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Showing postings 1 - 16 of 16 in the thread: Tour of the Murray Block.

Posting: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: Godfrey Postlethwaite Date: 27 February 2005 8:39 AM	Posting 1
I meant to post this earlier, and almost forget. This afternoon at 4:30 the Willimantic Victorian Neighborhood Association is conducting a tour of the Murray Block (Hurley's). Built in 1894, this is a truly remarkable building and was considered the finest department store between Hartford and Providence up until the malling of America in the 1950s. Now that it is the Frog view marketplace, our town fathers will be unable to demolish it!	
Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: rd Date: 28 February 2005 9:13 AM	Posting 2
I remember it when it was the HC Murry Co aka The Boston Store and I believe Del Boucher was the store manager. It had a good men's department and probably the only elevator on Main St. I believe Dick Anthony told me, when he took the location over and converted to Hurley's, the elevator, an Otis, was the original and that a Otis rep was amazed that it was still operating. I assume the elevator is still there and operating.	
Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: John Boudreau Date: 28 February 2005 6:58 PM	Posting 3
I fondly remember the Murray's store and the elevator. In fact , I have wonderful memories of many of the Main Street stores , especially Christmas-time memories and Thursday nights . My Mom worked at Murrays for a time , I think before she got married . Let's see - the BIG stores back in the 50's were Murray's , Tubridy's , Woolworths , Grants ...am I forgetting any ?	
Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: oldie Date: 1 March 2005 6:44 AM	Posting 4
Reply to rd's post. I think you missed a step in between the site being the H.C. Murrays and Hurley's. Earl McSweeney and ----- Fraser were the originators of Hurleys. Dick anthony went to work for them and later bought them out when they decided to retire.	
Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: LDRAGON Date: 1 March 2005 9:35 AM	Posting 5
BESIDES BEING A SALESMAN, DID BOB BURNORE PLAY ANY OTHER PART?	
Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: rd Date: 1 March 2005 9:49 AM	Posting 6
In response to "oldie", you are correct--I was shortcutting. In fact, Hurley's had two stores side-by-side. One for the men and the other was Hurley's Boy Store where they carried all the scouting uniforms, etc. When I was at Natchaug my mother use buy my annual winter cordouroy pants at the Boy's dept.	
Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: Ada Date: 1 March 2005 2:35 PM	Posting 7
Not big department stores, but Hurley's, or course, Buttleman's (women's clothing), Ben's Eagle Shoe Store, Fulton-Fournier (women's clothing again), and for furniture, Goettlieb-Bacon and Star Furniture. Then there was the Surplus Center, Benny's, etc. etc. And don't forget when Enterprise opened!	
Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Poster: John Boudreau Date: 1 March 2005 5:23 PM	Posting 8
RD , That was Hurley's " Prep " Shop and not Boys Shop . ADA ,	

I remember well all the stores you mentioned . I was trying to recall if there were any other large stores such as the ones I listed . Main Street sure was thriving back in those days . People blame the malls for the downfall of the Main Street across America , but there are places where Main Streets are thriving as much as they ever were . Keene , NH comes to mind . I've been gone a long time ...would somebody who has lived in Willi for the past 30 years explain to me what the hell happened besides the advent of malls and the drug problem . Curious minds want to know .

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 9
 Poster: oldie
 Date: 1 March 2005 7:48 PM

I also recall Hurley's prep shop being across the street next to Lizee Jewelers. Does anyone else remember that.

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 10
 Poster: oldie
 Date: 1 March 2005 7:51 PM

Look at Photo Gallery #10. Hurley's Prep Shop was across the street next to Lizee's.

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 11
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 1 March 2005 7:52 PM

Yes . That is where it was in the 50's/60's .

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 12
 Poster: JayJay
 Date: 2 March 2005 7:25 PM

And in the 40's & 30's, when Edmund Hurley (the founder) was still in evidence. I can still picture him fitting me and my brother, Don, with knickers and jackets!

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 13
 Poster: redwolf59
 Date: 3 March 2005 12:38 AM

It's Great going down memory lane but who can forget Christmas Eve with the lighting of the Christmas tree and Santa coming to town on our fire engine??Also What about Todd's Dept Store it was a very good bargain store for the times...

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 14
 Poster: Francis "Whitey" Sellars
 Date: 3 March 2005 2:13 PM

I remember paying my light & tel. bills in the H C murray store. I always entered the store off of church st. Do you remember when you made a purchase there, the clerk would bag it for you and then send your money in a little metal tube on a wire up to the office. Wow that was many years ago. I also remember Mr. Harris running the elevator in the store.

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 15
 Poster: John Boudreau
 Date: 3 March 2005 6:07 PM

" What about Todd's Dept Store "

Todd's , of course . I wrote Tubridy's in an earlier post - confused ! That was right on the corner of Main and ...it's been too long . Spring ?

Posting: Re: Tour of the Murray Block Posting 16
 Poster: rd
 Date: 4 March 2005 9:45 AM

Todd's was on the corner of Main and North across from FW Woolworths.