

24 West Main Street - The Clad In site

In 1841, Francis Manning had a dream. His dream became F.M. Manning's Drugstore. For the next 80 years, drugstores occupied this site.

Francis Manning worked as a druggist. On December 30, 1880 the Central Block fire would prove to be one of the worst tragedies in Mystic history, destroying buildings and leaving Central Hall in ruins of dust, smoke, and piles of ashes. Among the destroyed buildings was F.M Manning's beloved drugstore. Two years later a young employee who once worked for Manning became the new owner and reconstructed the building making it one of the best drugstores in town. This man's name was Horace Nelson Wheeler and the drugstore became Wheeler's Drug Store.

Years later Wheeler passed down the tradition of pharmacy to his son, John Wheeler. John Wheeler acquired an early Rexall drugstore franchise.

Who knew that the present building known to many as a woman's clothing store called "Clad in" could have such a big history?