

## Cigar Factories – Oak Harbor, Ohio

Ward Cigar Company – Run by W. W. Ward – Started(?) – In business in 1893 – Location(?) – Known brands were “Cuban Bell” “Katy Did” “Motor” – May 18, 1894 newspaper article said company was sold to Geo. Fry & Al Wheeler.

The Fry Cigar Company – Though to be run by Geo. Fry and Al Wheeler – Started in 1894 when bought the Ward Cigar Company. – Location(?) Burned in August, 1895 and moved to the Wuest Building on Main Street – Known brands (?) are thought to include those of the Ward Cigar Company “Cuban Bell” “Katy Did” “Motor” – Out of business by 1899.

H.F. Wheeler Cigar Company – Run by H.F. Wheeler – Started(?) – In business in 1899. – Location(?) Known brand was “Katy Did” – 1899 used Fry Cigar Company invoice with Fry name crossed out and H.F. Wheeler Cigar Company written in.

(Company name is unknown) – Run by Mr. Boos – Started(?) – Not known what date in business. -- East side of Locust Street at Jefferson Street intersection – Known brand was “Peach Cigar”

(Company name is unknown) – Run by Henry Figel – Known to be in business in July, 1894 – Shop was over R. Rice’s saloon – Known brand(?) – Out of business by August, 1894.

J. H. Hetrick Cigar Company – Factory # \_\_, 10<sup>th</sup> Ohio District -- Run by John H. Hetrick – Started in August, 1894 when bought out Henry Figel – Moved to Kessler Building on Water Street in January, 1898. Another (?) location was above 281 West Water Street (years) – Known brands in 1901 were “Horse Shoe Club” “Road Queens” and 5 other unknown brands. Also in 1901 a 10 cent Havana named “Hetrick’s Old Homestead” – An article in 1901 said company in business for 7 years.

(Company name is unknown) – Run by Art R. Rice – Started(?) – Referred to in an 1896 Directory of Oak Harbor – Location(?) – Known brand(?)

(Company name is unknown) – Run by E. Brachman – Started(?) Known to be in business in 1897 – Location(?) – Brand(?) – An 1897 advertisement for Cleveland Breakoff Cigar said to get a sample from E. Brachman, Cigar Manuft., Oak Harbor.

Samuel J. Eckenrode – Started(?) – Location(?) – ACME, S.J.E. (Spanish Beauty, La Morena). These are brands listed on an ornate March, 1897 statement letter from Gibsonburg, Ohio. – A March, 1897 statement to J.H. Kraemer said that he was a manufacturer of fine Havana and Domestic Cigars. This statement and envelope were preprinted with an Oak Harbor address.

Harry Miller Cigar Factory – Run by Harry Miller – Started(?) – Known to be in business in 1897 when Foreman was Jacob Neuderfer and also in business March, 1899 when it was upstairs on the Southwest corner of Church & Water Streets – Know brand(?)

Bowersox & Wheeler Cigar Company – Factory #242, 10<sup>th</sup> Ohio District -- Run by Frank Bowersox and Harvey “Baldy” Wheeler – Started(?) – Known to be in business in 1898 – Located at 109 West Water Street – Known brands were “Cycling Club Cigar”(1898) “Baldy’s Best”.

An advertisement from Baldy Wheeler was “Go North, Go South, Go East, Go West, There is no Cigar Like Baldy’s Best; Filled With Havana, Made With Care, Captured First Prize at St. Louis Fair” (St. Louis Fair was 1904.)

(Company name is unknown) – Run by the Wheeler Brothers – Started(?) – Location(?) – Known brand(?)

Chas H. Gordon Cigar Company – Factory # 47, 10<sup>th</sup> Ohio District – Run by Chas. (Charles) H. Gordon – Known to be in business in 1901 and as late as 1921 – Located in house addition at North West corner of Main & Church Streets – Known brands were “The Native” (Sold for 7 cents or 3 for 20 cents) “Havana Rolls”

(Company name is unknown) – Run by Wm. L. Zeis – Started(?) – Known to be in business in 1902 and 1914 – Was in a home on Church Street – Known brands were “Old Rounder”(1902) “Pure & Sweet”(1902, 1908, 1910) “Pure & Sweet Perfecto”(1908) “The Model”(1908) – Wm. Zeis moved to Port Clinton in 1914 to work for C.A. Fisher. (In 1917 in Port Clinton, Zeis had the “Ottawa” brand.)

An August, 1908 advertisement from Wm. L. Zeis was “The comfort of it. 1 in the quality. Oak Harbor men know what pleasure there is in the smoking of a cigar that suits the taste exactly. There are none better than the “Pure & Sweet” and “The Model” – For real pleasure and comfort, the new “Pure & Sweet Perfecto” is an improvement in the shape. Made by Wm. L. Zeis- Oak Harbor.”

(Company name is unknown) – Factory # 20, 10<sup>th</sup> Ohio District -- Run by S.P. “Sim” Bell” -- Started(?) – Located above 179 West Water Street (year?) and moved to Locust Street in August, 1933.