

LITTLE YORK - PART 1
A HISTORY OF
THE WESTERN RESERVE,
AND GIRLHOOD MEMORIES OF
NORTHFIELD AND MACEDONIA

BY CLEO LEACH KINGZETT

THE WESTERN RESERVE is now a part of northeastern Ohio; it is about the size of New Jersey. It had been granted to Connecticut in 1796 and contained 1+ million acres; it was surveyed into townships 5 miles square and appropriately called Little Connecticut One history states that a Daniel Holbrook was one of the original partners of the Connecticut Land Company which bought the Reserve from old Connecticut at a price of approximately 33 cents per acre. The charming little villages with their green little white churches with New England spires, town halls, and Connecticut houses may still be found in such towns as Hudson, LeRoy, Streetsboro, Twinsburg, Northfield and Tallmadge, to name only a few of them. But all of these little towns are fast becoming metropolitan areas. Picture at left is one of these little churches as it stands today, at Tallmadge, Ohio (about 15 miles southeast of Northfield); a very beautiful sight on the village green, surrounded by a circle of roads on which the traffic moves in an unending stream, and very fast; with no traffic light to give the pedestrian a break. I know, as I took this picture one afternoon, about 4 o'clock.

It has been said that while Connecticut created Western Reserve, Pioneers from Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts settled it.

New England settlers came, bringing their institutions and traditions with them. In 1796 Moses Cleveland** headed a party of fifty-two persons (including two women) whose task it was to survey the Reserve. Their route of travel was by way of Buffalo and Lake Erie, landing at Connecticut finally reaching the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, naming it Cleveland. To-day the tallest structure in the world, outside of New York City is the Terminal Tower in Cleveland, 708 ft. in height. When food stores were scarce, these Pioneers killed, skinned and broiled rattlesnakes, eating them with relish claiming they made a delicate and savory dish. A half-century later, this site became the great industrial and commercial center of the northern part of the state. To-day* it is connected with the Atlantic Ocean by the newly constructed St. Lawrence Seaway. Akron, "Rubber City of the World" is 35 miles south of Cleveland.

Slowly, but steadily, and with great determination others followed; these Pilgrims and Puritans took firm hold in the life of the State and they became a powerful strain in Ohio history.

Settlement was so slow that by 1800 only 1300 people resided in the Reserve, covering an area of several counties, as now divided:

* "To-day" - - meaning as stated in Perrin's History of Ohio and Summit County, dated 1881.

** Moses Cleaveland spelled his name with an "a", but when a sign was wanted to fit into a required space, the name was too long; therefore the letter "a" was dropped.

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Ashtabula, Trumbull, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Summit, Medina, Cuyahoga, Lorain, half of Mahoning, northern part of Ashland, Huron, and Erie. These latter two counties, Huron and Erie, were known as "The Firelands". They were given to those people whose homes were destroyed during the Revolutionary War.

It was thru the influence of some of the early New England settlers that a thoroly democratic system of free instruction was started in Ohio, and since then Ohio has always been a leader in establishing schools, and promoting education. The first High School in The Western Reserve was established in Elyria, Ohio (about 15 miles from Northfield) in 1832-being the second one In America, nine years after the first High School in America was built in Boston, Massachusetts.

The northern part was not used extensively by migrating settlers until after the War of 1812, and the opening of the Ohio-Erie canal in 1825. Two main canals in Ohio were the Ohio-Erie canal (the eastern route) between Cleveland on Lake Erie, and Portsmouth on the Ohio River; and the Miami-Erie canal (the western route) between Toledo on Lake Erie, and Cincinnati on the Ohio River. It took eight years to build the first one and thirty-two years to build the latter. Many small canals were built across the state, thus building a water system which afforded transportation from all parts of the state to Lake Erie and to New York City; to the Ohio River and down to the Mississippi River to the southern states

Ohio is especially noted for her churches; the Congregational being one of the very first denominations. In 1850 the Methodists were first in number of churches; the Presbyterians, second, and the Baptists, third. A few miles east of Cleveland, off US 20, at Kirkland in Lake County is the strangest church in the state, neither the building nor the story behind it is widely known to Ohioans. It is the temple of the Mormons, built between 1833 -1835. Joseph Smith came from New York and reached Kirkland in February, 1831. He was the architect for the temple. Kirkland and the temple were from 1831 to 1838 the proving ground of Mormonism. Smith's career began and ended in mob violence, but he left behind in Ohio a strong church that re-organized against Polygamy and

split from Brigham Youngtown 5 branch of the church in Salt Lake City. (Perrin's History of Summit County and Ohio ,1881).

The question of slavery was the cause of the first separation in the different churches; if people were not allowed to express their opinions on the subject of slavery, they withdrew and formed another branch or church group. The Underground Railroad grew out of this belief; between 1830 and 1860 at least 40,000 fugitives were helped to freedom on Ohio soil; at least 1500 persons (and probably many more) were active in the Underground Railroad.

David L. Hudson (1761-1886) great grandson of Henry Hudson, Dutch Explorer of Hudson Bay and Hudson River, formed a Company, known as the David L. Hudson Company, and they founded the village of Hudson, Ohio. He secured a grant of land from Connecticut for 10, 000 acres, which was bought at approximately 32 cents per acre. The first draft of The Reserve was made in 1798, and Mr. Hudson built his home in 1799, in what is now the center of Hudson where Baldwin Street abuts on Main Street. Hudson is about 6 miles southeast of both Macedonia and Northfield. They are located about 2 miles apart, Macedonia being east of Northfield.

When Mr. Hudson made his first exploratory trip into The Reserve in 1799 he was unable to get his boats up the Cuyahoga River beyond a point near the present village of Boston O. because of shallow waters. He therefore landed, and proceeded to cut a road thru the forests to the center of Hudson Township; this was the first road built in Summit County.

Mr. Hudson was a very religious man; he established a church group and meetings were held in the homes, he, preaching the sermons until such time as they were able to secure a minister. That position was held by the Rev. William Hanaford in the Congregational church from 1815 to 1836. Mr. Hudson was also the Justice of Peace, and performed the first marriage ceremony in Hudson; the bride was Olive Gaylord, sister of Sally Gaylord, wife of William Leach.

In the summer of 1959 when I visited the old Hudson Township cemetery located in Hudson Village near the Western Reserve Academy and found the old monument erected in memory of David Hudson, and wife, it was inscribed as follows: David Hudson, 1761-1886, wife Mary, died in 1864. The original stone has been carefully preserved by the Historical Society of Hudson, by pouring cement a-round the old stone and making a new plaque, bearing the same inscription, altho not destroying the old one.

William Leach came to Hudson with the above Company in 1800, from Goshen, Conn. His wife, Sally Gaylord and his young son George, came the following year. This George Leach was our great grandfather, and therefore, our ancestors on the Leach side pioneered into The Western Reserve. Joshua Post, who was the maternal grandfather of our Grandmother Ellen (Brower-Post) Leach was a resident of Northfield Township as early as 1826. He came from Saybrook, Conn. to either Boston or Twinsburg Township in 1820, and thence to the other location later, accompanied by his wife, Mollie Dee and twelve of their thirteen children; the oldest daughter was married and remained in Connecticut. This brings this branch of the family into The Western Reserve as Pioneers.

Dr. Moses Thompson came to Hudson in 1800, and he made his first trip on foot, walking the entire distance from Connecticut. He liked what he saw, and returned to Connecticut to bring his wife and their oldest child. He was the first physician in Hudson, and the only one in that vast wilderness; he made his visit to the sick on horseback. Dr. Thompson was the founder of the first medical society in Ohio known as the Medical Society of Summit County, Ohio; his second child, Susan, was born in Hudson in 1801.

Horace Holbrook came from the East (born in Vermont, but came to Ohio from New York state)* in 1834 and settled in Macedonia Township, Originally part of Northfield Township. He married Susan Thompson, as his second wife, after Mary Guthrie, whom he had married in New York state*, had died, leaving no issue. Horace Holbrook and Susan Thompson were our great grandparents.

The Thompson's were Pioneers, followed closely by the Holbrook's; they, with the Leach's and the Post's, were among the very first settlers of The Western Reserve.

So now! I think that makes my sister Alta Burns and myself "authentic antiques" in Northfield, Ohio.

These settlers came from Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, on foot or horseback, by ox-cart or horse-drawn wagons following the Indian trails. Many of them had to cut trees in the forests in front of them foot by foot to make roads. Others came by boat as much as possible, following the water-ways; Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River being the principal routes.

Hudson had a population of 208 people at the start of the War of 1812. In 1960 the census of Hudson Village and the Township combined was 4,946 persons. Hudson is more of a residential locality than it is industrial, thus accounting for the slower growth in population. Heman Oviatt (1777-1813) was also an early settler, coming in 1830 and owning the first store in Hudson. He and his wife are buried in the old Hudson Township cemetery, near the grave of David Hudson.

On February 8, 1826, a charter was granted to The Western Reserve College; and just by way of interest, Uncle Jay Leach attended The Western Reserve Academy for two or three years in the late 1800's. The College proper had been moved to Cleveland in 1877. Virgil Kingzett, my late husband's oldest brother was employed as a stationary engineer (the last few years he lived) at The Western Reserve Academy, a central heating system having been installed.

The Markillie Cemetery was laid out in 1855, and in 1868, Mr. Markillie, at his death willed the land to the corporation. I found these monuments in the cemetery: "John Markillie (1816-1868), wife Lucinda (1816-1903)". Also, "Lucy Markillie (1771-1850) first interment in this cemetery". Cyrus Brewer, brother of Grandmother Ellen (Brower) Leach, and of Henry and Luther Brower is buried in this cemetery. It is still in use, modern in some sections and very well kept. I visited it in August and again in October of 1959, hoping to find some stones with names and dates on them; but the winds and the rains have done so much damage to the old stones, it is impossible to decipher names or dates on most of them.

There are two other cemeteries near Hudson which I visited: "Draper" on Rt. 43 out of Streetsboro, and "O-Brien" on Hudson Drive, but with little success. There were in the old days many small family cemeteries, but these are practically extinct, and no one seems to know much about them to-day. Many of these old stones are of marble, and while easier to carve in the old days (it being done with hammer and chisel), they do not resist the rough weather conditions; also, marble was much cheaper in price. All monumental stones had to be transported from the East by ox-cart or horse-draw wagons. To-day granite is being used very intensively, and as it is more expensive, it is much more durable; can be engraved by electricity, and I am informed, will practically never wear off. So if any of my descendants (or yours) are as foolish as I am, they, at least will not have my problems in deciphering names and dates.

Hudson has been for many years, and still is, a railway center; altho most of the trains to-day are used for hauling freight, due to the more modern means of transportation.

I have tried to give you some idea of the early life of our ancestors. The country they so bravely settled has become one of the most important sections of these United States. Many of you, in my generation, now live in the North, the East, the South, or the West; your parents may have moved there, and you were born in some one of these areas, or you may have moved there yourselves; but your "Ancestral Roots" ARE in The Western Reserve, and you may well be very proud of the men and women who planted them there.

When my two children, Budd and Ola, came home from Europe at the end of World War II, they both came to Hudson, and I met them there at the Pennsylvania Depot; Ola, in November, 1945; Budd, January, 1946.

My family has come long, long way since 1600; from England, Ireland, Germany France and Holland (and many of you can trace a similar ancestry) via the Atlantic Ocean and the East Coast, overland to Hudson, Ohio; thence to Northfield and Macedonia. Then back to England and the Continent, via the East Coast and the Atlantic Ocean returning to Hudson and Northfield the same way. But OH! how different the modes of travel, and the reasons for making the trips---Pioneers! War!! Peace!!

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Excerpts from the "History of Twinsburg", published in 1917, under the Auspices of The Samuel Bissell Memorial Library Association; Lena M. Carter, Historian; now living (Jan.1961) in Macedonia, O., and Genealogist, the Rev. R. T. Cross --- Lena Carter died in Macedonia in Mar. or April, 1962.

In 1825 butter sold in Twinsburg for 8 cents per lb; cheese for 5 cents per lb. Many men failed to meet their obligations, when buying land, and the lots were sold for \$3.00 per acre, including all improvements. Esquire David Hudson of nearby Hudson said in 1828: "It would take as many Twinsburg men to make a reliable man as it would take humming birds to make a tom turkey". But of course, the majority were reliable and hard-working men. To-day a similar feeling exists between Hudson and Twinsburg.

In 1860 some of the flowers to be found growing in the yards were:

lilacs, hollyhocks, bleeding hearts, tiger lilies, four o'clocks, tulips, larkspur, cinnamon roses, peonies, jonquils, poppies, pansies, to name some of them.

"Rev. Samuel Bissell, born in Windsor, Conn. came to Mantua, Ohio in 1806, 40 days traveling time (walking much of the distance) from Middlefield, Masse He was very influential as a minister, and teacher in the early history of Twinsburg. (Twinsburg is about 5 miles east of Northfield, and Mantua is about the same distance southeast of Twinsburg). When Samuel Bissell arrived in Mantua with his family, he rolled up a log cabin covered with bark, without door, fireplace or chimney, (this was their first home)---no floor except in one corner where planks split out of ash were laid for a bed. While the father was away one night, the family dog very quietly a-wakened the mother, and she heard peculiar noises against the house. Next morning the children found long black hairs on the rough logs, where old Bruin had rubbed himself against the cabin. Samuel Bissell was the founder of The Institute of Twinsburg; Indians from seven different tribes attended this Institute. Many of them became teachers, ministers, interpreters, postmasters, etc. He married Fannie Gaylord of Harwinton, Connecticut, September, 1824,

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Excerpts from "Women of The Reserve" (Pioneer Women:

. "Newburgh--Cuyahoga County, 1795-1872---Charles Miles, Sr. owned many acres of land in Newburgh in 1806. He first came to Hudson in 1804; Mrs. Charles Miles (Ruth Thompson) was the daughter of Deacon Stephen Thompson and Mary Walters of Goshen, Conn. She and her husband lived in Vermont after the Rev. War. She persuaded her husband to join her parents, her brother Dr. Moses Thompson, and her sisters in Hudson, O. But they finally located in Newburgh. This Ruth (Thompson) Miles was an aunt of Susan Thompson, who married Horace Holbrook of Macedonia. Theodore and Erastus Miles, better as "The Miles Brothers", sons of Charles and Ruth (Thompson) Miles became very well known in the old Newburgh area. Theodore gave Miles Park to the Village, and Miles Avenue, the longest street in old New burgh was named in honor of the Miles family. Ruth (Thompson) Miles was a tall, dark-haired graceful woman, who never lacked courage and bravery, traits needed in this new land."

"Mrs. Erastus Miles (Laura Carter) was but thirteen years old when a band of Indians came to their home frightening her invalid mother. Seizing a broom, she went out among them, swinging it right and left, striking heads and legs promiscuously and crying "Get out of here, my mother is sick". Needless to say the Indians unused to such feminine tactics, left without more ado."

"The following story is told of a man and his wife, early settlers in Newburgh: He was a millwright, but there was little grain to grind; often they subsisted entirely upon cornmeal. One night he brought home a sack of white flour, after the hungry children were asleep in bed. Nothing daunted by the lateness of the hour, his wife baked a pan of biscuits as soon as possible, aroused the hungry children and they filled their little stomachs with the hot bread, much to their hearts content."

"Mahoning County - Youngstown, 1800. One of the early settlers would drive sixty-five miles to the nearest market, Cleveland, over forest paths or rough roads. There was no money---everything being exchanged; nine bushels of rye brought one bushel of salt; wheat coffee was the beverage for old and young. A baby boy in 1801 was cradled in a sugar trough"

"Mahoning County - Poland, 1800: A little incident will show the endurance and self-confidence of the pioneer woman; one wanted to visit friends, so taking her baby on her lap she rode forty miles on horseback over a rough road hardly more than a path. After a visit she rode home again the next day. There were Indians; also bears, wolves, snakes, and other wild animals to be found in the dense forests."

"Lake County - Mentor, 1800: Cooking in the early days was done at the fireplace with a crane, bake kettle and long handled skillet. One pioneer woman was called away to attend a sick neighbor. leaving her husband to cook his own breakfast. She had been wishing for one of the NEW FANGLED stoves that some of her neighbors were using. Husband didn't think but what she could get along in the old-fashioned way. That morning when left to wrestle with the pots and pans, he built too big a fire: result---he singed his whiskers, and his eyebrows, and while smarting with pain, decided wifey should have a new cook stove."

"Ashtabula County - Wayne, 1803: it is said one pioneer woman drove a score of Indians out of her kitchen when a bride, her husband being away. Most of the Ohio Indians were peaceful, but very troublesome beggars, and they were crazy for white folks cooking. They would smell bread baking or donuts frying

and come from afar and make for the log cabin from which the desired odor came; and they wouldn't leave until they had eaten their fill".

"Ashtabula, 1799: one pioneer family living about 20 miles from a neighbor was almost at the point of starvation. The husband and father found it necessary to leave them alone for awhile. The young mother and children were reduced to the last extremity of eating the grain that stuck to the straw of their straw ticks.* At this crisis a wild turkey lighted on a stump near the house. The mother managed to shoot it, thus providing food for the small children.."

Two young women sisters, in order to join their husbands in Cleveland, rode all the distance from Wheeling, Va. on horseback, each carrying an infant in her arms, and each having a small child sitting behind her holding on to mother for dear life, and only a bridle path to follow. **

*Bedsteads were made of poles with strips of bark to form supports for the straw filled ticks (mattresses.)

I've slept on wooden beds with heavy rope criss-crossed for supports for the straw filled mattresses (ticks). We always used oat straw-softer than wheat straw, and freshly filled after harvest time. Not bad when first filled if you didn't roll out onto the floor. But the ticks became thinner and thinner as the straw was crushed until you were practically sleeping on the ropes. No re-fills until the next harvest season, if the straw was needed for the stock. The GOOD OLD days

**To-day: traffic hazards-on the ground, overhead, and underground.

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP, located on State Rt. 8 half-way between Cleveland on the north and Akron on the south, in Summit County, Ohio, so named for a town in Massachusetts (or in Connecticut, historians differ), which was known to an early settler. It is known to-day (1961) as Northfield Center but more often called just "Northfield". It was considered one of the best sections of The Western Reserve; the Cuyahoga river bordering on the west afforded navigation to Lake Erie and into Cleveland. The Ohio-Erie canal was completed in 1825 just seven years before George Leach settled in Little York. He shipped lumber over both water-ways.

There was exceptionally good soil and drainage; Brandywine creek, much larger than it is to-day, was one of the main streams flowing into the Cuyahoga river. It was joined at Little York (just above this bridge) by Indian Run which was the creek that drained the area now known as Macedonia Township. The

area east of the bridge was always flooded in winter months, and we could skate over acres of land as far south as E. Twinsburg Rd.; built bonfires and held skating parties. It was great fun until you often caught your skate in a bunch of swamp grass; then you would take a head-long spill if you weren't quick enough to jump over it, and then you sometimes took a flop.

The water shown in the picture was quite deep and was known as the "old swimin' hole" in my girlhood days. It was very muddy, and the snakes stuck their heads out of the water; "leeches" (blood suckers) attached themselves to our legs and arms, scaring as most to death, but we sure had lots of fun. One Sunday morning Cliff Oviatt a neighbor boy and I were paddling around on a raft, he had built, when suddenly it capsized and into the water we went. I was wearing a pretty new pink gingham dress Grandmother had made for me. Was she ever mad at me!! Mother didn't say much. Guess she was happy we weren't drowned. We were about 10 years old.

The first settler was Isaac Bacon, who bought 100 mores of land in 1806, and built his log cabin home in 1807, on the north side of Rt.. 631 at intersection of Nesbitt Rd. This was 100 years before Alta Peck and I graduated from Northfield High. The Peck homestead is only a few rods north of Nesbitt Rd. Jeremiah Cranmer (1762-1832), a brother of Mrs. Isaac Bacon brought his family from New York state and settled here. The first wedding was that of his daughter, Esther Cranmer who married Henry Wood from Tinker's Creek (a few miles north). She was married in her father's home on 9-22-1813 (or 10-12-1813) by Benjamin Whedon, giving her residence as Boston Township when securing a license in Portage County. Northern Portage

County, then, is southern Summit County now. Esther's and Henry's daughter, Maria Wood married Chauncey Peck; they were the grand-parents of Alta (Peck) Haggett (now living in Twinsburg, O (1961). Northfield Township was comprised of Northfield, Little York, Brandywine and Macedonia. To-day we have in Northfield Township, Northfield Center, Northfield Village, Sagamore Hills. The names Little York and Brandywine are still in use designating those areas. Many of the people mentioned above are buried in the Northfield-Macedonia cemetery in Northfield Center. Macedonia is in reality Macedonia Township, set apart from Northfield Township some years ago, by a majority vote of the citizens of Macedonia.

The first building Northfield can actually boast about was a school house built in 1825. Brandywine had a school house as early as 1817. There were seven districts in 1881. Little York erected its first frame building in 1854(see left). Between the barn and house on the Frank Oviatt farm in Little York (just south

of bridge over Brandywine Creek) was a frame buildings used by Mr. Oviatt as a granary and tool shed. Cliff states this was the first school house in Little York, but he doesn't know where it was located. Cliff's grandfather, Lorin Oviatt donated the 1/4 acre of land to the school trustees on which building at left is located.

The Frank Oviatt farm (24 rods of land) was bought by his from Luman Leach and wife Ellen(Brower) Leach on May 12, 1891. Dad and his brothers tended school in this building. as well as did my sisters and I. The Oviatt's and the Williams' also attended school here. Lee Forbes and his wife Lena Williams bought this building at a public auction. Lee was a skilled carpenter, he turned the building half-way around and converted it into a home. It has since been remodeled, and it stands to-day (1961) at the bend of the road on old Rt. 8, just a few rods south of the present Cliff Oviatt residence.

Under the 1850 census, there was a John Cross (age 45) who was a blacksmith, living in Little York; also a Fredric Cross, another blacksmith (age 25) in Little York. A man named Phillips was the first blacksmith in Northfield. A blacksmith, in those days was as important a personage as the automobile mechanic of to-day. John Smith (Northfield) progressed with the times- blacksmith, then later an automobile mechanic.

Dr. Hosea Bliss (1798-1874) was the first resident physician. Dr. H. S. Hubbard became a resident of Northfield in 1877; he delivered my mother's first two babies, Budd Jay and myself. Dr. Legrande McConnell replaced Dr. Hubbard becoming a well-loved physician, dying in 1903. Dr. W H. Wyckoff of Bedford attended any patients in Northfield and was more than happy when Dr. H. H. McCullough decided to settle in Northfield and could relieve him of some of his duties. Dr. McCullough is still a practicing physician (1961) and many others have come and gone. Many Macedonia people employed Dr. R. B. Chamberlin of Twinsburg, during his life-time of practice.

A murder occurred on July 27, 1837 in the north-west part of the township Mrs. Robert McKisson was struck by an ax while she lay on her bed. Mrs. McKisson had refused to allow her brother-in-law to court her daughter, Lucinda Croniger, by a former marriage. Her statement on her death bed, and Lucinda's testimony at the trial resulted in the conviction of David McKisson, and he was hanged at Ravenna, Ohio.

In about 1840, George Lillie Hezekiah Palmer, Lucien Bliss, and Colonel Arthur, each donated 1/4 acre of land at the crossroads. This became the Public Square and remains such to the present day, with a town pump and a watering

trough as one of the land-marks. There is no water now, but did supply many families at one time. Horses and cattle passing through stopped to drink its cool water. To-day the Girl Scouts take pride in painting it each year and filling the trough with flowers. Shown in the back-ground is the first town hall, now used as a garage and a gas station.

Following is an amusing little incident concerning this watering trough. (I hope you will pardon these personal little stories, but they keep popping into my mind). My husband owned a black mongrel bull-dog, named Jack; a stray which attached himself to Frank at his place Of business had an Airedale, a thorobred named Dale which I kept tied much Of the time.

Our next door neighbor, Bill Holtzhauer, owned an old hound dog, which roamed around at will. Dale's chain was fastened to a long wire in the back yard, from the corner Of the house to the corner Of the Chick Sales house in the rear. This hound dog would come over and walk past Dale, just out Of reach, but growling and snarling. Dale would growl, but never attacked him, even when loose. One night after supper Frank took both dogs uptown with him in the back Of the car. When Jack saw that old dog walking along so peacefully at Bill's heels, he jumped out of the car like a flash, grabbed the poor old hound by the throat and began to chew him to pieces. Frank and Bill tried to separate them, but the bull-dog had a death grip on the other dog's throat and couldn't be pulled loose. The hound dog was very old and no match for the young bull-dog. Frank and Bi11 each grabbed a dog by the hind legs and dunked them into the watering trough full Of water. The fight was over- but that old hound dog never did come into our yard again; just slinked past with his head down. And Dale? he strutted around like a real aristocrat. He had a friend to fight his battles. Mrs. Holtzhauer had to care for their dog's wounds during the hot weather.

There were several good stores, but the main one and the one of the most interest in this history was the one owned by Lyons and Logue, later by J. D. Lyons and Company a cheese factory and a general store. In May 1877J. C. Alexander purchased the building and merchandise. Some years later George L. Bishop owned and operated it for many years. Mr. Bishop (1842-1923) and his wife Mattie (1849-1897) are both buried in the N-M cemetery.

My father, Perry N. Leach bought this store building and the entire stock of goods from Mr. Bishop in August 1905. We had sleeping rooms over the south part (store faces West onto Brandywine road), living rooms on south side (not shown in picture below). The postoffice automatically went with the store, end Dad was appointed postmaster he served until January 1921 when he sold out lock, stock and barrel to Elmer Folk. And by the way Mrs. Folk is still living

(May 1961) in the house, altho there have been many changes made in the buildings. Mr Folk built a new (or partly new) store building which faces Rt. 8 instead of Brandywine Rd. He sold to Carl Muetzel who in 1961 operates an I. G. A. store. The house was remodel and still faces Brandywine road. George Lillie served as the first postmaster in Northfield in 1836. The first postoffice in the township was in Brandywine in 1822. Population in Northfield Township in 1840 was 1041 persons; and this included Northfield, Macedonia, Brandywine and Little York. In the picture at the right you see the same store building as above, as it looked when we lived there. General store and post office on first floor of the section in front of which Dad is standing with his white bull-dog. The black team are Western horses, Prince and Molly; Lota sitting in the one-seated carriage. This team was wild and would occasionally run away; they took Dick Churchill for a very merry ride thru the main street of Hudson one day, scattering pedestrians right and left. The north section of the store was a ware-house below; Dad eventually made living rooms in the upper part. When we would go down into the warehouse to draw kerosene from a barrel for a customer, it was nothing to have one or two rats under our feet. They were the worry of the storekeeper. Dad sold everything from needles to threshing machines. Actually sold one threshing machine to Josh Wright. Introduced the first grape fruit end ice cream sold in Northfield. Crackers from the old-fashioned cracker barrel, cheese was cut any time from 1/4 lb. upwards to suit the customer; it would be very soft in hot weather and would "squash" when you put a knife into it; pickles in a keg; sugar in barrels, and we sure got scolded if we were careless in weighing or spilled any of it as there was very small profit in sugar when selling it out in small

amounts; J. T. plug tobacco to be cut into eight small squares or "chews" for old man "Lions"; watermelons on the floor in front of the candy counter which the boys would slyly roll out the front door, while engaging some one of we three girls, standing behind the candy counter in light, frothy conversation. Mail time was the social hour of the day, especially evenings. Many of the old man would gather around the old-fashioned, pot-bellied coal stove, sitting, gossiping, and "spitting tobacco juice"; seriously electing township officers, or maybe the next President. It was a good Way of Life; not so much hustle and bustle, running hither and thither; not so many "ulcers"; not so many cases of "just nerves".

The first B. F. B., was put into Operation about the time Dad became postmaster, and Hiram Truby was the first mail carrier. Mail could now be brought directly into Northfield via. the A, B. C. interurban car line. Macedonia had had an R.F.D. for several years (Day Dell first carrier), serving the entire

township, as that town was located on the Pennsylvania railroad, but it wasn't until many years later two R. F. D.'s were needed. The Akron-Bedford-Cleveland Electric Railway was completed, starting service Nov. 19, 1895. It was discontinued in 1932, being replaced by busses and privately owned cars. The A. B. C. car line passed thru Northfield, along old St. 8. Later it was moved East towards Macedonia and then it was discontinued entirely, that right-of-way becoming the new Rt. 8. On one of its "trial runs, a car crashed thru one end of the Bedford high level bridge, but that did not keep anyone who was invited to do so from taking a "free ride" over the new road (and I was one of those people). In picture at left you see an A. B. C. a street car; crates on ground at right were used to bring bread from an Akron bakery. One day when I was left "to tend store" all alone, the baggage car motorman blew his whistle loud and long; I scurried out to the car tracks; to be presented with a long Wooden box containing the body of a local man who had been killed in an accident, the hospital had shipped the body home. Evidently the family had not expected it quite so soon; no one met the car. I was left in sole possession of the box and its contents; to the GREAT AMUSEMENT of the conductor and the motormen.

Dad owned a model "T" Ford (see picture at right). Alta and Bill also owned one, and Alta Burns was determined to learn to drive it. One day she was uptown driving around the Public Square, when (probably) the front wheels locked. Anyhow, round and round she went slowly to be sure but still in a circle, and she didn't know what to get it going straight. Some man saw her predicament, and jumping onto the running board (cars had running boards in those days), he soon straightened out

the wheels for her, and she went home, a little bit scared, but certainly much the wiser. So such for an old Model "T" Ford, and determined gal who did learn to drive different cars in traffic, and

on all kinds of roads. Frank Kingzett taught her how to drive and he told her if she ever learned to drive a model "T" she could learn to drive anything; I guess he was right about that old Model "T".

The pictures below present a good view of the Public Square in Northfield ; some of the old buildings and the car tracks are gone; the five roads coming into the Square are paved, but the general plan is the same. Reading left to right and continuing thru both pictures, the buildings are as follows: with roads intersecting and dividing the Square in to five sections instead of four; in background--new town hail-bend stand (torn down)-half-way house - 82-west to Brecksville-Clarence Seidel home; horsewatering trough between rt.8 and

brandywine rd. see picture below church sheds (torn down)-Presbyterian Ch. - grade school. old rt. 8-north to Cleveland- a.b.c waiting room and car tracks- (removed)-rt. 82-east to macedonia-old rt. 8-south to rt. 8 Akron-Little York intersection of rt 82-otherwise it would enter brandywine road-across brandywine rd. from town hall is a store and postoffice (not shown) see foot path-1960-a new rt. 8 (4-lane hi-way east of the old route; both routes in us; old rt. 8 leaves new rt. 8 at fell's lake and joins it again at chittenden's corners--rt.33O. Thus, a 4-lane hi-way practically all the distance between cleveland and akron, and heavy traffic by-passes northfield center.

Northfield built its first Town Hall in 1848 (see right). The road you see between the trees is the old Macedonia Rd. (Rt. 82 or Aurora Rd. East); the car tracks are between the hall and the old Little York road---(old Rte 8 or Akron-Cleve.. Rd.--south). It is still being used, but as a garage and gas station, and its appearance completely changed. It has been occupied as a basket ball hall; a place for band practice in the winter time; a school in 1911-house; and what have you? I taught school in this 1912 when the brick school just south of it was over-crowded. I had about 30 pupils in the 4th, 5th and 6th grades. The oldest and first Seidel home in Northfield is in back of the Town Hall; G.M. Seidel, born in Bavaria, who was a wagon-maker, and undertaker. Oma Ozmun Chamberlin remembers substituting for me in this building when I was ill with tonsillitis; she was a senior in High School.

The new Town Hall in the picture on the previous page was built in about 1908 or 1909; constructed of brick as was the old hall; has been remodeled on the inside; had its face lifted, grounds landscaped, and to-day is a very presentable building. Besides all the usual meetings for township business it is rented out for dances, meeting place for different organizations, etc. For several years moving pictures were shown here (the silent type), with piano music for additional entertainment). I heard ex-President Harry S. Truman speak here, when he was campaigning for the Vice-Presidency and shook hands with him. I happened to be sitting next to the aisle. When Franklin Roosevelt died and H. S. T. became president, Willis Richey rushed into my office in Macedonia; grabbed me by the hand, shaking it vigorously, saying "I want to shake hands with a person who has shaken hands with the President of the United States". It startled me almost out of my wits. And then we both laughed hilariously.

Before this building was constructed Northfield had a Lecture Association, and the various speakers delivered their lectures in the different churches in the evenings. Grandmother L. would buy a season ticket and I attended the lectures with her. I was about 10 or 11 years old. We would board a street car in Little York, in front of our door and ride to the Northfield station, a distance of about

two miles for the price of 5 cents. Grandmother had a Life Pass in part payment for land sold to the A. B. C. Company for a waiting room which stood where the Brandywine Tavern now stands.

An old land-mark which still stands on the Public Square is the one rightfully called the "Half-Way House"; sometimes called the "Stage Coach Inn", and frequently referred to as "Bliss Hall". I remember the Bliss Brothers (Ambrose and Hosea (Hiram), sitting in front of this building in the summer time, on two old chairs tipped back against the house, sunning themselves. This was a stopping place for stage coaches; thru the years it has housed a hotel; postoffice; a store; lunch room; barber shop; and living quarters for many people. It was built in 1838 by Orin Azro Bishop, father of George L. and, grandfather of George T. (Geo. L. was an uncle of Geo. T.) when Mother was a girl the second floor was a roller skating rink, and was also used for a dance hall. Jesse Fell was one of Mother's skating partners and he recently died (1960) at the age of 92 yrs. in the house of his sister, Grace Adams in Bedford. When I was in high school, the Ladies Cemetery Association would serve sumptuous chicken dinners on the second floor; 25 cents, including beverage, and dessert, to all school children; Grandmother L. was a charter member and active worker in the Association but when I graduated from High School, and the Association served our banquet in this same hall, she was unable to take an active part.

Clarence L. Richey gave me a statement on the routes of the local stage coaches, and I quote: "Trails from Cleveland: on what is now Canal Rd. at Tinker's Creek, one branched east to what is now Dunham Rd., when southerly, (at corner of County Line Rd. in front of Dr. Brown's place (old Leslie English house) there was a large oak tree, with a marker "Mahoning Trail") on to Northfield Center "Half Way House"; one branch south on Brandywine Rd, to Akron; the other branch to Hudson and Youngstown. Off Canal Rd. at County Line Rd. a trail went cross country to a tavern where Ambrose Nesbitt lives, (1961) ; on thro Sherril's place (1961); and, the Harry Miller farm (1961 to Brandywine Falls, and on to Akron, There is also a marker on a maple tree in the front yard of Rutledge's home (the old Fenn Richey home". (end of quote)' Yerda White Richey has also been of great assistance to me in this project.

Another stage line running from Cleveland thru Northfield to Pittsburgh was bought by Mr. Alling of Twinsburg thus transferring that service to Twinsburg and away from Northfield.

To-day (1960) the Half-Way House is owned by John McDowell, principal, and superintendent of the Northfield schools for twenty-three years; now connected with the Hudson schools, and the state school system. He made it

into apartments, always in demand. Plans are being made to tear it down (I understand) and build a gas station which Northfield doesn't need any more than the Ocean needs salt.

In the picture of the Square, you will notice the Band Stand is on the south-west corner of the Park, between the new Town Hall and the old Half-Way House that was its location when torn down. It was originally on the north-east corner between the road to Cleveland and the one to Macedonia(see left);and in background was the home of George Bliss; before him, his sister Ellen Bliss. The A. B. C. station just across the tracks from the Band Stand, the main reason it was moved to the opposite corner of the Park. In 1864 the first cornet band was formed. After being dismissed and re-organized several times, in 1887 an entirely new band was formed, which later became known as "The George Bliss Band",its leader for many years; and how he loved to work with those raw recruits, making musicians out of them. To-day (May 1961) at least two of the original members of this band are still living; Henry Harrington+ of Macedonia, and Cliff Oviatt of Little York.

On Memorial Day people came from miles around to hold Services on this corner of the Park. They drove their best carriages and the horses were groomed the n'th degree, the brass rings polished, and the harnesses oiled, and everyone from Grandpa and Grandma down to the littlest one in the family would be there. It was one of the big events of the year. Dad always drove his most cherished team and two-seated "surrey with the fringe on top". He would be ready and waiting out in front of the house fumin' and fussin' , because Mother couldn't scrub and dress three or four children, do the breakfast dishes, etc.,etc., etc. in the same time. This is not his carriage or horses (I do not have a picture of them, but our carriage was just like this one). It is O. Kline a brother-in-law of Gene Leach, Dad's brother. To-day, the Memorial Services are held in the N-M cemetery with a big parade all the way from the church to the cemetery, a full mile in distance, with a Hi-school marching band. Some of those loyal older marchers really "puff" their way, but can always be found in line when they arrive at the cemetery.

The first church, Presbyterian was built in Northfield Township in 1834, and the Rev. Hanaford from Hudson was the first minister. t burned to the ground and replaced by another one in about 1851*. This is the church that stands to-day on the Public Square (see left), (May 1961). My Mother is the authority for the statement that our great grandfather Horace Holbrook donated \$500. cash to be used in building this church. Five generations in each ef the following families, Alta's and mine, end also Oma Ozum Chamberlin's, have been baptized in this little white church. The building is very such the same on the

outside; new steps with an iron railing were added in front. The entire lot is so small that these steps are actually standing on the Park: Property belonging to the township. One reason for another location is the lack of parking space, a door opens into the basement, in which there is a modern kitchen and running water. The trees have grown so large as to almost hide it from view from the high-ways. The old horse sheds have been replaced by a row of pine trees (wind and snow breakers). it is now very beautiful with a snow-white Chancel and contrasting dark walnut pews. The old "Holbrook" pew is on the right side as you enter the church, and is second from the altar. No longer do people have their own pews, and strangers occupy it. Alta(Leach) Burns, great granddaughter of Horace Holbrook and her two sons, Burr and Rex and families are about the only ascendants who now attend. I do, when I am in Northfield. The present congregation (Lawrence Glassco, minister) has outgrown the building and plans have been made to move it onto a new location, and add more rooms; a large lot has been purchased on Rt. 82 (Aurora Rd. West) at the intersection of Boyden Rd. on the south-east corner. To-day (May 1961) the building which houses the class rooms has been completed. Many people do not want to see this old land-mark removed from the center of town, but whether we like it or not, that is Progress. (Recent information indicates these plans may not mature as opposition to moving the old building is rapidly growing).

On March 18, 1847 the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal chh. house built on the lot. To-day, Jan. 1961 it is owned and occupied by Mrs. Clark Fell, having been owned the Fells for many years. The money received in 1921 was then placed in the Bedford Savings and Loan Company. Interest was used for maintenance of the Federated Church until it was invested in a new basement of the Federated church, dedicated Sept. 1940. (see previous page).

When one joined the Federated Church, you were given the choice of becoming a Methodist or Presbyterian; I had always gone to the Methodist Sunday School, (altho Mother was a Presbyterian), so my husband and I joined as Methodists. I automatically became a Presbyterian, as you will see below. As I understand it, there is no Federated Head (no Mother church) so by a majority vote it became the Park Presbyterian church, under the pastorate of the Rev. John Morrow, the Presbyterians and the members of the United Presbyterian church (Rev. Robb, pastor) voted to unite these two churches. Congregations were small and it would be a way of cutting down expenses. It now functions under the name of Presbyterian Church United. Sunday Services are held in the old Park Pres United Presbyterian building, on old Rt. 8 (see left) is used as a Youth Center and Christian Education building; the basement is used for the larger receptions and social gatherings. The United Presbyterian Society was

formed in 1833 and the first church built in 1837; it burned, and was re-built. Rev. Joseph Banks was the first pastor. During my High School days the Rev. L.L. Gray was the pastor. He would attend the local baseball games on Saturday afternoon, with the understanding that the boys would attend church somewhere on Sunday mornings. He was highly respected and genuinely liked by everyone.

About the time the two churches united, Northfield began to expand; new housing projects developed; many ranch type homes were built, as people in the higher income brackets moved out of the cities in-to the country. Therefore, the movement to enlarge and modernize the churches. OH-WELL!! we all plan to go to the same place in the next life, and what matters whether we go via Methodist, Presbyterian or even United Presbyterian. Our GRANDPARENTS said it could NOT be done, But we've DONE it! We united the churches in North field.

The Catholics have completed a new church building, St. Barnabas; also an Elementary School, a home for their priest, and a home for the Sisters, on the site known as the John Chapman home on the old Stanley farm, second door to the south of the location of the old M.E. church on Brandywine Rd. (John Chapman drilled for gas and he had the only gas well in Northfield which Supplied several families nearby for a few years; practically dry by now). The Baptists have recently built a large modern church on the north-west corner of the intersection of Rt. 82 and Boyden Rd. The Lutherans are building a modern church on Rt. 631 at the intersection of new Rt. 8--structure is in process of being built (April 1961). The Macedonia Methodist church has just completed a new building, and have old building in Macedonia proper to the Church of The Nazarene, until such time as this latter church is financially able to erect a new building. How Northfield Township has grown! In many, many ways.

BRANDYWINE FALLS:---there are two explanations given of the derivation of the name of "Brandywine"; one is that it was derived from a distillery located on its banks, and operated by water power. It is to be remembered that whiskey was a means of barter in those days. The other one, and I quote:"Total abstainers will be sad to know that the source of the name of their village, Brandywine is New England rum which was called Brandy-wine. by the Dutch of New York (early 1800's). There was a grist mill for grinding wheat rye, corn and oats for household use and whatever grain was need ed to be ground for stock; and a woolen mill. When I was just a youngster I remember Kid Humphrey showing us the big wheel and explaining how it operated; just what type of work he was doing I do not recall, but do remember he lived on top of the hill with his sister, Florence, Mrs. Ed Way. It has always been a scenic spot.

but much More beautiful in the old days, when much larger quantities of water flowed over the rocks, being just as beautiful in winter when frozen as in summer When surrounded by green trees and dense foliage. A disastrous flood in 1843 wiped out the Mills and all the other buildings, resulting in an upsurge of building in Northfield and Macedonia. Ruth Beaney Colton said they could hear the roar of the Falls in the Spring (when ice broke up in the streams above it, and came rushing over the Falls) at the Beaney farm, a distance of several miles as the crow flies. Cliff Oviatt remembers going to this mill in about 1900 with his father to have grain ground.

William Sommer, one of the authentic celebrities of Northfield lived near the Falls for many years; he had his studio in the old Brandywine school house built about 100 years before, and the first one to be built in Northfield township. He became quite famous as an artist and captured the beauty of the Falls in both winter and summer in his drawings and paintings. His youngest son, Ray, lived at our house one winter and worked in the store for his room and board. his father was just a struggling young artist at the time. Ray is now a very successful interior decorator. There is an old cemetery on the property on which this old school building stands.

My son Budd when 9 years old, fell over the first section of the Falls, landing on the ledge below (shown at left of water in this picture at the right), a fall of several feet. At this time only a very small amount of water was flowing over the rocks, at one side, so our Sunday School class picnicking here, decided to have a wiener roast, and built a fire on the dry rocks. Walking towards the fire Budd was blinded by the light; taking the wrong path, he fell several feet, cutting a big gash on his forehead, and tearing a ligament in his leg. This latter kept him from moving; otherwise he would have fallen another forty or fifty feet into deep water and onto sharp rocks, which would have caused his death. His Daddy rescued him, carrying him up a rope ladder, which a local boy, Bob Zimmerman knew about, then up to the house. He was unable to walk more than a few feet for several weeks. Burr, Rex and Ola hauled him to school in an express wagon for several months. He will always carry a scar on his forehead. So many times there is a funny or comic angle in tragedy. The "red" on his face and dirt did not all come from blood (altho there was plenty of that), as we first thought. He was wearing a red necktie and the color ran when it got soaking wet. All this happened the summer Mother and Dad took their trip out West. We had assured them we could take good care of our youngsters. Guess they thought we did not do a very good job by ourselves.

When Rex Burns, my nephew, was a teenager, he worked one summer for The Champion Electric Company, a small shop near the Falls, owned by Willis

Hale, (the old John Way place); they lived in the house where Budd was taken for first aid. One noon Rex thot it much quicker to walk across the dry rocks, (he thot they were dry) than to go around by the bridge; a little water, a lot of slippery moss covered the stones. He slipped and fell and had to crawl on his tummy, all the time slipping nearer and nearer to the big Falls. He thot he would never make it, and knew if he did not, and went over the Falls it meant sure death to him. He did get safely across to dry land, but he sure was some scared lad, and never again did he try such a stunt.

Dr. S.H. Burroughs, born in Brandywine and whose boyhood days were spent in and around the Falls, loved his scenic spot very dearly. He became a well-known surgeon, locating in Ashtabula, O, heading the Ashtabula General hospital for many years. He did a few operations for Alta and myself thru the years, and was always a good friend of the family. When he died, at his special request, his body was cremated, and the ashes strewn over the Falls by his nephew, LaVerne Burroughs and wife Clara, Mannie Burns (Bill's brother) refused to hunt coons around the Falls after Shepard's ashes had been scattered there.

So Brandywine holds many memories for me and my family; I can only theorize as to what it may have meant to my ancestors, many of whom lived in this vicinity. Grandmother Leach was born near the Falls.

My sense of humor will not let me omit the following little story, and I think you will enjoy it, too, and I quote: "In Green Township, the first recorded marriage was that of Abraham Blair to Elizabeth Harter on March 31, 1812. Blair died soon after the marriage. His widow married Jehu Grubb, and the following ceremony was performed by Andrew Keplar: "You bromise to take this voman you holt by the hant to pe your vife, and that you thtick to her through hell-fire and dunder? Den I bronounce you man and voman, by cot Now, vers mine tollar? (end of quote).

In about 1903, when I was still in the Little York school, a very tragic thing happened in our little community. A family by the name of Curtis lived on the old Wolcott farm --- later known as the Goodrich Farm, in a stone house at the intersection of old rt. 8 and E. Twinsburg Rd. No relation to Ella Curtiss who married George Williams, but the Wolcott's were related to Aunt Lydia Schoch. Perry Curtis had married a widow with one small son, Harold. She was a foreign-born woman and spoke very little English. He was a huckster, a hard-drinking man who treated his family cruelly. Just to frighten his wife he would chase her thru the house leading his white horse. Mr. Curtis was spending the night in Cleveland and in the early morning hours, in a mood of deep

depression, Mrs. Curtis decided to do away with herself and children. Harold was about 9 years old, and in Lynn Oviatt's class in school, She put the three smaller, sleeping children into a deep well; then she struck Harold on the head with an ax and dropped him into the well; his head showed a deep bruise and an ax lay near the well; jumping into the well she drowned all of them. Poor woman she had been home from the State hospital only a week; Lynn Oviatt's family were the first on the scene, after Will Lamkofsky had discovered the children sad called on there for help. I will never forget that funeral! It was held in the school house and there were four caskets, the baby being placed in a casket with the mother. For a long time afterwards not a youngster in the neighbor-hood would venture out-doors after dark. We were scared stiff; How they ever got any of us into that school building again I'll never know. On Aug. 3, 1960 we visited Lynn Oviatt and his wife Alice, in Lowell, near Marietta, and he well remembered the incident, confirming my statement above.

The Wolcott farm was later sold to a Welfare Agency in Cleveland, be-coming the Goodrich Farm, a summer home for under-privileged children. Some years later a group of teenage boys were camping on the rock ledges some little distance from the house. During a severe thunder storm one Sunday afternoon lightening struck one of the tall chestnut trees near their tent, killing one or two of the boys and severely burning several others.

Heedless to say "that ended our chestnutting in that area".

Northfield and Macedonia built "Twin" school buildings (I do not know in what year). Picture at left is of the brick building which Northfield built; it burned to the ground in 1916. Mother attended school here one winter, and we three girls went to High School here, but went to school in Little York in the grades. For the past several years we have been holding re-unions of all the old "Bricks", we have a wonderful time reminiscing old school days, but the ranks are thinning year by year. Mary H. Darling, born 1844, was one of the most successful of teachers and she taught twenty-eight terms in Northfield and Twinsburg. She was one of Dad's teachers and while he was excellent in mathematics, Miss Darling never did teach him how to spell. And that brings to my mind a little story told about his grandfather, George Leach: "Never did see any sense in all those silent letters", remarked George. "Well, how would you spell corn?" asked a neighbor. "Why, corne" any fool knows that". Miss Belle McConaughy (1842-1932) was another of Dad's teachers, teaching in Northfield for many years .I well remember both ladies coming to the postoffice for their mail Miss Holly little and plump; Miss Dells, tall and thin, with a face so wrinkled that one woman was heard to remark that it reminded her of the wrinkles in the face of an old merino sheep. Would like to mention

that Bessie (Boam) Goosman (deceased) 1961) and Lucy (McConnell) Beaney are two local girls who taught for several years in Northfield, Macedonia and neighboring towns. Lucy retired because of a very bad accident.

The "Twin" school building in Macedonia was condemned and torn down and the present building erected in its place. It is one of the five buildings used to-day in the present Northfield-Macedonia school system; three in Northfield, and two in Macedonia. Pupils are transported by busses, here, there, and the other place; sometimes being transferred from one bus to another before finally reaching their destination. The system as set up to-day is far from satisfactory, and everyone hopes it will be improved some day. A modern addition has been attached to the grade school building on the Square in Northfield; looks ugly now but the plans are to continue with another building when the money is available, and the original building will be torn down. I taught 4th grade when Budd was in the 3rd grade, in this old building, 1921-22. A slight depression threw my husband out of a permanent job, so he kept house for a few weeks until he found another, and we found a housekeeper. A Primary and Kindergarten building was erected a few years ago on Ledge Rd. Land has been purchased, plans drawn and approved, and grading begun for a modern new High School building to be built on South Bedford Rd., (old Macedonia.-Little York Rd.) April 1961. Enrollment in the schools in September 1960 was about 2000 pupils.*

Now to go back a few years:--the first school house built in Macedonia was a log building on Rt. 631 (Hudson-Macedonia Rd.); first teacher was Esther Cranmer;* later the building was moved over to the south side of Rt. 82 (Twinsburg Rd.) and east of intersection of Rts. 82 and 631; later made into a town hall. I think, tho I'm not sure, that this building is still standing*. it must have been covered with siding; I do not remember the logs and it was in this building that I first danced with my future husband. I had strong competition (a Macedonia belle) Frank divided his attentions between the two of us. I had walked to the dance from Northfield, with my date and a group of young people; and I walked home with him. Young people frequently walked from one town to the other---a distance of about 2 miles, to dance, skate, play ball, etc. If you didn't own horses (or later an automobile) you WALKED. In 1824 Abram Cranmer (died 1842) age 55, bur. in N-M cemetery near brother Jeremiah) built the first house in Macedonia; it was constructed of logs, on Jenkins Road near the Penn. R. R. tracks; later he built the first frame house practically on the west bank Indian Run (house in foreground of picture at left) the Curtiss Food Market is at present located on this lot on Rt. 82, just west of North Bedford Rd. Kitty-corner across the road was Billy Dixon's blacksmith

shop, between Jenkins Rd. and North Bedford Rd. And how we kids loved to stand in the door-way and watch him shoe our horses, and how the sparks would fly! Abram Cranmer, born 8-10-1787 in Trenton, N.J., was married in one of the New England states to Nancy Voster born 12-20-1777 in Amsterdam, Holland. They came to Macedonia in 1824; their daughter Esther Cranmer, b. 7-14-1814 in Northfield Township, married 2-6-1844 to Hiram Munn. They had several children, among them the famous "Munn Twins" storekeepers postmaster and well-known citizens in Macedonia's early history. I remember buying pink and white stick candy and tiny licorice babies in their store by the side of the railroad tracks. Their descendants, as well as those of their brother, Ferdinand, were in High School when Alta Peck and I were in High School in Northfield; Lillie Malott, Norms and Neva Brooks.

The first church in Macedonia, (see right) was built in 1835 on the east bank of Indian Run fading Rt. 82 -Twinsburg Rd.) only a few rods east of the home of Abram Cranmer (see- right); a Free Will Baptist church, altho it was used by the Baptists, Congregationalists, or whatever church group did not have a building of its own. Gertrude Shaw, Ruth Beaney and Henry Holbrook, will remember attending services in this building with their respective mothers. The old building is at the present time owned by the Township Trustees, and used for storing tools and road equipment. Directly across Rt. 82 is a Texas Filling Station. A beautiful old land-mark (a white frame house with a lovely lawn and trees, owned for many years by Herbert Holbrook, Sr. and his wife, Core) was removed to make way for another gas station which Macedonia needed about as much as Job needed another boil. Garage at left is an addition to old church,

A Methodist church was built on the west side of town on Rt. 82(the old Macedonia-Northfield Rd.) in 1891 but it burned to the ground and was replaced in 1910-11 by the building shown at the left. The Rev. John M. Keck preached here for many years. It is now (Jan.1961) rented to The Church of The Nazarene until such time as they can build. The Methodist congregation (under the pastorate of the Rev. W. L French) has just recently moved into their new very modern church west of Shepard Rd., on the south side of Rt. 82 towards Twinsburg. Land was donated by Phillip Haymes and his father; it is part of the old Perry Dresser farm. Years ago there was at this intersection a large watering trough from which horses and cattle could drink; above the trough extended a pipe from which a stream of really cold water ran end travelers could refresh themselves at the same time. The old Welter Beaney farm was a 1 1/4miles to the north of this intersection on Shepard Rd. I, also would like to mention that Phillip Haymes is one of the more serious casualties of W W. II; he lost both

legs above the knees and walks on two artificial legs, and very well, too; he drove a tractor on his farm has recently married and moved to Florida.

Quotation: NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH, in "The Gay Nineties"; at a recent baptism at Van Horn's pond (now Willow Lake) located on Rt.

631 in Northfield, back of the Charles Peck home, George and Frank Goosman almost drowned when the minister, Mr Orrin, held the boys heads under water during a recent baptismal ceremony. Miss Emily Smith came to the rescue and showed the young minister how to baptize. (end of quote).

In the long cold winters of my parents and my generations the ice would be very thick and many skating parties were held. Also, men would cut it into large thick casks, store it in an ice-house packing it in saw dust. In the summer, what hadn't melted was dragged out washed off and put into an ice box. This was our refrigeration; a big improvement over the cold damp floor of a dark cellar.

In 1852, Odell, Price & Company bought a stock of goods worth about \$4000. and opened a store in Macedonia. There have been many such stores since this one, also a postoffice, a bank, implement store, an ice cream parlor, etc. This little town became quite famous for its output of cheese. For several years, from May 1st until Sept. 15th of each year about 175,000 Pounds of cheese were shipped to various points, Cincinnati being one of them. At left a recent picture of the Penn. railroad depot, which I took in 1959. It hasn't changed very much over the years; has been cut down on both ends. Even in my childhood days, I drove our horse "Old Buff" to the cheese factory with our surplus milk and after a man had emptied the milk from a 10-gallon can, I then had to drive around to the back of the factory and with a pail fill the can with whey (curd and water left from making cheese). And did it ever smell sour? WOW! We fed it to our pigs on the farm. At right is a picture of the Band Stand in the Park in Macedonia taken in 1959. Col. Peck (a financial benefactor) helped to personally build the Band Stand; (all the work was done by hand) after he had traveled to various states to find a Band Stand, which design he copied; I believe he found one in

Connecticut. It is across the road from the depot (facing Rt. 82), and north of the cheese factory. Our uncle Will Holbrook worked in this cheese factory at

one time making cheese. Ruth Colton was telling me recently how she and Myrtle Martin would run away from school during the noon hour down to the cheese factory and Myrt's father would give them chunks of curd with salt. They thought it very delicious. Or was it ruining away from school that was so much fun? You ask them.

Quotation:----"CHEESE FACTORY BURNS---The Brooks? cheese factory was totally destroyed by fire one night last week (1900). The engineer on a passing freight train blew his whistle to arouse the sleeping townspeople, but it was too late to save the factory. The cheese was taken to John Leunberger's house nearby.

The Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad through Macedonia opened in 1851. To-day (1961) it is the Pennsylvania Railroad.

In the early 1900's, George Mack's harness shop and Herbert Marshall's meat market and home, were situated on the left side of Pink Seacoy's little hardware store, on the south side of Rt. 82 (the old Northfield Rd.), and west of the Park. Pink was the town's undertaker. He had a Poll Parrot; its cage stood outside the front door, in the summer time his language was a bit on the "salty side", as we kids learned, and we loved to tease him into using it lavishly. Pinkney was a first cousin of the Browers---Cyrus Luther, Henry, and Ellen (Brower) Leach. Florence Marshall was the daughter of Herbert Marshall and she married Donald Johnson of the Johnson Funeral Homes.

Simon Shaw owned the saw mill, cider mill and a flour mill on Rt. 631 West, which property he sold to Charles Fenton; it has since been sold to another party; Mr. Fenton retired, and is now living in Northfield. Cliff Oviatt owned and operated a coal yard and feed store next to Fenton's, for many years. I worked in Cliff's office during W.W. II when my children, Budd and Ola were Overseas.

When the early settlers of Hudson were cutting trees for a road direct from Hudson to Cleveland, they got as far as what is now Macedonia, and heard the sound of an axe being used to cut trees. Upon investigation they found Isaac Bacon cutting logs to the northwest, and they changed the road to pass his home, thus, putting the curve in Rt. 631 in Macedonia. Later his son David C. had part of this road closed, and a new one built to pass his home. He was the eldest child and inherited all his father's estate. Money talked as loud in those days as it does to-day.

Jake Ranney, owner of an implement store in Macedonia in the early 1900's, and Henry Brower, a timberman, were the first men to introduce the "horseless carriage" to the startled citizens of Macedonia. Jean (Brower) Holbrook drove her father's automobile (she was but a teenager, and a girl at that), thus becoming the envy of all the boys and girls in both towns. My Dad, Perry E. Leach was soon the possessor of one of these "devils" (a common name for them) in Northfield. He would show Jake and Hank the dust! They traveled at a terrific speed of 20 or 25 miles per hour; and how the tires blew out! and the dust flew! It was in the early "roarin" twenties".

Akron Ohio (about 18 miles south of both Northfield and Macedonia) had the fourth Telephone Exchange in Ohio in about 1881. Cincinnati having the first one. I know we had a telephone wall type, (and some of them are in use to-day, believe it or not) long before we left the farm in 1905. Can remember it well; always out of commission at the first flash of lightening. But it was very exciting to be able to talk with our neighbors and friends just by "ringing up Central". She sure had her troubles in those days. Dad didn't really need a telephone to summon any one of his neighbors-----all he had to do was to stand on the front porch, and YELL! He had a good, loud and strong carrying voice. Macedonia had the first Exchange, located on Rt. 631 W.; later it was moved to Northfield, and a few years ago the Telephone Company built a new brick building on Rt. 82 East. Macedonia has grown in many ways; in population it has some large housing projects; drug store; doctor; real estate office; coal and feed business; postoffice; beauty shop; both independent and chain groceries; small industries; volunteer fire department; large turkey farm; at least two churches; gas stations, to name some of them.*

***** **

Horace Holbrook was the first Holbrook to come to Ohio*. He came in 1834+ to Macedonia. After buying 80 (or 100) acres* of land, he built a log cabin on N. Bedford Rd., just a few rods north of the present Holbrook home. Returning to New York State, he married Mary Gutherie, who like himself was a native of Vermont*. Mary died 14 months later, leaving no issue. Horace then married Susan Thompson of Hudson, whose parents, Dr. Moses Thompson and wife Elizabeth Mills had migrated from Connecticut. Elizabeth's father, Lt. Gideon Mills was an officer in the Revolutionary War. Horace had been a school teacher in New York; interested in establishing new schools. He was both blind and deaf several years before his death, age 89 yrs. To Horace and Susan (Thompson) Holbrook was born an only child-----Ossian Thompson Holbrook. He was born in the log cabin*, and was a child when his father built this home at the right - the Holbrook homestead, and in which he lived most of his life. It

has been remodeled, altho it retains its old appearance; the original acreage has more than doubled thru the years. Ossian was a farmer; dairy raising sheep; also grain. There was a large maple sugar bush on this farm, and Ossian became well-know for his high-grade maple syrup; sold it for 25 cents per gallon locally and 35 cents when he shipped it to his children in Nebr. To-day it retails for \$5.00 to \$6.50a gallon. Both Horace and Ossian were strong Presbyterians, members of the Northfield church, contributing substantially to its support.

In the early days Indians would come to the house and ask Susan for food and whiskey; especially did they demand whiskey. They were usually friendly, and never did anyone harm. Horace would ride horse-back to Newburgh taking wheat and corn (probably on a pack-horse) one day and return the next day with flour and cornmeal. When he would be gone nights Susan would have to drive bears away from the hog-pen (also built of logs) with a torch, They would try to climb over the high log fence to get The hogs. Good eating.

Ossian T. Holbrook married Mary Ellen Jordan and to them were born eight children: Charles Alfred; Ida Ann (Holbrook) Beaney, William Albert; Edward Sydney; Virgil Lincoln; Irena Jane (Holbrook) Leach; Mary Susan (Mamie) (Holbrook) Thompson; George Emerson.

After the death of Mary Ellen Jordan (age 34 yrs.), he married Sarah A. Herbert of Macedonia and to them were born two children; Paul, and Herbert Ossian, Sr.,there are grandchildren great grandchildren, etc, etc., to numerous to mention. Paul died in infancy.

We shall follow thru the Lincoln Holbrook line as he remained on the farm; he was the 3rd generation. Lincoln married Eliza Brand (Brandt) and they had two sons Albert Lincoln and Henry Alton; also a daughter, Ora May (who died in infancy) - these are 4th generation. Albert resides in Canada, married and has two sons. Henry lives in the old homestead; married Arline VanNostran who went to school in Little York. They had four daughters; Dorothy (Holbrook) Hart; Martha Jean (Holbrook) Adams; Gail Iva (Holbrook) Exton; Betty Ann (Holbrook) Bartley - these girls are 5th generation, and all born in the Holbrook homestead; all living in Macedonia, Northfield or Twinsburg!

Dorothy and her husband lived with Henry after her mother died, and so their eldest child, James (6th generation) spent his first months in the homestead, Henry was so happy that his first grandchild was a boy he would have liked to have given him the name of "Holbrook".

At left is a picture of the old barn. This will soon be torn down to allow a road to be built thru the farm for a housing development. All that is left of the original farm is the 5 acres and the home- stead. Henry is re-married to one of my pupils of the old Northfield Town Hall school days, Marie (Faust) Anson. They live in the homestead, and when I called on Marie to get a picture for the Holbrook Genealogy, there were no less than 13 cats and kittens running around the place. Like father, like son, Lincoln and Henry also kept a dairy, shipping milk to the city, raising grain, sheep, hogs, chickens and ducks. My mother called the road that led from the farm to the store N. Bedford Rd.) "Holbrook Alley", because so many of the children settled down in on it to raise their families. To-day besides Henry and Marie, Betty is married and lives on this road thus continuing the tradition. Henry is retired from farming, and because of a heart condition, does light janitor work at The church and the Twinsburg bank.

The descendants of Horace Holbrook may be found living in Ohio, Indiana, New York City, Massachusetts, Maryland, Washington D.C., Minnesota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Washington, Oregon, California Texas Florida, South Dakota. Arkansas, Alaska, North Carolina, and Canada. As of yet, I do not know how many of them may be connect with our branch of "Holbrooks".

*** **

Irena Jane Holbrook, granddaughter of Horace Holbrook, married Perry Ellsworth Leach, great- grandson of William Leach, both pioneers into The Western Reserve, in 1834 and 1800, respectively

George Leach was born in Goshen Cond. and came to Ohio in an ox-cart when 2 yrs. old, with his parents William Leach and wife Sally Gay lord and maternal parents Joel and Lois (Cook) Gaylord. This was in 1800 and they all settled in Hudson O. Wm.. Leach, a noted Indian fighter (fists or rifle made no difference) is buried with the British soldiers in Sandusky. C. Joel Gaylord was a Drummer Boy with Gen. George Washington at the Battle of Monmouth Rev. War. in 1832 George Leach bought 500 A. of land in little York built a log cabin on the northeast corner of the intersection of old Rt. 8 and Highland Rd. across from Brandywine Tavern. There is a large housing development (1961) on this part of the farm. George paid 32 cents per A, and the Beak Estate Company developing this project paid \$900. per A. I wonder my Dad doesn't turn over in his grave.

George was already married to Lydia Wolcott, and by her had five children Elisa Lydia, Clarissa, and two dying in infancy. Lydia married Conrad Schoch,

and they had one child, Maud, who met a tragic death when bar hose in Little York burned to the ground one wintry night in Feb. 1948. A passing truck driver knew Maud lived alone and was very old (81 yrs.); he stopped and crawled on hands and knees thru kitchen found Maud on the floor in living room; dragged her outdoors, but died in a few moments. Clarissa married (1) Allen Ingersoll and (2) S. Gaylord.

Lydia died of tuberculosis (age 32); George later married Philla (Cook) Wood, widow of Silas Wood, from Mass. Geo. and Philla had two sons, Lumen and Sherman, both born in the log cabin. Geo. Leach farmed but his chief occupation was owning and operating two saw mills on Brandywine Creek, from which he derived water power; shipped quantities of lumber (oak, maple, whitewood) to Cleveland, via the Ohio-Erie canal and the Cuyahoga River, used for building boats and ships.

To go back a bit; Eliza, known as Eliza "Leach" mar. Theron Williams; two ch. Harriet, twice mar. and moved to Calif; George L. Williams of Little York, mar. to Ella Curtis. In the book of "Pioneer Women" Ellen Brower Leach listed Eliza as being the dau. of Philla Cook and Silas Wood, and coming from Mass. to Ohio. That would have made her the step.-dau. of Geo. Leach when he mar. Philla as his second wife. Accepting the decision of the Genealogist in Cleve. Library, and the fact she mar. under the name of "Leach", named her son Geo. Leach Williams, I, too, have considered her as having been born to George Leach and Lydia (Wolcott) Leach.

The first grist mill in this part of the county was at Newburg, and was erected by W.W. Williams in 1800. To go to mill from Hudson, a distance of 20 miles, required three days time - one to make the trip, one waiting for the grist, and the third for returning home.

The first load of wheat was taken to the mill by Samuel Bishop, in February 1801. He had to cross Tinker's Creek (near Bedford). When he reached the creek he found the current too strong, and barely got back to shore, saving himself and his oxen, but losing the entire load of wheat.

At another time Dr. Moses Thompson and William Leach tried to cross the same creek in the spring of the year. They had three yoke of oxen and a cart. The river was high and the current strong but they urged their team across. The lead cattle began to swim, when the second team, then the third team and the cart. The oxen managed to get to shore (also the two men), but the cart swinging down stream lost its load of wheat.

The resourceful Dr. T., not to be outdone by a stream of water, bought some more wheat, gave his note in payment, proceeding to the mill had it ground, then returning crossed the creek where the water was lower and more fordable. This was very expensive, and many times corn was substituted for wheat, and smashed in wooden mortars, i.e. a stump with a hole burned in it, using a long wooden pestle attached to a spring-pole.

Deacon Stephen Thompson, father of Dr. Moses Thompson, built a saw-mill in about 1803-4. Joel Gaylord also erected a sawmill not far from the same time that Deacon Thompson erected his which was later replaced by George Leach (grandson of J. Gaylord and son of W. Leach) in the Hudson area. George Leach at different times built two other sawmills on Breakneck Creek. (never heard of Breakneck Creek.)

In 1832 George Leach bought 500 acres of wooded land in Little York and erected two sawmills on Brandywine creek. His grandson, Perry E. Leach owned and operated a sawmill on Brandywine Creek, but using an upright steam engine for power, instead of water.

Heman Oviatt was the first business man in Hudson. He owned and operated the first store; his trade at first was with the Indians, accepting their furs and skins in exchange for shawls, blankets, powder, lead, and whiskey. The latter he soon made himself, building up a profitable business. He was a keen man but just and honest. He, at one time took a note for \$1.01; a short time later the drawer of the note handed him \$1.00; hesitating and after some cogitation he said "suppose you want this indorsed on your note, don't you, John?. He was always on the alert for a safe business adventure, In 1815 he put \$1,000. into a partnership with Zenas Kent, who put in \$500. more, and they started a store in Ravenna, which proved to be a "paying" business. When the Government forbade the selling of whiskey to the Indians, he discontinued the manufacturing of it, but it had proven to be a good paying business for him.

When George Leach was 15 years old he carried the mail from Sandusky to Cleveland on horse-back, His mother, Sallie (Gaylord) Leach met with a serious accident and it was necessary to amputate her foot with no anaesthetic. When she and William were traveling down a river, with their small children, one had the whooping cough, and the mother stifled the sound of the child's coughing by putting a feather bed over his face, so as not to be heard by the Indians. After the death of her husband, Sallie married William Ford and they returned to Hudson, Ohio from Michigan. They had one child, Marvin Ford.

The house on the previous page is the old Leach homestead, built in about 1850 by George Leach. It is now owned by a Mr. Gleason, who sold off the corner lot between old Rt. 8 and West Highland to an Oil Company who has built a gas station and a garage. Mr. Gleason stated he received about \$13 000 for this property. Guess I am terribly old-fashioned and out-of-date with the times, but I like it better as a calf pasture, with the barn, granary, old rope swing and an apple tree. Dad had built a barn in 1900, now long torn down. The house has been modernized, and its whole appearance has been changed; altho the gables remain the same---it is more on the style of a Cape Cod house, except for the glassed-in front porch. Mr. Gleason found a penny on a sill under the front porch, dated 1862, the year Dad was born and that helped me to date the house. My grandson has the penny. The house is kitty-corner across the road from Brandywine Tavern. Lumen Leach married Ellen Brower of Brandywine, and they lived in this house. To them were born five sons: George Pinaney, Henry Eugene; Oliver Perry (died in infancy); Perry Ellsworth; Orville Jay.

Perry E. Leach married Irena Jane Holbrook; they had five children: Budd Jay (died in infancy); Cleo Ellen (Leach) Kingzett; Alta Levere (Leach) Burns, Lota Leona (Leach) Seidel, Clell Perry (dying in infancy-2 yrs.) Perry bought 50 acres and the homestead (he had for many years been renting the 187 A. belonging to his parents); balance of farm divided between the brothers, later sold, Perry farmed, threshed, baled hay, filled silos, cut corn, also kept a dairy, shipping milk to the city. He introduced breed the Holstein of cattle into this area. In 1905 he sold everything, excepting one horse and one cow, and we moved to town - Northfield. Jay still owned a small parcel of 2 acres on Macedonia Rd., which he sold in about 1948 or 1949, thereby erasing the name "Lemon" from the original 500 acres bought in 1832 by George Leach, their grandfather. The old barn* shown above was built by George Leach; it burned in 1916 on a very windy night carrying shingles half-way to Northfield. When Lota was 2 or 3 years old she wandered down to the barn, and sat down in the door-way at the far end of the barn. Dad would untie the horses; they would dash out this door-way, around the barn to the watering trough, drink, come in the back door to their stalls. He had just untied Queen a big chestnut mare, when he saw Lota sitting in the doorway. Too late! Queen was on her way out! Dad stood paralyzed. Not a thing he could possibly do! But Queen saw the child; lifted---

* Mrs. Emily Melcher owns this corner where the above barn stood. (1961)

her big feet shod with iron shoes, cleared the child's head with one leap, and landed on all four feet on the ground, 12" or 15" below the barn floor. Queen

was Buff's colt, and had been raised on the farm, born the same morning I was. Horses seem to have a lot of horse sense.

To continue with the Genealogy: Alta (Leach) Burns has always lived in Northfield; her son Rex J. and family continue to live in Northfield; the other son Burr B. owns and operates The Bee Hive Restaurant; both boys born in Northfield. Lota lived all her life in Northfield; her three children born and raised here. I have lived in and out of Northfield all my life, but no matter where I may roam Northfield will always be "Home Sweet Home" .My children spent their childhood days, and many of their adult years, here. Lota's eldest child, Norma Seidel, married Frank R. Cross raised four children in this old town and at present lives on West Highland Road, (just a whoop and a holler) from the old Leach homestead, in fact on a part of the original farm. The four Cross children, continue to live at home (or nearby); Norma's eldest grandchild, Debra, lives with her, making the 7th generation to live on the Leach farm: George, Perry, Lota (Leach) Norma (Seidel) Cross, Nancy (Cross) Swaggerty, Debra Elaine Swaggerty. Debra also holds the honors in the Cross family--the 6th generation to live practically on the same spot on old Brandywine,

Thus you can see how right Mrs. Charles Fenton was when she said, as I approached her Antique Exhibit at the Sesquicentennial in 1957, "Here comes One of the Northfield Antiques". Altho a little younger than I, my sister Alta could rightfully be considered more of an antique as she has always lived in Northfield and kept the "Home Fires Burning". Alta and I are the only ones of our generation in this family, living to-day (June 1961).

Most of the Leach family continue to live in Ohio, altho a few have migrated to warmer climates, Florida, Texas, California. The name "Leach" is to be found in many telephone directories in the U.S.

Recently a man, also a native of Northfield, told me of a little incident that happened in the meat market one day (and the hair on the back of his neck bristled as he told it): a lady who had recently moved into Northfield from Cleveland remarked to the butcher. "I consider I am doing missionary work by moving out here from Cleveland. WOW I consider that we "Antiques" or "Heathens" can look down our noses at these so-called missionaries. We did the rough work for them - - laid the foundation for a town they are so eager to move into, to raise their children. Maybe she was just taking the same attitude our ancestors took in trying to Christianize the Indians.

The newcomers, who are in the majority, are endeavoring to throw all of these little communities into one large community. Probably it would be the best thing to do as all are having water and sewage problems. Seems as tho they can all sleep together in one big cemetery but do not want to live in one big community. Must be that some of the stubbornness of their early ancestors which conquered the wilderness, fought the Indians, made The Reserve what it is to-day, still

Please note: At the time I wrote about the Leach children I did not know whereas a baby girl born to Luman and Ellen Leach before the boys. She died at birth or shortly thereafter. It was my cousin Ray L. Leach who remembered hearing of this child and told it to me.

2

In 1960, the census showed a population of 11,324 persons in the two townships Macedonia and Northfield; the later divided into North field Center (including Little York and Brandywine). Northfield Village, and Sagamore Hills.

Northfield Center 2417

Northfield Village.....1029

Sagamore Hills.....3825

Entire Township of Northfield..7271

Entire Township of Macedonia 4053

Total population in both townships: 11,324

Northern Summit County includes (besides Northfield and Macedonia), Hudson and Twinsburg, and 1960 population is as follows:

Hudson Village.....2433

Hudson Township.....2513

Total.....4946

Twinsburg Village.....1724

Twinsburg Township.....4078

Total.....5802

Besides the Genealogical statistics (for which I sincerely thank all my relatives) I have tried to leave with my readers a partial conception of "The Way of Living" thru the 160 years that have transpired since our Forefathers migrated from the Eastern States into Ohio, and did their small part in settling The Western Reserve.

To gather this information, I have written numerous letters to the cousins far and wide; Visited libraries in Columbus, Cleveland and Hudson; read reference books, also history; talked with older people, friends and relatives, visited numerous cemeteries; and drawn upon my own experiences and memories. And I thank you, one and all, most sincerely, for your wonderful co-operation.

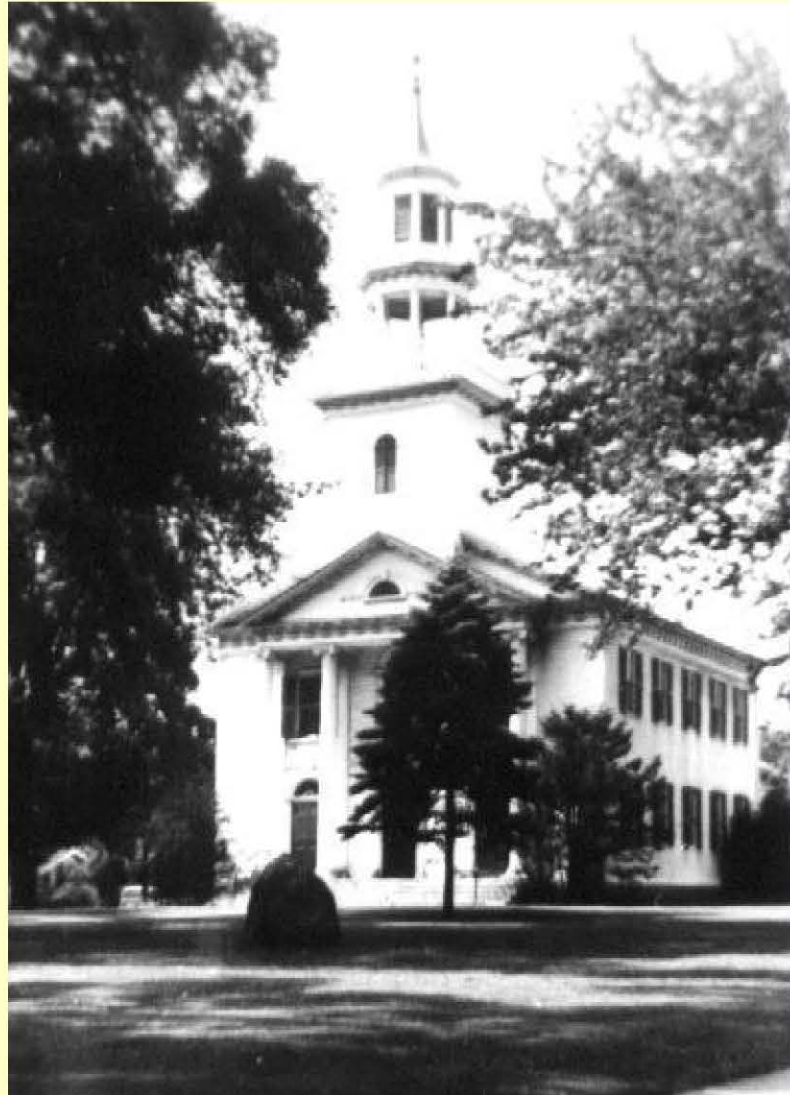
This is not intended to be a "History of Northfield and Macedonia", only, in so far as it relates to the Genealogy of the Leach and the Holbrook families.

I do hope the information is correct; it is "open to discussion."

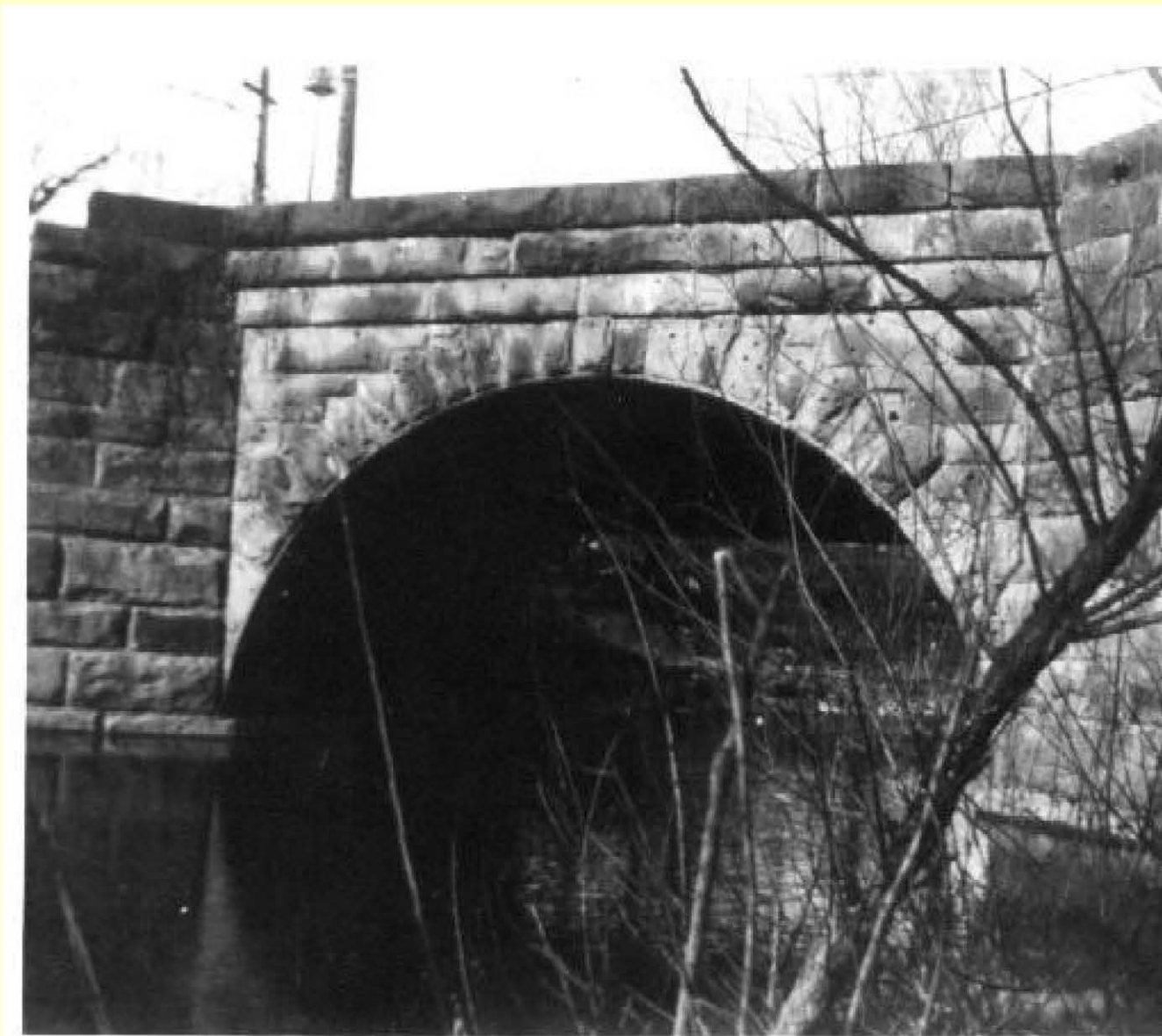
Cleo (Leach-Holbrook) Kingzett

Editor's note: The last two pages of this document contain mainly photos, and will be added as soon as possible to the web site.

**THE CHURCH IN TALLMADGE
AN EXAMPLE OF WESTERN RESERVE
"CONNECTICUT" ARCHITECTURE**



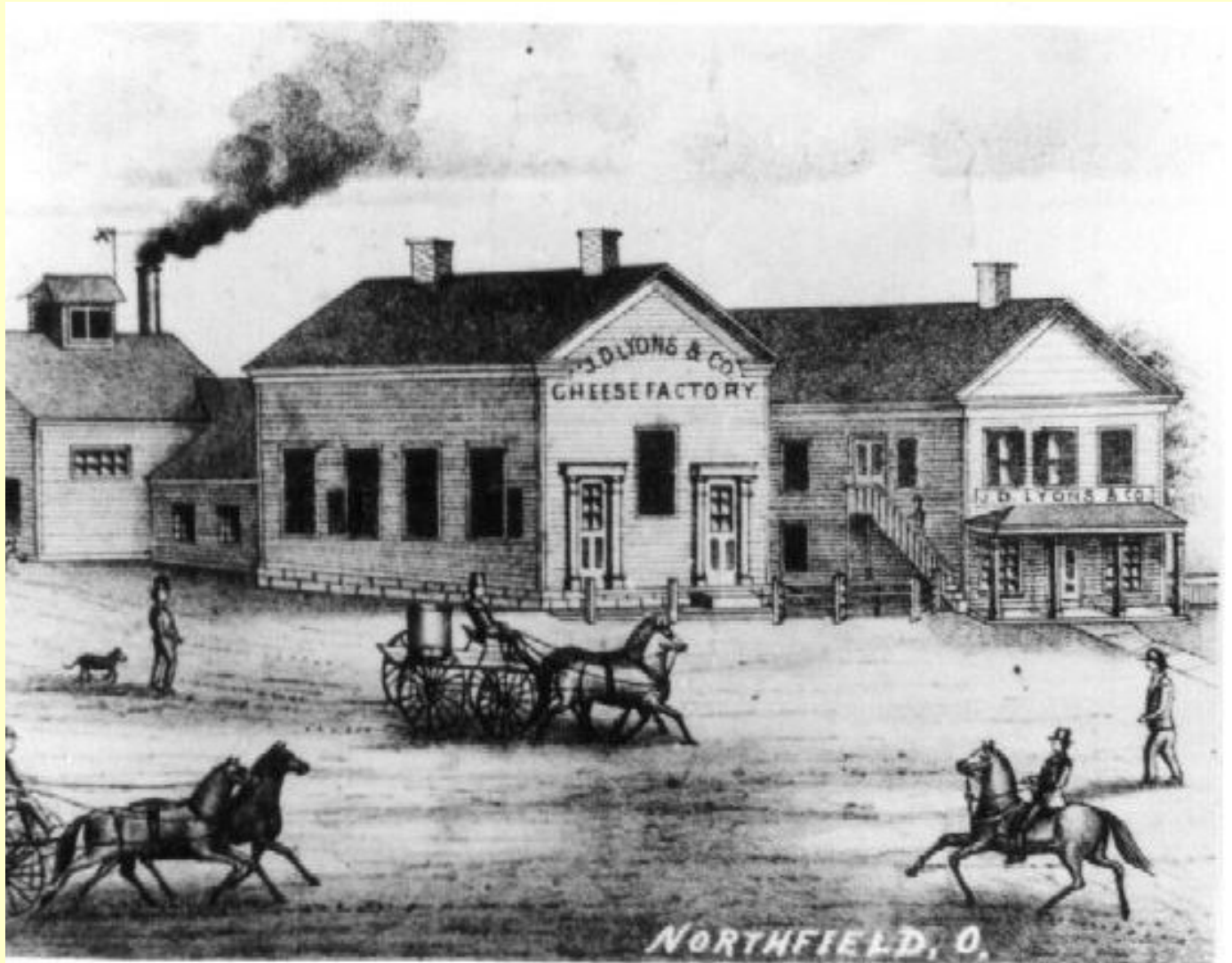
THE BRIDGE ON OLDE EIGHT OVER BRANDYWINE CREEK



**THE PUBLIC SQUARE WATER TROUGH, CIRCA 1840.
IN THIS 1950'S PHOTO, THE ORIGINAL 1844 TOWN HALL
(CONVERTED INTO A GAS STATION)
CAN BE SEEN IN THE LEFT BACKGROUND.
THERE IS NOW A SHELL GAS STATION ON THE SITE.**



**THE CHEESE FACTORY AT THE FOLK BLOCK
FACING WEST TOWARDS BRANDYWINE ROAD
(NOW THE SITE OF THE CVS PHARMACY)**



**THE SAME CHEESE FACTORY BUILDINGS,
REMODELED AND FACING EAST TOWARDS OLDE EIGHT ROAD
(NOW THE SITE OF THE CVS PHARMACY)**



THE AKRON-BEDFORD-CLEVELAND INTERURBAN



THE MODEL "T" FORD OWNED BY THE FATHER OF CLEO KINGZETT



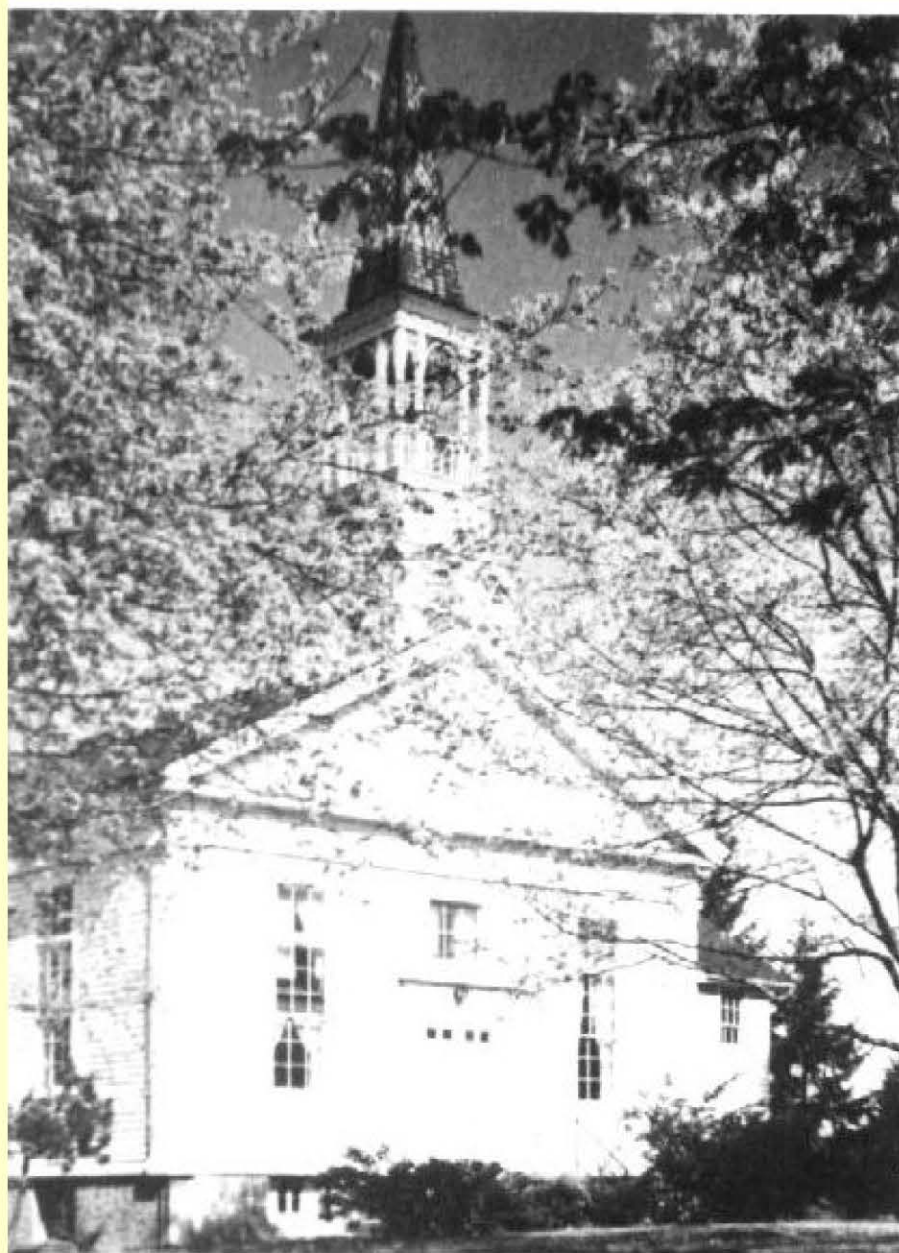
**THE NORTHFIELD CENTER PUBLIC SQUARE
VIEW OF THE TOWN HALL AND HALF-WAY HOUSE**



**THE ORIGINAL NORTHFIELD CENTER TOWN HALL
BUILT IN 1844, AND NOW THE SITE OF THE SHELL GAS STATION**



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BUILT IN 1834, THE FIRST CHURCH IN
NORHTFIELD TOWNSHIP**



CLEO KINGZETT'S FATHER, IN "THE SURRY WITH THE FRINGE ON TOP"



**THE 1847 METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
IT WAS LOCATED JUST SOUTH OF THE PRESENT CVS PHARMACY**



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CIRCA?



BRANDYWINE FALLS (AFTER A HEAVY RAIN)



BRANDYWINE FALLS (LOW WATER) CIRCA ?



THE NORTHFIELD "TWIN" SCHOOL, CIRCA ?



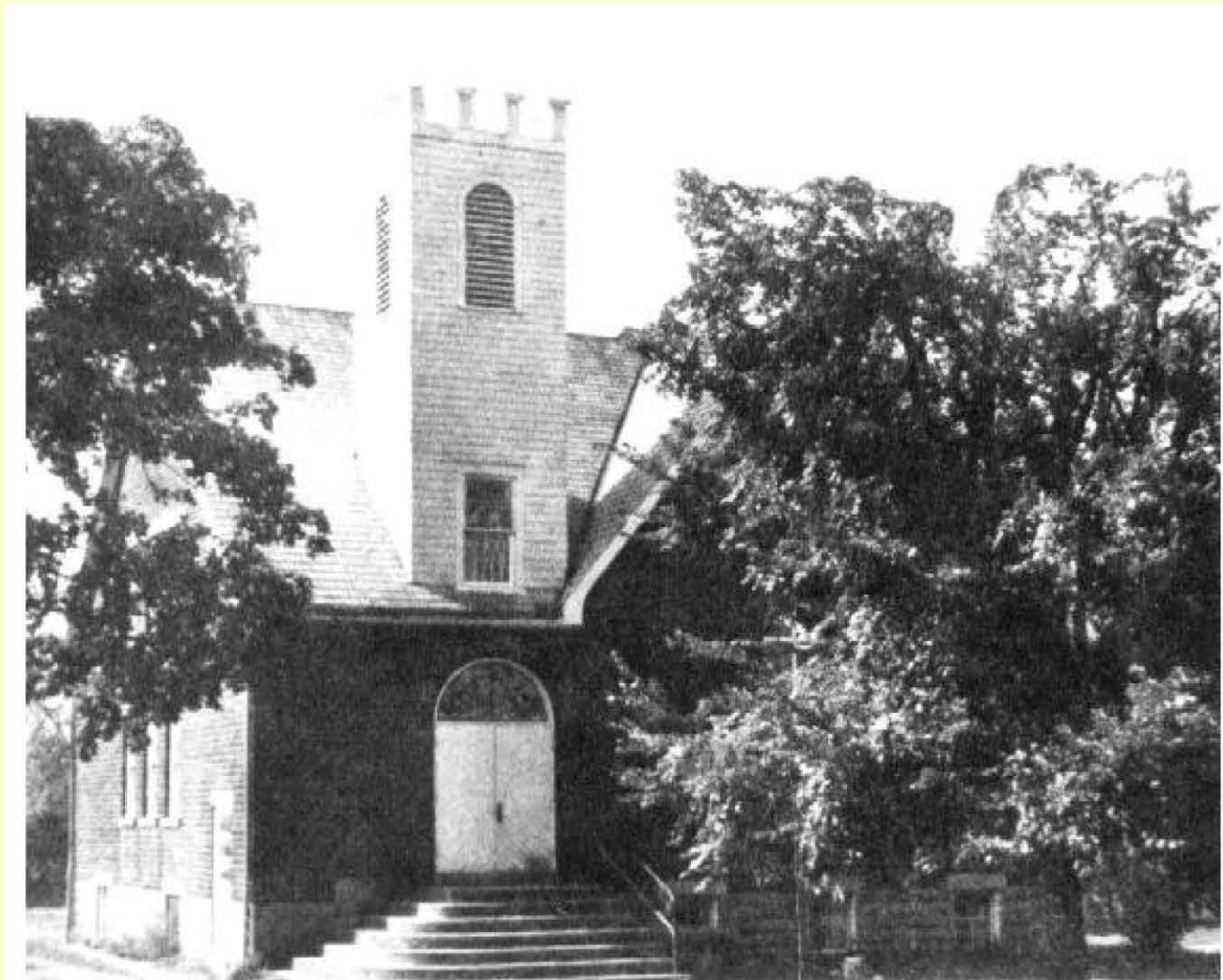
**IN THE FOREGROUND IS THE FIRST FRAME (LOG) HOUSE IN MACEDONIA
LOCATED ON S.R. 82, WEST OF NORTH BEDFORD ROAD**



**THE FIRST CHURCH IN MACEDONIA, BUILT IN 1835.
USED BY BAPTISTS, CONGREGATIONALISTS,
AND OTHER GROUPS THAT DID NOT HAVE THEIR OWN CHURCHES
THE CHURCH WAS LOCATED ON THE EAST BANK OF INDIAN RUN,
FACING S.R. 82**



**THE METHODIST CHURCH, BUILT IN 1910-11
LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF MACEDONIA ON S.R. 82**



**THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD DEPOT.
THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN IN 1959.**



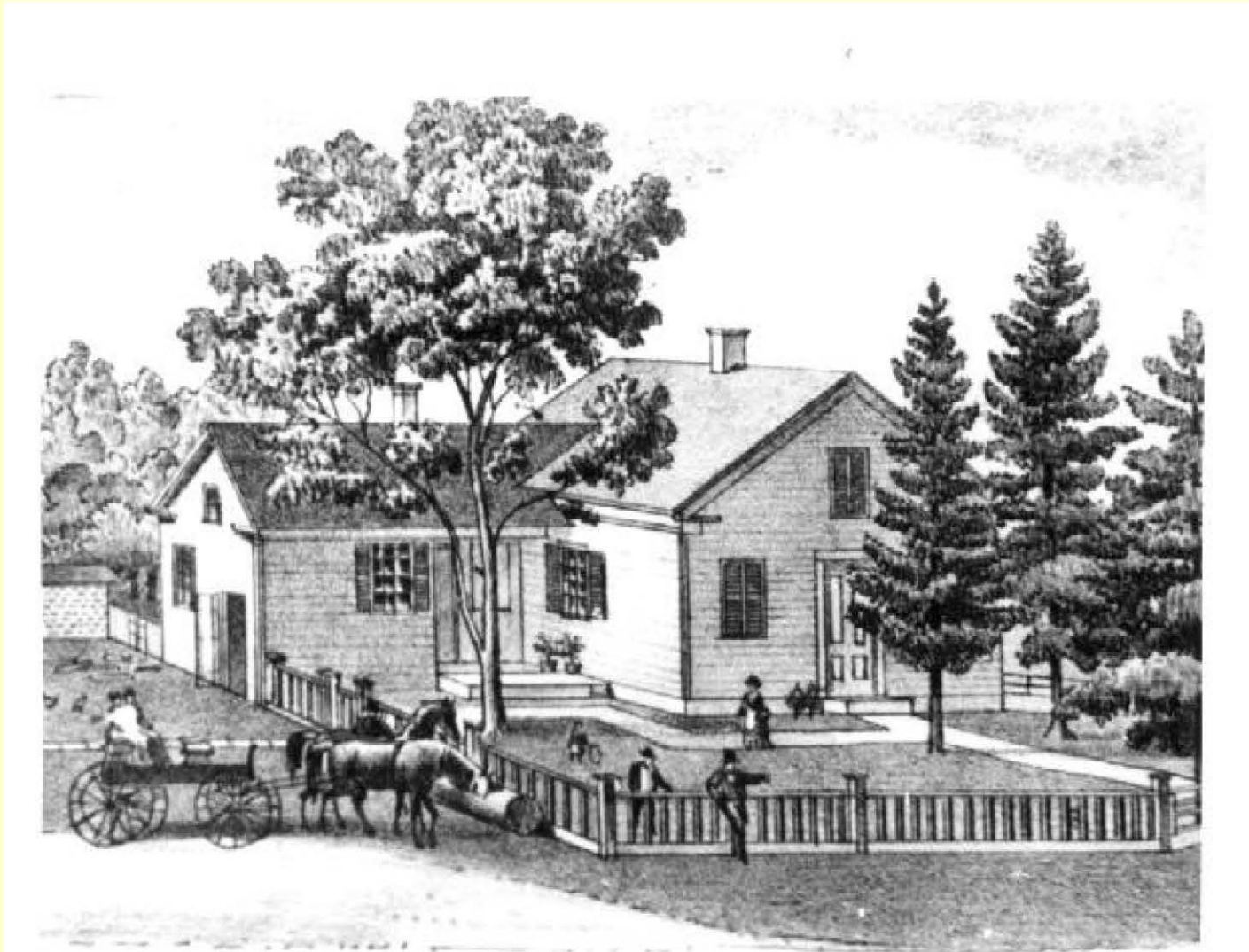
THE HOLBROOK HOMESTEAD (ON N. BEDFORD ROAD)



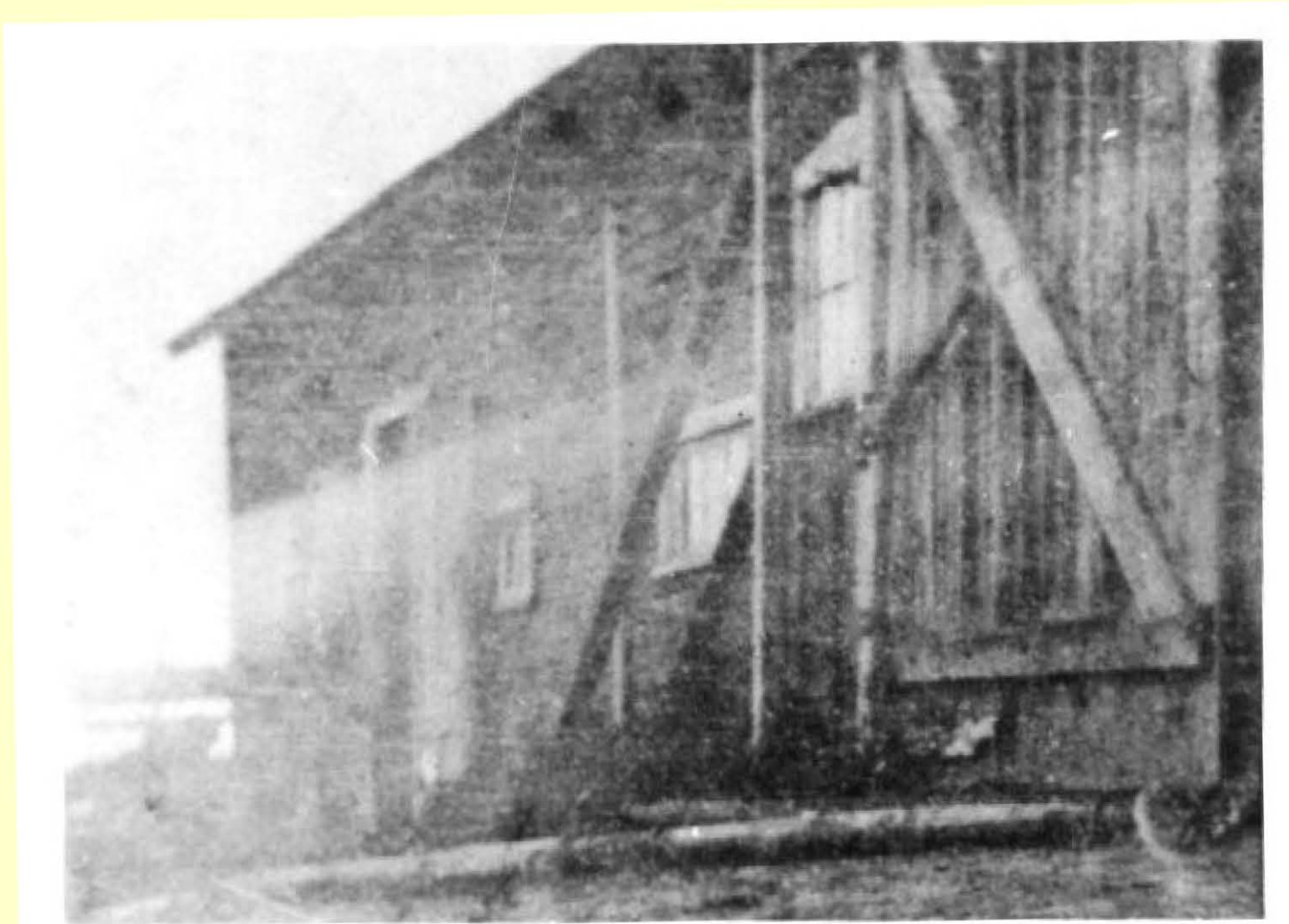
THE HOLBROOK BARN (ON N. BEDFORD ROAD)



THE GEORGE LEACH HOME (BUILT IN 1850)
LOCATED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF OLDE EIGHT AND E. HIGHLAND ROADS



THE GEORGE LEACH BARN (BUILT IN 1832)





Right - Folk Block (north) on old Rt. 8----(former Leach property)

Super Market (I.G.A.)
Carl Muetzel

Presbyterian church in background



Right - Architect's sketch of new Presbyterian church to be built in near future at intersection of Rt. 82 and Boyden Road

Left - Folk Block (south) on old Rt. 8----(former Leach property)

Florist-Art Sieloff

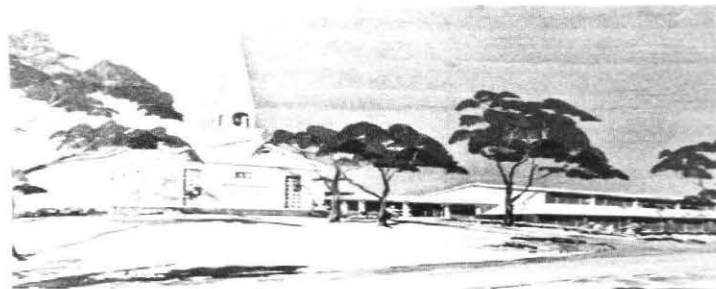
Bee Hive Restaurant
Burr B. Burns

Mrs. Folk's back lawn between these buildings



Left - Main Business Section

Corner old Rt. 8 and Leonard Avenue





Left - Curtiss Food Market on
north side Rt. 82, near
Indian Run

where first frame house
was built

Right - Postoffice, Beauty Shop
on south side Rt. 82,
near Indian Run

(former Frank Wise
property)



Left - Wilson's Pharmacy
Lawson's Chain Grocery

(former Frank Wise
property)

(just west of Beauty
shop)

Right - new Methodist Episco-
pal church

(intersection Rt. 82
and Shepard Road)

