

The Byrnes Hotel

Byrnesville, Barnesboro, Northern Cambria, Cambria County, Pennsylvania

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The Byrnes Hotel

The boy in the picture is my Uncle David, David John Byrnes. I think the picture was taken in the early 1940's. It looks like Uncle David has a puppy. In the background there are a couple of automobiles and a large building. The building is the Byrnesville Hotel, built in 1902 by my Great Grandfather Thomas J. Byrnes.

A man by the name of Peters helped Thomas J. Byrnes with construction. Earth for excavation was removed by wheelbarrow and scoop pulled by horses. Much of the information here including most of the writing below is from Edna Francina Byrnes Lantzy my '1st cousin once removed' according to the Family Tree Maker software. Click on the pictures for a larger version.

The Hotel had 4 floors. The first floor (basement) had a barroom, drinking room, wine and beer storage, and furnace room. Another drinking room was located on the second floor. Women weren't allowed in the barroom, but were permitted in the back drinking room. Family quarters were on the third floor. Ed and Bill had a room together and Margaret and Emma shared a room. Ella Mae, the baby, occupied a small room adjacent to Margaret and Emma. (Ed, Bill, Ella Mae, Margaret, and Emma are some of the children of Thomas J. Byrnes and Sara Miller Byrnes. Sara Miller Byrnes was a very good and caring mother.)



The barroom in the Byrnes Hotel.



David John Byrnes.



The Byrnes Hotel, summer 2005.

The fourth floor was used by borders and railroaders. The fourth floor had roof dormers at that time; later removed, the border rooms were later made into apartments as were the second and third floors. (Editor's note. In the early 1950's I remember the front of the hotel had three porches counting the ground floor. The roof over the porches in the pictures used to be the floor of another small porch. Reaching up to the fourth floor was a set of stairs which looked pretty rickety in the 1950's. In the pictures you can see evidence of doorways which have been replaced with windows.) Barroom picture courtesy of Donna Marie Gibas Lloyd.

Posted by Edward Byrnes at 18:31 | No comments

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