

## **“MEMORIES”**

Hamburg Settlement Days—150 Years

# “MEMORIES”

Edited by Pearl Ahnen

Joyce De Wolf Terry  
President—Hamburg Township Historical Society

*Dedicated to the settlers of Hamburg Township—  
past and present.*

## **On the cover . . . The Hall Farm**

In Milt Charboneau's history of early settlers, one name appears first and often of the writings of Hamburg. That name is "Hall." The Hall family represents the start of the influx of white settlers to our village area and fittingly the Hall home was chosen to be on this book's cover. Although not the first Hall dwelling, it was the first frame house built in Hamburg. The first Hall structure was a log cabin

built on the banks of the creek that runs past the Hall Road area through the village on to the chain of lakes. There is no documented date for the building. The picture shows Mr. Douglas Hall, Josephine Hall Moore and Dora Hall Thomas. The data for this was provided by Mrs. Barbaradell Way Kelley, great-granddaughter of Daniel Hall, who built the house.

# Forward

Compiled in this anniversary book are pictures and a history of Hamburg gleaned from written fact, books about the area and primarily from anecdotes and "bits and pieces" handed down by word of mouth by local families. In assembling and recording this priceless and valued information and including the old photographs, it was hoped that the end result of this project would be a nostalgic look at Hamburg, and an often referred to source and treasured keepsake in years to come.

# The Beginnings of Hamburg Township

One hundred and fifty years ago, Michigan was a territory of the United States. This territory extended into Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois. But outside of Detroit, which was then a small village, only a few hamlets existed, mostly within 50 miles of there. The rest of the land was very wild and had just been bought by the Territorial governor from the Indians.

## Our First Settlers

In the summer of 1831 a team of oxen pulled a wagon loaded down with household goods and supplies along the wooded trail which ran near the Huron River out from Dexter. Felix Dunlavy and his family would be the first settlers to locate in what would become Hamburg Township. He took up his land July 6th in section 32, south of the Huron River on the Indian trail leading to Strawberry Lake. He and his family of boys would become pioneers of Webster and his relations would remain in Washtenaw County to this present day.

In the fall of 1831, Calvin Jackson and Jesse Hall of New York State took up land beside each other, just south of the future Hamburg village. To reach their land they had followed a trail from Dexter, surveyed just a year before by Mr. Whitmore to the lake of that same name and then had cut a trail across and below Silver Lake to reach their land. Mr. Jackson took sick and returned to Ann Arbor and later died near there. Jesse Hall and his boys began the task of clearing the land and building a log cabin for his family. Two other men came up this same trail about the same time, with Heman Lake and his family settling south-west of Silver Lake in section 36 and Cornelius Miller just east of the lake in the same section. It would be a very tough and lonely winter for all of them with the nearest source of help at Ann Arbor, two days travel away.

## More Settlers Arrive

The following year Daniel Hall and Augustus Hall, brothers of Jesse Hall settled on land on both sides of him, along with Lester Burnett who located on the village site. The brothers Patrick and James Gallagher would locate a vast tract of land below Strawberry Lake and become neighbors of Felix Dunlavy.

Meanwhile Abraham Peck would locate on Ore Creek many miles removed from anyone with the prospect of using the water power for a mill. He and Bradford Campbell would open a grist mill here in 1836. Several dozen settlers would settle in the next few years, almost all of them located in the south-east corner of the township below the Huron River.

## Hamburg Township and Village Organized

Hamburg Township was organized on the third Monday in April, 1835. It is often told how 19 men gathered to name the township. Most of them were from the New England area, so eight of them wished to name the township Lenox and eight others wished it to be called Steuben. Finally they asked three German brothers, the Grissons, to help them select a name. They called it Hamburg after a place in Germany where they were born.

About this same time Jesse Hall sold a piece to Amoriah Hammond on the little creek in town, for a dam site for a mill, which Mr. Hammond and E.F. Gay of Ann Arbor soon completed.

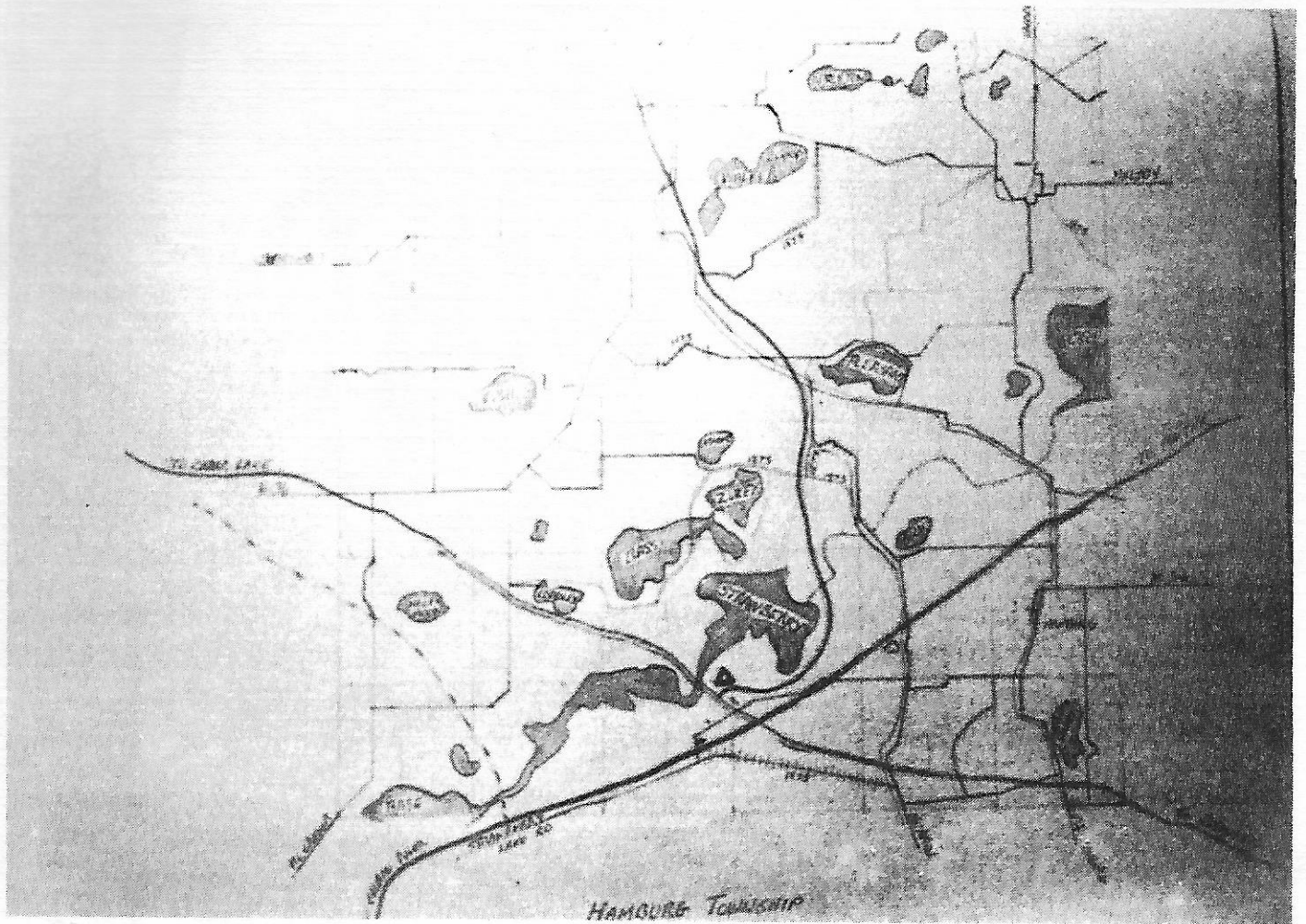
The Grisson brothers with Isaac DeForest bought land from Lester Burnett on a mortgage and platted the village of Hamburg, with the Lester Burnett road running down through the middle of the village (our "Main" street). The Grissons also purchased the dam from Hammond and built a grist mill. They also built a store and erected a hotel. The village of Hamburg was "born" about two years before our State of Michigan was recognized as a part of the Union.

## Early Records

The first white child born in Hamburg township was Ellie Lake, daughter of Heman Lake in the summer of 1832. Christopher Culver, the first supervisor of Hamburg was also the first death as he was crushed by logs while helping to erect a log cabin. The first resident to hold a county office was Justus J. Bennett who was Livingston's first sheriff.

The infant township was to thrive in later years and many changes would be brought but this was the beginning of our heritage. —*Milt Charboneau*



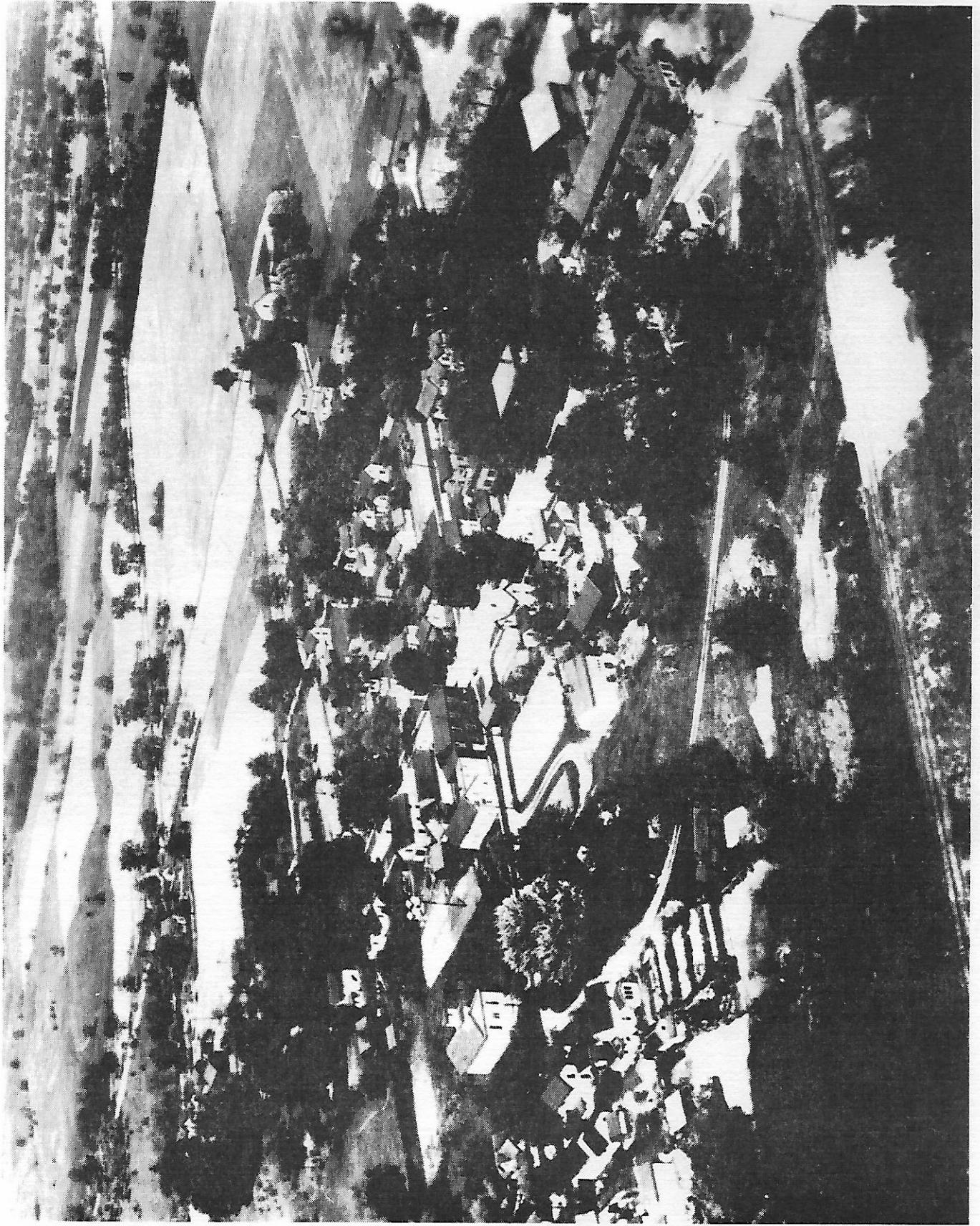


Indian Trail Map



HAMBURG TOWNSHIP  
T. 1 N., R. 5 E.



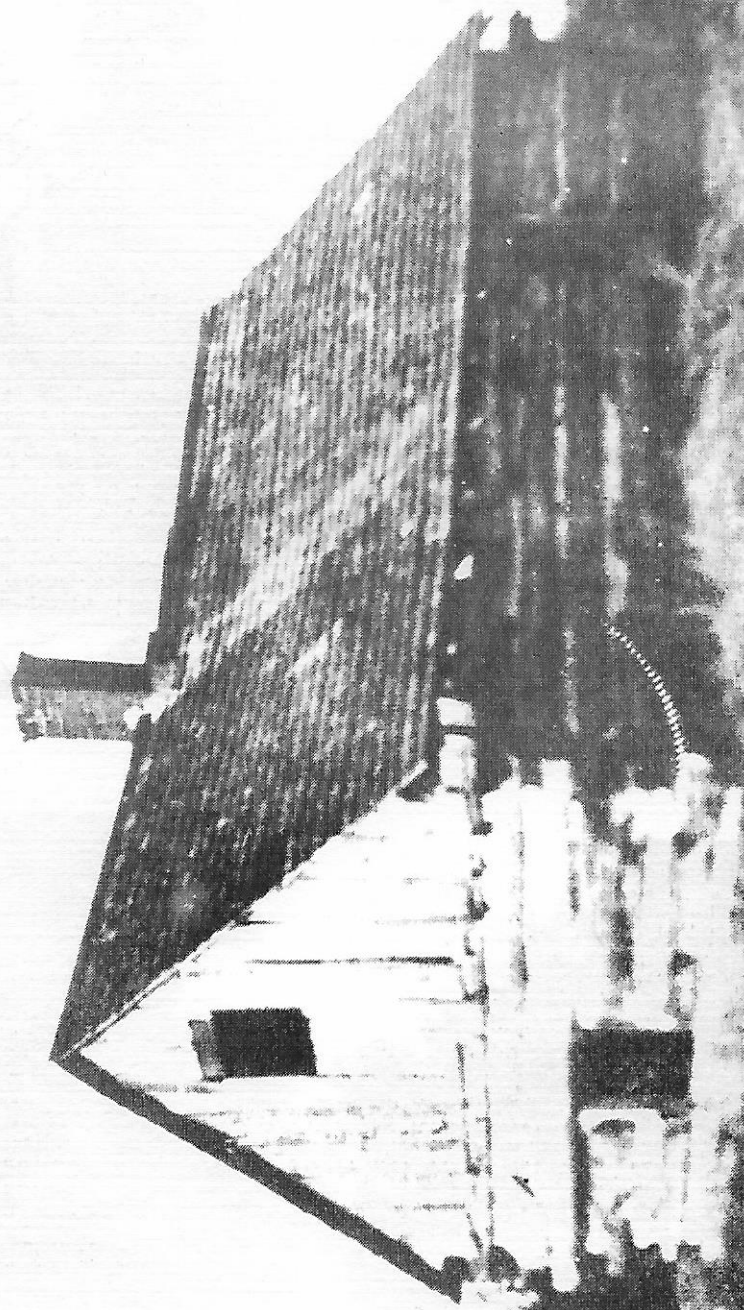


1932  
Aerial View



1950

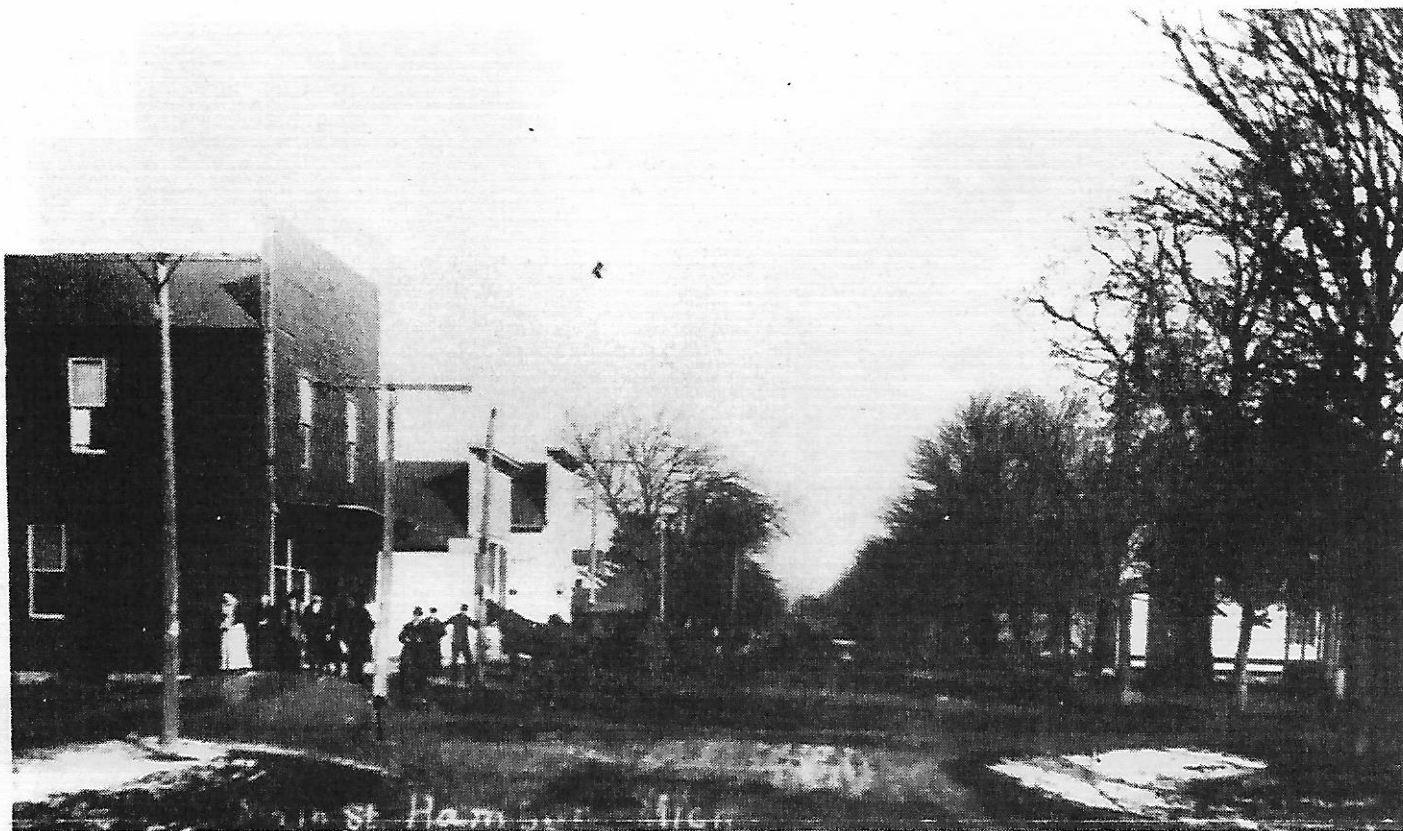




*Butcher Shop - 1835*

A Typical Log Building—1835





Main Street

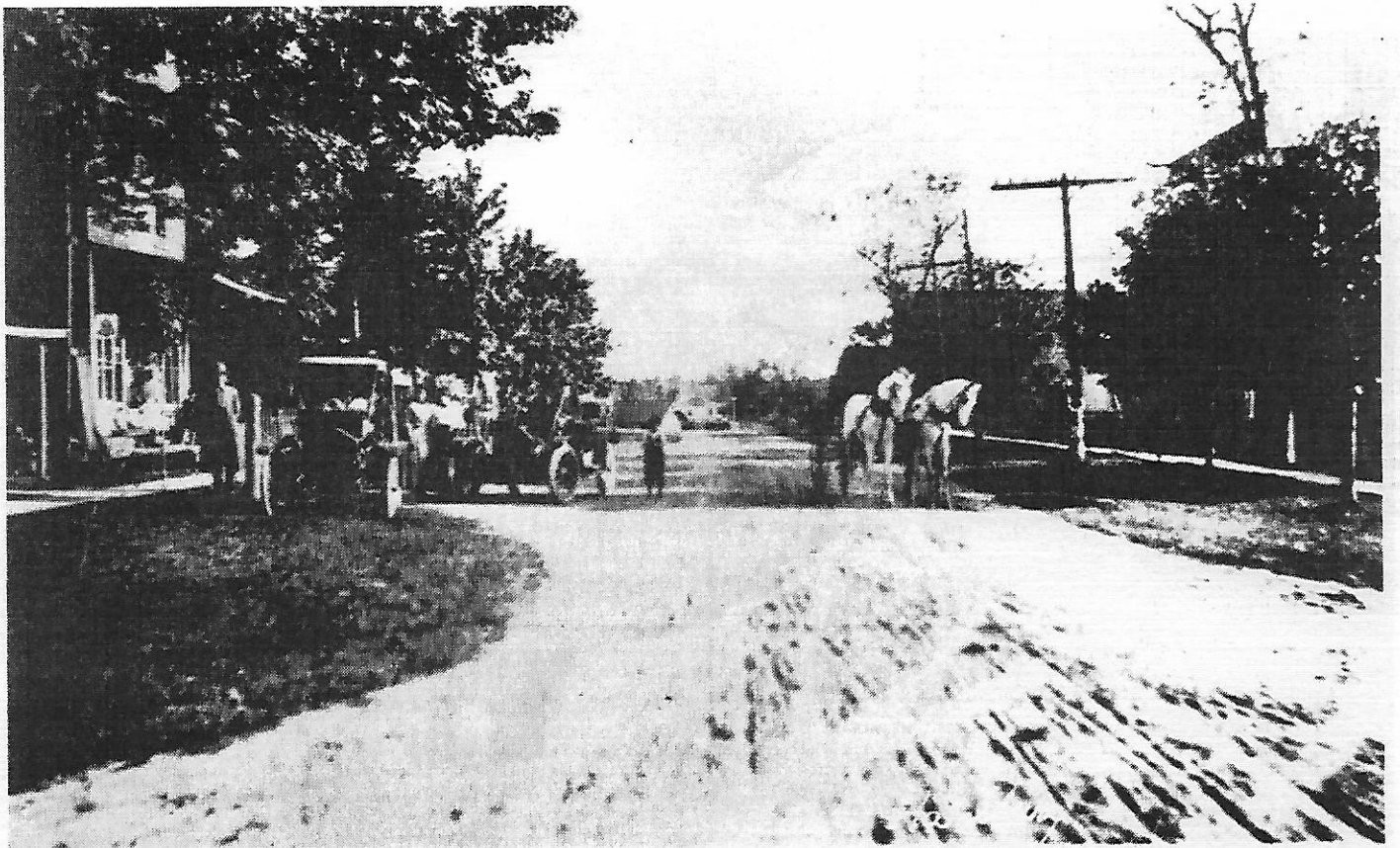


Lucy Hamburg

Broadway



Broadway



Main Street





S. Main Street



Broadway



East Stone St. Hamburg



West Stone St.





## The Hotel

Probably the most lengthy of all histories is the history of the hotel in Hamburg. The hotel, as well as the railroads, were an economic boom to the village. It was a place where many young women secured "good, honest" work. They earned room and board, in addition to some money.

The hotel was built and run by George Grisson in 1835. Succeeding him were:

Helim Bennett	George Rogers
—1865	—1870-80
John Bennett, Sr.	Lute Moon
Spencer Warner	Jim Crossman
John Pickard	Ed Wheeler
William Rogers	Will Winkelhaus

The following recollections of life at the old hotel were told to Penelope S. Pietras, journalist, by Hilda and Hazel Winkelhaus. (Miss Pietras is the niece of Mrs. Richard [Thelma] Dunning, formerly Mrs. Ted Winkelhaus, who furnished the hotel picture.)



Sunday, June 7, 1903:	Fisher's to Buck Lake and back	\$2.00
	Bay horse delivered to C. Bishop	2.00
June 8, 1903:	Gray to Webster	1.50
June 9, 1903:	South Lyon	1.50
	Lumber to Huron R. Bridge	1.00
	Whitmore Lake	1.00
	Deliver binder to Kirby	.50
June 10, 1903:	Drive to Brighton — wool buyer	1.50
June 13, 1903:	Lumber man to New Hudson	2.50
	Delivered stove to Dell Ball	.25
June 14, 1903:	J.H. Hayner — Brighton	1.00

In the fifty years or more since Hilda (Winkelhaus) Doherr and Hazel (Winkelhaus) Ward left Hamburg, Michigan, they have traveled through much of the world. But with as much enthusiasm as when they describe a picturesque street in San Francisco or a safari camp in Africa, they also vividly recount their childhood experiences in Hamburg. The two sisters agree that growing up at “the old hotel” in Hamburg over a half-century ago was a unique learning experience that they wouldn’t trade for the world. After listening to their colorful recollections, you can understand why.

There is a generation growing up today that doesn’t know that Hamburg ever had a hotel, since it was burned by vandals in 1968. Hilda and Hazel’s father, John W. Winkelhaus, bought the 24-room hotel, complete with a saloon and livery stable, in March 1903. The following month he married Bertha Kourt and they moved in on their wedding day — April 28, 1903. J.W. came to the U.S. from Germany when he was 14 to live with a sister who operated the Brighton Hotel. While helping his sister, the industrious J.W. learned the business and saved the money to buy the hotel in Hamburg.

The two-story Hamburg House, as it was then called, was built in 1835. It was ideally situated on the hill directly north of the train depot, where, prior to 1920, six Ann Arbor Railroad passenger trains and four Grand Trunk trains stopped daily. Hazel explains that:

*“Small town hotels in the early part of the 20th century were a thriving business. The outside world came through their doors bringing vitality to the town. The small hotels offered lodging, food, drink, and transportation to the hordes of traveling salesmen who all depended on rail travel to cover their territories.”*

Hazel points out that one of the major sources of the hotel’s income was the livery stable. They always had a horse and rig to rent out, and a driver

to take salesmen on their rounds or make deliveries. The following is an excerpt from J.W. Winkelhaus’s daily journal of livery stable transactions.

The parade of humanity that passed through the Hamburg House doors also included vacationers from Detroit and Toledo, and even an itinerant dentist who used to set up a temporary clinic in the hotel’s front parlor. Consequently, the five Winkelhaus children learned to get along with all kinds of people at an early age.

Some of these people were not the best examples of society for impressionable children, but today they are the most memorable characters in Hilda and Hazel’s recollections. One of their favorite characters was “Limpy”—an enormous man with a noticeable limp in his walk who stopped at the hotel once every Spring and Fall as he traveled the countryside selling pencils. Hilda recalls his large ruby ring, which he called his “catcher”—to catch the girls. His awkward gait, disheveled appearance, and the fact that he was very broad in the beam made him a comical figure to the children. One evening Limpy asked Mrs. Winkelhaus for a darning needle. Knowing his eyesight was poor, she couldn’t imagine him sewing anything, so she asked what he needed mended. He explained that he had hitched a ride that afternoon on the back of a truck and had acquired a sliver in a most uncomfortable place. With the needle and a mirror, he hoped to dislodge it. Hilda describes her mother as “not one to get hysterical over anything,” but that incident kept her laughing for a long time.

The “two Harrys” were also regular visitors at Hamburg House, and occupants of a special guest room Bertha Winkelhaus reserved for those who didn’t bathe too often. These two men from Detroit usually stayed at the hotel about a week at a time while they went out each day scouring the countryside for junk. Along with a wagon-load of used items, they also accumulated a layer of dust and grime which they made no attempt to wash off during their stay.

Perhaps the most colorful characters of all were the gypsies who periodically invaded Hamburg. Hazel recalls hurrying home to warn her mother that the gypsies were coming through town. These vagabonds, dressed in brightly-colored garb, appeared to be typical storybook villains to the six-year-old Hazel, who had heard rumors that they kidnapped children. In reality, the gypsies were only interested in feeding their families. Two of them barged into the hotel kitchen one day and proceeded to rummage through the cupboards. Bertha Winkelhaus firmly ushered them out the door. Hamburg residents learned to lock their doors when the gypsies were in town.

The hotel was also home to several steady boarders and live-in helpers. Bertha Winkelhaus's younger sisters all served internships as maids at Hamburg House until they married. A maid's salary was \$3.00 per week. Bertha also took in homeless girls to assist her with the upkeep of the hotel. One of these young women made a lasting impression on Hilda. She remembers Esther as a rather pudgy, pug-nosed girl with an unfortunate history of past employers. Bertha felt sorry for the girl, and attempted to teach her some of the finer points of housekeeping. One day, while setting the table, Esther regarded their inexpensive tablecloth with disdain and told Hilda that she would never have anything but real linen on *her* table! Years later Hilda and Bertha dropped in on Esther at her apartment in Ann Arbor. Esther's dining room table was covered with newspaper. On seeing this, Hilda's first thought was: "Well, that's a lesson. I'm never going to say what I'm *not* going to do!"

Mealtime was a big production at the hotel. The table was always set for eight to twelve people; the Winkelhaus family plus an assortment of relatives, boarders, or hired girls. The children were not allowed to speak at the dinner table, but Joe Ide, the Grand Trunk depot agent who boarded at the hotel, frequently disrupted a dignified meal. In the few moments when everyone was seated and waiting for J.W. to come in, Joe clowned and teased, causing five youthful faces to turn scarlet with suppressed giggles when their father sat down. At the end of a meal Joe would sometimes say "Ready now!" and the three Winkelhaus boys, following his example, would lift their plates to their faces and lick them clean!

Hilda remembers Joe Ide as a sort of substitute father to her three brothers, Lou, Wilbur, and Ted. While J.W. worked seven days a week and rarely had time to take the family on outings, Joe had plenty of time free and often bicycled with the boys into Brighton to see a movie. Hilda wasn't allowed to go along on these trips. She did enjoy

however, the special privilege of accompanying her father when he chauffeured traveling salesmen around the area. When she got older, her mother took her to the monthly dances that were held in the I.O.O.F. hall (above the present hardware store).

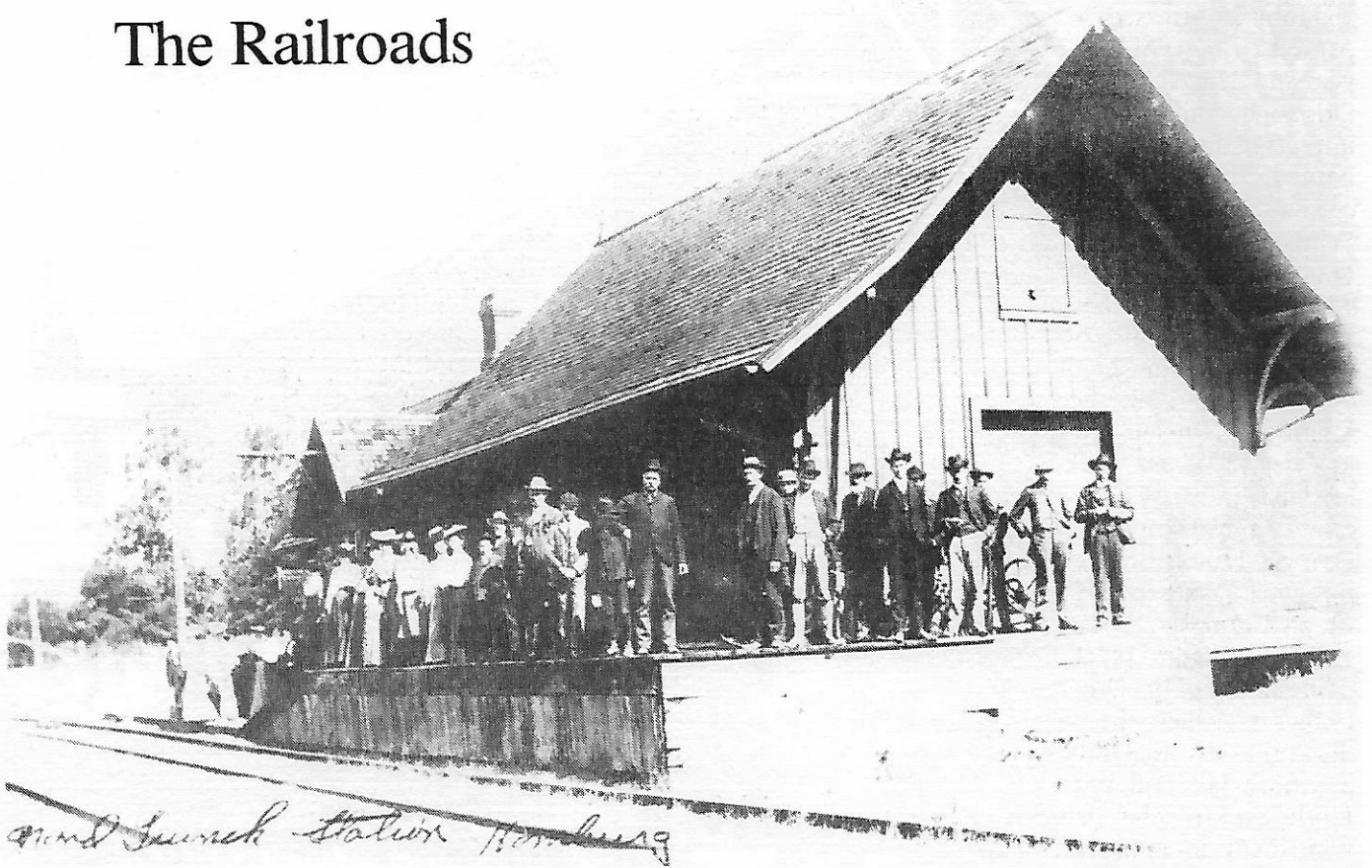
When Hilda was born, Bertha Winkelhaus insisted that she would not raise a daughter around a saloon. So J.W. closed down the bar in the basement of the hotel and traded the remaining 50 barrels of whiskey for his first Ford. He became fascinated with automobiles, and eventually converted the former saloon into a Ford dealership and service garage.

Neither of the elder Winkelhaus's could tolerate wasted time. Bertha once admitted to her daughters that although she loved to read novels, she wasn't going to read them anymore, since she got too engrossed in them and couldn't put them down. J.W. once drove all the way to South Dakota to visit a relative he hadn't seen in years. He stayed about two hours and then promptly turned around and headed back for Hamburg.

The Winkelhaus children had duties to perform each day around the hotel, but when school and chores were finished, they had free reign of the countryside around the village. They would often follow the creek that ran alongside of the railroad tracks towards Pinckney, to a spot where it widened into a clear, shallow swimming hole. Hilda and her brother Ted loved to catch frogs, skin them, and fry them over an open fire in their mother's old skillet. When the first whistle of the 9:00 pm train blew however, it was time to head home, and they had to be inside by the time the train passed through town.

Coming of age in Hamburg meant going on to high school in Ann Arbor. J.W. Winkelhaus had a love for learning that he passed on to his children. He saw to it that all five of them attended the University of Michigan. Although the three Winkelhaus sons all settled in the Ann Arbor area, for both Hilda and Hazel, moving to Ann Arbor was the first step in breaking away. The tracks of their lives since then crisscross the continent. Today Hilda and her husband Arthur live near Myrtle Beach, S.C. Hazel and her husband Bob reside in Belmont, California. When they occasionally return to Hamburg, there is no longer the hotel to call home. But for anyone who knows them, "the old hotel" is very real, thanks to their lively descriptions of a time and a place that used to be.

## The Railroads



According to the diary of M.E. DeWolf, the Grand Trunk Railroad came through the village of Hamburg in 1883, and the Toledo & Ann Arbor Railroad in 1886. What a change for the people of this village the coming of railroads made! It enabled them to travel extensively and rapidly. People were able to take a passenger train to shop or to travel. It also brought in greater quantity and quality goods, and provided the townspeople additional

work. Mrs. DeWolf's journal states "1895—Jimmie (age 13) was water boy on the railroad from September 10 to 26. Earned \$10.60." He carried water on a yoke across his shoulders back and forth from Hamburg crossing to Ball's crossing, (a distance of about 1½ miles) furnishing drinking water to the workmen laying the track for the Toledo-Ann Arbor.





Louis Saunders, on cart; Mark J. Kappler; Charles Rogers, with truck; Sarah Haight, student; Doro Ball, visitor.

In addition to the jobs, it brought some excitement to the village, for there were several derailments over the years on both lines. One primary cause was at a switch point where the Ann Arbor crossed over to the Grand Trunk track between Hamburg and Lakeland. Apparently it was a risky change at that time. It was reported that in a swampy area near what is now the Ace Hardware in Lakeland an engine went down and was never recovered.

Another excerpt from Mrs. DeWolf's journal

"February 23, 1912 — A stock train on the Grand Trunk derailed. Cattle in the open cars were reported about half dead from exposure." Aside from the excitement there also was tragedy and monetary loss to the people. The pictures available here do not show the stock yards that were down near the depots. Although the depots are now gone, as is the water tower, the portion of the Grand Trunk depot that housed the freight and was purchased by the Lefstad family now stands on their property on M-36.



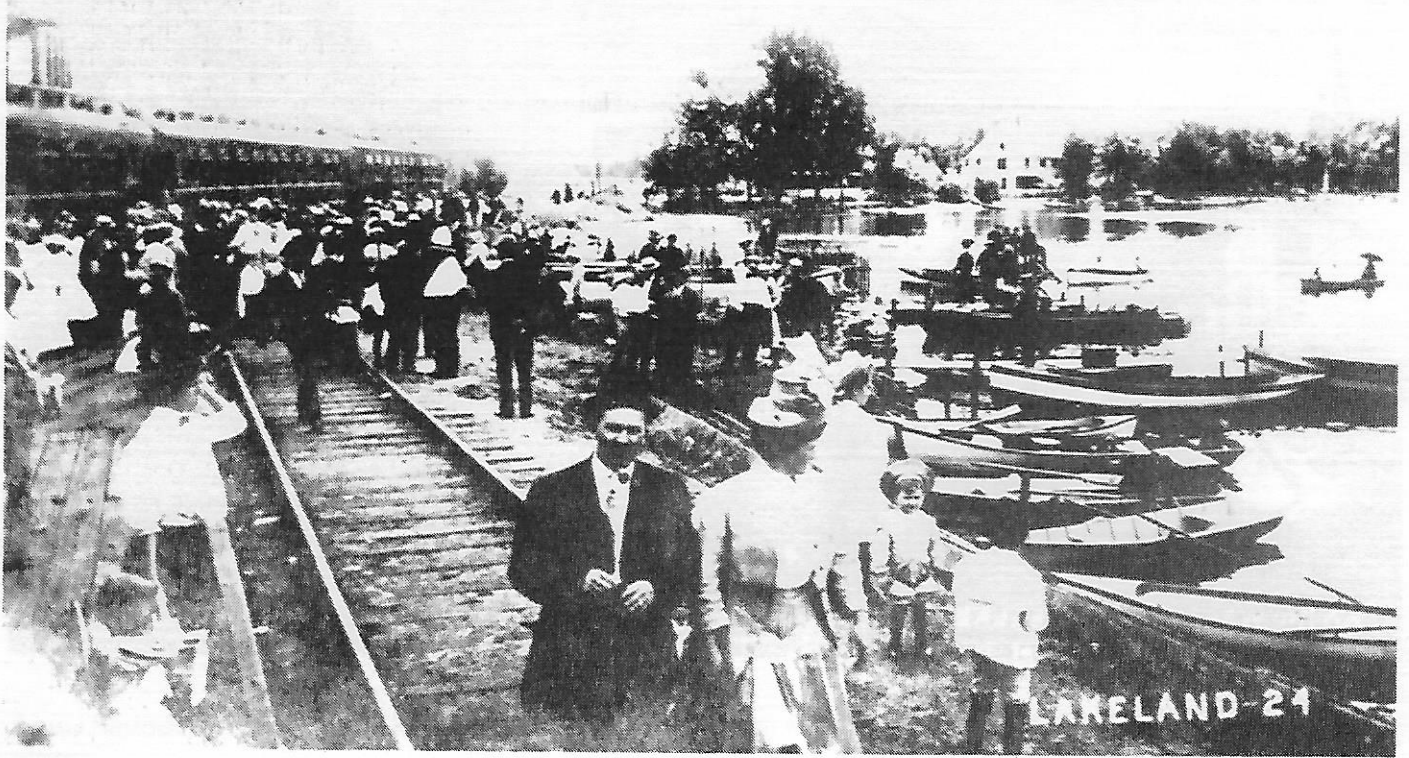
Ann Arbor wreck near Lakeland

Although no picture was available, there also was a grain elevator that stood near the railroads. Farmers brought their grain to be weighed and shipped. It was owned by several people. One of the former owners, Mr. Wayne Jury, was interviewed. He had the elevator from about 1932-1946. (He was also one of the many former owners of the

Hardware Store, 1928-1942.) He sold the elevator to a man who moved it to the thumb area of Michigan. Whether it exists today or not is not known.

There are no longer trains stopping in Hamburg. Only an occasional freight train passes through on the Ann Arbor line. Much of the Grand Trunk track has been removed.

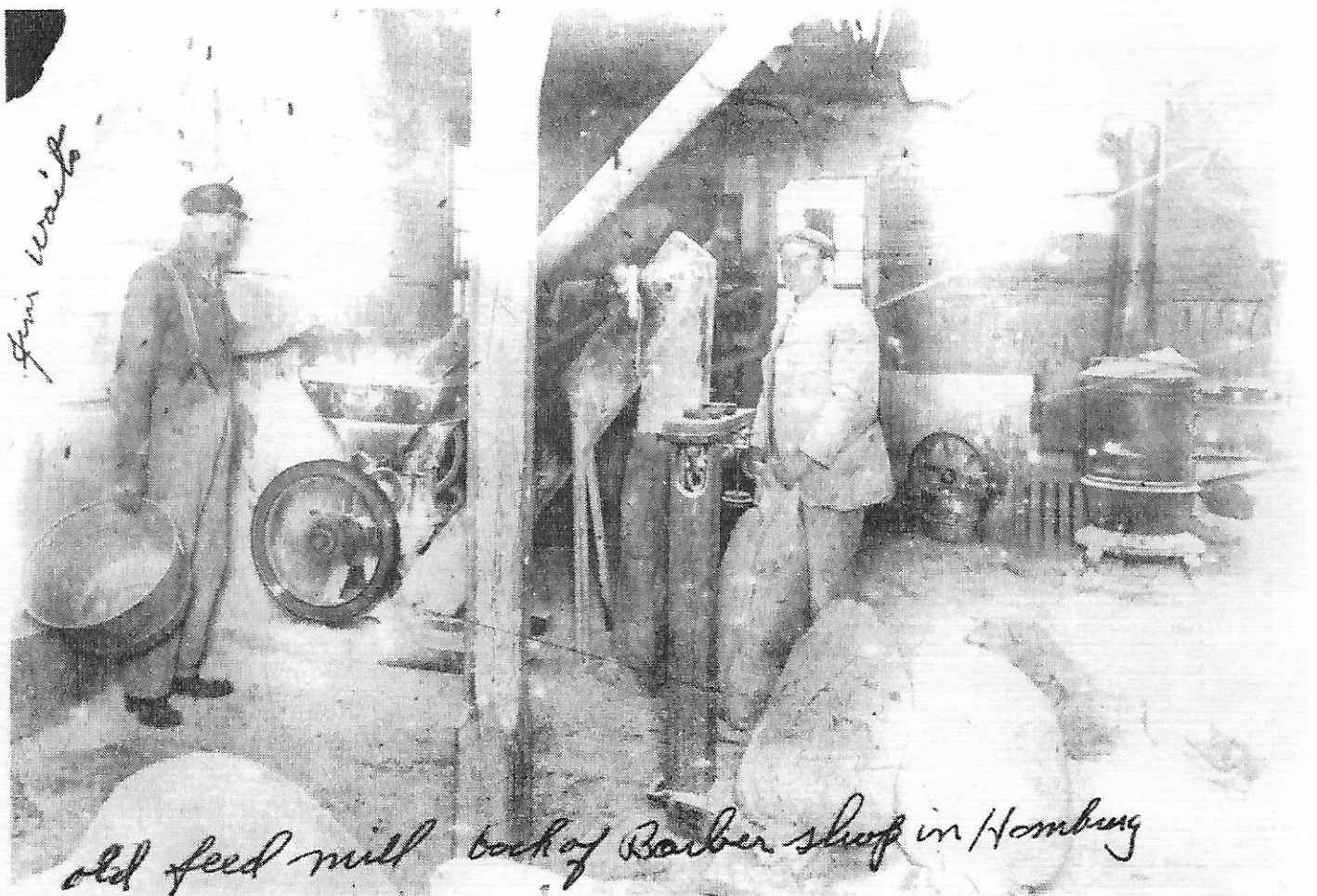




## Lakeland—Resort Area

With the coming of the railroads, the areas around Lakeland-Zukey Lake became the resort spot of the township. People traveled from the De-

troit and Ohio area to spend their summers here. In the background is "Aunt Mag's" (Rhinehart) Hotel.



## The Grisson's Mill

The Grisson name stands out in the minds of those who have read a history of Hamburg. Not only because they were the men who were the deciding factor in naming the town "Hamburg" after their home town in Germany, but because they were the most versatile businessmen in town at that time.

They came here in 1834 after a short stop at Oneida, New York. In the next few years in Hamburg, they purchased the Hammond & Gay saw-mill, built and ran the first store, erected the hotel and had the grist mill built. According to history written by Honorable Edwin B. Winans in 1879,

Seth A. Petteys, an accomplished millwright, built the mill in Hamburg for the Grissons.

There are no known pictures of the exterior of the Grisson Mill, but there is a picture of the interior. Apparently there are very few, if any, pictures in the area of the interior of a working mill. This picture shows Mr. James Waite and it is assumed that the other man is Mr. William Winkelhaus. The picture was taken sometime before 1900.

The mill is no longer standing. It is not known exactly when it was torn down, but it stood on the banks of the creek behind the barber shop.





## Petteysville Mill

Seth A. Petteys came to Michigan from Montgomery County, New York in May, 1836 settling in Putnam Township, Livingston County.

While traveling between his farm in Putnam to Hamburg, where he had been employed by the Grissons to build their mill, he found an excellent water-power source on a piece of land. He bought this piece of land and in 1843 he moved to the Hamburg Township land and built a carding and fulling mill. (Carding is the process of disentangling and collecting all fibers of whatever length and fulling being the process of scouring, cleansing and thickening the cloth.)

In 1849 he added a run of stones and did grinding. The mill was in operation as a fulling mill for about 20 years. Later he added another run of stones and converted the facility into a grist-mill. Between 1846 and 1860 Mr. Petteys built a saw-mill, cider mill and blacksmith shop, all in what had become known as "Petteysville."

Most of the information gathered about the Petteysville Mill was taken from the Livingston Coun-

ty 1880 History. The Mill was turned into a private home prior to 1920 and is currently owned by Mr. & Mrs. Leon Leutz and is still standing.

One note in the Petteysville Mill history is the fact that the Hon. Edwin B. Winans was employed by Mr. Petteys to work in the mill. He was a very young man at the time and spent four years working for Mr. Petteys learning the trade.

Especially enjoyable was the comment written by Mr. Winans that stated:

*"Many a sack of wool I carded for the wives and daughters of the county to spin and weave into cloth for men and women's wear. And many yards of flannel I have dyed and pressed for dresses, fullled and dressed for suits for the boys to go courting in. I took special care to have the cards clean in order to make the rolls for the girls of my acquaintance to spin, because if it were knotty and did not run free, I was sure to hear from them in such a way as was not at all flattering to my vanity!"*



## Campbell Town Mill

The Campbell Town Mill and the area called "Campbell Town" were named after Mr. Bradford Campbell who with Mr. Abel Peck settled in the area along Ore Creek from near Cowell Road to Maltby Road.

The 1880 Livingston County History refers to it as "Campbellville" but for many years it has been called "Campbell Town."

Messrs. Peck and Campbell built their mill on Ore Creek shortly after the mill was built in Hamburg Village. Following a long partnership, Mr. Peck sold

out to Mr. Campbell, who ran it for many years. Some time after Mr. Campbell's death it is known that a Mr. Covell ran the mill and at another time the Toncray Brothers also ran it. The mill was still in operation, on a smaller scale, until 1907.

It is difficult to get to the exact area where the mill stood, but in the early days, all area roads ran down to the Campbell Town Mill. The dam broke often and one year it took the road by the mill with it.





Allie Hull — rural route mail carrier



# Post Office

Postmasters and the dates of their service.

The first Post Office in Livingston County was established as "Livingston" in Hamburg Village on July 25, 1840. The first Postmaster, appointed that day, was William Grisson. The name was changed to Hamburg on November 10, 1852; to Hamburg Village on October 28, 1854; to Hamburg on August 10, 1861; and finally back to Hamburg in 1894. The office advanced from fourth to third class in 1942. July 1, 1967, it advanced to second class.

Following is a list of Postmasters who have served in the Hamburg Post Office and the dates of their appointments: William Grisson, July 25, 1840; John Grisson, September 28, 1842; William H. Twichell, November 15, 1844; John C. Steinman, December 3, 1845; Charles G. Warner, November 10, 1852; Isiah Goodno, October 6, 1855; Reuben S. Hall, October 19, 1866; Ferdinand Grisson, May 12, 1869; Buron Royce, May 5, 1874; Jonathon L. Kisby, June 10, 1897; Reuben A. Kisby, February 5, 1912; John C. Royce, May 1920; Thomas W. Featherly (acting) November 24,

1925; Lester M. Sharp, January 14, 1926; Carl C. Lear, March 30 1931; Charles N. Davis, December 1938; Carol A. Rowland, March 16, 1974.

The above list is thorough and to our knowledge accurate. However the housing of the Post Office is varied and the records not complete. According to some sources, the Post Office was at one time in the homes of the earliest Postmasters. Later, it was in the building that became the hardware store.

An entry in Mrs. DeWolf's journal states: "May 3, 1901 — The stores burned about midnight. Saunders goods all burned, saved some for Kisby & Schafer."

Although this picture does not resemble the present hardware store, it probably was reconstructed following the fire. (The man in the picture is Allie Hull. This was taken on the second day of Hamburg's rural route delivery.)

Sometime in the late 1920's the Post Office was housed in a small building across the Main Street from the Sheridan home, which is now owned by Dr. Gerald Williford. Its last move to date is up on M-36 where it has been since November 1, 1974.



## Schafer's Store

The grocery-general store was owned by William Schafer at the time this picture was taken. The picture shows a number of men, but the only one identified is the man behind the counter on the right, James DeWolf. He often spoke about taking a wheel barrow down to the depot to pick up merchandise that came to town by rail. He said the tea came from Japan and China in big wicker hampers

with stickers written in Chinese and Japanese. Spices came loose in bulk packages and when sold, were weighed out.

Sometime between 1918 and 1919 Thomas Featherly became a part owner in Mr. Schafer's store and about one year later Mr. Featherly bought out Mr. Schafer.

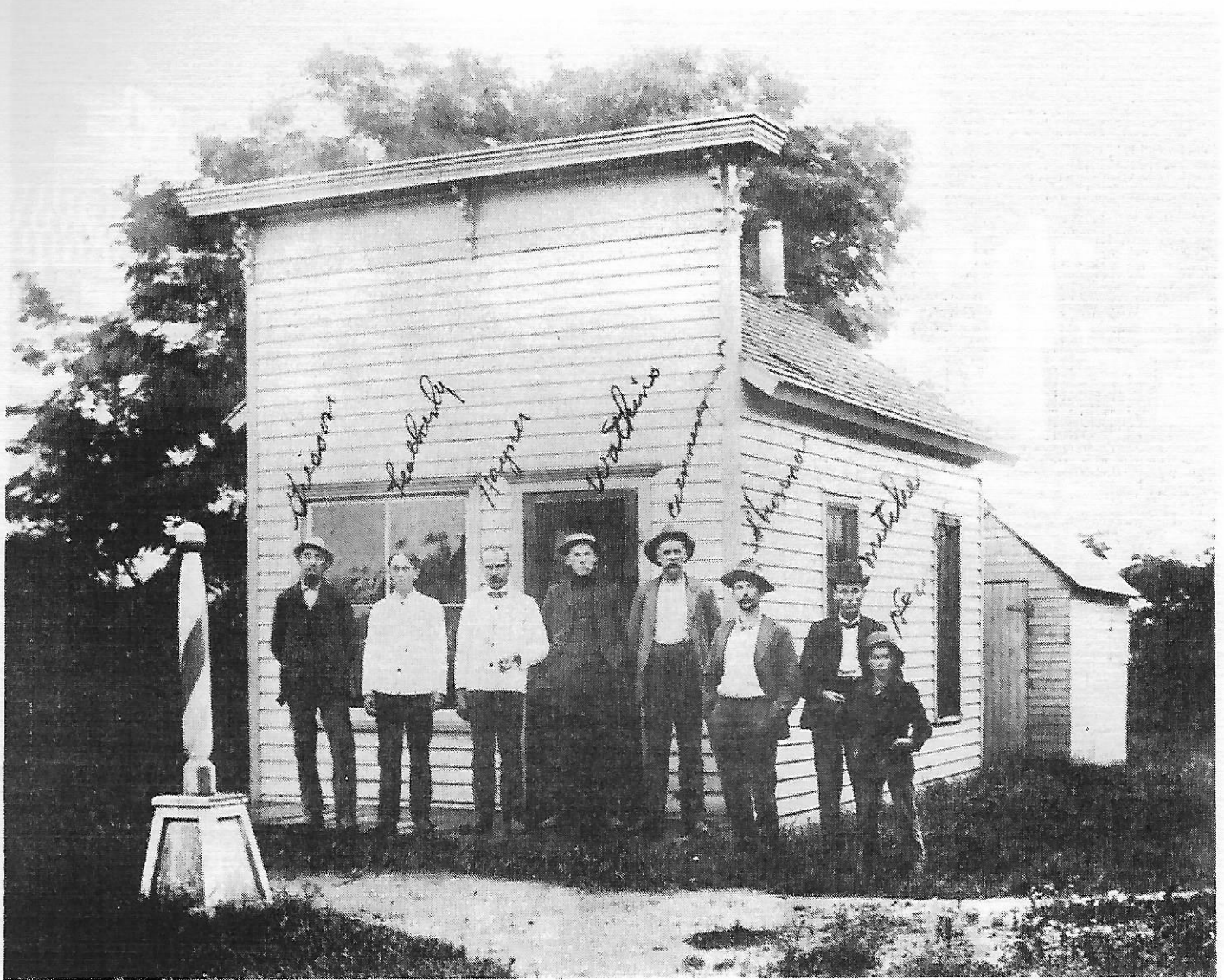


Mr. Featherly's son, James Featherly, Sr. contributed recollections of his father as the store owner. He said that bread for the store came in crates by train from the Hutzler Baking Company of Ann Arbor. There were about 35-40 loaves per crate. He also recalled that candy came packaged in 25 pound wooden pails. Apparently when a wooden pail was accidentally broken, Jim and his

friends were able to have some of the candy. He said it was surprising how often a candy pail came through "broken."

The 1921-22 picture of the store interior was taken during the time Thomas Featherly was owner. Pictured left to right are Mildred Rohrbacher, Lou Winkelhaus and Sarah Pryor.





## Barber Shop

Barbering in Hamburg probably goes back to the earliest days of the hotel. It has been recorded that there was a barber shop in the hotel from time to time. But the picture shown is the barber shop built in 1908 by Mr. James H. Hayner, owner-barber for many years. (It was owned by Mr. Hayner until his death in 1942.)

Mr. Hayner, a very industrious businessman, also ran an insurance business in the back of his shop. Besides owning and running his barber shop, he employed another barber who worked out of the Creamery Room at the hotel.

Pictured are, left to right: Lionel Grisson;

Thomas Featherly, barber; James Hayner, owner and barber; John Watkins; Charles Cunningham; Ed Shannon; Carl Mitchell and Charlie Hewitt.

Mr. Hayner's heirs sold the building in 1942 to Mr. Charles Mount. He sold it in 1945 to Mr. Joe Owad. While the building was changing owners Mr. Churchill rented from the owners and served as barber from 1941-1955.

In 1955 Mr. John Saunby rented and began his business as barber in Hamburg. In 1963 Mr. Saurby bought the building from Mr. Owad. Mr. Saurby is currently the owner-barber.



# Hamburg Hardware Store



Hamburg Hardware Store, left to right, Gus Silsbe, Jack McMatire, Dr. Swartz, Mr. Kisby, Amaela Mast, Mrs. Kisby (postmaster) and Ruby Kisby.

The Hamburg Hardware Store was another building with many owners and very little firsthand knowledge of its beginning.

Although always in the hardware business, according to sources, it was also part of the postal history in Hamburg. For many years it also served as a post office. Above the store on the second floor is the I.O.O.F. Hall, which has been located there for many years.

The only available date to give at this time, for this building is that it pre-dates 1894.

Although not documented, it is supposed that

another of the Grisson family built the store. Probably a son of the early Grisson settlers.

Listed here are some of the many men to occupy this building.

Mr. Grisson  
Thomas Featherly  
Wayne Jury  
Bert Cook

Hank Seeger  
Don Weed  
James Keymer

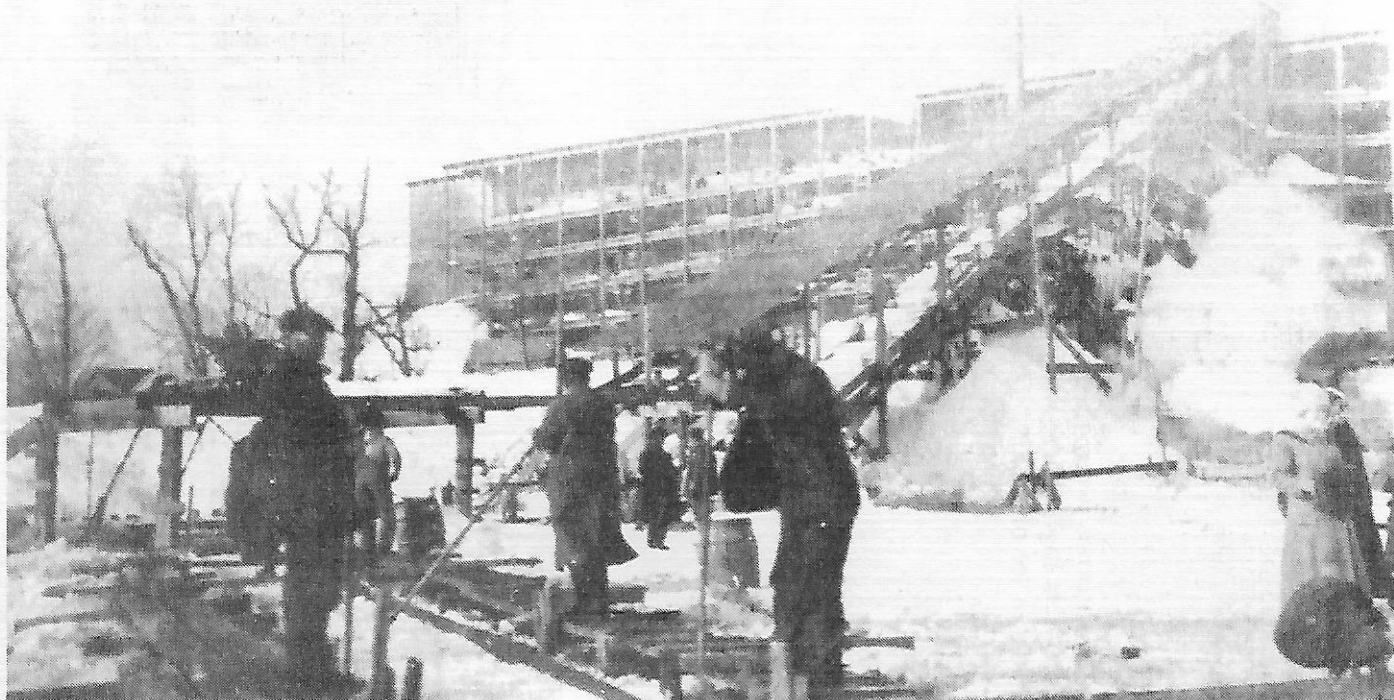
This list would be much longer, but at this time the names are not available.



Thomas Featherly's Hardware store about 1927

[Hornburg]

Hardware Store interior—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Featherly.



A cold job for the selecting crew.

## Ice House—1892

The ice industry in the township of Hamburg was concentrated in the Lakeland-Zukey Lake area. Its inception was in the winter of 1890. George Schuller, owner of the Ice & Coal Company of Toledo, Ohio, built the first commercial ice house at Zukey Lake. The end of this industry was in 1929 when electric refrigeration began to appear in every household. The story of the ice industry which took place between these years is colorfully told by Wilhelmina "Billie" Swarthout in her book called "So Melts the Ice." The picture of the ice house and the following excerpt are from her book:

"A tall, movable scaffold was first constructed that reached to the top level of ice. The ramps were angled back and forth because the slides would have been almost perpendicular without it, at least until the first six or eight layers were unloaded. Above this top layer was a small, unhealthy space called 'Hell's Hole.' There was room for only a

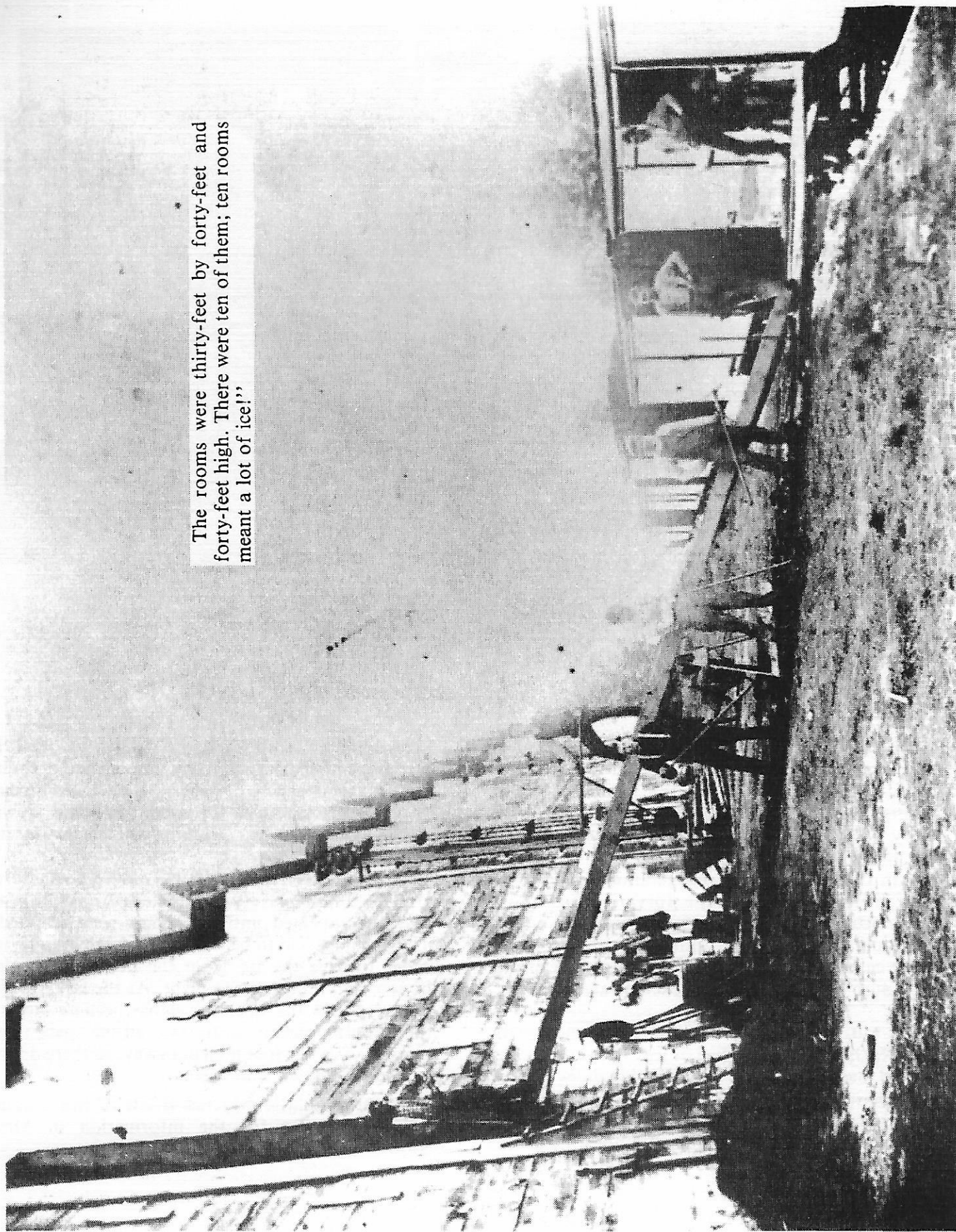
very thin man to crawl. It was dangerous, for if it weren't handled just right by an old pro, it could start an avalanche of slippery, sliding monstrous cakes going pell-mell in every direction down toward the opening, crushing everything in its wake.

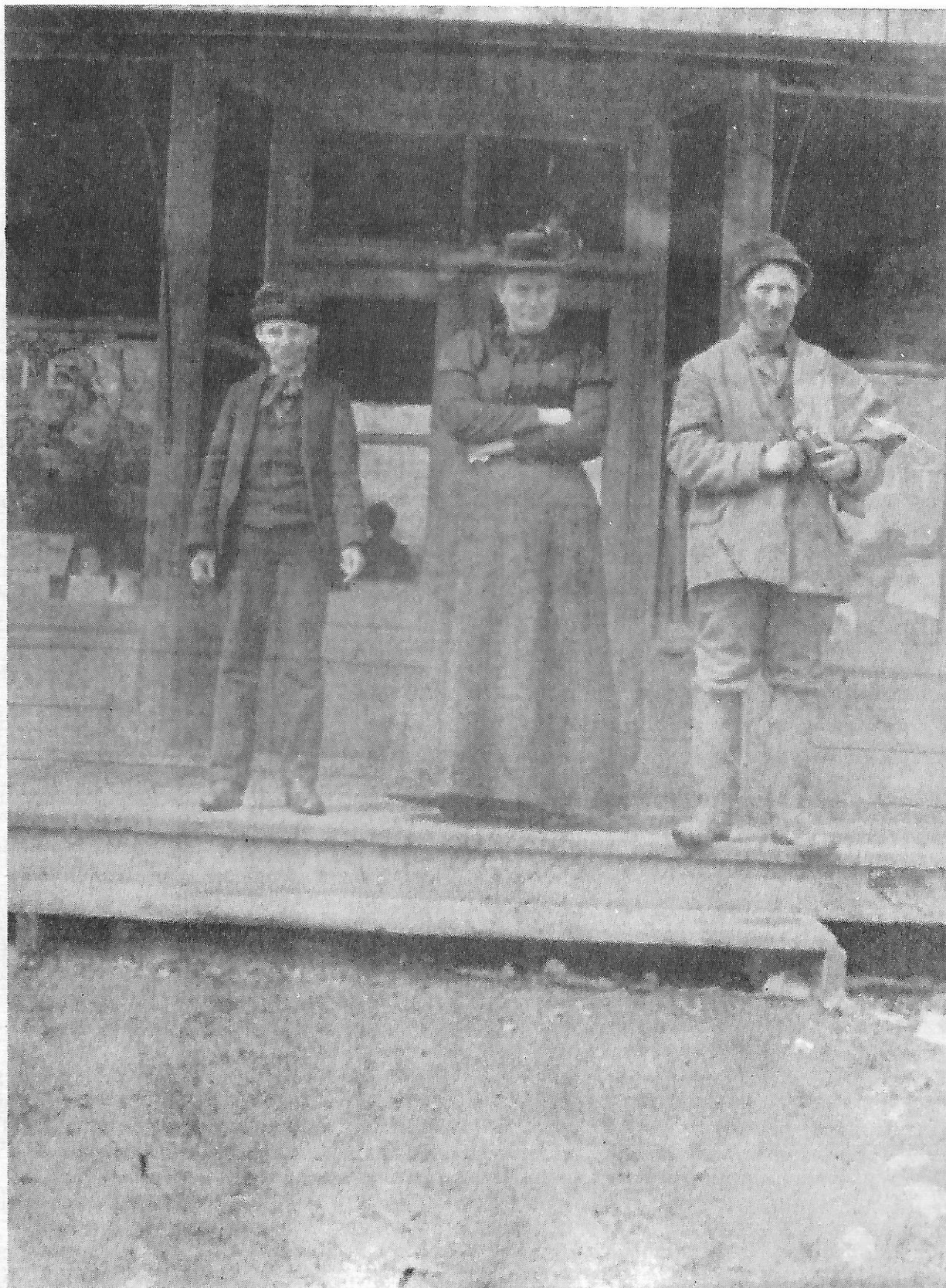
The four-storied scaffold was moved down horizontally until all layers were removed, and the process was repeated until all rooms were emptied. The openings had to be boarded up each evening in order to save the ice from the heat that would honeycomb it during one night. As the layers were removed and the opening above became larger, they would board it up to stay; all the space they needed was a ten-foot high doorway, so there doorway moved down with them.

Apparently little evidence is left of this unique industry, except for the information in Mrs. Swarthout's book.



The rooms were thirty-feet by forty-feet and forty-feet high. There were ten of them; ten rooms meant a lot of ice!





The Pettsyville Store where the Saturday night dances and get-togethers were held. Fred Blades is the little boy. Mrs. Weiman is the storekeeper and Fred Blades' father is on the right. Picture was taken around 1885.



## “Wiggins” Store—Petteysville

The Petteysville Store or “Wiggin’s” store, as some old timers called it, was where the ice colony people shopped during the week and gathered on Saturday night for dances and get-togethers.

Pictured is Fred Blades, Jr., Mrs. Weiman the storekeeper, and Fred Blades, Sr. The picture was taken about 1885.

Another excerpt from Mrs. Swarthout’s “So Melts the Ice,” describes the Saturday night festivities at the old store.

“Once inside the little store, the warmth of the pot-bellied stove soon made everyone shed about half their warm, wool clothing. Lanterns flickered and swayed above heads, and the big grey coffee pot set out an aroma that smelled of community fellowship. The combined odors of peppermint stick candy, musty pickle barrels, and salted herring made the kids’ mouths water. With their hands folded and pleas in their eyes, they looked up at big, raw-boned Mr. Burton. He loved this moment of adoration for he could read their thoughts.

“Kids,” (he would be very stern and straight-faced) “See that barrel inside the door?”

All would shake their heads in anticipation.

He would hand a hammer to one of the girls and say, “If you kids can get that top unfastened, I know you’ll find a real treat inside.”

Then with a twinkle in his eyes he would disappear leaving the kids to solve their problems. What a surprise! Suckers, candy sticks, pretzels, strung rock candy, cookies, etc. He had bought and accumulated these goodies for a year. In the attic he kept a supply so that each week he could add to the barrel with a new variety.

Coats, hats, mittens, scarfs, extra socks, wraps of every description were deposited on the counter until it was completely covered and mounded to a foot in downy depth.

Abe and Pearl Haines were usually the first to arrive, for they were the entertainers and proud parents of one of the largest families in Pinckney. Pearl, quiet and almost silent as a conversationalist, could surely drum up musical conversation when playing chords on the organ. Her hands would fly, keeping up an unbelievable pace. The

tempo of every piece put the stiffest joint in a mood for dancing, and those no longer able would keep time in some fashion. It was contagious. She was accompanied by her husband Abe, who played the fiddle equally as well as Pearl did the organ. The one thing that Abe loved next to his wife and family was his fiddle. He was a typical fiddler, a small man bent with long years of hard work on the railroad section gang and ready for a long night of doing the thing he loved. He’d don that perpetual smile, start the tempo with his foot, and the dance would be on its way. He’d swing in time and Pearl would chord to his rhythm.

Square dance would be more popular than the waltz or the two-step. The side line viewers could feel the floor almost rock like an ocean liner as the seasoned boards vibrated and echoed back the constant movement. There were always a few sets with the small fry or grandparents. Grandpa Burton was the best caller of all, but his little grandson of six could call equally as well when Grandpa needed a rest.

No thought was given to time, for it was time to celebrate. No one ever planned on getting home before sunrise.

Around midnight or one a.m., lunch would be served. This was furnished by all who came. Sandwiches and cakes were of every description and flavor; there was plenty of everything. The young ones were never told that it was bedtime but were allowed to stay up as long as they wished or were able. One by one they would tire out, and, with stomachs filled and energy spent, they would burrow themselves deep into the warm coats like hibernating bears. The din of voices and Abe and Pearl’s tempo never bothered them in the least. Moms, dads, big sisters, and brothers, along with grandparents, frolicked until they would see the streaks of grey dawn. Someone would sadly announce, “It’s getting light outside. Guess it’s time to go home and feed the horses.”

The little ones would be bundled while still half asleep and led by the hand into the dawn.”

Mrs. Swarthout proves that although times were hard there was never a lack of warmth, love or closeness among the ice colony people.



# St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has had many histories written about it. To add to the numerous data on the church the following information has been gleaned from early writings.

In 1841 Dr. Peter Galatian moved with his family to live at Green Oak on land owned by Bishop McCoskry, a friend of the family. He came from Tecumseh, Michigan where he was instrumental in building St. Peter's Church in that village.

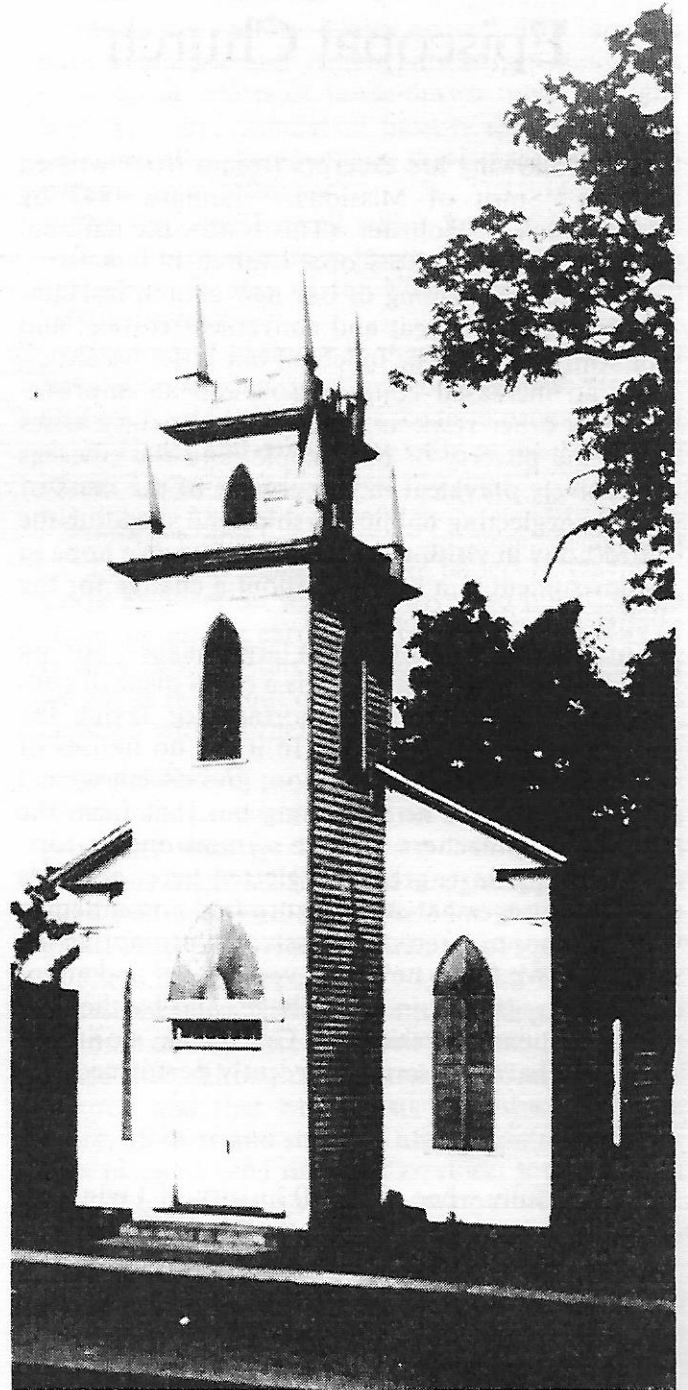
Dr. Galatian began reading church services in his home for his family. Soon neighbors started to attend and it wasn't long before his home could no longer accommodate the crowd. The service was moved to the log school house, called the Lee School, and he was appointed a Lay Reader.

The next move was into the village's Hamburg Hall. This was the beginning of the village church.

Soon missionaries began to come to administer the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. The Reverend Algernon S. Hollister came in the fall of 1843. On January 15, 1844 several men met at the home of George Grisson in Hamburg to organize the parish. Reverend Hollister was called on to be the first rector and remained so until his death January 2, 1856.

The name of St. Stephen's was selected for the parish and the work began. The men went out collecting donations of money and materials to build the church. There is no record of the amount collected. Monies came from Germany, Ireland, New York, Massachusetts, Detroit and Ann Arbor, and Tecumseh. There also is no record of what it cost to build the church. A great deal of labor and materials were donated by the Hamburg people and friends of the parish. The lumber for the church was donated by and hewn on the farm of Jason DeWolf. The lime (called "bog lime") came from Monroe. Young men drove the lime to Hamburg by ox teams. Mr. Hiram Raymond was contracted on March 15, 1844 to build the church. Mr. Eli Snyder did the plastering.

Many gifts and memorials have been bestowed on St. Stephen's over the past 137 years. But the greatest gift has been the love and care of its many families over the years who have kept its doors open for worship since it was built. This gives it the distinction of being the oldest Episcopal Church to remain in continuous use in the State of Michigan.



## Methodist- Episcopal Church

The following are excerpts from a letter written to the "Spirit of Missions," January 1847 by Reverend A.S. Hollister. (This is now the national publication of the Episcopal Church.)

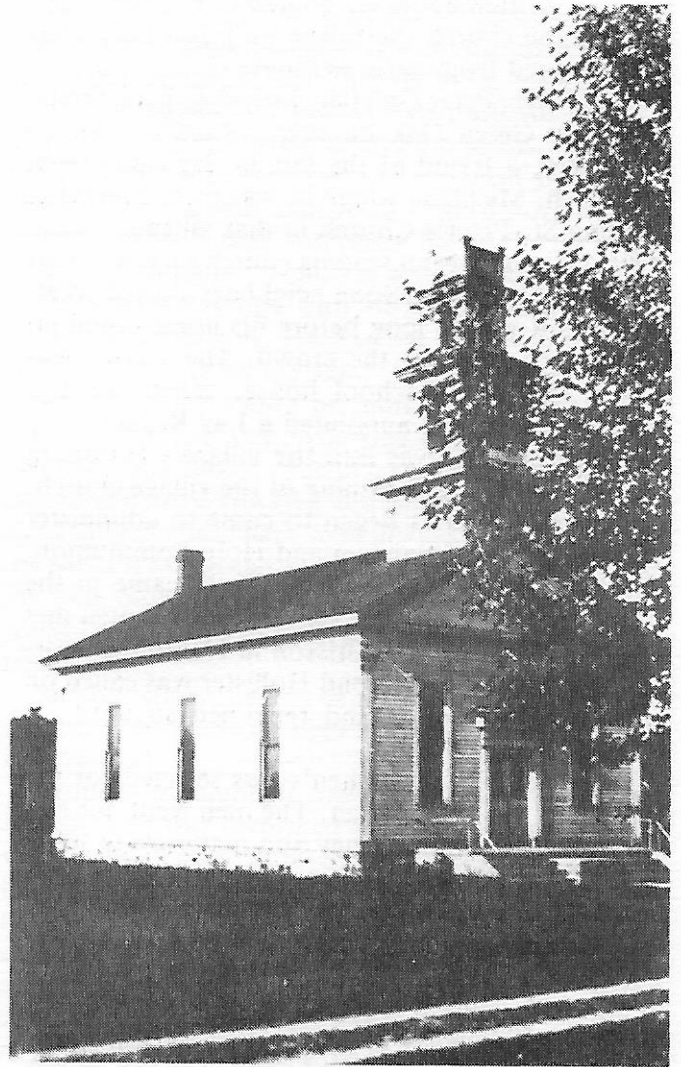
"Upon the opening of our new church in Hamburg, which is a neat and convenient edifice, and for which we shall be indebted but little, we anticipate an increased congregation and an improvement in other respects. Our great difficulty arises from the poverty of our people, and the customs extensively prevalent in this county of the mass of people neglecting public worship, and spending the Lord's day in visiting and amusements. We hope to be instrumental in bringing about a change for the better; . . .

In this county there are no large villages, nor are any likely to arise. Brighton is a small place of considerable business and important for laying the foundation of the Church. In it are no houses of worship for any denomination; and except what I render they have no preaching but that from the Methodist preachers, of one sermon once a fortnight. Religion is greatly neglected here, and it is sad discouragement at present to find no gentlemen of influence to interest themselves in promoting the Church. We have, however, very decent and attentive congregations in that village, and by the help of some members residing in Green Oak, we are enabled to have the services decently performed."

Regretfully when the 1880 history of Livingston County was written neither the Methodist-Episcopal Church nor the Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church submitted the requested information to the authors to publish a history in that volume.

The St. Stephen's history has been kept intact since the church has never closed or changed much, but not so the M.E. Church.

It was built sometime around 1865 and during its lifetime as a church it changed denominations. It



was a Methodist-Episcopal first and at a later date was a Free-Methodist Church. About 1960 it held its last worship service and was closed.

In 1961 the Hamburg Township decided to refurbish it and use it for the township offices, which they are currently occupying.

There are probably some old records of the building's history as a church, but at this writing none have surfaced.



# Union Church—North Hamburg



It was difficult when our research began to find much written about the North Hamburg or "Union" Church. But as our very active historical society researcher, Charlotte Becker, was interviewing Lulu E. Benham Darrow,\* Mrs. Darrow shared with her the fact that she was born in the Justus Bennett home in Hamburg Township and was a teacher in the Pinckney High School starting in the early 1900's. Here are some of her old notes she had written on her own recollections of the church.

"Reminiscence of North Hamburg Church—by one who knew nothing of the business of the church—I was merely a happy worshipper."

## **"Ministers"**

"Very low salaries—very rugged lives, serving both Pinckney and North Hamburg—facing the elements in winter in horse-drawn vehicles. Ugh! But they were wonderful pastors spending much time with their parishioners, sharing their lives, exerting a great influence.

The first one I recall was a Rev. Rice with his wife and little daughter Janet. They were our dinner guests the day of the Mary Buek auction (in 1897 I believe).

An incident to linger in the minds of children—Rev. Rice driving his "missionary horse" to our Cady School for our end of the term program when sister Hazel and I were the only pupils whom he knew. Those were the good old days."

## **"Sunday School"**

"I recall our Sunday School paper—a David C. Cook Publication which we loved so much. I also recall the sewing cards we worked on—one way of etching Bible lessons on children's minds. I believe we got as much out of Sunday School as do today's children with all their modern equipment."

## **"Special Days"**

"On Christmas, Easter and Children's Day the programs were terrific. Many hands worked on gorgeous stage settings and program participants were well practiced and drilled for their particular parts. And the attendance was always gratifying."

The Church apparently was called a "Union" church because it was to be a building that many denominations were welcome to use. It has been noted that although dedicated as a Congregational Church and that Methodists held their meetings there, all sects and societies had a right to occupy it as a place to hold religious services. It presently is owned by the Baptist denomination.

The two pictures here were donated to us by Mrs. Mark Nash.

The 57th Anniversary picture must have been a similar event which was reported three years later in 1936. The Pinckney Dispatch printed the following:





"On June 17, 1936 members of the friends of the North Hamburg Church met at the church in honor of the 60th Anniversary of its founding. Henry F. Kice, only living member of the original group of 14 singers who took part in the dedication service 60 years ago was present. The pioneer choir included Rev. and Mrs. Lewis, Mr. & Mrs. B. Ap-

pleton, George Hull and his daughters Eva and Ida, Henry K. Kice, George, Eleanor and Mary Burgess, George and Belle Rolison and Gelette Salmon."

\*Lulu Benham Darrow was born in 1885 and died October, 1980.



## Hamburg Township Schools

The first school in the village area of Hamburg was a log cabin built about 1835. Although the next few pages are not a concise written history of the schools, they do give one a glimpse into the past of the one-room schoolhouse. A retired teacher and counselor in Livingston County Schools, Wilhelmina Swarthout, shares her thoughts of the "country" school.

"Many of us recall with fond nostalgia our years at a country school. Many of us taught there or had some close association with those wonderful learn-

ing institutions now mostly abandoned symbols, like farm windmills, of an era gone by.

It was felt that consolidation was the only answer, but in that transition something very vital to all the phases of child development was lost and how that security and personal interest shall be regained I do not know but there's a deep feeling that somehow it must come in some form before educational development can again assume the role it once had for human beings."

# Report of the Inspectors of primary Schools for the town of Hamburg to the clerk of the county of Livingston

According to the census taken March 1<sup>st</sup> AD 1838

No. of scholars between the ages of 5 and 17	Amount of Money raised in the District	Purposes for which it was raised
33	\$ 254,	For the building of a school house

This is stated to be representative of the annual report of Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 1838 foron District #2 The annual report not being forwarded to the township clerk

Hamburg April the 29 1839

Done by order of the Inspectors of primary Schools for the town of Hamburg—  
Stoddard M. Twitchel, T. Elk

## SCHOOLS IN HAMBURG TOWNSHIP

- #1 Hamburg
- #2 Cady School—Hamburg, Genoa—Bishop Lake Road and Chilson
- #3 Cordly Lake School
- #4 Fractional—Coon Lake area (Genoa, Hamburg, Marion and Putnam)
- #5 Fractional—Podunk School—Walsh and Merkel Roads (Webster & Hamburg Township)
- #6 Moon School—Hamburg Road & Bauer
- #7 Fractional—Hicks—M-36
- #8 Winans Lake School (Pleasant Lake School)
- #9 Petteysville School



The following article was written in 1933 by Jane E. Bennett (Featherly) for the "Willow Reading and Study Club," of San Jose, California. The Club requested the ladies to report on their "Early School Days." A newspaper article reported that the theme brought forth many amusing stories and confessions from the now staid group of ladies.

## My School Days

Near Ann Arbor, Michigan, in a little village called "Whitmore Lake" a summer resort where sail boats were numerous and steam boats unknown; stood the school house. From this school, just about a mile and a-half or so, my Father cleared off and built a log cabin and in this cabin I was born. Between six and seven I started to school. We had to walk through the woods and plowed fields to the village.

The school house was a tall, plain frame building. The inside decorations were desks with a shelf underneath for the books and two seats to each desk, and these were used by the older pupils. The small children sat on long benches.

The first morning when I started to school; my dress (I do not remember the color) was a full skirt gathered to a belt with short puffed sleeves. I wore home knit stockings, usually white, heavy shoes, hair braided in two braids; wore a sun bonnet and carried a little tin dinner pail.

But to me the most beautiful and vivid in memory was the primmer that Mother had covered with the prettiest pink goods.

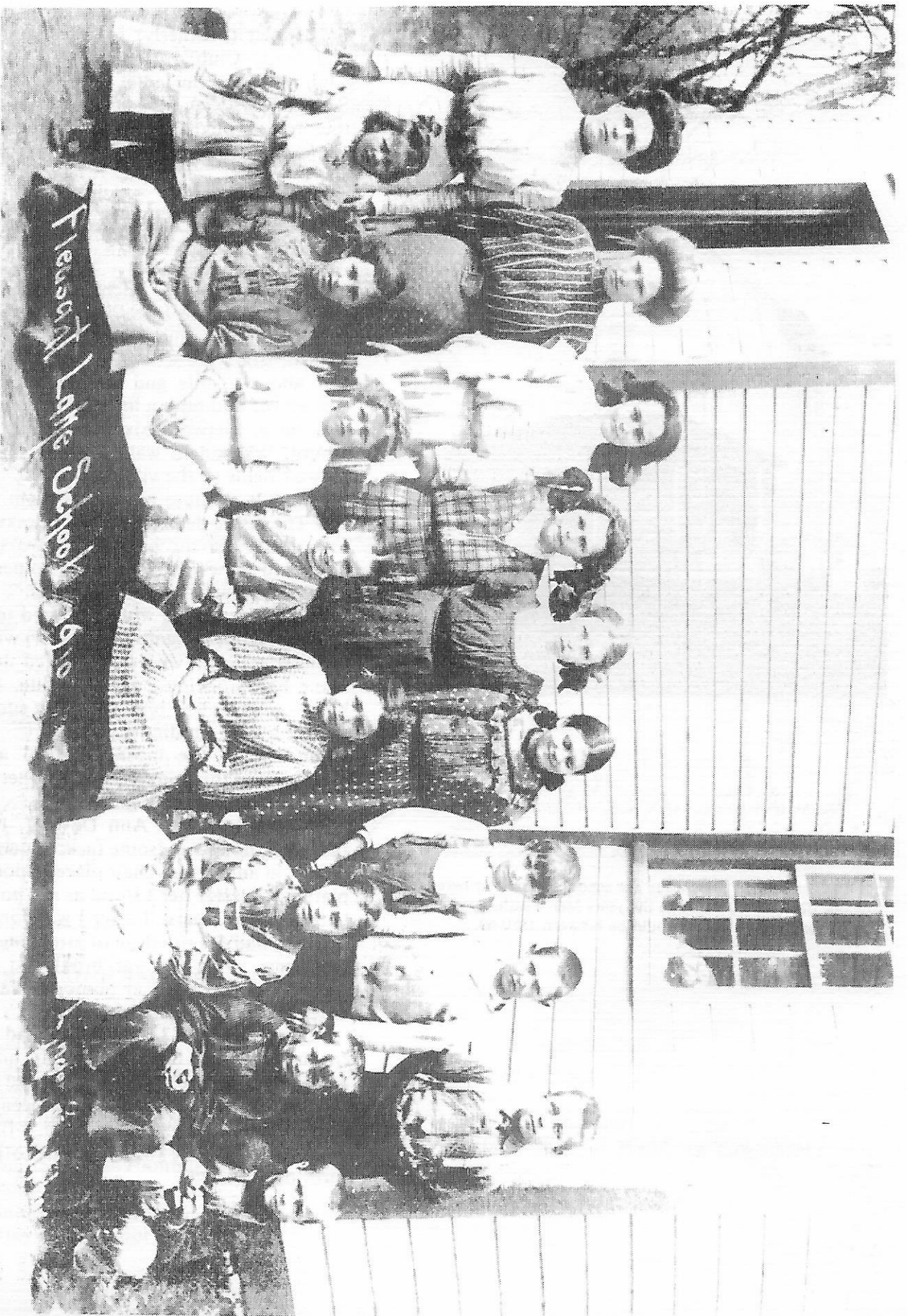
The teacher, Miss Ann DeWolf, I can see her face now, not a handsome face, but a good face, as she sat in an old arm chair placed upon an elevated platform. Beside her I stood as she pointed out my letters and numbers. To her I was Janie Featherly.

I only had the privilege of attending school for a few years when the war broke out and Mother needed us older ones at home, as Father and the older Brothers were away at war.

Many years after I was married and lived in California, I returned home on a visit. This same teacher gave a Home Coming for her old pupils and I was an invited guest. She has been gone many years, while I am on my sick bed. I find memories come and go, some sweet ones and others sad, pictures of long ago.

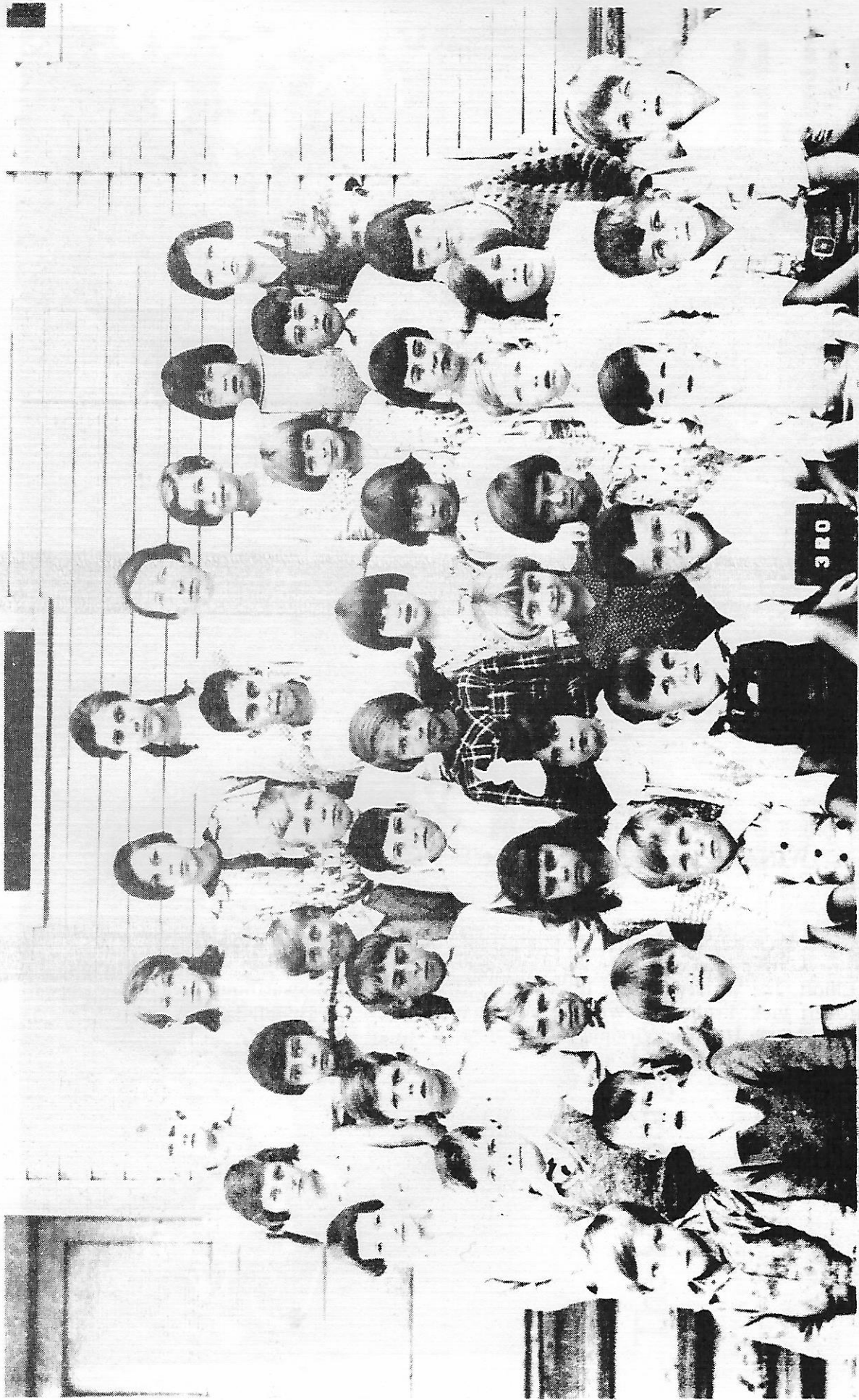


\*To the best of our knowledge the school referred to here is the one dated 1887, although the years Mrs. Featherly would have attended this school would be between 1850-60.



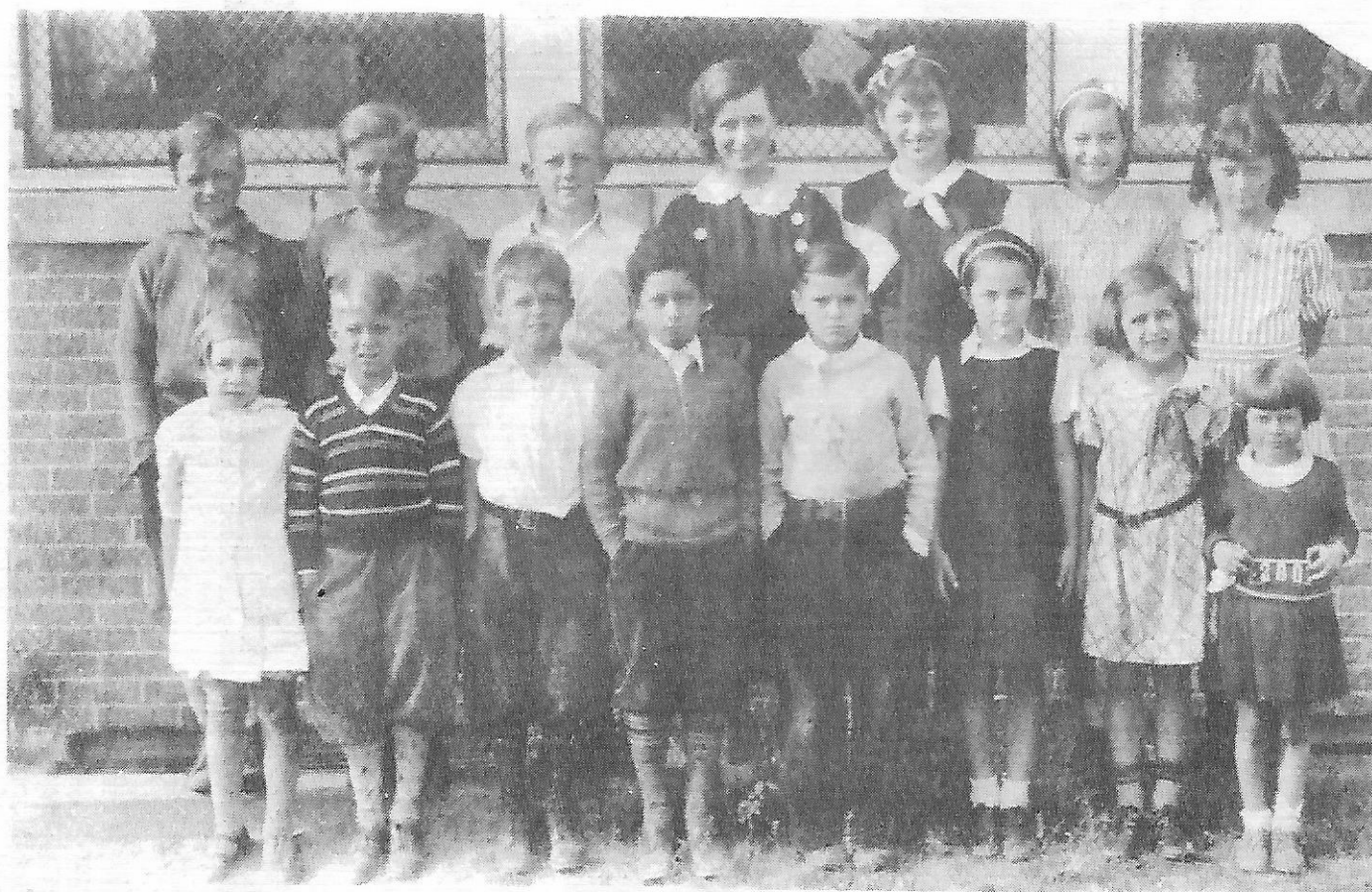
Back Row L. to R.: Eva Melvin (teacher), Jessie Thrasher, Emma Richter, Anna Richter, Beatrice Hinkley, Frances Cummings, Mathew Thrasher, Raymond Moon, and Willie Blades. Front Row L. to R.: \_\_\_\_\_ Cummings, Amy Thrasher, Majel Whitlock, Myrna Schoenhals, Ada Richter, Margaret Thrasher, Percy Witlock and Roy Richter.





Top Row L. to R.: \_\_\_\_\_, Mary Kathryn Payne, Juanita Hayner, \_\_\_\_\_, teacher; Miss Weinderlein, Betty Ann Payne, Elsie DeWolf, and \_\_\_\_\_  
 Row 2: Kathryn Dilloway, \_\_\_\_\_, Donald Shannon, Bob Rice, Bill Bennett, Edna DeWolf, Jonathan Musch, and Edwin Shannon.  
 Row 3: \_\_\_\_\_, George Curdy, Murray Sheldon, Glenn Bennett, \_\_\_\_\_, Mary Charlotte Moon, Ella Mae Gray, Arlene Lear, \_\_\_\_\_,  
 Row 4: Victor Sharp, Billy Rice, Jean Bennett, Doris Lipps, Betty Ann Kuchar, \_\_\_\_\_, Bill Gray, Rita Payne.  
 Row 5: \_\_\_\_\_, Bob Moon, Dana Gray, Melvin Shannon, Bob Moore, \_\_\_\_\_, Bobby Roberts, and Floyd McMichael.





**WINANS LAKE SCHOOL PICTURE—OCTOBER 1935**

Back row: Sam Elliott, Jr.; Warren Rutter; Billie Cook; Mrs. Wilhelmina Swarthout; Helen Van Derwel; Shirley Harall; Robert Jack. Front row: Wealthy Mae Shannon; Leroy Wasman; Tommy Coates; Johnny Boja; Norval Elliott; Marie Holmes; Virginia Elliott; Eleanor Boja.



## The Hamburg Band

"A picture is worth a thousand words" or so it is said. That will almost have to do for a history on this particular picture. It is not known exactly when the Hamburg Band was formed, but it was together as early as July 5, 1895. Noted in Mary E. DeWolf's journal on that date is an entry that reads "We entertained the band."

This picture is thought to be taken in front of the Pryor home on Livingston Street.

The uniforms resemble uniforms of the Spanish-American War or the World War I, but it is said that they were just band uniforms.

James DeWolf, one of the band members pictured, was an accomplished musician on any wind instrument as well as other types and always maintained that, by the best of his knowledge, most of the band members were self-taught musicians as he was. The band was

still together in September of 1915 as it played at a local picnic that day. They also played on Saturdays on a wooden bandstand that stood behind what is now the Hamburg Carpet Warehouse.

The picture, which belonged to the late Mr. DeWolf, had listed on the back ten names, although there are twelve men pictured. The only positive identifications that could be made from the list were James DeWolf, 2nd from the right and the two men in front, l. to r. Ed Shannon and Leonard Hall. The remainder of the members are as follows:

John Damon  
Roy Elliot  
Cass Gitting  
Ruby Kisby

Ben Pryor  
Clare Rohrbacher  
Wert Sweitzer





## The DeWolf Home

The year was 1833 when Jason DeWolf and his wife Elizabeth Near DeWolf came to Michigan from upstate New York. It is believed that they came with several other families from that same area. He settled in Hamburg on Sec. 25, a site consisting of 40 acres. The first year he built his log cabin home and a blacksmith shop on what is now M-36. His blacksmith shop was the first business in Hamburg.

In 1857 Jason hired a Mr. Willis to build a new house on the property. The cost at that time to build the house, was about \$2,000. Jason and Elizabeth had five children, all born while they lived in the log cabin. By the time their new frame house was built their eldest, Ann, had married, and their

second child, Hiram was 19. As the oldest son, Hiram stayed on the farm and took care of his parents as they became elderly. Wesley, the youngest, was 10 years old when the house was built. He later built his own house across the street which still stands and bears a Centennial Farm sign.

Hiram served in the Michigan 26th Volunteers, Co. E during the Civil War. Shortly after his discharge in 1866 he married Mary Elizabeth Tanner from Genoa. Here in this DeWolf home their eight children were born and raised.

Mary Elizabeth (or Libbie, as she was called) kept a journal which has been the source of numerous quotations used in this work.



Here are a few notes of interest taken from the journal of Mary Elizabeth Tanner DeWolf:

1875 Hiram earned	\$337.30
Our expenses were	286.36

Some of the prices were: sugar, .09 lb., fresh pork, .16 lb., butter, .25 lb.

"February 25, 1909: The Green Oak Literary Club met here. There were 75 present. James and Carrie (his sister) belong." (In the living room of this house was a stage. It was built that such groups could use it for recitals, plays, orchestras, etc. It is not known when it was removed.)

"January 26, 1917: Went to town with a dozen eggs, Got loaf of bread, 12¢, cake of soap, 5¢, 2 spools thread, 10¢, and 11¢ change."

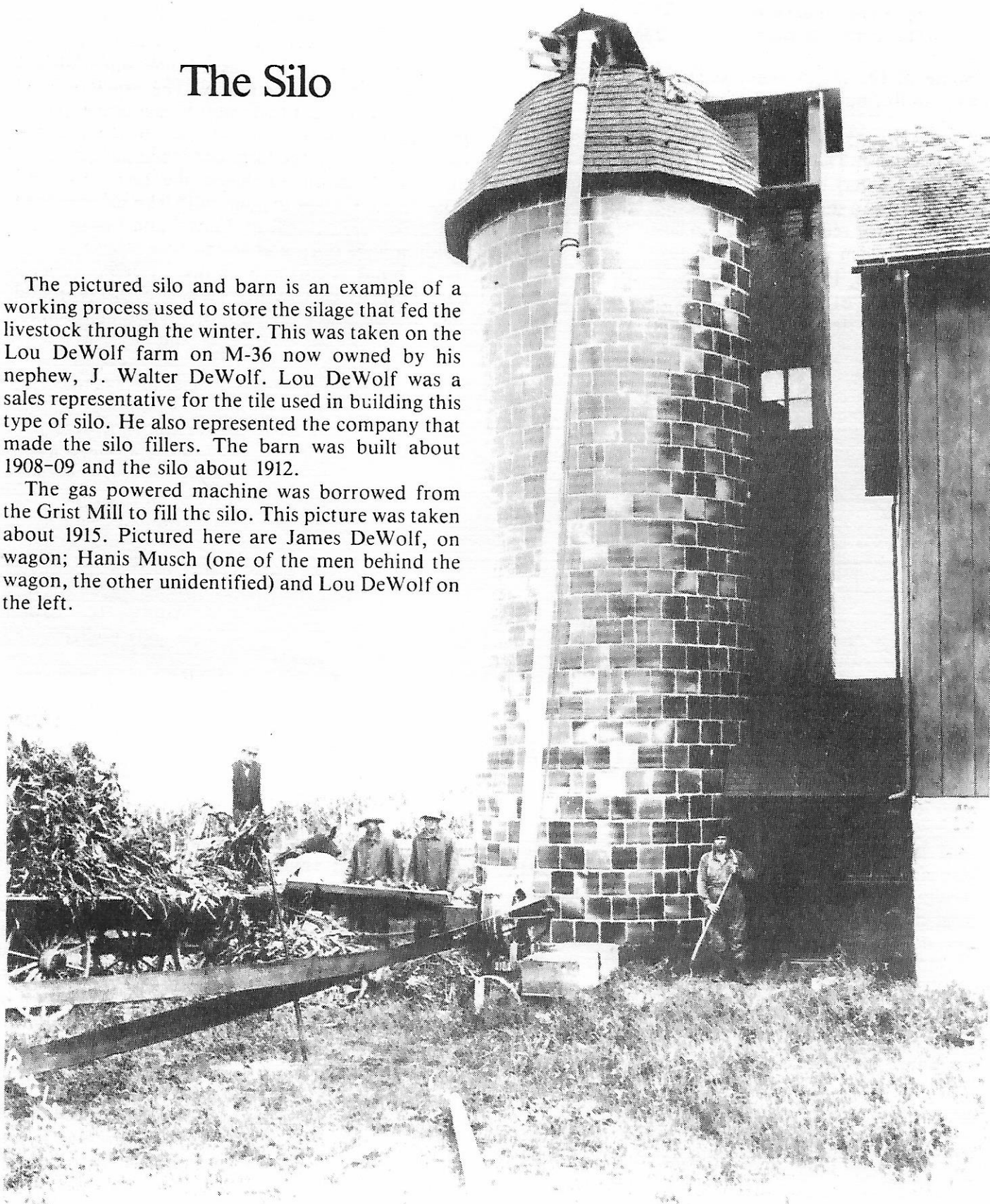
James, Hiram and Mary's youngest son, was the next head of the DeWolf home. It was here in 1910 he brought his bride, Wilhelmina Janke of Green Oak. (Jim and "Minnie" met while he was working at Schafer's Store and she was working at the Hamburg Hotel.) This was a home which always housed more than one family. The newly married children usually got their start living in one half of the house while the parents occupied the other half. James loved the farm and it was he, who after his father's death purchased the farm from the other heirs. He was the one child who never moved out of the house. All of James' and Minnie's six children were born and reared here.

The home is currently owned by James' granddaughter, Joyce DeWolf Terry and her husband Jack. It has never been out of the DeWolf family.

## The Silo

The pictured silo and barn is an example of a working process used to store the silage that fed the livestock through the winter. This was taken on the Lou DeWolf farm on M-36 now owned by his nephew, J. Walter DeWolf. Lou DeWolf was a sales representative for the tile used in building this type of silo. He also represented the company that made the silo fillers. The barn was built about 1908-09 and the silo about 1912.

The gas powered machine was borrowed from the Grist Mill to fill the silo. This picture was taken about 1915. Pictured here are James DeWolf, on wagon; Hanis Musch (one of the men behind the wagon, the other unidentified) and Lou DeWolf on the left.



# Early Hamburg Township Roads

The earliest roads in Michigan were the military roads, established and constructed before and after the War of 1812. Then came the Territorial roads. All of these early roads usually followed an established Indian trail.

On the earliest map of interior Michigan, surveyed and drawn up by Orange Risdon in 1825, there were only three roads leading out of Detroit. The only road actually leading into Detroit was the military road from Ohio.

The earliest road, leading out of Detroit went to Pontiac, and from there to Saginaw. This was established before the War of 1812.

Another important road was from the shipyard on the upper side of the Rouge River (at Delray) which followed the north shore of that river to the Dearborn arsenal, where it was joined by a trail out of downtown Detroit. From here one trail crossed the Rouge River and headed to Woodruff's Grove on the north side of the Huron River, then crossed to Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor. This trail continued to Dexter, then turned west toward Lyndon Township near the southwest corner of Livingston County and as far as the Portage River system in Jackson County. The other Rouge River trail followed the main branch a few miles, then crossed the north branch of the river, staying on the north side of the main branch of the river to an area called the Tonguish Plains, then crossed the river and headed over to Dixboro, Salem and Dexter.

A lesser trail followed up the north side of the Huron River to Woodruff's Grove.

The Grand River trail headed straight out of Detroit through open country, entering Livingston County at Kent Lake and passing through Howell headed north of what would be Lansing, then cut downward toward Benton Harbor.

In 1825 there was only an Indian trail leading north along the west side of the Huron River. It led to the Portage and Base Line Lake area, then turned northeasterly, following the southern shores of the Huron River to the Indian camp at Strawberry Lake. From here several trails branched off. A lesser trail crossed the river and headed toward future Pinckney to a point south of Cedar Lake. A long trail went around the southern shore of Strawberry Lake up between Zukey and Island Lake to a point above Howell to the Indian camps on the South Shiawassee River. A third trail followed below the Huron River and on over to Walled

Lake, then to Pontiac and back down to Detroit.

These were the main trails that many of our earliest pioneers followed to our area. Soon after a trail was marked by surveyors from Ann Arbor to Whitmore Lake and beyond. A small trail led from Whitmore Lake to where Hamburg Village now stands. Another small trail came down from the village of Ore Creek (Brighton).

## Hamburg Roads

In 1850 the Hamburg Road Commission legalized all the existing roads. From their records we can gather some idea of when many of the roads came into existence and the names they were once known by.

The first state road mentioned was laid out Dec. 3, 1836. It was known as the Ann Arbor and Howell Road. It started in the southeast corner of the township (probably the Old Hamburg Road) up to the Village of Hamburg, followed Winans Lake Road to the Chilson Road up to Grand River Road, and then followed that two miles west to the courthouse in Howell.

Part of the Old Hamburg Road was laid out March 28, 1835 and was called the Lester Burnett Road, which went from the Huron River down through the village as far as Strawberry Lake Road.

The Bennett Road was laid out March 28, 1835 from M-36 and Hamburg Road, along M-36 to the Chilson Road and north on the Chilson Road to Pleasant Lake (Winans Lake).

The DeWolf Road was laid out Feb. 28, 1835 and left Hamburg Village at M-36, following M-36 to the Green Oak Township line.

The James Burnett (or Bennett?) Road was laid out March 28, 1835 and ran south from the DeWolf Road (now called Hall Road).

The Stoddard Twitchell Road was laid out March 29, 1835 and ran south from M-36 a ways (now Merrill Road).

The Barnard Road was laid out Jan. 12, 1836 from the bottom of section four to the township line, now part of the Chilson Road and then part of the Ann Arbor-Howell Road.

The Davis and Bennett Road was laid out May 2, 1836 (Swarthout Road)

The Anson Power Road, laid out Feb. 23, 1837, was part of the Strawberry Lake Road from Merrill Road west to the section line and was soon known as the Ryan Road.



The Ryan Road, laid out April 24, 1837, started in the corner of sections 27, 26, 34 and 35 to the west end of section 34, and later became the new part of Strawberry Lake Road.

The Carr Road, laid out June 3, 1837, went from Old Hamburg Road to Merrill Road (now part of Strawberry Lake Road).

The Robinson Road, laid out April 17, 1837, was that part of M-36 from McGregor to Whitewood Roads.

The Moon Road was laid out June 6, 1838 and is that part of Brighton Lake Road in Hamburg Township.

The Stewart and Carr Road was laid out June 6, 1838 (Bishop Lake Road).

The Patrick Kostello Road was laid out June 19, 1838 and is that part of Darwin Road in Hamburg Township.

The Campbell and Parker Road was laid out Feb. 14, 1839 and went from Campbell's Mill to the bridge over the Huron.

The Base Line Road which was Strawberry Lake Road was laid out Feb. 27, 1839 and included the

part vacated and the Sheldon Road. This road ran all the way across the bottom of the township.

A road was laid out March 19, 1840 from Cordley Lake Road to M-36, now part of Whitewood Road.

The Stewart Road was laid out Nov. 14, 1840 and is now the Cunningham Lake Road from Hamburg-Genoa line to Bishop Lake Road and along Bishop Lake Road to sections 3 and 2.

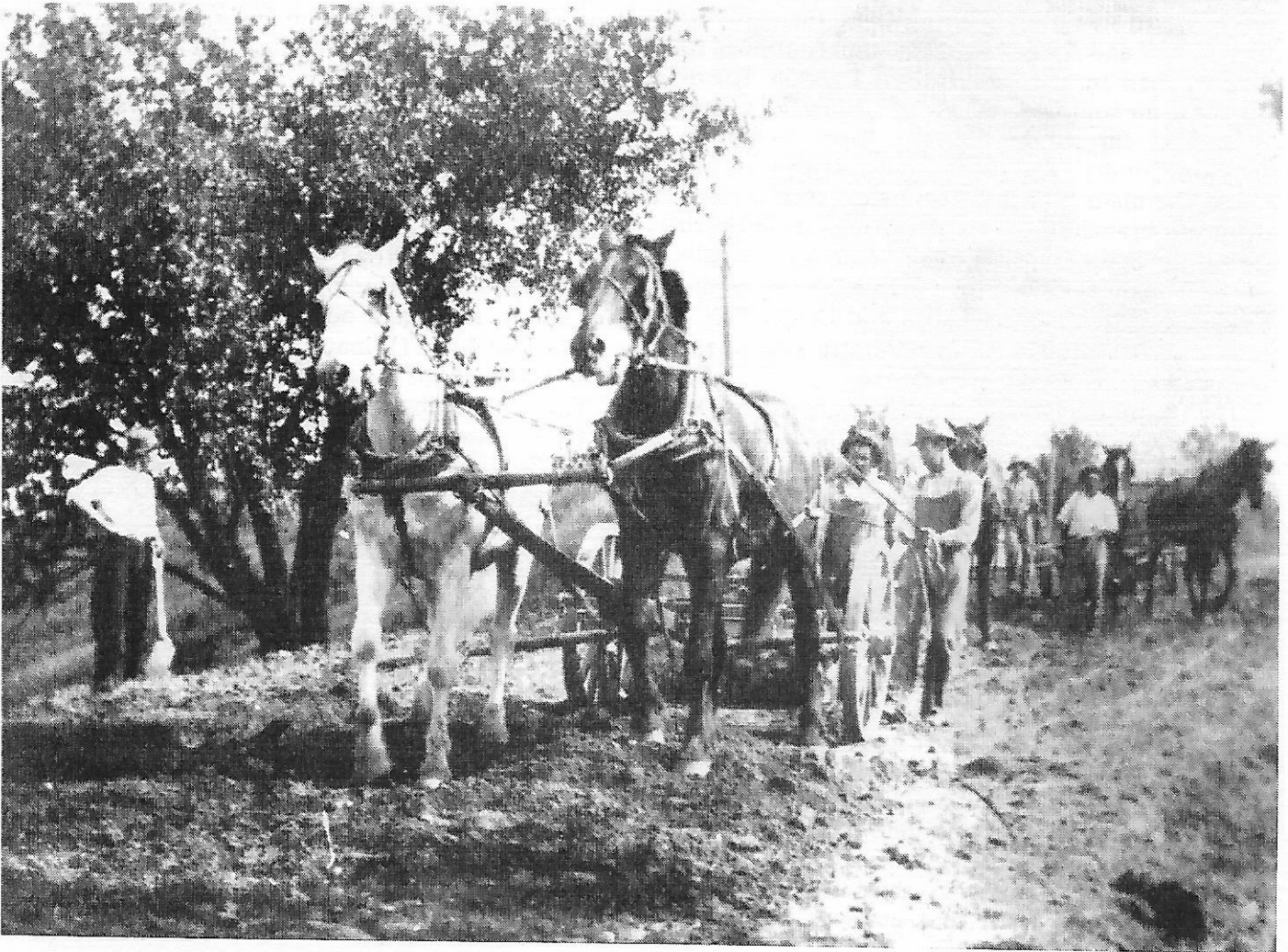
A state road which ran from Dexter Village to Mason Village in Ingham County was laid out March 6, 1846. This road followed McGregor Road, then ran along Petteysville Road to the Chilson Road on into Howell and then along the Mason Road to Mason.

The Mill Road was laid out May 15, 1841 from Walker's Mill to McGregor Road and was part of the Dexter-Mason Road.

The George C. Snyder Road was laid out Feb. 3, 1846 (Rush Lake Road).

The Rollison Road was laid out Feb. 3, 1846 (Henry Road).

—Milt Charbonneau



A typical road building crew! Driving his team "Mage" and "Dan" is James DeWolf. This portion of road being prepared is M-36 near the Pearson Farm.

# Winans Lake

The land around Winans Lake was purchased from the Federal Government by early pioneers during the middle of the nineteenth century.

The first settler on Winans Lake was Peter S. Hendrick, a farmer and mechanic. He farmed the land at the east end of the lake now the site of many homes along Tamarack Drive. His home is owned and lived in by Frank and Susan Palermo. The house was built in 1832.

The land on the south side of the lake was purchased by George Galloway and included much of the property now being occupied by the Lakelands Golf and Country Club. George Galloway had two daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah. In 1855 Edwin B. Winans, who later became governor of the State of Michigan married Elizabeth Galloway. Their home is designated by a historic marker on the south side of Winans Lake.

In May of 1899, George Lafayette Hull purchased 84 acres on the northeast corner of Winans Lake. Mr. Hull raised fruit which he marketed in Hamburg and Brighton. His home is now occupied by Frances B. Hull and her son, George.

The land west of the Hull farm on the north side of the lake was owned by Lou Eppinger, who owned a sporting goods store in Detroit. Much of the land has been subdivided but his grandson, James Romine and family occupy the original house.

In the years between 1920 and 1924 the Pleasant

Lakes Hills Corporation was formed. The object was to buy and subdivide the land around Winans Lake. This was accomplished by Jack Hearne and Charles Burton who arranged the purchase of the properties owned by the Hendricks, Hulls and Winans.

The Lakelands Golf and Country Club opened the doors of its new club house in the spring of 1925 with a nine-hole golf course which was made into an eighteen-hole course in 1927 under the direction of Daniel Denton.

In 1927 the name of the Pleasant Lake Hills Corporation was changed to Winans Lake Hills Corporation. Tom Brooks, a food broker and realtor from Detroit, directed Lakelands through the depression years of the twenties and thirties. He was assisted by Ken Coates, Vice-President of Great Lakes Steel, Harry McDonald, President of Moore and McDonald Brokerage, George Bott, Manufacturers Bank and Glen Cowan, inventor.

In 1944, William H. Leininger, advertising and industrial executive and Frank Bucher, Vice-President of Great Atlantic and Pacific bought out the Winans Lake Hills Corporation, changing the name to the Lakelands Development Corporation. Through their efforts most of the land owned by the Lakelands Development has been sold. Mrs. Frank Bucher and her son, Jack live on Cowell Road as does William Leininger.

—George M. Hull



### CONTRIBUTORS

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