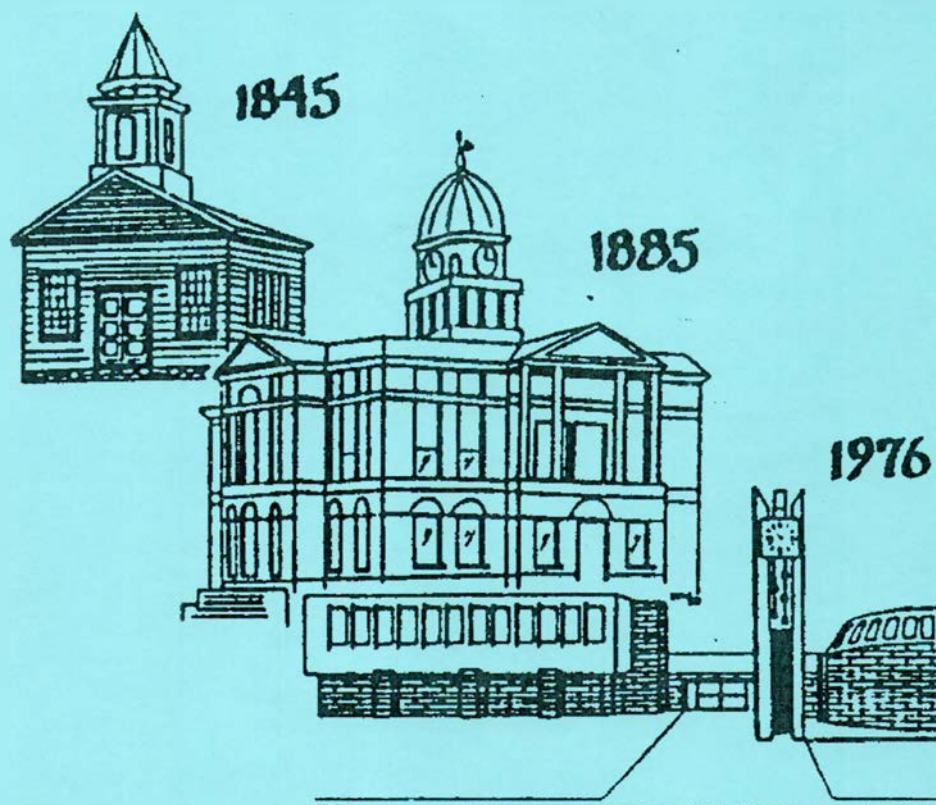


Eaton County Quest



Newsletter
Eaton County Genealogical Society
Eaton County, Michigan

Issue #79
September thru December 2013

ISSN 1075-881X

Eaton County Genealogical Society
1885 Historical Courthouse
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Eaton County Genealogical Society Library Research Rooms

Location: ground floor of the 1885 Historical Courthouse – corner of Lawrence Avenue and Cochran Avenue in downtown Charlotte, Michigan. Handicap accessible from back parking lot.

Membership Meetings: 7:00 pm

3rd Wednesday of March thru October and 2nd Wednesday of November

No membership meetings December, January or February

Research Room Hours:

Monday – Thursday 10 am to 2 pm

(Please call ahead if coming from a long distance to ensure the room is open.)

Visit our Web Site: www.miegs.org

Material for Publication

Mail to: Eaton County Quest Editor
PO Box 337
Charlotte, MI 48813-0337
Or contact: Sher Brown
sbrownsf2@gmail.com

The Eaton County Quest welcomes manuscripts regarding Eaton County and written articles that would be of interest to our membership for proposed publication. The manuscript or article should be typed on standard-sized paper and have the author's name on each page and numbered. A cover letter, giving permission from the author to publish the material in the Quest, should accompany the material submitted. Restrictions of any kind may not be placed on material to be published.

When sending photocopies of original old manuscripts, such as handwritten Bible records, send a typed transcript from which we can work from. Writing is much clearer on the original in your possession than on a photocopy.

The Editor welcomes manuscripts on CD disks using Microsoft Word. Written articles may be submitted by email to: historybuff62@gmail.com Please give permission for the article to be reprinted in the Quest.

Every effort is made to present authentic material; the Eaton County Genealogical Society cannot be held responsible for the accuracy or the publishing rights of the material furnished by contributors. All material is published with the permission of the contributor.

The Editorial staff will make the final decision on material to be published.

Due dates for material to be included in the next Quest are:

April 1st August 1st January 1st

A Note from our Librarian:

The Society is always in need of books, periodicals, photographs, personal articles that you have written on your family, or any genealogical research material you would like to find a good home.

Please contact Sharlene Thuma for more information at:
tsthuma@gmail.com

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(i.e. adoption, reformatory and boys training school)

Eaton County To Showcase Country Schools

The Eaton County Historical Commission has been working on a new book that will be out sometime in December regarding the history of our one-room country schools. Jan Sedore, Joe Nehmer and Sherry Copenhaver have been working on this project every Thursday for a year. A great article from the Lansing State Journal tells the whole story....

Country schools to be showcased

by Rachel Greco
rgreco@lsj.com

CHARLOTTE — A hundred years ago one-room schoolhouses could be found throughout Eaton County. The simple buildings were evenly spaced so that no child needed to walk more than two miles to class.

Today, some of the county's country schools are still standing, vacant ever since most closed in the 1960s. Many have become homes, places of business or barns. Others are simply gone.

One of them, Strange School outside of Grand Ledge, still operates as a school, with a handful of students in its own dis-

trict, Oneida Township School District Number 3.

Unearthing the answers to questions about what happened to all of the county's 197 country schools and the history behind them takes time and effort. Just ask Jan Sedore.

The Eaton County Historical Commission has been working with a group of volunteers for the past year doing just that. Their findings will be featured in a book that should be published by December.

From the Eaton County Genealogical Society's office inside the 1885 Eaton County Courthouse, Sedore, fellow commissioner JoeAnn Nehmer and genealogy society member

Sherry Copenhaver have spent every Thursday for the past year compiling facts, photos and personal memories of the county's one-room schoolhouses.

Sedore believes the topic will appeal to county residents but she's also hoping the soon-to-be published book will serve as a lucrative fundraiser for the Eaton County Historical Commission.

The proceeds from the book will help fund the annual grants that the entity doles out to efforts that preserve and maintain county history. The commission strives to give out two each year. In the past the money has supported the restoration

of historical buildings throughout Eaton County and the operation of local history museums.

Database of facts, photos

The project could pave the way for further preservation of county history but for Sedore it's a subject that's near and dear to her heart.

"I went to a one-room schoolhouse and absolutely loved it," she explained. "We had one teacher to 30 kids in one room. It went from first grade to sixth. I wanted to do this several years ago and finally moved forward with it."

See SCHOOLS, Page

Eaton County
Historical
Commission
member Jan
Sedore (left) and
Genealogical
Society member
Sherry
Copenhaver work
on a database of
the county's
one-room school
houses. RACHEL
GRECO/LSJ

LEARNING LEGACY

*Yearlong book project will raise
funds to help support historical
preservation in the area*



Millerburg School in Carmel Township is one of the one-room schoolhouses featured in the Historical Society's project. COURTESY PHOTO

Schools

Continued from Page 1A

office inside the Eaton County Courthouse, built in 1885, Sedore, fellow commissioner JoeAnn Nehmer and genealogy society member Sherry Copenhagen have spent every Thursday for the past year compiling facts, photos and personal memories of the county's one-room schoolhouses.

While Sedore, 71, believes the topic will appeal to county residents, she also hopes the book will serve as a fundraiser for the Eaton County Historical Commission.

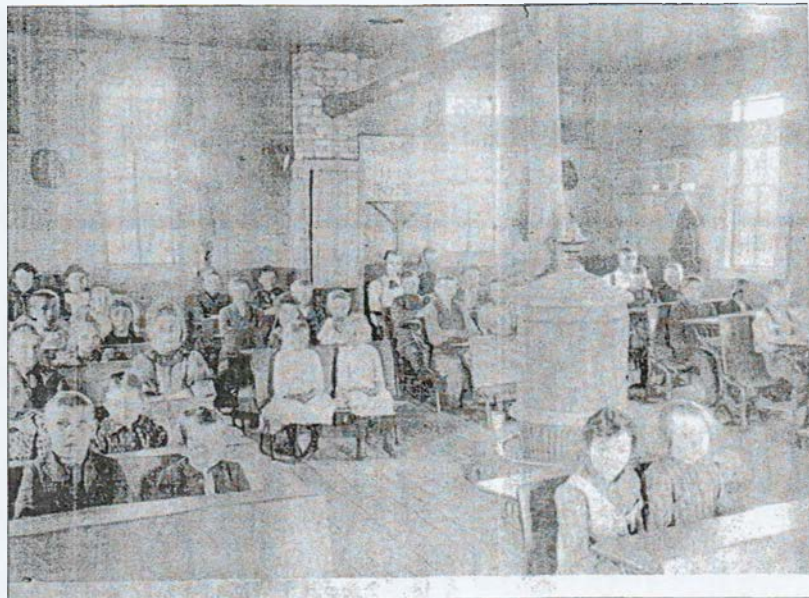
Proceeds from the book will help fund the annual grants the commission awards to efforts that preserve and maintain county history. Past grants have supported the restoration of historical buildings throughout Eaton County and the operation of local history museums.

Sedore's project is as much personal as it is historical.

"I went to a one-room schoolhouse and absolutely loved it," she said. "We had one teacher to 30 kids in one room. It went from first grade to sixth. I wanted to do this several years ago and finally moved forward with it."

Sedore's school, Grove School in Clinton County, no longer is standing. But the historian says many of Eaton County's country schools are. Those helping her say they want to tell the story of each one.

Sedore, Nehmer and Copenhagen have spent hours using portable document scanners to collect information and photos, chronicling who attended each school, who taught there and what happened to the buildings. The group also has visited many of the schools, taking pictures that will appear next to historical images.



These children are attending school at Roxand Center School. COURTESY PHOTO

HOW TO HELP

» **Anyone with stories.** information or pictures of one-room schoolhouses that existed in Eaton County can share them with Sedore and other volunteers every Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon at the 1885 Eaton County Courthouse in Charlotte. They also can contact Sedore at (517) 449-4895. Researchers say they will be collecting information through April.

Copenhagen, 61, said she's indexed more than 1 million records in the past year, creating a database file that contains all of the group's research on every country school that existed in the county.

"I call it the working database," she said. "It has all the records we've collected."

"Without that we'd be lost. We'd have a room full of papers."

Nehmer, 68, who also attended a one-room schoolhouse growing up, said memories are just as important to the book. She said those involved need to gather that, too, in the coming months.

"We want to detail what students did on the last day of the school year, how school boards were elected and what schools taught," she said. "People want to remember that. It was a simple time."

The effort is generating buzz among area resi-

dents curious about what's become of what once was a collection of schools dotting the county.

"I was in Sunfield ... doing some scanning," Sedore said. "Another lady was there looking at what I was doing and pointed to a picture, saying, 'This was my teacher.'"

"It's a time that's gone. There's only one schoolhouse left in Eaton County that's still a one-room schoolhouse."

The public school teaches kindergarten through fifth grades from a small brick building on the corner of Oneida Road and Strange Highway in rural Eaton County.

It's a school-of-choice, meaning students do not have to reside in Oneida Township School District Number 3. Strange is the only school in the district.

Other onetime county schools are utilized in other ways now.

Hallenbeck School in Vermontville Township was moved and now is part of Chester Bible Church. Bismark School in Sunfield Township now is used as a community center and Maurer School in Carmel Township recently was converted to a specialty store.

Sedore said 95 percent of the group's research is complete but those involved are hoping community help from the county's residents will help them finish.

"What we would like is to detail the history of each school, along with pictures of each school," she said.

Residents are being asked to contribute information, photos and memories to the project. Much of the information collected will appear in the finished book but what doesn't might be showcased in a DVD that will be provided with each copy, supplying material that didn't quite make the cut.

"We hope to have some personal stories and memories of these buildings," Copenhagen said. "Even if it's just general recollections, we would take it."

Eaton County Naturalization Index

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Aalbrechtse	John	Joseph	V6, P26	V6, P26
Aalbrechtse	Maude	May	V6, P23	V6, P23
Agine	Calile		B1, F2, P56	
Agine	Sam		B1, F2, P55	
Aguayo	Jose		B1, F4, P425	
Akas	George		V5, P33	V5, P33
Akas	George		B1, F1, P96	
Albrecht	Albert		B3, F2, P316	B3, F2, P316
Allen	Mathew	Robert	B2, F2	
Allison	John	George	B1, F2, P7	
Alquier	Simone	Ginette		B4, F1, P477
Ammen	John	Ludwig	B1, F3, P60	
Andersen	Martin		B2, F4, P57	
Anderson	August		B2, F5, P98	
Andreas	Barney		B1, F4, P320	
Andreas	Celeste		B1, F4, P345	
Andreas	Gregory		B1, F4, P323	
Andreas	John		B1, F4, P322	
Andreas	Joseph		B3, F2, P336	B3, F2, P336
Andreas	Joseph		B1, F4, P343	
Andreas	Katherine	Elizabeth	B4, F1, P410	B4, F1, P410
Andreas	Katie		B4, F1, P410	B4, F1, P410
Andreas	Peter		B1, F4, P321	
Andreas	Peter	Ben	B3, F2, P335	B3, F2, P335

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Andreas	Zelest		B1, F4, P345	
Andrews	Albert	Richard	B1, F1, P71	
Andrews	Albert	Richard	V5, P7	V5, P7
Andrews	Norman		B1, F1, P64	
Andursky	Samuel		B2, F5, P97	B2, F5, P97
Anor	Frank			V2, P82
Antomino	LaTorre		B1, F2, P40	
Antonio	Jaure		B1, F2, P40	
Antonio	Torre		V5, P41	V5, P41
Appleton	Harry		V1, P9	
Archer	Hugh	H.	B2, F5, P96	
Archer	Ross		B2, F4, P58	
Arksey	Charles	J.	B2, F5, P95	
Armstrong	George	Jackson	B1, F2, P8	
Armstrong	W.	K.		V2, P26
Armstrong	W.	K.	B2, F6, P18	
Armstrong	W.	K.		V2, P24
Armstrong	W.	K.	V1, P20	
Arnehin	Annette	Louise		B4, F1, P416
Americ	Inge		B1, F4, P431	
Americ	Inge			B4, F1, P491
Americ	Rafailo		B1, F4, P432	
Americ	Rafailo			B4, F1, P492
Arnold	William	Albert	B1, F3, P59	
Arnold	William	Albert		B3, F1, P292
Anenondo	Manuel	Romero		B3, F2, P364

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Arsenault	Marie Ann	Aline		B4, F1, P502
Arva	John		B1, F3, P20	
Arva	John		V6, P8	V6, P8
Asaid	Henry		B1, F3, P57	
Asaid	Henry		V6, P45	V6, P45
Assiff	Sam			B3, F1, P289
Assiff	Sloma	Kalcel	B3, F1, P281	B3, F1, P281
Athanas	Nick		B1, F4, P372	
Athanas	Nick		B3, F2, P347	
Athanassopoulos	Nicolaos		B1, F4, P372	
Athanassopoulos	Nicolaos		B3, F2, P347	B3, F2, P347
Atkinson	William		V1, P22	
Auer	Frank		V4, P11	V4, P11
Auor	Frank			V2, P82
Austen	Edward	Joseph		B3, F2, P359
Bachelder	Vera		B4, F1, P402	B4, F1, P402
Baert	Alphonse		V4, P40	V4, P40
Baliy	Fim		B1, F1, P25	
Ball	Rose			B3, F2, P321
Ballentine	Eva	Estella		B3, F1, P228
Ballentine	James	Cameron		B3, F1, P233
Ban	Egnac		B1, F2, P62	
Barendregt	Gysbert		B3, F2, P311	B3, F2, P311
Bark	Nelson		B2, F4, P56	
Barland	Andrew	O.	B2, F6, P22	B2, F6, P22
Barland	Everett		B2, F6, P35	B2, F6, P35

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Barliz	Jim		B1, F1, P25	
Barlond	Andrew			V2, P17
Barlond	Andrew	O.	V1, P25	
Barlond	Everett		V1, P25	
Barlond	Everett			V2, P15
Barnaart	William	Richard	B1, F2, P43	
Barnes	Henry		B2, F5, P94	
Barnett	John		B1, F6	B1, F6
Barningham	John	N.	V1, P11	
Barningham	John	N.	V4, P15	V4, P15
Barningham	John	N.	V4, P14	
Barningham	John	N.		V2, P79
Barnum	Jabus		B2, F2	
Barrett	Edward		B1, F9	
Barrett	John		B1, F6	B1, F6
Barringer	C.	Adam	B2, F1	
Barritt	John		B1, F6	B1, F6
Barry	Robert		B1, F9	
Bartek	Anna		V5, P71	
Bartek	Anna		V5, P72	V5, P72
Bartek	Anna		B1, F2, P92	
Bartek	Anna	Bobick	V5, P84	V5, P84
Bartels	Charles		B2, F7, P39	B2, F7, P39
Bartels	Charles			V2, P52
Baschinskyj	Lidia			B4, F1, P530
Bashkirew	Elisabeth			B4, F1, P493

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Bashkirew	Elizabeth		B1, F4, P429	
Bashkirew	Grigori		B1, F4, P430	
Bashkirew	Grigory		B1, F4, P430	
Bashkirew	Nikolai			B4, F1, P498
Bask	Nelson		B2, F4, P56	
Basler	Joseph			B2, F4, P55
Basnam	Jabus		B2, F2	
Bassett	Alta	Isadore		B3, F1, P269
Bassett	Edward		B1, F9	
Baxter	Charles		B1, F9	
Baxter	David		B1, F9	
Beaman	William		B2, F3	
Beatty	Roland		B2, F5, P93	
Beaubier	Helen	Edith	B1, F3, P52	
Beausir	Henry		V6, P28	V6, P28
Becker	Adam		B3, F2, P383	B3, F2, P383
Becker	Adam		B1, F4, P388	
Becker	Edith	Alberta		B4, F1, P526
Becker	Edna	Lillian	B1, F4, P334	
Beecher	Joseph			B4, F1, P411
Behercfche	Marie	Jeanne Ann		B4, F1, P446
Beihler	Robert		B1, F4, P405	
Bell	John	D.	V1, P39	
Bement	George	Burton	B1, F1, P10	
Benoit	Wullaert		B1, F1, P39	
Benson	Isaac		V1, P15	

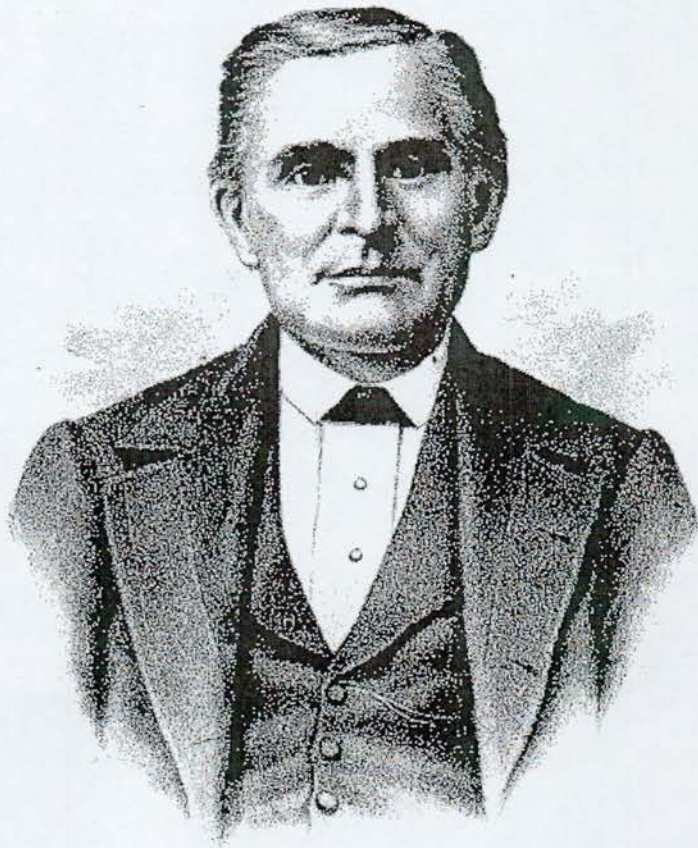
Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Benton	Samuel			B1, F8
Benton	Samuel		B1, F8	
Berdes	Lidia			B4, F1, P530
Berkimer	John		V1, P9	
Berknier	John		V1, P9	
Berner	Mildred	Rosalie Brent		B3, F1, P297
Berninger	Christian			B1, F8
Berts	Michel			V2, P44
Berts	Michel		V1, P32	
Berts	Michel		B2, F7, P38	B2, F7, P38
Biehler	Norbert		B1, F4, P405	
Biehler	Norbert			B4, F1, P434
Biehler	Robert		B4, F1, P434	B4, F1, P434
Binkowski	Martin			B4, F1, P529
Binkowski	Mary			B3, F1, P287
Binks	Benjamin		B1, F6	B1, F6
Birkenruth	Simon		B2, F2	
Bishop	Alfred		V1, P10	
Bishop	John		V1, P7	
Bjork	Nelson		B2, F4, P56	
Black	Mary		B4, F1, P428	B4, F1, P428
Black	Mary		B1, F4, P385	
Black	Peter		B4, F1, P429	B4, F1, P429
Black	Peter		B1, F4, P395	
Blackmer	James		B2, F1	
Bleisch	Charles	John	B1, F4, P328	

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Bleisch	Charles	John	B3, F1, P273	B3, F1, P273
Bleisch	Karl	Yohan	B1, F4, P328	
Bmmyer	Thomas		B1, F8	
Bobcik	John		V6, P5	V6, P5
Bobcik	John		B1, F3, P1	
Bobier	Alexander		B2, F5, P92	
Bobier	Joshua		B2, F5, P91	
Bodo	Joseph			B4, F1, P438
Bohninger	John		B1, F8	
Bokony	Alex		B1, F1, P75	
Bollans	John		B2, F3	
Bollman	Heinrich			V2, P73
Bollmann	Heinrich		V1, P45	
Bollmann	Heinrick		V4, P3	V4, P3
Bollons	John		B2, F3	
Bongers	John		B1, F3, P3	
Bonnett	Christian		B1, F7	
Bonofiglio	Guseppe	Giuseppe	B1, F4, P333	
Bonofiglio	Joseph		B1, F4, P333	
Bonofiglio	Joseph	Giuseppe		B3, F1, P300
Bonte	Inna			B4, F1, P458
Boos	William	A.	V1, P15	
Bopp	Gotfried		B2, F7, P37	B2, F7, P37
Bopp	Gotfried			V2, P54
Bopp	Gottfried		V1, P35	
Born	Emil		B3, F1, P208	B3, F1, P208

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Boss	Gotfried		B2, F7, P37	B2, F7, P37
Boss	Gottfried		V1, P35	
Bottomej	Elijah		B1, F7	B1, F7
Bottomley	Elijah		B1, F7	B1, F7
Bouck	Douglas	M.	V4, P29	
Bouck	Douglas	Munroe		V4, P29
Bousser	Nicolas		B2, F4, P54	
Boute	Imma			B4, F1, P458
Boyles	Alfred	Austin	B1, F1, P23	
Boyles	Alfred	Austin	B1, F4, P342	
Boyles	Alfred	Austin	B3, F1, P283	B3, F1, P283
Boyles	Richard		B1, F9	
Brader	Henry		B2, F2	
Brandon	Susan		V6, P6	V6, P6
Brandt	Arthur		B3, F1, P243	B3, F1, P243
Brandt	Arthur		B1, F4, P297	
Brandt	Carl	Edwin	B1, F2, P36	
Brandt	Signe			B4, F1, P494
Brandt	Vital		V5, P63	V5, P63
Brandt	Vital		B1, F2, P78	
Brandt	William	Carl	B1, F2, P87	
Breard	Joseph	Charles		B4, F1, P453
Breard	Joseph Charles	Stanislaw Aime		B4, F1, P453
Brechim	Robert	James	B1, F4, P359	
Breisach	Ernst	Adolf	B1, F4, P435	
Brendel	Frederick	William	B1, F2, P39	

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Brendel	Frederick	William	V5, P55	V5, P55
Brendel	Frerdrich	Wilhelm	V5, P55	V5, P55
Brendel	Friedrich	Welhelm	V1, P2	
Brennan	John	Michael	B1, F1, P34	
Brent	Mildren	Rosalie		B3, F1, P297
Bridges	David		B1, F1, P29	
Brighty	Gregory		B2, F4, P53	
Brindel	Frederick	William	V1, P2	
Brink	Benjamin			B1, F6
Britton	George		B1, F9	B1, F9
Brooks	Alexander	J.	B1, F1, P55	
Brooks	Alexander	Julius	V4, P45	V4, P45
Brown	Arthur	Barton		B4, F1, P455
Brown	Erie	Lavera		B4, F1, P433
Brown	Samuel		B3, F1, P218	B3, F1, P218
Browne	Esther	Jane	V5, P93	V5, P93
Browne	William		B1, F2, P72	
Browne	William		V5, P88	V5, P88
Bruggeman	Louis		V5, P56	V5, P56
Bruggemon	Louis		V5, P56	V5, P56
Bruggemon	Louis		B1, F1, P86	
Brunger	William		B2, F2	
Brunton	Robert		B2, F5, P90	
Bryanton	Thomas	Gordon	B3, F1, P280	B3, F1, P280
Bryanton	Thomas	Gordon	B1, F4, P324	
Buchholz	Albert		B2, F2	

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	First Paper	Second Paper
Budinsky	Mariska			B4, F1, P464
Budinsky	Mary	Olga		B4, F1, P464
Buell	Chas.	H.	B2, F5, P89	
Bull	Geo			V2, P22
Bullen	George		B2, F6, P34	B2, F6, P34
Bullen	George		V1, P19	
Bullis	George		V1, P13	
Bullock	David	Cory	B2, F2	
Bullock	George	D.	B2, F1	
Bunger	Thomas		B1, F8	
Bungers	John		B1, F3, P3	
Bunmyer	Thomas		B1, F8	
Buonodono	Anna	Maria		B3, F1, P285
Burge	George	H.	B2, F6, P33	B2, F6, P33
Burge	George	H.		V2, P8
Burgio	Albert		B1, F1, P85	
Bush	Hannaon	K.	B2, F1	
Buszek	Christine	Marie		B4, F1, P512
Byers	William	J.	V1, P33	
Byrne	Sarah			B3, F2, P381
Callic	Meodard		B1, F2, P45	
Callister	John		B2, F3	B2, F3
Campbell	Andrew		V1, P1	
Campbell	Nathaniel		B2, F2	
Campbell	Robert		B2, F5, P88	
Campbell	William		B2, F2	



Chauncey Fremont

Early Eaton Counties Settlers Chauncey Freeman

Although Mr. Freeman has been very successful in business the legacy which he will leave to his descendants in his character, exceeds in value that which he will bequeath in he has money and lands. His career has been attended with unusual success; when he came to Michigan his earthly possessions consisted of \$1.50; now a fine farm of ninety acres pays an annual tribute of golden grain as the reward of his care and cultivation. From childhood he has been distinguished from others more by his unflinching uprightness and unflagging industry than by any other qualities, and his honorable life has won for him the confidence of all who knew him. In every position and in every place, his genial, hearty manners and pleasant bearing are magnetic, and win for him hosts of friends. His portrait together with that of his estimable wife is presented in connection with this sketch.

Before entering it into a more minute record of the life of Mr. Freeman, it may not be amiss to state briefly his ancestry: His parents, Jacob and Betsey (Tripp) Freeman, were natives of New England, and were highly esteemed in the community where almost their entire lives were passed. At an early day they stopped Cayuga County, NY, where he of whom we write was born August 13, 1811. When only six weeks old he was taken by his parents to Orleans County, NY and there reared to manhood. The school privileges he enjoyed were very limited, being confined to a brief attendance at a district school three miles from his home. The greater portion of his time was devoted to farm work, and he became quite proficient in agriculture and the best methods of developing, improving and fertilizing the soil, so that when the time came to choose a vocation he naturally entered upon farming for his life work.

On September 17, 1839, was united in marriage with Ruth A. Babcock, who was born in Niagara County, NY, on April 27, 1818. Her parents, Adonijah and Ruth (Ford) Babcock, were natives of New England, and early settlers of Niagara

County, NY, and in the latter place Mrs. Freeman was reared to womanhood, gaining those attributes of character which make her a cherished ornament in social and religious circles. To Mr. and Mrs. Freeman have been born three children, the eldest of whom died in infancy. Alvin F. and Marvin A. died at the ages respectively of six years, seven months and two years and three months. This bereavement was the sorrow in an otherwise happy and unclouded wedded life, but the parents mourn not as those without hope.

Mr. Freeman first came to Michigan in 1836, also wintered here in 1837-38, and for a time worked by the month, chopping down timber, etc. However, he did not settle here permanently until November 3, 1842 when, accompanied by his wife, he came to Eaton County and located in Eaton Township. Their journey was made via the lakes to Detroit, and from there by wagon to Eaton County. A few months after his arrival, Mr. Freeman located upon his present place on Section 10 and by untiring efforts in a few years placed the entire homestead under cultivation. At the time of his settlement the land was covered with brush and heavy timber, while wolves and deer were plentiful, and often made the night hideous with the howling. He endured the hardships which fall to the lot of every pioneer, and was actively aided by the co-operation of his noble wife.

Politically Mr. Freeman is a Republican, and has been frequently solicited to enter politics actively, but prefers the quietude of domestic life. Under his own vine and fig tree he is pleasantly passing his declining counselor. Side by side, this aged couple are approaching the valley of the shadow of death/ the voice of their loved ones call to them from over the river, and death, when it comes, will leave their memory graven deep in affectionate hearts. Although finding pleasure in social circles, their greatest happiness is within their home, while their love of the simple, earnest paths of life, and their total disregard of the hollow mockery of the make them cling close to domestic ties and connections.

Taken from the Portrait and Biographical Album of Barry and Eaton Counties, MI



Ruth Anna B. Truman

Early Eaton County Settlers

Jabez Ashley

Jabez Ashley, one of the early settlers of Windsor Township, is well known throughout Eaton County and has been identified with her progress since 1853. He had come to the State in the previous year but spent a few months in Jackson County before becoming the purchase of land where he now lives. He was born in Rensselaer County, NY, January 30, 1814, being a son of Jabez and Phebe (Norton) Ashley. His father was born September 20, 1777, and his mother March 2, 1784, and both were of English descent. Grandfather Ashley, whose given name was Noah, crossed the Atlantic from the mother country prior to the Revolution, and settled in Columbia County, NY. He married Rebecca Finch and reared a large family.

The household band of which our subject is the sixth member also includes Isaac, born December 3, 1803, died in New York, December 31, 1841; Millie, born December 12, 1805, died March 19, 1828; Rebecca, born September 9, 1807, died March 10, 1845; Marinda, born December 9, 1809, died October 22, 1836; Jacob N., born January 4, 1812, died December 31, 1841; Jonathan N., born April 8, 1816, died in 1861; Lewis C., born September 24, 1818, and now living in Detroit; Millie A., born November 22, 1821, and now the wife of Moses Macomber of Battle Creek; Phebe E., born September 26, 1824, died May 29, 1848. The father of this large family was a Whig in early life and afterward a Republican. He died in October, 1866, Mrs. Ashley was reared in the Quaker faith but in mature years united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the belief of which she passed away March 19, 1828.

The district schools afforded our subject opportunity to gain some insight into books, but his chief knowledge was secured by experience. His only reader when attending school was a New Testament, and his arithmetic was that compiled by Detroit..a name dear to the hearts of the old scholars - which he studied only so far as compound fractions. He was fourteen years old when his

mother was called hence and the following year he was apprenticed to a blacksmith. He served three years with Ira Abbot, whose good wife treated him as well as one of her own children, and made him in very truth a member of the household.

Mr. Ashley took up a man's work with a good trade at his command and stood by the forge until after his removal to this State, when he bought land and turned his attention to farming. He bought eighty acres whereon he still lives, by degrees made it attractive to the eye as well as remunerative, and now has a valuable piece of property. When he came hither much of the territory was uncultivated and uncleared, and Dimondale contained but one house. He brought with him to his forest home a true-hearted and efficient wife, who bravely and cheerfully shared his toils and hardships until fortune smiled upon them and comforts surround them. Her maiden name was Lavinia L. Partridge and she was born in Rensselaer County, NY, February 22, 1821, and became a bride on her seventeenth birthday.

The record of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Ashley is as follows: Elizabeth, born March 30, 1839, and died February 19, 1851. She was burned to death while her parents were at prayer meeting; Maria J., born November 20, 1840, died October 26, 1872; Polly E. born November 10, 1842, died February 6, 1843; Isaac N., born November 4, 1843, now married to Sarah Hull and living in Lansing; Daniel P., born September 17, 1845, living in Lansing and the husband of Jessie Wright; William M., born October 2, 1847, who married Jessie Graham and is farming in Windsor Township; Margaret A., wife of Dr. Tyler Hull of Dimondale, born August 19, 1849; John A. born November 1, 1851, died May 24, 1861; Asa I., born January 20, 1854, died March 29, 1861; Clara, born April 15, 1856, died September 30, 1856; Alice L., born December 31, 1857, wife of Elbert Bates of Eaton County; Emma F., now the wife of Arthur Wiegant of Jackson, born April 11, 1863.

While he still lived in New York Mr. Ashley helped in the organization of the Free Soil party, having been a Whig in his political faith, and after he became a citizen of Michigan he assisted in forming the Republican part of Eaton County.

He has been Justice of the Peace and Highway Commissioner and has been active in all laudable enterprises, moral, educational and benevolent. He has ever shown himself a friend of the schools and his example adds weight to his words in behalf of morality. A staunch Republican, he upholds his party by his ballot and by his voice when policy is the topic of conversation. He and his wife are held in excellent repute and many friends rejoice in their prosperity.

Taken from the Portrait and Biographical Album of Barry and Eaton Counties, MI

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Windsor Township History

please visit their website for the full history at:

<http://www.twp.windsor.mi.us/Newwebsite/history.htm>



The Windsor Township area was considered remote from earlier settlements and was one of the last townships in Eaton County to receive settlers. This did not deter sixty-three land purchases by the year 1836. In the fall of 1837 Orange Towslee and Nathan Pray settled in the township, each coming from different directions. Esek Pray, born in March 1838, was considered to be the first 'white' child born in the township. The first white girl was Charlotte Towsley in 1839.

The early years are full of tales of wolves, bears and settlers lost either in the woods, or in the Old Maid Swamp area, and of hardship, but still, pioneers came and settled. On March 16, 1842, the Township of Windsor was organized along with the townships of Delta, Eaton Rapids and Sunfield. The first township supervisor was John D. Skinner.

Issac H. Dimond came to the area in 1848 and, among his many enterprises, began to construct a dam on the Grand River. By 1856 a grist mill was completed, and the village of Dimondale was platted. The village, by 1880, contained seven stores, two millinery shops, a planing mill, a grist mill, sawmill and several machine shops. Dimondale became incorporated in 1906. Little log school houses appeared throughout the township, beginning soon after the arrival of the first settlers.

Need a Researcher?

We have a list of people who may be willing to do research for you for the Eaton County, Michigan area. While we, as a Society, attempt to provide up to 1/2 hour of research, there may be more research needed than can be done in this 1/2 hour. We do not guarantee or recommend any of the following people; we are simply giving a list of researchers as we become aware of them. You will need to contact them for their specific charges. Please include 'Eaton County Research Request' in the subject line. If you are a researcher who would like to be added to this list, please send your information to us at the ECGS Board email ecgsboard@gmail.com.

Researcher	Description	Contact
 Jan Sedore	Jan Sedore lives in the Sunfield, Michigan area and is quite familiar with Eaton County.	jansedore@gmail.com
 Sue Thompson	I have been a family genealogist since 1991. I have researched the Sowles family for the Sowles Kindred Society. I have given lectures on land records, dating old photographs and held clinics on dating old photographs. I am a sub room volunteer at the ECGS and have volunteered on the Eaton County Cemetery Project. I am presently volunteering on the Probate Scanning Project.	earlgrey@voyager.net
 Bethany Waterbury, Next Of Kin Research	Bethany Waterbury, owner of Next of Kin Research, is a full-time professional genealogist and lecturer with over nine years of genealogical research experience. She specializes in Reverse Genealogy (locating living relatives of common ancestry) by utilizing record sets and research techniques specific to 20th and 21st century research. She also enjoys challenging Michigan family history brick wall research. Ms. Waterbury is a member of The Association of Professional Genealogists, The National Genealogical Society and The Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogy.	

Charlotte Republican Tribune - 27 December 1929

submitted by Joe Nehmer

1929 - the front page of the Republican Tribune was reporting stories on Prohibition, the Christmas Kiddie donation listing, bad weather, injuries and deaths. My Mom was born on the ninth of December of 1929...Joe Nehmer copied the front page of the newspaper and I've chosen some items of day-to-day life in Eaton County that I thought you might enjoy.

Burr Murray Breaks His Leg
Fell off the Porch of his Home
Monday Afternoon. Taken to Ann Arbor.

What proved to be just a miss of a hip fracture was the lot that befell Burr Murray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Murray, north Clinton street late Monday afternoon. The lad, 14, fell from the porch of his house. X-rays showed a bad break just below the hip bone. The lad was taken to Ann Arbor in the ambulance where the fracture was reduced. He will be brought home within a few days, but will be unable to walk for some time.

Little Baby Dies of Suffocation
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert F. Brown
(nee Catherine Griffith) Dies Suddenly

The many old friends of the Vaughan G. Griffith family in this vicinity will read the news of the death of Catherine Griffith Brown's little youngster with a tinge of sorrow. The news was received through the medium of a message sent to Mrs. George Brackett and is as follows:

Telegram - Margaret Frances passed away at seven thirty tonight well and happy a few minutes before. Found her lying face down in crib white and limp. Doctor and police worked over her two hours with oxygen and artificial respiration. Death from suffocation. Private funeral Saturday two thirty at Elizabeth Del and Catherine Brown.

Charlotte Republican Tribune - 27 December 1929
submitted by Joe Nehmer



Jurors - January Term 1930

James Paine, Charlotte 1st Dist.
Frank Beard, Charlotte 2nd Dist.
Ralph Love, Grand Ledge City
L. H. Fowler, Eaton Rapids City
D. G. Cronk, Bellevue
Emery Johnson, Benton
Dewey Marietta, Brookfield
Merlin Blodgett, Carmel
Fred Lake, Chester
Charles Trumbo, Delta,
Grand Ledge R#4
F O Johnson, Eaton
Hugh Long, Eaton Rapids Twp.
Albert Kikendall, Hamlin
A B. Ells, Kalamo
Carl Kowalk, Oneida
Perl Houghton, Roxand
John Fleetham, Sunfield
Wells, Barnes, Vermontville

Ralph Welch, Walton
John Ireland, Windsor
R. R. Snyder, Charlotte 1st Dist.
J. H. Stoner, Charlotte 2nd Dist.
Chubb Olmstead, Grand Ledge City
Harry Whittum, Eaton Rapids City.
Winfield Jordan, Bellevue
Jay Green, Benton
Arthur Pelton, Brookfield
Merlin Horn, Carmel
John Ploof, Chester
Alfred E. Stackman, Delta,
Grand Ledge R#4
Walter Fast, Eaton
E. M. Hume, Eaton Rapids Twp.
C. E. Weyant, Kalamo
George Brudbent, Oneida
Glenn Holliday, Roxand

Charlotte Republican Tribune - 27 December 1929

submitted by Joe Nehmer



Winter Storm Notes

Farmers on rural lines would meet at a given point armed with shovels and come to town on a single bob sleigh for mail and household supplies. Brookfield Township farmers kept organized for several days and managed to give very helpful mail service to a wide area.

Someone asked "Cap" Frace, one of the firehouse drivers where the fire was the other morning. "Oh, that wasn't anything", replied Cap, "just a grass fire out by the cemetery", which has been under a three foot blanket of snow for a week or more.

Martin Hansen, former mayor of Eaton Rapids, telephoned to the writer Sunday morning for highway information. He said Eaton Rapids had been absolutely marooned so far as highway travel was concerned since Wednesday afternoon. Five miles out as far as any rig or car had managed to get away from town in any direction. Secretary Tucker of the county highway commission called Mr. Hansen later in the day and Mr. Fitzgerald was appealed to open M-50 between Charlotte and Eaton Rapids.

A snow shovel has been standard equipment on all makes of cars for the past ten days.

Arthur Fast, who lives on the Onion Corners road east of the Lansing pavement, said the drifts were twelve feet. Claude Strickland also covered the Eaton Rapids road end of his route Sunday.

Captain Widrig said Tuesday afternoon that he managed to deliver every piece of his mail, the first time since the Wednesday before.

Snow removal will cost Charlotte in the neighborhood of \$750 according to City Engineer Ballard. Claims totaling \$597 were allowed at Monday night's council meeting and that amount didn't include any work this week.

The Associated Truck line operating a truck service between Grand Rapids and Charlotte, had a truck stalled at Nashville from Wednesday night until Sunday morning. A truck reached here Tuesday via M-16 to Lansing.

A Ford coupe that went off the road during the ice storm of Tuesday night...on the bend in the road, just west of town on the Lawrence Ave., road, is nearly all covered with snow. The snow fell the next morning and since that time the snow has been piled high in the neighborhood where it took to the ditch. The owner is unknown.

A crew of men commandeered by the Prays went out to dig a path to the Guy Ash home in Chester. Mr. Ash has been seriously ill with pneumonia and had run out of medicine. Dr. Anderson followed the trail but had to walk a mile and a half before he reached the sick man. Dr Anderson went without food from morning 'till night.

Two boys from the Buick garage, Ivan Johnson and LeRoy Clement, drove Dr. Byington eight miles west and a half mile south Saturday afternoon. They made the west trip okay and farmers had broken the side road.

Many people about town dug paths to the center of the street which saved Christmas burdened mail carrier much heavy travel.

From the Archives of Michigan

The holidays are upon us! I trust that everyone has enjoyed a fruitful year of family history research. As the calendar turns over to 2014, the Archives of Michigan has several things to look forward to. The Archives is pleased to announce the dates and featured speaker for the 2014 Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar. Featuring Michael Leclerc, Chief Genealogist at Mocavo, the event will be held on Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18, 2014. The program schedule and registration information will be announced in January and posted online at Seeking Michigan. Mark your calendars and we look forward to seeing everyone next summer! Work continues behind the scenes on the 1921

1952 collection of Michigan death records at Seeking Michigan. The database will include an index from 1921

1952, with actual images from 1921-1937. With the 75 year restriction on access to Michigan death records, another year will roll out each January. This is a high priority for the Archives, we are as anxious to have this collection online as the genealogical community is! The Abrams Foundation Historical Collection continues to grow via donations and purchases. Several recent additions of note include a large number of Michigan city directories (largely the Grand Rapids area), George Morgan and Drew Smith's Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques

Fulton County, Ohio resources (including birth, marriage, and death indexes, as well as cemetery transcriptions), and an impressive run of the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine (the Archives now has a full run back to 1952!). We appreciate the support of those researchers, societies, and of course, the Abrams Foundation, for their continued support of the Archives. We encourage everyone to visit the Archives and take a look at what's new!

Kris Rzepczynski, Senior Archivist, Archives of Michigan

From the MGC Newsletter - Winter 2014

Save the Date!
Friday, July 18
Saturday, July 19, 2014

Abrams Foundation Family
History Seminar,
featuring:

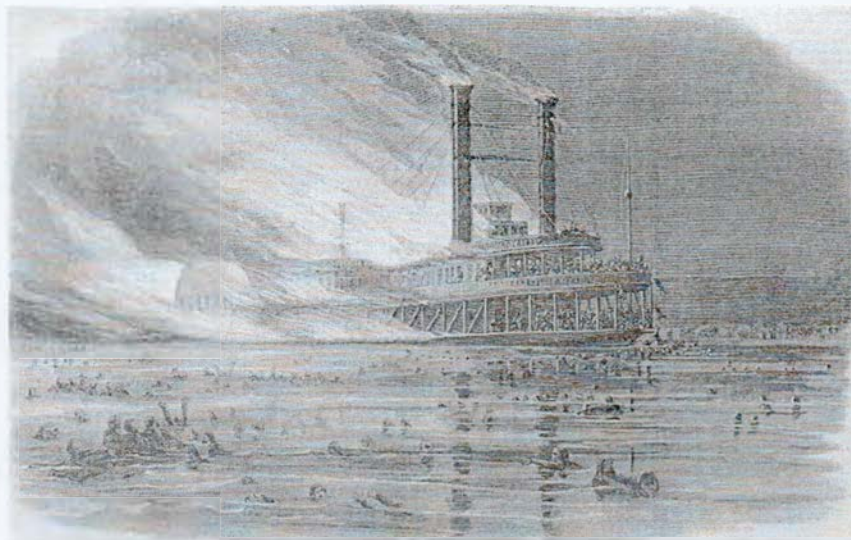
Michael Leclerc
Chief Genealogist,
Mocavo.com

“Finding Your Family in Canada”
&
“Reading and Understanding Old Documents”

Join us!

From the MGC Newsletter Winter 2014

A Michigan Man on The Sultana



George F. Robinson

Regiment: 2nd Michigan Calvary, Company C Killed, lost or lived: Lived

Post Office: Charlotte

County: Eaton

Record of Service: Robinson, George F., Charlotte enlisted in Company I, Sixth Infantry, Aug. 8, 1861 at Albion, for 3 years at age 19. Mustered Aug. 20, 1861. Discharged to accept promotion Aug 12, 1863. Comissioned Second Lieutenant, First Engineers, Corps d'Afrique, Aug 5, 1863, Mustered August 13, 1863 as of company D. Resigned and honorably discharged by S.O. No. 17 Department of the Gulf, dated January 20, 1864. Re-entered service in Company C, Second Cavalry. Enlisted Aug 3, 1864, at Jackson, for 1 year, age 21. Mustered Aug 31, 1864. Joined regiment at Nashville, Tenn., Sept 10, 1864. Taken prisoner at Shoal Creek, Tenn., Nov. 5, 1864. Discharged at Detroit, MI July 30, 1865. Present residence, Washington, DC

LOSS OF THE SULTANA - REMINISCENCES OF SURVIVORS

George F. ROBINSON

I was born in Girard, Erie county, Penn., in the year 1845, and enlisted at Charlotte, Mich., August 1, 1861, in Company I, 6th Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry. Re-enlisted August 2, 1863. Enlisted again August 3d, 1864, in Company C, 2d Regiment Michigan Cavalry. I was taken prisoner November 5, 1864, at Shoal Creek, Ala., by rebel Gen. Hood. Was taken across the river, and the first night camped at Tuscumbia. The next morning we started for Corinth, arriving there in the evening about eight o'clock. The next morning following we were put on the train and taken to Meridian, Miss., reaching there at five o'clock P. M. The first thing that greeted my ears on arriving at the prison was "fresh fish." I had a few rations and was told to look out or some one would steal them. I was much surprised to think that they would try to steal rations from a soldier who had put over three years in the service; so I took two pieces of rail and laid them down, took my hat, put my haversack in it and put them both between the rails, and I then laid down on all and said to myself, "you will fool an old soldier, will you?" I slept good all night, and on awaking in the morning reached for my rations, but found none. Some one had dug a hole under the rails and stolen them. I tell you I was the most beat man you ever saw. Experience No. 1 as a prisoner.

About the 20th of November a party of eight of us commenced digging a tunnel. It was slow work for we had to look out for the guards, and they kept very close watch but we succeeded at last. Six of us got out, but when about sixty miles away were recaptured by an old woman and fifteen dogs and brought back to Meridian the worst looking lot of men you ever saw. We were covered with clay from head to foot by going through the tunnel, which was half full of water at the time of our escape. Everything went along quietly for about a month and then we started for Cahaba, Ala., the prison known as "Castle Morgan." At this time my clothing consisted of shirt, drawers and one shoe. About six miles from Demopolis, John Corliss and myself made our escape by jumping out of the car window. I did not stop immediately but rolled along after the train quite a distance. I tell you I was badly mangled and had a big hole cut in my head, but I thought it was all right for I was free once more—that is, I was in my mind, for it was not but a short time before I heard the dogs and we had to go, but we kept away from them for five days and five nights when we were recaptured. We were almost starved and nearly frozen. Had nothing to eat but raw corn and no fire, and wallowing through the swamp in the month of December. If it was down south the weather was awful cold, for it would freeze icicles on the trees from three to four inches in length.

We were taken back to Meridian and then transferred to Cahaba. When we got there it was the same old story, "fresh fish." I was in prison about one month, and then succeeded in getting out again by cutting a hole through the wall next to the river. John Corliss and myself got out but were caught before we had hardly got a start. We were north of Selma when recaptured and were put in a large hall about eighteen feet from the ground. We managed to get a hole through the brick wall, doing our work with an old knife and a piece of round iron—I think a piece of a poker. We got out all right, but did not get out of the city and were recaptured and taken back to Cahaba. In March, 1865, the water from the river flooded the prison to the depth of three or four feet, in consequence of which we were ordered for exchange.

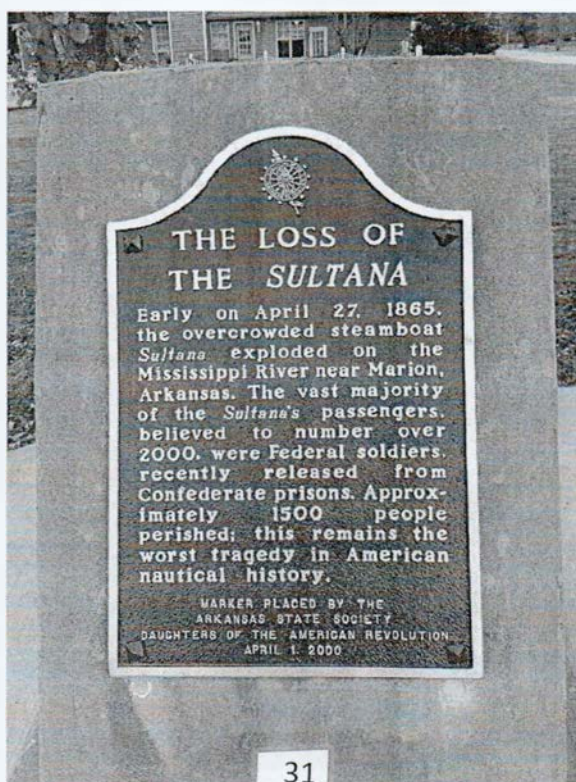
The next move was to place us on a stern wheel steamer with, four large cannons on the bow, but before we reached our destination the boys had all the four guns spiked with old files they found on the boat. At last we arrived at camp, four miles from Vicksburg, and were there when President Lincoln was assassinated. In a day or two after this we were taken to Vicksburg and put on board the steam boat "Sultana." Everything went smoothly until we reached Memphis, Tenn., where they unloaded a large quantity of sugar that was in the hold of the boat. I, for one, helped.

Now, if my memory serves me right, there were about 2,300 people on board the "Sultana." We left Memphis in the evening, went across the river to a coaling station and took on a large quantity of coal. I was asleep when we left and was lying on the promenade deck between the smoke stacks. I did not hear the explosion. I think I was stunned, for the first I recollected I heard some one calling "for God's sake, cut the deck, I am burning to death." Then I tried to find out where I was and when I did I found I was in the coal in front of the arches. The deck I had laid on was on top of me. My arms were scalded and the hot steam was so thick I could hardly breathe, and in fact I gave up. My partner, John Corliss, was lying across my legs and was dead, killed by the deck falling on him. I then heard someone say, "Jack, you can get out this way." It was some comrade helping his bunkmate out. This is the last I can recollect until some one put his hand on my shoulder and said, "What will I do? I cannot swim." I looked around, and my God, what a sight! There were three or four hundred, all in a solid mass, in the water and all trying to get on top. I guess that nearly all were drowned, but that was not the worst sight. The most horrid of all was to see the men fast in the wreck and burning to death. Such screaming and yelling I never heard before or since. It makes me shiver to think of it. At this time I was sitting on the bow of the boat with my arm around the flag staff, facing the Tennessee shore. At length the flames burned it down and I was forced to take to the water. I turned around and got in the water on the Arkansas side. There were some amusing things transpired. For instance one man was on a beer keg, and he would crawl up on it and pray. He

got up a little too far and over he went still hanging to it. He came up on the other side of it and the first thing I heard him say was "d—n this thing, it will drown me yet." I drifted away from him, and could hear some poor soul say, "My God, I cannot hold out any longer," and down he would go. All this time I kept up good courage and was sure I could get out all right. I got close to the islands but could not make the trees. The islands were all overflowed and some of the boys got in the tree tops. I could hear someone calling "Morgan, here is your mule." It was a mule that saved my life and a dead one at that. I was almost a goner, when I saw a dark object in the water and made for it, and it was a dead mule, one that was blown off the boat. He was dead but not quite cold. I crawled up on him and was there when I was picked up at Fort Pickens three miles below Memphis. I was unconscious at the time, being chilled through, having been in the water about four hours. I was put in an ambulance and taken to Memphis to a hotel and remained there for six or seven days. Was then sent to "Camp Chase," Columbus, Ohio, and from there to Jackson, Mich. From Jackson to Charlotte, my home. Three months after I was weighed and my weight was 109 pounds.

My present occupation is shoe clerk, and my post-office address 720 Corunna ave., Owosso, Mich.

http://www.mifamilyhistory.org/civilwar/sultana/ROBINSON_George_F.aspx



Eaton County Photos from Yesteryear!



DONALD SHEPARD, AGE 20, EATON CO., MICH., WITH HIS OWN HERD OF SHORTHORNS, BUILT UP THROUGH BOYS AND GIRLS' CLUBWORK.



1923 Charlotte Train Station posted on CGS facebook page by Jesse Lasorda

Eaton County Photos from Yesteryear!

Pet Milk Factory on Sheldon behind Johnson Lumber Company



The Dolson
Automobile
being
driven up
the 1885
courthouse
steps.



Eaton County Genealogical Society



Have you ever wondered when your family came to Eaton County? Where your ancestors are from? If any fought in the Civil War? What illnesses they died from "back in the day"? We welcome you to come down to the genealogy room. Our room hours are Monday thru Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm. We have great volunteers that would love to get you started finding "your folks".

We have a monthly meeting at 7 pm on the third Wednesday of the month from March thru October and the second Wednesday of the month in November. You will make quick friends with folks who have been doing research for a long time and are eager to give you whatever help or advice you need. We also have 'Indexing' on Monday nights from 6-8 and Wednesdays from 10-2 where you can have a good time with other people and create genealogy information that will help people many years in the future with their research.

Visit our web-site at <http://www.miegs.org> and check out our many (almost a million) indexed names and other information. If you would like to become a member, dues are \$20 with the 50-page Quest publication three times a year or \$15 without the Quest. As a member you would also have access to the Member's Section of our website.

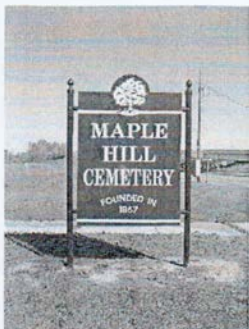
Here are just a few projects that are ongoing right now:

Index System Database: We have a great database with almost 1,000,000 records built with many wonderful volunteers over the last 20+ years (and continues today).

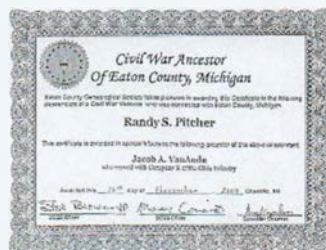


Scanning Projects: We scan, then index such documents as vital records, burial transfer records, old school census records, old chattels, land record index books and many other types of documents for our Index System. Do you like to type? Or, do you like to proofread what others have typed? Consider volunteering your time in the comfort of your own home! All you need on your computer is photo software, and/or a pdf viewer and Microsoft Excel (or

Works). We welcome any help to continue providing genealogical information for generations to come! Please contact the Society at 543-5436 or via e-mail at Database@miegs.org if you are interested and training will be provided at your convenience.



Cemetery Project: We photograph headstones and 'read' the cemetery. This is a very important part of our history and we enjoy doing our part to help preserve our information. If you are interested in checking this project out, please call or e-mail to the same phone and e-mail address as previous.



Pioneer Ancestors & Civil War Ancestor Certificates: See our website for more information about the certificates you can obtain for your qualifying ancestors! So stop by the room, come to a meeting or join the society. Join us!

Sherry Copenhaver

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www.michigan.gov/archivesofmi

Circular No. 11 – School Records

The activities of public schools in Michigan are documented in many different sources. The following is a list of records generated at the local level that contain information regarding schools in Michigan. Types of information found may include minutes of schools boards, attendance and grade books, and school directories.

County	Record Group	Description	Inclusive Dates
Alpena	78-86	Collins School, Wellington Township	ca. 1915-1954, 1944-1957
Antrim	82-73	School Districts	1896-1954
Antrim	83-69	School Districts	1906-1960
Bay	71-19	Series 10	1878-1892
Bay	71-19	Series 11	1887-1917
Benzie	83-69	School Districts	ca. 1906-1960
Berrien	67-109	County	1951-1963
Calhoun	69-13	County	1955-1956; 1958-1959
Cheboygan	82-105	Mentor Township School Inspector Proceedings	1880-1908
Clinton	72-54	School Districts	1863-1921; 1866-1919
Clinton	86-110	School District – Fractional District No. 6	1875-1907
Clinton	86-109	School District – District No. 3	1908-1938
Clinton	81-3	Dallas Township – Bower School	1869-1926
Clinton	81-39	School District – District No. 1	1866-1909
Clinton	85-21	School District – Stafford School	1865-1932
Clinton	77-63	School District – Districts No. 1 and No. 7	1865-1921
Clinton	73-64	School District – Brown School	1937-1943
Clinton	73-64	School District – North Eagle School	1913-1948
Clinton	86-110	School District – Fractional District No. 6	1875-1907
Clinton	81-40	School District – Denison School	1866-1943
Clinton	77-63	School Districts No. 1 and No. 7	1865-1921
Eaton	80-76	County – School District No. 1	1865-1888
Grand Traverse	82-73	School District – Traverse Bay	1896-1954
Grand Traverse	83-69	School Districts	ca. 1906-1960
Houghton	86-25	School Districts	1910-1968
Houghton	77-62	School District No. 1	1856-1881
Houghton	87-77	Osceola Township	1889-1967; 1982
Ingham	62-40	Aurelius Township School District No. 7	1888-1944



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County	Record Group	Description	Inclusive Dates
Ingham	62-40	School District – Fractional District No. 7	1888-1944
Ingham	77-108	School District – Barnes School District	1891-1956
Ingham	78-58	School District – Waters School	1854-1956
Ingham	82-20	Lansing Township – School District No. 5	1858-1936
Ionian	54-10	Series No. 8	1881-1914
Ionian	66-73	Series No. 20	1905-1936
Ionian	71-153	County	1944-1962
Ionian	78-66	Series No. 3	1843-1908
Ionian	78-66	Series No. 7	1955-1972
Ionian	73-64	School Districts – No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6	1865-1962
Ionian	63-4	School Districts – Fractional District No. 9	1870-1912
Ionian	73-64	School Districts – No. 1	1944-1946
Ionian	73-64	School Districts – No. 2	1926-1929
Ionian	73-64	School Districts – No. 3	1918-1959
Ionian	86-109	School Districts – Fractional No. 3	1927-1963
Ionian	57-2	Ronald Township School District Assessor's Book	1868-1908
Jackson	62-15	Series No. 1	1881-1928
Jackson	62-15	Series No. 2	1900-1912
Jackson	87-154	School Districts – East Liberty School	1839-1947
Kalkaska	83-69	School Districts – Traverse Bay	1906-1960
Keweenaw	77-62	School Districts – No. 1	1856-1881
Lapeer	81-31	School Districts	1883-1925
Leelanau	73-33	Bingham Township District 5 Financial Records	1905-1946
Leelanau	82-73	School Districts – Traverse Bay	1896-1954
Leelanau	83-69	School Districts – Traverse Bay	1906-1960
Livingston	71-107	Putnam Township	1857-1862
Macomb	72-118	St. Clair Shores	1948-1949
Monroe	70-31	LaSalle Township, Series 10	1908-1917
Monroe	70-31	LaSalle Township, Series 11	1917-1923
Monroe	70-31	LaSalle Township, Series 12	1905-1923
Monroe	70-32	London Township	1878-1923
Muskegon	88-35	School Districts	ca. 1935-1951
Oakland	78-61	School Districts – Lyons School	1868-1938
Oscoda	67-40	Series 18	1907, 1909
Roscommon	63-15	Series 2	1884, 1886, 1889, 1902, 1905-1906
Saginaw	85-33	Chapin Township, Series 4	1871-1931
St. Joseph	67-88	Municipal (Sturgis), Series 6	1906-ca. 1922
Shiawassee	86-124	School Districts No. 2	1850-1871
Washtenaw	73-37	Freedom Township, School Records	1861, 1885, 1888, 1931
Washtenaw	84-4	Northfield Township, Sutton School	1889-1949
Washtenaw	70-87	Pittsfield Township, Series 9	1889-1950



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County	Record Group	Description	Inclusive Dates
Washtenaw	70-87	Pittsfield Township, Series 10	1872-1895
Wayne	68-54	Dearborn Township, Minutes	1827-1880
Wayne	68-54	Dearborn Township, School Inspectors Reports	1838-1926
Wayne	71-157	Dearborn Township, Series 5	1851, 1854, 1857-1897

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

School	Record Group	Description	Inclusive Dates
Griffith Lyceum	56-07	Record and Minutes Book	1877-1878
Michigan Military Academy	62-51	Class and Conduct Reports	1895-1896
Vermontville Academy	64-27	Advertising Broadside	1849
Michigan Military Academy	66-57	Diploma	1902
Michigan Military Academy	67-128	Alumni Association	1954-1967
Michigan Military Academy	69-91	Records	1905-1907



Probate Packet Scanning Project

Update as of December 2013 (By Sherry Copenhaver)



We have now been working on our Probate Packet Scanning Project for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ years. With no idea how long this project may take, we estimated it as a five-year project. Our small group has been growing and we have shared some wonderful fellowship hours together. There was a core group of three of us who began working every week on the scanning project: Phyllis Whidden, Sue Thompson and Sherry Copenhaver. For a long time, we were the group! We had a great time, but I have to admit that progress was slow. Over the last few months, we have had more people join us, sometimes every week and sometimes whenever they can. Other volunteers who have joined us are Jim Collins, Jo Glasgow, Jim Kendall, Sharlene Thuma, Janet Skipper, Marjorie Evarian, JoAnn & Steve DePeel. These packets are in boxes alphabetically and we cheered when we got through the "A"s. We thought we would never get done with the "B"s (most names in Eaton County begin with "B") and we were overjoyed when we got those done. We are now working on the "C"s, which also quite a large letter. At this point, we are roughly 15% completed. We have a great time during these scanning bees and we are always learning new things from each other. If you live in the area, try joining us! We meet on Tuesdays and someone is there from 2pm - 5pm for this project and anyone can come any time during these hours. It is an easy, fun project.

Rural School Project

Update as of December 2013 (By Sherry Copenhaver)

Almost a year ago, the Eaton County Historical Commission began a project to write a book about Eaton County Rural Schools. The small group of Jan Sedore, JoeAnn Nehmer and Sherry Copenhaver began meeting at the Eaton County Genealogical Society library room to scan items from there. We have been meeting weekly for this entire time. Other people that have joined the work groups are Sue Thompson, Mike Raines and Joy Black. From Facebook, newspaper articles, and word of mouth, people have come into the room to share their rural school photos and other memorabilia. We have scanned many items while these generous people waited! We are still receiving items to scan and hope to begin the book in about 6 months or so. The book is planned to be a printed book, along with a DVD of indexes of all of the names of pupils, teachers and school officers we have collected and all school photo images. If you have any Eaton County Rural School photos, memories and/or history, please contact us at scopenhaver123@gmail.com.

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Circular No. 8 – Records Relating To Youth

The following records provide information about juveniles that have entered into the State of Michigan's governmental system by being available for adoption or having a problem adjusting to society. For access to Adoption Records, you must contact Nanette Salyer, Department of Human Services, at 517-335-6075. For access to Reformatory Records, you must contact Margaret Olesnavage, Bureau of Juvenile Justice, at 517-335-1438.

Confidential Adoption Records

Michigan Children's Institute (Restricted index in vault area.)

RG 65-11 Register of children, 1874-1938. Offers date of reception, number and name of individual, county of residence, nativity, facts regarding parents and whether child was an orphan or deserted. Arranged chronologically and numerically by individual case (series 3).

Report of state agents dated 1885-1895. Includes narrative statements resulting from agent's investigation of the physical condition and social adjustment of children indentured, restored to parents, or independent. Lists county of placement, name of child and guardian, and comments on progress of child since leaving school. Arranged chronologically (series 4).

Report of children dated 1889-1922. Offers reception or registry number, name of individual, by whom reported, number of months in school, and comments. Arranged chronologically (series 5).

Registry of children restored to parents and declared self-supporting, 1885-1959. Offers reception or registry number, name of child, name of his or her parents, as well as address. Arranged chronologically (series 7).

Register of children adopted and returned to counties, 1879-1947. Offers reception number, name of child and guardian, plus address. Arranged chronologically (series 8).

Register of children indentured, 1874-1931. Offers date, reception and indenture number, name of individual indentured, name of guardian, and post office address. Arranged chronologically (series 9).

Register of children indentured in counties, 1884-1942. Offers date, reception and indenture number, name of individual child, name of guardian, township or village and post office address. Arranged alphabetically by name of county, then chronologically (series 10).



Confidential Adoption Records (Cont.)

Social Services

- RG 69-128 History of children, 1874-1925. Offers date of admission, name of child, age, county of residence, names of parents and residence, plus orphan status. Arranged numerically by number of child (series 1).

Reformatory Records

Girls' Training School (Restricted index in vault area.)

- RG 58-6 Letters to superintendent from girls indentured for service in private homes and other interested people, ca. 1881-1892. Includes petitions for release, letters from girls reporting work and social conditions in homes, problems, and progress of reform. Arranged alphabetically by subject's name (series 14).

Record of girls received at Croswell Cottage, 1882-1918. Includes identification number, name, place of residence, and reasons for commitment. Arranged chronologically (series 43).

Record of girls received in the Michigan Reform School for Girls, 1881-1883. Case histories of first 120 girls received at the school. Includes name, identification number, date received, charge and sentence plus personal history. Arranged chronologically (series 44).

Boys' Training School (Restricted index in vault area.)

- RG 61-16 Statistical record book of the school, 1856-1880. Offers names of inmate, number, age, nationality, education, religion, moral condition, and employment. Arranged chronologically by date of commitment (series 1).

General record of inmates, 1886-1893. Offers name of inmate, expiration date of term, date and conditions of release, offense, plus county and post office address. Arranged alphabetically by name of inmate (series 2).

Record of discharged inmates of the school, 1860-1897. Offers name, date of discharge, time in school, grades, and condition of discharge. Arranged chronologically (series 3).

- RG 73-28 History of boys, 1856-1920. Offers number and name of inhabitant, date committed and received, birthplace, age, physical description, place of residence, and names of parents. Includes church affiliations and scholarship records. Arranged numerically by ID number (series 1).

General record of inmates, ca. 1893-1946 (series 2). See RG 61-16, series 2, above for description.



Aalbrechtse, John, 4
 Aalbrechtse, Maude, 4
 Abbot, Ira, 19
 Agine, Calile, 4
 Agine, Sam, 4
 Aguay, Jose, 4
 Akas, George, 4
 Albrecht, Albert, 4
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 Allison, John, 4
 Alquier, Simone, 4
 Americ, Inge, 5
 Ammen, John, 4
 Andersen, Martin, 4
 Anderson, August, 4
 Anderson, Dr., 25
 Andreas, Barney, 4
 Andreas, Celeste, 4
 Andreas, Gregory, 4
 Andreas, John, 4
 Andreas, Joseph, 4
 Andreas, Katherine, 4
 Andreas, Katie, 4
 Andreas, Peter, 4
 Andreas, Zelest, 5
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 Andrews, Albert, 5
 Andrews, Norman, 5
 Andursky, Samuel, 5
 Anor, Frank, 5
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 Antonio, Torre, 5
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 Archer, Ross, 5

Arenault, Marie Ann, 6
 Arksey, Charles, 5
 Armeric, Rafailo, 5
 Armstrong, George, 5
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 Arnold, William, 5
 Arrenondo, Manuel, 5
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 Ash, Guy, 25
 Ashley, Alice L., 19
 Ashley, Asa I., 19
 Ashley, Clara, 19
 Ashley, Daniel P., 19
 Ashley, Elizabeth, 19
 Ashley, Emma F., 19
 Ashley, Isaac N., 19
 Ashley, Isaac, 18
 Ashley, Jabez (Sr), 18
 Ashley, Jabez, 18
 Ashley, Jacob N., 18
 Ashley, Jessie, 19
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 Ashley, John A., 19
 Ashley, Jonathan N., 18
 Ashley, Lewis C., 18
 Ashley, M & M, 19
 Ashley, Margaret A., 19
 Ashley, Maria J., 19
 Ashley, Marinda, 18
 Ashley, Millie A., 18
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 Ashley, Noah, 18
 Ashley, Phebe, 18

Ashley, Polly E., 19
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 Ban, Egnac, 6
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 Barnaart, William, 7
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 Barningham, John, 7
 Barnum, Jabus, 7
 Barrett, Edward, 7
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 Bassett, Edward, 8
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 Baxter, David, 8
 Beaman, William, 8
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 Beihler, Robert, 8
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 Berringer, Christian, 9
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