## Retail Development on the "Old Dixie Highway"

In 1926, E.J. Willingham envisioned Wilton Drive to be upscale residential and the Dixie Highway as commercial. It didn't turn out that way. By the mid-1940s, Al Hagen, Clayton Leaver, Lamar Braddy and others had built retail space on Wilton Drive. However, but for Red's Bar and a vegetable stand at Five Points, Dixie Highway had to wait more than ten years for retail development. Barton & Miller Cleaners arrived in 1956; followed by the "Dixie Shopping Center" (below) opening in 1958. The center was anchored by a 28,000 sf Grand Union—the largest supermarket in the county; and Eagle Army-Navy—a fast-growing, self-service department store chain. A year after opening the Grand Union was sold and converted to Publix.







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