

constructed circa 1911

Aarons Building • 359-361 River Street



Builder/Original Building Owner – Jacob Aarons

By the early 1880s, perhaps the best place to buy quality men's clothing in Manistee was at "Lively Jakes". The popular business, located on River Street, was owned by Jacob Aarons who arrived in Manistee in 1879. Married with two children, a boy and girl, Aarons quickly became one of the premier businessmen in Manistee. After Jacob passed away in 1907, his son Harry continued operating the clothing business, which by that time was located at 356 River Street. In April of 1910, Harry revealed his plans for the demolition of two buildings on the corner of River and Greenbush streets and the construction of a brand new, three-story structure where he would open a new clothing store. On April 1, 1911, Aarons' store had its grand opening. Since then the building has housed many types of businesses including: drug stores, insurance offices, dentist offices, law offices, and radio stations.

From the MCVB Walking Tour

Manistee Commercial Historic District – listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places