

ANDRES HOUSE

Andres House was an affordable hotel built at the corner of Franklin and Water Street (renamed Harbor Drive) in 1874 by Ernest Andres. A two-story building, the hotel included offices, a parlor and a dining room on the ground floor, and was able to accommodate up to 50 guests.

After Ernest's death in 1882, his son, Edward, took over management of the hotel. Nine years later, he leased the hotel and its contents to Joseph Rue, who remained the hotel's Proprietor until the mid-1890s.

Over the next 8 decades, the hotel changed ownership and name many times, and in 1922, the hotel's Proprietor, Herbert Hilman, remodeled the front half of the building to include a Gulf gas station he called Harbor View Super Service. This business took on the separate address of 102 South Harbor Drive, and eventually became Wessel's, which is still there, but no longer in business.

The hotel sat vacant for two years between 1928 and 1930, and then became a hotel again, owned by Robert and Gertrude Carew who lived next door at 12 Franklin. The hotel changed hands one more time before it was bought by Louie and Irene Hegedus and renamed Tip-A-Few Tavern in 1956.

And that brings us to today's current owner, Steve Vink, who purchased the Tip-A-Few Tavern in 1979 and kept its name.

(information was collected from Directory Buildings and Sites/Northwest Ottawa County by Wallace K. Ewing, Ph.D., and from the current owner of the Tip-A-Few Tavern, Mr. Steve Vink.)