

ELKHART CENTENNIAL

1855



1955

THE VILLAGE OF ELKHART CITY

ELKHART, ILLINOIS

The Village of Elkhart City

Elkhart, Illinois

CENTENNIAL HISTORY

1855

1955

Published By

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Historical Consultant



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John Shockey
Founder of Elkhart City

Dedication

1855-1955

"A people that takes no pride in the notable achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve any thing worthy to be remembered with pride by remote generations."

MACAULEY 

When we retrace the first one hundred years of history of the village of Elkhart City, we find it is the history of a people who possessed great energy, honesty, and self-reliance. These traits have helped to build a community of lasting and friendly bonds, from which their sons and daughters have gone forth well prepared to take their place in the world.

To these pioneers we dedicate
this book.

Sale of Lots at Elkhart City.

ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, BETWEEN the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 3 o'clock P. M. will be offered at public sale, to the highest bidder, a number of

HANDSOME LOTS

In the town of Elkhart, Logan County, Illinois.
Elkhart City is located on the St. Louis, Alton & Chicago Railroad, 13 miles North-east of Springfield, on the west side of the Elkhart Grove, and is one of the most delightful and picturesque situations in the west.
The town is surrounded by a large tract of fertile land, and next from its location become the shipping point of a very large district, which will make it one of the most desirable places for business on the road.

A Good Warehouse has been erected on the ground, from which a large quantity of grain has been shipped to Chicago, and the business is rapidly on the increase.

Terms made known on the day of sale.

Nov 10-1855

JOHN SHOCKEY, Proprietor.

The Village of Elkhart City

LOCATION

Almost in the center of the state of Illinois, nestled on the western slope of a long wooded hill, stands the village of Elkhart City. It was founded as a village in 1855 and this year will celebrate its first century of existence.

The village derives its name from this beautiful hill. It was named Elkhart City to distinguish it from Elkhart Hill.

THE ELKHART HILL

This hill which is 777 feet high and is the highest point in Logan County, covers more than 600 acres. In the early days it was the only timbered land between the Sangamon River and Salt Creek. It was named by the Illinois Indian tribe whose totem was the Elk Heart. They believed the hill to be in the shape of an Elk's heart.

INDIAN LORE

Tradition among the Illinois Indian tribe relates that the beautiful daughter of a chief of the Illinois tribe known as "White Blossom" had two lovers, one a warrior of the Shawnee tribe from the banks of the Ohio and the other a warrior of her own tribe, the Illinois. After this situation had gone on for some time and during one of the annual hunting trips of the Illinois, the two warriors demanded that "White Blossom" decide which one of them she would take in marriage. An elk passed nearby and "White Blossom" said that the warrior who could pierce the heart of the elk would be the one she would marry. Both warriors shot their arrows and the Illinois warrior's arrow pierced the heart of the Elk. In a short time they were married and took the Elk Heart as their totem or family badge. The Elk Heart was marked with indelible color on the bodies of each of their children and their children's children and so on down until it became the mark of the Illinois tribe.

Not very much is known about the tribes that dwelt there, but on the eastern slope of the hill is found a village site, which due to the great number of stone relics found, is thought to be the site of Illinois Indian village. This is probably true, as this was the Illinois Country before the coming of the Kickapoos.

In about 1763 the Kickapoos started to move down from the great lake region into central Illinois. They had a village on the Elkhart Hill which was somewhat connected with their capital village that stood near where Lincoln now stands.

On July 30, 1819 the Indians ceded this land to the United States and started to move out. By 1836 there was but a few Indians left in Illinois. Thus passed the last Indians from the Elkhart Hill.

It might be added that the "old Indian trail" from the "Big Salt of Kentucky" to the chief camping grounds of the Potowatomies on the Mississippi, passes over Elkhart Hill and traces of it may still be found on the upper ridge of the hill.

Joseph Trotier, a French Creole of Cahokia, visited Elkhart Hill around 1810.

Frederick Ernst, a German, related in 1819 that Elk Heart hill was a most agreeable and advantageous place and that he found sugar trees four feet in diameter.

The Elkhart hill is part of the Buffalo Hart Glacial Moraine. This moraine runs a distance of about fifteen miles from Mt. Auburn to Elkhart. It is covered with about 12 to 15 feet of loess or soil with great underlying drift of clay, sand, gravel, and boulders intermingled.

FIRST WHITE PEOPLE

Probably the first white people to see the Elkhart Hill were Anne Gilham and her children. James Gilham, Sr. lived on the frontier of Kentucky in 1790 on their small farm. One day while he and his son Isaac were working in the field some Kickapoo warriors who lived at the Elkhart and Salt Creek villages captured his wife and three small children.

The warriors took them captives to the capital village on Salt Creek. On their way they passed the Elkhart Hill probably stopping at the Kickapoo village there. Later Gilham purchased his family back from the Indians. In 1815 Anne Gilham obtained a grant of land of 160 acres from Congress as an honorable testimonial of the suffering and hardships in her captivity with the Indians.

THE LATHAMS

It was in September 1819 that James Latham moved from Union County, Kentucky, and came to Elkhart Hill. The country had not been surveyed, consequently he was an original squatter sovereign.

James Latham was of Scottish descent. He was born October 21, 1768. He was engaged in farming in his native state. On June 21, 1792 he married Mary Briggs of Virginia. They had ten children all of whom were born in Kentucky.

James Latham built the first cabin on the hill. It stood where Governor Oglesby's first house stood. It was a double cabin with a passage between and a fireplace at each end. It was the first cabin built north of Springfield in Illinois.

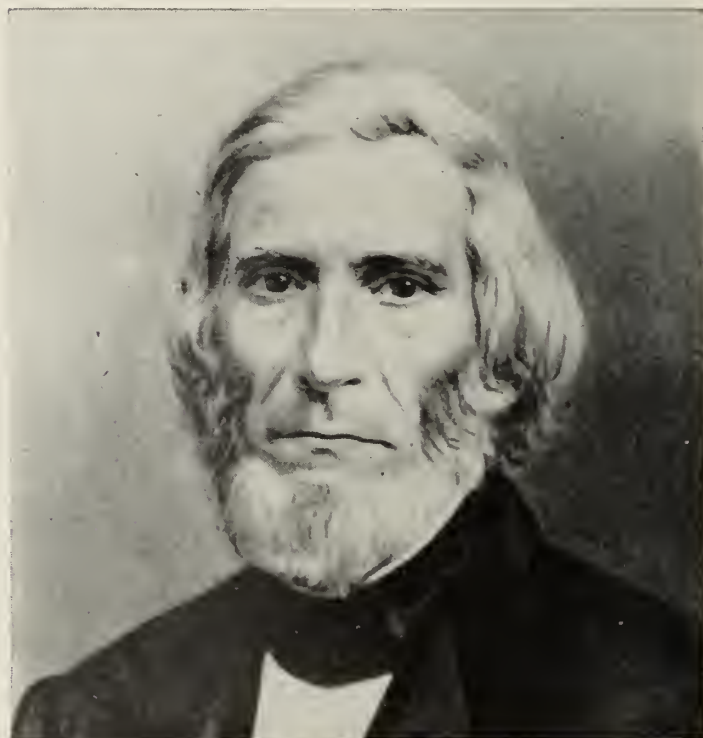
When the lands were brought into market, some years after his first arrival, he entered nearly all the timber land of Elkhart Hill consisting of about a section.

In 1823 James Latham and his son Richard built a horse mill at Elkhart, which was the first mill built north of the Sangamon River. It was an ordinary horse mill but required four horses to run it and was a great convenience to the early settlers. Prior to this they were compelled to go to Edwardsville, a journey of a hundred miles. This was the first of about four different mills that stood between the house of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Christian and the highway. The last mill ^{was} being destroyed by fire in 1875. The late Mrs. Christian's house was the miller's home.

James Latham was appointed in 1824-25 by President John Q. Adams as Indian agent at Fort Clark (now Peoria) and so moved his residence from Elkhart to Fort Clark. He remained at Fort Clark until his death two years later. His remains were returned to Elkhart and buried in the family cemetery on the hill. His family returned to Elkhart and took up residence in the old house.

Besides the Latham family, at Elkhart Grove, several other families came, remained for a short time, and then moved on to other settlements. Mr. Latham had several cabins built near his home which he rented to persons moving into the country until they found a permanent location. Among these may be mentioned the Stephenson family who afterward moved to Sangamon County. A family by the name of Lackland, from Tennessee, lived in one of these cabins. Mr. Glover operated a small farm for a while. John and Henry Crumbau rented land for two years and then went to McLean County.

The early settlers did not value the prairie lands because they had no suitable means of cultivation. They usually made their homes near timber land and water; for the timber provided materials for homes, fuel, and protection from the weather. The springs here at Elkhart Grove were an inducement for them to settle here. To supply clothing, fields of flax and cotton were raised and spun by the women. Shoes were a luxury and were often carried instead of being worn as they walked to assemblies. Boys wore trousers and hunting shirts of buckskin. At first money was almost unknown and all things which they termed "luxuries" were obtained by barter. Their daily life was very simple. The staple article of food was corn meal. Before mills were built, the women "grated" their corn with a piece of tin or it was prepared in Indian fashion. In some settlements, for many years, a stove was unheard of.



Richard Latham

KENTUCKY HOUSE

Richard Latham, who came with his father to Elkhart Hill in 1819 and entered land for himself in Section 18 of what is now Elkhart Township, built what was known as the "Kentucky House". This was a huge frame structure of two stories with a two story porch on the front. The old "Kentucky House" was an important stop on the Edwards Trace. When traveling the circuit, Abraham Lincoln, John T. Stuart, Stephen A. Douglas, David Davis, Stephen T. Logan, and



Site of James Latham cabin

other lawyers often stopped here. It was also a stop on the early "stage routes" from Springfield to Bloomington. Travelers were received with true hospitality. Latham ran this hotel until 1853, when he sold it and his farm land to John Shockey thus bringing an end to the Latham family at Elkhart Hill. The "Kentucky House" was destroyed by fire in 1876.

THE EDWARDS TRACE

Governor Edwards of the Illinois Territory made an expedition against the Kickapoo and Potawatomie Indians in October of 1812. The route he followed from Cahokia to Lake Peoria became known as "Edwards Trace." It is probable that he followed a very old Indian trail. A more accurate description of the route says, "It



Kentucky House, Elkhart Hill

passed upon the west side of Cahokia Creek, thence to the Macoupin, which was crossed near the present site of Carlinville; thence north easterly, crossing the Sangamon below the junction of the north and south fork, east of the present capital of the State; passing Elkhart Grove, crossing Salt creek not far from the present city of Lincoln, and thence in a northward direction striking an old deserted Kickapoo village on Sugar Creek, and thence north west to Lake Peoria."

Later in 1825 the County Commissioners of Sangamon County (which then covered a large portion of central Illinois) laid out a "county road" following this old trace and it then became known as the "Fort Clark (Peoria) Road." Today U. S. Route 66 from St. Louis to Lincoln follows close to the Old Trace and from Lincoln to Peoria Route 121 follows the trace.

Traces of this trail may still be seen today on the Elkhart Hill. This is the only place in its more than a hundred mile length that traces can be found.



The Edwards trace

TOWN SITE

A town site at Elkhart Hill was planned at one time by Acquilla Davis but nothing came of it.

In 1853 the Chicago, Mississippi (now Gulf, Mobile, and Ohio) Railroad Company was being built and reached Elkhart Grove first of August 1853.

As soon as the railroad had been completed to this point, an old horse-mill in Springfield, owned by Seneca Woods, was brought up by William Mozee and placed here for a warehouse. This was in the spring of 1853.



TOWN BOARD
of the
VILLAGE OF ELKHART CITY

Harry Johnson, Mayor

Robert Miller, Clerk

TRUSTEES

Robert Lee

William Kavanagh

Mark Hunter

John McCue

Lester Durst

Frank Plummer



FOUNDING

In 1855, the village was laid out by John Shockey of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, who at one time built a large frame hotel. It stood on the northside of the street, one block north of the present business district.

It burned on May 24, 1889. J. R. Saunders built about the same time a brick building for a store, in which he opened the first stock of goods in Elkhart. This building stood just south of the present Lanterman store facing the depot. It collapsed a few years ago with age. A few goods were for sale in the old warehouse prior to this but no regular stock was kept.

In 1858 John Gibbs erected a warehouse. Shockey's addition of 16 acres was added to the original town in 1858. It was surveyed by County Surveyor Conaway Perce on April 11, 1855. Christian Shockey and John Rinehart were chain carries, William F. G. Elkin and A. E. Constant were witnesses to the survey. Rigney's addition was laid out in 1863 and Thompson's addition was added in 1865.

INCORPORATION

The town was incorporated February 22, 1861. The first officers were James Rigney, president; Wm. Helm, clerk; T. H. Cantrall, treasurer; L. D. Dana, justice; Martin Buzzard, constable; A. H. Bogardus, C. B. Taylor, David Lippot, and Luther Wood.

JOHN D. GILLETT

For many years Elkhart was one of the largest shipping points on the C. & A. railroad, due to the large stock raising farms of John D. Gillett. Mr. Gillett was called the "cattle king" of the world.

John D. Gillett was born at Fair Haven, Conn., April 28, 1819. He was a descendant of a family of Huguenots which were driven from France by religious persecution and sought refuge in England and in 1631 emigrated to the United States and settled in Lebanon in what was then the colony of Conn. His father, Eliphaz, was captain of the brig "John" of which he was sole owner and was engaged along West Indies coast wise trade. He was born in 1791 and married Amarilla Sanford. Five children, two sons and three daughters were born to them. Both his grandfathers were soldiers in the war of the Revolution. When John was three his father died and he was reared by his widowed mother and went to Lancasterian school at New Haven. When he was 17 he sailed to Georgia and spent two years in the mercantile business and afterwards returned to New Haven and attended Pearl's Academy six



John D. Gillett

months. In the fall of 1838 he started for Illinois, going by steamboat to St. Louis, by stage to Springfield, and then on foot to Bald Knob where an uncle resided. He immediately began to work on the farm receiving at first \$8 a month. In 1840, after spending two years at Bald Knob, he came to Logan County and improved a farm in Elkhart Township, residing there 28 years. This farm is now operated by Albert Johnson and it lies just north of Cornland.



Willow Point Farm

In 1868 he moved to Elkhart Hill. By 1852 he owned some 12,000 acres of land and in that year with R. B. Latham entered about 7,000 acres more. At his death he owned 16,500 acres of land.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

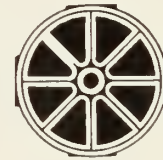
To the Village of Elkhart, Illinois

JOHN MERRITT

Elkhart, Illinois



Armistice Celebration — Elkhart



CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE VILLAGE OF ELKHART

ON 100th BIRTHDAY

ROLAND'S

Springfield, Illinois



FARM RES. OF JOHN D. GILLETT, ESQ., ELKHART PARK, LOGAN CO ILL. T. 18 N.R. 3 W.

This drawing showing the farm residence of John D. Gillett on Elkhart Hill and also the village of Elkhart on the left was taken from the Logan County Atlas which was published in 1873.

John D. Gillett purchased this farm and moved here from near Cornland on September 14, 1869. The old house burned on February 14, 1871 and Gillett then built the present home.



Compliments of

OLD GILLETT FARMS

He raised some of the finest stock cattle in the United States. He was engaged extensively in shipping fine stock in European markets. He was a Republican in politics but never held any political office.

On May 31, 1842 he was married to Miss Lemira Parks. Her father, Elisha Parke, settled in Logan County in 1837 and built the first jail in Logan County. Mr. and Mrs. Gillett had eleven children: S. Emma who died young, Anna S., Grace, Eliphaz Parke who died at 4 years, Lemira Nina, May, Kate, Jessie Dean, John Parke, Ada and Charlotte Lancroft. The family were members of the Episcopal Church in Springfield. The old house in Elkhart was destroyed by fire in February, 1871. A new one was built which is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Drake.

John D. Gillette died at Mackinack Island August 27, 1883.

The
GROWTH OF TOWN

When the town was laid out all of the business establishments faced the railroad. One of the first buildings was a brick building erected by J. R. Saunders and he offered a general stock of goods. Saunders also had the first post office in his building and he was the first postmaster and railroad agent. John Shockey erected a large frame hotel later known as the Cordell House. Quite a number of houses were built the same summer and until 1862 the town grew very rapidly. "Since 1862 the growth of the town has been slow. The trade is, however, good, and supports a number of excellent stores" (History of Logan County, 1878).

BUSINESS MEN OF ELKHART — 1885

Thomas Brennan	General Store
Hughes & Taylor	General Store
S. B. Hunter	Groceries
John Hardesty	Groceries
William Dolvin	Groceries
Lanterman & Smith	Groceries
Z. T. Taylor	Druggist
L. W. Hess	Furniture Dealer
Jacob Blenz	Meat Market
Joseph Cordell	Elkhart House
H. H. Pankey	Saloon
Frank Smith	Saloon
Robert Kennedy	Saloon
John Gibbs	Grain Merchant
A. Armington	Grain Merchant
David Lippott	Blacksmith
Thomas Brennan	Postmaster
C. P. Briggs	Station Agent

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1855 — SWIFT — 1955

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TOWN

MARKET

FINE FOODS

CLOVER FARM

THELMA SVENSON

CATHERINE POYNTER

THOMAS BRENNAN

Mr. Thomas Brennan was born in County Carlo, Ireland, on March 12, 1833. He came to America at the age of seventeen. He worked on a farm in New York for two years at \$5 per month during the summer months and for his board during the winter, going to school one month in each year. After several years he left New York and working at various jobs, he traveled westward. Arriving in Springfield, March 4, 1854, he worked as a drayman, mail carrier, bus driver, liveryman, and hotel butler. He also worked for the immortal Abraham Lincoln, little dreaming of the brilliant future awaiting his employer. His first farming was done in the vicinity of Williamsville, during the wet season of 1858. He planted 25 acres of corn with a hoe, which he sold the following season for seventy cents a bushel. After his corn crop was laid by he ran a threshing machine.

On September 29, 1861, he was married to Mary Kavanaugh in Elkhart. He was the father of thirteen children, two dying in infancy. His children included Patrick, Mrs. Gue Thompson, Matthew, Mrs. Thomas Gleason, Sadie, Mrs. Charles W. Lee, Thomas A., Edward, Charles, John, and Bryan. All of his children grew to maturity in the vicinity of Elkhart. Surviving are Mrs.

Thomas Gleason of Broadwell and John of Elkhart.

After locating in Elkhart Thomas Brennan opened a grocery and general merchandise store which he operated in the same location until his death in 1892.

After the death of his father, Patrick Brennan continued with the store until he retired in 1923. The store was sold to the present owner, Ralph Lanterman. Matthew was associated with the business for a short while.

FIRES

Elkhart has had much experience with fires. On May 24, 1889 lightning struck the Crane building occupied by the general store of Hughes and Mendenhall — ten buildings were burned. In 1871 John D. Gillett's house burned and in 1891 Governor Oglesby's home on the hill burned.

In 1914 several buildings on the north side of Main Street burned causing much destruction and loss. A few years later lightning struck a livery stable and burned several buildings on Railroad Street.

March 10, 1915, sixty-five head of cattle and eighty head of hogs owned by Charles Lee were driven into a deep trench and killed because of the dread foot and mouth disease. The value of the livestock was estimated at \$4,000.

ELKHART ROBBERY

On Saturday, December 29, 1866, Charles Elwood, a citizen and resident of Elkhart was robbed of about \$5,800 in cash. Mr. Elwood had been to St. Louis on Thursday, where he had been paid the sum of \$6,000. He had brought this money with him to Elkhart on that same day. On Friday morning as he returned from Springfield, he noticed two men and thought they might be following him from the depot to his office, but supposed that they were going to the hotel, and thought no more about it. On Saturday morning, he went to his office early intending to send part of the money to Springfield. He was making a fire when a man stepped into the office to get warm. Mr. Elwood thinking, perhaps, this man was a farmer, proceeded to take the money out of the safe, keeping his back all the while to the stranger. While he was counting the money a second man appeared and threw a rope around his neck and drew it tight. The man by the stove jumped up and placed a sponge, saturated with chloroform to Mr. Elwood's mouth and nose. Two hours later Mr. Elwood's clerk found him unconscious and the money gone. About a month later Mr. Elwood was robbed of \$40 near Vandalia. This time he was left on the railroad track unconscious. When found, his feet were so badly frozen that amputation was necessary.



Thomas Brennan

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Complete Line Agriculture Chemicals

Complete Line of Feed Bulk or Bag

Sprayers and Seeders to meet your needs.

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Phone 26

TAYLOR

Dr. James and Sarah Elliott Taylor of Adair County, Kentucky, and their sons and grandchildren are among the pioneers of Elkhart. For fifty years Dr. Taylor was successfully engaged in the medical profession in Kentucky and after moving his family to Elkhart in 1872 he continued his practice for eleven years. He then returned to Kentucky where he died in 1889. After the birth of five sons Sarah passed away in 1861 and later James married Carrie Bright of Ohio.

Dr. George O. Taylor established a drug store in Elkhart. His two brothers, James Cory and Zachariah Thomas, became associated with him and together they added a stock of general merchandise in addition to dealing in drug supplies and prescriptions. In 1900 James Cory Taylor was elected to the state legislature. Chesla Q. Taylor became a successful farmer and stock raiser. Dr. Charles B. Taylor was prominent in civic affairs and served on the board of health. He was also elected supervisor of Elkhart Township.

Zachariah Thomas Taylor married Miss Dora Brady in 1874. All of their nine children were born in Elkhart. A daughter, Evelyn, died in infancy. Dr. G. G. practiced medicine in Hartsburg and Elkhart. Ellen married Edward Gilbert and resided in Springfield. Lola married B. Halahan, and as a young widow with a daughter returned home and made a home for her father. Ina died as a young girl. James B. was associated with his father and carried on the business after his father's death in 1923. James B. continued in this business until 1946. At the present time, he is still a resident of Elkhart. Frank P. became a prominent veterinarian. Zachariah Thomas was also associated with his father but after his marriage to Miss Emma Telfer they moved to Williamsville and his place of employment was Springfield. Nancy married William Schafer. After his death in 1925 she served many years as a practical nurse. She now resides in Lincoln, Illinois.



Z. T. Taylor home



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

St. Patrick's Catholic Parish, of Elkhart, which is nearly as old as the village itself, has a history dating back nearly a century.

In the year 1857 St. Patrick's Church was established as a Parish. Previous to that year there are records of itinerant priests who visited here from St. Louis and Chicago. The Catholic families were notified of these visits and gathered for services in a private home. In 1857 Rev. Father Maegher of Bloomington served Elkhart as an cutmission. Three years later it became an cut-mission of Lincoln with Father Martin in charge. In 1862 he erected the first church. This building was soon found inadequate and work on the present building was begun in 1870. In 1880 the Rev. Charles Rennels was appointed the first resident pastor.

It has been necessary to enlarge and improve the church to fit the needs of the parish during the years.

Rev. Edward Krewer is the present pastor. The trustees are Mr. Jake Stellar and Mr. James T. Hickey.

CAPTAIN A. H. BOGARDUS

Captain Bogardus was born in Berne, New York, about 1832. At the age of 15 years he began his shooting career. He had no formal instruction in shooting, but he became renowned as champion wing shot of America. The first public appearance of Captain Bogardus as a shooter was in 1868 at St. Louis, where he was fairly successful. Until then he had never seen a pigeon trap. This resulted in a match between himself and Gough Stanton, of Detroit, for \$200 a side, the match being held at Elkhart. He won this match and from then on he continued in this career. In 1875, in London, he earned the title of champion shot of the world.

Moving in 1856 to Illinois, near Petersburg, he found plenty of opportunity for hunting as game of all kinds was plentiful. After living in Sangamon County for two years, Captain Bogardus moved to Elkhart and made this his home for most of the rest of his life. His home still stands and in recent years has been known as the Christian home.

Captain Bogardus had a private siding at Elkhart for his private railroad coach. This was a stopping place for Buffalo Bill and his show during the time Captain Bogardus was a member of that show. The show would camp out west of Captain Bogardus's home in the field.

While living at Elkhart, Captain Bogardus wrote a book entitled "Field, Cover and Trap Shooting" which was published in 1884.

He married Cordelia Deerstein of New York and to them were born four sons — Eugene, Edward, Peter, and Henry. All four were skillful in shooting.

Bogardus had three daughters: Marietta (Kennedy), Emma (Pankey), and Anna (Nickolson). Anna Nickolson is still living in California.

Captain Bogardus died March 23, 1913 and is buried in Elkhart Cemetery.



Capt. Bogardus and Sons 1882

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CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Elkhart Christian Church was organized in 1865. A corner lot fronting Elkhart Hill, near the school house building was deeded to the church by Daniel and Mary Shockey. A building was erected on the lot in 1867. The same pastors who held services in the Broadwell Church made visits to Elkhart and preached to the Elkhart congregation. In 1873 Elder Davidson was a resident pastor. The trustees in 1870 were: W. T. Hughes, Stephen Clarno, A. E. Constant, B. F. Wiley, and A. M. Dye.

During a period of time prior to 1886 the Christian Congregation had no pastor and no services were held. The building was rented by the Episcopal Congregation. Then in 1886 the Christian group under the leadership of Mrs. C. B. Taylor was reorganized. Sam Hunter, John Gibbs, John Hardesty, William Dolvin, W J. Miller, and N. E. Miller were some of the deacons and elders at this time.

In 1916 under the pastorship of O. P. Wright the church was remodeled and rededicated.

The present pastor of the Congregation is Harold W. Ford of Lincoln, Illinois. The Elders are: John Merritt, Lacy Hall, Lewis Anderson, and Olander Greer. Present deacons are Carl Miller, James Anderson, Raymond Tibbs, Ellis Turner, Elza Dennison, Clarence Schilling, Wesley Shawgo, and Jacob Oyer. Trustees at present are John Merritt, James Anderson, and Olander Greer.



Christian Church

Records of population in Elkhart show that in 1860 there were 120 inhabitants; in 1870 there were 378; in 1890 there were 387 and the census of 1900 showed that there were 553.

THE MILL

CAFE AND DRIVE IN SERVICE

Curb Service Daily — 4 P. M. to Midnight

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SHORT ORDERS

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ELKHART METHODIST CHURCH

A Methodist society was organized at Elkhart Grove in the early thirties by Rev. Samuel H. Martin, a well known pioneer preacher, but not until 1863 was there a church building of this denomination erected in the village of Elkhart. The trustees at that time were: Wm. B. Bock, Joseph A. Dalbey, David G. Evans, Thomas Nolan, and Godfrey H. Guyer. The church society was incorporated June 15, 1873.

The church was remodelled in 1924. The present trustees are: J. M. Bair, Mrs. S. L. Bair, Wm. Chilton, Merle Lippott, Russell Miller, and Harold Schilling. The present minister is Rev. Lowe.



ST JOHN'S BAPTIST CHAPEL

St. John's Baptist Chapel is located in Elkhart Cemetery on Elkhart Hill. It is the only privately-owned, self-supporting church in the state.

The chapel was built in 1890 by Mrs. John D. Gillett to the memory of John D. Gillett. It has eighty acres of "glebe land" which supports it and was the intention of Mrs. Gillett that it serve the descendants of John D. Gillett for as long as it stands.

It is made of stone in Old English style. It stands in Elkhart cemetery, which is joined with "Oglehurst" ground by a bridge across a highway.

The chapel has known both funeral and wedding services. Rites were held here for Governor R. J. Oglesby. Near the chapel is the mausoleum in which the bodies of Governor and Mrs. Oglesby are buried.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT

As a result of the Elkhart's waterworks system a fire truck equipped with force pump, hose, and ladders was purchased May 1941. The truck was purchased from the village of McLean for \$200. It was mounted on a Model T. Ford chassis.

The truck had 200 feet of hose and the village board purchased 500 feet more of new hose.

J. A. Havey was appointed fire chief, A. D. Greer was Assistant chief, Harold V. Svenson was Secretary, and J. B. Taylor was Treasurer. All firemen were volunteers.

A new fire district has been formed — Elkhart Rural Fire Protection District — as a result of a bond issue which was passed in 1953.

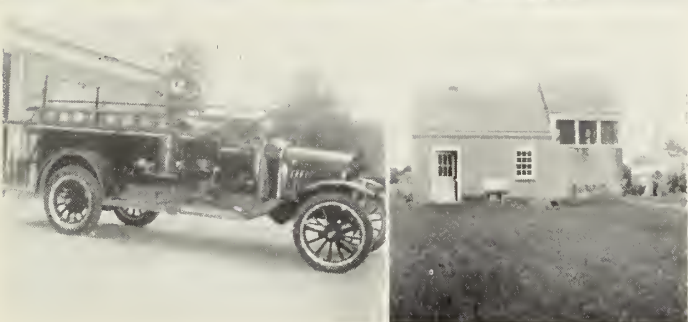
The board of trustees is Everett Brooker, Evan Britton, and Fenton Craner. These men were appointed by the county judge.

A new concrete block building was erected upon the old original site of the Schroeder boarding house. Harold Ryan was the contractor. This building is to house the remodeled fire truck, which is to be used, as well as a complete new truck purchased and delivered December 18, 1954.

The new truck chassis was purchased from Harold E. Thomas, International Dealer from Lincoln, Illinois. The complete fire apparatus, ladders, hose, and so forth was purchased from the Towers Fire Apparatus Company, Inc, from Freeburg, Illinois.

The truck is equipped with a 500 gallon pump plus 1,000 feet of two and one-half inch hose and 200 feet of one and one-half inch hose. It also has a 750 gallon booster tank with 400 feet of booster hose.

The present fire chief is Harvey J. Allen.



New and Old Fire Engines and Pumping Station

ELKHART'S WATER WORKS SYSTEM

Another landmark has risen to grace the slope of the Elkhart hill. A huge man-made tower, rising 126 feet into the sky near the foot of the west slope of the hill, is a utility of protection to the village itself.

Installation of meters into 94 homes and business places and sterilization of the water system has completed the \$28,000 water system, by private contract, as the result of a bond issue which was passed May 14, 1940.

The huge water tower is located on the northside of the village and a 75 foot deep drilled well is located on the southside. The tank and cylinder has a capacity of approximately 60,000 gallons. The tank itself holds 50,000 gallons and the cylinder holds almost another 10,000 gallons.

One and a half miles of four inch water mains have been laid and fire plugs are located at strategic points about the village.

A seven and a half horse power electric turbine pumps the water from the well to the tower. The capacity is 100 gallons per minute.

Harry Johnson, president of the village board is proud of the improvement which makes available a modern water system for every home that wants it. Other members of the village board who worked diligently on the project are Robert Lee, John Lee, John Welker, Charles Gupton, William Kavanagh, and Charles Randall.

The present committee for the waterworks system is: Mark Hunter, Chairman; John McCue, and Lester Durst.

BANK

The first bank of Elkhart was built by John Gillett in the late 19th century.

In 1901 J. F. Prather and Company took over the bank. Mr. Milton Jones was affiliated with him. The bank at that time was known as the Bank of J F. Prather. It was privately owned.

In 1919 a state law was passed that all privately owned banks were to become state banks and be operated by the state. The bank then became known as the Elkhart State Bank.

In 1920 the bank was remodeled. There was a vacant lot between the original bank building and the Brennan building. The bank building was enlarged at this time and took in that vacant lot. On October 12, 1932 the bank was closed. It merged with the Williamsville State Bank.

Following the closing of the bank, the building was used for the office of doctors and dentists. The building is now being used as a Recreation Center for Elkhart.



Elevators at Elkhart in 1907

CONGRATULATIONS
TO
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ON ITS
100th ANNIVERSARY

Allison & Company

FEED & GRAIN
ELKHART, ILLINOIS



Henry Stahl

HENRY STAHL

Henry Stahl, hardware dealer, established his business in Elkhart in 1865. Beginning life on small capital, he made his business a success by his industry and good management. Building up a fine trade, and by his honest dealings, secured the confidence of the people. Mr. Stahl was born at Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio, in 1841. His parents came to America from Germany in 1830 and settled in Ohio.

At the age of fourteen, Mr. Stahl learned the tinner's trade. In 1859 he located at Winchester, Scott County, Illinois, where he worked at his trade until May 11, 1861, when he enlisted in Co. K 14th Illinois Infantry. At the end of his 3½ years of enlistment, he was discharged with a record of a gallant soldier. He returned to Winchester where he worked at his former trade until March 1, 1865. He married Eliza Ebey in 1866. They had five children: Mamie, Georgia, Tillie, Charles, and Garland.

Charles S. Stahl was born in Elkhart August 31, 1875. For many years he was in the hardware and implement business with his father. After the death of his father, he continued with the business. Later he was farm manager for the Marine bank. He retired from the bank post in 1942 and returned to Elkhart to make his home. Here he died November, 1954. He is survived by two sons Edwin of Elkhart and Garland of Illinois. Apg.

WILLIAM DOLVIN

William Dolvin, grocer, was a native of Harrison County, Ohio, where he was born in 1819, son of Richard and Phoebe Edwards Dolvin. In 1867 he married Mary A. Smith. The following year they moved to Elkhart where Mr. Dolvin entered the grocery business. They were the parents of two daughters — Ida B. and Olive L. Dolvin. Mr. Dolvin was at one time justice of the peace and held other township offices.

SAMUEL B. HUNTER

Samuel B. Hunter, general grocer, established his business in Elkhart in 1871. He was born in Oneida County, New York, in 1836, son of Robert Hunter, a native of Edinburg, Scotland. At the age of eighteen, he engaged in railroading in Mississippi. At the out break of the War, he returned to the North and located in Elkhart. In 1862 he joined Company D 160th Illinois Infantry at Mt. Pulaski and served three years. After the War he returned to Elkhart. He married Jennie Grogan. They had one son, Frank, born in Elkhart in 1872.

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CEMETERIES

ELKHART CEMETERY

On the hill near Elkhart and surrounded by a woodland, which to this day has never felt the bite of a plow, spreads a cemetery, which has served the village and community for nearly a century.

Elkhart Cemetery was started about 1860 but the town board surveyed and lotted the Elkhart Cemetery June 24, 1886.

It is a final resting place for men and women of eminence and distinction — people who were influential in shaping the destiny of the community, the state, and the nation.

Like most 19th century cemeteries it affords a plot to receive the remains of those unfortunates who pass away without making provisions for their own burials.

Here, too, are the remains of veterans of the Mexican War. As we walk along the wooded paths, we see the mounds holding the remains of men who rode with Teddy Roosevelt and veterans of our Indian Wars in the country of the Little Big Horn.

We also pause to pay homage at the final resting places of boys who bore our arms during the course of two world wars and who offered up their lives so that we might still be privileged to enjoy the Freedom which is America.

These honored dead, who by their toil, their love, their faith, and their blood have left us a heritage of hope and freedom. Pray that these and all our warrior dead who fell on foreign shores and denied the privilege of final sanctuary in their native soil shall never fade from our memory.

LATHAM GRAVE YARD

The Latham Grave Yard is the oldest cemetery in Logan County. The first grave being that of Emily, wife of Richard Latham who was buried in February, 1826. James Latham was buried June, 1826. When Robert B. Latham sold the surrounding land to Francis Thompson, April 25, 1850, he excepted "nine rods square, for a grave yard and making James Latham's grave the center".

In the 1870's the Thompson family deeded an addition to the Latham Grave Yard of about one-fourth acre on the east side.

There are about 100 marked graves in the cemetery and it is still used occasionally. The Logan County Recondition Cemetery Commission of the Board of Supervisors now takes care of it.



Entrance to Elkhart Cemetery

COMPLIMENTS OF
Dr. L. M. Hamm, M. D.
LINCOLN, ILLINOIS

AMERICAN LEGION

ELKHART POST NO. 616

The American Legion Elkhart Post No. 616 was organized in 1921. There were about twenty charter members at that time. The first Commander was Howard S. Lanterman and James Laffey was Adjutant. The present officers are: Harold Pankey, Commander, with Everett Miller as Adjutant.

Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month.



John Shockey and wife graves in Elkhart Cemetery.



James Latham and wife graves in Latham Grave Yard.

NOT *Just Another Centennial*

THIS is not just another centennial — not to us. Throughout Illinois, the last few years, there has been one be-whiskered centennial after another, but Elkhart's centennial is something very special, because for more than three-quarters of a century, the Barry family has been identified with the growth and progress of Elkhart.

1855



1955

We cheerfully admit that, in the course of the century from 1855 to 1955, Elkhart has not become a great metropolitan city. But Elkhart has come a long way. It's a fine modern town, where family ties are strong, where there are good schools and good churches and good neighbors, and where the beauty of God's handiwork is always present.

May the end of its **second** century find Elkhart the same fine, typical American community it is today; we can think of no better wish than that!

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Garland (Jake) Stahl

Garland (Jake) Stahl was born in Elkhart, April 13, 1879. In 1903, after his graduation from the University of Illinois, he joined the Boston American League Team, playing first base. Later he was transferred to Washington, then to Chicago, and then to New York, only to return to Washington as playing manager. He served the Senators for one year and then went back to the Boston team as manager, winning the league pennant and the world's series that year. That ended his career in the big leagues. In 1906, Mr. Stahl married Miss Jennie Mahan, and in the off season worked in the Washington Park National Bank of which his father-in-law was founder and president. Later he succeeded Mr. Mahan as president of the bank; a position he held until his death in September, 1922.

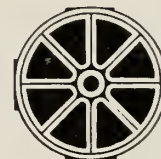
FIRST TELEPHONES

About 1901 or 1902, P. J. Telfer and George Hobkirk laid out the first telephone line from Elkhart to Cornland. It was a private owned line with Dr. G. G. Taylor as manager. Years later the Lincoln Telephone Company purchased the system. Finally it was changed from magneto to the dial system November 21, 1950.

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RICHARD J. OGLESBY

Richard James Oglesby was born in Oldham County, Kentucky, on the 25th day of July 1824. At the age of nine years his parents died leaving him in the care of an uncle who later moved to Decatur. He was admitted to the bar in November, 1845. At the age of twenty-one years, he was among the first to volunteer for service in the Mexican War. In 1856 he went to Europe and the Holy Land. After returning from Europe he practiced law until 1861 when he went to war. In this war he was elected as Colonel of the Eighth Regiment. He served about a year as Colonel, and led the right of General Grant's army in his advance upon Fort Donelson, which finally yielded with its 14,000 prisoners. This was the first great Union victory up to that time. On March 3, 1862, President Lincoln wrote to the Secretary of War asking that Colonel Richard J. Oglesby be appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers.

General Oglesby was wounded at the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, on October 3, 1862.

LINCOLN'S LETTER ABOUT GENERAL OGLESBY

Washington, D. C.
October 8, 1862

Major General Grant
Jackson, Tennessee

I congratulate you and all concerned on your recent battle and victories. How does it all sum up?

I especially regret the death of General Hackelman; and am very anxious to know the condition of General Oglesby, who is an intimate personal friend.

A. Lincoln.

On October 10, General Grant replied:

"General Oglesby is shot through the breast and ball lodged in the spine. Hopes for his recovery."

In 1865 he became Governor of Illinois and held this office until January 1869. In 1872, he was again nominated for Governor, and elected. At the ensuing session of Legislature, he was elected as United States Senator from Illinois. He served in this capacity until March 4, 1879 after which he retired from public life.

At that time he was a resident of Decatur, but in 1882 he moved to Lincoln. In 1884 he was nominated a third time for Governor and elected. At the close of this term of office, he determined to retire permanently from public life.



Oglehurst April 28, 1899
Day of Governor's funeral

Governor Oglesby came to Elkhart in 1890. He had married Emma Gillett Keays, eldest daughter of John D. Gillett. Governor and Mrs. Oglesby built a new house on the same site James Latham had built his cabin in 1819. This house burned a year later and a new one was built farther up on the hill.

Governor Oglesby died April 24, 1899 at his home on Elkhart Hill. Four days later his funeral was held from his house. It is estimated that over 4,000 visitors were in attendance including Robert T. Lincoln, Governor Tanner and all the state officers, three ex-governors, namely Joseph Fifer, John R. Palmer, and Shelby M. Cullom, the later two becoming U. S. Senators; also Congressmen Cannon, Lowden, Marsh, Hickerson, and Warner; Judges, Kohlsaas, Longnecker Carter, and Holdon; General John C. Black, ex Vice-President Adlai E. Stevenson, William Penn Nixon, Melville E. Stone, a large representation of members of the legislature and scores of prominent public men from all over the state. The funeral oration was delivered by Bishop Seymour of Springfield who was assisted in the ritualistic work by Archdeacon F. W. Taylor. A boys' choir of thirty voices from St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral furnished music. The funeral cortege from the house to St. John's Chapel, located opposite "Oglehurst", included four companies of State Militia, the Fifth Regiment band, Goodman's band of Decatur, and the Decatur and Lincoln G.A. R. Posts. The casket was deposited in a bier in the chapel in the center of the structure under a canopy of white crepe. Internment took place May 8, 1899 in the Oglesby lot in Elkhart Cemetery in a vault of solid concrete twenty four feet high, one-half underground and eighteen inches thick.

GOVERNOR OGLESBY

His ability to handle excellent English was evidenced by his address delivered at a banquet of the Fellowship Club of Chicago, September 9, 1894, on the occasion of a Harvest Home Festival.

The following extracts are illustrative of the entire address:

“But now again my mind turns to the glorious corn. See it! Look on its ripening waving field. See how it wears a crown, prouder than Monarch ever wore, sometimes jauntily and sometimes after the storm the dignified survivors of the tempest seem to view a field of slaughter and to pity a fallen foe. And see the pendant caskets of the corn field filled with the wine of life and see the silken fringes that set a form for fashion and for art. And now the evening comes and something of a time to rest and listen. The scudding clouds conceal the half and then reveal the whole of the moonlit beauty of the night, and then the gentle winds make heavenly harmonies on a **thousand thousand** harps that hang upon the borders and the edges and the middle of the field of ripening corn until my very heart seems to beat responsive to the rising and the falling of the long melodious refrain. The melancholy clouds sometimes make shadows on the field and hide its aureate wealth and now they move and slowly into sight there comes the golden glow of promise for an industrious land. Glorious corn, that more than all the sisters of the field wears tropic garments. Nor on the shore of Nilus or of Ind does nature dress her forms more splendidly.

Aye, the corn, the Royal corn, within whose yellow heart there is of health and strength for all the nations. The corn triumphant, that with the aid of man hath made victorious procession across the tufted plain and laid foundation for the social excellence that is and is to be. This glorious plant transmuted by the alchemy of God sustains the warrior in battle, the poet in song, and strengthens everywhere the thousand arms that work the purposes of life. Oh, that I had the voice of song or skill to translate into tones the harmonies, the symphonies, and oratorios that roll across my soul, when standing sometimes by day and sometimes by night upon the borders of this verdant sea, I note a world of promise, and then before one-half the year is gone I view its full fruition and see its heaped gold await the need of man. Majestic, fruitful, wondrous plant. Thou greatest among the manifestations of the wisdom and love of God, that may be seen in all the fields or upon the hillsides or in the valleys.”



Richard J. Oglesby



Interior Olgehurst



Tomb of Gov. R. J. Oglesby

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Miss Mary Schouten
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Mrs. John Merritt
Miss Karen Svenson
— — —
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Room Supervisor
Miss Loretta Lee, Assistant

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE

We wonder where they are today?
The old schoolhouse is there,
Reminder of those pleasant days
Of youth without a care.
The old schoolhouse has many scars;
The door has disappeared.
The little plaster that remains
Is old and badly smeared.

We wonder where they are today?
It's thirty years or more
Since we, in childish innocence,
Went in and out the door.
We still recall the old rail fence,
The woodshed and the pond;
The old hand pump and drinking cup . . .
The wooded hills beyond.

We wonder where they are today?
What happiness and tears
Have been their daily lot down through
The swiftly passing years?
The old schoolhouse has many scars
That testify to strife — —
And we suspect that many hearts
Have hidden scars of life.

Bert Pruitt

ELKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY

The founding of the present Elkhart public library was a result of a promise made to the citizens of Elkhart by Mrs. Lemira P. Gillett in 1888, that if saloons were voted out of that village for a period of three successive years, she would present the village with a public library. The "dry" years occurred and Mrs. Gillett called the citizens together at a meeting for the purpose of organizing a library association. The following officers were elected: John L. Brady, President; Mrs. F. W. Cottle, Vice-President; W. L. Newton, Secretary. The directors were: Mrs. Lemira P. Gillett, Miss Celia L. Stratton, Dr. J. B. Chittub, and Mrs. N. L. Martin. The librarian was H. E. Newton.

As a result of the organization, a room was selected in the Gillett building. Mrs. Gillett was willing to bear the expense of the rent, the shelving and furnishing of the room. On March 5, 1893, the library room was opened to the public with 214 volumes. Mrs. Gillett contributed \$1,000, the interest to be used for the purchase of books. Mrs. Charlotte Barnes, of Decatur, contributed a like sum, the interest of which was to be used for the upkeep of the library room itself. By 1904, the library had increased to 829 volumes.

The library room was legally accepted by the town in 1902 when a two mills tax was voted by the citizens for the support of the library. This was in response to a proposition made by Miss Jessie D. Gillett, that if this tax was voted, she would erect a library building and present such to the village as a memorial to her mother, Mrs. Lemira P. Gillett, who had since died.

At the village election in 1904, the first board of elective trustees of the library was selected. The board consisted of Dr. G. G. Taylor, Dr. Joseph T. Woodward, Patrick Bohan, Charles S. Stahl, Thomas J. Henneberry, and William G. Schafer.

Work on the building was begun early in the spring of 1904, Jobst and Sons, of Peoria, being the contractors. The building was completed in May of 1904 and was formally dedicated that same month. The building is of gray pressed brick and Bedford stone, and consists of a basement and one story above, each containing two large rooms. It is an ornament to the village.

The present officers of the library board are as follows: Mrs. Lynn Bair, President; Mrs. Lena Cosby, Treasurer; Mrs. John Merritt, Secretary; Ralph Lanterman, Verne Lanterman, and Lacy Hall. Mrs. Charles Smith is now librarian.



Elkhart Library

ARTHUR ARMINGTON

Arthur Armington, grain merchant, bought the grain elevator of J. D. Leslie in Elkhart in 1884. Mr. Armington was born March 1, 1844 in Armington, Tazewell County, Illinois, son of Hezekiah and Frances L. Verry Armington.

PETER LANTERMAN

Peter Lanterman came to Logan County in 1860. He was the father of five children — John H., Susan J., Scott, Joseph M., and James W. — who lived in or near Elkhart.

Scott Lanterman was married to Hulda Leach, daughter of Daniel Leach. They were the parents of the following sons: Robert, William E., Earl L., Richard O., Howard S., and W. Raymond. Mr. Lanterman was actively and successfully engaged in farming for a number of years.

Joseph M. Lanterman was married to Lizzie Constant and for a number of years ran a meat market in Elkhart. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lanterman were the parents of the following children; Derwood, Fred J., Ralph B., George, Freeman, Nina, and Bunn.

MICHAEL TIERNEY

Michael Tierney was another descendant of Ireland. In 1898 he came to America and settled on the old "Tom Day Eighty". He married Catherine Walsh. They moved to the John Ryan farm, the present farm of Walter Weyhrick. He was the father of Stephen, John, Agnes, Thomas, Martin, and Maurice. Four are still living. He was a great man for sports, but worked diligently and became a very prosperous farmer.

JAMES THOMAS PERATT

James Thomas Peratt was a Civil War volunteer serving in Company A 14th Regiment, Kentucky Cavalry. After the war he came to Elkhart on horseback. Here he met and married Eliza J. Worrell. She had come to Elkhart from Missouri with her parents in a covered wagon. Three of their children still reside in this vicinity: Mrs. Cora Brennan, Hobart Peratt, and Mrs. Bertha Hall.

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HISTORICAL AND INSPIRING

THE ELKHART FFA

One of the organizations for the boys of the Elkhart area is the Future Farmers of America. It as organized in the High School in 1936 under the leadership of Mr. William Stumm. The objective of the organization may be summed up in its motto which is,

“Learning to Do,
Doing to Learn,
Earning to Live,
Living to Serve.”

The 1955 officers are: Robert Leininger, President; John Smith, Vice President; D. G. Lanterman, Secretary; Dan Davis, Treasurer; Willard Bohn, Reporter; and Dean Hunter, Sentenial.

FUTURE HOMEMAKERS OF AMERICA

The first home economics organization in 1925, in the Elkhart High School, was sponsored by Mildred Holmes. There were no officers but the girls had projects that formed a link between school, home, and community. In 1930 the first Home Economics Club was organized and affiliated with the National Association of Home Economics Clubs. The officers were: Virginia Kohl, President; Ethel Gard Barry, Vice President; Helen Foreaker, Secretary; Wilma Tilson, Treasurer; Kate A. Sullivan, Advisor. The aim of the organization was to foster high ideals of home-life, better health, and character building. By 1945 the home economics club affiliated the newly planned organization called the Future Homemakers of America. Their eight purposes are clearly stated and represented by each side of their octagonal emblem. The present officers are: Judith Plummer, President; Ethel Van Fossan, Vice President; Lois Sapp, Secretary; Marlene Curry, Treasurer.

STORM OF 1870

The vicinity of Elkhart was visited by a wind and hail storm on July 5, 1870 resulting in much damage. Hail stones fell in great abundance. In places they were drifted three or four inches deep. The wind tore up a section of sidewalk, in front of a business house and carried it thirty feet hurling it against a house and demolishing it. The Catholic Church was moved three or four feet from its foundation. The hotel was unroofed. Telegraph wires and poles were blown down. Hundreds of acres of crops were destroyed.

STORM OF 1882

During June of 1882 a heavy storm caused considerable damage. The main tent of Cole's circus, showing at Elkhart was demolished at a loss of \$5,000.

ELKHART PARENT TEACHERS

ASSOCIATION

The Elkhart Parent Teachers Association was organized February 6, 1952 with a view toward promoting a better understanding between the teachers and the community.

Although the organization is young they have already accomplished much to benefit the schools. At Christmas time they sponsor a Christmas party for all the children of the community. Each month the organization gives a cash prize to the grade school room having the most parents in attendance at the meeting. The P. T. A. was one of the groups that helped explain the need of a new school building.

The first officers of the P. T. A. were: Mrs. Ray Smith, President; Clarence Schilling, First Vice-President; Earline Miller, Second Vice-President; Mrs. John L. Oglesby, Secretary; Harry Nordyke, Treasurer.

HOME BUREAU

A county organization meeting was held April 23, 1946 at the Grand Theatre in Lincoln, Illinois. The Elkhart Home Bureau met at the Recreation Center in Elkhart in July, 1946 to organize and elect officers. The officers elected were as follows: Mrs. William Drake, Chairman; Mrs. Lena Cosby, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. James Gleason, Secretary and Treasurer. About 21 members joined at that time.

4-H CLUBS

A girl's 4-H Club in connection with the Home Economics Department of the University of Illinois was formed in 1939 with Mrs. Lillian Wehyrich as leader. The name of the club was the ELKHARTETTES. Various leaders were in charge until 1949. At that time the club was reorganized and called the JR. ELKHARTETTES with Mrs. Mildred Lanterman and Mrs. Pearl Bushell as leaders. The present leaders are Mrs. Sheridian Smith and Mrs. Walter Ebbersten. The officers are: Sandra Smith, President; Sandra Hutchcraft, Vice President; Judy Plummer, Secretary and Treasurer; Wanda Stoltzenburg, Program Chairman; Marilyn Wise, Reporter; Gill Oglesby, Recreation and Song Leader; Julia Smith, Parliamentarian.

Another division of the 4-H Club is in connection with the Department of Agriculture, University of Illinois. Girls as well as boys are eligible for this club.

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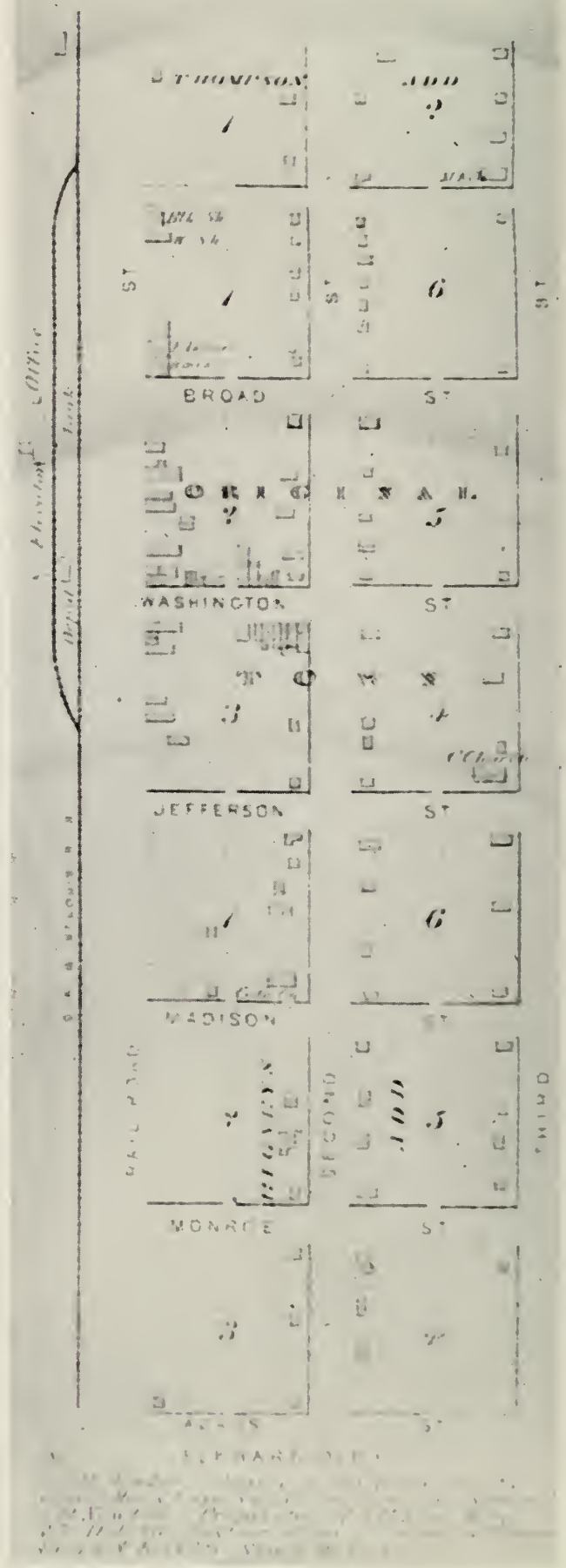
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PAGEANT

Mrs. William Drake Chairman
Mrs. Julia Bock Miller Narrator
Father Berger Narrator
Roy Schilling Mrs. Marjorie Oglesby
Mabel Davis Mrs. Mildred Lanterman



Cro Hurst Farm

Home of Dr. and Mrs. S. W. McArthur. Mrs. McArthur, granddaughter of John D. Gillett. Original part of house built between 1836-1841 by John Latham. Became property of John D. Gillett in 1855 and on his death, home of Miss Jessie D. Gillett. Name of farm probably comes from G. R. Crow who owned part of farm in 1870's. Men in picture, left to right — Patrick Bohan, Labon Allison, and C. A. Dobey.

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ALLISON

Labon Allison was born June 10, 1862 in Tennessee. In 1881 he came to Illinois and found employment with John D. Gillett until 1901. Then he came to "Cro Hurst" with Miss Jessie D. Gillett and served in her employment until his death in 1935, making a total of fifty five years with the Gilletts.

He married Eliza King of Elkhart in 1905. To this union were born eight children: Marguerite, John, David, Patience, Mary, Susan, Catherine, and Amaryllis.

After the death of Labon Allison, John, the oldest son who was in East St. Louis, came home to serve in his father's place. He served Miss Jessie until her death in 1947. Then "Cro Hurst" was willed to Dr. and Mrs. Selim W. McArthur who at present occupy "Cro Hurst". John is still with them.

BENNER

Mrs. and Mrs. Cassalanza Benner moved to the Elkhart community from Michigan about 1894. They lived in the Sunnyside School District later moving to a farm one-half miles south of Elkhart. Mr. Benner was a member of the Grade School during this time. Mrs. Maude Hanahan lives in Elkhart and Cass Benner lives in Broadwell.

LAWRENCE

John Lawrence at an early age came from Holland to Virginia. He grew up and married a lady by the name of Stenebergen.

Next in line comes Theodore Lawrence who married Eliza Ann Tabor. He came to Logan County and settled east of Elkhart in 1836. Here he first built a log cabin and filed claim to a large acreage of land some of it at \$1.00 per acre. He dealt extensively in cattle. In 1840 Mr. Lawrence started building the main and major part of the present house. An addition or two have been added.

Next in line comes the father of the two ladies who live today in the old homestead. Charles Stenebergen Lawrence married Anna Westfall and they were the parents of six girls and one boy and they were the parents of six girls and one boy. He died young. Three are still living: Mrs. Clif-Mrs. Sherman is the oldest — 77 years old. Mrs. Sherman states that sometime or other in the past 115 years, seven generations of the Lawrence family have entered the portals, dined, slept, paced the floors and trod the stairways of the fourteen rooms of this house of antiquity.

HOLCOMB

Silas Holcomb was born in Ohio, 1855. He came to Elkhart in 1876. Otestis Tannyhill was born in Ohio 1858. Her family came to Logan County in 1869. She and Slias Holcomb were married at Atlanta, Illinois and immediately came to Elkhart to live where he was employed. They were the parents of eight children, all born in Elkhart. Four are deceased. Grace Holcomb has lived here all her life. Pearl, wife of Henry Husted, lives at Garfield, Kansas. Nannie, wife of Ira McGeath, lives at Williamsville, and Lena Cofer lives at Springfield, Illinois.

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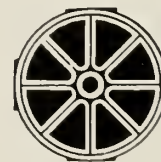
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SIMPSONS

Lambert and Sarah Simpson came to Elkhart and settled. They lived where Mr. Clarence Allison now lives. The house has been remodeled. Two children, Amelia and Nellie, were born to Lambert and Sarah Simpson. Nellie, who married Will Newton, is deceased. Amelia, the wife of James Short Follis, is still living and resides in her own home in Elkhart. Amelia is one of the living descendants of James Latham who was the grand father of Sarah Simpson.

STELLERS

Ruben Steller met and married Mary Farney in Ohio in 1873. They came to Illinois and settled on a farm north of the present site of the Harold Hickey farm. They were the parents of five children: George, Lizzie, Jake, Bill, and Frank. George and Bill are deceased. Lizzie, Jake, and Frank live in the village of Elkhart. Frank ran a harness shop in the present Hinds' storeroom building. He also served as a member of the village board for twenty years, part of that time acting as mayor. Jake worked for Henry Stahl in his hardware store for several years.

ADAMS

Charles L. Adams was born in 1852 in Massachusetts. When he first came to Elkhart, he worked on the farm of Gue Thompson. Here he met Amanda Gehr and they were married about 1878. They lived on a farm southeast of Elkhart. Then they moved to Ottawa, Kansas for one year on a farm. After moving back to Elkhart they finally settled on a farm southeast of Elkhart where they lived until their death. They were the parents of two children, Mary and Eugene. "Gene" lives in Elkhart and for 54 years has been a carpenter.

DRAKE

Zackary and Silas H. Drake came to Logan County near Elkhart with their parents in 1854.

Zachary married Margaret Lockridge of Elkhart. They were the parents of a son and a daughter — Clarence and Bertha.

Silas Henry Drake married Sarah Wright and they were the parents of the following children: Clara (deceased), Lucy, John, and Cora.

FOLLIS

John, William, and James Short Follis came to Illinois from Columbia Kentucky. The three of them settled in our village. John married Nell Newton and they had two children, Mary Grace and Delmar. Delmar and his family are living in Elkhart. Short Follis married Amelia Simpson in 1896. They had four children, Russell, Ralph, and Robert survive.

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Old Grade School

ELKHART SCHOOLS

GRADE

The people of Elkhart have always taken a vast interest in their public schools.

In November 1821, Erastus Wright came to Elkhart Grove and taught school in the home of James Latham during the winter of 1821-1822. He was the first school teacher in Logan County and Elkhart.

Mr. Wright was born in Massachusetts January 21, 1779 and came to Illinois with his brother in the spring of 1821. Mr. Wright was later school commissioner in Sangamon County. He was crushed to death by a train in Springfield, November 21, 1870.

The first school was held in the village in a small district school house about 1853. In 1856 it was moved to where the McCue house now stands and later to where Mrs. Ed. Barry's house is now located. Later a large frame school building was erected on the site of the present brick building. The present building was completed in 1923. To show the continued interest of the Elkhart citizens in the school a new addition is now being added which includes two new classrooms and a gymnasium.

An election was held July 11, 1946, consolidating the Elkhart school and several country schools to form the Elkhart Community Consolidated Grade School, District 264. The schools included in this consolidation were, Prairie College, Maple Grove, American Hill, Constant, Sunnyside Hopedale, Lakeside, Plainview, and Elkhart Grade.

The present school board consists of the following members: Charles Raholitz, John Dee, James L. Anderson, Clarence Schilling, Ivan Grusing, Harold Svenson, and Ray Smith. Loren E. Klaus is principal at this time.

ELKHART COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

In the fall of 1919 a group of citizens began to talk about a high school for the Elkhart community. Before this time, ninth and tenth grades were being taught in the grade school. A district of 61 sections of land was laid out and a petition made for the organization of a community high school district.

The election of the first Board of Education of Elkhart Community School District No. 406 was held on March 20, 1920. The following members were elected: Patrick Bohan, President; H. G. Keys, Secretary; Micheal Danaher, C. M. Van Meter, and D. G. Lanterman. Mr. Lanterman is still serving on the board. Their first meeting was held March 27, 1920 at the Public Library.

On January 14, 1922 the citizens of the newly formed district voted to buy a site and erect a building costing \$75,000. School was held in the town hall until the new building was completed. The school was erected in 1923 and the students moved in January of 1924. The building has eight classrooms plus an assembly, library, office, lounge, and gym. Since 1950 a new shower room, an ag shop, and a new boiler and stoker have been added.

The first class was graduated in 1922. The graduating classes follow a custom which was begun by the first class. A composite picture of all members of the respective classes is hung in the main corridor of the building. Besides this, each class leaves a memorial. An annual event is the oyster supper which is served by the mothers of the students.



Grade School, Erected 1923, Elkhart, Illinois

Above: — Elkhart Grade School Erected 1903

Left: — D. G. Lanterman On High School Board since founding.



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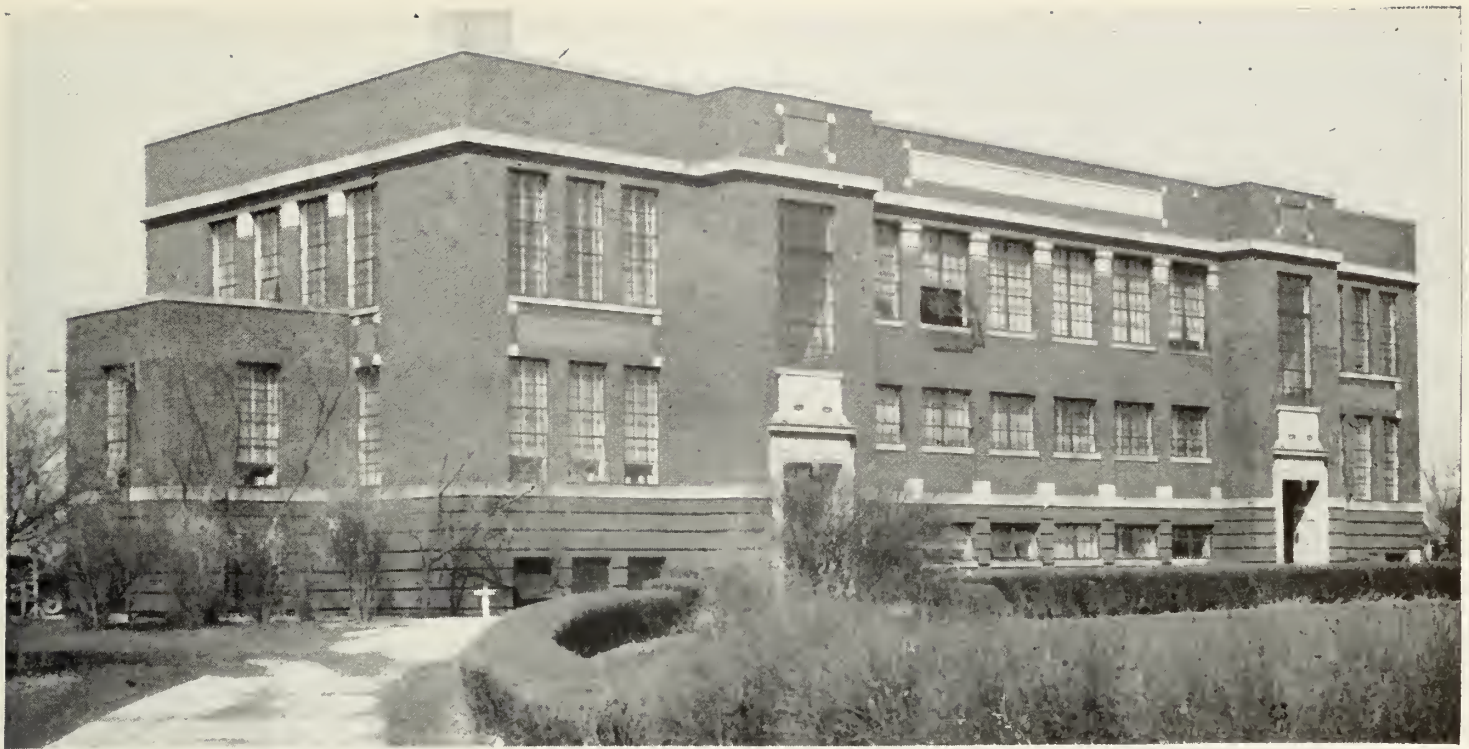
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Elkhart High School

AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

At the turn of the century the business establishments of Elkhart were spread over a larger area than at the present time. On Railroad Street, Robert J. Kennedy was operating a saloon on the lot north of where the interurban depot is now. North of the saloon was a cobbler shop owned by a lady named Celia Stratton. South of the saloon was Sol Beck's barber shop. The "jail house" was where Mrs. Dodds now lives. A blacksmith shop was operated by Walter Gallion. To the back of the blacksmith shop Walter Gallion's father, Ephriham, operated a wood work shop. All of these buildings were later destroyed by fire. Louis Shaw and Asa French ran a livery stable.

At the same time on the corner of what is now known as Main Street and Railroad Street P. J. Ruth built a brick building and operated a general store. Brennan's store was being operated by Pat Brennan. South of the Brennan store a saloon was operated by Bennie Ross. Lippott's blacksmith shop was back of where the Catholic church is now. A wood working shop next to the blacksmith shop was occupied by Fred Newberry. Joe Fitzgerald had a mill back of the woodwork shop.

Going to the south side of what is now known as Main Street we find John Gillett's bank with an empty lot beside of it. Then farther down the street were Henry Stahl & Son, hardware and implement warehouse and Taylor's, drygoods, drugs,

and general merchandise. In another building Dr. C. B. Taylor had an office upstairs and Charles Randall ran a barber shop downstairs. Henry Pankey operated the Del Monica restaurant.

On the north side of what is now known as Main Street a band stand stood on the corner. A printing establishment "Elkhart News" was operated by C. E. Stewart of Williamsville for three or four years.

Frank Smith and W. J. Schafer's restaurant was next door to the post office. In the Gillett building was Simon's Grocery downstairs and the library upstairs. There was also a dentist upstairs. John Newton operated a harness shop where Pickett's Barber Shop is located and his residence was next door. John Brady and Samuel Mendenhall ran a general merchandise store. John Schneider was a shoe cobbler.

LIPPOTTS

David Lippott came to Elkhart after the Civil War ended. He ran a blacksmith shop. He died in 1897 leaving his wife with several small children. Mrs. Lippott ran a boarding house in Elkhart for a number of years to raise her children who were Merle, Guy, Paul, Fern, and Ruby. Merle Lippott, who has always been a leading citizen of Elkhart, still resides here. He was postmaster from 1908 until 1912 when he became associated with the bank.

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HANNER

Jemima Cherry was born in a brick house in the country near the home of James Hickey. She married Jacob Hanner in Springfield, Illinois in 1890. They moved to Climbing Hill, Iowa, where they farmed. She came back to Elkhart around 1900. They were the parents of: Ida, Harry J., Lydia L., and Floyd F.

MILLER

William, Nathan, and Zadock Miller came to live near Elkhart in the period 1880-1900. William and Lorinda Brown Miller were the parents of G. Thomas, Mary Miller Sias, Charles, Paul, all deceased — and Amy Miller Broughton of Bloomington, Illinois, and Carl of Athens, Illinois.

Nathan E. and Hester Beck Miller were the parents of Perry, Ernest, Marie, Mary, and Sherman.

Zadock N. Miller and Maud Neal Miller were the parents of Lolita. Mr. Miller was night watchman in Elkhart for many years.

MRS. LYDIA COOK

Lydia Jenkins was born in 1871 in Pope County and raised in Massac County. She taught school in Brookport, Illinois before she married Richard Cook in Paducah, Kentucky in 1891. They had three children: Edward, Edna, and Barbara.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook left Paducah and came to Elkhart in 1904. They lived at the gate house. Mr. Cook worked for Governor John G. Oglesby for twelve years..

Mr. Cook passed away in 1931. Mrs. Cook now lives with her grandson, Harold Caldwell, in the old family home in Elkhart.

HANSLOW

Charles Hanslow was born in Clark County, Missouri, in 1867 and came to Elkhart with his parents when he was two years old. He married Sophia Christfellow, February 8, 1893 and they were the parents of the following children: Charlotte, Ruth, Chas H., and George.

BROEHL

Lewis Broehl was born near Elkhart in 1856. He was married to Matilda Hammond in 1882 and to this union the following children were born: Edward, Arthur, Roy, Anna, Bessie, Margaret, Matilda, Tessie, Lewis, Florence, and Opal. Mr. Broehl was a justice of the peace here for a number of years.

HUFFMAN

William and Mahala Huffman came to Elkhart from Kentucky in 1903. They are the parents of the following children: Ray, Harley, Volley, Henry, and Floyd.

JOHN C. THOMAS

John C. Thomas was born in Germany in 1856 and came to America as a young man. After his marriage in 1886 he settled on a farm near Elkhart. He made a speciality of raising high-grade cattle. He is the father of Mrs. Anna Dee.

WILLIAM J. FULCHER

William J Fulcher settled in Elkhart in 1896 and was a great success in his operations as an agriculturist.

JAMES BOHAN

James Bohan, a native of Ireland, came to Illinois in 1855 and was engaged in farming. In 1861 he took over the management of the John D. Gillett land. His son, Patrick, followed his father's example and began his work for John D. Gillett, Jessie D. Gillett, and Mrs. Charlotte G. Barnes. This was the same land over which his father had control for so many years

Patrick Bohan will long be remembered as one of the successful managers of large landed estates in Illinois.

PETER LEE

Peter Lee was a descendant of Ireland. In 1865 he came to America with limited means, but by the exercise of economy, honesty, and energy, he maintained a most honorable position here. He is the father of Charles, John, Mary, Hugh, Daniel, Edward, Peter, James, Jennie, Walter, and Loretta. The latter five children survive.

NILS SVENSON

Nils Svenson, a resident of Elkhart, was born in Sweden in 1871. He came to America at the age of seventeen. A year after his marriage to Elise Wendell he settled on a farm southeast of Elkhart. They were the parents of eight children: three of whom are residents of Elkhart; Hugo, Harold, and Mrs. Floyd Hanner.



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BARBER

Edwin Barber, private of Captain Abram Bozarth, Company K., 27 Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry enrolled at Jacksonville, August, 1861, to serve three years. He was discharged from service September 20, 1864 at Springfield, Illinois, at Camp Butler. Mr. Barber came to Logan County in 1866 and married Jane White at Jacksonville on December 29, 1868. They came to Elkhart and lived on the Lawrence farm. Their children were: Mary J., Henry E., Anna M., Effie May, John H., Logan A., Margaret R., and Edna T.

LAFFEY

Patrick Laffey was born in Ireland in 1869 and was married there to Anna Connelly. They came to America in 1880 and settled in Elkhart where he worked for the Altcn Railroad. They were the parents of ten children; Patrick, Martin, Mike, Thomas, Charles, James, Edward, Mrs. Theresa Lee, Mrs. Mayme Brennan, and Helen. Eight of these children still survive. The last three named live in Elkhart. Patrick Laffey had a restaurant here for a few years before he moved to Williamsville.

ANDERSON

Edwin Anderson moved to the Elkhart community in 1885. He was married to Sarah Shoemaker from Newton, Illinois. They were the parents of the following children: Charles, Mary, Lewis James, Samuel, Minnie, and David.

WILLARD

Anson James Willard was born in West Charleston, Vermont, on September 17, 1854, son of Samuel and Anna (Warren) Willard whose ancestors came to this country in 1636 from England. He came to Elkhart vicinity in 1875, where he met Katherine Galligan who was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, on June 6, 1861 but had come to Elkhart as a small child. They were married January 3, 1879. In 1902 they retired and moved to Elkhart.

To this union were born James Edward, Frances (Wheatley), John, Mary Golder, Anna Marie (Lee), Marguerite, Mary Catherine, and Josephine.

James E. Willard was born Oct. 5, 1882. He started farming on one of Jessie D. Gillett's farms in 1905. On Jan. 23, 1917 he married Frances Hassenstab. They have three children: James E. Jr., Helen (Tierney), and Agnes (Reichle).

"Mayme" was employed with the Telephone Company in Elkhart for 32 years.

SHOCKEY

John Shockey, born April 12, 1806, married Catherine, daughter of David and Polly Monn, on April 12, 1830. They were the parents of seventeen children.

Christian W. Shockey (one of the sons) and Ann Hoover were married February 8, 1855. The following children are still living: J. O., Henry, Flora, Belle Brennan, Jose Frakes, Eva Van Fossan, Bertha Lee and Lillie Kerschner.

Harlan Shockey, born December 19, 1867, and Maude Pankey, born September 19, 1878, were married September 5, 1898, in the St. John's Baptist Chapel at Elkhart. They were the first couple to be married in the chapel. They lived on a farm until 1944 when they moved to Elkhart. They are the parents of three children: Darrell, Chrystle Suttory, and Emma Catherine O'Dell. Mr. Shockey passed away June 29, 1955.

BUTTELL

The Buttell family has lived within a stone's throw of Elkhart since 1892 when Jacob Buttell, Sr., came here. He married Bena Wachter of Lincoln in 1897. They had nine children. The following still live in this community: Jake, Joseph, William, and Mrs. Lena Cosby.

WALSH

Of the many families who came from Ireland and settled in Elkhart, Patrick Walsh is the only one still living here. He was born in Ireland and came to Elkhart in 1890 at the age of nineteen. He married Bridget Tierney, also from Ireland, in 1898. They were the parents of the following children: Michael Stephen, Leo, Mary, Catherine, and Cecilia.

MURPHY

James E. Murphy came from Ireland in 1880 when he was seventeen. He attended school at Maple Grove in the winter and worked during the summer. He married Bridget Heganty, who had come to Elkhart from Ireland in 1900. They had three children: Emmett, Dorothy, and Mildred.

ABRAHAM BOCK

Abraham Bock was born in Germany in December, 1832. He came to the United States at the age of 25 and settled in Ohio. In 1862, several years after his marriage, he came to Elkhart and settled on a farm south of town. Mrs. William Fulcher and Mrs. Walter Gallion are the children of Abraham Bock that are still living.

NILS LARSON

Nils Larson was born in Sweden in 1854. He came to America as a young man. He came to Elkhart in 1894 and his entire life was spent in farming. He had seven children. Harry, Ninian, and Edna still live in the Elkhart vicinity.

D O N

O F

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March 10, 1915, sixty-five head of cattle and eighty head of hogs owned by Charles Lee were driven into a deep trench and killed because of the dread foot and mouth disease. The value of the livestock was estimated at \$4,000.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND ELKHART

The history of Elkhart would not be complete without telling the part it played in the life of Abraham Lincoln.

It is a well known fact that Lincoln was a frequent guest at Richard Latham's "Kentucky House" in the grove.

When Robert B. Latham and John D. Gillett of Elkhart with Virgil Hickox, director of the St. Alton and Chicago railroad, decided to found the town of Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln was their lawyer and after whom the town was named August 27, 1853.

Governor Richard J. Oglesby who spent the last part of his life at Elkhart was the man who introduced Lincoln for President at the Republican State Convention which was held at Decatur on May 9 to 16, 1860. Later during the war Lincoln promoted Oglesby to rank of Major General of Volunteers for his meritorious service in the battle of Corinth.

In the September term of the Logan County Circuit Court, John Shockey sued James White for \$10,000 damages. Both men were from Elkhart and neighbors. Shockey at the time owned and lived where the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Drake is and White owned and lived on the south half of the Drake farm, being that part where the barns and pastures are now.

Both men had extensive land holdings around Elkhart and both were usually involved in the buying and selling of land. On March 1, 1857, Shockey had called a public auction to sell a 225 acre farm south of Elkhart. This farm is now owned by Mrs. Grace Taylor. According to charges filed by Lincoln as Attorney for Shockey, James White came to the sale and said Shockey couldn't give a clear title to the farm; Lincoln also claimed that White "in his own classic and elegant language said he would break up and spoil the sale for Shockey". Later White sold some of his own land, the contentions being that he wanted to keep Shockey from selling so there would be more buyers for his land. Shockey claimed that being unable to sell this farm he was unable to pay his debts and had to pay interest on borrowed money longer than would have been necessary and that he finally had to sell the farm at a loss of \$1,580.32.

The case was finally settled on April 18, 1861, when the court ordered White to pay \$41.58 and costs.

A year later James White sued Shockey for slander and Lincoln defended Shockey. White claimed Shockey said "You are a damned thief and

*John Shockey,
vs
James White*

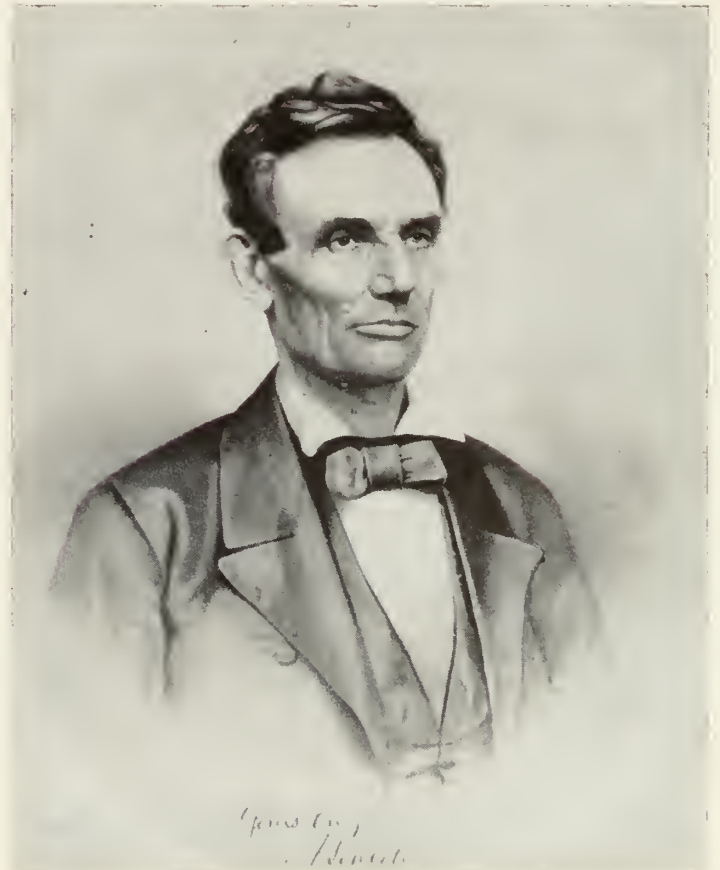
And the poor defendant comes and defends the wrong and injury when, when he, and pays plaintiff action because he says he is not guilty, in many, me and for, as the plaintiff, in his declaration has alleged; and of this he, the defendant, puts himself upon the country, to.

Parker & Lincoln

I can prove it. You stole my rails". Lincoln filed Shockey's answer to the charge on March 31, 1859 in the Logan Circuit Court (a reproduction of document in Lincoln's handwriting is on page 47). Shockey claimed he was not guilty and put himself upon the decision of the court. White was suing for \$25,000. The case was finally dismissed on March 22, 1860, due to the death of John Shockey.

In the November term of the Sangamon County Circuit Court 1853-1854, John Shockey sued and was sued by Benjamin Winters. Lincoln, however, represented Winters in this suit which was over a contract for breaking prairie ground. Shockey had hired Winters to plow several hundred acres of land just north of Elkhart.

Lincoln had a law suit for John D. Gillett in the March term 1851, Sangamon Circuit Court when Gillett sued W. F. Henrietta.



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Francis Thompson sued Elisha Crane in the September term of the Logan Circuit Court. Lincoln and Lacey were attorneys for Thompson and Young and Swett for Crane. Thompson had rented Crane that part of his farm which was west of the Railroad track at the north edge of Elkhart. Crane had refused to harvest a crop of winter wheat, claiming it was not worth the trouble, and according to Thompson, had not taken care of the fences, buildings and lots. Saturday, April 2, 1859, a jury trial was held and they returned a verdict for Thompson, giving him \$45.80 damages.

It might be added that one of Mr. Lincoln's last law cases was over an incident which happened at Elkhart. A few months before his election as President, he was a lawyer in the case of St. Louis, Alton & Chicago Railroad vs. Joseph A. Dalbey. Mr. Dalbey lived a few miles east of Elkhart on the farm now owned by William Bates. The trouble occurred over a train ride from Elkhart to Lincoln. Mr. Dalbey was put off the train and in doing so he received bodily injury for which he sued the railroad. The case was taken by Lincoln to the Supreme Court of Illinois.

Lincoln paid his last visit to Elkhart on May 3, 1865 when his funeral train stopped at 7:30 at Elkhart for the engine to take on water at the water tank. A huge arch of evergreens draped with flags in mourning was built over the track. It was topped by an evergreen cross which bore the motto "Ours the Cross, Thine the Crown".

At Springfield many of the Elkhart citizens attended the funeral including Governor Oglesby who headed a group of ten governors in the funeral march.

"There is but one opinion of the character of Abraham Lincoln throughout the world. No living man can add anything to his fame. It will be polished by the wear of time, to a lustre which will eclipse the glory of all men, not born as he was, to the boon of immortality."

Richard J. Oglesby
Decatur, Illinois — 1880.

*Springfield Ill April 24th 1865.
\$45.80
Recd. John Shockey & Herndon Shockey
attorneys of John Shockey account for
five dollars & sixty three cents - allowed
us by the Pub. Ct of Logan Co
Shockey & Herndon*

Lincoln and Herndon's receipt for fee in Shockey case

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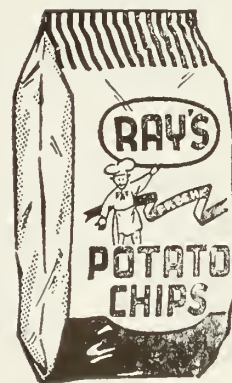
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ELKHART HOUSEHOLD SCIENCE CLUB

Twenty-five yeas ago Mrs. Anita Shamel of Springfield, Illinois met with a group of ladies at the home of Mrs. Bertha Lanterman, and the Elkhart Household Science Club was organized. It was in March of 1930 that the first meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Minnie Barry. The officers elected were: President — Mrs. Hilda Hickey; Vice President — Mrs. Mabel Lanterman; Secretary — Mrs. Nellie Svenson; and Treasurer — Mrs. Minnie Barry. The club colors — pink and lavender; club flower — Iris; and the Motto — Home Makers — not House Keepers was adopted. The dues were twenty-five cents a year, and meetings were held in the homes the third Tuesday of each month. There were twenty-five charter members as follows: Laverne Bair, Minnie Barry, Bessie Benner, Margaret Buttell, Elfreda Craner, Mary Danaher, Kate Davis, Elizabeth Fulcher, Ella Gallion, Mary Hartley, Julia Harwood Miller, Ellen Hickey, Hilda Hickey, Minnie Johnson, Elise Laffey, Bertha Lanterman, Mabel Lanterman, Josephine Brooker, Lena Lucas, Ella Shockey, Maude Shockey, Mrs. Nils Svenson, Nellie Svenson, Viola Taylor, and Edna Ward. Eleven of the charter members are now deceased, and it has been a loss to our community.

When the club was organized the object was to work in harmony with the County Farmers' Institute for the purpose of stimulating interest in all that pertains to better homemaking, better health, better schools, and better communities. Any woman in Elkhart or vicinity desiring to assist in promoting the object of the organization is eligible to membership. A few of the programs you may recall are Laurence B. Stringer, Mrs. Clara Bell Graves, Dr. Oglevee, Landauers, County Nurse, Judge DeBoice, Dirksens, Dr. Bell, Kraft Cheese, Mrs. Duncan MacDonald, V. Y. Dallman, Dr. Munson, Father Link, Mrs. Trapp, Purity Baking Co., Mrs. George, Mrs. Sidney Smith, Mrs. Wait, and Mrs. Hamm. Our Elkhart Grade School and High School teachers and students have always helped to make our programs a success.

At the present time there is a membership of sixty-four.

We hope our club will continue to grow and that it will always take an active interest in making our community a better place in which to live.

Present officers are: Mrs. Jerome Mercker, President; Mrs. Harry Nordyke, Vice President; Miss Mary Walsh, Secretary; Mrs. James Hickey, Treasurer.

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LINCOLN, ILLINOIS

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

ELKHART POST NO. 616

The Elkhart American Legion Auxiliary No. 616 was organized May, 1922 by Mrs. Edna Hartman of Decatur. Mrs. Hartman was State President at that time. There were thirty-six charter members as follows: Minni Anderson, Emma Anderson, Winifred Barber, Sadie Brennan, Belle Brennan, Mary I. Brennan, Mary Brennan, Ann S. Bock, Florence Broehl, Suzana Dain, Anna Dee, Trena Drake, Mary Britton Fitzgerald, Nellie Follis, Margaret Gleason, Honore V. Gleason, Gert-rude Graue, Ethel Dain Huffman, Jessie Havey, Julie Bock Harwood, Maude Hunter, Mary Harmon, Katherine Kennedy, Hulda Lanterman, Lydia Lanterman, Elsie M. Laffey, Helen M. Laffey, Fannie Lee, Mary A. Lee, Merle Lee, Mary D. Pippott, Pauline Reichle, Gladys Svenson, Jennie Theobald, Maude Theobald, and Katherine VanMeter.

The first officers were: Sadie Brennan, President; Winifred Barber, Vice-President. The present officers are: Mable Davis, President; Betty Hickey, Vice-President; Dorothy Hinds, Secretary; Gladys Hanner, Treasurer; Theresa Lee, Chaplain; Winifred Barber, Historian, and Marie Pickett, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Meetings are held the first Thursday of every month.

ELKHART CHAPTER NO. 903, ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

The Elkhart Chapter No. 903, Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons was organized October 8, 1908.

The charter members were: Fred Lanterman, Logan A. Barber, Thomas Carl Harris, Ephriam H. Gallion, Silas C. Beebe, Silas H. Drake, George Gwin Taylor, Paul David Foster, James Brady Taylor, William Franklin Schafer, Philip J. Barton, William V. Mortimore, Charles S. Stahl, Hosea Harris, Alexander D. Wilbanks, Charles William Gard, Edward Lamont Beebe, Arthur Clayton Bridge, Charles Allen Taylor, Fred C. Merrill, Eugene A. VanMeter, and Henry C. Brust. Of these charter members four are still living.

The first officers were: Fred Lanterman, Worshipful Master; Logan A. Barber, Senior Warden; and Thomas Carl Harris, Junior Warden.

The present officers are: J. W. Shawgo, Master; Harland Pankey, Senior Warden; Raymond Wilbanks, Junior Warden; John Drake, Secretary; and S. L. Bair, Treasurer.

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month.

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Memorial to World War I Service Men

4th OF JULY
CELEBRATION AT ELKHART, ILLINOIS
MONDAY, JULY 4, 1910

Hiram G. Keays, Master of Ceremony
E. B. Nicholson, Walter Murphy, W. F. Merriman,
Marshals of the Day
(B W. Bandle & Sons, Printers, Elkhart, Illinois)

The Citizens of Elkhart invite you to participate in A Grand Celebration in the most beautiful natural park in the State on Elkhart Hill, famous as the home and burial place of Gov. Richard J. Oglesby, Statesman, Hero and Patriot.

We have determined to make this occasion one long to be remembered and with that end in view have spared no time, pains, or money and assure you the greatest celebration ever held in this part of the State.

Our program of events for the day is complete, having employed the best of talent in all lines and there will be something to entertain and amuse you every minute of the day from early morning until late at night.

The XXth Century Band of Williamsville will furnish music throughout the day and a concert at night. Vocal Music by the **Lincoln Quartet**.

The Speakers of the day will be **Hon. C. C. Leforge** of Decatur, **Hon. C. F. Mortimore** of Springfield. Elocution Recitals by Miss Lottie Kcons of Chicago, Miss Alma Merriman of Williamsville

Balloon Ascension and Parachute Drop under the auspices of Prof. Sumner Cole in one of the largest balloons in the country standing 100 feet high and being 150 feet in diameter. Prof. Cole is an expert on air craft and air navigation.

AUTOMOBILE ROAD RACE

Open to all — Horse, mule and pony races; Boy's Marathon Race; Wheelbarrow Race; Men's, boy's and girl's foot races. Sack race; Potato race; Fatman's race up hill; Men's tug of war; Hill rolling contest.

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1 p. m. Prizes awarded for the most comical persons, outfits and ideas; for the best merchant's display etc Open to All.

Baseball game Elkhart vs. Lincoln at 3:30 p m.

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JOHN WESLEY GARD

John Wesley Gard was born in Ohio in 1826. He married Kesiah Dunn of Indianapolis, Indiana. In 1865 they came from Indiana to Illinois in a covered wagon, where they lived on a farm near Athens for a time, then moved to a farm near Elkhart. About 1882 they moved to Elkhart. The house the Gard's lived in was a five room house built from the lumber of the first school built in Elkhart. They were the parents of the following children: Elizabeth Gard Beebe, Charles W., George H., and Minnie Barry. Mrs. Barry is the only survivor.

Minnie Gard married Edward Barry in 1912. He was in an insurance business which had been established in 1897. Since his death in 1937, Mrs. Barry has written insurance. They were the parents of two children: Ethel Gard and Henry John. Mrs. Barry operated a millinery shop in Elkhart 1902-1915. Another interesting fact is that Mrs. Barry had lived on the same corner location for 68 years.

WILLIAM R. LEACH

William R. Leach, a farmer and stockraiser, specialized in the training of high grade harness and saddle horses.



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Below — First Interurban going through Elkhart

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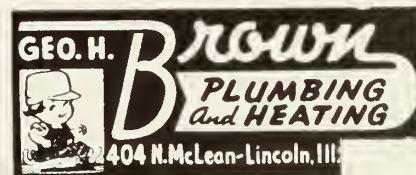
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LINCOLN, ILLINOIS

DENNIS DEE

For nearly eighty years the Dees have farmed on the Scully lease operated now by John Dee.

Dennis Dee came from Ireland about 1855 and settled in Elkhart. He was the father of eight children of whom the following survive: Dennis, Maurice, and Mrs. Joseph Buttell, Sr.

MARTIN RAHOLITZ

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Raholitz moved from a farm near Buffalo to one they had just purchased in the Elkhart vicinity in 1890. They spent the rest of their lives on this farm. They were the parents of four children. Charlie still lives on the home place.

HARMAN

The family of John and Elizabeth Harman who lived on a Gillett farm one and one-half miles east of Elkhart, came to Elkhart in March 1902 from Jeffersonville, Illinois. They had a family of five, Eber, Albert, Bertha, Luna, and Mary. They later farmed northwest of Cornland at the time of Mr. Harman's death.

Luna Anderson is the only one of the family living in Elkhart with a home in the Gillett addition to Elkhart.

THOMAS DAINS

Thomas Jefferson Dains came to Elkhart from Ohio in 1895. He worked as a blacksmith. A year later Mrs. Dains and their two children joined him here. They moved to Broadwell where they spent two years. They returned to a farm near Elkhart and then moved back to town where they erected a blacksmith shop on the property still owned by their son, Clarence. The lumber for this building was taken from buildings used at the First World's Fair in Chicago and built by Pat Ruth. Mr. Dains worked as a blacksmith and operated threshing machines for many years. Two children still survive: Clarence of Elkhart, and Mrs. Bessie Sias of Peoria.

MERRITT

Samuel V. and Edna Ross Merritt came to Illinois in 1901 and moved to Elkhart in 1903. They were the parents of the following children: Frank, Nannie, Charles, Ethel, Lenora, Ruth, Myrtle, John, Marie, and Chester.

The depot at Elkhart was built in 1888.
The Illinois Traction System was built through the village of Elkhart in 1904.

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Illinois

We have endeavored to the best of our knowledge to bring you a history of our town and its people. Our great concern is that some persons may have been omitted. We regret any such omissions. We hope you have found some thing of interest on these pages.

THE BOOK COMMITTEE

