

Navajo Hotel, 505 Main St., Fenton, remodeled c. 1929



The Navajo Hotel was purchased by the city in 1992, and has been renovated as a history center for the community. An even older hotel for farmers and salesmen, it had already been on this site for many years, but was remodeled in 1929 with a new stucco front and tile roof in Southwestern of Mission Revival style. Proprietor Katherine Holz gave it a new name evocative of that style. It was acquired in 1946 by Garrett Hitzert, who continued the family-style cooking that was a tradition here. Hitzert served seven terms as mayor of Fenton, from 1955 to 1969. As more of Fenton's old buildings disappeared the Navajo began to be appreciated as a reminder of the days when the old business district of Fenton was an important destination for the surrounding county.