The History of

OWENSVILLE
and VICINITY

Revised 2011
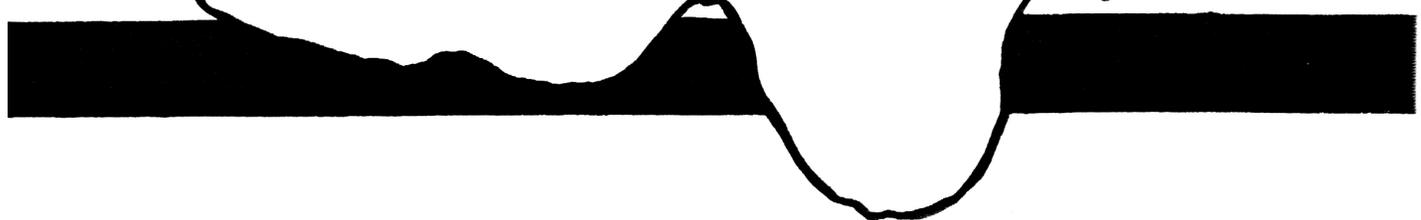
PREFACE

Numerous people in the area have expressed that we have an obligation to our children.

Unless we stress the importance of history, geography and achievements of others, how can we expect them to really care?

Hopefully, this book will strengthen the bond among the generations.

Any corrections or additional information can be sent to info@OwensvilleHistoricalSociety.com

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Intersection of Rt. 50 and Belfast Rd. – Early 1900's

Owensville Sesquicentennial: 1988
150th Birthday Celebration

Theme: "A glance at the past enriches the present."

Friday, November 18
12:00 - 5:00 p.m .... Open House, Masonic Hall
7:00 p.m .... Clermont Northeastern School Program at C.N.E. High School
- Introduction and Opening Remarks:
    Dave Heckaman and Mike Burkhart
- Mini Concert:
    C.N.E. Middle School
- Sing-a-long:
    Second grade (150 students)
- Musical Program:
    C.N.E. Intermediate School (50 students) songs from
    1838-1988
- "This is your Life Owensville"
    Mr. Heckaman and Mrs. Hollon with C.N.E. Middle
    School Students
- Historical reading:
    C.N.E. High School students
- Closing:
    All participants' birthday wishes for Owensville

Saturday, November 19
8:00 a.m .... Breakfast open to public, Masonic Hall
10:00 a.m .... Parade on West Main Street from fairgrounds to Owensville
    Primary School
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m .... Primary School and Old Methodist Church open with displays
    and crafts. Refreshments served and visitors invited to walk
    through town and observe historical signs indicating past land-
    marks
12:00 - 5:00 p.m .... Open House, Masonic Hall
7:00 p.m .... Square Dance, Clermont Northeastern Middle School,
    Admission - $5 per couple

Owensville Sesquicentennial Events

In 1988, Owensville was 150 years old. To commemorate the occasion, many activities were planned. On Friday, November 18, about 500 school children from the Clermont Northeastern Primary, Intermediate, Middle and High Schools and from St. Louis School, entertained 1500 family members and friends with songs, skits, readings and a slide presentation about Owensville's history. On Saturday, November 19, there were activities planned throughout the day. Beginning at 7:30 a.m., Hamer Lodge No. 228 served a pancake breakfast until 9:30 a.m. and held an Open House until 5:00 p.m. that day. Many of the Eastern Star and Masons dressed in old-fashioned costumes. At 10 a.m. a parade began at the fairgrounds and ended at the Primary School. The honored guests were members of the community who were 80 years of age and older.

Beginning at 10 a.m. at the Primary School, there were demonstrations of crafts and the display of the collectibles which was organized by Nancy Burke. Mr. Howard Watkins from near Edenton, displayed and showed everyone how to make fiddles and dulcimers. Mrs. Eleanor Averwater, from the Owensville area, showed how to make good old-fashioned noodles while Dave Heckaman, C.N.E. Middle School teacher, dressed in a uniform from the Revolutionary War and displayed other relics from the war. Mrs. Shirley Foertsch displayed Indian jewelry and dress. And also on display were Indian relics which had been found near Owensville. Mrs. Edna Mae Emery displayed some old quilts and also demonstrated quilting. The process for making candles by dipping was shown by Sandy Briegel. Everyone enjoyed apple cider and pie, and the Owensville Fire Department cooked food on a large grill for anyone who was hungry.

At the old United Methodist Church, originally the Boston Methodist Episcopal Church which was constructed from 1859 to 1866, there were many displays on both floors. Downstairs each wall held many pictorial displays done by Walter and Shirley Shipley. Many people in the community donated pictures of Owensville through the years, and many pictures showed buildings that no longer exist and other buildings that are now more beautiful than they were years ago. Howard Martin had a display of cast iron antique toys, tricycles and wagons. Mrs. Sandy McHenry displayed an old goose-feather Christmas tree and old-fashioned ornaments. She also had a Bible from the early 1800's as well as other antiques. The Charlie Burdsalls displayed some of their antiques from their Double B Antique Shop on the east end of town. Mrs. Burdsall (Ollie) wore an old-fashioned long dress and bonnet to complement their display. Ray Hawley displayed a World War I uniform which belonged to his Uncle Joe Buerkle, an early Owensville resident. Ray displayed pictures and fair passes from the late 1800's, and Mrs. Edith Bosch contributed newspaper articles that had been written about Owensville through the years.

The Fire Department displayed some of its original fire helmets and also red fire truck lights which had melted while fire fighters struggled to put out the grandstand fire on the fairgrounds in 1968. On the second floor of the church, the Quilting Club displayed many beautiful quilts, afghans and other items. Several of the club members demonstrated quilting throughout the day. Rick Crawford, local historian and sports writer for area newspapers, was on hand to talk about Owensville's history for those who were interested. As a finale to the weekend, on Saturday evening at 7 p.m. a square dance was held at the Clermont Northeastern Middle School. Music was provided by Steve Bing and the Barn Dancers.

In December of 1988, a new tradition was also initiated to commemorate Owensville's sesquicentennial year. On December 17, luminaries lined the streets of Owensville and the first annual lighting of the village Christmas tree was held at the newly purchased town hall, the old Methodist Church. Charles Woodruff, who planted the tree around 1950, plugged the lights in for

the new Owensville first. A group of carolers sang "Let's Light the Christmas Tree" and other songs. Hot chocolate and coffee were served with cookies after the lighting ceremony. Later, the carolers went on to sing to some long-standing members of the town who were recuperating and unable to attend the ceremony.

A door decorating contest also took place that evening. Judges, Charlie and Grace Bailey and Milton and Ruby Saunders, picked the winners. First place winners of the contest were Bernard and Mary Apgar of St. Louis Drive. They won a copy of the Owensville History book. The second place prize, a ten dollar gift certificate from Brownie's IGA, went to Ray and Mary Jo Hawley of East Main Street. Third place prize was a box of candy donated by Harold Grossnickle, owner of York Discount Drugs which was won by Mike and Patty Seibert of Maplewood Drive. Honorable Mentions went to John and Sue Mathews of South Broadway and Tom and Diane Carlier of West Main Street.

EAST MAIN STREET SHOWING THE BRIDGE AND TEXAS HILL.
ON THE RIGHT IS THE OLD HARNESS SHOP.

A Glance at the Past: The Origin of Owensville

The settlement of the area that we now call Owensville, Ohio in Stonelick Township began long before recorded history. Prehistoric Americans lived on these lands many thousands of years ago, but they have left us with very little information about their lives. The first recorded history of the area comes from the 1600's when French explorers began documenting the physical geography of the area and the Native American peoples who lived here.

Before the United States achieved its independence from Great Britain in 1783, most of present-day Ohio was part of the Colony of Virginia. After independence, this area became part of the Commonwealth of Virginia, one of the original thirteen states. [1]

In 1784 Virginia relinquished its claim to parts of what is now Ohio to the Federal government. These lands became part of the Northwest Territory (or Territory Northwest of the River Ohio) in 1787. The land that Virginia withheld, which included all of present day Clermont County, became known as the Virginia Military District (VMD), which was to be used to reward those who fought in the Revolutionary War. While the first survey of the VMD was done by John O'Bannon on November 13, 1787 in what is now Clermont County, the first patent issued for VMD land was not granted until 1796. [2] The area which is now Owensville was part of a 441 acre parcel which was awarded to Dr. Richard Allison.

The first documented attempt at European settlement within the area of Stonelick Township occurred in 1792 when settlers built a pole cabin about a mile above the mouth of Stonelick Creek and deadened four or five acres of land. The ongoing hostilities with the Native Americans quickly led to the site being abandoned. [3]

After the Native American's decisive loss at the Battle of Fallen Timbers on August 20, 1794, the tribes associated with the Western Confederacy signed the Treaty of Greenville on August 3, 1795. This Treaty gave the United States control of the southern two-thirds of what is

now Ohio, along with a six mile square parcel that became the city of Chicago. In return, the tribes were given $20,000 worth of goods and the promise of yearly grants of additional Federal payouts. [4]

In 1798, Henry Allison (brother to Richard) built a cabin on the site of the original 1792 pole cabin and finished clearing the land that had been deadened earlier. [3] He became the first permanent settler in the Township. In 1799, Dr. Richard Allison built a two-story log cabin near the confluence of Stonelick Creek and the East Fork of the Little Miami River. Dr. Allison was the fifth Surgeon General of the United States Army (called Physician General at that time) and served between 1792 and 1796. [5]

The creation of Clermont County, which had been a portion of Hamilton County, was authorized on Dec. 6, 1800. The county was originally much larger, including portions of what today is Brown and Highland Counties. On March 1, 1803, the State of Ohio was established.

Other early settlers to the area that we call Owensville included John Metcalfe, Richard Hill, Richard Taliaferro, Josiah Prickett and Conrad Harsh. In 1802, Conrad Harsh settled on a farm north of Owensville, which later became the property of F.X. Iuen. Harsh's Run is the name of the stream and the surrounding land by the bridge on the east side of town. Harsh was the first blacksmith in the area, and he and Elza Cook also did carpentry from 1828-1831 on what was later to become the site of St. Louis Catholic Church.
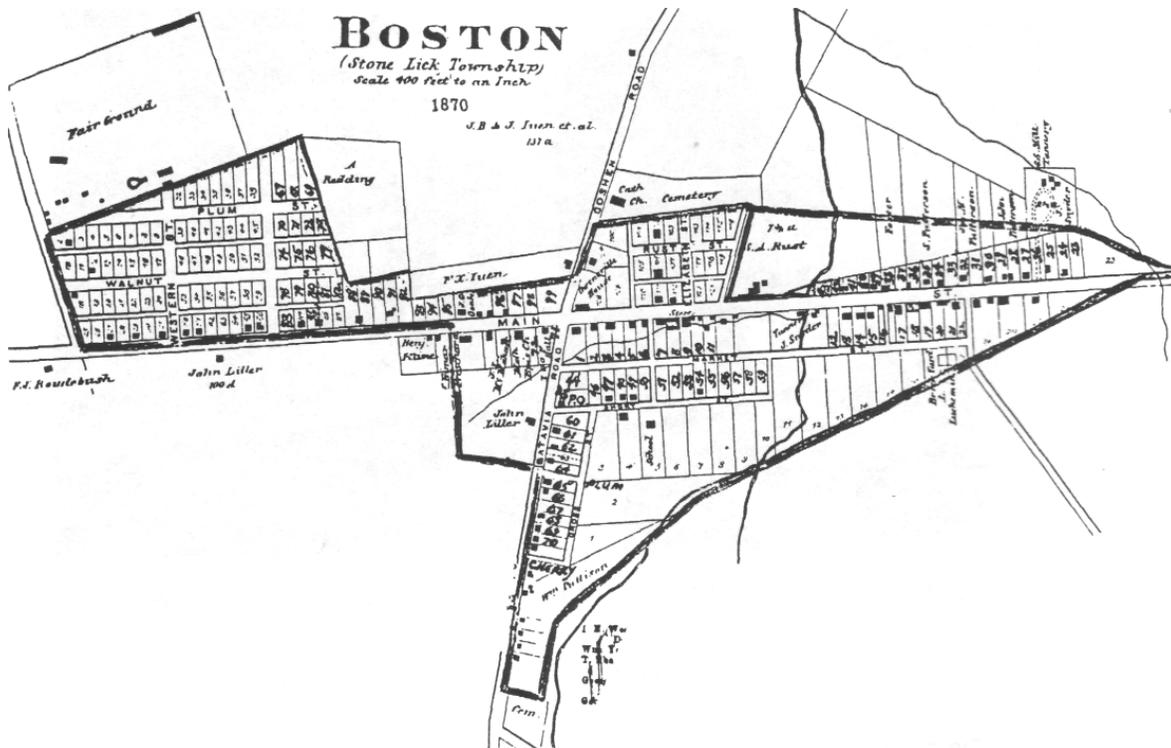
The village of Owensville was originally named Boston when it was laid out in a triangle shape, as were many other hamlets at this time. The original boundaries of Boston were determined by James McKinnie in 1836. The village first consisted of lots numbered from one to seventy, and the main street was sixty feet wide. Additions to the village in later years expanded the town to the north, south and west of the Main Street and Batavia Road (Rt.132) intersection.

According to Rick Crawford, reporter and historian, "The village was originally named Boston for one of two reasons. Either the first families came from Boston, Massachusetts, or the first settlers wanted to name it after our Nation's Cradle of Liberty."

Boston's First Buildings and Businesses:

Boston, like every other community in the county in the nineteenth century, had to be self sufficient. From the blacksmith to the carpenter or undertaker; from the leather tanner to the shoemaker, tailor or distiller, everyone with these skills and many others contributed to Boston's growth.

In 1824, the first house was built by Cranston Lewin, which was just the beginning of the development of Boston. The first house was a small two-story log cabin which later had some additions and was weather boarded. The house was built on land that first belonged to Conrad Harsh. Harsh owned the property on the northern side of the village, which included the small stream running through the eastern part of Owensville and the surrounding land, called Harsh's Run. Mr. Elza Cook assisted Lewin in building this first structure on the northeastern corner of the intersection at Route 50 (Main Street) and Belfast (Goshen-Belfast) Road. Eventually Lewin's original building was torn down and removed to another part of the village in 1877, but not before it was used as a store by William Owens. Owens, however, left Boston in 1833, and then Harsh and Elza Cook kept a store at this site until they sold out to Christian Zugg in 1835. Zugg kept the store until 1837, then sold it to Peter Anderson. He had the store until 1857 when F.X. Iuen purchased it. The store was there until 1877 when it was torn down and replaced with Iuen's Hotel. Today Iuen's building is used by Bank One and a television cable company.

ONE OF THE OLDEST BRICK BUILDINGS IN TOWN BUILT BY F.X. IUEN ON THE NORTHEASTERN CORNER OF ROUTE 50 AND BELFAST (THE SITE OF THE FIRST HOUSE BUILT BY CRANSTON LEWIN), THIS BUILDING IS PRESENTLY USED AS OFFICES FOR BANK ONE AND THE CABLE TV COMPANY.

The second house was built by William South a few months after Lewin's. South owned the property to the south of Main Street in the village and built his log cabin on the southwestern corner of the same intersection. Both this house and the Lewin structure were obtained by William Owens several years after they were built. Owens opened his first store in 1827 in the South building; then in 1828 bought the Lewin cabin and opened another store there. The South building eventually became the Hall for the Order of the Odd Fellows. Today the site is occupied by the Marathon Gas Station.

The third house was built by James McKinnie in 1827 on the site of what is today the SOHIO Gas Station. His building was a one and a half story, 18 by 24 frame structure which became McKinnie's store in 1832. Later it was moved and became the property of Charles Legrand.

The first brick building in Boston was built much earlier than Iuen's brick structure and replaced McKinnie's house on the same southeastern corner of the intersection. Zach Robinson built this first brick building in 1838 which was to be used as a residence and store. In 1844, Robinson sold the building to William Ulrey who kept a tavern there for a couple of years. This building later became known as the Old Boston House. At the time this building was constructed, it was one of the largest brick buildings in the county.

THE OLD BOSTON HOUSE, FORMERLY THE ULREY HOMESTEAD AND STORE. THIS WAS THE FIRST BRICK BUILDING BUILT IN THE VILLAGE AND ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE COUNTY WHEN BUILT. IT WAS BUILT BY ZACK ROBINSON IN 1838. TODAY THE SITE IS THE SOHIO STATION.

These first buildings and numerous early stores were followed by new businesses and growing industry. In addition to taverns kept by Ulrey, B.C. South, Zach Robinson and even earlier by Peter Anderson, there was also a distillery. The distillery was built and owned by James South and John Vandervort and was located where the old Methodist Cemetery remains on Jackson Pike and Route 132 (Goshen-Belfast Road). This corner at the south end of Boston later was the original site of the first Methodist Church in the village.

THE INTERSECTION OF Rt. 276 AND Rt.132 AND JACKSON PIKE IN THE EARLY 1900'S, JUST SOUTH OF THE ORIGINAL VILLAGE BOUNDARIES. THE JACKSON PIKE CORNER IS STILL THE SITE OF THE OLD METHODIST CEMETERY. THE HOME AT THE INTERSECTION IS PRESENTLY OWNED BY JOHN CUGEBER AND WAS FORMERLY OWNED BY FRANK SCHOBERT.

Numerous blacksmith shops and a brickyard located on the southeast corner of Market Street and Johntown Road operated by Duchemin, existed early in Boston's history. Conrad Harsh's blacksmith shop was just outside the village and was one of the first businesses to serve Boston. The first blacksmith shop within the original village limits of Boston was built in 1829 by a man named Beard. Harsh's shop, three hundred yards north of the village line, opened in 1816. Harsh left in 1832, and in 1835 Thomas Carty carried on at the same site as blacksmith until 1844. Other blacksmiths included John Latsch who had a shop from 1840 until 1846 and William Lattimer whose shop was in business until 1873. The same year Johnston and Manning occupied Redding's shop until 1875, when it then became the shop of Berger and McCollum, then Eerger and Motsinger. Others who also worked as blacksmiths and had shops included Daniel Hilderbrand, Richard Stoten and John Cooper.

The first carpentry shop was also just outside of Boston when it opened on the site of what is now the St. Louis Church. Conrad Harsh and Elza Cook shared this shop, and in 1820

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Marsh's carpentry produced the first grain cradle in Stonelick Township. The first shop to open in the village was that of Jonathan Whittaker in 1847. O.H. Hill also shared this shop which was newly constructed that year. A man by the name of Masters also made grain cradles after Harsh, although the location of his shop is unknown. In 1866, Benjamin Cline began making them in his shop and enjoyed the reputation of being one of the most skillful carpenters in the county until his death in 1874.

Cabinet shops also flourished in Boston's early days as a village. At that time, it was customary for the cabinet maker, who also produced caskets, to serve as undertakers, and most of those who had cabinet shops did just that. In 1837, William Roudebush opened his shop and also served as village undertaker. After him, Francis Shumard established his shop on lot No. 10 and did cabinetry and undertaking from 1842 to 1846. Jasper Hensel and James Pattison followed. Hensel worked until 1869 and Pattison continued his work until 1878.

In March, 1867, Albert Redding built a chair factory on lot No. 52 at a cost of $5,000. It was a two-story frame building, 60 by 40 feet. The lower story was used for the bending machine, turning lathes, and engine room; the upper for a storage room and place for assembling and "bottoming" the chairs. Its capacity was about 120 dozen chairs per week, and it produced enough material for that many more. On an average, it gave employment to about 40 people. In 1870, Redding rented it to Henry, Peter and James South who had it until August, 1871 when it was sold to William Roudebush and removed to Newtonsville.

In 1875, Pattison also began to manufacture chairs. Although he only had a few years to work at this new industry, he gave employment to about 20 people and manufactured about 400 dozen chairs a year during his three years in business. Pattison was preceded by a number of other chair manufacturing businesses in Boston.

SHIRT FACTORY LADIES WHO WORKED IN THE BUILDING FORMERLY USED AS THE ODD FELLOWS LODGE ON THE CORNER OF MAIN AND SOUTH BROADWAY. TODAY THE SITE OF THE MARATHON GAS STATION

Wagon makers also came to Boston. Jacob Rell was Boston's first wagon maker and he built his shop in 1839 where he worked until 1853. Several years after Rell came to Boston, Theodore Davis opened his shop and worked at making wagons for a few years. Then in 1857, James Pattison built his shop on Main Street where his son R.G. Pattison continued to work until 1871.

Cooper shops were also especially numerous during Boston's early years as an incorporated village. Such shops made casks, kegs or barrels and put Boston in the forefront of this type of production. The first cooper shop, although not exactly within the limits of the village when built in 1833, was owned by James South, who built it and employed 10 people there until 1841. In 1854, A.D. Daugherty built a shop in town on lot No. 16 and employed about six people. Barrels continued to be manufactured by others at Daugherty's old shop after 1860 by Joseph Courtot, who also ran another shop near the Catholic church, which he obtained from the Daufeau brothers who sold it to him in 1856. Courtot employed an average of 60 people and manufactured over 500 barrels a week. In 1869, Peter Coleman built a shop, and in conjunction with A. Marshal, who had a small shop on Johntown Road, commenced the manufacture of barrels which kept 15 people employed. All of these shops were numerous from about 1840 until as late as 1873 and made Boston more productive and profitable in this business than any other village in Clermont County at the time. There were over 50,000 barrels turned out annually in Stonelick Township during this period, and most of them came from Boston.

MEN WORKING AT THE COURTOT BARREL FACTORY AT THE CORNER OF JOHNTOWN ROAD AND MARKET STREET. PRESENT SITE OF JOHN DUGAN'S FARM.

The first harness maker was Walter McKinnie who began his work in 1845. Later, harness makers named J. Harvey, Apgar, A.V. Smith, J. Rodecker, T. Marsh, P.V. Petard and J. Snider opened businesses.

"HARNESS SHOP" DOWN BY FOOT BRIDGE, BUILT IN 1845 BY JOHN SNIDER. PICTURED ARE: SPENCE QUITTER, FRANK SNIDER, ANDREW SNIDER, MOSE GILLMAN AND RODNEY JINKS.

Boston had a marble shop which opened in 1877 and was operated by P.G. Bracelin in 1879. In 1846, William Ulrey built a one-story, 30 by 50 feet, brick building fronting Main Street which he used as a pork house. It was not used after 1850 and was torn down in 1877.

Shoemakers and tailors, in addition to the numerous dry goods shops and grocery stores, emerged during Boston's early years. Among the first, if not the first shoemaker in Boston, was Brittain Canain, who had a shop near the footbridge across Harsh's Run on lot No. 12. It was built about 1835 and occupied by Canain until he sold his tannery to John Snider in 1845. John Snider improved upon Canain's tannery production. He built a brick building on the opposite side of Harsh's Run, across from Canain's shop and used this building as a finishing room for hides. Then in 1860, he bought the steam saw mill built by Henry South and A.A. Robinson, which was located just north of the Boston town limits at that time. Snider moved his tannery vats there and then in 1861 built the steam tannery which adjoined his mill. Snider was able to manufacture over 2,000 hides annually there while employing only six workers. Canain's capacity had been only 200 hides a year. Other shoemakers who built shops and did business in the village were Jonathan Rust in 1849, George Riggs in 1853 and B.C. South and Robert Davidson at about the same time. Also having shops from 1860 to 1870 were A. Burkle, C. Legros, H. Schon, H.H. Merse and M. Meagley on lot No. 62.

The first tailor in Boston was Strange Hunt, who had his shop on lot No. 19 where he worked from 1841 to 1845. After him came George Shanedoney who tailored from 1844 to 1851. About the same time, Jacob Cover also did some work. In 1861, J.G. Oonk had a shop in the house which later became the property of F.X. Iuen on Main Street. Then later he kept a shop in a small building on property that he later sold to Rev. F. Hypes. He also had two other small buildings after that, one which he used as a tailoring shop and the other as a dry goods store in which he sold clothing from 1868 to 1871.


FORMER "TURN OF THE CENTURY" MILLINERY SHOP OF
ELY FAVRET ON WEST MAIN STREET.

The earliest of the general and grocery stores in Boston began with William Owens in 1827. Owens left Boston in 1835. He was succeeded by James McKinnie's store which opened in 1833 at the southeastern corner or Main and Broadway. Conrad Harsh and Elza Cook kept a store from 1833 until 1835 when they sold out to Christian Zugg, who kept it from that time until 1837. Zugg, in turn, sold the store to Peter Anderson who kept it until 1857 when he sold it to F.X. Iuen. He kept a store there until the building was torn down in 1877. In 1834, D.K. Hardin had a store which eventually was moved to the site that became E. Dimmitt's store in 1847. Dimmitt built a new store on this site in 1854 and at the same time H. Gall also kept a grocery store for a few years. Then in 1860, Joseph Foster built, in conjunction with the Masons, a large brick building, the lower story of which was used by him for a store. Stephen Robinson used this same building for his store between 1874 and 1876, years which Foster did not use his store until he resumed his business in 1876. In 1851, William Pattison also had a store which he built, and he did business there up until 1874 when his son L.A. Pattison occupied, it. In 1876, John Felter built a store opposite St. Louis Church, and he did business there for two years before selling this

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property and buying J.G. Oonk's tailor shop on Main Street where he continued to keep a larger grocery store.
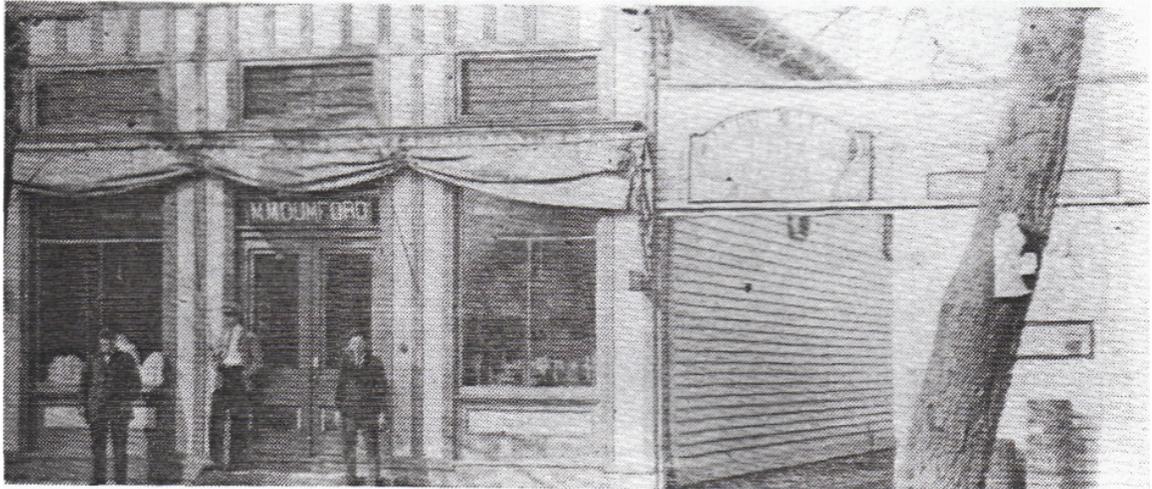
DUMFORD STORE (1916), PICTURED ARE M. DUMFORD,
C. WILLIAMS AND C. BUERKLE.

WEST MAIN STREET, OWENSVILLE—DUMFORD STORE (EARLY 1900'S) AND
PRESENT SITE OF THE IGA.

The post office in Boston was originally established on the corner of State Route 132 (Batavia Pike) and Short Street in 1833. At that time, Boston became known as Owensville, William Owens being the first postmaster, for purposes of mail delivery. Prior to 1833, Boston received its mail from Williamsburg, Batavia or Milford, whichever was the most convenient. The first weekly mail was carried by stage from Milford to Chillicothe. From 1833 to 1840, several changes were made as to carriers and routes. The mail was delivered three times a week;

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then daily by omnibuses that ran between Milford and Fayetteville. In 1835, Elza Cook was appointed postmaster and served in that capacity for a few years. Christian Zugg took it over in 1837. From 1840 to 1844 Z. Robinson had the office. In 1845, Peter Anderson was appointed, and he kept the position until 1850 when William Ulrey took charge of it. In 1855, E. Dimmitt was appointed by Amos Kendal, Postmaster General, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of William Ulrey. In 1873, there was a cross mail route from Batavia to Blanchester which also stopped at Boston. This mail was carried by a boy on horseback and was in operation for two years. With the completion of the Cincinnati and Eastern Railroad in 1877, Fayetteville and Perin's Mills became the terminals of the route which was a daily one. The mail was carried by Dennis Maher at that time, who was the proprietor of the omnibus line that connected those terminals. From 1870 until about 1900, there was no post office in the county that distributed its mail to a greater area than Owensville. The office around this time was moved to Main Street.

THE OLD POST OFFICE AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY WAS THE BUILDING IN WHICH J.C. FETTER FORMERLY RAN A FARM IMPLEMENT STORE, HANDLING MCCORMICK REAPERS, BINDERS, ETC. FETTER ALSO HAD A NOTION STORE ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE STREET. TODAY THE BUILDING IS AN ANTIQUE SHOP AND FLORIST SHOP RUN BY MRS. BRENDA YOUNG. APARTMENTS ARE UPSTAIRS, AND THE PRESENT OWNER IS TIM KEENAN.

Also in 1877, a prison was built on lot No. 54 and it fronted on Short Street. The cost of this structure was $146. Then in September of 1879, the town had a well dug on lot No. 121. The well cost $45. Although at this time, Boston had no water works or fire department, it was considered to be one of the best inland towns in the county and one that was rapidly growing in wealth and population.

The town of Owensville was officially incorporated on June 5, 1867 with 77 acres. There is no record of the first election of officers in that year, but the following names appear in the minutes of the commissioners' meeting: Mayor, J.N. Pattison, who refused to serve for some unknown reason and Robert Davidson who was appointed in his place; Councilmen, J.L. Combs, G.W. Ferree, Dennis Maher, L.M. Bickmore and C.J. Harrison. C.J. Harrison was elected by the board as Recorder; L.M. Bickmore, Treasurer; and Mathias Coleman, Marshal. The incorporation was effected by a petition made to the commissioners of the county, January 10, 1867 which prayed for this privilege under the general statute. It was signed by B. Blythe, William South, G.W. Ferree, E.E. Peck, J. Rust, commissioners who granted the prayer on June 5.

Other early officials of the town are as follows:

1868 - Mayor, E. Cline; Clerk, J.L. McKahn; Street Commissioner, David Apgar; Marshal, John Warman; Councilmen, D. Malyer, F.X. Iuen, Nicholas Favret, J.M. Pattison and D.H. Hill.

1869 - Mayor, John G. Oonk; Clerk, J.F. South; Street Commissioner and Marshal, G.W. Daugherty; Councilmen, D. Maher, O.P. Hill, A.D. Daugherty, Samuel South and A. Freshard.

1870 - Mayor, F.M. Maxfield; Clerk, C.J. Harrison; Street Commissioner, S. Hoagg; Councilmen, M. Meagley, Joseph Foster, A. Redding, William Ulrey, B. Blythe and A. D. Daugherty.

1871 - Mayor, F.M. Maxfield, Clerk, C.L. Harrison; Councilmen, A. Quitter, J.D. Simonton, William Ulrey and C.J. Harrison.

1872 - Mayor, L.H. Medaris; Street Commissioner, John Gates; Councilmen, Andrew Snider, Joseph Hanold and William Ulrey.

1873 - Mayor, L.H. Medaris; Clerk, Lorain Marsh; Street Commissioner, John Dumford; Councilmen, B. Blythe, Joseph Gomien, M. Meagley, W. South and David Mitchell.

1874 - Mayor, Robert Davidson; Clerk, Lorain Marsh; Street Commissioner, Thomas • Marsh; Councilmen, Thomas Brunaugh, D.H. Hill, Andrew Snider and S.A. Patterson.

1875 - Mayor, Robert Davidson; Clerk, Lorain Marsh; Councilmen, J. Vance, W. South and David Apgar.

1876 - Mayor, Robert Davidson; Clerk, Lorain Marsh; Street Commmissioner and Marshal, James Daugherty; Treasurer, J.N. Pattison, Councilmen, Andrew Snider, J.M. South and F.P. Brunson.

1877 - Mayor, Robert Davidson; Clerk, Lorain Marsh; Treasurer, J.N. Pattison; Street Commissioner and Marshal, John Booso; Councilmen, J. Vance, David A. Quitter and J.M. Pattison.

1878 - Mayor, A. Quitter; Clerk, Lorain Marsh; Treasurer, L.H. Medaris; Street Commissioner and Marshal, Chris Goodenkoutz; Councilmen, T.A. Mitchell, J. Felter, H.H. Mers and Albert Tice.

Prominent Names from Owensville's Past

John M. Pattison was the only Clermont County native to serve as Governor of Ohio. He was born to William Pattison and his wife Mary Duckwall Pattison on Sunday, June 13, 1847 near the village of Owensville.

FORMER HOME OF THE FAMILY OF OHIO GOVERNOR JOHN PATTISON (1847). THE HOME OF MRS. AGNES GAUCHE ON SOUTH BROADWAY

William Pattison was a local merchant. His son John began a successful working career in his father's store and on farms around Owensville.

It is believed that the Pattison's were working in the family store when General John Hunt Morgan and 2,000 Confederate cavalrymen rode through the village about noon on Monday, June 13, 1863, No report is given of the store being bothered by the rebel horsemen, although it was common practice for them to inspect the businesses of the villages they passed through.

The visit by Morgan's men, and the mistreatment of an old man in the village on that afternoon, may have prompted the 16 year old Pattison's enlistment in the 153rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry in 1864.

An old war veteran, the elderly man had climbed into the steeple of the Owensville Methodist Episcopal Church (now the Church of Christ on Main Street-US#50) and fired on the rebels. He was rousted from the steeple and forced to ride behind one of Morgan's men while the United States flag he had hung from the top of the steeple was dragged through the dusty streets.

When Pattison returned from the War Between the States, he entered Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware where Byron Williams, noted Clermont County historian had attended.

To support his pursuit of a higher education, he taught school in the winter and worked in the harvest fields in the summer. He managed to graduate with the Class of 1869 despite having attended just 29 months of classes.

Pattison's first employment after graduation was as the head of an agency for the Union Central Life Insurance Company in Bloomington, Illinois.

He soon became tired of the insurance business and returned to Cincinnati to study law in the office of Alfred Yaple. He was admitted to the bar in 1872 and became the attorney for the Cincinnati and Marietta Railroad. He resigned from this job in 1873 when he was elected, as a Democrat, to the state legislature from Hamilton County.

The Owensville native yearned to continue his law practice and he declined renomination to the state office. He became a member of the firm of Yaple, Moos and Pattison and practiced law with this firm for 10 years. For three years during this period he edited a law magazine.

The most notable legislation passed during his short administration as Governor concerned liquor, county salaries and funds, and railroads. The saloon tax was raised from $350 to $1,000 and a law was passed which authorized local option on the sale of liquor in residential districts. Idle county funds were put to work as loans, the accrued interest to be paid to county treasuries; salaries were provided for county officials; and fees were abolished. A two-cent railroad fare was established, and the office of commissioner of railroads and telegraphs was superseded by a railroad commission of three members. The regulation of railroads was a live issue in congress and in many state legislatures at the time.

He was survived by his second wife, Anna, and is buried in Greenlawn Cemetery in Milford.

Walter J. Malone - Canton College Founder:

Walter J. Malone, the founder of Malone College in Canton, Ohio had roots in early Owensville. His mother, Mary Ann Pennington Malone and father, John Malone, probably moved into their eight-room brick house on Main Street at the edge of the village of Owensville in 1860. Prior to that time, the family including seven children lived near Marathon in a small log cabin on 100 acres which John Malone purchased in November, 1852 for $2,400.

THE MALONE HOME ON MAIN STREET, LATER THE FAVRET HOUSE AND PRESENTLY.THE SITE OF IGA

At the time the Malones resided in the home on Main Street, Owensville was known as Boston, and prior to the 1867 incorporation of Owensville, proprieties west of the 132 junction were just outside the village boundary line. The family probably rented their home there until 1864. However, John Malone later bought property in Boston and three acres just outside of the town. Four adjoining lots were purchased by Malone in town in December, 1862 according to Deed Book 77, page 229.' But less than a year later, he sold the three acres and one of his lots for $450. On October 15, 1864, he sold the other three lots in Boston for $2,100. The family later moved to Clinton County near New Vienna, probably around 1868.

As related in The Malone Story by Byron Lindley Osborne, the family moved to Boston from their small log house when God answered Mary Ann Malone's prayer. A zealous Quaker woman, Mary Ann had confidence that the Lord would take care of her need for a larger home. According to Osborne, one morning after an early breakfast, Mary Ann kept an eye on the lane that led up to the public road and was not disappointed when in the early afternoon a stranger stopped at the gate and drove in.

Mary Ann met him at the door. After the formal greeting, he told her that he had for rent a very nice brick house with eight rooms on the Cincinnati Pike at the edge of a pleasant village, Boston, Ohio. Her answer was, "I have been looking for thee all morning." Then she told him about her experience early that morning and the assurance she had been given in prayer. Arrangements were quickly completed and the family moved into the attractive house which became their home for eight years.

The move to Clinton County resulted from Mary Ann's feeling that for the sake of the family, they should move to a community where there was a Friends Meeting. New Vienna proved to be an excellent Quaker neighborhood and this became their home for about twenty years. They moved to Cleveland in the spring of 1886.

While living just outside of Boston in July, 1863, the third year of the Civil War, Mary Ann Malone met the Confederate officer, General John Hunt Morgan who led his cavalrymen in a raid through Clermont County. According to Malone biographer Byron Osborne, during the War Between the States, General Morgan with a small detachment of men on a scouting trip to replenish their supplies, came to the Malone home while John Malone was away. Mary Ann cordially invited them in and while they waited, prepared for them a good meal. In the conversation they asked her if she were afraid. "No," she said, "I am never afraid of gentlemen." But despite the hospitality and Mary Ann's plea to "leave the grey mare," the general took the mare and other Malone horses. According to the story, the grey mare began limping so badly that in disgust General Morgan said to his men, "Let her go. We have no use for a crippled old horse." They no sooner removed her bridle and released her, when she kicked up her heels and ran down the road with no show whatever of lameness. Not having the time to run her down, General Morgan and his men went on their way. Although this story is not fully authenticated, according to Osborne, the Malones are listed as having lost two horses valued at $200 in the Morgan Raid Claims in the History of Clermont County.

The Malones' presence just outside the town of Boston is also verified by the record of John C. Malone's membership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge 189. He was a Noble Grand of that organization in January, 1860 and again in July, 1863.

Mayme Ulrey — First Families of Owensville, Descendant and Historian:

The late Mayme Ulrey, former Owensville school teacher and town resident for most of her life, also wrote columns for the local newspaper recalling her memories of Owensville's historical past and her ties to its earliest residents.

Miss Ulrey's great grandfather, Jacob Ulrey, fought in the Revolutionary War and was the first of the family to settle in Stonelick Township. His son was William Ulrey, Mayme's grandfather, who started a store in the brick building constructed by Zach Robinson in 1838. Ulrey bought the two-story brick building in 1845 and it stayed in his family for many years. When sons Clarence and Charles Ulrey, who was Mayme's father, moved across the street in 1910, they sold the store to John Miller and it became a hotel. Later it was made into a tavern, then an antique shop run by Virginia Bullock, and finally it became a restaurant run by Owensville widow Cele Morris and called the Boston House Inn.

During the Civil War, an uncle of Miss Ulrey was commissioned as a captain in the Union Army when only 18. A native of Boston (Owensville), young William H. Ulrey knew of the desertion of one of the Confederate officers in Morgan's raid on Clermont County. While just three miles outside of Williamsburg, an officer was sent back from the Union forces to get the rebel after it leaked out by Capt. William Ulrey that the deserter was still hiding there after Morgan's men had left the town and wished to join the Union forces.

Capt. Ulrey was to die, however, at Stoney Creek, Virginia when he fell fatally wounded in one of the skirmishes of the siege of Petersburg before he turned 22.

Miss Ulrey, as historian, also pointed out that other early families in Boston were prominent in community life and Civil War gallantry. There were the Pattisons, to whom she was related on her mother's side, and the Roudebush, South and Marsh families. The Marsh family, she recalled, lost five sons in the War Between the States.

Other recollections found in her newspaper column revealed life in Owensville during the early 1900's. She wrote:

Some of the earlier business places were still in existence in the early 1900's. In the horse and buggy days, A.P. Buerkle and Charles Thiery had blacksmith shops, and in 1910 Albert Schmid laid sidewalks for Owensville. There was a drug store in the east end of town (a part of town referred to as Texas Hill) which was owned by Dr. B. Blythe, grandfather of Dr. Allan B. Rapp (who resided in and practiced medicine in what is now the home of the Ray Hawleys). Also, Mr. Peter Fetter ran a horse drawn bus line between Fayetteville and Perintown for many years. Also, according to Miss Ulrey, 1920 was a dark year as the traction line including the Power House at Perintown, which supplied Owensville with electricity, and the Sub Station at Allensburg were all sold for junk. The roads were becoming almost unusable with more automobiles being run and they were being neglected by the state.
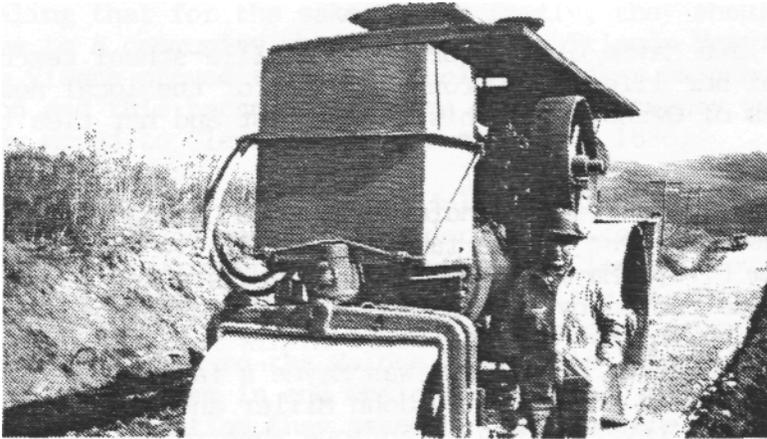
CHARLES INGLE WITH MACHINE THAT MADE
ROUTE 50 THROUGH OWENSVILLE

COLONEL HUGO RUDOLPH

Miss Ulrey also recalled the Ohio's governor at the time, Gov. Donahey, was fighting the road appropriation for U.S. Route 50 when Col. Hugo Rudolph, a personal friend of the Governor, who owned the home which later became the property of Lester Conover, attempted to change Donahey 's mind. Rudolph, knowing that Gov. Donohey was to make a speech in Cincinnati, drove to Columbus, called on the governor and invited him to drive down home with him, spend the night there and then go on to Cincinnati. Donahey accepted, and the Colonel pulled no punches while bumping over U.S. Route 50 in his big touring car. When they finally arrived at the Rudolph home, Donahey remarked that he had never gone over such a horrible road. Col. Rudolph just smiled and said, "That is the one you think needs no money." Shortly thereafter, the appropriation came through.

A Glance at Civil War History in Owensville

During the Civil War, Boston (Owensville) was victimized by the Confederate cavalrymen of General John Hunt Morgan who led about 2,500 men into Clermont County. At an earlier point in his march, up to 3,000 men were estimated to be under his command. A number of these, however, were taken prisoner, according to historian Richard Crawford, before reaching Owensville. Because Morgan's Raiders, as they were called, were nearly exhausted by constant riding to avoid capture from Union cavalrymen and Ohio militiamen, "those of Morgan's command who decided to take a nap on the ground, awoke to find themselves prisoners."

On July 14, Morgan's men rode around Cincinnati. Their route is documented by Crawford in his Thunder in the Valley: The Confederate Invasion of Clermont County. Morgan used local farmers as guides, threatening them with death if his force was misguided. According to Crawford's account:

> His column proceeded around the city through Lockland about 1 a.m. and Glendale following the Reading Pike, just before 2 a.m. After Glendale, they followed the Milford Road through Sharonville and Montgomery, stopping just east of Montgomery to water the horses in streams there. At several points the rebels were so close to Cincinnati that they reported they could see the lighted spires of the city.

> The Union convalescent camp at Camp Dennison had been alerted by General Ambrose Burnside of Morgan's approach. Mrs. Neff, wife of the commandant, went with their servants to a private home where she buried the post records and hid her jewels and the family silver.

> At Camp Dennison, the Confederates burned a wagon train of 75 wagons, exchanged some firing and derailed a train, paroling the uninjured new recruits that had been on board.

> It wasn't long before Mrs. Neff and other officers' ladies were found in the privately-owned farmhouse, now thought to be located near Miamiville between Milford and Loveland.

> From here stories vary as to which route Morgan's men actually took. It is known that his men were dispersed into several foraging parties which ventured through Amelia, Withamsville, north of Milford, Goshen, Owensville and Batavia.

> It is believed the main column traveled north of Milford from Camp Dennison then entered Owensville from Route 132. The column then took Route 276 to Williamsburg. Part of the column arrived in Owensville about noon on Tuesday, July 14, 1863, and upon their arrival, the officer in charge entered Ulrey's General Store, which stood on the present site of the Sohio station on the southeast corner of the junction of Routes 50 and 132.

The late Mayme Ulrey, former Owensville teacher and descendant of the pioneering Owensville Ulrey's, told historian Crawford of an incident which occurred in the town involving her grandmother. According to Miss Ulrey, when the raiders arrived in town, her grandmother was the only one in the Ulrey store since most of the men were either hiding valuables in the fields outside of town or were with the army or militia that was in Cincinnati. An officer came into her grandparents' store with a couple of his men and asked her if she was the owner of the

store. The Ulreys lived in the front part of the store and the back section, which was the store, was separated from the living area by a curtain. The officer started to walk toward the curtain while asking what was behind it. Mayme's grandmother blocked his way and replied, "Sir, I have heard that Confederate officers are gentlemen, and gentlemen do not enter where they are not invited. And you Sir, are not invited into my parlor." That apparently ended the conversation, according to Mayme. The officer bowed to her grandmother and promptly left with his men, not bothering a thing.

Another incident that occurred in old Boston, and is mentioned by Crawford, as the display of a United States flag on the top of the steeple of the Boston Methodist Episcopal Church. An elderly man hung the flag then fired shots at Morgan's Confederate cavalry as they passed by. It was reported that Morgan and some of his men rode up the steps of the church and inside to bring down the man. They disarmed him, and the flag was dragged through the dusty streets, tied to a horse tail.

Another witness recalled that "When the rebels left Boston (Owensville), they tore down the Union flag in the church where it had been used at a festival and dragged it along the road to Williamsburg in derision."

In Clermont County, losses to Morgan's rebel raiders were reported by residents of Owensville and others who lived nearby but not actually in the town boundaries as they were drawn at that time. The "Raid Claims" for Boston residents are as follows:

MORGAN RAID CLAIMS FOR OWENSVILLE RESIDENTS
J. Balzhiser - horse and bridle - $125
C.W. Bilafield - bread, cakes, money, liquors and groceries - 450
Noah Booso - four horses, buggy, gun harness, clothing, jewelry and cash - $500
J. and J.F. Burns - horse, harness, corn - $100
Joseph Courtot - one horse and bridle, damage to horse, recovered - $100
A.D. Daugherty - two horses and halters - $250
John Davidson - one horse - $130
Ezekiel Dimmitt - groceries, boots, shoes, dry goods, etc. - $350
Joseph Dufau - clothing, provisions, harness, damage to two horses, recovered - $75
J. Duttenhoffer - one horse, halters, damage to horse, recovered - $200
Snowden Ferree - one horse - $125
Joseph Foster - goods from variety store and cash - $400
Nicholas Gall - groceries, dry goods, cash and horse - $285
Hezekiah Hill - one horse - $100
John B. Hill - one horse - $125
Sebastian Hoog - one horse - $95
F.X. Iuen - horse, goods from store - $400
Catherine Keller - two horses - $245
William Lattimer - spring wagon, horseshoes and tools - $700
Charles Legrand - corn and horse - $150
Henry Long - harness and damage to his carriage - $35
Moses Long - two horses -$300
James Lyon - cash, jewelry, clothing, provisions - $50
John Marsh - one horse - $50
Levi McFarland - one horse -$100

Thomas McFarland - one horse - $80
Jacob Miller - one horse - $100
William Motsinger - clothing - $20
J.M. Needham - horse and damage to one horse, recovered - $165
John G. Oonk - horse and tailor's stock - $375
William Pattison - groceries, dry goods - $80
Valentine Phillips - boots and shoes - $15
John Purkis - one horse - $124
John Rapp - two horses - $200
Joseph B. Rapp - horse, household goods, damage to horse, recovered - $200
William Rapp - three horses, gun, clothing - $350
A. Redding - one horse - $125
Thomas Shields - one horse - $60
A.C. Shumard - one horse - $120
Richard Shumard - one horse - $100
William Shumard - one horse - $100
John Snider - one horse - $40
Henry South - one horse - $60
J.F. South - horse and halter - $80
Peter South - two horses - $190
Dean Spahr - one horse - $100
*William Ulrey - one horse - $100
John Vowinkle - one horse - $100
G.W. Ware - horse, saddle and bridle - $125
Andrew Wiedman - one horse - $130
Elisha Williams - horse, bridle and provisions - $70

* NOTE In the case of W.H. Ulrey, the Union forces were returning with a lot of captured horses and fed them overnight in a field adjoining one where Mr. Ulrey had his horse, which was missing the next day; but his claim was not allowed.

Past and Present Organizations Serving the Town:
Lodges, Fire and Police Departments

Hamer Lodge:

The 198 members of Owensville's Hamer Lodge belong to one of the first organizations established in the town of Boston. Today this is the only one remaining in the village. The Lodge was chartered in 1852. From 1852 to 1880, the time of meeting was Saturday evening on or after a full moon, and the meeting place from 1852 until 1860 was Temperance Hall. In 1860, the society united with Joseph Foster, storekeeper, and built a large brick building on lot No. 33. According to 1952 member, Bro. Dr. Allan B. Rapp, "In 1959, Mr. Foster made a successful effort to interest the Lodge in a building. There is no mention of how the building was built, of how it was paid for, nor is there anything to indicate any lack of money in the conduct of the Lodge except that Mr. Foster built the first floor and the Masons built the second floor and put on the roof. In 1863, this building was ready for meetings. The furniture was made by a local cabinet maker, making first the frame for the Charter."

There is some discrepancy as to who the original founders of the Lodge were. According to Dr. Rapp, the founders included twelve members named Edmund Hartman, Benjamin C. South, James South Sr., Henry South, George Shandoney, Nathan Anderson, Samuel Anderson, Harrison McGee, William C. South, John Guy, James Smith and Mose Long. The History of Clermont County lists Josiah Anderson instead of Mose Long as one of the founders.

From the early 1900's to the early 50's, the Lodge was in the realty business. It bought the property just east of the original building and built on part of its holdings and sold part of it.

When the Foster property was put up for sale, the Lodge bought it and after a few years sold all but the store room and lower rooms so that there were no more debts.

From the start, the membership has installed a new set of officers every year. The 1987-88 officers include Daniel Vice, Windle Souders, Ernest Haggard and Robert Prewitt. Annual membership dues are presently $35 and affiliation is $15. Originally dues were set at $1.50.
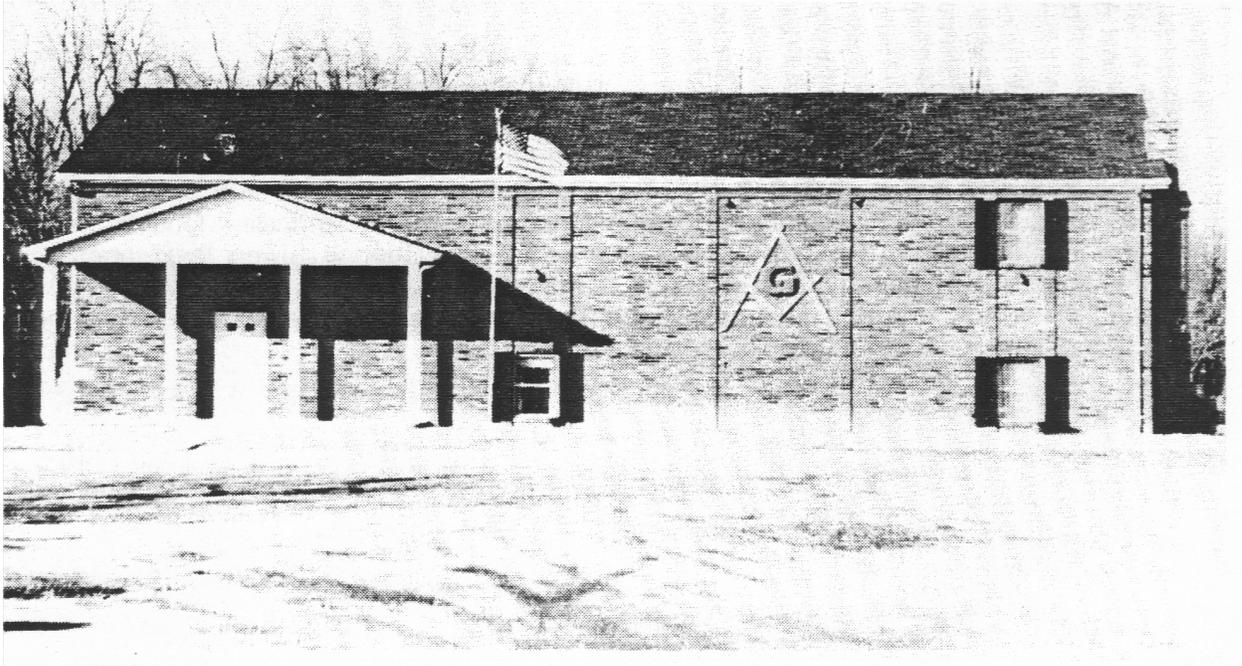
Boston Lodge:

Other organizations which existed in early Boston but are no longer in existence included the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, (Boston Lodge No. 189). Its charter was established in 1851 and its charter members were William Ulrey, Samuel Robinson, F.J. Roudebush, James Mitchell and Milton Cook. All of these members served as first officers and J.N. Pattison was treasurer. Prior to the erection of a hall, the society met in William Ulrey's attic. In 1856, a company was organized for the purpose of building an Odd Fellows hall and school room. In 1875, the lower story was made into a store, and also an addition was built on to it. In 1865, the society purchased 4 ½ acres from Thomas Marsh, which were situated on U.S. Route 50 (Milford-Chillicothe Turnpike). The land, bought at the time for $500, was to be used for a cemetery. Known as the Boston Cemetery, on December 18, 1864 the first person to be buried there was James Patchell. Located one mile west of Owensville, the cemetery is still well kept.

Sons of Temperance:

The Boston Division, No. 280, Sons of Temperance, also came into existence early in Owensville's history. The organization was instituted on July 14, 1847 with the original members including J.G. Buchanan, Cyrus Noble, E. Dimmitt, E. Fitzgerald, Albert Redding, William Buchanan, Samuel South, William South, Ira Harrold, John Cozart and Richard Routh. The division in Boston met until March, 1865 when the meetings were suspended and not resumed until April, 1868. A new organization had been created in the meantime. Under a new charter, the Sons met until some time after 1872 when it was discontinued. In 1875, the hall where the division held its meetings was donated to the Boston special school district.

Boston Grange:

In 1873, the Boston Grange, No. 127, Patrons of Husbandry, merged with members D.D. Marsh, A.M. Marsh, F.J. Roudebush, A. Roudebush, J.L. Roudebush, E.G. Patchell, J.B. Needham, Thomas Needham, James Needham, John Burns, David Meek, John Moore, T.C. Teal, W.I. Craig, A. Davidson, Ellen Roudebush, Sarah Roudebush, Ada Marsh, Belle Marsh, S. Marsh, Elizabeth Needham and Mary Needham. For a time, the Grange kept up its organization, but meetings were discontinued in 1876 when interest declined.

Owensville Fire Department:

In the winter of 1946, a group of men realized the need for fire protection and organized the Owensville Fire Department. The first fire unit was purchased at that time after the community participated in a fund-raising drive for donations to buy a truck. After a few months, enough money had been pledged to buy the first truck, a 1947 Ford, now known as "Granny". The money for the establishment of the department and the purchase of equipment came from the village funds, as the Owensville Council approved a sum of two hundred dollars. These funds were approved for surplus war equipment and for purchase of pike poles, a fire hose and nozzles, several sections of additional 1½" and 2" hose, and a front mount pump. The truck was sent to a Cincinnati firm which built the tank and put the front mount pump in place.

The pumper and equipment were stored in the village hall, which also doubled as the city municipal building, at the corner of South Broadway and Short Street. Although the fire company began its role in community in 1947, it became officially chartered as the Owensville and Rural Volunteer Fire Department in January, 1948.

The department started with about twenty volunteers and the first run was to the Fry residence on Hutchinson Road. The first chief was Merlin Cramer, followed by Urban Groves, John L. Lohrer, Clarence Brown, George Cox, Phillip Shumard and the current chief Randy Bailey.

Later on, a water tanker was added to the department when Goebel and Thelma Williams donated an old gasoline truck which was converted and became the first additional truck. The next addition was another used truck which became a rescue unit. To fight field fires, a Jeep was also bought.

With more trucks, came the need for more spaces. The firemen themselves constructed an addition to the municipal hall, which provided a separate facility for the department.

In the early 1960's, the fire department joined the county network of fire dispatching. In the summer of 1964, this was proved to be a great improvement in notifying firemen. When a fire is reported, a centralized dispatcher in Batavia sets the fire siren in motion and continually gives directions over a receiving unit. This system keeps the drivers in constant contact with the county so that when help is needed they can be there. When the siren sounds in Owensville, it blows on a three-minute cycle then shuts off automatically.

Also by 1964, the Owensville firemen needed another fund-raising drive to purchase a new fire engine. The drive took firemen throughout Stonelick Township and parts of Jackson Township, and more than 1100 families were contacted. In 1972 and again in 1988, new engines were added to the department. Also a few years ago, an old oil truck was purchased and rebuilt into a tanker to replace the old tanker and the entire department was involved in the conversion of this vehicle. In addition to replacing the old water tanker, a 1978 Ford truck replaced the old rescue unit and doubled as a salvage truck.

The Stonelick Trustees built a new township building on Stonelick-Williams Corner Road with a large part of the building to be used as Station Two for the northern part of Stonelick Township. Ten new volunteers joined the department to man the new station at that time. Presently, there are eight vehicles, including a 1987 Ford Pumper and two stations in service.

Of all the fire runs that the department has had, several will always be cited as most outstanding. One was when a gasoline tanker exploded and burned on Aber Road in Jackson Township. Another was when the wooden grandstand at the Clermont County fairgrounds caught fire on March 9, 1969 at 5:05 a.m. Damage at the fairgrounds was estimated at $300,000, and lost to the community in addition to the grandstand were rabbit coops, horse hurdles, fencing, ticket booths, utility poles, a 4H livestock scale, trailers parked nearby, roofs of adjacent buildings and eight mature maple trees.

Today's volunteer firemen, emergency medical technicians and additional rescue unit members include the following:

Randy Bailey-Chief	Charles Martin
Rodney Bates	Doug Mason
Ronald Beach	Sue Mason
Diana Becker	John Mathews
Mike Biron	Chris Merrill
Robert Bolce	David Meyers
Mike Bostic	Walter Midgley
Ray Campbell-Asst. Chief	Curtis Patchell
Danny Cooper	Tim Pollman
Edward Cooper	Kevin Ponchot
James Cooper	John Puckett
Leonard Cooper	Jim Reed
Ronald Cox	Gary Robinson
Bonnie Dalton	Walter Shipley
Robert Flint	Carl Snider
William Galvin	James Strayer
Ed Holland	Mark Tucker
Roy Honeycutt	Rob Weaver
Carol Hopkins	Chris Williams
Chris Howell	Gene Williams
Skeets Humphries	Sondra Williams
Cliff Jackson	Gene Woodruff

The Police Department:
The 1988 police force consists of: Tom Ellis-Chief and part-time officers Michael Wiggins, Leonard Hopper and Howard Clancy.

CURRENT CRUISER

THE MAIN STREET INTERSECTION WITH THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF THE ODD FELLOWS LODGE AND THE OLD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH ON THE LEFT

THE PRESENT:

MAIN STREET INTERSECTION WITH THE MARATHON STATION ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER, GREEN VALLEY ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER, AND BANK ONE ON THE SOUTHEASTERN CORNER AND THE OLD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH REMAINS TODAY AND SERVES AS A TOWN HALL.

THE PAST:

MAIN STREET WEST OF THE OLD METHODIST CHURCH - EARLY 1900'S
DUMFORD STORE ON THE RIGHT AND BLACKSMITH SHOP WHICH IS PRESENT
DAY SITE 0 THE IGA.

THE PRESENT:

MAIN STREET (WEST OF THE OLD METHODIST CHURCH) - 1988
IGA, YORK AND KOPP HAWLEY'S BUSINESSES ON THE RIGHT.

THE FAVRET'S STORE, LATER KNOWN AS "MOM" MUELLER'S, ON THE CORNER OF BROADWAY AND MAIN STREET IS THE PRESENT SITE OF THE GREEN VALLEY STORE.

VIN ANSTAETT'S PURE OIL STATION - 1964
THIS BUILDING ON THE CORNER OF MAIN AND BELFAST, FORMERLY FAVRET'S, WAS REMODELED AND BECAME THE GREEN VALLEY STORE

DUMFORD HOME ON WEST MAIN STREET: PRESENT DAY SITE OF IGA PARKING
LOT. THE BUILDING WAS TORN DOWN IN 1977.

THE CLARENCE BUERKLE HOME ON U.S. 50 ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE IGA
STORE. HE WAS THE FORMER OWNER OF THE IGA PROPERTY.
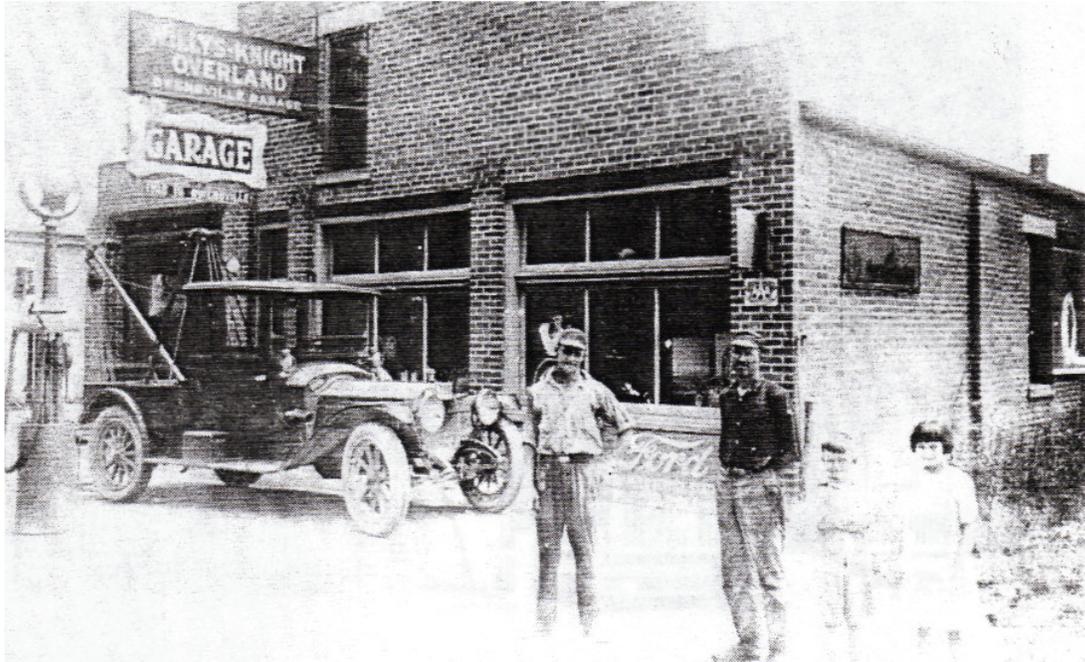
ROSSELOT GARAGE (EARLY 1920'S) - LOCATED ON WEST MAIN STREET. PICTURED
ARE DON GRAVER, JOE ROSSELOT, BERT ROSSELOT
AND VIOLA ROSSELOT DIETZ.

ROSSELOT'S GARAGE IN 1923 – JOE FETTER, ED BRUNK, LOUIS, ED & JOE
ROSSELOTT

HOME OF ED THIREY, CO-WRITER OF THIREY & MITCHELL'S 1902 ENCYCLOPEDIC DIRECTORY AND HISTORY OF CLERMONT COUNTY; PRESENTLY THE SITE OF DR. DENNIS BROWN'S FAMILY DENTISTRY.

THE OWENSVILLE ROLLER MILLS - SNIDER & WEST, PROPRIETORS: CLEM SNIDER AND HIS TWO SONS IN FRONT OF THE MILL, PRESENTLY THE SITE OF OWENSVILLE SUPPLY.

Owensville at Present — 1988

Owensville today is still a quiet village and has a population of just over 800. Businesses in the village are as varied as they were in the late 1800's although they reflect the different needs of today's population. These businesses include: Schmid's Sunoco gas station, 50 Club Tavern, Angilo's Pizza Parlor, Grossnickle Blackburn Insurance, Kopp Hawley Insurance, Shell gas station, York Discount Drugs, Brownie's IGA store, Hanley Builders, Woodruff's Drug Store, Marathon gas station, Green Valley convenience store, Sohio gas station, Bank One, Hair Designs by Janet, Telemedia Cable Company, Shumard's Hardware, Owensville Florist, Family Denistry, Magic Touch beauty salon and Double B Antiques. At the edge of the village are Hargis Real Estate, Gil and Mike's Transmission Shop, Sugar Shack Restaurant, Owensville Supply (at the site of the old Snider Roller Mills), Old Boston Auto Body and Clermont Savings Bank.

These businesses serve residents who live in the surrounding homes, farms and in several apartment buildings which are located just outside the town. There is the Owensville Manor which is just off South Broadway, Owensville Villa off Main Street and Owensville Commons, a senior citizens' complex which has apartments on three floors and is located behind the post office with its entrance on the western end of town off Route 50.

There are also two churches within the village boundaries. St. Louis Catholic Church which was built in 1920 and the old Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1859, which was also used by the Church of Christ until 1987. In that year this old building was purchased by the town to be used as offices and meeting rooms, following the Church of Christ's move to their new building east of town on Route 50. Other churches just outside of the town limits are the Owensville Baptist Church, State Route 132 near the fairgrounds and the Owensville United Methodist Church on U.S. Route 50, also east of town.

The Methodist Church recently sold some of its property for the building of the Owensville branch of the Clermont Public Library which will also be on U.S. Route 50. In the vicinity is also the Hamer Lodge 228, which has a new brick building on Main Street. On the edge of town, on South Broadway, is the Stonelick Township office building. Next to it remains the Northeastern Primary School. On Owensville-Belfast Road, north of Main Street, is the St. Louis Parochial School for grades 1-8. The fairgrounds just outside of the town boundary continues to provide the facilities for the Clermont County Fair in July. The Owensville Post Office, now located near the fairgrounds, is on the same western end of town, on the south side of Main Street.

Governing Owensville in 1988 are the recently elected Mayor, Walter Midgely Jr., Vice Mayor, John Mathews and council members Betty Yeager, Ruth Homan, Agnes Gauche, Tanya Pindle and Rick McEvoy. The town clerk is Earline Smith, Police Chief is Tom Ellis and there are three part-time officers. Sue Palmer is also a trained police officer who does secretarial work for the department. The Fire Department is still located on Broadway in the same building used by the Stonelick Township Life Squad.

RAY HAWLEY'S OFFICE ON MAIN STREET
IT HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR THE OHIO HISTORIC REGISTER

WOODRUFF'S DRUG STORE, MAIN STREET

OWENSVILLE COMMONS, A SENIOR CITIZENS HOUSING COMPLEX, LOCATED BEHIND THE POST OFFICE ON MAIN STREET.

THE STONELICK TOWNSHIP OFFICE BUILDING LOCATED ON THE SOUTH END OF TOWN NEXT TO THE C.N.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Past and Present: Churches of Owensville

Church of Christ:

In the fall of 1970, the Church of Christ of Owensville was established. A minister from the Cincinnati Bible Seminary, Brother Frank Sloan, answered the call.

The small group of worshipers held their first service at the home of Ann and Wes Widmer on Route 50 on September 27. In October, permission was granted to use the gym at the Owensville Elementary School for worship. The charter members of the Church of Christ on October 18, 1970 included the members of the Duchemin, Engle, Highley, Honeycutt, Grill, King, McGuire, Ohler, Pittman, Rose, Rogers, Theaderman, Turner, Widmer and Woods families.

In 1971, the vacant Methodist Church building on Main Street was rented. In 1972, the building was purchased and the money for the purchase and repairs was raised for the most part by fourteen families who pledged contributions and gave of their money and labor.

In 1987, the Church of Christ completed construction of its new building. The new Church of Christ is presently located on the south side of Route 50 about one-half mile east of Owensville, and there are 111 members belonging to the congregation in 1988.
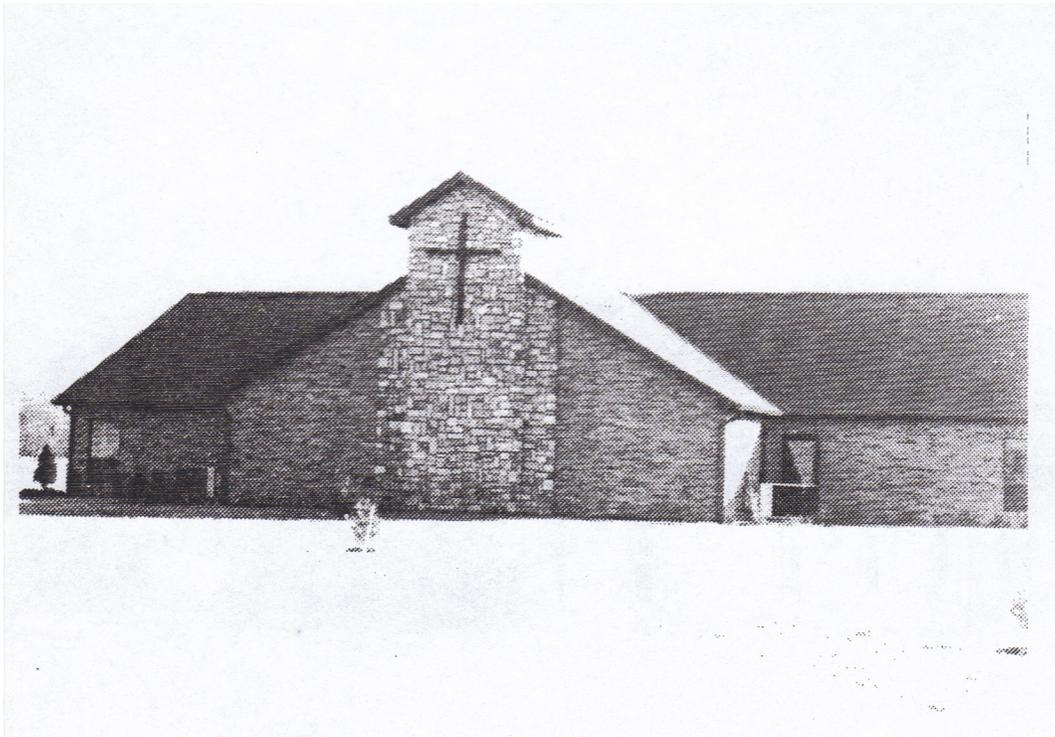
OWENSVILLE CHURCH .OF CHRIST (1987) LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF ROUTE 50, ONE-HALF MILE EAST OF OWENSVILLE.

German United Brethren Church:

The Owensville German United Brethren Church was built in 1876 on the corner of Evans Court and South Broadway by Messers. Gomien and Favret for $150. The membership was composed of families, who for religious freedom and other reasons, had chosen to come to America from Germany. The family names were: Wehrums, Lillard, Jung, Hauserman, Bone, Magley and later Ansteatt, Schultz, Schobert and Winemiller. As time passed, the memberships transferred to the Batavia Church and the former church building became the Dale McKay Garage.

Boston Methodist Church:

The first Boston Methodist Church was organized about 1811 at the home of John Ferree, one mile west of Boston. This farm, originally owned by A.M. Marsh, on the south side of U.S. 50, was located across from the Odd Fellows (Stonelick Township) cemetery.

The first class leader was James Pattison. Samuel Hill, Richard Marsh and Benjamin South were also pioneer class leaders. Class leaders presided over subgroups of twelve persons within the Methodist groups, which were called societies. These classes within the society met regularly. Preaching was from one to three times a month.

In 1825, the house of James Pattison, where Pattison Park is now located, became the preaching place for the society, which at that time numbered over 50. Early church officers at this time included: Trustees J.M. Robinson, John Marsh, Joseph Marsh, A.M. Marsh, Mahlon Marsh, A. Hulick, Dr. L.H. Medaris, J.N. Pattison and Dr. J.S. Combs; Recording Steward Mahlon Marsh; Stewards A. Hulick, Joseph Marsh, Dr. J.S. Combs, Mahlon Marsh, D.H. Hill and J.W.S. Robinson. Class leaders were John Vance, E. Dimmitt, A.M. Marsh and Joseph Marsh.

In 1845, a Sunday school was organized with A. Hulick serving as superintendent. By this time, the church had developed a library which contained over 200 volumes and the school had a membership of 210.

The most prominent revival of the early Methodist Church took place in the winter of 1868-69 under the preaching of Rev. R.K. Deem, when over 250 united with the church.

The Boston Methodist society had two church buildings prior to 1880. The first one was a stone building constructed on the road leading from Boston to Batavia (Route 132), at the junction of Jackson Pike and the Batavia Road. The building stood in front of the cemetery there and was built in 1831. It was 30 by 50 feet, one story high and cost $900.

The original church building was torn down and a new one was erected on Main Street in 1858. This new Methodist Episcopal Church cost $8000 and measured 75 by 45 feet. The second story of the two-story structure was not completed, however, until 1866 when the upper level was divided into the main audience room and gallery. Still standing today, the church is located next to the Marathon Station on the south side of Main Street. The building was occupied by the Owensville Church of Christ until 1987 when they moved to their new church outside the town on the south side of U.S.50. Today the building is owned by the village.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (1858) - BOUGHT BY THE TOWN IN 1989 TO BE USED AS A TOWN HALL, THE BUILDING IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING PLACED ON THE OHIO REGISTER OF HISTORICAL PLACES.

For many years Owensville, Newtonsville and Belfast Methodist churches comprised the "Owensville charge." In 1968, however, Owensville elected to become a one-church station. At this time they decided to relocate. On October 7, 1968 the United Methodist Men's Fellowship purchased 6.8 acres of land from Jerome and Albert Spahr for the purpose of building their new church. The ground breaking was held June 20, 1970. Work rapidly proceeded and the first worship service was held in the new building located outside the town, east of Brushy Fork Road on the north side of U.S. 50 on December 20, 1970. The consecration service was January 24, 1971 with Bishop F. Gerald Ensley, Bishop of the West Ohio Conference presiding. Additional acreage was purchased in 1971 and the parsonage was erected at that time.

OWENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (1970) - LOCATED ALMOST A MILE EAST OF THE TOWN ON THE NORTH SIDE OF ROUTE 50.

St. Louis Catholic Church:

In 1856, a group of parishioners organized by Rev. Joseph Staley, belonging to the St. Philomena Parish in Stonelick, met and petitioned Archbishop John Purcell to found a new parish at Boston (Owensville). The petition was granted and in 1857 the first church was built for $3000. Parishioners such as John Snider, F.X. Iuen and Peter Fetter hauled the material and assisted in constructing the brick 40 by 75 foot, one story building. It was consecrated by Bishop Purcell on July 17, 1857.

Before the church was built, Mass was offered in the home of Christian Iuen, who was one of the pioneer settlers. The first recorded baptisms were Andrew Dufau and Elizabeth Iuen which were administered by Bishop Purcell in the homes of Charles Dufau and Francis X. Iuen in December, 1856.

Family names appearing on the first parochial register were: John Snider, Michael Yeager, Claude Favret, Joseph Powell, Joseph Wiederhold, Nicholas Gomien, John Gerard and Fred Mossett. The first recorded marriage is that of Charles Witschger and Rose Mary Gaul on April 17, 1860. The first burial recorded is that of Catherine Snider Hart on January 27, 1859.

ST. LOUIS CHURCH - OCTOBER, 1899, FIRST COMMUNION:

BACK ROW - RAY GRAVER, ED BOGGS, CLEM SNIDER, GEORGE NOTE, ED MEYERS, RAYMOND YEAGER:
2ND ROW - LOUIS SNIDER, JOE BURGER, JOHN F. RAPP:
FRONT ROW - TERESA FLISCHEL, LENA HARDEN, ANNA WHITMER FETTER, CARRIE HESS, PHILIP SNIDER, JOE BUERKLE.

In 1879, the church was renovated and a steeple added at a cost of $1500. Also, the rectory, built about the time of the first church, had a front porch built on it. In 1884 and 1885, Louise Favret and Emma Favret entered the Convent of Mt. St. Joseph-on-the-Ohio. As sisters of Charity, they were known as Sister Clara Louise and Sister Mary Corsina. On June 9, 1928, Arnold Favret was ordained to the priesthood.

EARLY PICTURE OF ST. LOUIS CHURCH AND RECTORY BEFORE THE CHURCH BURNED.

The year 1921 witnessed the completion of a new church at a cost of $40,000. Monsignor William J. Anthony was pastor. At that time, the men listed as wardens and members of the Building and Finance Committee were: Henry Barnickle, J.L. Favret, Fred Fomorin, John Rosselot, John Gaul, Charles LeGros, Andrew Lohrer, Joseph Rein, Fred Brown, George Gauche and W.J. Snider, This building still is standing.

During the pastorate of Rev. James R. Haley, $51,000 was raised toward the building of a school. The new school building committee that was formed in 1956 included: Eugene Kettman, William Breving, Louis Rapp, Joseph McEvoy, John Bauer, Charles Bailey, Harold Brothers, Paul Brown, Don Carlier, John Dietz, Edward Evans, George Flischel, Stanley Gauche, Robert Lohrer, Dan McAfee, Harry Quallen, Charles Rein, Clifford Rosselot, Clifford Vonderheide, George Weaver and Mr. William Riehle.

ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH BUILT IN 1920 AFTER THE FIRST CHURCH BURNED. IT IS ON BELFAST ROAD.

In September, 1957, the Parish's first school and parish hall were completed and furnished at a cost of $200,000. The new school contained four classrooms and a multi purpose room. Additional facilities included a kitchen, office, clinic, storage areas, lavatories and a 160 gallon storage space for water. This first multi-purpose room measures 85 by 46 feet and was designed to seat 500 people. The building was designed to permit future expansion without remodeling. Mr. Carl Freund was the architect and Messers. Dugan and Meyers were the contractors of the school and hall.

The first faculty of the school was comprised of two Ursuline Sisters of St. Martin, Ohio, Sisters Martha and Regina, in addition to Mrs. Clarence Sommer, Mr. Paul Bruening and assistant teacher, Betty Drum. There were 203 children attending school with 73 students from neighboring parishes in Stonelick, Batavia and Vera Cruz.

Preceded by Rev. Dittman until the mid 1970's, Rev. James Peaker presently serves as pastor for St, Louis and over 400 families in the parish. In 1986, a new all-purpose building was added to the St. Louis School under the leadership of the principal at that time, Sr. Kathleen O'Rourke. The new school facility provides a larger area for physical education activities, a stage for school programs, and much needed space for fund-raising activities such as bingo, the August festival and November spaghetti dinner. The present principal at the school is Sr. Adriana Lentz, and there are 204 students enrolled in the first through eighth grades.

ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL ON BELFAST ROAD WHICH HAS STUDENTS FROM FIRST THRU EIGHTH GRADES. IT WAS BUILT IN 1956 WITH A NEW GYM ADDED IN 1987.

First Baptist Church of Owensville:

The First Baptist Church of Owensville had its beginning in 1939 in Milford, Ohio. At that time, it was the ninth Southern Baptist Church in the state and was located on rental property on the west bank of the Little Miami River and on the south side of the bridge. At this location, C.C. Ingram was the pastor with a membership of approximately 23.

The church then moved to rental property in Stonelick Township, Clermont County in 1940 with approximately 28 members. John Smith became pastor there around 1941 and remained until 1944 when C.W. Jessee became pastor on the first Sunday of that year in November.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (1949) - LOCATED ACROSS FROM THE FAIRGROUNDS ON ROUTE 132. THE NORTH WING WAS ADDED TO THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURE IN 1954.

According to The Cincinnati Post, .February 26, 1972, since becoming pastor of the church, Jessee led four building programs and started churches in Mason and Felicity as mission ventures. Upon his arrival, Jessee began his building program by writing and editing a church newspaper, published on contract by The Courier for more than twelve years. One of his first editorial subjects was a building fund, a theme he pursued until enough money was raised to buy a lot in Owensville. In a little more than four years from the time of his arrival, Rev. Jessee was preaching from the pulpit of a new church. Membership soared from about 30 to 250 with baptism in the Southern Baptist tradition at around 300.

On the single acre of land in Owensville, the new building offered an auditorium, offices, ten Sunday school rooms, restrooms and other facilities. This new First Baptist Church building officially welcomed its members in May, 1949. In 1952, additional acreage was purchased by the church for the north wing.

Rev. Jessee also pioneered a Sunday Radio program which was initiated at the church and broadcast over WPFB-910, Middletown. On the air every Sunday from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m., the radio program helped to increase church membership and finances during the 1950's.

A Women's Missionary Union was organized by the Church in 1947, and a Training Union was also organized in 1954. The church voted in 1948 to affiliate with the Kentucky State Convention of Southern Baptists and in December, 1953 the church voted to become a charter member of the then proposed Ohio State Convention of Southern Baptists.

Rev. Jessee served until 1972 when he retired. The most recent pastor of the church was Bill Allen who was preceded by Rev. Bishop.
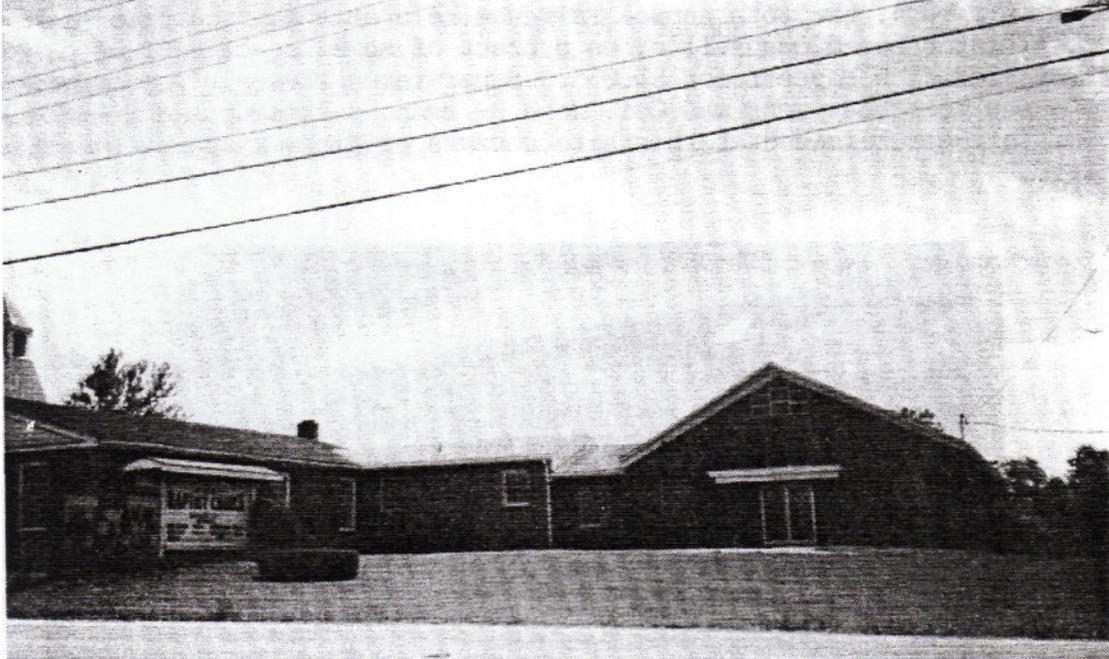
Rural Tradition Enriches Today's County Fair

The 140th Clermont County Fair of 1989 was first organized by an Act of the General Assembly in Ohio in 1846 which established a State Board of Agriculture and encourages the formation of "county societies." Then, in 1849, the Franklin Society of Monroe Township was merged into the county-wide Clermont County Agricultural Society, and the first annual fair was held on September 28, 1849 on the Pinkham Farm near Bantam, with 110 members of the society. That year over 2,000 attended, and the fair was considered a success. The second annual fair was held at Slade's Tavern on the Ohio Turnpike. In addition to the exhibition of horses and cattle which was considered the "finest ever seen," bountiful exhibits of fruits and vegetables, crafts and elegant handiwork were featured.

In 1853, five and a half acres were purchased from John Slade for a permanent fairground at Bantam. In 1856, however, the Society which had held seven annual fairs at Bantam, split into two organizations, one retaining the original name and moving to Olive Branch to hold its fairs, the other taking the name of Clermont County Agricultural Society near Bantam and continuing to sponsor the annual Bantam Fair.

The first exhibition at Olive Branch under the reorganized Clermont County Agricultural Society was held in 1857. A.C. Clancy was Grand Marshal, and records show the fair was very successful. Annual Fairs were held at Olive Branch until 1864. The only year a near failure occurred was in 1863 when distractions of the Civil War and General Kirby Smith's Rebel Army threatened to invade Cincinnati at about the time of the fair in September. According to one historian, the exhibits that year showed that tobacco raising was increasing along the Ohio River; that the quality of cattle was steadily improving; and that considerable attention was being given to the raising of mules and jacks.

In 1864, the 16th Annual Fair was held at the new location in Boston, Ohio (later named Owensville) on a tract of some 23 acres of land purchased from Frederick Mossett for $1,055. Supervising the Fair's inauguration at its new site that year was Col. John H. Branch, President and Grand Marshal. The fair has remained at this site and was originally known as the "Boston Fair."
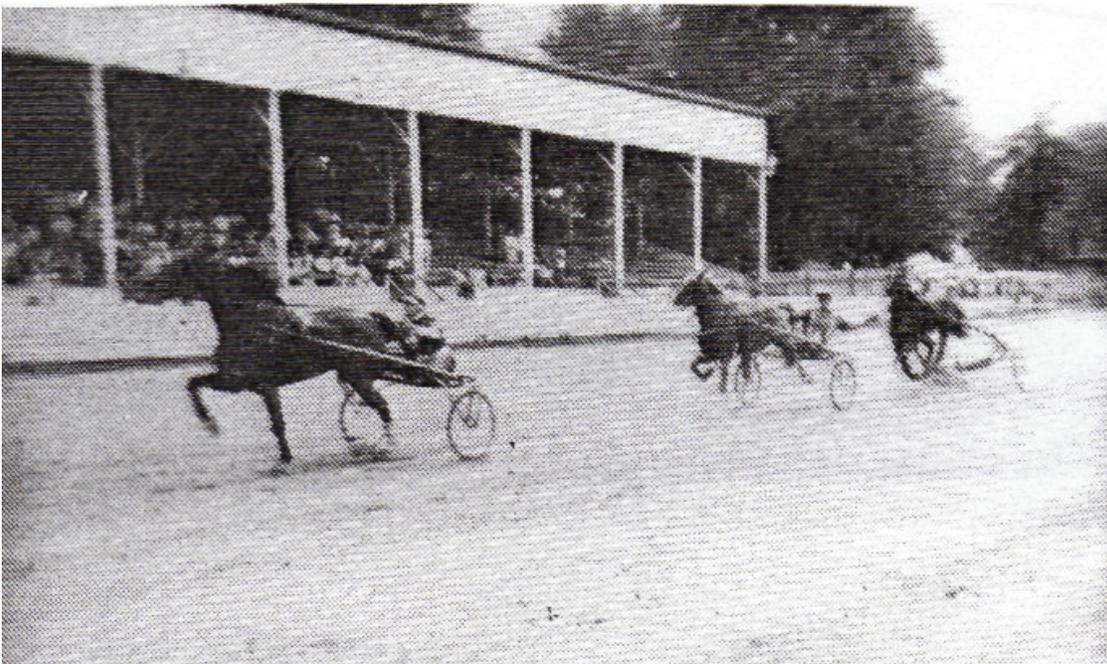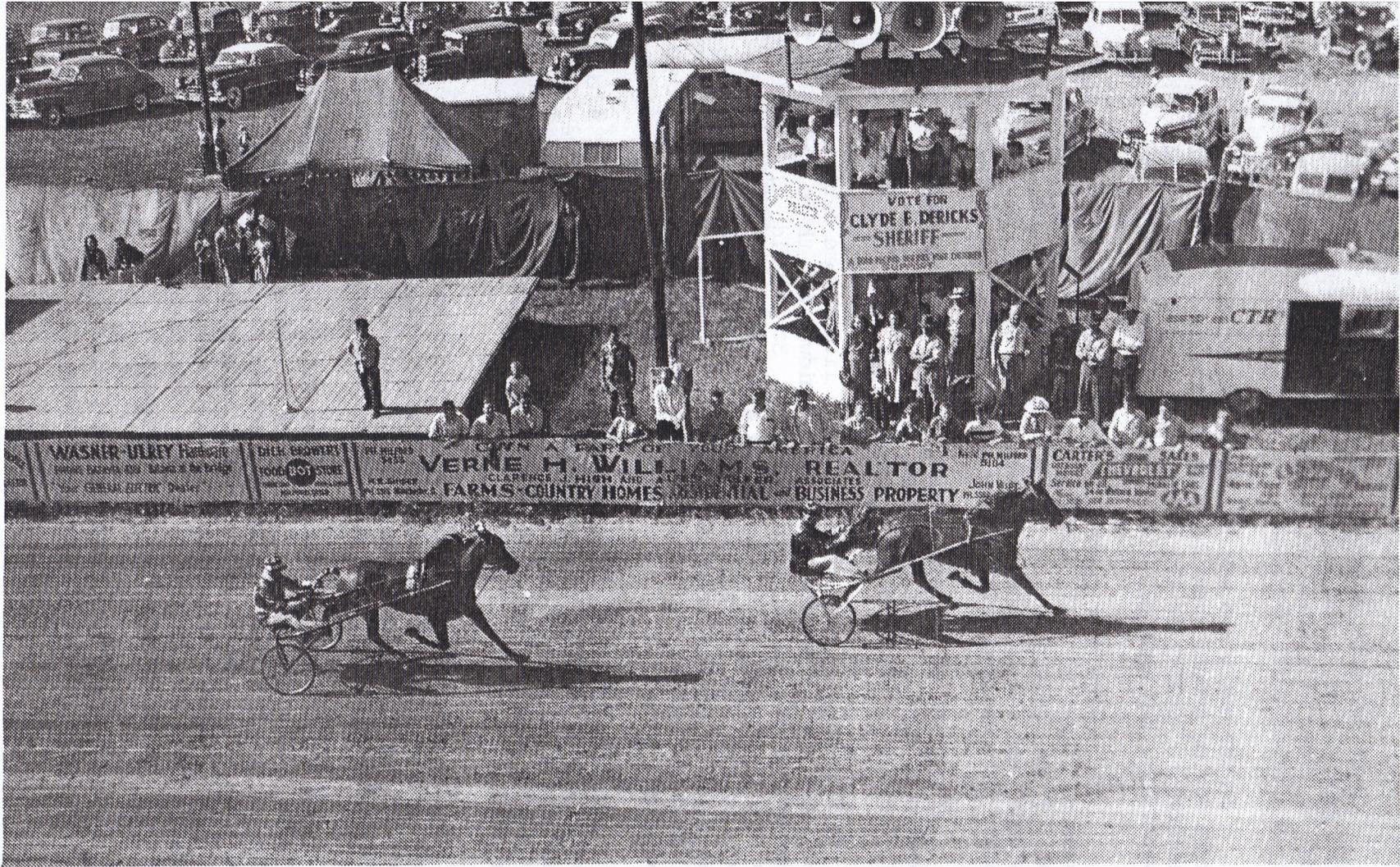
CLERMONT COUNTY HORSE RACE AT 1940'S FAIR.

Recollections of William C. Benton - The County Fair:

As we get into middle age and beyond, it is fashionable to talk about the "good old days" and remember things as they were, but sometimes I fear that we dream of a world that never was. Our memory plays us kind. Still it is a dream worth keeping.

In the early and mid thirties, not much happened in Owensville, yet there was an annual event of major proportions. The Clermont County Fair, referred to locally as the Boston Fair. Boston was an earlier name for Owensville, but many old timers refused to concede the change of name.

The Boston Fair opened in Owensville, usually on the third week of August. It was strictly a daytime affair and extended from noon Tuesday until Friday afternoon. No night fair and Monday was "set-up" day and Saturday was the day they took everything down and moved out. The Clermont County Fair was and still is the longest continuous running fair in Ohio

The price of admission was either 75¢ or a dollar, but that was no concern of ours. We all belonged to a 4H club and had an entry for the fair, which carried with it a gate pass.

I do believe that the fair had a little more carnival aspect to it then than now. We would start up the midway and there it was; barkers with a megaphone calling for your attention. Step inside, ladies and gentlemen, see the two-headed calf. A girl in a box with a man shoving swords through slots in the box. Step inside, ladies and gentlemen. Monkeys with helmets and goggles, ready to ride miniature motorcycles around an inclined oval wall; watch them race, ride, slip and slide, a mile a minute on the wall. See it all inside.

And finally, the ultimate: See Josephine, half man, half woman, fully revealed just beyond these curtains and for the small price of twenty five cents; one fourth part of a dollar. This was the age of the "hard sell," but if our parents caught us coining out of that one, we were on our way home NOW.

Just beyond the side shows were the booths. Buy a whip, boys; buy a whip. Keep them in line. Ring a cane and win a kewpie doll for your sweetheart. Or the milk bottles. Knock them all off in one and win a salad bowl. Carnival glass, not worth carrying home. What is carnival glass worth now?

On the other side of the midway was the ferris wheel, the merry-go-round and what other rides they might bring in. There are three sounds that take those of our generation to instant rhapsody: The far off whistle of a train, the clarion call of a river calliope or the hurdy-gurdy effect of a merry-go-round. Instant transportation to an earlier age when all the world was young and all our friends were true. Having heard them, we will spend the rest of our lives hoping to hear them again.

Toward the end of the midway was the only candy stand. This was where they kept most of their frozen ice cream and other confections, but the center piece was the taffy pull or ice cream candy center.

On the center pole of the tent was a large iron hook about three feet in length doubled back in an open loop upon itself to a length of perhaps one foot. The candy man took a large lump of taffy and starting up close, threw it around the open loop and drew it out, repeating the process while slowly retreating backward from the center pole and extruding it to a length of ten or fifteen feet and the taffy at the desired width and thickness. He laid the candy on a long table, cut it into length, wrapped it in wax paper and it was ready for the trade. Hard as a brick. For a dime, you could eat all day.

If there was a large crowd at the fair, the candy man would hire some of us kids to circulate around the grounds, working as candy butchers. The Board of Health never entered the picture, but one never dies from ice cream or candy poison either.

Just inside the main walk-in gate and in front of the floral hall the born carny man took up residence with his bag of tricks - a small cage containing a rattle snake, another with a Gila monster inside, and a cardboard suitcase. There was no booth and no tent.

He was dressed in half-length leather boots, leather trousers, an un-buttoned sleeveless vest, and an Indian headband decorated with feathers holding in place his full head of jet black, shoulder length hair. He said he was a full-blooded Cherokee. He did have the high cheek bones and complexion of an Indian, so that is as it might be.

A short war whoop, a couple of dance steps and he was off and running. He would give us a short lecture on rattlesnakes and then, almost as an aside, he would ask if anyone had a problem with corns or sore feet. Of course, his shill had moved down front so he came limping forward hardly able to walk. The Indian leaned over and poured some snake oil on his shoes, right through the leather. He appeared to forget the long suffering patient for several minutes while he lectured on the gila monster, then suddenly he spun around and stamped the shill's sore feet.

Did that hurt? I couldn't feel a thing. For the first time in five years, my feet don't hurt. Then the Indian reached down, opened his suitcase full of snake oil and the fleece was on.

It must have been 1934 or 1935 that early during fair week a cloth and wood constructed bi-plane appeared over the grounds and this "high flying eagle" executed several inside loops, a few slow "fall offs", any number of tight rolls and delayed stalls. This series of maneuvers could be seen and heard for several miles, and soon kids came pouring in. The eagle landed in what then was a vacant field across State Route 132 from the fairground and sold rides for either $1 or $2. Whichever, it was too much for me.

When you stop and consider, we were closer then to World War I than we are now to the Korean War. Almost as close as the Viet Nam War. Closer to Baron von Richtoften, the Red Baron and his "flying circus." Closer to the Lafayette escadrille. The silk scarf war. A tip of the wine to the vanquished and a few empty seats in the pub tonight. Small wonder that such a plane held so much fascination for us.

Early Schools in Boston and Clermont Northeastern Schools Today:

Even before Boston became an incorporated village, schools also became an important feature in the growth of the town. The first schoolhouse in Stonelick Township was located not far from the village and was a long building built in 1805 on what became the fairgrounds - near the east door of the floral hall of the Boston Agricultural Society. The structure was only 15 by 20 feet and included a fireplace that took up the entire wall on the east side of the building. Windows also ran the entire length of the building and were constructed by removing horizontal logs and covering the space with greased paper instead of glass. This school stood about ten years.

Serving the first residents of the Boston area and the township was the first teacher named Edmunds. He came from Ireland around 1785 and moved to the area teaching in this school and in other houses in the township in 1804 until he died accidentally from burns received at Huston and Fletcher's distillery. One of the many schools which existed in different homes, according to the practice at the time, was that which was held in the residence of Mrs. Smith. Listed among the pupils of the widowed teacher were W. Roudebush, the Marsh children, William, John and Patience, and Riddle Taliaferro.

OWENSVILLE GRADE SCHOOL (W. MAIN STREET) (LUCILLE SCHMID HOME)

In 1867, the Boston special school district was organized and was constituted by the consolidation of school districts 2 and 10. This school was opened with two grades. It was in 1826 that Stonelick Township was divided into school districts by the township trustees. At first these districts numbered six, and by 1867 had increased to 10 just before consolidation. The first

board of education was composed of the local directors, of all the districts, who were W. Marsh, W.J. Farewell, J.N. Pattison, J.G. Oonk, F.J. Roudebush and J.W. Robinson. Appropriate rules for the government of the schools were adopted, which were rigidly enforced, and the standard of the schools was soon raised to such an extent that they enjoyed an excellent reputation for thorough scholarship and discipline, justifying the measure of forming a special district. The first principal of the Boston schools was Jacob V. Rapp. Other principals in these years prior to 1900 included C.J. Harrison, Adda Combs, G.W. Wood, Mahlon Marsh and S.A. Muchmore.

In Boston, the first school was a log building located on Main Street which later became John Rapp's store. Later a high school was placed in the Odd Fellows building at the corner of Main and Broadway. Also the Temperance Hall on Short Street housed a high school. This two-story building was occupied on the first floor by the Sons of Temperance in 1876 when the building was constructed. The second floor was used by grades 8-12. Later both floors accommodated all grades. This building was later converted into a one family residence and became the home of Miss Mayme Ulrey, descendent of the Ulreys which were one of Boston's first families.

FORMER TEMPERANCE HALL AND SCHOOL ON SHORT STREET.

BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL, BUILT 1893

In 1893, the first high school was built on East Main Street, the site when later, Dr. Allan Rapp in 1924, built a beautiful new home. Eventually, the school on East Main Street became too small to accommodate the students, and by 1919 classes were scattered to different buildings in town.

FORMER HOME OF DR. ALAN RAPP AND PRESENT HOME OF RAY AND MARY JO HAWLEY.

A new Owensville school was constructed on South Broadway in 1923, and was for all grades. The first class was graduated from this new building in 1924. Some of the other structures which served as school rooms for the six lower grades during the years preceding the construction of the school on South Broadway were the Odd Fellows Hall, jail (now the Fire House), United Brethren Church (Dale McKay's garage), Rapp's Store at the corner of Pleasant and Main Streets and in a room over the Post Office.

The concept of the local district took form before county, state or federal levels of organization became involved in education. Population growth on the local level helped to make the one-room independent school house obsolete. From the start, a form of consolidation for schools in Ohio has always been in progress. In 1879, Clermont County had 159 buildings in use. By 1900, the number had been reduced to 129. By 1920, the number was 113, and from 1920 to 1935, 66 more buildings had been closed.

FIRST GRADUATING CLASS FROM NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, SOUTH BROADWAY, 1924.

FIRST GRADUATING CLASS FROM NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING,
SOUTH BROADWAY 1924.

FIRST ROW: FLORENCE SAPP, EVA DANIELS, LUCILLE ANSTAETT, MILDRED
BURDSALL, ZOLA TUCKER,
DOROTHY LONG, MILDRED STEWARD, LIDA MARGARET VARNEY
BACK ROW: HELEN ELLIOTT, HESTER SHIVELEY, ANNE POTTINGER, RUTH
DEVINE, HERBERT SNELL, KENNETH DUCHEMIN, EDGAR MALE
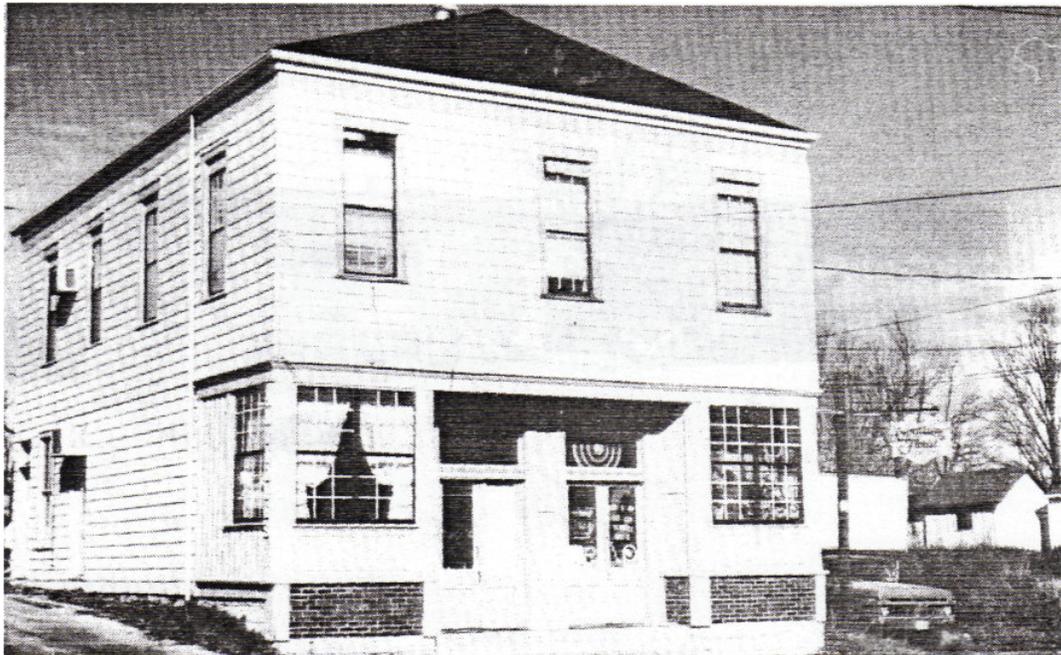
GRADE SCHOOL CLASSES HELD ABOVE LOCAL POST OFFICE.

In 1957, a new high school was erected east of Owensville on the corner of Hutchinson Road and Route 50. Gradually, schools from districts of Lerado, Marathon, Monterey, Newtonsville, Owensville and Perintown were consolidated into what is known as the Clermont Northeastern School District, which for the most part was located on the grounds surrounding the high school.
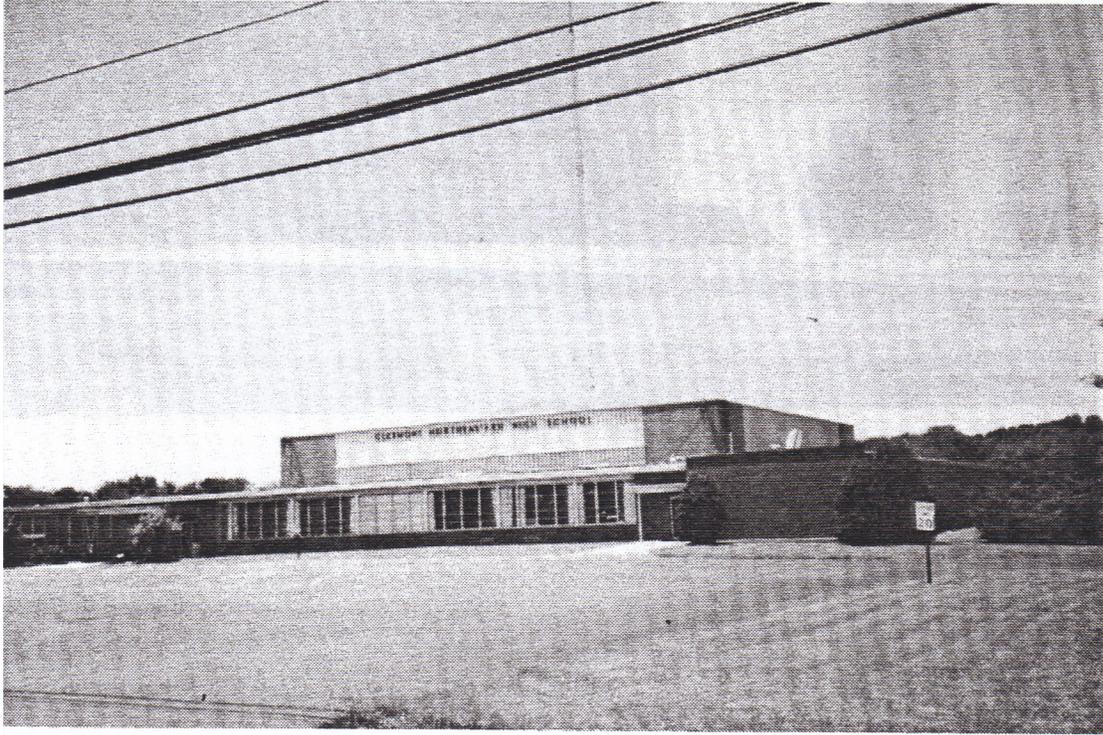
After construction of the high school in 1957, however, the kindergarten classes of the Northeasten District continued to be held in the Newtonsville School for over thirty years while grades 1 and 2 remained in the Owensville School on South Broadway. Grades 3, 4 and 5 occupied the Intermediate School, the two-story brick building built next to the high school and fronting on Hutchinson Road, and grades 6,7 and 8 used the Middle School built on the Northeastern grounds behind the high school building. The total enrollment of the Northeastern District is presently 2,414 and since the beginning of the district, the schools have had ten superintendents including John Marsh, Joseph Rounds, J.W. Frump, J.W. Evans, Maurice Lenz, Art Langerman, Lewis Miller, Bud Hegele and Tom Rice. During the Hegele administration, the renovation of the Owensville School was begun and today the Primary School has been completely modernized by using primarily state building assistance funds to restore the 1923 Building.
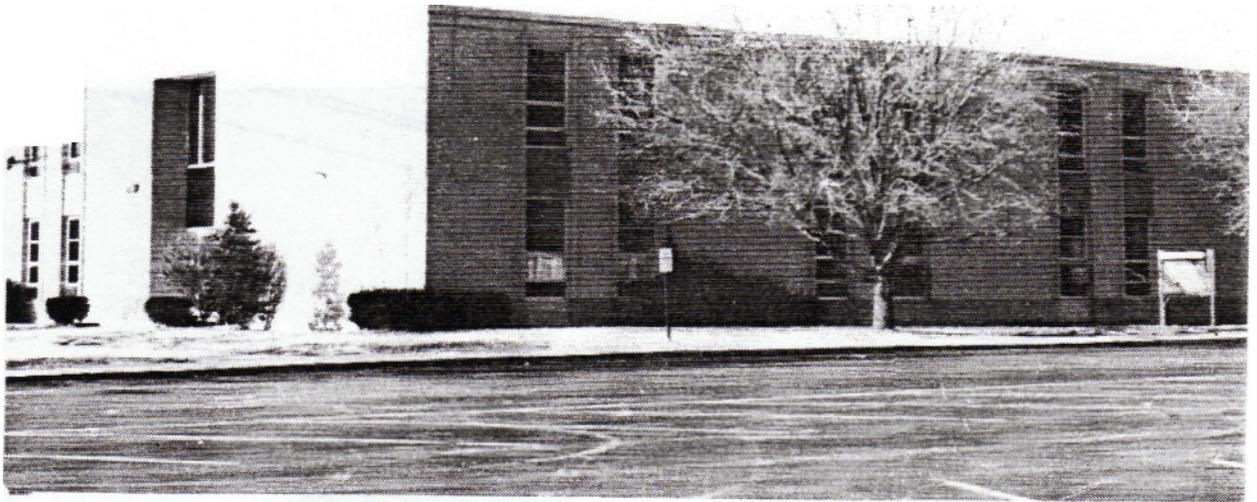
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL FOR GRADES 3, 4 and 5 — LOCATED NEXT TO
THE HIGH SCHOOL ON HUTCHINSON ROAD.
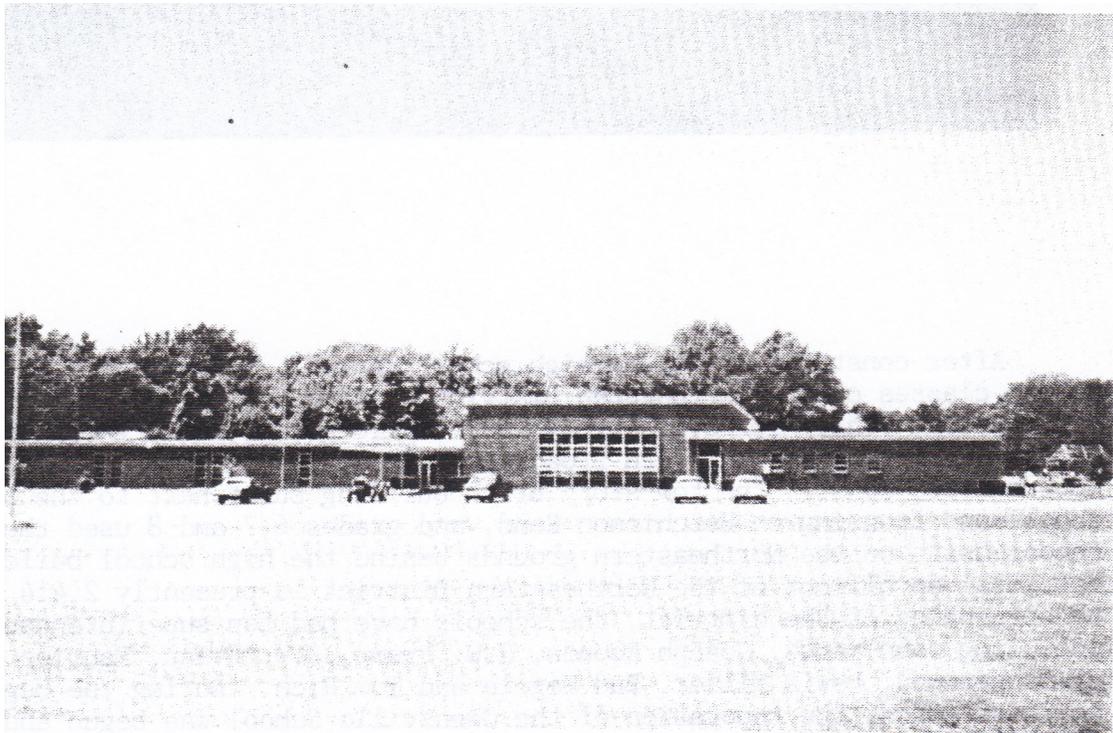
MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6, 7 and 8 — LOCATED ON
ROUTE 50 WEST OF HUTCHINSON ROAD.

The following is a list of outlying schools that made up Owensville High School.

1. Belfast School - Rte. 131 West of Goshen Road
2. Brushy Fork School #9 - Titus Road
3. Bucktown School - Malsbeary off Bucktown
4. Davis School - Aulen Lane and Bergen Road
5. Deller (McGee) School - North Benton Road
6. Eleanor School - \ mile East of Buckwheat on Dry Run
7. Forestville School - Rte. 276 near Hawley Road
8. Galley Hill School - Galley Hill Road
9. Clancy School
10. Greenberry School - Rte. 133 near Clancy Corner-Marathon
11. Harbaugh School - Blue Sky Park Road
12. Hartman School - Rte. 50 and Bucktown Road
13. Laredo School - Marathon —Edenton Road
14. Maple Grove School - Jackson Pike & Monterey-Maple Grove
15. Marathon School - Marathon-Edenton Road
16. Modest School #1 - 727 Cedarville (McGee-McGu?)
17. Monterey School #6 - Monterey-Maple Grove S. of Rte. 50
18. Moore's Fork #8 - Marathon-Edenton and Hunt Road
19. Mt. Zion School - \ mile S. of Apgar on Mt. Zion Road
20. Osborne School - Corner of Weaver and Rte. 133
21. Perintown School - Rte. 50 & Wolfpen-Pleasant Hill
22. Roudebush School #3 - Park Road and Roudebush
23. Shumard School - Bergen Road
24. Stonelick School - Rte. 50 and Rte. 222
25. Williams Corner School - Rte. 132 & 131

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION - THE PAST:
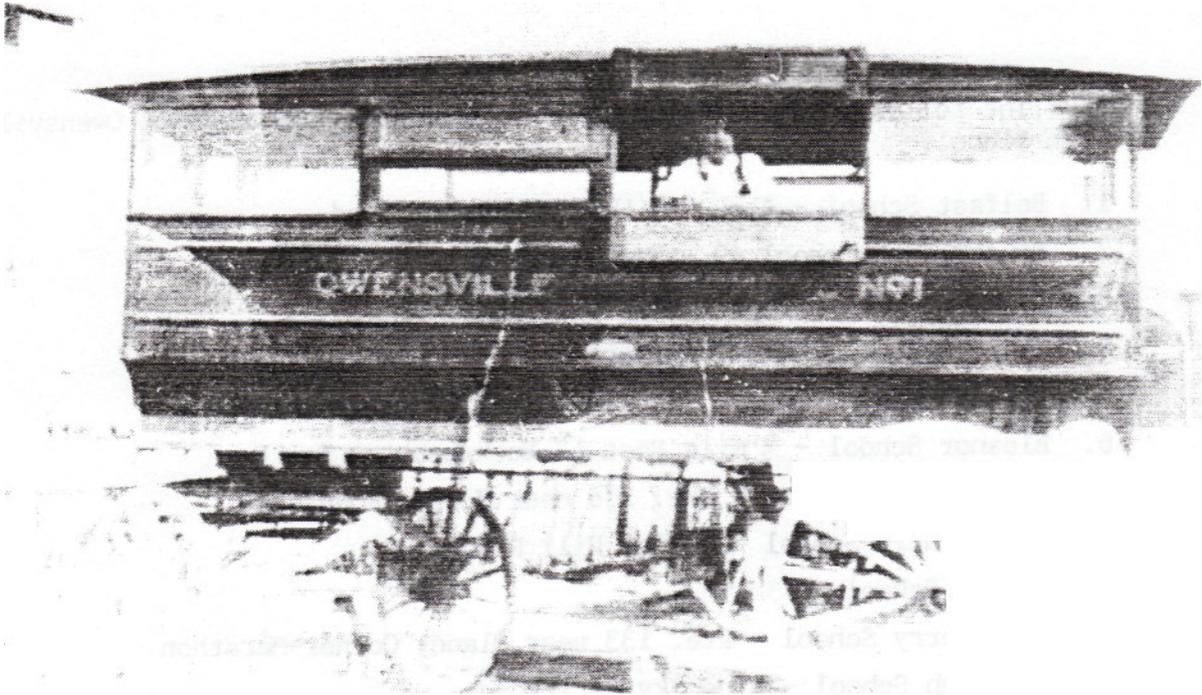
SCHOOL WAGON FOR OWENSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL 1922-1924

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION - THE PRESENT:

THE NORTHEASTERN SCHOOL BUSES LINED UP BETWEEN MORNING AND
AFTERNOON TRIPS IN THE WINTER OF 1982.

OWENSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

Class of 1906

John Hawley
William J. Snider
Lizzie Fitzpatrick
Carrie Yeager, nee Snider
Celia Krieger, nee Myers
Birdie Apgar
Florence Murphy (deceased)
Bessie Long, nee Chamberlain
Clarence Buerkle
Frank Schobert
Marie Devoe, nee McCormick

John Chaney
Benton Hunter
Lulu Taylor, nee Gerard
Howard Rapp
Lena Groves, nee Huber
William Dollenmeyer
Lawrence Brothers
Mary Lohrer, nee Brown
Inez Bloom, nee Maham
Ethel Beltz, nee White

Class of 1907

Anna Spetz
Inez Sprague, nee Hawley

Albertine Higgins, nee Snider

Class of 1908

Carl Anstaett
Edna Campbell, nee Patterson

Earl Churchvillage

Class of 1909

Mary Ridings, nee Brown (deceased)
Flora Stockton, nee Chaney
Marie Johnson, nee Brentlinger
Hanford Thirey (deceased)
Alvenia Fetter, nee Buerkle
Lottie Lovell, nee Pattison

Mary Barman, nee Chamberlin
Frank J. Favret
Keith Ulrey
Clair M. Williams
Olien Snider
Mary Marsh

Class of 1910

Robert Hunter
Delia Foster, nee Mahair

Anna Hunter, nee Shinn

Class of 1911

Helen Roudebush, nee Rutledge
Ethel Heutcher, nee Graver
Minnie Marshall

Margaret Hezzenfelt, nee Rouster
Albert Brentlinger
Raymond Favret

Class of 1912

Helen Lewis, nee Maxwell
Elsie Gerard, nee Davis
Ada Williams, nee Schultz
Helen Boyd, nee Anstaett

Mary Kain, nee Duchemin
Edwin Schultz
Harry Chamberlain
Guy Grave

Class of 1913

Rebecca Clemons, nee Lovell
Lillian Innis, nee Schlotman
Clara Favret

Elfreda Schooley, nee Ferree
Alfred Fetter
Frank Brown (deceased)

Class of 1914

Alice Dennison, nee Anstaett

Class of 1915

Leontine Thirey
Estella Joseph
Alice Snider, nee Rutledge
Elizabeth Jester, nee Cooper
Emma Schultz

Ruth Favret
Merle Johnson, nee Hancock
Gertrude Jones, nee Buerkle
Rebecca Marsh
Louis Favret

Class of 1916

Aurelia Davis, nee Turner
Ralph Schultz

Stanley Snider
John Rutledge

Class of 1917

Alice Davis, nee Irwin
Helen Wise, nee Dunham
Mabel McCormick, nee Anstaett

Grace Formorin, nee Snell
Georgie Applegate

Class of 1918

Clifford Rosselot
Eunice Ulrey
Mary Favret
Charles Hathaway (deceased)
Irwin Flischel

John Burdsall
Adrian Duchemin
Velma Anstaett
Helen Heiderman, nee Shriner

Class of 1919

Barley Steward
William Rosselot
Loyd Harlow
Arnold Favret

Marie White
Mary Halbisch, nee Wiederhold
Cleo Bard
Gwendolyn Duchemin

Class of 1920

Nancy Hill
Vivian Leever
Edith Gauche
Alice Rosselot

Marie Gernon, nee West
Marcella Eimer
Edna Brown
Olive Anstaett

Class of 1921

Howard Snell	Mabel Miller, nee Schultz
Edgar Koeble	Jennie Snell
Harold Snider	Evelyn Devine

Class of 1922

William Brown	Gertrude Brown
Galen Swartz	Gladys Aber
Verna Stamm	Allen Johnson
Edmond Snider	Lester Leever
Thelma Snell	Delbert Clark
Raymond Schultz	Herschel Male
Alvin Hill	Howard Franz

Class of 1923

Mabel Benton	Anna Louise Hitch
Helena Eimer	Theresa Favret
Nellie Russell	Lois Elliott
Gertrude Verkamp	Irwin Bauer
Alice Brooks, nee McAfee	Dorothy Duchemin

Class of 1924

Florence Sapp	Eva Jones, nee Daniels
Anne Pottinger	Zola Tucker
Mildred Stewart	Lucille Anstaett
Lida Margaret Varney	Mae York
Ruth Devine	Hester Shiveley
Mildred Burdsall	Edgar Male
Helen Elliott	Herbert Snell
Julia Hitch	Kenneth Duchemin
Dorothy Long	

Class of 1925

La Vone Tucker	Clarence Spahr
Frank Hutchinson	Stanley Rosselot
George Yeager	Charles Ohmer
Dorothy Wallace	Mae Kimmerly
Henry Vogt	Vandine Hill
Grace Scott	Paul Hopping
Emma Belle Hitch	Donovan Craver
Harry Franz	Clara Burdsall
Adelaide Doll	Vernona Benton
Cecelia Brothers	Ethel Brown
Vincent Anstaett	Carl Aulen
Charlotte Aulen	Bessie James

BASKETBALL OWENSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

The first few years of the new building on South Broadway were very productive. The boys teams of 1924-26-27-30 and 34 were county champions, as were the 1925 girls team.

The first year in the new gym, the boys were champions. The girls team of 1925 was very good, having won the county and tying Norwood High School girls team, which later that year won the Ohio State Class A Championship. The 1927 team champions, who won at the Cincinnati District, were invited to the Dayton regionals, where they were defeated in the semifinals. The 1930 team defeated New Richmond to win the county, but was defeated by Reading in the first game of the district. The 1934 team won the county. After winning two games at the district, they lost.

Girls' rules were much different those days. They played in three sections, later two sections, now they play the whole floor. Their uniforms were also much different, wearing white middies and black bloomers.

OWENSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL'S FIRST BASKETBALL TEAM – 1924

HERB SNELL, FRANK HUTCHTNSON, CARL AULEN, DONALD SNIDER, RUSSELL LEEVER, EDGAR MALE, STANLEY ROSSELOT, DONALD GRAVER, CLARENCE BARNICKLE, KENNETH DUCHEMIN.

1928 GIRLS CHAMPS

FRONT ROW-ALICE GAUCHE GRAVER, ALBERTA MEYERS SPAHR
SECOND ROW-ELSIE UTTER DAVIS, AGNES BENTON DYE, VERONA RICHMOND
THIRD ROW-MAE DANIELS, ANNA ROBERTS SEIBERT
FOURTH ROW-HARRIET FALEY LOHRER MAY RIEHLE GAUCHE, HELEN HUTCHINSON, CARMEN SNIDER GEISLER

As there were no buses in the early days, we had to go to games in cars. Our coach, Ralph Lemon, drove and took some of the team and whoever else we could get to drive, sometimes a parent. The gyms were much different then; Williamsburg had a concrete floor; Moscow played in an old church building, where we had to dress in the school building, then run across the road to the gym. Amelia played in an old church with a swinging basket One basket was held in place by wires and ropes. Our own gym was known as the bandbox, as the free throw circle intersected with the center lump circle.

The crowds were small as the seating capacity was limited, as being the depression days, admission prices were not much. Students 15 cents; and adults 25 cents. No cheerleaders or manager, as we were lucky to have enough money for two basketballs for practice.

MADELINE'S MEMORIES

When I was six years old and started to school at Owensville in 1920, it had already outgrown the large two-story building in the East end of town known as Texas, to the extent that it held only the seventh and eighth grades and the four years of high school. The six lower grades were scattered throughout the town where ever there could be found a room available that could be heated, could find a well close enough where a bucket of water could be brought in by two boys, a three-hole outhouse fairly close, and a room large enough to accommodate two classes of about fifteen children to each class or thirty to a room.

During the summer months, the School Board would rent that room and would move all the necessary supplies in and be ready to move in by the week after Labor Day. This consisted of a Teacher's desk, a screwed to floor desk for each pupil, two good slate blackboards, one to go on the front wall and one on the right side wall. There would be a wooden box of chalk and a few good story books on the Teacher's desk from which she would read us a story each day. There was always an American flag for us to salute, and one year I remember that each classroom was presented a picture of George Washington painted by Stuart, and then each year it traveled with us. But not even the main building had a room large enough to accommodate a crowd for a gathering of any kind. All gatherings, including the Christmas program and the Senior Class Play and Commencement were held in Favret's Hall. This was one large room upstairs over Favret's Department Store which was located across from the Bank on one corner of Main and Broadway. There was a wide outside stairway in the front of the building leading up to it. It seemed to be accepted as adequate by all. It had a nice stage, was well heated when necessary, and had enough folding chairs to seat the crowd.

On the day the Christmas program was to be presented, each teacher would prepare her children for the march down to the hall about one hour before time for the program to start. This meant running through all the parts one last time, taking the copies of them along, getting all props ready that could be carried, large ones were already down there, controlling the mounting excitement of the children, making sure they were wrapped in their warm coats, caps, mittens and boots if they had them. Each had to choose a marching partner and the teacher would decide which couple would be best-fitted to lead the march; the teacher staying behind to bring up the rear. Two by two we marched to Favret's Hall. As I remember it, each room took its position in the parade. It started with the primary children and when they arrived at the hall, they were seated in the front rows of chairs. Then each room in its turn and the upper grades would have the back rows.

But all during these years, the Town Fathers knew the need for a bigger school building and they were planning for an Auditorium to hold the necessary meetings of any school or town. Land was purchased and a building constructed on the South end of Broadway on the right side when leaving town, where three roads came into town: Jackson Pike, Williamsburg Pike and Batavia Pike as they were called, for at that time, the roads were not numbered.

As the building grew, it looked quite huge and a lot of speculation grew among the school children and even their parents. The two classrooms on the sunny south end were to be for the four lower grades. The identical rooms on the cold north side would take care of the four upper grades, and those in the middle would be for the High School. A large hall ran lengthwise through the building. By each classroom, there was a heat register large and square. We found out after we attended school, that these were a luxury when we arrived at school on a cold morning after either walking, riding an unheated, made over panel truck, or a School Wagon drawn by horses, that we were permitted to stand on that heater and warm our feet. When another group would arrive, the first one had to give up their place to those newly arrived.

The building had two smaller rooms with windows looking out on the driveway and on each side of the center entrance. One of these was the Superintendent's office and the other was called a Rest Room and later got a cot for any sick child to use until it was time to go home. The basement had the same amount of rooms which, one by one, became Home Ec., Manual training, Library, Science Lab, Janitors headquarters, and two of the large ones became a play area for the High School boys for hand ball among other things, when it was too cold to play outside. And, of course, there was a furnace with a smaller room adjacent with a large fan to blow the heat. While under construction, some of the braver boys had gone in by the building and peeked in that window, saw the machinery and immediately knew that it was an electric paddle, so apprehension grew until after school started and no paddle ever came in use with that magnitude. They still operated by hand. The necessaries were two large brick buildings behind the main structure. They were large, with a divide down the middle lengthwise with 12 units on each side. Iron pipes held the dividing walls of each unit. The small girls found these very good for swinging on, chinning, or any other physical skill and while unheated, were warmer than playing out in a cold wind. I was never inside the boys building. That just wasn't the thing for a girl to do.

I have put off describing the largest room of all. From the outside, it protruded behind the building. From the outside, one could see a large window on each side and also a fire escape door and cement steps leading from each side.

Access to this large room was from the Center Hall and half was down from each end of the building. It had been designed for an Auditorium and that is exactly what it was. It was built almost in a square. As I remember, it might have been 50 feet wide and 60 feet long. The farthest side accommodated a stage and two dressing rooms which led to the stage and had one window in each room. A few steps led up from the floor of the room. Hooks had been put along the walls to hang garments. The stage was fitted with velvet curtains and footlights were across the front for effective stage lighting. The inner wall had bleachers built on each side of the door. Folding chairs could be added and enough to fill the floor when big meetings would be held. This Auditorium was the pride and joy of all, for now all programs could be held there in the building with a small march from each classroom and all town meetings could be there and not at Favret's Hall.

As I remember it, the floors were hardwood, but, were they first new pine and some years later when the pine began to splinter, were replaced with the hardwood? They were a true luxury, but not so good that whichever group needed the room, they could come in on their floors. Each February, for two days and nights, they had what was called The Farmers' Institute, and in all respect to the farmers who attended, the floor would be

covered with dried mud. But, after all, hadn't it been partly by the farmer's taxes? They had a janitor hired to clean and he could sweep out the mud and mop the floor. All assemblies, plays, programs, Town Meetings, Commencements and even political rallies were held in that room. Yes, an Auditorium was indeed a luxury as well as a necessity, and it was hailed by all.

But alas, when the need for a gymnasium was felt, as basketball was becoming more popular throughout the county, they tried to bring the court indoors and use the Auditorium for a gymnasium. They painted the white lines to divide the floor into three equal parts, to draw free lines for shooting foul shots and shaped under the baskets for needed lines. They tacked up blackboards, and attached a hoop and basket for each end and sure enough, they could play basketball. It was small, but it was warm and an improvement over those outside gravel courts. They were among the first of any of the county to have their own court. The bleachers were there for the few fans to sit on, but there was one obstacle they found for playing. The construction beams of crossed wood did get in the way when a long, high pass or shot was attempted and hit any part of a beam. When an attempted shot managed to penetrate the beam and go on to go through the hoop, all of the fans stood up to see it through and then give a loud cheer. This is what was later known as a standing ovation for a task well-done.

Dressing rooms were needed. It was decided that the girls could use the stage dressing rooms and they could hang their bloomers and middies on the wall hooks. The opposing team could use the room on the south end. There was a small room in the basement for the boys. It could have been a shower room, had there been running water in the building. It fit their needs as it was, and gave them the needed privacy, when, if necessary during the half, the coach used the needed language not meant for the fans and other visitors. Visiting boys used a classroom.

Batavia, the County Seat School, did not even have a court and used the armory a few blocks away. That room was as much too large as Owensville's was too small, but still, that was where the tournaments were held for several more years. Even then, with our small court handicap, our team, both boys and girls, managed to win their share of championships and brought home several loving cups. Toward the last of the Twenties and the decade of the Thirties, the other schools, one by one, began to build a gym, and we anxiously looked forward to playing their team so we could appraise and compare theirs to the others we had played. We didn't complain too much, but we did carry a little envy for it, knowing that it probably would not come for us during our stay in school. It didn't. The Great Depression followed by World War II kept it from coming. When it finally was built, I was long gone, even from that neighborhood, and my interest was with my son playing in another town on another small court. They never got their larger one and even lost their High School.

The Owensville people had now forgotten how happy and proud when they got their new auditorium and felt only their longing for a big gym, as they saw school after school come up with their proud new one.

In my days of High School, the boys and girls were not as large, if a boy happened to be six feet high, he was talked of all through the county. The game was slower, as they had more jump balls along with other rules. The girls played what was called three division, where each position stayed behind the lines of her station and were penalized if their foot went over their line.

Yes, our auditorium or gymnasium, call it what you like. It wasn't the greatest nor it wasn't the finest, but it left a lot of precious memories of my growing up: The Institutes, the programs, the school morning assemblies, the Operettas, the class plays, and last, the Commencements all in that room and on that stage; as well as all the ballgames I either got to play in or the many more from championship teams as well as those that were not championship ones, but were played by classmates that I loved so well.

Fifty-eight years later

It is a loss that we have no inside pictures of that old gymnasium as so much has been talked of it and those who grew up later wonder what there was about it that lingered so long in the memories of those who knew it. The fact is that flash bulbs for cameras had not been invented for our use, so all home made pictures were snapped outside and better on a bright, sunny day. The lucky ones are those who have held on to the memories. We didn't have so many physical gifts, but what we did have were appreciated.

In traveling through life, and from town to town, I feel safe in saying that all those gyms that were built in those years and of which we might have been envious, have now been replaced by finer ones and those have either been torn down or converted into some lesser use, or even worse, stand there idle and those are the buildings that I always thought of as new.   Is only Time Eternal?

Madeline Benton Houser
Class of 1932

Ante Room   Stage   Ante Room

Chairs

Bleachers   Bleachers

Front Hallway
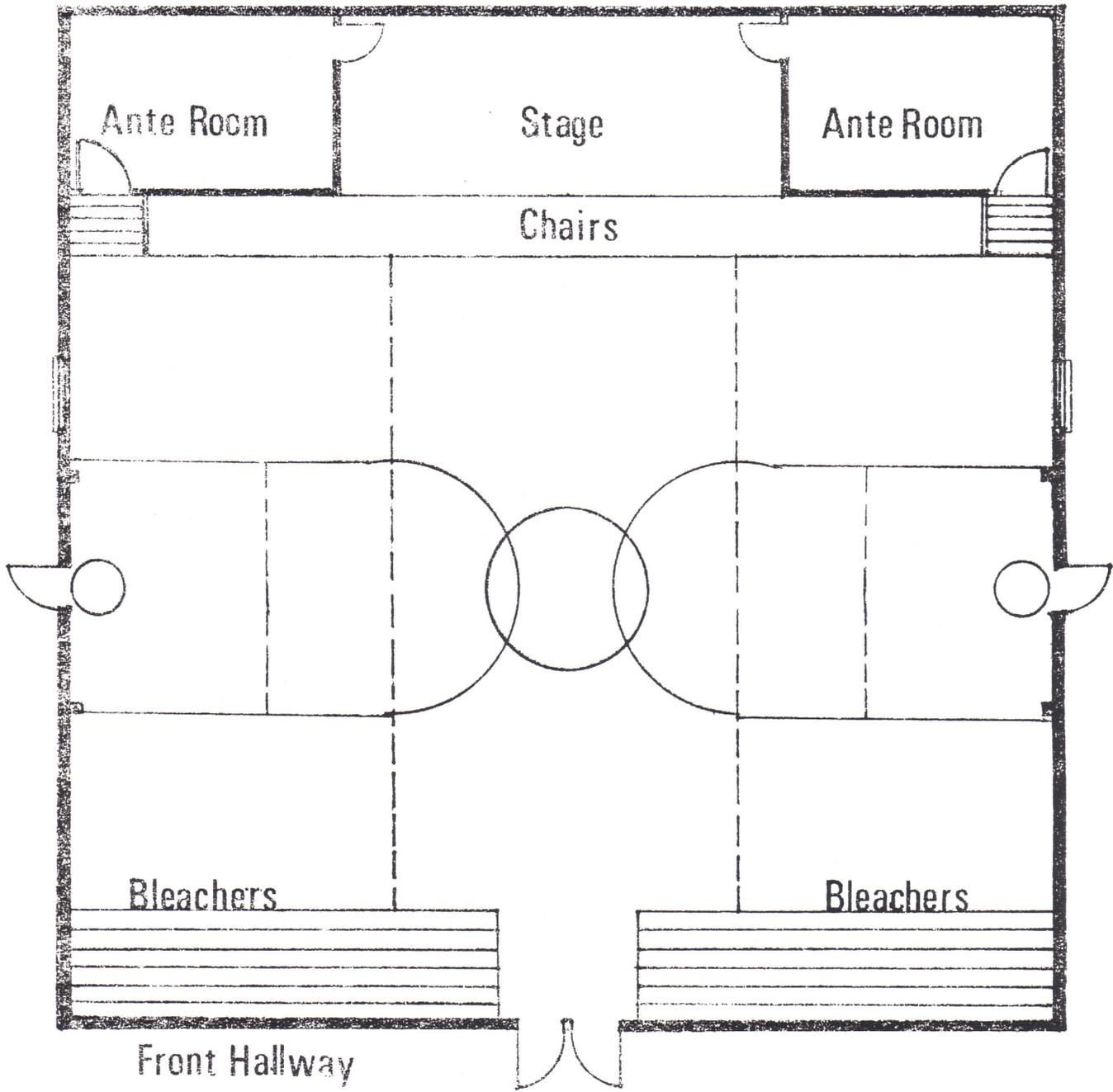
Floor Plan Of Gym In C.H.S.—1923—1924

More
of
the
Past

THE LA MACEDA BASKETBALL TEAM: FRONT ROW - SUSIE SNIDER, KENNETH DUCHEMIN, STANLEY ROSSELOT, LOUIS ROSSELOT, DONALD GRAVER. BACK ROW CLARENCE SHULTZ, TED SNIDER, ARNOLD ANSTEATT, CLIFFORD ROSSELOT.
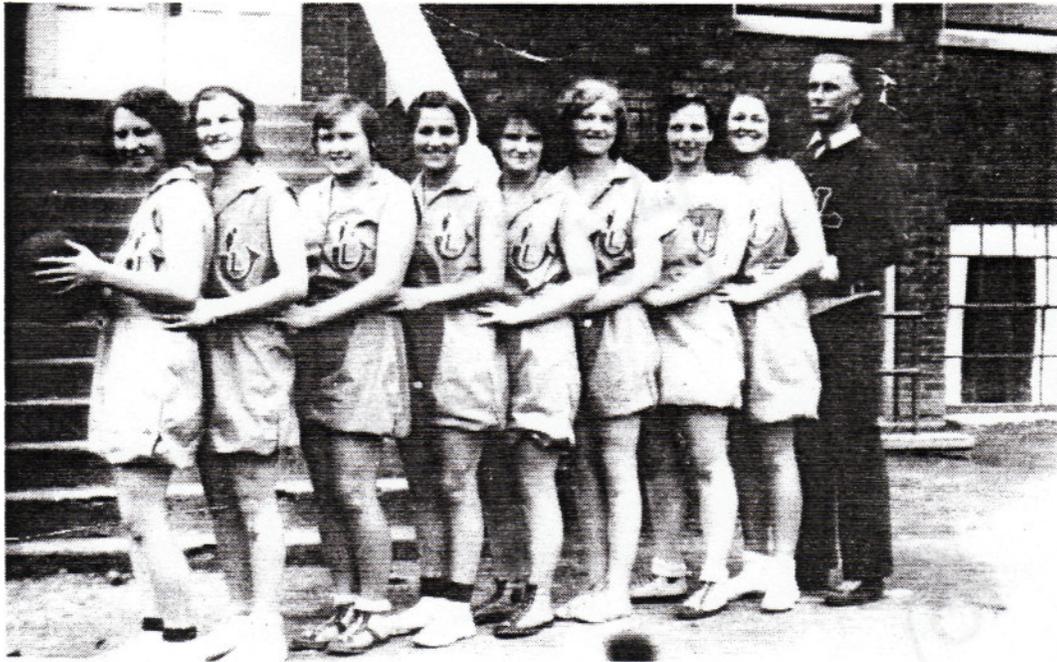
LA MACEDA GIRLS: ALBERTA MEYERS, ALICE GAUCHE, AGNES BENTON, EDITH ANSTEATT, ANN MAE DUCHEMIN, FAYE CARMAN, VERA MAE SNIDER, CHARLOTTE AULEN, TED SNIDER COACH.

IF NOT CALLED FOR IN TEN DAYS RETURN TO
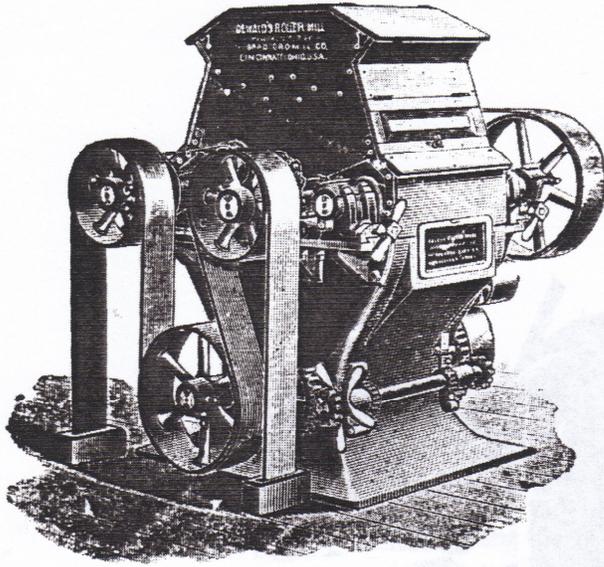
LOGO OF SNIDER & WEST
OWENSVILLE ROLLER MILL

SNIDER & WEST,

SNIDER
MILL

LOOKING SOUTH ON N. BROADWAY TROLLEY-
FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH
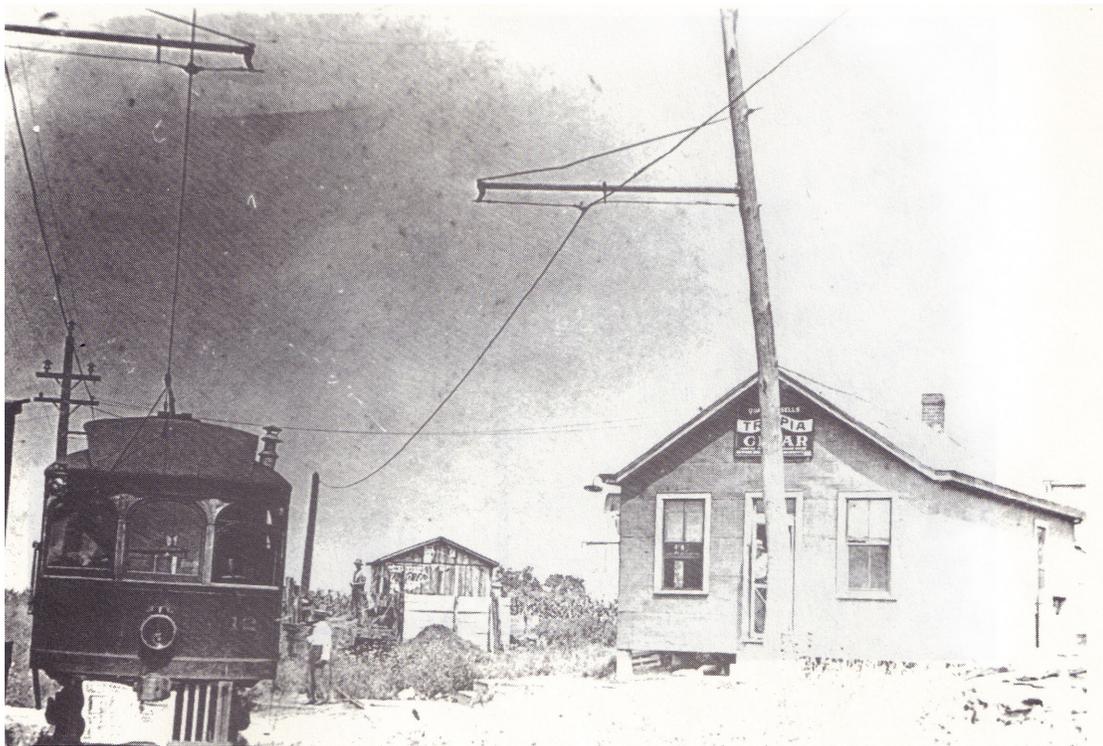
THE TROLLEY & STATION (LATER RUEHLMAN HOME) NORTH BROADWAY
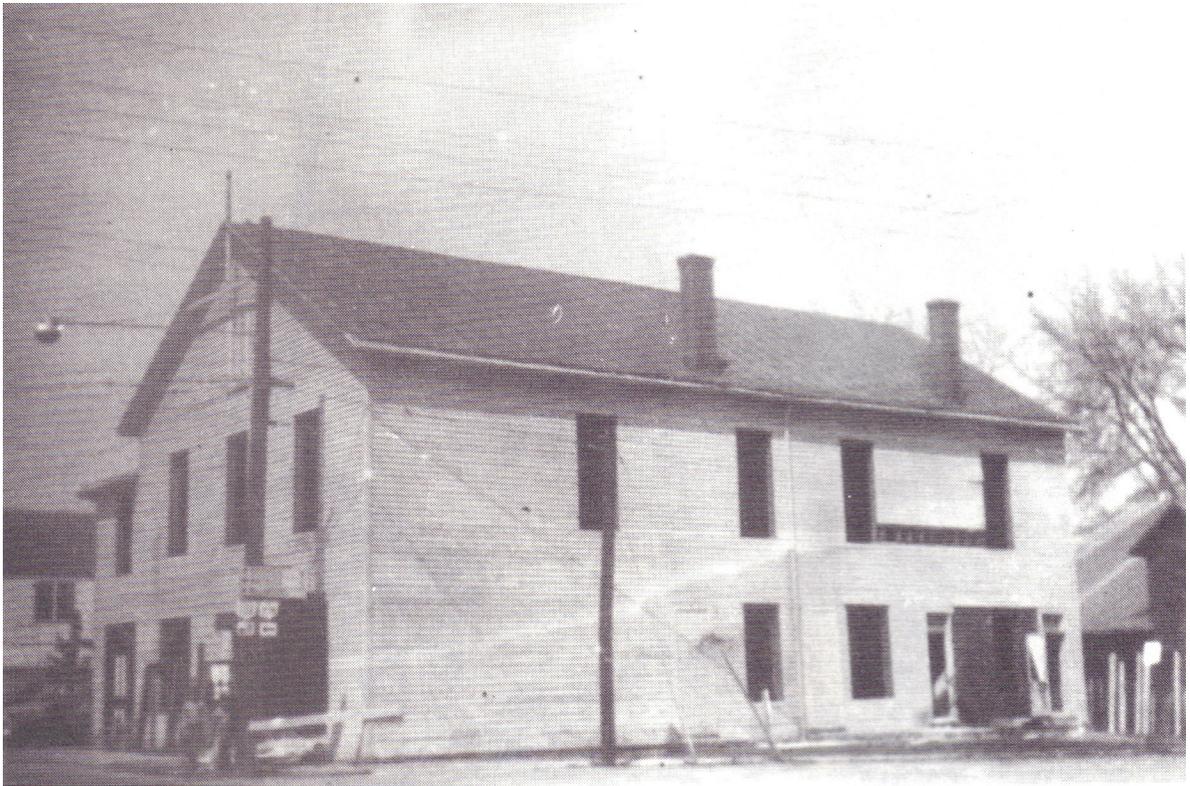
FAVRET STORE - CORNER N. BROADWAY & MAIN STREETS

CHUCK WOODRUFF'S BARN – 1950's

BRIDGE ON HARSH'S RUN UNDERNEATH ROUTE 50
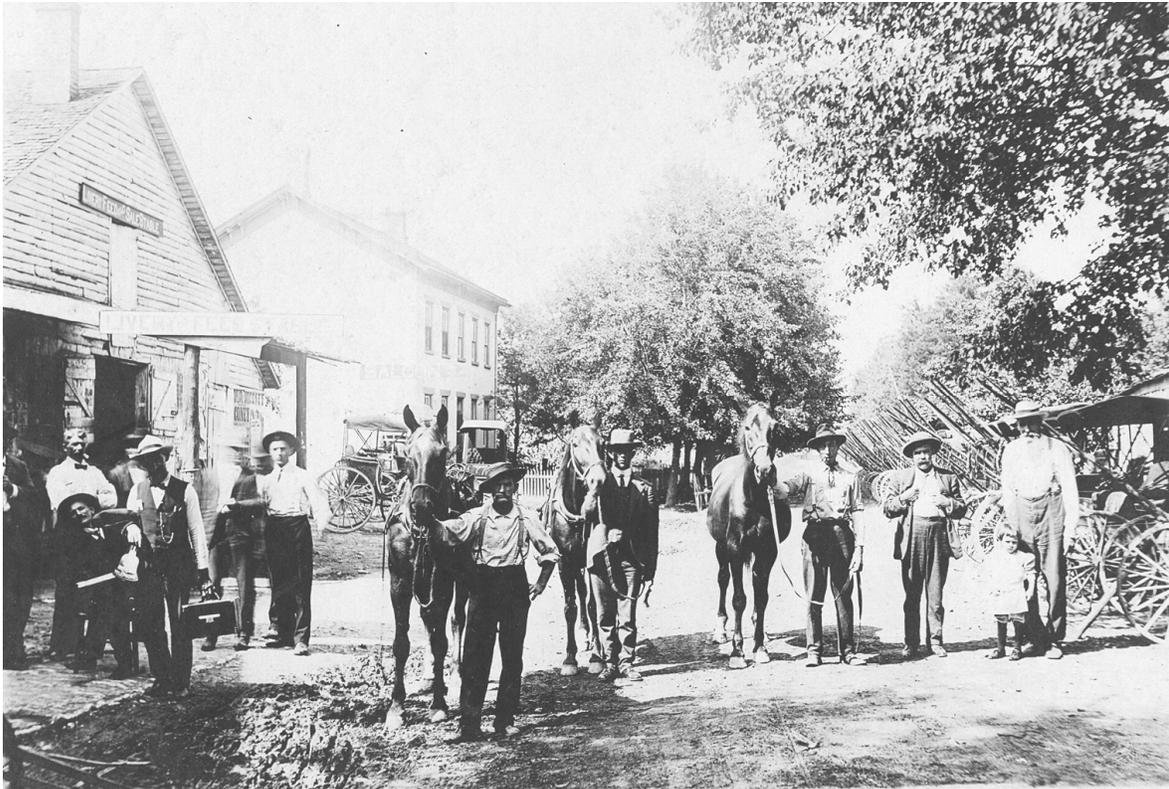
MC KAY LIVERY STABLE NORTH BROADWAY
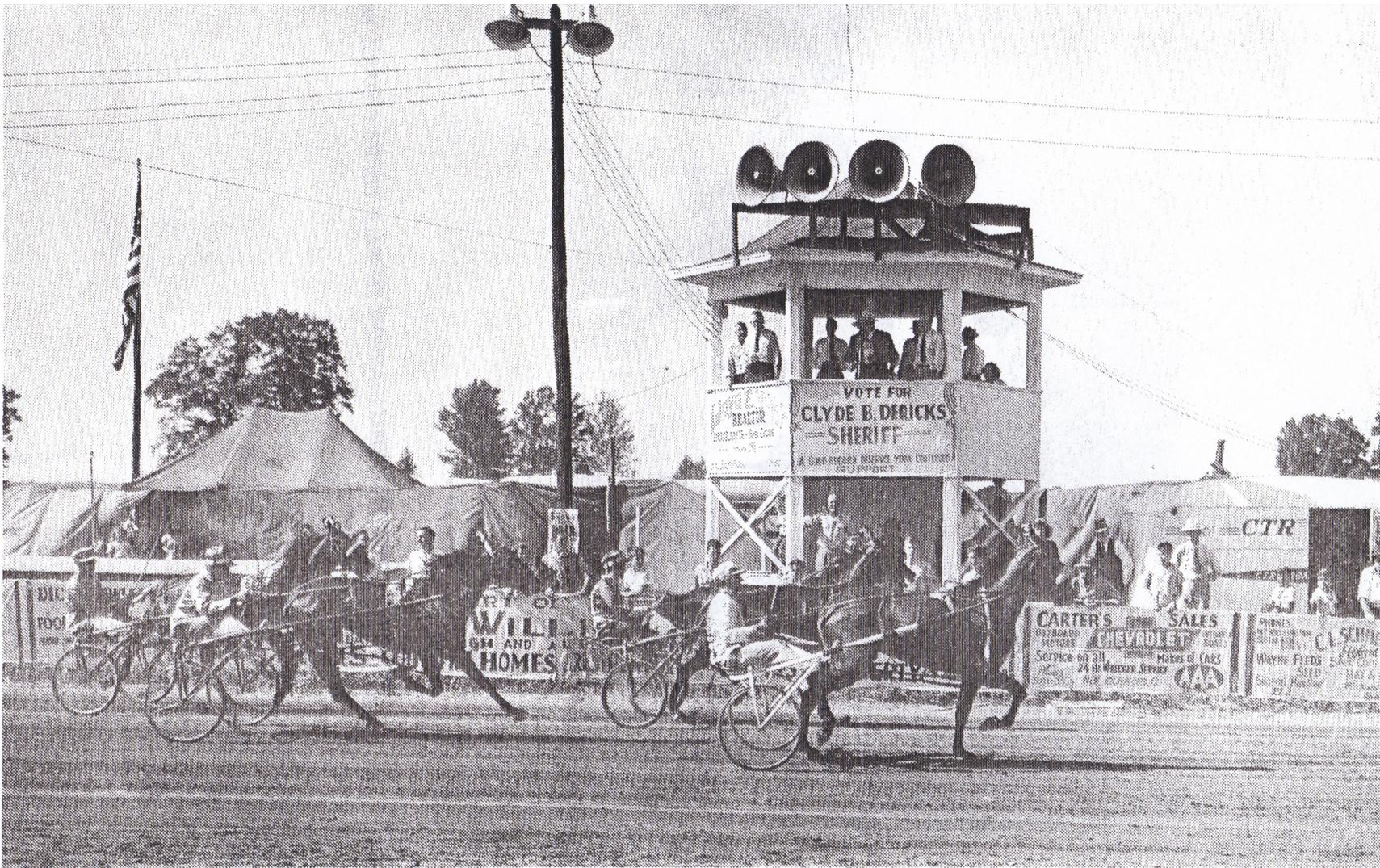
HORSE RACE AT THE CLERMONT COUNTY FAIR IN 1940'S
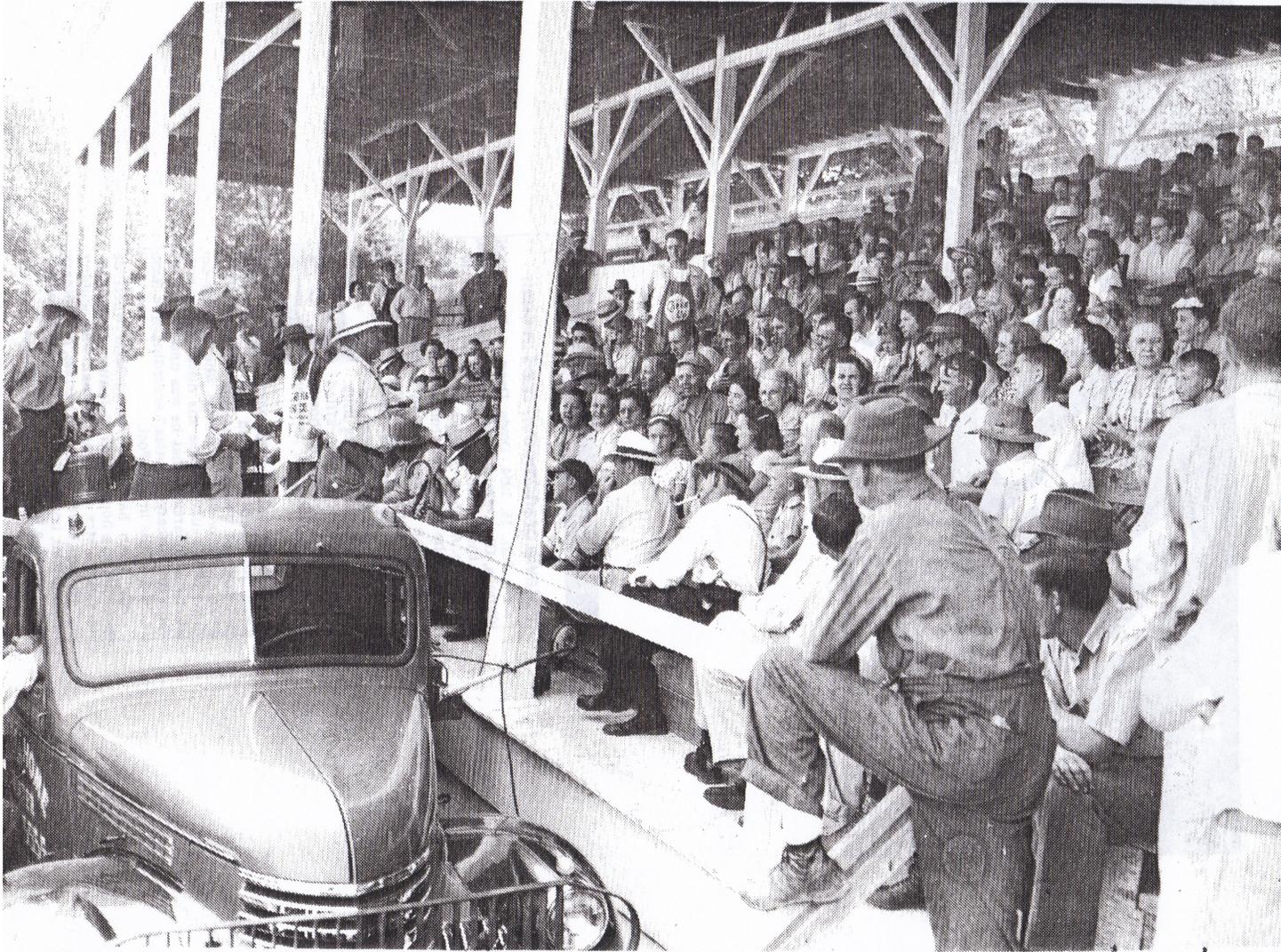
4-H AUCTION IN THE 1940'S AT THE CLERMONT COUNTY FAIR.

TRAGEDY

Batavia grandmother died in chair

On Jan. 15, 1954, Dovie Dean, a 55-year-old Batavia, Ohio, grandmother and mother of five, became the second woman to die in Ohio's electric chair. All three of the women who have been killed in the chair were from the Cincinnati area.

Mrs. Dean was convicted by a Clermont County jury of killing her 69-year-old husband, Hawkins Dean, by putting arsenic-loaded rat poison in his milk. The state charged she killed him for his $27,000 estate shortly after she married him in April 1952.

In a confession to police, Mrs. Dean, his third wife, said she put drops of the rat poison in

Dovie Dean

Dean's milk on four occasions. She said she decided to kill him because she discovered shortly after their marriage that he was unable to "perform his husbandly duties," according to a Sept. 12, 1952, article in The Post.

Mrs. Dean had met her husband when he hired her as a housekeeper in January 1952. Headlines called Mrs. Dean the "woman who couldn't cry" because never once at her arrest, preliminary hearing, trial, imprisonment or execution was she seen to shed a tear.
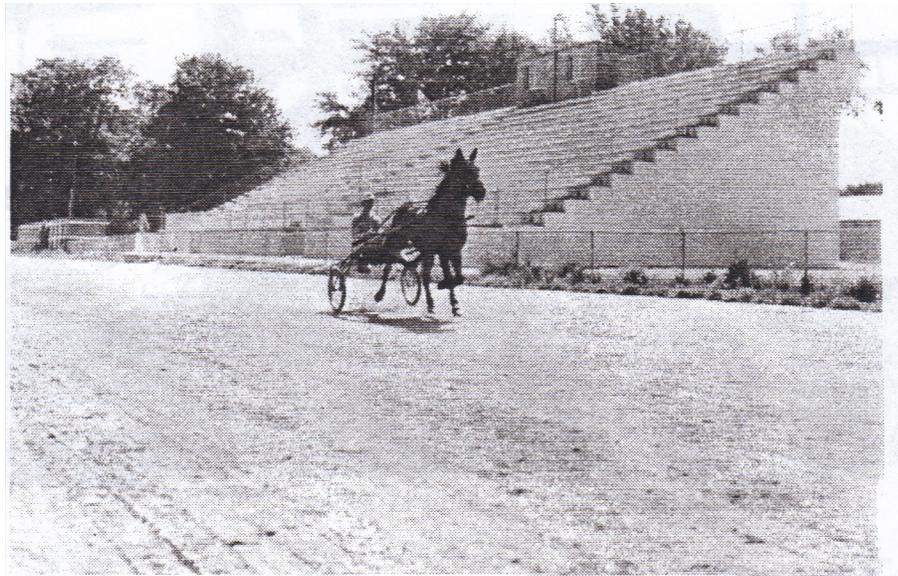
NEW GRANDSTAND COMPLETED AND READY FOR THE 1969 COUNTY FAIR
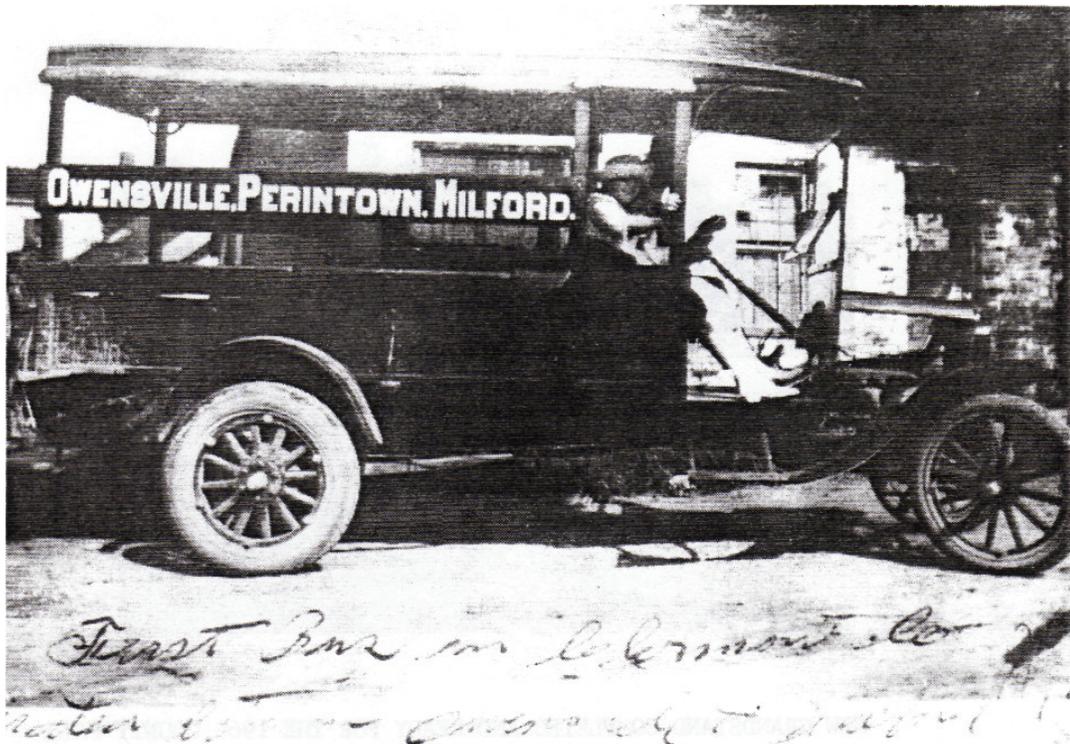
BUSLINE HISTORY

DALE MC KAY, WHO LIVED ON SOUTH BROADWAY UNTIL HIS DEATH, STARTED THE FIRST PUBLIC BUSLINE IN CLERMONT COUNTY ON SEPT. 20, 1920. HE SOLD IT ON JAN. 1, 1925 BUT MANAGED IT FOR THE FOLLOWING FIVE YEARS. THE FIRST BUS ROUTE WAS OWENSVILLE-PERINTOWN-MILFORD AND LATER RAN FROM OWENSVILLE TO NORWOOD.
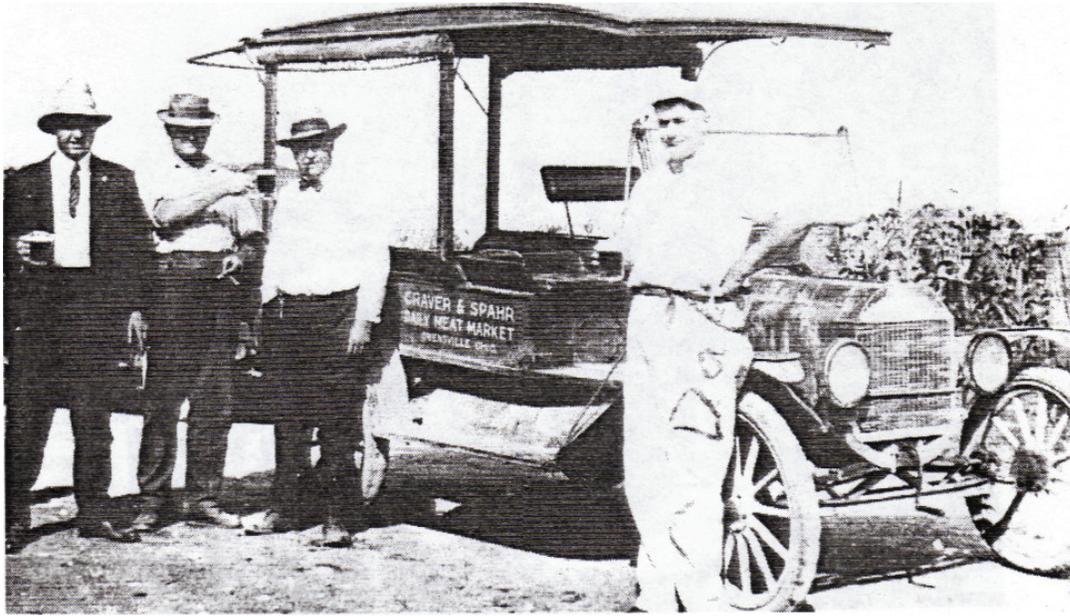
DELIVERY TRUCK FOR GRAVER & SPAHR MEAT MARKET-1920.
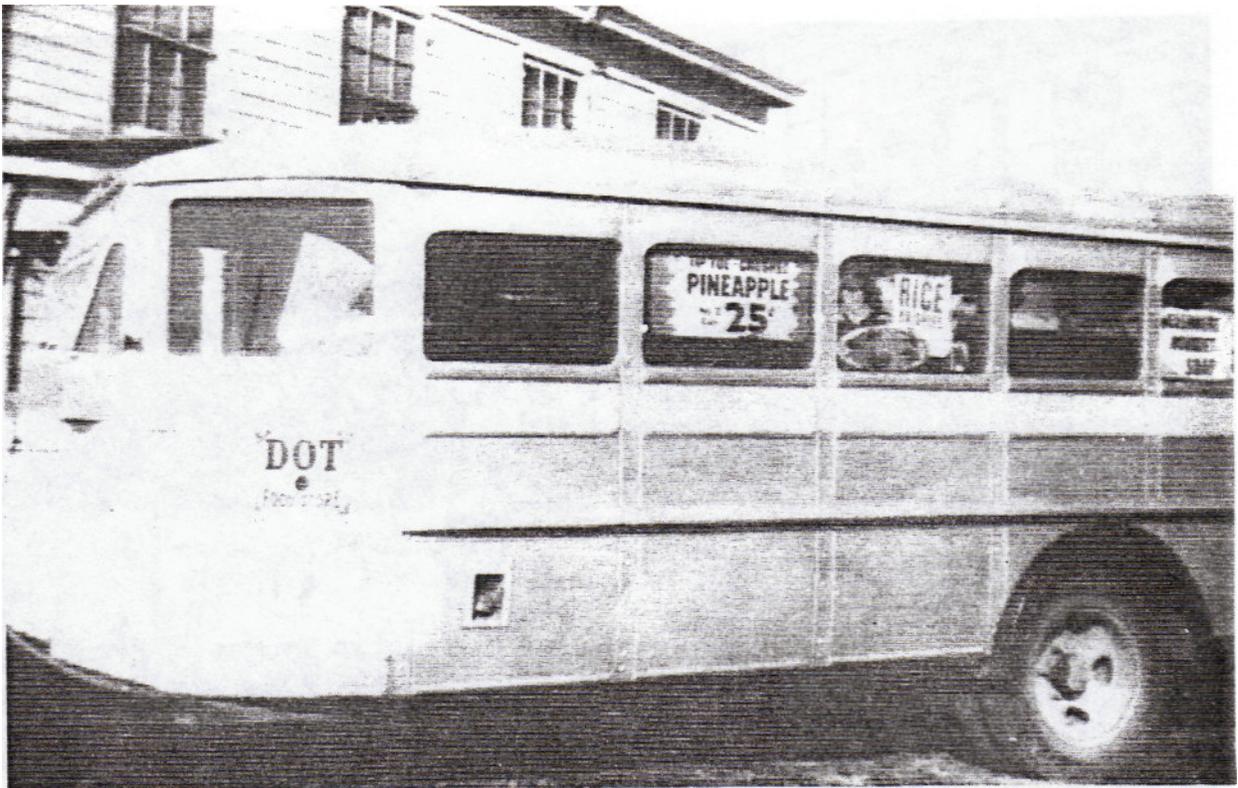
DOT FOOD ROLLING STORE
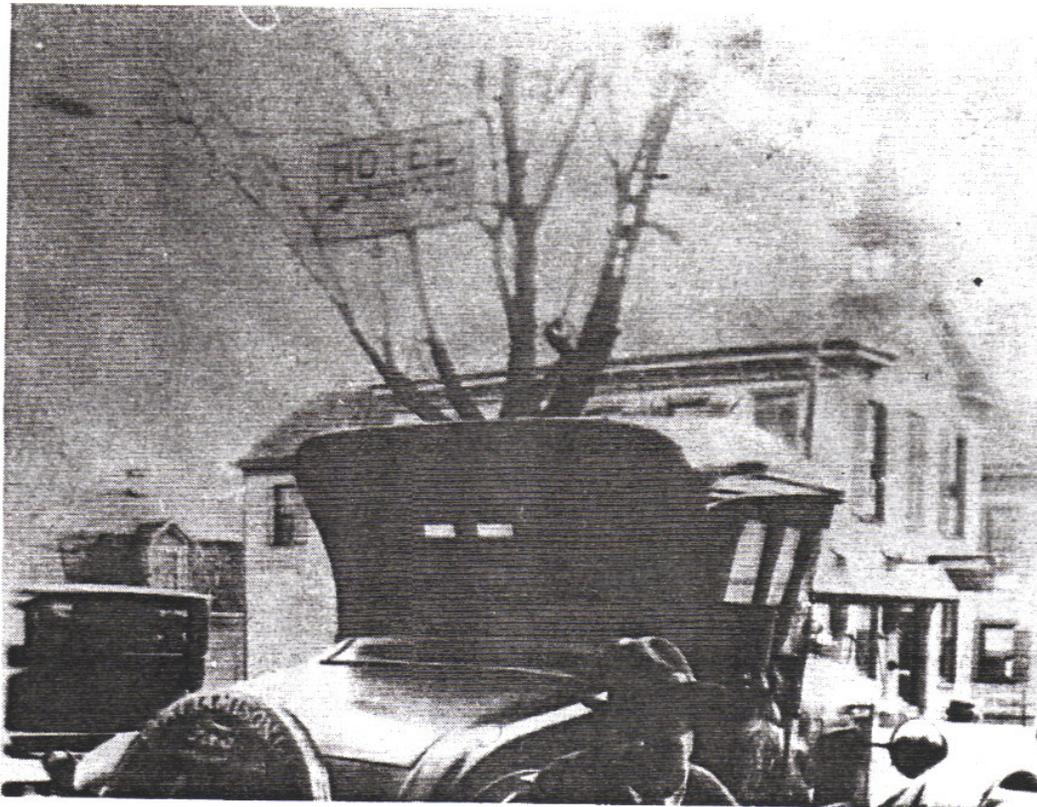
BROADWAY & MAIN

ALL DRESSED UP FOR A TRIP ON THE TRACTION.

SUNDAY MORNING AT WOODRUFF'S: STANLEY ROSSELOT, WILLIAM REIN, DONALD SNIDER, FRANK HITCH JR., HENRY PIERCE, EARL BENTON, FORREST LEEVER, ELMER GERARD, RUSSELL LEEVER.

INSIDE THE OLD FAVRET (LATER MUELLER) STORE.

AN EARLY SCHOOLHOUSE, LOCATED ON SHORT STREET, WHERE MISS MAYME ULREY LIVED FOR MANY YEARS.

FIRST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL - 1893

FRONT OF MERCHANTS & FARMERS BANK
MARY RAPP, VINCENT ANSTEATT, LUCILLE YEAGER

TIME CLOCK USED BY W.J. SNIDER-CASHIER MERCHANTS AND FARMERS BANK
NOW BANK ONE, MAIN STREET.

TOWNSHIP HALL-SOUTH BROADWAY

OLD EVEN SPREAD MANUFACTURING BUILDING ON JACKSON PIKE,
CLIFFORD ROSSELOT, OWNER.

COVERED BRIDGE IN PEACEFUL VALLEY ON STONELICK-WILLIAMS
CORNER ROAD

AND WOMEN'S LIB IS YET TO COME! !
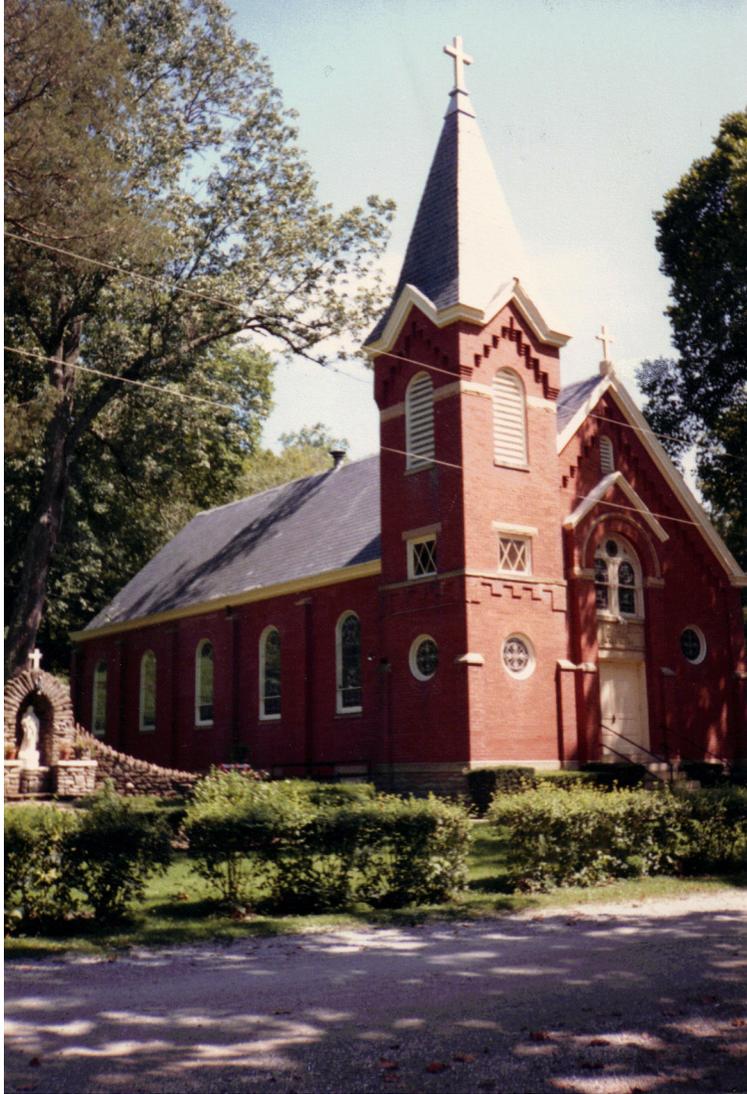
ST. PHILOMENA CHURCH (1839) -SITE OF FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH IN
CLERMONT COUNTY.
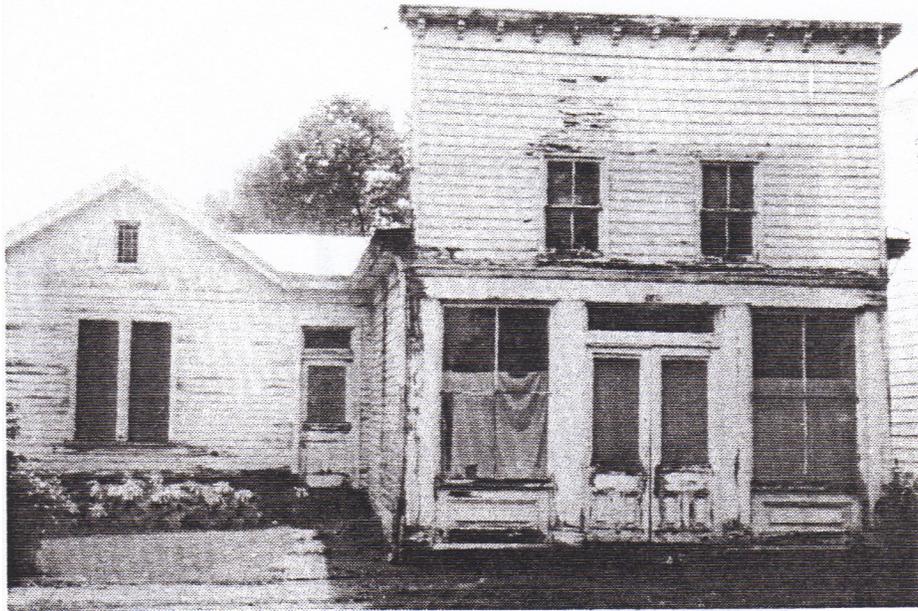
OLD FETTER GENERAL STORE ON MAIN STREET.
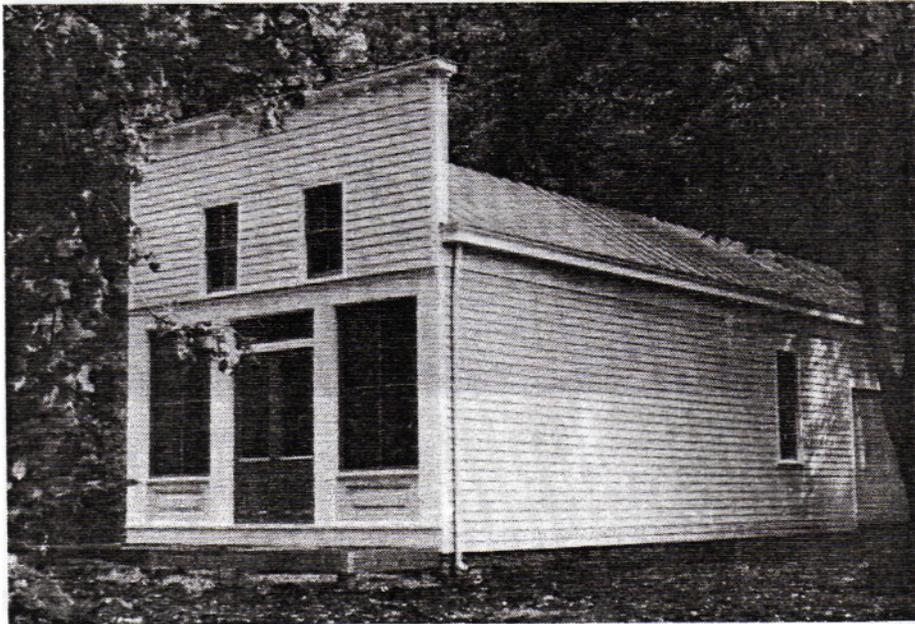
FETTER GENERAL STORE, NOW RESTORED AT SHARON WOODS.

Roll of

FOR GOD OUR COUNTRY

GERALD ANSTEATT	MICHAL EVANCHYK	HUGH McAFFEE, Jr.	LEO RUHLMAN	CHESTER WAITS
ROBERT ANSTEATT	CHARLES EVANCHYK	EARL McAFFEE	MARTIN DALY	CHARLES WOODRUFF
RAY BLANTON	CARL FETTER	HERBERT MEYERS	VERNON BAUSTER	RALPH WAITS
EUGENE BROTHERS	EDWARD FETTER	HARRY MARTIN	HAROLD SEIBERT	JAMES WADE
HOWARD SNYDER	PAUL FETTER	ROBERT McCONAUGHY	HOWARD SEIBERT	ROY WADE
HAROLD BROTHERS	LAURENCE FAUL	MOORE McCONAUGHY	ALBERT SEIBERT	OTHEL WATSON
HAROLD BRUNK	CHARLES FAUL	LOUIS OHMER	RAYMOND SEIBERT	LUTHER WATSON
JOHN BERGE	HOMER FIILLE	FRANK OHMER	WAYNE SCHOBERT	DUFFY WILLIAMSON
HERBERT BYRNE	WILLIAM FREY	GALVEN PATCHELL	EARL SPAUR	RAYMOND WRIGHT
ROBERT CAMPBELL	GEORGE FLISCHEL		JEROME SPAHR	LOUIS WOLKE
HERBERT CAMPBELL	HAROLD GERARD	RALPH PATCHELL	BART SCHMITZ	THEODORE WAGGIN
LLOYD COURTOT	HERBERT GENET	MARTIN PINDELL	ARNOLD SCHMITZ	GEORGE YEAGER
DON CARLIER	RUSSELL HILL	CHARLES PINDELL	DONALD SNIDER	PAUL YEAGER
DON CRAVER	ARTHUR HILL	HARRY PAUL	EARL STOUDER	HAROLD YEAGER
ROBERT CAMERY	EDWIN HACKMASTER	RAY RAPP	DUANE SEWELL	DELBERT CARDER
RAYMOND CURRY	HARLAN HAMM	ALLEN RAPP	ORVILLE SEWELL	THOMAS WILLIAMSON
JOHN DUFFORD	GEORGE HAVEN	HERBERT REIN	PLINEY TBAL	ALBERT DeBERT
HAROLD DAY	DICK HOOVER	ROBERT REIN	JOSEPH UTTER	CLARENCE BROWN
HAROLD EMERY	WALTER KRANTZ	CHARLES REIN	GLEN VERCAMP	ROBERT MOHAN
GEORGE EVANCHYK	ROBERT LOHRER	CARL ROSSELOT	DONALD WAITS	JOHN CHASE

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