979 with the Thelma Foster owner. Closes in April 1981.

H & R Block

Opens in January 1981.

Kennedy & Mott Bookkeeping

There in 1981.

Vet Clinic

They moved the clinic here in 1982 or 83, while the old building on Grove St. was torn down and a new building erected.

Ernie's Earnest Appliance Service

Opens in September 1987. Run by Ernie "Rufus" Brown and wife Lucie. Buys and sells used appliances and offers 24 hour service.

Bee Hive

Was here in 1995. Advertised "Tisket n' Taskets - Ribbons n' Baskets - Fabrics n' Thread - Used Books . . . ." Also accepted craft assignments.

Tree Lane Touch (Vicki DeNeve owner)

Moved here from 348 Washington St.

Judge Viki Wright Headquarters

TransforMotion Studios (2006-2007)
Penny Plautz, owner

Tree Lane Touch (Vicki DeNeve owner)
Moved back here in the spring of 2007 from 304 Washington St. Then moved to her home.

Demolished in 2014.



