

JONESVILLE

SESQUICENTENNIAL
HISTORICAL
RECORD



VILLAGE OF JONESVILLE

103 EVANS STREET
JONESVILLE, MICHIGAN 49250

OFFICE OF VILLAGE CLERK

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JONESVILLE!!

150 years ago you came into existence. It is fitting and proper that we should pause to celebrate this great event in recognition of the many fine people who have been a part of this community. These people all made their contribution to the life of their hometown just as today we pay homage to the many fine citizens who are devoting time and energies to make this occasion as memorable as it deserves to be.

Your Village Council and Officers commend the efforts of the residents of the village and the surrounding area as you labor to fulfill the plans and expectations of our Sesquicentennial.

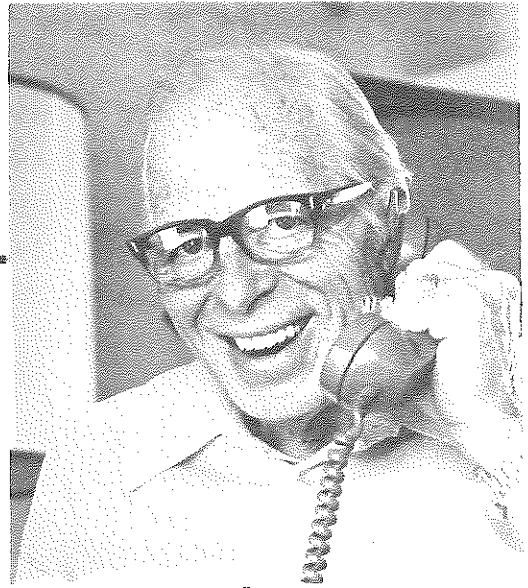
Working and sacrificing together to make this a fine community in which to live and to raise your families is a trait that binds us one to another for mutual love and respect.

Your Village government wishes you well on your 150th, and thanks you all for your fine participation. As a result, may you grow in stature and may Jonesville benefit from your growth.

Cordially yours,



G. Carl Fast, President
VILLAGE OF JONESVILLE



"THE HOMECOMING"

—J. A. Kaiser

Back again to the old town;
Back to scenes of days of yore;
Back to thoughts that will not down;
Back to hopes that are no more.



Back to hallow'd spots and dear;
Back to scenes forever changed;
Back to paths no longer here,
Where the feet of childhood ranged.

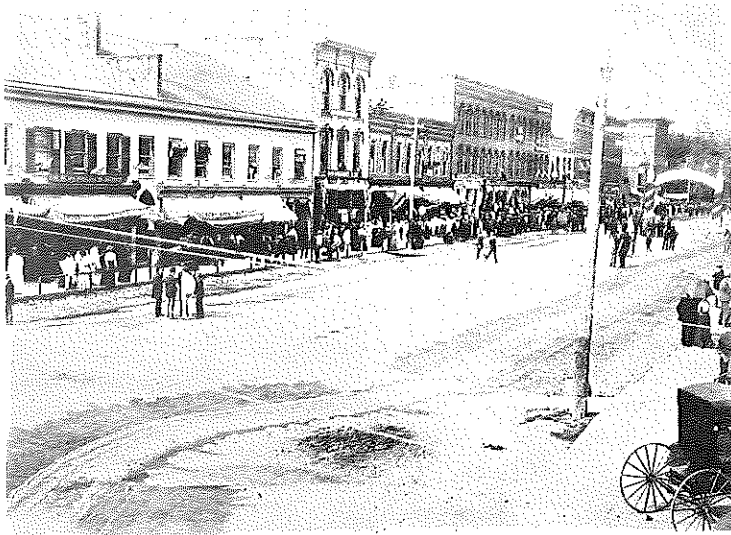
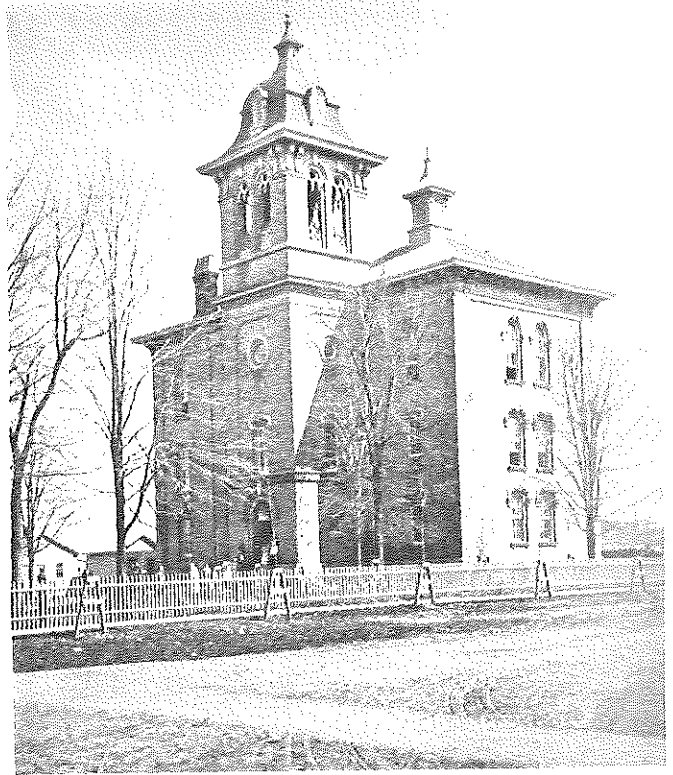
Back to one-time wooded haunts
Where the trees no longer stand;
Back where time the gazer daunts
By the changes of his hand.



Back to homes of childhood's day,
With the dear, loved faces there;
Back where unknown children play;
Back to homes with empty chair.



Back to where the schoolhouse stands,
With its seats and desks and aisles
Calling from the by-gone lands
Faces with their sunny smiles.



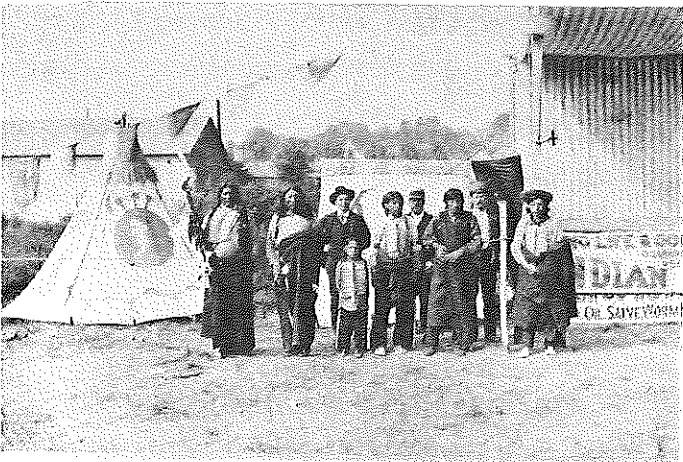
Back again to the old town,
With its welcome and its cheer;
Back to the thoughts that will not down
'Mid the new-old faces here.

Back where, though the hand of time
Much we knew hath triumphed o'er,
Still beat true hearts and sublime,
Loyal as in days of yore.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GROWTH OF JONESVILLE

Before the white settlers came to Jonesville, the Pottowatomi Indians were the only inhabitants of this area. Our main street is part of the old Indian trail between the present day cities of Detroit and Chicago. When Benaiah Jones founded Jonesville in 1828, Michigan was not yet a state, and Jonesville was the first village in Hillsdale County. During the early years, Jones was very busy building his village into a trading center known throughout the territory. This village played an important part in the growth of Michigan. On February 15, 1831, Jonesville became the county seat and remained so until 1841.



The first hotel in town was built in 1831 by Benaiah Jones. It was called the "Fayette House". It was located on the northwest corner of what are presently Chicago and Water Streets. In a bedroom of the Fayette House is where the first school classes were held. The school was established by Benaiah Jones with the help of his brother-in-law, James Olds. In 1842, fire destroyed the Fayette House. It was rebuilt, but again destroyed by fire in 1875. It was then replaced by the Grosvenor House.

E. J. Sibley opened the first saw mill in the county in 1831, on the St. Joseph River two miles south of Jonesville.

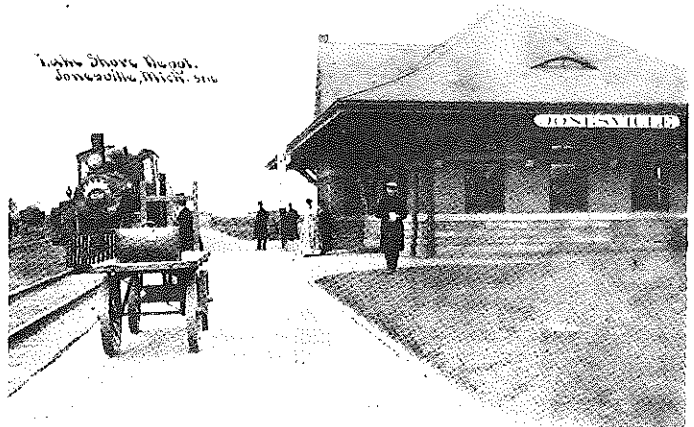
In 1833, the first district school was opened in a log house, the "Bell House", on Maumee Street. B. L.

Baxter, age 18, was the first teacher. One of his first pupils was a son of Chief Baw Beese.

The year 1834 saw many significant happenings. The first Vance Township election was held in Jonesville. At that time, the entire territory now known as Hillsdale County was called "Vance Township of the Territory of Michigan."

Jonesville's first general store was opened by John Cook and Chauncey Ferris in 1834, on the north side of Chicago Street, on the same ground now occupied by the east end of the brick block extending from West Street. This is one of the historic corners of Jonesville. On the site of this building was the first storehouse; the Oddfellows and Masonic Lodges were begun there; the first newspaper was published; one of the first physicians was located there; and also, this is where the first disastrous fire of the village struck.

Levi Baxter and Cook Sisson opened the first gristmill in 1834. Mr. Baxter left Jonesville for a period of time, but returned in 1848, and was nominated and elected the State Senator from his district, which then included Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and Branch Counties. Through his efforts, Jonesville was made a point on the extended route of the Lake Shore and Michigan Railway.



Dr. Brooks Bowman was the first physician to set up a permanent practice in 1834. Later, other physicians settled in Jonesville.

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The town was growing. New homes and businesses were going up everywhere. The villagers' need to express their religious beliefs was also growing. The Rev. William N. Lyster preached the first Episcopal sermon in the new schoolhouse, a log cabin located on Chicago Street on the land between the present Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches. This cabin served as a schoolhouse on weekdays and a place of worship on Sundays.

The Rev. Colclazer conducted the first Methodist services in 1834, also in the schoolhouse. Later, in 1844, a frame church building was erected north of the town hall on Evans Street. Then, in 1908, the Methodist Church bought property on Park Street from the Baptist Church, and the present church building was erected between the years 1911-1912.

In 1835, Rev. Calvin Clark organized the first Presbyterian Church. There was no regular minister of worship until September of 1837, when a wooden building, known as the "Session House", was erected at a cost of \$715.63. This stood on the lot south of the present church where Dr. Sterling's house now stands. This land was given by E. P. Champlin.

Also in 1835, Vance Township was divided into four townships running north and south the length of the county. One of these was Fayette Township. During this year, the first township elections were held.

The first foundry in Jonesville was established in 1836, by Isaac Taylor and George Munro. The old Michigan plow was the principal item manufactured. Many other small implements were made, also. Operations at the foundry were suspended in 1878.

By 1837, the year Michigan entered the Union, means of travel were becoming more convenient. The Detroit-Chicago Turnpike, which was 254 miles long, passed through Jonesville. Benaiah Jones owned the first stage line operating between Tecumseh and Coldwater. In the same year, the construction of the railroad through the county was halted at Hillsdale because of the financial panic that year. It was several years before the railroad reached Jonesville. According to a history of Jonesville compiled by Jack M. Williams in 1920, this has been named the reason that Hillsdale became larger than Jonesville.

During the year of 1837, the first law office in the county was established in Jonesville by William W. Murphy and William T. Howell.

The population of Fayette Township in 1838 was 685. Businesses included a gristmill, four sawmills, and six merchants who had small log buildings along main street for their stores. The Rev. Darius Barker



organized the Episcopal parish in this year, and Jonesville had three mail routes.

The Hillsdale County Gazette was begun in 1839. It was the first newspaper in the county. Publication was begun on April 13 by Charles G. McKay and James K. Kinman. One of the items reported in the first issue was the act to move the county seat from Jonesville to Hillsdale. The act was passed by the State Legislature on March 30, 1839, and became effective on January 1, 1841.

In 1840, George C. Munro built the first brick house in Hillsdale County, located on the southwest corner of Maumee and South Streets. The Munro House was one of the stops for the "Underground



Railroad" during the Civil War. A tunnel beneath the house was used to help slaves escape. The American Legion bought this house in 1946 and used it as a club house. Later it was sold to the Key family who had an antique business there. Presently, the Munro House is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Ledyard and family, who have restored it.

As the white settlers became firmly settled in what was now their home, the Indians were displaced. In the same year that Mr. Munro built his fine home, Chief Baw Beese and his tribe were forced to move west by the federal government.

A law was passed in 1841, granting \$200,000 to build the Southern Railroad as far west as Hillsdale. In 1846, Southern Railroad was sold to a company which completed it in 1849, with the help of the people of Jonesville.

The Baptist Society was organized in 1842, with the Rev. G. Wisner as pastor.

In 1844, the foundation and cornerstone for the Grace Episcopal Church was laid. It is one of the oldest church buildings in the state.

Varnum's Drug Store was established in 1847. Above this store was the meeting place of the Knights of Pythias. Several other offices also occupied this floor but are now vacant. Until 1963, when Varnum Drug Store was sold, it was one of the oldest family-owned drug stores in America.

In January of 1849 came the cry of "Gold!" in California. Gold fever hit Jonesville. Twelve men – "The Fayette Rovers" – could not resist the cry, and started the long journey to California on March 10, 1849. It took eleven months to reach their destination. Only four of the Fayette Rovers returned to Jonesville after an unsuccessful search for gold. The four to return were: Henry Baxter, A.S. Welch, A.J. Baker, and a Mr. Lewis.

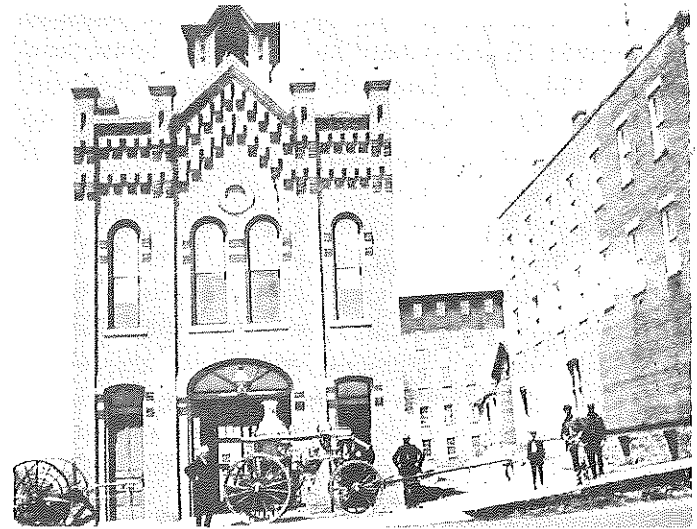
The Jonesville Telegraph was established in 1850. It was published by W. W. Murphy and Company. It was changed to The Independent in 1855. Also in 1850, the Hillsdale Agriculture Society was organized. Out of the annual expositions of this society grew the beginnings of the County Fair.

Jonesville's Woolen Mill was established in 1853, by Jonathan Graham, a stockholder and the first president of the company. The Woolen Mill was the first and the largest mill in Michigan. Fire destroyed the mill in 1866, but it was rebuilt that same year. It was five stories high, had thirty looms, fifteen hundred spindles, and sixty-five employees. It used eight hundred pounds of wool daily from which five hundred yards of woolen cloth were manufactured. The mill went out of business in 1875, with the property going into the hands of bondholders.

On February 10, 1853, Jonesville was officially chartered as a village. Ebenezer O. Grosvenor founded "The Exchange Bank" in 1854. It was located on the north side of Main Street. The bank was moved in 1911 to its present location and the name was changed to "Grosvenor Savings Bank".

On June 21, 1854, a new brick church was built on the site of the present Presbyterian Church, the land having been donated by E. P. Champlin. This building was mostly torn down in 1878, and was so enlarged and reconstructed that it was to all purposes a new church.

On October 24, 1856, the citizens of Jonesville petitioned for the village to be divided into five wards. The first fire company was formed at this time. At various times, the village suffered seriously from fires that swept away many of its old landmarks. A new fire company was organized in April, 1869, and in the fall of that same year, a new fire house was built.



Then, in 1858, Jacob J. Deal came to Jonesville from New York. He purchased a shop on the west side of West Street and conducted a custom carriage and wagon manufacturing business. In 1865-1866, he purchased the lot opposite his business and manufactured wagons, carriages, sleighs, etc. With two local agents in Nebraska, Mr. Deal built a prosperous trade and business flourished.

In 1860, Jonesville was described as becoming a thriving town. It had a population of 2,000, was situated on the Michigan Southern and Indiana Northern

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Railroad, and had stagecoach service three days a week to Marshall, Albion, Jackson, and Tecumseh.

The first high school was constructed in 1869, but fire destroyed it in 1923. The next year, the present high school was built and housed school children in all grades. As the census grew, the North Elementary building was added in 1953, and was to be used as the grade school. By 1958, more rooms were needed, so the new Williams Elementary School was built to house the grade school children living on the south side of town. In 1956, sixteen rooms were added and all children, kindergarten through sixth grade, were bussed there.

The Fayette Cheese Factory was established in 1870, by Miss Ella Day from Medina, Ohio. It was located two miles south of Jonesville.

The Cotton Mill began operation in 1873. It had fifty employees, eighty looms, and made 8500 yards of cotton cloth a month.

In November, 1874, The Ladies' Library Association was formed. Each member donated a book and through donations and funds received from social and literary entertainments, the volumes increased tremendously. By October of 1878, it had 1030 volumes and a membership of seventy, with fees being \$2.00.

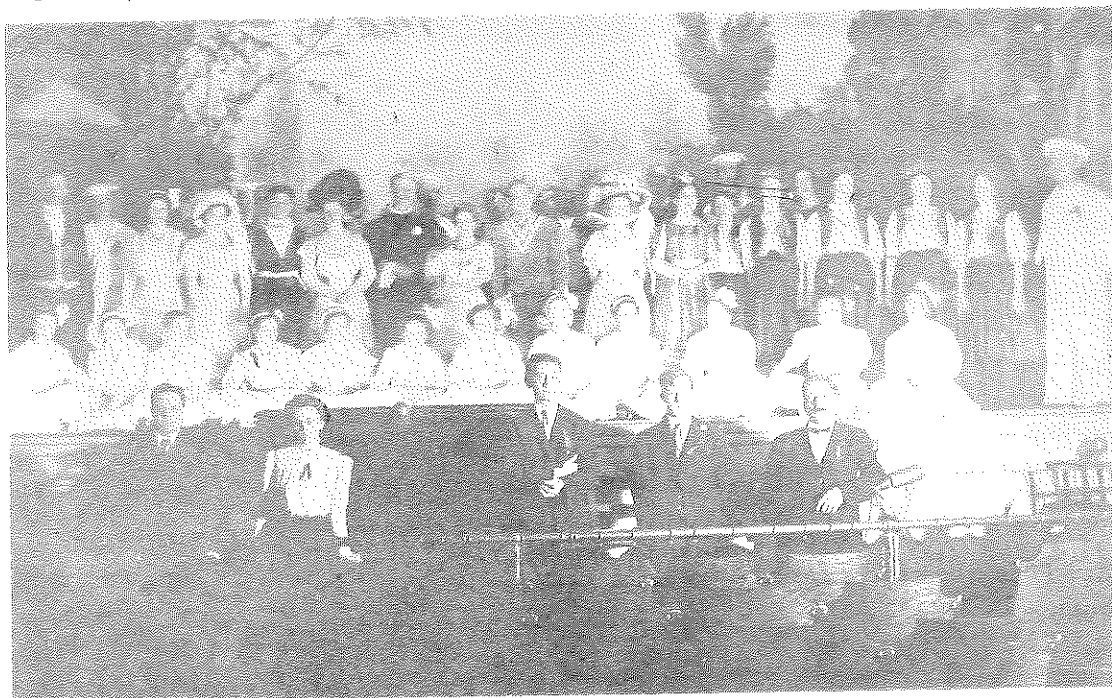
The Andrew Mack and Son Company was founded in 1891 as a producer of brushes. This company is in existence yet today.

In 1904, the Opera House was built. It was the largest theater in this area. First-rate, professional

stage plays were presented and constantly played to a full house. The passenger trains that served Jonesville at the time brought patrons from distant cities specifically to enjoy the performances. The theater burned in 1932, but was rebuilt and used as a movie picture theater. In 1972, the building was sold to the Broad Street Players. It is now known as the Hillsdale Community Theater, or the Sauk Trail Theater. Several stage plays are presented each year. All operations are done entirely by volunteers, including all the remodeling work done on the building. The plays are of a professional caliber and the talent used comes from all over the county. This has been a very successful project because of the dedication and support of a great number of people.

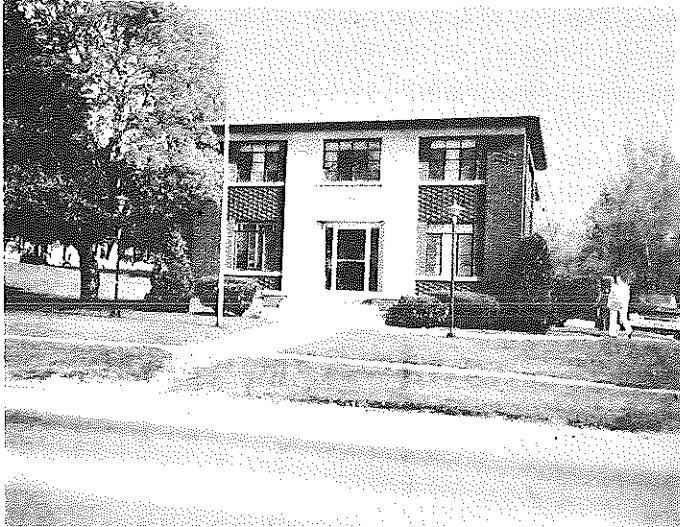


The Opera House, after the fire.



The cast of one of the early plays in the Opera House.

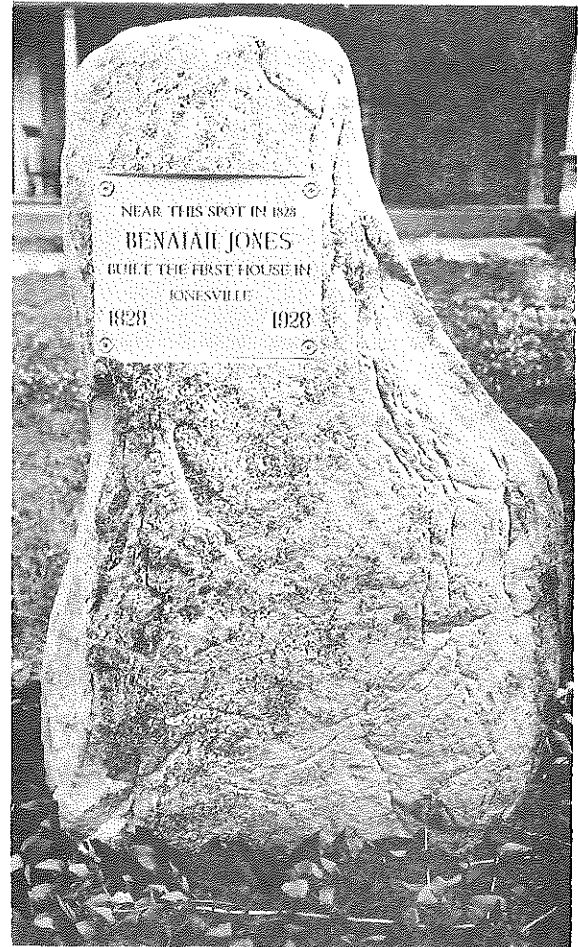
In 1917, the Jonesville State Police was established in the building on the east bank of the St. Joseph River, on the north side of Chicago Street. There were three men, five blue cars, and two plain cars. The present post was built in 1936.



The Boy Scouts were established in Jonesville in 1919. Bert Dobson was the first scoutmaster with Stan Gray being one of the first scouts.

Kiddy Brush and Toy, which was first started in Hillsdale, moved to Jonesville in 1924, into the old Deal building. Paul "Casey" Jones, Sr. formed a corporation in 1965. In 1967, the new corporation was moved to Edon, Ohio, with the name of the business being changed to "Plastex Corporation". The company originally manufactured brushes and later expanded to include housekeeping toys for children.

1928 was an important year for the village. It meant celebrating Jonesville's Centennial! On that occasion, a large boulder was placed where Benaiah Jones' log house was supposed to have been built. In 1970, the boulder was moved to a place in front of the new fire station on U.S. 12. During the Centennial Celebration, Marjorie Powers reigned as Queen, riding on one of the floats heading the parade.



In 1922, a prison camp was located here with the police acting as guards. The prisoners were working on the highway now named U.S. 12. The prisoners worked from both ends and met at the corner of M99 (Olds Street) and U.S. 12. A container was buried under the road at this point of completion. It reportedly contains papers and documents of the day; a signed list of business firms; names of churches and pastors, teachers, fraternal organizations; names of men who worked on the road; village and township officers; copies of past and current local newspapers; photographs of the paving outfit; and a peace dollar, issued by the United States Government in commemoration of the end of World War I. William Douglas was foreman of the crew which laid the last pavement, sealing the box under the road. U. S. 12 boasts to be one of the few roads in the state that has known ageless traffic and which follows almost entirely its original route.

In 1918, Slesserman and Son were incorporated in Ohio, and began a factory in Jonesville. Sauerkraut was the main product; pickles were made as a sideline. The name was changed in 1972, to the "Fremont Kraut Company". The factory was closed in 1976.

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Paul Jones, Sr.
KIDDIE BRUSH AND TOY CO.
 1924 - 1970
MILL RACE GOLF COURSE
 1970 - 1978



Forrest and Martha Bernstein
 † † †
JACKSON MONUMENT WORKS

Also, in this year of celebration, the Girl Scouts were established. Among the first members were Marge Spears, Jean Ashby and Mary Alice Pope.

In 1930, the Manor School was moved to Jonesville. The school was originally started in Hillsdale. It is a privately owned and operated school for mentally handicapped boys. Approximately thirty to fifty boys attend the Manor School from areas within Michigan and out of state.

Between the years 1940-1950, the community of Jonesville showed a larger percentage of growth than any other community in Hillsdale County. The establishing of many businesses and industries in the village during this period contributed to this achievement.

The present Baptist Church was started in 1955, in a small building on Water Street. In 1966, the basement was dug for the new church on Adrian Road. The sanctuary was finished in 1972.

On January 7, 1957, oil was first discovered in Jonesville at the Houseknecht well. Also in 1957, the new Post Office was dedicated.



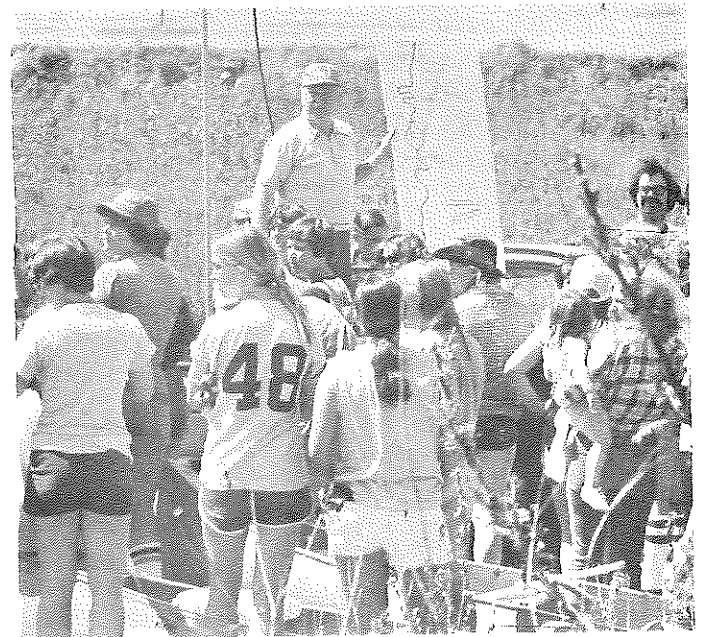
These are the wheels that started the oil industry in Hillsdale County.

Fern Houseknecht, on whose farm oil was first discovered, is on the left, and George Houseknecht is second from the right.

In 1958, Jonesville celebrated its 130th anniversary. In the same year, there were fourteen producing oil wells in Scipio Township. A proposal for a sewage disposal system was defeated that year. It was not until 1971 that a new sewage system was installed.

A bicycle path was built by the State of Michigan connecting Jonesville and Hillsdale in 1974. It was the first such bike trail in the state.

One year later, through the efforts of Joe Dellinger, the Jonesville Frontier Days Canoe Race had its start. The race begins at Baw Beese Lake, with canoeists following the St. Joseph River into Jonesville. This has become an annual event, with scores of competitors coming from local areas and from out of state.



Entrants listen as Joe Dellinger explains the course of the Jonesville Frontier Days Canoe Race.

In September of 1977, the Jonesville Heritage Association purchased the Grosvenor House with the intention of making it a museum.

This brings us up to the present, 1978 — the year Jonesville celebrates its 150th Anniversary, the year we pause to consciously reflect on our past, rejoice in our growth. And this is the time to set our sights on the future, committing ourselves to do all in our power to ensure that Jonesville continues to grow and prosper.

JONES OF JONESVILLE

The following account is based upon material originally compiled by Mrs. Vivian Lyon Moore and contained in a book called The Jones of Jonesville.

Benaiah Jones, a man in whom a pioneer urge was inborn, a man whose restless spirit drove him ever onward in search of the unknown, left his Ohio home by wagon in May, 1828, at the age of 33, bringing with him his wife, Lois Olds Jones, and five young sons: Croesus, Leonidas, Linnaeus, Rhoderick, and Claudius.

By the middle of June, they had reached Wolf Lake in Lenawee County, and were delighted with the beauty of this spot. The story is told that they encamped there, planning to remain, but became alarmed at the demonstrations of the curious Indians. They reloaded their tent and goods and struggled along into Hillsdale County, having been preceded there only by Captain Moses Allen, who a year previous had settled his family at Allen's Prairie. He was living there, the only white settler between Tecumseh and White Pigeon.

The site of the junction of the trail with the St. Joseph River took the eye of Mr. Jones, but he pressed on five miles further to meet with Captain Allen. Joyfully welcoming the prospect of near neighbors, Captain Allen offered them his empty corn barn

— all he had. There, Mrs. Jones awaited the erection of her own home. The corn barn became the scene of a historic event, the birth of the first white child in interior Michigan. Within its walls in August, 1828, Cordus Mutus Jones, sixth son of his parents, first saw light.

October saw Mrs. Jones and her children transferred to the west bank of the St. Joseph River, where Benaiah, with the assistance of his eight year old son, Croesus, had made a clearing and erected a log house. Thus, Hillsdale County's first village was born!

The spot chosen by Mr. Jones had many advantages: water from the St. Joseph River was readily available, and the land was thickly wooded. Yet there was ample clear land to accommodate a homestead. Here and there in the forest were so-called "openings", a few cabins belonging to the friendly Potowatomis, and an occasional patch of maize. The Indians, under their Chief Baw Beese, were often of great assistance to their white neighbors. It was, indeed, their great kindness and succor that saved the Jones family from starvation the first hard winters. In 1829, Edmund Jones, brother of Benaiah, arrived and took up land close by. None of that territory had been for sale up to that time, but on June 8, 1829, the Jones brothers and Moses Allen presented themselves at the Monroe Land Office and validated their claims to



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their homesteads. In the fall of that year, death took from their midst their dear friend, Captain Allen, who succumbed to hardship and exposure.

Benaiah Jones' enthusiasm over his "real estate venture" seems to have been contagious, for between 1829 and 1833, no less than eight sisters, brothers, and their families took up their abode near him. Edmund was the first to arrive; and in 1830, came his sister Caroline and her five children and her husband James Olds. The Olds family took possession of Mr. Jones' original log house, a double structure with a covered driveway between the sections, which had from the first served in lieu of a tavern for the occasional prospector along the Chicago Trail. When travel increased, Mr. Jones erected the more spacious "Block Hall" at the corner of present-day Chicago and Water Streets. The Olds house was also used for the same purpose, for by 1836, emigration was at its height. An almost continuous line of wagons passed through the village daily, bound for western Michigan or turning south at Allen to Indiana.

Immediately after the opening of the Chicago Road, Jonesville presented the appearance of a pioneer camp. All around the little log house Benaiah and Lois Jones made such a comfortable welcome, the way-worn travelers often forgot the discomfort they had experienced on the road. The entire village then consisted of one log tavern, four log dwellings, one small frame dwelling and two log barns; but the faith of its founders envisioned for it a future that to the casual observer seemed impossible.

It is not surprising that Benaiah Jones' relatives found him too busy for peace or repose. Aside from providing for his family, he acted as "Mine Host" to all who passed his door. He filled the office of Justice of the Peace, as had his father before him in Painesville, Ohio. He acted as the first postmaster of Jonesville, in fact, the first one west of Ypsilanti, the mail being brought from Detroit. He was the proprietor of a stage line between Tecumseh and Coldwater. He superintended the letting of the Chicago Road contract west from Jonesville.

As a competent carpenter, joiner, surveyor, and civil engineer, he was ever in demand. He gave one room in his house for a school room, and hired and

boarded the teachers. In short, he looked upon Jonesville as his plantation, and he exercised a general supervision over every phase of its development.

The first "ball" was held at Jones' Tavern, New Year's night in 1832, to the music of George Dunham's fiddle and the strains of the only tune he knew, "Money Musk". At the tavern in 1833, was also held Hillsdale County's first Fourth of July celebration, when one of the guests heroically surrendered "his girl" and came to the rescue by fiddling for the dancing when the "orchestra" failed to appear.

The peace of the little settlement was rudely broken by the news of the Black Hawk up-rising. Major Benaiah Jones received orders from General Brown at four o'clock in the afternoon of May 23, 1832, to call his battalion and march to the defense of Chicago. It took him only until ten o'clock the following morning to muster his three companies, and they started their march to the Lake on May 25. Among those in the lines were Major Benaiah Jones, commanding; Quartermaster Edmund Jones; Ambrose Nicholson, his nephew, staff officer; James Olds, Captain of the second company; and Dexter Olds, James' brother, Corporal. When the troops reached Niles, they learned that Black Hawk had been captured, and the war was at an end.

After the Black Hawk War, sickness and sorrow for a time dogged the footsteps of the group by the banks of the St. Joseph. Benaiah and Lois Jones had lost baby James, their seventh son, but his place was filled a year later by their eighth child and only daughter, Lois Adelaide Jones, the first white girl born in Jonesville.

Some time in 1834, Benaiah Jones took his son, Croesus, with him and started for "the Texas", not yet a part of the United States. Two of his other sons joined him there. One, Leonidas, eventually returned to his native state, but Benaiah never again saw the thriving village which he founded; instead, he spent the next thirty years in Louisiana and Texas.

The feeling between the North and South grew constantly more intense, soon approaching a crisis, and events rapidly plunged the nation into its most tragic war. Mr. Jones' sympathies were wholly with the North in spite of his long residence in Texas, and his inherent patriotism prompted him to guard the country which his father had fought to free. Regard-



LOIS OLDS JONES
Wife of Benaiah Jones III

less of veiled threats from his neighbors, and mutterings not so veiled, he never hesitated to express his convictions. Not even when his life was menaced did he falter in his path. In 1863, he was captured by a posse of his political foes. An outspoken partisan to the last, he was killed by them for his Union sentiments, sacrificing himself for his country's cause as truly as though he had died on the battlefield.

Meanwhile, back in Jonesville, much had transpired and many changes had come into the family. Many members of the Olds and Jones families were taken ill and died, including young Cordus. James Olds, Jr. followed his uncle Benaiah to Texas. He persuaded his mother to come join him, and there Caroline Jones Olds died on September 17, 1866.

Lois Olds Jones, wife of Benaiah and courageous mother who faced the perils and difficulties of the wilderness, lived to see the tiny clearing on the bank of the St. Joseph develop beyond the fondest hopes either she or her husband had entertained. She died at the home of her son, Leonidas, on March 28, 1875, and is buried next to her son, Cordus, in the family plot in Jonesville.

In 1845, Leonidas Jones married Charlotte Ann Mariah Holcomb, and six years later with three little children, they moved to Grimes County, Texas. Here, Leonidas was appointed collector for the state orphan asylum and held the position for five years. He returned to Michigan and in 1858, graduated from



Lois Jones Clark, daughter of Benaiah Jones III, and wife of Henry O. Clark. Born in 1832, the first white girl born in Jonesville, she died in 1901.



Left to right: Ralph M. Powers, Jr.; David Pope; Raymond W. Pope; Paul E. Powers.

the Hemeopathic College of Medicine at Cleveland, and opened an office in Camden. Claudius Jones, the fifth son of Benaiah and Lois, married Mary Ann Langley. They had seven children, Mary Louise, Henry Langley, Lois Lavinia, Frank Paschal, Louise Leech, Nellie Lincoln, and William Langley.

Lois Adelaide Jones married Henry O. Clark and lived in her native village nearly all her life. Mr. and Mrs. Clark had five daughters: Lois, Alice, Hattie, Lucy, and Winifred. Their descendants are the only members of Jonesville's first family who have remained here to see the pioneers' dream realized.

Alice O. Clark married Fred Dingfelder and lived at 429 Evans Street. To them four daughters were born, Winnefred, Zaidie, Marjorie, and Gladys. Marjorie, still living, has lived all except the first four years of her life in Jonesville. In 1910, she married Ralph M. Powers who had entered into a partnership with his father: D. L. Powers and Son, retail clothing merchants. Ralph and Marjorie moved into the new house they had built at 307 North Street, continuing there in residence to the present. Of the six children of Marjorie and Ralph, Mary Alice and Ralph M. Powers, Jr., are lifetime residents of the village. Mary Alice married Raymond Warren Pope, who is a life long resident. At the present time, three of the great-great-grandchildren of Benaiah Jones live in the Jonesville area. They are Douglas Pope, who lives on Mosherville Road; and David Pope and Paul Powers, both of whom are now in the family business at Powers Clothing.

A WALK DOWN MAIN STREET

(The following information was compiled by Mrs. Nina Pope and originally presented to the Women's Club of Jonesville in October of 1970. It has been up-dated to the present time).

I wanted to tell you who were the persons responsible for building some of the first business places on Jonesville's main street, but so many of the first buildings were at different times destroyed by fire that it is most confusing. So, I am going to tell you how Main Street has changed in the past years from about the turn of the century until now.

If you will imagine that you are walking with me, we will begin our walk at the southwest corner of Maumee Street and U. S. 12:

Where the Union 76 gas station now stands, there used to be a three-story building used by William Blauvelt as a furniture store and an undertaking establishment. Furniture was displayed on the first floor and caskets on the second floor. A freight elevator moved merchandise from floor to floor. In 1924, Olin Beebe bought the store and continued the business there until 1929, when he moved to the present funeral home on East Street.

West of this corner building on Main Street was a group of several one and two-story buildings which in the early 1900's were occupied by various stores, one of which sold small items — thread, needles, etc. — and was something like a dime store. The owner was a Mrs. Cooper. Next was Mrs. Goff's Hat Shop, a bicycle shop, and at one time, Dr. Graham had his office in this area. Next, and back from the sidewalk some distance, was a dwelling with a narrow board



sidewalk leading to the front door. There was a well-kept lawn in front of the house. Benaiah Jones' granddaughter was born in this house. Her name was Alice Clark and she was born in 1857.

Going on west, there were no buildings until the theater was built in 1904. This theater was quite famous. It was the largest theater in this area. It had a seating capacity of 500. The stage was fifty feet from wall to wall. There was a dressing room for the star of the plays presented, and this was a help in getting city plays to come here. The first play was "The Royal Chef", and it was presented to a full house. Tickets cost from \$3.00 to \$20.00, depending on the play and the location of the desired seat. At that time, Jonesville had railroads with many passenger trains, and they brought people from quite distant areas to attend the plays. Sometimes special trains were added to accomodate those desiring to come. This theater burned in 1932, but was rebuilt a few years later and used as a moving picture theater.

To go on with our walk, we find next on the street was a block of buildings (still in use) one of which was used as the Post Office for many years until the present Post Office was built in 1957. Various postmasters were "Brod" Howlett, David Powers, Edgar Gregory, several others and presently Carl Cooley. The first post office was on the north side of Main Street. In the back room of that post office was the first location of the Ladies' Library, now located on Church Street and called, "Jonesville District Library".



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HILLSDALE COUNTY
INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION

HTM DIVISION

BIG D VARIETY

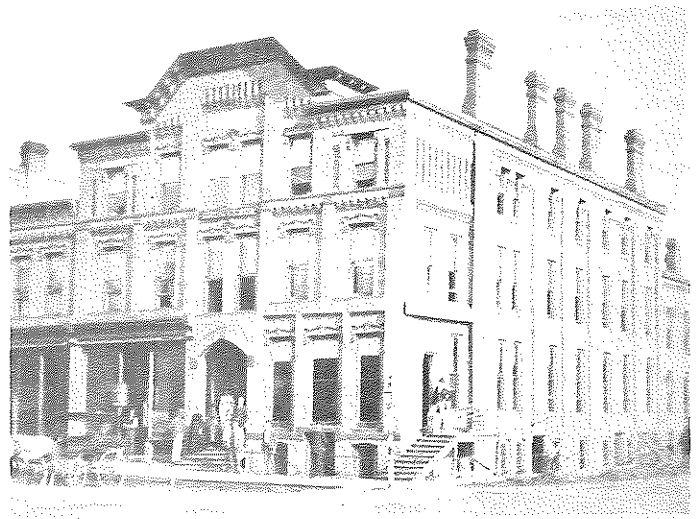
KIRBY
VACUUM CENTER
100 N. Howell
Hillsdale



As we go on west, we pass a big billboard closely bordering the sidewalk, where the Grosvenor Branch of Hillsdale County National Bank is now located. The present bank was established by Mr. E. O. Grosvenor in 1854, but was located on the north side of the street and was called the "Exchange Bank". In 1911, the bank was moved to its present location. In 1954, it celebrated its centennial. During the first one-hundred years, the bank had only four presidents — E. O. Grosvenor, Charles White (grandson of Mr. Grosvenor), William Wetmore, and Richard Varnum.

As we go on past the billboard, we come to the Chinese laundry with Lem Get as owner. He was a favorite with all the children, as he often gave little presents to them — a handkerchief or a Chinese coin or some other small item.

Next was David Jones' harness shop, then Godfrey's Hardware, then the bowling alley, one of whose owners was Mr. McBride. On the corner was the hotel, first called the "Grosvenor House" and later the "Gilmer House". But this was not the first hotel on this corner. The first one was built by Artemedorus Tuller. After an addition was added to the original building by Henry Delevan, it was opened under the old name of "Fayette House" and later called the "Waverly House". This hotel was destroyed by fire about 1875, and the present Grosvenor House replaced it.



As we go across West Street, we pass the building now housing Jonesville Products. Dr. Sterling once had his dental office here and it once was the office of the Deal Buggy Company.

The Deal Buggy Factory was south of the hotel and was established in 1865, by J. J. Deal with eight to twelve employees. Later it was operated by the son of J. J. Deal, George V. Deal. In 1906, over one hundred persons were employed in this factory.



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THE
JONESVILLE INN
Established in 1830
by
Benaiah Jones

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THE VILLAGE
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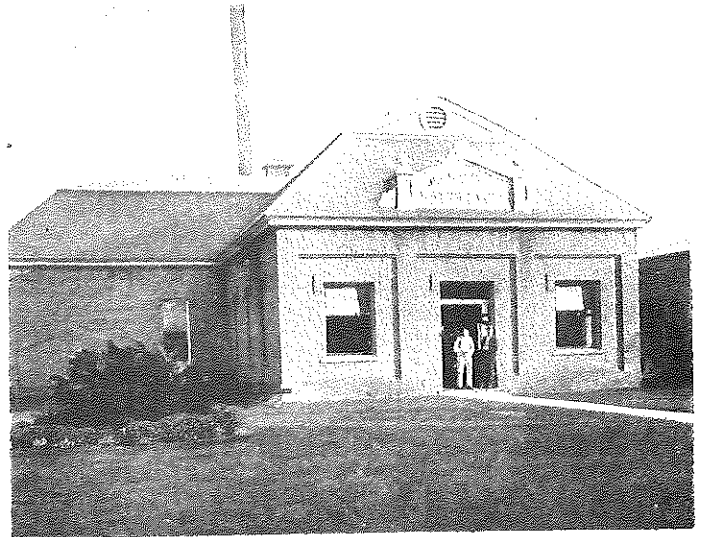
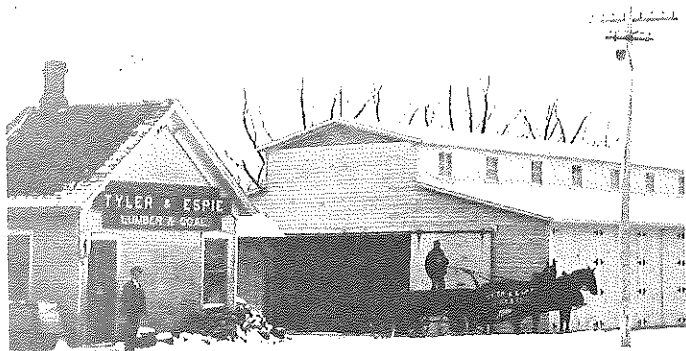
PIZZA FACTORY
Fred and Jane Allen,
Your Hosts

Going past the Deal Office Building, we come to the Grist Mill built in 1881, and operated by water power furnished by the St. Joseph River. This was not the first one in Jonesville, as there was one in 1834.

There are pictures in the Jonesville District Library which show how the area west and south of the St. Joseph River looked in 1881. In one you can see in the distance the building which we more recently called the sauerkraut factory, but at that time it was a thriving cotton manufacturing mill. It had eighty looms, fifty employees, and manufactured 8500 yards of cotton cloth per month.



As we walk on over the river bridge we pass the lumber yard which was established in the early days of Jonesville's settlement and is still called the "Jonesville Lumber Company".

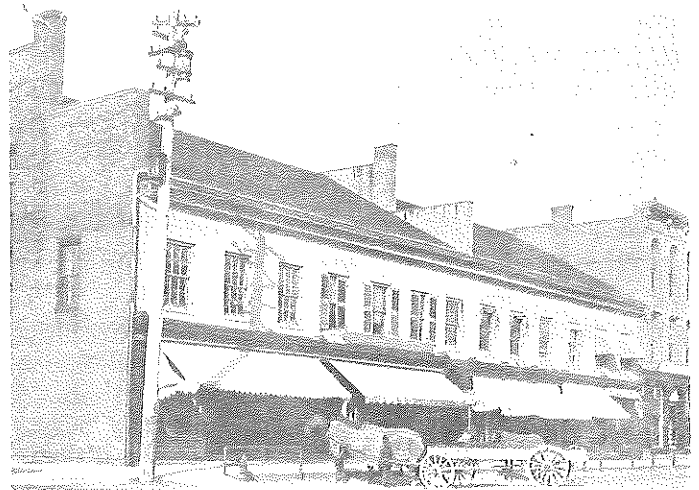


Now we will cross U. S. 12. Turning to the east we see the Jonesville Waterworks Building, at one time an attractive building with a flowing well on the front lawn where thirsty passers-by could stop, and using a hand for a cup, get a drink of pure sparkling water. Now a new fire station has been erected in front of the old Waterworks Building.

Next we come to Harry Randolph's blacksmith shop and his wagon-rack shop. We go across the St. Joseph River bridge and pass a brick building and several one-story wooden buildings whose entrance doors opened directly onto the sidewalk. The brick building was used for some time as the Jonesville Independent printing office. The first one-story building was used as a dwelling place and the next one was Will Cheney's photography shop. Examples of Mr. Cheney's pictures are now in the Jonesville District Library.



Next we pass the old brick fire barn and we stop to notice the attractive carvings on the front of the second story. In one of our pictures we can look past the fire barn and see a part of the woolen mill on Water Street. It was built in 1853. The first mill was destroyed by fire in 1866, but was rebuilt that same year. It was five stories high, had thirty looms, and 1500 spindles. Eight hundred pounds of wool were used daily from which were manufactured five hundred yards of woolen cloth. There were sixty-five employees. It was the first and largest woolen mill in Michigan and was prosperous until 1875, when it was closed and the property went into the hands of bondholders.



The east part of the block was Varnum's Drug Store, established in 1847, and owned and operated by the three Varnum brothers. The second floor was the meeting place of the Knights of Pythias. There were also several offices on this floor which were occupied by Jonesville lawyers, but are now vacant. Victor Hawkins, S. D. McNeal, and William Ransom were lawyers who had offices here.



Next was a grocery store, a cigar store, and at one time the Exchange Bank later called the Grosvenor Bank; then, the jewelry store of Pete Babcock, Spencer's Hardware, Lambert's Meat Market, and Powers' Clothing. Powers' Clothing was first established by David Powers in 1889, on the south side of the street, but in 1895, it was moved to its present location.

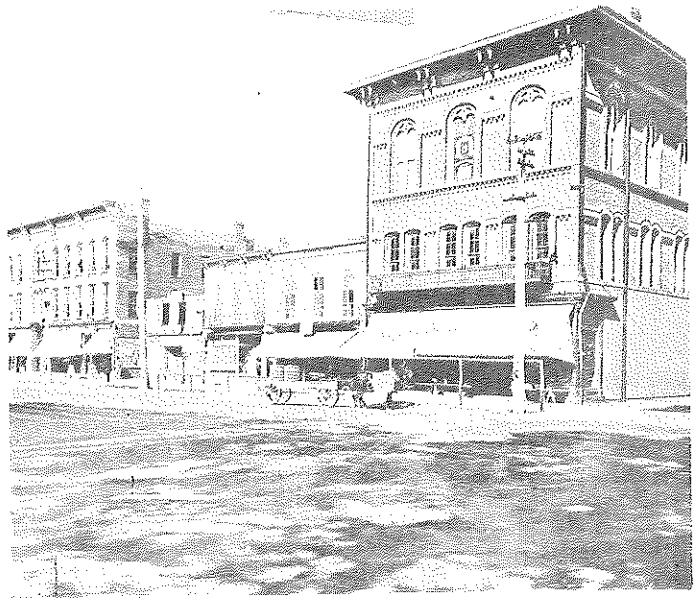
As we walk on, we come to the corner of U.S. 12 and Water Street. On this corner was a three-story building which was used, on the first floor, for printing the Hillsdale County Gazette, then the Jonesville Telegram, and still later, the Jonesville Independent. For a time, the Ladies' Library was located on the second floor; but since the second floor was reached by an outside stairway, when winter came with its ice and snow, climbing the stairway was too dangerous for the library patrons. So the library was again moved, this time to the building on Maumee Street which now is occupied by Leonard's Camera Shop.



We now cross Water Street and we see on the corner a block of buildings called the "Gardner Block". About the year 1900, the west part of the block was used as a dry goods store in the front. In the back, the farmer's wife could sell her butter and eggs and then it was very convenient for her to go to the front to buy whatever she needed in groceries or dry goods.

To go on with our walk, we pass a dry goods store, a drug store, a shoe shop, and a grocery store. The grocery was first owned by Mr. Button, then by Sam Munsell, and last by Charles Cronk. Mr. Cronk was famous for his cheese and fine china dishes, as well as groceries. Next came the Nickelodeon, commonly called the "Nickel" where an evening's entertainment could be purchased for a nickel.

Where the variety store now stands, there was once a hotel called the Mosher House. It was a three-story brick building, built in 1870 by B. C. Benson. For several years it was called the Benson House. Its first proprietor was Dr. G. W. Mosher, and soon it became known as the Mosher House. On the first floor of the hotel and fronting the street was a barber shop. On the alley, east of the hotel, was what was then called a "saloon". Continuing down the alley, there was the livery stable owned by Sam Parker. The double front doors of the hotel led to the hotel office on the right, and to a stairway on the left. This stairway led to the hotel rooms on the second and third floors. Mosher House was torn down in 1948, by Clifton Wertz and the present building was erected.



The next building was Lang's Grocery, which had been located further west on the main street, and moved, in 1907, by William Lang and his son, Milford. It was operated by William's grandson, Jay Lang, until 1974.

We have now reached the Town Hall building on the corner of M-99 and U.S. 12, built in 1865. The first floor has been a grocery store, a jewelry store, a dry goods store, and for the longest period of time, Manning's Variety Store, operated for many years by William Manning, and later by his son, Ray Manning. The Variety Store was closed, and Ray's daughter, Marjorie Manning Spears, opened a dress shop called The Marzel Shoppe. This shop moved in 1970, to the building east of Powers' Clothing, leaving the first floor of the Town Hall vacant. This first floor was soon equipped for use as the Jonesville Village Offices. The large front room is the Village Council and voting area. Adjoining this area are the offices of the village clerk and village police. The second floor was used for many years as a place for voting at the various elections, and was where town meetings were held. Home talent plays and traveling plays were presented here, and dances were also held here. The third floor is the Masonic Temple and the meeting place of Vesper Chapter 329, Order of the Eastern Star.

We have now reached the end of our walk. I hope you have enjoyed seeing, in memory, the main street of Jonesville, about the time of the turn of the century.

100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

OLD AND NEW PARADE FEATURE AT CELEBRATION

(Jonesville, June 29) — Unsettled weather yesterday afternoon failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the hundreds of Jonesville homecomers, many of whom had not been in the village for more than twenty-five years. Jonesville's sons and adopted sons who have made the village their home during the years, left nothing undone that would keep Jonesville's 100th birthday from being one of the greatest celebrations that this county has ever known.

The efforts of the home people were rewarded by the hundreds of old residents who returned to their hometown for this important event, and by the many other visitors from all parts of the state and neighboring states. The program had been planned in such a manner to allow ample time for hand-clasping and visiting with old friends. Everywhere were gathered little groups of people whose faces beamed with the genuine pleasure of greeting their chums of the past.

At 1:30, the afternoon program was opened with a most enjoyable band concert, given by the Jonesville band. At 2:30, the feature of the afternoon took place, "The Old and New Parade". This unique feature had been awaited eagerly by large crowds of people who gathered along the sides of the street long before the time set for the parade. Promptly at the hour set, the parade started from Evans Street in the eastern part of the village and proceeded west down the main street.

The parade was led by Victor Hawkins on horseback and dressed in a riding suit of the past. He was followed by a group of Indian men, women, and children. The section of the parade which brought forth shouts of laughter from the onlookers were the two high-wheeled bicycles with their riders wearing silk hats, swallow-tailed coats and leather boots of the old type. Each of these riders was escorted by two Boy Scouts. The ox team followed, drawing a float in which "The Horribles" were gathered around an open well singing "The Old Oaken Bucket." Two covered wagons followed and these, more than any-

thing else, impressed upon the onlookers the great advancement that has been made in a short space of one hundred years. Various types of the covered wagon were shown. There were the sturdy pioneers with their brave wives and little children. As these wagons passed by on the newly paved U.S. 112, it was hard to imagine this same type of conveyance passing over that very road when it was nothing more than an Indian trail. The first fire wagon owned by the village of Jonesville had an important part in the parade. Ann Gridley Chapter D.A.R. of Hillsdale furnished a float which showed the housewife of the early days busy spinning before the fireplace.

The parade advanced from the days of the covered wagon to the days of the more delicate carriage and when women wore dresses of the wasp waist type and hats that were not meant for protection, but simply an adornment of the hair. Another step in the advancement of our nation was shown by two types of the early automobile, one of the first roadsters, a red Maxwell made in the year 1908, and a Ford made in 1912.

The Jonesville band divided the old from the new section of the parade, and immediately following was a beautiful float on which rode "Miss Jonesville", Mrs. R.M. Powers, great-great-granddaughter of the founder of the village. Mrs. Powers was beautiful in



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MR. AND MRS. RALPH M. POWERS, SR.

her light summer gown with hat to match. The present Jonesville fire truck stood out in contrast to the first one that had passed just ahead. The truck was followed by a number of floats put out by the merchants of the town. The O.E.S. kitchen band was followed by two ponies and carts which completed the parade.

Following the parade, another band concert was given by the Jonesville band. The showers held off just long enough for the completion of the outdoor exercises.

The historic gallery and the exhibits of antiques in the windows of business places formed an important feature. An attempt to mention these in detail would be an exceedingly lengthy undertaking. Among some of the most interesting exhibits, however, were the following:

In the exhibit at the library, was a crib made by hand by Jonathan B. Graham, a prominent early resident, for his son, the late Dr. Malcolm Graham. The crib was made in 1848. In the Graham exhibit was also a flintlock musket made in 1830. A bedspread made by the grandmother of Miss Alice VanNess was made about 1815. The antler of a deer driven into the trunk of a tree and found in the woods of this vicinity, in an early day, was an interesting object. At the business place of E. C. Varnum and Son, a photograph of a Sunday School class attracted much attention because of the number of people in the picture, still either known or remembered. The Varnum store itself, built in 1849, fitted in well with the old and new idea. At the Collins Drug Store were exhibited many old coins. Here was a bedspread woven in 1830 by Mrs. Collins' grandfather, Jacob Conger. There was also in this exhibit an English dueling pistol made in London more than a century ago, and now the property of Ira R. Bentz. At the Saxton Store, an ancient history of the United States, published in 1827, was on exhibition. This is the property of Dr. W. H. Ditmars. A picture of the first locomotive to traverse the railroad into Jonesville was also exhibited here.

In the exhibit at the Andridge Bakery was a German sword of the thirteenth century, said to have been wielded by one of the crusaders. Here, too, were interesting Indian relics. The exhibit of ladies' hats at the library proved of exceptional interest, particularly to the ladies. Here, too, was a flax wheel in an excellent state of preservation.

Taken as a whole, the historic gallery as represented in the work of the committee at the library, and at the various places, was a worthwhile and satis-

factory phase of the centenary. Very few people, if any, would have believed before the celebration that so many real antiques were in existence in this locality.

A potluck supper served in the school auditorium opened the evening's program. A canopy of red and white crepe paper and crystal vases with flowers formed the decorations. The stage was decorated with large baskets of flowers and floor lamps.

Places had been laid for 350, but this did not begin to accommodate the crowd, and it was necessary to set a number of extra tables. Even the balcony was crowded and there were many who stood just outside the door.

Before opening the program, the toastmaster, Victor Hawkins, announced that the Jonesville Library would be open all day today so that anyone who wished to make a close inspection of the relics might do so.

The program opened with two selections, "Why Can't I Care for One Girl Who Loves Me?" and "I Just Roll Along Having My Ups and Downs", by a three-piece orchestra. W. M. Glasgow then led the entire group in the singing of "America", "Pack Up Your Troubles In Your Old Kit Bag", and "Carry Me Back To Old Virginey".

The homecomers were formally welcomed by W. M. Wetmore who said in part, "We are proud of those who have come home. We are proud of you who have lived with us and helped to make the town what it is. We are proud of the careers you have made for yourselves in other communities and your influence there and the friends you have made. We, who have stayed behind and kept the home fires burning that you might come back and greet old friends and talk of old times, give you welcome on this joyful occasion and wish you success. May you live long and prosper."

The response was given by Mrs. Grace Eggleston Sibley of Portland, Oregon, and in part, she said: "I am happy to be here to celebrate the 100th anniversary of my old home town and I am glad of the privilege to say how happy I am tonight. Jonesville is like an old mother hen who has called us all in. Some of us have slipped out from under her wing. Some have answered the call of the last homecoming. To those who have stayed close to the nest, on behalf of my fellow travelers and myself, I wish to say, 'God Bless everyone of you.'"

Mrs. R. C. Williamson read several letters from former Jonesville people who were unable to return for the celebration. One California man, in sending his regrets at not being able to attend, asked that the

person to whom he was writing would send him word on several old friends. The friends that he inquired about have been dead for many years.

"The Horribles," a group of singers of the past, sang, "Come Where The Lilies Bloom", and responded to an encore. The six present active members of this group are Zeke Holmes of Jackson, Frank Miller of Detroit, Frank Bentley of Chicago, George McKercher, L. W. Sibbald, Andrew Mack, and George Kirby of Jonesville. Mr. Kirby was at the piano. Hearty applause followed both selections.

"One Hundred Years From Now" was sung by a peerless quartet composed of Morrie Snyder, W. M. Glasgow, Carl Rock and William H. Snyder. Mrs. Glasgow was at the piano.

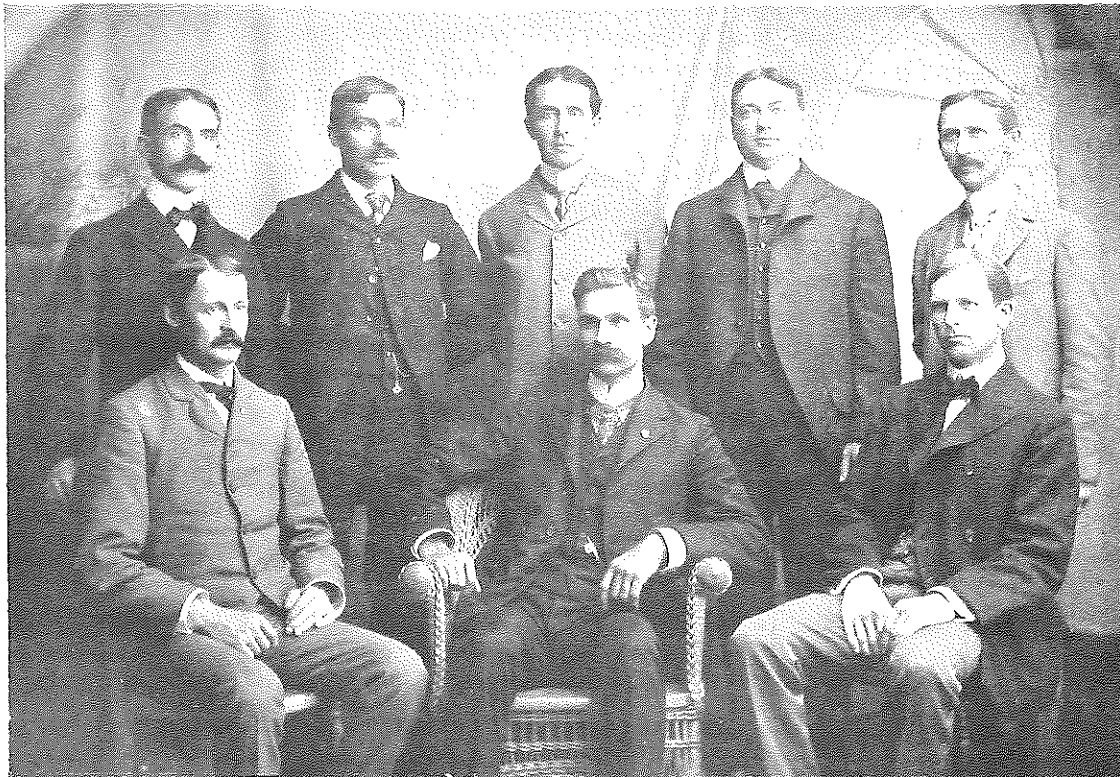
The history of Jonesville during the past century was given by W. M. Glasgow. Mrs. Glasgow publicly thanked Mrs. Vivian Lyon Moore for her assistance in preparing the paper which he read and also referred his listeners to the June 26 issue of The Hillsdale Daily News, which contains a story of the early his-

tory of the village.

A transcription, "Blue Bells of Scotland", was given by Mrs. Genevieve Whitten Hammond. Mrs. Hammond was dressed in the gown of a bride of one hundred years ago, wearing a bonnet also of that period and a dainty shawl. When she started to play, Mrs. Hammond dropped the shawl from about her shoulders, which showed the wide lace collar, the short bodice and the flowing sleeves of the styles of 1810.

A delightful medley of popular songs was played by Eleanor Spencer Coon and this was followed by another historical sketch of Jonesville by Richard S. Varnum. This paper dealt with the industrial and commercial development of the village.

William S. Kirby of Jackson, who some years ago was the leader of a Jonesville orchestra, accompanied at the piano by his daughter, Mrs. Roy Williams, played a violin solo. This was followed by a violin duet by Junior Simpson and Sterlin Ewing, Jonesville school boys.



"The Horribles." Standing, left to right — George Kirby, George McKercher, Frank Bentley, Lew Sibbald, Dr. Speer. Seated: Frank Miller, Zeke Holmes, Bob Clark.

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As part of the celebration of 1928, a marker was placed near the spot believed to have been where Benaiah and Lois Jones built their first log cabin in 1828. Mary Alice Powers and Barbara Jane Ward, descendants of the founders, officially unveiled the boulder which has since been moved to a new site in front of the fire barn.

"Radiations" was the topic of the main address which was delivered by Charles L. Glasgow, a prominent citizen of Nashville, Michigan. Mr. Glasgow spoke in part as follows: "It is great to come back and mingle with those who were friends in the old days. There have been a great many changes, new business buildings, homes, schoolhouse, paved roads, and many other evidences of prosperity. These are not confined to this village alone, but it is true of the whole country which is developing commercially, industrially, and agriculturally. I am glad of the opportunity to look upon this crowd and see just who is here.

"It was suggested to me that I talk on the influence that has been exerted in the several communities by people who have gone out from Jonesville. But you will easily see that unless I had very definite information this would be impossible. I am going to come as close to it as I can and talk on the influence of a personality. Everyone has not only the privilege, but it is his duty, to live a life that stands out clear and bright. Years ago when I was a boy in this village, there were certain men who were outstanding, and whom I admired and in whom I had confidence. All of these men have gone, but their influence remains and has become an inspiration to greater success and better living.

"Some people feel they have no influence in a community, but everyone exerts an influence, and it is his duty to be a good citizen and be interested in the advancement of the town, and be glad to come back. The future is what we make it, what we contri-

bute. We cannot live in a town and absorb the good things and not contribute. We make this future, and it is our duty to live and think to be a blessing to those with whom we come in contact.

"We sometimes make an error in our definition of success. We judge success by how rich a man is instead of what good he has done for his town or country or humanity. There are nurses, doctors, artists, musicians, and others who all contribute, but who are not necessarily rich. I hope the young men and women who go out from this town will go with the thought that success is measured by service."

Israel Wickers of Toledo, sang, "When You and I Were Young, Maggie", and responded to an encore with "Little Mother of Mine". "Git Out and Git Under the Moon" was the title of the popular song sung by Mrs. Josephine Schell Sibbald. The following people in the audience, Oliver Q. Jones, Frank C. Calvin, Glenn Cornell, Mrs. Mary Tucker, Oliver S. White, and Miss Etola Davis, were called upon for minute speeches.

Before closing the program, Mr. Hawkins congratulated the committee, of which Miss Jennie Burnett was the general chairman, for the splendid work they had accomplished. A rising vote of thanks was given to the committees.

At the close of the program, the tables were cleared away and an hour of dancing closed the day's celebration of Jonesville's 100th Birthday.

(Reprinted from The Hillsdale Daily News,
June 30, 1928)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The growth of a town can be traced by studying the development of commercial and industrial concerns within that town. In order to outline Jonesville's growth, a chronological listing is made of the businesses that have been, and in some cases still are, in existence here. Naturally, the amount of detail available on these enterprises varies greatly.

1828 Benaiah Jones III built a log house on the west side of the river, in which he kept the first tavern in the village.

1829 The first Jonesville Post Office was established with Benaiah Jones as the first postmaster.

1831 Benaiah Jones built the block portion of the "Fayette House" and added the frame structure in 1832. This building stood on the northwest corner of what is now Chicago and Water Streets. It burned down in 1842.

1832 E.J. Sibley built a sawmill about two miles south of Jonesville on the St. Joseph River.

1834 Dr. Brooks Bowman — the first medical doctor to settle here permanently.

1800's Planing Mill — owned by Messrs. Selfridge, Baxter and Co.; this mill produced doors, blinds, and window sashes and did general planeing. The exact date of its establishment is not known.

1834 John P. Cook and Chauncey W. Ferry came to Jonesville. Except for Indian traders, theirs was the first stock of goods offered for sale west of Tecumseh in Lenawee County.

1834 Levi Baxter and Cook Sissom started building the first grist mill west of Tecumseh. It was completed in 1835.

1835 James Olds and others built another sawmill about a mile above the Sibley mill on the east branch of the St. Joseph River.

1835 Second stock of goods store was opened by Charles Gregory.

1836 The St. Charles Hotel, also known as the Jonesville House, was built by Munro and Gardner. It measured 16' x 24'.

1836-37 The first foundry was established in Jonesville by Isaac Taylor and George C. Munro. The old "Michigan Plow" was the principal product, other articles being manufactured on a smaller scale. The foundry changed hands many times and finally closed in 1878.

1837 George C. Munro put up a two-and-a-half story building. It had two store-rooms on the ground floor. The second story was occupied by a milliner's shop, a tailor's shop, a physician's office (Dr. Stillwell), and Mr. Munro's own room. The lodge of the Oddfellows, when organized, occupied the third floor, as did the Masonic Lodge. The building burned in 1849.

1837 Nicholas Van Alstine purchased the first building on the lot in the block east of the Episcopal Church and south of Chicago Street. It was 16' x 24'. Mr. Van Alstine moved it farther back and built a large addition to it in front, reaching the street. This he opened as a hotel.

1839 The Hillsdale County Gazette, established by William W. Murphy and James K. Kinman, was the first newspaper in Jonesville. The Gazette moved to Hillsdale in 1856.

1840 The Michigan Expositor — This was a rival newspaper to The Gazette, but moved to Adrian in 1842.

1847 Varnum Drug Store — Established.

VARNUM DRUG STORE

Richard Saltonstall Varnum was born in Haverhill, Massachusetts, on April 12, 1817. His early life was spent in school and college in the East until the year 1840, when he came to Michigan.

He married Miss Sarah Potter, but their married life was brief. She died about a year later. On June 12, 1854, he married Miss Harriet Champlin, daughter of Hon. Elisha Champlin. They were the parents of three sons: Freeland G., Grosvenor C., and Edward C. Mr. Varnum was postmaster of Jonesville for about three years. He commenced business in Jonesville with Hon. E.O. Grosvenor in 1842. In 1847, he went into the drug and book trade in which business he continued until his death in 1880.

The building in which the store operated for more than a century was built in 1840. It still stands and is occupied by Benedict's Restaurant at the present time.

He sold more than remedies and letter paper. One side of the store was lined with shelves. On these shelves stood hundreds of bottles and jars which contained oils, powders, extracts, herbs, and whatever

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— Jim and Cris Baker —

— Jim and Joyce Jacques —



went into the prescriptions the druggist filled. The labels of the bottles were glued under a separate piece of glass which was curved to fit the contour of the bottle. Because of this the bottles could be washed and reused without losing the label.

The prescriptions which the druggist filled were often "recipes" for salves, ointments, or remedies which people brought in to have the druggist mix up. These recipes had often been passed down from generation to generation. This information is preserved in the immaculate record books kept by Mr. Varnum. It is impossible to buy many of the ingredients today. A typical entry is one for "Dr. Brown's Salve" which contained, among other things, opium, which at that time sold as aspirin does today. Prescriptions were mixed in a solid iron mortar and pestle.

The record books are as interesting to read as fiction. In one book, dated 1860, the following items appeared in beautiful script: Two damaged candles for greasing wagons — .03 deb.; Thompson's Mental Arithmetic — .19 deb.; Fish line — .04 deb.; etc. The books have become faded but show that many debts were paid by farm products or taken out in service.

The store sold cord wood. Mr. Varnum bought up acres of land, cut and sold the wood, then sold the cleared land to prospective farmers. Kerosene oil and gasoline were sold also.

Around 1900 the store opened its first soda bar, which consisted of a table covered with white paper and low wicker-bottom stools. The menu listed sodas and sundaes for a nickel, a pint of ice cream for fifteen cents, and a quart for twenty-five cents. All ice cream was home-made as were the syrups and flavorings. A loaf of pineapple would be shipped in, slightly green. It was stored on the third floor of the store until it was completely ripe. Then it was crushed and mixed with sugar and water to become a delicious fresh fruit sauce. The chocolate was sent directly from England in a powder form and was also mixed in the store. The vanilla flavoring was made by crushing Mexican vanilla beans in a small hand-operated crushing device and draining off the extract.

Lamps were one of the main items sold and the store carried all varieties. Mr. Varnum's sons' first jobs consisted of keeping the many chimneys and

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MRS. RICHARD S. VARNUM AND FAMILY

lamp shades clean.

After the death of R. S. Varnum, the business was carried on under the name of R.S. Varnum and Company until 1884. At that time a new firm was organized comprised of the sons of R.S. Varnum and was known as R.S. Varnum's Sons. The brothers ran an up-to-date store which carried women's cosmetics. These cosmetics consisted of face powder, perfume, scented soap, and sachet. The brand name of the face powder was "Swansdown". It came in two colors: blanch which was pure white, and natural which was pink. The lady bought both colors and mixed them in a powder dish to a shade which matched her skin.

These same ladies lifted their skirts slightly, but not over the shoe tops, when they stepped from the broad sidewalk onto the main street which was dirt. When in the summertime the heat, dust, and odor of animals — for horses were the only means of transportation — got quite unpleasant, the Varnums mounted a large tank on a horse-drawn wagon and sprinkled the street with water.

Around 1910, the first telephone of Jonesville was installed in the Drug Store. People would sit around the large wood-burning stove which heated the store

for a whole afternoon while they waited for a call to be put through to Detroit.

The third floor of the building was used as a Town Hall for years. After that it became a lodge hall and still later was used as a gymnasium.

About 1912 the brothers became affiliated with Rexall.

With the death of Grosvenor C. Varnum in 1927 came the first break in the firm. Soon the business began operating under the name of E.C. Varnum and Son. Upon the death of E.C. Varnum in 1931, the son, Henry Carr Varnum, became the sole proprietor.

Although Henry was in his country's service for fifty months with a rank of Lieutenant Colonel, a member of the family, Richard S. Varnum, was the active manager of the store. He was assisted by registered pharmacists.

The store was sold in 1963. This ended 116 years of service to Jonesville and the entire county.

* * * * *

1849 A new brick block was built occupying one hundred feet of frontage on Chicago Street. It was built for a company of five persons — E.O. Grosvenor, Richard S. Varnum, Sanford Smith, Lewis Smith, and William Tuller.



This building block, erected in 1849 and shown here as it appeared in 1854, is still standing today on Chicago Street.

This page sponsored by

THE HENRY C. VARNUM FAMILY
Charles H. Varnum, 107th District Representative
Mae H. Varnum

1850 The Jonesville Telegraph published by W.W. Murphy and Co. The name was changed to The Jonesville Independent in 1855.

1851 John S. Lewis opened a hardware store with Carlton North and later with George Munro.

1853 Jonesville Woolen Mills — The first mill was destroyed by fire in 1866 and a new structure was erected the same year by Mr. Gardner and Co. This was the largest and the first important woolen mill in the state of Michigan. It closed in 1875.

1854 The Exchange Bank of Grosvenor & Co. was established on the north side of Chicago Street, where Grill Hardware is now located.

THE GROSVENOR BANK

The grosvenor Savings Bank was founded April 1, 1854, by Ebenezer Oliver Grosvenor. Mr. Grosvenor, a native of Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York, located in Jonesville in 1840 at the age of twenty and took a position as clerk in a dry-goods store where he was employed until 1844.

He then established himself in a general mercantile business with R.S. Varnum and they conducted it together until 1847 when Mr. Varnum sold out his share to E.P. Champlin. Grosvenor and Champlin carried on the business together until 1851 when Grosvenor bought out the interest of Champlin and conducted the business alone until 1864. After this he admitted a number of young men as partners, he himself retiring from active service.

In 1854, Mr. Grosvenor established a banking business under the firm name of Exchange Bank of Grosvenor and Company, of which he was principal owner and manager. In 1891 he reorganized the business as the Grosvenor Savings Bank and remained its president until his death on March 19, 1910.

The bank was located on the north side of East Chicago Street, in what is known as the Commercial Block and in the building now occupied by Grill Hardware. In 1911 a new bank was built on the south side of East Chicago Street and the bank was moved to this location where it is still located.

* * * * *

1855 William E. Lang started the W.E. Lang & Son Grocery.

LANG'S GROCERY STORE

There was a time when Jonesville had five grocery stores on main street. One of these was the W.E. Lang and Son Grocery. The store was first located at the site of what is now May's Furniture. It later located in the building just east of its final location,

the third and last move having been made in 1918. Groceries were obtained from the Hillsdale Grocery Company, and many trips were made by truck to Stock's Mill and to Mosherville to pick up flour supplies. Groceries also came by rail. The first deliveries were made by horse-drawn cart.

The present store was formerly two buildings which housed a bakery on the west side which burned, and a hat and dress shop where hats and dresses were made and sold. At one time there was a candy kitchen owned by Ben Rose located at the site.

Ruth Lang joined Jay Lang in the store about 1944, following Jay's father's heart attack. Their daughters all helped in the store while they were growing up, working after school and Saturdays.

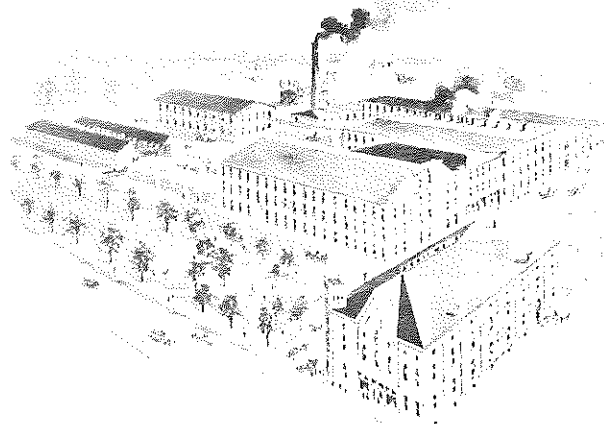
Ruth and Jay retired in 1974 when Bob and Shirley Hatto bought the business. The store name was changed to Hatto's Village Market. In 1975 Hattos sold to Sid Fogg, and it became Sid's Market. Jack Trumble bought it and changed the name to Jack's Grocery. And in 1978 Roger Rogers opened it as The Sauk Trail Market. Roger is the present owner and along with his mother, Millie, they plan to make the market known again for its excellent meats.

* * * * *

1856 The first fire department was established.

1858 Between 1858 and 1860, Ephraim Barkman came to Jonesville and opened a meat market. He ran the business until 1884. His son, Fred C. Barkman, took over management at that time. When Fred passed away in 1928, the store was sold to Johnny Jackson. Later, the building was occupied by Stanley Gray's Heating and Appliance Store. Now it is Playford Music and Andrew Mack & Son.

1865 The Deal Carriage Factory was established.



Artist's sketch of the Deal Factory

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THE DEAL STORY

(Excerpts from a booklet compiled by Wayne Van Patten as a Bicentennial Project - Jonesville Bicentennial Committee, Heritage Division.)

Jacob J. Deal was born January 17, 1827, in Seneca County, New York, the son of Peter Deal and Elizabeth Stahl Deal. Peter, a farmer, died when Jacob was three years old. The early years of Jacob's life were spent on a farm. At the age of seventeen he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade in Fayette Township, New York. Completing his three-year apprenticeship, he went to Canoga, New York, and worked at this trade for a year.

Jacob married Elizabeth Homan, also a New York native, on October 23, 1849. Of their children, only one - George Varnum Deal - lived beyond childhood. Elizabeth died in November of 1889.



Elizabeth and Jacob Deal

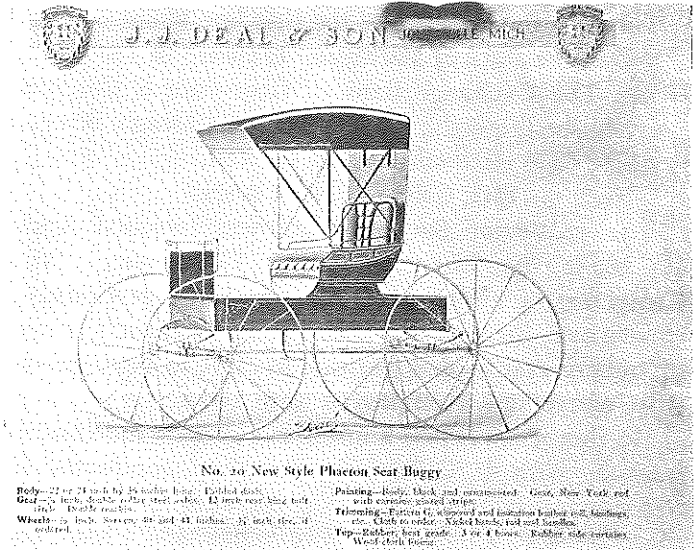
Jacob and his family came to Michigan in 1854 and settled in Clinton, Lenawee County. Three years later, he moved to Sturgis; and in the fall of 1857, he came to Jonesville and opened a blacksmith shop.

Before coming to Michigan, Jacob Deal had begun to manufacture carriages in a small way in connection with his blacksmith business. After locating in Jonesville, he carried on general blacksmithing while manufacturing a small number of lumber and heavy wagons.

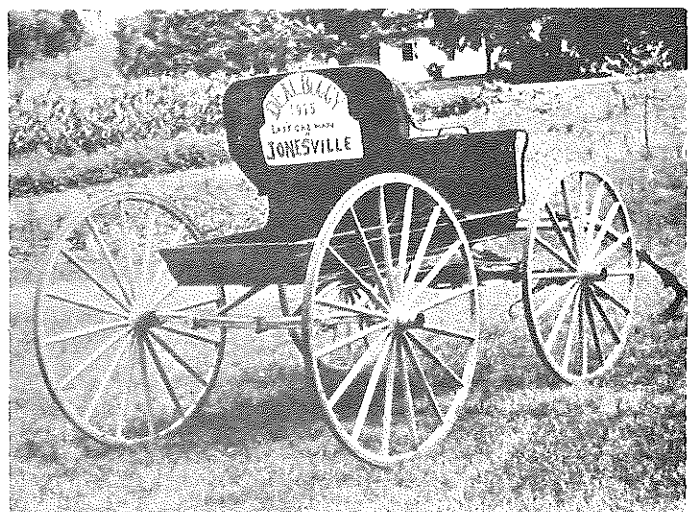
Mr. Deal sold his blacksmith shop in 1865, erected two small buildings on the site that later became his factory, and began to build wagons and buggies on a more extensive scale, doing all the work by hand and employing from twelve to fifteen men to do repairing as well as to do new work.

Demand grew quickly for his excellent products. As the business grew, he enlarged the plant from time

time. In 1890, he erected the factory which still stands on West Street, known as the "Kiddie Brush and Toy Company" building, and in which at one time he employed 140 persons.



During the year of 1887, Mr. Deal's factory turned out 1,200 carts, three hundred wagons and carriages, and between three to four hundred sleighs, all of which were first class in every detail. His transactions were always characterized by the strictest honesty, and his products attained a wide reputation for superior workmanship and finish which were displayed in his carriages, wagons and other vehicles.



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SIMPSON INDUSTRIES, INC.

Litchfield, Michigan

George Varnum Deal was born January 12, 1863, in Jonesville and lived his entire life here. In 1880 he left high school and entered the academic department of Hillsdale College, while at the same time attending the commercial department of the College. He remained at Hillsdale College for two years and one term, at which time he transferred to DePauw University at Greencastle, Indiana, and completed the college year. He went to work as a bookkeeper in the office of his father in 1884, at that time engaged in the manufacture of buggies and carriages.

George was united in marriage on December 19, 1888, to Minnie Benedict Johnson of Scipio Township. They moved into a house on West Street given them as a wedding present by George's father. In 1901 they built a new home at the corner of Maumee and Liberty Streets. They had five children — Jane, Jay, Elizabeth, George V. and Robert.

George was admitted as a partner in his father's firm in 1891 and the business was renamed J.J. Deal and Son.

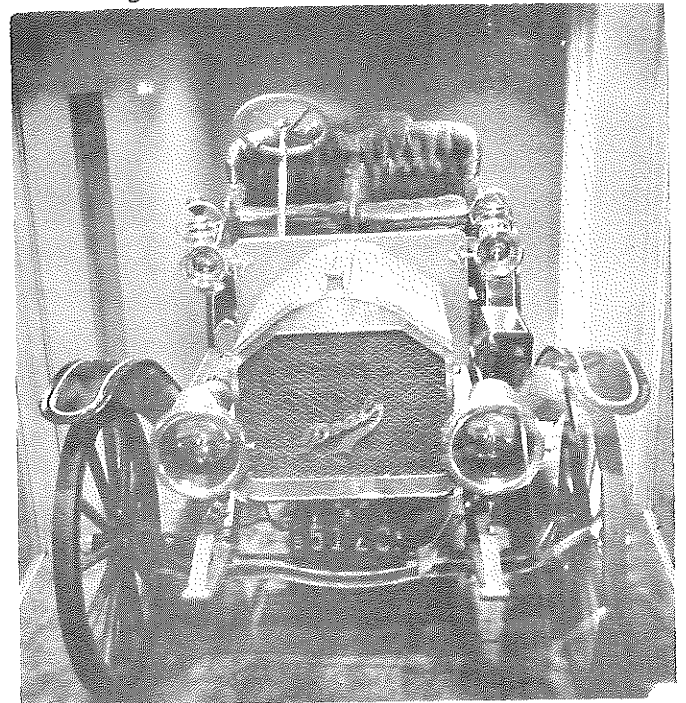


George became interested in automotive possibilities and began developing a horseless carriage. At first he was interested only in delivery trucks, but later the firm began assembling automobiles. These "Autobuggies" as they were called, developed into the Deal Automobile which they began manufacturing in 1908. It was from George's thoughtful plans and designs that the Deal autos of 1908 and 1909 were built. Several models were manufactured from 1908 to 1911. Their cost ranged from about \$950 to \$1,250.

George died an untimely death on November 16, 1908. Following his death, Omar Dickerson became manager. Omar had been with the Deal Company a great many years and his wife Nona, was a sister of George's wife Minnie. Under his management, the Deal Buggy Company continued to manufacture autos, developing more advanced models as time went on, through the year 1911. News items in the Jonesville Independent tell of orders from all over the country, and autos and buggies being shipped out nationwide. Employment climbed to over 140 people and many were working overtime at a time when the normal work-week was sixty-nine hours.

Cars were built so rapidly for a while that the suppliers of engines and other materials had difficulty getting these parts to Jonesville in sufficient quantity to keep up with the demand. Workers were laid off occasionally for short periods of time because of lack of materials.

There are two known Deal Automobiles in existence today. One is at Harrah's Automobile Collection in Reno, Nevada - a 1910 four-passenger surrey, Model S, four cylinder with thirty horsepower. The other is enshrined in the front window of the Jonesville Village Office at the corner of U.S. 12 and M-99.



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ASHBY'S
WEST ACRES FARM

HILLSDALE DAILY NEWS

This is believed to be either a 1909 or 1910 model purchased by a group of Jonesville citizens from Ted Balmer of Chelsea, who had purchased it in 1950 and restored it to its present condition. It is a four cylinder, three-seat auto, two seats in front and one (a "Mother-in-Law seat") in the rear. It is a combination of brass, wood, leather and steel. It has four headlights, two lighted by kerosene and two by acetylene gas. It has bright red paint and its old brass fittings are cleaned and polished. The tires are of hard rubber mounted over buggy wheels. It also has a rubber horn, the tone of which resembles the yelp of an asthmatic dog.

Why did the Deal Buggy Company stop making autos? One theory is that the autos were "unconditionally guaranteed." If a car broke down, the company would not only send parts for repairs, but a man was sent with the parts to make those repairs. They wanted no dissatisfied customers. As more and

more cars were produced and sold to distant areas of the country, it must have become increasingly costly to send both a man and parts to repair autos wherever they happened to break down.

Omar Dickerson left the company at the end of 1913. This fact must have contributed to the demise of the Deal Buggy Company as did the lingering effect of the loss of George V. Deal back in 1908. The "horse and buggy" era was drawing to a close, and with the auto no longer being produced, the company went out of business in 1915.

The last day the shop was in operation, Jacob Jackson, the janitor for forty-five years, was sweeping as usual. He told the men, "For forty-five years I have kept this place clean and then set the broom in the corner. Today, I sweep the place clean for the last time. I set the broom in the corner, and now the broom will stay in the corner."

* * * * *



JONESVILLE 1915 — Employees of the J. J. Deal and Son Carriage Co. gather in front of the office building of the factory for their picture. Front row, left to right: Chester Tousand, Earl Taylor, Jacob Jackson, David Baird, Leroy Mahler, Wolfgang Mack; second row, Fred Dingfeller, Fred Cotten, Bert Jenkins, Will Byard, Frank Taylor, Cyrus Orn, Bert Davidson, Claude Shea, Wesley Snyder, Norm Hampton, Ed Dens, George Shippy, Lee Benedict, Frank Snyder, John Beverly, Mr. Bartholamew, and Homer Dickinson; third row, Chas. Myers, Fred Stevens, Lincoln Eding, Sim Johnson, Chas. Anthony, Lloyd Stump, Zera Holmes, Vern Carpenter, Brody Howlett and Orlando Ellis; fourth row, Wm. Wildinson, Bert Beverly. Above, at the left, Harry Mack, Walter Divert, Cyrus Tubbs, Henry Spencer, Ben Monroe, Will Masters, Adrian Smith, Tom Marriot, George Barse, Abe Eding, Floyd Baker, unknown, Will Hess, Will Monroe, and back row: Grant Warner, Frank Smith, John Lovelle, George Monroe, Willie Brown, Lou Snyder, Bert Laniger, Charley Stump and Ray Baker. Bert Mahler, who submitted this picture, was 16 years old at the time. He worked a 10-hour day, 6 days a week for \$9. The average wage was 15 cents an hour. Round steak cost 15 cents a pound. Work shoes cost \$2 to \$3. Rents for working men ranged from \$6 to \$10 a month. The J. J. Deal buggies sold from \$85 to \$125.

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LESTER MORTON AND HIS FRIENDS FROM MICHIGAN BELL

1870 Another hotel, the Benson House, was built by B.C. Benson. Later the name was changed to Mosher House.

1870 Fayette Cheese Factory was built two miles south of Jonesville. Cheese making was begun in June under the management of Miss Ella Day.

1871 Jonesville Cotton Mills was formed for the purpose of manufacturing cotton cloth. In 1875 the business expanded and at its peak period produced 85,000 yards of cloth per month. Shortly after its expansion in 1875, the business failed.

1873 L.S. Wales — manufacturer of boots and shoes.

1874 Ladies Library Association was founded.

1874 The Amateur Times was published monthly by D.M. Baker. Terms were 35 cents per year or 20 cents for six months, paid in advance.

1881 Jonesville Milling Company.

1890 Powers Clothing founded.

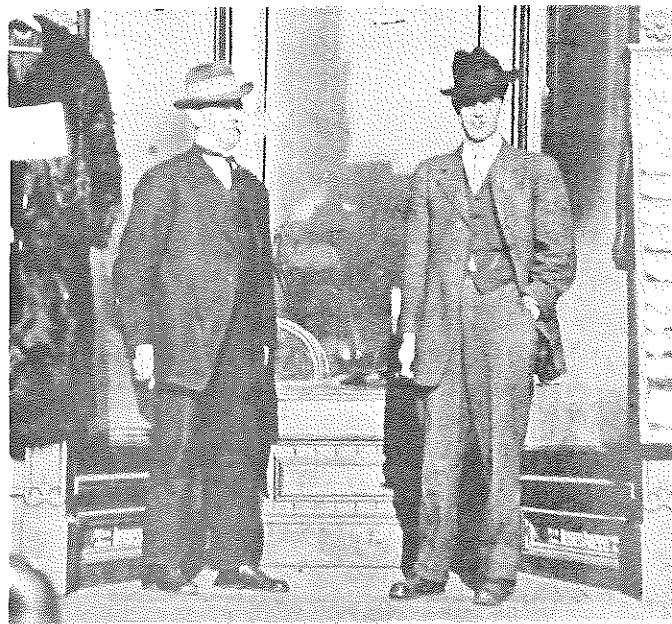
POWERS CLOTHING

David L. Powers, the founder of Powers Clothing Store in Jonesville, was born in Butler Township, Branch County, Michigan in 1853. He had operated stores in his hometown and Union City and Quincy before coming to Jonesville in 1890 to open a store in partnership with a brother as "Powers Clothing". After locating in three different addresses on Main Street he bought out his brother's share and purchased the stock of goods owned by Wisner Brothers, renting their store building at the present location of



Ralph M. Powers inside his clothing store in the 1920's.

227 E. Chicago Street in the year 1897. This building was rented for nearly sixty years from the same Wisner family until its purchase. By the year 1900, the stock of goods was so large that an agreement was made with the landlord that if McKinley were elected President of the United States a thirty-foot addition would be built. Construction was started the week after the election.



David L. Powers and his son, Ralph, partners in Powers Clothing. This photo taken in 1908.

Ralph M. Powers was given a half-interest in the business upon reaching his 21st birthday in September of 1907, and the name of the firm changed to "D. L. Powers and Son." The partnership continued through good times and bad for thirty years until the death of D.L. Powers in 1937. Both father and son were active in the Republican Party, both served as Postmaster of the village and as Village President. Both were active in their church and in the Knights of Pythias Lodge. Ralph served as Charter President of the Lions Club.

Ralph M. Powers, Jr. served three years in the U.S. Army Air Force in World War II. After completion of study at the University of Michigan, he returned to join his father as a partner in 1950. By 1956, the store's pot-bellied stove around which so many old friends had gathered through the years was replaced by central heating. A new store front was completed,

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POWERS CLOTHING On Main Street Since 1890

D. L. Powers, Ralph Powers, Monty Powers, Ray Pope, Dave Pope, Paul Powers

interior renovations accomplished and the rear entry redone in a western motif.

Raymond W. Pope had married Ralph M. Powers' only daughter, Mary Alice. After many years in the management of Kiddie Brush and Toy Company in Jonesville he did accept the invitation of Ralph M. Powers, Jr. to join Powers Clothing in 1964. Ralph M. Powers, Sr. retired in 1960, but continues to be interested and is consulted even now in his 91st year. Further improvements made in the 1960's and 1970's include air conditioning and carpets, a new office and a basement room for sales and alterations.

David W. Pope is the oldest son of Raymond W. Pope. Upon receiving a degree from Michigan State University in Business Administration, he was welcomed into the corporation in 1967. His experience and interest have proven most valuable during recent years. Paul E. Powers is the only son of Ralph M. Powers, Jr. and following graduation from Jonesville High School, he joined the firm in 1975.

The present Powers Clothing, Inc. of Jonesville has been operated continuously for nearly ninety years by the same family. This is a record not exceeded by any present firm in the county. The members of the four generations who have worked for the company have put in a total of over 150 man-years combined. During this time many styles have come and gone and many improvements have been made to stay abreast of the times with the prospect of ever-improving service to the public.

* * * * *

1891 Andrew Mack and Son was established by Andrew Mack, a foreman in the paint department of the J.J. Deal Buggy Company. Mr. Mack found it difficult to obtain the proper brushes with which to apply the fancy pin striping demanded in that era. He experimented with various hair and bristle brushes and finally settled upon a product made from hairs from the tails of Siberian squirrels. It was necessary to use the hair from these animals from a cold climate to get the length of hair desired.

Andrew Mack and Son is the oldest manufacturing firm in the county still in business today. There have been only three owners of the company — Andrew, his son, Olen, and the present owner, Jon M. Fast who purchased the business in 1960.

1891 The Grosvenor Savings Bank was chartered as

a successor to the Exchange Bank.

1897 William Manning and his wife Lennie Ried Manning moved to the Monroe-Manning business building now occupied by The Jonesville Independent office. They named their business "Manning's Want Store." Soon the business required a larger building. The store next door, on the corner, was occupied by the Express office which did not need such a large place. So the two businesses exchanged locations. Manning moved into the corner store and it became the first 5 cent and \$1.00 store in Jonesville. William Manning ran the store for thirty-three years. His widow Lennie, with help from her son, Ray, ran it for another eight years. In 1938, Ray and Bessie Manning bought the business and ran the store together. After Bessie's death in 1943, Ray ran it alone until 1956 when he retired to the small side office. There he ran a newspaper business until 1965 when he finally retired.

1904 The Jonesville Opera House was built. It was said to be one of the "prettiest little playhouses" in southern Michigan. The building burned down in 1932, but was later rebuilt.

1910 Mr. Willaim H. Blauvelt was the first known mortician in Jonesville, with his place of business on the southwest corner of Chicago Street and Maumee Street.



William Blauvelt, at left, with the hearse he used in conducting his business.

1910 Cronk's Grocery — As a boy, Charles Cronk worked for the R.S. Munsell Grocery Store in Jonesville, where the bakery is now located. When Mr. Munsell retired in 1910, Mr. Cronk took over and re-named it Cronk' Grocery. He carried a line of groceries on one side of the store; on the other

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BRANCH COUNTY
FEDERAL SAVINGS
AND LOAN
ASSOCIATION

ANDREW MACK & SON BRUSH CO.
Mike, Betty,
Chelle, Lara, and Chris Fast

SAUK TRAIL MARKET
Roger Rogers

was a large stock of lovely imported china, including R.S. Prussia, Austrian, Vienna, Silesia, Royal Munich, etc. Cronk's cat had the run of the store, walking in among the dishes without even breaking a single piece.

Mr. Cronk also carried a fine selection of cheeses which he would buy and age before selling. Many people would drive out of their way, when in the vicinity of Jonesville, to buy cheese from Cronk's store. Traditionally, men gathered around the heating stove in the back of the store to talk over the news of the day. The store was sold after Mr. Cronk's death in 1957.

1910 Jane Burnett had a hat shop where Grill's now stands sometime around 1910.



Jane
Burnett

1917 Bosier's Flower Shop — Mrs. Ethel Bosier, owner.

1918 The Universal Body Company, located in the former Deal Buggy Factory Office and Showroom, manufactured auto truck bodies.

1919 The Jonesville Lumber Co. was started by Fred Warren Graves. He was joined by his son Clyde. Later Clyde's son, Don, also joined the firm; and in 1976 Don's son, Jim, joined the business. Jonesville Lumber has been in the same location since it was started.

1920 Paul and Victor Wilkinson started their milk route. They were still in school when they started, and did not retire until fifty-five years later, 1975.

1920 Grill Hardware and John Deere Implement Co. was established by Marcus Grill. In 1926, son Floyd joined his father's business. In 1950, the hardware and implement companies split.

1922 Dr. Fred Fisk, M.D. set up a medical practice which he maintained until 1946.

1926 Olin Beebe Funeral Home — Olin Beebe, Director. Roger Beebe joined his father in the business. The brick funeral home on East Street was built in 1929.

1927 Kiddie Brush and Toy Company — In 1927, the business, formerly of Hillsdale, moved to one of the old Deal buildings in Jonesville, where it remained until 1967. At that time, the name was changed to PlasTex Corporation, and the business was moved to Edon, Ohio.

1930 Dr. H.W. Sterling D.D.S. opened his first office in the rooms above what is now May's Furniture.

1932 Dr. Luther Day, M.D. — in practice in Jonesville until 1956.

1934 Thompson Insurance Co. — Harold Thompson owner and manager. The business was sold to Keith Roberts in 1976.

1936 George Clark had a grocery store where May's Furniture now stands.

1936 Dr. Day and Dr. Sterling opened the Jonesville Medico-Dental Office.

1937 Civic Hall was built to replace the old Opera House. O.R. Vanes operated the Civic Theater there.

1937 Pauline's Beauty Shop opened, Mrs. Pauline (Fred) Klein, owner and operator. Closed in 1964.

1938 Freese's Market, operated by Cliff Freese until 1968 at which time he went to work for Jay Lang at Lang's Grocery.

1939 Fast Shoe Store opened by George and Martie Fast. Their son, Graydon, joined the business in the 1940's. Fire destroyed the store in 1968; the business was not re-opened.

1942 Vaco Products Company — Vaco was first established in Chicago in 1938 by partners Clarence (Pete) Pettengil and Harry Silverstein. The Jonesville division was opened four years later in a small building on Water Street, with about a half dozen employees. The size of the building has increased from 3,000 square feet to the present 73,000 square feet. There are two hundred people employed here at this time, producing tools.

1940 Harley Miller Garage — Harley Miller, owner and servicemen.

1944 Stan Gray established Gray's Heating and Appliance Co., a General Electric outlet. Mr. Gray

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JONESVILLE LUMBER COMPANY
"Where The Home Begins"



H. C. THOMPSON AGENCY, INC.
Auto — Home — Life — Business

- was joined in 1970 by son-in-law, Gene Czarnecki. The business was closed in 1976.
- 1945 Dr. Ira Wiggins set up medical practice.
- 1945 Cleveland Real Estate Agency, located on the south side of East Chicago Street.
- 1946 Hugh Salway opened Salway's Store.
- 1946 Ken's Kleeners — owned by Ken and Edith Hall.
- 1946 Jonesville Bakery was established by Tuck and Esther Cantrell in the building on the south side of Main Street next to what is now Porter's Shoes. In 1950, Neil and Maude Golding purchased the bakery from the Cantrells. In 1958, the Goldings purchased the Charles Cronk Grocery Store for their Jonesville Pastry Shop. In 1960, Mr. and Mrs. Cantrell bought back the bakery and remain the owners at the present time.
- 1946 Pioneer Trailer Court opened for business at 123 W. Chicago Street at the intersection of US-12 and M-99 South.
- 1947 The Camera Shop — Ben and Martha Leonard.
- 1947 Marjorie Manning Spears and Hazel (Mrs. Ray) Manning bought the small dress shop in Jonesville from Nina Pence Wirwick in what was then known as the Carpenter building. In 1956, the Marzel Dress Shoppe moved to the front of the corner building where Manning's Want Store had been. In 1964, Marjorie became the sole owner and in 1970 moved the business to its present location next to Power's Clothing.
- 1947 Gilmer Hotel — Richard E. McCarthy changed the name to the Jonesville Inn.
- 1948 Guyse's Union 76 Gas Station — Don and Bob Guyse, owners. This was later sold to Jack and Jim Beagle, in 1976.
- 1948 E.R. Dellinger & Company, manufacturers of brushes for machinery, painting and dusting, owned by Essie Dellinger and Ethel Brady.
- 1948 Jet Pep Gas Station — Ken Bartholomew, owner. Sold to Bob Watkins in 1969.
- 1948 Howard Sharpley and Ambrose LoPresto operated the Civic Theater until 1960 when it was leased to Everett Boyce. In 1961 it was leased to Lloyd Esterline. In 1962, the Civic Theater closed.
- 1948 Rex Turner Excavating — owner Rex Turner. Wilma Turner manages the office while Rex and son Gordon are involved in snow removal, excavating, etc.
- 1948 The Jonesville Provision Company, formerly called "Round House", was taken over by Mr. and Mrs. A.D. Hobbs.
- 1949 Fiebig's Jewelry — Art and Ila Fiebig.
- 1949 Houseknecht Wood Producers was started by George Houseknecht. The business was incorporated in 1962. Houseknecht's produces all-hardwood, custom-made furniture.
- 1950 Pinecrest Motel was built by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Pierce who operated the motel until 1963 when it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sharp. The motel had several different owners in the ensuing years, finally being sold to Jack and Mary Ahles, the present owners.
- 1950 The John Deere Implement Company was originally located in the quonset hut behind Grill Hardware store. The business was sold to Hugh and Lloyd Esterline. In 1955, it was sold to William and Ruth Weidner and moved to its location east of town on US-12. Jim Tauke bought the business in 1967 and renamed it Tauke Sales and Service. In 1974, the business was sold again, this time to Jack and Roger Godfrey who renamed it Godfrey Brothers, Inc.
- 1950 Grill Hardware was purchased by Floyd Grill from his father. Mervin Zink and Jack Newcomb became the new owners in 1973, and three years later Mr. Zink became sole owner.
- 1951 Fish Electric Service — Art Fish.
- 1951 Ned Clevidence Real Estate.
- 1952 Jonesville Products — From the beginning in one small shop, Jonesville Products has grown into a complex of three production facilities, employing a labor force of two hundred and fifty people. Jonesville Products actively serves the automotive, appliance and plumbing industries with precision fabricated tubing parts.
- 1952 May's Furniture — Don May, Owner.
- 1952 Gambles Store — Francis and R.D. Langs, owners. R.D. bought out his brother's share in 1959 and his wife, Dorene, joined him in the business. The name was changed to Langs Store in January, 1977.
- 1953 Holes Drug Store — Mr. and Mrs. James Holes.
- 1953 Jonesville Body Shop — Vance (Shorty) Moore.
- 1954 Susan Kay Garment Company — manufacturer of infant wear, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Vroman.
- 1955 Tastee Freeze opened by Grant Defay; now owned by Jeff Lawrence.

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JONESVILLE
PASTRY SHOP
Emmett and Esther Cantrell

GODFREY BROTHERS, INC.
Jonesville, Michigan

MARZEL
DRESS SHOPPE
1947 — 1978

- 1955 Family Variety Store — owned by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rockey until 1961.
- 1955 Jonesville Paper Tube Corporation was started by A.G. Schaerer and W.W. Schray with 1,800 square feet of floor space. The business has expanded six times in twenty years, to where total floor space now is 29,000 square feet and thirty-five people are employed. Jonesville Paper Tube manufactures small diameter spiral wound paper tubes used in industrial packaging. Customers are located in all 48 continental states and Canada.
- 1956 Addison Products — The original Jonesville plant which consisted of approximately 57,000 square feet started production of air conditioning systems in the summer of 1956 and employed less than one hundred and fifty people. Addison Products of Jonesville now occupies approximately one-half million square feet and has as many as 750 people on the payroll. Though not known to the general public, Addison Products is well known in the heating and air conditioning industry as the world's largest contracted manufacturer of air conditioning systems, producing systems under more than 125 different brand names.
- 1956 Jonesville Hotel — Mary Logee, operator.
- 1956 Bob and Mary Dunn purchased The Jonesville Independent from Kurt Ferguson.
- 1957 Strait's Flower Shop opened by Blanche Strait. In 1975 Jack and Bonnie Reamer bought the business and changed the name to the Blossom Shop. In 1976, they again changed the name to The Plant Nook.
- 1957 The new Post Office building at 112 Maumee Street was dedicated.
- 1957 The first load of Hillsdale County Oil leaves the Houseknecht well for shipment to Aurora, Ohio.
- 1957 Langs Construction Company — Frances Langs.
- 1958 Foster's Fashions was opened by Mr. and Mrs. Keith Foster. Ladies and teenage apparel offered for sale.
- 1959 Dr. William Adams, D.D.S., opened his first office where Porter's Shoes is now. In 1967, he moved to the new Professional Building on Harley Street.
- 1959 Triple A Tube — Chris Benzing, owner.
- 1959 Penrod's Barber Shop — Bill Penrod, owner.
- 1959 Robert J. Fogg Industries — manufacturers of farm equipment.
- 1960 Mr. Warren T. Burchfield purchased Holes Drug Store, but retained the store's name.
- 1960 The Cedars Tavern — Millie Rogers, owner and operator. In October of 1972, June Baldwin bought it, and in 1977 it was sold to Paul Reams.
- 1960 C.A. Perry & Son, Inc. — Clifford Perry and Alvin L. Perry, started this business which is involved in oil production.
- 1960 Jonesville Finance was opened by William and Maxine Briggs. It was sold to Home Loan Corporation in 1963, then to GAC Corporation in 1965, and finally closed in 1971.
- 1960 Kizer's IGA — owner and manager Burdette Kizer.
- 1960 Dobson Coin Laundry — owned by Don Dobson and his mother, Alma Dobson.
- 1961 Grosvenor Savings Bank was changed to Hillsdale County National Bank, Grosvenor Branch.
- 1961 Home Builders Realty — Frances Langs.
- 1961 Houseknecht Oil Producers, Inc. — George D. Houseknecht opened this service organization to operate and maintain oil and gas wells.
- 1961 Esterline's Appliance Service — owned and operated by Lloyd Esterline.
- 1961 Houseknecht Drilling Company.
- 1961 Bisel's 5 cent to \$1.00 Store — owned by Kenneth M. Bisel.
- 1962 Consumers Power Company's new building was opened on M-99.
- 1962 Scott Drilling Company — owned by Don Scott.
- 1962 Sloan's Beauty Shop — Mrs. Virginia Sloan, owner and operator.
- 1962 The Book House was opened by Jack and Lois Ansett.

THE BOOK HOUSE

The Book House was established in Jonesville in 1962 by Jack and Lois Ansett to sell books at wholesale and retail. In the beginning years the only helpers were the owners and their four children: John, Tim, Karen and Kathy. By 1967, one full-time employee, Mrs. Margaret Loveless, and several other part-timers were employed. Later on, Bill Irvin, now in business farming with his father, joined The Book House and spent over three years making significant contributions in a rapid growth phase of the business.

Started in one room of the old house at 208 W. Chicago Street, sales increases led to using two rooms, then four rooms, then the basement and any other available space. In 1971, a 26-square foot building was added to the facilities to handle the increasing volume.

This page sponsored by

THE BOOK HOUSE
Supplying any book in print
to academic libraries
all over the world.

**THE TIP-OFF
SHOPPING GUIDE**
J. R. and Elaine Carson

THE PLANT NOOK
Flowers
and
Gifts

**HOME BUILDERS
REALTY**
Jonesville o Hillsdale

In 1972, Ed Lockman joined the firm and was later named Vice-President of Sales and Marketing. John Ansett was added to the staff in 1975, and became Vice-President of Finance and Operations. Other key personnel include Mrs. Mary Louise Weber, office manager; and Mrs. Linda Hamisfar, head of customer service. Total employees, including non-resident agents number eighteen presently.

Over 98% of the more than 150,000 books sold by The Book House annually are shipped to academic and research libraries. Customers are located in thirty of the United States ranging from California to Massachusetts, and from Florida and Texas to the Canadian border. Foreign accounts are in Canada, Rhodesia, Chile, Taiwan, Japan, Ethiopia, and India, with the largest overseas volume going to Brazil. The Book House is considered by knowledgeable library buyers to be among the best firms for accurate early completion of orders for any book printed in the United States or Canada. Continuing growth is seen and attributed to the conscientious-type employee available in Jonesville and the surrounding area.

* * * * *

- 1963 Lettie's Shoppe of Beantee — Lettie McKibbin, owner and operator.
- 1963 Varnum's Drugs was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Leo Holmes.
- 1964 Dog 'n Suds was purchased by Bill and Maxine Briggs. In 1973, Bruce and Shirley Sayer bought the business; and in 1976, Thomas Evans purchased it. He remains the owner.
- 1964 Elkins Welding — Roy and Frank Elkins.
- 1965 Dave's Custom Butchering opened by David and Jean Howell. This business closed in 1973.
- 1965 Varnum's Drugs was sold to Ken Briggs.
- 1965 John's Body Shop — John Bricker.
- 1965 Shell Gas Station opened by Victor Groves.
- 1966 Dr. Ward Powers, M.D., opened a family practice in Jonesville, which he continued until 1975.
- 1966 Jonesville Party Store — Mary Logee.
- 1966 HTM Division of Hillsdale Tool and Manufacturing Company opened. The initial plant contained 12,000 square feet of space and employed six men. Within two years the plant was doubled to 24,000 square feet and then doubled again in 1970. In August 1972, another 24,000 square feet was added and offices were built in 1974. The plant now employs 238 people and is the largest Hillsdale Tool plant, whose products are primarily components for the automotive and truck industry.
- 1966 Mark I Molded Plastics established, to manufacture injection molded plastics.
- 1967 Merryknoll Appliance Company, George Griffiths, owner. Son, John, became a partner in the business in January 1978.
- 1967 Raeff's Round Table and Steak House was opened by Danny Raeff. In July, 1976, William Adair purchased the restaurant and lounge and changed the name to Adair's Round Table and Steak House.
- 1967 A new medical building was built for Dr. Louie Foster, D.O., Dr. William Adams, D.D.S., and Dr. William Addison, D.D.S. In 1969, Dr. Michael Biddle, D.O., joined Dr. Foster. Dr. Robert Mitchell, D.D.S., moved into the building in 1975.
- 1967 Croad Asphalt Paving and Seal Coat — Ray Croad.
- 1967 Holmes Auto Dealership — Don and Onnilee Holmes.
- 1967 Miller's TV — Walt Miller.
- 1968 The Tip Off Shopping Guide was purchased from Tom and Ila Smith of Litchfield by J.R. and Elaine Carson. Distribution of the publication has grown from 3900 weekly in 1968 to the present number of 18,300 weekly covering Hillsdale County and fringe market areas.
- 1968 Gerald Hennessy purchased Ken's Drug Store.
- 1968 Scott and Associates opened an office with Home Builders Realty.
- 1969 Bob's Plywood Mart, Inc. — Robert Williams, owner and manager.
- 1969 Village Motors opened by Bill Briggs, next to the Dog 'n Suds. The business was moved in 1976 to its location on the west side of town.
- 1969 Lewis Photo Service — Bill Lewis.
- 1969 Marathon Station — Company owned.
- 1969 Boron Station — Company owned.
- 1969 Helmick Realty — Jean Helmick.
- 1969 Heath Grocery — Red and Louise Heath, owners.
- 1969 Mickey's Beauty Shop — Mickey Wilson, owner.
- 1969 Standard Oil Company, fuel supply — company owned. In 1975, Jerry Briner bought the franchise and changed the name to Briner's Oil Company.
- 1969 J.O. Well Service, Inc., owned by John Osborne, began operation to test and service gas and oil wells.
- 1970 Country Squire Barber and Style was built in

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DOCTORS WILLIAM ADAMS, WILLIAM ADDISON
AND LOUIS FOSTER

- 1970 and operated by Dave Ricketts until 1972 when Tom Ringle bought the business.
- 1970 Evergreen Estates Mobile Home Park — Jim Baker, owner.
- 1971 Mill Race Golf Course opened by Paul Jones, Sr.
- 1971 Benedict's Restaurant — Opal and Ellis Benedict.
- 1971 Big D Variety — Dick Hruska, owner.
- 1972 BilCor Plastics — William Kroa leased the building in June for the purpose of starting a plastic injection molding plant. It started with one injection molding machine and three employees. Presently there are nine injection molding machines and forty-five employees. In 1977, the building was purchased and an additional 6,000 square foot warehouse was erected.
- 1972 The Theater was sold to The Broad Street Players.
- 1972 The Pizza Factory — Fred Allen, owner.
- 1972 Club Time Tunnel was moved to its Water Street location.
- 1972 Croad Asphalt Paving sold to Ralph Lucas.
- 1972 J.R. Headers Company moved to the Kiddie Brush and Toy Building.
- 1973 Jonesville Garbage Service — owner, Ralph Lucas.
- 1973 The Violin Shop — Mrs. Dorothy Ansett opened a shop in back of The Book House.
- 1973 Hillsdale Disposal Company — Don and Bev Wilson, owners.
- 1973 Richard Hill Associates — Richard Hill, management consultant.
- 1973 Clothesline Laundromat.
- 1973 Osborn's Western Store and Training Center — John Osborn, owner.
- 1973 Pedco, heavy equipment contractor, was established by Alvin J. Perry.
- 1973 Farmers Petroleum moved to Jonesville from Hillsdale. A division of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Farmers Petroleum supplies gas and fuel oil for farm use. A gas station is also operated at the M-99 location.
- 1974 Beck Realty — Virgil Beck, Jr., broker.
- 1974 Hennessy's Drug Store was sold to Tom Walton and Eleanore Haddix. The store name was changed to Jonesville Drugs.
- 1974 Beebe Funeral Home name was changed to Beebe-Putman Funeral Home. In 1978, it became the Beebe Chapel, VanHorn-Eagle Funeral Home.
- 1975 Power Monitoring, Inc. — Fred Rockey and Art Fish began business to sell and install single phasing equipment for three phase motors.
- 1975 Jonesville Auto Trim and Upholstery — Lee Kelly, owner and operator.
- 1975 Mosherville Meat Processing — Dave and Jean Howell.
- 1975 Control Technology — Jack Evans developed the Sky Eye Tornado Warning System.
- 1975 Risk Iron and Metal Company — Glenn Risk, manager.
- 1975 Newsstand — Darlene and Donald Elliott. In 1976, the business was sold to Jerry Barnett.
- 1975 Litchfield-Jonesville Lanes — Frank Molinaro.
- 1975 Dr. Wayne Fischer took over Dr. James Burton's Jonesville Chiropractic Clinic.
- 1975 J & J Country Market opened by Bud and June Peel and Les and Johncie Hutchinson in the former Vescio's store.
- 1975 Dr. Benjamin Frank, M.D. opened a family practice in Dr. Powers' office.
- 1975 Gessner's TV repair — Richard and Donna Gessner, owners.
- 1975 Playford Auto Parts — owned and operated by Ron and Myrna Playford.
- 1975 The Blue Ribbon Motel was sold to Gerald Sumner.
- 1976 Branch County Savings and Loan built a branch office on the corner of M-99 and US-12.
- 1976 Interdyne, Inc. — Tony Slovacek, President, manufacturer of dynamic rubber components.
- 1976 Playford Music — Craig Playford, owner. The store sells sheet music, pianos and other musical instruments. Music instruction is also given at the store.
- 1976 Flair With Hair — James and Janis Franklin, owners; Janis Franklin, operator.
- 1976 Hill Realty — Clair Hill and Bob Hosier, brokers.
- 1977 Riverview Cafe sold to Leona Harran.
- 1977 Porter's Shoes — Jerry Porter, owner; Elaine Mick, manager.
- 1977 Walters Confections was opened by Wilbur Walters in March of 1977.
- 1977 James Bailey, Certified Public Accountant.
- 1977 National Memorial Stone Company — Jack and Bonnie Reamer are the local representatives for the Ohio-based company.
- 1977 Jonesville Hotel sold to Kaj Larsen.
- 1977 Howard C. Stross, Attorney at Law.
- 1978 Sauk Trail Market, formerly Sid's Market and Jack's Market, opened by Roger Rogers.

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JONESVILLE DRUGS
And Gift Store
Eleanore — Tom
and Staff

PLAYFORD
MUSIC COMPANY
Craig and Kathy Playford

JONESVILLE GARBAGE
SERVICE, INC.
Residential and Commercial Containers
Ralph Lucas, President

VILLAGE GOVERNMENT

Jonesville was officially chartered as a village on February 10, 1855*. The first meeting of the Common Council was held two months later, with George C. Munro presiding. Trustees at that time were E. O. Grosvenor, John Gardner, Luther L. Tucker, William M. Hammond, and R. G. Spalding. Appointed to key positions by the first village officials were Mose A. Funk, Marshall; Richard S. Varnum, Treasurer; and Henry Baxter, Street Commissioner.

The same system of government has remained to the present - a Village President, Clerk, and Treasurer elected to two-year terms; and a Village Council composed of six members elected to four-year terms. Currently, our village officials are: G. Carl Fast, President; Doris Pfau, Clerk; and Howard Lawrence, Treasurer; Joseph Dellinger, Terrance Fleetham, Harry James, Dennis Howard, Roger Godfrey, and Claude Drake, Council members.

Former Village Presidents include:

1855 George C. Munro
1856 J. Button
1857 Witter J. Baxter
1858 E. O. Grosvenor
1859 Lewis Wales
1860 William W. Murphy
1861 S. R. Smith
1862 Henry Clark
1863 George C. Munro
1864 A. Beach
1865 Lewis H. Turner
1866 G. M. Gardner
1867 John H. Lewis
1868 G. Knapp
1869-70 John Lewis
1871-72 Lorenzo D. Green
1873 Lucius Buell
1874-75 Harley J. Olds
1876 ?
1877 William W. Wade
1878 Robert T. Miller
1879 George W. Mosher
1880 James H. Wade
1881-82 William W. Wade
1883 ?
1884 ?
1885 E. D. Howard

1886 C. P. McEnally
1887 I. R. Bentz
1888-90 Gustavus F. Smith
1891-92 Edgar A. Wisner
1893 David L. Powers
1894-95 H. M. Warren
1896-98 George V. Deal
1899 Charles Wade
1900-01 Silas Glasgow
1902 Edgar Wisner
1903-04 H. M. Warren
1905 S. D. McNeal
1906 McKering
1907-08 William Wetmore
1909-10 Burton E. Poor
1911-12 L. V. Carpenter
1913-14 Charles G. White
1915-16 Oliver S. White
1917-19 W. M. Glasgow
1920-21 Freeland G. Varnum
1922-23 L. A. Rainey
1924-26 A. H. Dudley
1927-28 M. Grill
1929 A. H. Dudley
1930-31 R. E. Squier
1932 Charles B. Lang
1933 L. A. Rainey
1934-35 Neil J. Simpson
1936 R. E. Squier
1937-42 Ralph M. Powers
1943-44 Warren A. Smith
1945-47 Richard S. Varnum
1948-49 Ray Manning
1950 George B. Clark
1951-53 Clifton Wert
1954-55 Claude Blair
1956-57 Ruel VanWert
1958-59 Henry Varnum
1960-61 Charles Berkimer
1962-63 Gilbert Bartell
1964 Paul Wilkinson
1965-66 Graydon Fast
1967 Jon M. Fast
1968-69 Art Fiebig
1970-78 G. Carl Fast

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

As the village of Jonesville flourished and grew in size and population, it became necessary to establish a system of maintaining law and order. Ordinances outlining local regulations were passed, and officials elected to see that the laws were enforced. Many men have taken on this job over the years, from the appointed "Justice of the Peace" in the very early years, through the Marshal and Chief of Police of more recent times. Records are incomplete, but these are the names of some of the men who have served as Jonesville's Village Marshal: 1855—Mose A. Funk (first official elected Marshal); 1857—John Moore, Jr.; 1859—Willis Tuller; 1860—Robert A. Sinclair; 1863—John Frisbee; 1896—E. W. Risedorph; 1897—Nelson R. Cook; 1898—Harry C. Randolph; 1899—Michael Phinney; 1901—W. P. Langdon; 1903—William Beard; 1905—George H. Blossom; 1909—E. Godfrey; 1910—Selley J. Snook (offices of Marshal and Street Commissioner combined); 1912—E. Dentz; 1913—W. Cooley; 1914—Charles Sparks; 1922—William Byard (served until 1928); 1928—Clinton Strait (served until 1936).

In 1946, Fred M. Dickensheets was hired by the village to fill the new post of Superintendent of Public Works, and also to serve as Village Marshal. He had one part-time helper, and a night-watch officer. The first patrol car was the private car of Chief Dickensheets, being leased from him by the village. The first official police car was purchased in 1954; it was a green Ford. Dickensheets remained as chief for thirty years. During part of that time, he served as a Hillsdale County Deputy Sheriff as well. On June 1, 1977, Fred Dickensheets retired, but he will always be remembered by many as "Chief".

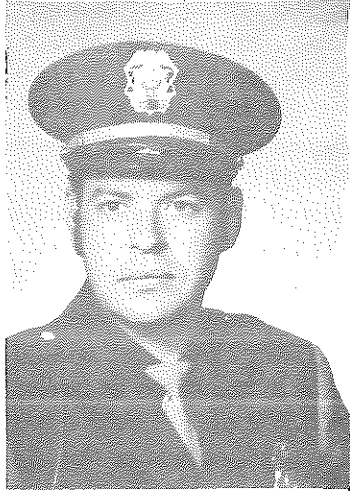
At one time, the village had a "lock-up" behind the fire barn. It was used for a while by tramps and drifters who needed a place to sleep. Word got around tramp circles, and sometimes as many as ten or twelve were there to spend the night. The old jail, which has since been remodeled for use as a kitchen for the fire department, had quite a history. A Village Marshal was once murdered there by a violent prisoner.

The village has grown and so has the Police Department. The present village police officers are: Chief,



First Jonesville Patrol Car — 1954 Green Ford

Gerald M. Hicks; Assistant Chief, Charlie Gutowski; Sergeant, Samuel L. Ramey; Patrolman, Charles Boone; Patrolmen, Charles Boone, Leon Booher, Roger Beebe, and Ralph Haas.



Chief Gerald Hicks

A force of auxiliary police was established in 1968. Gerald Hicks, William Addison and Roger Beebe were the men who set up this organization. Currently, the auxiliary police include: William Addison, Lawrence Jose, George Schutes, Bruce Sayer, Gerald Langs, Eugene Stemen, Thomas Lennox, Philip Mosher, Jess Bumpus, and Gerald Chase.

As has been mentioned, village ordinances were passed spelling out regulations which the townspeople had to follow. The ordinance book can, at times, be interesting reading. Here are some of the more colorful examples taken from the Book of Ordinance of the Village of Jonesville:

The Village of Jonesville ordains that An Ordinance in Relation to Hitching Horses in the Streets and Playing Ball in the Parks and Streets, passed October 10, 1869, and known as By-Law No. 32, be and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Section 1. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to leave any horse kind, in harness, in any street within corporate limits of the village, unless such horse shall be securely fastened or hitched to some suitable hitching post or railing.



Asst. Chief Charlie Gutowski

Section 2. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to play at any game of ball or any other sport in the public park, or any church enclosure within the village.

Section 3. It shall not be lawful for any person or persons to fly any kite, or play at any game of ball or any sport with a ball, on Chicago, Maumee, Evans, or West Streets, in said village.

Section 4. Any person in violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine not exceeding ten (10) dollars, and in default of payment thereof may be confined in the county jail of Hillsdale County, Michigan for a period not exceeding twenty (20) days.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect on September 20, 1896.

* * * * *



Patrolman Charles Boone



Patrolman Ralph Haas



Sergeant Samuel Ramey

All dogs running at large within the corporation of the village of Jonesville during the months of June, July, August and September without being muzzled will be killed.

—William Cooley, Marshal
October 6, 1869

An ordinance relative to the Hitching of Domestic Animals in the Public Streets and Alleys of the Village of Jonesville. (Passed July 9, 1900)

The Village of Jonesville ordains:

Section 1. No person shall allow any horse, cow, calf, or other animal owned by him (or her) to feed or graze on the public streets or alleys within the corporate limits of the village of Jonesville.

Section 2. No person shall tie, hitch, fasten, or picket any animal in any public street or alley within the corporate limits of the village of Jonesville. Provided, that such regulation shall not apply to horses or other animals when hitched to vehicles or under saddle.



Patrolman Leon Booher

Section 3. No person shall tie, hitch, or picket any horse, cow, colt, or other animal in such position as will admit of their standing upon the sidewalks or paths, or grazing upon the streets in said village of Jonesville.

An Ordinance Forbidding Minors Under the Age of Fifteen Years from Being Upon the Public Streets and Alleys of the Village after Certain Hours. (Passed July 20, 1896).

The village of Jonesville ordains as follows:

Section 1. No minor under the age of fifteen (15) years shall be or remain upon any of the public streets or alleys, nor shall they loiter or linger about any of the public or private buildings of said village adjacent to such public streets or alleys, after the hour of nine (9) o'clock, local time, in the evening, or before the hour of five (5) o'clock in the morning, of



Patrolman Roger Beebe

any day from the first day of April to the first day of November in each year, unless the said minor be in the company of his or her parents, parent or guardian of said minor, or except such minor be passing along such street or alley without stopping or loitering and by the express permission of the parent or guardian of said minor upon some errand or business of such parent or guardian.

An Ordinance Regulating the Opening and Closing of Ball Alleys (Bowling Alleys). (Passed December 28, 1900).

Section 1. All Ball Alleys, commonly called Bowling Alleys, located within the corporate limits of the village of Jonesville, shall be closed at nine (9) o'clock in the afternoon of each day and remain closed until seven (7) o'clock of the following forenoon. Provided, that such Alleys shall be permitted to remain open on Saturday afternoon until the hour of ten (10) o'clock.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect on the 18th day of January, 1901.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The
Jonesville
Fire Company
Engine
House,
built in
1869.



On the 24th of October, 1856, a petition was received by the Common Council from citizens of Jonesville, asking that the village be divided into five wards, and a fire company formed. At a special meeting on the 28th of the same month, it was . . .

“Resolved, that we are in favor of petitioning the Legislature to so alter the charter of said village as to allow the voters, at their election in March, to vote to raise a special tax of not to exceed \$3,000 for the purpose of purchasing a fire engine and other apparatus for the extinguishing of fire, in accordance with the petition presented for the signatures of the Common Council.

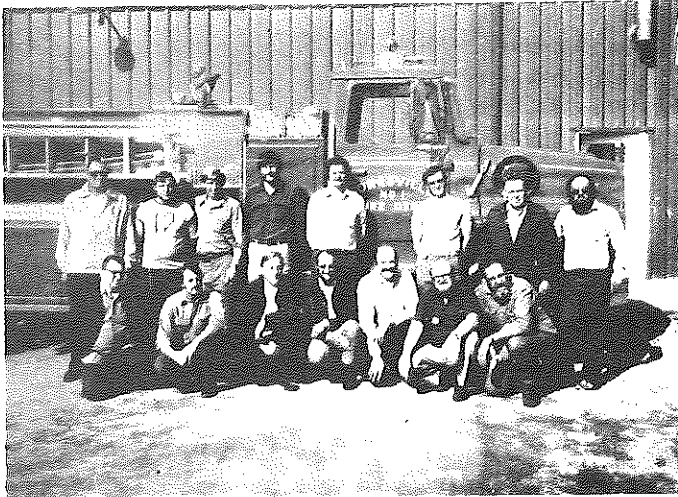
“Resolved, that the recorder be, and is hereby instructed to draw an ordinance dividing the village into four fire districts, and for the appointing of five wardens, and for other purposes.”

At a meeting held March 4, 1857, the recorder was instructed to draw an ordinance in relation to organizing a fire company, and it was decided to appropriate from the general fund of the assessment of 1857 the sum of \$500 for purchasing a fire engine. E. O. Grosvenor, R. S. Varnum, and George Munro were authorized to purchase an engine, with necessary apparatus belonging to it, to cost, delivered in the

village, not over \$1,500. A fire company was appointed that same day.

The company, as duly organized, was called “Protection Company No. 1.” The engine was first kept in the Munro barn at an annual rental of \$10. A committee was appointed, July 1, 1857, to choose a location for an engine-house and firemen’s hall.

“Protection Hose Company No. 1” was organized August 5, 1857, with twenty members, and attached to the engine company. The committee on engine-house was on the same date ordered to receive proposals for the erection of a brick engine-house, 24’ x 36’, and one story high. The engine and hose cart were just purchased at a cost of \$1,339.82. The old Presbyterian session hall and lot were finally bought by the Council, and the building repaired for use as an engine-house. The building was later used as a marble shop. Numerous wells were dug for the use of the public and the fire department, and a cupola was built on the engine-house and a large triangle hung in it in lieu of a bell. The old hose company was disbanded in 1860, and a new one organized the same month with twenty-four members, but as the



The present Jonesville Fire Department, posed in front of the fire station.

organizations were not kept up in due form, both the engine and hose companies were declared disbanded on March 3, 1862. The building and lot were sold to S. Gregory and bonds to the amount of \$3,000 were issued, bearing interest at seven percent, for the purpose of building a town hall and engine-house combined, and the structure was erected the same year.

On the morning of December 23, 1864, the building was burned out of existence. Immediate steps were taken for rebuilding, however. Bonds were issued and the work begun. The result was a commodious edifice on the old site, at the northwest corner of Maumee and Chicago Streets. The Masonic lodge room was on the third story, since they furnished a portion of the funds necessary to the erection of both the old and new buildings.

A new fire company was organized in April, 1869, with fifty members, and a new engine-house was built in the fall of the same year. That building was torn down in the early 1970's and replaced by the present fire barn located in front of the old Waterworks building.

At various times the village suffered seriously from fires, many of its old landmarks having been swept away. On several occasions the Hillsdale Fire Department has had to be called in to assist.

The present fire department is comprised of: R. Tittle, Chief; M. Zink and P. Dobson, Assistant Chiefs; G. Turner; F. Bordner; P. Bradshaw; N. Finegan; J. Fowler; D. Heath; J. Hicks; P. Howard; B. Lohness; C. McLain; T. McNicholas; L. Morton; D. Pope; M. Powers; J. Russell; P. Sackett; R. Turner.

* * * * *

ORGANIZATIONS

There are many organizations active in Jonesville today. Some of them are service clubs whose projects and activities provide support for the community, such as donating equipment to the schools, purchasing eyeglasses for children with vision problems, planting flowers in the park, and many more worthwhile undertakings. Other clubs are designed to provide recreation and fellowship for the members. With the wide variety of organizations in existence, the community itself and the lives of many of the townspeople are greatly enriched.

- Boy Scouts
- Camera Club
- Chamber of Commerce
- Child Study Club
- Comet Boosters Club
- Culture Club
- Friends of the Library

- Girl Scouts
- Investigators Club
- Jonesville Co-Operative Nursery School, Inc.
- Jonesville Heritage Association, Inc.
- Jonesville Jills Extension Club
- Jonesville Junior Jills Extension Club
- Jonesville Volunteer Fire Department
- Junior Fayette Extension Club
- Lions Club
- Masonic Lodge
- Moscow Plains Study Club
- Mosherville Grange
- Order of Eastern Star
- Rotary Club
- Senior Citizens Club
- Thursday Social Club
- Wednesday Social Club
- Woman's Club

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MAY'S FURNITURE

Jonesville



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COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The first school in Jonesville was opened in the fall of 1832, in a bedroom of the Benaiah Jones Tavern at the northwest corner of Chicago and Water Street. The following fall, in 1833, school was held in a log structure known as "Bell House" on Maumee Street. Benjamin L. Baxter, at age eighteen, was the first teacher of a district school in Hillsdale County. Among his pupils that year was a son of Chief Baw Beese.

During the summer of 1834, a 12' x 14' log school house was erected on Chicago Street on the present site of the Episcopal and Presbyterian Church yards. This building served as a school on weekdays and a church on Sundays. Classes were held for five months during the winter with a male teacher, and for five months during the summer with a female teacher. One year later, a frame building was constructed southeast of the log one. It was moved in 1852, to a site just north of the present high school building.

In 1857, the first two-story brick building was erected and opened by A. S. Welch, a graduate of the University of Michigan. This building measured 30' x 60', boasted a cupola and bell and cost \$3000 to erect. Soon after completion additions were built, but eventually even the halls had to be used as classrooms.



Jonesville Community School as built in 1869.



A classroom of the school built in 1869.

Prior to the year 1859, school funds were raised by the payment of tuition; but this year that system was abandoned, and all money necessary for school support was raised by taxes. A large three-story brick building was constructed in 1869, on the northeast corner of Chicago and East Streets. The cost of this structure was \$40,000, including the building, heating, and seating, but excluding land. There were nine classrooms, all furnished with the best seats, desks and school furniture available. This building remained the same over the next several decades. Because of increased enrollment and overcrowding, many school elections were held to authorize additions or a new school, but these were always defeated. For example, on October 2, 1922, a special vote was taken on the proposal to borrow \$125,000 for construction of a new school. The issue was defeated: 84 yea votes, 213 nay.

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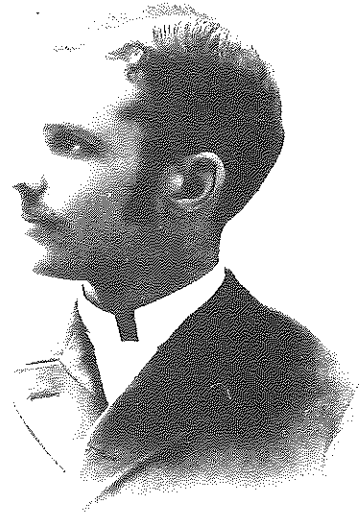
GRILL HARDWARE COMPANY
217 East Chicago Street
Jonesville

LANGS' STORE
R. D., Dorene, Jerry and Jill Langs

THE HOUCHEN FAMILY
Howard, Mary, Amy and Sara



F. B. McClellan

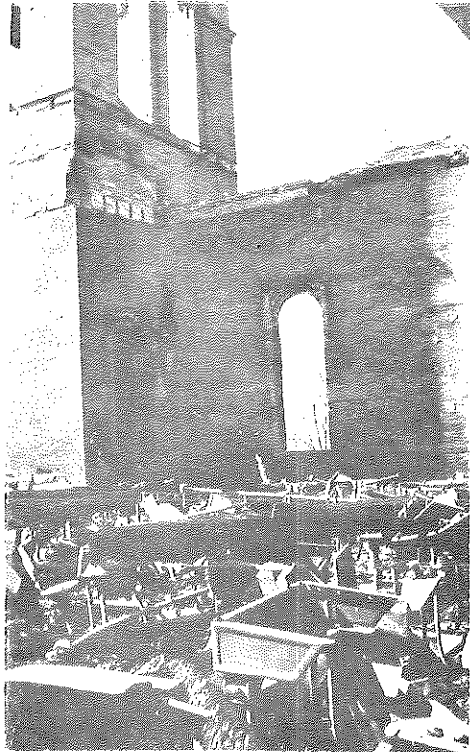


W. D. Hill

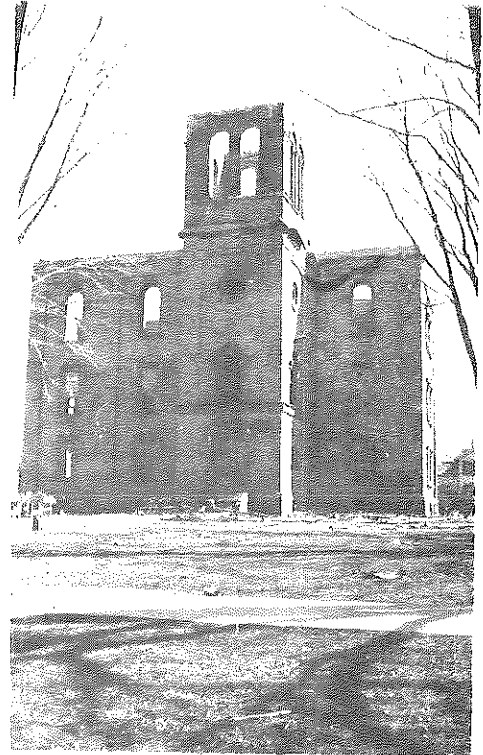
Former Superintendents at Jonesville Schools.



Seventh and eighth grade class, 1898.



AFTER
THE
FIRE



Six months later, in April of 1923, fire caused by defective wires broke out. The building was destroyed. The academic year was finished by holding classes in rooms elsewhere in town. The school board granted the authority to purchase about five acres of land north and east of the land already owned by the district, at a cost not to exceed \$350,000.

Construction of a new school was begun in 1924, and completed in 1925. The building was made ready for occupancy during the Christmas holiday. As of that time, \$130,517.61 had been expended on the new school. Part of the walls of the original red brick building that were left standing were incorporated in the new structure. These walls can be seen on the north side of the present building.

In 1929, the Jonesville school fulfilled the necessary requirements of the North Central Association and was granted membership to that association. This membership placed the school on the list of accredited schools and allowed graduates to enter college without having to take entrance examinations.

During the depression years, concessions had to be made to the financial hardships forced on everyone. In 1932, teachers received a 10% cut in salary. The following year, three teachers were let go and the remaining eleven accepted another 50% cut in the salaries paid them the previous year. But with the

help of federal government projects, the picture began to brighten. In 1934, the teachers' salaries were increased by 50%. With approval as a welfare relief project, the school grounds were graded and two tennis courts were built, and the interior of the school was repainted.

The first school band was organized in 1936, and in 1937, land was acquired for an athletic field and track. Also the first school bus, capable of carrying forty-two passengers, was purchased in 1939.

During the mid-1940's, preliminary work was begun on the consolidation of schools in the area. On January 16, 1947, the name "Jonesville Community School" was officially adopted, with "Fayette District One" as the legal identification.

To keep step with the increasing enrollment, the north building which contains the present commercial rooms and home economics suite was added in 1952. By 1957, the increase of the elementary school enrollment had become so great that it was necessary to build the Emily B. Williams Elementary School at the southern edge of Jonesville. This building was named in honor of Mrs. Emily (Bentz) Williams, who graduated from Jonesville High School in 1908, and returned to the Jonesville Schools to spend thirty-five years of her professional career as teacher and principal. Also in 1957, the Chicago Street gymnasium,



Emily Bentz Williams

vocational agriculture classroom and shop area were constructed.

It became necessary to expand Williams School, so in 1965, an addition was built. Its floor plan included an educational innovation known as the centrum — classrooms clustered around a central area with sliding walls making those rooms capable of opening directly on to that center. At about the same time, the high school halls and floors were renovated. The alley in back of the band room was built into practice rooms and office space; and the library was expanded to its present size.

In the years since, three “portable” units have been added on the land behind the high school. One houses the superintendent’s office and two serve as classrooms. On various occasions in the last several years, elections have been held on proposals to build a new school, but those proposals have been defeated.

The curriculum programs in effect now at Jonesville’s schools are carefully designed to instruct and challenge the individual students in all areas of academics. The elementary program, beginning in kindergarten and continuing on through the sixth grade, provides a multi-sensory learning approach to all subjects — reading, mathematics, science, social studies, music, and health. Instruction at each grade level provides the foundation for more intense or expanded study at the next level.

In the area of physical education, Williams Elementary School has the distinction of being a certified demonstration center, one of only five such centers in the state of Michigan. The President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports was established in 1956, to promote improved health and fitness for the American public. One of the ways of accomplishing this is

by recognizing outstanding programs of physical education and designating those schools as demonstration centers which “showcase” their programs and allow visitation in their schools. In the fall of 1976, Williams Elementary School in Jonesville received this certification.

As somewhat of an “off-shoot” of the physical education program, a “Parcours Trail” was developed on the land adjacent to Williams School. The first one in Hillsdale County, it resulted from the combined efforts of the Village Recreation Committee, the school, and Mrs. Sue Carlisle, phys-ed instructor at Williams. The one and one-quarter mile course opened in September of 1976. It consists of a trail with nineteen different exercise stations along the way. Each station has a sign explaining the exercise.

The Parcours has attracted a number of people. Some just walk the course, enjoying nature along the way. Others are serious joggers who do the exercises as illustrated on the signs, run up the ramps, and jump across the ditch. Everyone who has visited the Parcours is enthused about it. It is a good place to get some exercise, enjoy nature, and generally feel good.



Jonesville High School's Baseball Team — 1910

Back row, left to right: Claud Chilson, Merle Moffett, Chauncey Burnett, Harry Carr, Volney Stuck — Superintendent, Cocky Colvin, Jay Deal, Woody Woodward.

Front row, left to right: Hal Sudborough, Euzell Allen, Glen Dobson, Earl Rackore, Clarence Swanger.

The elementary school has a Title I program to provide extra help for children with reading problems. A "Resource Room" provides highly individualized instruction for educable mentally impaired children, aged six to twelve.

Williams Elementary also houses Hillsdale County Intermediate School District's classroom for the physically handicapped. To qualify for this program, the children must be physically handicapped to the extent that they cannot function in a regular classroom. They are capable of academic learning, though progress is often slow due to frequent illness or hospitalization. The curriculum is much the same as that in the regular classroom. In addition, the children receive physical therapy daily to aid in rehabilitation.

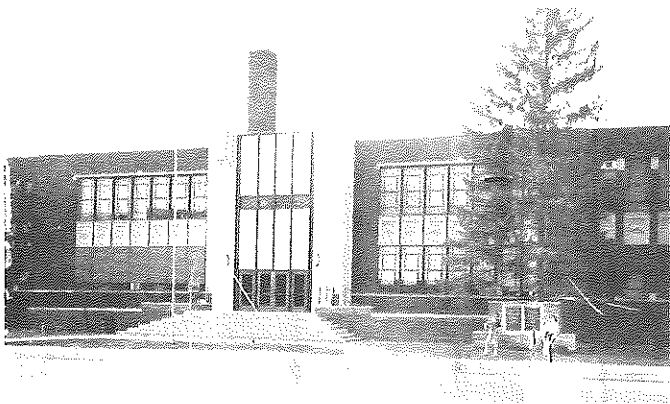
Also housed at Williams School is the Hearing Impaired classroom. Here, students age six to ten with severe to profound hearing losses are taught orally.

They must use their hearing and voices; they do not use sign language. Good speech and language is emphasized in all their subjects and activities.

In the Junior High School, the students are given the opportunity to sample elective courses, such as Art, Spanish, Home Economics, Music and Shop, in addition to the basic courses of the curriculum.

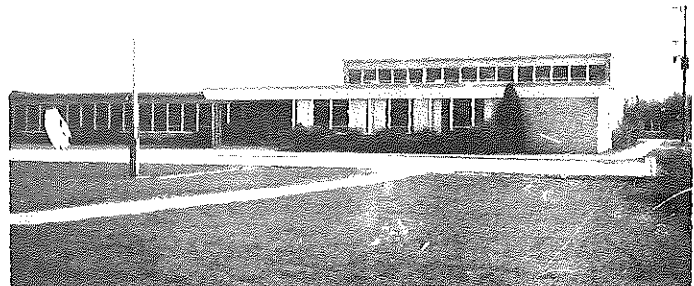
The High School course offerings are designed to prepare the students either for college, for commercial or business careers, or for a particular vocation.

With the wide variety of courses available to students, the carefully trained instructors, and the innovative techniques in education today, Jonesville Community Schools have come a long way from the little log schoolhouse of the 1800's. Teaching the young people of today to prepare them for tomorrow may well be the most important job any community has. At Jonesville, we can be proud of having such a fine school system to handle that job.



EMILY B. WILLIAMS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

JONESVILLE
HIGH SCHOOL



This page sponsored by

VILLAGE MOTORS



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The Jonesville High School Orchestra, 1907-1908.

Standing, left to right: Chauncey Burnett, Dewitt Dudley, — — — — —,
Clarence Swanger, Nina Langdon, Harold LeFevre, Albert LeFevre.
Seated: Richard Varnum, Alice Kirby, Margery Godfrey, Jay Deal.
On floor: Sterling Withington.



The High School Girls' Basketball Team,

1908.

JONESVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY

JONESVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY

(Written by Mrs. Nina Pope and Mrs. Kay Lohness)

In the spring of 1873, several Jonesville ladies were reading "Dickens's Works" together and formed a reading club. Each of the twenty-one members purchased one book. Then on the first and fifteenth of each month they would exchange books. Therefore, they could each read twenty-one books for the price of one. This arrangement worked so well that a second club was organized, one on the east side of the river and one on the west. Establishing a library was discussed at that time.

One afternoon in June of 1873, Miss Nellie Baxter and Miss Annie Lewis sat under the trees of the Baxter lawn, longing for something to do. Suddenly one of the girls suggested it would be fun to give a concert (They were both very musical young ladies). Immediately they began to plan the program. But, what would they do with the receipts? After some discussion, it was decided to use the money to start a ladies' library. Preparations were immediately begun, and it was announced that a concert would be given for the benefit of the "Ladies' Library Association", to be organized.

At last the momentous evening arrived. With the assistance of Mr. William Wade, the Town Hall was decorated with flags and flowers. The ladies were attired in their most fetching evening gowns. Assisted by Mr. Oliver Monroc, the ladies produced a vocal and instrumental success, to the enjoyment of a large audience. However, after all the bills were paid, only five dollars remained. This amount was placed in the custody of Miss Jane Sinclair, to be held until further steps could be taken to begin the library.

Finally on November 20, 1874, nearly a year-and-a-half after the concert, twenty-one ladies met in the parlor of Mrs. Chaddock's home to form a library. The Honorable W. J. Baxter met with them and wrote "The Articles of Confederation", which they each signed.

The first annual meeting of the library was held in the Methodist Church on December 14, 1874, and officers were elected. They were Mrs. Amelia Gardner, president; Miss Caroline Champlin, vice-president; Miss Angelia Ransom, recording secretary; Miss Nellie Baxter, corresponding secretary; and Miss Jane Sinclair, treasurer.

It was decided to accept the offer of Mr. R. A. Sin-

clair, postmaster, to house the library in the back-room of the post office. No rent would be charged. The only expense would be lighting. The post office was located where the west room of Grill Hardware is today. This was the home of the library until the post office moved across the street.

On January 9, 1875, the distribution of books began. Tickets were \$2.00 a year. Later, six-month tickets were also issued. Membership soon reached forty.

There were many gifts during the first year of operation. Books were given by the local reading clubs and interested Jonesville residents. Mr. A. F. Barnes donated seventy-five books and the Honorable E. O. Grosvenor donated a carpet and hanging lamp. All total, 667 books were received during the first year.

In 1878, the library was moved to rooms on the second floor of a building which stood on the northwest corner of Water Street and U.S. 12. A stove was donated by Dr. Warren. However, the only entrance to the new rooms was an outside stairway, which proved to be a hazard during winter weather. Therefore, the library was moved to the first floor of the building where Leonard's Camera Shop is now located. The lease was for five years beginning November 4, 1888. Rental was \$50.00 a year, paid quarterly.

It was difficult to keep a new library operating financially. So to assist in raising money for purchasing books and paying expenses, home talent shows were given in the Town Hall. One play, called "A Scrap Of Paper", was given in 1886, and listed admission at 10¢, reserved seats, 20¢.

In 1893, the library leased the three front rooms on the second floor of the building where the Jonesville Drugs is located today.

Finally in January of 1897, Mr. J. J. Deal presented a lot on Church Street as a site for a new library building. Miss Sarah Sinclair, Mrs. Ida Varnum, and Mrs. J. A. Sibbald were appointed to a building committee. The committee started subscription papers and canvassed the town and surrounding country to raise capital. In August of the same year, plans for the building were obtained from architects A. C. Varney and Co. of Detroit. The building contract was given to a local builder, Mr. F. M. McGowan, and Mr. Dudley Crampton. They were also asked to make two six-foot tables and one square table for the library. It was planned to place books in the south room and use the north room as a reception area.



On January 17, 1899, the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Ladies' Library Association Board was held in the newly completed building. The library is still housed in the same structure today. Total building cost was \$1339.75, and carried a debt of \$155.00. Less than a year later, Mrs. C. B. Stowell of Hudson sent a check for the remainder of the cost of the library. It was a memorial for her sister, Augusta Olds, one of the charter members of the library.

The book committee reported using \$9.96 for the purchase of books in 1899. All other money was contributed to the building fund. Tickets were then numbering 86.

In October of 1900, it was decided to keep the library open on Saturday nights. Mr. J. J. Deal had offered to purchase tickets for all of his employees if the library would open for their convenience.

The musical club held their regular meetings at the new library. Mrs. Annie Lewis Long rented the library to give music lessons and recitals. It was the headquarters for the Red Cross during World War I. In 1949, the Jonesville Woman's Club began to use the building for meetings.

In 1919, the library received its first check of \$100 from the Jonesville Village treasurer. That same year the name was changed from "The Ladies' Library Association" to the "Jonesville Library." The Dewey Decimal System was begun at that time with the help of Miss Nina Preston. A furnace was installed with money from the estate of Mrs. J. J. Deal in 1920.

During the early days, the members of the library board served as librarians. In addition to the librarian's normal duties, she also swept, dusted, built fires,

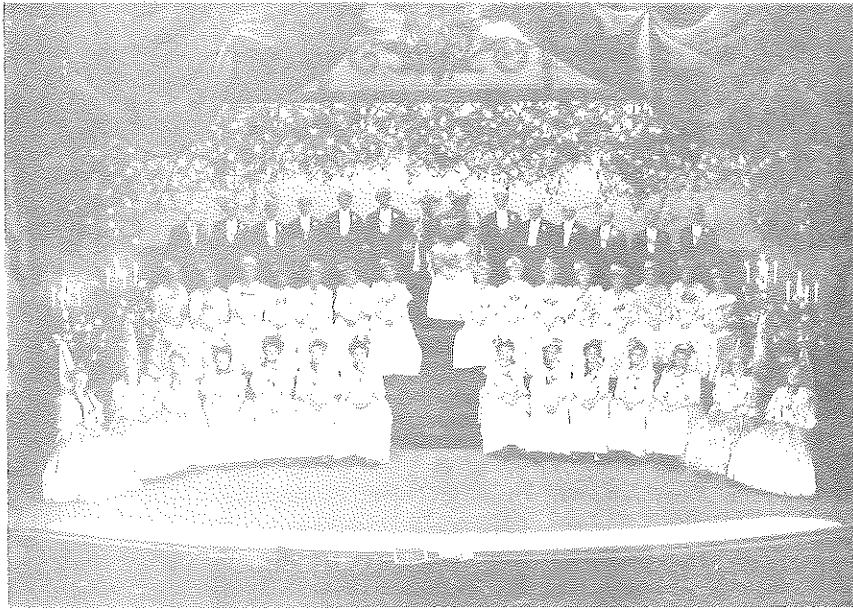
cleaned, and filled kerosene lamps. This was normally done without pay, but in 1880, it was voted to pay librarians \$1.00 per day when the budget permitted. A janitor was hired to build fires in 1899.

Unfortunately, there is not a complete list of past librarians. However, Mrs. Hattie White was the first. She was assisted by Miss Sarah Sinclair. Mrs. Adrian Smith was followed by Miss Irene Zook, who served from 1927 to 1959, a span of 32 years. Also serving the library were Mrs. Jamison Pulver, Mrs. Hugh Key, Mrs. Albert Pogats, and presently Mrs. William Lohness.

The historical scrapbooks originated in 1924, and now number 15 volumes. They have proved to be very useful to people wishing to investigate local history.

In August of 1938, Mrs. Wright from the Kellogg Foundation met with the library board. She explained that many books would be available to the library if they were made a distribution center. With the help of the WPA and NYA, this was begun in October of 1938. The library was open daily and the program continued until 1941, when the WPA and NYA assistance was discontinued. It was feared that one-day-a-week service was back; but through the efforts of the finance committee and many friends, the library was able to open four days a week.

In 1941, the "Memorial Shelf" was created. It increased to 300 volumes by 1945 and is still a very important part of the library collection today. Magazines were added to the services in 1930. The library survived a fire in the attic in 1946. Fortunately, very little damage was done and the area was soon repaired.



"The Colonial Troubadors" — a musical given for the benefit of the Jonesville Library about the year 1905-1906.

The Jonesville Child Study Club presented a collection of children's books and some low bookshelves to the library in 1950. The library board purchased some small chairs and a low table. Thus, the children's corner began. It was further encouraged by a subscription to "Junior Natural History" by the Moscow Plains Child Study Club.

The library has seen many improvements over the years. The building was completely rewired, new lighting was installed, more shelves added, a book-return box included, and chimney, roof and basement repaired. The most important change occurred on May 2, 1964, when the Jonesville Library became a District Library. Prior to that time, the association was directed by a board of fifteen village ladies. However, in 1964, the executive board voted to become a district library. The large board was dissolved and a four-member board established. Each term was to run for four years, with no one serving more than two terms. From that time on, the library has served and received support from Moscow, Scipio, and Fayette Townships, as well as the village of Jonesville.

It would be well to mention that many of the retired board members worked diligently and served on the board for many years. Mrs. Ione Varnum served for 38 years, Mrs. Mae Varnum 36, Mrs. Edna Fisk 35, Mrs. Donna Graves 33, Mrs. Mabel Bauerly 28,

Mrs. Margaret VanWert 22, Mrs. Nina Pope 19, Mrs. Emily Williams 14, and Mrs. Pauline Foulk 10.

Present board members are Mrs. David Pope, president; Mrs. Mike Fast, vice-president; Mrs. Gene Dunbar, secretary; and Mrs. James VanCamp, treasurer.

In 1964, the "Friends of the Library" organization was formed. "Friends" sponsor three story hour programs, the Artist-of-the-Month, mail out a newsletter, help with open houses and celebrations. They are a very important part of the library operation.

In addition to the large collection of books available now, there are also paperbacks, records, patterns, and magazines. Services from the State Library are also available.

The library is now open six days a week. Hours are Monday thru Friday, from 2:00 to 5:00; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:00 to 8:00; and Saturday from 9:00 to 1:00. There is no charge for library cards and hasn't been since 1938. Delivery to shut-ins is also available.

Story hours are held for pre-schoolers on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month from 2:00 to 2:45. Story hours for children kindergarten through third grades are held each Saturday from 10:00 to 11:00. A Mystery Hour is available for youngsters fourth, fifth, and sixth grades each Saturday from 11:15 to 12:15.

Judy Leising



Kay Lohness

Present Librarians

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J & J COUNTRY MARKET

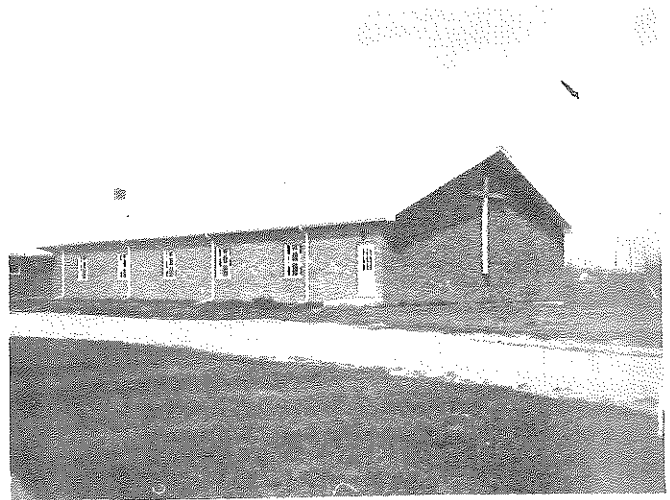
Bud and June Peel — — Les and Johnnie Hutchinson

CHURCHES

JONESVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

A Baptist society was organized as early as 1842, by Rev. William Wisner who became its pastor. Records of that old society cannot be found. It finally disbanded and was formally recorded as having ceased to exist in 1860. The church building was located on the north side of the public square near the present day Methodist Church. Another Baptist society was organized late in 1860, but its history is not recorded.

The present day Baptist Church was started in 1955, by Rev. Orris Porter and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bennett, but had not yet been organized. Rev. Kenyon Wirick came in 1957, and served the church at its 201 Water Street location. In 1961, the Baptist parsonage was converted and remodeled into a church building to seat 200, with a cement block addition at the rear, which was used as a Christian Education wing. The congregation soon out-grew the building and ground was broken in 1966 for the present church located at 431 Adrian Road, northeast of the Williams Elementary School, with the parsonage located next to the church. Following a long period of "finishing", all the while services were being held, the church was completed in the spring of 1977. Rev. Wirick was with the church during this entire twenty-year period, retiring in the fall of 1977.



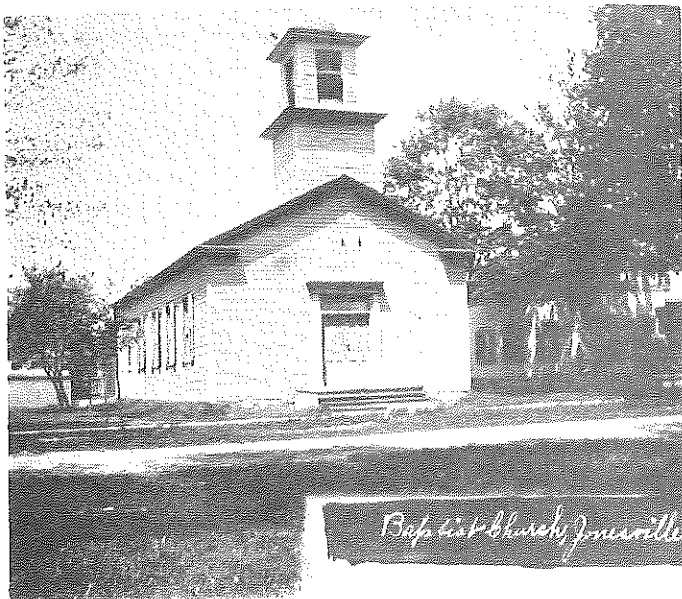
Present day Baptist Church

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

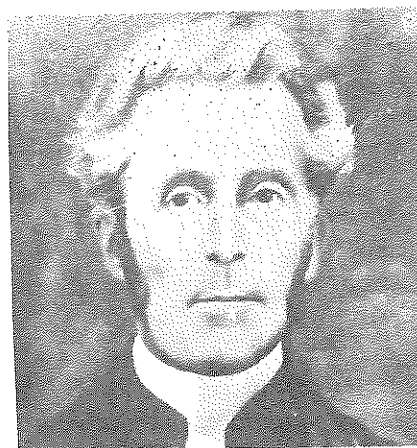
Grace Episcopal Church is one of the oldest frame churches in Michigan. Its first service was held near the present site in 1836. The congregation was organized in 1838, the property site acquired from George and Elizabeth Munro in 1842, and the building erected in 1844.

The building's architecture combines Greek and Gothic elements with a Christopher Wren touch. The windows are of hand-blown glass; the rafters and beams are solid oak; the pews are black walnut; and there is considerable butternut in the ogee arch as a decorative theme on the interior as well as the exterior.

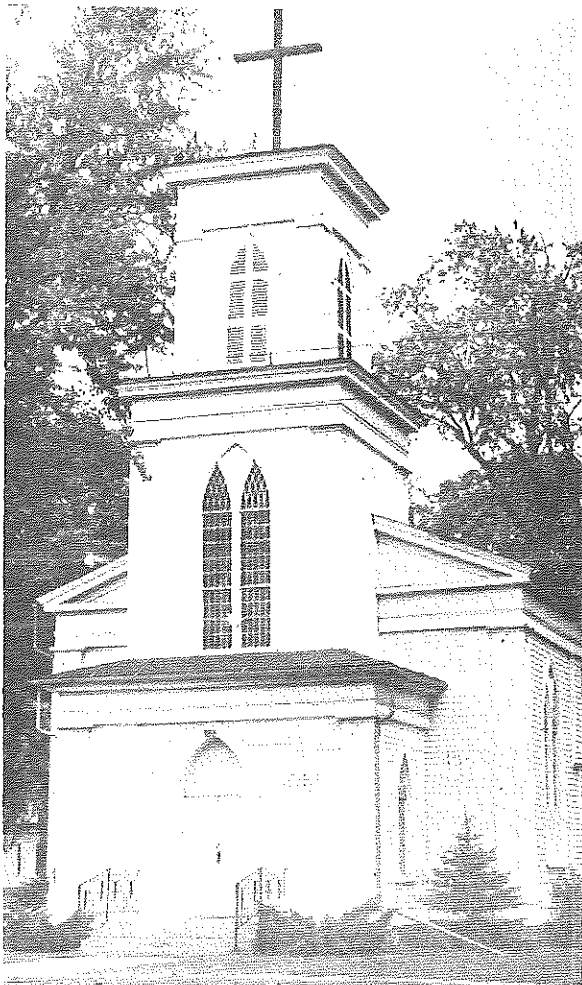
In 1847, the Rev. Robert Elder reported, "At Jonesville, there is enclosed and painted a very neat church edifice and the vestry are exerting themselves to complete it as soon as possible. At the present, and



The Jonesville Baptist Church located adjacent to the park.



The Rev. William N. Lyster founded many churches in Michigan and held the first Episcopal Service in Jonesville in 1836.



lounge and heated entrance ramp for the handicapped, was dedicated in 1975.

Tyler G. Pett was ordained deacon in St. Peter's Church, Hillsdale, in 1966, and took charge of Grace Church under the rectorship of the Rev. Wesley Pershbacher, the present rector in charge of both churches.

Grace Episcopal Church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior for its significant place in American history and architecture.

† † † † † † †

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The oldest religious body in Fayette Township is the Methodist Church which began in 1834, with Rev. Mr. Colcazer, a presiding elder in the Methodist-Episcopal Church, giving the first sermon ever preached in the village. The service was held in a log and slab schoolhouse which sat between the present day Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches. The church itself was organized in 1838, by Rev. Mr. Manier and it had a membership of thirteen.

The first Methodist Church was erected in 1844-45 under the ministry of Rev. Isaac Bennett at an expense of \$1200, not including the pews. It was located on Maumee Street, north of the town hall, which today is somewhere in the vicinity of the parking lot behind the business district north of U.S. 12. In 1872, under the pastorate of Rev. H. P. Henderson, the church was repaired and remodeled. A twenty-foot addition was built onto the west end, new pews added, stained glass windows installed, woodwork grained, and walls frescoed, and new pulpit furniture added at a cost of \$2000. A pipe organ was installed in 1879. A bell was purchased in 1894 from the foundry, but it was not a great success at calling people to worship, so its use was soon abandoned. In 1896, a chapel was added to the structure

for the winter, we have occupied a private room. For this reason we have been unable to have the Lord's Supper administered." This suggests that the original structure was completely remodeled so that its interior and exterior would conform to the standards of liturgical architecture. In 1849, Rev. Elder reported, "Amout paid for bell weighing 1040 pounds — \$350. . . . the sites for pews were sold for a sufficient sum to cover the whole cost of the edifice which is not far from \$3000." The original black walnut pews are still in use. The bell tower was added to the once square structure in 1850. The original foundation stone, which contains a prayer book of the period, the names of the Rector and vestry, a New York City newspaper, and other newspapers all secured in a tin box, may yet be in position, though its exact location is unknown.

In 1948, Mr. Jack E. Warner came to Grace Church as a lay reader and became the first official resident minister since the 1880's, when he was ordained to the Diaconate in 1956, and the Priesthood in 1961.

It was during this time that a parish hall was added to the church. This building, formerly the Johnson schoolhouse, once stood on Concord Road. An addition to the Hawkins Parish Hall, with a bay window,



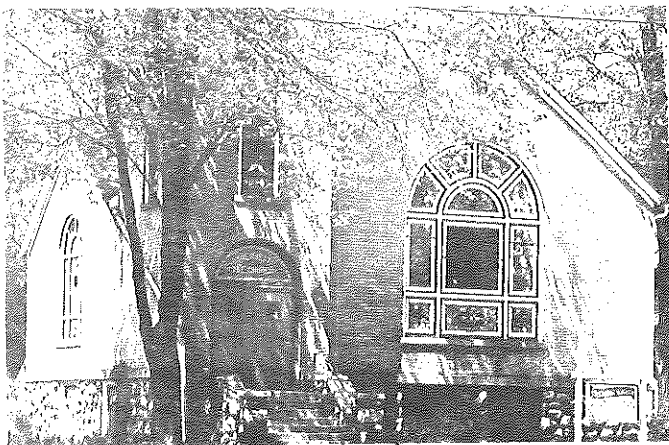
and a new furnace was installed, replacing two box stoves at the front of the church.

In 1909, the property of the old Baptist Church was purchased. It was intended to move the church to this site, its present day location, and remodel it. The original location had become surrounded by businesses and a livery stable, so it was felt that the old Baptist Church property would be a better setting. A cellar was dug and walls built. The old church, at this time the oldest church in the state, was started on its journey to its new home. But as the structure neared the center of the street, the sills, decayed by the action of the elements over seventy years, gave way and the building collapsed, blocking traffic for several weeks. The building was dismantled and what materials could be salvaged were used in building the present structure. Services were held in the Episcopal Church while construction took place.

The laying of the cornerstone took place August 2, 1911, and the fieldstone and brick building took shape. The interior was finished in oak and the walls and ceiling of pressed steel. Subscriptions and donations were difficult to collect, but the job was eventually done. One \$250.00 donation was secured with a stipulation that the tower bear a plaque reading Byron Memorial Tower. The building was completed in early 1912, with the dedication being March 3, 1912. The Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches closed their doors and worshipped that day in the new Methodist Church.

A new Christian Education building was erected in 1964 behind the church. This building contains four classrooms, a general purpose room and a pastor's study.

The church was refurbished in 1976, with a major remodeling of the sanctuary including a center aisle, new pews, carpeting, lighting, ceiling, floors, draperies, and choir chairs.



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbyterian Church was organized in the summer of 1835, with a meeting of seven people and Rev. Calvin Clark of Homer. In May of 1836, twenty people presented letters and were constituted a church of the Presbyterian faith and order. They had no regular minister or settled place of worship until September of 1837, when a wooden building known as the Session House was erected at a cost of \$715.63 on land given by E. P. Champlin south of the present church. At this time, Rev. Elijah Buck was called to the church at a salary of \$500.

In 1854, with a membership of approximately eighty-five, a new brick church was erected on the site of the present building on land given by E. P.



Reverend Frank Colvin

Champlin. The new building was probably of New England style, with the pulpit at the south end, flanked by two large stoves. The outgrown Session House was thriftily sold and eventually moved to a farmstead west of town.

In 1878, the building erected in 1854 was mostly torn down and a larger church built in its place.

The pulpit and choir loft were placed on the east side of the sanctuary, a chapel wing was added to the east side of the building, and the stained glass window in the north wall of the sanctuary was given in memory of E. P. and Harriet Champlin by members of their family. In November of that year a contract was made for the purchase of a Hook and Hasting manual organ, and in 1883, a bell was purchased for \$418.

In 1892, a dining room was added south of the chapel wing, and in the early 1900's, a kitchen was added south of the dining room. Also in the early 1900's, during the twelve year ministry of Rev. Frank Colvin, a permanent residence for the Presbyterian minister was acquired when the Manse was built at 206 East St.

Music has always been an intregal part of the worship service, with great pride being taken in the organ music and choir. There has nearly always been a formal choir director. In 1916, Mrs. Harriet Grosvenor White gave the present Moeller organ in memory of her mother, Mrs. E. O. Grosvenor.

In 1951, during the ministry of Rev. Richard Risser, a full bascment was made with fully equipped kitchen and fellowship room. The sanctuary was re-decorated and new lighting installed. New pews were placed in the sanctuary as a gift from the Richard B. and Henry C. Varnum's in memory of the various members of the Varnum family who through the years have worshipped in the church.

In 1959, under the pastorate of Rev. Samuel

Stuart, and with Martha O. Phillips as Minister of Music, the Moeller organ, given in 1916, was completely rebuilt and rededicated. In 1963, a new Christian Education wing was added to the east of the building with accomodations for offices, Sunday School rooms, a small kitchenette, nursery and chapel. The original kitchen and dining area, which had subsequently been used as a nursery and pastor's study following the 1951 remodeling, became the facilities for the choir and the Minister of Music.

In 1969, a new Manse was purchased at 482 Salem Drive shortly after the arrival of Rev. William H. Rambo as pastor.

Through the years many changes have taken place in the Presbyterian Church. The women of the church have been a strong support in its growth and development. In 1946, the Ladies' Aid Society, the Helen Childs Missionary Society, and the Volunteer Guild were merged into one organization — The Women's Association — which still continues to strengthen the fiber of the church. In 1952, a Unicameral system of government was put into effect in the Presbyterian Church, which is a Session consisting of twelve elders.

Primary Department of the Presbyterian Sunday School, 1890-91.



Top row: Flo Baker, Ward Humphrey, Ruby Tubbs, Belle Clark, George Mills, Eva Bartholomew, Edna Phinney.
 Second row: Ray Wirks, -----, -----, -----, -----, Louise Risedorph, Mont Pierce, -----.
 Third row: -----, Jeanette Bently, Bernice Bartholomew, Lois Grey, Daisy Proper, -----.
 Fourth row: -- Hollister, -- Hollister, Mabel Osborn, Anne Sibbald, Henry Packer, -----, -----.

THE MANOR FOUNDATION



The Manor Foundation, located at 115 East Street, is a private non-profit residential school for fifty mentally and emotionally impaired boys. The school is situated on thirty-five acres in the Village of Jonesville.

The purpose of The Manor Foundation is twofold. Depending on the age and ability of the boy, the focus is placed on returning the boy to the public education system and his home setting. If The Manor Foundation is the last formal education to be received, the focus is to prepare the individual for vocational training and independent living.

A completely individualized academic curriculum is provided with teachers certified in the areas of mentally and emotionally impaired. Definite training in good manners, personal grooming and social skills are highly important. Personal growth is one of the specific goals as is respect for oneself and others.

The clinical program consists of a complete regimen of treatment including individual, group and milieu therapy. Treatment plans are blended through all areas of the residential program creating a consistency most conducive for change.

Former students from The Manor Foundation are gainfully employed in industry, small businesses or sheltered workshops. Many come back periodically to visit the school and its staff. They still have many friends and fond memories of their experiences in Jonesville.

The Manor Foundation had its beginnings back in 1930, when Mont-Staff Manor for Boys was founded by Grace Montgomery Bean at the site of the present Hillsdale Community Health Center. In 1935, the

school was moved to its current site, 115 East Street, Jonesville, because the Hillsdale site was proposed for a hospital. This was formerly the Graham farm. When Jonesville was the county seat, this area was the site of the first County Fair.

In 1942, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Clark, Josephine Montgomery and R. Ames Montgomery, purchased Mont-Staff Manor for Boys from Grace Bean, and incorporated as The Manor School for Boys, Inc. Ten years later, The Manor School for Boys, Inc., was sold to The Manor Foundation, a non-profit educational corporation which owns all properties and assets, and is governed by a Board of Directors.

In 1977, The Montgomery House, an adult foster care home, was opened at 312 South Street to provide a home for ten mentally impaired adults.

The Manor Foundation is licensed to operate a boarding school by the Department of Education of the State of Michigan. The Foundation receives no financial support from the state, although ninety percent of the children are supported by various state agencies, such as probate courts, the Department of Social Services and the Department of Mental Health. The Manor Foundation depends entirely on contributions from the private sector for all program development and capitalization projects. The current members of the Board of Directors are: Robert M. Clark, Elizabeth M. Clark, Josephine Montgomery, Jane H. Clark, R.N., Norman P. Auburn, William W. Adams, D.D.S., and G. Carl Fast.

Former trustees include: Richard S. Varnum, Ira W. Wiggins, M.D., and William B. Clark.

COMMUNITY THEATER

When George Devenney and Jerry Frantz, two local theater buffs, conceived the idea of a Hillsdale Community Theater during a casual conversation in early 1961, they had no idea that their brainchild would develop into a highly successful theater group which has touched the lives of thousands and used the creative talents of people from every walk of life and every part of Hillsdale County.

At the time, there was no community theater in the Hillsdale area. One of the biggest obstacles to starting a group was the lack of a suitable place to

in to work on its second effort, "The Pursuit of Happiness".

This cast included Jan Kinkade, Russ Holcomb, Jeanne West, Thais McArthur, Larry Zaiser, Herb Fowle, and Orv Graham. And this play marked the first role for Clint Johnson, who was to become a mainstay of the acting group, playing every sort of role and holding the record for the number of roles during the ensuing years.

Led by a board of directors consisting of Jerry Frantz, President; Orv Graham, Vice President; Jean Lovejoy, Secretary; and Mary Ann Devenney, Treasurer; the group's next work was an ambitious production of Maxwell Anderson's "Joan of Lorraine", directed by Merritt Greene and produced on the Davis School stage on March 16 and 17, 1962. Sponsored by the Hillsdale Jaycees, it featured a cast of twenty-one persons with Clint Johnson in the role of "Jimmy Masters" and Patti Forbes as "Joan".

The summer of 1962 found the group back at its home at the "Little Theater Off Broad Street", ready to present a summer program of three plays. This was the first full summer of production which for ten years were to become a regular part of the Hillsdale summer scene, and which saw the

group present a wide range of plays including "The Moon is Blue", "The Night of January 16th", "Girls in 509", "Everybody Loves Opal", and "The Odd Couple". These years also saw much improvement in the physical facilities at the Women's Congress Building. A raised floor and permanent seats as well as a heating system and a much improved lighting system were added. Tickets were only a dollar and audiences were receptive, but there were problems. Because of the county fair, the group had to conclude its season before fair week each fall and could not start on its next summer program until late spring each year.

The group had its low points during this time. Clint Johnson remembers one meeting when only three people attended. But the idea of theater in Hillsdale was hardy, and a reorganization meeting was held on October 20, 1970 with Bob Webber acting as temporary chairman. It was decided to form a new group; and after a two week fling as "The Enchanted Players", it was decided to call the group the "Broad Street Players". A constitution was adopted and Bob Webber was elected President, with Fred Rockey, Vice president; Kathy Swegman, Secretary; and Jean Lovejoy, Treasurer. Other charter members of this group were Clara Belle Spencer, Larry Swegman, Fred Allen, Joanna Anagnostu, Mary Dudley, Robert



"Theater," Jonesville, Mich.

put on performances. Frantz came up with the idea of using the Women's Congress Building on the fairgrounds, which had a small stage, but was used only for a short time during fair week each year. After getting the go-ahead from the Fair Board, Frantz contacted other interested people. The first planning meeting was held at the Charles Bratton home.

It was quickly decided to push ahead with the project, and plans were made for the first production, "Dirty Work at the Crossroads". This production was presented to a large enthusiastic audience on June 15, 16 and 17, 1961. The cast included William Martin, Orv Graham, Patti Forbes, Libby Russell, Mona Lisa Christy, Herb Fowle, Edris Murray, Celeste Andrews, Vicky Fowle, and Carol Carver. Directed by George Devenney, this production featured a musical extravaganza between acts with singing, ballet, a ventriloquist, and a barbershop quartet. One of the members of the dance group was Marsha Watkins who was later to take lead roles in Hillsdale College Summer Theater and go on to important roles in the chorus of several Broadway musicals. The sets were made of cardboard boxes, and the footlights were old tin cans cut in half and painted black. Despite these rather primitive props, the fledgling group was greatly encouraged by the audience response and plunged right

Dudley, Ruth French, and Helen McDaniels.

The summer of 1971 saw the Players present their first Broadway musical, "The Fantastiks", directed by Bob Webber and featuring the singing talents of Karen Veurink and Jim Daniels in the first of many singing roles. "The Fantastiks" became the first road show of the theater when it was presented in January, 1972, in Toledo for a Toledo Edison business group.

By October of 1971 the Broad Street Players had grown to thirty-three members. Patron ticket chairman, Gloria Vear, was able to report that eighty-two patron members had contributed \$420 to support their efforts. The 1971 season closed with a production of "Once Upon a Mattress" which was destined to become the last play performed in the Women's Congress Building at the fairgrounds.

At this time, the group became aware that the Jonesville Village Council was interested in selling the Civic Theater Building in Jonesville. A committee was formed, consisting of Doug and Sandy Spike, Doug Burke, and Kathy Swegman, to investigate the possibility of purchasing the building. There were many who seriously questioned the wisdom of taking on this added financial obligation. The Treasury was down to \$346. Many felt that the group could not meet the costs of purchasing the building plus the expenses which would be incurred for renovating and decorating to put the building in useable shape. In addition, it was estimated that maintenance costs alone would run about \$2,000 per year. Others were convinced that the building offered tremendous advantages for presenting a much broader range of productions during the entire year, in comparison with the limited facilities at the fairgrounds which could only be used for a very short period during the spring and summer. By a vote of twelve to three, on November 10, 1971, it was elected to make a bid to buy the building. A fund-raising committee, led by Bob Webber, was formed to try to drum up financial support to back the group in this effort.

The bid was accepted by the Jonesville Council. In January of 1972, a new era in the history of community theater in Hillsdale County began. "The Fantastiks" was presented on the stage of the Jonesville Civic Theater Building amidst bales of straw that were left by the archery club that had used the building previously as a shooting range. The audience was seated on folding wooden chairs brought in for the occasion as the old theater seats had been removed some years before.

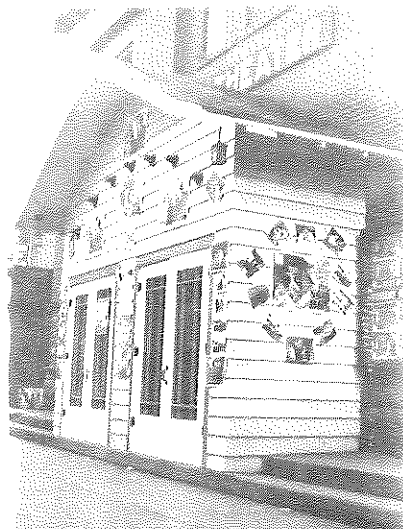
Under the leadership of President Bill Henry, Vice President Clint Johnson, Secretary Gloria Vear, and Treasurer Doug Spike, the group set about the task of getting the rundown building into shape for the sum-

mer program of 1972.

The necessary financial arrangements were made with the Jonesville Bank, and a lawyer was contacted to prepare documents to incorporate the community theater as a non-profit corporation. By March 1, Bob Webber's fund-raising committee was able to report that \$3,200 had been pledged by the community to back the Players in their plans.

Apparently, community theater was an idea which had come of age in Hillsdale. During the spring of 1972, a great deal of financial support, time, and labor were contributed by many, many people. In quick succession, some old theater seats from Posen, Michigan, were installed; the theater was decorated with draperies; carpeting was laid; a new lighting system was installed; and a general clean-up accomplished.

All was ready by July 7, when the curtain went up on the largest and most elaborate production ever



staged by the theater group - the musical, "110 in the Shade". Directed by Doug Spike, assisted by Gloria Vear as producer, the play featured Sharron Wilson, Jim Dennis, Clint Johnson, Bud Vear, Clem Penrose, Bill Henry, and Chris Thrall in the lead roles, backed up by a cast of forty singers and dancers, with choreography by Joan VanArsdalen, and piano accompaniment by Judi Larsen.

The group followed up this successful production with its first Rogers and Hammerstein musical, "Carousel", which opened for two weekends on August 25. Karen Veurink, Doug Spike, Jim Dennis, Marilyn Hurley, Melinda Cunningham, Joanne Smith, and Clem Penrose took the lead roles, backed by a huge cast of over sixty. The play was directed by Bob Webber, co-produced by Gloria Vear and Ella Covey, Karen Veurink as musical director, and Joan VanArsdalen, choreographer. Judi Larsen and Debbie Dobbins supplied musical accompaniment on the piano.

Both of these productions featured beautiful backdrops painted by Bernard Smith, a retired artist from Jonesville, who also did the backdrops for "Music Man" and "The Man Who Came to Dinner".

By the end of this summer, the roll of patrons and sustaining members had risen to one hundred. Audience response to the summer program had been enthusiastic. The group was led by Clint Johnson, who had taken over after Bill Henry resigned. Plans were made for their first winter show, "The Owl and the Pussycat", a three-act comedy directed by Clint Johnson and starring Jan Esbeck and Randy Zdrojewski.

The first elected officers for 1973 were Bob Webber, President; Roger Stallard, Vice President; Jan Esbeck, Secretary; and Doug Spike Treasurer. The 1973 season started with a production of the Abe Burrows comedy, "Cactus Flower", directed by Paul Carter with Jan Esbeck and Bill Adams in the lead roles. The summer of the same year featured the comedy, "A Thousand Clowns", and the popular musical, "Music Man".

More new talent emerged that summer. Bob Fox made his acting debut in "A Thousand Clowns" and Dwight Brown stole the show in "Music Man" singing "Gary, Indiana." This musical also marked the first collaboration of Russ Holcomb as director and Mary Packer as choreographer.

November saw the group presenting "The Man Who Came to Dinner", directed by Russ Holcomb and again bringing some newcomers to the stage, including Carl Fast, Joyce Welden, Jeanine Mick, June VanVoorhis, and Jim Kunkle.

January of 1974 saw Charles Vear taking over as President, Bill Adams as Vice President, Kathi Warne as Secretary, and Doug Spike as Treasurer. Another Paul Carter directed comedy started off the season when the group brought Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple" to the local stage. Bob Fox and Clint Johnson delighted audiences with their interpretation of the mismatched roommates.

This was followed by the musical "Oliver", directed by Russ Holcomb, with musical direction by Ralph Sydow and choreography by Joan VanArsdalen. The show was notable for an outstanding performance by Bill Henry as "Fagan", and the debut of two talented youthful performers, Beth Barber and Bill Smith. The show featured a cast of thirty children and proved to be the spark that started the Children's Theater which produced its own show, "The Wizard of Oz", in the fall of 1974.

The all-time favorite, Rogers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma", was the next show on the summer bill. Directed by Gloria Vear, the show was the first musi-

cal to use a full orchestra, directed by Walton Veurink. Featured were Karen Veurink, Chuck Maury, and Jim Dennis in the lead singing roles. It also marked the debut of some new talented people such as Anne Smith, Becky Miller, and Bill Shannon.

The summer session ended with a revival of the ever-popular "The Fantastiks", this time featuring a harp accompaniment by Michigan State Police Sergeant, Bill Rials.

Improvements to the building continued to be made during this time. A very special achievement was the completion of a beautiful new front with a curved copper marquee, engineered and erected by Tom Springfield and Doug Spike.

"Pajama Game", directed by Melinda Cunningham and Dave Griffiths, with Sam Parker and Julie Smith in the lead roles and featuring a cast of many talented Hillsdale College Students ended this session on a high note.

"Sauk Theater" became the official name of the theater at the annual meeting in January 1975, at which time Bill Adams took over as President; Fred Rockey as Vice President; Kathi Warne as Secretary; and Doug Spike as Treasurer.

Director Paul Carter again started off the season with a rib-splitting performance of Neil Simon's early hit "Come Blow Your Horn". Fred Rockey gave a memorable performance as the outraged father, and Pat Henry and Marylyn Barber emerged as bright new talents.

Ralph Sydow and Bill Henry teamed up to bring local audiences the very unusual and entertaining suspense thriller, "Sleuth". This production was especially notable for its elaborate stage setting which was designed by Dan Devlin, and its many clever special effects.

The Children's Theater continued to grow during this year, presenting two plays, "Belles on their Toes" and "Alice in Wonderland", as well as a Variety Review at Christmas.

During the spring, a committee under the leadership of Gloria Vear was able to raise enough money to purchase a new piano which arrived in time for the first musical of the summer, "South Pacific". A full orchestra under the direction of Larry Jose inaugurated the new orchestra pit which had been constructed during the winter months. This production, directed by Russ Holcomb, and choreographed by Mary Packer, featured Melinda Cunningham and Clem Penrose in the lead singing roles. It was also notable for the emergence of three talented newcomers in key roles: Julie Phillips, Dave VanHorn, and Scot Baker.

Air conditioning was also added this summer which added to the comfort of audiences as they watched a joint Hillsdale College and Hillsdale Community Theater production of the modern musical "Godspell". Directed by Hillsdale College drama director David Kelley, "Godspell" was marked by an enthusiastic cast of young people from the college and the community, anchored by a memorable performance by Doug Spike.

The summer season was brought to a successful close by a stunning performance of "The King and I", with Bill Shannon as the "King" and Karen Veurink as "Anna". This play was especially outstanding for the beautiful singing voice of Dennis Love.

The final presentation of the year was "The Two Faces of Theater", which consisted of four one-act plays directed by Paul Carter. This blending of comedy and drama saw Maisie Brown, Bill Burgee, and Dave Ulisse take their

their first key roles, and featured some unusual stage props, including the special six-foot high chairs specially designed for Melinda Cunningham and Bob Fox in "Babies".

During 1976, the Children's Theater presented "Winnie the Pooh" in early February. The Community Theater group presented "The Moon is Blue" and "1776" in this bicentennial year. "America the Musical", an original musical written by Jonesville native Jim Fiebig and Dave Bloomquist was also presented. The Children's Theater closed the season with "Scrooge's Christmas".

Bob Fox directed the opener for the 1977 season, "The Sunshine Boys". On May 21, a special show by the Interlochen Arts Academy Drama Department was produced on the Jonesville stage. This was followed by "Guy and Dolls", with Bob Fox again directing, and by "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" and "Peter Pan".

There have been productions already in this year of Jonesville's sesquicentennial. "6 Rms Riv Ru", directed by Paul Carter, was presented in March, and "Change of Life", an original musical drama written by Linda Langs. In July, "Fiddler on the Roof" will be staged in cooperation with Hillsdale College.

Community Theater in Hillsdale County has come a long way, from the cardboard sets and tin can foot-

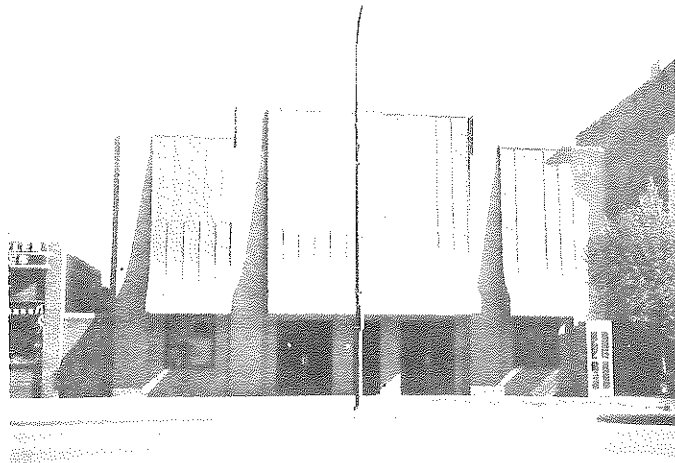
lights of "Dirty Work at the Crossroads" to the professional set and polished performances of recent seasons. It has taken the talents and dedication of a host of people to keep the idea of theater alive. This includes not only the performers on stage, but also the many unsung heroes behind the scenes. People like David Holcomb who got his start in local theater crawling around the sets at the old Women's Congress Building, and who has developed into the electrical wizard who now operates the control booth. He has served as building manager for the past several years.

It includes the stage managers, prop and costume people, make-up people like Edris Murray and Judy Evers, box office managers like Mary Ann Carter and Helen McDaniels, and the producers like Kathi Warne, who take care of all the details of a show, from cleaning rugs to planning cast parties.

There seems to be a spirit in the theater that makes people want to give their all in the true tradition of "the show must go on." This is evidenced in performers like Ray Mundy who broke several ribs in one of his famous dying scenes in "The Fantastiks", and Bob Fox who suffered a twisted ankle falling off a sofa trying to get at Felix in "The Odd Couple", and more recently Bill Shannon who was stricken with cancer just one week before the opening performance of "The King and I". Doug Harvey, a former Broad Street Player who had played the same role while a student at Hillsdale College, came all the way from New York to fill in for two shows. But Shannon came back to give a memorable interpretation of the king in the last two shows in a display of courage which was in inspiration to the whole community.

After seventeen years it would seem that community theater has become a permanent part of the Jonesville scene, and will continue to offer creative people an opportunity to share their talents with their friends and neighbors in Hillsdale County.

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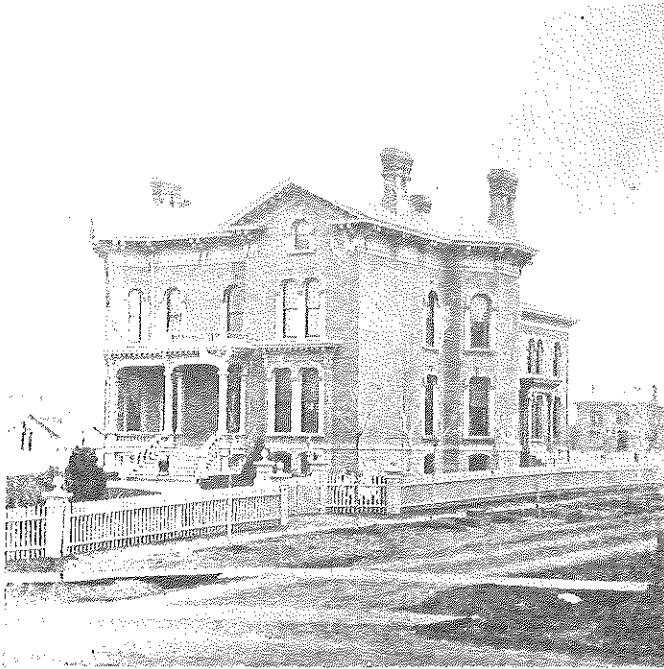


HOMES OF INTEREST

Taking a pleasant walk or drive through Jonesville, one can observe many different types of buildings. Some date back one hundred and thirty years or more. Others were built in more recent times; but they, too, have their own story to tell about the lives and dreams of the people they have sheltered.

Included here are the stories of just a few of the many interesting homes in the town of Jonesville. Because some of these homes have had several different owners for which they might be remembered, we have identified most with the name of the owner responsible for the building of the house. The names of the subsequent owners are contained within the article.

* * * * *



● ● THE E. O. GROSVENOR HOME ● ●

The Grosvenor House, begun in 1872 and taking two years to complete, was designed by Elijah E. Myers, architect for the State Capitol Building in Lansing, Michigan. The house, constructed at a cost of \$40,000, featured many innovative ideas. It was to be one of the finest and most modern residences in the country. The High Victorian Italianate structure has 32 rooms with 12-foot ceilings and has eight imported Italian fireplaces, each of a different design and color, plus a sweeping balustrade staircase. Walnut window valances with carved Egyptian heads and built-in shutters grace the windows. The house features carbide gas lamps throughout, and a double fur-

nace for central heat. The master bedroom has his and her closets, unheard of in that day; and the adjoining bathroom has all the fixtures normally found in a master bath, plus a footbath. There is another full bath on the second floor, plus built-in lavatories with brass fixtures in each bedroom. The original plumbing system featured both hot and cold running water from a gravity-fed water system. Water was pumped by a two-man pump in the basement from one of the cisterns on the grounds to a huge lead-lined tank in the attic, then drained by demand to the floors below. Other outstanding characteristics are the floors with their cement layer sandwiched between two conventional floors, and the double brick wall construction. It is said the house is so well constructed that it has settled only 1/4" in 100 years. Despite the fact that electricity was installed in 1915, this house still retains several gas lights in operable condition. The window shutters and fireplaces are all in mint condition, attesting to the workmanship that went into this house.

Ebenezer Oliver Grosvenor, for whom this house was designed, was born in New York in 1820. He came to Michigan in 1837, and in 1844, established himself in the mercantile business in Jonesville. He then founded the Exchange Bank of Grosvenor and Company in 1854. After serving in local and township offices, Mr. Grosvenor served two terms as State Senator during which time he served as President of the Military Contract Board and then as Chairman of the Committee of Finance. He served two terms as State Treasurer, one term as Lt. Governor, and seven years as a University of Michigan Regent. He was also Vice President and presiding officer of the State Building Commission, responsible for the erection of the Michigan State Capitol in 1874. During his term as Lt. Governor, he also served as President of the State Board of Equalization.

Mrs. Grosvenor, the former Sally Ann Champlin, married Ebenezer in 1844. She was reputed to be a most gracious and charming lady, and together the Grosvenors reigned as popular and well-loved citizens of the village and the state. Their only daughter, Harriet, married before the house was completed and so, never lived in this gracious home as a girl, but spent several years in residence with her husband and two young sons. One of her two sons, Charles, also made his residence there after the death of the Grosvenors.

After World War II, the Grosvenor family descendants, none of whom resided in the area, sold the

house and it passed through the hands of two or three owners before it became the home of an antique dealer and her family in 1962. It was a lovely setting for the business; but in 1977, it was again put up for sale and purchased by the Jonesville Heritage Association, a group interested in preserving the area history. The Association was investigating several available homes in the village with the possibility of establishing a historic museum. When they learned the Grosvenor house was for sale, they dropped consideration of the other homes and started the proceedings to acquire the Grosvenor Home. In one year, from January, 1977 to January, 1978, the Heritage Association went from an idea in the heart of one individual to a non-profit corporation. They settled on the house they wanted to purchase, completed a very successful fund drive for the house, and the antiques that were part of the original Grosvenor household, finalized the placing of the house on the list of Historic Sites by the Michigan Department of State, History Division, and applied and were accepted to the National List of Historic Places, a very select list. The group is now in the process of renovating the house and grounds to the grandeur it once knew. Future plans include erecting a replica of the original fence surrounding the grounds and rebuilding the carriage house, making the Grosvenor House the showplace it was designed to be.

At the time of the Sesquicentennial Celebration, the State Historic Marker for the Grosvenor House will be unveiled and the museum dedicated. As yet, the hours the museum will be open for viewing are undetermined, but inquiry at the village office will most likely bring a willing guide for a tour.



Ebenezer O. Grosvenor

● ● THE WITTER J. BAXTER HOME ● ●

The large white home directly behind the Book House at 208 W. Chicago Street was built sometime between 1848 and 1851 by Witter J. Baxter. Mr. Baxter was a lawyer, associated with Mr. W. W. Murphy. He also owned and operated lumber mills at Tecumseh, White Pigeon, and Jonesville. He held the contract for construction of the old Chicago Road when "plank logs" were first laid down between Moscow and Quincy on what is now U.S.12.

Mr. Baxter ran on the Lincoln ticket for State Board of Education, was elected, and served the state in an active political life.



The house contains fifteen rooms and features include three hand-carved fireplaces; oak, butternut, walnut, and cherry wood floors, doors, and window trim; as well as stained glass windows. An old newspaper article notes the house and gardens were "extensively renovated" in 1872.

The present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ansett, have also done extensive renovation. While no special effort to restore the buildings to original condition such as plastered ceilings and the like has been made, special attention has been paid to minimize interior architectural changes so that ceilings are still high, room sizes, entries, and window openings are essentially as originally built.

As the wooden siding had deteriorated beyond reclamation, aluminum siding was installed in the sixties and the smaller width was selected as being closest to original dimensions of the wood siding. In 1976, the outside porches were virtually rebuilt by Mr. Floyd Ladd. The tapered wooden columns could not be duplicated and were carefully rebuilt and refinished by Mr. Ladd and his crew.

In 1971, a concrete block building was erected by Mr. Gene Kahle to house the growing book business started by the present owners in the house itself in 1962. This latter building was placed in front of, and to the side of the older house so that the aspect of the house is much as it always was except for the extensive lawns facing the highway.



● ● THE WILLARD WOOD HOME ● ●

The home at 203 Evans Street sits on property that is part of the original 79.93 acre plat laid out by Benaiah Jones III, and purchased at the Monroe Land Office on November 10, 1830. In October of the following year, William H. Tuller purchased this property from Benaiah Jones for the sum of \$150.00. The Tuller family retained the land until 1840, when it was sold to Sanford R. Smith. Mr. Smith in turn sold the land to Willard W. Wood in 1843.

As all references to the property up to the time Mr. Wood acquired it make no mention of "premises", but only of "land", we believe Mr. Wood built the home, probably in 1843 or 1844. In 1844, Alfred Hopkins bought and sold the property in one month's time, the new buyer being Richard S. Varnum. One year later, Mr. Varnum sold to Sally Ann Grosvenor, wife of E. O. Grosvenor.

The Grosvenor family lived in this house for many years. And it was here that they lived while construction of their new home on Maumee Street was in progress. The house was again sold in January, 1885, to Andrew Ure.

In 1898, Ure's widow sold to Walter G. Proper. In 1904, the Propers sold to James M. Tyler. Mr. Tyler died on September 25, 1925, leaving the property to his wife. On her death in 1941, the Tyler's daughter, Bessie Killam, inherited it. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Esterline bought the home from Bessie Killam Snider in 1969.

Through all the years and all the owners, the house has under-gone very little physical change inside or out. There is a front hall and stairway. To the left is a parlor leading to the living room, dining room, and kitchen. Off the dining room is a back stairway which goes to what once were the servants' quarters at the rear of the house. In the living room there is a twelve-foot arch made of wood in four large curving sections.

The master bedroom, off the living room to the north, has a large bath and an adjoining "birthing room" which was where the midwife and the new baby stayed whenever there was an addition to the family.

Upstairs to the front of the house are three bedrooms and a bath.

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● ● THE RUEL VAN WERT HOME ● ●

The home of Ruel and Margaret VanWert at 208 Maumee is one of the oldest residences in Jonesville, and is shown on the original plat of the village. When built, there was a large stone fireplace in the front room, directly opposite the front door. Chief Baw Beese and another Indian or two would often drop in unannounced. They would bring a deer, rabbit, or other game, throw it down in front of the fireplace and wait for the lady of the house to prepare their meal. After eating, they would then walk back to their camp at what is now called Baw Beese Lake.



Lawrence and Dean Towe of Florida, former owners of this house, provide this story regarding the house:

We always referred to the upstairs porch as the Romeo and Juliet balcony. Sometimes as I was going to work, Dean would appear on the balcony and we would do lines, silly-like, from the famous balcony scene. Dudley was a little tad in those days but he must have gotten the idea, for, one year at Christmas time when Ed Gillespie was playing Santa at the Presbyterian Church, Dudley stood up on the front seat and called out, "Don't forget me, Santa! I live in the house down that way with the Romeo and Juliet balcony." I remember it brought the house down and was almost the undoing of Ed.



● ● THE GLASGOW HOME ● ●

The "Glasgow" House at 207 East Street was built in the 1880's by Lew Tuller, who also built the Tuller Hotel in Detroit. Silas, Emma and eleven-year-old William Glasgow moved into this house in 1898. The lovely big brick house was very similar to its present appearance except for the front porch which was larger with a railing around the top. This porch was soon replaced with a large 12-foot wide one across the entire front of the house. It had a cut stone foundation. This remained on the house until the early 1950's, when it was thought to have been loosened by an earth tremor, so was replaced by the present porch.

In 1914, William and Anne Sibbald Glasgow moved back into the homestead to live with Silas Glasgow, bringing their infant daughter, Virginia, and Mrs. Glasgow's mother, Mrs. James Sibbald. In 1918, a daughter, Jean, was born, and Silas Glasgow died. In 1920, a son, William, Jr. joined the family, and two years later Mrs. Sibbald passed away.

The house remained essentially the same until about 1924, when the old parlor and music room were combined to make the present living room arrangement. The door at the foot of the circular stairway was closed, and the fireplace was added at the north end of the living room. This event was well remembered by the three children who had such fun climbing on the scaffolding.

Water for the house was supplied by a hand-dug, brick-lined well on the south side of the house. After all these years the well is still functional if one primes the pump. A cistern for collecting rainwater was also part of the house water system, located just outside the kitchen door. A lift pump, still in existence, was used to get the water into the house.

The attic in the house was an intriguing place for the children. There was a skylight, which led out onto the flat, slate roof. One fun experience was watching the men out there cleaning the chimneys. One could almost see the whole town from there!

The house was heated with a wood-burning using wood which was transported from the farm by horses pulling the large bobsled. It was thrown into the cellar through the double cellar doors, still in the present garage. Later, the furnace was probably one of the last ones in town to burn coal which had gotten so scarce that it finally had to be brought in from North Adams. In the 1960's it was finally replaced by an oil furnace.

One of the most important parts of the lot was the old barn at the end of the driveway. This lovely old barn was the scene of many a happy hour for the



William and Silas Glasgow



Mrs. Silas Glasgow

children, serving as playhouse, theater, circus quarters, "treasure" house, storeroom, and workshop. It was the center of play for all of the neighborhood "kids", which included Harriet White, Pat Kellam, Marjorie and Elsie Manning, Louisa Divert, Roland and Wilfred Rock, and Bob and Jack Graham. The barn also had stalls where horses were kept when brought down from the farm to plow, and harvest the field directly in back of the barn, where Hillcrest Court now is. This field also served as the neighborhood "ball park", and in back of it was the fruit orchard. The barn was finally torn down in about 1936, and the wood from it used to add an attached garage on the back of the house. There is still a board there with Lew Tuller's name carved on it.

At the same time as the garage was built, the kitchen was remodeled, adding the picture window. The Armstrong linoleum in the kitchen was not changed at this time and was still in use in 1974, so it had been used for well over 50 years.

The house was the scene of many community and family activities. The Presbyterian choir practice was held there for years with Mr. George Kirby, the town's tailor and church organist, accompanying and Mrs. Glasgow directing. The two spent many hours playing piano duets, which were thoroughly enjoyed by the children upstairs in their beds. The church Sunday School orchestra also practiced there, which further contributed to the musical activities in the house. Many church and community organizations met there often.

After Mrs. Glasgow's death in 1958, Mr. Glasgow remained there until the house was sold in 1974 to Mr. and Mrs. Brian Finn. In 1977, the house was again sold to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Wood.

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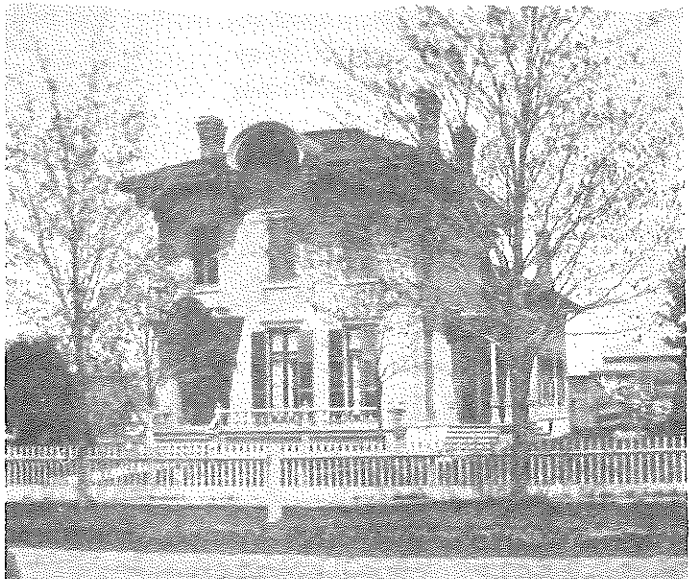
● ● THE W. W. WADE HOME ● ●

The brick house at 315 East Street was built in 1869 by William W. Wade. Lots 5, 6, and 7 of Lytle's Plot had been purchased from Jonathan B. Graham on June 22, 1869 by William and James Wade. William built the house. Later, in 1883, James sold his property to his brother, who resided there with his wife Lillian.

William and James Wade, born in Ireland in 1835 and 1836 respectively, emigrated to the United States with their parents. William clerked in a local store, apprenticed as a tanner and enlisted in the service in 1861. Commissioned a Second Lieutenant, he was promoted to Captain and remained until the close of the war. He returned to Jonesville and joined with his brother in operating a hardware business from 1865 to 1873. In 1875, W. W. Wade married Lillian Dunham of New York. They had one son, Demont W. James, meanwhile, had married Elizabeth Sibbald. He was active in civic and political affairs as well as in operating the business until it was sold in 1873. James Wade became Secretary of the University of Michigan.

In 1888, the Wade home was sold to Alonzo B. and Abbie T. Bean, formerly of New York state and Tecumseh, Michigan. Alonzo owned a farm at the corner of Lake Wilson and Bean Roads. Following the purchase of the home on East Street, the Beans moved into the village with their son, Claud A. Alonzo died in his home on July 7, 1892, and Abbie on November 21, 1918. Claud married Ruth Newell of Goshen, Indiana, and lived in the family home where his children, William, Robert, Joseph, and Eleanor, were born.

Mr. Bean sold the home to Mrs. Rhoda R. Doty in 1925. Mrs. Doty was a registered nurse and with the



help of her daughter, Ethel Brady, also a nurse, operated the home as "Doty Hospital" until 1950. Many local babies were born there and persons needing special care were admitted.

The home was rented for a number of years and then sold to Mr. and Mrs. William Hinkle in 1973. Hinkles sold in 1976 to Danual and Phyllis Sawyer. Mrs. Katherine (Pat) Laubaugh bought the home in 1977, and plans to restore it.

● ● THE LUTHER GILLETT HOME ● ●

Mr. and Mrs. William Murphy own the stately brick residence located on the north edge of Jonesville at 570 Evans Street. They are restoring the home, and provide this information on it:



Construction on the Luther Gillett home, an example of Victorian architecture in the Parisian Mansard sub-style, was begun in 1872, and completed in 1875. The original owner, Mr. Gillett, a successful farmer who owned the acreage adjacent to this home, was a partner in the Stranger-Gillett Meat Market located in the village of Jonesville. Employed as the home's architect was David B. Thomas of Coldwater. The firm of Atkins Gilbert of Coldwater superintended construction. The interior of the home features fourteen rooms on its two main floors, arched doorways, oak and butternut woodwork, twin parlors, ornamental plaster moldings, and 12' ceilings. The exterior of the home features a cut stone foundation, arched windows, decorative brackets, and its characteristic mansard roof. Some of the original features of the home have disappeared, such as interior and exterior shutters, French windows, a balcony, ash floors in the basement, a dumbwaiter, and stained glass panels in some of the exterior doors. On October 1, 1875, Luther Gillett sold his home for \$18,800 to Mrs. Mary Hutchinson. Soon after, Mr. Gillett moved to Kansas.



● ● THE RICHARD S. VARNUM HOME ● ●

Richard Saltonstall Varnum built his home at 404 Maumee sometime between 1847 and 1850. He commenced business in Jonesville with the Hon. E. O. Grosvenor in 1840. In 1847, he started the Varnum Drug Store and continued business in the store until his death in 1880. He also served as postmaster of Jonesville for three years.

At one time, there was a porch across the front of the house. Richard S. Varnum II removed the porch, and an entrance like the original was constructed. The grilling is some of that taken out of the Grosvenor Bank when it was remodeled in 1954. Some of the panes of glass in the living room windows are the original ones. The light fixture on the rear porch is the lantern Mr. Varnum carried going to and coming from the drug store. Etched in the glass are his name and "Jonesville, Michigan".

This home has always been in the Varnum family. Mrs. Ione Varnum, widow of Richard S. Varnum II, resides in the house at the present time.

● ● THE HENRY O. CLARK HOME ● ●

The home at 228 W. Chicago Street — on the Northeast corner of W. Chicago and Jermaine Streets, is presently owned by William and Nellie Dobson. The land it sits on can be traced back to the year 1829, when Edmund Jones, brother of Benajah, was granted a large section of land by the United States Government. Parcels of this original tract were sold at various times to different individuals.

The land was sold in 1853, by Edmund Jones to Henry Tuller. Six months later, Mr. Tuller sold the property to Tompkins C. Delevan.

Henry Clark bought the property in 1860. There is

no record of when the house was erected, but from studying the abstract, a fair guess is that the house was built during the period in which Mr. Clark was the owner.

Amanda Kelsey bought the property in 1868. Her husband, Camp Kelsey, inherited upon her death in 1879. Camp Kelsey remarried and left the house and land to his wife, Elizabeth, at his death in 1892.

The house was again sold in 1901, to Isaac Hisey. When Mr. Hisey died in 1925, Neal and Corinne Simpson purchased the house.

Corinne Simpson sold in 1943 to Leon Strait. In 1966, when Mr. Strait died, the house was sold at auction to the Dobsons.



Presently, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Ledyard own this historic home and have largely restored it to its former elegance. Mrs. Ledyard has gathered the following information about George C. Munro:

The Munro family in this country traces its ancestry back to 1651, when John Munro came here from Scotland, landing at Plymouth, Massachusetts. John Munro, was the great-great grandfather of George.

George C. Munro, was born in Elbridge, Onondaga County, New York, January 22, 1814, and was the eldest son of Nathan and Cynthia (Champlin) Munro, the former of whom was born in 1791, and after a successful career as a merchant and banker, departed this life in 1839. He was a liberal patron of educational institutions and was the founder of Munro Institute.

George Munro was educated in select schools and at sixteen entered Yale. Wishing to engage in business for himself, he came to the territory of Michigan in 1834. He was involved in real estate and mercantile businesses in Jackson, Lenawee, and Hillsdale Counties, making his headquarters at Jonesville. He operated flour mills in Litchfield and Jonesville until 1852, when he engaged in the hardware business. In 1862, Mr. Munro sold out his interests to his partner, William Lewis, and became a contractor on the Michigan Southern Railroad, and also on the Fort Wayne, Jackson, and Saginaw line. He at the same time conducted extensive farming operations.

George Munro had always been prominent and active in business and held numerous civil offices. He was a commissioned colonel and later Brigadier General. He was the first mayor of the village of Jonesville after its incorporation. General Munro aided in organizing the County and State Agricultural Societies, and assisted in forming the first union school in the state. He was eighteen years a member of the school board. He was a charter member of the I.O.O.F. and passed through all the chairs in their order, and was a member of the Grand Lodge of the state. From 1841-1878, he served as a vestryman at



The Dobsons have made some modernizing changes to the house, and have kept some of the original features. The rooms have eleven foot high ceilings, with crystal chandeliers in the dining and living rooms. There are eighteen rooms, two attics, two hallways, an open staircase, and a white marble fireplace.

* * * * *

● ● THE GEORGE C. MUNRO HOME ● ●

The Munro House, situated on the southwest corner of Maumee and South Streets, was erected in 1840. It is of the Greek Revival style with a classical gable and Greek Doric porches at the wings and entrance.

The house was built from bricks kilned in Moscow, by the Hon. Lyman Blackmar, and hauled to Jonesville by ox cart. It is the oldest brick building in Hillsdale County. It was referred to by one publisher at the time of its construction as a landmark to the dawn of civilization in Southern Michigan, and people drove for miles around to view it.

Inside the house all the original wooden shutters remain, as do the hand-wrought iron latches highly valued by collectors. Many of the rooms have their own fireplace; there are a total of ten fireplaces throughout the house. During the Civil War, the house was a station in the underground railroad.

the Grace Episcopal Church, where he was a life-long member. The land this church was built upon was given by George C. Munro.

George Munro was married, October 13, 1840, to Elizabeth C. Leake, of New York. To this union was born one son and four daughters. On June 11, 1848, Elizabeth died. The following year, on March 14, 1849, he married Clara M. Leake, his first wife's sister, and this union resulted in the birth of nine children — one son, and eight daughters. George C. Munro, departed this life in Jonesville on August 16, 1883.

* * * * *



● ● THE WILLIAM W. MURPHY HOME ● ●

The Greek Revival home on Chicago Street was built by William Walton Murphy after he came to Jonesville in 1837. He was Hillsdale County's most distinguished citizen of the time. During his lifetime, he was known as a lawyer, banker, publisher, legislator, statesman, diplomat and financier.

He was born in 1816 in Canada. Soon after his birth, his family moved to Ovid, New York. William Murphy came to Monroe where he studied law for two years. In 1837, he and William T. Howell opened the first law office in Hillsdale County. He practiced here until 1861. During this time, he, along with E. O. Grosvenor, founded the bank which is now the Grosvenor Branch of the Hillsdale County National Bank. Mr. Murphy served in the Michigan Legislature as a Democrat. "Walt", as he was known to his friends, brought the first printing press to the county and published its first newspaper. He was a founder of Grace Episcopal Church.

In 1854, he became prominent in the abolitionist movement. His landmark defense of fugitive slaves was used in similar cases in the East. His home was an important link in the underground railroad.

Mr. Murphy served as vice president at the first Republican Convention held in Jackson, on July 6, 1854.

In 1861, President Abraham Lincoln appointed William Murphy as Consul General to the free city of Frankfort am Main, Germany. He served in this capacity for nine years. The high regard in which he was held enabled him to persuade Baron von Roths-

child and other wealthy German investors to buy bonds issued by the North, helping to finance the Union cause during the Civil War.

His love of liberty led him to oppose the subjugation of the free city of Frankfort by Prussia. He was instrumental in saving the lives and property of its citizens. He is still known there as "Uncle Walt, the Friend of Freedom."

After his resignation as Consul in 1869, he served as financial representative for several American railroads enabling their expansion in the new West.

He was neighbor, friend and advisor to Mary Todd Lincoln during her stay in Germany and financed her son Robert's education.

This full and productive life was terminated by bronchial pneumonia causing his death on June 8, 1886, at the age of 70 years. Mr. Murphy was buried in an unmarked grave in Bad Homburg, V.d.H. Over the years, other burials were made in the same place. Through the efforts of the Reverend Wesley Perschbacher, his grave was found and marked.

The architect of Mr. Murphy's home was Jonathan Graham who was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention that made Michigan Territory a state. The recent restoration was designed and executed by William Houseknecht of Jonesville.

The porch follows the dimensions of the original in the Greek Revival style which was popular at that time. The new columns came from a home built in 1805. Originally, there were six fireplaces, of which four remain. The front staircase is black walnut. On the east side of the house is the ballroom. A large wooden arch separates the ceiling into two equal parts. In the center of each is a plaster of paris rosette. From each rosette hung a candle chandelier which was later replaced by kerosene lamps.

The carriage steps and flagstone walks were added in the 1860's. Originally, there was a large round flower and shrub bed between the front gate and the front door. A gravel walk lined by boxwood surrounded the flower bed. On the property was a summerhouse, barn, icehouse, well house and smokehouse.

Among the distinguished guests who at one time or another stayed here were Daniel Webster and Horace Greeley. Lavish balls and receptions were held in their honor with a lighted candle placed in each window to welcome guests.

Among the subsequent residents was Harry Selfridge, who was raised in this home. He founded Selfridge's of London, which at one time was the largest department store in the world. Other owners include Witter Baxter, the William Fogg and the Bruce May families. The current owners are William and Mary Story.

SCRAPBOOK REFLECTIONS



Burton E. Poor made cigars in this building which was located just west of the lumber yard. His cigars were sold in his own store on Main Street. A notice posted on the front of the store warned: "\$2.00 fine for spitting on sidewalks."



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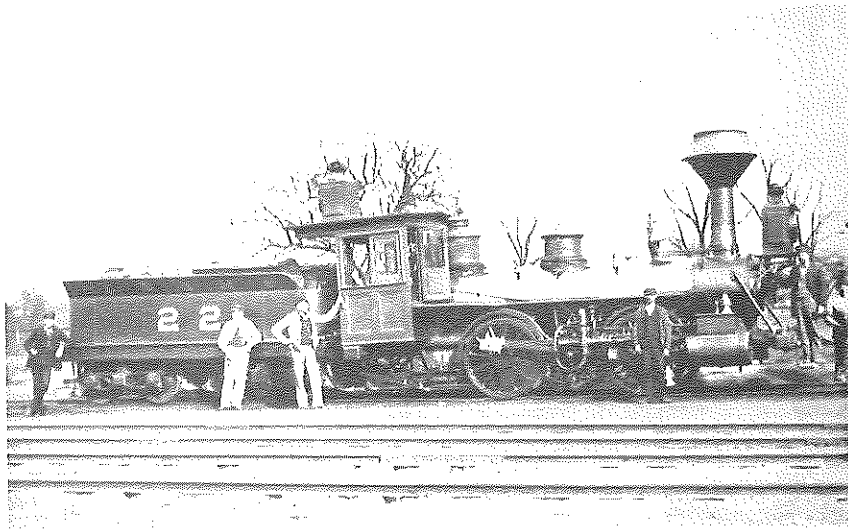
REX AND WILMA TURNER



This picture was taken at the Glasgow farm in Allen Township. From left to right are: Silas Glasgow, Marian Merchant Espie, and Ben Merchant. Interestingly, the horse at left is a carriage horse which evidently served as a work horse, too.



Farming has always been an important way of life to many in the Jonesville area. Here, men, horses, and machines all work together to get the job done.

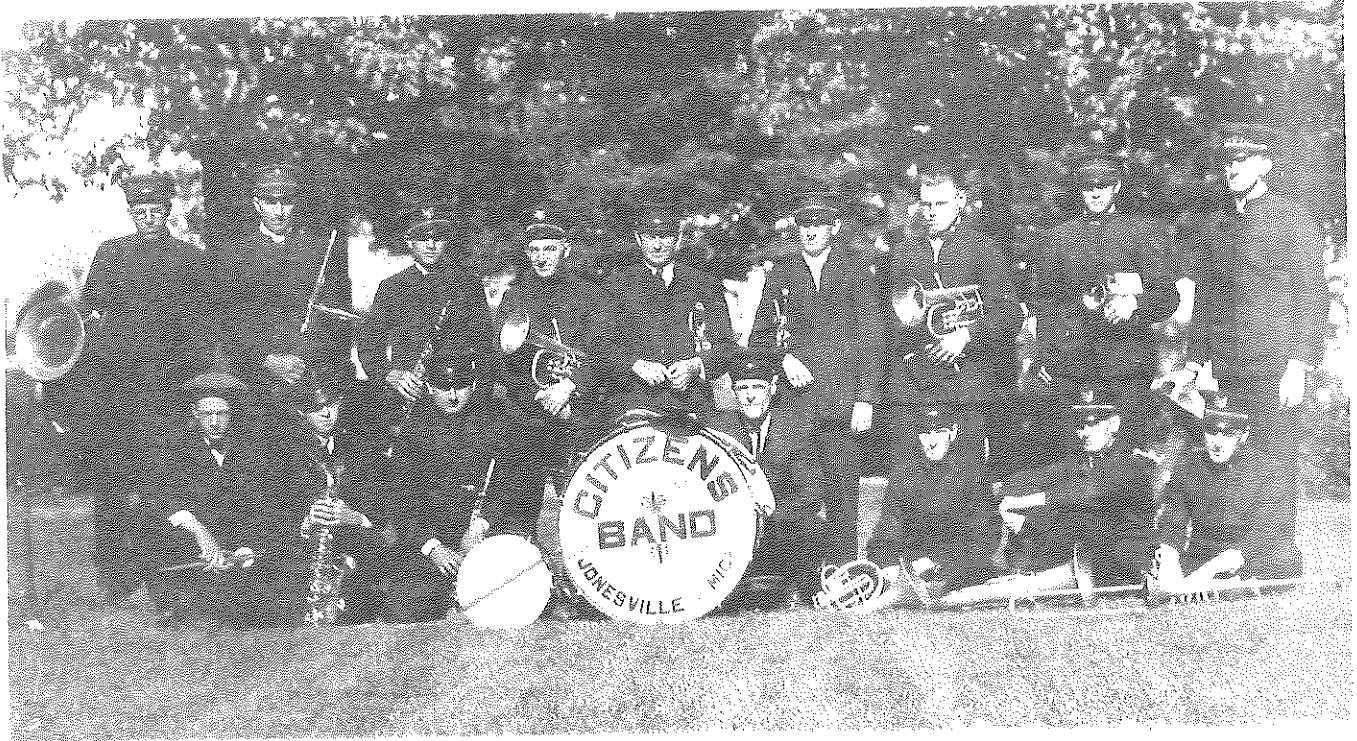


Steam
Locomotive
at Lake Shore and
Michigan Southern
Railroad Depot.
(Upper Depot)

The Lower
Depot at
Jonesville.



Dennie McClaren
ran this "hack"
to the upper and
lower depots in the
early 1860's.



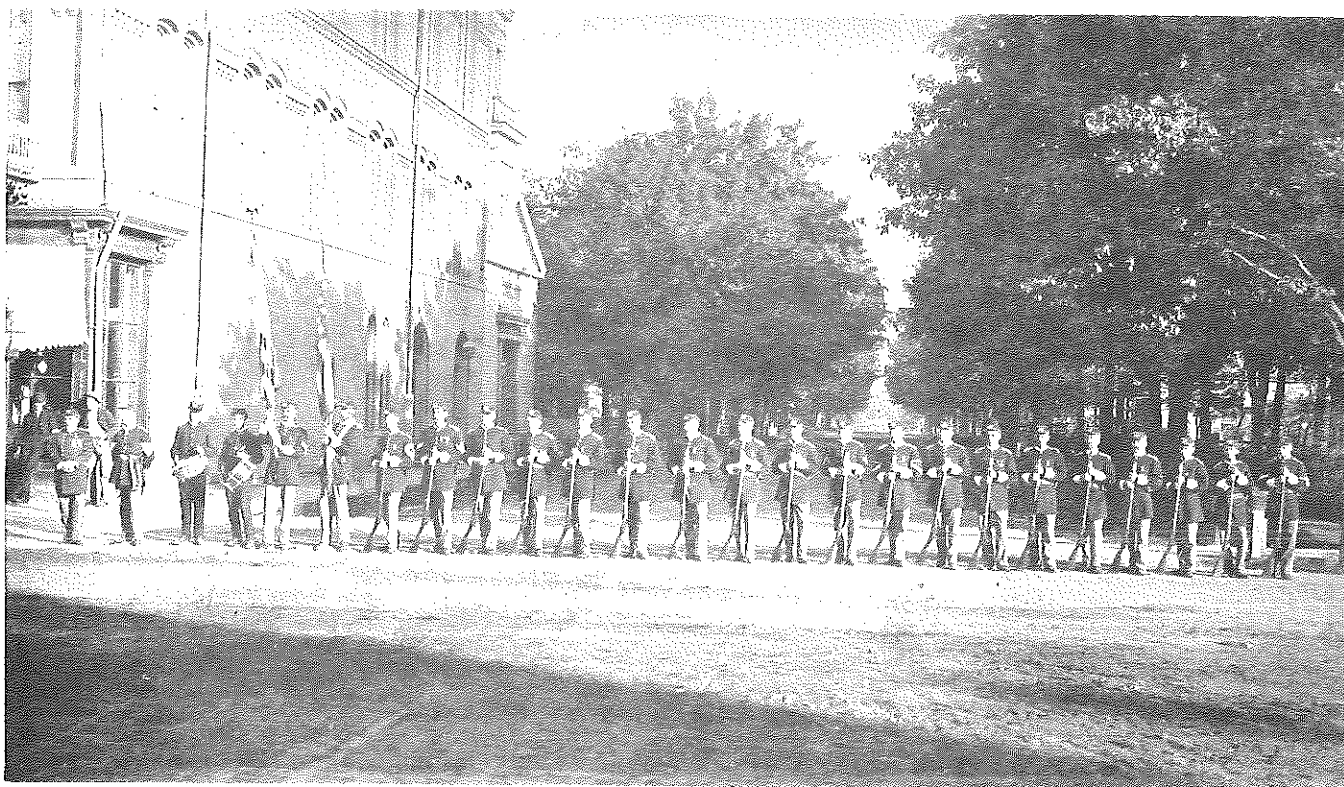
The Jonesville Citizens Band. Front row, left to right: Horace Spencer, Walter Lang, Harvey Zook, Ray Snook, George Clark, — — — —, Merritt Green. Back row: Morrie Snyder, Lee Kelly, — — — —, — — — —, — — — —, J. Carl Bauerly, — — — —, — — — —, — — — —.



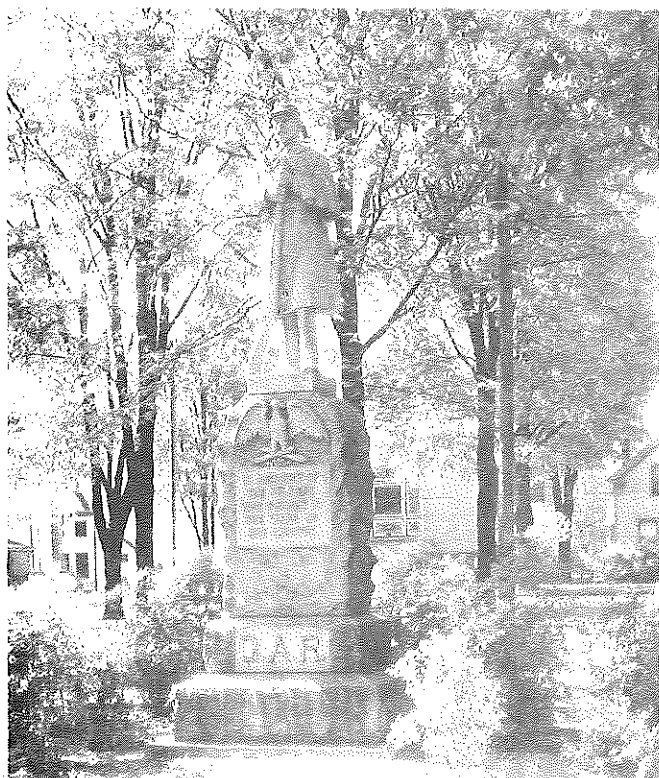
An ad in the Jonesville Independent for a stove sold at Spencer's Hardware.



Lint's Barber Shop at about the turn of the century. Ora Lint, proprietor, is standing at left. The customers are William Manning, left, and Hillie Guise, right.



A company of Union Militia during the Civil War assembled at the main intersection in Jonesville. Notice the old Methodist Church right behind the corner building.



Soldier's Monument, Jonesville Village Park.



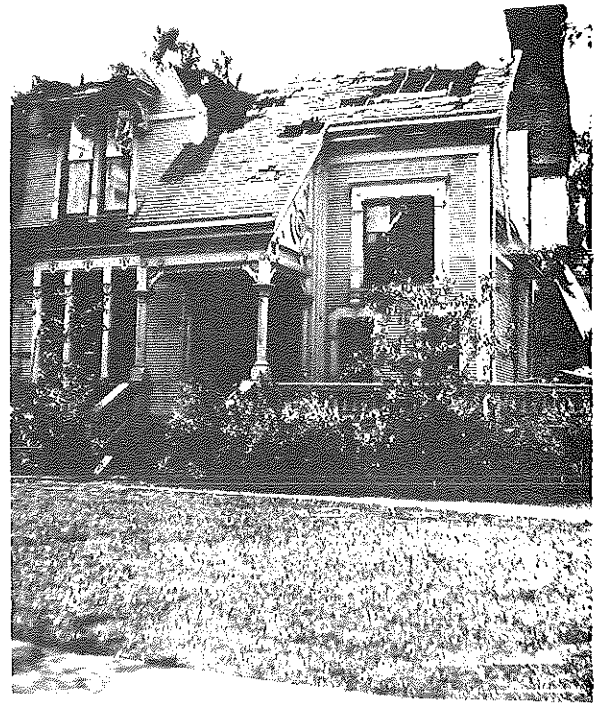
The scene at one of the early Labor Day celebrations in Jonesville, an annual event for years.

White Seal 1861

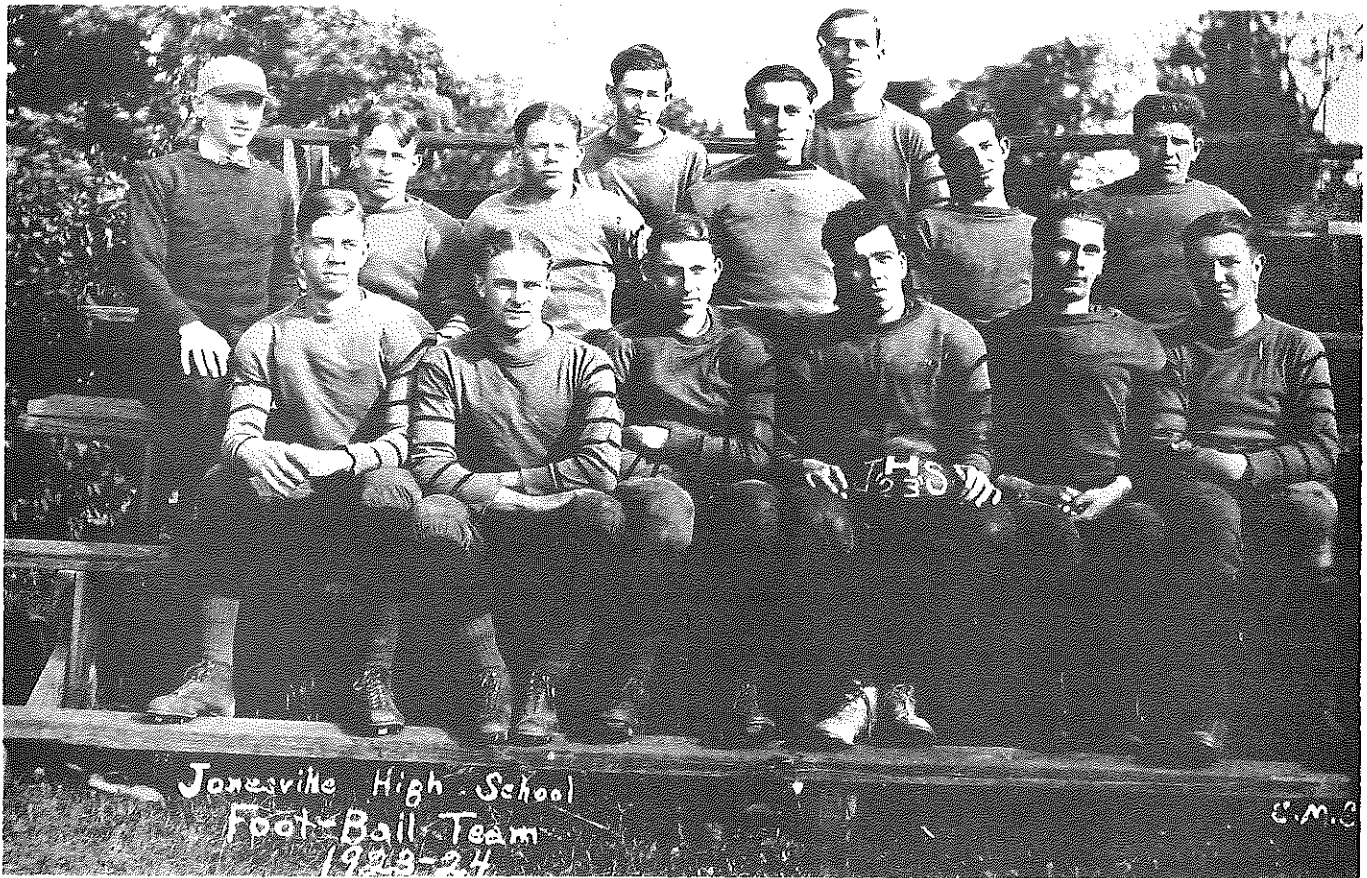
To Mr. E. O. P. Wife & Family. Nov. 30th Dec. 11 59

My dear Children -

We have been waiting for some kind of communication, besides the Telegraph, from your City, but in vain - I therefore will write, in hopes of eliciting from you, some account of your Family state, and other News. And the first thing that enters my mind is, to wish all a happy New Year, And if you are now in good health; May God grant you all, the continuance of the same blessing the Year to come; And also add many Years of uninterrupted health and prosperity, And as all our Comforts ^{from} come from His bountiful Hand, may we so live as to make suitable Returns for such favors by gratitude of heart, Great and numerous are our blessings, and great should be our returns, My health has been good, except a Cough yet continues, and a lame Foot which now confines me to the house, Yesterday Mrs Lewis was buried, Today Old Mr Taylor is entered, George Peabody is very low, It is thought generally, he cannot survive much longer; Chancellor Stoddard is confined to the house, and, cannot live many days, both, with Consumption of the Lungs, Eg^r Luce is also very sick, otherwise it is a time of general Health, All communications are well, Tomorrow a Donation for Mr. Gilberts a Particular Benefit, goes off. Our great Temperance Law is undergoing a test, four have been prosecuted for selling Grog. All are under legal bonds, but one, yet, Drunkenness stalks abroad as usual, We wish much to see you all, We were encouraged yesterday, that we should have shipping but all prospect is gone, As Caroline & Adeline wish to occupy a space on the sheet, I most willingly cease, Accept my Love & grateful Remembrance Please kiss each other for me, and little Hatty, give her many for Grandpapa, E. O. Governor Lady & Dan, Eg^r Your Affec^t Father E. O. Governor
Please remember me to Eg^r Champlin and Family, also Mrs Stanley -



The Charles White home, once located on the corner of Liberty and Maumee Streets, burned down in 1930.



Jonesville High School Football Team, 1923. Front row, left to right: Art Merchant, Lewis Hawkins, Alvin Baird, Joe Wyman - captain, John — —, Harold Collins. Second row: Coach Spotts, Francis Wilkinson, Ed Merchant, Milton Bliss, Alton Smith, Sheldon Fogg. Back row: Willard Gilmer, Lester Smith.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

THE FOLLOWING RULES MUST BE OBSERVED BY EMPLOYEES

1. Factory hours are from 6:55 A. M. to 12 M., and from 1 P. M. to 6:05 P. M. On Saturdays the Factory will close at 5:05 P. M.
2. Employees must not go into any other department at any time except in discharge of their duty, unless they have a pass from their foreman.
3. Employees must not talk unnecessarily to their employees during working hours, and must not loiter in the toilet rooms.
4. Reading papers and books during working hours is strictly forbidden.
5. Employees wishing to be absent from work, or leave the Factory during working hours, must get permission from their foreman.
6. Changing clothes and washing up before the whistle blows is strictly forbidden.
7. No employee will be permitted to take visitors into the Factory excepting by permission from the Superintendent; requests for a friend not to visit you at the Factory will save the foreman requesting them to do so.
8. Employees must register on entering and leaving the Factory; time not appearing on the card will not be paid for.
 - a. Employees are to enter and leave Factory on regular time, and to be at their places ready to start work when the whistle blows.
 - b. Employees are forbidden to mark or cut up the walls, or sidewalks, disfigure the buildings.
 - c. Employees of the paint shop must see that all rags are properly disposed of before leaving the building; this is imperative, and employees neglecting this rule, will be subject to dismissal.
 - d. Any workman found doing work in the factory of any other nature than work for the Company will be subject to dismissal.
9. Foremen will be held responsible for the enforcement of the above rules; disobeying any of them will be sufficient cause, without notice, for dismissal.

THE DEAL BUGGY CO.

Description of Deal Buggies

WOOD WORK OF BODIES

White ash, sills and posts. Body and seat panels yellow poplar, put together in best manner and glued, screwed and plugged. Panels are clamped until glue is dry and hard. Best glue used. Joints and plugs will never show if properly used. Wrought oval corner irons on A and B grade bodies. Sills 2 inches deep.

WE BUILD OUR BODIES

And guarantee superior merit in this respect. Our new bodies are the best and latest style. Under class rounded. Convex panels. Concave seat tops. "Up-to-date" in every way. Seats are deep, giving ample room. High panel backs. Bodies 30 inches long, 20, 22, 24 and 26 inches wide. We also build our Surrey and Spring Wagon Bodies better than we could buy.

GEAR

Parts are selected hickory. All safe woods are fitted and cemented to axle. After hard the wood is finished to the axle, making one solid piece, allowing no joint, and producing the best effect possible.

TIRING WHEELS

We measure around the felloe of every wheel, as no two wheels are exactly alike. The tire is then cut and welded for each particular wheel. The tire is then heated and shrunk on the wheel. We drill through the tire and felloe for the tire bolts, thereby preserving the entire strength of the wheel and tire. Our wheels are carefully seasoned and perfectly dry before tires are set. Wheels must have some "give" to be right. 3/4 inch is more or less. Never run wheels with loose tire or when "felloe bound."

THE PAINTING

All our vehicles is done with greatest care by only experienced day workmen, and using only best stock that can be had. We use the best colors, varnishes, strictly pure white lead and best boiled oil. Bodies painted black. Gears black and double fine gold stripe or lacquer green and carriage glaze stripe. The painting of "Deal" Buggies is a noticeable feature. The metal is polished, buffed, washed and worn, takes as long as others. Our paint never cracks or scales. We use no patent fillers or "quick, cheap system."

TRIMMING

Tops are heavy rubber. Front and back valances are sewed on by hand. Back seats padded and stitched. All cushions made on solid box frames, which never get out of shape, and wears longer than any other style. Wood-lyed cloth used in seats and backs, varnished fast edges. Front and side panels, heavily carpeted, protected. Shifting rails and joints wrought iron. Spring back and cushions made in best manner. High panel backs. Boxes are the best all-white second growth ash.

A GRADE WORK

The A grade has best second growth hickory wheels. Tops are 20 ounce best rubber. Trimming, heavy wood-lyed broadcloth, hair stuffed. Velvet carpet. Round leather on shafts. Highly finished and many details of superior quality. All gears wrought iron. Rubber covered steps. Prices quoted with shafts only. All wrought fifth wheel. King bolt and double safety braces. Resilient longest full length. Gear has an extra coat of the best grade rubbing varnish.



Clark Baker with his Deal auto in 1911 or 1914.



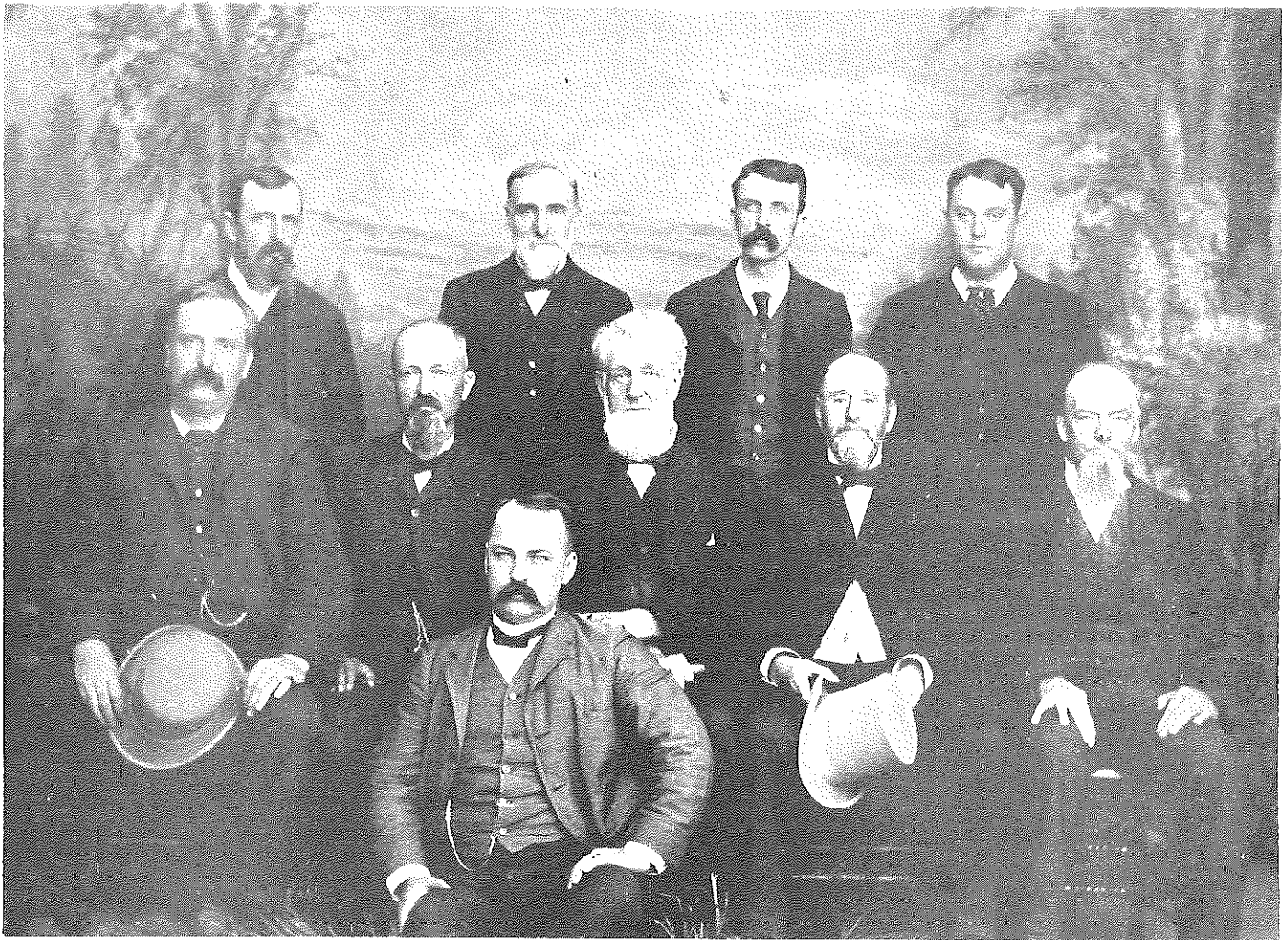
PEOPLE FROM THE PAST



George and Sam Kirby



Dr. H. M. Warren



Business men of Jonesville, August 17, 1885. Top row: James I. Dennis, John Lewis, Walter Taylor, Chas. E. Case. Middle row: Geo. Harding, John A. Sibbald, Witter J. Baxter, E. O. Grosvenor, Andrew Vic. Bottom row: Ed Wisner.



Ella Kelly Cronk

This photo was taken in 1899
Left to right, top row: Chas. Cronk, Ralph Howell, Wills Spencer. Bottom row:
Fred Dryer, Wm. Blauvelt, Ed Green.



Mr. and Mrs. George Munro



(1) Mrs. Albert (Caddie) Pierce; (2) Mrs. Ralph (Gale) Williamson; (3) Mrs. Tucker; (4) Mrs. Chas. Case; (5) Jennie M. Burnett; (6) Alice LeFurgy.



Left to right: Anna Bliss, Elizabeth Mansel Howell, Angie Ransom Spencer, Clara Bliss Reincke, Florence Lambert, Ella Kelly Cronk, Mabel Packer, Fannie Warwick Blauvelt, Myrtle Blossom, Matie Beaumont, Nina Ransom, Rose Lambert Spinner, Grace Graham.

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Litchfield State Savings Bank
Andrew Mack & Son Brush Company
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Marzel Dress Shoppe
May's Furniture
Lester Morton and friends from Michigan Bell
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Plant Nook
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Harry, Connie, Jeff and Brian



THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY
Les, Johncie, Johncie Arlyne and John

In Acknowledgment

The purpose of this booklet is to present an over-all picture of our town. To some who scan these pages, the information is totally new; it provides a first look at the town you are just beginning to know. To others who are long familiar with Jonesville, the stories and pictures contained here stir some old memories. But to all of you who read this book, an opportunity is given – more than an opportunity, a responsibility: Take the time; make the effort to acquire first-hand knowledge and appreciation of the heritage of Jonesville.

We must not let the richness of our past slip away. We must all preserve and pass on the full story of the accomplishments of those who have gone before us. What you read here provides the basic information on the stories of those people. This is only a starting point, a tool to use in your own personal discoveries.

To capture and adequately put into words here the dynamic spirit of the people of Jonesville has been impossible. But that dynamism is the treasure that awaits you if only you seek it. Make the effort! Talk with your friends and neighbors. Listen to their stories. Celebrate their lives!

–The Editors



The preparation of this book required the joint efforts of many, many people. The response to our call for historical pictures and material was overwhelming. We wish to thank all of those people who loaned material and patiently provided descriptions and explanations. We thank, too, Bill Eminger and Monty Powers for their photographic services. To those people – Sherry McKitterick, Elaine Null, Marina Bender, and Carol Langs – who generously gave their time in researching and preparing written material, we extend our sincere thanks. To the many others who assisted us in typing the material, answering our questions, guiding us to the proper sources, and countless other ways, we are also very grateful.

–Les Hutchinson and Connie James, Editors

(Cover design by Johncie Hutchinson)