



Photo by Charles A. Blackstone

IN 1912 A NEW POST OFFICE was built at the corner of Main Street and Hillside Avenue. Wellworth 5 & 10 Store, formerly the Hillside Avenue Cafe burned in 1924 and was rebuilt by the Suval family. Photo courtesy of Pearl Blackstone Milne.

Pictures of the Past

Original post office now a restaurant

Branford's first permanent post office was built in 1912 at the corner of Main Street and Hillside Avenue under the guidance of Branford postmaster H. Guy Linsley. The first known post office in the early 1800s was at the Lock Shop at the eastern end of Main Street. Successive offices were generally in the homes of the respective postmasters. The new brick building became known as the Post Office Block and upstairs was home to a men's club, The Wallcabuckers.

After a new post office was built at Main Street and Montowese Street in 1927 the old post office housed the newly-formed People's Bank. Other occupants of the building have been the

Colonial Bakery, First National Store, S.R. Hurwitz Dry Goods and for many years a barber shop was upstairs.

In 1944 Ude & Murray Tire Shop was opened at the Hillside Avenue site by owners William Ude and John J. Murray. They remained at this location until 1967 when they moved to the Rosenthal Block. Alfredo's Restaurant was the tenant when the building burned in 1975. The building was saved and remodeled and the nationally-known Vietnamese restaurant Chez Bach was opened by Bach Ngo.

- Jane Peterson Bouley