



**John Zavinski** of Hermitage is a deltiologist – a collector of postcards – and illustrates historic local images here with modern views of the same scene. He is director of graphics and technology for *The Herald* newspaper and design director for *Life & Times* magazine. Contact him at [jzavinski@sharonherald.com](mailto:jzavinski@sharonherald.com) or 724-981-6100 ext. 235.



At left, the Carnegie Steel Co. office at Broadway and Adams Street in its prime, circa 1917.

Below, the building today as the Farrell American Legion post, minus its upper floors.



John Zavinski/Life & Times

## Razing the roof at Legion changed Farrell skyline

By John Zavinski

**T**HE FUNNY THING about postcard before-and-after scenes is that they tend to fall into two varieties: Everything remarkably is still there decades later, or nothing at all remains.

This month we split the difference: Half the scene looks the same – the bottom half.

What is now Preston H. Carroll American Legion Post 160 at 613 Martin Luther King Blvd. in Farrell was once the office and headquarters for the Carnegie Steel

Co. Carnegie was a predecessor of today's Duferco Farrell Corp., whose steel mill is across the street.

The yellow-brick building dates back to the turn of the 20th century, making it about as old as the city of Farrell/South Sharon itself.

Carnegie eventually was succeeded by what became the late, great Sharon Steel Corp., and Sharon Steel eventually moved its offices across the Shenango River into Masury.

According to a May 15, 1975, *Herald* story, Sharon Steel turned over

the deed to the legion about 15 years earlier. To eliminate unneeded space, the legion topped the building in 1975, reducing it to the first floor and basement, which was cheaper than complete demolition and a new building.

The story noted there was a three-story vault with walls 15 inches thick, and if you looked in a storage area, you could still find the barred window of the once-busy paymaster's cage. ♦



The Colonial Trust Co. stood at the southwest corner of the Carnegie office building, which is visible behind it. The sign in circa-1920 view boasts paying 4 percent interest on deposits, and the card notes that Farrell employers had an annual payroll of \$8 million.



Charles F. Porter/Herald file

Workmen tear off the roof and second story of American Legion Post 160 in May 1975 to convert it into a single-story building.