



1776

1976

HISTORY  
OF  
YORK  
TOWNSHIP

1836 — 1976

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### YORK TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Warren Morris, Chairman, John Schwartz and Edwin Swygart

# THE HISTORY OF YORK TOWNSHIP

The history of York township begins with the acquisition of the Northwest Territory--those lands lying west of the Allegheny Mts. and extending westward to the Mississippi River. This land originally claimed by Virginia, Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia was by 1787 ceded to the national government. By 1784 the federal government was moving to provide a form of government for the territory so the "Ordinance of 1787" was passed.

It provided that the region north of the Ohio River should be organized into no less than three nor more than five states and that when a territory had a population of 60,000 it might be admitted into the union with a status equal to the original states.

This document also contained a "Bill of Rights" guaranteeing freedom of religion, prohibiting slavery, and encouraging public education.

The Ohio Company, having purchased 4,500,000 acres, was ordered by an act of Congress adopted in 1785, to lay the territory out in townships six miles square with 36 sections in each township. Each sixteenth section to be reserved for the support of schools with two townships set aside for a university.

Though the land was possessed by the United States there still remained the problem of the Indian ownership. Many Indian tribes still held land in the territory and had to be dealt with. Among these tribes were the Weas, Ottawas, Pottawattamies, Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanees, Miamies, Kickapoos, Chippeways, and a few tribes of the Iroquois.

The United States government, by purchase and treaty, finally had complete possession of the land in 1842 when the Wyandots ceded the last of their lands and left for Kansas.

In the meantime five states had been set up out of the Northwest Territory: Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and a portion of Wisconsin. Ohio having reached the required population was admitted as a state in 1803.

Van Wert County is one of three counties in Ohio named for three Revolutionary patriots who captured the spy, Major Andre. This eventually led to the disclosure that Benedict Arnold was giving information about the Colonial Army to the British.

To reward these men, John Paulding, David Williams, Isaac Van Wert, the Congress awarded them an annual pension of \$200.00. Today the counties of Paulding, Williams and Van Wert bear their names in their honor.

Today, 1976, prosperous farms, modern homes, and improved roads bear few of the marks of one-hundred and forty years ago for then the land was so level and wet, the forests so dense that crops were raised with great difficulty even after a space had been cleared. Many settlers, therefore, turned their attention to hunting the game which, because of its abundance, provided the necessities of life.

These pioneers were a hardy, industrious group who, at first, had to be content with providing their families with just enough to satisfy their own needs. However they had a vision of the future. Finally they had cleared enough land so that they were no longer dependent on their guns and cultivation of the soil was substituted for the pursuit of game.

In 1845, with the opening of the Miami Canal, a new era was opened and industry and enterprise began to flourish. Timber became valuable and the farmer, while clearing his land, found the timber valuable enough to more than pay for the clearing of the land. This resulted in a fresh impetus to farming the almost inexhaustible fertility of the soil. The possessor of 80 or 160 acres looked about him, and with an appreciation of the opportunities afforded to acquire wealth, took courage anew, and putting his hand to the plow inaugurated that period of agricultural development which has given the county its present prominent rank in the agriculture sections of the state.

Van Wert County was laid out in 1820, but the actual organization did not take place until sometime later. At a session of the County Commissioners held at Willshire in 1837 several townships were named. It was at this time, that York Township was set up. The Commissioners were Jesse Atkinson and Joshua Goodwin.

They ordered that township No. 2 S., R. 3 E., be organized under the name of York and ordered that the qualified electors meet at the house of Mr. Woolery on the 15th of June, 1837 for the purpose of electing officers for said township. There were at this time 23 electors:

Francis Elliot	Robert Thomas
John McCallum	David Walters
Jesse Atkinson	John Arnold
Joshua Goodwin	Joseph Clark
Jacob Ross	Adam Wolford
S. R. Woolery	Jacob Miller
Joseph Moore	James Walters
William Marrs	John Heath
Lewis Culver	Josiah Clink
Jesse Tomlinson	John Keith
Joshua Bridenstine	Tobias Moore
William Norman	

The first ten pioneer families in the township were John Heath, John Rich, Jesse Tomlinson, John Bevington, Washington Mark, John McCallum, Robert Thomas, Jacob Goodwin, John Goodwin and John Keith. By 1847 several more families had arrived.

York Township is bounded on the North by Ridge Township, on the East by Jennings Township, on the South by Mercer County, on the West by Liberty Township. It was divided into 36 sections

of 640 acres each. The sections were numbered beginning with number one in the Northeast corner.

The natural drainage is provided by the Little Auglaize River and its tributaries. This river enters the township at the Southwest section number 31 and continues Northeast leaving through the Southeast corner of section one. By 1886 several auxillary ditches had been constructed to complete the drainage and so make farming a profitable industry.

This area having been a part of the Black Swamp, was extremely wet, but as prosperity came to the settlers they were able to begin the drainage of the land, which is now extremely fertile and highly productive. The few remaining stands of timber are only tokens of the rich forests which were once here.

Growing in those forests were magnificent black walnut, oak, elm, ash, maple, with some sycamore, cottonwood, beech and buck-eye. The abundance of this native timber encouraged the building of the log cabins and as the number of cabins grew the men turned their attention to clearing more land and selling the logs. Some of them going to the east coast to be used in the ship building industry.

The dense forests provided excellent shelter for the wild animals of the area. Wolves, bear, deer, raccoons, wild cats, porcupines, catamounts, and many others. Fur trading, therefore, was another source of income.

There are many stories told illustrating the perils endured by these pioneers from the severe storms, when sufficient protection was not available, to the threat of wild animal and Indian attack. Some of the Indians were, however, kind and friendly.

The pioneer and his family went to sleep many nights listening to the wolves howling and scratching on the cabin walls.

Mr. J. B. Brodnix recounts the story of his family's arrival in York Township. They traveled from Philadelphia, Pa., in 1836 to Dayton, Ohio, crossing the Alleghany Mountains in a Virginia schooner, drawn by a team of mules. They arrived first at Pittsburgh, Pa. There they boarded a boat on the Ohio arriving at Cincinnati, Ohio. From there to Dayton, on to Yellow Springs, finally arriving in York Township in 1839. They lived in a pole pen on the farm of Evan B. Jones while a log cabin on the east half of the southwest quarter of section 3, York Township, was being built.

"When we unloaded, mother and father both cried and offered the man all that they had-\$25.00-to take them back to Dayton, but he refused because of the terrible condition of the roads.

With the help of his neighbors, who lived two, three, and four miles away, my father built a cabin 18 feet square in a dense forest, without a road any place. His neighbors were: David W. McCoy, Daniel Beard, Evan B. Jones, Levi Rowland, John Arnold, Leonard Varner. There was a village of Wyandot Indians on the Little Auglaize a mile and a quarter from us. They were very kind and hospitable.

In December, we moved into the log cabin, half of it was floored with puncheons and had a bed quilt for a door. There was a fire place five by seven feet, a mudback wall and a stick

chimney. When night would come, the wolves would approach the house and scratch and howl until we could hear nothing else. For ten years, between the months of November and February, nothing could be heard except the howling of the wolves and the hooting of the owls."

"The nearest mill was at Piqua so it was necessary, at times, to grind the corn by hand using an oak block and an iron wedge. This coarse meal was made into mush which was eaten along with a chunk of venison or pork."

In 1847 there was quite an influx of immigrants among whom were the Mortimers, Jacob Miller, Leonard Varner, Lee Boland, E. B. Jones, Broadnix Clark, Samuel Curl, Lewis Culver, John Arnold, John Conn, Andrew Putman, Jonas Harp, William Carter, Jesse Clark, Jesse Atkinson, Conrad Hunstead, and John Houser. Though many of their claims had been filed earlier, they did not arrive until later to take possession. The civilization of the wilderness was on the way.

By 1975 the marks of earlier times have passed away. The first sign of progress was the building of roads, so necessary for trade and communication. They soon laced the township. York Township was the first to have all of its roads black topped. State routes 116, 709 and 81, county roads Mendon, Jonestown, Wren-Landeck with the many connecting township ones complete the network today.

The homes are well-kept and modern testifying to the industry of the people and the productivity of the land. Another change is also noted. Many of the farmers not only cultivate their land but also hold jobs in the factories in the neighboring towns and cities--Lima, Delphos, Van Wert, New Haven, Fort Wayne.

York Township ranks high in the production of soybeans, wheat, corn and oats. Some cattle are "fed-out" and milk production is also an important activity. Some beets and tomatoes are produced, but these are gradually giving way to the grain crops.

About 1850 Cyrus Clippinger started a fruit farm with a few Ben Davis apple trees on the southeast corner of the Mendon and Wren-Landeck road intersection.

He was followed by his son, Dean, who developed it until it was known throughout the state for the many varieties of delicious fruit e.g. apples, plums, and peaches. At his death it was sold and the present owner razed the entire orchard.

There are currently two orchards being operated, one by Howard Rauch located in Jonestown and one by J. Pruden on the county line.

In 1900 the discovery of oil in the northeastern part of the township introduced a new industry and Venedocia and Elgin became typical boom towns. The oil soon ran out, however, and agriculture returned to its former prominence and so continues today.

The population of York Township today is five hundred eighty-one.

## JUSTICE OF THE PEACE OF YORK TOWNSHIP

The Justice of the Peace of York Township was elected by the voters of the township for a term of two years. His was a court of original jurisdiction to prevent breaches of the peace and to fine and imprison in cases of minor crimes. He could also perform marriages. This court was abolished in 1957 when a county municipal court was created.

Many of the early cases involved the collection of money due for wages, rent, board and merchandise. One case involved the use of obscene language in the presence of ladies. A young man was fined (1891) \$5.00 for riding on a sidewalk in Jonestown.

A fine of \$2.97 was levied against a man who had falsely charged another for trying to start a fight.

One merchant sued for merchandise showed cashmere at .25 a yard, silk thread .08 a spool, gingham .10 a yard, cambric at .05 and sateen .10. Another case involved stray cattle which had destroyed crops.

Following is a list of the Justices of the Peace who served from 1841 to 1957:

John Goodwin 1841  
John McClain 1844  
W. H. Peasley 1847  
Jonus Hamilton 1853  
John Colwell 1857-1863  
D. W. Evans 1865, 1867  
L. W. Ross 1879, 1881  
J. R. Evans 1881  
D. W. Evans 1895-1896, 1905,  
1911  
C. H. Foster 1915-1946  
Gomer Jones 1953-1957

Lewis Culver 1842  
Conrad Honstell 1846  
David Tracy 1849  
C. Barkdell 1854  
J. F. Tomlinson 1856, 1862, 1865, 1868  
L. F. Ross 1873-1879, 1882  
W. T. Hughes 1880  
W. H. Nicodemus 1883-95, 1898-1900,  
1903  
D. J. Jones 1886-1895  
Lester Morris 1947-1953

## TRUSTEES FROM 1903 TO 1976

A. M. Jones  
Joseph Hughes  
J. E. Prichard  
A. J. Parker  
R. E. Owens  
Allen Price  
S. W. Gamble  
W. W. Williams  
James Nichols  
Lester Morris  
Clarence Owens  
David Owens  
Warren Morris  
John Schwartz

T. R. Hughes  
Henry Smith  
J. M. Thomas  
A. B. Jones  
D. R. Owens  
D. D. Jones  
W. H. Lloyd  
I. N. Breese  
Thomas Rauch  
Charles Prichard  
Robert Wallick  
D. E. Welker  
Edwin Swygart

## CLERKS

J. M. Jones  
J. J. Price  
J. W. Reese  
John Morgan  
Hugh Rauch  
John Evans



# TOWNS

By 1882, the towns of Venedocia, Jonestown, Elgin and Buena Vista had been established.

Buena Vista, now extinct, was founded by Jacob Wallick and named for the Mexican town where a famous battle of the Mexican War was fought.

It was located at the intersection of the Greenville Road and State Route 709. There were four streets sixty feet wide. The main street, known as Wall Street, was often used as a race course, in summer for sulkies, in winter for sleighs. It ran north and south while Canal Street ran east and west. There were several buildings including a post office, Methodist Episcopal Church, general store, saloon, blacksmith shop, saw-mill and ashery. Wood was burned to ashes, the ashes leached (water slowly passed over ashes to extract the lye) and the lye drawn off and concentrated by boiling to make potash, which was used in making soap. Barrels of potash were shipped to the East and South.

One interesting note--whiskey could be purchased for 20 cents a gallon or a better quality for 30 cents. The catch was that they both came out of the same barrel.

The church stood as a testimony to their religious faith and three sons of the founder entered the ministry.

There is now no evidence of this little "hamlet" having existed.

## JONESTOWN

Jonestown, located at the intersection of the Jonestown Road and Jonestown Road 152, in the southwest corner of section 15 and the southeast corner of section 16, began about 1850, when Hugh F. Jones and Abraham Jones purchased land in sections 21, 22 and 28. Mr. "Abby" Jones purchased 160 acres for himself and Mr. David Breese in section 22. Dividing it when Mr. Breese arrived in 1852, Mr. Jones took the east half of the tract and Mr. Breese the west. Also arriving in 1850 were Thomas Hughes, and Griffith Goodwin. They were followed during the next three years by Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas and family, John W. Hughes, Richard Owens and family, John George, John Pritchard and John Richard.

Early known as the Upper Settlement, it soon became known as Jonestown. About 1870, Mr. David Hughes opened a general store to serve the community. He sold to Samuel Simpson and the store then passed through the following owners: James Thomas, John R. Breese, Owen E. Owens, Tucker's, Applegate's to Joe Metzner in 1903-1918, Ed Metzner 1919-1949, Bill Games 1949-1950, Floyd Jacks 1950-1953.

The original building had been remodeled by Mrs. Metzner who attached modern living quarters to the store. Mr. Jacks closed the store and incorporated it in a larger dwelling which is now occupied by Mr. William Nungester.

Jonestown was fortunate to be included on the route of the Toledo, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad which was built in 1876-77. This road, later purchased by the Norfolk and Western



(sometimes referred to as the Clover Leaf) still operates a freight line through Jonestown. The last three agents were Bill Monroe, Adell Metzner Lininger and Gomer Breese who served from 1952-1971.

The Post Office, located in the grocery store, was given the name Tokio by the railroad company because there was already another Jonestown on their route.

By 1886 Jonestown had a sawmill, depot, school house, elevator, and blacksmith shop. Later Mr. L. Zigler built stock yards just west of the elevator.



JONESTOWN ELEVATOR

The elevator was operated by Martin Ries, then Joe Metzner who sold it to a company called the Equity-Coop. They employed Bill Lloyd as manager. It was eventually sold to Charles Krugh who sold it to Orb Wyman. He hired Bill Monroe as manager. At Mr. Wyman's death it was purchased by Chalmer Steel who subsequently sold it to the present owner, John Krugh. Wayne Gamble is the present manager.

The last school house, a frame structure, was purchased by the York Township Trustees. It is now the main part of the Township House. There are hung the pictures of all the classes which were graduated from York School.

The elevator and the Township House along with nine dwellings are all that remain of this once busy community center.

As a part of the Bicentennial celebration a flag pole, donated by the citizens of York Township, and a marble marker, donated by Richard Bebout will be dedicated. The Ohio City American Legion also donated a flag.

As a memento of the past, the trustees have also placed in the Township House the roll-top desk from the Superintendents office, a few of the classroom chairs, and the bell from the school house.



2nd JONESTOWN SCHOOL BUILDING

## ELGIN

The village of Elgin is located in the southwest corner of section 25, the northwest corner of section 35 and the northeast corner of section 35 at the intersection of State Route 81 and Sands Road.

The history of Elgin also begins with the organization of the township. In 1835, Jonathan Van Eman, in 1836 John Smith, in 1837 Jacob Goodwin and in 1832-38 John Keith purchased land in sections 25, 26, 35, 36. By 1859 church was being held in the log school house. It was during this time that the name Yorktown was adopted. However, there existed another Yorktown Post Office on the railroad so the name Elgin was chosen. In 1883 Amy Van Eman, Experience Goodwin, and McDonald Van Eman appeared before the County Commissioners to have the first plat of the village recorded..

At that time 41 lots were surveyed and marked off. Main and Washington Streets ran north and south; Maple, Cottonwood, Walnut, and Van Eman ran east and west. In the same year the J. E. McDonald addition containing six lots was annexed. In 1894, the D. C. Van Eman addition was laid out, adding twenty-three lots. In March, 1896, fifty-eight electors signed a petition asking the County Commissioners for the Incorporation of Elgin. Their agent was Abijah Goodwin. Due to some objections it was necessary to file a second petition in May, 1896. The proceedings were held up for one year because of the objection of Sarah Hennon. Her objection was denied, however, and the incorporation was recorded April 14, 1897. In 1901, the Abijah Goodwin addition provided seven more lots. At this time the population was between two and three-hundred people, many of whom had been attracted by the oil boom.

About 1897, Elgin decided to establish its school system separate from the township and built the first two room village school. However, by 1905, probably because the oil boom was running out, and because the tax duplicate had drastically fallen off, they were rejoined to the township system at their request.

In 1883, the Chicago and Atlantic Railroad passed through Elgin providing a much needed outlet to the markets and passenger service. A depot was erected on the north side of the tracks, on the side west of Main Street. It was purchased by the Chicago-Erie Road, and by 1916 it was double track. The first agents were W. D. Alspaugh, Cal Converse and a Mr. Standish. It ran four passenger trains a day as well as the freight trains. It is now owned by the Erie-Lackawanna which runs only freight trains.

Mr. Sam Dennison was elected the first Mayor and he was also the first postmaster.

There were at one time three churches holding services: The United Brethren, The Seventh Day Adventists and the Methodists. Mrs. "Dr." Davis of Venedocia and Thomas Owens organized the first Christian Endeavor. Presently The United Brethren is the only church holding services.

Mr. Albert Goodwin opened the first store on the west side of Main Street across the railroad. It was a grocery and general

merchandise store later taken over by Marion Goodwin who sold to James Dibert. He was followed by Sam Bitters. Laban Wolf, the next operator, gave calendar plates as souvenirs, a practice used by many store operators at that time. In 1931, Gene Overholt became the owner, but he was there only a few months when the store burned. He then opened a general store and barber shop in a new building which had been erected by Bill Owens north of the railroad on the west side of Main Street. Mr. Davis was the next owner. He sold to Mr. Walter Gehr who had operated it only a short time when he was killed in an auto accident. After his death his wife held an auction and closed the store. It has never reopened.

A combined hardware and shoe store was operated by Newt Tracy and Charlie Roller next to the Wolf store. Later this store was operated by Otis Lininger. Only a skeleton of the building marks the spot where once a store stood.

In 1912, Guy Graham opened a store and blacksmith shop where the present Graham Grocery stands. The first building was just half of the present store. They purchased the pool hall and moved it beside the store and joined it to make a larger building and to provide living quarters above the store. The blacksmith shop was just south of the store. In 1950, the Graham's son Kenneth became the owner and operator of the store, which has been, since his death, operated by his wife. It is also the location of the Post Office. It is, at this time, the only store in Elgin.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Core, at one time, operated a quick lunch store on Main Street, north of the railroad.

There were at one time three doctors, two of whom were Dr. Pfeifer and Dr. Clay. A Mr. Wagner operated a barber shop, and Mr. Shaffer a blacksmith shop.

The woods around Elgin became important sources of lumber and after the railroad was built much of it was sent east for the ship building industry.

During the oil boom Elgin became rather famous as a wide open town. There were three hotels, three saloons, and a dance hall which, said Mrs. Doring, for the summer, had a floor under the stars. The present council house was at one time the village jail.

One very important building was the elevator, located about where the present Elgin Grain Company is. The earliest record obtainable names a Mr. Kolter of Spencerville as the owner and Mike Welker as the operator. It was purchased by Grant Pollock who operated it until 1920, when he sold it to Mr. Orb Wyman and Emery Masters. Mr. Masters retired and in 1953 Carl and Janet Smith became partners. Mr. Wyman died and in 1961 the Smiths became the owners and continue to operate it at this time.

Orange Bennet and Charles Krugh operated stock yards on State Route 81 on the western edge of Elgin. Eli Albright followed Mr. Bennet. The last operator was Chas. Bonifas.

In 1953, Mr. Edwin Bolton started the gasoline and fuel oil business by purchasing the truck from Mr. Davis which had been used to deliver gasoline. Later the business was expanded to include his sons Dick, Jerry, and Bob. That first truck carried 750 gallons. Today they operate three trucks, each with a

capacity of 3,000 gallons and a semi-transport truck. Their storage facility is located on the west edge of Elgin on State Route 81.

In 1957 John Krugh set up the Elgin Service Center which sells and services Brock Storage Bins. It has developed into one of the largest dealerships in this area.

The present Mayor of Elgin is Ashley Muter; the clerk, Sue Brincefield; treasurer, Jean Wentz. Members of the Council are: Kenneth Thatcher, Larry Bowsher, Stanley Baker, Opal Siebert, Junior Bowers and Wayne Gamble.

According to the 1970 Census the population of Elgin is 89.

#### RESIDENTS OF ELGIN, OHIO, 1975

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bolton	Mrs. Erma Rice
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bolton	Mrs. Alda Phelps
Mr. & Mrs. John Krugh	Mrs. Mary Goodwin
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Gamble	Mr. & Mrs. Al Bledsoe
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Heise	Mrs. Leona & Jean Wentz
Mrs. Lois Rice	Mrs. Mary Etgen
Harold Burnett	Mr. & Mrs. Tom Longstreth
Mr. & Mrs. John Phelps	Mr. & Mrs. Phil Bradshaw
Mrs. Mary E. Graham	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Thatcher
Mr. & Mrs. John Lewis	Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Seibert
Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Laughlin	Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Thatcher	Mr. & Mrs. Junior Swygart
Mr. & Mrs. David Knittle	Mr. & Mrs. Ashley Muter
Mr. & Mrs. John Leist	Charles Morris
Junior Bowers	Mrs. Daisy Macklin
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Bowsher	Mr. & Mrs. Jack Brincefield

*On March 1st, 1941 Jean Wentz opened a beauty shop in her home and she continued in business until March 1959, when she moved to her present location.*

#### VENEDOCIA

Venedocia is located on the southeast corner of section 12 and the northeast corner of section 13 on the township line separating York and Jennings Townships.

In May, 1847, three Welsh families left their homeland to come to America. These families were William Bebb of Phin-griafol, Darrownen, North Wales; Thomas Morris, Dolygweiddil, Trefeglwys, North Wales, and J. R. Jervis, Llanbryn-mair, North Wales. After a voyage of six weeks and three days they landed in New York.

Another trip of two weeks took them to Cincinnati and Paddy's Run, Ohio, which was already a Welsh settlement.

In October, 1847, William Bebb, who was then Governor of Ohio, accompanied his newly arrived cousin, William Bebb on a tour through Allen and Van Wert Counties where they purchased land for a settlement. Then in April, 1848, these families came up the Miami Canal arriving at section Ten (Delphos), eight miles from their settlement. They found a rude log cabin in the woods with nearly a quarter of an acre of clearing around it.

The land was covered by a dense forest, harboring rapacious

beasts such as panthers, wolves, and wildcats which frequently awakened the settlers at night by their howling and scratching at the walls.

Delphos at this time had two stores, and a flour mill, so it was there they went for the few necessities they required i.e. flour, sugar, yard good, thread. For these things they exchanged butter at .05 or .06 cents per pound. Eggs brought .05 cents per dozen.

When they went to the mill with grain to be ground, they left about noon so as to arrive by night fall, since it was so extremely dangerous to travel by night through the forest. Arriving at the mill, the horses would be tied to the wagons. The shoppers would spend the night in the mill loft. The flour would be ready the next day so they could return safely.

A story was told of this Black Swamp which shows just how treacherous it was. A man was trying to cross it and his team and wagon became hopelessly mired down. Just at that moment a minister rode up on horseback. The man asked him, "Is there a bottom to this 'mud hole'?" "Oh, yes," replied the minister, "You just haven't reached it yet!"

Having conquered the forest, the settlers turned their attention to improving their surroundings. Mr. Clark built a grist-mill which was later remodeled by Mr. Culver to grind both corn and wheat. A second one was built by Mr. D. Walters close to Venedocia and ex-Governor, Wm. Bebb, erected a sawmill. Their plows were called "bull plows" and were made entirely of wood. The first gunsmith was John Heath. John McConn was the first shoemaker. A profitable marked in the fur and hoop-pole trade was carried on with Delphos. Mr. Benjamin Griffin built the first frame house followed by Mr. Albans who built the first brick which still stands just south of Venedocia on St. Route 709. The first couple to be married in the township was Lewis Tomlinson and Rachel Boroff.



VENEDOCIA MAIN STREET

Soon building and drainage material became important, so businesses were established to furnish both lumber and tile. There were sawmills on the Ellis Oliver farm in Section 2, H. E. Evans in Sec. 12, Adam Stuckey in Sec. 7, Jacob Dibert in Sec. 18, Charles Kneip Sec. 36 and S. Pissler (sawed the lumber for the Rossville school) in Sec. 19.

Tile mills were built on the C. R. Hiller farm in Sec. 3, William Pollock Sec. 1, Edwin Smith Sec. 20, John Goodwin Sec. 25 and A. Holmes.

The settlement continued to develop and in 1861 D. W. Evans, a son-in-law of Mr. Bebb, took possession of that portion of land now occupied by Venedocia.

When Mr. Evans gave the land, he inserted a clause stating that should any part of the premises be used for keeping or selling intoxicating liquors the title would revert to the original owner. This precedent has been followed by inserting this condition in nearly all of the deeds executed since.

In 1863, Mr. Evans sold the first lot for building purposes to Mr. W. E. Jones, who immediately erected a frame building. The next lot was sold to R. J. Whittington and E. A. Evans who erected a storeroom and engaged in the mercantile business.

In 1875 Mr. E. B. Evans made a survey and sold some lots upon which several fine dwellings were erected. There were 16 lots staked at this time. The first addition was made in 1880 at which time 31 lots were added on the east and west sides of Main Street. Bebb Street ran west from Main and Plum, with three lots, ran east from Main. By 1897 there were 73 lots and the townspeople began talking about incorporation. A petition was set up which 43 electors signed. Morgan H. Morgan was chosen spokesman to present it to the County Commissioners. On September 7, 1897, Venedocia was recorded as an incorporated town, with, at that time, a population of between two and three hundred people.

The discovery of oil about 1900 brought the typical "boom" to Venedocia. Many existing businesses expanded and new ones were established. Oil wells were drilled on the M. N. George farm in Sec. 12, on the David Morris farm in Sec. 1, on the David Reese farm in Sec. 1, on the Everett Jones farm in Sec. 2. There were a few wells in York township. Several were drilled in Jennings township at the same time. Unfortunately it was not a very rich field and was soon "pumped off."

In 1903 the Mary Whitling addition was laid out and twelve new lots were made available. They lay between Plum Street and College Street, fronting on Main Street.

About 1877, a group of men raised money to be given to the railroad to bring it to Venedocia. It was very important, for the farmer needed access to the markets and later the oil men needed their supplies. Finally the narrow gauge Toledo, Delphos and Burlington was built. At one time there were four passenger trains, in addition to the regular freight trains, making regular stops. This "Clover Leaf" was changed to standard gauge and finally taken over by the Norfolk and Western which now carries only freight.

One of the widely known establishments of Venedocia was the

livery barn, built in 1907 by W. B. Evans. It was 60 feet wide and 103 feet long. 100 tons of hay were required to feed the 45 driving horses and 16 teams of work horses. Most of the work teams were rented out for work in the oil fields. Mr. Webb Watkins was employed as manager and a number of others, as they were needed, to care for the horses. It was also, now and then, necessary to employ drivers. As was customary all the horses had names and Mrs. Alford Breese recalled that the one she drove as she went about the community giving pinao lessons was Mable. Two hearses were maintained, a white one drawn by a team of grays for the corpse of a young person and a black one, drawn by a black team, for the corpse of an adult. There was always someone in attendance at the barn, and usually it was the older son of the owner, Harries Evans. Tramps also found it a most convenient place to sleep. It cost one dollar to rent a "rig" to go to Middle Point or Van Wert and one dollar and fifty cents to go to Delphos. The stable closed about 1920.

Mr. William C. Morgan and Mr. Jones, about 1898, built a grist mill in Venedocia located at the North end of Main Street. Assisting in its operation was John C. George with Ed Smith as miller and Andy Oliver as fireman. In 1903, as the result of a boiler explosion, the mill was destroyed. Then Mr. Ott Lang rebuilt it and employed Jack Elias Jones to manage it. Later he sold out to Mr. Grant Pollock and his son Kenneth managed it. Unfortunately it too burned; however, Mr. Young and Mr. Odenweller of Delphos rebuilt it and subsequently sold it to the Van Wert County Farm Bureau. It was then under the management of Layton Jenkins. Upon his retirement Carl Morgan took over. He was followed by Edgar Morgan. Then Stanley Pollock operated it until the Farm Bureau closed it. For a number of years it was inoperative. In 1973, Everett Koenig bought the elevator buildings, the ASCS storage bins along with all of the lots lying west of lots 18 and 19 adjacent to the railroad. These buildings are now used for storage.

Morris B. Jones and Brough Jones operated a combined drug and hardware store on the west side of Main Street. They also did an excellent business selling farm machinery and buggies--surreys with the fringe on top. This building was destroyed by fire in 1925. "Morris B." then moved to a brick building which had been occupied at one time by a Boston Store. It was purchased from "Morris B's" son, Palmer and his daughter, Edwina about 1950 by Rudel Good. Shortly after an extensive remodeling it was destroyed by fire in 1952. Mr. Good then erected the building which now stands on the original site. It is at the present vacant.

The following notes have been taken from the references listed, from family records, and conversations with many individuals.

Margaret A. Chapman, the first Welsh child born in the Venedocia community was baptized in 1849. She was, also, the first person married in the Venedocia church.

The first grist mill was a horse powered mill built by Jesse Clark. The second mill was built by D. Walters. The first sawmill was erected by ex-Governor William Rebb, of Butler County, near Venedocia, about 1850.



A Mr. Harry Shaffer owned a tin shop which unfortunately burned. He then moved to Delphos. Later Mr. Dave Griffin established another with Albert Uhl as his assistant.

Several other business operators were Bill Morgan, boiler maker; J. W. Jones, wagon maker; Mrs. "Sadler" Evans and Mrs. W. B. Evans, dressmaker and millinery shops and "Sadler" Evans a harness shop. Mr. Davis and Tom Evans, tailor shops.

There were, at one time, three grocery stores including the Whittington and Evans general store, a fascinating place where one could exchange butter and eggs for groceries, yard good, pins, ribbons and other household necessities. Eventually Mr. Henry Uhl operated the only remaining general store and in 1932 he closed out his stock of domestics continuing only the grocery items. It was purchased in 1946. Glen Howell Morgan and Thomas A. Morgan bought into it in 1947. They eventually erected a new building across the street and moved the grocery there. They continued to operate it until 1956 when they sold to Bill Morgan. After a short time he sold to Mr. Courtney who in turn sold to Mr. Good. After Mr. Good's death it was sold to Lee Lare who operated it until 1975. The building is now owned by Jack Fox. Now, after over one hundred years, Venedocia has no grocery store.

In 1917, Mr. Pryse Morgan, Mr. Jack S. Jones and Mr. Henry Uhl organized a company to furnish electricity. The power was produced by a diesel driven dynamo located on the lot behind the present council house. Mr. Gomer Richards was employed as lineman. The facility was later purchased by the Central Ohio Power Company and in 1955 it was taken over by the Ohio Power Company, the present owner.

In 1902, the Jennings Telephone Company was organized with Dick O. Evans, president, C. B. Stose, vice president and Wesley Weaver, secretary-treasurer. Baynton Burnett and Charles Carolus were employed as linemen. Two exchange offices were set up--one in Converse and one in Venedocia. In Venedocia the "Central" office was located on the second floor over an ice cream parlor in a building which stood just south of the present Flat Land Supply building. The office, later moved to the corner of Main and College Streets, was razed when the Ohio Electro Polishing Company was started. In 1968 the Venedocia exchange was purchased by the United Telephone Company of Ohio, which, at this time, continues to serve.

The Auglaize Post Office was the first post office in York Township. It was located on the Jackson farm in Sec. 32 just off State Rte. 81. Later offices were established at Venedocia, Tokio (Jonestown) and Elgin.

The first postmaster for Venedocia was Mr. John Uhl. He was followed by Mr. "Sadler" Evans who operated a harness shop in conjunction with the post office. Three Rural Free Delivery routes ran out of Venedocia. The carriers were Alban Evans, Bob Thomas, and William C. Morgan. Later one route was divided between the two and Alban Evans and Jenk Davis made the delivery. Later part of the northwestern section of the township was assigned to the Van Wert office so only one route was needed for Venedocia. Jenk Davis continued the one route. When he re-

tired Elmer Miller took over the route which is now serviced by John Evans. "Sadler" Evans served as postmaster for forty-two years. He was succeeded by Pauline Davis, Zelma Evans and the current one, Lee Lare, who assumed his duties in 1965.

The first undertaker was David W. Williams who came to Venedocia in 1877. He was followed by Henry Jones who operated a furniture store and undertaking establishment on the lot just south of the David Van Eman residence until about 1930.

There were at one time four doctors: Dr. Owens, surgeon, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Davis, and Dr. Morgan, dentist.

Mr. John Uhl operated a cobbler shop and shoe store.

There were several blacksmith shops--one operated by D. Davies, one by John Pritchard, one by Chas. Nesbeitt, and one by Morgan Thomas. Two supply houses serviced the oil fields. The three boarding houses were primarily for workers in the oil fields.

About 1914, Mr. David B. Jones built the cement block building located on North Main Street for a garage which was operated by Lester Burnett and Steve Schobe. It is not now in operation.

Mr. Stephen J. Jones operated a barber shop on Main Street. He was followed by Frank Hurless who as succeeded by his son "Buss". The building is now occupied by the Ree Beauty Shop which opened in 1967 as Jan and Ree's. Since 1969, however, Ree has operated the shop as sole owner.

In 1950 Mr. Gerald Koenig established the Ohio Electro Polishing Company, Inc., in Venedocia. It is located on the corner of Main and College Streets. His sons, Gerald and Ted are the present owners and very successful operators of the company.

In 1947, Everett Koenig opened a hardware in his house across the street from the parsonage. In 1966, deciding to expand he organized the Flat Lands Supply Company and purchased the building just south of the Post Office for a sales room. It is, at this time, a very busy and prosperous enterprise. Because of its historic interest (it is the oldest building, dating back to the early 1860's) Mr. Koenig has kept the building intact even to the original potato and vegetable bins.

Now, in 1976, these three businesses along with the Post Office comprise the commercial activity of this once bustling community.

Socially there were for a number of years Chapters of Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Grange. It was largely through the efforts of the Grange that Rural Free Delivery came to the Venedocia community.

There are three cementeries in York Township: Wright, Goodwin and Venedocia. All are maintained by the York Trustees.

In 1945, a committee, inspired by the Rev. Gerald Johnson, began planning for a memorial for those who had served in the Armed Forces. This committee, composed of Joe Williams, Lloyd Reese and Bob Morris, selected a site and purchased the three acres from D. B. Evans adjacent to the "old" part of the Venedocia cemetery. The Piqua Granite Company was contacted and the present design was chosen. Dedicated in 1947, it is titled "An Altar of Peace" and bears this inscription: In

memory and in tribute to the members of this community who so nobly served our nation in Her several Wars. The Veterans' Memorial Park trustees hold the deed and are responsible for its care and upkeep. Since originally the last conflict listed was World War II the present trustees thought that those who fought since then should also be listed. The idea was submitted to the churches and they agreed. The trustees, Clarence Reese, Lee Lare, and Howard Richards then appointed a committee representing the churches and the township trustees. From Zion, Mrs. Latimer Breese and Mrs. Edwin Swygart. From Salem, Paul Ashton and Hugh Pugh and Warren Morris from the trustees. They are now in the process of selecting a suitable addition to the existing structure. The white marble columns, standing picturesque knoll, framed by the majestic green trees, form an inspiring scene for the annual Memorial Day Services.

In 1961, A Lions' Club Chapter was organized with twenty-four charter members. Middle Point was the sponsoring club. The charter members were:

John C. Lloyd, Jr., Pres.  
David W. Pollock, Treas.  
Latimer Breese, Dir.  
David H. Evans, Lion Tamer

D. Harries Evans  
Daniel Foster  
W. Everett Jones  
Stanley Pollock  
Marvin Evans  
Gerald Koenig  
Fred Taylor  
Howard Rauch

Jack Fox, 1st Vice Pres.  
Carl Smith, Sec.  
Lawrence Vandemark, Dir.  
Donald Richards, Tail  
Hugh O. Pugh Twister  
Olen Coil  
Howard Richards  
Ellis Lloyd  
Paul Price  
Edward W. Williams  
Merle Wilkins  
Edgar Morgan

The Club has grown over the years and contributed much to the community. They now have a modern, completely equipped club house which is used for many activities. It may be rented for private parties such as family reunions and alumni class dinners. Last year it was the scene of a most successful community dinner. They sponsor a Christmas treat and Easter egg hunt. They have built a tennis court and supply various other recreational equipment. They also participate in the Lions' National eye glasses program. The current officers are: Everett Koenig, Pres.; Bebb Jones, 1st V. Pres.; Bob Patterson 2nd V. Pres.; Vaughn Morgan, 3rd V. Pres.; Paul Price, Treas; David H. Evans, Sec.; Paul Ashton, lion tamer, Ronald Owens, tail twister.

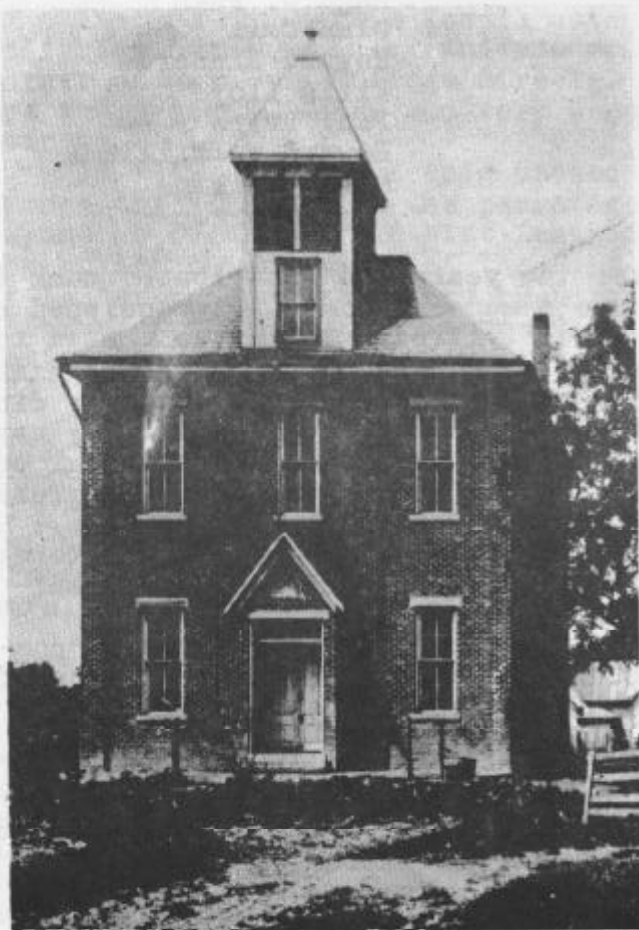
In 1946, a group met to discuss forming a permanent committee to improve and administer a ball diamond for the benefit of the community. They organized the Venedocia Recreational Committee with Henry Uhl, Earl Monroe, Jenk Davis, Glen H. Morgan, Manfor Lytle, Elliot Jones, David W. Morris, Vaughn Morgan and Rev. Gerald Johnson. They improved the grounds, built bleachers, erected fence and eventually installed lights. The refreshment stand was painted and improved. The park is continuously in use during the baseball season. The current directors are: Wally Smith, Hayden Williams, John C. Morris, and Dick Zirkle.

One custom which was common to all the early grocery stores in the area was the maintenance of a huckster wagon. This was, at first, a light, covered, horse-drawn wagon stocked with a selection of groceries, which was driven around the community, stopping at each residence. The lady of the house would come out to make her selection and perhaps trade some eggs or poultry for her purchases. Later the wagon was replaced by a truck, but the shopping remained just as interesting. By 1940, the practice was discontinued.

The present Mayor of Venedocia is Robert Louth, the clerk, Lee Lare, president of the council, Paul Price. Council members: Ronald Richardson, Richard Coil, Vernon Hobbs, Everett Koenig, and Robert Beerman. According to the 1970 census, the population is about two hundred.



MRS. DAN O. EVANS



TWO ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE  
Elgin and Venedocia Each Had One

#### YORK TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS OF VENEDOCIA, OHIO, 1975

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Coil  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wagoner  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Sipusic  
Mrs. Mary Evans  
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Binnion  
Mr. & Mrs. Emil Schnelle  
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Ringwald  
Mr. & Mrs. James Francis  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Lybold  
Mrs. Bertha Davis  
Dewey Diss  
Mr. & Mrs. Layton Jenkins  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Ashton  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Beerman  
Mrs. Ruby Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Billie Binnion  
Mrs. Edith Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. William Eutsler  
Richard Gray  
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Lare  
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Burnett  
Mrs. Myrtle Evans  
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Monroe  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Price  
Leonard Millisor  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Perez

## VENEDOCIA WELSH GLEE CLUBS

One of the outstanding characteristics of the Welsh people is their love of singing and Venedocia is no exception. Music has been an important part of their lives from the first settlement when the singing of hymns was always a part of their worship service. They encouraged soloists, but placed great emphasis on choral singing.

One of the early institutions that did much to encourage singing and the arts and crafts was the Eisteddfod. This was a day devoted to competition for singers, readers, translators, penmen, photographers, knitters, and woodworkers.

A program for a 1917 Eisteddfod listed 54 numbers for competition, 19 of them musical numbers. The program began about nine o'clock in the morning and often was not completed before midnight.

The first Venedocia Male Chorus was organized about 1890 under the direction of Bob Thomas. The group, under the direction of guest conductor Hugh Owens, went to Seattle, Washington, to compete in the National Eisteddfod about 1901, winning first place.



VENEDOCIA MALE CHORUS

Left to right, Row 1, Roy Morgan, Howard Richards, Row 2, Howell Reese, Ambrose Breese, Haydn Morgan, Director, Hayden Jones, Howard Hughes, Gwenlyn Jones, Maldwyn Jones, Luther Jones, Row 3, Rufus Thomas, Edward Jones, Stanley Roberts, Reese Morris, Lester Cole, Wendell Morgan, Layton Jenkins, Talford Morgan, Osborne Jones, Cradog 'Bill' Jones, Row 4 Gordon Jenkins, Elliot Morris, Talmage Hughes, Richard Owens, Rufus Morris, Gaylord Jones, Daniel Evans, Herbert Davis, Harris Evans, Glen Owens, Joe Williams.

In 1897, the Venedocia Male Chorus purchased the frame church, which was being replaced by the present stone structure. They named it the Cambrian Hall and set it on the next lot north of the present church.



A story is told of Bob Thomas taking the group to Columbus, Ohio, to compete in the State Eisteddfod. He had to have exactly so many men. On arrival he found he was one short, so he went out on the street and got one, brought him in, told him where to stand, and then said, "Don't you dare open your mouth."

Jim Jones became the next director and the chorus continued until about 1914 when interest began to wane. This group jokingly referred to themselves as the "cornhuskers".

Then, in 1918, the Cambrian Glee Club was organized at the instigation of a quartet composed of Howard Hughes, Gwenlyn Jones, Haydn Jones and Haydn Morgan. They had been very active singing at various churches and civic organizations throughout Van Wert County and sensed the desirability of forming a glee club. Thirty-six young, single men joined the chorus. They chose Haydn Morgan for their director and Austin Pollock for their accompanist. They gave many concerts in the towns of the surrounding area even traveling to Columbus for a concert. Soloists were: Daniel Evans, Luther Jones, Maldwyn Jones, Reese Morris, Glen Owens and Austin Pollock. In 1920, Haydn Morgan left the community to enter a wider field of music and Oswald Jones took over the duties of conductor.

The custom of a yearly reunion on the Saturday night before Labor Day began in 1930 and continues to the present time. Until 1956 the group presented one number during the morning worship service. They were forced to discontinue this practice in 1956 because of the difficulty of getting adequate rehearsal time and their voices were not as flexible as in earlier years. Maldwyn Jones, however, continued to represent the group each year by singing a solo, a practice he continued until his death.

After a slight lull in musical activity, Mr. Alford Breese, in 1930, organized a group and they presented a minstrel show on the stage at York School.



MALE CHORUS AT WINONA LAKE ABOUT 1900

Left to right, Row 1, Dick O. Evans, Rev. D. E. Jones, Fred Morris, Steve Jones, Alice Jones, Bob Thomas, Director, John Russel Evans, Wm. Evans, Unknown, Row 2, Jim Jones, Morgan Thomas, Howell Jones, Dan O. Evans, Rev. Gordon, Brough Jones, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Wm C. Morgan, Heber Richards, Row 3, Gene Humphries, Wm Morgan, Jr., Alban Evans, Unknown, Evan J. Morgan, Unknown, Ben Jones, Henry Jones, Bob Evans, Unknown, Unknown, Mark Evans, Evan Morgan, Dick S. Jones, Bill Reese, Griff Jones, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown.

# DOCIALITES

In the fall of 1945, a new singing group was organized in Venedocia. It was made up of the members of the Alpha Kappa Sunday School Class, their husbands, the Young Men's Class and their wives, making a total of about fifty-one. They chose the name Docialites and elected Elliot Jones, Pres.; Marguerite Evans Fissel, V. Pres.; Edgar L. Morgan, Sec.-Treas.

After much discussion they decided to present a minstrel show with R. Paul Jones as general director, Kathryn Good as musical director, and Marguerite Evans as rehearsal pianist. The show was presented in the Cambrian Hall on Thursday, Friday, Dec. 27, 28, 1945 and January 3, 1946. End men were Elliot Jones, Edgar L. Morgan, Manford Lytle, Paul Ashton, Ervin Jones, and R. Paul Jones. Interlocutor, Vaughn Morgan. Don Underwood's Orchestra of Van Wert furnished the accompaniment.

Mr. Roland Evans, District Manager of the Wapakoneta Production Credit Ass'n. was so pleased with the performance that he gave them a contract for five performances: Van Wert, Lima, Sidney, Bellefontaine, and St. Marys.

On Friday, Dec. 27, 1946 and Jan. 2, 3, 1947 their second show opened. R. Paul Jones, general director, David E. Jones, musical director, Kathryn Good, rehearsal director, and Marguerite Fissel, Alliene Myers, rehearsal pianists.

By January 1948 a third production was ready for presentation. This one was a "straight" musical program under the direction of David E. Jones. Soloists were: Glen Owens, Lee Lare, Gerald Johnson, and Ivan Bailey.

The next production "Gypsy Rover" a musical, was produced in 1950 with Carl Morgan as director. Eleanor Evans Morgan and Tommy Morgan played the romantic leads supported by R. Paul Jones, Marilyn Evans Stockton, Vaughn Morgan, Dorothy Williams Allen, Marvin Evans, Manford Lytle, Mary Beerman, Ivan Bailey with the Docialite Chorus.

For their fifth production the Docialites again chose a minstrel, which unfortunately for their enthusiastic patrons, was their last performance. Appearing in the chorus were Violet Ashton, Latalia Jones, Donna Morgan, Margaret Davis, Pat Hanley (pianist) Eleanor Morgan, Miss Zigg, Marcella Richards, Myrtle Jones, Ethel Lloyd, Pauline Davis, Helen Lytle, Marcile Lare, Georgiana Miller, Gwen Evans, Mary Beerman, Elsie Morris, Margaret Good, R. Paul Jones, Vaughn Morgan, Tommy Morgan, David J. Evans, Rudel Good, Lee Lare, Marvin Evans, David H. Evans, Robert Beerman, John L. Reese, John Evans. The end men: Charles Boroff, Donald Richards, David W. Morris, Manford Lytle, Lloyd Miller and Earl Davis and Interlocutor, Harvey Albright.

The Venedocia-Zion Brotherhood organization had owned the Cambrian Hall for a number of years. In 1959, because of the expense of upkeep and high taxes they decided to sell the building to a Mr. Blaine who razed the building. Some of the lumber was purchased by Frank Rigdon who was at that time building a house to replace his which had been destroyed by



fire. And so the next to the last public, historic landmark disappears from the Venedocia scene.

In 1929, Mr. Alford Breese produced a local minstrel show.



1st DOICIALITE MINSTREL SHOW 1945-46

1st row (seated) left to right, Ervin Jones, Elliott Jones, Paul Ashton, Vaughn Morgan, Interlocutor, Manford Lytle, Edgar L. Morgan, R. Paul Jones, 2nd row, Eloise Evans, Pauline Miller, Jane Morris Bates, Romaine Owens, Grace Jones, Rae Morgan, Margaret Davis, Mildred McDonald, Helen Bolton, Ann Johnson, Mary E. Beerman, Maxine Morgan, 3rd row, Dorothy Roenig, Evelyn Reese, Mildred Owens, Helen Lytle, Margaret Good, Dorothy L. Allen, Kathryn Good, Latalia Jones, Grace Evans, Marguerite Fissel, Ruby Jones, Elsie Morris, Lila Monroe, 4th row, Palmer Morris, John L. Reese, David J. Evins, Richard Owens, Robert Beerman, Gerald Johnson, Eugene Good, Tom Monroe, Glenn Owens, Marvin Evans, Palmer Davis, Thomas L. Evans, Everett Koenig, Ira McDonald.



2nd DOICIALITE MINSTREL 1946-47

Seated, Ruth Williams Evans, Martha Morris Droll, Bertha Evans Now, Gwen George Evans, 2nd row, Helen Breese Lytle, Marguerite Evans Fissel, Doris Morgan, David Hugh Evans, Vaughn Morgan, Interlocutor, Latalia Runion Jones, Mary Evelyn Jones Beerman, Pauline Davis Miller, (Don Underwoods Orchestra). Don Underwood, Elsie Morris (Mrs. Palmer), Evelyn Reese, Marcile Millisor Lare, Hilda Medaugh Morris, McDonald (Mrs. Ira), Grace Showalter Jones, Romaine Yoh Owens, Helen Bolton, Evelyn Jones (Mrs. Ellis), (Orchestra Members), 3rd row, Bill Morgan, Hayden Lloyd, Don Fissel, John J. Morris, Rev. Gerald Johnson, Dorothy Williams Allen, David Allen, Bob Errrman, Richard Owens, Everett Koenig, John Luther Reese, Mrs. Thomas Morris, last row, John Evans, Manford Lytle, Don Richards, Lee Lare, David Wayne Morris, David E. Jones, Marvin Evans, Paul Ashton, Edgar Howel, Paul Dick Jones, Palmer Morris.



#### GYPSY ROVER

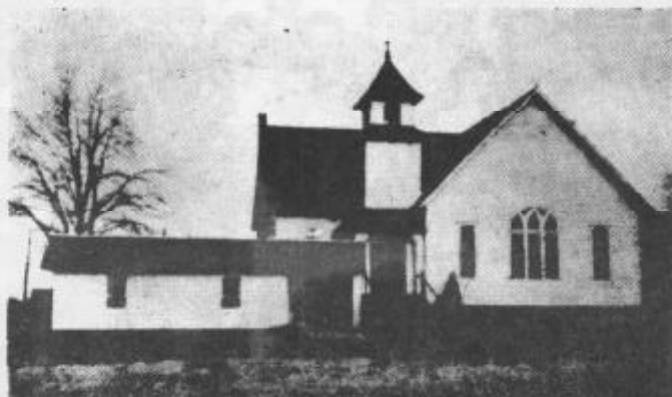
Front, left to right, Nancy Owens, Bev. Koenig?, Sharon McDonald, 2nd, Gene McMasters, Reese Davis, Tom Jones, Adult, Karl Morgan, Pat Hanley, R. Paul Jones, Marilyn Evans, Vaughn Morgan, Dorothy Lee, Elinore Morgan, Tommy Morgan, Marvin Morgan, Manford Morgan, Mary Evelyn Morgan, Ivan Bailey, John Luther, Marcella, Violet, Ethel Jane, Carol Sue Waltz, Mary Louise B. Alice Bailey, Hilda Morris, Eloise E., Margaret Davis, Helen Lytle, Donna Morgan, Latalia Jones, Mildred McDonel, Doris Morgan, Anna Lee, Rex Bailey, Back, Hayden L., David W., David Allen, Don Richards, John Evans, Robert Beerman, David Hugh, Edgar L.

Allen  
Evans  
Lytle  
Beerman



Seated left to right, Charlie Boroff, Donald Richards, David W. Morris, Harvey Albright, Manford Lytle, Lloyd Miller, Earl Davis, 2nd row, Pauline Miller, Helen Lytle, Marcile Lare, Georgianna Miller, Gwen Evans, Mary Beerman, Elsie Morris, Margaret Good, 3rd row, Violet Ashton, Latalia Jones, Donna Morgan, Margaret Davis, Pat Hanley, Eleanor Evans, Miss Zigg, Marcella Richards, Myrtle Jones, Ethel Jane Lloyd, 4th row, R. Paul Jones, Vaughn Morgan, Tommy Morgan, Hayden Lloyd, Rudel Good, Lee Lare, Marvin Evans, David Hugh Evans, Robert Beerman, John Luther Reese, John Evans,

# CHURCHES



## *A HISTORY OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST CHURCH*

*Elgin, Ohio — 1859-1975*

The United Brethren in Christ Church at Elgin springs from a pioneer people who settled in the southeastern section of York Township in the early years of the 19th century. Life was primitive, transportation was minimal; there were no stores, no railroad, not even a crossroad. The only road in the area was one which angled from Delphos to Mercer by way of Venedocia and Mendon. Other routes were simply bypaths marked by trees blazed to indicate the course. Men and women had to work long hard hours just to stay alive and contact with neighbors was rare. In a history of the Elgin church which was written in 1921 by Willard D. Alspaugh he observes, "in conditions like these the hearts of men then probably more than today had a desire for spiritual food and a place where they might be able to congregate and worship God together."

This desire led first to the people gathering in homes, but by 1850 they were holding services in a log schoolhouse which was located near the northeast corner of the present intersection of State Route 81 and the Sands Road. Official organization of the group as the Mount Zion United Brethren Church occurred in 1859. Rev. Daniel Hindricks served as pastor to the eighteen charter members. The preachers of this era were circuit riders and the Mt. Zion Church was on the same circuit with the Hopewell United Brethren Church which was located one mile north of Converse. Of interest is the fact that people of the Methodist and United Brethren denominations built the Hopewell Church together, each group using the building for its own services. Later the Methodists sold their interest and moved to their present location in Converse which was originally named Centerville.

By 1867 the people of Mt. Zion decided that they wanted a "proper" church building and they proceeded to build one, using their own skills and brawn. The logs for the 24 by 30 foot structure were hewed by Jehu Goodwin from cottonwood trees

which grew on the site where the Elgin elevator now stands. After the logs were all cut they were hauled to a location across the road and south of the schoolhouse which had been serving as a meeting house. The roof of the building was split out of timber, completely handmade. There were two front doors, one for the men and one for the women. The interior boasted a raised platform and an Amen corner. Nearly all of the work for the construction of the church was donated, but it is a matter of record that Aunt Amy Parrott gave a cow toward paying for the planing of the seats, a task which was performed by a Mr. Slentz.

When the building was completed and the time came for dedication, it was given the name of Mt. Zion United Brethren Cottonwood Church. People came to the services on horseback, in wagons drawn by oxen, and even more often on foot, using hickory torches to light their way through the forest. The only light in the building itself was furnished by tallow candles. There were no musical instruments, but there was a singing master--Johnson Van Eman, whose home was referred to as the "home of the preachers." Preaching services were held the year round and Sunday School in the summer. This was accomplished without benefit of quarterlies and study aids; all lessons were taken directly from the Bible. The preachers, most of whom rode horseback from Van Wert to fill their appointments, were paid a very small salary.

This log church served the community well and, according to Mr. Alspaugh, "They had many good meetings in the old log church, where the power of God was made manifest at many different times." In 1891 it became necessary to build a new church and the deserted log church stood as a landmark for many years. The last service held there was a sunrise prayer meeting in the summer of 1917 during a Christian Endeavor Convention. Shortly thereafter the old log Cottonwood Church was torn down.

When a new church was built in 1891 a new location was obtained in the southwest part of the town, on the northwest corner of Van Eman and Washington Streets. The frame building, 32 by 48 feet, was capped by a belfry. The bell which was installed then is still in use in the present church, having pealed out its invitation to worshipers for nearly eighty-five years. An innovative feature of the interior was the lighting system. Gasoline mantle lamps were used, but the fuel was supplied from a central source. The building was dedicated in the fall of 1891 by Bishop Floyd. The Rev. J. M. Sherer was the pastor. Twenty-three names appear on the membership roll in August of 1891; two years later there were forty-six names. Some of those names are Benjamin and Charlotte Goodwin, Isaac and Mary Ann Slantz, Charles A. and Elizabeth Roller, Thomas and Ida Owens, Mary J. Wentz, Rozilla Thomas, Silas Rice, David Hughs and others who were important citizens of the area.

Church records for the years 1903 to 1911 are missing, but it was probably during this time that the church became known as the Elgin class rather than the Mt. Zion charge. It became a part of the circuit which was made up of the

Monticello, Mt. Union, and Elgin churches, all of whom were served by the same pastor. Thus it became his duty to preach three sermons each Sabbath.

The year of 1924 became a year of decision for the seventy-five members whose name then appeared on the church roll. The congregation had been bequeathed a sum of money by Mr. Bill Jones of Van Wert. So far as can be determined Mr. Jones was not a member of the Elgin Church. His interest stemmed from the fact the Mrs. Ida (Goodwin) Owens, a lifelong member, was his niece and as a girl had spent much time in his home. Mr. Jones' will provided that to receive the money there must be a new church building in construction by December 31, 1924. One can imagine the discussions which must have developed. The chief occupation of the membership was farming and, though they probably lived comfortably, cash was not readily available and it would take a great deal of faith to embark on such a venture. Late in 1924 the decision was made to build and since the new church was to be on the same location, it was necessary to tear down the old building. Volunteer labor from members and non-members alike aided in its demolition. All usable material was salvaged to be used in the construction of the new building. Before the year ended the foundation was laid, even though special means had to be used to keep the cement from freezing in the wintry temperatures.

Church trustees were Gettys Goodwin, Clyde Goodwin, William J. Owens, Eltie E. Welker, and Harvey M. Zimmerman. Mr. Welker's sons recall that their father made a scale model of the proposed building and that he was very much a part of its planning and actual construction. A Mr. John Wells was hired as the builder but nearly all labor was donated. The plans called for the 32 by 48 foot dimension of the original building to be used as the base for the sanctuary, and to this was added the pulpit area to the north and the 30 by 48 foot space to the south which served as an entry way and for classrooms. Forty-eight foot timbers used in framing the structure are said to have been obtained from the woods of Thomas J. Owens who lived two miles from the church and had been a member since 1891 and its Sunday School superintendent for twenty-five years. A basement housed a coal furnace and a Delco plant furnished light for the interior. Specially designed arched windows were placed in the east and west ends of the sanctuary and the pews which had been purchased from a church in Allentown, Ohio were delivered to Elgin by wagon. The pulpit was the one which had seen service for so many years in the old church.

When the old bell in its new belfry rang out its invitation on a bright autumn Sunday in 1925, the worshipers must have listened with a feeling of prayerful pride and thanksgiving. The occasion was the dedication of the new church building with Bishop W. E. Musgrave as the official in charge. Although Rev. Charles Weyer was pastor during the planning and building of the church, it was Rev. Preston E. Horst who took part in the dedicatory service. He had been



assigned to the Elgin charge in August. The money required to wipe out the building debt was oversubscribed on the dedication day, so a congregation's step in faith was more than rewarded.

1925 seems to have been the peak year in the history of the Elgin United Brethren in Christ Church so far as enrollment is concerned. Ninety names appeared on the membership roster for that year. During the rest of the 1920's and through the 1930's the number fluctuated, ranging from sixty to ninety. A glance into the records of the 1940's shows a definite downward trend in membership. Doubtless much of this was caused by the war and its subsequent redistribution of young people. Higher education can also take some of the credit; returning service people took advantage of the GI Bill and trained for jobs which took them to far parts of the country and even into foreign lands. As these young men and women moved away Elgin suffered the loss of many potential members, as did most country churches. But during these years there remained a core of faithful people who maintained the church, supporting and fostering the beliefs upon which the Christian Church is founded. Family names which appear during these years are Alspaugh, Bassett, Bolton, Boroff, Bowsher, Galloway, Goodwin, Hughs, Morris, Nolan, Oberlitner, Owens, Welker, Wilkins and others. Some of the preachers who served are Howard A. Anderson, M. I. Burkholder, W. C. Davies, Clarence Cosey, Paul Graham, Deloyd Garwood, G. Winson Ledbetter, Carlyle Seiple, C. M. Sill, and C. N. Van Gundy.

By the late 1960's the patient prayers and faithfulness of the congregation and its pastors seemed to be reaping a reward. Attendance at all services was increasing, growing numbers of children and teenagers were being drawn into the youth program, new families with young children were coming, a group of mission-minded women was flourishing, and the facilities of the church were being overcrowded. The need for more space for church activities were repeatedly brought before the people by Marvin Welker, superintendent of the Sunday School. On July 15, 1973, the congregation voted to build a fellowship hall. A building committee was appointed, plans were drawn up by Richard Welker, a contractor was hired, groundbreaking ceremonies were held in March of 1974, and construction was underway. On November 10, the new classroom/fellowship facility was dedicated with Rev. Howard Anderson as the guest speaker. Rev. Carey G. Knittle was and is still the resident pastor.

An outstanding job was performed by the building committee which planned for and oversaw the construction. These men are Chairman Marvin Welker, Richard Bolton, Larry Bowsher, Larry Welker, and Richard Welker. Individuals and organizations within the church have supplied necessary items which were not covered in the building budget. The costs of the large folding doors, of a new piano, of the window draperis, of folding tables and chairs, of large kitchen appliances, of new cleaning equipment have all been underwritten by individuals. The youth organization donated money to purchase new lights for the sanctuary and the Women's Missionary Association has supplied the cabinets for the kitchen. Hours of time have also been given freely to make this dream of a beautiful new facility a reality. Other dreams are now beginning to reach

their culmination. That magic number of ninety which marked the high attendance in 1925 would soon be surpassed. Eighty-five percent of the debt has been paid and there is a rising hope that the indebtedness can be wiped out by year's end. This is being made possible by the generous and unselfish giving of friends in the community as well as by regular supporters and members of the church.

When Mr. Alspaugh wrote his history of the Elgin United Brethren in Christ Church fifty-four years ago, his concluding paragraph read, "...we would say that the United Brethren Church at Elgin has always stood with the community in sickness and sorrow. She has rejoiced with those who rejoice; she has mourned with those who mourn; to those who have had to lay away loved ones, she has always extended her sympathy; she has prayed with dying men and women. If we would dare venture a prophecy we would say that if the United Brethren Church in Elgin or any other church anywhere else wants to prosper spiritually and build up the community in which it stands, its people must keep close to the cross, but on the under side of it, and not be afraid to lift up the Holy Nazarene, who suffered, bled and died upon the cross for us all."

His words were true in 1921, they are still true in 1975. Researched by Richard and Judy Welker - October, 1975.



**KINGSLEY  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

The Kingsley Methodist Church, which is now situated on the northwest corner of the intersection of Ohio 709 and the Mendon Road, was first organized in 1869. Mr. David Thomas and others organized a church class which met in Dibert's school house with Mr. F. Ross as leader. Members of the class were Mr. and Mrs. David Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Wm Clemons, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Roland, Mrs. Lydia Ross and Odessa.

After meeting for two years in the school house the class decided to build a church since there was none to be reached conveniently by horse and buggy.

In 1870 they began the erection of a house for church purposes. It was a white wooden structure estimated to cost \$500.00, with the members contributing the labor. Wm Clemons was the carpenter in charge. The building committee was composed of David Thomas, L. F. Ross, and James Bevington.

When finished in the fall of 1871, David Thomas, founder



of the church named it Kingsley.

The church with an estimated seating capacity of 250 or 300 was 30 by 45 feet. There were three windows on each side of the building. Two doors on the south side, one for the men and one for the women. Simple pews of ash divided the single large room into three sections of seats separated by aisles leading from each door. The center section of seats was divided along the center of the building by a low partition. The women sat on the east side of this partition and the men on the west.

The total cost of the building and furnishings was \$1,200.00 of which the Ladies' Aid furnished \$600.00.

In the fall of 1871 dedication services were held in charge of the Rev. Samuel Roberts assisted by the Rev. James Clemons.

The first revival services were held in the church in the winter of 1871-72. There were seventy conversions as a result of these services thirty-five of whom joined the church.

The Sunday School was organized in 1890 with the following officers: Superintendent, V. D. Clippinger; Assistant, George Clemons; secretary, Gertie Bevington Waltz; assistant, Emma Rowland Ireland; treasurer, Mike Geary; chorister, James B. Harvey; assistant, James Faulkner; librarians, Emmett Holmes and Mina Ross Jones.

In 1907 under the leadership of Rev. Wisely plans began for a new building. Work soon began and the beautiful church which now stands on the original site was dedicated in the fall of 1908. Rev. Wright was pastor at that time. The dedication services were in charge of Rev. A. A. Thomas. The trustees were John Ireland, S. H. Flohra, W. H. Rowland, J. W. Reese, and J. A. Jones.

The building committee: Wm Dibert, J. F. Price and Andy Harp.

Much of the labor was donated by members of the church with some of the other men of the community assisting.

In 1965, as a result of the tornado which razed the church on Palm Sunday, Walnut Grove Methodist Church congregation joined the Kingsley congregation.

In June, 1966, work on the Annex to the church was begun. The dedication service was held on Sunday, April 16, 1967.

The trustees for 1975 are: Hugh Rauch, chairman, Dale Profit, Owen Rank, Robert Patterson, Dwight Rhoades, Robert Ries, Harry Neat, John Schwartz and Lyle Dougal.

The Sunday School superintendent is Dale Profit and the pastor is the Rev. John Boyd.

--Tena Wilkins

### **SALEM UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

The Salem Presbyterian Church of Venedocia has an interesting and inspiring heritage. Founded by hardy, God-fearing pioneers it continues after one hundred and twenty-eight years to be the religious inspiration for the community.



The very first church meetings were held in the log cabin homes of the three families who had arrived in 1848. On Sunday morning at 10 o'clock they held a "preaching" meeting. The men took turns opening the meeting by having a hymn, reading from the scripture and a prayer. Mr. Bebb or Mr. Morris would then read a sermon from a volume of sermons. Mr. Bebb owned one by Rev. Charles and Mr. Morris had one that had been published in Liverpool. The meeting closed with a hymn and a prayer. At two o'clock Sunday School met under the direction of Mr. Bebb who had trained under the Rev. Charles of Bala, Wales. All of the services were, of course, in Welsh.

So the first Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church began. The first Welsh sermon preached by a regular minister was delivered in June 1848, by Rev. Michael Jones of Bala. From time to time after that many ministers visited the settlement.

Mr. and Mrs. William Bebb and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jervis, Mr. and Mrs. David Owens, Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Jones, and Mr. David M. Jones comprised the membership of the first church. Within the next two years David Owens, Edward Jones, Robert Richards, David Hughes, Roland Evans, Richard Evans, D. J. Jones, D. Davis, John Richards, John M. Jones, J. J. Jones and their families, all coming from Wales, were added to the membership.

The first church building was erected in 1851. It was a frame building 20 by 30 feet located across the street from the present church. The dedication sermons were preached by the Reverends Robert Williams and Evan S. Jones of Jackson, Ohio.

Several more Welsh settlers arrived during the years 1850-1852.

In 1853, the first full time minister, Rev. Hugh Pugh, began a service to the community which lasted for twelve years. Leaving here in 1865 for Sugar Creek, Putnam County where he served until his death in 1878. He was followed by Rev. J. P. Morgan who served for seventeen years, 1865 to 1882.

In 1866, under the pastorate of Rev. Morgan a second church was built on the lot where the present church stands.

An accident occurred at the raising of this church, but marvelously no lives were lost. When in the act of lifting the heavy roof timbers into position, the beams on which the workmen were standing broke and eight men, mingled with plank and pike-poles, fell...40 feet among the joists below. Miraculously all escaped with their lives. The men were Rev. J. P. Morgan, D. W. Evans, William E. Jones, Hugh E. Evans, Jonathan Jones, William Finrock, David M. Jones and John Breese.

The Rev. Hugh Davis came in 1885, but served only one year. It was during his tenure that the first manse was built. It stood just north of the church. He was followed by Rev. Vaughn Griffith who came in 1886 to serve until 1889. In 1890, Rev. Thomas Roberts came and he served until 1895.

In 1890, twenty members withdrew from Salem to form the Bethel Church. It, too, was Welsh Calvinistic Methodist and was located on the Wren-Landeck Road at the Jones-Hughes intersection. This church and the Horeb church shared the same minister. There were at one time two other churches, one on the Jonestown, Wren-Landeck crossing and one on the Brodnix Road on the farm now owned by Don Fissel. These two were English Methodist Evangelical.

In 1897, the Salem congregation and their minister Edward Roberts, who had come to the church in 1895, began to consider a more modern church. A building committee composed of Rev. Roberts and Messers. Thomas Alban, John C. George, Maurice B. Jones, William E. Jones, Edward R. Hughes, John S. Breese, William J. Bebb, John W. Jones, David T. Jones, John H. Reese, Richard M. Evans, David B. Jones, J. Pryse Morgan, William C. Morgan, Richard O. Evans, and Dr. David Davis.

The committee decided that the best location was the lot on which the current church stood so they decided to sell the building. It was purchased and moved to a lot just north of the church by the Venedocia Male Chorus.

The committee accepted the plans submitted by architects Wing and Mahurin of Fort Wayne, Ind. The contract was let to Mr. J. S. Zook of Van Wert, for \$11,149.57.

Many of the beautiful stained glass windows are memorial windows. The large center one to the east was given in memory of the first three pioneer families.

The work was completed on time and the church was dedicated on October 15-16, 1898. Taking part in the dedication services were the Reverends Edward Roberts, J. P. Morgan and Daniel Evans Jones of Venedocia; H. W. Griffith of Cincinnati, Ohio; William W. Reese, H. R. Evans, of Cambria, Wisconsin; and Dr. William James of Manchester, England.

In 1900, a lovely modern brick manse was built on the lot next to the church and is still in excellent condition.

In September, 1914, Dr. Richard J. Williams became pastor of the Salem and Zion churches. He had been born and educated in Wales before coming to this country. He was followed in 1923, by Rev. William Jones who served until his retirement in 1931. In June, 1936, Rev. William T. Jones was installed as the pastor for the Salem and Zion Churches serving until 1942. Rev. Gerald R. Johnson became pastor in 1943. He served until 1948. Rev. William G. Chalmers was installed in 1949, serving only one year. In 1951, Rev. Ellis Lloyd became the pastor serving until 1962. Rev. James G. Patterson was installed. He served until 1968. Rev. George Witmer began his ministry with Salem-Zion Churches serving until May, 1973. The Rev. Von Giessler is currently serving the churches as a stated-supply pastor.

There have been some improvements to the church over the years. The basement was excavated in 1952 and there is now a completely modern kitchen, heating system and assembly room which is also used for Sunday School classes.

The Sunday School has been an integral part of the religious education from the very beginning. This instruction, along with communicants' classes and sermons, was conducted entirely in Welsh; however, as time passed more and more of the services were conducted in English. Dr. W. T. Jones was the last minister to preach regularly in Welsh on the first Sunday of the month and eventually he discontinued the practice.

On November, 1964, a gift of 25 Schulmerich bronze cast handbells were given to the Salem Church in memory of Thomas A. Morgan, by his family. In 1969, Mr. and Mrs. Layton Jenkins gave thirteen additional bells in memory of both of their parents, making a total of 38 bells covering a three octave range. Mrs. Bebb Jones trained and directed the various groups of bell ringers which were formed to ring the bells.

Realizing that the aging 1898 Barckhoff organ might one day be unusable, the Music Committee decided to establish a fund for its replacement. Aware of this project, Mrs. Edna Jones, desiring to leave a memorial to the Church contributed a large sum to the fund. The Music Committee then decided to extend the privilege of giving to present and past members of the Church or their descendants. Because of the generosity of many donors, a beautiful organ was finally purchased. On Saturday, September 4, 1971, a 19 rank Moller Pipe Organ, Opus 10711, was dedicated.

About 1920, a consolidation of several denominations occurred and it was at this time that the Salem Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church changed over to become the Salem United Presbyterian which it remains today.

A special service held each year in the church on the Sunday evening before Labor Day which reflects the Welsh love for singing is the Gymanfa Ganu. An evening spent in singing hymns under the leadership of a noted director. People come for miles to share in this event. The rafters ring and the chandeliers swing as the voices are raised in glorious Welsh song.

One anecdote which comes out of the early church period tells of the one Negro family, the Langs, who resided on the Richard Breese farm. Mr. Lang, a faithful member of the church was elected to go to Presbytery. Accosted by other members at the meeting as to why he, a black man, was representing the Welsh Church. His reply, "Don't worry. I'm just a Welshman turned wrong side out."

#### ORGANISTS OF THE PRESENT CHURCH:

Margaret (Breese) Jenkins 1898-1902  
 Alice (Jones) Morgan 1902-1906  
 Eunice (Evans) Foster 1906-1919, 1924-1936  
 Frances (Uhl) Breese 1920-1924, 1936-1962  
 Anne (Overholt) Morris 1963-1967  
 Mary Ann (Owens) Matthews 1968  
 Carol (Lanning) Foster 1968-  
 Mrs. Foster is organist at the present time

#### THE ELDERS OF SALEM CHURCH

✓ William Bebb	✓ Robert F. Evans
✓ Edgar L. Morgan	✓ Thomas Morris
✓ John M. Richards	✓ David I. Van Eman
✓ Jeremiah Parry	✓ Roland Evans
✓ E. Vaugh Morgan	✓ Evan Thomas
✓ John E. Morgan	✓ David Wm Owens
✓ David M. Jones	✓ Maurice N. George
✓ R. Marvin Evans	✓ Abraham Jones
✓ J. Layton Jenkins	✓ Paul Price
✓ Rowland J. Whittington	✓ D. E. McDonell
✓ Elliot Jones	✓ Thomas A. Alban
✓ Osborne Jones	✓ Reese Morris
✓ David W. Evans	✓ Howard Richards
✓ Robert P. Zirkle	✓ Morgan H. Morgan
✓ Thomas R. Morris	✓ Lee Lare
✓ John T. Thomas	✓ John L. Rees
✓ Robert Beerman	✓ Thomas J. Morris
✓ Delbert Dolbey	✓ Richard Jervis
✓ John J. Morris	✓ J. Pryse Morgan
✓ M. Lester Morris	✓ John D. Jones
✓ Haydn Lloyd	✓ Abraham B. Jones
✓ D. Harries Evans	✓ John C. George
✓ Robert Bolton	✓ Richard S. Breese
✓ John Russell Lloyd	✓ Maurice B. Jones
✓ D. Richard Owens	✓ David O. Davies
✓ Paul Ashton	✓ Charles H. Foster
✓ James R. Evans	✓ Henry Uhl
✓ J. Alford Breese	✓ Edward W. Williams
✓ Gorden Pugh	✓ David J. Morris
✓ Daniel E. Foster	✓ Lloyd Rees
✓ T. Bebb Jones	✓ John L. Jenkins
✓ Thomas M. Jones	✓ Stanley Roberts
✓ Hugh Owen Pugh	✓ Thomas Jones
✓ Donald Richards	✓ Bowen Evans
✓ Glen Owens	✓ Howell A. Jones
✓ David Hugh Evans	

*William H. Bebb*  
*William B. Evans*

### **THE ELDERS AT THE PRESENT TIME:**

Donald Richards V.M.	Hugh Owen Pugh
Robert P. Zirkle	Gordon D. Pugh
David William Owens	Lee Lare
Marvin Evans	Robert Beerman
David Van Eman, Clerk	

### **THE TRUSTEES AT THE PRESENT TIME:**

Haydn Lloyd, Chm.	Paul Ashton
John C. Morris, Sec.	Thomas R. Morris
James R. Lloyd	William Evans
Larry Profit	Ronnie Owens
Eugene Decker	

The Salem United Presbyterian Church has been blest by the opportunity to serve God continuously for a period of one hundred and twenty-eight years.

### **SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church of Elgin, Ohio, was organized by Elder O. J. Mason, March 26, 1889, and was composed of nine members at the time of its organization, seven of whom united by letter from the Mendon Church. They were Amy Van Eman, Benj. W. Van Eman, McDonald Van Eman, Jennie Van Eman, John Van Eman, Chester Smith, Bell Smith, John W. Shultz, and O. M. Shultz, Senior. Mr. J. W. Shultz, A. E. Van Eman and Mrs. Hattie Parrott comprised the first officers.

By 1905 the membership had increased to 62. A church was erected on property given by Mrs. Amy Parrott located on Main Street. Services were held in this church for eighty-two years. Unfortunately, because of many of the members moving away and several of the original ones passing away, the church was closed in 1970 and subsequently the building was sold and torn down.

### **VENEDOCIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Prior to 1885 there had been no religious services held in the English language in Venedocia. At this time, however, a number of English speaking families had located in the village. Feeling the need for some kind of religious service they organized a Sunday School. It met in the first brick school-house which stood across the street from the present church. Mr. Henry Mash was the first superintendent. The Sunday School met regularly until several of the families moved from the village and the Sunday School was abandoned.



It was not until 1895, that, through the efforts of Mr. J. J. Edwards, another English Sunday School was organized. Though Mr. Edwards was not an ordained minister, he consented to give Bible talks at the close of the Sunday School. As a result of his talks many of the members began to feel the need of an organized church.

Late in 1896, the Venedocia Presbyterian Church was organized with the Rev. D. Evans Jones as pastor. Three elders were elected: Messrs. J. C. Morris, E. S. Foster, and E. S. Morgan. The members were: Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Foster and their children Lizzie, Daisy, Charles and Homer; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Morris and children Edith, Reese and Lloyd; Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Morgan; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Edwards; and Mr. John Reese, the first treasurer. Mr. T. S. Morgan was the first clerk of the session. The organists were: Mrs. Kate Uhl Davies, Mrs. Pearl Foster Olafson, Mrs. Bertha Evans Uhl, Mrs. Hattie Blosser Wise, and Miss Elizabeth Uhl. Until the church was built in 1896 the congregation met on the second floor of the school-house which stood at the southeast end of College Street.

In March 1914, Rev. William Surdival became the pastor. Unfortunately on February 11, 1916, fire broke out and the church burned to the ground, never to be rebuilt. For a time services were held at various places. Finally in 1918, members of the Venedocia Presbyterian church united with the Salem Church.

### **ZION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

The arrival in York township, Van Wert County, in the spring of 1850, of four Welsh families from Cincinnati, Ohio, marked the beginning of the Zion community. This group consisting of Abraham Jones, Hugh F. Jones, Thomas Hughes, and Griffith Goodwin, was augmented two years later by the arrival



of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas and family, David Breese, John W. Hughes, from Cincinnati, and Richard W. Owens and family from Wales. These families all located in sections 21, 22, 27 and 28, and the area came to be known as the Upper Settlement.

Religious services were held regularly as early as 1854 in the Abraham Jones' log house. It was Sunday School at first, and later preaching services as well. In 1863, the congregation decided to build a church and so erected the first frame structure on the present Van Hughes property. This church, a "Union Church" was organized consisting of both Congregational and Calvinistic Methodist elements and named the Zion Church. In time, however, the church became definitely affiliated with the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist denomination and remained so until this body merged, in 1920, with the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

From the beginning Zion Church has been a joint pastorate with the Salem Church of Venedocia. Following are the ministers who have served as pastors:

The Reverends Hugh Pugh (1854-1865), J. P. Morgan (1865-1882), Hugh Davies (1885-1886), R. Vaughn Griffith (1886-1889), Thomas Roberts (1890-1895), Edward Roberts (1895-1913), R. J. Williams (1914-1920), William Jones (1923-1931), W. T. Jones (1935-1942), Gerald Johnson (1943-1949), Wm G. Chalmers (1949-1950), Ellis Lloyd (1951-1962), James G. Patterson (1963-1968), George W. Witmer (1969-1973), and the present pastor, Von Giessler (1975- ).



By 1900 the Zion congregation began thinking about building a new church. Again it was Abraham Jones who was looked to for advice and it was he who selected the site on the William Hughes farm where the lovely brick church now stands, south of Jonestown on the Jonestown Road. It was completed and dedicated in 1902. It remains a monument to the consecration of the God-fearing and church loving families of Zion seventy years ago as well as to the faithfulness and devotion of its members today.

Its service were conducted in Welsh and the Sunday School was taught in the Welsh language until about 1920. The Rev. W. T. Jones was the last minister to preach in Welsh.

At present the congregation is composed of 85 members; however, there are only 30 who are active.

## ORGANISTS OF THE ZION CHURCH:

M. Howell Jones	Helen Breese Johnson
Elizabeth A. Jones	Jean Wentz
Margaret H. Jones	Bonnie Bolton
Mary Breese	Margaret Jones
Mabel Williams Myrtle	Darlene Jones
Myrtle Evans Everly	Eileen LeSouer
Gwenelyn Hughes Taylor	Jean Wentz is organist at the present time.

## ELDERS WHO HAVE SERVED THE ZION CHURCH ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Abraham Jones	Edith Heath
John Breese	Betty Breese
Thomas Hughes	John George
D. J. Jones	John D. Breese
David E. Davies	G. H. Jones
Richard Davies	Walter D. Lewis
E. Minor Davies	D. J. Breese
D. Edwin Jones	Alonzo Rhoades
P. M. George	David V. Jones
J. Elmer Davies	Emery Price
Edwin Swygart	Henry T. Hughes
S. D. Grogg	Latimer Breese
Dwight Rhoades	Walter Phelps
Hugh W. Jones	George Swygart
John Lewis	Anne Swygart
Alice Jones	Tom Missler
Alice George	

## ELDERS OF THE PRESENT SESSION ARE:

Mrs. Reed Heath	Mrs. Palmer George
Mrs. Latimer Breese	Dwight Rhoades
Emery Price	Tom Missler

## THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ARE:

Mrs. Leona Wentz	Mrs. Emery Price
John Lewis	Latimer Breese
Palmer George	D. L. Walter

# A HISTORY OF THE SCHOOLS OF YORK TOWNSHIP

The idea of an educated electorate originated in the colonies. Many of them established "Dame Schools" to give early training to the younger children and to prepare boys for admission to an academy where they were prepared for admission to Harvard which had been founded in 1636 or William and Mary in 1693 or Yale in 1701.

In keeping with this tradition and complying with the Ordinance of 1787, a school house was built on the Jesse Atkinson farm located in section 32 in 1843. Soon a second one was built on the John Arnold farm in section 13, followed by one on the Jacob Goodwin in section 25. There being an abundance of native timber these early houses were built of logs. They were, however, soon replaced by brick structures.

The first two story brick building was erected at Elgin in 1846. Originally called number 2 the number was changed to number 7 by action of the school board in April 1896. When this building had to be replaced a two room wooden structure was erected. It is now occupied by the Elgin Service Center.

The following table give the names, locations, and dates of the nine school districts that were eventually established, the original number and the final one assigned by action of the school board in 1896 to correspond to the method followed in numbering the sections.

NAME	SECTIONS	DATE	NUMBER
Auglaize	1-2-11-12	1865	9---1
Whitfield	3-4-9-10	1876	6---2
Painter	5-6-7-8	1858	4---3
*Rossville	18-17-19-20	1871	7---4
*Jonestown	15-16-21-22	1876	8---5
Pugh	13-14-23-24	1870	1---6
Elgin	25-26-35-36	1846	2---7
Moss	27-28-33-34	1852	5---8
Bevington	29-30-31-32	1865	3---9
Rossville replaced Dibert 1868			
Jonestown replaced Hugh F. Jones 1866			

Each of these districts, or sub-districts as they were called, elected one person to serve on a board which directed the school business for the entire township. This board of nine elected a president and employed a clerk who was not a member of the board. They employed teachers, let contracts, those building sites, purchased the furnishings, chose the text books, purchased them and sold them to the students. Each district was supplied with wall maps, dictionaries and other items when one copy was deemed sufficient.

Schools were built according to the same general plan. From the minutes of the board for April, 1878, comes these specifications for a brick school house. It was to be 26 feet wide by 32 feet long, one story 12 feet in the clear, the foundation 3 feet deep and 16 inches thick, made of stone laid in mortar made of lime and sand with 18 inches below the surface and 18 inches from surface to sleepers. Balance of walls to be brick 12 inches thick with hollow.

Sleepers 2 inches thick and 10 inches wide made of white or burroak, placed 16 inches from center to center, double bridged and resting on a sill running through the center of its foundation lengthwise.

Rafters 2 inches thick and 5 inches wide. Good self supporting truss roof. Lath 1 inch thick, 2 inches wide. Shingles first class, made of pine 18 inches long and placed 5 inches to the weather.

Floor to be of ash, well seasoned, 4 or 5 inches wide, planed and grooved. Blackboard above floor the same distance as windows laid in plastering, 5 feet wide and clear across the back part of the house with small moulding at upper and lower edge of said board. Wainscoting from floor to windows and all around the inside of the house the same height and variegated with ash and walnut. Hat racks all around the inside of the house except the back end with double hooks 10 inches apart.

Four shelves on each side of the house from the blackboard to the windows 15 inches apart and 15 inches deep for dinner baskets.

Plastering 3 coats, last one white. All inside woodwork filled and varnished. Three coats of paint on all outside woodwork-white. Three windows on each side, 8 lights to a window. Glass 12x20.

Window blinds on the outside of each window made in 4 pieces with movable slats, hung on proper hinges and necessary fastenings. Windows fixed to raise from the bottom and let down from the top.

Good and substantial door and window casings. Door and window sills to be free stone. Window sills 5 inches thick and 12 inches wide, door sill 8 inches thick and 12 inches wide. Door 2 feet 10 inches wide and 6 feet 10 inches high, 2 inches thick, 4 panels made of pine and hung with 3 hinges. Transom above door with one glass 6 inches wide and about 2 feet 10 inches long. Segment door and transom frame, door and windows arched over. Roof one-third pitch. A good and substantial mortised lock on the door.

Listed among the early contractors were John Zigler, and John Ringwald who, because of his superior workmanship was awarded several contracts.

The year the Rossville school house was built to replace the old Dibert building, Mr. Ringwald set up camp in the old building and remained there until the new school was completed.

The Board of Directors, comprised of one member from each of the sub-districts, was meeting in the Hugh F. Jones school house later to be named Jonestown, or number five. W. H. Nicodemus was president and L. W. Bethards clerk. Other members were D. W. Evans, John Prichard, John T. Ross, H. F. Jones, D.

J. Owens, George Sills, S. H. McClure and Thomas Tiffot.

J. Zigler was awarded a contract for a one room brick school house to cost \$580.00. Eventually all nine districts had brick buildings. By 1881 the cost had risen to \$865.00.

Due to the ravages of time and the pranks of children such as removing bricks from the outer walls and carving the desks and woodwork, several of the buildings had to be repaired or replaced. If they could not be repaired they were usually replaced by a frame structure several of which have been incorporated in buildings now in use.

In March, 1880, the York and Jennings boards agreed to set up a joint district by each releasing some territory for tax purposes, the school building to be located in Venedocia. The school house, a two story brick building, was erected on the land now occupied by the Lion's park. It was abandoned when York centralized school opened in 1922. Subsequently it was purchased by Jack Elias and the bricks used to build the Monroe Garage which stands on Main Street.

Some of the school houses were enclosed by a fence and most had a porch of planks or cement. Each had two outhouses, a coal shed and a well.

The furnishings of the school consisted of rows of seats of various sizes running lengthwise of the room. Some of the seats were large enough to seat two pupils. Later the rooms were equipped with seats of graduated sizes. In front of these seats was a recitation bench where each class sat to "say" its lesson. In front of this bench and facing the room was the teacher's desk. Later a platform was built for it, extending from the edge of the girls' cloak room door to the edge of the boys'. It also served as a stage for the programs.

Each teacher taught the entire curriculum for the eight grades in his school which meant he had about thirteen minutes for each class. Now and then Friday afternoons were given over to "spell downs" and rapid calculation---sides were chosen, one from each side went to the blackboard and the teacher gave a problem. The one who first got the right answer won a point for his side. Competition often became quite intense.

Some of the text books used during this period remain classics in their fields. An 1891 list of books purchased by the board: Ray's Arithmetic, Harvey's Grammar, Eclectic Geography, Eclectic U. S. History, McGuffey's Readers and Speller, Eclectic Guide to Health, Eclectic Copy Book. All of these were to be purchased from the American Book Company.

The school house soon became a meeting place for church groups and "literary" societies. The literary societies usually met on Friday nights to present various programs. Many debates were held, also spelling "bees" and box socials which were the crowning events of the social season. For the box social, the ladies of the community took boxes, filled them with delicious suppers and elaborately decorated them with crepe paper. Each lady carefully kept secret how her box was decorated. A leading auctioneer of the community was secured to sell the boxes to the highest bidder who was not supposed to know whose box he was bidding on. However, sometimes hints were supposed to have been passed on. The money raised

was then given to some worthwhile project.

Eventually the board decided that some control would have to be exerted and in 1882 passed a resolution that the school house could be used for common school purposes only. Finally it became necessary to procure an injunction against one literary society to prevent its using one of the school houses.

In April 1889, the School Board decided to build a belfry on each school house and to purchase a bell for each of them.

The school year was divided into three terms, a fall term of two months, a winter one of four, a spring one of two.

Salaries for the teachers varied. One dollar and twenty-five cents per day was the usual rate for the spring and fall terms for the lady teachers while gentlemen received two dollars. The winter term salary averaged two dollars per day for the lady teachers and two dollars and twenty-five cents for the gentlemen.

The first general school Act of Ohio, passed in 1821, provided for the establishment of school districts within townships and made some provision for their support from public funds. One way to secure cooperation was to withhold funds. The control of these districts remained in the hands of the local boards and they resisted vigorously any attempt to lessen their power.

York Township was very fortunate to have school boards which were concerned about having an adequate school system. In fact, they were ahead of many townships in their creation of the York system.

One of the first attempts by the state to regulate the local schools was made in 1872, when townships or rural schools were given permission to hire a superintendent on a full or part time basis.

In 1892, The Boxwell Law was passed. This law provided for a written examination to be given to students upon completion of eight grades of schooling at a designated place, usually a county seat. A diploma was issued when the test was passed. This diploma gave the student the privilege of entering a high school of his choice with his tuition and transportation paid. Many boards refused to cooperate, but the York board soon wrote this provision into its minutes.

Because so many boards refused to cooperate, the General Assembly passed the Patterson Bill which made it mandatory for school boards to comply.

Each year, upon receipt of their diplomas, the students of York township were presented in a program at one of the local churches. A copy of one of these programs follows:

#### PATTERSON COMMENCEMENT

June 15, 1911

#### ZION CHURCH

Song, "America" led by Prof. James J. Jones

Recitation, "Digging Away" Fay A. Brown

Recitation, "Character and Reputation" Anna Glendola Morris

Recitation, "The Meeting at Wendletown" Edna Gamble

Solo by Talmage Hughes

Recitation, "The Sculpture Boy" Glenn Owens



Recitation "I Know Not the Hour of His Coming" Anna M. Jones  
Solo by Thelma Jones  
Recitation, "The Antiquity of Freedom" James M. Heath  
Recitation, "The Eagle" Clarence Owens  
Recitation, "The Children" Anna Williams  
Recitation, "An Address to the Ocean" William Haydn Jones  
Duet, Misses Ada and Mary Jones  
Recitation, "Uncle Reuben's Baptism" Opal Miller  
Recitation, "Siege of the Alamo" Carey B. Parker  
Quartet, Alford Breese and party  
Recitation, "Little by Little" Jane L. Salathe  
Oration "Man's Progress and Problems" Phelan Huffine  
Solo, Susan Jones

Class Address, Rev. Edward Roberts

Presenting of Diploma G. H. Jones, President of the Board

By 1905, a change, ordered by the state was made in the school board membership. The old board was dismissed and a new one, consisting of only five members, who were elected at large from the township, was installed. However, each sub-district still elected a representative who acted as a liaison officer between his district and the official board.

The state was also becoming more concerned and involved with the educational problems of the various districts. In an effort to equalize the quality of education throughout the state, the State Commissioner of Common Schools appointed State School Inspectors who periodically examined all public schools in the state.

One of the first acts was to divide the schools into three categories: First, second and third grade. Each was then issued a charter designating its grade.

The grade was determined by enrollment, degree of professional training of the staff, scope of the curriculum and physical condition of the building and grounds.

As a result of this concern a "New School Code of Ohio" was passed by the General Assembly in 1914. This law provided for a County Board of Education, which hired a County Superintendent who was responsible for the administration and supervision of all rural schools in the county. Mr. J. A. Greulach, Van Wert County's first one, served from 1914-1925. This new law also provided for the submission, by the township board, of the question of centralization, if the electors wanted it.

A movement was begun in 1913 to transfer a portion of sub-district number one (Auglaize) to the Venedocia district. This was, however, prevented by an injunction secured by the York board on April 13, 1915. This attempt probably developed from the fact that in 1911, sub-district number 6 (Pugh) had been closed and the territory divided between the (Elgin) 7 and Venedocia districts.

In 1916, sub-district number eight (Moss) was closed and in December 1919, sub-district number three (Painter) burned leaving only six of the original nine schools in operation.

Since the state had been urging consolidation for a number of years, the board decided to submit the question to

the voters. A special election was held on March 26, 1920 and the issue passed, followed by the passage of a bond issue in April for \$100,000.00.

Thomas D. McLaughlin, architect of Lima, was employed to submit plans for the building and three acres in section 15 were purchased for \$1800 from E. R. Jones for the site.

To transport the pupils, eight busses were purchased and bus routes established.

School was opened in the fall of 1922 with truck drivers Henry Jones, Earl Monroe, T. R. Davis, Russel Price, Percy Neiford, Clarence Wallick, Henry Dibert, Paul Byers, and Forest Lewis. A. A. McGee, janitor.

J. W. Reese, superintendent, V. W. Hansen, principal. Mrs. Pearl Ludlow, D. Edwin Jones, Alonzo Rhoades, Dee Jackson, Laura F. Jones, Velma L. Rice, Glendola Morris, comprised the faculty.

The school was chartered as a first grade high school with a curriculum recommended by the state. The term to be eight months.

On December 7, 1922, a public sale of the old schoolhouse was held. The York trustees purchased the Jonestown building which is currently being used as the township house.



YORK SCHOOL

The members of the school board were S. A. McGee, president, W. D. Alspaugh, Dean Clippinger, O. B. Waltz, J. P. Jones, and J. W. Reese, clerk.

With the opening of school ten students transferred from Ohio City and Van Wert High Schools entering York as juniors. They were Elizabeth George, Gladys Meredith, Margaret Morris, Grace Roller, Carl Bevington, Don Coutts, Oscar Jones, Harold Morris, Leland Ross and Kenneth Waltz. They comprised the first graduating class on April 25, 1924.

On August 1930, the school board passed a resolution to comply with a State Department ruling by instituting a term of nine months.

Cooperation with the Religious Education Committee resulted in released time for non-sectarian religious instruction.

On May 13, 1931, the board passed a motion stating that female teacher's contracts should contain the provision that, should she marry, her contract become null and void at once.

On May 14, 1934, the board granted permission for the first alumni banquet.

On March 24, 1939, the Gideons were granted permission to place Bibles in the school rooms and teachers were instructed to read from them without comment.

On August 17, 1942, due to the shortage of teachers because of the war, the board changed its policy and decided to hire married women "For the duration." As a result of this action several married women were hired. Never again was married status considered when interviewing a prospective teacher. Even though the school had operated successfully for years, the State Department continued to urge centralization, so the board finally called a meeting of the patrons of the district on April 16, 1952, to consider the alternatives.

1. Take no action and abide by consequences.  
(lose charter and state financial support)
2. Increase levy and operate school without charter.
3. Consolidate with Ohio City Liberty.
4. Consolidate with Ridge, Middlepoint, and Hoaglin-Jackson.

The result of the voting showed a decided majority in favor of proposition number four. Ellis Jones was chosen to represent York on the new district board. However, no immediate action was taken and York continued to operate on a temporary charter until 1959, when the State Department of Education, backed by the General Assembly, refused to guarantee funds for the continued operation of local schools making it impossible for small schools to meet state regulations.

The machinery for creating a new district was set up. It was to be District Number One and was comprised of all the territory contained within the boundaries of the Hoaglin-Jackson, Van-Del, and York local school districts.

The voters of all three districts approved the consolidation, York by 233 to 63 against.

On July 7, 1959, the County Board of Education appointed a new school board for the district which was to be known as Lincolnview.

The York Board held its last meeting on June 29, 1960, closing out all accounts on that date. Members of the board were Richard Welker, president, J. Paul Jones, Robert Wallick, Howard Rauch, Edwin Prichard. Minor Davies, clerk.

Members of the last class to graduate from York Local School were: Martha Morris, Tom Jones, John Pruden, Pat Perez, Nancy Owens, Phil Jones, Gary Dolbey, Sharon Rauch, Jeff Pollock, Marcia Evans, Arlene Goodwin, Carolyn Morgan, Larry Swick, Treva Mosier, Carol Schnelle, Marilyn Morgan.

Superintendents who served York Local: J. W. Reese 1922-1926, D. L. Buchanan 1942-1943, H. E. Herr 1926-1930, D. E. McDonel 1943-1950, J. W. Hickman 1930-1935, A. W. Fishbaugh 1950-1960, Fred A. White 1935-1942.

County superintendents who supervised all the local schools in the county: J. A. Greulach 1914-1925, M. J. Morrison 1944-1946, D. R. Bendure 1925-1932, R. G. Brand 1946-1970, C. L. Shaffer 1932-1944, J. E. Schaffner 1971-

## **YORK TOWNSHIP RESIDENT TENANTS AS OF 1975**

### **Ridge-York Twp. Line**

Mr. & Mrs. David Schulte  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Baird

### **Priddy Road**

Mr. & Mrs. David Pollock  
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Pollock  
Mr. Walter Lehman

### **Wren-Ladeck Road**

Mr. & Mrs. Roger Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. Gift  
Mr. & Mrs. Ted Dunno  
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Kraner  
*Mrs. Mrs. Hagan L. Williams*  
*Mrs. Mrs. John C. Morris*

### **State Route 709**

Bonnie Skeen  
Donald Snyder  
Stete Bolton  
Mr. & Mrs. Delbert Dolbey  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Emery Swygart  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Lloyd  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey McGarvey

### **Jonestown Road**

Mr. & Mrs. Don Morris  
Mr. & Mrs. Nungester  
Mrs. Bessie Rauch  
Mrs. Margaret Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Phelps

### **State Route 81**

Anthony J. Lippi

### **Brodnix Road**

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Miller  
Mr. & Mrs. David Breeze

### **Thomas Road**

Douglas Hook

### **State Route 116**

Mrs. Vernon Hundley

### **Owens Road**

Bob Crider  
John Burden

### **Greenville Road**

Frank Robey

### **County Line**

Jack Frysinger  
Ronald Burnett

# YORK TOWNSHIP ORIGINAL LAND ENTRIES

## Section 1

James McCray	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	83A	8-1836
Michael Todd		W $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	11-1836
John Zimmerman	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			173A	11-1836
James McCray	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	8-1836
Alexander Chevers		W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	11-1836
John Weikart	SW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	

## Section 2

Frederick Carey	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	87A	9-1836
Michael Yoeken		E $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	87A	9-1836
Henry D. Williams	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			174A	8-1841
Andrew Foster	SE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	11-1836
James H. Young	SW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	9-1836

## Section 3

Robert Edgar	NE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	10-1836
John F. Edgar	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	10-1836
Daniel Canfield	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	00 A	9-1836
Robert Edgar		W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	94A	10-1836
John F. Edgar	SW $\frac{1}{4}$			174A	10-1836

## Section 4

Samuel D. Edgar	NE $\frac{1}{4}$			174A	10-1836
James Donaldson	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			174A	11-1836
Samuel D. Edgar	SE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	10-1836
James Donaldson	SW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	11-1836

## Section 5

Henry K. Zimmerman	NE $\frac{1}{4}$			174A	10-1836
Alexander Biddle	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			174A	11-1836
Jonathon McKarns	SE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	11-1836
John Congway	SW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	10-1836
John Donaldson				40A	1836

## Section 6

Samuel Painter	NE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	10-1836
Joseph Nofzgar	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	11-1836
Samuel Painter	SE $\frac{1}{4}$			172A	10-1836
Joseph Nofzgar	SW $\frac{1}{4}$			188A	11-1836

## Section 7

Levi Rowland	NE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	11-1836
Levi Rowland	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			168A	11-1836
Theodore B. Thomas	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	10-1836
A. Cochel et al		E $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
James Steel	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$ & NE of SW		124A	2-1837
Evan B. Jones		SE $\frac{1}{4}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	41A	5-1839

Section 8

James G. Donaldson  
 James G. Donaldson  
 Evan B. Jones  
 John Weikart  
 Alexander Biddle

NE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	11-1836
NW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	11-1836
SE $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$ & SW of SE	120A	1836
	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	11-1836
SW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	11-1836

Section 9

Evan B. Jones  
 Evan B. Jones  
 Evan B. Jones  
 Evan B. Jones  
 A. Cochel et al

NE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	9-1836
NW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	9-1836
SE $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	9-1836
SW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	9-1836
	E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	10-1836

Section 10

James Hooper  
 Samuel Francher  
 James Hooper  
 Peter Bevelthymers

NE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	9-1836
NW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	10-1836
SE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	8-1837
SW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	8-1837

Section 11

Peter Reber  
 James M. Young  
 David Cook  
 Andrew Foster  
 Geo. McMarrian

NE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	6-1848
NW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	8-1837
SE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	11-1836
SW $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
	E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	12-1836

Section 12

Robert Lysle  
 Robert Lysle  
 Robert Lysle  
 Robert Lysle

NE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	12-1836
NW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	12-1836
SE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	6-1836
SW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	6-1836

Section 13

Wm Morman  
 John Arnold  
 Wm Morman  
 Lewis Culver  
 Lewis Culver  
 John L. Harter  
 John L. Harter  
 John Arnold

NE $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	10-1835
	W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	6-1836
NW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	6-1836
SE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	10-1833
SW $\frac{1}{4}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	10-1833
	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	2-1837
	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	2-1837
	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	6-1836

Section 14

Benj. Strothers  
 James Walters  
 Philip Shrock  
 Benj. Strothers  
 Samuel Stiles  
 Benj. Strothers

NE $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	7-1836
	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	11-1836
	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	7-1839
NW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	7-1836
SE $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	7-1836
SW $\frac{1}{4}$		160A	7-1836



Section 15

Joseph Saint	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	10-1836
H. Tolenton	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	10-1836
Daniel Arnold	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	10-1836
Joseph Saint	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	11-1836
James Wilson	NW SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1839
John Williberg	SW SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	12-1841

Section 16

Robert McQuorum		80A	1839
F. C. Elson		80A	1839
Geo. Clouse	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1839
Jacob Dibert		80A	1839
Francis Feltus		80A	1839
Robert Wolcott		80A	1839
Richard A. Evans	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	6-1870
H. A. Wilkins	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	10-1867

Section 17

Evan B. Jones	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	9-1836
Evan B. Jones	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	9-1836
John M. Donaldson	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	11-1836
Hugh Lynn	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	11-1836

Section 18

Evan B. Jones	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	161A	9-1836
Josiah Casteel	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
James Ross	E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	82A	1836
Evan B. Jones	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	9-1836
Evan B. Jones	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	9-1836
Henry Newman	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	165A	10-1836

Section 19

James Clingan	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	4-1839
Henry Newman	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	10-1836
John Hughes	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	11-1838
Geo. B. Ellis	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	86A	6-1838
Geo. B. Ellis	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	6-1838

Section 20

James Lavin	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	7-1837
Henry Newman	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW	85A	9-1836
John Heath	W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW	80A	1836
Henry Newman	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	9-1836
Andrew Coil	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
Geo. Ries	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Joseph Heath	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
Andrew Coil	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836

Section 21

John Powers  
 Geo. Knox  
 James Lavin  
 Tobias Moore  
 John Cunningham  
 Tobias Moore  
 John Towns  
 John Towns  
 Robert Thomas  
 Thomas Towns  
 John W. Timmons

NE $\frac{1}{2}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	11-1839
	W $\frac{1}{2}$	NE	80A	1839
NW $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$		40A	1839
	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1839
	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1839
	SW	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1839
SE $\frac{1}{2}$			160A	1839
SW $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1836
	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1836
	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1836
	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	

Section 22

Levi Saint  
 Reuben Waites  
 Mary E. Reed  
 Wm. McClure  
 Levi Saint  
 James McGinty  
 Wm. Lynn

NE $\frac{1}{2}$			160A	1836
NW $\frac{1}{2}$	N $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1839
	S $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1839
SE $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1836
	N $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1836
	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	
SW $\frac{1}{2}$			160A	1836

Section 23

Samuel Stiles  
 Alexander McVickers  
 John A. Freeman  
 Lewis Culver  
 Lewis Culver  
 James Mitchell  
 Lantz Shannon

NE $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1836
	W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	120A
NW $\frac{1}{2}$			160A	1836
SE $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1836
	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1836
	W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1836
SW $\frac{1}{2}$			160A	1836

Section 24

Wesley Rush  
 Wesley Rush  
 Ebenezer Culver  
 Lewis Culver  
 Washington Marks  
 Washington Marks  
 Washington Marks

NE $\frac{1}{2}$			160A	1833
NW $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1833
	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1834
	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1834
SE $\frac{1}{2}$			160A	1832
SW $\frac{1}{2}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1832
	W $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1832

Section 25

John Keith  
 John Keith  
 Washington Marks  
 Washington Marks  
 Jacob Goodwin  
 Edward Williams  
 Jacob Goodwin  
 John Keith  
 John Keith  
 John Keith  
 Isaac Miles

NE $\frac{1}{2}$	S $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1832
	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1832
	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1832
NW $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1832
	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1837
	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1839
	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{2}$	40A	1851
SE $\frac{1}{2}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1832
	W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1834
SW $\frac{1}{2}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1838
	W $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{2}$	80A	1838

Section 26

John Smith	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
Samuel McClain	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1837
John Smith	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
Samuel McClain	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836

Section 27

Wm McClain	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
Samuel McClain	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
Wm McClain	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
Wm McClain	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836

Section 28

Joshua Breidenstine	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
John Towns	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
Robert Thomas	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1835
Jesse Miller	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
Robert Thomas	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1835
Sylvester Woolery	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Daniel Barris	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1837
Jesse Atkinson	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1835
Samuel Moore	E $\frac{1}{2}$ & SW $\frac{1}{4}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 120A	1836

Section 29

Henry Neuman	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
John Sherwood	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
Jesse Atkinson	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Sylvester Woolery	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
John McCallam	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
John Sherwood	N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
C. Elliott	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836

Section 30

Abram Rankin	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
Eli Denison	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Geo. M. Ellis	E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Wesley Minor	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836
John Stacts	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1836

Section 31

John Heath	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835
John Sheets	W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835
John Sheets	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	160A	1835
Jesse Tomlinson	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835
John Heath	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1835
John Heath	N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1835
John Heath	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835
Francis Elliott	E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1838

### Section 32

Furman Jackson	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
Josiah Morton		E $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
John McCallam		SW $\frac{1}{4}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
Jesse Atkinson	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$ &	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	120A	1835
Elizabeth Bevington		NW $\frac{1}{4}$	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1851
John Tomlinson	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835
John Tomlinson		W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835
John McNeill	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Wm Carder		NW $\frac{1}{4}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1837
John Ross		SW $\frac{1}{4}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1837

### Section 33

Thomas Hughes	NE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	1849
Ludwig Baue	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1849
John Griffith		E $\frac{1}{2}$	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1850
James Marks	SE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	1833
James Marks	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1833
Sarah Marks		SW $\frac{1}{4}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1834
John Morris		NW $\frac{1}{4}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1850

### Section 34

Lucinda Marks	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	S $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1833
John House		N $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1838
Matilda Marks	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	NW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1835
William Lake		W $\frac{1}{2}$ &	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	120A	1836
George Vanemon	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$ &	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	120A	1836
Washington Marks		NW $\frac{1}{4}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1839
James Marks	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$ &	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	120A	1833
Archibold McClung		SE $\frac{1}{4}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1837

### Section 35

Jonathon Vanemon	NE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	1835
James Edgar	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	1836
Robert Leslie	SE $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	1835
Robert Leslie	SW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	1835

### Section 36

Wm. Marra, Jr.	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1836
Wm. Farris		W $\frac{1}{2}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Wm. Marrs, Jr.		NE $\frac{1}{4}$	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	40A	1837
Wm. Farris	NW $\frac{1}{4}$			160A	1837
Wm. Marrs, Jr.	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	W $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Robert Stram		E $\frac{1}{2}$	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1836
Wm. Marrs	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	E $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835
Wm. Farris		W $\frac{1}{2}$	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	80A	1835

**York Township Land Owners of 1975**

**Section 1**

Arlo Pollock et al  
Bessie Fisher & Walter Lehman  
David & Hilda Morris  
Homer & Ruth Reed  
Charles Dunno  
David W. Morris  
David & Grace Evans  
Bernadette Pohlman  
David Lloyd Reese

**Section 2**

G. R. & E. V. Dunn  
Everett & Betty Jones  
F. Earl & Clo Shaffer  
Earl & Velma Morris  
Thomas & Evelyn Jones  
J. E. & Grace Jones  
G. & M. Keltner  
Lloyd & Delta Morris  
Thomas & Arlene Morris

**Section 3**

Helen Knittle  
Ella E. Owens & Helen L. Knittle  
E. P. Jeffrey et al  
Elizabeth R. Duprey  
Jos. R. Williams  
G. H. & I. Owens  
Baulah Leathers  
D. W. & G. H. Owens  
E. G. & M. J. Owens  
H. Zeioler et al  
E. R. & R. H. Duprey  
Ilo Owens  
J. & S. Silance

**Section 4**

E. R. & R. H. Duprey  
D. W. & G. H. Owens  
Rufus H. Duprey  
Howard Zeigler, Jr. et al  
W. E. & K. L. Morris  
G. D. Pennell et al  
R. W. & R. M. Storck  
Nellie J. Evans  
Daryl L. & Carolyn S. Girod  
M. & S. Martin  
Max & E. Kraner

**Section 5**

Wanda O. Geise  
Edward & Maxine Amerman  
Velma L. Manken  
R. & L. Manken  
John W. & Ureula A. Baxter  
Martha M. Ellis

**Section 5 (cont.)**

Marguerite Rahrig  
Luther & Luella Carlo  
C. & H. Mowery  
Grace Profit et al  
David W. & Peggy J. Hiller  
B. & J. Nolan

**Section 6**

Anna V. & Raymond E. Shreeve  
Grace Profit et al  
Ruth Alice Hertel  
Emma Herl  
Ward M. Heffelfinger  
Ruth E. Allen  
Barbara J. Ludwig  
Maye Cryer

**Section 7**

M. Harber et al  
Nell Fugate  
Alice Hertel  
Donald L. Parker  
L. W. Remagen & P. I. Fugate  
David Allen  
R. D. & M. F. Heath  
Kent R. Profit  
G. L. Good  
Harry T. & Helen L. Neate  
R. L. Neate  
Walter & Mary Jane Patterson  
R. & R. Patterson  
Soren Schwartz et al

**Section 8**

Robert H. Schwartz  
Doyle & Mildred Tribolet  
C. & J. Profit  
Kent R. & Grace N. Profit  
D. L. & J. Profit  
G. Harold & Dorothy V. Gamble  
Datha M. Gamble  
Mary T. Murphy  
Kenneth R. & Ruth E. Duchenev  
W. & E. Friesner  
Bessie Washburn et al  
Gordon O. & Phyllis Rogers

**Section 9**

Donald W. & Barbara Morris  
Harry T. Neate  
John H. & Evelyn D. Schwartz  
M. M. Rahrig  
Mary E. Jones  
J. & A. Myers  
George E. & Sandra E. Ropp  
Donald H. & M. E. Fissel

#### Section 10

J. & L. Stutz  
William R. & Doris R. Evans  
Galen E. & V. E. Gamble  
Robert R. & L. Breese  
L. G. & Lucille Jones  
D. Haydn Lloyd  
Velma G. Hirsch et al  
E. W. Williams  
J. R. & D. H. Lloyd  
John R. Lloyd  
Warren C. & Alice A. Morris

#### Section 11

M. Deitschel & M. Smith  
Ruth Morris  
Daniel E. Foster  
John C. & Anne Morris  
Romaine Owens  
Ronald & Janis Owens  
D. Richard & Romaine Owens  
Kenneth L. & Neal L. Youngpeter

#### Section 12

Myrtle Jones  
David E. & Mary Evans  
Owen O. Evans  
Ruth W. Evans  
Maurice N. George  
John & Gwen Evans  
Stanley Roberts  
R. Newland  
L. Davis  
R. Newland

#### Section 13

David Hugh Evans  
Ruth W. Evans  
Morgan S. & M. R. Roberts  
Henry Uhl et al  
Owen O. Evans et al  
Harley H. Young  
Jack & R. Fox  
Wm. Lybold  
Don-Muter  
Melvia Taylor

#### Section 14

Kenneth L. & Neal L. Youngpeter  
B. F. Davis  
D. G. & M. Richards  
Stanley Roberts  
J. Alford & Frances Breese  
Ruth E. Evans  
Richard M. Evans  
Marguerite Fissel

#### Section 15

Ruth E. Evans  
R. O. Evans  
Loretta M. Williams  
D. Haydn Lloyd  
Warren C. & Alice A. Morris  
John R. & D. Haydn Lloyd  
John A. Jones et al  
R. S. & G. M. Welker  
Bernard & A. M. McMaisters  
Eual R. & Rosy Neal  
Bernard Art

#### Section 16

John A. Jones  
Richard & Geraldine Welker  
O. O. Whyman  
Russell B. & Katherine Price  
Tena Wilkin et al  
Helen K. Johnson  
David L. Walter  
Lulu Monroe  
David J. Williams  
Larry Welker

#### Section 17

Robert F. & Mildred L. Cully  
Donald & Jeannine Roediger  
Mary T. Murphy  
Frieda L. & J. Russell Prichard  
Wilma A. Thomas  
J. & L. Speer  
Gary L. Rogers  
Thomas M. & E. O. Missler

#### Section 18

James E. Dibert  
F. W. Poling et al  
R. & L. Hines  
Paul G. Mosier et al  
Kenton & M. Jerome  
Thos. R. Dibert  
Helen L. Neate  
Dorothy Prior  
Fauna & Otis L. Denney  
Robert R. Patterson  
Robert E. & J. L. Mosier

#### Section 19

C. & C. Lands Inc.  
L. & S. Clouse  
Lela Dudgeon  
Doris E. Kiracofe  
Helen M. Price  
Marion R. Linton  
Lois C. Foltz & Beatrice L. Nofer



#### Section 20

Lois C. Foltz & Beatrice L. Nofer  
Alice Evans  
George Crone  
Gordon #. & G. B. Smith  
Wm. H. & Hazel I. Ries  
Alice M. Marker  
Paul E. Ries

#### Section 21

Roland Evans  
Alice Evans  
B. R. Davis  
Paul Ries  
Hugh W. Jones  
Russel A. Baker et al  
Gomer R. Breese  
Dwight B. & Marjorie J. Rhodes  
Charles & Mary Price  
H. W. Rauch

#### Section 22

Russel A. Baker et al  
John A. Jones et al  
D. Philip Jones  
Mary Edith Heath  
Bernie L. Hughes  
Razzie D. Springer  
H. Luther McCoy  
Delmer E. Welker  
Emory Price  
Hazel U. Wilkins  
H. W. & M. B. Rauch  
Larry Welker

#### Section 23

Edgar L. & Maxine Morgan  
Edgar L. Morgan  
Leona S. Reahm  
S. & L. Macklin  
Merle E. Wilkins  
Hazel E. Wilkins  
D. Richard Owens  
J. Alford & F. U. Breese  
Margaret E. Morris et al  
John & Grace E. Pugh

#### Section 24

Henry Uhl et al  
Margaret E. Morris et al  
Helen L. Welker  
John R. Taylor & Leota Smith  
Richard Unverferth  
Richard M. & T. M. Zirkle

#### Section 25

Richard M. & T. M. Zirkle  
J. R. Taylor & Leota Smith  
Orren & H. Welker  
Marvin S. Welker  
Ray & Alma Boroff  
Betty L. Rhodes  
Joan C. & Kent R. Shellena  
Herman Wienken  
M. Van Eman  
J. Krugh

#### Section 26

James Hughes  
M. S. & J. S. Welker  
M. E. Van Eman  
Gertie Davies  
J. G. & L. E. Hughs  
J. Alford & F. U. Breese  
D. O. Welker  
John Elmer Davies  
Helen J. Poling  
Hazel D. Wilkins  
W. & A. Pavel

#### Section 27

M. E. & H. D. Wilkins  
Hazel B. Wilkins  
Emory Price  
W. Evans & M. Hone  
Everett L. Lewis  
E. Lowell Lewis  
David C. Jones et al

#### Section 28

David J. Breese  
Bonita K. Zeigler et al  
R. & B. Baxter  
Harriet J. Grogg  
David J. Breese  
D. Ries & K. Joseph  
Paul E. Ries et al  
Arthur Thomas et al  
Paul E. Ries  
Leah R. Ries  
D. & L. Carter

#### Section 29

Paul E. Ries et al  
Sarah J. Benfield  
Paul E. Ries  
Leah R. Ries  
Wayne & Leah Ries  
Wayne Ries  
Keith A. & E. M. Profit  
C. & J. Oberlitner  
Bessie Rauch  
Homer Gene Fronefield  
T. A. Rauch et al  
Wm. H. & Hazel I. Ries  
Donald R. Miller

#### Section 30

T. A. Rauch et al  
Erma E. Wortman  
H. T. & G. S. Rauch  
R. & B. Baxter  
E. Hobart & Edna L. Profit  
Marrion R. Linton  
D. R. Linton  
Homer & Gene Fronefield

#### Section 31

E. Hobart & Edna L. Profit  
Keith A. & Eunice M. Profit  
S. E. Davis et al  
Max S. & Mary Roehm  
Stella I. Oshurn  
Alice B. Wallick  
Maud E. Butler et al  
Burnell Hammons  
Martin Trisel  
Baltimore Quinanes  
Robert Daugherty

#### Section 32

R. & B. Palte  
Wayne Ries  
Anna Seager et al  
Glen G. Pruden  
E. R. & Florence E. Oberlitner  
Paul E. & Naomi R. Thomas  
J. Hill

#### Section 33

Charlie Prichard  
Edwin & Ruth Prichard  
Edwin A. & Dean J. Swygart  
D. J. & N. Swygart  
J. Latimer Breese  
E. A. & A. E. Swygart

#### Section 34

J. Paul Jgnes  
Richard E. Jones  
Palmer George  
Alice J. George  
Paul G. Davies  
Thomas P. Jones  
Harry Boroff  
Paul Boroff  
David Hugh Evans

#### Section 35

Amy Wharton  
Martha E. Van Eman  
Richard Bolton  
Betty J. Ramsey  
E. & R. Bolton  
L. C. & R. E. Bowsher  
M. M. Jr. & M. B. Burnett  
Anna Rogers  
Carl M. Book  
Harry Boroff  
Guy Houser Jr. & Juanita Blatz  
T. & M. E. Van Eman

#### Section 36

Ira P. Macklin  
B. J. & C. J. Thompson  
Richard W. Bassett  
Harley H. Young  
Harry Boroff  
Inas Berniece Overholt  
Leah Albright

## WORLD WAR I VETERANS

Anderson, George

Behns, Lewis  
Breese, J. Ambrose  
Burnett, Lester

Coil, John

Davies, Wm. Clifford  
Davis, Arthur O.  
Davis, Charles  
Davis, John D.

Hover, Howard  
Hughs, Alfred

Johes, Abner  
Jones, Edward O.  
Jones, Emlyn, O.  
Jones, Evan E.  
Jones, Lewis S.  
Jones, M. Palmer  
Jones, Russell Gwilym

Lewis, John  
Lewis, Walter D.  
Lloyd, John C.

Monroe, Earl  
Morris, J. Rees  
Morris, Robert  
Morris, T. Gleason

Owens, J. Alvin  
Owens, Leonard  
Owens, T. Minor

Price, Charles  
Price, L. Maldwyn  
Price, Thomas E.  
Prichard, Robert  
Prichard, Russell J.  
Protsman, Edwin

Rauch, Roxy P.  
Rees, Lloyd  
Roberts, Thomas P.

Schwartz, Soren  
Smith, Gregg

Thatcher, Lewis

Uhl, Albert

Waltz, George Ray  
Wentz, Bruce  
Williams, D. Willard  
Williams, Edward W.  
Williams, Gomer J.  
Williams, Joseph R.  
Williams, William

## WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Boley, Eugene  
Boley, James  
Boley, Lee  
Bolton, Edwin  
Bolton, Paul  
Breese, Richard M.  
Breese, Robert  
Burnett, Donald  
Burnett, John L. Jr.  
Burnett, Karl F.  
Burnett, Lester  
Burnett, Warren H.  
Burnett, William W.

Coil, Carl B.  
Coil, John J.  
Coil, Richard L.  
Couts, Clarence Jr.  
Couts, Joseph  
Couts, Robert  
Crone, Donald  
Crow, Robert C.

Davies, Wallace I.  
Davis, Garland  
Davis, W. Harold  
Davis, Walter  
Davis, William Alfred  
Detrick, Donald  
Dibert, Charles  
Dibert, James R.

Evans, David E.  
Evans, James David  
Evans, John  
Evans, Richard Marvin  
Evans, Robert C.  
Evans, Roland Everett  
Evans, Thomas Lloyd  
Evans, William Wendell

W. W. II Veterans--2

Fisher, Kenneth  
Fisher, Harry  
Fisher, Marvin  
Fisher, Russell  
Fissel, Donald  
Foster, Daniel E.  
Fox, Jack

Galloway, Thomas  
Gamble, Richard  
Good, Donald  
Goodwin, Don

Harbert, Edwin  
Heath, James  
Heath, William  
Hirn, Carl  
Hundley, Edward  
Hundley, Vernon

Jones, D. Rager  
Jones, D. William  
Jones, David H.  
Jones, David Vaughn

Kline, Floyd  
Kline, Hubert

Lare, Lee  
Lewis, Carl A.  
Lewis, David  
Lining, Otis J.  
Linton, Junior M.  
Linton, Lewis  
Lloyd, John Russell

Manken, Gerald  
McCoy, Luther  
McMasters, Bernard  
Metzger, Paul V.  
Miller, Carl  
Miller, James  
Miller, Paul  
Miller, Richard  
Millisor, Carl  
Missler, Paul M.  
Monroe, Thomas  
Morris, David Wayne  
Morris, Harold W.  
Morris, Lloyd E.

Nichols, Albert  
Nieford, Fred

Nieford, Niel  
Nieford, Olen  
Overholt, Gene  
Overholt, Lowell  
Owens, David Wm.

Parker, Donald J.  
Phelps, Johnnie  
Pollock, David  
Pollock, Ernest, Jr.  
Pollock, Gene  
Pollock, Merlin  
Pollock, Richard  
Pollock, Stanley  
Pollock, Wayne  
Price, Chas. W.  
Price, Melvin S.  
Pryor, Darrel

Rauch, Howard  
Rauch, Hugh  
Remington, Lawrence  
Rheam, Max  
Rhoades, John M.  
Rhoades, Paul W.  
Richards, Donald G.  
Richards, Monford

Scheidt, Wallace  
Schwartz, Robert  
Shank, Paul  
Stuber, Richard

Taylor, Ralph  
Thomas, Essie M.

Uhl, Raymond, H.

Van Eman, David  
Van Eman, Raymond

Wallick, Lewis  
Wallick, Reed  
Waltz, Robert  
Ward, Earl  
Welker, Lowell  
Wilkins, John  
Williams, Glenn  
Williams, Gordon  
Williams, Willard W.

Yoh, Paul,

Zeigler, Howard N. Jr.  
Zirkle, Robert

KOREAN WAR VETERANS

Amerman, Edward,  
Bevington, Howard  
Boley, Donald  
Boley, Harold  
Bolton, Robert  
Brenneman, John  
  
Couts, George  
Couts, Jay  
Crone, Dean  
Crow, Kenneth  
  
Emans, Merle  
Evans, Wm. R.  
  
Fronefield, Jack  
  
Gamble, Paul  
  
Heath, Roger  
  
Jones, Gordon  
  
Kable, William  
  
Manken, Richard  
McNamee, William  
Medaugh, John  
Morris, Warren C.  
Muter, Robert  
  
Oberlitner, John  
Owens, Haydn  
  
Pollock, Frank  
Price, Donald  
  
Schwartz, John H.  
Shaffer, Rex  
Swygart, Dean  
Swygart, George  
  
Thomas, Allen  
Thomas, Donald  
  
Wallick, Clarence  
Welker, Stanley  
Williams, David

VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

Ashton, Charles  
  
Bolton, Robert  
Book, Larry  
Boroff, Leslie  
Bradshaw, Phillip  
Burnett, David  
Burnett, Theodore  
Burnett, William  
  
Coil, Kenneth  
Cully, Edward  
  
Davis, Steven  
  
Evans, Dan J.  
Evans, William R. II  
  
Foster, Eric  
Fox, Billy  
Fox, Larry  
  
Hundley, Robert  
Hundley, Vernon Jr.  
  
Jones, Thomas  
  
Lippi, Anthony  
Longstreth, Homer  
Lybold, Bill  
  
McMasters, Bernard, Jr.  
Miller, Maurice  
Missler, Kent  
Morgan, David  
Morgan, William  
Morris, Gregg  
  
Pollock, Scott  
Pollock, Steven  
Profit, Gary  
  
Richards, Randy  
  
Snider, Fred  
Spear, James  
Stutz, Larry  
  
Thomas, Gary

Farms of York Township owned by the same family for  
eighty-five years or more with the original purchase date.

Daniel Foster--1836	Hugh W. Jones--1846
David H. Evans--1847	Edith Heath--1850
John O. Pugh--1850	Mrs. David M. Jones--1864
Janet Smith and Ralph Taylor--1864	Edwin Prichard--1865
Mrs. Daniel Evans--1867	Marvin Evans--1867
Bonita Hughes Zeigler --1867	Edwin Swygart--1867
J. Paul Jones--1868	Gomer Breese--1867
Russel Dibert--1868	Dwight Rhoades--1867
Alford Breese--1872	Richard E. Jones--1868
Martha Van Eman--1840	Warren Morris--1881
Gordon & Gail Smith --1872	W. Ries--1872
Thomas R. Morris--1890	Peter Profit--1872
Mrs. Tena Wilkins--1886	Lois Foltz & Beatrice Nofer --1872
	Elizabeth Duprey--1874



Elgin, Van Wert County, Ohio  
Established on June 11, 1883

Postmasters

Appointment Dates Through  
September 30, 1971

Marion Goodwin	June 11, 1883
T. W. Morris	December 16, 1885
Joseph A. Goodwin	November 1, 1886
Mrs. Angeline M. Hopkins	January 10, 1889
John E. Johnson	August 16, 1889
John C. Mechling	May 29, 1891
James Elias	June 22, 1893
Leonard A. Goodwin	July 12, 1893
Abijah Goodwin	October 26, 1894
Isaac N. Tracy	September 12, 1895
Emory Roller	July 13, 1896
Samuel Dannison	January 11, 1899
Charles A. Roller	April 24, 1905
Otis C. Liniger	April 2, 1928
William R. Burnett	March 5, 1929
George M. Graham	November 13, 1931 (acting)
Mrs. Mary E. Graham	September 30, 1951 (assumed charge)
	October 11, 1951 (acting)

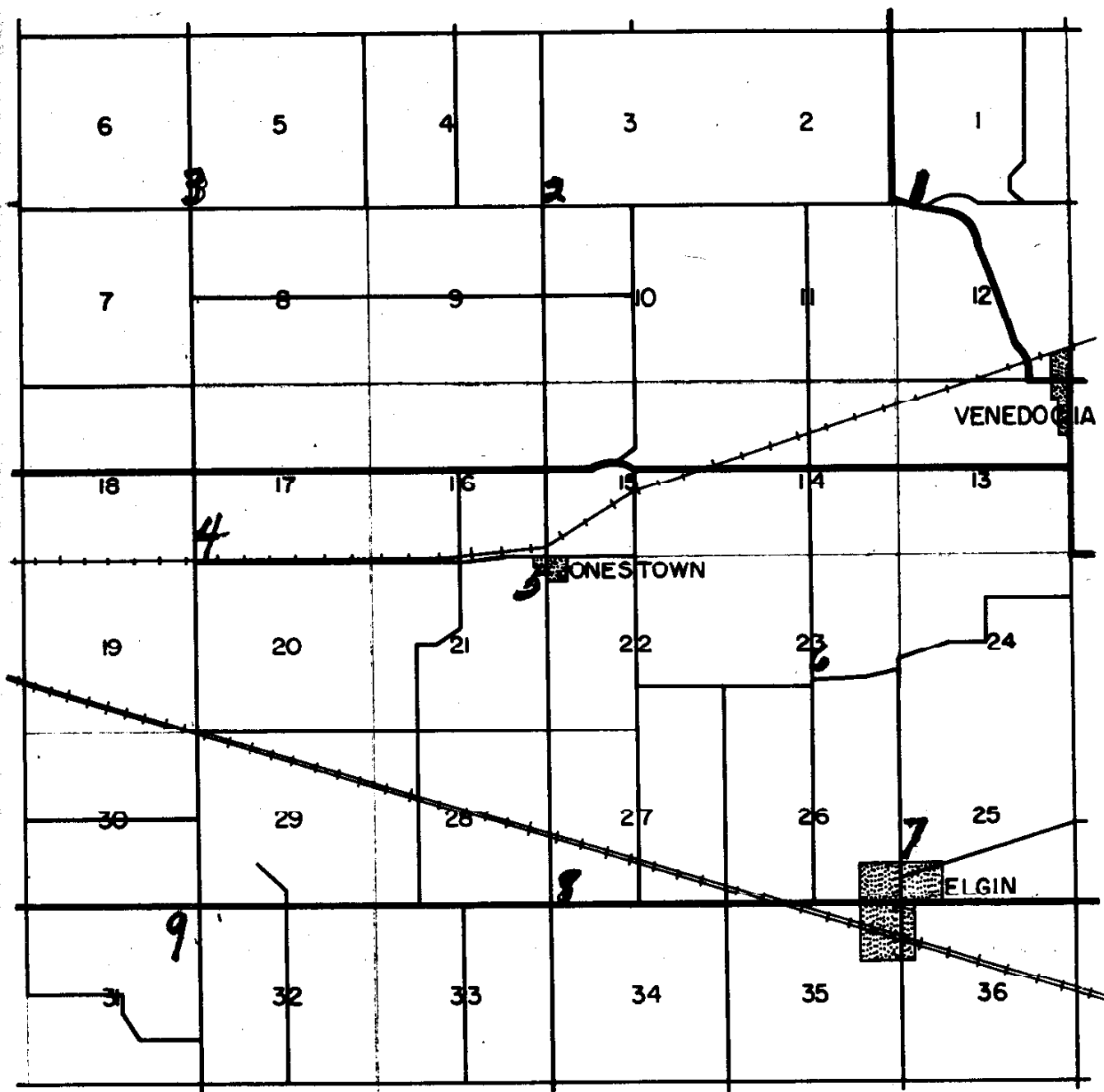
Venedocia, Van Wert County, Ohio  
Established on July 26, 1866

Postmasters

Appointment Dates Through  
September 30, 1971

Rowland J. Whittington	July 26, 1866
Miss Annie Roberts	March 3, 1873
T. J. Jones	April 20, 1874
Thomas A. Jones	April 28, 1879
Mrs. Jane Evans	March 22, 1880
John Uhl	January 18, 1886
David H. Edwards	August 16, 1889
John Uhl	August 18, 1893
David H. Evans	December 22, 1897
Frank J. Uhl	February 1, 1940 (assumed charge)
	February 8, 1940 (acting)
Miss Pauline E. Davies	August 28, 1941 (confirmed)
	October 1, 1941 (assumed charge)
(name changed by marriage to Pauline E. Miller on April 28, 1961)	
Zelma L. Evans	October 11, 1963 (acting)
Lee J. Lare	August 30, 1965 (acting)
	September 17, 1965 (assumed charge)

We can furnish for \$3.00 electrostats of the site location reports relating to the Venedocia and Elgin post offices.



1. Auglaize  
2. Whitfield  
3. Painter

4. Rossville  
5. Jonestown  
6. Pugh

7. Elgin  
8. Moss  
9. Bevington



Three beet workers and Jess Taylor with Fred, Harold and Barney



Years ago it was a common practice to put grain in the barn. Then they would thresh out of the barn. Picture threshing out of John Van Emans barn just before World War I. Standing 1st row left to right, John Elmer Davies, Marion Van Eman, Vernon Thatcher, Theodore Thatcher, Marion Boroff, Bill Lininger, Don Van Eman and John Davies, in wagon left to right, Walter Cooper, John Van Eman, James C. Nichols, sitting on black horse, Glen Nichols, killed World War I and Victor Van Eman on white horse.



Dave Griffith's Tin Shop  
Dave Griffith and W. B. Evans



ROSSVILLE SCHOOL

Back row: Ernest Allen (teacher), Cloyd Ross, Floyd Thomas, Floyd Geary, Alice (Smith) Marker, Della Slagle (Chambers), Alonzo Smith, Alvin Knapp, Glenn Ross, 2nd row: Ola Wallick (Fleming), Ethel Brunn (Neiferd), Blanch Harp (Hunt), Wilma Harp (Thomas), Hallie Faulkner (Crone), Leona Smith (Broun), Golda Harp (Price), Carrie Burcaw (Davis), 3rd row: Gladys Wallick, Ruth Dibert (Shellabarger), Etta Miller (Dibert), Ines Rice, Grace Rice (team), Millie Waltz (Urich), Grace Harp, Ina Anderson, Stella Harp (Parker), 4th row: Fred Price, Robert Ross, Roy Waltz, Homer Dibert, Willie Price, Wilbur Rice, Ernest Ross, Russell Jones, Lewis Ross, Ickes, Iro Hurless, Bottom row: Russell Dibert, Doyt Price, Gaylor Dibert, Alonzo Ross, Lee Price



WHITFIELD SCHOOL

1st row: Everett Morris, Dale Eller, Paul Eller, Luther Owens, 2nd row: Mildred Breese, Helen Breese, Glenabell Ricketts, Gladys Eller, Evelyn Davis, Elizabeth Williams, Margaretta Breese, Margaret Wms., Margaret Davis, Margaret Owens, 3rd row: Mr. L. Rhoades (teacher), Kenneth Morris, Neil Ricketts, Harold Gamble, Lester Hughes, J. W. Reese, County Supt.



FIRST 1st GRADE AT YORK SCHOOL

1st row: Clayton Goodwin, Junior Boroff, Wentz Alsbaugh, John Rice, Nelson Galathe, Estel Washburn, Earl Baxter, Glenn Rauch, 2nd row: Helen Breese, Margaret George, Lois Agler, Anna McZinkle, Elsie Pollock, Edith Jones, Margaret K., Esther Thatcher, Inez Jones, Mary George, Winifret Couts, Elizabeth Priddy, 3rd row: Leona Coll, Mary Koller, Stella Hundley, Mary Faurot, Latalia Runyon, Raymond Evans, 4th row: Alice Piegert, Lillian Prichard, Velma Owens, Mildred Breese, Laura Francis, Gale Slagle, Helen Gamble, Wm Galloway, Margaret Hughes, 5th row: Dean Rice, Haydn Owens, Wm Remegan, Frank McZinkle, Catherine Thomas



PUGH SCHOOL

1st row: Alford Breese, Tom Roberts, Dorothy Evans, unknown, Owen Roberts, Russel Evans, 2nd row: Irene Evans, Alice Jones, Annie Jane Evans, Irene Evans, Mable (Evans) Owens, Florence Breese, Alphonso Hoffman, Alice Foster, Helen Evans, Olivia Foster, Lydia Jones, Nelson Foster, 3rd row: Sam Breese, John Russel Evans, Sam Breese



VENEDOCIA SCHOOL

1st row: Maldwyn Roberts, Edgar Davis, David Thurston Jones, John Pugh, Freddie Alford Davis, Charles Jones, Daniel Davis, Fred Taylor, David M. Jones, 2nd row: Morgan Evans, Beech, Robert Morris, Edward Morgan, Dwight Thomas, Alford Davis, Raymond Jones, 3rd row: Gwendolyn Jones, Emma Evans, Beech, Margretta Meredith, Ida Davis, Ethel Hurless, Elizabeth Jones, Ruth Jenkins, Ruth Richards, Olwen Jones



MOSS SCHOOL

1. Mary Price 2. Gwen Lewis 3. Frances Evans 4. Gertrude Tracy 5. Luemia George 6. Mary Thomas 7. Margaret Price 8. Tommy Price 9. Muri Dorrety 10. Russell Prichard 11. Malvin Price 12. Evan Jones 13. Hazel Jones 14. Gertrude George 15. Rachel Prichard 16. Pearl Tracy 17. Elizabeth Prichard 18. Palmer George 19. Oswald Jones 20. Ted Hughes 21. Dick Evans 22. Laura Page (teacher) 23. Kathryn Thomas 24. Margaret Evans 25. Cora Williams



JONESTOWN SCHOOL

1st row, left to right, Winnefred Lloyd Miller, Hannah Lloyd, Elizabeth Lloyd, Treva Jones Harter, Laura Francis Jones, Lois Hughes Morgan, Mary Williams Price, Daniel Jones, Kenneth Hughes, 2nd row, Mabel Evans Williams, Ruth Jones, Eunice Jones Morgan, Anna Williams Hughes, Blodwyn Jones, Gladys George, Evan Williams, Gaylord Jones, Chase Davies, Clyd Evans, Dewey Williams, Roy Morgan, Haydn Jones, Edith Breese Heath, Margaret H. Jones Hughes, Marianna Jones, 3rd row, Edith Tucker, Mabel Painter (Teacher), Ethel Hughes, Hugh M. Jones, I. Irvin Jones, Richard Breese, Walter Lewis.



AUCLAZE SUB-DISTRICT

1st row: Rufus Inorris, unknown, Harold Roberts, unknown, Asa Pollock, unknown, Florence Strother, Lucile Evans, Ruth Morris, Ruth Roberts, 2nd row: unknown, Viola Foster, Florence Pollock, unknown, Gladys Pollock, Marshal Roberts, Lloyd M., Howard Roberts, Fred Preston, 3rd row: Tom Minor Owens, Reese Morris, Margaret Roberts, Edith Morris, Ossie Siniff (teacher) Evelyn Jones, Hazel Pollock



IN 1929 ALFORD BREESE PRODUCED A LOCAL MINSTREL SHOW AT YORK SCHOOL AND AT VENEDOCIA.

Top Row: H. Richards, Irvan Jones, E. Davis, D. Thomas, Elmer Williams, Clearne Owens, Harris Evans, Rob Owens, Davie Owens. 2nd Row: Dick Owens, Kenny Waltz, Bufus Morris, Stanley Roberts, Gene Evans, Ed Jones, Luther Williams, J.E. Morgan, Fred Davis, Bill Dans, Palme Davis, Plane George, Travis Breese. 3rd Row: Reese Morris, Laten Jenkins, Tom Morgan, Daniel Evans, Russ Evans, Alford Breese and daughter, Glenn Owens, Art Davis, Dick (Red) Evans, Osborne Jones, Paul (Dick) Jones.

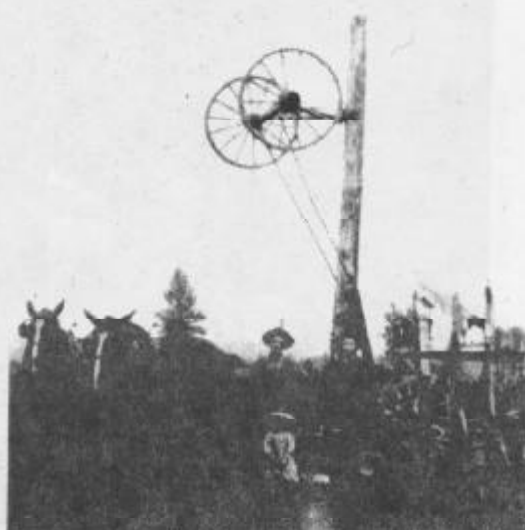


Venedocia Depot



Rev. Hugh Pugh's Homestead

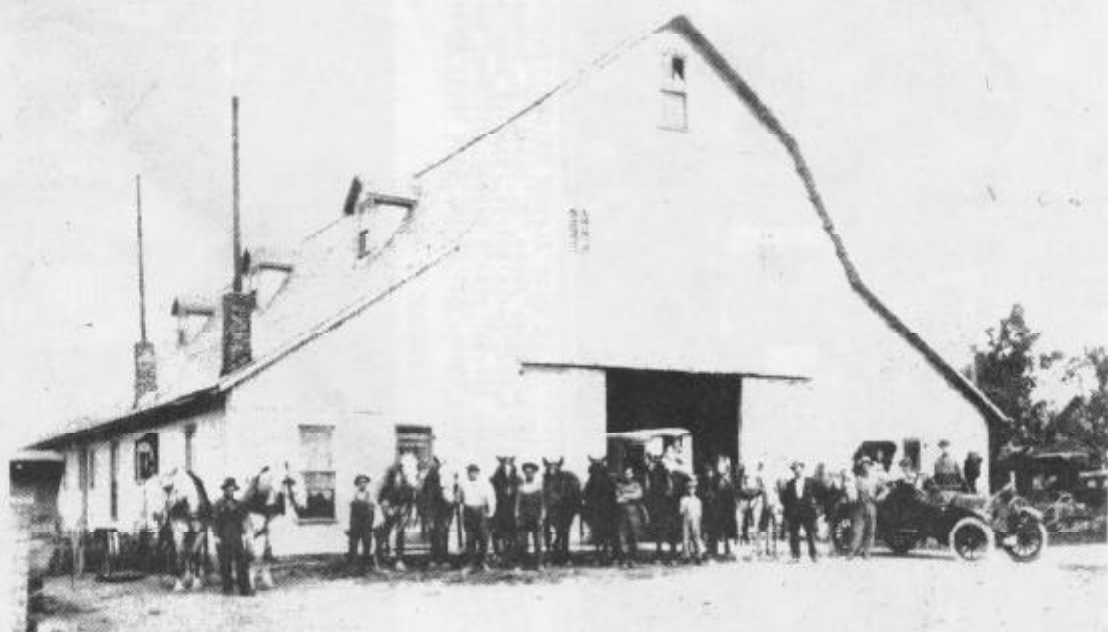




Well pulling rig



Cutting oats with binder on  
Charles Foster Farm



Venedocia Livery Barn

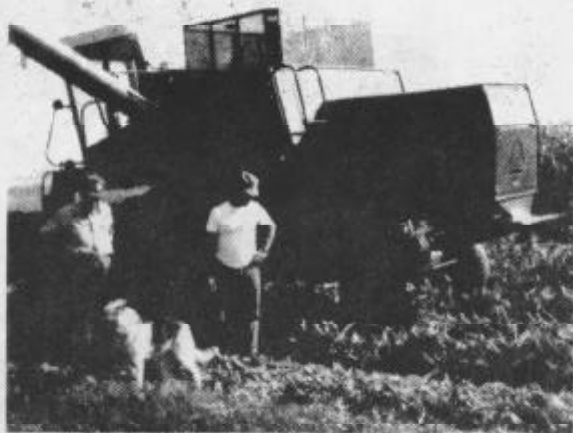


Venedocia Street Scenes





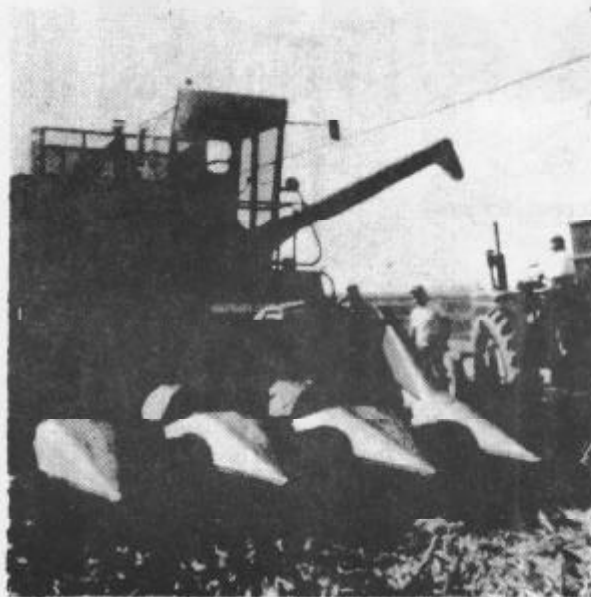
J.C. Morris harvesting corn on the  
J.D. Kennedy Farm - 1975



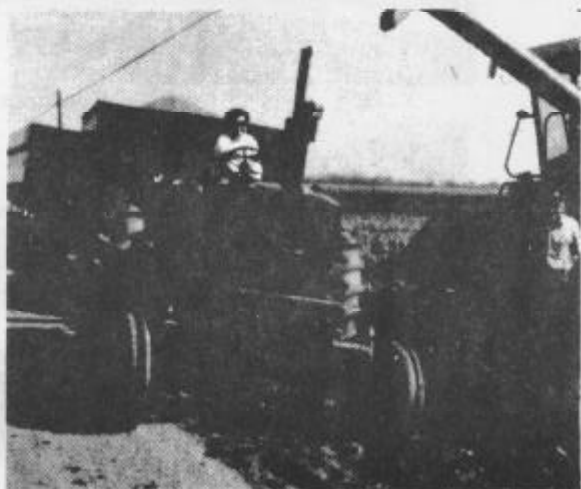
T.R. Morris, John C. Morris and Jo



T.R. Morris, John C. Morris, Mrs. J.C. Morris



Sheller Corn Picker



Mrs. J.C. Morris