

Razing this building will end an era

by Jane Mathie

HERALD

The new Sommers' Food City building is nearing completion and within the next few weeks the old structure shown above will be razed. Two neighboring houses have already been removed and when the present Sommers store is razed, it will signal the end of an era that dates back into the 1800's

In 1865 P. B. Moinet erected a brewery. He was succeeded by George Dilger in 1876. At its peak the brewery was producing 2,000 barrels annually.

The walls of the structure were 36 inches thick of solid stone and ideal for the Arctic Ice Company which followed. A nearby lagoon was filled with water, and when frozen, chopped up and taken up a ramp into the moist and damp

Martig bought it and installed ammonia refrigeration. The building was then insulated and converted for cheese storage and other perishables. It remained a cheese warehouse until Mr. J. William Lane started the locker plant in 1943.

In 1950 Mr. Herman Phillimore acquired the business and sold to Ira and Ford Sommers in April of 1957.

During the time of the Sommers' ownership, the store was doubled in size and a stockroom added. Though still handling frozen food lockers, the main area of business became the meat and grocery line. Three years ago Ford purchased Ira's share.

The final item of business for the store will take place the first