

HONORING OUR HERITAGE
in
HENDRICKS

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in

HENDRICKS COUNTY
INDIANA

BY

Ruth Mitchell Pritchard

Hendricks County Sesquicentennial Committee

Danville, Indiana

1974

Ruth Mitchell Pritchard

FOREWORD

This book presents the fourteen drawings which appear on the Hendricks County Ancestor-Descendant Certificate issued during 1974, the county's sesquicentennial year.

The several drawings are representative of Hendricks County and its various aspects of home, church, school government, travel, industry, business, occupation and even tragedy and adversity.

These outlines are indicative of the three settlement periods: pioneer up to and including 1830; the anti-slavery, 1831-1860, and the development period 1861-1900. The sketches include something from each of the twelve townships.

For assistance in various ways I thank the following people: Mrs. Marcilla Abbott, Mrs. Virginia Brann, Mrs. Norma Comer, Mr. Lee T. Comer, Miss Grace Cox, Mrs. Maxine Cox, Mrs. Virginia Cummings, Mr. & Mrs. James Dale, Mrs. Iva Debra, Mrs. Ruth Dinsmore, Mrs. Frances Fisher, Mr. John Gambold, Mrs. Maxine Gibson, Mrs. Caroline Hopkins Gordon, Mrs. Margaret Haag, Mrs. Ruth Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth C. Hammill, Mr. & Mrs. Morris Hampton, Mr. Glen Harvey, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Hicks, Mr. Fred Hobbs, Mr. David Horn, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Johnson, Mrs. Edith Low, Mrs. Hazel McClain, Mrs. Ethel Michel, Mrs. Ida Mae Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Chester Parker, Miss Mary Margaret Parker, Mr. & Mrs. Fletcher Pedigo, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Pritchard, Mr. Roy Pritchard, Mrs. Virginia Ramsey, Mrs. Clara Reitzel, Mrs. Marjorie Rosenberg, Mrs. Inez Russell, Mr. Samuel Smith, Mrs. Zona Walker, Mrs. Blanche Wean, Mrs. Mary Jane Weathers, Mrs. Alma Wells and Mr. Hal Wilson.

The places of research were: Crawfordsville, Danville and Indianapolis Libraries, Archives of De Pauw University, Records Vault of Western Yearly Meeting of Friends at Plainfield, The Abstract and Title Guaranty Company, Inc. of Danville, and Hendricks County Offices of Clerk, Commissioners, and Recorder.

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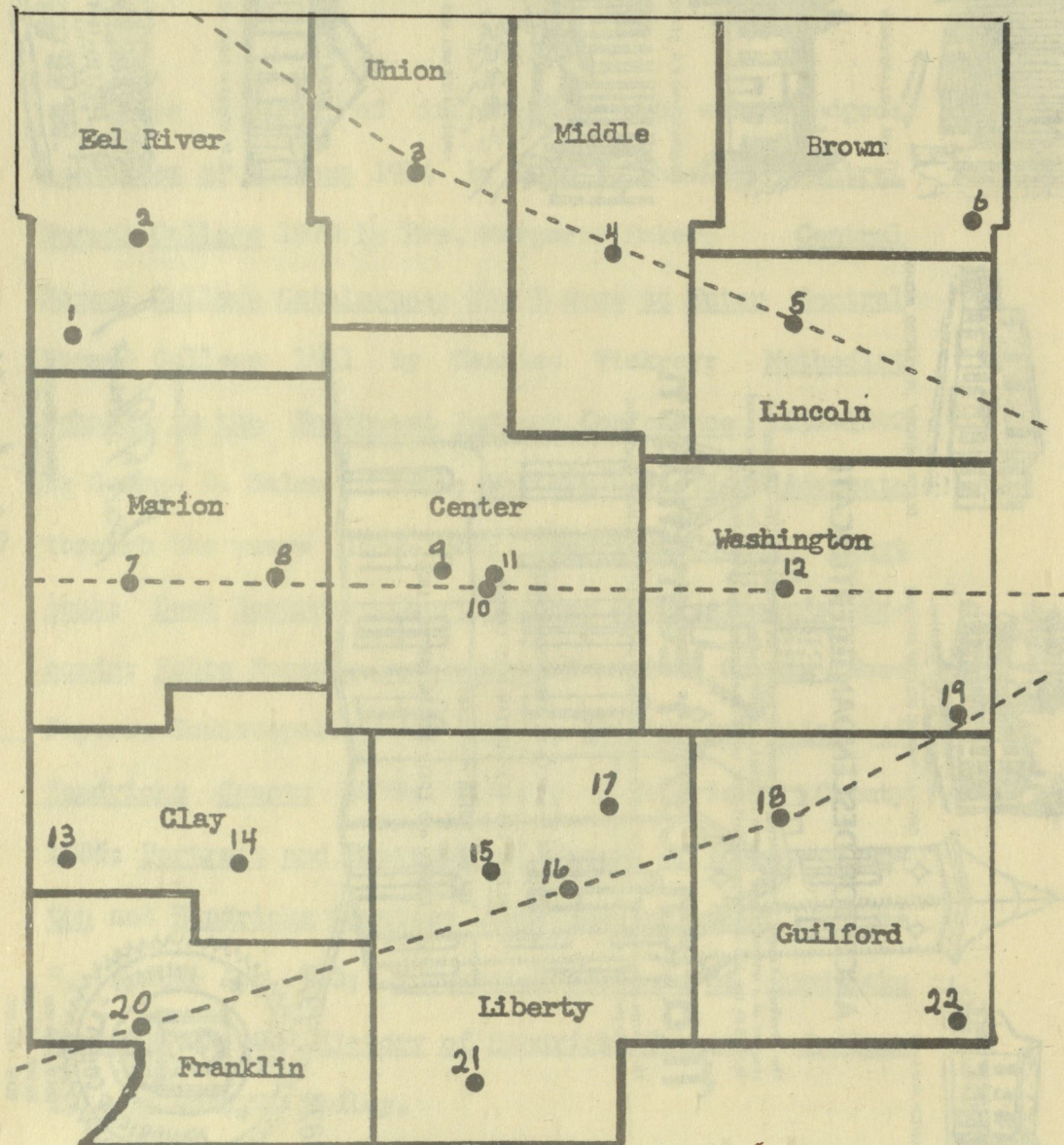
Cascade High School
of
Mill Creek School Corporation
Hendricks County, Indiana

—Ruth Mitchell Pritchard
Belleville, Indiana

-2-

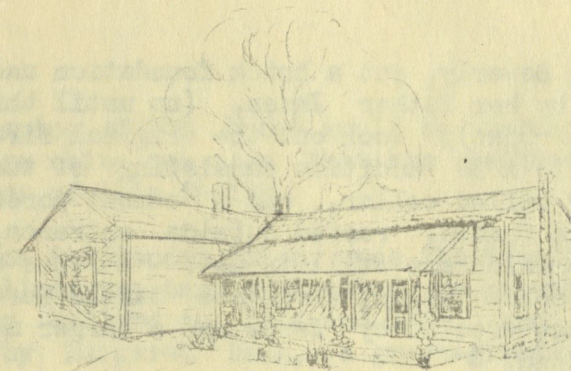


HENDRICKS COUNTY MAP



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Benson Mills | 12 Avon |
| 2 North Salem | 13 Hugh Wilson Home |
| 3 Cholera at Lizton | 14 Amo |
| 4 Olsen Factory | 15 Clayton |
| 5 Hunter Building | 16 Belleville |
| 6 Ballard House | 17 Cartersburg |
| 7 New Winchester | 18 Plainfield |
| 8 Zimri Hunt House | 19 Hobbs Nursery |
| 9 White House | 20 Stilesville |
| 10 Danville | 21 Hazelwood |
| 11 Central Normal | 22 Friendswood |

BALLARD HOUSE



Beverly Ballard built a log cabin for his family on 71.10 acres entered from the Government in 1834 in Sec. 6 T. 16N R. 2E Brown Township, Hendricks County, Indiana. He also entered land in Lincoln Township where later his son James Ballard (b. 2-26-1815; d. 7-22-1892) would build and operate a sawmill.

At the death of Beverly Ballard, James Ballard became the owner of the land where the log cabin stood. In 1853, James Ballard and his brother, George Ballard (b. 1-7-1822; d. -- 1912), who was a cabinet maker, felled trees, hauled logs to the sawmill owned by James Ballard and hewed the sills for a new house. In 1854, the house was completed. It consisted of two rooms 15 x 15, two rooms 9 x 10, and a 9 x 10 porch enclosed on three sides. It was heated by a fireplace. There were five windows and three doors leading outside, one to the north just a few steps away from the log cabin. Sometime during the 1880's, the porch was fully enclosed and became the fifth room of the house.

When James Ballard died, he willed the house and some of the originally entered acreage to his daughter, Mary Jane Ballard (b. 2-25-1858; d. 10-29-1922). She lived alone on the farm until her marriage (8-8-1895) to Daniel B. Ennis (b. 1-11-1864; d. 4-17-1921). In 1907 they tore down the log house built by her

BALLARD HOUSE

grandfather, Beverly, put a brick foundation under the house built by her father James, (up until this time it rested on rocks), took out the original fireplace, and built a 16 x 30 addition consisting of two rooms over a brick walled cellar, and a cement porch. The cellar had a framed, roofed outside entrance, with cement steps which are still in use. A false outside chimney and solid walnut fireplace mantle were built into the house erected by James and a larger matching porch was added.

At the death of Mary Jane (Ballard) and Daniel B. Ennis, the house and land were willed to Margaret (Hogan) Haag (b. 9-6-1890). She was the niece of Mary Jane (Ballard) Ennis and had made her home with them following the death of her mother, until her marriage June 4, 1913. She married William Haag (b. 9-1-1891; d. 8-29-1972). William and Margaret (Hogan) Haag completely remodeled the house during the period from 1922 to 1972. First, electricity was installed and the cellar was enlarged to create room for a furnace. Then an inside cellarway, closets and a bath were added. Hardwood flooring was laid over the old rough boards, and the kitchen was completely modernized.

Margaret (Hogan) Haag is the present owner. Her grandson, Ray William (b. 9-1-1946) and his wife Mary Margaret (Turk) McClain (b. 2-19-1942) with their daughter, Amy Jo McClain (b. 2-26-1973), are the present occupants.

The hand hewn sills in the 1854 part of the house are still in excellent condition, as are the four solid walnut doors made by George Ballard and the original solid walnut woodwork. Much of the original plastering is intact; the woodwork was nailed to framing and then plastered up to it. The original china doorknobs are still on the doors and the original iron lock with its 4-inch long brass key still works. Solid walnut cupboard doors from the 1854 house hang in the kitchen. Two of the walnut thresholds that were laid in 1854 are still in use.

BALLARD HOUSE

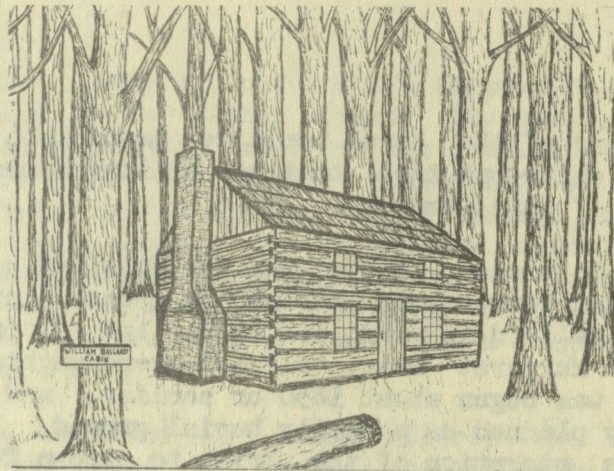
A drawing of the house would be incomplete without the huge white oak tree that has sheltered seven generations of this family.

Common in pioneer times, was the "family" cemetery. The Ballard Cemetery is located on ground entered by Beverly Ballard in 1834 and 1835, and is presently owned by Margaret Haag, a great-granddaughter. The cemetery was begun about 1850 or earlier, and was originally planned as a family burial ground. However, after the migration of the Irish to Brown Township, there was an epidemic which killed many babies in the community, and some of the Irish Catholic families requested that James Ballard allow their unbaptised children to be buried in his family plot. At that time all Catholic children were baptized at St. John Church in Indianapolis, so it was not unusual for a child to be a year old before baptism. Many Protestant children are also buried there.

There are many unmarked graves. Some stones are practically illegible, and some are sunken. Several graves are marked by field-stones and two with red cedar trees.



WILLIAM BALLARD CABIN



The Liberty Township drawing depicts the William Ballard Cabin, described by one writer as "the largest and most commodious within the bounds of the new county of Hendricks." Whether or not this was true we can not tell. However, William Ballard did choose a location on the Terre Haute Trail for building his log house. This provided some advantage in transportation and communication both of which were difficult in the dense forest.

William Ballard, then of Morgan County, Indiana, entered this land (NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 12 T 14N R 1W) February 21, 1823. The act of the Indiana Legislature making Hendricks a county was passed December 20, 1823. This act also named the "House of William Ballard" as the meeting place for the five commissioners who were to select the site for the county seat of justice. They were instructed to perform this service on the second Monday in July 1824.

These commissioners were William Templeton of Lawrence County, William McCulloch of Monroe County, Calvin Fletcher of Marion County, Abel Cole of Shelby County and John Smiley of Johnson County.

The circuit Court and all other courts in Hendricks County were to be held at the "House of William Ballard of said county."

WILLIAM BALLARD CABIN

By the time of the special session in May and the term of court in October 1824, William Ballard had died. The date of his death is uncertain. On January 26, 1824, Mary Ballard, widow of William, and Thomas R. Ballard produced before George H. Beeler, clerk of Morgan Circuit Court, the last will and testament of William Ballard. The will was "proved by oaths of Levi Jessup, Nathan Kirk and George W. Pope, subscribing witnesses thereto." Thomas Ballard, Sr. and Charles Vertrees were security for Mary Ballard and Thomas R. Ballard who were appointed executrix and executor by George H. Beeler in vacation of Probate Court.

The above action occurred in Morgan County because Hendricks County did not operate officially until April 1, 1824.

William Ballard's death made no change in the previous arrangement for courts to be held at his house. On October 25, 1824, the first term of court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit was held at the late William Ballard's house. Calvin Fletcher, Gabriel Jones, a Mr. Johnson, Daniel B. Wick and Craven P. Heister were admitted to the bar at this session.

The first Probate Court in Hendricks County was held at the same house in April 1825. Nathan Kirk and James Downard were associate judges. "At this meeting the wills of Uriah Hultz and William Ballard were admitted to probate.

Presiding Judge at the October 1824 term was William W. Wick. Levi Jessup was Clerk of the Court. Hervey Gregg was prosecuting attorney and Jonathan Jessup was appointed to attend to Jury. Added to the names already given, those of jurors for these terms of court and a small list of "guests" at the Ballard Cabin appears:

Moses Alderson	David Demoss	Thomas Lockhart
Pollard Baldwin	James Downard	James McClure
Adin Ballard	James Dunn	Abijah Pinson

WILLIAM BALLARD CABIN

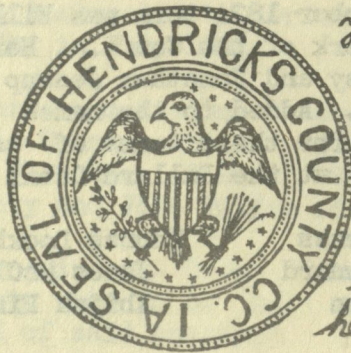
David Ballard	John Fowler	David Ross
John Ballard	Thomas Gilbert	James Thompson
Noah Bateman	John Hawkins	Daniel B. Tryer
Abijah Bray	Ezekial Hornaday	Samuel Woodward
John W. Bryant	Samuel Jones	
Stephen Cook	Jesse Kellum	Plus names of
Robert Cooper	John Leamon	19 witnesses

Mary Ballard's house probably remained the convenient gathering place of the community for some time after her husband's death. Probably she extended hospitality many times to travelers or newcomers. The Liberty Township election on August 7, 1826 and on August 6, 1827 were held here.

In land transactions from Mary Ballard and Thomas R. Ballard to different grantees, mention was made of "William Ballard late of Hendricks County." From this we assume that he lived in Hendricks County at the time of his death.

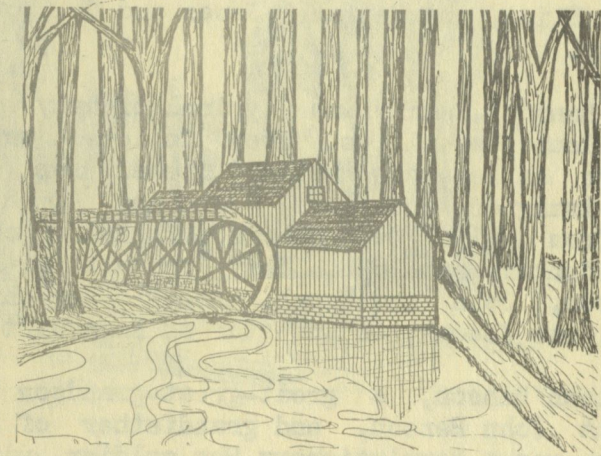
Mary Ballard apparently was still living in Belleville in 1844. She lived with her daughter, Almira, and son-in-law Joseph Hawkins Matlock, in the 1860's at Warsaw, where she died about 1865.

Whatever happened to the "House of the Late William Ballard of Hendricks County", it filled a special place in the early history of our county and earned its place on the certificate.



*Hendricks Circuit Court
October Term A.D. 1893
Ordered that the seal
here attached be used
as the seal of this
Court instead of the
scrawl and ink seal
heretofore used by the Court.*

THE BENSON WATER MILL



A sketch, representative of the first water mill in Hendricks County, depicts Eel River Township. This first mill was constructed by John Price Benson, in 1826, on Rock Branch (Sec 7 T 16N R 2W).

The 1878 Atlas of Hendricks County, quotes a Col. Nichols as saying about the Benson Mill, "It was a very patient and industrious mill, but rather slow." This undoubtedly was descriptive of most of the water-powered mills. The Benson mill was also a trading and social center in its day.

As the mill was emblematic of an industry, its builder identified with a trade. John Price Benson, mill-wright, rendered invaluable service by constructing and operating the grist and lumber mills in developing sections of the new land.

His stay in Hendricks County was comparatively short—approximately six years. Records show the Benson property was sold to Jacob Crum in March of 1832. John Price Benson, with his family, moved on to Clinton County.

In Rush County in 1825, John had married Sarah Abbott. Their children were James, Charlotte, Rhoda,

The Hendricks County Seminary was incorporated February 6, 1837, and on July 24, the trustees acquired lots 2 and 3 in block 9 in the town of Danville. At the September 1842 term, the trustees reported that they had proceeded to erect a seminary building on lot 2 and stated the following expenditures:

Brick work \$1610.11, Carpenter work \$870.00, Zachariah Clark - well \$17.57, Samuel A. Verbrike - painting \$30.00, James H. Hays - interest \$13.07½. Cost to date \$2540.57½. \$737.57 is unpaid.

Carpenter work is incomplete and plastering is to be done. No money on hand and no school in operation. The 40' x 80' two-story building cost \$4,000.00 and had 5 rooms and a hall.

In 1858, Jesse T. Matlock bought the Seminary property at a sheriff's sale for \$918.00. January 20, 1859, he sold it to the Methodists for a DANVILLE ACADEMY for \$800.00. In 1865, an additional building, two stories high, 45 feet by 100 feet was completed at a cost of \$14,000.00.

Principals of the Danville Academy were Levi Tarr, W. D. F. Lummis, O. H. Smith, J. L. Rippetoe, J. F. Scull and W. F. Gilmore. The Academy closed in 1868, but the Methodists worshipped in the Chapel until they completed their church on Washington Street in 1878.

Professor W. F. Harper, considering relocation of the rapidly expanding Central Normal School at Ladoga, covertly investigated Frankfort, Lebanon and Danville. Here he found desirable accommodations on the campus of the former Danville Academy. He advertised the move for July 5, 1878. Indignant citizens of Ladoga asked if he thought he had the normal school in his pocket. They said he could go but Central Indiana Normal School and Business Institute would not leave. That fall term opened in Ladoga's large new building in charge of Prof. Warren Darst and with a "flattering enrollment" of students. This school operated successfully for 13 more years.

Unexpected developments necessitated the move earlier than planned. Under the direction of Moses Keeney, a caravan of fifty vehicles arrived at Ladoga very early, May 10. They moved all the school equipment, faculty, students and baggage to Danville before evening. One day of study was lost.

On May 15, 1878, the Methodist Trustees conveyed the Academy property to Professor Harper for \$2500. Franklin P. Adams succeeded Harper as president. In November 1882, his widow, Ora Adams, became president. She erected a handsome residence and a large boarding house across the street. Mrs. Adams married Professor James A. Joseph July 10, 1889. He succeeded to the presidency in 1890. On October 6, 1890, Professor and Mrs. Joseph, conveyed lot #6 in block 10 (Chapel Hall) to Central Normal College for \$6,000. August 5, 1901, the Josephs conveyed lots 2 and 3 in block 9, to Central Normal College for \$5,000.

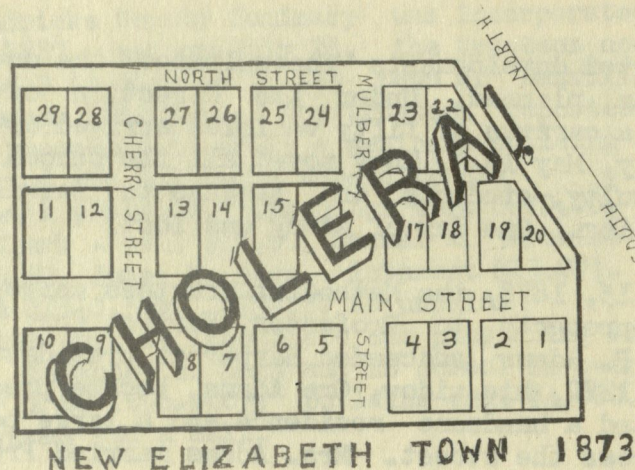
Central Normal College was now owned by a stock company, and directed by a board of trustees. Science Hall (later renamed Hargrave Hall) was built in 1915-1916. A gymnasium was constructed in 1924 and after a fire in 1936, had to be rebuilt a year later.

Scores of outstanding educators taught in Central Normal College and served as administrators. A representative few are: Professor Franklin P. Adams, Dr. Jonathon Rigdon, Dr. Henry Medford Whisler, Professor Charles A. Hargrave, Dr. George Reibolt, Blanche McNeely Wean and Marjorie Dean Gaston.

The 75,000 Central Normal College students came from and have gone to many states in the Union during its unique 68 years. They have served in all the major professions. Space is inadequate to do justice to Central Normal College, its administrators, educators and students.



CHOLERA!



The dreaded word "Cholera" marks Union Township's place on the certificate. The epidemic struck Lizton August 22, 1873. The town was platted as New Elizabeth but the name was officially changed when the post office was established.

The first victim was Mrs. William Davis. On Wednesday, she with her husband and child, moved into a house located north of the railroad. They were from Needmore, Marion Township. Mrs. Davis was taken with cholera about one o'clock Friday morning and died about five in the afternoon, at the age of eighteen. Her child died eighteen hours after it was attacked.

On Sunday morning August 24, Rachel (Hall) Adams, wife of Caleb F. Adams and a daughter of Squire Hall, became violently ill in church. She was taken to her parents' home about two miles west of Lizton, where she died September 8. Her sister, Lavina (wife of W. Fountain Hardwick) who attended her took the disease Tuesday, August 26, and died seven hours later. She was twenty-one and was a bride of eight months.

On Monday morning August 25, Martin Griggs was taken down about ten o'clock and died at five that afternoon.

CHOLERA!

Dr. John Dicks was the sixth victim. He had lived in town two years and was well liked, but the way he fought the cholera really endeared him with the people. He rode day and night to attend the sick until Friday August 29. He contracted the disease about two o'clock and died only three hours later.

On Saturday, August 30, Cleopatra, a fifteen year old daughter of Squire Hall, was taken sick and died Monday, September 1. During her burial her mother died. That made four deaths in Thomas B. Hall's family. Mr. Hall also had the cholera but he recovered. The only other member of the family at home was Douglas, a boy of thirteen.

W. R. Logston became ill Tuesday, September 2 and died on Thursday, September 4. His wife took the disease Saturday morning, September 6, and died that same evening.

Benjamin Hedges and two children died in an old house south of Main Street. Neighbors burned the Hedges house and moved the widow into the William Davis house where another daughter died.

On Friday morning, September 5, Mrs. Burgess, showed the usual symptoms and died at five that afternoon.

W. G. Haggard, already ailing with a chronic affliction, succumbed on Saturday, September 6, after lingering almost a week.

Members of the Helmick and Christie family household all died except an eight-year old boy. One boy died behind the stove and his body was lassoed, dragged through the door, put in a dry-goods box and buried. Many of the victims were buried at night—some in their bed clothes. They kept boxes made ahead for burials.

CHOLERA!

Mrs. George Shirley, a bride of less than a year, went to visit relatives in Danville and died there.

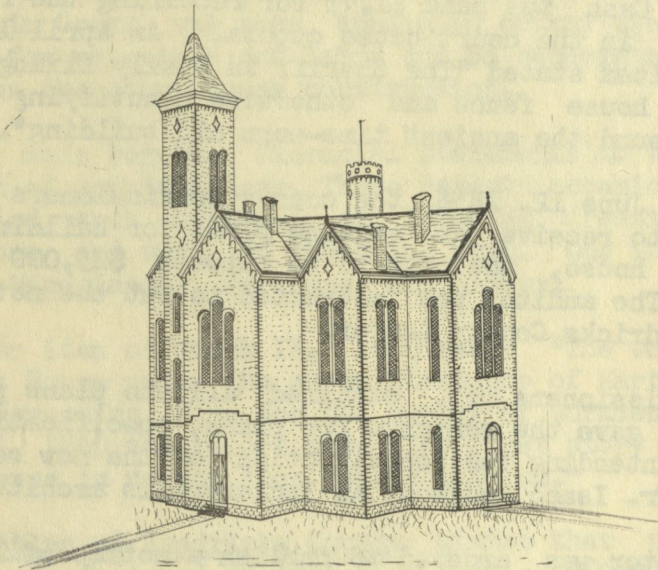
After George Lyons had nursed the Hall family, he took the cholera. He took large doses of quinine and finally recovered.

Physicians who attended the sick were: Dr. J. A. Comingore of Indianapolis; Drs. Brill, Tilford and Cloud of Pittsboro; Drs. Kelley and Burk of Jamestown; Dr. Keslea of Louisville, Kentucky and Dr. J. W. Culley of Danville. Those who nursed the sick were: Panthy, (wife of William Lowery), Aunty Welsh, Mrs. Hedges, David Lane, Oscar Hull and Fred Shumake.

There were no new cases after September 13. The three-week epidemic resulted in twenty-three deaths. David V. Leak and Jesse Vieley dug most of the graves. All except Mr. Dicks and Mrs. George Shirley were buried in the Vieley cemetery just east of Lizton.



HENDRICKS COUNTY COURT HOUSE



On April 1, 1824, Hendricks County officially began business as a unit of government. On the following July 14, the site was selected for the county seat. The stake, driven to mark the location of the court house, was very near the point where four sections of land cornered.

Owners of land cornering here were Daniel Bales, James Downard, George Matlock and Robert Wilson. Of these, Bales and Downard donated twenty acres each from their eighty, "for the consideration of locating the county seat." George Matlock sold to the County Agent twenty acres for \$100.00. Robert Wilson, for \$1,000.00 sold the fourth twenty acres, to make the eighty on which the town was platted.

The first Court House, completed and occupied in 1826, was a one-story log structure, 22' by 24'. In 1831, the court house was enclosed with brick at a cost of \$6,190.00. For that same year Ducan Mausey

HENDRICKS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

was paid \$59.00 for furnishing conductors and figure-heads for the building. At the June Term of 1855, William H. Cash was paid \$1.75 for repairing the roof and window in the court house cupola. An April 1875 newspaper item stated "The Sheriff is busily fixing up the court house fence and otherwise beautifying the grounds around the ancient time-worn old building".

Saturday June 12, 1858, the county commissioners set August 10 to receive and examine plans for building a new court house, the cost to be between \$25,000 and \$40,000. The auditor was instructed to put the notice in the Hendricks County Ledger.

The commissioners met, examined all the plans presented and gave the contract for plans, specifications and superintending the construction of the new court house to Mr. Isaac Hodgson, an Indianapolis architect.

The auditor was ordered to publish a notice of letting of building contract in these papers: Hendricks County Ledger, The Danville Democrat, The Indiana American, Indiana State Journal (weekly until the letting of the contract) and in the Daily Indianapolis Journal for three weeks. Sealed bids were to be received by the auditor until Wednesday, November 10, 1858, when they were to be opened at 2 P.M. and the contract awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

The William W. Miller and Company was awarded the contract and after furnishing their security for bond, signed the contract for \$38,744, on November 22. Of this amount, \$8,680 was to be paid to Macey, Rankin and Company for iron and iron work.

Early in 1859, Martin Gregg was ordered to sell the old court house and to make reservations as he saw fit regarding furnishings etc. By April 1859, the remains of the old court house were mostly removed from the grounds. The next month saw the removal of the fence, locust grove and county office buildings from the court house square.

HENDRICKS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

The William W. Miller & Co. had financial difficulties and in December 1859, ceased work on the court house. Martin Gregg was then appointed county agent to contract for materials and labor and to superintend to completion the court house construction.

Mr. Gregg made regular financial statements to the county board of commissioners. These reports occasionally specified such material or labor as dressing flagging stone and work in the brick yard. One item was to Fred Wagenlander, for ropes and blocks.

A newspaper item of March 11, 1860 read: "The work on the Court House under the superintendence of Martin Gregg is progressing fine for the number of workmen." By August 11, 1860 the report was: "The first story of the Court House is up and iron joists laid on."

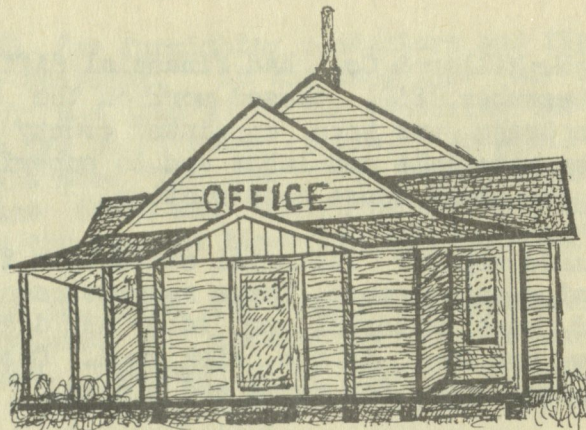
The 1878 Atlas of Hendricks County states that the court house was finished in 1862 at a cost of \$60,000. The building was reported to be substantial and finished in the most elegant style of contemporary architecture. The Clerk, Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder and Sheriff had offices on the first floor. The court room was on the second floor and was one of the largest and finest court rooms in Indiana.

The building was surmounted by two towers. In one was an observatory from which a magnificent view of the town and surrounding area was afforded.

The court house stood on the present square in the midst of a natural mound. The grounds were improved with ornamental and forest trees and some years later were enclosed by a substantial iron fence five feet high.

This court house served until January 9, 1912, when the roof collapsed after a very heavy snow.





In the year 1812, Dr. Benjamin Albertson, William Hobbs, Nathan Trueblood and a few other families of the Society of Friends, removed from North Carolina to Indiana. They located near Salem, Washington County, forming the community known as Blue River Friends. The 1820 census of Washington County adds an interesting sidelight; Benjamin Albertson's household included a free colored male and female both under fourteen years of age. Nathan Trueblood also had a free colored male between the age of fourteen and twenty-five.

Dr. Albertson had a fondness for trees and plants and cultivated a small nursery. His son, Oliver worked with his father as soon as he was big enough to carry an ax. In time he acquired a wide knowledge of cultivated tree and plant varieties. About 1845 Oliver began producing trees for commercial purposes. For many years he managed the largest nursery business in Indiana at Canton, near Salem.

In 1875, Oliver Albertson moved to Section 17, Washington Township near Bridgeport where he planned to start a small nursery business and retain an interest in the Washington County Nursery. Cyrus M. Hobbs, William Hobbs' son (and later Mr. Albertson's son-in-law) took charge of the Bridgeport nursery. C. M. Hobbs remained active in the nursery management for

fifty-two years. He was a trustee of Purdue university sixteen years and a long-time president of the Board of Trustees of Friends Central Academy at Plainfield before his death in 1927.

After the death of Oliver Albertson in 1879, his son Emery Albertson and Cyrus M. Hobbs formed a partnership for the management of the Bridgeport nursery. From a small beginning, a planting of less than ten acres, their business has grown steadily.

By 1900, four hundred acres were cultivated with more than two hundred acres closely planted to nursery stock. That spring's planting exceeded a million grafts and stocks for budding, besides thousands of shade and ornamental trees, plants and small fruits. By 1904, these nurserymen owned over three hundred-thirty acres and leased more than one hundred-ninety acres.

Three hundred of these were closely planted with young fruit and ornamental trees and plants for their trade. Some sixty years later, five million plants were growing, and approximately one million were sold each year.

At that time, twenty-three head of horses and mules were required for the work at the Bridgeport Nursery. In 1961, four horses were still used since they were considered best for cross plowing between the trees. By then the Hobbs Firm had a fleet of trucks, equipped with two-way radios which kept field workers within talking range of the sales room and office.

In 1904, a large boarding house accommodating thirty men was built west of the office. In another building nearby rooms for office help were provided. At that time the office, work-rooms, packing-houses and storage buildings covered over thirty-thousand square feet. Also, there were numerous farm and tenant houses.

C. M. HOBBS & SONS NURSERIES

During the period when the maintenance and repair of the National Road depended upon the operation of "Gravel-Road Companies," (mostly of adjacent land owners) money to finance this work was collected at toll houses. The present office of the Hobbs & Sons Nursery was once a toll house.

Later when transportation was by rail, a switch ran from the main line through the packing house where the cars could be loaded as soon as shipments were ready. This operation was more efficient and also protected the goods thus carefully loaded inside the shed.

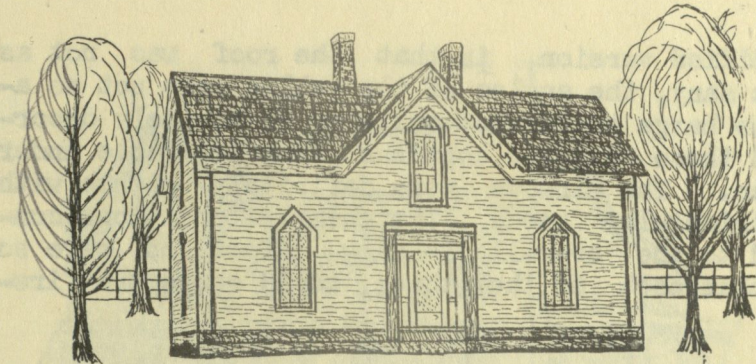
These extra efforts to deliver top quality goods in excellent condition have paid well. One orchardist planted nine thousand trees and lost only five. Another man was a repeat customer for seventy-five years.

A few years ago, a Michigan physician bought 37,000 cherry trees in one season. At another time the city of Detroit ordered two semi-trailer truck loads of Sugar Maple trees. Another order of two thousand Norway Maples went to Chicago. Customers wanting only one small tree receive the same prompt and courteous service as large buyers. Fine quality stock has been shipped from Hobbs Nursery to every state in the Union and to some foreign countries.

When Emery Albertson retired in 1907, the business was continued by C. M. Hobbs and his sons, Oliver A., Harry W. and Fred R. Another generation is now in the business, Robert M., Thomas P. and Gordan A. Hobbs.



THE ZIMRI HUNT HOUSE



Zimri Hunt, sixth of nine children of Eleazor Hunt, was born in 1795 in Guilford County, North Carolina. In their native county, he married Rebecca, daughter of Williamson and Rebecca Brown. They were parents of Beulah, Stephen, Mary, Asenath, Ithamar, Daniel, Anna, Lydia, Jeannette, Rebecca and Zimri. The first six of these were born in Guilford County, North Carolina and the rest in Marion Township, Hendricks County, Indiana.

In 1827, in two wagons, pulled by one four-horse team and one two-horse team, the Hunts came to the Marion Township wilderness, making the seven-hundred mile trip in six weeks.

Zimri Hunt entered eighty acres of land and had cleared forty of these acres, when a mistake in the number of his section was discovered. He lost this land but for improvements upon it, received fifty dollars. The Hendricks County Tract Book shows that Zimri Hunt entered one-hundred-sixty acres in section 2 township 15N range 2W in November 1830. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hicks are the present owners of this farm.

By 1850, the trend toward Gothic Mode architecture had reached central Indiana. This style, Zimri Hunt chose for a large, sturdy frame house. It was a some-

THE ZIMRI HUNT HOUSE

what modified version, in that the roof was not as steep as many, the angles of the gables were not so acute, the barge boards not quite so elaborately decorated and these did not continue from the gable under the eaves. The windows were definitely gothic with their triangular hoods. The chimney positions contributed to the overall pleasing effect and were so placed that each of the three could serve two fireplaces.

The front rectangular section had four rooms on the ground floor, two on each side of the central hall. Here stairs ascended to rooms used by the family. The rear section contained the dining room and kitchen, under which was a fruit and vegetable cellar. This rear section had a second stairway to rooms for hired help. These were entirely separate from the other second story rooms.

The late Wilbur D. Peat pictured this house in his book "Indiana Houses of the 19th Century," printed in 1962.

For more than a century, this landmark house stood near the Rockville Road in Marion Township in Hendricks County, Indiana, suggestive of progressive informed citizenry and improved living standards of the midwest. The Hunts, long since deceased, he in 1871 and she in 1877, and the house removed within the current decade, served their time and place. They have earned honorable mention on the pioneer certificate as representing Marion Township.



THE HUNTER BUILDING



The Hunter Building in Brownsburg represents Lincoln Township. On the much traveled early Crawfordsville Road in 1835, William Harris platted the village of Harrisburg. By March 16, 1836, when Benjamin M. Logan was appointed postmaster, the name was changed to Brownsburgh, dropping the "H" on April 25, 1893. Benjamin M. Logan was also the first merchant.

The site of the Hunter Building (lots five and six in block four) was conveyed by Quit Claim, January 31, 1860, for fifty dollars to Benjamin M. Logan from James M. Gregg. On February 13, 1860, for eight hundred dollars it passed to Tyra Montgomery and Jesse R. Cope. That year a frame building was raised. November 5, 1864, the firm of Montgomery and Cope deeded this property to Jesse R. Cope for four thousand dollars. Jesse R. Cope on December 3, 1869, paid Thomas W. Morgan three hundred dollars for parts of adjacent lots four and seven. Reportedly the large "L" shaped brick business structure of Greek Revival architecture was erected within the next two years.

This elegant show place of the 1870's has witnessed Brownsburg's growth from a small village of eight hundred to today's five thousand five hundred people. Inside the north side-paned door is the graceful wal-

THE HUNTER BUILDING

nut stairway with the semi-circle turn on a half-way landing where there is a charming bay window. It has been enclosed for many years by the added rooms to the south, but it is still an interesting point of beauty.

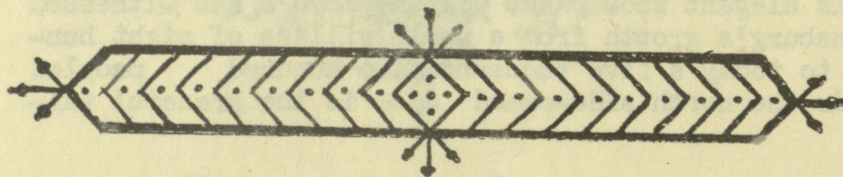
While Jesse R. Cope and Cyrus N. Hunt were engaged in general merchandise business here, Mr. Cope was president of the First National Bank of Danville from 1873-1877. During this time the Cope and Hunt firm established a banking service for their customers in connection with their store.

After Mr. Cope and Mr. Hunt died, M. T. Hunter, a farmer and bank director managed the firm. He continued under the name of Cope and Hunt and business was conducted by Cleo Hunt and Fred S. Gorman.

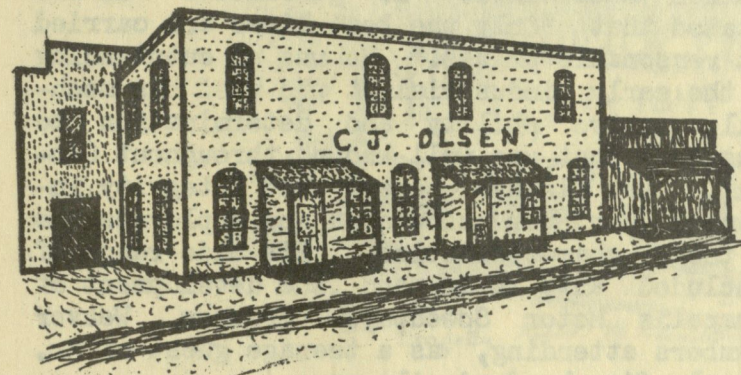
From April 1907 until 1932, M. T. Hunter operated a bank in the building. The huge concrete foundation for the bank vault still remains where it was placed for support.

Later owners of the building were Dr. Byron Lingenman, Dr. Earl Feree and currently, James A. Dale. Dr. Feree changed the large hall and other second-story space into apartments and added some construction at the rear. For thirty years the "Corner Cafe" operated there. The late Mrs. Samuel Smith said the first telephone in town was in the Hunter Building and remembered that about 1900 her father telephoned to James-town relatives the news of her grandmother's death.

Bricklayers, carpenters and skilled woodworkers, names unknown, built well this house which ranks equally with many in the state. The bricks were burned in Brownsburg. No doubt the lumber was cut in the vicinity and milled in the village. Fortunately, the Hunter Building survived the town's disastrous fires and remains today an example of yesterday.



THE OLSEN FACTORY



Charles J. Olsen's life story reads like that of Horatio Alger. As a young Swede, Mr. Olsen arrived in the United States and became a naturalized citizen. Subsequently he moved to Indiana.

Eventually, he settled in Pittsboro, working as a blacksmith. Later, in 1882, he established a small factory with a capital of one hundred dollars. He built wagons, buggies and carriages and made and repaired harness in one room, 20' x 30'. This soon grew into one of the town's largest and most prosperous businesses. It continued operation until the mid nineteen twenties. A larger building provided more floor space. Twenty-six skilled laborers were employed manufacturing school wagons. These were shipped to many other states and were also sold locally. The Guilford Township trustee paid one hundred ninety-three dollars for one of these wagons, September 11, 1909.

Mr. Olsen also built two automobiles. James Hughes, a farmer living between Tilden and Pittsboro, bought one of these cars. Mrs. Cordas Wilson of Brownsburg, a grand-daughter of James Hughes, owns a picture of this Olsen automobile. The second car manufactured at Olsen's shop was purchased by Jasper Swain of the Pittsboro community.

Advertisements in the "Pittsboro Sun" and other local papers stressed the high quality of workmanship which Mr. Olsen maintained. He guaranteed all his work and stated that "Only the best lines are carried and sold at reasonable prices." He was an outstanding example of the early industrialist who used his mechanical skill, native ability and determination to build a business that was well known throughout Central Indiana. Mr. Olsen's honesty and integrity indelibly stamped upon his associates and employees the virtues of these characteristics. His wide range of interest included auto racing and the development of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Frances Weaver Fisher remembers attending, as a teenage guest of Mr. Olsen, an early five-hundred mile race.

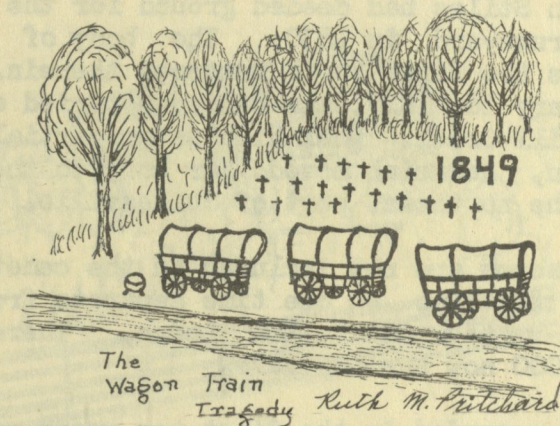
The Olsen Factory stood on South Maple Street in Pittsboro. It was sold in the late nineteen twenties to the firm of Williams and Welliver. A construction company used it for awhile. After the 1970 fire partially destroyed the building, it was razed to make way for the beautiful new Bank Building.

Hendricks County Marriage Record Book # 9, page 404 certifies the marriage of "J. Charles Olsen to E. Louise Dillon on May 29, 1883." Miss Dillon was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Dillon, inn keepers in Pittsboro. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Olsen were parents of two sons, Urban and Clyde. Urban became a grocer in Pittsboro, and Clyde was a partner of his father. No descendants of this family now live in Pittsboro.

In the Hendricks County Naturalization Book on page 229 is the following information. March 21, 1888 (this has to be an error, should be 1889) August Olson reports for naturalization. He is a native of Sweden, age 22. He arrived in the United States, November 28, 1888. He renounced allegiance to Oscar II, King of Sweden and Norway.

William R. McClelland, Clerk

August Olson was a brother to Charles.



The "wagon-train tragedy" involved people traveling from Ohio to California in 1849. Oxen pulled their great Conestoga wagons. On the eve of the tragedy, they stopped near Stilesville. One source gave the location on the hill two miles east of Stilesville while another version placed that night's camp west of Stilesville on the bank of Mill Creek.

They purchased seasonal produce from residents of the locality, and cooked new corn for the evening meal. The next morning they ate the remainder of the corn which had been left in the copper kettle over night. Immediately several became ill and within a few hours, had died of food poisoning. Reports vary as to how many actually died but the most accepted story states that nineteen died and were buried in the west part of the Stilesville cemetery.

No doubt the friendly little town of three hundred inhabitants offered hospitality and showed compassion to the stricken people of the ill-fated wagon-train and undoubtedly assisted in the final rites for the deceased. The unidentified travelers rest in unmarked graves in one of Hendricks County's oldest cemeteries.

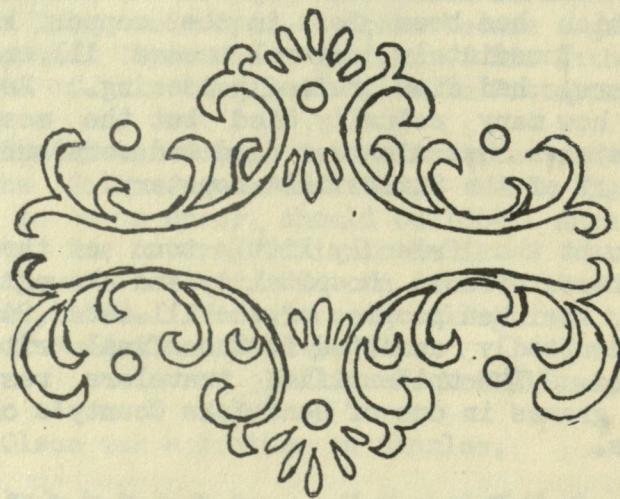
THE WAGON TRAIN TRAGEDY

Jeremiah Stiles had deeded ground for the first part of this graveyard in 1830. The body of his wife, Sybil, was the first to be interred therein. She had died January 16, 1827, and had been buried on the west side of Mill Creek. When high water partially exposed her coffin, Jeremiah moved her body to the new cemetery at the northeast part of Stilesville.

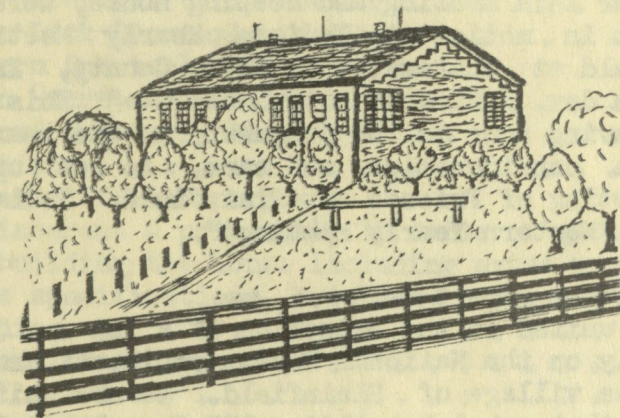
Eleven acres are now included in the cemetery (1974). A part of this was at one time separate from the rest and owned by the Odd Fellow Lodge. There may be as many as 3000 now buried there.

Burials recorded in the first ten years were:

John McHaffie	March 11, 1820	February 26, 1831
Joseph Woods	October 9, 1776	October 29, 1833
Joel Garrison	February 6, 1760	March 1, 1835
Sarah Lee	May 29, 1757	May 29, 1835
Zillah Newton	March 21, 1813	March 1, 1836
Ann Lewis	Born 1811	October 7, 1836
Reuben Woods	June 22, 1809	July 29, 1838
Sarah J. Borders	July 24, 1820	May 4, 1839
Rebecca Borders	March 8, 1822	August 17, 1839



WESTERN YEARLY MEETING HOUSE



Pioneer wisdom recognized the fundamental need of and dependence upon Divine power. Faith in the Omnipotence moved our predecessors to meet with confidence each day and each task. Many of the settlers were convinced that labor and the ability to labor were blessings and that every chore was a part of a greater work. Of necessity they first erected dwellings but next, and as soon as possible, they built meeting houses.

The early denominations in the Hendricks County wilderness with an organizing leader were: Baptist, William Pope; Disciples, Thomas Lockhart; Friends, Kleazor Bales; Lutherans, the Reitzels; Methodists, Joseph Tarkington; and Presbyterians, Samuel C. Mitchell. Moravians established a church in Coatesville in 1842 with Benjamin Charles Spaugh as one of the leaders. The Catholics under the Rev. D. J. McMullen, Brownsburg are listed in 1867. The first to build a house of worship were the Friends in 1823.

Selection for the certificate of one church from so many was difficult. Decision finally rested with Western Yearly Meeting House of Friends because it was unique, among churches, in size, design and connections outside the community.

WESTERN YEARLY MEETING HOUSE

Plans for this meeting and meeting house, were officially set in motion at Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Whitewater in Wayne County, Indiana, on seventh day, third of 10th, 1857—" This Yearly Meeting having come to the judgment in the year 1855, after much consideration and care, to set up a new Yearly Meeting of Friends at Plainfield, Indiana, to be called 'Western Yearly Meeting'".

From another report—

"We are united in the selection of a lot . . . lying immediately on the National Road, southeast and adjacent to the village of Plainfield. We are united in believing that a brick building 120 feet long, 70 feet wide and one story high, would be a suitable kind and size. The Elders' gallery to be raised to the height of about four feet—four doors to be in the north side—two doors in each end—six windows in each side and four in each end—the partition to be of wood. The whole to cost about eleven thousand dollars."

The associated committee later reported "We have purchased 12 acres of ground (corn field) of David Carter—have caused a house to be erected and such improvements made upon the lot as in our judgment seemed necessary. We have completed all the work contemplated and have made payments for the same except . . ."

Minutes of the Building Committee and the Treasurer's account show sums received from different sources to be:

Miami Quarterly Meeting	\$420.00
West Branch Quarterly Meeting	270.00
Fairfield Quarterly Meeting	300.00
Whitewater Quarterly Meeting	720.00
New Garden Quarterly Meeting	300.00
Westfield Quarterly Meeting	120.00
Center Quarterly Meeting	430.00
Alum Creek Quarterly Meeting	240.00
Spiceland Quarterly Meeting	540.00
Northern Quarterly Meeting	360.00
Salem Quarterly Meeting	300.00
Pleasant Plain Quarterly Meeting	240.00

WESTERN YEARLY MEETING HOUSE

Blue River Quarterly Meeting	\$1030.00
White Lick Quarterly Meeting	3340.00
Western Quarterly Meeting	2160.00
Union Quarterly Meeting	2114.76
Concord Quarterly Meeting	1844.33
Donations	76.00
Paid for different purposes:	
For interest & principal, 12 acres of ground	1451.95
For building the house including extra work	11035.04
Plans specifications, printing, surveying .	121.30
Ditching	98.41
Tax on lot of ground.	8.64
Fencing lot	319.43
Out buildings	142.81
Lightening Rods	47.00
Two wells complete.	50.00
Guard posts around house.	29.52
Clearing off lot	29.59
Grading and graveling	40.00
Hitching Racks	87.85
Extra Benches	15.45
Carpets, tables, stoves, etc.	157.30
Superintending the work, etc.	300.00
Total Amount Paid	\$13934.10
Remaining in hands of Treasurer	970.99
Of this amount is due Amos Compton.	909.20

William Wood's story written for the "American Friend" in an interesting style, is well worth quoting.

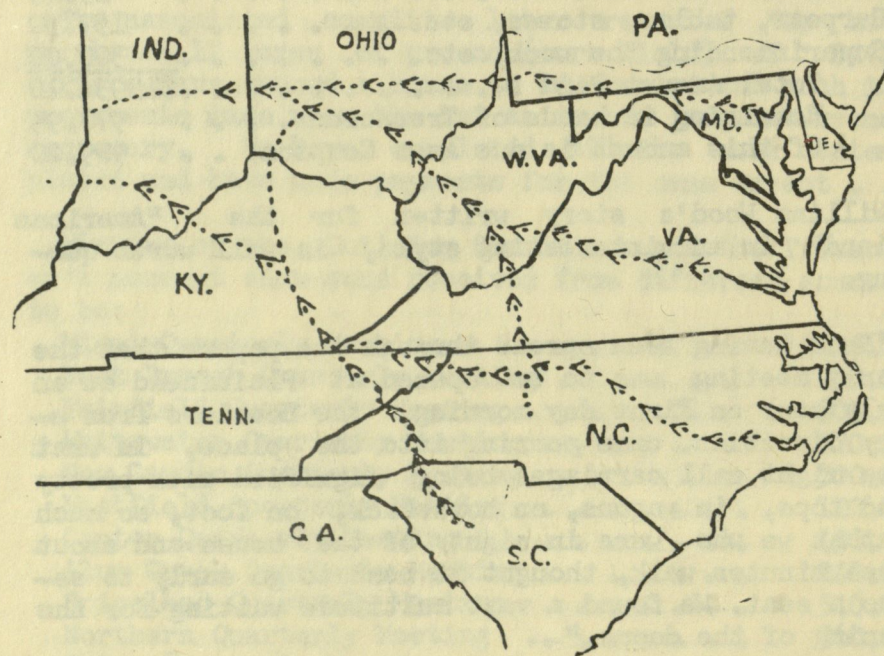
"News having been spread through the papers that the yearly meeting was to be opened at Plainfield at an early hour on First day morning, the Hoosiers from every direction came pouring into the place, in what some might call carriages being dignified with pretty good tops, in wagons, on horseback, on foot, so much so that we who were in sight of the house and about three minutes walk, thought it best to go early to secure a seat. We found a vast multitude waiting for the opening of the doors."

WESTERN YEARLY MEETING HOUSE

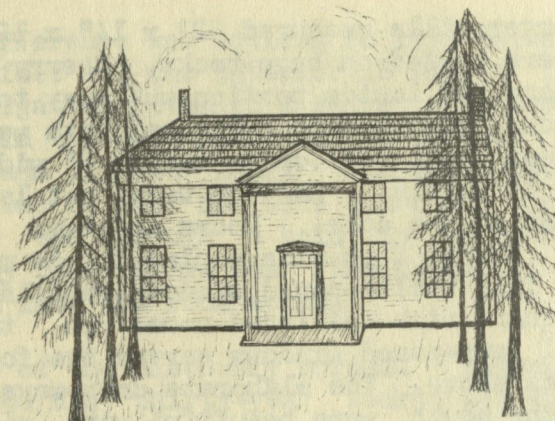
"At the time fixed, the doors were opened - eight of them, - and the living stream came pouring in, very orderly, no pushing or crowding, but a regular flowing as it were, through every aisle, and in less than 10 minutes every seat was occupied, and every inch of standing room was filled."

"It was a beautiful scene, the old and young, grave and gay, the robust and infirm in all the colors of the painter's easel, from the gayest butterfly hues to the sober tint of the octogenarian, or the veriest drab of the early Quaker, all intermixed and quickened by the spirits within them, and to all appearances, reverently."

Such was the scene at the first session of Western Yearly Meeting in Plainfield, 1858.



THE WHITE HOUSE OF HENDRICKS COUNTY



The pre-Civil War mansion sat unnoticed for years. Discovery of its Underground Railway Station brought sudden recognition and aroused interest in its past. The old white mansion stood on a knoll two miles west of Danville and one mile north of the Rockville Road. It was approached from the east through an avenue of pine trees.

Rupert S. Debra preserved the story of the White House in articles prepared, one for the Danville Republican (1933) and one for the Indianapolis Star (1937). Carl and Calvin Mitchell took Mr. Debra to the place and assisted in a thorough physical examination of the eighty-year old landmark. William Nichols aided with the historical notes and Benton Newlin reported on the mansion's secret.

Charles Rice, an anti-slavery advocate from Ohio, built the White House in 1852. Its size, color and porches with the two-story columns won for it the name "White House" because it resembled the White House in Washington, D. C.

The L-shaped structure was 52' east and west. It was 50' north and south. Lumber was cut for this house from trees on the farm. Each large sill came from one

tree. The longer sills measured 52' x 14" x 12". These enormous timbers rested on huge rocks. Cherry corner posts 10" square had inside portion cut away to fit 3" x 5" wall studs. Twelve-foot split oak lath were nailed to the studs. Poplar flooring boards 8" wide were laid on 12" x 3" joists. Rafters were cut larger at the plate than at the cone. Doors and some woodwork were walnut. Thirty inch wide poplar boards made the baseboards. Tall twelve-paned windows ventilated the twenty-foot square high-ceilinged rooms on the first floor. Small four-paned windows served the four low-ceilinged rooms above. The elaborate door-ways at the front and on the south were beautiful with side glass and multi-paned transoms. Each of the three great chimneys and their fireplaces contained enough bricks to make a foundation for an ordinary house.

The family occupied the ground floor. The free Negro employees had quarters upstairs. The men used the back stairs to reach their rooms on the west side of the solid partition. Negro women ascended to their rooms by the front stairs.

For several years neighbors puzzled over lights in the southeast upstairs windows. Lights burned all night every night of the year. A Sellers family recalled that lights still shown regularly and still aroused unsatisfied curiosity in 1859.

Charles Haynes purchased the house in 1854. James W. Thompson bought the place in 1873. His son, Henry H. Thompson, lived in the house and the grandson Edwin's birth, June 2, 1884, was recorded in pencil on an upstairs wall. Another inscription was "H. F. Alexander, November 3, 1878." Drawings and verses of Scripture were there, too.

James W. Thompson died in 1900 and his daughter, Susan Hughes, inherited the house. She lived in Ladoga and tenants were the occupants for the next forty years. Nature's destructive forces and lack of timely repair took their toll on the old house.

A difference was noticed in 1933 between the exterior 52 feet and the interior 48 feet of the south wall. Investigation revealed a secret room back of the fireplace in the west room of the house. It was 4 feet wide and 25 feet long. The walls were plastered. There was no door nor were there any windows. The entrance was through a hole in the back wall of the chimney high above the fireplace. A concealed door opened into the room above.

News of the discovery spread. Benton Newlin of Am realized his thirty-year search was ended. The description of the house fit a place his father had asked him to find. Benton learned of this Station when he visited his father in North Carolina in 1902 and still had not located it when he visited his father again in 1910.

Benton Newlin gave his father's story. Mr. Newlin had come to Hendricks County right after the Civil War to visit his sister, Mrs. Nathan Hadley of near Hadley Station. He met Addison Coffin and Mr. Coffin's hired-man, Anthony Cloud. Addison asked Mr. Newlin, "How would thee like to see an Underground Railway Station? Come with me and I will show thee the finest hideout in the world."

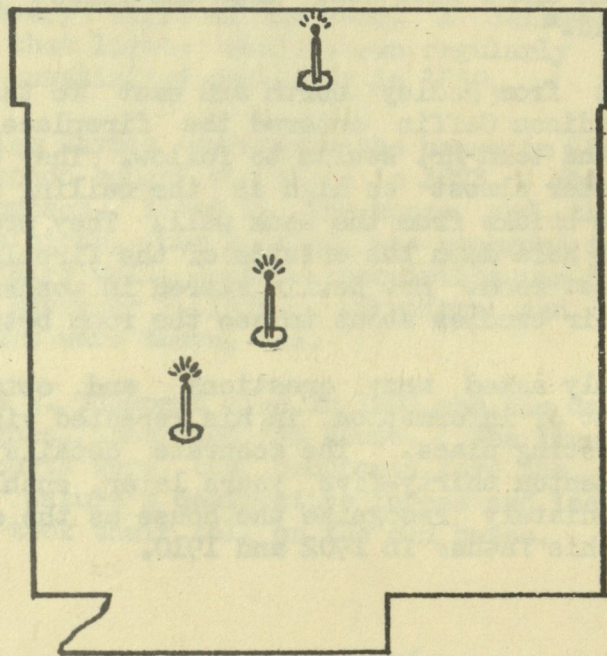
They went from Hadley north and east to that very house. Addison Coffin entered the fireplace in the west room and told Mr. Newlin to follow. They climbed a rope ladder almost as high as the ceiling and removed loose bricks from the back wall. They proceeded through the hole down the outside of the fireplace into the secret room. Mr. Newlin stared in wonder. They carried their candles about to see the room better.

He probably asked many questions and obtained a great amount of information in his repeated visits to that interesting place. The accurate details he related to Benton thirty-five years later, enabled the son to immediately recognize the house as the one described by his father in 1902 and 1910.

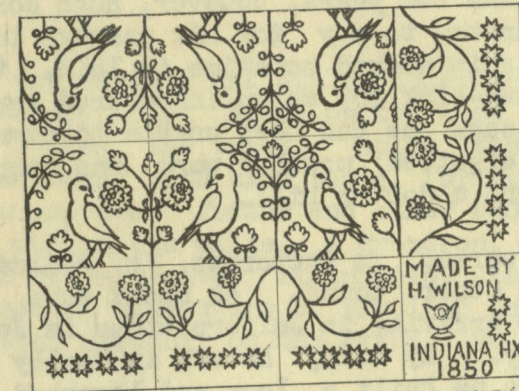
THE WHITE HOUSE OF HENDRICKS COUNTY

The White House of Hendricks County is the concrete link with the Underground Railway of the Anti-Slavery period. No other one factor caused so great and concentrated a migration as did opposition to slavery. The White House was purposely constructed to assist in the operation of the Underground Railway. Two other stations are reported to have been located within the county. Due to imperative secrecy records were not kept and the White House is distinguished as our one monument to that great movement.

Fletcher Pedigo, owner since 1945, had found the house in an extreme state of disrepair and suffering from misuse. The noteworthy west room, fireplace and secret room had been previously removed and he considered the building not worth restoring. He built his present house directly to the rear of the old Mansion and used all possible salvageable material. Shaped rafters, 3" x 5" wall studs, 12" x 3" floor joists, wide poplar flooring, stairs, walnut doors and some walnut wood went into the new dwelling.



HUGH WILSON



HUCH WILSON COVERLE

Ruth M. Pritchard
September 28 1993

Hugh Wilson's native Paisley is a municipal and parliamentary burgh of Renfrewshire, Scotland. It is situated on both sides of the river, White Cart, three miles from its junction with the river, Clyde. Glasgow, on the Clyde, is seven miles east of Paisley, while Greenock is seventeen miles distant and down river on the Clyde. Glasgow and Greenock are both sea ports for ocean-going vessels. The White Cart, in 1791, was made navigable, as far up as Paisley, for fifty-ton sloops.

In 1800 Paisley had a population of twenty-five thousand people. This old industrial city for centuries was known for its manufacture of fine linen. Its textile mills produced linen and cotton threads, muslin, cambric and imitation cashmere shawls called "Paisley." The city also had extensive bleach fields, large dye and print works, engineering works and some shipbuilding.

In this city, on November 8, 1803, Hugh Wilson was born to David and Isabelle Wilson. A family record gives David Wilson's occupation as ship merchant. The wee bairn grew and undoubtedly was observant, curious, and adventurous, with a good measure of self confidence.

At fourteen, Hugh was apprenticed to a Glasgow weaver. In less than two years, however, Hugh contracted to work as cabin-boy to pay for his passage to America. When the ship docked sometime in 1818, the captain sold the sea-sick boy as an indentured servant to pay for the passage he had been unable to earn. The story is that eighteen months' work was required to pay this debt and a doctor bill.

Later, Hugh worked in factories in Philadelphia, Baltimore, and other towns. He spent some time in Virginia before arriving in Jeffersontown in Jefferson County, Kentucky. By 1824, he was in Shelby County, Kentucky, where he built a loom and launched his own weaving business. He now was a master-craftsman.

He hired workers to card and dye the wool and to keep the bobbins filled for the shuttles. Amy Harrison, one of the workers, was a daughter of Reuben and Rhoda (Parris) Harrison. She was born in Kentucky, February 8, 1807. She and Hugh were married May 11, 1828. They became the parents of eleven children: David, Rebecca, William, Sarah, Mary, Mariah, Martha, Rhoda, James, Angeline L. and John G., all born in Shelby County, Kentucky.

After their marriage, Hugh Wilson bought a "tax title" to one-hundred sixty acres of land in Shelby County. This he sold to Elisha Bennett in 1849 and moved to Hendricks County, Indiana.

Hugh Wilson bought one hundred acres for \$1200 on August 29, 1849, from Daniel and Sarah Liming of Green County, Tennessee. This was northeast of Reno with approximately twenty-one acres in Marion Township and seventy-nine acres in adjoining Clay Township. Hugh and Amy sold this to John Byrum and David C. Byrum for \$2580 on October 3, 1860.

The next Wilson home was on one hundred acres of land in section 17 in Franklin Township. They purchased this September 25, 1860, from Joseph and Catherine Williams for \$3,000. This farm was about half

way between Coatesville and Stilesville. Hugh Wilson built a two-story brick house on the east side of the road. He felled the trees, split the logs and smoothed the boards with hand tools, for floors, ceiling, window and door frames and other woodwork. No plaster was put on the walls. A grandson, Hal J. Wilson, of 1402 Dallas Drive, Plainfield, states that he remembers reading newspapers of the 1860 decade. These had been pasted directly on the brick, as wall-covering.

There were other land transactions and moves before their last few years that were spent in Coatesville. There on August 8, 1884, Hugh Wilson ended a journey of several thousand miles and more than eighty years. Amy continued to live in this home, with her sister, Sarah Harrison Awbrey. Amy died there August 25, 1891.

Hugh and Amy were members of the West Branch Meeting of the Society of Friends in Coatesville. They are buried in that cemetery which is located in the east edge of Coatesville. Amy's will, dated December 20, 1886, stipulated that "at her death, out of her estate a good tombstone be placed at her head and one be placed at the head of her husband, the late Hugh Wilson."

Descendants state that communication between Hugh Wilson and his parents continued, by letter, until after the birth of James Thomas Wilson in 1842. The parents are buried in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland. A brother, John Wilson had come to America and his last known residence was St. Johns, New Brunswick. An Uncle Charles Muckendue, (?) owner of an ocean ship, had kept in touch, while he lived.

Gone are these Wilsons and their contemporaries. Gone, too, is the great loom which stood fifteen feet high, twelve feet long and seven feet wide, with its five foot-operated treadles. But many Hugh Wilson coverlets remain and their quality, design and color attest to the master weaver's skill. The signed and dated corners are evidence of just pride in good workmanship.

