



# Railroad House, Endicott

Compiled by Tom DeForest, [tomdef@stny.rr.com](mailto:tomdef@stny.rr.com)

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## Chronology

1854, Built by William Cafferty, known as the Railroad House.

1877 (most likely some time before 1877), proprietor was S. Baird, known as "Ahwaneta".

1884, proprietor was Charles Van Horn, known as the Van Horn House.

1920, bought by S. Howard Ammerman, known as the Railroad House. A cut glass factory was installed in the large barn east of the Railroad House.

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### 1857-08-06 UN 03

Union News

#### Wm. Cafferty

Proprietor of the new and spacious Railroad House, Union, N.Y., situated near the Depot. This Hotel is very convenient for the traveler and the public generally.

### 1877-03-02 UN 01

Union News

#### Ahwaneta House

#### Opposite R. R. Depot.

Good accommodations and reasonable rates.

Union, N. Y.

S. Baird — Proprietor

### 1920-07-02 EB 01

Endicott Bulletin

#### AMMERMAN BUYS RAILROAD HOUSE FOR BIG GARAGE

Several large real estate transfers have been made in the Village of Union within the last few weeks. Property values in the village are soaring, but this has seemed only to stimulate buying. The prosperity of the community is reflected by these activities.

The latest deal of any consequence is the purchase of the old Railroad Hotel building in Railroad street by S. H. Ammerman. This building, three-stories in height, is to be completely renovated and remodeled by the new owner. The big building just east of the structure is to be converted into a

large garage. Garage room in Union is at a premium now and the addition of a new one will help relieve conditions considerably.

Announcement has also been made of the purchase of two large lots adjacent to the Union Candy Kitchen by Thomas Tshonis and Louis Alexander, proprietors. The owners declare they plan the erection of a large modern building on the site.

### 1920-07-08 UND 01

Union News-Dispatch

#### Railroad Hotel To Be Remodeled Soon

#### S. H. Ammerman Buys Old Union Landmark

Announcement was made last week of the sale of the old Railroad Hotel building on Railroad street to S. Howard Ammerman. Mr. Ammerman expects to remodel the building for residential purposes.

The building is located at Railroad and Liberty streets and should make a desirable renting proposition. It is three stories high and, while old, is known to be well built.

Just east of the hotel building is a large barn which will be made into a garage by Mr. Ammerman.

### 1920-12-23 UND 01

Union News-Dispatch

#### UNION WILL HAVE A NEW CUT GLASS FACTORY BY FEBRUARY 1; BUILDING NOW BEING EQUIPPED FOR PLANT

#### Will Be Located in Old Railroad Hotel Property Owned By S.H. Ammerman-Repairs Are Now Being Made to the Building Which Will Be Occupied Soon

#### COMPANY WILL NOT SELL STOCK NOR ASK MONEY

#### Flynn Brothers of Jeannette, Pa., at Head of Company Which Is Anxious to Locate in Valley of Opportunity-Is Clean Industry

Union is to have a new industry. This has recently been made certain by the definite announcement that the large barn on the Railroad Hotel property opposite the Erie station is to be fitted up for the manufacture of

cut glass.

A concern headed by the Flynn brothers of Jeannette, Pa. has made complete arrangements for the remodeling of the building and the installation of the necessary machinery.

The factory will be located here according to one of the members of the firm, because this place surely looks good to him. In commenting on the new industry of which he is at the head, this man said "We have no stock for sale, nor do we ask for any money. All we desire is just a chance to settle down in the Valley of Opportunity and make good.

The location will save hauling and extra handling of goods. The building is 40 by 60 feet in size and there is sufficient room on the lot to allow enlargement of the plant. Shafting and machinery have been ordered and some of the equipment has already arrived in Binghamton.

The owner of the building, S. H. Ammerman, will start the necessary repairs at once so that the glass cutting may begin by February 1 of next year. Mr. Ammerman states that he is familiar with the glass business having spent 26 years in a glass factory while two of his brothers were cutters. He states that this is a nice clean industry and that there is no smoke or noise from the factory. Nearly all of the employees in the new plant will be skilled laborers at this work.

Officials and business men of the village realize the benefit which the village will derive from the new industry and Union is indeed fortunate to be signaled out for this large new factory.

Much credit is due H. D. Harris, local insurance and real estate agent, through whose personal efforts the Flynn Brothers were induced favorably to consider Union and its advantages.

## 1920-12-24 EB 01

Endicott Bulletin

### FACTORY TO CUT GLASS SOON TO BE LOCATED IN UNION

**Ammermann Leases Large Barn  
on Property Located in Railroad  
Street to Cut Glass Concern From  
Jeanette, Pa., Move Here Soon.**

#### INDUSTRY IS CLEAN ONE

#### Promoters of New Enterprise State Proposition Is Entirely Financed; Are Enthusiastic Over Prospect of Locating in This Community

Assurance that Union will soon have another new industry added to its rapidly increasing list of paying enterprises, was given yesterday with the announcement by Village resident S. H. Ammermann that he had leased a large barn owned by him to a concern which proposes the establishment of a cut glass factory in the building within the near future. The concern is headed by the Flynn Brothers of Jeannette, Pa., whom are said to be experienced glass operators.

The barn in which the proposed new factory will be located is situated on the old Railroad Hotel property, directly opposite the Erie station in Railroad avenue.

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## 1921-01-01 TR 19

The Record

### Shoetown Laborers Have Reason To Be Optimistic of 1921

#### Industrial Expansions and New Building to Mean Plenty of Work

#### HIGHWAY WORK, ALSO

#### Hundreds Will Find Outdoor Labor and Scores Will Be Needed at Benches

Looking ahead the western Broome County laborer has great reason for optimism since future engineering and public contracts give promise of plenty of salaried activities for the workers.

As related elsewhere the Vestal-Binghamton state highway is assured for 1921, and that means a contract affording employment to men at good wages. Scores of men will find a place on this construction. If further development follows simultaneously at the MacArthur tract, south end of the new bridge, and the bridge be built next year, surely there will be plenty of labor not for scores, but for hundreds.

The Ideal Candy Company, Johnson City, plans to take on several more employees, branching out into manufacturing additional lines of sweets and confections.

After the New Year shut-down for necessary repairs at the factory, work upon the elevator, etc., the Achilles Rubber & Tire Company announced in last week's Record their intention to take on 250 additional men, within a few weeks at the longest.

The Endicott plant of the I. T. R. have announced that right after New Year inventory they will reopen with all their 1,100 workers employed, and will begin placing additional workers

at the new machines going into the new building erected on the North street front of the factory.

#### New Firm In Union

Other companies of the Town of Union who have stated their desires for increasing business and number of employees at the earliest possible moment are Central Flat Iron Company, Douglas-Dickinson Company, Frank S. Converse Company, McGill & Holford, Lestershire Spool & Manufacturing Company and Endicott Lumber & Box Company.

President S. H. Ammerman of the village of Union has just closed a deal by which Flynn Brothers, of Jeannette, Pa., will install a cut glass factory in Mr. Ammerman's large barn in the old Railroad Hotel property, opposite the Erie depot in Union. Shafting and machinery are already arriving and will be installed, and it is hoped the factory will be in operation by January 15. They will begin with 10 workmen. and the outlook is for steady growth of the business, and the number of workmen employed. By the end of 1921 probably fully 50 men will be on the payroll.

## 1929-08-07 UND 02

Union News-Dispatch

[Editor's note: the following is part of a much longer article entitled "Old Union Corners Won Hard Fight For Trade Supremacy". The following is a section about the hotels in the village. The last paragraph is the only one relevant to the Railroad House.]

Hotels—The first hotel in the village was built by Lewis Keeler at Nanticoke, but which afterward was removed to the site of the Major House. The old building was burned May 23, 1851, but from 1828 to the date of its destruction its proprietors were Elias Skillman, Erastmus Babcock, Cyrus Cafferty, Elisha Evans, A. W. Day and C. B. Mersereau.

The Major House was built in 1852-1853 by Major Mersereau, for whom it was named, and by whom it was kept until 1857. The later landlords in succession were Peter Hopkins, James Carnochan, Mr. Randall and J. B. Day, the latter having been proprietor since 1880.

Although nearly half a century old the house still is in excellent condition,

always has been well managed and, under the present landlord is one of the best country hotels in Broome County.

The old Union House was built sometime previous to 1848, but was burned in 1851. It was rebuilt and took the name of Cafferty house in

1863 under landlord Wm. Cafferty. The house has survived many proprietorships and still is a good hostelry, though now known as the Cottage house.

The Hotel Erie, near the N. Y. & E. station, was built in 1873 by E. C. Mersereau. It now is an apartment

house.

The original Van Horn house was built by William Cafferty in 1854, and then was known as the Railroad house. At one time it was also known as the "Ah-wa-neta." In 1884, under landlord Charles Van Horn, the present name [Van Horn House] was adopted.

# What Remains



In one article herein, it is stated that the Railroad House was on the corner of Liberty Street and Railroad Street, across the street from the railroad depot in Union. Since Liberty Street now ends at North Street, across the street from the former depot, I have to assume that at some point Railroad Street was renamed to North Street. In an article about the cut glass factory, the factory was said to go into a large barn to the east of the hotel. So I'm guessing that the hotel must have been to the east of Liberty Street (or the barn would have been across the street from the hotel). Pictured above is the building found today at the east corner of Liberty Street & North Street. It appears that the large barn is gone. It's not absolutely clear that this is the same building as the old Railroad House, but it certainly LOOKS like it could have been an old hotel. I'd believe that it was the same building...