

What Was Concord Like?

Concord's first settler on record was John Acker who settled here in 1831. Many families followed and were delighted to find the virgin soil rich and fertile. Judge Melville McGee, son of the third family to settle in what is now Concord (June 1832) describes the area as follows . . .

"It was what is known as the 'oak openings' — largely burr oak. There were no grubs or small growth of young timber and no brush of any sort to hinder driving with a team all through the woods and all over the township. The only obstacles in the way were the marshes and rivers. It was not difficult to find places where they could be easily crossed.

"For the most part the early settlers followed the Indian trails. The Indians were quite numerous and were not backward about making the acquaintance of the early settlers. They belonged to the tribe of Pottawatomies."

The township grew and so did the village. They were named Concord . . . named this because of the peace, harmony and good feeling the people enjoyed as they worked and neighbored together.

— Marion Bouldrey Hinkley



WAY BACK WHEN — Main Street, Concord, looking North.

THE MANN HOUSE

A Victorian Home Museum

The Mann home was constructed in 1883-1884, and the family moved from the farm on Section 20, Concord Township, at that time. Many of the furnishings now in the home date from that period. The girls were in school at this time, and the parents seem to have felt that a home in Concord would be more convenient. The building is a Victorian structure with moderate touches of gingerbread and other period characteristics. The exterior and interior have not been altered since construction except for an addition to the rear of the home made in 1952.

When the Mann family moved into the Village, the grounds of their new home were laid out exactly as one would imagine a family fresh from the farm would have wanted them — practical. A pasture running from the rear of the barn to the back line of the property occupied nearly half of the lot. About one-third of the rest of the property was devoted to a vegetable garden and a mixed orchard. Grape arbors were used to screen the garden and pasture from the house, as well as to provide



another fruit. Even the maple trees along the west side of the house were practical as well as ornamental, for they served to shield the building from the hottest rays of the sun. The sidewalks still follow the same paths as originally, but they now are constructed of concrete rather than boards.

The eleven-room building has five bedrooms on the second floor and one bedroom on the main floor. The focus in the downstairs area is a large, comfortable, sitting room, adjacent to the front parlor. Original woodwork, and door knobs with catch-release levers, are found throughout the house. Many of the original lighting fixtures remain, and they have been carefully converted to electricity. The spacious grounds have well-kept lawns, a small flower garden area, and a carriage house.

The Mann House had its formal opening and dedication on Sunday, October 11, 1970. Many school groups are visitors at the Museum and the children are very interested in the Victorian way of life reflected in the home. Each year in October a Victorian Mann House Day is observed. At this time the talents and hobbies of local people are displayed. Many volunteer hours are spent in helping with tours or special events taking place at the Mann House. It is the desire of the History Division to have the people of the community become more directly involved with Mann House activities. It is also the desire of the Division that the public use the Mann House as a research center for information regarding Victorian events, customs or information concerning Concord and the surrounding townships in the County.

The Mann House, at the present time, is open to the public Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The number of visitors since the opening in 1970 is close to 15,000. This shows the successful fulfillment of a project that was undertaken by two sisters, Miss Jessie Mann and Mrs. Mary Ida (Mann) Cady, who wanted to share an American heritage with future generations.

Marie E. Miller, Curator

Government



VILLAGE COUNCIL AT WORK
September 28, 1976

Left to right: Phillip Winter; Douglas Gossett; Halsey D. Jenks; Philip Ledyard, President; Betty Benn, Clerk; and Dorothy Spry. [Absent: Kilbourne Snow, Jr., Steven McKanic and Dorothy Lovitt, Treasurer.]

CONCORD VILLAGE PRESIDENTS **1871 - 1976**

1871	Thomas S. Hungerford
1872-73	Charles Root
1874	James M. Dodge
1875-76	George Stahley
1877	Isaac Smalley
1878	Samuel Hutchisson
1879-80	William Spratt
1881	George Stahley
1882-83	A. M. Baker
1884	D. E. Haskins
1885-86	Albert Tucker
1887	F. Purchase
1888	Frank Rhodes
1889-90	E. C. Hungerford
1891	E.D. Hungerford

1892	Horace Ansterburgh
1893	Percy Chapple
1894	G. A. Stahley
1895	Isaac Smalley
1896-97	Leonard Caswell
1898	T. J. Thacker
1899	Henry C. Bullock
1900	A. A. Calhoon
1901-02	Lyman P. Carter
1903-05	Henry C. Bullock
1906	J. H. Rowe
1907	Clare Goodrich
1908-09	Merritt B. Coykendall
1910	John Grover
1911	Clyde King
1912-13	John Grover
1914	Harold Hungerford
1915	Abram Tucker
1916	Leon Groger
1917-39	Frank N. Aldrich
1940-41	Royal Bouldrey
1942-45	Dean Todd
1946-49	Dwight A. Aldrich
1950-54	J. G. McLeese
1955-57	Gerald Beissel
1958-59	Earl Abel
1960-63	Robert Carmody
1964-73	Jesse Brigham, Jr.
1974-	Philip Ledyard

Barbara Dart Smith was the first woman to enter Village politics. She became Treasurer in 1952, and a woman has held some kind of office ever since that time.



VILLAGE OF CONCORD, MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

Village Office, left; Concord Branch Library, center; former fire barn, right, now used by Village as a garage.

Concord - Pulaski Police Department

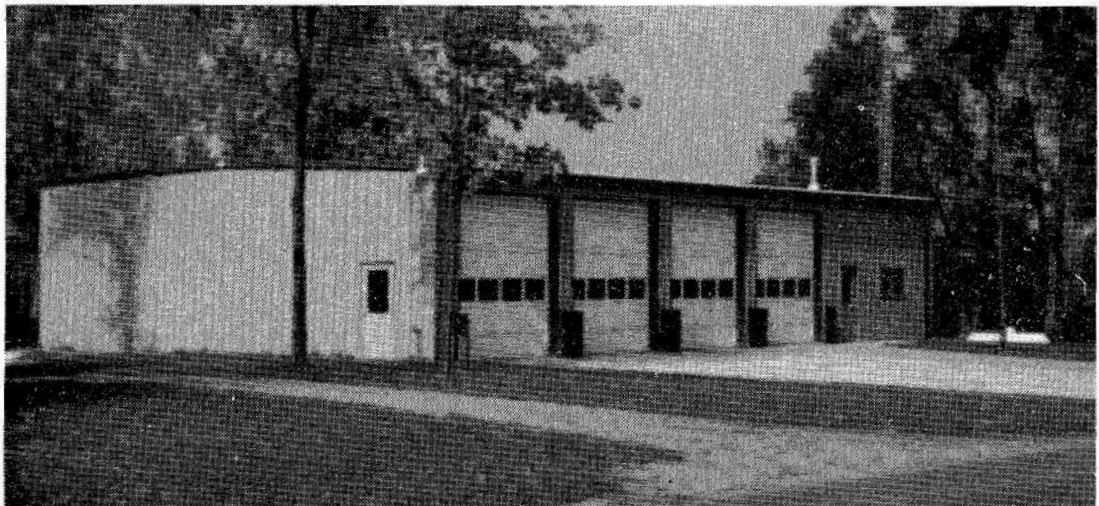
In August 1959, the Village Council undertook a study of ways and means to provide a more adequate type of police protection for its citizens. The services of a part-time Village Marshall and an under-staffed Jackson County Sheriff Department were not providing satisfactory coverage. The original study committee consisted of Council members Mildred Kressbach, Albert Aldrich and Ray Nystrom. Later they were joined by fellow-member Robert Jacokes and the Village President, Robert Carmody. This study resulted in the formation of yet another committee, composed of representatives from the Village and from Concord and Pulaski Townships, with the assignment to write a mutually satisfactory agreement for the establishment of a Police Association.

Concord Township Supervisor, Floyd C. Kelso, and trustee Harold Pardee; Pulaski Township Supervisor, Charles Weston, and trustee, Ronald Buskirk; and Village representatives Kressbach and Jacokes, spent over a year on the project. On June 1, 1961, the Agreement creating the Concord-Pulaski Police Association was signed. The first Association officers were: Harold Pardee, Chairman; Ronald Buskirk, Vice Chairman; and Mildred Kressbach, Secretary-Treasurer. The first order of business was the hiring of a Chief of Police. Mr. Warren L. Sutton, who had been hired by the Village in the interim, was named Chief, a position he holds today.

The formation of a Police Association by these three units of government proved so satisfactory from the standpoint of service and economy that in 1964 these bodies formed the Concord-Pulaski Fire Association.

The Police Association's growth over the years is reflected in the increases in the budget as better equipment, additional help and more services have gradually been added. Today the Association Officers are: Chairman, Ronald McClain (Pulaski); Vice Chairman, Eldon Hawkins (Village), and Secretary-Treasurer, Maynard Lockwood (Concord Township).

Concord - Pulaski Fire Association



CONCORD-PULASKI FIRE ASSOCIATION

The new building on Homer Road, occupied September 1976.

Under the Charter and By-laws of the Village of Concord, Inc., March 18, 1871, the Common Council was empowered to establish . . . "fire companies and hose and hook and ladder companies and provide them with engines and other instruments . . ." The companies were given the right to appoint their own officers, pass by-laws for the organization and government of such companies, subject to the approval of the council.

There are no records prior to October 1, 1916, but Mr. Robert D. Aldrich has in his possession a certificate issued to Wallace Cory when he joined the department on May 15, 1886. Mr. Aldrich has also compiled a listing of major fires and incidental information regarding the department from 1849 to 1966, including lists of men belonging to the department.

In 1916 the department was reorganized and at that time the hook and ladder wagon and the engine were kept at 132 N. Main Street (Behling Building). The fire alarm bell was hung in a windmill back of what is now Friedrich's Store. The volunteer firemen were paid a sum of 50c for each fire or meeting attended, but lost that amount for non-attendance. About 1923 the truck was moved to the building on Hanover Street where the Village Office, Library and Garage are located. In 1976 the equipment, which is considerably more extensive, modern and versatile, was moved to the new building on Homer Road.

It was in 1923 that the Concord Department responded to fires in Pulaski Township for the first time. Pulaski paid for each fire call from that time until January 1, 1964, when they joined with the Village of Concord, and Concord Township, to form the Concord-Pulaski Fire Association.

By 1941 wages were raised to 50c for each meeting, \$1.00 for a fire in the Village and



CONCORD-PULASKI RESCUE SQUAD [1974-75]

Standing, left to right: Gifford Householder, Dennis Walker, Royce [Johnny] Luttenton, Ron Hall, Krag Sanford. Front row: Shirley Simpkins and Nancy Railer. Absent: Jack Mauer.

\$2.00 for one in the country. The system of one blast of the fire whistle for Village fires and two blasts for country fires was started in 1932.

In 1944, the Department authorized Ralph Blattner to attend the "Fire School" in Ann Arbor, at his own expense. This was the first time the Department began to take advantage of professional training, and Mr. Blattner continued to attend the school until his retirement. He had served the Department as Assistant Chief and Chief for a period of 23 years upon his retirement in 1967. In 1955 the Department held the first Regional Fire School in Concord and continued to do so until 1963.

In 1955 the wives formed the Auxiliary which today is still an active and valuable asset to the Department. Many wives have taken fire training and radio and dispatching training. In 1953 the Lions Club donated a resuscitator.

In 1957 the firemen were so angered by the loss of the McCorkle house, after they had had it under control but then ran out of water, that they canvassed from door to door for donations toward a tanker. The public responded to their plea, and the men donated their time to build the tanker. It was in this year also that the telephone alert system was hooked up to the phones of ten firemen. In 1959 the men were put in "uniform". The Auxiliary bought blue shirts and badges for the firemen and they wore them with black pants and ties and their new



CONCORD FIRE DEPARTMENT - October 1951

Back row: Gordon Patterson, Secretary; Ralph Blattner, Chief; Howard Keeler and Jerry Beissel. Front row: Paul Winchell, Jesse Brigham Jr., Leo Hotchkins, Lyle Houghton, Willard Knauer, Gayle Stimer. Building in background, next to the fire barn, is the old telephone office.

dress hats. In 1961 the Department received two-way radio equipment. A new pumper was purchased in 1969.

— Excerpted from data compiled by
Irene Blattner

* * * * *

Records recently made available by the Concord-Pulaski Fire Department and the Department's Women's Auxiliary, cover in detail the logs from 1960 to 1976. They continue the listings of fire calls and accident calls, with the notation in 1972, "This year we are beginning to have more Rescue runs than ever." In 1974, most of the firemen took a 66-hour training course in fire fighting. Graduation was held for them on November 9. In the fall of 1974, the course was offered again and four of the Women's Auxiliary members took the course: Joanne Brand, Janis Hall, Jane Householder, and Pat Maurer. All passed with top honors.

The records of the Auxiliary are filled with fund raising projects, purchases of equipment, donations to community projects. In connection with the Bicentennial Celebration, they helped put on a dinner for the Wagon Train as it passed through Concord on May 15, and went to Frontier City for two days to join in the selling of crafts. Jane Householder made the red, white and blue afghan for which a drawing was held on the Fourth of July. The 1976 officers of the Auxiliary are: Jane Householder, President; Rose Walker, Vice President; Joanne Brand, Secretary; Janis Hall, Treasurer; Marcia Windle, Sunshine Girl; Melody Sunday, Call Girl; remaining members, Committee Chairmen.

LIST OF FIRE CHIEFS

October 1916 — October 1919	E. L. (VERNE) GROGER
October 1919 — April 1924	L. F. GROGER
April 1924 — October 1934	J. C. REYNOLDS
October 1934 — September 1951	FRED HYLIARD
September 1951 — July 1967	RALPH BLATTNER
July 1967 — July 1972	NORM GOTTSCHALK
July 1972 — January 1976	DEAN LOVITT
January 1976	DALE LOVITT



HITCHING POSTS

The hitching posts were wooden and placed in various locations in the village close to the stores so the horses could be easily tied.



Warren L. Sutton, Chief, Concord-Pulaski Police Association

Warren L. 'Bill' Sutton

Police Chief Warren L. Sutton has been a well-known figure in Concord since his arrival here in 1960. At that time, the Village Council hired him to provide temporary police protection while a study was being made which eventually made possible the formation of the Concord-Pulaski Police Association. As a Deputy of the Jackson County Sheriff Department, he went to work for the Village for \$100 a month and provided his own car, although the Village did furnish gasoline for it. When the Association was formed, January 1, 1961, he was named Chief of Police of the Concord-Pulaski Police Association and has been on the job ever since.

Warren was born on October 19, 1908, in Norwalk, Ohio. He went to school in Toledo, graduating in 1927. He and his wife, Evelyn, were married in 1941. They have ten children, four girls and six boys.

During the course of his lifetime he has been a locomotive fireman, a truck driver and a Greyhound bus driver. He was a Lt. Colonel in the Air Force, attending the Air University of the U.S. Air Force, and holds a Meritorious Service military award; and was a Lt. Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol. His police training includes graduation from the FBI's Law Enforcement Officers Training School, and numerous courses and seminars on arson, checks, criminal investigation and procedures. He holds a Commendation Award from the American Federa-

CONCORD CHURCHES

The establishment of places of worship was among the first duties that the early settlers in Concord undertook. Many of our present churches trace their beginnings to those "first" families.



1918 View — Methodist Church, Concord. The Albert Reynolds Home, next door, was torn down when the Addition to the Church was built.

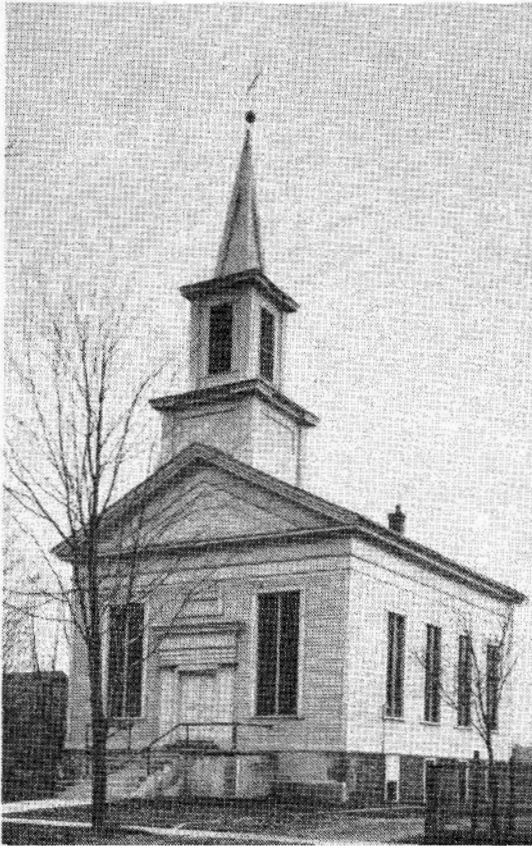
Methodist Church

Many Methodists lived and met together in the Concord-Spring Arbor area before 1836 when Concord was made a separate charge and in 1841 Timothy Dewey, Sylvester G. Abbott, Isaac Silvers, Uriah Wade and William Drake were appointed trustees at a Conference held in Marshall. The first building, erected on the same site as today's church, was completed in 1844. By 1876 it was found to be too small, so it was replaced by a new structure and the original building was sold. That building still stands, having been moved to a location behind the Murdock Funeral Home. On July 4, 1976, the Methodist congregation held their Bicentennial Worship Services in that, the original, building.

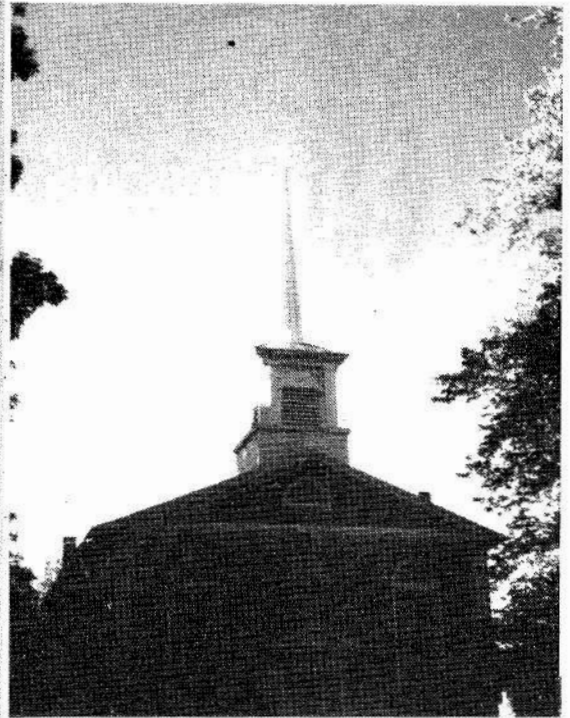
The "new" building burned January 15, 1893, but on October 29 of that year the present brick structure was dedicated. The new building was designed by W. N. Butterfield of Detroit. Contractors were Rhodes and Stahley of Concord. Contract cost, \$3,270; Total cost \$4,500. Many improvements have been made to the building over the years, and the church acquired the old Ganiard home and the Albert Reynolds home to make room for the more recent addition of an educational wing and parking area.

A complete history of the Methodist Church has been written by Mrs. Ernest Craun and is on file in the Mann House Historical Museum.

First Presbyterian Church



The building which burned in 1909.



First Presbyterian Church of Concord.

A meeting for the purpose of organizing a church was held on February 1, 1837, in the home of Thomas McGee, the third settler to come into what is now the Township of Concord. Early records in his handwriting are neat and orderly kept. In 1842 meetings were being held at the Stone Store, located on what is now part of the Brigham Hardware site. From 1843 until 1846 most services were held at the school house. The first record of any meeting in the church building is in May of 1846, and only the basement of that first building was used. The church proper was not finished off until several years later, being used meanwhile by Mr. Lewis Keeler as a place to store grain. The building site had been given by Mr. Isaac N. Swain.

In 1909 this first building burned. The entire community felt the loss and missed the tall-spired "New England" church fronted with three green terraces. Its timbers were from our native woods and the masonry of its high foundation walls were of native stone. It had been built by local masons and carpenters with much volunteer labor and was a monument to the early settlers who had contributed to its construction and especially to those of the Presbyterian organization.

The Cornerstone of the present brick structure which was built on the original foundation walls was laid in August 1910. At the same time a Memorial Stone giving the dates

of the old building was unveiled. In 1960 the Addition to the building which provides additional education space was completed.

On September 19, 1976, the church dedicated a new church steeple given in the memory of Mr. O. H. (Jim) Henyon.

During the past 139 years many dedicated members, ministers and friends of the community have served the church well. All cannot possibly be named here. One notable "tradition" of the church is the 51-year-old Cradle Roll Department which was organized in 1925 by Mrs. Clara Reynolds. Membership includes all children in the church from birth to Nursery School age. On Children's Day each year, Mrs. Reynolds would present each child with a small bouquet and on their birthdays would present them with a beautifully decorated two-tier cake. She continued these pleasant duties for twenty-two years and was succeeded in 1946 by Mrs. Helen Pardee who has continued this tradition, only on the birthdays she delivers her "specialty" . . . large, uniquely decorated cookies.

—Excerpted from material researched
and written by Maxine Woodliff Winchell

St. Catherine Laboure

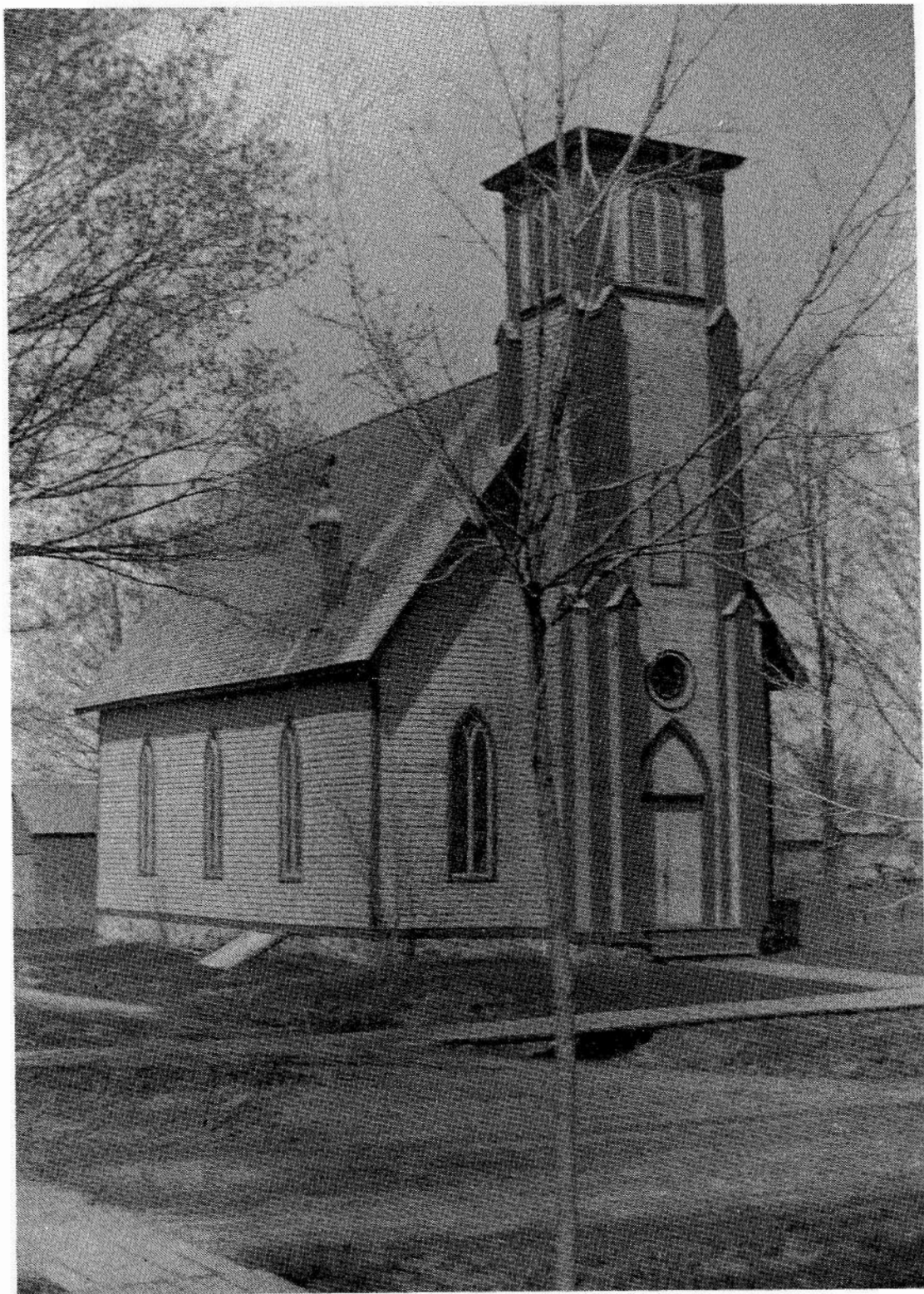
St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church was established in Concord in May of 1953, as a mission of Queen of the Miraculous Medal Church in Jackson. When the church was dedicated by Bishop Joseph Albers of Lansing, on May 16, 1954, there were forty families; now there are over one hundred. Fr. John Daugherty, C.M. was the first pastor. St. Catherine, a recognized Saint of the Roman Catholic Church, was a nun who lived and worked in France in the 1800's. A photograph of St. Catherine is kept near the altar.

Organizations include the Women's Altar Society and the Men's Club. There are about seventy-five students in religion classes.

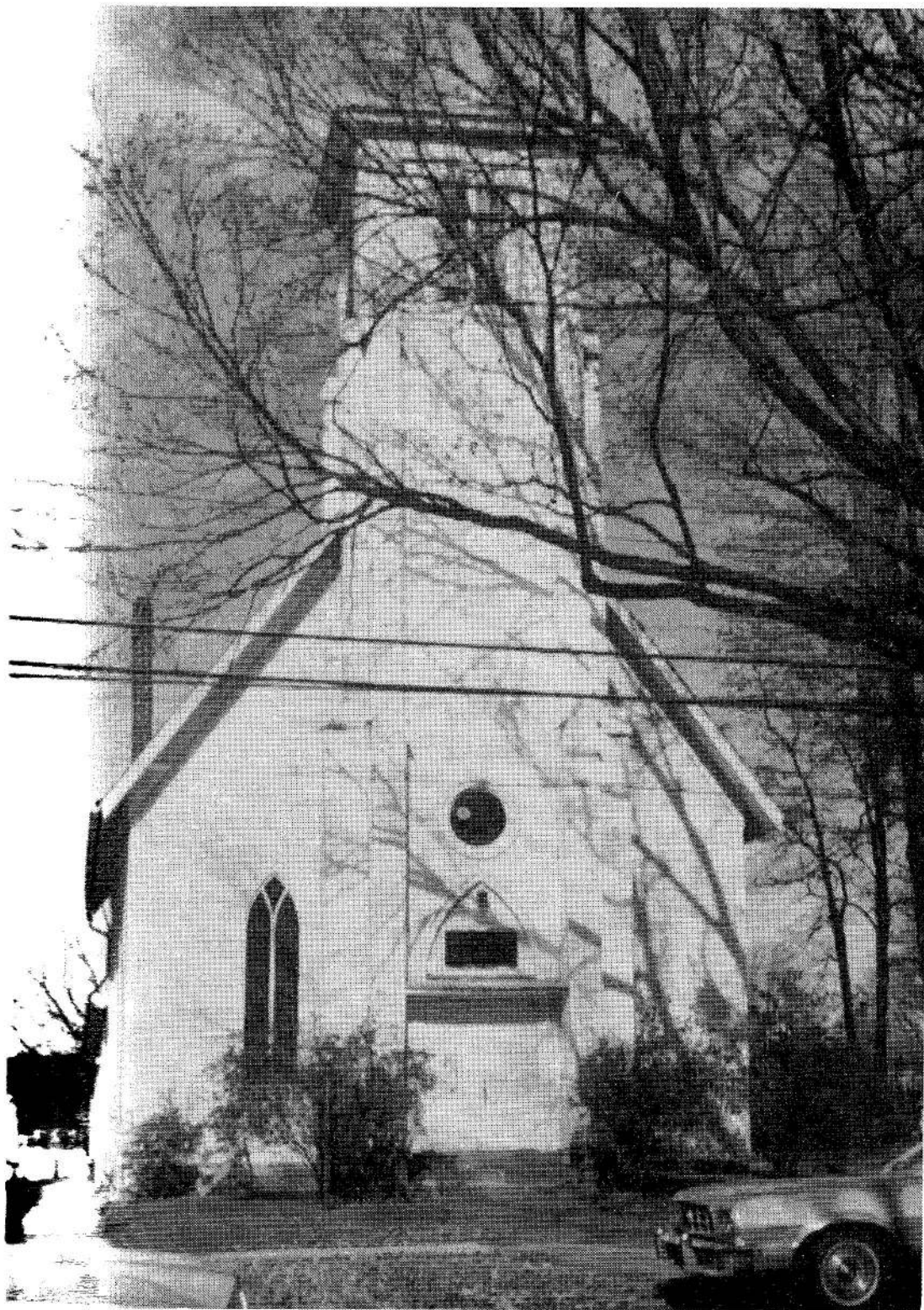
A group of Catholic men, headed by Gerry Beissel, purchased the building in 1953 (the Old Opera House). It was then completely remodeled and refurnished by the Men's Club of the parish, under the direction of Mr. Peter DeKlein; however very few exterior changes have been made to the original structure.



St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church, Concord, September 1973



An early view of the First Universalist Church, Concord.



Universalist Church of Concord as it appears today.

First Baptist Church



First Baptist Church of Concord.

The original Baptist church in Concord was founded around 1840 and was located on the north side of Monroe Street, between Union and Michigan Streets. It was destroyed by fire in 1898 and was never rebuilt.

The present Concord Baptist Church was started in June 1957 with Sunday afternoon Bible study classes held in the building now occupied by Shannon's Grocery. Rev. C. Edward Knauss conducted the class. Later the meetings were extended to Wednesday night Bible Study and Prayer meeting. In time those meetings were changed to Sunday morning and evening services. The church was incorporated in December of 1959, and at that time services were moved to the West Brick School at the corner of M-60 and Mann Road. In October of 1962, the members paid off the debt on three acres of land at the corner of Michigan and East Center streets, where the present church is now located.

A ground-breaking service for the new church building was held Sunday afternoon, June 30, 1963, with Rev. Charles Berry of the Sycamore Baptist Church, Jackson, as speaker. Construction began, with the men of the church doing most of the work, and completed at a cost of a little over \$5,000. From December of 1963 until the first services were held in the new building on February 23, 1964, the congregation met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Beemer, 214 South Main Street. On April 25, 1965 Dedication services were held, with the former pastor, Rev. Knauss, the principal speaker at the 11:00 a.m. service and Rev. Mark Jackson of the Bethel Baptist Church in Kalamazoo giving the dedication address at the 3:00 p.m. dedication service.

The present pastor, Rev. David Wood, accepted the call to the Concord Baptist Church in June, 1963.



Seeders and Weeders Garden Club Float on the 4th of July in the 1940's. Above, left to right: Elna [Lee] Gerth, Doug Harden.

Seeders and Weeders Garden Club

"A garden in every home" was the objective and subsequent motto of the Seeders and Weeders Garden Club, formed at Concord on February 24, 1942. Enthusiasm ran high and many of the charter members had been gardeners for years and cultivated lovely gardens. The charter was held open through the March meeting and resulted in a membership of twenty-four veteran and amateur gardeners. They were the Mesdames Rollo Bouldrey, Merrill Graham, N. Saxton Jacobs, John Grover, Jay Kelly, Harry Burk, W. N. Armstrong, C. C. Paull, Royal Bouldrey, Dorr Cochran, Richard Todd, Vern Groger, W. Stevenson, Al Brower, Paul Winchell, Bert Raser, Paul Yeiter, T. N. Hubbard, Herman Eding, Dwight Landon, Thomas Lovitt, Lyndon Harden, and Miss Louise French and Mrs. Vida Lee.

Green and yellow were chosen as the club colors and the Iris and Zinnia the official flowers. The "Seeders and Weeders" name was also adopted at the March meeting. The first year's programs covered many diverse gardening subjects and as time progressed flower displays in local store windows and at the 4-H Club Fair were displayed. A Junior Gardeners club was sponsored, the object being to encourage the planting of Victory Gardens during



The Hiram Hodge - Carmody House

222 South Main Street

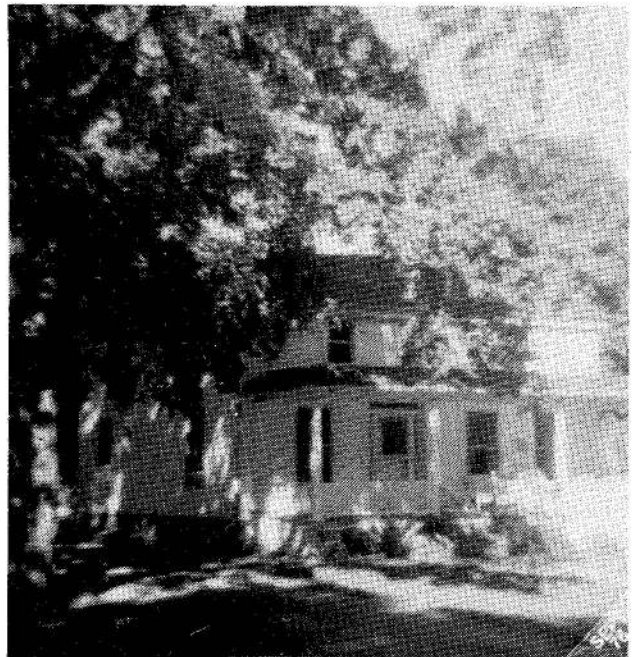
Although the present owner, Mrs. Dorothy Carmody, is not related to the family that built her home, she is a descendant of old families of Pulaski, the Woodens, Watsons and Dunhams, and of the Heath and Sanford families from the Mosherville-Litchfield area. This home was built in the late 1840's by Hiram Hodge.

Hiram Hodge was a well-read person. He originally had a farm north of Concord, built this house and then for some reason sold it and moved into the home now occupied by the Rutz family on Homer Road. Around 1881 Alanson Kellicutt bought it and his daughter Mary married a Mr. Jackson. Their daughter, Blanche Jackson Pierce, grew up here and is well known to many local people. Chauncey Smith bought it around 1915, at which time he remodeled it. Recent residents and/or owners were the Batemans, Henry Shermans and the Frank McClellands.

Changes over the years include removal of a north wing which extended off the back of the house (late 1800's). In 1915 the house was raised by several cement block courses, the porch was changed and the old many-paned windows were replaced by larger ones. The frieze was cut into to accommodate the larger windows.

Inside, most of the old woodwork and the original open staircase remain. The rooms are very much the same except that bathrooms have been added, taking bedroom space for that purpose. The rear of the house, now containing the kitchen, has been changed several times and the basement and basement stairs are new.

— Dorothy Carmody





Stahley - Donahue Home

120 South Main Street, Concord

This home was built by George A. Staley, Sr., in 1877. Through the years it has been owned by four different families — the Staleys, Mary E. Hamblin (1912), William Lincoln (1926) and John and Evelyn Donahue (1938).

Extensive interior repairing and some remodeling has been done by the present owners. Several outside doors were removed and the front restored to the original style, shutters replaced and house painted red. A spacious screened porch was added at the rear.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

On Sunday evenings combined church services were held. They were held in the different churches and each week the local preacher took his turn giving the service.



Swain - Root - Henyon House

208 Hanover Street, Concord

When Mr. Orlan H. Henyon and his wife Henrietta (Beatty) and their son Lewis E. moved into their home in April 1942, they were but the third family to have lived in this house, built in March 1837 by Isaac Swain and wife Vallonia.

The United States land grant to June J. Humphrey and his wife Sally is the first item on the abstract. Land sold to Isaac N. Swain in December 1836. After the Swain's occupancy, the second owner was John C. Root and his wife Anna.

A beautiful honeysuckle bush which the Henyons moved to a back flower bed when they built the new porch, had been a gift to Mrs. Anna Root from her brother Charles Townsend (Senator), and it was sent from California. Mrs. Root told Mr. Henyon that the reason she sold the house to him was because she just knew that he would take good care of her flowers.

One change which we were sorry about when we realized the history of this lovely old house, was the removal of the narrow stairway from the kitchen to the upper hallway. This space was converted to storage. The upstairs sewing room was made into a bathroom and the woodshed which was attached to the house was extended to become a double garage.

The former parlor facing Hanover Street was paneled with 11" knotty pine with a beamed ceiling and a fireplace with a solid 2" pine mantle was built. This was all the work of Carl Hakes, a skilled craftsman, who also built a screened porch off our living room with sliding glass doors which replaced the small windows facing north. A small bath was built between the living room and the bedroom in what was a storage closet under the stairway. Partitions have not been changed, and roomwise the house is the same plan as when purchased in October 1941.

One of our prized possessions is a little china doll. We were told that Mrs. Charles Root (Grandma Root to all the children), always gave an ice cream party each summer for the village children. In each piece of cake she placed a little doll. The children would have to find the matching doll and eat their ice cream with that boy or girl.

Mr. George Keeler shared with Mr. Henyon the incident that when he was a little boy, sleeping in a crib back of the cook stove in the house now occupied by the Camiel Thorrez family, Grandma Root came over to their house early one morning and he heard her say to his mother, "Did you know that Abraham Lincoln was shot last night?"

Also Mr. Keeler told him that people on our Hanover Street would drive their cattle to the millpond to drink, and that they would pick up the neighbor's stock on the way, thus saving many persons making the same trip.

— Henrietta Beatty Henyon



Hess Centennial Farm

13900 Hanover Road, Pulaski

The land was purchased in 1866 by John and Elizabeth Dawson, who came to Michigan from New York state. The succeeding family owners have been John Jr. and Luella May Dawson (1911); Fred J. and May Dawson (1935), and in 1964 John and Mildred (Dawson) Hess, the fourth generation to own the farm, and the present occupants.

The original house is over one hundred years old, but some remodeling has been done. However, the exterior is still the same. The old granary, which was built at the same time as the house, still remains but the barns were added later.



BAND CONCERTS

Late Thursday afternoon the band wagon (a flat bed wagon with a white rack) was pulled from behind the old telephone office into the middle of the four corners of the Main street. Local men made up the majority of the band. Names that come to mind are Frank Waldo, Uncle Tom Hungerford, Harold and Otho Pardee, Doc Armstrong, Dean Todd, Harley and Joel Reynolds, and Don Rutz. No doubt many old timers can remember more names. This was fun and a sociable occasion. Most of the stores also remained open and an ice cream cone from the cafe was delicious. This was a wonderful feeling of old-fashion togetherness. It was a happy event that farmers and local villagers could enjoy together and indeed looked forward to.



Home of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Jordan

215 Hanover Street, Concord

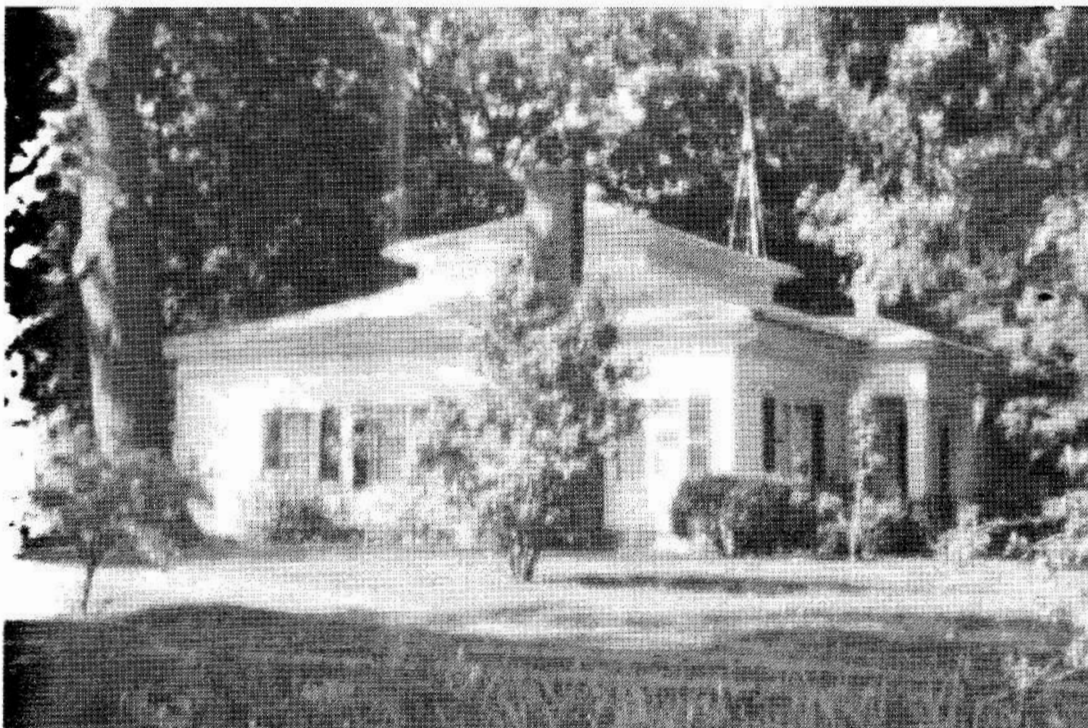
This home was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Jordan in 1975, ownership thereof passing out of the hands of descendants of the builder, William H. Spratt, III. Mr. Spratt built the house in the early 1860's and moved there in 1870 when he retired from farming. He lived there until his death in 1872. Mr. Spratt's daughter, Mary, and her husband, Hiram Billings, also moved into the house in Concord after retiring from the family farm and lived there until 1920. From 1920, until their deaths in 1973 and 1974, Hiram Billings' granddaughter, Mary (Ansterburg) and her husband, J. Harold Rodgers, lived in the home.

— Margaret Rodgers Luttenton



TUESDAY CLUB

The Literary Club of Concord. It maintained the village library, located in the same building our library is now in. Some of the members were Katherine Armstrong, Mrs. Levi Bates, Sarah Burk, Dorothy Schultz, and Clarissa Landon. Membership numbered about twenty-five. Minnie McKinzie Raser was the librarian.



Paddock-Hubbard-McFarlane House

317 Hanover Street, Concord

Early in Michigan history, Alfred J. Paddock purchased a farm in Concord Township, Jackson County, Michigan. On this farm were two bodies of water which are today known as Big Paddock and Little Paddock Lakes now owned by Helen (Hungerford) Sullivan of Jackson, who is herself a descendant of this prominent pioneer family.

A carriage house was built so Mr. Paddock could bring his wife and family to this new, beautiful, undeveloped land far removed from their native York State.

Thus while living in their carriage house (later moved back several feet to its present location), a house was built in the year 1844. The architecture was Greek Revival. It is a traditional story-and-a-half.

In this Bicentennial year, I should note that Mount Vernon was originally built as a story-and-a-half, but was altered in later years to a two-story structure.

In the Paddock house, town meetings were held regularly; the Universalist Society was organized. The Universalists met here, worshipped here, and planned the building of a beautiful edifice, the Universalist Church, located two blocks west.

The doors of this old Concord home are all fashioned in the form of a cross. This was done by many Colonial workmen to commemorate Jesus who was also a carpenter.

The house was originally heated with fireplaces. One is still in the old kitchen where you can view the crane which held the kettle, and two ovens which were built in the side for baking.

On the 24th of February, 1897, Cora Piper and Truman Hubbard were married and moved into the house. They purchased it in the early 1900's. All three Hubbard children, Dorothy who died in 1928, Helen and Marion, were born here. The Hubbards lived together in the house 56 years after which the property passed to their daughters, Helen and Marion. Following the death of Helen, the surviving daughter, Marion, and her husband, Charles McFarlane, bought the property and are restoring it to its past elegance.



Spratt-Kressbach House

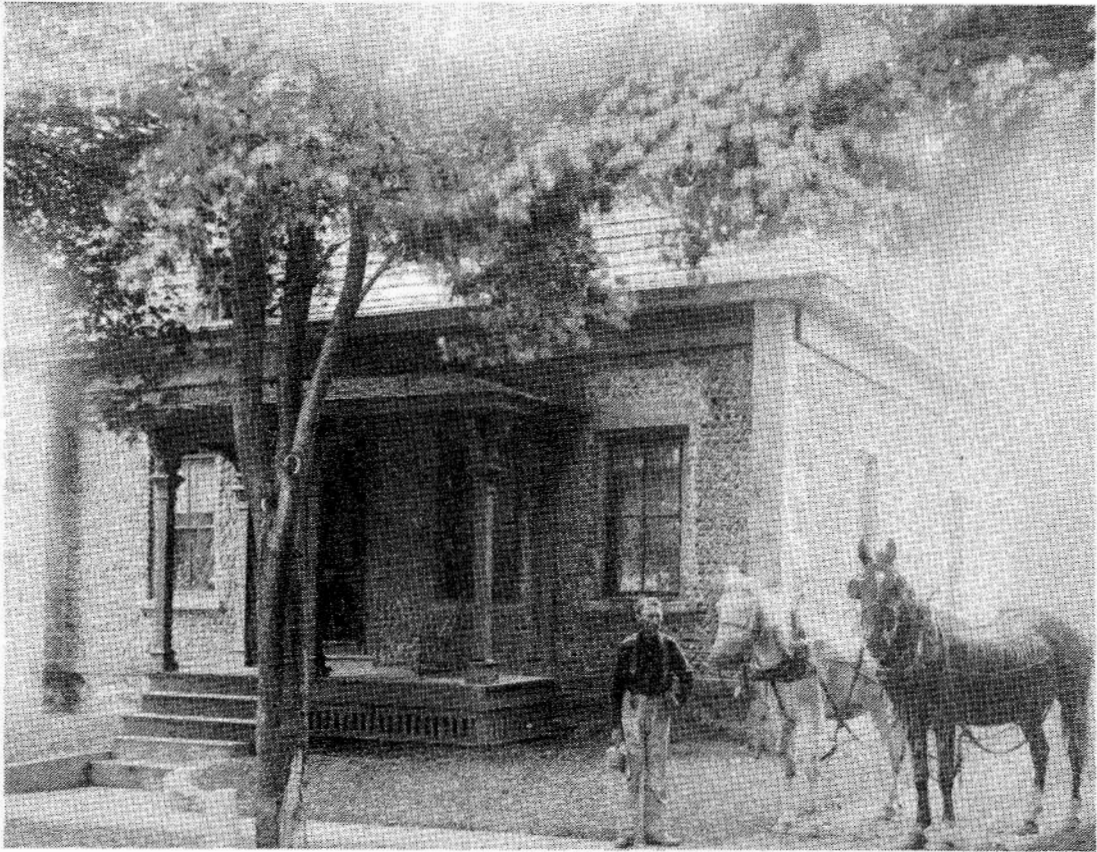
303 South Main Street, Concord

The tract of land on which this house was built was included in the United State land grant to June J. Humphrey, of 160 acres. In October 1872 the site was purchased by William H. Spratt and his wife, Mary J. (Bullock), from Samuel Malcolm. The house was built on the southeast corner of Main and Monroe Streets in 1876 by William Spratt.

Mr. Spratt died in 1891; his only child, Emma A. (Spratt) Rhodes died shortly thereafter; and his widow, Mary J., died in 1900. A **Concord News** item at the time said that she died at her home in Concord on Monday, November 26, during an operation for cancer, aged 65 years. It also stated that she possessed property valued at \$20,000 and the heirs were one brother and several nieces and nephews.

It was her brother Henry C. Bullock who inherited the house and the 11½ acre site from Mrs. Spratt. He and his wife, Rhobeca Trifena (Calhoun) Bullock, in 1918 sold off three acres to the south. The home built by James G. and Henrietta P. Anderson at 315 S. Main Street is on that land.

Mr. Bullock's trade was a painter. Mrs. Bullock, who was known fondly as "Aunt Tidy" ran a boarding house. There was no inside plumbing. The well and windmill were located south of the house, and the privy was in the north yard, although later it was built inside the woodshed (the old foundations are still visible in the garage which now stands there). According to Mrs. Lucile (Smalley) Aldrich who has lived across the street all her life, Aunt



The Stone House
205 South Main Street, Concord



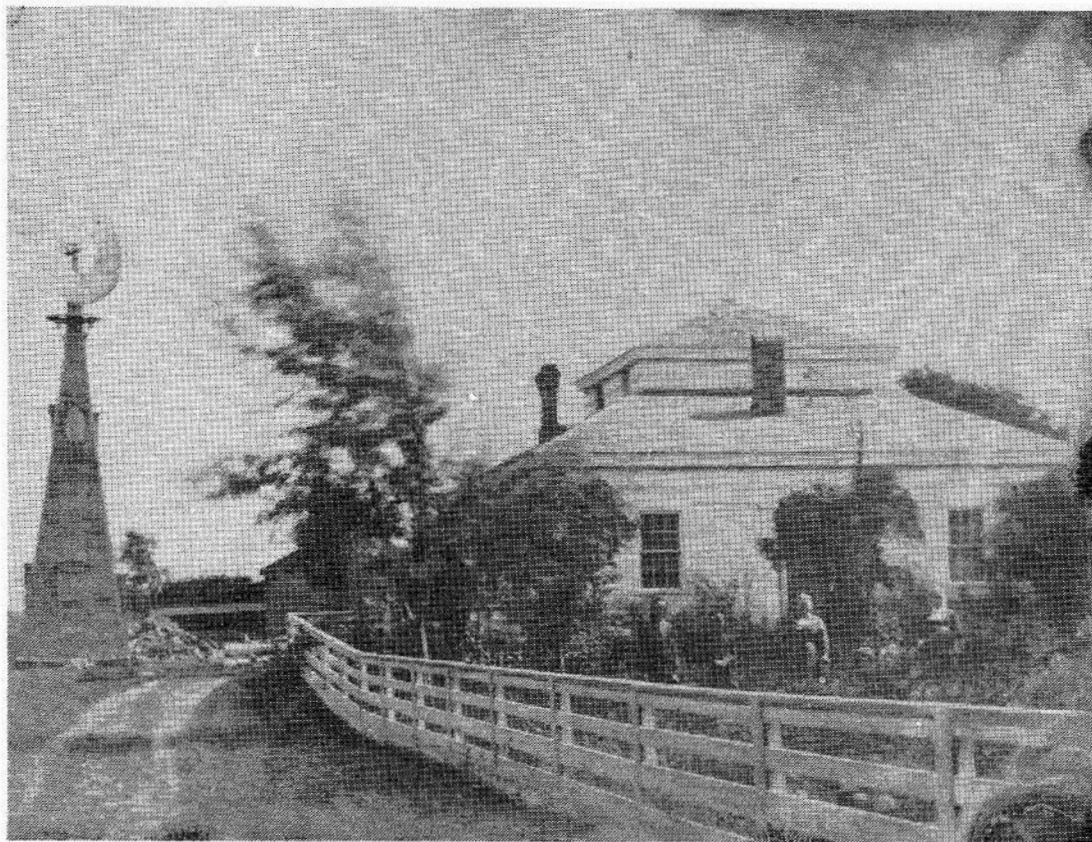
This is one of Concord's oldest houses and a familiar landmark as it is the only cobblestone house here. The date on the smokehouse that stood at the southeast corner of the house was 1847. According to the abstract, ten acres of land was purchased by Hamlin Tyler so it was he, or someone hired by him, who built the house. In 1849 Hamlin died. There were several heirs and Charles Tyler, attorney, was administrator. The property was finally sold at auction to John Jones, then it was sold to James Hungerford. Among the Tyler heirs mentioned was Charles' wife, whose name was Gitty Ann. Other unusual given names were Eleuthere and Erlehigh.

One transfer mentioned was from Thomas and Harriet Bell to John Brown in 1857. Some of the other names mentioned, either as owners or as bordering on the property, were Paddock, Hodge, Kellicut, Crowl and Gibson. At one time it was owned by Israel Cory. In 1885 it was sold to Henry Nowlin and his wife, Mary C. Their heirs were James, Byron, Effa Hungerford and Lillian Hoag. Their heirs sold to Joel Reynolds.

In 1930, Otho J. and Mary Belle Pardee purchased the house from Mr. Reynolds. At that time the property consisted of two lots which ran from Main Street to Union Street; the Pardees bought only the Main Street frontage. The old smokehouse was usable and served until about 1949, when vandals broke into the back wall. It was taken down as unsafe by Harold Pardee, son of Otho. Many of the stones from it, including the date stone, are now in the fireplace of Harold's residence on Spring Arbor Road.

In 1957 the house became the property of Genevieve A. Pardee, only daughter of Otho. In 1958 it was sold to Muriel Chisholm who converted it into a nursing home. Later it was made into apartments. The present owners of "The Stone House Apartments" are Mr. and Mrs. Carl Walters.

— Helen Pardee



Left to right: Hiram Billings, Etta Spencer Billings, Mary Spratt Billings and Polly Spratt, ancestors of Margaret [Rodgers] Luttenton.

The (Beryl) Luttenton Centennial Farm

12830 Spring Arbor Road [M-60], Concord

The story of this Centennial Farm is, in reality, two stories. One is the story of the land, house and other buildings on the property; the other is a record of the union and ancestry of some of the oldest families of Concord, Pulaski and Homer. Today the farm is owned by Beryl and Margaret (Rodgers) Luttenton. Beryl is a direct descendant of Reuben Luttenton who came to Pulaski Township in 1835. Margaret is a lineal descendant of William Harvey Spratt, Jr., one of the settlers who came to Concord in 1835. The land has come down through the Spratt line since its purchase in 1849 by William Harvey, III, (son of William Harvey, Jr.), and his wife, Mary "Polly" Clemens Spratt. It was purchased from William Smalley, and at the time was said to have "a fine house, five barns, a windmill and two tanks".

Through the years the farm has passed to Mary Melissa (Spratt) Billings, William III's daughter; their adopted daughter, Henrietta May, who married Charles Bing Ansterburg; their daughter Mary Mae (Ansterburg) Rodgers; to Beryl and Margaret. They have two children, Nancy and Charles.

When the house was being remodeled in the 1950's, newspapers dated 1843 were found in the walls. The exact date of construction is not known, but it was probably built sometime between 1835 and 1840. The farm yard used to be surrounded by a white board fence. The top board made a challenging walk for the children living here and for their friends across the

fields on the Dart farm. This same fence supplied a place to put their teeter-totter for more entertainment. Water was piped from the windmill tank, under the road to the pasture, so cattle could have fresh water. As late as 1950, cattle were still driven across the road to pasture every morning and every night. This would be impossible today.

The house had a parlor and a parlor bedroom with a bedroom chimney. A heating stove was used in the living room and the dining room; and, of course, the kitchen had a cookstove. This method of heating was used until 1946 when a wood/coal furnace was installed and a fireplace added. Shortly after this, running water and plumbing was installed. Electricity had been put in during the late 1920's. The kitchen, when we moved here, was one large room with outside stairs to the attic. Originally this area had been divided so that there was a pantry and a wood shed as well as a kitchen and stairs leading to the attic, one corner of which was partitioned off for a wood storage room. This area has now been restored, with separate kitchen and back room areas, except the kitchen is completely modernized.

Comparing the exterior of the house today with tintypes taken probably one hundred years ago, show that originally there was no front porch and that the front door and windows were changed at some time. In our remodeling any changes were carefully made and the front of the house has not been changed. The original windmill is standing. This structure is built completely of wood, with hand-made nails. The original barns have all been replaced, except the granary which is still used. Many of the trees in the pictures of the late 1800's are still standing in the farm yard. The family orchard which was west of the house is completely gone. Ways of farming have changed to keep up with the times and one wonders "Will this farm still be a family farm when it is two hundred years old?" Only time will tell.

—Excerpts from articles by Margaret Luttenton and Pat Bigelow



CONCORD INDEPENDENT

This was the newspaper of the village. It was owned by Frank McKenzie, the late Minnie Racer's father and Mrs. Kate Nobles' grandfather. Mrs. Nobles is presently teaching in the Concord grade school system. He was also the grandfather of Eva Hakes, a teacher in the Hanover-Horton system. Don Rutz was the next owner of this paper and named it The Concord News.

ARMISTICE DAY, 1918

The school children from the country schools around the village all walked into Concord and rang all the church bells and the village school bell. Some of the boys acquired the blacksmith's anvil and created some noisemakers similar to firecrackers.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Each Sunday morning a pleasing musical sound of bells was heard by the villagers. First one church bell would ring once and when this single toll faded away the next bell would toll. This musical tune would last for at least a half hour.



Stoner Home

436 Hanover Street, Concord

This house was built in 1890 for Percy E. Chapple, by Thomas McKenzie. It is similar, architecturally, to the Mann House which was also built by McKenzie. There is some evidence that changes may have been made in early years, but only minor things such as doors and windows.

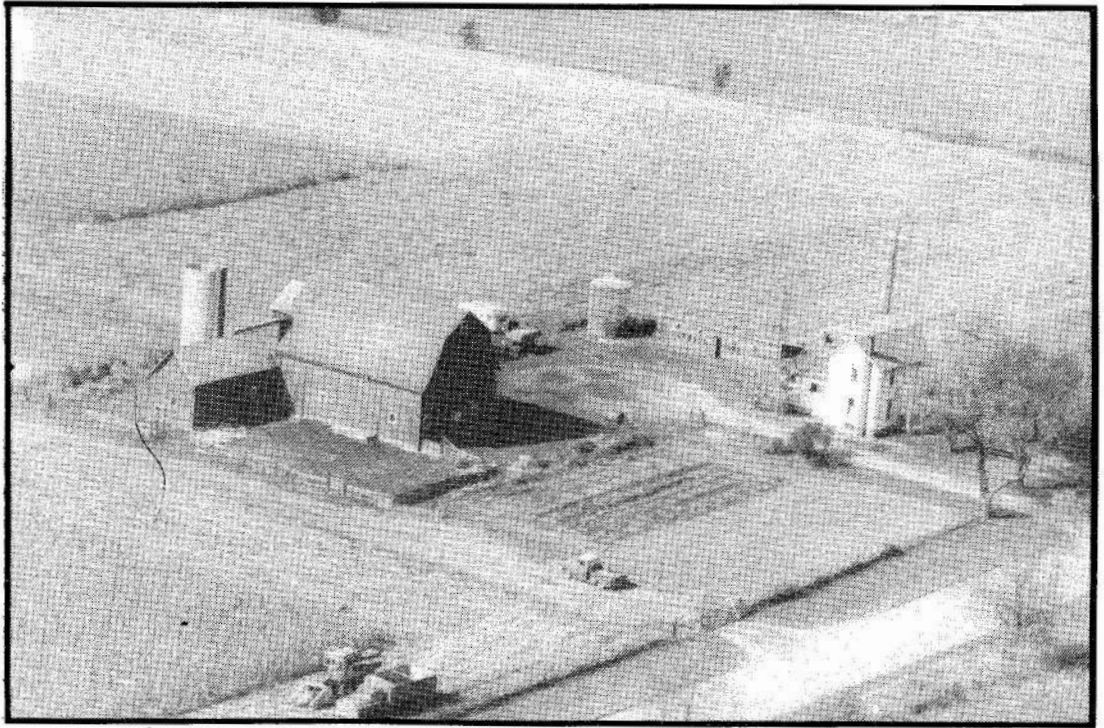
The Chapple family lived here until 1904 when it was sold to James Arthur. In 1938 it was purchased by Charles Hartzell and in 1941 by its present owners, John and Dorothy E. Stoner.

The building sits on 30" cut stone walls and was originally lighted by gas which was generated in a pit in the back yard.



INDIAN SPRINGS

Indian Springs is located on King Road just east off Albion Road. The Indians camped here every summer. "As a child, I did not see any Indians but I can remember our family having many picnics here. The thing that impressed me the most was getting over the fence by means of a stile." — Marie) A point of information for the new generation, a stile is steps used for crossing a fence or wall.



Twin Pines Centennial Farm

Carma Travis

TWIN PINES CAMPGROUND - 1974

Merle and Margaret Travis

The Twin Pines centennial farm is owned by Carma Travis and has been in the same family since 1839. James Cross bought the land when it was government land and later deeded it to Edwin N. Lincoln, his nephew. Mr. Lincoln than gave the farm to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Carr, the latter being his sister. It then passed on to Wilbert and Carrie Hillard, and then to Carma and Morris Travis.

When Mr. Lincoln owned it he had a picket mill and fenced his land with woven wire picket fence. A corner of his land was given to the Cincinnati, Jackson and Mackinaw Railway, for right of way.

Many years ago Indians were encamped along the south branch of the Kalamazoo River in Pulaski township. Arrowheads can still be found. Canoes can be seen again on the river because in 1974 Merle and Margaret Travis opened the Twin Pines campground which has become a favorite camping spot for families.

— Eva Hakes

REYNOLDS STATION

Near Reynolds Road, east of Concord, this was one of the stops enroute to Jackson by train.



The Walters Home

211 South Main Street, Concord

The house was originally built by Frances and Mary Beebee, in about 1880. Around the turn of the century, the Halsteads purchased the property. The Halsteads were close relatives of the Snows who owned the home next door to the south. The house then fell into the hands of a family whose name is not presently known. Following their occupancy, the Woodliffs purchased the property. Mrs. Cora Woodliff is still a resident of Concord.

After this, the property was sold to Clare and Ella VanScoter and, through his estate, it was sold to the Universalist Church, for use as a parsonage. Several ministers occupied the home over a period of ten to fifteen years. The Church sold the property to Fay and Mary Gifford, with Mrs. Mary Patterson, a church member, holding the contract. The Giffords moved to Florida and sold the property, with a clear title, to Brenda and Carl Walters, the present owners.

Over the years the thirteen rooms have seen several changes; the removal of the side porches and additions in their place among them. The Giffords put in a new kitchen and bath, as well as all new plumbing and wiring. The Walters have continued to renovate and restore the home to its present status. They hope to develop the home into a pleasant "bit of yesteryear", but much work remains to be done.



Stephen Hubbard Jr.



The Saxton Jacobs Home

The Jacobs Family

One of the attractive homes in Concord Township is that of N. Saxton Jacobs and the late Edith Rish Jacobs east of the village on Sears Road. It was known as the Old Red Mill Farm for years.

In 1839 Andrew Brown took up a grant of land from the Government, built a house on the south side of the road, and Concord's first grist and cider mill on the stream east of the house, and on the north side of the road.

In 1849 the land changed hands and Alfred Paddock became the owner. He completed the house as it now stands and in 1895 sold the property to Andrew Rish of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Edith was the daughter of Andrew Rish and Mary Heyboer, also of Grand Rapids. Edith was born in Grand Rapids on December 23, 1891. She had two older sisters, Laversa and Leora.

Edith Lavina Rish attended Concord Schools and Albion College where she majored in music and in 1912 she married N. Saxton Jacobs, also a major in music from Spring Arbor College.

Saxton was born in Concord Township May 14, 1889 to David Parker Jacobs of New Hampshire and Jane E. Knapp of Concord. There were no brothers or sisters.

The wedding was held in the Rish home which became the Jacobs home in 1914, Mr. Rish having transferred the land to his son-in-law and daughter.

In June, 1962 the Jacobs celebrated their 50th anniversary in the same house in which they were married.

Mr. Jacobs taught music for many years and as their two sons also were music majors they soon formed a family group and anyone lucky enough to have a program more than

twenty years old will probably find listed, as one of the attractions, "Music by the Jacobs Family".

Their son, Harrison Knapp Jacobs, was born in Concord July 9, 1916 and served in World War II. He married Jimmie M. Todd of Ellisville, Mississippi on July 2, 1944. He made a career of teaching with a major in history, earning a B.A. and M.A. in that field from Albion College. On June 16, 1945 their first son was born, James Harrison. Two years later in 1947 on June 5 they welcomed twins into the family, Larry Saxton and Edith Diane. Two other children, Marilyn Sue, born July 17, 1959, and Michael Todd, born March 31, 1964, completed this family.

James Harrison married Sharon A. Haynes of Mason, Michigan in February, 1966. Jim and Sharon have two children, Deidra Lynn and James Kyle.

Larry married Sharon K. Clark of Hillsdale in August, 1970. They have two children, Tamara Marie and Tiffany Nicole.

St. Clair Rish Jacobs, the second son of Mr. and Mrs. N. Saxton Jacobs, was born on April 1, 1922 in the old home where the Jacobs still reside. After serving in the United States Coast Guard for three and a half years he married Ruth Jeanette Griffes of Jackson, Michigan. They have two children, Benjamin Clair born December 2, 1952, and Janet Lynn born April 22, 1954.

Mr. and Mrs. Saxton Jacobs have done much for Concord — not only in sharing their talent but many people are privileged to hear music in other places produced by students of Mr. Jacobs. He was also church organist in the First Universalist Church and Mrs. Jacobs was active in all musical and literary circles.

They have preserved the home much the same as it was when it came into the family in 1895. The large porch on the side has been screened in and here one could sit and listen to the tinkle of sheep bells in the apple orchard across the drive. Now in 1976 the orchard is gone as are the sheep and the old red mill which burned many years ago — but never forgotten. A piece of the iron wheel of the Old Red Mill has been preserved and is in the second story of the house where mementoes, pictures and keepsakes make up what is called the Jacobs-Rish Museum — a rich heritage. It is visited by many.

Racer (Raser) Family

Pulaski and Concord

John and Elizabeth (Whiting) Racer settled on Hutchkins Road about 1843, coming here from New York State. People said he looked "just like an Indian". They had three children, William Orville, Lucy, and Sally. William married Loretta Smith, whose parents were Samuel and Hannah Smith. They had come from Pennsylvania about 1840 and settled west of Pulaski, where Floyd and Fairy Day now live. They spoke Pennsylvania Dutch. Hannah was well known for her weaving of rag rugs and carpeting. She spun the flax which they raised on their farm and people saved their cotton rags for the rugs. When a young couple were married they were usually presented with a room-sized carpet. When Lottie Lovitt and Roy Lacey were children, they used to go down and watch Hannah weave on her big loom. In addition to Loretta, the Smiths had three other children: Bowman, Kate (Mrs. D. Johnson), and Jennie (Mrs. Noel Wooley).

William Orville and Loretta (Smith) Racer had six children. Bowman Delbert (Bert), who changed the spelling of his name to Raser, married Carrie Henderson and, later, Minnie McKenzie, of Concord. Bert and Minnie had four daughters: Kate (Mrs. Chris Nobles), Eva (Mrs. Carl Hakes), Ivah (Mrs. William Curie), and Ruth (Mrs. LeNain Winchell). In later years they lived in the McKenzie house on Hanover Street in Concord. Mrs. Raser was the Village librarian for many years. Bert celebrated his hundredth birthday in 1974, and died later that same year.

— Eva Hakes



Harrison Jacobs Home, built by Lewis Keeler.

The Keeler Family History

The Keeler family is descended from Ralph Keeler, born in England about 1613, who came to Hartford, Connecticut around 1634. He later married Sarah Whepley.

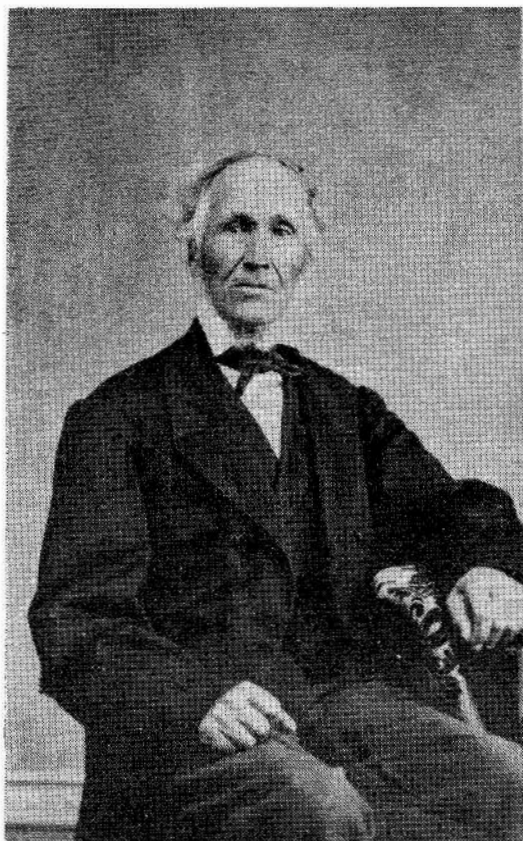
Lot and Catherine Goodnough Keeler of Rutland, Vermont, later of Pittsford, were the parents of Lewis Keeler, an early settler of Concord, who was born May 29, 1801 in Pittsford. In 1831 he married Eliza Thompson at Cheshire, Connecticut. They had two children: Eliza, born in 1834, married Charles Higgins at Concord in 1855, and died in Lansing, Michigan in 1920; and Mary, born in 1836 in Dundee, Michigan, and died in 1837. His wife Eliza also died at Dundee in 1837.

Later that year, Lewis Keeler moved to Concord. Here he met and courted Damaris Blake Coleman, who was the widow of Daniel Coleman, postmaster of Jacksonopolis, later known as Jackson. He was killed when thrown from a buggy two weeks after his marriage.

On June 8, 1840, Lewis Keeler and Damaris Blake Coleman were married at Concord. Mr. Keeler ran a general store, known as the Stone Wall Store for many years. He bought and sold property. He became an Elder in the Presbyterian Church in 1843 and served in that position for thirty-two years until his death. In 1840 he started his house at 126 Hanover Street. This house was later moved to 124 South Concord Street and is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Jacobs.



George L. Keeler



Lewis Keeler



Damaris Blake

Lewis and Damaris Keeler had seven children:

Ida, born March 21, 1841, died April 5, 1920.

Lot III was born October 1, 1843, and died March 29, 1919. (He married Sarah Warner in 1871).

Jesse, born January 11, 1845, died April 3, 1854.

Ella was born September 4, 1848 and died April 3, 1935. (She married Daniel Mann in 1873 and they had three daughters, Mary Ida, Jessie, and Elizabeth, who died in infancy).

Lewis, Jr. was born April 6, 1851 and died April 25, 1852.

Charles was born February 24, 1853 and died October 7, 1928. (He married Florence Carpenter at Portland, Michigan, in 1887. They had one daughter, Margaret Hope Harris, now of California.)

George Lewis was born November 28, 1857 and died May 11, 1951. (He was married to Eva McKenzie in 1887. They had three children.)

The three children of George Lewis were: Kenneth Blake, 1892-1967; married to Kay Anderson. He attended Albion College for two years and in 1918 graduated from Northwestern Medical College, Chicago. He practiced in Albion for about 35 years. Dr. Keeler was a life member of the Concord Masonic Lodge No. 30. He left one daughter, Mrs. Marion Rowan, and three grandchildren. The second child of George was Blanche E., who was born on February 23, 1895 and died a few months later, on June 11, 1895. The third child was Howard Lewis, born December 22, 1899, died on October 7, 1973. He was married to Eva Dunham. He enlisted in World War I in his senior year of school. Howard started with the post office in 1923 and was a rural mail carrier until his retirement in 1960. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and trapper. In December 1945, Pete Blyveis, local fur buyer, reported he had purchased 36 fox

pelts from Howard, it being the largest single purchase of such pelts he had ever made. Howard said all of the animals were caught in the Concord area. He was a fisherman in the winter mostly and almost always gave away the big pike he speared. He continued all his sports until failing health forced him to give them up. He was a member of the V.F.W. Post 823 of Jackson for thirty years and served as a Concord Volunteer Fireman for many years. Howard left three children, Robert, Janice, and Pauline, and nine grandchildren, all of Concord.

Lewis Keeler was one of the three land owners who donated land and \$500 to help get the railway started here. A line from Jackson to Niles was completed in 1871. It has been told that Lewis, with some others, planted the maple trees that border Hanover Street and those that were along M-60 and North Concord Road.

George Keeler was always active in community affairs. He took pride in the offices he held in the township and village. He served as township supervisor from May, 1904, to March, 1918. In April, 1921, he was elected to the Village Council, where he served until he resigned in 1938. He was also clerk of Session in the Presbyterian Church from 1919 to 1944 and served as treasurer for the church.

George Keeler told of when he was young that the sidewalks were large slabs of wood sawed from huge logs. Although he always lived in town he did own a farm which he let out on shares. At one time the slave underground route came through Concord. One slave, from Alabama, stayed in Concord, lived in town and did odd jobs for people in the area. Later he moved to the Keeler farm and lived there until he died on August 28, 1914. He was Solomon Patterson (Old Sol).

George Keeler's only means of transportation was the horse and buggy. One of his enjoyments was to hitch Old Jim to the buggy and drive to his farm, where he drove through the fields and woods to Gregory Lake. He was a remarkable and respected man in this community.

— Pauline Keeler Zenz

* * * *

(Note: A biography of Mr. Lewis Keeler, written by Robert D. Aldrich, has been placed in the files of the Concord Historical Association.)



FAIRGROUNDS & RACE TRACK

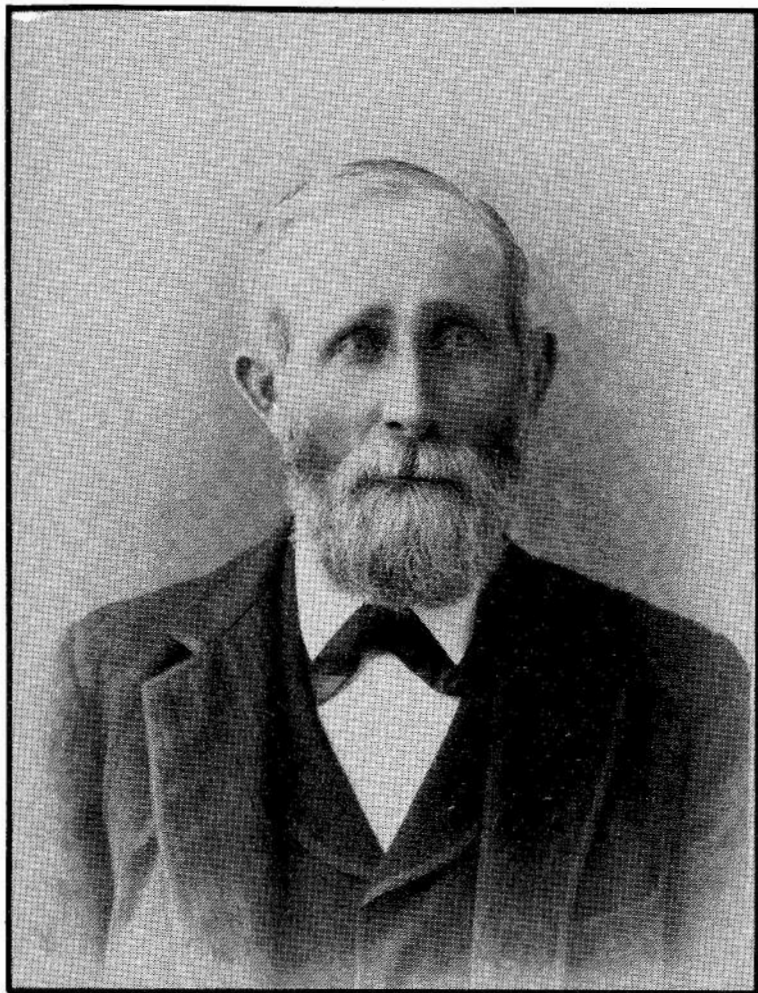
The site located North of M-60 where the disposal lagoons are now being constructed.

ISLAND AND SPRINGS

In the river between Joer's mill and the Lark property. Years back a group of women cut all the brush and shumack out and kept this mowed, and families spent many a pleasant Sunday picnicking in this pleasant little spot. Also known for a good spot to pick delicious watercress.

CREAMERY

Located where the County garage now is.



Reuben Franklin Luttenton

Luttenton Family

Reuben Luttenton first came to Pulaski Township in June of 1835 to choose a farm suitable for homesteading. He entered 120 acres in Sections 11 and 14, then returned to his home in Orleans County, N. Y. In October, 1835, he returned to Pulaski, bringing with him his wife, Alzira Bagnall Luttenton, and their sons, Richard M. and William W. Five other children, Reuben Franklin, John Wesley, Charles N.W., Ann Jeannette (Holland), and Eugene B., were born in Michigan.

At first the family lived in a small log cabin, as was the custom of the time. Family tales speak of visits by the Indians who lived in the area, and their son Reuben Franklin, and his cousin Edith Luttenton Simpson, often spoke of playing with the younger Indians. Sometime around 1860 a larger family home was built directly behind the log cabin. "Since you were here I have built me a new house. It cost me two thousand dollars. The man that built it said it was the best house in this town", wrote Reuben in a letter to his brother Truman, dated March 8, 1862. This house is still standing on the old Luttenton farm located on the corner of Hubbard and Luttenton Roads, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hubbard.



Selina Pierson Luttenton

Family tradition holds that the first school in Pulaski Township was held in the Luttenton home. The Luttenton School, District No. 1, which was built somewhat later, still stands on Luttenton Road. The Luttenton Cemetery, originally a family burial plot, was deeded to the township by Reuben and Alzira Luttenton.

Many Luttenton descendants still live in or near the Concord-Pulaski area: Mrs. Alta Luttenton, widow of Reuben F. Jr., and their children, Beryl, Rhea (Jacobs), Russell, V. Faye (Crowley), Dale, Royce, Phyllis (Brigham), and Patricia (Rowlison); thirty-two grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren; Mrs. Inez (Luttenton) Rimer, widow of James, their sons Virgil, Daryl, and Richard, and sixteen grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; and the Richard Grundeman family which includes five children, Douglas, Beverly, Eugene, Marcella, and Andrea, and one granddaughter. The Luttenton and Rimer families are descendants of Reuben F. Luttenton, and the Grundeman family is descended from John Luttenton.



Daniel Sears Mann Family

The Mann Family

The Mann family was one of the pioneer settlers in Concord township. Daniel Mann, born in Franklin, Delaware Co., New York State in 1803, came to this region in the late 1830's. He was a prominent farmer and community and church leader until his death in 1876. His son, Daniel Sears Mann, was born in Concord 1841 and died there in 1900, after having operated the family farm for thirty years. Daniel Sears Mann married Ellen E. Keeler in 1873. Born to this marriage were three children: Mary Ida, Jessie Ellen, and Elizabeth (Dollie), who died at age two.

Mary Ida was born in 1874 on the family farm. After attending the local school, she went to Michigan State Normal at Ypsilanti and later to the University of Chicago. Afterwards she moved to the Philippine Islands to teach school, and there she met Charles H. Cady, an engineer with the Benguet Mining Company. They were married in Manila in 1914 and lived there for ten years. After returning to this country the Cadys made their home in San Francisco for ten years, then moved to Boulder City, Nevada where they built a beautiful home overlooking Boulder Dam and Lake Meade. Mrs. Cady visited the Concord home frequently, and after the death of her husband in 1942, she returned to the family home in Concord to live with her sister Jessie Ellen, but she still maintained her home and both sisters spent the winter months there.

Jessie Ellen Mann was born in 1877 on the family farm and graduated from Concord High School in 1895. She received a degree from the University of Michigan in 1906 and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa honorary society. For the next twenty-five years she was a mathematics teacher, the last twenty with the Battle Creek school system. In the 1920's Jessie visited her sister in the Orient, and traveled to Peking China visiting the Ming Dynasty tombs and the China Wall. After Mr. Cady's death the sisters traveled frequently each winter, especially to the Rocky Mountains and to Europe, Spain and the Scandinavian countries. Mary Ida died in 1959 and Jessie Ellen died in July 1969.



McKenzie Family
 Left to right: Charlotte, Frank, Kate, Thomas; back, Minnie.

The McKenzie Family

David McKenzie came from Scotland and had an interesting background. In the 15th century the McKenzie clan was one of great power. He was born in Sterling Castle in Palswinter village where the castle is still standing. He married Anna Cochrane, then came to Concord from New York State and bought land in the eastern part of the village. He was a joiner, or carpenter, by trade and a man of good character. David died in 1887.

David had a son Thomas who married Charlotte Sackett and came to Concord in 1874. Children from this marriage were Frank W., Charles, Carrie (Mrs. Byron Malcolm), and Eva (Mrs. George Keeler). Later he remarried and had Carl and Anna (Mrs. Clarence Paull) by this marriage.

Thomas was a man of much genius, being a skilled architect, builder and contractor. He and his sons built many of the houses in the vicinity of Concord around 1880. When he was still in New York State a lady asked him to build a bay window just like one she had seen in another town. She paid his train fare so he could go and look at the window. This idea apparently was brought to Concord by Mr. McKenzie as bay windows were used in many of the houses he built. One day his sons, Frank and Charles, decided to build a windmill with a pile of old boards. Their father came home, took one look at the project and made them tear it down, telling them, "I'll show you how to use a plumb line!" He made them rebuild it correctly.

In 1880, son Frank McKenzie married Miss Kate E. Pettee of Belding. They had three children, Minnie E. (Raser), deceased; Thomas of Tulsa, Oklahoma; and Charlotte (King) of Parma.

— Eva Raser Hakes

The Nowlin - Piper Families

James Harvey Nowlin born in 1796 migrated from York State (New York State) to Michigan in the 1830's. He and his wife Eunice (Kellogg) Nowlin bought a square mile of land on the corner of Pulaski and Howard Road in Pulaski Township. In order to file on this property, a trip on horseback to Toledo, Ohio was necessary. Mr. Nowlin had to ride on his horse to the flour mill in Ann Arbor; staples were bought in Jonesville.

There were few settlers in the Pulaski (originally called Wheelerton) area at this time; however the Luttenton Family preceded them here. When the Luttentons heard the Nowlins felling trees for their log cabin, they stopped work to welcome them to the new territory. James H. Nowlin and wife Eunice are buried in the Pulaski cemetery. He died in 1866 and she in 1862.

James Nowlin's maternal grandfather, Abram Hoyt, was active in the Revolutionary War. The Hoyt family were prominent Norwalk, Connecticut pioneers. The progenitor, Simon Hoyt, came to this country from England in 1628.

The James Nowlins had four sons and six daughters. One daughter, Harriet Maria, married William James Piper in Pulaski. They had two daughters. Cora married Truman Hubbard of Pulaski and Agnes married Daniel Freeman of Marshall, Michigan.

At six years of age, Mr. Piper and his two sisters, Grace who married John Stoner and Elizabeth who married Joseph Wilbur, all from Pulaski, came to Michigan with their widowed mother, Mary (Walter) Piper on a sailboat from England. Mary Piper married Mr. Hill and had two more children. She died at Reading, Michigan where she was interred in 1877.

The only descendant of the Nowlin-Piper family living in this area is Marion (Hubbard) McFarlane who is a member of The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and also the National Society Daughters of American Colonists (DAC). Eligibility to these patriotic organizations has been proven on both paternal and maternal lines.



William James Piper, born May 27, 1838.



GRUB HILL & STATION

The location was west of the village on County Line Road which is now Van Wert Road. A good part of this hill was cut down when the new railroad tracks were laid.



Pardee Family [four generations]. Back row: O. J. and H. B. Front row: Marvin, Margaret, Mrs. Hattie Vandebogart holding Mary, John.

The Pardee Family

George Pardee emigrated to the United States in 1644, settling at New Haven, Conn. Continuing with the male line, from father to son we come to the fifth-generation Ebenezer who was born in Salem, New York in 1769 and came to Spring Arbor in 1831 where he died in 1842. He and his wife Huldah (Whitney) had three children, Amaziah, Rebecca, and Thomas Jefferson. Thomas was born in 1800; he and his wife Eleanor had six children, one of whom was Amasa, the seventh generation of the line we are following. Amasa and his wife Jilia had three children, one of whom was Fenton, born in 1858. Fenton and his wife Emma had four children, three of whom settled in this area: Harry Pardee, who lives on his Centennial Farm on Mathews Road, Spring Arbor; St. Clair Pardee, who is an architect and lives at St. Johns; and Edna Pardee Lindberg, deceased. Harry Pardee and his wife Marion (Tharp) have a daughter Rachael (Pardee) Whittaker, who with her husband Lyle also live on Mathews Road; their son Wayne and wife Susan live in Concord.

Thomas' brother Amaziah, born 1793, and his wife Ann (Wallace) had ten children, some of whom are Katherine, who married Cyrus Rhodes of Concord, Edna Purchase Schoen is a

descendant; Mary Elizabeth, married Martin Wilcox of Concord; Ann Augusta, married Sidney Brown of Albion; and a son, William Henry Harrison Pardee, who married Hattie Putnam of Eckford.

Their son, Otho John Pardee was born 1880 and lived most of his life near Concord. They had one son, Harold Bond Pardee (ninth generation), and a daughter, Genevieve Arlene Reed, who lives in Santa Barbara, California.

Harold married Helen Cochran. They have six children: John and Marvin (tenth generation male-line), both of Concord, and daughters Margaret Mead of Grand Blanc, Mary Vehrenkamp of Ypsilanti, Elizabeth Bickford of Flushing, and Genevieve Mock, Mt. Pleasant (Michigan). There are eighteen grandchildren of Harold and Helen to comprise the eleventh generation of Pardees in the United States: Barbara Pardee Dawson, William, Deborah and Karen Pardee; Jeffrey, Tamara, Gregory and Helana Meade; Patrick, Michelle and Peggy Sue Pardee; Karl, Katherine and Cynthia Vehrenkamp; Anita, Duane, Brian and Paul Bickford.

The grindstone now built into Harold Pardee's fireplace at his home at 10785 Spring Arbor Road was made by Ebenezer Pardee in 1836. It later was built into the wall of a barn on the property. When the barn collapsed, the stone broke out unharmed and was rescued by Harold.

From the Journal of W. H. H. Pardee, dated in 1875-76, these items were listed:

1 gal. oil	\$.20
10# sugar	.95
5# coffee	1.50
1/2 lb. tea	.45
1/2 gal. whiskey	1.87
1# butter	.14
1 day's work with team	\$2.00
1 bu. clover seed	6.50
1 axe helve	.50
6# nails	.24
1/2 Lb. tobacco	.50
2 spools thread	.18

— Helen Cochran Pardee



ICE HOUSE

Ice house (store house) was located on the Mill Pond next to the railroad tracks. Large blocks of ice were cut by hand and stored in this building. These blocks of ice were covered with sawdust which acted as insulation.

JEWELRY STORE

Anderson Jewelry Store was located where the Elar Publishing Company is now.

HENRY'S SHOE SHOP

This place of business was located across from the bank on Hanover Street in the back corner of the present Shannons' Store.



The Schultz Family

Frederick and Henriette Schultz, a 34 year old farmer and his 33 year old wife, left the port of Bremen, Germany, with their six children on May 6, 1858, aboard the Oldenburg Ship O Thyren. They arrived in New York July 6. From New York, the Schultzs traveled west and arrived in Albion Township by July 9, where they spent their first five years. They then moved to Concord Township in what is now the Bath Mills area.

The children accompanying their parents were: Carl (later known as Charles), age 12; Wilhelmina (Horning), 10; Henry, 7; Caroline (Hungerford), 5; Henriette (Davis), 3; and an infant, Frederick. There were four children born to Frederick and Henriette after their arrival in America. They were William, 1860; Mathilda (Whitmore), 1862; John, 1866; and Sarah (Adams), 1869.

Henriette died January 9, 1896 at the age of 73, in Concord. Frederick died November 18, 1898, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. George Hungerford, in Albion.

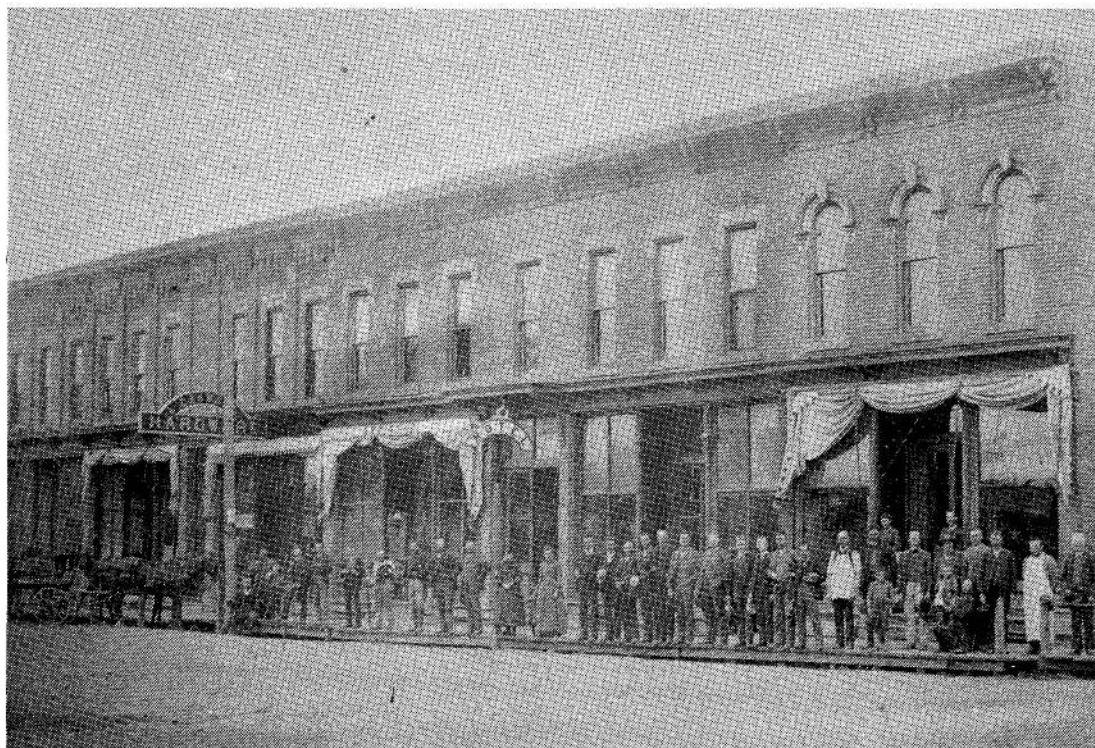
Two descendants of this pioneer family, Leonard Schultz and Bernard Marshall, still farm in the Bath Mills community. The Schultz farm, on Schultz Road, is a Centennial Farm, where Charles Schultz started farming after his marriage to Maria Falls, July 11, 1873. Kenneth C. Schultz lived and farmed there from June 1944 until his death December 14, 1975.

Several descendants of this family are now living in Concord and Pulaski townships. Other descendants live in nearby Hillsdale, Albion, Parma and Jackson areas. There are also descendants living in far corners of the United States - Florida, California, Wisconsin and Connecticut.



Schultz Family

Front row: Sara, Caroline, Henriette, Fredrick, Mathilda,
Henriette. Back row: John, William, Henry, Charles, Fredrick,
Wilhelmina.



East Side of Main Street, Concord

Concord Businesses

1875 - 1920

During the period from about 1875 to 1920 Concord was a busy, thriving town. There were many more business places than there are now. The supermarket has not arrived. People, for the most part, worked in or about the village. Stores specialized in one type of service. Grocery stores sold food and cleaning supplies. The Butcher sold meats, the Druggist provided medicines, school supplies, and sometimes an ice cream parlor; the Dry Goods Merchant stocked cloth, clothing, shoes, etc. The shopper went from store to store. There was not an empty store in the village. Today some of those store buildings are no longer standing.

At one time you would have found all of these businesses operating at the same time: Groceries (3), Saloons (3), Banks (2), Hardwares (2), Hat shops (2), Dry Goods (2), Drug Stores (2), Barber Shops (2), Carpenter Shops (2), and a Bakery, Meat Market, Jewelry Store, Men's Clothing Store, a Hotel, Shoe Shop, Furniture Store, Livery Stable, Newspaper, Library, Post Office, Telephone Office, Telegraph Office, and a Lumber Yard. There were two mills and two drays for delivery of mail and goods from depot to stores. Later came the movie, garages and gas stations.

In addition there were workmen with various skills . . . carpenters, masons, implement repair men, painters, paperhangers, plasterers, well drillers, etc. Concord had three doctors, a dentist, an undertaker, a veterinarian, and four ministers. There was an excellent Fair Grounds at one time and a tourist park. In 1878 Concord boasted of having one of the best Village Brass Bands in Michigan.

— Marion Bouldrey Hinkley

19th and 20th Century Blacksmith Business in Concord

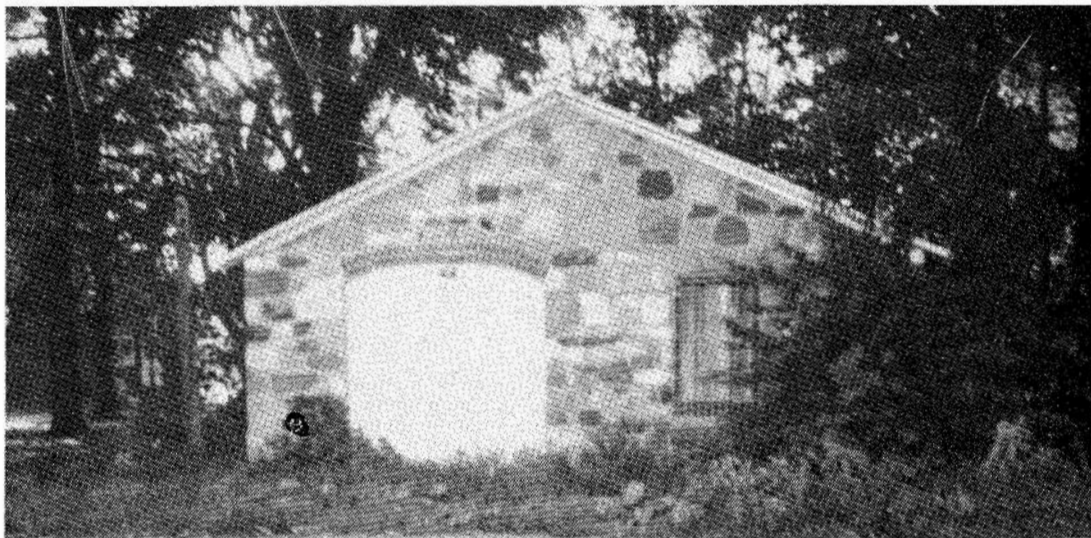
The history of any community, from its first settler to our Nation's Bicentennial Year, should contain something about a business so necessary in the days before the 20th Century Mechanical Age. Few people today realize the importance of the "Village Smithy", and his capabilities. His work kept transportation "rolling". He kept horses, mules and oxen shod, replaced iron tires on wagon and carriage wheels, produced plow points and other necessities required for the production of food for man and beast. His work contributed greatly to the progress of the community.

There are accounts of two blacksmith shops in business in Concord in 1878. One was operated by a Mr. Esch. The other was Bell and Houser. William, "Billie" Bell's shop was located along the south side of the Airline Railroad, across the tracks from the present Joers Farm Center. William Yount purchased this shop in 1923.

By this time, emphasis in blacksmithing was shifting to the repairing of farm machinery and gradually a welding machine was used more often than the old forge. Mr. Yount moved the building from its original site to one on Railroad Street, east of Main Street and south of the tracks.

In 1943 the business was purchased by Mr. LeRoy DeBoe. When the building burned in 1957, the present one was built. It was constructed of lumber made from timber growing on Mr. DeBoe's farm wood lots. In 1965 the business was sold to Mr. Willie Hall. The building is now owned by Jim Beissel who produces specialized high performance parts and does custom design work, mainly in the racing car field.

— Researched by Carrie S. Winchell



Pulaski Blacksmith Shop, 1857 [Historic Site]

Blacksmith Shop

The blacksmith shop was built in 1857 by I. P. Wheeler for Thomas Lambert who was the blacksmith until 1883. For over the next forty years Charles Leggett was the blacksmith. Carl Lovitt, a great nephew of Thomas Lambert, purchased the building in the 1940's in order to preserve the stone structure which has been designated a Pulaski "Historic Site".

Brigham Hardware

Jesse Brigham, Sr. entered business in 1921, at age 21, and just prior to his marriage to Eunice Rowlison when he began hauling milk and cream from area farms to the creamery in Parma, with his first truck. In addition he used the truck for general hauling of furniture, wood, livestock, and chickens. By purchasing additional trucks, he was able to haul livestock to the Detroit packing plants more efficiently than could be done by railroad. In 1928, he had five trucks and, assisted by his brothers William and Cecil, the business grew.

In 1935, he purchased the local hardware which had been operated in the past by Joe Reynolds and Delbert Warner (Reynolds & Warner), and Kenyon and Son.

The hardware items of that time were mostly stored in drawers and cases from floor to ceiling. Each drawer face contained a sample of its contents. A rolling ladder enabled clerks to climb to the topmost drawers for merchandise. The back rooms contained barrels of kerosene, linseed oil, turpentine, harness oil, and lubricating oil, for which customers brought their own containers for filling.

Upstairs, over the store, was the local tinshop, operated by Lewis Shaw, who worked at the store from the age of sixteen to sixty, making ductwork, stovepipe, eavestrough, and furnace repairs until that business was sold to Ralph Blattner.

In 1937, Jesse Brigham bought the former "Red & White" store adjacent north to make room for the addition of IHC farm equipment. Soon other lots at the rear needed for equipment storage were acquired. One of the lots contained the former livery stable. Rather than tear it down, it was decided to try to move it complete to the Brigham farm at the south village limits. It was jacked up and two trucks put underneath, and Jesse and Bill piloted the trucks from signals from the outside. The building was moved bodily down Main Street, with crowds watching its progress. Near the cemetery, with half the town watching, it was crashed into by an unbelieving motorist in a "Model A" Ford. It took most of the night to repair the damage and complete the moving of the building.

Tractors were just starting to replace horses in 1937 and nearly every sale included horses and cows "traded in", which were housed at the farm until they could be sold in Canada or Ohio. In 1939, the trucking business was sold to Francis Gordon.

In 1944, another hardware and implement business was purchased in Springport and was managed by Gordon Sanford for several years.

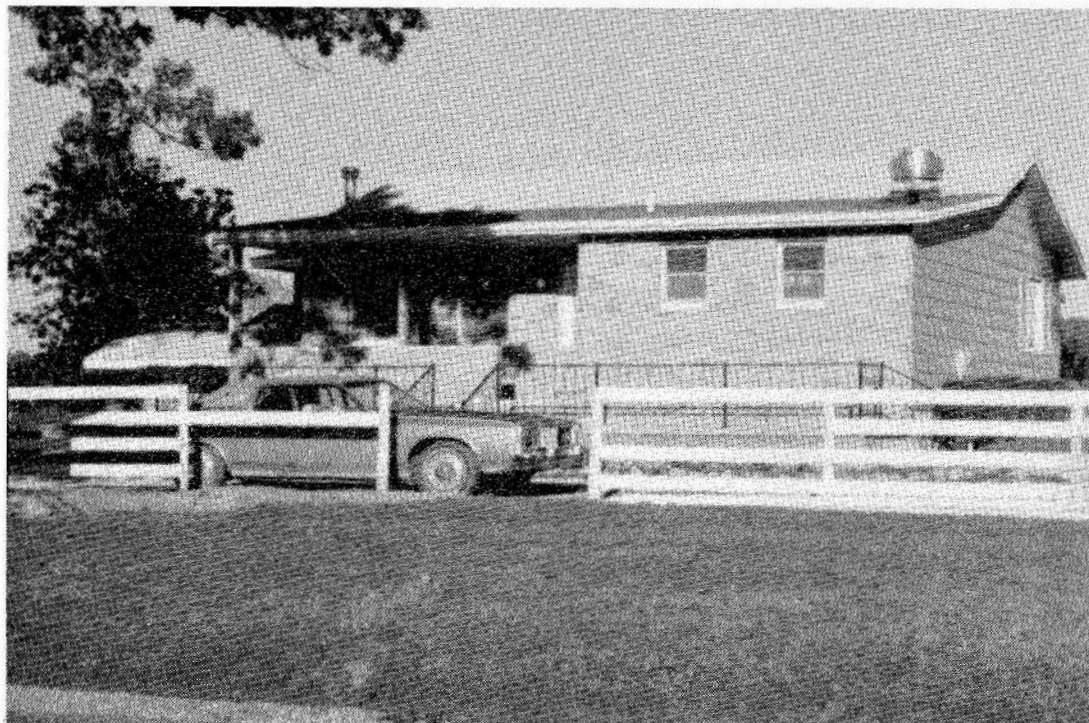
Jesse Brigham Jr. entered the business in 1946. An additional building was purchased from Steve Pickell (Hungerford Building), and a new store front was constructed by Earl Causie Construction Company.

In 1951 Gerald Brigham entered the partnership and in 1966 Jesse Brigham Sr. retired. However, he continued to work part-time until 1973.

In 1974, a 50' by 50' addition was made on the north side; a steel structure by United South Central (Earl Schultz), and facia added to the whole store.

Former employees of the store have been George Hardt, Herman Eding, Lawrence Dart, Carl McKenzie, Delbert Murdock, Calvin Murdock, Robert Nichols, Ralph Smith, Jack McMaster, Richard Benn, Marilyn Rutz, Frank Dodes, Jr., Dennis Rowlison, John Luttenton, Ruelle Dart, Stanley Eding, Ronald Householder, Betty Benn, and Beverly McMaster.

Present employees include Phylis Brigham, Steve Brigham, Maynard Lockwood, Lyle Whittaker, Gifford Householder, Jane Householder, Sue Pelham, Thurman Crider, and Ronald Hall. Also, Suzi, Terry, Anne, Tom, Julie, Jeff, Nancy, Tim, Bill, and Jim Brigham have assisted while not in school.



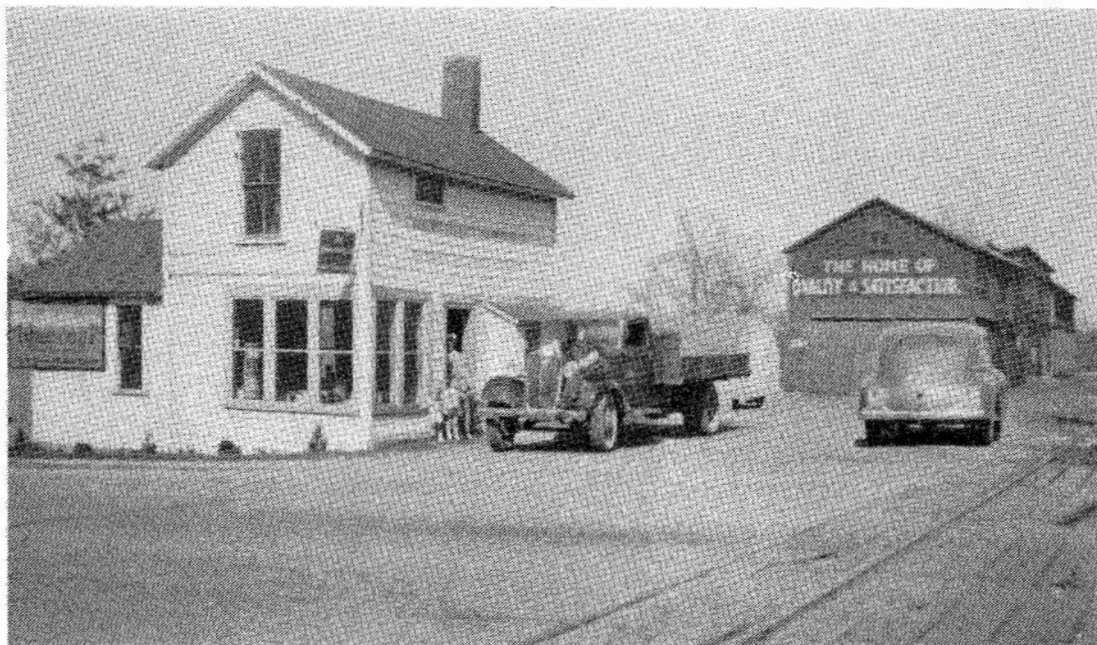
Concord Hills Golf Course

7237 Pulaski Road, Concord

Robert A. Sullivan, owner

Established in 1967

Robert A. Sullivan and his wife, Daphne Sullivan, purchased the farm owned by Carl Sanuskar about 1967. The farm had been operated as a dairy farm by Mr. Sanuskar. Mr. Sullivan built a lake and trout farm on the property and started construction of a golf course. In 1975 a nine-hole course was completed with watered fairways and now is in operation. Additionally, a club house and tennis courts were constructed and are open to the public. Mr. Sullivan is now in the process of constructing another nine holes and hopes to have an 18-hole golf course in operation by 1978. Mr. Al Cotton, Sports Editor of the **Jackson Citizen Patriot**, has indicated that the golf course is an outstanding one and states that the seventh and ninth holes are perhaps the best in Jackson County.



Lumber Yard as it appeared in 1944, Orville DeLong sitting on the truck.

The Concord Lumber and Coal Company

The Concord Lumber Company was begun by Josiah Bigelow and his brother-in-law, Abe Tucker, sometime in the late 1850's. After a time, Josiah turned his interests over to his son-in-law, Henry Dart. Henry and Clarence Carr operated the business in the early 1900's. In the 1920's A. J. Wilder of Albion became the owner, and in 1922 Harold Hopkins (Hal) Hungerford became the manager. In 1927 Hal purchased the business.

Hal was the originator of the slogan, "Asleep at the Switch? Not by a Dam Site". The **Chicago Tribune**, the **American** magazine and other newspapers carried articles about this sign, but its widest publicity came in the early 1940's when Robert Ripley's syndicated column, "Believe It or Not" featured it in most of the nation's daily papers.

Mr. Hungerford had been associated with Stromberg Carlson Company in Chicago before entering the lumber and coal business in Concord. He raised registered livestock and exhibited at the state and local fairs as well as at the International Exhibition in Chicago. He bought wool for many years for Adams and Leland Wool Company in Boston.

In 1944 the Concord Lumber and Coal Company was purchased by Gerald and Margaret Beissel of Ypsilanti. Hal, responding to some objections had had the famous slogan painted off. However, after Jerry came, the old words had begun to show again and the sign was repainted in 1948. When the old buildings were torn down and the present ones built in 1957, the sign was again replaced. On April 1, 1974, LeRoy and Jean Holton became the present owners of the business and the sign was again removed.

The Concord Newspaper

The Concord News was purchased from Frank McKenzie in December of 1925 by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Rutz, who took immediate ownership. The newspaper was located upstairs over the building now occupied by Dwight Aldrich on the west side of North Main Street. We maintained the paper there until sometime in early 1930 when we were able to purchase the building across the street which has, until recently, housed The Concord News. The building at that time was owned by the well-known Behling brothers of the Concord community, and they in turn rented it to Verne Groger, the Postmaster. As soon as the building was vacated we moved into it, which turned out to be a real problem as we had to hire men from out of state to dismantle the presses and linotype, then re-assemble them in the other building. It was by no means an easy job.

In 1937 we received the highest award for "Front Page" by the Michigan Press Association, and received a plaque, of which we have always been very proud.

— Mrs. Dorothy Rutz

Ardis and Elmer Wilson purchased The Concord News in June 1946 from the Rutzes, and soon, because of expanding business, the name was changed to Elar Publishing Company. In 1949 they printed the Jackson and Calhoun Farm Bureau paper, the Saturday Evening Star, the Junior College Oracle, the Jackson County C.I.O. News, as well as The Concord News. In 1964 they began publication of a paper of their own, the Jackson County Legal News. The Concord News was sold in October of 1970 to Barbara Pardee and Charlotte Adams. The Legal News was sold in 1976. The Wilsons sold all of their printing equipment in June, 1976 and have retired from the newspaper business.

— Elmer Wilson

From 1970 to August 1974 the paper was published by Barbara Pardee and Charlotte Adams.

On August 1, 1974 the Concord News was purchased by Camiel and Anne Marie Thorrez, the paper is printed in the basement of their home, 126 Hanover Street. The paper is run as a hobby and it wouldn't have been possible to publish it for the past two years without the volunteer help of Ann Wildt, Lou Laske, and Carl Haugen, or the monetary support of Scott Tuthill Jewelry, Douglas Brothers, Hasbrouck Appliances, Dr. Keefer, Concord Manufacturing Company and Don's Ford-Mercury. Thanks to these people, Concord can still boast of having the "oldest continuous weekly newspaper in Jackson County", founded October 1871.

— Camiel Thorrez



BLACK RESIDENT

There was only one negro in the village. He had pure white hair and a white beard. His name was Soloman Patterson. In the earlier history of Concord, Lewis Keeler was a great anti-slave worker and helped many slaves on their way to Canada.



Concord Take Out

The Party Store is located at 200 East Jackson Road (M-60) and is owned and operated by Ralph L. Smith. The business was started by Raynor Fogell May 28, 1955, on the Albion Road in the building where the car wash is now.

I purchased the business from "Fogie", as everyone knew him, October 13, 1960. We remained in the same location for two years and then purchased the building on M-60, moving into our new store in May of 1962 where we continue to operate our business.

— Ralph Smith

Whiffletree Hill Golf Course

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dart purchased the dairy farm at 15730 Homer Road (M-60) in 1952 from Dale Williams. Kenneth operated the farm until 1969, at which time he put in the first nine holes of the Whiffletree Hill Golf Course. The second nine was opened in May, 1973. This year, 1976, the Pro Shop is being remodeled into a club house.

— Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dart

Concord Telephone Company

The first recorded telephone company in Concord originated on March 1, 1899, when a permit was given by the village president, T.J.O. Thatcher, to Percy Chapple, E. C. Hungerford, A. W. Reynolds, and F. S. Tuthill granting them rights to construct an Electric Telephone and Telegraph Plant in the village of Concord.

A stock company was formed, and Ed Hungerford named president of the board of directors. The board consisted of twenty members, who raised \$3,000 for the first telephone system. The first office was located in the store of Dr. W. N. Armstrong, the building on the north-west corner of Main and Homer Streets. Dr. Armstrong attended the switchboard, along with his other duties, until 10:00 p.m. each evening, when it closed for the day. As more phones were installed, it became necessary for one person to devote full time to providing service; the switchboard was moved upstairs, a night operator hired, and service was provided twenty-four hours daily.

Charles Knickerbocker had started a Farmers Mutual Phone company in which people purchased shares, their own phones, and maintained their own lines. On December 8, 1903 an agreement was drawn combining the Concord Telephone Company, operating in Concord Township and the connecting privileges held by Mr. Knickerbocker in the surrounding townships. A mutual organization was formed, the property to be divided into 160 shares of stock, with Mr. Knickerbocker as supervisor. He promised that with the sale of thirty-five shares of stock, at \$20.00 each, he would put in first class running order within a year, the telephones, pole routes, and immediate fixtures. Edward Ford was board president, Albert D. Hubbard, secretary; John C. Root, treasurer; Charles W. Dart and J. H. Magel served as directors.

On January 1, 1904, Frank J. Rhodes came to work for Charles Knickerbocker. Frank was a young man, twenty-five years old, and his coming to work here was to have a lasting meaning, both for Frank and the people of Concord. From that time until his semi-retirement in 1958, his interest and the purpose of his life were for the betterment of the telephone system here. He did leave in 1912, but returned in 1918 at the request of the telephone company to assist them in their continuing improvement program. Frank established a reputation as a sincere, dedicated, knowledgeable person, one who observed the events around him with quiet humor. Because of his interest, the company continued to progress, and enjoyed a record of providing excellent service.

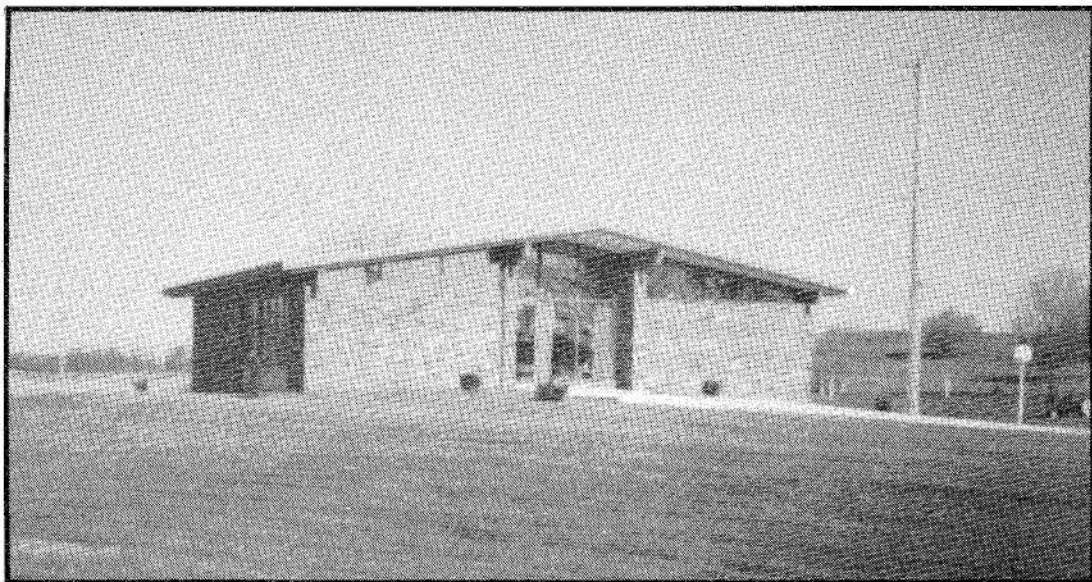
A plaque presented at the time of his retirement, in recognition of his service of over fifty years to the community and the telephone company, is displayed on the wall of the telephone office. At that time he was eighty-one years old, serving as vice-president of the board of directors, and although he had not, just prior to his retirement, kept up with the rapid advances in technology, he was proud to observe the many changes taking place, and lend his wisdom to the decisions for progress and improvement to help Concord keep pace.

In 1918 the switchboard was moved to a home on this lot. Service requirements had grown until two operators were on duty shifts together. The change to dial service, in 1958, necessitated a new building and the old house was removed marking the end of an era, and the beginning of a new, more modern life. No longer could the residents of Concord ring central to place a call, to be told by the friendly voice at the board that Aunt Sue was not at home, she had just been seen on the way to the store. In earlier years Dr. Tuthill had made the telephone office his headquarters, leaving the girls a list of his house calls as he started out, so they could inform him of succeeding calls needing his service in the same area.

One exciting time, in the life of the village, occurred in November, 1917, when the bank was held up by a gang of armed robbers. They cut all the telephone cables linking Concord with the outside world, leaving us isolated while they terrorized the village with their threats of violence. They escaped with \$18,000 in gold and were never apprehended.

Our present company was incorporated in 1948, with William Warner as president. The

change to dial in 1958 was accomplished with 260 lines and 700 terminals, or the possibility of connecting 700 different numbers, sharing 260 lines. The company has expanded until our office, since December, 1974, has facilities for 1700 lines, and 2600 terminals. The cables were buried in the rural areas, protecting them from damages from wind and ice storms as part of the 1974 construction. We provide one-party, private line service only, for approximately 1,250 subscribers with the same rates for everyone, regardless of their distance from the telephone office. Like our predecessors, we are still making every effort to keep abreast of all the various requirements of our industry, and keep pace with the many technological, environmental, and sociological changes.



Federal Land Bank Association of Concord

M-60 and Albion Road

The Federal Land Bank Association of Concord was established in 1970 when it was acquired from the Federal Land Bank Association of Albion and relocated in Concord. It is an affiliate of the Federal Land Bank of St. Paul, Minn.

Born of necessity more than a half century ago, the Federal Land Banks have financed agricultural producers through the transition of agriculture from a subsistence family endeavor to a highly developed and efficient profession providing the world with an abundance of quality food and fiber.

The Concord Association serves Jackson and Calhoun Counties in providing long term real estate financing to farmers, ranchers and people utilizing rural housing. The volume of loans outstanding now exceeds \$24,700,000 and it serves more than 880 farmers in the two counties.

The following personnel are responsible for the operation of the local association:

Board of Directors: William Howe, Jackson County; Ross Cortright, Lynn Smith and Ralph Wilson, all Calhoun County; and Lewis Lockwood, Jackson. Staff: Terry N. Harris, Manager; Gary L. Plumb, Assistant Manager; Barbara Ellerby, Elaine Schultz and Michelle Barden, Office Assistants.



Concord Variety Store

102 South Main Street

In May of 1953, James and Mildred Marshall, former owners of a Ben Franklin store in Cincinnati, Ohio, purchased the Knauer 5c to \$1.00 Store from Willard and Shirley Knauer. The store, renamed the Marshall Variety Department Store, was located at that time in the King building at the northeast corner of Main and Hanover Streets. In those days three stores occupied that location, the Marshall store being in the center of the building.

The Marshalls have three children: Florence, then attending Western Michigan University, and Tom and Mary Lou who entered the Concord school system, graduating in 1955 and 1958 respectively.

In 1959 the Marshall store was relocated, moving to the building on the southwest corner of Main and Homer Streets, formerly the location of the post office, and, previous to that, a men's store known as Pratt and Snow. The building was renovated throughout; a new front entrance was built, and a basement salesroom constructed for footwear, housewares

and toys. The main floor was comprised of soft goods, stationery and notions and the store was completely self-serve throughout.

After nearly eighteen years of retailing in Concord and watching their small fry toy customers travel down the road of life, grow up, graduate, marry and bring in their own small fry to stand once again in their parents' footsteps at the toy counter, the Marshalls retired, selling their store to Phil and Norma Friedrich in November 1970.

— Mildred Marshall

The owners of the Friedrich Variety and Department Store are Norma and Phillip Friedrich. They have three children, Lynn Carol, Phillip John, and Stanton Clark. On January 1, 1972, the Friedrichs purchased the store building next door in order to expand their space. (That building at one time housed "Doc" Armstrong's, then Richard's and then Carmody's drug stores. It later was occupied by Ray Nystrom's Western Store, at which time the shingled canopy was added to the front of the building.)

The new space houses the shoe department and men's clothing department. The store, as the present owners see it, represents a convenience store to the community providing quality items, friendship and service ranging from clothing for the entire family to safety pins.

— Norma and Phil Friedrich

Home Shoppe

316 Monroe Street

I first opened the Home Shoppe in 1954, at 403 Hanover Street, with two operators working with me. They were Jeanne Ropp Ottmer and Violet Reynolds, and we specialized in hair coloring and cutting. I left this location in 1963 and opened in the present location in 1969. The name of my shop, Home Shoppe, was suggested by my mother, Mrs. Flora Ottmer, who thought it was appropriate because the shop was located in my home. Hair coloring is still my speciality.

— Joyce Hakes



HOME SHOPPE [inside view]



Dart Brothers Restaurant

107 E. Jackson Road [M-60]

James Dart and Wayne Smalley leased a small section of land from Charles Young on M-60, the site of today's restaurant, for \$10 a year. They bid on and secured a depot at Onadago, Michigan, tore it down and used the lumber to build a small lunch room, in 1938, known to local residents as "The Hot Spot". During World War II, James and Wayne left to serve their country. Lura Dart and Rubie Smalley ran the lunch room for their sons until they returned from the service.

After the war, Dudleigh Dart bought Wayne Smalley's interest and the name "Dart Bros." was established January 15, 1946. The land had been purchased from Mr. Young, and after much land fill, the lunch room was built into a restaurant. The business was operated until May 1972 by James and Dudleigh Dart. Because of ill health, James sold his share to Dudleigh and wife, Betty Dart. The restaurant still remains at this location.

— Dudleigh Dart

Town Pump



Picture of the Old Town Pump, 1946; located on the site now occupied by Joyces Beauty Shop. Those pictured: George Graham, Nita [Owens] Davis, Bill Videto.

Beauty and Barber Shop

The Beauty and Barber Shop, located at 107 Homer Street was built in 1949-50 by Earl Causie, local contractor, for Clayton [Mick] Collins. On May 5, 1950 Mick opened the Barber shop and Joyce [Livesay] Cecil opened the Beauty Shop. Mick later sold the building to Paul Root who was barber there for some time. The Barber shop is now being leased for an office, but Joyce is still running the beauty shop.





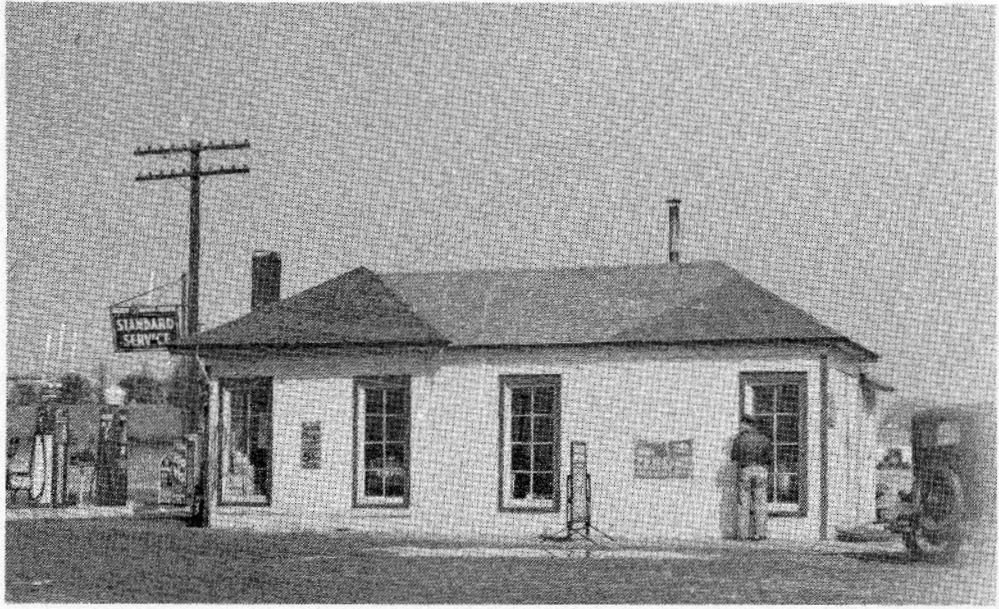
M-60 Grill

13350 M-60 West, Concord

Richard and Fleda Dart built a fruit stand on M-60 West and operated it, selling produce from their farm on Allman Road until 1952. They sold the stand to Gladys Springer who made it into a Truck Stop known as "M-60 Grill". She owned it for a short period of time and then sold to Mrs. Zella DeBoe. Mrs. DeBoe leased out the restaurant and later sold it to Mrs. Helen Morgan who operated it until 1967.

Kenneth and Ruelle Dart purchased the Grill and operated it until June 1971. Robert and Barbara Dart owned it until the summer of 1976.

The present owners are Mrs. Hannelore Haba, her son and daughter-in-law, Allen and Marcia Haba.



McMaster Chevrolet, Inc.

101 Jackson Road [M-60]



Land "on the northern line of Jackson Road intersecting the eastern line of Albion Road" was purchased in 1924 by Frank and Henry Dudek from Charles and Jennie Young. On September 18, 1926, Russell and Hilda Dean, of Concord, purchased this land from the Dudeks for "\$1.00 and other valuable considerations", and a service station was erected. In September, 1937, the property was sold to Margaret Dean and on January 6, 1938, land and the building was sold to Vernon Smalley, who built an addition to the building.

After the death of Vernon, his brother Wayne, and father, Lynn, moved the Chevrolet dealership from its Hanover Street location, to this location. (The dealership had previously been Landon & Smalley.) The dealership was enlarged to its current size in 1947.

Lynn and Wayne Smalley and Harry Atkins incorporated to form Smalley Services, Inc., December 28, 1951. In January 1956, Harry Atkins and Jack McMaster purchased the property and formed Atkins-McMaster Chevrolet, Inc. On November 1, 1969, Jack McMaster bought out Harry Atkins and formed the McMaster Chevrolet Corporation.

Land for the body shop, at 317 North Main Street, was acquired in the early 1950's and the building was erected about 1965. On the first day of 1976, Jack added the property on the southwest corner of M-60 and Main Street for a car lot.

H & M Flowers and Ceramics

In 1966 Margaret and Harold Riker purchased the old Gilmore Body Shop for their son Tom, who was a junior at Western High School, to use as a garage — "Tom's Automotive". In December of 1967, they opened the H & M Gift Shop in the house on the property, building a small greenhouse for spring plants. When Tom went into Service in December 1968, Margaret and Harold moved from Spring Arbor into the house and opened H & M Flowers in the garage building. From time to time they added more greenhouse space and grew pot mums, pansies, snapdragons and other bedding plants.

In 1969, Margaret started taking ceramic lessons and shortly thereafter acquired a kiln and began to make containers for use in the flower shop. The ceramic business grew rapidly and a classroom was opened for instruction, with Margaret as the teacher. By 1972, the flower and ceramic business kept them so busy that they decided to dismantle the greenhouses and discontinue growing their own plants. A display room was eventually added to the front of the building and a large storage room was constructed at the rear. A windstorm in 1975 caused much damage to parts of the building and to the roof. While repairs were being made, changes in the roof style and re-arrangement of the various areas resulted in the building as it appears today.

In 1973, Harold gave up his factory job to work full time in the business and their daughter, Carol Eaton, helps in the shop. Tom and his wife, Ellen, manage a ceramics shop in Leslie which was opened by the Rikers on January 1, 1976.



W. R. Woodworth in front of store.

MURDOCK

FURNITURE STORE
102 North Main Street

FUNERAL HOME
116 South Main Street

CONCORD

The Murdock Furniture Store and Funeral Home is owned and operated by Kenneth V. and Ruby E. Murdock.

Kenneth was born July 10, 1911, in Branch County; his father, William Murdock, was born in West Unity, Ohio; his mother was Elva Mathany, born in Kearney, Nebraska. Ruby was born November 9, 1910, on the Mann Farm, Concord; her father was George West, who was born in England; her mother was Emma McMahon, who was born in Scipio Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Kenneth and Ruby were married August 26, 1936, in Albion.

Kenneth began working for Mr. W. R. Woodworth in 1933 and, when the Murdocks were married, they lived with Mr. Woodworth who was a widower and lived in an apartment over the furniture store.

Mr. Woodworth had purchased the furniture store and funeral business from Thomas Knickerbocker in September 1906. At that time the furniture store was located in a wooden building on the east side of North Main Street, the site now occupied by the new addition to Brigham's Hardware Store. In 1919, Mr. Woodworth bought the south half of the Purchase Building on the northwest corner of Main and Homer Streets and moved the furniture store there, where it is still located. In 1943 the Murdocks bought the north half of the Purchase Building and later remodeled it and enlarged the store.

In 1940, Mr. Woodworth and the Murdocks bought the home of Jennie Reynolds at 116 South Main Street for a Funeral Home. The home was remodeled and the Funeral Home opened in May 1942. In May of 1953, the Murdocks became sole owners of both the furniture store and the funeral home.

— Kenneth and Ruby Murdock

Pearl's Restaurant

On January 8, 1973, Pearl Purdy purchased the building at 122 North Main Street, Concord, from W. R. Greer of Coldwater and John D. and Theresa R. Greer of Jackson. After purchasing new equipment, she opened her restaurant business, known as "Pearl's", on April 4, 1973. It is a place where friends meet every morning for coffee and lots of small talk and people come from miles around to enjoy her good food and well-known home-made pies.

On April 26, 1974, the ice maker shorted out, causing a fire that gutted the restaurant section. Within a few days, clean-up and restoration was started and on June 24, Pearl resumed her business. Although she was in debt, she was determined to continue her business venture.

On June 10, 1975, Pearl married Stanley Britton of Concord, and they now share joint ownership of "Pearl's".

Many summer evenings you can drive by and see people standing outside the building, hoping there will soon be a table available for dinner.



Pearl and Stan Britton

The Salesman

314 E. Center Street, Concord

Present owners: Mr. and Mrs. Bob Everett (1965-)

Business Established By: R. G. Dean and Donna Everett (1948)

In 1948, while employed by the E. E. Stokoe Company of Devereaux, Russ Dean had charge of Sales and Advertising. He got to know Roll Davis who published the "Morning Star" Shopping Guide and conceived the idea that perhaps the merchants of Concord would like a Shopping Guide. Enlisting the aid of his daughter, Donna Everett, and obtaining the O.K. of Concord merchants, a local Shopping Guide was started. Mr. Dean named it "The Salesman" and a by-line of "The Little Agent who calls on 1200 homes every Friday". It was an instant success and over the years two more areas were organized and now the "Little Agent" calls on over 23,000 homes each week. Mr. Dean retired in 1965 and the daughter Donna and her husband Bob took over.



Sattler's Tasty Treat

The business was started by Russell Amburgey who owned and operated a gas station on the corner before he built the "Amburgey Tasty Treat", a small soft ice cream stand, so his wife Hazel would have something to occupy her spare time. But the business grew so that Russel had to give up his salesman position and help her. They added on and started to sell sandwiches. After ten years of hard work they decided to retire. On May 1, 1968 Paul and Imogene Sattler purchased the business and it became "Sattler's Tasty Treat". Some people say, "We work six months in the Tasty Treat and go to Florida in the winter for six months", but that is just a story. We have the best ice cream around. Just come and try some, sometime!!! at 100 E. Jackson Road, better known to people as M-60, Concord, Michigan.



Jones Sawmill on Hanover Street, Concord

The Sawmill

Claude and Paul C. Jones started the permanent mill, located at 714 Hanover Street in Concord, after the war in 1945. Before the war, Claude and his father, Clifton, had a portable saw mill that was used in the timber where they were working. The mill was sold to Baker Brothers in 1959, after Claude retired.

Some of the men who worked in the sawmill were Orville DeLong, Ray Mattice, Clark Jackson, Ernie Paine, and Baldy and John Lippert.

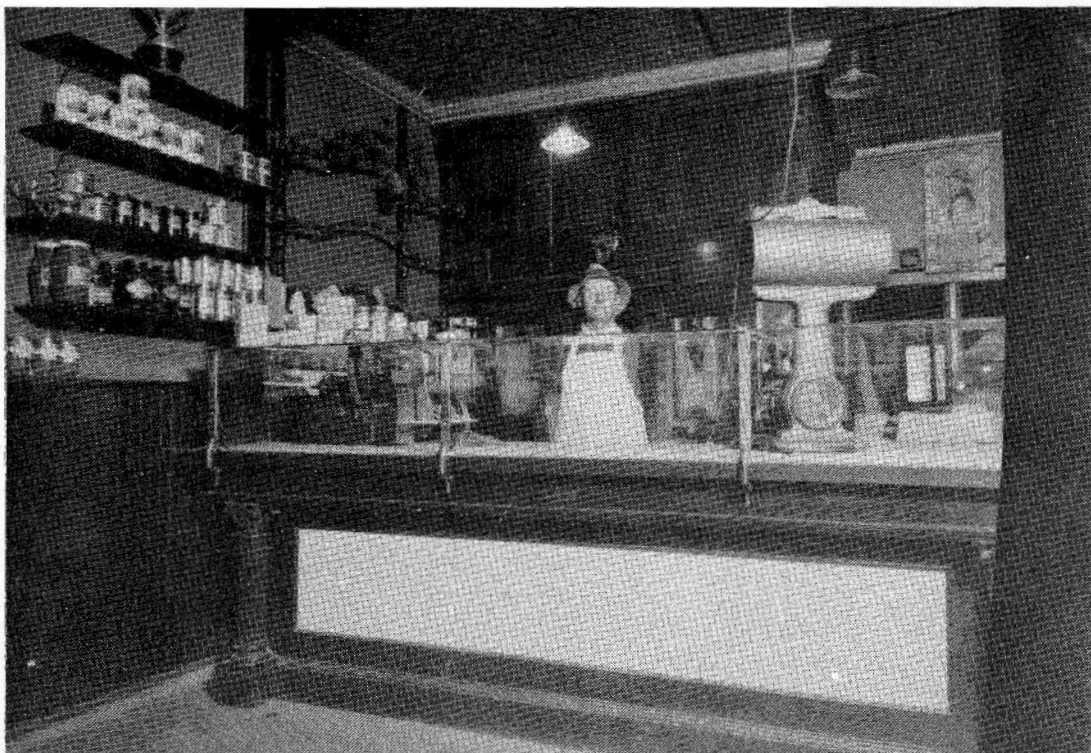
Shirlee's Coiffures

The business was opened March 6, 1969, at 715 Hanover Street, Concord. The owners are Shirlee and Jim Lewis; manager and operator, Shirlee Lewis. I had been a hairdresser for fifteen years before owning my own shop and had worked in the Jackson area for several years before going to Grand Rapids in 1955 for eight years. As the unmarried one of four children, I had to return to my home at Liberty Mills to look after my mother who was in bad health in 1962. I worked part-time at Somerset Center for three years then took a position at L. H. Fields, Jackson, for a year as manager of the "Wig Salon". I also worked part-time in a shop in Jackson until August 26, 1967, when I became Mrs. James Lewis. Having been an "old maid" for thirty-one years, and Jim having been a bachelor for forty-one years, we shocked not only ourselves but many friends and relatives when we were married. Soon after our marriage I returned to work in Jackson but after one winter of traveling M-60 on ice, I decided if I were going to work it would be in Concord. In February we put the beauty shop in the rear of our present home. Jim did all the work himself, and on March 6, 1969, I opened "Shirlee's Coiffures". In the summer of 1971 we put a large addition on our home and in January, 1973, we moved the shop into the front of our home which made it much more convenient for my customers.

— Shirlee Lewis



"1952" Who's Who? The following are in the picture: Will Kassack, William Durham, Jack Wolfe, C. D. Hoxie, Bill Knauer.



Mort Waldby

Shannon's Food Market

Concord, Michigan

Information on the stores occupying the site of today's Shannon's Market on the northeast corner of Main and Hanover Streets has been traced back to 1928.

Mrs. Marjorie Knauer Vance has written that her grandfather, C. J. Harmon purchased the grocery store located here from Al Door in 1928. He also purchased the Variety Store, then known as the 5c to \$1.00 Store from sisters, Louise King and Rose Phillips. Mrs. Mary Ansterburg Rodgers worked for them and continued to do so for Mr. Harmon. Under his ownership, the front door to the variety store was closed except for deliveries and an archway was opened up between the two stores. At that time most of the products were behind the counters and had to be gotten for the customers by the clerks. Candy, sugar, cookies, cranberries, pretzels, etc., came in the bulk and were weighed out by the order. Coffee beans came in big barrels and were weighed out and put in bags supplied by the companies; then the beans were ground for the customer on order.

In 1934, Willard (Bill) Knauer, Mr. Harmon's son-in-law, went to work for him, driving the grocery truck that delivered to the farmers at their homes. This territory covered a radius of eight miles in all directions. In 1939, Mr. Harmon's son, K. C., and Bill Knauer bought the grocery store section and Mr. Harmon closed the archway and took over the operation of the variety store. He put in a soda fountain at the front of the store.

Bill and Shirley Knauer bought the grocery store from K. C. in 1941. They converted it into a self-serve store. In the spring of 1945 they bought the variety store and in the fall of the

same year sold the grocery store to Marvin Thomsen.

According to Mr. Ronald Waldby, Mortimer M. Waldby, who was born January 1894 in Spring Arbor Township came to Concord in April 1927. He and his brother-in-law, Allen Miller, bought the meat market also located in this building, from August and Lema Phillip. Mortimer bought out the partnership from Miller in 1929 and he then operated the meat market until July of 1943.

In 1953 the Marshalls purchased the Variety Store business from the Knauers, and in 1959 moved it to another location. Marvin Thomsen sold the grocery store business to Ronald Waldby who, in turn, sold it to Tom and Eunice Fisher. They sold it to Al and Earl Abel. Al Abel acquired the meat market business during this period. When Al died, Earl sold the store to Ed Shannon and his wife Margie, who was Al Abel's daughter. Their story follows:

It was on May 1, 1959, that Edwin and Marjorie Shannon, with the encouragement and help of many local businessmen and friends, started operating Shannon's Food Market. At the time we bought the business we had two employees, Shirley Knauer, checker, and Thomas Beals, carry-out boy and stock clerk.

In 1962 we had the opportunity to buy the building itself and again with the help of many friends we were able to acquire it. At that time the area occupied by the original grocery store and the variety store was remodeled into a completely modern store. About two years later we found that this was not enough space to adequately serve our customers, so the third unit, which had been the meat market (which had in the meantime been used for a short time as a Teen Center and offices by Attorney Myron Sanderson and his partnership, and for storage after we acquired the building) was incorporated into the store area and all units of the building used for merchandising. We hope we have served the Concord area well over the years and that we can do as good a job, or better, in the future.

— Ed and Margie

Swains Lake Hills



Swains Lake, located in Pulaski Township, was named for Isaac N. Swain who owned property on the east end of the lake and whose home was located on the east side of Pulaski Road opposite the lake. In November 1956, the land bordering the north side of the lake was purchased by Gerald and Margaret Beissel from Alma B. Stevenson and Wilma Mills of Ann Arbor. A road was built and the land subdivided into lots which now contain homes for thirty-five families. Under an agreement with the Village of Concord, the municipal water system was extended to serve the subdivision.

An interesting coincidence: The Beissels owned and operated the Concord Lumber Company. In 1855 Josiah Bigelow, and in 1904 Henry Dart, his son-in-law, held title to the property on which the subdivision is now a part and also owned and operated the lumber yard in Concord.



Thorrez Manufacturing - 1976



Thorrez Manufacturing - 1947

Concord Manufacturing Company, Inc.

405 South Michigan Street

This business was originally established and located in the Behling Building on North Main Street by a partnership consisting of Russell Bengel, Marion R. Summers, Hazel Wickwire, Donald M. Teer, and Lucretia M. Summers, of Jackson. In January 1946 the company was incorporated with M. R. Summers, President; Donald M. Teer, Vice President; Kenneth D. Vicary, Secretary-Treasurer. During World War II the firm made bottle caps and it has been said that Mr. Peter Hurst, the founder of Aeroquip Company in Jackson, worked here because, as a German, he was not allowed near his own plant which was manufacturing war-related items.

In February of 1946 the business and the building were purchased by new stockholders. Henry C. Thorrez, President; Albert Thorrez, Vice President; Morris Thorrez, Secretary; and Walter Michner, Treasurer became the new officers and remain so today. In 1952 the company needed to expand and through the encouragement and efforts of the late Gerald Beissel and other members of the Village Council, land was purchased from Mr. Clyde Harmon and a new plant was completed in 1953 at the present location, on Michigan Street.

In 1946 the new owners started with four employes, four war-surplus machines and two customers for whom they made ball joints. In 1974 they employed fifty-five people; after the recession of 1975 the work force has now stabilized at thirty-one who use over sixty machines to make parts for sixty-five customers. Their products are used in a diverse number of items such as truck and auto brakes, subway cars, binoculars, washing machines and dryers, auto transmissions and computers. Seven of their employes have been with the company over 17 years: Merlyn "Shorty" Sanford (Jonesville) - 29; Vera "Faye" Crowley (Concord) - 28; Donald W. Crowley - 28; Leroy James - 25; Jeanette Hyliard (Albion) - 25; Frank Ottmer (Grass Lake) - 24; and Lillian Eggleston (Concord) - 17 years.

Henry and Phyllis Thorrez reside on Sears Road east of the village. Their son, Camiel, who is the plant manager, and his wife Anne Marie and their children reside in the village. Camiel and Anne Marie are also owners and publishers of **The Concord News**.



BOOSTER DAYS

These were days with a carnival atmosphere. A merry-go-round and different concession stands were set up around the location of the town pump.

FOOTBALL

Football was played in any farmer's good field that was available.

The Young Building (1886)

108 North Main Street, Concord

The present owner, Mr. Raymond Hasbrouck, opened his business in this location in November 1971, under the name of Hasbrouck Appliances and TV.

The original building was built at least by the year 1878 and burned in the early 1800's. It was rebuilt by Gus Stahley and Frank C. Rhodes for, it is believed, Henry Young and Frank Gainard. Rebuilt again in 1886 when the name on the front of the building indicates it as the Young Building. It stands immediately north of the Purchase Building which is on the northwest corner of Main and Homer Streets, also built in 1886.

Names of owners on record — all grocers — are: Baker and Paddock, Henry Young and Frank Gainard; Charles and Nelson Gillispie; Bouldrey and Tucker; and George and Kitty Beatty.

* * * *

Quoted from the **Concord News**:

"On April 8, 1911, a business change of more than usual interest took place in Concord this week when Bouldrey and Tucker succeeded to the firm of C. N. Gillispie & Co. Nelson and Charles Gillispie have been in business for so long a time that the store came to be known over this entire section of the country. They built up a large trade by strict business methods and have met with a measure of success that might well be the envy of merchants in the much larger communities. During twelve years of this business activity Roy Bouldrey has been with the firm. He has grown into their business and the customers came to prefer to trade with Roy. He became popular with the entire community.

"What Roy Bouldrey was to Gillispie's, William Tucker was to John Magel. 'Will' was fourteen years with Magel, and from a mere boy has grown to the highest position of confidence with his employer and favor with the general public. Outsiders have frequently remarked what a team for business Roy Bouldrey and Will Tucker would make if they could come together. When Messrs. Gillispie wished to retire from business they felt that they would rather pass it over to these young men than anyone else. And so it came about that Bouldrey & Tucker enter upon their business career with the hearty good wishes of everybody. We shall expect to see them make a great big success."

* * * *

Bouldrey & Tucker

The two Concord men who were in the same business for the longest time of anyone in the village were William Tucker and Royal Bouldrey. Mr. Tucker started clerking in 1892 for Frank Ganiard, a grocer. Royal Bouldrey started to work for Charles and Nelson Gillispie (grocers) in 1896. The partnership of Bouldrey and Tucker was formed in 1911 and continued until 1945, thus making their service to the community continuous for 50 years.

When they first started, the stores were open from 6:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., holidays included. Sacks were scarce and a special paper was twisted into a cone shape to hold beans, sugar, etc. Customers brought their own containers for vinegar, molasses, syrup, and kerosene. Farm wives traded butter and eggs for groceries.

In those early days, the farmer needed his horses to work the land and shopping for the farm wife was a problem — so the grocery wagon went to them. It took a different route each day, a trip averaging twenty-five miles. The automobile and mechanical farm equipment finally made this unnecessary.

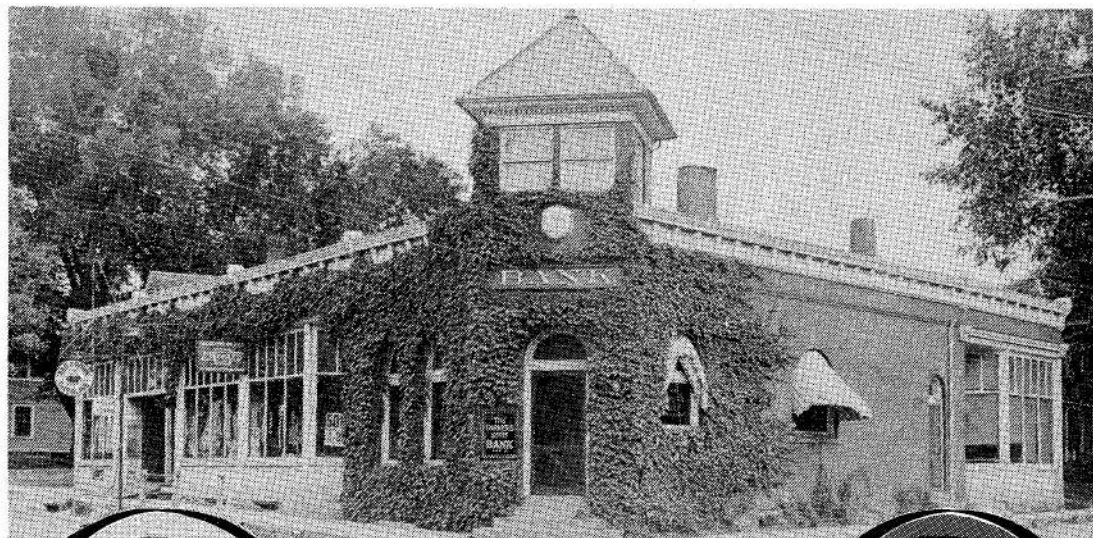
— Marion Bouldrey Hinkley



Left to right: Royal Bouldrey, Mary [West] Patterson, and Will Tucker.

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

Concord, Michigan



Five Presidents

William D. Chapple and son, Percy, collaborated in organizing the First National Bank in Concord, under National bank charter in 1884. In 1886, the bank was re-organized under State charter as The Farmers State Bank. W. D. Chapple was President and Percy, Cashier. Upon his father's death, Percy became President. In 1916, Frank N. Aldrich became Cashier and when Percy died, President. Dr. F. S. Tuthill was named President upon Frank's untimely death. Dr. Tuthill had been Vice President. Dwight Aldrich was Executive Vice President, conducting the business, and upon Dr. Tuthill's death, was elected President, serving until his retirement in 1974. In 1974, the Farmers State Bank was merged with the National Bank of Jackson, and is operated as it's Concord branch.



Wm. D. Chapple
1884-1906



Dwight A. Aldrich
1944-1974



Percy C. Chapple
1906-1920



Frank N. Aldrich
1920-1939



Dr. Frank S. Tuthill
1939-1944

1884

1974

Concord Schools

February 29, 1976 was Dedication Day in the Concord School District, commemorating the completion of the High School addition and the fulfillment of thirty-three years of work and planning for a complete new school complex, after Concord's school building burned in 1943.

In a sketch in the History of Jackson County in 1881, Judge Melville McGee said, "The traveler of today, as he visits the flourishing village of Concord, will notice in the western part of the village a large, elegant school building . . . evidencing to him very clearly the great interest the inhabitants take in the education of the young . . ." This was the building located on the corner of West Center and Maple Streets (now the site of the Keefer Apartments). The building the Judge referred to in 1881 was the second school building to be erected on this site, the first being built in the 1850's. The 1881 building was remodeled and enlarged in the early 1900's, and on October 12, 1943, it was destroyed by fire.

Quoting from **The Concord News** of February 25, 1976, we trace the history of education in Concord.

"But to go back still further, a long, long time before the strength, or even the term, consolidation — was known as we of the village and the farms for miles around Concord know it, another McGee, a Miss Mary McGee, was the first teacher in the first school in Concord. It was taught in a little lean-to, built on the one-story log cabin of Deacon David Smalley. This was in 1835. Deacon Smalley's cabin was located 'in the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of Section 27', now the home site of the Dwight A. Aldrich family. (Editor's Note: According to the Smalley Family records, school was held in the David Smalley cabin; however that building was located on the North Albion Road, not in the village as published. The Aldrich Family was told by Miss Jessie Mann that her mother, Ellen Keeler, did attend a school which was believed to be located on the property now owned by the Aldrichs between South Main and Union Streets at Monroe Street.) Continuing the quotation:

"Three years later, August 13, 1838, 'School District No. 1 of the Township of Concord' owned its first property through a warranty deed given by Isaac H. Swain and Sylvester G. Abbott.

"But history is for books, periodicals and newspaper files and is well recorded for those who would read it. It is with pride that we hasten to acknowledge today's accomplishments. The dates, 1835, 1838, 1864, 1880, 1918, and 1943 are important milestones in our educational efforts. Many more pages could be written about the efforts of the past thirty-three years! The story of the disastrous fire in 1943 will be told by our children's children — and by theirs. Also will be remembered the makeshift schoolroom quarters in 'the old Opera House', the rooms over 'the poolroom', in the Behling Building, 'over the News office', 'over Woodworth's store', and in the 'back of the bank building'.

"All will remember the trials and tribulations of an 'impossible situation' that led to not only a consolidation of effort but the actual consolidation of school districts of the vicinity into one. In August 1944, the districts of Howard, Luttenton, Cross, Cochran, Stoddard, Dewey, Mann, West Brick, and Pardee and hundreds of people in these districts joined hands in a determined effort to improve educational facilities. It should be recorded, if not remembered, that this effort was not without opposition — in the good American way. (The Reynolds district was annexed in 1953 and Pulaski and Riceville in 1962. In 1955 the name, Concord Agricultural School, was changed to Concord Community Schools.)

"In April 1945 the present school site of thirty acres was purchased from May Mann Adair, Frank Dudek and Carl Kressbach."

Through the efforts of members of the High School Alumni Association (organized in 1891) and other interested people, and from the proceeds of public events sponsored by every organization throughout the district, a large sum of money was raised for building construction. A master plan was evolved by school board members, the school superintendent, Mr. Lee Kinney, and local committees, and designed by Mr. Carl C. Kressbach, a Jackson architect and a resident of Concord. In August 1948 construction began on the first section, to house the kindergarten through third grade, utilizing the donations and insurance money to pay \$50,721.52 for the building. (This building now houses Central Administration Offices).

In August 1949, according to the master plan, the first section of the high school building (new middle school) was bonded for and built at a cost of \$96,547, being completed for use in the fall of 1950. In 1950 the people of the district were aware that facilities must be increased very soon. After one unsuccessful bonding proposal, a bond issue of \$375,000 was passed in May of 1951 to build a gymnasium, administrative offices, a grade school wing, a cafeteria and additional rooms in the high school. In March 1956 the voters approved additions to the high school and elementary wings and a band room. This bond issue was in the amount of \$313,000. Again, in 1960, the district bonded for \$135,000 for an addition to the east wing of the elementary school section.

In 1964 the original master plan was abandoned and when the bond issue of \$495,000 was approved in that year, the first unit of a high school building was constructed, facing Monroe Street, and the shop building (which was the first building built on the Main Street site) was remodeled. The architect for this phase of the construction was Guide Binda of Battle Creek. In 1974 the district bonded for \$2,000,000 to complete the high school, adding classrooms, a gymnasium, shop, etc., to the building on Monroe Street and remodeling areas of the building complex on Main Street to accommodate the middle and elementary grades. Architects for this phase were Vander Meiden & Koteles and Associates, Inc., Grand Haven.

As **The Concord News** observed, and as Judge McGee said, the inhabitants of Concord take a great interest in the education of the young.

The bell in front of the Main Street building was salvaged from the ruins of the old school.

While one Superintendent and one Principal seemed to be sufficient in times past, the fall of 1976 finds the following administrators in charge of the educational program: Larry T. Ley, Superintendent; Raymond A. Hjelt, High School Principal; Steve V. Laske, Middle School Principal; and John C. Snow, Elementary School Principal. Members of the School Board are: William A. Hubbard, President; Ron Childs, Vice President; Camiel Thorrez, Secretary; Philip A. Spry, Treasurer; and Lynn D. Sanford, Jack Templeton, and Debora DeKlein.

Colorful Highlights of Concord Schools

The following article, written by Vida L. Lee, was published in **The Concord News**, June 4, 1948.

"For 69 years young people have been graduating from the Concord High School. Even before the school was recognized as a high school there were those who had finished their education here. Later these were made honorary members of the Alumni. The first class to officially graduate was in 1879. The class had five members. They were Libbie Maniard, Lola Ray (Pemberton), May Paddock (Healy), Kittie Paddock (Townsend), and Effie Reynolds.

"The class of 1893 was different in that in all its eight members there was only one boy. That was Floyd Whittaker, now a farmer near Concord. Others of the class were Lena Nowlin (Cogswell), now deceased; Louise Hungerford (Johnston), living in Detroit; Ida Mann (Cady), living in Boulder City and Concord; Almira Marshall (Johnson), Kansas City, Mo.; Rena Havey (Daley), Highland Park; Nina VanScoter (Baker), Jackson; and Elizabeth Hungerford (Rideout), Chattanooga, Tenn. This class was the first, as near as I can discover, that published a year book. This was decided the first of the year and all through the school year they were jotting down notes for its contents. It was dedicated to the Superintendent, Frank W. Wells, whose picture was on the first page.

"Commencement was held June 9th with the following program:

Violin Solo: Ota Kern

Invocation: Rev. C. P. Quick

Oration: "Who Wrote the Essay?", Almira Marshall

Oration: "The Lighthouse of America", Lena M. Nowlin

Quartette: "The Reapers", Pearl White, Marion Bell, Jessie Mann, Allie Findley

Oration: "There's a Woman In It", Nina VanScoter

Oration: "The Lion in the Way", Louise Hungerford

Oration: "Brain and Braun", Floyd Whittaker

Violin Solo: Miss Ota Kern

Oration: "The Geometry of Life", Rena Havey

Oration: "Dandelions", Elizabeth Hungerford

Oration: "Take the Fast Express", Ida Mann

Vocal Solo: "Open Thy Lattice" (Gregh), Nora Wetmore

Presentation of Diplomas: A. H. Tucker

Benediction: Rev. C. P. Quick

"It wasn't hard with only eight members for each to have a part but can you imagine what time they would have gone home if all twenty-eight of this year's class had given an oration? Occasions change to fit the times. The Commencement has remained through the years as most things. The students are just as loyal to what their school stands for as the class of '79 and '93.

"There have been Concord graduates who have made names for themselves in the outside world, so who knows? Some day we may even give the country a president. Maybe from the class of '48, the largest graduating class in the history of the school."

My father-in-law, Maurice Baker, is fortunate enough to have a copy of the first year

book, left to him by his mother, Nina VanScoter Baker, a member of the class of 1893. While reading through it I find several things of interest I would like to pass on to you.

First of all, the year book was called "**The Milestone**" and was dedicated to the Superintendent Frank W. Wells. Teachers of that year were Adine Hinmen, Assistant; Clara Osborn, Grammar School; Millie Hammill, Intermediate; and Lillie Nowlin, Primary School.

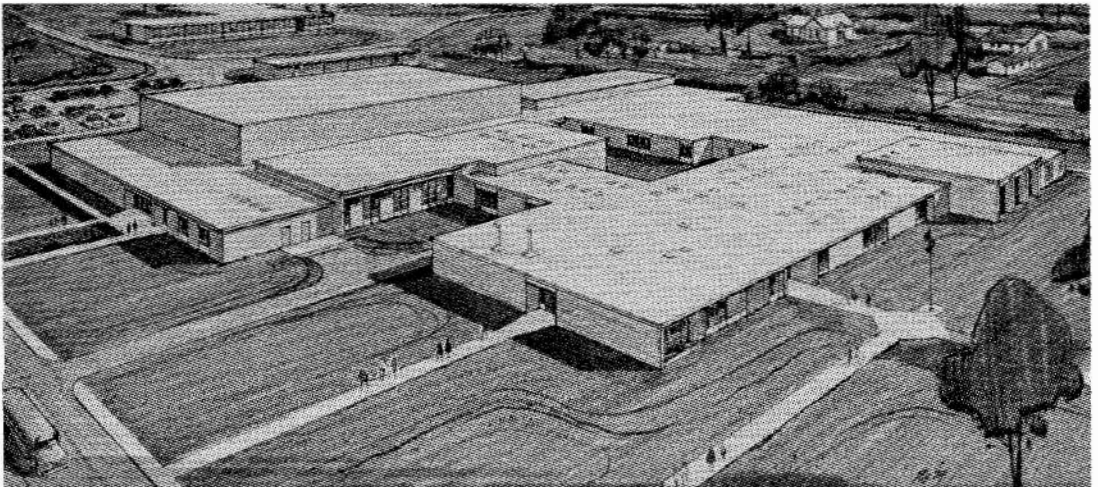
Members of the Board of Education were: A. H. Tucker, J. N. Smalley, L. F. Keeler, J. B. Stoddard, and D. S. Mann.

The Board of Editors of the year book were: M. Ida Mann, editor-in-chief; Lisbeth B. Hungerford and Nina VanScoter. Their class motto was "Solum Milliarium Primum" (Only the first mile-stone). The flower was the Rose; colors, Cream and Gold; and of course their yell, "Kee! Kee!, Kee!". This, the Class of '93. Officers were: President, Floyd Whittaker; Vice President, Lena Nowlin; Secretary, Ida Mann; Treasurer, Almira Marshall.

— Myrtie Baker



Concord Public School Built in 1878





Concord Grammar School - 1886

Front row, left to right: George Jackson, Will Couden, June Cory, Fannie Keeler, Nora Wetmore, and Grace Hungerford. Second row: Abe Tucker, Ethel Halsted, Etola Allen, Emma Tucker, Miss Minnie Stilson - teacher, George Ganiard, Nica Paddock, and James Reynolds. Third row: Prof. Fred S. Gaige, Superintendent;

Ida May Tucker, Clair VanScoter, Frank Youngs, unidentified, Ethel Bartholomew, Alice Baker, Eddie Carpenter, and Lewis Keeler. Fourth row: John Brown, Louise French, Arthur Collins, George Bell, Floyd Bell, and Kate Dunham.



Old Concord School Picture

Top Row, left to right: Harriet Wilcox?, Luella Stuart, Doretta Dutton, Fleda Ritter, Iva Jones, Mrs. Rhodes, Dorthy Hubbard, Clara Vetter, Alta Ryan, and Margarite Barrell. Middle Row: Al-

fonso Rowlison, Marian Bell, Lucille Smalley, Catherine Anderson, Myrtle Jones, and Olive Rowlison. Bottom Row: Howard Keeler, Milton Magle, Floyd Ryan, Elton Parker, and Moses Wells.



Mann School, Concord Township - 1912

Back Row, left to right: Alta West, Lena Demorest, Edna Strohmer [teacher], Herbert Behling, Andrew VanWormer, Carl Behling, and Robert VanWormer. Front Row: Glenn Hoaglin, George Hardt, Kathryn Warner, Dana VanWormer, Fred Nowlin, Richard Nowlin, Glenn Dodes, Bessie Demorest, Mary West, William Dodes, [absent] Anna West.

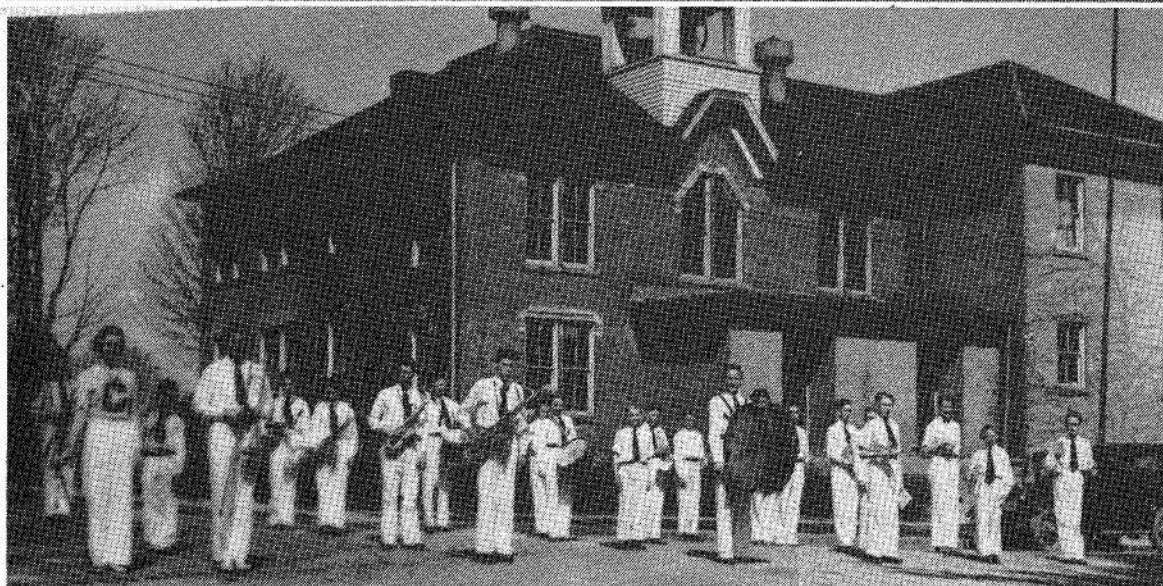


8th Grade, Concord School

This picture was taken in 1929. Back Row, left to right: Forrest Lincoln, Nancy Heywood, Marie Jones, Helen Knehtel, Rolin Shire, Mary Jane Coffman, and Fern Lockwood. Middle Row: Bruce Barrows, Beth Dixon, Aline Farrell, Dudleigh Dart, and Alvin Beals. Bottom Row: James Patterson, Hilda Dewey, Asher Hyliard, Bert Rhodes, Clifford Dorer, and Lucille Chase.

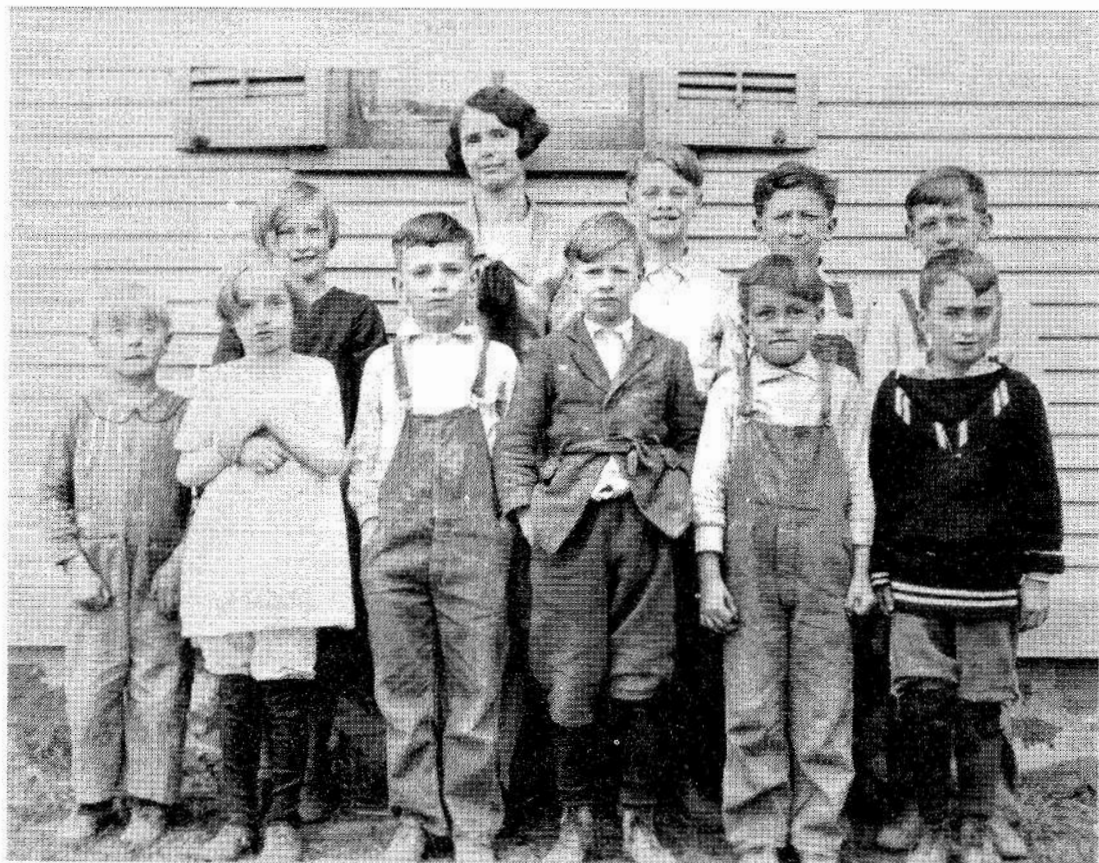


Concord's first uniformed band,
in 1937.
Robert Kingsley was director.



1936 Marching Band.

Concord Bands



Luttenton School - 1928

Back Row, left to right: Rhea Luttenton, Ruby [Moore] Loomis, Beryl Luttenton, Clare Railer, and Leroy Railer. Front Row: Dale Luttenton, Faye Luttenton, Phillip Railer, Russell Luttenton, Virgil Rimer, and Max Hotchkin.



Concord High School

Champion Baseball Team - 1913

Back Row, left to right: Donald Woodliff, Reuben Luttenton, and Ernest Vetter. Middle Row: Richard Dodes, Clarence Walker, Carl McKenzie, Maurice West, and Clinton Beatty. Front Row: Archie Allman, Howard Groger, Layton Penoyer, and Coach Owens.

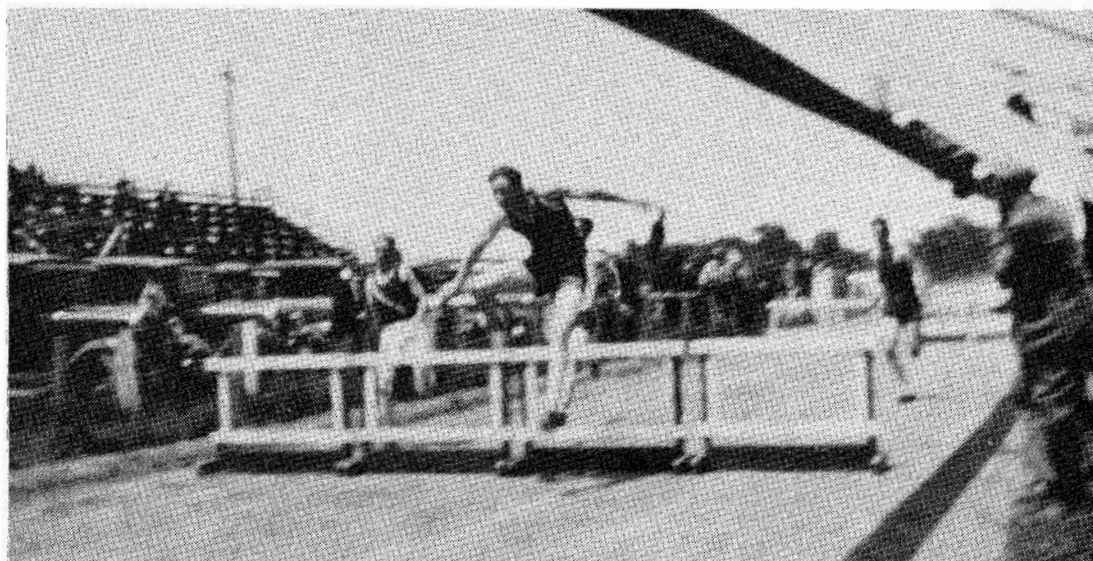


Stoddard School - 1950 - 6th Grade

Top Row, left to right: Beatrice Riker, Lowella Vincent, Rita Hodges, Janet Thompson, Gerald Maxon, Ronald Brigham, and Howard Hakes. Second Row—Purdy Pierce, Mary Pardee, Lloyd Fowler, Janet Otto, Danny Hodson, unidentified, and Gifford Householder. Third Row: Margaret McGreger, Verna Eberly, Patty Luttenton, Nancy Graham, Doug Harden, Ed Weston, Harold Houglin, and Bill Murray. Front Row: Sally Jones, Nancy Luttenton, Fern Ashworth, Patty Welch, Sharon Berk, Mary Hoxie, and Bonnie Crapser.



County Track and Field Meet at Napoleon, Michigan. 1930 Concord High School Champions.



Hurdles: Ellsworth Nearpass [first], Bill Farrell [fourth]. Relay Team: Leo Hotchkin, Ellsworth Nearpass, Jack Dart, and Don Waldo.

* * * *

Complete list of team members: Francis Lippert, Vernon Smalley, William Butters, Wilford Howard, Claude Smith, Aron Lincoln, Jack Dart, Leo Hotchkin, Don Waldo [captain], Ellsworth Nearpass, Bill Farrell, and S. S. Henery [coach].



1975 Track Team

Front Row, left to right: Mike Sandford, Dave Heitzmann, Bill Young, Louie Kopolus, Mike Jurasek, Perry Weaver, Marty Thompson, Bill Shushok, Doug Hess, Mike Richardson, Mark Lehtiner, and Tim Bennett. Second Row: Tom Richardson [manager], Urschaltz [coach], Lynn Wildt, Cameron Owens, Bob Shushok, Mark Bradley, Philip Brigham, Tim Thompson, John Dennis, Tom Bernardon, and Chuck King [coach]. Third Row: Brett Templeton, Gary Manthei, Jim Hubbard, Chuck Clark, Scott Pederson, Bill Hubbard, Fred Thomas, and Bill Wood. Back Row: Brian Keefer, Oscar Findley, Tim Bush, Greg Apsey, Brad Boyers, Tom Beuttgenbach, Mike Findley, and Brad Jacokes.



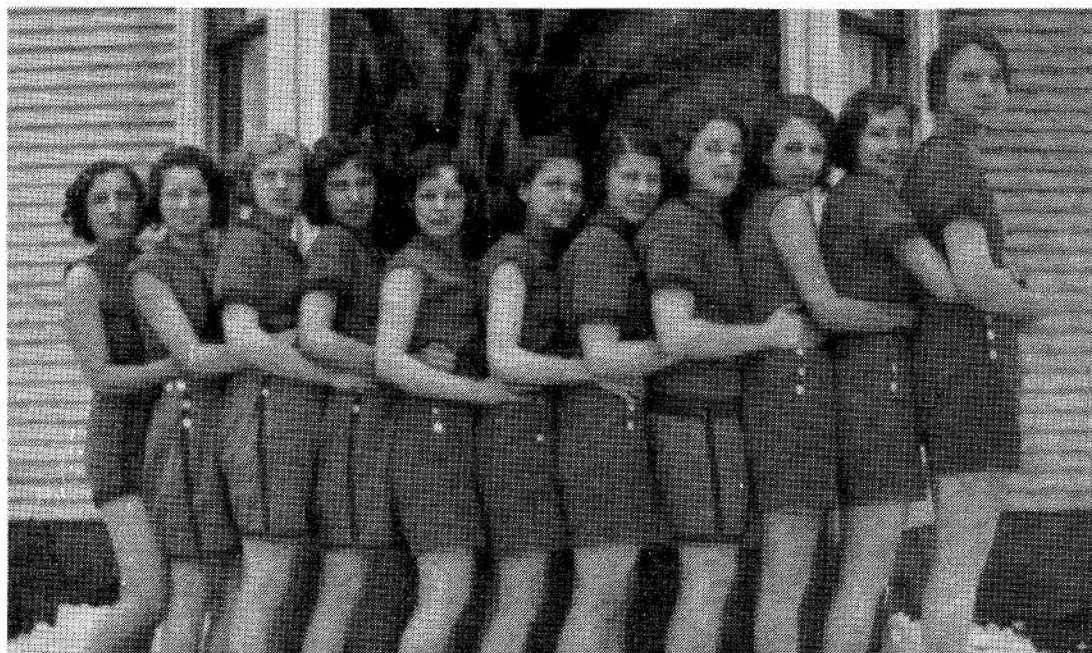
Concord High School's First Baseball Team - 1901

Front Row, left to right: G. Ezra Schneider, Dick Keller?, Harmon Scranton?, unidentified, D. C. Scranton [mascot], unidentified, and Fred Schoen. Back Row: Theron Brail, unidentified, and June Dixon.



1976 Baseball Team

Front Row, left to right: Scott Smith, P. J. DeKlein, Tim Brigham, Dale Tetli, Jeff Barton, Tim Bennett, and Bernie Barton, assistant coach. Back Row: Manager Howard Barton, Dave Vandenburg, Phil Hanes, Gary Volk, Ken Rowlison, Gerry Bilaski, and head coach Doug Gardener.



Concord High School Girls Basketball Team - 1930-31

Pictured above is Concord High School 1930-31 Girls Basketball Team. They had a record of six wins and three losses. Left to right: M. Butters, K. Farrell, Eckert, H. Knechtel, A. Farrell, B. Dixon, H. Dewey, V. Tompkins, N. Heywood, C. Leslie and L. Stankrouff.



1975 Girls Basketball Team - Concord High School

Front Row, left to right: Dawn Jacokes, Linda Horosko, JoLynn Holton, Vicki Volk, Sherri Brodock, Sue Bilaski, and Jane Shushok. Back Row: Mary Lack, Kathy Higgins, Ruth Arbuckle, Becky Ropp, Terri Randall, Julie McGuire, and Sue Pederson, coach.



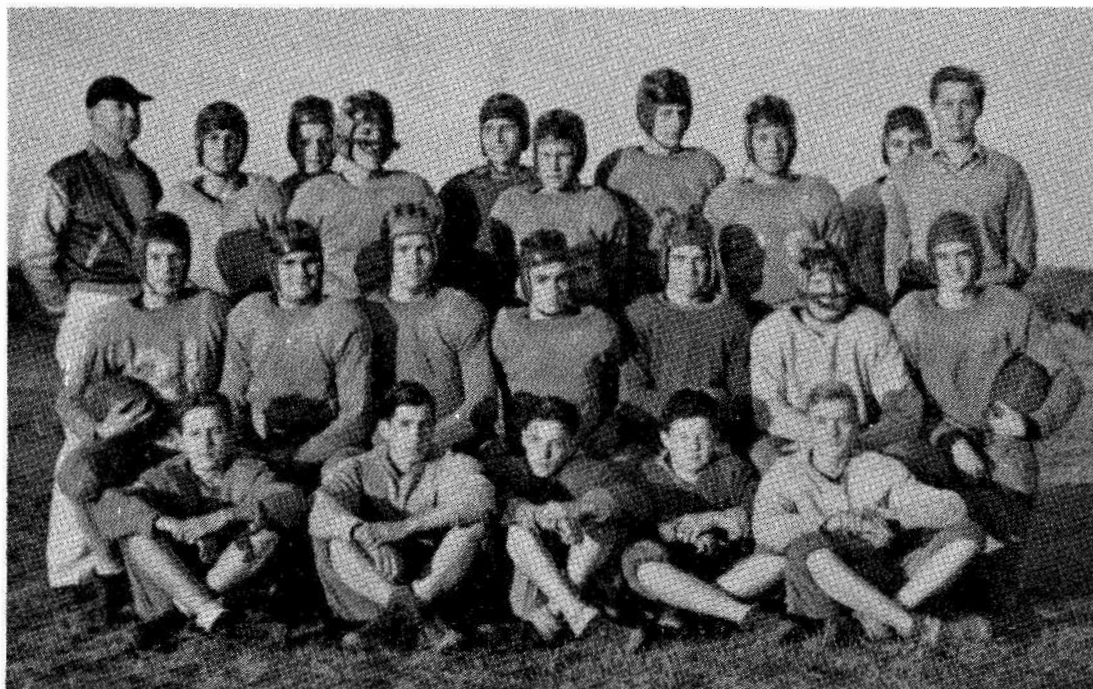
Concord Basketball Team - 1928

Front Row, left to right: Leonard Hodson, George Schneider, Clare Eckert, and Arnold Wymer. Back Row: Donald Lawrence, William Butters, Richard Smith, Ray Brail, Dean Todd, Kenneth Bartell, and T. D. Parker, teacher.



Concord Basketball Team - 1975-76

Kneeling, left to right: Brad Boyer, Terry Baker, Mike Jurasek, Marty Thompson, Jeff Barton, Walter Neu, and Tim Brigham. Standing: Coach Al Widner, Dave Buskirk, Greg Stiles, Ruben Ciola, Randy Stiles, Tom Richardson, and Jeff Romsek.



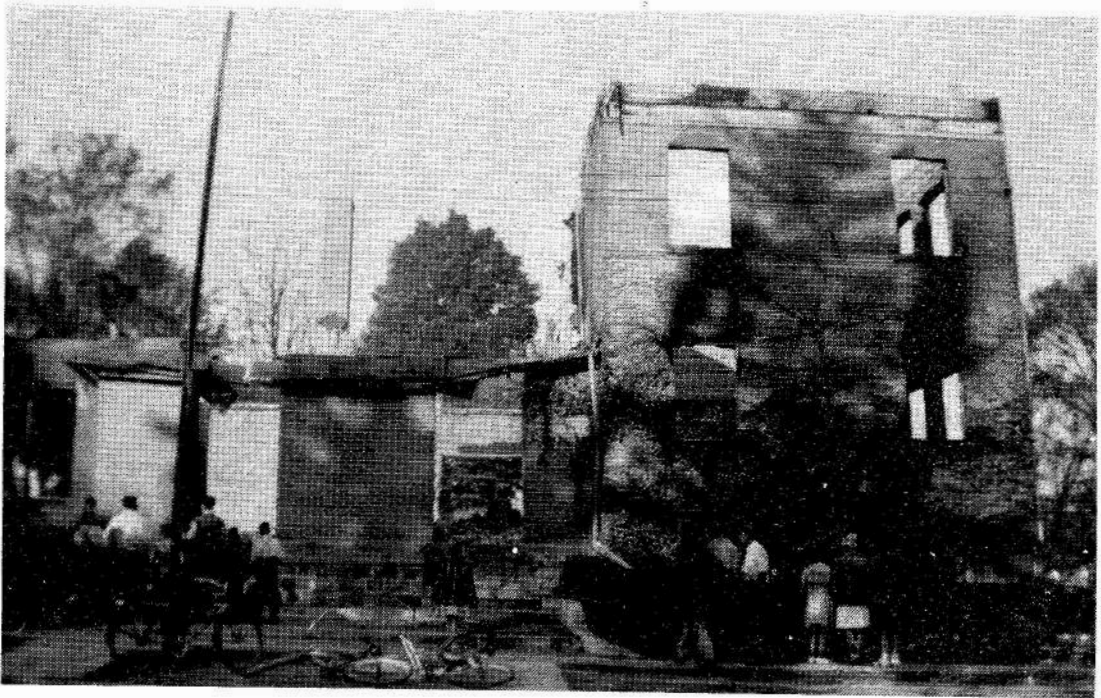
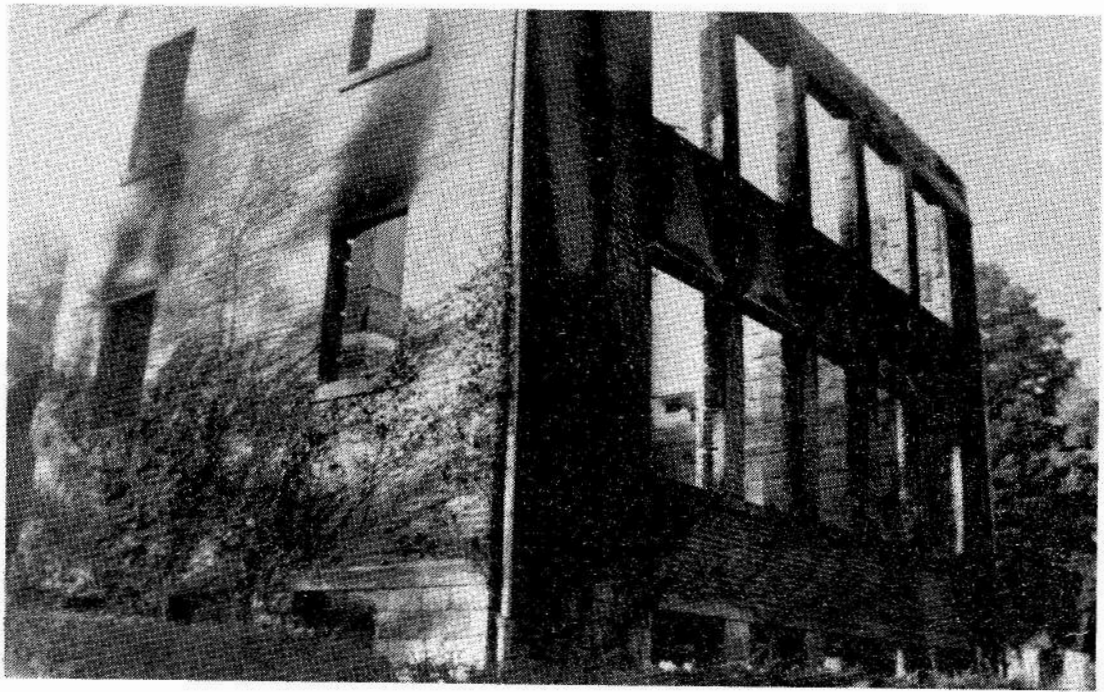
Concord Football Team - 1938

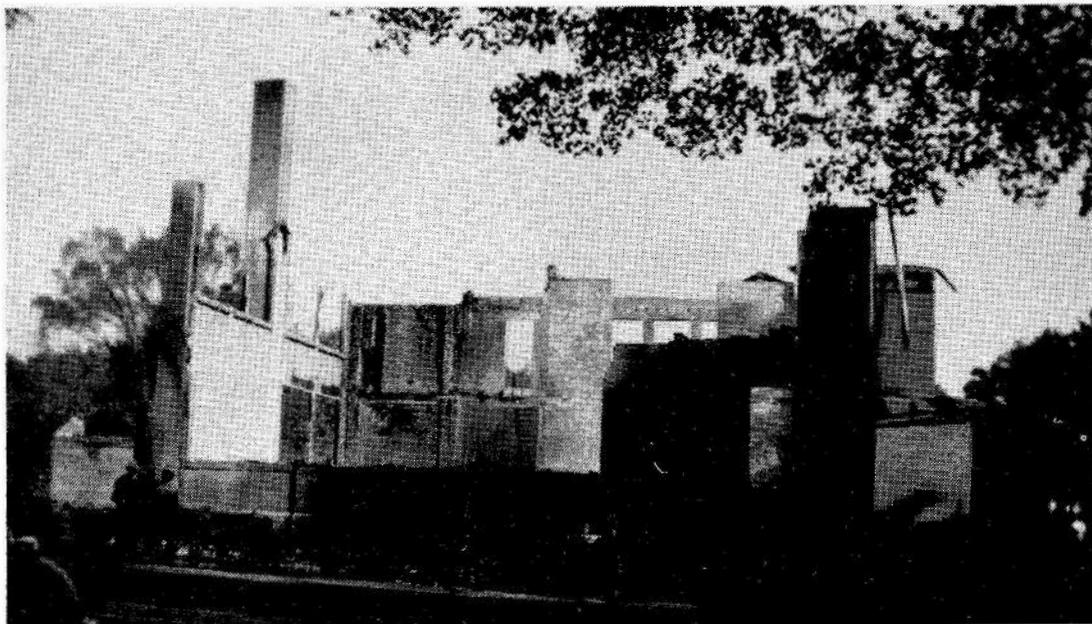
Back Row, left to right: Coach C. W. Barkley, R. Youells, C. Seifkin, D. Landon, O. Hartzog, W. Aldrich, L. Whittaker, M. Brunner, M. DeForest, and D. Bramble, manager. Center Row: F. Wells, C. Marshall, M. Hotchkin, D. Gordon, R. Walby, and L. J. Youells. Front Row: N. Aldrich, W. Butters, J. Farrell, K. Sprague, and D. Luttenton.



Concord Football Team - 1976

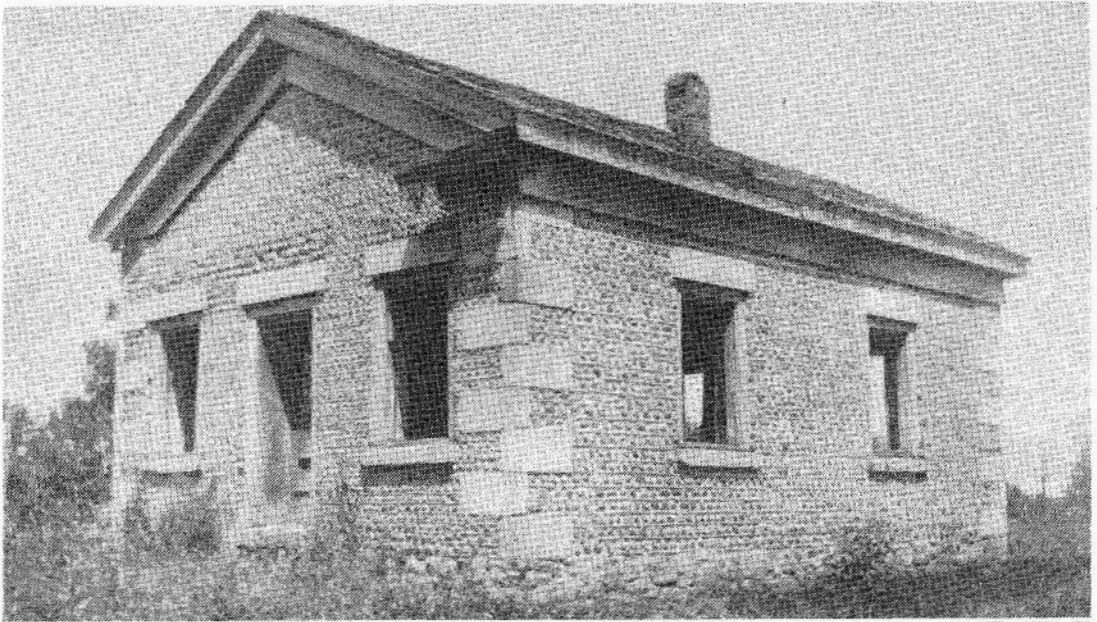
Front Row: Captains John Matteson, Dave Buskirk, and Brad Boyer. Second Row: Gene Boelke, Scott Faulkner, Dick McQuire, Chrise Riske, Russ Colvin, Lynn Wildt, Andy Childs, Jerry Bilaski, Mark Buettegenback, and Bill Morehouse. Back Row: Dave Vandenburg, Greg Apsey, Tom Buettegenback, Jerry Woolworth, Bob Bartell, Chuck Clark, Doug Owens, and Tim Thompson. Not in picture: Scott Crider, Coaches Glen Stevenson and Chris Miller.





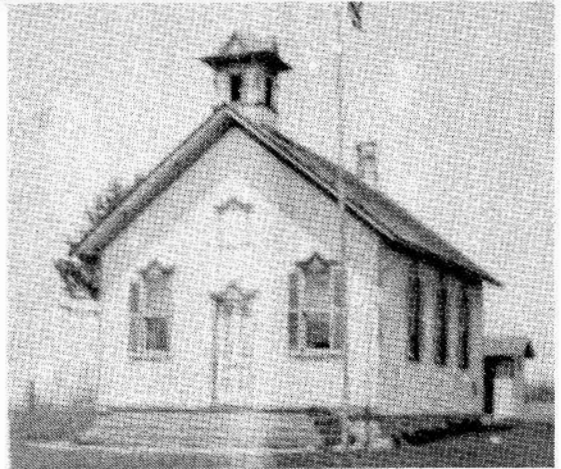
The only thing left after the Oct. 12, 1943 school fire was the bell, which presently stands on the Concord school lawn at 405 South Main Street.





ABOVE: Cobblestone school, stood at the corner of North Concord Road and Warner Road.

AT RIGHT: Howard School, Pulaski #5.



BELOW: Luttenton School, Pulaski District #1. Some of the teachers were: Mildred Dixon, Merrill Dixon, Grace [Findley] Plumb, Hilda Flowers, Mrs. Lovitt, and Ruby [Moore] Loomis.

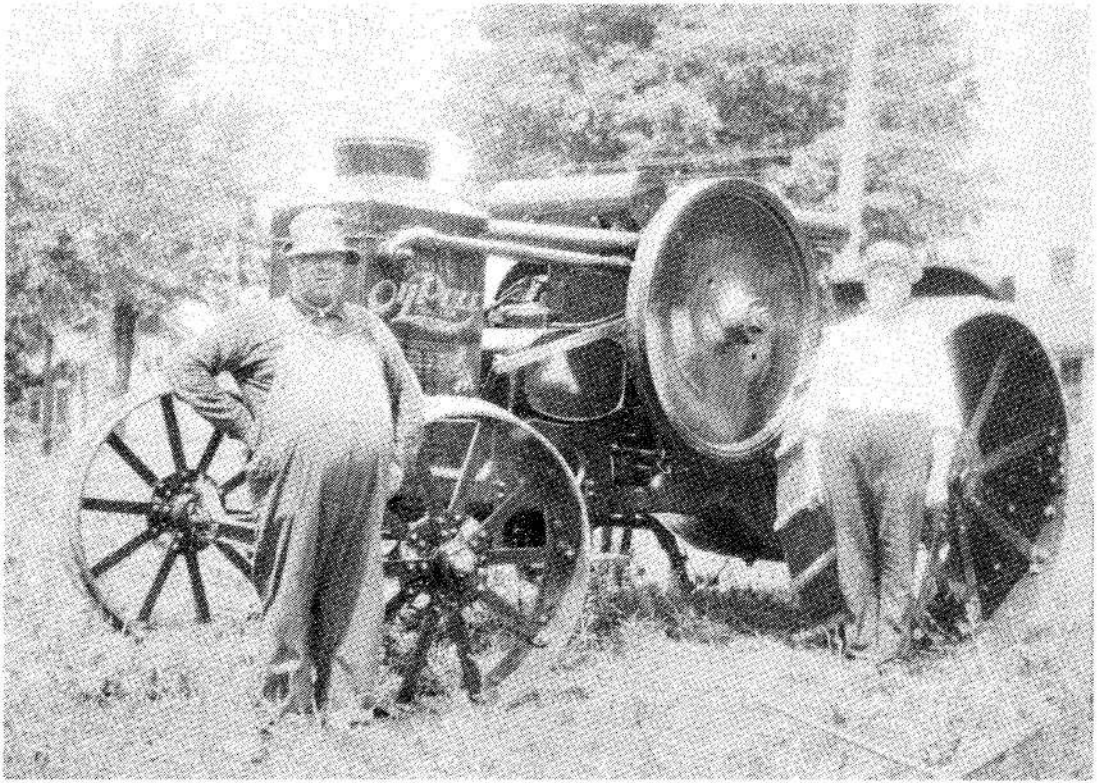




Hilda's

In April of 1939 I purchased the Frank Waldo Confectionary. With the assistance of Martha Dodes Causie, we started a restaurant. It was soon a going business, being the only eating place in Concord. We were open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week, for thirteen years.

— Hilda Eggleston



Pictured above: Lavate Fritz [left], and Truman Hubbard.

Lavate Fritz

Lavate Fritz was a farm thrasher in this community in the early 1900's. He started with a steam engine and then later bought an oil driven one. I remember, as a little girl, what a big day it was to have the thrashers come. A long table was set, loaded with food for all the neighbor men who came to help.

Lavate was born at the family home on Pulaski Road, just south of the Douglas farm, to Will and Julia Fritz. His father built the house, which is still standing, after returning from the Civil War. His parents had previously lived in a log cabin. Lavate was married to Edith Hotchkin, aunt of Max and Leo Hotchkin.

They were both well-known for their generous ways in helping the needy. They took in several men who had no homes, to work for room and board.

They lived for many years at 540 Hanover Street in Concord; the house is now owned by Joe Chamberlain. His machinery was stored in an old barn across the road.

Lavate Fritz was an uncle of Jerry Riddle.

— Eva Riddle

The Ole' Sink Hole

[Inspired by an article in the Jackson Citizen Patriot on the state ordering the closing of the Concord Dump on the Allman Road.]

I wonder how many people of the Concord-Pulaski area know of this area. I will attempt to tell you what I have heard of "The Ole' Sink Hole" many times in the past from my dear Mom. The truth is, we never passed by there when riding into town, but that she would remember and tell a bit about it.

How many people know that originally the Allman Road did not bend around the hole but went in a straight line right through it? Each spring when the "break up" came, the men had to take time from their farm work and haul dirt in to fill up the hole so there was passage to town.

Eventually a bridge spanned the water and was claimed to be totally safe for passage, by the State. Not too long a time elapsed before a loaded wagon was crossing the bridge and it started sinking fast. The driver managed to escape but not the team of horses and the wagon. Local residents said, "Now we know WHY we have had all that trouble with our road . . . there is quicksand in there and we need to build a permanent road 'over there' around this big water hole." It was not too long before a curving road was built around the hole. To me, that spot never was "the Dump", it was "The Ole' Sink Hole".

I remember well riding into town from our home on the Allman Road and seeing what had last been dumped along the side of the road to slide down into the hole. It has always been used to throw "stuff" into (sometimes pretty good stuff), until the State in the latter part of the Twentieth Century said, "NO MORE".

This is not the only place around here with quicksand. All hunters and hikers beware of marshy places with which you are not thoroughly familiar.

—Carrie Simons Winchell
May 28, 1975



HARDWARES

Reynolds and Warner was located where the present Brigham Hardware is. Owners were Joel Reynolds and Delbert Warner. Another hardware was located next to Bouldrey & Tucker (south) which is part of the furniture store now. This was owned by Leon Groger.

MEN'S CLOTHING STORE

This business was owned by Carl & Ethel Snow, parents of Kilbourne Snow, and was located where Friedrich's Variety and Department Store now is.

Taylor the Tailor

James David Taylor, from Macclesfield, England, established the first tailor shop in Concord approximately 140 years ago, when all clothing was custom-made. He had migrated from England with his bride, Rachel Seech Taylor, on their wedding trip, reaching the United States of America early in 1832. Stories of a newer territory, and a pioneer spirit, brought James Taylor on to Spring Arbor, in Michigan Territory, hardly five years after the first white settler's arrival there. Only a few log buildings greeted him. He shared a shop with a shoemaker, but progressed with new home plans when a man with a horse offered to dig a kitchen cellar in return for tailoring work. Another customer gave him Indian corn and pumpkin seed, and a third, bean seed and top onions. With little or no money, a home was started.

That summer, Mr. Taylor went back to Monroe County in New York State for his wife and small daughter. Because of travel hardships and costs of "teaming", he urged her to dispose of things they could not "conveniently carry". One of the items to survive their long journey was a book "bout" by him on May 12, 1831, some six months before their marriage. Printed in Manchester, England, this large black bound volume, entitled "New Book of Knowledge", was considered to be a regular system of education.

Mrs. Taylor had known "urban living" in England. It was related in the family that during their sojourn in Spring Arbor, he offered her the opportunity of residing in Jackson — a larger place. This Rachel declined, saying she'd come too far and seen too much water to settle "in a swamp".

Late in 1836, or near the time Concord township was organized independently from Spring Arbor, this family moved to a permanent home built on the ridge above the north fork of the Kalamazoo river, where for many years there was a good view of the developed mill pond and of the town of Concord. Near the center of Section 27 of the new township, north of the Spring Arbor-Jackson Road, this was presumably close to the center of the developing town. An early flour mill and copper shop were locating on the north side of the river. An area was platted into building lots with streets going north from the river, and a road was established which would run up around and in front of the house on the north, and on into the wilderness toward Albion. Such was the location of the first tailor shop in Concord. There was a large room with a street (or road) entrance planned for customers. It had a small doorway through which work could be passed to the family living quarters and accomplished in a pleasant south-lighted room.

Indications for early development of Concord north of the river can be studied in plat books as late as 1874, but, long before the Civil War, growth in Concord was to the south . . . up the grade from the saw mill side of the river, and the proposed north side streets were turned back to farm use and to grazing. Seeking a better business location, Mr. Taylor opened a new shop across the river on the west side of Main Street, part way up the hill above the developing railroad. There he hung a wooden sign, "Taylor the Tailor".

This tailor was a thin, slender-faced man with a serious attitude toward life. It was probably a great disappointment to him that there was no son to continue his name in the new territory of Michigan, or in the USA. Instead there were seven daughters. The first and the youngest did not live to grow up, but the other five learned the tailor trade, married, and had families.

As a milliner's apprentice in England, Rachel Seech Taylor had learned to keep a small coal alive in a clay pipe while it was carried across town to start the fire for warmth and light at the place where she worked. Her longing for that sociability was expressed in a repeated statement that although she met many people from England, none of them spoke the language (dialect) which she knew. However, her daughters remembered this lady as a happy woman who liked a good time. It was related that her family enjoyed the hours spent together on work brought home from and for the shop. The first sewing machine owned or used in Concord was only part of their equipment.

The "house on the hill" to the north, offered hospitality, joy and comfort to many people. According to the stories, there were two spaces in the home where a person could be hidden — below the trap door under one floor, and along the narrow stairway. One of the grandsons remembered seeing several negroes waiting at this "underground railroad station" to be taken to the next hideout under cover of darkness.

Few descendants remain. Fewer are in the area of "Taylor the Tailor's" shop. Mary's son, James Nowlin, went to North Dakota after attending the public schools of Concord. Sarah Jane and David Miller located in Kenosha, Wisconsin; none of their five children resided in Michigan. Rachel Frances and William L. M. Reynolds remained in the "house on the hill." Their children and grandchildren became active in Concord and Jackson county development. Matie and Edmond Broxholm lived on nearby farms; their youngest son resides near Homer with his family. Joel C. and Clara Reynolds were active, socially, on the village council, and in business in Concord. Both worked in the Presbyterian church and he was a jovial partner in the hardware business located for years on the east side of Main Street, approximately where Brigham's is today. James A. and Lena Reynolds had a large insurance and real estate business in Jackson; they had no children. Lena and Marion Miller were connected with a large dairy operation south of Albion which has been continued by sons and grandsons. Nettie and Lyman B. Ray had sixty-six years of married life together that seemed beautiful even when they were both quite disabled. Jennie and Charles Young lived in the "house on the hill" for as long as her father needed to be where he knew the bumps in the ground and the corners of the old house so he could get about in the blindness of his last years.

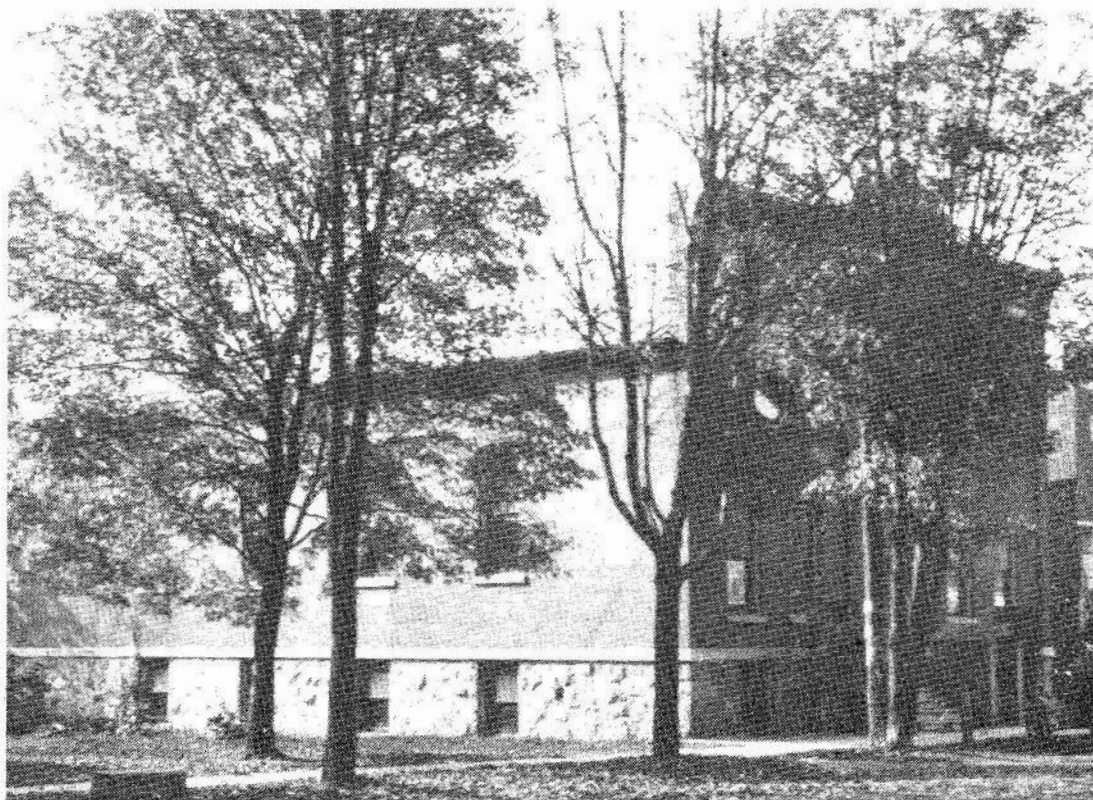
Their son, a great-grandson of the tailor, James and his wife, Betty Jo Young, have their home a little west of the pioneer's location on the Albion Road. James is the only direct descendant in the immediate area.

Martha and Lewis Todd lived on a pioneered farm near Spring Arbor. The large house continues to be an imposing home on M-60. Their son, Arthur, was a farmer and rural mail carrier; and his sons entered banking. Dean, the older, was with the Farmers State Bank in Concord for some years. Emma, the youngest of the daughters to grow up, became a school teacher. She taught at least the final term of school in the old Cobblestone building which stood for years as a landmark on North Concord Road at Warner Road. Then she taught the first term in the new frame building which functioned for years as Stoddard School at the corner of King and North Concord Roads. She and George W. Osborn had three children who lived near Concord for some years. Irene, Mrs. Carl Morehouse, managed a farm west of town; Viola, Mrs. Elmore Howe, lived near Parma; and Ralph Osborn left the home farm for life in Texas where his attractive wife, Allie, became the fifth white woman in the community which has since become McAllen, Texas.

It was the tailor's middle daughter, Rachel Frances, whom the family all remember so fondly. She continued the love and joy in the bursting old home. She and her husband could laugh and spread joy despite hardships of the time and financial concerns for their family. They provided the favorite place for all the nieces and nephews to visit, and later, for their children. Here, Uncle Will related experiences of the Civil War where he'd been on long marches and a prisoner. Besides paper dolls and games in the house, there were two lovely dolls with beautiful china heads; one had yellow painted curls, the other black. For the little folk there were big sugar cookies with fluted edges and one large raisin in the center. In summer the charm of this place could be seen from the road to Jackson. Along with her husband's good garden vegetables, the little lady's flowers were bright and colorful. Pansies and clove pinks by the tree where the road curved in ascending the hill invited friends to come near.

When members of the family had no further need for this home, thoughtful ones of the next generation did not let it fall to the ground, or leave it for someone to be injured as old timbers rotted away. The area was leveled, and without use, the road which ran up, around and in front of the tailor's first shop in Concord completely disappeared.

— Miss Louise Morehouse
2251 Springport Road, Apt. 214
Jackson, Michigan 49202



The Old Opera House in Concord

The land on which the building was erected was originally purchased by the Concord Temple Association from Mrs. Clyde King, in 1898 or 1899. The Woodmen's Lodge built the present structure in 1900. It was used not only by the various lodges, but also rented out for shows, dances, and community programs. High School graduations were also held in the building.

For years the basement was used as a recreation center. Billiards and cards were the main attractions. "Concord Pleasure Club" was the name given the center.

After the Concord school burned to the ground, the Concord School Board purchased the building and grounds for \$3,000. It was then used for classes and basketball until the new school building was opened in 1953. Many of the athletes who played there still talk about making lay-ups and then either crashing into the stage or falling down the flight of steps leading to the main entrance.

In 1953 the building was purchased and remodeled to serve the Roman Catholic Parish organized in Concord.

EARLY SETTLERS

[Quoted directly from articles by Melville McGee]

The first white person that settled within the present limits of the Township of Concord was John Acker. He came in November, 1831, put up his log cabin on the northwest quarter of Section 36, and resided there for a number of years.

William Van Fossen with his family was the next white settler to locate in the town. He came in May of 1832, erected a log house on the north bank of the Kalamazoo River on the southwest quarter of Section 27, but a few rods west of where the grist mill now stands in the village of Concord.

He had fairly got into his new log house when Thomas McGee, with his wife and a family of nine children, in June of 1832 moved in. They were received and cared for and enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. Van Fossen and his family as though they had been old friends and acquaintances, but in fact had never seen each other before.

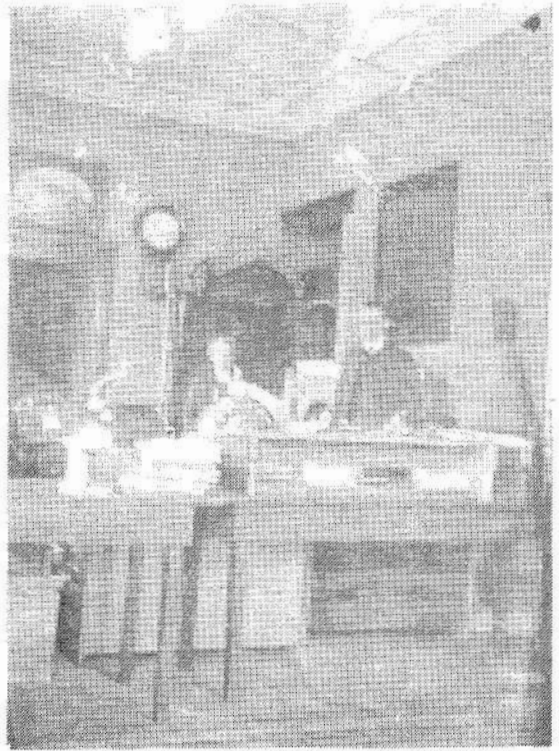
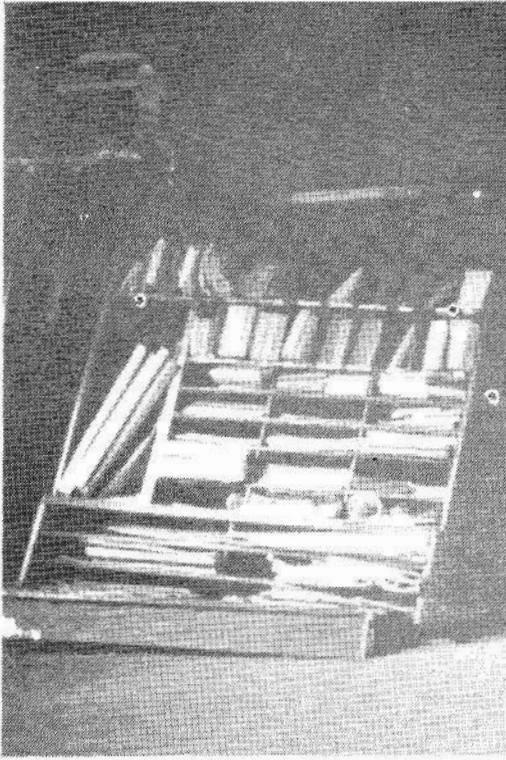
It took but a few days time to cut down and roll up some logs for a cabin and Thomas McGee and his family moved into it before any windows or doors were put in or even a floor laid. A blanket was hung up to do duty in the place of a door until one more substantial could be made. It was located on the northwest quarter of Section 22, nearly one and a half miles north and about one-half mile west of where Van Fossen had settled.

Who came next into the infant colony it would be difficult if not impossible to tell at this day, as no one then thought of keeping a record of the incoming emigrants. Indeed, one would have been kept quite busy in keeping an accurate record of the names of those that came into the infant settlement. Some came to stay for the remainder of their earthly pilgrimage and some to tarry as it were but for a night.

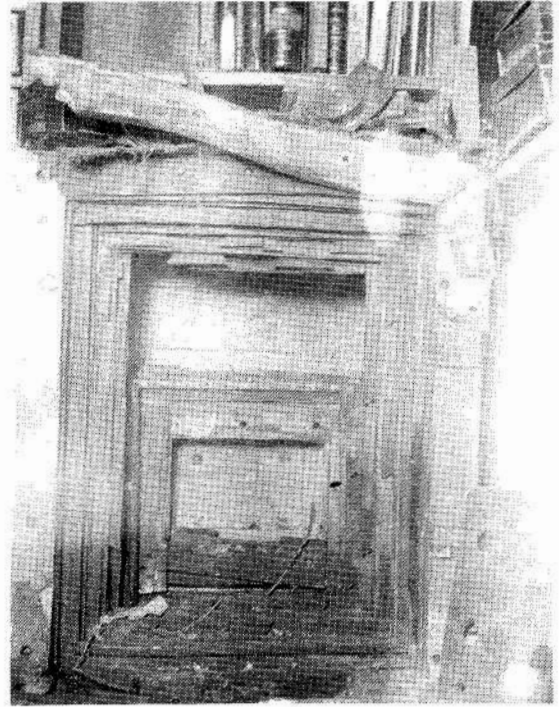
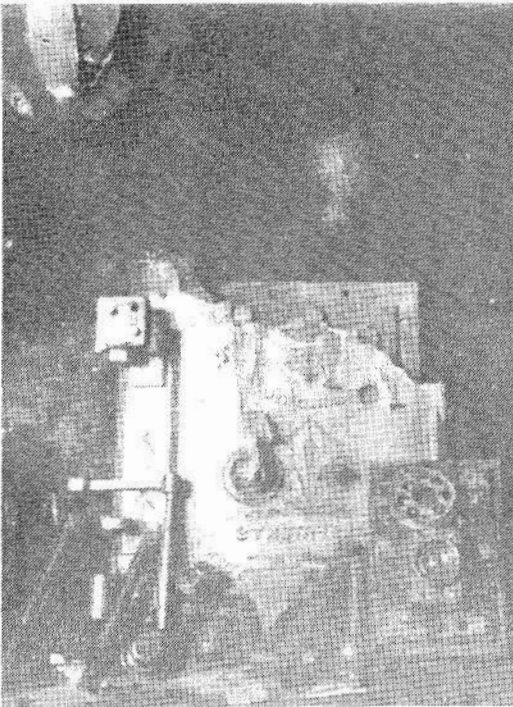
Among those most deserving of honorable mention who came soon after the three families already mentioned, and before the first town meeting was held, may be named.

David Smalley, with a large family of children; Dr. Edward Lewis, Isaac Van Fossen, Isaac Carpenter, Isaac N. Swain, William Spratt with four nearly grown-up sons, Leonard Stow, Roswell Hall, Charles Mason, Sherman Jacobs, Jesse B. Burroughs, Porter Lathrop, Charles Hancock, Joseph Drake, George McAllister, John M. Reed, Isaac Townsend, Jesse Gardner, Erastus B. Gariard, Moses Benedict, Gilbert Striker and some few others. These, however, comprised the leading and most influential of the earliest settlers of the township.

The first child of white parents born in the township was Frederick McGee, who was born February 21, 1835. The first marriage that took place in the township, and indeed that first took place in the two west rows of the townships in the county, was that of Sarah Jane McGee, the oldest daughter of Thomas McGee, which occurred December 4, 1833, the marriage ceremony having been performed by the Rev. Jason Parks who had just settled in Sandstone, and whose name is still familiar with the oldest residents of that township.



Concord Bank Robbery - November 9, 1917



The Big Bank Robbery

One of the most dramatic incidents in the history of the Farmers State Bank occurred during the early hours of the morning of November 9, 1917. The story of this affair is best told by a direct quotation from a letter written by Frank N. Aldrich, then cashier of the bank, to his mother, the late Mrs. Bert Aldrich. At the time Frank was rooming with Dr. and Mrs. M. L. Bacon in the first house south of the Catholic Church on the west side of Main Street.

"I had been in the bank the night before until close to midnight and after doing some reading in my room until about 12:30 retired and had fallen asleep when I heard the first bang on the front door of the bank with a crow bar. The Yeggs, being unable to smash through the door, broke the glass and crawled through the door window. Instantly I was out of bed and knew what was coming off alright as the light over the vault went out immediately after they entered. From my bedroom window I have a clear vision of the inside of the bank but as soon as the lights went out could not see very well as the night was foggy in spite of the full moon which shone. I realized the thing for me to do was to dress as quickly as possible and get out of the house, as I knew they were aware of my residence and would keep the house pretty well covered by their men. About this time Mrs. Bacon called upstairs and told me she thought burglars were breaking into the bank and to get up quick. I was well aware of the fact but hesitated on answering her as I knew the Yeggs were close upon us, so the Dr. came upstairs and asked me what I wanted done. Told him to play it safe as we had no weapons and everything they wanted was well insured. Suggested that we might turn in a general alarm if we could get out of the house and reach the fire bell which is just back of the stores across from the bank and next to our house. Before I could get dressed, which is not a very speedy job in the dark, the Dr. had stolen out of the house and was ringing the bell for all he was worth. Instantly a shot was fired at him from the Yeggman standing guard on the corner but still Doc kept a-ringing and the second shot was fired and then he beat it back to the house under cover again.

"Was frightened when I heard those shots as the Yegg was not over 75 feet from the Dr. when he fired at him. By this time there had occurred two or three of the most violent explosions and every one in town was of course awakened and knew what was going on. Will say that I have witnessed more pleasant spectacles than standing across the street and watching a bunch of Desperadoes blow up your business. Never heard such explosions in my life and it took about seven of them before they were able to get into the chest where we had our gold and currency. Felt that they might invite me over to assist them in getting into this chest which opens on a combination as the time lock is on the outside safe door, so I stole out of the back door and could almost feel a chunk of lead whizzing thru my pants as I stepped on the back porch as could not tell just where the guards were stationed but took this chance and got away with it. There were several comical things which happened after the fire alarm was given, which did not seem very funny until the next day.

"Dr. Armstrong, a brother-in-law of Judge Tappan of Port Huron, lived just block from the bank and his store is on the opposite side of the corner from the bank. He of course thought of nothing except that his store was on fire so he races out of the house and down the middle of the road on a dead run until he came to the first Yegg and believe me, he threw it into reverse without any hesitation, as the Yegg threatened to blow his brains out if he made a step farther. Doc started back, still on the dead run only faster and hollering bloody murder. The poor man was scared stiff. They blazed away at him several times but missed him. We have had a lot of fun with Doc since. He admits that it is funny now but could not see it then. Other residents living over the stores rushed down on the street in their night clothes but received the same reception and made a hasty retreat."

The letter goes on to state that it was later discovered that about \$18,000 in cash had been removed by the burglars.

Most of the old timers in Concord have agreed that it was one of the wildest nights the village ever knew, second only to July 4, 1895, when the Baptist Church and a livery stable went up in a blaze of glory in a high wind that threatened to obliterate the whole town.

— Robert D. Aldrich

PADDOCK

In 1843 Alfred Paddock and his wife Ruth Eames Paddock of the town of Wyoming, New York state, relocated their family to Concord. This family consisted of sons Robert, Albert and Alfred Jerome and daughters Mary Lavantia and Alice.

In the same year he began the building of a fine residence on what is now Hanover Street in Concord village. This structure is still extant, being presently owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McFarlane. He acquired land extending south almost to Swain's Lake and east to and including the residence presently owned and occupied by Mr. Saxton Jacobs.

The Paddocks were people of culture and refinement as well as of considerable material wealth and their home was filled with books and art objects of all kinds. Their daughters were educated in private schools in the east, very unusual for those times.

Mr. Paddock operated a general merchandise store in a building located in what is now the southwest corner of Main and Homer Streets. He also owned and operated the flouring mill located on the Hanover Road just east of the Jacobs residence. In later years this was commonly known as the "red" mill to distinguish it from the "white" mill that stood in the village. Both names stemmed from the color of their exterior paintings.

Mr. Paddock discontinued his business in the late 1850's and devoted his time to his extensive farming and milling operations. He served several terms in the Michigan state legislature and was one of the founders of the local Universalist Church. He died in Concord in 1870 and his wife a few years later. Their youngest son, George, and his family occupied the old home until about 1898 when it was sold to William Piper, local businessman and Civil War veteran of the 2nd Michigan Calvary. His descendants presently own and occupy the house.

Son, Albert J. Paddock, became a partner with Henry A. Wetmore in a mercantile and banking business operated in a building on the site of the present Murdock furniture store. They also founded and published the **Concord News** as a local weekly in June, 1871.

Daughter, Mary Lavantia, married Leonard Kinney and in 1859 they purchased and moved to the farm residence in South Albion that is today still owned and occupied by the Kinney family, direct descendants.

Daughter, Alice, married Dr. William N. Keeler who moved his medical practice to Concord from Pulaski in the late 1850's. They purchased a newly built residence on a Homer Street site just west of the present location of Dr. Harold Keefer's office. This building, still standing, was used as a combination office and residence for over 50 years. Dr. Keeler was one of the town's leading physicians and known state-wide for his ability to re-set broken bones, a common disability in Concord's earlier days.

Son, Robert, occupied a large farm on the Pulaski Road, the acres of which encompassed what is now known as Paddock Lake and connected with Paddock holdings in the village and around the "Red" mill east of town.

A fine house was built on the east side of the Pulaski road, on a hill north of the Wetmore holdings. However, Robert Paddock died in 1869 and the farm went out of the family. In recent years the residence was occupied by the George Dodes family. Upon the death of one of the last descendants the building was found to be in such bad repair that restoration was not feasible and it was demolished by fire as a practice for the local fire department.

Son, Alfred Jerome Paddock, occupied a dwelling located on the south side of Hanover Street in the village at the brow of what was always called "Bumble Bee" Hill where the road dips south onto the marsh east of the village limits.

Alfred J. Paddock died at an early age and this residence, too, passed out of Paddock ownership.

One of his daughters, "Kit", was the first wife of U.S. Senator Charles Townsend.

SPRATT

William Spratt, of Scottish ancestry and a resident of the Fairhaven, Vermont area, removed to Concord Township in 1834 with his wife Alma, sons William Harvey, Gardner D., Joseph Arnold, Albert L. and daughters Adelia and Almira.

The family was nearly grown when the migration took place and Mr. Spratt's father, also named William, who had been a noted architect in the New England area, had left him in very comfortable circumstances so that the family was not only able to acquire many hundreds of acres of the best farmland but also to contribute more than the usual number of active adults to the fast growing population of the new country.

A frame dwelling, one of the first in the area, was erected immediately on the north side of what is now the Warner Road, several hundred yards east of the Albion road intersection. This building is still standing, although somewhat altered by a layer of asphalt siding and bids fair to be the oldest extant structure in the township. It is also interesting to note that to this home was brought the first cast iron cooking stove known to be used in the township.

This venerable pioneer was later acquired by the Round Oak Stove Company at Dowagiac, Michigan, used by them as an exhibition piece for many years and is now somewhere in the Ford museum.

There being no banks in the new country, persons of means, such as the Spratts, became the de facto money lenders. Much of the land purchased in Concord Township was financed by Spratt money.

The Spratts later erected a new dwelling on the same farm but located to the north and west of the original homestead, near the Albion Road. This building is also extant and occupied in recent years by the Bush family, owners of much of the original Spratt acreage.

The eldest son, William Harvey Spratt, and his wife Polly, in 1845, erected a fine dwelling on their farm located on the northeast corner of the present M-60 and North Concord Roads. This farm and dwelling is now occupied by the family of Beryl Luttenton.

His brother Gardner D. Spratt owned and occupied the farm on the opposite side of M-60 now operated by the Glenn Miller family. The residence built by the Spratts is still in use as the principal dwelling.

Both were prosperous farmers and men of means, however Gardner Spratt died in 1855 leaving one son, Erbert O. Spratt. William Harvey retired in 1870 to a residence in the village where he died in 1872 (house until recently occupied by Harold Rodgers on Hanover Street). His wife Polly returned to the farm and operated it successfully for another 25 years.

Erbert Spratt removed to Spring Arbor Township and for many years occupied the octagon shaped stone mansion that formerly stood on the north side of M-60 west of the village of Spring Arbor.

William Harvey Spratt, Jr., son of William H. and Polly Spratt, became a very successful commission grain dealer in Concord. He and his family owned and occupied for many years the cobblestone house on South Main Street in Concord (still extant). However, in 1876 they had constructed on the southeast corner of South Main and Monroe Streets the impressive mansion today occupied by the Carl Kressbach family.

Joseph Arnold Spratt, son of William (the pioneer) lived within the present village limits in a frame dwelling which is also still extant, although considerably altered, and located on a site a few hundred yards straight north of the site occupied at present by an ice cream vending establishment on M-60 at the Albion Road. This building is certainly one of the oldest frame structures presently standing in the village.

J. A. Spratt also caused to be erected on the west side of North Main Street on the site until recently occupied by a Standard Oil Company bulk station, a one story brick blacksmith shop capable of accommodating as many as 8 smiths working at the same time to provide the services vital to the pioneer community.

In the earliest days the ox, rather than the horse, was the primary beast of burden but shoeing was equally necessary for these lumbering beasts who could negotiate the stumps,

bogs and thickets of the pioneer territory impenetrable by the horse.

Mr. Spratt and his wife Amy later erected another dwelling on a site immediately north of the machine shop on the west side of North Main Street. This was destroyed by fire in the early 1900's and replaced by the building presently on the site.

Albert L. and Adelia Spratt remained unmarried and took over the ownership and management of the home place on the Albion Road. Albert died on the farm and Miss Adelia removed to the village to spend her remaining days. Their sister Almira had married Arnold French of Spring Arbor and removed to that area.

Many persons from the area surrounding Fairhaven, Vermont had emigrated to Concord and two sisters of William Spratt of Concord had married two men in Fairhaven who eventually came to Concord, took up land and raised families.

Harriett Spratt married Royal Bullock who settled in the Bath Mills area of Concord Township. Their daughter Mary Bullock later married her first cousin once removed, William H. Spratt, Jr. and presided over the large residence on South Main Street.

Another daughter, Martha, married Isaac Newton Smalley. This couple built and occupied the residence located on Main Street immediately south of the present Catholic Church.

Their son Henry was a well-known painter and paper hanger in the village for many years.

Clarissa Spratt had married Daniel Kellicutt in Vermont. They removed to Concord and acquired a large farm on what is now the Allman Road (presently occupied by the Day family).

Their son, Daniel Alanson Kellicutt, was also a prominent farmer in Concord for many years. His farm home stood at the head of the Indian Springs Road before it was destroyed by fire in recent years. He eventually retired to the village and spent his last years in the residence at 222 South Main Street, now occupied by the Carmody family.

Telling the history of the Spratt family in proper detail would fill a large volume but it can be seen that it was easily one of the most influential of the pioneer families.

REYNOLDS

Jeremiah Reynolds, usually known as "Jerry" was one of the first settlers and largest land holders in Concord Township. He migrated with his family from the town of Clyde in New York state where he had been a leather tanner and shoemaker. His lands lay along the present M-60 east of the village.

His residence was on the north side of the road a few hundred yards east of the Pardee farm. It was described by Judge McGee in his description of pioneer Concord as the first "tavern" in the township. As it was located on the main road it was convenient to travellers coming west from Detroit as a place where a bed for the night and maybe breakfast could be had. It was not a complete "hotel" as we tend to think, with dining facilities, bar, etc.

Reynolds was also a dealer in leather and before the advent of the Michigan Central railroad in the early 1840's transported loads of tanned hides from Detroit to Concord by ox cart. He was described as a physically large and very strong man, well equipped for this rough work.

He entered a partnership with Charles Root of the village and in 1848 they erected a frame shoe shop on North Main Street in the village on the site presently occupied by a machine shop.

Here were kept busy a staff of 6 or 8 shoemakers to supply the community with the hand made boots and shoes so desperately needed.

Charley Root maintained the shoemaking business until he died, a period of over 60 years, but Jerry Reynolds in later years devoted his time to the management of over 600 acres of land.

Reynolds had two sons, Albert W. and William H. and in later years he moved from his farm to a home in the village located on a site immediately east of the Mann House. This building was removed to be used as a tenant house on the Ed Wilcox farm east of Concord on the Sears Road where it still stands in a somewhat altered state.

On the death of their father in the early 1870's, Albert W. and William H. Reynolds inherited and divided his large holdings. William H. took over the old home farm on the main road and subsequently erected a new dwelling house east of the old home, as well as extensive barns on the south side of the road. The old house burned in the late 1920's but an old brick smoke house still remains. In later years W. H. Reynolds and his wife Jennie occupied the dwelling now used as a funeral home on South Main Street.

Albert Reynolds took over the lands along the present Reynolds Road and built a fine Victorian farm home on this road south of the present M-60. In 1876 in keeping with the centennial spirit he had a very large and elegant home erected on South Main Street in the village. This was demolished in the early 1950's to make way for an extension to the Methodist Church.

Albert Reynolds was very active in the commercial life in Concord. He owned the three frame store buildings that formerly stood on the site of the Shannon Market and all the frame residences on the east side of South Main Street from his residence to Center Street in addition to hundreds of acres of farm land.

The Albert W. Reynolds residence was one of the most elegant in the village as was the way of life of its occupants. The wedding of his only daughter Hattie was vividly recalled by village residents for half a century.

Mr. Reynolds died while on a trip to Scotland in 1900, his daughter had left Concord and upon his wife's death in the early 1920's the properties all passed into other hands.

W. H. Reynolds left no children.

THANKSGIVING DANCE

*Yourself and Lady are cordially invited to attend a
Thanksgiving Dance, at*

W. C. WELMORE'S NEW OPERA HOUSE.
CONCORD, N.H.

THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 25, 1890.

S* S. S* S
COMMITTEE

Brayton Gaylord, Secretary; Ed. Potter, Treasurer; Charles C. Wood, Porter; A. H. Verdier, Linchfield;
Jas. Cobb, Tekonshah; J. F. Pratt, Librarian; M. H. Dorrance, Jackson; Paul Peering, Gilmard.

ROOM MANAGERS

Geo. Hall, Concord.

Wm. Reynolds, Concord.

Music by Smith & Van Wert's Orchestra.

Dance Bill, \$1.00, W. M. H. POWERS, PROP.
" " with Supper, \$1.50.

WETMORE

The first persons with the surnames of Wetmore, Henry Augustus, usually known just as "H. A.", and Chauncey, known as "Chan", settled in the Concord area in about 1860. Both had had careers in school teaching and as travelling salesmen of farm machinery.

However, Alfred Paddock's mother, who came to Concord with his family in 1843 was born a Wetmore of the same family as the above in New York state. The Scranton family was also allied to the Wetmore in a female line.

"H. A." Wetmore engaged in a general mercantile business in a building located on the northeast corner of Main and Homer Streets, a site now occupied by the Murdock furniture store. This was a two-story building and on the second floor was a hall or "opera house" that was used for all large gatherings in the community, for traveling theatrical presentations, high school graduations, etc.

He married Mary, daughter of John Crittenden whose sister married Albert J. Paddock, eldest son of Alfred Paddock. "H. A." then entered partnership with his brother-in-law and they subsequently established a banking company, the first in the village and on June 2, 1871 published Volume 1, Number 1 of the **Concord News**.

Wetmore & Paddock were listed as proprietors and Frank A. Crittenden, another brother-in-law, as Editor.

In the late 1870's when it appeared that a boom was about to occur in Northern Michigan, Albert Paddock removed to Cheboygan and established a mercantile business. In January, 1884 a disastrous fire destroyed the buildings occupied by the firm in Concord so "H. A." Wetmore removed his family and business to Cheboygan where he soon became one of the leading bankers in the area. In Concord he had built and occupied the residence now used by Dr. Keefer as an office.

His brother "Chan" bought several hundred acres of land in Pulaski Township, just south of the Concord line and abutting the east end of Swains Lake. On the east side of the road, opposite the lake he had erected a very large and elegant, 3-story Victorian style residence as well as extensive barns and outbuildings. This had been the farm of Isaac N. Swain whose old residence was then moved across the road to a site upon which it still stands.

"Chan" Wetmore was active in the early 1890's in efforts to have the Michigan Central Airline branch which went through Concord village re-routed to pass by his property on Swains Lake. There was merit in the proposal as it would have cut off quite a few miles in distance as well as some troublesome grades. A survey was made but the project never materialized. Wetmore had built a group of cottages in the grove at the northeast end of the lake which he rented out during the summer. For the entertainment of his guests he had several launches, one of which was powered by a steam engine. When it appeared that a resort area would not develop, some of the cottages were moved over behind the main house for use as outbuildings, shops, etc.

In 1880 "Chan" Wetmore caused to be built in the Village on the site on Hanover Street immediately east of the bank, a fine building with stores on the first floor and an opera house occupying two floors above. This brought a great increase in the number of travelling entertainments, dances, etc., to be held in the village.

In 1899 a disastrous fire destroyed the opera house along with the bank and other stores occupying the brick block on that corner. Other fires in the 1930's took away both the mansion and barns at Swains Lake.

Earl Wetmore, a successful engineer who designed subway systems for the cities of London, England and Rome, Italy, returned in retirement to occupy the Swains Lake farm. He was the only member of the family to return and at his death left no heirs bearing the Wetmore name.

VAN FOSSEN

By the census of 1790, Levi Van Fossen and his large family were residents of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, then a stronghold of the "Pennsylvania Dutch" religious group known as Schwenckfelders.

A miller by trade, Van Fossen, in 1811, removed to Livonia, N.Y., where he had an extensive operation. His eldest son John, known as "General John" because of his participation in the war of 1812 was an early settler and land developer in the Ann Arbor, Michigan area in the late 1820's. His brothers William, Isaac, Samuel and Albert also migrated to the area and set up various businesses. William and Isaac were millers and had been looking around the newly opened Michigan Territory for a good mill site. They found what they wanted in Section 27, Town 3 South, Range 3 West in an area designated as Spring Arbor Township which encompassed the western 1/2 of Jackson county. They entered a claim for a quarter section of land and William set about building a dam on the north branch of the Kalamazoo River which flowed through the claim while Isaac went back to Livonia to purchase and ship the necessary mill machinery and equipment. The families of the two men lived in log dwellings erected to the west of the mill site which was at the north end of the present dam, beside the spillway. The mill was completed and in operation in about 1836. Early maps of Michigan have this site designated as "Vanfossenville".

The Van Fossens were very active in the political and economic life of the pioneer community. Isaac Van Fossen was designated as first postmaster in 1836. By this time the place had been officially designated by the U.S. Post Office Dept. as "Concord" and early letters mailed at that time were so cancelled in script.

In about 1840 Isaac Van Fossen and his family moved on to the Paw Paw area of Michigan where he also operated a mill for a number of years before finally settling in Ohio, south of Toledo, where he lived to an old age.

William and his family removed to Lafayette, Indiana where they were wiped out during a cholera epidemic in 1849.

None of the Van Fossen descendants remained in the area.

SCRANTON

Elnathan Scranton with a large family were early settlers in Concord Township, on a farm west of the village several miles, in 1838. One of his daughters had married John Crittenden in New York state. The Crittendens settled in Hanover in 1836 and in 1838 moved to the farm in Concord known in recent years as West Lawn farm just west of the village limits. The house Crittenden built still stands being used as a garage behind the large residence. It is one of the oldest buildings in the township.

The Elnathan Scranton farm is further west on M-60 and was known locally in recent years as the "John Root Farm".

Another of the Scranton daughters married Charles Root, a village shoemaker. This couple took the old Isaac Swain house in the village (now occupied by the Henyon family), which they and the family of their son John Root occupied for over 75 years. John later came into possession of the maternal family farm.

Of the Scranton sons, Don Carlos, usually known only as "D.C.", started life as a merchant in Albion where he also entered politics and was postmaster for a number of years. He married Elizabeth Pluis and as his material wealth increased, he moved on to become a millionaire in the Chicago area as a result of his shrewd dealings in the commodities exchange or "wheat pit" as it was then commonly referred to. After his death his widow and son Edgar came back to Michigan, acquired the old Crittenden farm, and erected thereon the large dwelling that still stands.

The Scrantons lived in the finest style, maintaining a staff of domestic help, fine horses and equipage.

Edgar Scranton married Anna Bell Schoen, daughter of Thomas Bell, a prominent carpenter in the village and widow of Frank Schoen, former railway stationmaster in Concord.

Their son Don Carlos, or "D.C.", was raised like a brother to Mrs. Schoen's young son Fred, both of whom were until their deaths in recent years, residents of the village.

Another son of Elnathan Scranton, Stafford, was, for the most of his life, a prominent commission livestock and grain merchant in Concord. He acquired and occupied for many years the brick residence at 444 Homer Street, presently occupied by the family of the village mayor.



GOODWIN

Jesse Goodwin was a stagecoach driver on a regular run between his residence at Canandaigua, N.Y. and Batavia to the west. Of his large family two sons were early settlers in the town of Concord. In the early 1840's William Franklin Goodwin who was born in Canandaigua in 1812 and had been a farmer in Riga, N.Y. removed to Ann Arbor, Michigan to conduct a mercantile business. In 1845 he and his brother, Dr. George S. Goodwin (M.D.), moved further west to Concord where the doctor set up a practice and William took over operation of the original Van Fossen Flour Mill on the Kalamazoo river at the north end of the dam in the village. The mill was owned at this time by a group headed by Philip Hart, a very wealthy man and mayor of Troy, N.Y.

Early in 1849 the mill building was completely destroyed by fire.

In 1853 the mill property, which included land extending west beyond the present line of Spring Street and south to Homer Street, exclusive of lots occupied by business places and residences on the west side of North Main Street, was acquired by William F. Goodwin who immediately rebuilt the mill. He had been postmaster of Concord from 1850 to 1853. Where he and his brother George resided during those early years of their residence in Concord, is not recorded.

Dr. George Goodwin died in Concord in 1853, unmarried. It is believed that about this time William Goodwin began the construction of a large residence on a portion of the mill property lying along the north side of the Homer Road west of Main Street. This building is presently owned and occupied by Mrs. F. N. Aldrich.

The mill built by Goodwin at the north end of the dam located in the village just west of the present spillway was large and the water power ample so that during the years preceding and during the Civil War, W. F. Goodwin amassed a considerable fortune in milling and dealings in grain. He became the owner of much farm land in and around Concord village. Some of his most extensive acreage lay around the present intersection of the Sears and Luttenton Roads. After Mr. Goodwin's death in the 1890's these lands were acquired by and in some cases still owned by the Hubbard family.

In the late 1860's, Goodwin sold the mill and adjacent property to the Smalley Brothers (Jacob K., George L. and Isaac Newton), sons of David Smalley, a pioneer in the community, and devoted his time to the management of his farms and financial holdings. He was active in the establishment of what is now the National Bank of Jackson in Jackson city and also in 1884 the First National Bank of Concord in connection with the Chapple family. He was one of the major stockholders in both institutions at their founding. Today finds these two businesses merged.

Though blessed with great material success the personal life of William Goodwin was one of many tragedies.

In 1846 he had married Miss Mary Granger in New York state. They were blessed with a daughter, Agnes, and son William. In 1860 Mrs. Goodwin died and in 1861 young William, always known as "Willie".

Agnes Goodwin was educated in the east where she met and married Mr. T. J. O. Thacher of Hornell, N.Y., a member of a well-to-do family in that area. William Goodwin, himself, married Miss Jennie Patten of Rochester, N.Y., a friend of his daughter. They had two children, May and Charles Carroll. May Goodwin was an extremely attractive child and her untimely death at the age of 5, caused by diphtheria, was a tragedy for the whole village. In the 1880's, soon after the birth of her first child, Agnes Goodwin Thacher died leaving a son, W. F. Goodwin Thacher. Goodwin's son Carroll and his grandson, always known as Goodwin Thacher, being of the same age, usually spent their summers together on the Goodwin homestead in Concord.

The long succession of tragic deaths in his immediate family had so benumbed William Goodwin that at the time of his death in 1896 he did not have sufficient interest in his vast holdings to prepare a will providing for their disposition. On his death his widow took her share and a share for her son in cash and securities and left Concord to resettle in her old home in Rochester, New York. The physical properties at Concord which included the home place, the old Concord store building, a large frame structure erected by Mr. Goodwin for a mercantile business in the 1840's and which until a disastrous fire in 1933 stood on the site now occupied by the north part of the Brigham Hardware, the old Fairgrounds site, now occupied by the sewage plant, and hundreds of acres of farmland out in the township, passed in trust to his grandson, Goodwin Thacher.

These properties were subsequently liquidated by Goodwin's parents to provide for his education at Princeton University. Neither of the male Goodwins returned to Concord to live and the family name became extinct.

William F. Goodwin was a major stockholder and organizer of the association which developed the fairground and race track on a site just west of Spring Street and north of the present M-60. The first fair and racing was held in 1876 to celebrate the Centennial of the U.S. and for several years thereafter, fairs were held annually. However, the venture failed and in the early 1890's title to the property and all buildings thereon re-vested in Mr. Goodwin. A large building used as a floral hall was removed to one of the Goodwin farms and was still standing in 1975 on the south side of the Luttenton Road about a quarter of a mile south of the Sears Road.

The mill building erected by Goodwin was destroyed by a disastrous fire in June 1920 and the site abandoned for mill purposes. A new mill was then erected by Abram K. Tucker at the south end of the dam. This building is now part of the Joers Feed Mill complex.

Mr. Goodwin was a major influence in obtaining construction of the Michigan Central Airline Railroad through Concord village, donating \$500 in cash and land for a right-of-way across his property.

The Underground Railroad

in Concord Township

An account of "Underground Railroad" activity in Concord Township is given by Judge Melville McGee in his account of the early days of Concord. This account was published in DeLand's History of Jackson County in 1903 and is set forth here verbatim:

"No one now, of the many who get on and off at the railroad station in Concord, thinks to ask if there had ever been any other railroad surveyed and established through the town, and if such a question should be asked he would no doubt be told by any of the present inhabitants that there never had been. But such, however, would not be the truth.

As early as 1838 or 1839 a road had been surveyed, a station established and the road put in full operation. It was afterwards known as the "underground railroad", and carried passengers only.

It was the first railroad laid out and put into operation in the state, and was operated so safely that during all the time it was in business no person was ever known to be killed or injured on its line. It was entirely unlike the present railroad system in that it required the keeper of every station to deliver all passengers taken in by him at the next station in good condition and at his own expense.

It is true that there were no regular hours for the arrival and departure of trains, but the station was always open, both night and day for business.

The termini of the road were Mason and Dixon's line at one end and Canada at the other. The only class of persons permitted to travel or be transported over the road were the slaves from the South in search of an asylum from their oppressors.

I well remember the man who surveyed the route and established a station at my father's house. His name was Rev. Cross, residing at some place in Indiana.

In the early dusk of the evening when objects began to look hazy and indistinct I have seen the horse team silently harnessed and hitched to the lumber wagon and driven to the door, then the poor, hunted fugitives from slavery would come guiltily out of the house, where they had been carefully concealed during the day, and take their places in the wagon, with an older brother in the driver's seat, and a scarcely audible earnest "God speed!", and a moment after they would be on their way to the next station in Jackson and to a land of freedom in Canada.

How like a dream of the night it now all seems, that there should ever have been a time in the free state of Michigan and within the memory of living men when it was necessary to take men, women and children stealthily and by night in order to escape in safety from a cruel bondage to a land of liberty. And how strange, too, it seems that the doing of such an act of humanity should subject one to fines and imprisonment. Such, however, is the true record of history.

I have never discussed the matter of the "underground railroad" with anyone who could tell me anything about it based on their own personal observation. My interest in the history of Concord and the surrounding township began to develop in the early 1930's, and by that time all those who could recall the events of the Civil War days had either passed on or were too old to remember clearly.

The late Joel C. Reynolds who was born in Concord in the 1870's in the old house built by his grandfather, James Taylor, often told me that Mr. Taylor and his wife Rachel, both staunch Methodists, used their home as a station on the "underground railroad". This old house was located on the crest of the hill north of the mill pond about a quarter mile east of the intersection between the Albion Road and M-60 on M-60.

The house stood from about 1840 until it was demolished during World War II. The main part of the house was a story-and-a-half dwelling with one large room on each floor. It was built facing north fronting off the road which then came as far west as that before breaking off

to the south toward the mill pond. In later years a one story lean-to was built in an L-shape around the south and west sides of this original house extending out from the sides of the main house the width of one room. Above this addition was a large, low attic that was reached through a small door at the top of the stairs to the one bedroom on the second floor. This attic was very dark and back under the eaves at the extreme southwest corner was built a small closet that would accommodate about three men lying on their sides.

I was told that this was where, in addition to the small one-room cellar under the older part of the house, slaves were hidden during the day when the railroad was in operation. I have explored this old attic many times and could see no other plausible explanation for such a closet having been built. It was built of rough sawed boards which exactly matched the other timbering in the attic and was probably indiscernable to the searcher who poked his head through the little door at the top of the stairs and had at best only the light of a lantern to aid him. It was a real feat for boys of 12 or 13 years to get back into that hide-away without either seriously bruising one's head or crashing through the lath-and-plaster to the floor below.

I always regretted that I did not have the foresight to have someone take a photograph of that attic interior with a flash camera before the building was destroyed.

Regarding the activities of Thomas McGee, father of Melville McGee who wrote the above mentioned article, the late George L. Keeler, who was born in Concord in 1857 and lived there until he passed on in 1953, told me the following story.

The McGee family lived in a house, long since demolished, that stood on the Parma road about one-half mile north of the intersection with M-60 east of Concord village. From M-60 north this road is on the section line between Sections 22 and 23 of Concord Township and thus is a straight north-south road. The McGee house was on the west side of this road about 25 yards south of the east-west road that bisects Section 22 into north and south halves.

The story goes that on one occasion a slave arrived at the McGee "station" only moments before the arrival of a search party. He had been hastily secreted in an empty barrel in the cellar when the posse was in the dooryard.

The leader of the group demanded to know if Mr. McGee had seen the fugitive for whom they were searching. Being a very strict Baptist Mr. McGee could tell only the truth and answered simply, "Yes".

The honest and straight-forward answer took the officer somewhat aback and he then wanted to know in which direction the man had been going. Again McGee answered in his calm polite way that the man had been going north the last time he saw him.

With this the posse immediately turned their horses back into the road and dashed off to the north in supposedly hot pursuit.

The fact that saved Mr. McGee from the necessity of committing the sin of telling a lie was the fact that the stairway to the cellar in the McGee house slanted from south to north and it was the absolute truth that the man had been going north when McGee last saw him disappearing down the cellar stairs.

Mr. Keeler said that this story was a favorite one in the community for many years. He stated that he could vaguely remember the Civil War days and the fact that there was much whispering about the escaping slaves but that he could not recall ever having seen any himself.

Concord Centennial - 1931

The village held a three-day celebration in June for its 100th Birthday. The program included dedication of new boulevard lights, a grand pageant, a fashion show, old time spinning and knitting demonstrations, an Indian pow-wow, and many other attractions.

Several vacant lots were converted into a place for holding the programs and community dinners, served by the ladies of the Concord and Pulaski churches. Gerald Strong Orchestra furnished music for dancing at the Opera House. Gov. Wilbur Brucker was the principal speaker; the village was in gala attire for the occasion.

CONCORD CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



3 ❖ BIG DAYS ❖ 3

THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

JUNE 18, 19 AND 20, 1931.



Added Attractions

MERRY GO-ROUND, FERRIS WHEEL, TILT-A-WHIRL, MIN-
STREL SHOWS, CIRCUS SIDE SHOW, HAWAIIAN SHOW and

MOTORDROME

Thursday, June 18

9:30 A. M. TO 12:00 NOON—GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
AND RALLY.

12:00 NOON—DINNER SERVED BY THE LADIES AID OF
PULASKI.

1:00 P. M.—VIEWING HISTORICAL DISPLAY AND AN-
TIQUES.

2:00 P. M.—FASHION SHOW, OLD TIME SPINNING DEMON-
STRATION, ETC.,—LIVE MODELS.

4:00 P. M.—COMMUNITY PROGRAM OF SPEECHES, SOLOS,
QUARTETTE, INSTRUMENTAL.

6:00 P. M.—POT LUCK DINNER. BRING EATS AND TABLE
SERVICE. COFFEE FURNISHED.

7:00 P. M.—SPEECH BY DEAN SPENCER, SPRING ARBOR.

8:00 P. M.—DEDICATION OF NEW BOULEVARD LIGHTS.

8:15 P. M.—BAND CONCERT.

Friday, June 19

9:00 A. M.—BAND CONCERT.

10:00 A. M.—STREET PARADE OF DECORATED FLOATS—
A PRIZE OF \$15.00 FOR THE BEST FLOAT IN THE PA-
RADE, \$10.00 SECOND PRIZE. \$10.00 PRIZE FOR THE
BEST FLOAT REPRESENTING ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN PULASKI, SPRING ARBOR, OR CONCORD TWP.
CONCORD DISTRICT NO. 1, FR., BARRED.

12:00 NOON—DINNER SERVED BY THE UNIVERSALIST
LADIES AID SOCIETY.

2:00 P. M.—BAND MUSIC AND MARCH TO BALL PARK.

2:30 P. M.—BALL GAME BETWEEN HANOVER HIGH
SCHOOL—1931 COUNTY CHAMPIONS—AND GRASS
LAKE, CHAMPIONS OF THE EAST SIDE OF THE COUN-
TY AND RUNNER-UP FOR FIRST PLACE. ADMISSION 25

4:30 P. M.—VARIETY PROGRAM—SPEAKERS, BAND NUM-
BERS, SOLOS, QUARTETTES AND SPECIALTY NUMBERS

4:30 P. M.—POTTAWATOMIE INDIAN POW WOW OF ATH-
ENS, MICH., IN FULL REGALIA, INCLUDING SNAKE
DANCE, WAR DANCE, ETC.

6:00 P. M.—POT·LUCK·DINNER·COFFEE·FURNISHED.
BRING EATS AND TABLE SERVICE.

8:00 P. M.—SPEECH BY PROMINENT SPEAKER.

9:00 P. M.—DANCE AT OPERA HOUSE, BY GERALD
STRONG AND HIS ORCHESTRA OF JACKSON.

Saturday, June 20

9:00 A. M.—BAND CONCERT.

10:00 A. M.—STREET SPORTS—PRIZES GIVEN. TUG OF WAR—PULASKI VS. SPRING ARBOR.

12:00 NOON—DINNER SERVED BY METHODIST LADIES AID SOCIETY.

2:00 P. M.—JACKSON PRISON BAND CONCERT.

2:30 P. M.—BALL GAME—PARMA VS. CONCORD.

4:30 P. M.—COMMUNITY PROGRAM.

6:00 P. M.—DRILL BY BATTERIES B AND E FIELD ARTILLERY OF JACKSON.

7:30 P. M.—SPEECH BY PROMINENT SPEAKER.

9:00 P. M.—DANCE AT OPERA HOUSE, BY GERALD STRONG AND HIS ORCHESTRA OF JACKSON.



CONCORD CENTENNIAL 1931

Left to right: Beth Murray, Willoween Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Burdette Waldo [a Union Veteran], and Nancy [Heywood] Farrand.



CONCORD CENTENNIAL 1931

left to right; Marion Aldrich, Mate Waldo, Evelyn Warley, unidentified, Beth Murray, Willoween Smith, Gladys McKenzie, unidentified, Bernadine Poirer, Nancy Heywood, Mrs. Cobb.

Happy 200th Birthday, America

Concord - Pulaski Bicentennial Observance

June 28 - July 4

Ten months of meetings every two weeks with local organization representatives and individuals in the two communities made the Concord-Pulaski Celebration possible. In the summer of 1975, the Village Council designated the Concord Heritage Association their representative to the Bicentennial Committee. Mrs. Marie Miller, Mann House Museum Curator, headed up the committee, with Mrs. Shirlee Lewis, the Heritage Association President co-ordinator for the events.

In January, signs began to appear in many local merchants' windows, reading as follows: "Register Here; February 2-21; Beard Contest. Must be clean shaven at time of registration. Judging, July 10, 1976". This event was sponsored by the Concord-Pulaski Fire Department Auxiliary.

On May 15, the two communities sent a team and a covered wagon on its way to Valley Forge. The wagon was built by three of Concord's young men, Roy Brown, Bob Keefer and Johnny Luttenton. Blueprints for the wagon were obtained from the National Bicentennial Committee of Pennsylvania. With determination and a great deal of enthusiasm, the boys began their project. Everitt Lincoln donated a 1918 Studebaker farm wagon which was used for the base; many local merchants donated supplies to complete the project. Before completion, Johnny Luttenton became gainfully employed and was unable to make the trip to Valley Forge.

The Concord-Pulaski Wagon Train Committee was formed to coordinate all the wagon train activities. They sponsored several bake sales and community dinners to raise funds for supplies needed by the boys and the horses on their journey. There was a Food Shower given by the two communities; canned goods, dishes, pots and pans were received. A beautiful team of Belgian horses, known as "Bob" and "Duke", was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. A. H. Keefer of Concord. The Concord-Pulaski wagon was, originally, to have been the Jackson County wagon, but the Jackson Committee switched to the Napoleon wagon because they felt ours was progressing too slowly to be ready by May 15. With the help of older citizens, the wagon was ready to roll before the 15th. A Wagon Train Parade was held in Concord at noon, under the direction of Police Chief Bill Sutton. The Parade Marshals were Dr. and Mrs. Keefer. Although the weather was rainy, the ceremonies continued at the Concord School grounds. After the dedication, the train continued on to Swains Lake County Park for its first overnight encampment. There was food, games and entertainment for everyone, made possible by the Wagon Train Committee. The next morning the train headed out for other overnight encampments at Hanover, Vandercook Lake, Napoleon, Grass Lake, Norvell, Brooklyn and Cambridge Junction where they joined the National Wagon Train. Miss Annette Householder who had been voted Queen of the Concord-Pulaski Wagon was still attending school. Friends felt it would be a nice experience for her to go on the journey to Valley Forge, but it seemed impossible. One of the Wagon Train Committee members, Mrs. Rubye Beitzel, made her dream come true. She became Annette's chaperone and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gifford Householder, gave their consent. Mrs. Beitzel would pick Annette up from school and they attended many of the festivities around the county in the evening. After school was out, on June 14, Mrs. Beitzel and Annette joined the train and went on to Valley Forge.

The Jackson County Wagon's team became ill during the journey, and that wagon had to drop out for a while. A young man from Concord, Greg Lafave, who was traveling with it, continued on the journey with the Concord-Pulaski wagon.

Dr. and Mrs. Keefer traveled many weekends with the train throughout the states it

covered and were on it when it reached Valley Forge on July 4, 1976. It was an experience no one will forget for a long time. The people of the two communities feel the Concord-Pulaski Wagon Train Committee did a great job.

* * * * *

Back in Concord, activities in connection with the Bicentennial celebration continued:

May 29-30 — Merchants' Softball Invitational Tournament: School grounds and gravel pit.

June 12 — Antique Car Display and Strawberry Shortcake Festival, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and Bicentennial committee.

June 29 — Home Tour, Concord; sponsored by the Concord Heritage Association. A salad luncheon was served at the Presbyterian Church before the tour. The homes of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McFarlane, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Walters and Mrs. Marion Aldrich were opened to the public, as well as the Mann House Museum and all the churches. Luncheon and Tour — \$2.50

June 30 — A Rock Concert, for teenagers; sponsored by the Concord-Pulaski Wagon Train Committee.

July 1 — Senior Citizen Day. The Pulaski Extension Group sponsored a beautiful Quilt Show in the Middle School Gymnasium; Mrs. Eva Hakes, chairman. There were 200 quilts on display. Two quilting frames were set up and ladies quilted all day. Special awards were presented during a recognition program at 6:00 p.m., by Mrs. James Lewis. The awards were: Mr. Saxton Jacobs, the oldest male citizen; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dodes and Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Gardner, the longest married couples; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brigham, the largest family; Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Luttenton, the oldest Centennial Farm; Mrs. Floretta Hathaway, oldest female citizen—all of Concord Township, and Mr. Fred Dawson, oldest male citizen; Mr. and Mrs. Emory Barnhard, longest married; Mr. and Mrs. Miles Jones, largest family; Mrs. Carma Travis, oldest Centennial Farm; Mrs. Lucy Williams, oldest female citizen—all of Pulaski Township. Mr. Larry Ley, accompanied by his wife, sang two patriotic selections; Mrs. Helen Pardee read "The 1880 Prophecy of Concord"; Mr. Carl Hakes played his home-made dulcimer. At 8:00 p.m., there was a Country Western Show held at the High School gymnasium.

July 2 — Children's Day Afternoon entertainment sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee included a free magic show, movies, hay rides and pony rides, a cupcake walk, bean bag throw and balloon bust. From five until eight o'clock in the evening, the Concord Child Study Club sponsored many games with prizes for children from pre-school age to ten years.

July 3 — Pioneer Day. Prayer Vigil, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. "Thanks for our Country's Past; Pray for our Present and Future Blessings". On the "Village Square"—Keystone Cops, a flea market, baked goods, arts and crafts, sidewalk sales and music. The Methodist Church lawn was the site of a very interesting display of old farm machinery, exhibited by the Farm Bureau. In the evening the Concord Bunch put on a Western Hobby Square Dance; they were all dressed in western attire and made a colorful picture. Many of the audience joined in the fun. The Order of Eastern Star provided an Ice Cream Social.

July 4 — Church services were held in the original Methodist Church building, now located in back of Murdock's Funeral Home. At eleven o'clock all the churches in Concord joined in the Tolling of Church Bells.

At one o'clock, Concord had one of its biggest and best Fourth of July parades. After judging all the floats, the top three winners were: Concord Heritage Association; Brighams Hardware and Joyce Cecil's Beauty Shop. All the activities were held on the lawn at the High School. Local organizations prepared extra amounts of food for the concessions this year, compared to previous years, but the crowd was so large the concessions were all sold out and cleaned up long before dark. The fireworks display after dark was bigger and better than usual also.

July 10 — Beard Judging. Held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Walker, Luttenton Road. Everyone brought a passing dish and a potluck dinner was enjoyed on the lawn. Judges for the contest were Mrs. Joyce Cecil, Mrs. Pearl Britton, Mrs. Rose Smith, Mr. Ed Shannon,

Rev. Dale Hartwig. The Concord-Pulaski Fire Department Auxiliary purchased two trophies for first and second place. The judges deliberated for some length but could not narrow the choice down to two, so Mrs. Shirlee Lewis, Bicentennial co-ordinator, told the judges that the Bicentennial Committee would absorb the expense of the third-place trophy. Winners: Ronald Householder, first; Dennis Douthit, second; and Gifford Householder, third. Many stayed on late into the evening and enjoyed the liquid refreshment donated by Mr. Jim Lewis.

The Concord-Pulaski Bicentennial Committee tried to plan a program which would include every person in the two communities. Hopefully it was enjoyed by all.

Many citizens have said that they couldn't remember when the town had come to life like it did during our Bicentennial Celebration.

The Bicentennial Committee has voted to use the remaining funds to purchase trees for Bicentennial Commemorative plantings in the two communities.

Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage

It all started for me on May 13, 1976, when I found out that I had won the Concord-Pulaski Wagon Train Teen Queen Contest. On May 15, there was a big celebration in Concord for the area wagons which were to make the trip to Valley Forge. There was a parade with the wagons and horses, old cars, President Ford's son, Jack, and a float with the queen and her court. Bob Keefer, Roy Brown and Johnnie Luttenton were honored for building the wagon. Only Roy and Bob were able to make the trip to Valley Forge with the Concord wagon. I was crowned by Dan Angel, our district's representative in the Michigan Legislature.



After the ceremony, the wagons made the trip out to Swains Lake. There, an old fashion stew dinner was served. Indian dances, square dancing and other activities completed the day. The next morning the wagons started on the trip to Valley Forge. I rode to Hanover in the Concord wagon for their celebration. From there the wagons traveled to Grass Lake, Napoleon, Norvell, Brooklyn, and Cambridge Junction. At Cambridge Junction we met the National Wagon Train. After this, I wasn't able to travel with the wagons until school was out. On June 13, Mrs. Bietzel and I caught up with the train in Cochraton, Pennsylvania. The next stop was Franklin, then Clarion, Brookville, DeBois, Clearfield, Philipsburg, State College, Mill Hall, Jersey Shore, Montoursville, Highesville, Ricketts Glen, Dallas, Kingston, Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton, Tamaqua, Allentown, Quakertown, Lansdale and, finally, Valley Forge. In Valley Forge, President Ford was there to welcome the trains from all over the Nation.

It was the most exciting thing I have ever done and if I ever have a chance to do anything like it again, I would do it. It was an experience I will never forget. I met several people who were really special and whom I will always remember. I would like to thank several people who made it possible for me to go to Valley Forge; Mrs. Rubye Bietzel, my parents and, especially, the people in the Concord-Pulaski area who voted for me.

— Annette Householder



Concord - Pulaski Wagon Train

ABOVE: Concord-Pulaski Wagon

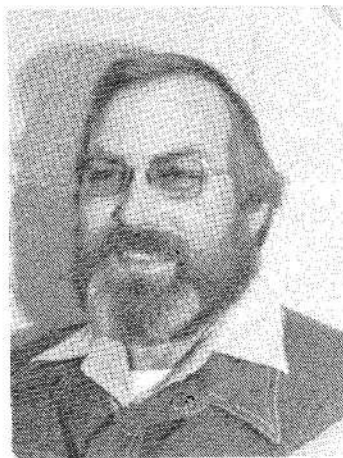
AT RIGHT: Dr. and Mrs. A. H.
Keefer, Wagon train parade mar-
shals.





Left to right: Bud Stevens, Ron Householder, Ron Hall, Dennis Douthit, Jack Maurer, Bill Powers, Gifford Householder, John Luttenton, Mike Eding, and Darrell Coppernoll.

Official Beard Winners



1st Place
RON HOUSEHOLDER

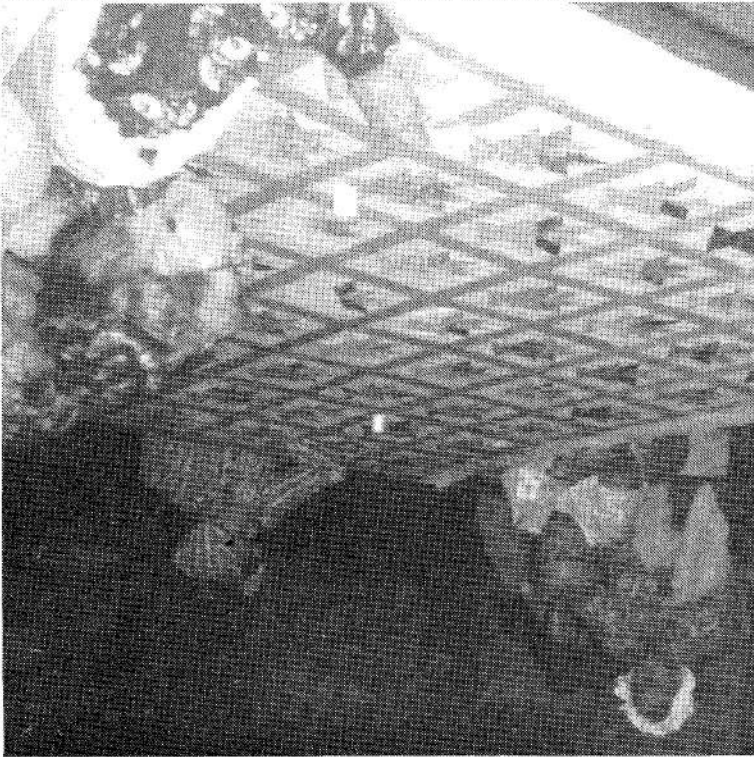
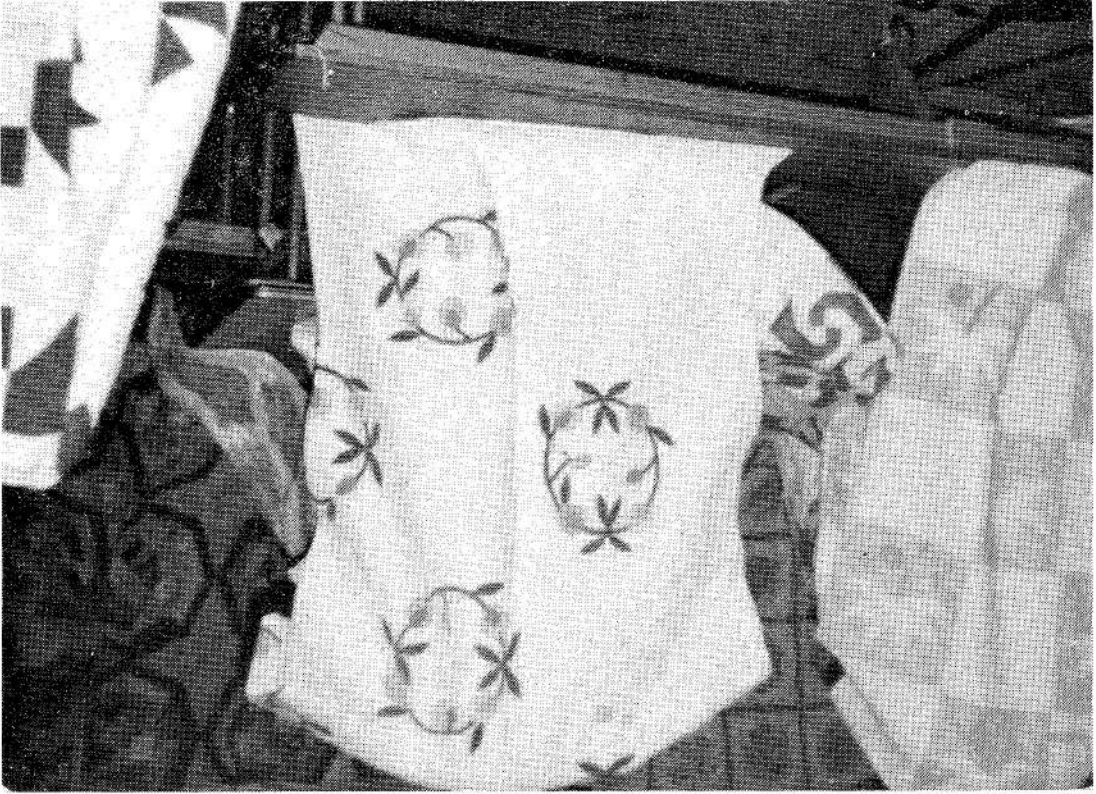


2nd Place
DENNIS DOUTHIT



3rd Place
GIFFORD HOUSEHOLDER

Quilt Show, July 1, 1976.



STANDING: Laura Robson.
Seated, left to right: Ida
Thorne, Margaret Lutten-
ton, Mary Patterson.



Concord United Methodist Church Bicentennial service held July 4, 1976, in the old Methodist Church now in back of Murdock's Funeral Home.



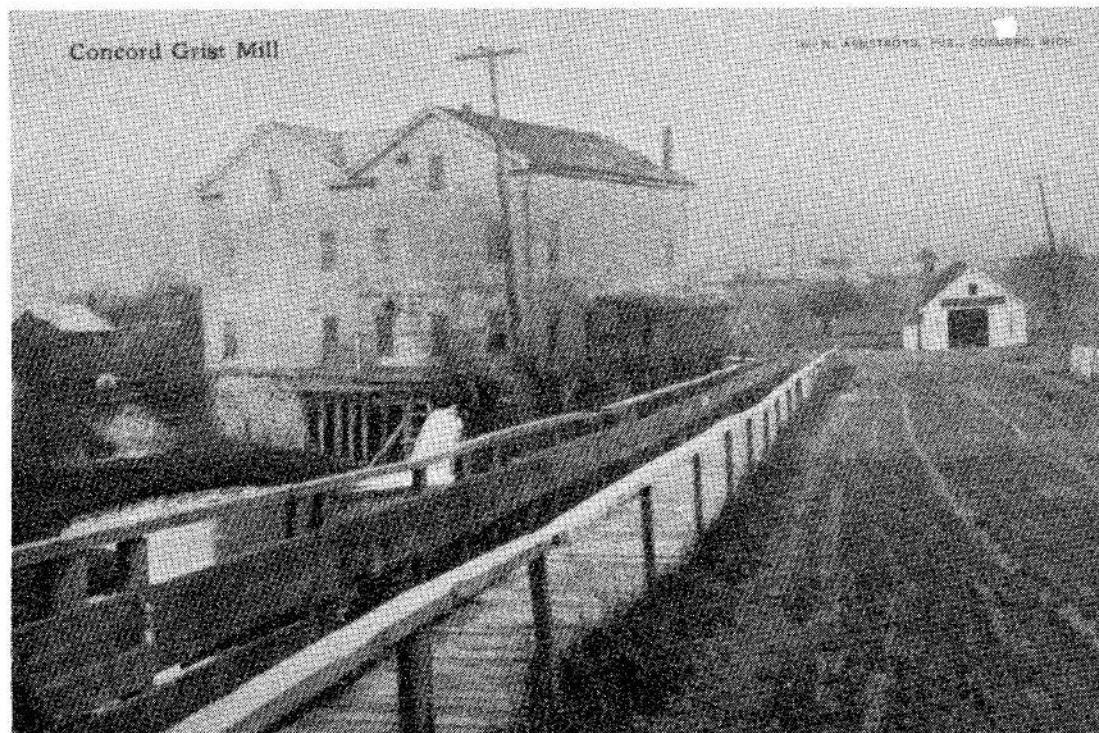
LEFT TO RIGHT: Florence Ansterburg, Ethel Ariss, taken "Pioneer Day" July 3, 1976.



July 3, Pardee Family. Left to right, back row: John, Bill; front row: Lina, Karen, Deborah, Helen, Harold.



July 3 — Rev. Ron Grant
and wife Carol.



Concord Grist Mill [1910]
Burned July 22, 1919.



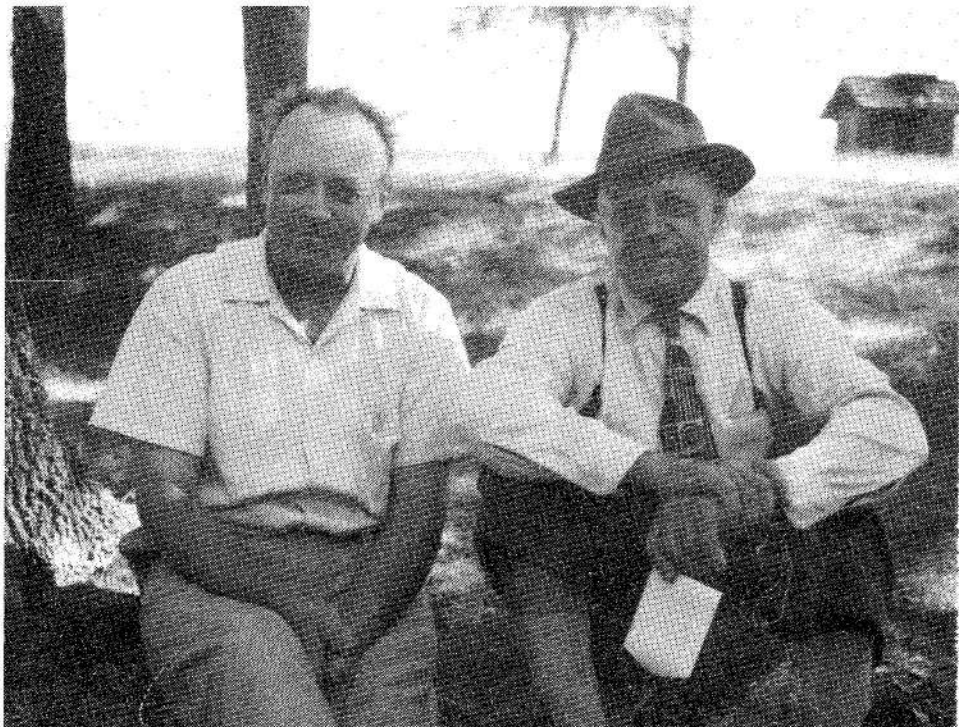
Present Mill [Joers Farm Center] — This building was built by the owner of the mill, Mr. Abraham K. Tucker, to replace the building destroyed by fire in 1919.



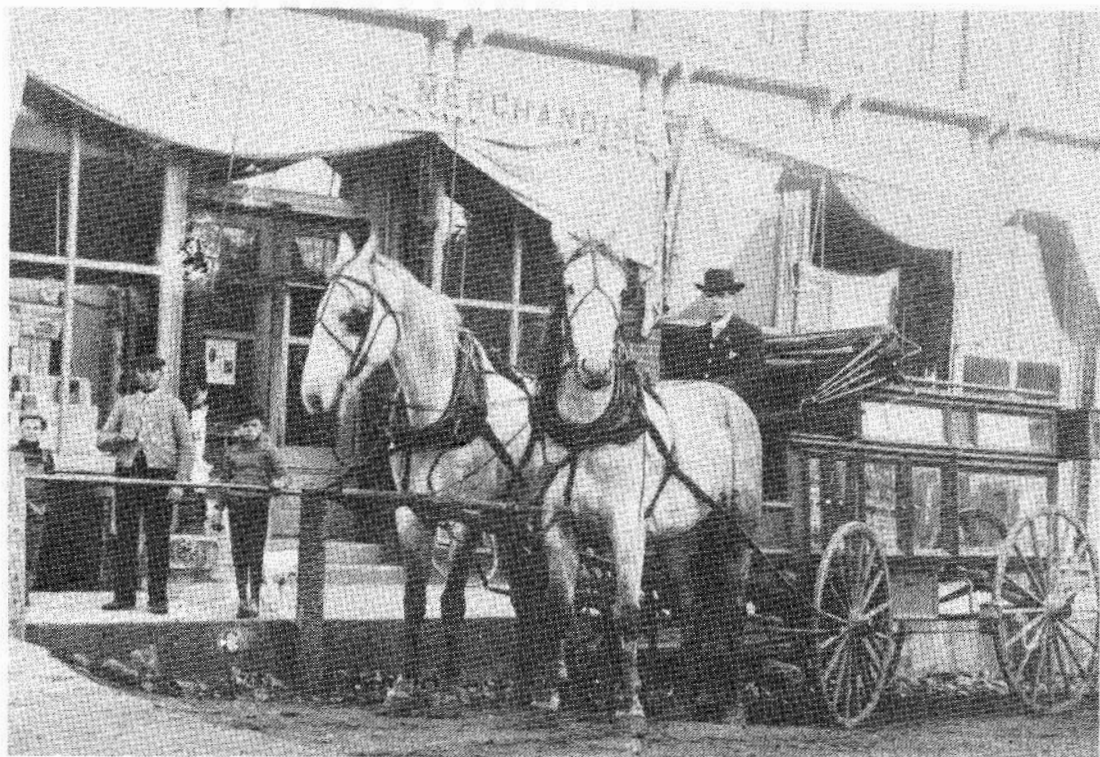
Baker-Paddock Creamery. This building was located on Homer Street, approximately on the site of today's County Garage building. The building burned in the early 1920's.



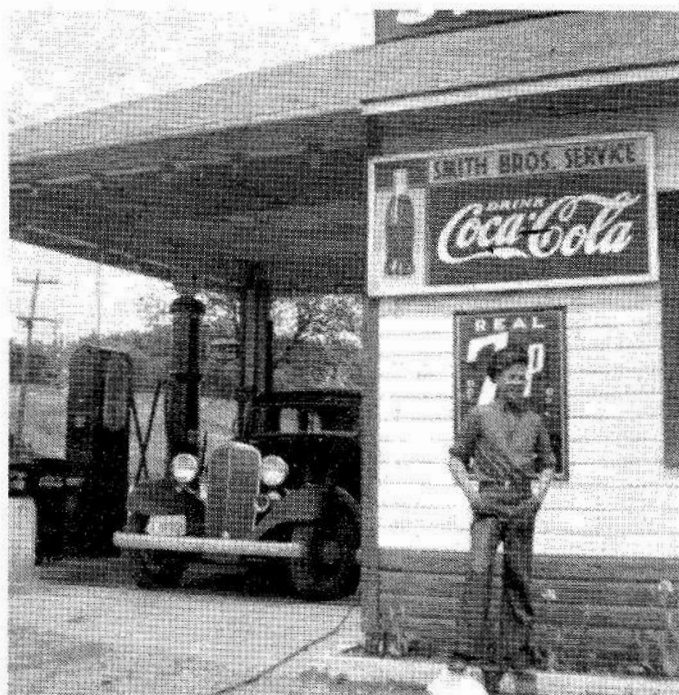
Otto's Service Station on M-60.



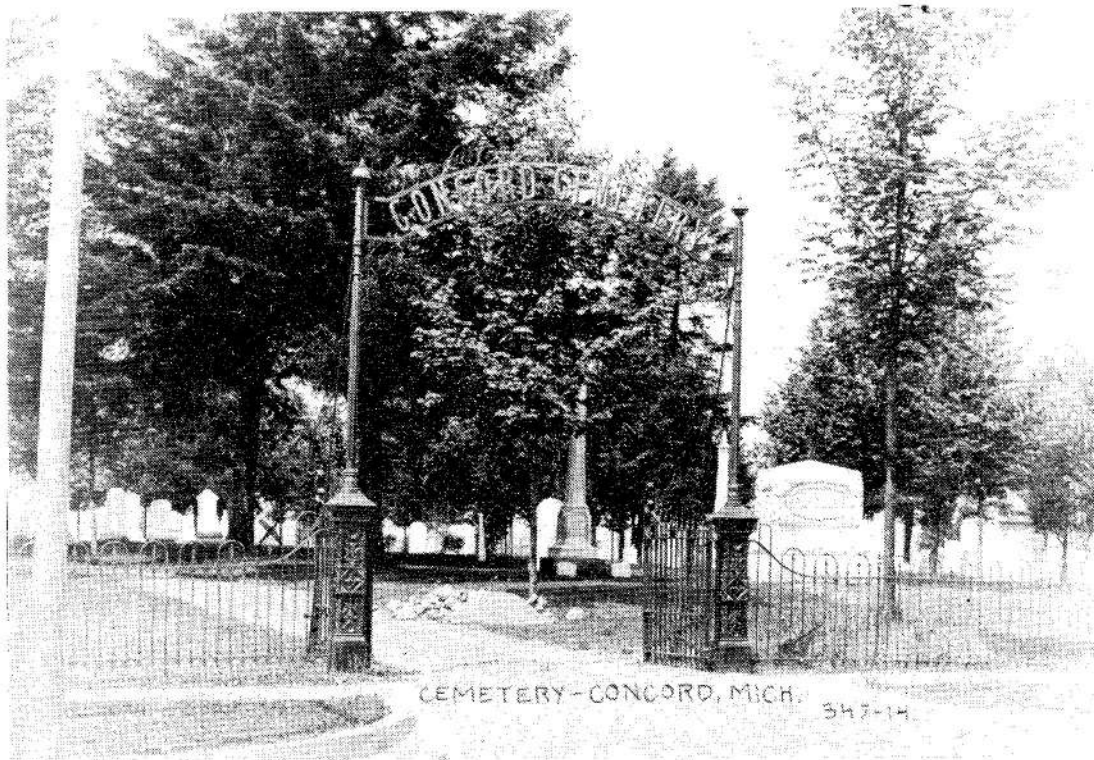
Floyd Otto and his father, Herman.



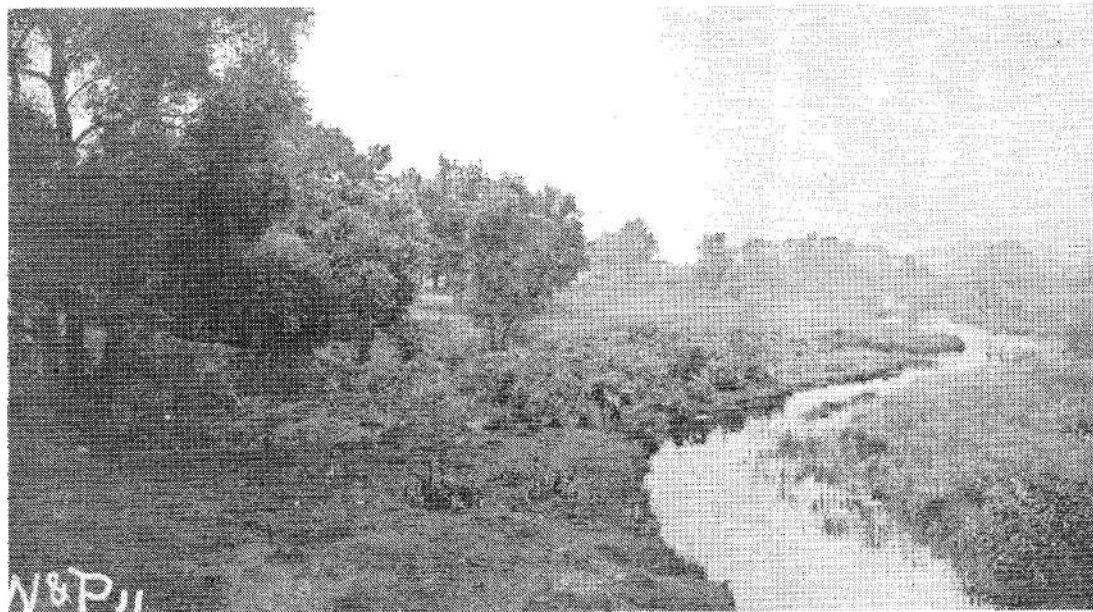
1907 View, east side of Main Street [Brigham Hardware Store location today]. Magel's grocery wagon. John Magel and his sons, Milton and Dwight, at left. Driver, Will Tucker, then an employee of Mr. Magel and later a partner in Bouldrey and Tucker grocery store.



Sinclair Station operated by Claude and Claire Smith before Claude entered service. Attendant Earl Woodhurst. Location Southwest corner of M-60 and Main. 1938



Maple Grove Cemetery
Concord, Michigan

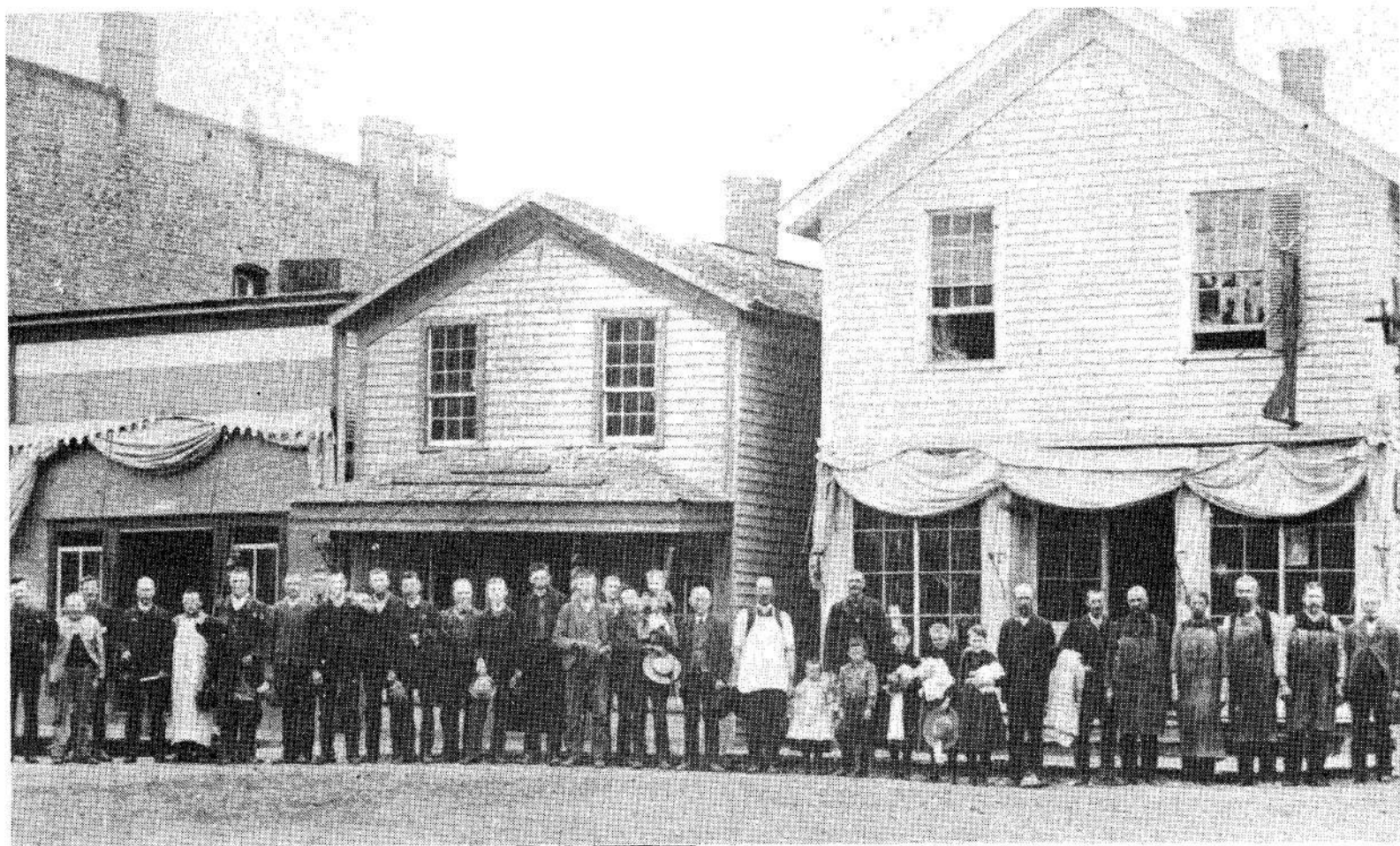


The Springs
A Favorite Spot of Yesteryear



An 1889 view of the business block on the southeast corner of Hanover and Main Streets, Concord, which housed the Farmers State Bank, and W. C. Wetmore's New Opera House, and stores on the first floor. The "Lunch" sign advertises a lunch room which

was located in the basement of the building. A disastrous fire destroyed this block on October 2, 1899. The Farmers State Bank immediately rebuilt, on the old foundations, the building which occupies this corner today.

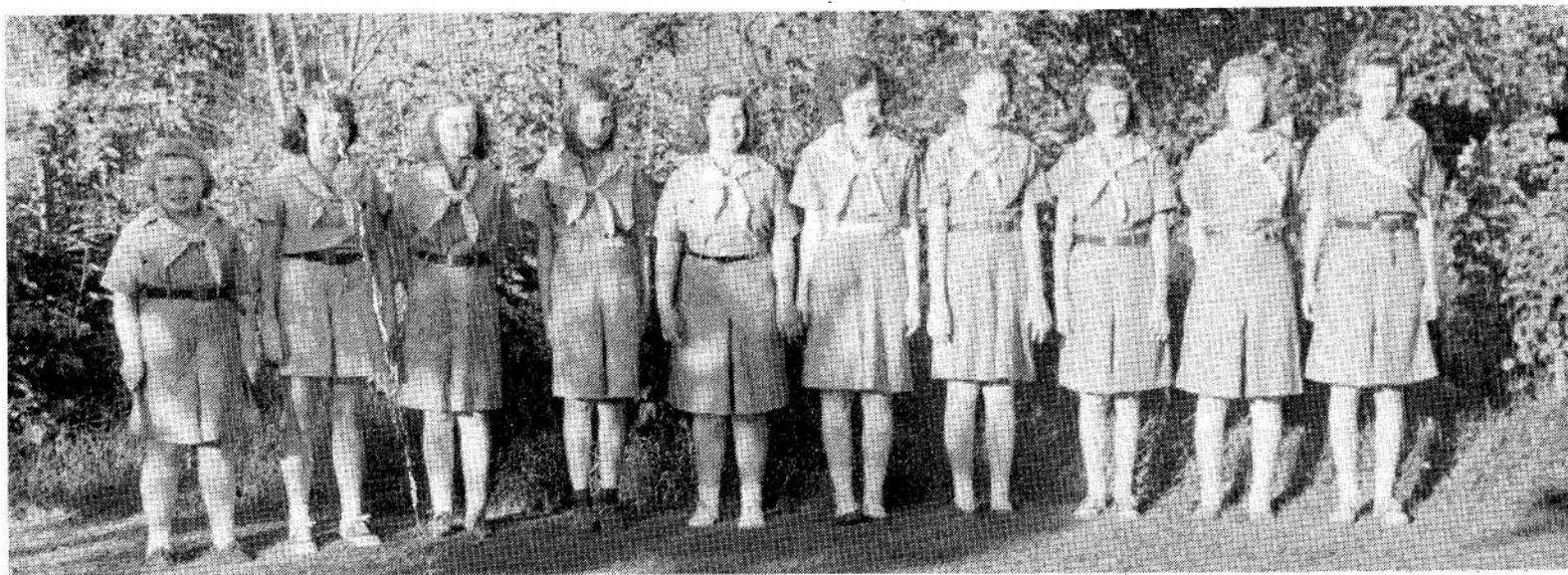


An 1889 View of the northeast corner of Main and Hanover Streets, Concord, site of today's Shannon's Grocery Store. The two-story brick building seen at extreme left, built by Mr. Ressigue, is Elar Publishing building [where the Concord News was published for many years]; the next building, with awning, was the meat

market; the next was a store building, as was the building on the corner, at the extreme right. One of these buildings was moved to the Elwin Day farm at Allman and Mann Roads, and another was moved to 220 Hanover Street where Larry Murdock now lives.



Front: Dorothy Millen, whose birthday is being celebrated. Left to right: Dorothy Hubbard, Hope Keeler, George Millen [a relative of Earl Wetmore], Isabell Whittaker, Fleta Ritter, Arlene Whittaker, Florence Ansterburg, Lucile Smalley [Aldrich], Ruth Dixon, Marion Bell, Leora Patterson, Gladys Hatch [McKenzie]. July 26, 1906. Birthday party was held at Wetmore farm home. The car belonged to George Millen.

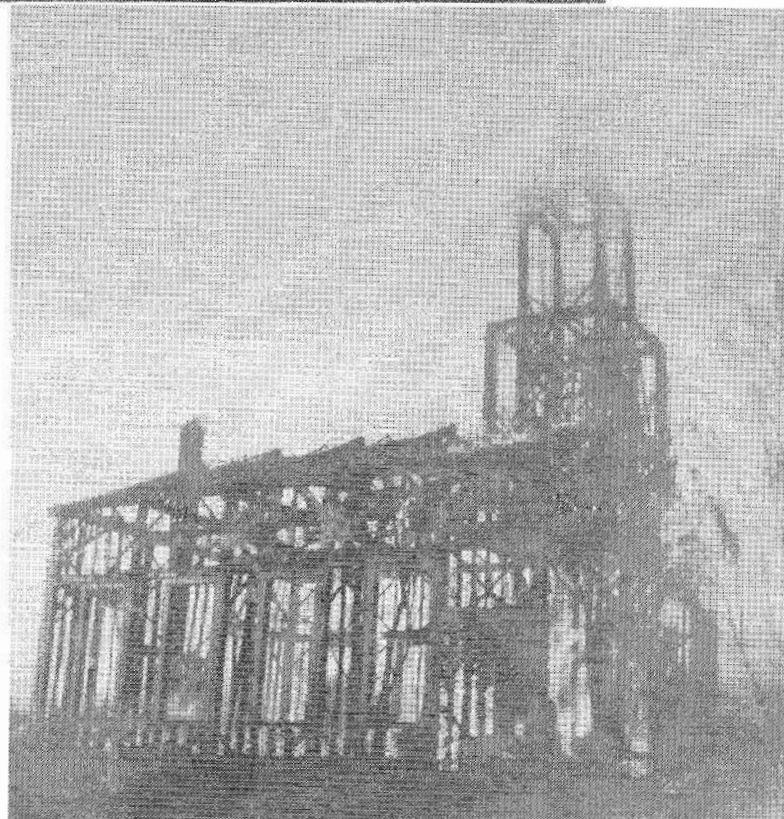


This was taken about 1940. Harold Rodgers in foreground.

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 1940-41 — Left to right: Marjorie Knauer, Barbara Rufe, Margaret Dean, Jean Chase, Marilyn Walby, Louine Houghton, Joyce Toughy, Shirley Rufe, Beverly Brigham, Ruth Eastman, Mrs. Cliff Rufe [Ester] was the leader.



**Concord
Presbyterian Church
burning
November 22, 1909**





ABOVE LEFT: Eva [Hungerford] Riddle and Louise [Blinco] Smith, in front of Magels Store [Shannon's Market today].

ABOVE RIGHT: Eva [Hungerford] Riddle Hotel, now Marilyn's Discount Store.

AT RIGHT: In front of Magels Store 1925. Mr. Magel in the window, unidentified, Leroy Peters, Earl Woodliff, Ralph Smith, Jerry Riddle, Joe Chamberlain, Lyle Hotchkins, Clair Eckert.





Michigan Central Railroad Depot, Concord, Michigan



Depot in Pulaski, Michigan then called Wheelerton. The Cincinnati, Jackson and Mackinaw railroad, 1884.



“YESTERDAY’S CADET TAVERN, CONCORD”

Left to right: June Rosenbrook, Dick Howard, Roland Marsher, Behling, Henry Bullock, Barney Malcolm, Albert Behling, Gus
 unidentified, Wig Hall, Will Sandford, U.D. Ritter, Herman Behling, Jim Nearpass.



GENERAL HOTEL, CONCORD
1976 Cadet Tavern.

Left to right: James Thompson, Eric Howard, Robert M. Brown, Hedding, Henry, Arthur, Harry, Maurice, Albert, Hedding, Eric
underneath: My Hall, Will, Campbell, A. D. Hulse, Herman, Hedding, the Thompsons

REFLECTIONS

IN

THE POND

CONCORD AND PULASKI

TOWNSHIPS