

# The History of Brutus and Maple River Township

Settled 1874



## Emmet County, Michigan

By Maurice Eby

You may tell others that as of 2023, I am unaware of any hard copies of this book that are available, however, I will send, at no cost, a copy of the book via the internet. You supply the ink and the paper, and add a cover and binding if you wish. I also give permission to others to make copies of the book. The above also applies to my book “The Great Lumbering Era of Emmet County”.

### **Primary sources for this book**

Emmet County Register of Deeds	Township Tax records
Ayr School records	U.S Census 1870-1950
Personal Interviews	Michigan State Archives
Published Obituaries	

Pellston and Petoskey newspapers and their anonymous correspondents from Pellston, Brutus, Ayr, and Alanson  
-Most Pictures are from Picture Post Card Collections of Phil and Mag Nolt and Ott and Polly Crapsey

Information about author is on last page of book.

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# The History of Maple River Township, and the Town of Brutus Michigan

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## Introduction

I spent most of my first 29 years in the Brutus area. When introduced, I proudly said that I was from Brutus, Michigan. I lived in Chippewa County for the next 32 years which is only a one-hour drive from Brutus. I moved back to Brutus again in 2005. In a way, this book started in 1966. I was at college and getting a degree in history. My thesis was about the Great Depression in Emmet County. I interviewed many people at that time. My first book was about the Ayr School and community. My second book was about the Brutus Mennonite community. Although there is some duplication among the books, most of this book is new material.

This history will mostly cover the years from 1874 to 1950. I see four main periods in Brutus history. The pioneer era was 1874 to 1894. The busy lumber mills period was 1894 to 1920. After 1920, the area became primarily a farming community. After 1950, farming declined and the area became a charming rural community for people who went elsewhere to work and maybe had a hobby farm, or hunting property. People loved the security of owning rural acreage. This is still the character of Maple River Township.

As late as 1873, only 150 white people lived in all of Emmet County. These people lived at Petoskey, Harbor Springs, Cross Village, and Mackinaw City. The key to land settlement was accessibility to a railroad. Railroads sold their granted lands to finance construction of their lines. The GR&I R.R. reached Petoskey in 1873 and started service in 1874. Settlement of Emmet lands was also delayed pending the legal settlement of previous Indian treaties covering the area.

Maple River Township may not have been settled by anyone, *ever*, before 1874. The Indians had their settlements near navigable water. This writer has documents that show all the original owners of each parcel. Surprisingly, about 5000 acres were privately owned before 1874. This land was given to companies, contractors, and persons in payment for services given to the federal government, but they did not settle on their lands at that time.



## The Old Stagecoach Road

This road was built to facilitate the movement of mail between Petoskey and Cheboygan. Freight and passengers used it also. A railroad reached Petoskey in 1874, before the rails reached Cheboygan so mail followed this road after 1874.

**The Centennial History of Cheboygan County and Village, 1874 by W.H. Ware** says "The Cheboygan and Little Traverse Bay State Road was authorized by act of legislature in 1871. This road runs from Cheboygan Village to Little Traverse. [It joined the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Road where the airport is today.] It was begun in the autumn of 1872 and completed in the autumn of 1874. Its construction was under the direction of John McKay, Commissioner. Cost \$26,600. The change of the mail route was made in 1874. There are now three trips each way a week."

The above history states that Chandler of Cheboygan had the contracts to dredge the inland waterway. There had been serious thoughts about using the waterway as the mail route. When the State Road was built, it was laid out in a straight direct route as much as possible. At Alanson, the route was later changed to include the town, and was also changed to include Brutus.

The railroads reached Mackinaw City from Cheboygan in late 1881 and from Petoskey in July 1882. Presumably mail between Petoskey and Cheboygan would have largely used rails after 1882, and the use of the State Road must have dropped substantially. Old maps indicate the likely location of the road. I have looked for remnants of our old State Road

The Maple River was near the mid-point of the route and was the location of an inn and post office. Abner Lee built an inn about where the clubhouse of the Hidden River Golf Club is today. Valentine Brill bought the property a few years later. Elmer Wurst believed that his grandfather, George Burgess, was the last proprietor of the old inn in 1911. Susie Gregory remembered seeing the burning of the Inn. The old road can be clearly seen for much of the distance between Maple River and Riggsville Road. It has been disturbed little and may look much as it did in the old days at many places. Old original cuts and fills are very visible. The best place to see the old road is on Biological Camp property near Riggsville Road in section 5 of Burt Township.

## **The Brutus Post Office**

The uniqueness of the Brutus Post Office lies in that it was the first post office in Emmet County that was not on Lake Michigan; and it existed in the two towns of Brutus that were two miles apart; and no one lived near the P.O. when it was started. The railroad came to Petoskey in 1874. Cheboygan did not have a railroad yet so a stage/mail coach traveled between Petoskey and Cheboygan. The halfway point was near Brutus. The horses were changed or rested here so a post office was officially formed even though no one lived in the area. Abner Lee was the first postmaster. He named the town, Brutus, after his hometown in New York. Postmasters changed almost yearly for many years.

In 1882, the railroad was finished from Petoskey to Mackinaw City, and Brutus [the name] was moved from Maple River to the current location. The post office was usually in the home or business of the postmaster so locations changed frequently. Brutus started to grow rapidly in about 1897 when Nelson Pier became the 16<sup>th</sup> postmaster and served for 28 years. Pier built a still standing building as a post office.

After more short time postmasters, Virgil Wallace served from 1933 to 1963. Wallace bought the unused train depot in about 1950, tore it down, and used the lumber to build his new home/post office. John Brill and his son Ed were rural mail carriers for over 50 years. Brutus had one rural route. Don Brill became the 23<sup>rd</sup> Brutus postmaster in 1963. At that time, he bought an older building and moved it to Brutus. That is the building that was vacated in 2006. Brutus mail now comes from Alanson but still retains the Brutus address.

## **The Township is Formed**

The Township of Maple River was organized in 1876 and the first election was held on April 3. It was Township 36 North, Range 4 West. In 1881, much of what is now Littlefield Township was added to Maple River Township. From 1881 to 1888, Alanson, Oden, and area were in Maple River Township. After Alanson grew to be a bigger town, Littlefield became an independent township.



## Homesteading 1874-75

In August of 1874, some Emmet County townships were opened for purchase and homesteading, including the Maple River area. On April 15, 1875, the remainder of the county was opened to settlement. The land was given as homesteads or sold for cash. Civil War veterans were given 160 acres and others might get 80 acres. Most of the land was taken within four years. The cash price was \$1.25 per acre. Several speculators bought large tracts of land.

***“The Traverse Region”*** This old history book, written in 1884, described homesteading in Emmet County. [Chapter 19] It is in the Petoskey Library.

“During the summer and fall of 1875, a steady stream of immigration poured into the wilderness of Emmet County, and wilderness it indeed was. There was not a road in any direction in the woods except one state road to Cheboygan. The settlers who came in scattered over the county so that settlement was general, and log cabins were set in the numerous openings in the wilderness. This was during the hard times that prevailed throughout the country, and many people were driven to seek homes in a new country where but little capital was needed to obtain a start. It is always true that the first settlers in a new country, especially upon government lands, are men with no means.”

“In this county, nearly all who came in were without any more than money enough to get themselves located on their land, and all began the race for subsistence together. The rush of settlers continued through the summer of 1876, and most of them had no idea of the trials and hardships incident to pioneer life. They supposed that they would be able to obtain employment and could earn enough to support themselves. The consequence was that early in the winter of 1876-77, their supplies were exhausted, their money gone and actual destitution of even the bare necessities of life prevailed. This fact became known and measures were taken for the relief of those who were destitute. The newspaper urged the importance of public action in this matter. Supplies were obtained and distributed among the needy homesteaders. The next year people with more money began to come and an era of prosperity and growth was begun.”



## The Earliest Pioneer Families

Abner Lee was the first official resident of Maple River Township. As soon as the area was open for settlement, he built the Inn on the banks of the Maple River. The first six families listed below claimed their homesteads in 1874, and the others (alphabetical order) also owned land and lived in Maple River Township by 1879. Most received free homesteads but some paid cash. The section location of the property is given and the year of purchase or claiming is noted. I have designated Lauren Riggs to be the first pioneer of the larger area. He lived at Maple Bay for many years before Brutus existed. See page 45-46.

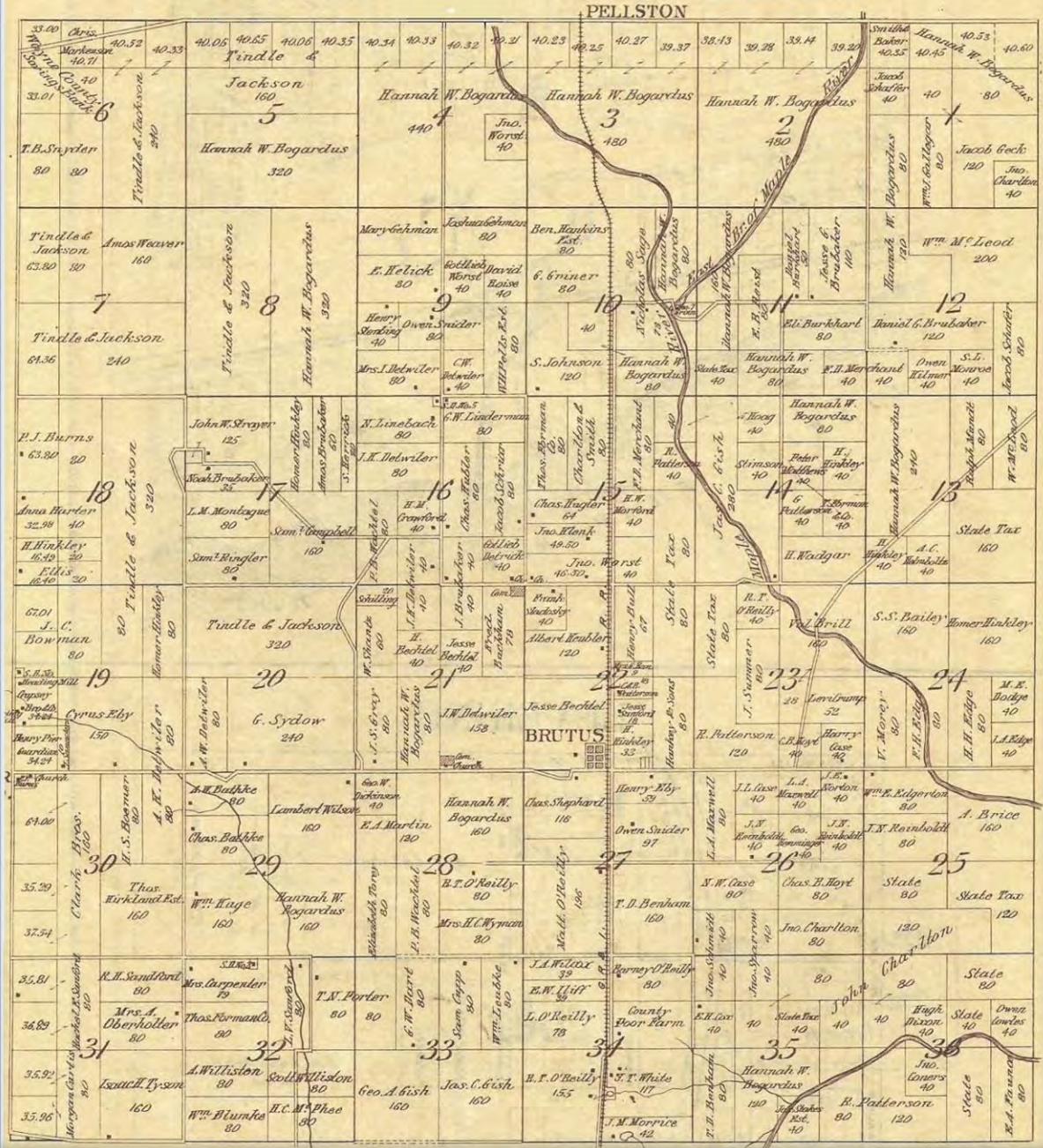
Lee	Abner	NE 23	1874	Sherman	Daniel	SE 21	1874
Mindel	Chris	SW21	1874	Green	George	SE 30	1874
McKenzie	C.	NE 34	1874	Pokrandt	William	SW 28	1874
Bathke	August	NW 29	1879	Blumke	William	SW 32	1876
Brill	Val	NE 23	1877	Brubacher	Jonas	SE 28	1879
Burns	Patrick	Ayr	1876	Brush	Charles	SW 26	1878
Burbee	Aaron	NE 32	1877	Case	John	SW 34	1876
Crapsey	Isaac	N. Ayr	1876	Crump	Daniel	SE 31	1875
Dettwiler	Abe	SW 20	1879	Dimling	John	NW 28	1877
Foss	Mary	SW 17	1877	Hurd	Cyrus	SE 34	1875
Hurd	George	SE 34	1877	Kage	William	SW 29	1876
Lewis	Warren	NW 22	1876	Longaker	William	SE 29	1877
Lusk	Isaac	SW 31	1876	McCarty	Patrick	NE 34	1877
Mika	Ernest	SW 28	1877	McPhee	Henry	SE 32	1878
Mortenson	Christian	NW 6	1876	Mummert	John	SW 19	1878
Park	Henry	SE 10	1877	Percy	Stephen	SW 22	1877
Pine	Ted	SW 32	1876	Plum	John	SE 28	1877
Powell	Ben	NW 21	1875	Powell	Frank	NE 21	1875
Porterfield	R.	SW 6	1877	Sanford	Marzum	NW 32	1876
Sauder	Jacob	SW 19	1879	Snyder	Elias	NW 30	1875
Stenzil	August	NE 29	1876	Strayer	John	NE 27	1875
Wilcox	Horace	NW 34	1875	Winkler	Gustavus	SW 18	1877
Wooden	Henry	12	1876	Woodruff	Thomas	NW 27	1876

# MAPLE RIVER

1902

Township 36 North, Range 4 West  
OF THE MICHIGAN MERIDIAN

1903



## Visiting Brutus and Ayr in 1878

An employee of *The Petoskey City Record* visited Maple River Township in July of 1878. He intended to sell newspaper subscriptions and write a story about the area. This story has been edited and shortened

“A few days ago, thinking perhaps there might be some inhabitants north of Petoskey, we determined to make a trip to Maple River. Mr. Beecher who has charge of the mail route from Petoskey to Cheboygan, offered us a seat in his vehicle. We did not stop to interview any of our friends on the State Road until we got to the Maple River area. We reached the residence of Horace Wilcox, some 15 miles from town. We made the acquaintance of Clayton Wilcox, the first white boy born in the township. We strolled over the quarter section and found it to be good land. Some 20 acres are cleared. Mr. Wilcox believes that grapes can be successfully grown in this country. John Case and Cyrus Hurd have adjoining farms of 160 acres with about the same amount of improvements as Mr. Wilcox. Nearby stands the domicile of Patrick McCarty. Pat was absent and his fierce and rather ill-looking frau had no desire to be interviewed or subscribe to the *Record*. We departed for the homestead of Theron Woodruff, passing over some of the very best of land and a fine field of wheat belonging to John Strayer. We found Mr. Woodruff harvesting wheat.

Next to Woodruff is Stephen Percy who had just harvested his wheat. It is pretty generally conceded that Mr. Percy is the hardest working man in the neighborhood. The next man that we found was Marvin Lewis. All of his crops look first rate. Our wanderings brought us to the house of Frank Powell. He is the township supervisor and deputy county surveyor. Frank's daughter Cora was the first white child born in Maple River Township. Franks's brother Ben has two acres of beans that look remarkably well. We stayed overnight at Powells. From Wilcox's to this point, the land is as good as can be found in Emmet County. We headed north and came to the Maple River and Pellsville. Here we had the pleasure of meeting William Pells and Henry Parks, both well known to many citizens of this place. After staying overnight at Pellsville, we followed a trail two or three miles southeast through the woods without seeing a house of any kind, until we came to Brutus.” [ the old town of Brutus]

“The river at this point is about twice the size of Bear Creek [Bear River-Petoskey] near its mouth and would afford as good water power as could be asked. A mill will undoubtedly be built at this place. Mr. Brill, the proprietor of the hotel at this place, has a large and well-kept house and furnishes food for man and beast in their journeying between Petoskey and Cheboygan and others who favor him with a call. This gentleman has some 20 acres in crops that are looking well. Mr. Brill is postmaster of Brutus.

“Turning our faces once more toward Petoskey, we discovered C. McKenzie laboring hard to improve the condition of the road in front of his abiding place. The failure to extend a railroad through his vicinity causes him some annoyance to say the least. The township was officially organized about two years ago [1876]. One thing that has retarded its growth is the large amount of land owned by speculators. To our readers in this township, we return sincere thanks.”

An employee of *The Petoskey City Record* also visited the settlers near the Ayr Road in October of 1878, and published the story on October 10. As it was hard to read, I will only mention the names of settlers mentioned. These were Alonzo Hart, Elias Snyder, M.M. Sanford, Patrick Burns, Abe Oberholtzer, Augustus Lightningstar, Philo Ferguson, Amos Dietz, Martin Seymour, and George Green.

### **First Marriages**

The first marriage in Maple River Township was between two non-residents on April 3, 1877. Seemingly these people came from Cheboygan on the stage-coach and got married at the Brutus Inn by a Justice of the Peace. They continued on their way. The first marriage between residents was of August Bathke and Blondina Pockrandt on November 17, 1879. Blondina’s first husband had been the first adult man to die in the area.

The next marriage was of John Mummert and Henrietta Eblin on December 27, 1879. They built a house along Ayr Road. The minister was Abram Dettwiler of the Mennonite Church who lived one mile away. Henrietta died young and John a few years later. Barbara Dettwiler, daughter of Abram Dettwiler married Eli Crump in 1882 and, Mary Ann Dettwiler married Amos Brubaker in 1882.

## Living at Brutus in 1880

When the census taker counted Maple River Township in 1880, he took a special farm census, and 22 farms were included. Some farms were obviously not counted, as the regular census showed 36 total farms. This farm census included acreage facts about every crop and listed the numbers of livestock. I will attempt to picture some of the living conditions of Brutus pioneers by looking at these numbers. In 1880, no railroads were in the area. Only one small saw mill existed. There was no market for logs, so trees were burned as the land was cleared.

It is surprising to me that only five pioneers had horses, nine families had oxen, and one had a mule. Therefore, many pioneer families had no draft animals. How did they clear the land? There was a lot of hard hand labor. Considering the lack of horses, I am somewhat surprised by the number of acres that were cleared by 1880. Most farms had about 10-15 acres under cultivation while several had over 20 acres cleared.

After clearing the land, they all grew wheat, oats, potatoes, and corn. Most planted apple trees but they were not producing yet. Nearly every family had a flock of chickens. They had potatoes and eggs to eat. Some had a cow or two. Many made maple sugar and that was a cash crop for them. Gardens were not mentioned in the census but they surely had them. Most of the families in the 1880 census stayed for several years so they had a certain level of success. It is amazing that they succeeded as well as they did.

### First Births

1 <sup>st</sup> girl born in Maple River		Cora Pearl Powell	25 Nov 1876
1 <sup>st</sup> boy born in Maple River		Horace Clayton Wilcox	26 Apr 1877
Emma Kage	23 Apr 1877	Elum Crump	20 May 1878
Archie Case	3 Oct 1878	Sarah Longaker	18 Nov 1878
Anna Blumke	8 Jun 1879	Glen Sanford	Sep 1879

## **The First Deaths**

This writer believes that there may be unmarked and forgotten graves in Maple River Township. People settled the area in 1874 and cemeteries started after many people had died. Some people may have been buried on their home property. I searched the official Michigan death records for the township. No one died from 1874 to 1877 but 1878 was a very bad year.

Records say that the first was a baby boy Shibertine on March 14, 1878. This name was probably Shaferbine. The parents were Harmon and Minnie and I find very little record of them. The second was baby boy Sanford on May 5, 1878. His parents were longtime residents Mitchell and Diana. Anna Mikke (spelling?) died after giving birth to twins on September 13, 1878. Both babies died about one month later. The husband/father lived alone in the 1880 census. A father, William Pokrandt, died on October 21, 1878. He had three young children. Others died before area cemeteries were formed.

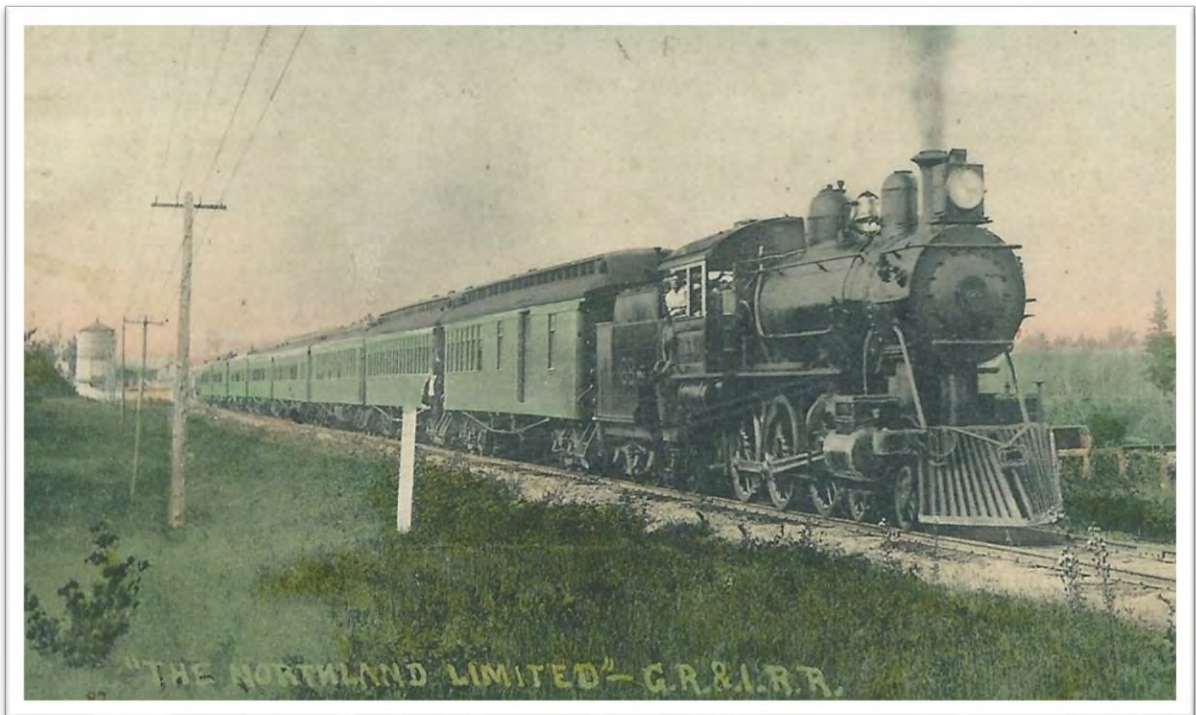
## **The Ayr Post Office and Store**

The Ayr Post Office was opened on December 12, 1878. Patrick Burns was the first postmaster. Titus Snyder built a store and post office building at the Ayr corner. Snyder became the second postmaster in 1884 while also operating the store. Most of the time, the storekeeper and postmaster were the same person. In 1885, Snyder sold the store and six acres to John Higinbotham for \$1200. Titus moved to Brutus and started another store. Higinbotham had the store from 1885 to 1891. He moved to Ohio but kept the building and rented it to others for several years. Patrick Burns was the postmaster for longer than anyone. He started again in 1894 and continued until his death in 1908. The building was sold to Marion and Minnie Brown in 1908. The post office closed on December 31, 1909, and the area was served by a rural carrier from Alanson. The Browns closed the store in 1914 and moved to Conway. The old store building was a housing rental in 1920 when my great-grandfather lived in it. Elmer Wurst remembered that in 1929, only a pile of logs remained.



## The Big Railroad

The first township railroad was the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad. It ran from Indiana to Grand Rapids to Petoskey to Mackinaw City. The last leg was finished in 1882 and influenced the rapid growth of the area. Stops were made at Brutus in 1882-83 and the depot was finished in 1884. The GR & I later became the Pennsylvania Railroad. This was a very busy railroad for many years. For a few years, Pellston was one of the biggest shipping points on the line.



About 1910, a half mile siding was built from Brutus to the south. [still visible] I presume that it was made so that trains could pass in opposite directions. Passenger trains stopped running in about 1950 and the depot was torn down. The freight trains stopped running in about 1980 and the rails were removed. The railroad bed is now a snowmobile trail from Mackinaw City to Alanson.



## The Early Schools

The first schools in the general area were the Linehan School on North Conway Road (1877) and the North Ayr School on North Conway Road, near Tower Road. (1878). The first school in the township was at Brutus (District No. 1) and started in 1879. Anna Powell was the first teacher. Anna was a wife/mother who lived near Brutus. The 1880 census only identifies four possible students. The first school deed at Brutus was dated in September of 1881. The next Brutus school was built in 1894-95 and is now the Mennonite Church. A second room was added in 1906.

The second school was the Sunny Ridge School (District No. 2) which started in 1879 or 1880 on Valley Road. It had about 10 students in 1880. Alanson and Oden were in Maple River Township in the 1880's. Oden became District No. 3 in 1881 and Alanson was District No 4 in 1882. The Ayr and Red Schools were formed in 1883. The Woodland school started much later in 1901.



**The Brutus School**



**The Woodland School and 1<sup>st</sup> Ayr School**



## The Churches

The first township church was the Mennonite Church which began in 1879 and a meetinghouse was built in 1883. This building had the infamous rail down the center of the church to separate the males from the females. The meetinghouse had separate doors for women and men. A cemetery was started. Many Mennonites moved to the area and they were a large group for 50 years. This writer has written a history about the Mennonite congregation.



**The Mennonite Church – Photo 1908**

A group of German immigrants came to north of Brutus in 1883. They formed a German Evangelical congregation and built a meetinghouse in 1889. After mergers and name changes, the congregation became the United Church of Christ. The township cemetery was across the road. The congregation moved from the old building to the new building along US 31 in 1959. In 2010, the old building was moved to a museum in Mackinaw City.

The first area church was the Catholic Church at Indian Point at Maple Bay. A church was built in 1838. The building survived the 1900 burnout but was vacated because the people had moved. Another building was erected on Indian Road that is still used. Cemeteries exist at both church locations.



Catholic records say that Brutus had a parish from 1896 to 1904 but no building existed until 1902. The diocese bought a lot in October 1901 which was just east of the town hall. The building was finished in 1902 and the first service was held on June 4, 1902. The building was probably constructed poorly as it blew over in a wind storm. I do not know the date but it probably was in 1904 as that is when the parish ceased. In August of 1906, a fire consumed the damaged building. Meanwhile, Pellston had surpassed Brutus as the center of the Catholic community, so the next Catholic Church was built in Pellston.



**Brutus in About 1902, Catholic Church in upper right**

The German Lutheran Congregation at Ayr started in 1882. I am unsure about the existence of an early building. In 1913 the meetinghouse was built that still exists as The Church in the Pines. This congregation was associated with the Lutheran Church in Petoskey and shared pastors. The people spoke German in church. I do not know when this church stopped. The American Sunday School Union then used the building for many years. The Church in the Pines started later and has existed for many years.

The United Brethren Church was built near the Ayr corner in 1883-84, and lasted about 15 years. The sale money in 1903 was used by the United Brethren church in Petoskey. A cemetery was started next to the building. Most of the graves were moved after the church closed, but about five graves still remain. The building was then used as a dance hall by the people of Ayr. A very short-lived church was the United Brethren Church in Brutus. A building existed at the north end of Euclid Street in 1899. In 1902, it was sold.

The Brutus Methodist Episcopal Church began in 1900. Construction of the building began in 1900 and was finished in June of 1902. It was dedicated on July 18, 1902. The Baptists bought the building in 1958 and are still using it.



The Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses was built in Brutus in 1972. A new hall was built one mile north of Brutus and the original hall is now a senior center.



**Brutus About 1910?**

## **The Poor Farm**

The Emmet County Poor Farm was 1.3 miles south of Brutus on the east side of the road from 1883 to 1918. The farm had housing for the poorest of the poor. The county bought the 80 acre property for \$1050 in 1883 from Patrick McCarty, the homesteader. Better buildings probably had to be erected. John Case was the first and longtime superintendent. Case was the homesteader farmer who lived across the road. Sam Zuck had the job a couple years, and Wm. Edgerton was the superintendent from about 1901 to 1918.

A newspaper of 1902 reported that Mrs. Shafer had wandered away from the farm and was missing for two weeks. Her death certificate later stated that she died in August of exposure. She had been at the farm for at least two years. In October of 1909, the electric lines were being run from Pellston to Oden through the farm. A nine-year old boy, Bernard Embree, touched an improperly maintained wire and was killed. His mother had died and his father was in jail.

In 1918, the poor farm at Brutus closed and a new institution was built in Petoskey near where the fairgrounds are today. This new place was much bigger. In June of 1919, the old farm was sold to Norman Bickford for \$3000. The burying ground on the property was repurchased by the county in 1928 for \$100. The bodies were moved to Greenwood Cemetery in Petoskey in June of 1929. The bodies are unidentified. The old cemetery was in the right-of-way of the new state highway that was coming.

## **The Ayr Cannon**

Petoskey News, July 14, 1886; [Ayr news] “The Fourth of July was celebrated in fine shape. At 20 minutes of four o’clock A.M., the command was given by Captain Lightningstar to fire, and the country was aroused by 13 shots from the cannon. Sgt. Snyder says there are but three towns that have cannons, viz; Ayr, Petoskey, and Mackinaw.” (This is the only known mention of this cannon)

## The Oldest Buildings

The oldest still existing township building is the Christian Dettwiler house which stood across the road from the Red School. It was occupied by the Dettwiler and Stuebing families. It is a log house that was built in 1882 by Dettwiler. Because of its history and uniqueness, it was moved to the Mackinac Historic Village near Mackinaw City in 2008 and is open for visitors. Fantastic!

The oldest buildings that are still in location are the old Mennonite Church and the Elias Snyder house in Brutus. (The Snyder house is on the corner of Euclid St. and Brutus Road.) A newspaper in July of 1883 said that the Mennonite church and the Snyder house were nearly completed. The first sawmill had started in Brutus in 1882 so these are very likely the first frame buildings still standing. The Mennonite Church is the second oldest church building in Emmet County.

The next oldest building is the remodeled Thorp house next to the Ayr school. It had started as the Ayr school in 1884. It was milled and constructed by John Mummert. The Zion (German) Church on Red School Road has also been obtained and moved by the Mackinac Historic Village. It is a great reminder of what churches were like long ago.

Next on our list of old houses is the Gerber house just West of Brutus. Letters were found in the house that belonged to the Joel Snider family. The Sniders moved away in 1889 so the house is at least that old. The Brutus School (now Mennonite Church) was built in 1896.

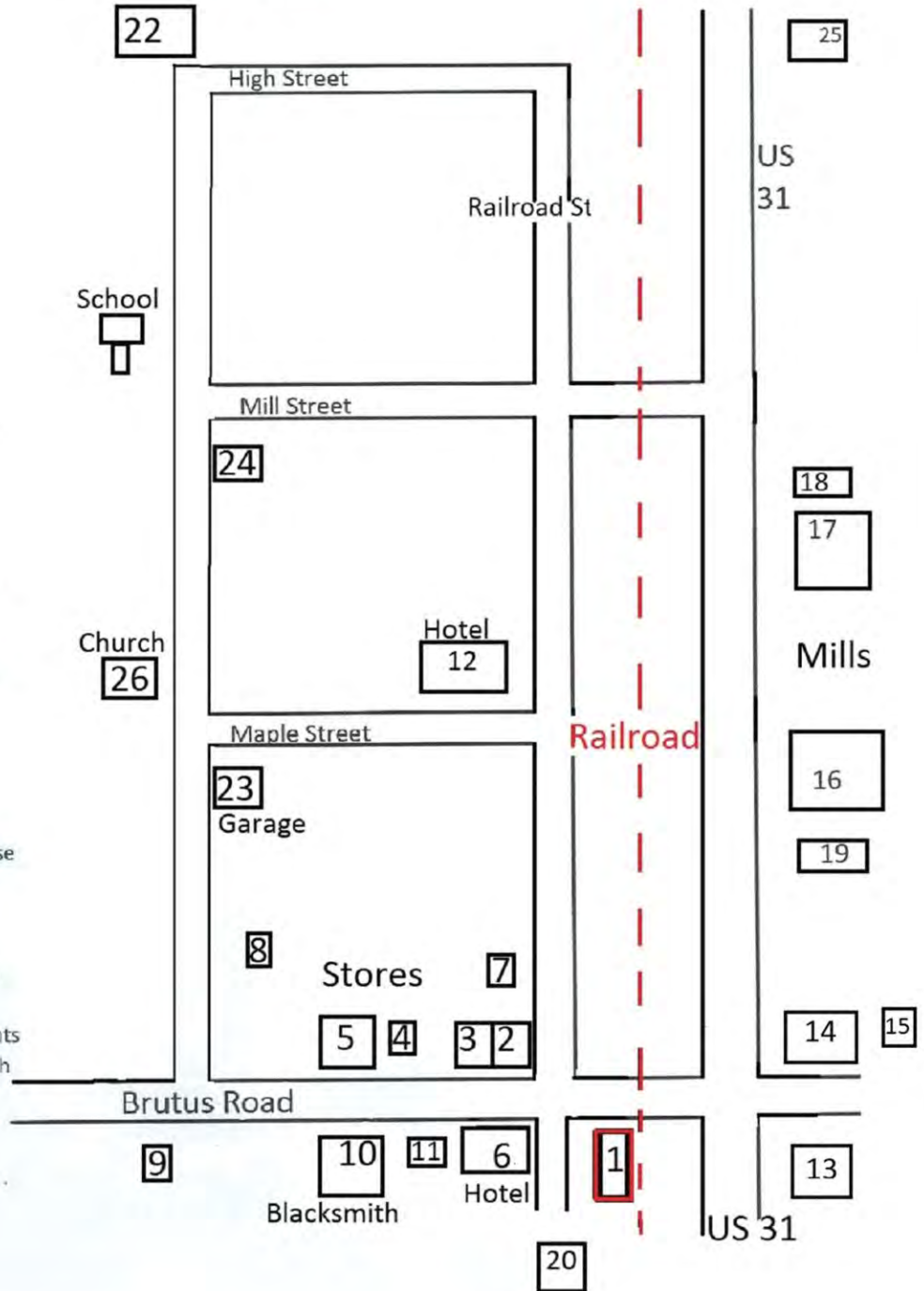
Other houses from before 1900 are the big farm house on the south side of Brutus Road in Brutus [maybe 1889], the Stan Thompson house, and probably the house at the corner of Brutus Rd. and Sunny Ridge Rd. The Eby barn was built in 1898. I will claim (until proven wrong) that it is the oldest in the township still standing. The Eby barn was built by Joe Dettwiler. Other 100+ year old Dettwiler barns are the Arnold Burkhart barn, the Kauffman-Hartman barn just south east of Brutus, the Grauel barn, the Boettger barn at Phelps Road, and the Gehman-Schrier barn on Red School Road.



# Locations of Brutus Businesses and Public Buildings

Before 1950

1. R.R. Depot
2. Snyder Store
3. Burtch Store
4. Wagley Store
5. Evans Store
6. Dimling Store
7. Dr Office, P.O.
8. Maxfield Store
9. Bathke Store
10. Pier Hotel
11. Purple Inn
12. Morford Store
13. Cupp Store
14. Woodruff Store
15. Maxfield livery
16. Pier P.O.
17. Morris Hotel
18. Mundt Tavern
19. Hathaway Store
20. Smith Store
21. Township hall
22. Catholic Church
23. Hinkley Mill
24. Goodrich Mill
25. Hinkley Mill
26. Steen Store
27. Wallace P.O.
28. Potato Warehouse
29. Brutus School
30. Maxfield Mill
31. Gregory Shop
32. Blacksmith Shop
33. KOTM Hall
34. Sydow Implements
35. Methodist Church



## The Stores of Brutus

As soon as the railroad and depot came in 1882-84, several small stores started. David Boyer and Theron Woodruff were in business for only a short time. Sam Cupp and Herman Morford had small stores for about ten years. The Snyders moved from Ayr to Brutus in 1886 and built a large store building. They sold in 1897 and moved away. There may have been five stores operating in Brutus in 1890. They could not all survive. Brutus was not that big.

Loren Maxfield started a general store in 1888. It was the largest store in the area for many years. The original store burned in 1915 [see page 35] and he built the smaller store that still stands. He sold the building to Lynn Wagley in 1925 and moved to Pellston and bought another store. The Bathke family bought the Wagley/Evans business lots after the Evans fire, and Ray ran a store in the Maxfield building until about 1950.

In 1889, John Dimling started a store between the Maxfield and Snyder stores, and Dimling bought the Snyder store in 1897. He usually rented out one building to other operators who never lasted very long. Dimling ran his store until about 1913-14 and he died in 1914. L.B. Burtch owned this store from 1914 to 1921. Burtch probably merged the Snyder and Dimling buildings into one big store. After Mr. Burtch died, Mrs. Burtch married Lynn Wagley in 1922. The Wagleys did well and in 1925, longtime store owner Maxfield sold his building to Wagley. As far as I know, Wagley did not use this building as a store. Both Mr. and Mrs. Wagley died in 1932. The only heir was Adele Wagley Evans and she ran the store until it burned in 1937.

In about 1921, Henry W. Gregory started a service station where the saloon had been. He left in 1924 and George Campbell had the service station until 1928. Hugh and Hazel Hathaway owned the business from 1928 to 1946. They started with the gas station but added the grocery store and cabins. Bob and Lorraine Smith bought the store in 1946 and sold to the Lewis's in 1968.

John Steen started a service station and store in 1928. He was in business until about 1952. After Steen retired, only one general store existed in Brutus for the next 55 years. Then Lewis's also closed.



## The Doctors

Several doctors lived at Brutus. Dr. Brewster moved to Brutus from Levering in 1887. George Woodward was the Brutus doctor from 1888 to 1893. His 22 year old wife, Ethel, died at Brutus in 1892. They had a daughter who was born earlier in the year. George moved to Alpena and died of heart disease at age 40. His daughter was living with her grandparents in 1900.

Dr. Lila Frey was the only child of German immigrants and came to Brutus fresh out of medical school in 1901. She lived and had her office at the Pier Hotel (Purple Inn). Someone stole her medical bag and she offered a \$5 reward if it was returned. In December of 1901, Lila married the Alanson doctor, George Wood, and moved to Alanson. She served Brutus from Alanson, and was the last resident doctor in Brutus. George and Lila moved to another town and were long time doctors. George Wood had come from Mackinaw City where his father was a minister.

## **The Hey Day of Maple River Township 1894-1920**

The boom times around Brutus started with the beginning of Hinkley's Mills, the opening of the Pier House, and the new modern Brutus School, and continued with 26 years of logging and mill work.

### **The Boom Years of Ayr 1894-1909**

These were the years that Ayr was really on the Michigan maps. Ayr had two churches, two cemeteries, a post office, store, livery, sawmills, handle mills, blacksmith, deputy sheriff, a stage line, logging camps, successful farmers and logging railroads. This amount of activity and diversity has not been seen since. Despite this activity, the Ayr school remained small until the change of 1901. Several residents of the Sunny Ridge School district asked to transfer the northern part of their district to Ayr. Seemingly the plan was to give away the northern part of the district and then move the Sunny Ridge school nearer to their homes in the southern part of the district. The petition was granted and the Ayr district grew suddenly in area and population.

The growing school had its all-time high enrollment in 1904 with 37, therefore the school board started saving money to build a new building. Despite the high enrollment, the average daily attendance was much less because of poor attendance. My grandfather Jeremiah Eby went to the Ayr school during this period and I discovered while looking at his record that he had missed more than half of his possible school days when he quit school at age 14.

In 1905, it was decided to build a new school. They decided to sell the old building for \$75. John Hicks took the building in exchange for 45 cords of firewood. The old school was moved north over the property line and still exists within the Thorp home. The new school was built in the summer of 1906. It cost \$550. The first teacher in the new building was Abbye Palmer who became Mrs. Bathke. It is ironic that the school population went down after the new school was built. Daily average attendance dropped to only 6 in 1912-13. The boom years were over. The biggest mill burned in 1909 and the small mills closed. The timber was nearly gone and the post office and church closed.

## The Hotels

Joseph Morris built a rooming house in 1887. It immediately filled up so he built it bigger. It was a busy rooming house for many years. Morris sold the business to Jesse Sanford in 1890, but it was usually called the Morris House. It had closed by 1920. The building burned on April 29, 1927. The newspaper said “during the forenoon the building was found to be ablaze. Residents of Brutus and school children turned out and supposedly extinguished all traces of burning. Near midnight, it rekindled and burned down. Of late years, it has been used as a private residence by Charles Sanford of Brutus, the owner.”



The other Brutus hotel had an indefinite beginning. Henry Bull bought the lot in 1882 and moved away in 1889. Although he may have started a hotel, I never found evidence of it. Henry Pier moved to Brutus in 1889 but did not buy any property in Brutus until 1895 when he bought the Bull property. Business directories first mentioned the Pier House in 1895. Pier ran a successful business and he sold the hotel to Will and Nellie Purple in 1903. They also had a good hotel business until the closing of the mills.





**The Pier family and House – About 1900**  
**Main Street**





## **The Saloons and Prohibition**

Ralph Mundt started a saloon in the early 1900's. Mundt (and drinkers) had unique problems because Emmet County had several periods of prohibition before national prohibition in 1920. When the county was "dry", Mundt ran a pool hall and lunch counter. On December 11, 1908, a patron of the bar attacked someone very viciously. The offender was taken to jail. However, this attacker reported that Mundt had gone way too far in subduing him. Mundt was also arrested and charged. Most of the men of the township [173] signed a petition saying that Ralph was a good man and deserved leniency. The judge found him guilty and fined him \$10.

Charles Bogardus owned all of the Pellston area at one time and made a legal provision that his properties could not have alcohol related businesses for many years, even after he sold them. The nearest place to Pellston that Bogardus never owned was one mile south of Pellston. That is where Luke Bell started the first Pellston bar in 1907.





## Maple River Township Hall

Elections and town meetings were first held in the first school building. Elections were held in the KOTM Hall (Maccabees) from about 1890 to 1909. In 1907, the township started saving money for a town hall, and in September of 1908, a lot was purchased from Hinkley's Mill for \$200. A small detour occurred when the county went "dry" on April 1, 1909. Ralph Mundt, the owner of the Brutus saloon, wanted to sell his building to the township as a hall. The board seemed to have agreed with him for one day. The next day, the board returned to the previous plan and asked for building bids. Loren Maxfield won with a bid of \$1350. The hall [above] was built quickly and finished on October 9, 1909.

The hall was built too close to the road, and was moved when the State highway was built in about 1930. The hall was put on a new full basement wall. The hall was a very busy place for many years. Several clubs used it regularly and dances were held weekly. Wedding receptions were common and church and community dinners were held. In recent years, small offices, storage rooms, and rest rooms were built on the main floor reducing the size of the big meeting room. In 2007, the cement basement wall was lowered by 2½ feet, and the building was somewhat restored.

## Woodland Area

Woodland is the area between the Maple River and the State Road to Cheboygan. Most of Woodland was bought by land speculators and timber men who were awaiting the arrival of lumber mills. In 1852, 750,000 acres [state-wide] were given to a Soo Locks construction company. The land would be sold to finance the locks. Included was land between the branches of the Maple River, and the land that Emanuel Brubacher would own for a long time. Thus, this was the first privately owned land in Maple River Township.

Henry Wooden was the first homesteader in Woodland and Abner Lee was the first resident who paid cash for his land. He started the old town of Brutus in 1874 before selling to Valentine Brill. Although Lee did not stay long, he kept land in section 11. It was later sold to a Petoskey lumber company. After the big trees were taken, the Brubacher brothers and the Burkhart brothers continued clearing the land and made farms.

A water powered mill operated at the forks of the Maple River from 1884 to 1902. Things really started to change in Woodland in 1902 when Charles Bogardus started his mills at Pellston. Many people came to Woodland to work in the mills and woods. The trees of Woodland were quickly cut. A newspaper story of 1907 reported that logs were going in several directions; a Bogardus mill at Burt Lake, the East Mill, Jackson and Tindle mill and small local mills. Bogardus sold his cleared land for \$10 down and \$5 a month.

## The History of the Maple River Dam; 1884 to 2018

Richard Wiles of Petoskey has compiled 134 pages about the Dam and related topics and I have condensed it to three pages for this book.

Pioneer Henry Park arrived in 1877 and owned the area where the West Branch and East Branch of the Maple River come together. This is 1½ mile south-southeast of Pellston. He sold the land containing the fork of the rivers to Christian Bontrager. This parcel was seven acres. The May 28, 1884 *Petoskey Record* contains a small mention of Mr. Bontrager having a dam built on the Maple River to facilitate a grist mill. Bontrager owned the mill for only one season. The mill site was then sold to Jacob and Henry Dillman in 1885. I assume that it was still a grist mill.

Jacob Shafer operated the saw mill on the East Branch of the Maple River from 1888 to 1897. He made shingles. Pellston resident John Wachtel probably owned the land while Shafer was the operator. The next owner of the Maple River property was George Greiner who rebuilt a saw mill at the dam in the fall of 1900. He sold the property to Charles Bogardus in 1903 for \$400.00.

Bogardus had a plan: construct a new dam on the Maple River, and construct a hydro-electric power plant. He wanted to produce electricity for Pellston and many northern Emmet County's small towns. The previously constructed dams were all placed on the East branch of the Maple River. Charles Bogardus decided his Pellston Electric Company hydro-electric dam would harness the power of both branches.

The first generator was set up using a steam powered turbine in the Jackson & Tindle Pellston plant. This generator was producing electric power from May of 1905 through March of 1906. It was then moved to its new home inside the generating house of the Pellston hydro-electric dam complex. The Pellston Electric Company completed the Woodland area dam in September of 1906. The temporary dam put in during the winter of 1905-1906 allowed the company to begin generating electricity at the site while the more permanent cement dam structure could be built.

By February of 1907 the *Pellston Journal* reported that the electric company was now producing hydro-electric power at full capacity. All of the local villages were furnished electrical power by the Maple River hydro-electric dam. Charles Bogardus, the owner of this electric company, was bankrupt in 1911 and the Cheboygan Light and Power Co. bought the dam and power plant.

A catastrophic event at the Maple River hydro-dam took place in February of 1912. The water turbine was damaged when part of the concrete 1905-1906 structure collapsed. The power plant did not operate for one year while it was repaired. Electricity came from Cheboygan. My great-grandfather Harvey Shaum worked at the power plant sometime in the years 1911-1915. Maybe he was working there when the wall fell down. His family lived in one of those houses in the background of the following photo.

The hydro-electric operations on the Maple River seemed to go smoothly during most of the years from 1914 through 1921. In 1921, it was announced that the Maple River dam was to be rebuilt, with an additional two-feet of height added to the dam head. The higher dam was put into place in 1923 and the new powerhouse was equipped with new equipment. A December 1923 photo reveals the new structure.



The greatest failure of the dam happened on November 8, 1951. The road over the spillway had just carried the Pellston Schools' passenger bus before the failure took place. Driver Roy Emerson and fifty-one students were on board the bus when it gave way around 9 a.m. The dam burst! There was one feeble attempt to fix the dam but for the next 16 years, no dam existed. The electric company did not want to replace it.



On the previous page is a 1951 picture of the location of the wash-out. Of interest is the structure on the left side of the picture upstream from the breach. It is an old dam that had been submerged by the newer dam. It is probably a combination of the old mill dams and the 1905 cofferdam that was built to assist in the building of the powerhouse and spillway.

The county sold some property to Ken and Kathleen McLaughlin in 1962. They were the very successful owners of the nearby Dam Site Inn. In 1966, the McLaughlin's started rebuilding the dam. They increased the size of the original earthen embankment that ran some 1200 feet along Woodland Road. Behind the revamped concrete structure, a new body of water was created and named Lake Kathleen. It was the plan of the McLaughlin's to create a new northern Michigan lake resort community but they met fierce opposition and nothing was ever developed. It was a private lake and thus never used for swimming, boating, or fishing.

For 50 years, it was just a beautiful little lake in a wooded setting. By 2000, the property was owned by prosperous conservationists who did not plan to develop it. The continued safety of the dam became an issue and the lake was drained in 2018.





## **Brutus Almost Burned off Map**

*Petoskey Evening News, April 28, 1915*

For nearly five hours Wednesday morning it appeared as though the whole of the village would be destroyed by fire. Two store buildings, four residences, a blacksmith shop and two barns is the toll taken by the flames in the early morning fire. The fire was discovered shortly after 12 o'clock Wednesday morning in an old store building adjoining the building owned and occupied by Mr. Maxfield with his general store. The building had been used as a sort of club room by the ladies, who held socials and various meetings there. Tuesday evening a tramp was noticed hanging about the building and it is thought he might have set it on fire. When discovered, the whole building was on fire and sparks and firebrands were falling on other buildings. The Maxfield store building caught fire quickly and burned too rapidly to allow all of the content to be saved. A part of the goods in the store and the furniture and clothing from the family apartments above the store were saved. There was little insurance carried.

The fire spread to the nearby dwellings and the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cupp, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Jones, Mr. and Mrs. J. DeGraw, and Mrs. H. W. Morford, and the homes were soon a mass of flames. In nearly every case, however, the household goods and furniture were moved to a place of safety. Two barns in which were a considerable amount of hay, feed, and machinery were also burned, and the village blacksmith shop also went up in smoke. The villagers fought the flames all the rest of the night but with no apparatus were so handicapped that little good resulted and the fire took its own time to burn out.

Many other buildings caught fire but were at such a distance from the store and dwellings destroyed that the flames were easily extinguished before they had gained much headway. The little village presents a scene of ruin and disaster and is a sorry sight indeed. Mr. Maxfield will remove the goods saved from the destroyed building to some other building in the village and open for business as soon as possible. The families rendered homeless by the fire are being cared for by their neighbors and friends.

## **Sawmills and Lumbering in Maple River Township**

**Maple River Township may have been the Broom Handle Capital of the World in the years 1905 to 1925 because of the Hinkley Mill at Brutus, the Ayr mills, and the Tindle and Jackson Handle Mill at Pellston which was in Maple River Township. They produced millions of handles per year.**

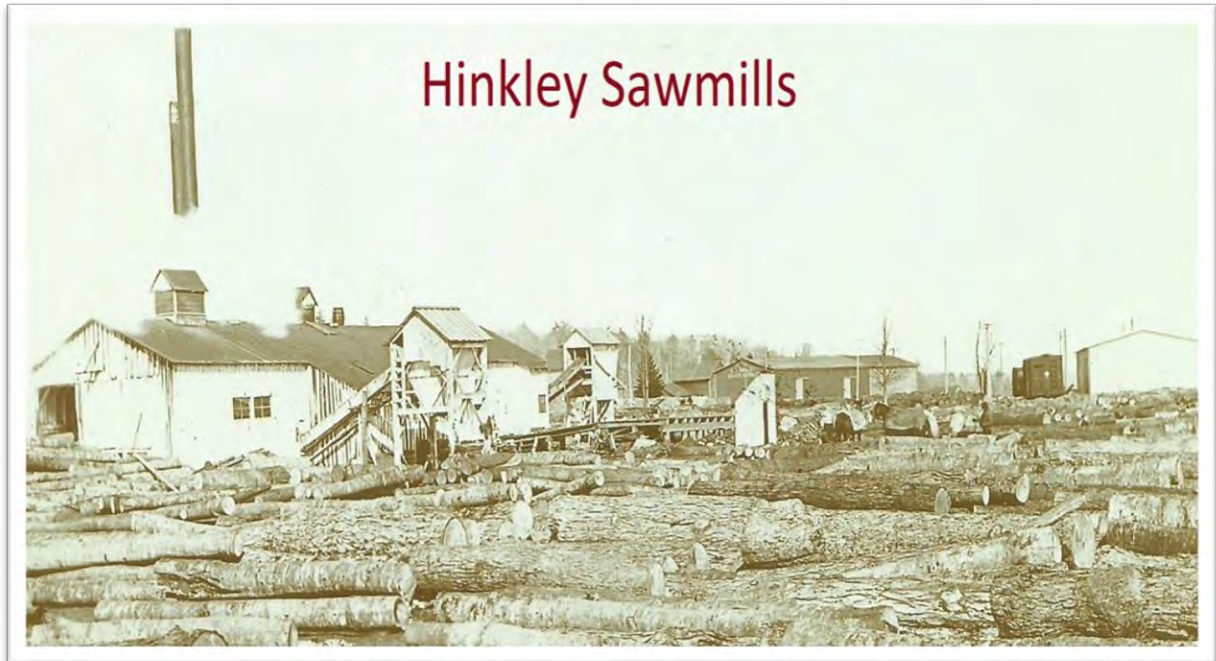
Abe Oberholtzer owned the first sawmill somewhere near the Ayr corner. It started in 1878 and was sold to Elias Snyder in 1879. Snyder rented the mill to John Mummert and Moses Weaver. Mummert and August Lightningstar bought the Snyder land and sawmill in section 19 in 1882. Lightningstar left in 1886 and Mummert operated alone until he died in 1891.

Alonzo and Frank Crapsey started their mill in 1892. They possibly bought the Mummert mill and moved it a short distance north. They added handle-making equipment. They sold in 1901. Jacob Shafer obtained the mill in 1902 and sold to George Bennet in November of 1903. Bennet died in the mill "soup-hole" in February of 1906. A soup hole is a very hot water tank that is used to wash logs before milling. Anderson and Potter owned the mill in 1908. It burned, along with 35,000 handles, on February 13, 1909 and was not rebuilt.

Henry Bull started a mill in Brutus in 1882. A Grand Rapids paper reported that "over 300,000 feet of Birds-Eye Maple has been cut into lumber at the Brutus mills." This must have been the Bull mill. This writer first thought that this was an exaggeration but later found other accounts of the large amount of Birds-Eye Maple in the area. During the 1880's, many train cars of logs and wood products were shipped from the Brutus siding. Bull sold the mill in 1887 to H.C. Goodrich who ran a mill in Brutus until 1901. He called it Brutus Manufacturing.

Some of the biggest lumber mills in the area were owned by the Hinkley families. In 1893, Homer Hinkley started a stave mill at Brutus. He also bought the Goodrich handle mill. Dana (often called Harry) joined his uncle in 1901. In 1902, Dana bought out Homer. The mills prospered. A news-paper reported in 1907 that 40-50 loads of logs were coming to the mill every day. A railroad spur ran to the mills. Clarence Mummert met a gruesome death in the "soup hole" in 1910.





Dana was elected to the State legislature in 1910, 1912, and 1914. He sponsored Workmen's Compensation legislation and soon after passage, a Brutus man was killed while working for Hinkley. The widow, Mrs. Stimpson, was one of the first beneficiaries of the Act. Dana Hinkley closed the Brutus mills in September of 1913 and moved the handle mill to Alanson where it ran for 11 more years.

David Tyson started a sawmill in section 22 (Buckhorn farm) in 1886. The newspaper said that the building was "an immense structure." He sold it to the Bechtel family in 1887. Henry, Jesse, and Merrit Bechtel had a sawmill from 1887 to about 1898. Maxfield bought this mill in about 1899 and usually leased out the mill. It burned in 1920 and was not rebuilt.

John Quinlan had a lathe and saw mill north of Brutus from 1906 to 1908. It burned in a forest fire. There were many forest fires in the area because of the dry slash from previous logging. Bogardus had several lumber camps in the township and the largest and longest lasting was Campbell's Camp which was east of Pellston near the sawmill.

Evidence still remains of a “Kentucky Woodcutters Camp” near the intersection of Sunny Ridge and Valley Roads. I found an antique medicine bottle within a cabin foundation. Men from Kentucky brought their families and lived in small cabins while they cut cordwood in 1921-22. The Lutz family remembered the Kentucky students at Sunny Ridge School.

Several Ayr farmers who were close neighbors started handle mills in the 1890’s in Pleasant View Township. These were Roger Linehan, John Warren, P.J. Burns and the Clark brothers. Albert Kidder was the jobber for the Clarks.

See the story of the Maple River Dam on page 32. Jacob Shafer made shingles at this site from about 1892 to 1897. In 1901, Bogardus bought the area for his hydroelectric dam. Frank Gregory lived near the river and had a portable mill that worked in many locations. Owen Kilmer had a small sawmill at the forks for a short time.



The spillway from the Pellston Mill Pond which was made by damming the west branch of the Maple River.

## More Mill History

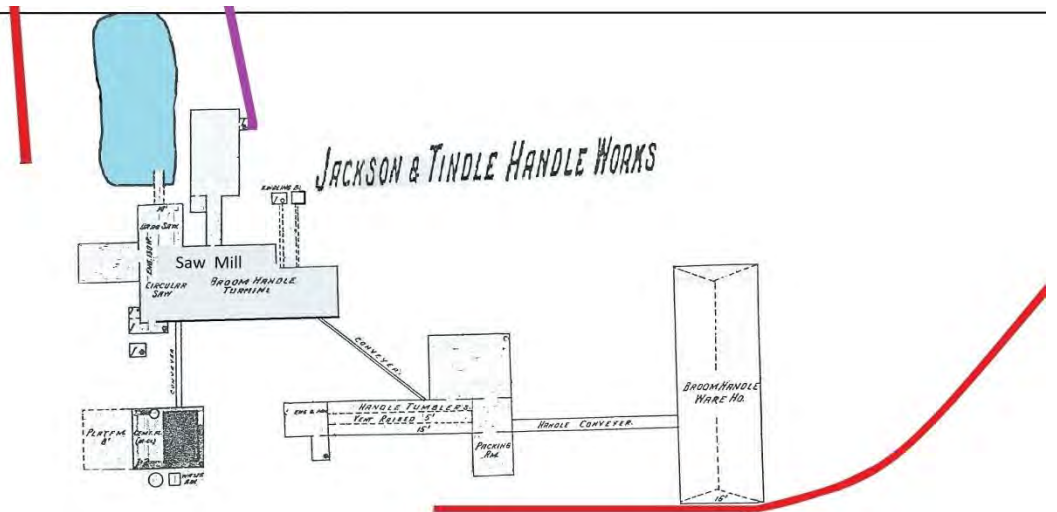
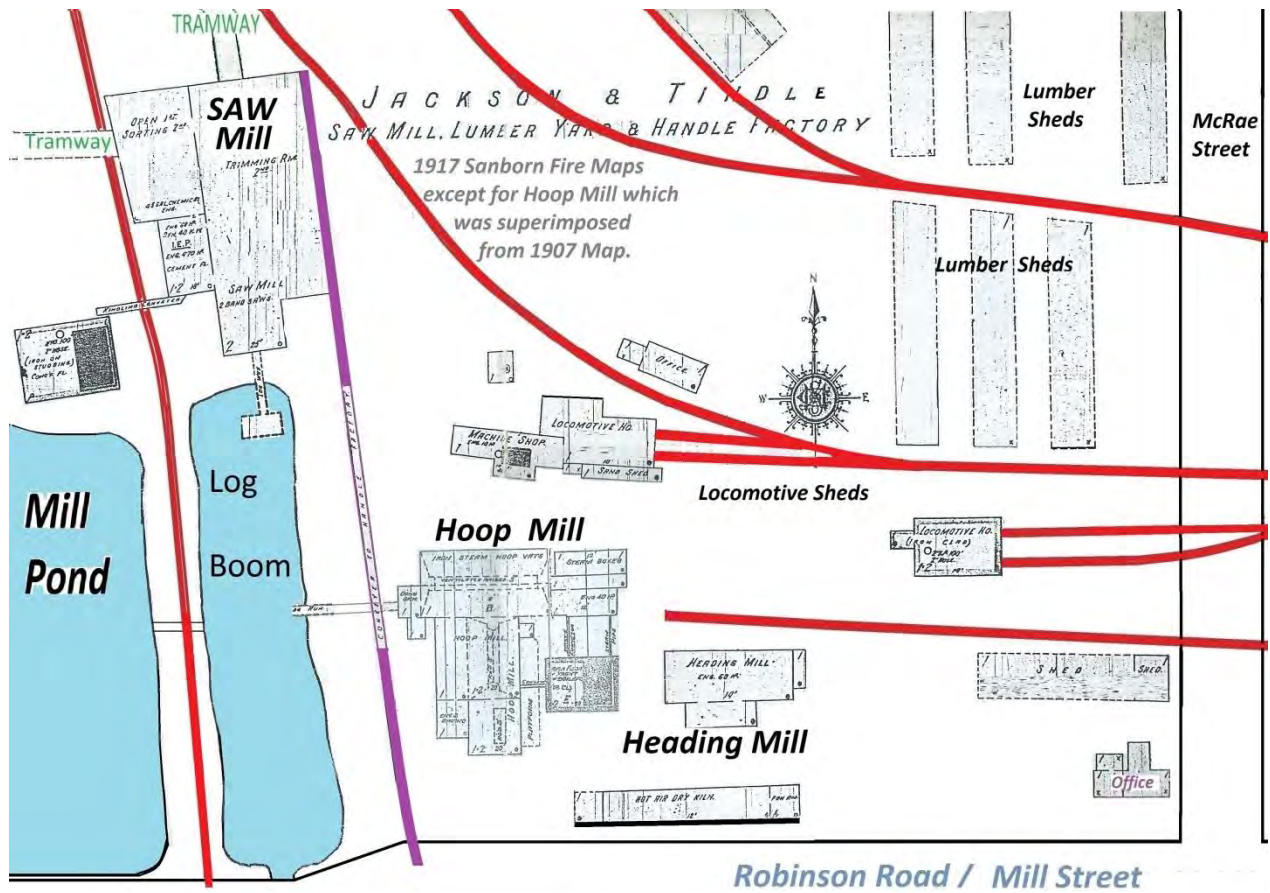
Since I first published this Maple River Township history, I have also written a book entitled **“The Great Lumbering Era in Emmet County, Michigan.”** Pellston area mill history is available in that book. I have moved some information from this book to that one, but have kept some maps, pictures and general history. There is some duplication between the two books. I am keeping some of the Pellston mill history in this book because of the proximity, and many Maple River people went to Pellston to work.



**Pellston Mills Area**

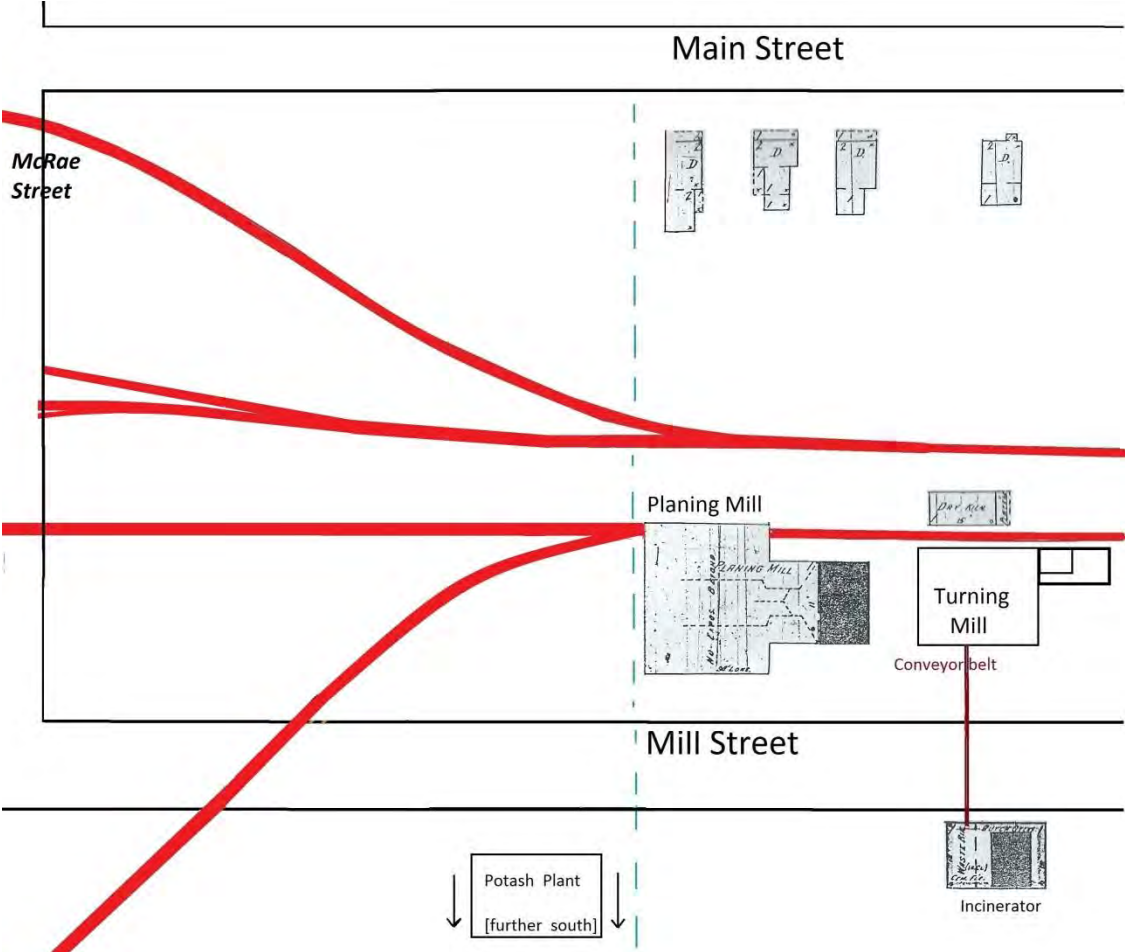


# Jackson & Tindle Lumber Mills and Railroads

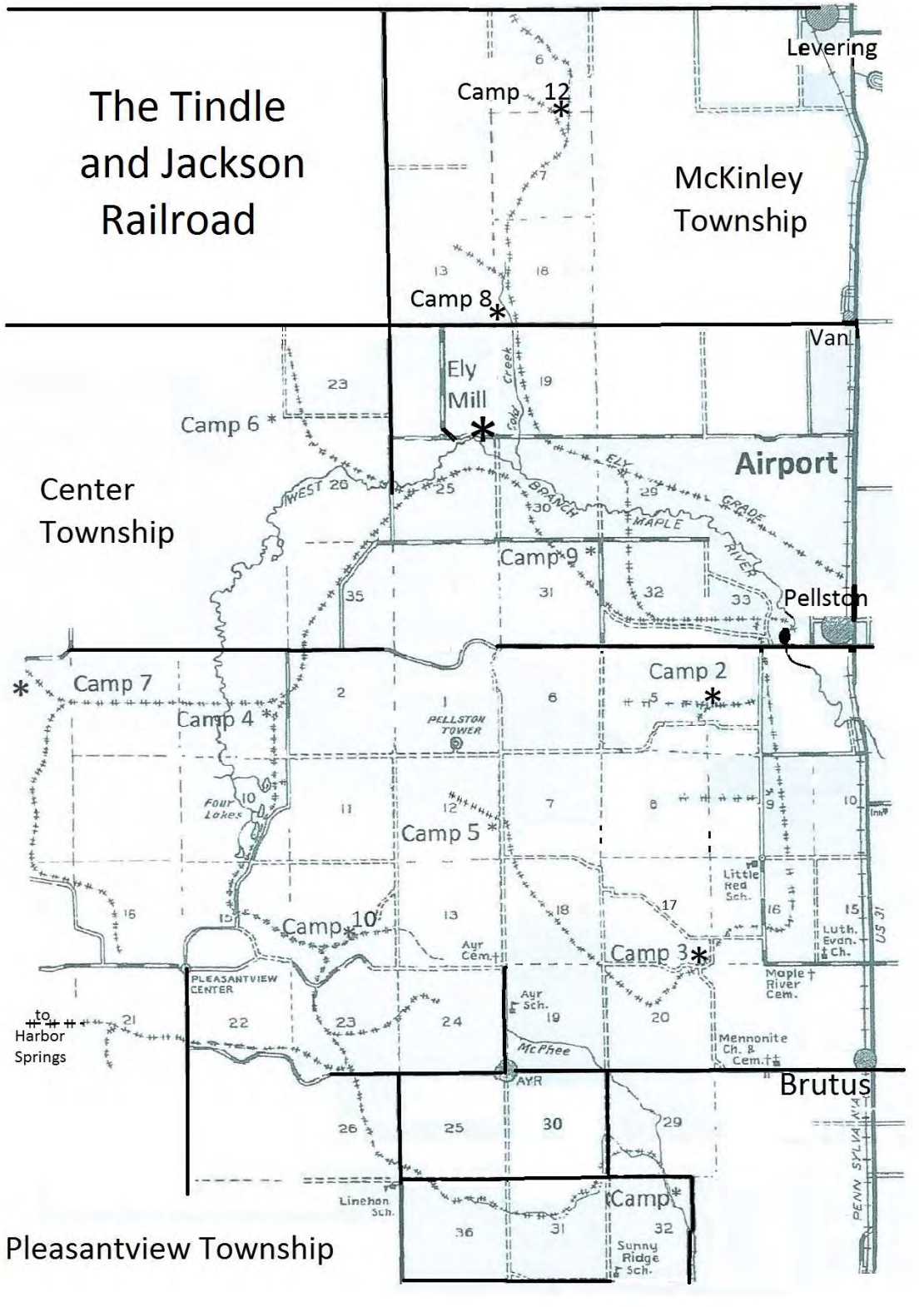


# Railroad Yards and Mills of Bogardus

These maps are created from the 1907 and 1917 Sanborn Fire Maps.



These are correct in detail and scale except for the left side of this page which Sanborn did not map. Maybe there was a railroad wye in this area to turn the engines around.





## **The Tindle and Jackson Railroad**

The previous page is a Michigan Conservation Department map from about 1938. The map making was a Depression Era public works project. The maps were made 10-15 years after the rails were removed. This map has been modified to emphasize the locations of the Tindle and Jackson Railroad. It contains most of the main grades of the railroad. The Ely Grade was a spur of the GR&I and was removed by 1910. The Tindle and Jackson Railroad was a log hauling RR. The company started construction of the railroad in 1903. As a child, old RR grades were pointed out to me near my Ayr home. Many years later, I became interested in tracing the path of the RR grades to Pellston. The State Archives in Lansing put me in touch with other men who wanted to locate and map old RR grades. For the next several years, Charlie Conn, Bruce Gathman, Carl Bajema, and I spent much time on this study.

This group studied the railroads of Emmet, Cheboygan, Charlevoix and Otsego Counties. I spent most of my time on Jackson and Tindle and have walked nearly all of the grades. I also found many grades of the Klise Lumber Co. in Bliss Township, and have walked many miles of the Shay R.R. which was north of Harbor Springs. We found decent old maps of railroad grades, such as the one on previous page; however, it had many mistakes so we have made corrections and additions. Although some of these small railroads were narrow gauge, Jackson and Tindle was full width, but the rails were lighter than the big railroads. I have a rail that I found on State land.

The lumber camps were usually built next to the railroads. Most are shown on the accompanying map. Camp 1 was probably near Pellston and Camp 11 may have been in section 16 of Pleasantview Township. The railroad grade in sections 21 and 22 of Pleasantview Township was from Harbor Springs and the two railroad grades met in section 23.

In case you have not ever noticed the old grades, many are still visible. They are most easily seen in the spring and fall when the leaves are off the trees and the grass and weeds are low.



## THE ABANDONED LOCOMOTIVE

I first heard a story about an abandoned locomotive in Maple River Township in about 1998. A couple years later, I heard a similar story from another source who had no connection to the first source. This person said that the engine was a small locomotive. **The Pellston Journal** had a news item that Tindle and Jackson was replacing their yard engine with a new one in 1906, the same time period that they were hauling logs from the middle of the township to Pellston.

I then took the stories seriously and spent many hours looking for the engine. I did not find it and I have stopped looking it. So what happened? Either the engine was never there or it is still there or it was removed. I believe that T & J left a small engine in section 20 of Maple River Township but that it was removed by someone as scrap metal. Just my opinion.

## **Burt Township; Cheboygan County**

Because of its connections to Brutus and Maple River Township, western Burt Township of Cheboygan County is included in this history. It has always had Brutus addresses and Brutus phone numbers. The students went to Pellston schools, and shopping was done in Brutus. Indians have lived on the shore of Maple Bay on Burt Lake for many years. A sizable Indian community existed before white people arrived and a Catholic church was built by Bishop Baraga in 1838. Some land was officially titled to Indians as a group in 1849. Individual Indians also received title to many other parcels before 1880. These Indians sold some land to white people, but few white settlers came to the west side of Burt Lake before 1900.

Much has been written and published about the infamous burning and seizing of Burt Lake Indian property in October of 1900. There is a common misconception about the case. Many stories about the John McGinn land grab say that McGinn took all of Indian Point. This is not so. Although most of Indian Point was deeded to the Indians in 1849, the tip of the point [45 acres] which is in section 33 was bought by Samuel H. Price on September 12, 1854, from the U.S. Government. The Price family owned the land until obtained by John Riggs of Cheboygan in 1879. There is an unusual story behind this land transaction.

### **Lauren Riggs – Special Pioneer and Settler**

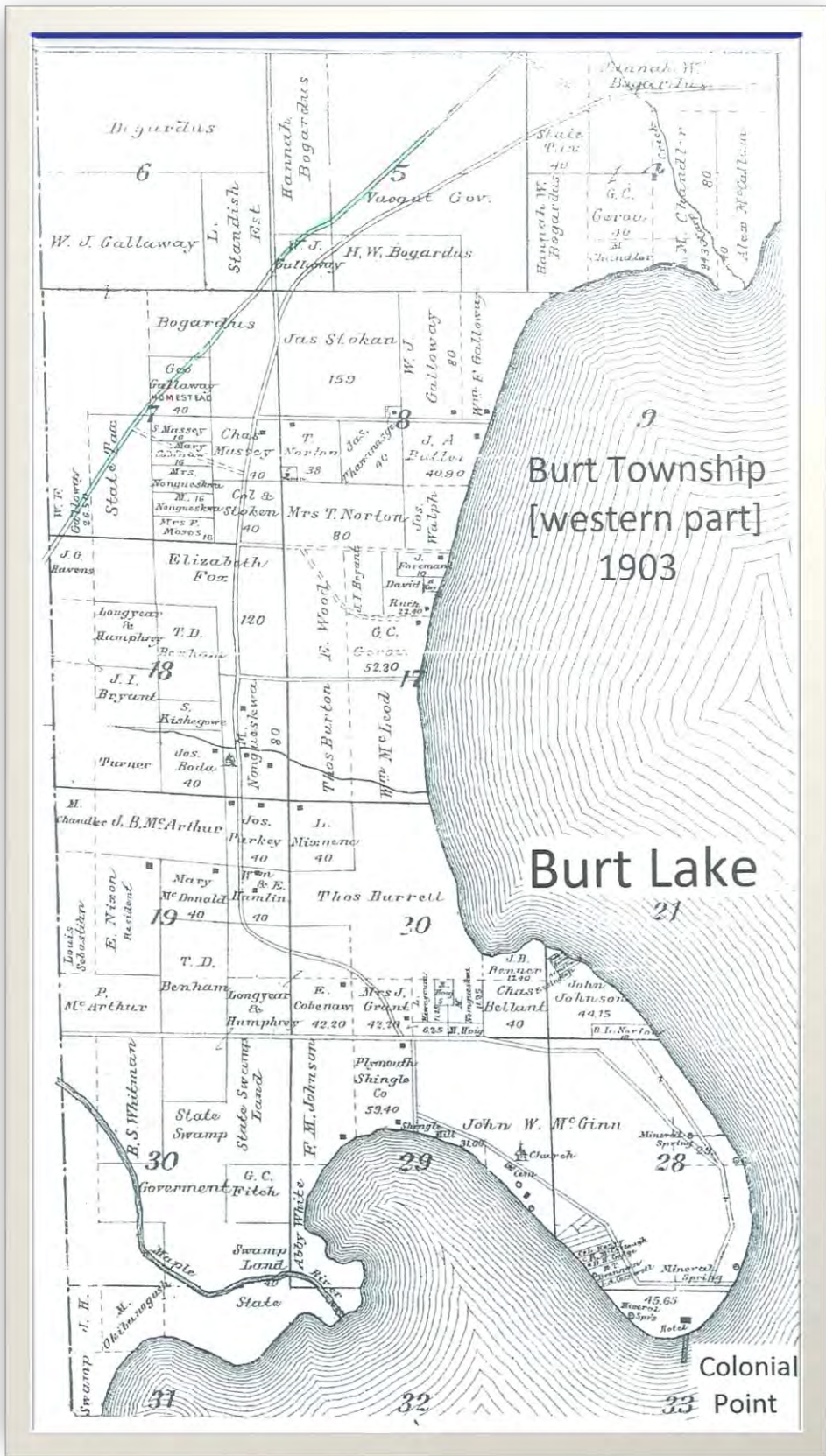
Riggs lived at Indian Point on Burt Lake, several miles east of Brutus, for about 20 years before Brutus existed. He was white. Lauren had been a pioneer farmer near Flint, Michigan. He left his wife in 1848 [or she left him] and moved to the shores of Mullet Lake with one son. At that time, Cheboygan did not exist. Samuel H. Price also came to the Cheboygan area and stayed a couple years. When Cheboygan County land became available for purchase, Price bought the 45 acres on the tip of Indian Point and then moved to Chicago. He may have offered the use of his land to Riggs, or Riggs may have simply squatted on it. Price died in 1863. The Census of 1860 says that Lauren was living with the Indians of Indian Point. The Census of 1870 says that *John* Riggs lived in a cabin near the Indians, but I am sure that it was Lauren. The given age was 70, and that was near the age of Lauren.

[Some conjecture follows] After Price's death in 1863, Lauren was certainly a squatter. At some point, Lauren started a living/working arrangement with a much younger Robert Heaphy. They were possibly squatting and working the same land. Robert had come to Indian Point when his father, John, was a school teacher for the Indians. Robert stayed and in 1877, he drowned in Burt Lake. The news account of the drowning hints that Lauren was on the shore when Robert disappeared under the water. He was now about 75 years old. In 1879, his son, John Riggs, stepped in with a good lawyer and somehow used squatter's rights laws based on his father's residency to get the land. Sometime later, the Price family sued unsuccessfully to reclaim the land. In Michigan, squatters may claim property after 15 years of use. Notice that Riggs got the land 16 years after Price died. I cannot find Lauren in the 1880 Census, and cannot find an official death notice, but it has been reported that he died in 1882. Sarah Riggs, Lauren's estranged wife, indicated in the 1880 census that he was still alive. I believe that, Lauren lived with an Indian family again, died at Indian Point, and is buried in the original St Mary's Indian Cemetery. I find no evidence that he moved in with his wife or children.

### **Indian Point becomes Colonial Point**

In October of 1879, John Riggs sold his property to Robert Patterson. In the 1880 census, Patterson was a land dealer who was living in Cheboygan. Patterson did not pay the taxes or resell the land, and George Humphrey of Cheboygan obtained the parcel in a tax sale in 1893. Although it does not justify his actions, John W. McGinn had the precedent of Humphrey taking Indian Point land in a tax sale. Although all people agree that the McGinn land seizure was unethical, some believe that it was legal.

After George Humphrey got possession of Indian Point, he sold it to W.M. Laird of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania for \$500. Reed McCabe of Pittsburg bought it from Laird in 1894. McCabe formed a group of Pittsburg investors to build a resort. In the 1900 census in Pittsburg, McCabe listed his occupation as entrepreneur. The Colonial Hotel Co. was formed and the big hotel was built in the summer of 1902.



## The Colonial Point Hotel

May 30, 1902 *The Independent Democrat* of Petoskey reported "Brutus has a future before it. It is confidently hoped by the promoters of the big summer hotel at Indian Point on Burt Lake that a spur of the G.R. & I. R.R. will be built from Brutus to that point. The large hotel is well underway, a force of two hundred men being engaged in rushing it to completion. It contains over one hundred rooms and is to be perfectly modern in all its appointments. Several elegant cottages are being built near the hotel and the Point will soon be one of the leading resorts in the land."

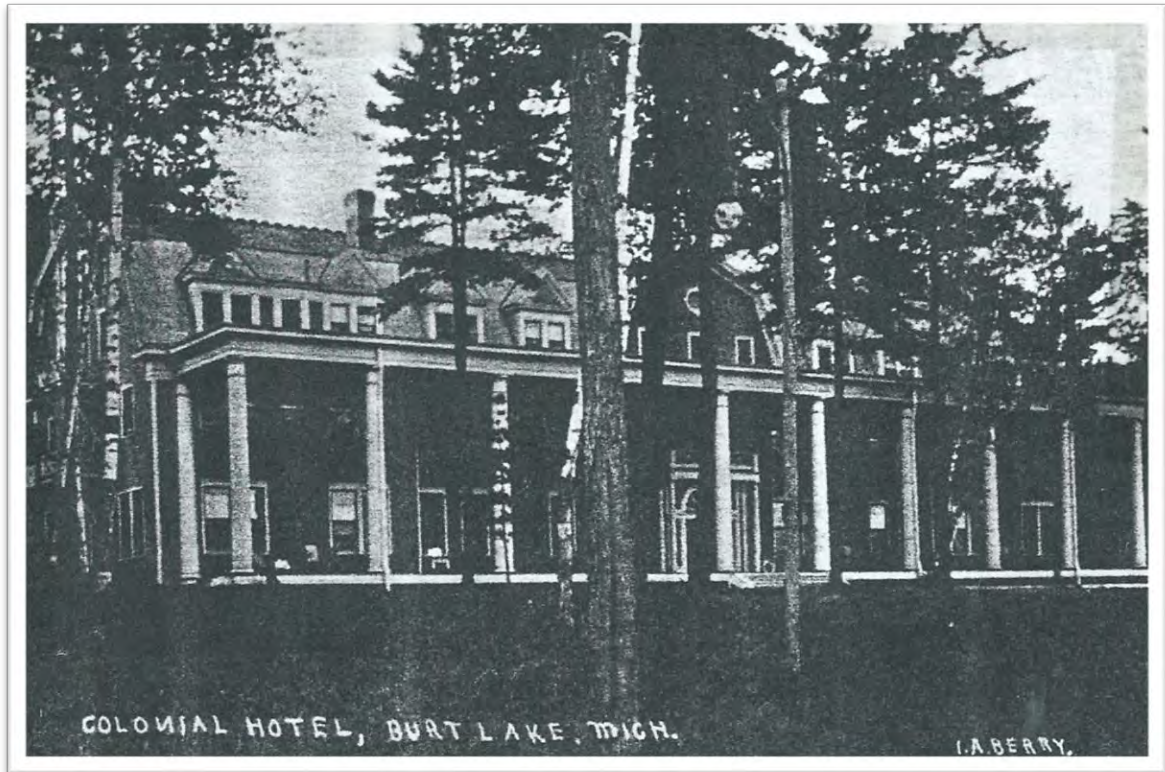
August 8, 1902 "The resort recently built at Burt Lake is surely a good thing for Brutus. It brings many summer visitors to our little village and an extensive trade to our general store."

October 7, 1902 The Petoskey newspaper reprinted a story in the *Cheboygan Democrat* about a new railroad that would run from Brutus to Indian Point and Cheboygan. "There has been a rumor current in Cheboygan for several weeks that a railroad was to be built from Petoskey to Cheboygan.

"For several weeks the GR&I R.R. have had surveyors at work surveying for a road to Indian Point on Burt Lake, and we are told by a gentleman who got his information direct from the road's superintendent that it is their intention to build to the Colonial Hotel as early in the spring as weather and other conditions permit. It is well known that there will be big passenger traffic to this point next summer and in the years to come.

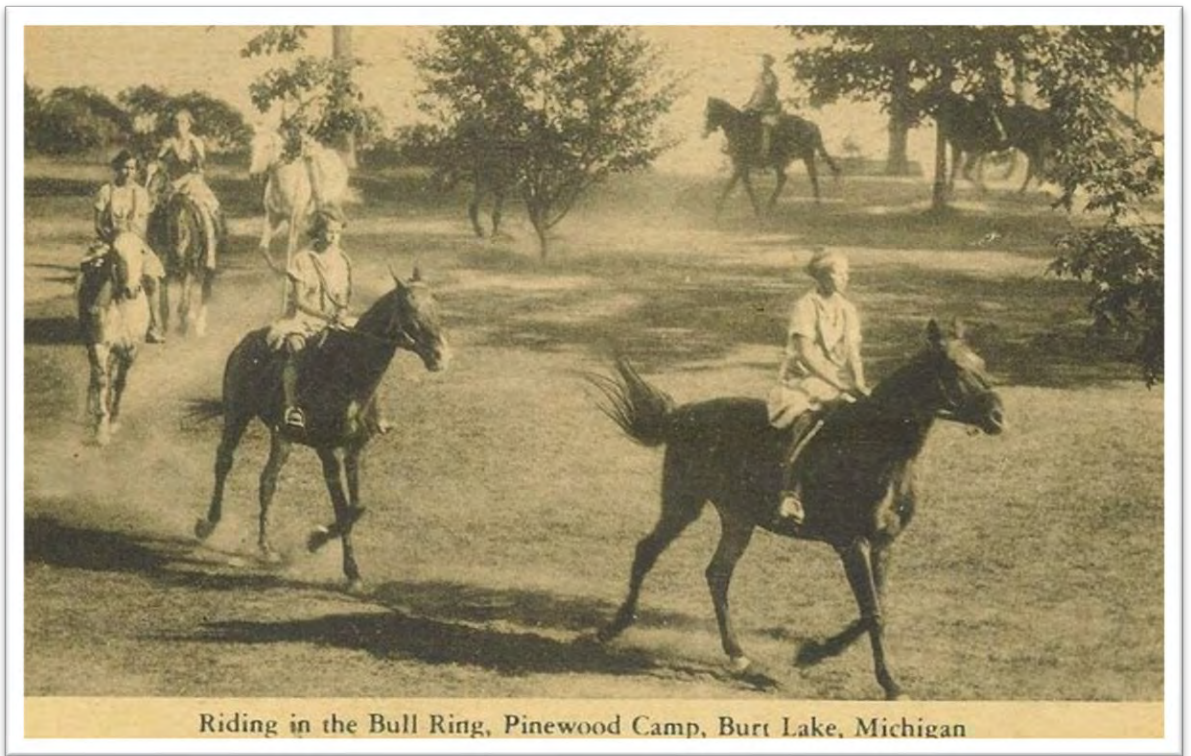
"The Colonial Inn is to double its capacity next summer. It is owned by Pittsburg people who are desirous of reaching this point without the inconvenience experienced this summer, by transferring from train to boat and boat to boat. The resorters who frequent this section from Pittsburg and vicinity are all multi-millionaires with money to burn and through their efforts it is that the extension will be made. Next year, they will take the Pennsylvania and GR&I to Petoskey. The Oden dummy would be run through to the Point via Brutus. We have no assurance that the line will continue to Cheboygan but it will be the logical conclusion. In our opinion they are sure to come sooner or later."





The railroad was never built and the hotel had a very short life. The Wm Laird Co. bought the hotel at a sheriff's sale in November, 1907 for \$7500. In 1908, the hotel was open under the management of Walter F. Braun. Laird sold the property in 1909 for \$1.00 and other considerations according to deeds. The "**Pageant of Tuscarora**" said that the hotel burned in 1909 but I have my doubts. I cannot find any primary source about the fire. Tax lists say that the property was evaluated at \$12,000 in 1910. An old acquaintance who was born in 1908 claimed that he remembered seeing the hotel. In 1912, the evaluation was much less.

The Pinewood Camp for Girls started on this property in 1914 and existed until about 1939. One of the following picture postcards was sent in 1914. Eleanor Roosevelt may have stayed at the Purple Inn in Brutus. She had supposedly brought her daughter to stay at the Pinewood Camp. This would have been before she became famous.







## **The Years from 1900 to 1910 were eventful in West Burt**

1. John W. McGinn seized the Indian land on Indian Point in an infamous act with the assistance of the sheriff and was allowed to keep the land.
2. Indians moved to new locations a couple miles north, and a new Catholic church was built.
3. The large Colonial Point Hotel was built, went broke, and burned.
4. The Bogardus Company from Pellston had logging camps in the area and a mill on Burt Lake. Bogardus gave his cutover lands [over 5000 acres] to found the University of Michigan Biological Station.
5. Railroads were planned to go through the area but did not.
6. In the 1910 census, more Indians lived here than before the 1900 burn out. The Indians had small farms, worked in the woods and mills, and many women had basket weaving businesses.
7. A shingle mill operated near where the campground is today.
8. People started buying property on the lake in increasing numbers.

### **The Chick-A-Gami Farm**

After John W. McGinn obtained the Indian Point property, he developed a farm. His son, John T., ran and later owned the farm. The Indians had cleared a large area. McGinn sold the farm to Charles "Chick" Lathers in June of 1923. The deed mentioned a large barn. The Lathers obituary states that he started farming in 1930. He had Guernsey cows and processed and delivered milk. Chick Lathers had been a professional baseball player for Detroit for a few years, and then worked for Ford Motor Co. He retired early to live and work at the farm. He was very involved in local politics, largely to improve roads and waterways. The farm continued until 1962. Just before 1962, the road was rerouted between the farm buildings and the campground in order to sell more lake lots.

## **The Indian Community of West Burt Township**

I originally planned to devote several pages to the native peoples, but decided that others can tell it better, or have told it better. I have chosen to include only one page with a few random facts about the community. A large scholarly article about the Indian burn out and Burt Lake Indian history is in Wikipedia and entitled "Burt Lake Burn Out." This article emphasizes the treaties of 1836 and 1855, what they meant to Burt Lake Indians, and the 1900 burn-out. Other Burt Lake Indian stories can be linked from that story.

In 1950, Indians still outnumbered whites in the West Burt Township area. This writer started riding the Pellston school bus through West Burt in 1955 and did so for seven years. The last names of my Indian bus-mates were Parkey, Shenoskey, Shawa, Naganashe, Massey, Midwagon, and Shananaquet. My non-native bus-mates were Skilton, Mundt, West, Parker, and Lemke.

Some Indian families in the 1930 and 1940 census were Enos and Mary Cabinaw, Louis and Margaret Cabinaw, John and Helen Dashner, Harvey and Lizzie Griswald, William and Eliza Hamlin, Kate Keway, Charles and Mary Martel, Francis Massey, Charles and Mary Massey, Elizabeth Massey, Jonas and Anna Midwagon, Basil and Agnes Naganashe, George and Josephine Naganashe, Ed and Laura Parkey, Jonas, Susan, Sam and Ida Shananaquet, Amos and Lucille Shawa, Peter, Christine, Steve and Eva Shenoskey.

Descendants of early Burt Lake Indians have been trying to gain legal acceptance as a separate Indian tribe for many years but have been rejected. They are still trying. Reena Parkey King has added extensive Burt Lake Indian family information to Ancestry.com and findagrave.com.

### **Burt Lake Indian Census Population**

In 1860, the Indian population of west Burt was about 68 and three white families lived there. The 1870 census had 65 Indians in 12 dwellings and two white families. 1880 (65) 1900 (97) 1910 (128) 1920 (56) 1930 (56) 1940 (88) 1950 (50). In the 1950 census, only 28 white people lived in West Burt year-around.



## **The Earliest White Settlers of West Burt Township**

In 1860, Lauren Riggs lived with an Indian family in Burt Township. Also in 1860, John Heaphy and a large family lived among the Indians. He was the school teacher. A story about Lauren and Robert Heaphy is on page 53. They lived near the Indian Village in 1870 and were probably the only white people in the area at that time.

The only other white persons that I could identify before 1900 were the William J. Galloway family (1888- ), Gilbert Gerow (1892- ), and the Joseph Butler family (1896- ). There may be others before 1900, but these three are in the 1900 census, and bought land before 1900. The Galloway families owned a large amount of woodland but most of them moved away. Gerow moved to Brutus by 1920.

After 1900, George Hall was a long-time fishing guide, John T. McGinn was a farmer and land developer, and John Turner was also a farmer. John Boda, Harvey Griswold, and John Dashner married Indian women, came to Burt, and stayed for many years. Joseph Benner was at East Burt in 1900 and came to the west side about 1905 and started a fishing resort. Kenneth Yeoman came in 1918 and bought the Benner property and had a lake resort for many years. Burton Norton was a camp caretaker and owned property. Lloyd Webster was the girl's camp caretaker for 17 years. Ralph Mundt came after 1920.

Many persons came for short periods of time and worked in the woods, mills, resorts or camps. After 1925, Chick Lathers hired many men including William Sydow and Roy Snider to develop and work his farm. Frank Densmore, bought 240 acres along the lake in about 1905, but it was not until about 1940 that his son Harry Densmore began developing and selling lake lots. The lakeside county road was built in 1939. Louie Raver bought a block of land from Densmore and also developed lake lots for sale.

Alfred Dau of Petoskey obtained the Indian Point area property that Lathers owned and sold lake lots. Dau got the land from his father-in-law Frederick Schmitt, who may have purchased it for the timber but never harvested it. The inland timber land is now preserved as an original virgin forest.

## **The End of an Era – 1920 – A New One Begins**

Forty years of saw milling came to an end in Maple River Township in 1920. It started with John Mummert in about 1880 and ended when the last mill in Brutus burned in 1920. A big lumber camp existed on Valley Road next to the Roy Lutz place in 1920 and ended that year. The railroad took the logs to Pellston and the tracks were removed. A mill in Alanson ran for a few more years. The Pellston mills ran for 10 more years with timber from the Upper Peninsula. The trees of Maple River Township were gone. An industry was gone. The new era meant that people must farm, leave the area, create a new position, or drive somewhere to work. The men who liked logging and mill work moved to the Upper Peninsula where logging was still going strong. Others moved south to work in factories, and some moved out west.

My grandfather Eby was in his prime farming years from 1920 to 1940, but he struggled. Grandpa Eby lived at several places along Brutus Road. Grandpa sold his first farm in 1931 as the Great Depression worsened. In 1938, he purchased the place that Wilson and Barbara Snider have had. Land was so cheap that he got 80 acres by promising to provide firewood to the previous owner for several years. He built a log house from trees on the place. Grandpa succeeded late in life by having a cream route for many years.

Before 1920, very few country kids went to high school. Pellston and Alanson had high schools but there was no busing until 1940. Marguerite Mummert rode a horse several miles to Alanson. Most country students boarded in town. Many young women got extra education to become country school teachers. This took one or two years of Normal School at Petoskey or Cheboygan. In the 1950s, I had two young teachers who had one year of "Normal." They were good teachers. High school attendance to age 16 was required after 1940 and bussing began.

I remember that highway US 31 through Brutus was a very busy road from 1950 to 1965. Sometime about 1965, the I-75 was completed to Mackinaw City and the traffic (especially trucks) through Maple River Township diminished considerably. We saw another odd traffic occurrence in Brutus before 1957. Often, a huge slug of cars came from the North. We credited this to a car ferry unloading at Mackinaw City before the bridge was built.

## Farming

What did a farmer at Brutus sell to make a living? Wheat and other grains were always a common crop. These were sold, and fed to animals. Beef cattle and hogs were sold. Many farmers had orchards and sold fruit, apple butter, and cider. An unusual crop was broom corn. Brooms were made from this corn. Potatoes were grown as a cash crop. Mr. Dennis started a potato warehouse in Brutus and bought from many farmers. This warehouse existed until about 1950.

Dairy farming was always in the area. Cream was shipped to Petoskey and Grand Rapids on the railroad as early as 1906. In the 1930's, truckers came to the farms to pick up cream. This was my family's business for many years. A pickle station was started in Brutus in 1914 and lasted for about 25 years. The station bought all the cucumbers that a farmer could grow and beans were also grown on contract. Eggs, poultry, cream, cottage cheese, and garden vegetables were sold. An old acquaintance, Rose Weaver, wrote that these farmers had a market at the hundreds of summer homes along the lakes. They went door to door. Some of the farm women took washing home to do. In the summer homes and hotels, young women found employment as cooks, maids, and laundresses. Mannaseh Kulp raised produce at the Eby farm and peddled it in Harbor Springs. They drove back and forth with horse and wagon. Others peddled in Petoskey. My grandpa Buskirk and grandpa Shaum sold lambs and wool.

Most rural areas did not have electricity before 1939, even though Brutus did by 1907. It is ironic that the Maple River hydroelectric dam started producing electricity in about 1906, but the nearby Woodland area did not have electricity until 1948. Telephone service was much easier to provide and started in rural areas in about 1920.

As this new era began in about 1920, cars and tractors became more common. Henry W. Gregory started the first gas and service station in 1922. He had one of the first cars. After a couple years, he sold to Roy Campbell. In about 1919, Walter Sydow started his business in Brutus. He began with a potato warehouse and added farm equipment. His popular brand was Farm-All tractors. He moved the business to Petoskey in 1940.

## **Brutus Claims Northlands Longest Hitching Rail**

*Petoskey Evening News, February 4, 1932*

While Brutus may have all the markings of a peaceful country hamlet, the town has the longest old-fashioned hitching rail in any town, large or small, in Northern Michigan, which positively belies any impression that it is a one-horse town. It is curious but true that the main business street in front of the town's one general store provides more space for the hitching of horses than for parking motor vehicles. The L.E. Wagley general store maintains for its customers a lengthy solid posted hitching rail of the sort that has become extinct in surrounding towns, and what is more, this hitching rail is used and appreciated. Often on mid-forenoons, when the farmers drive to town to do their days marketing as is their custom, tying space for horses is at a premium. The simple explanation is that this village is situated comfortably in the midst of a prosperous rural community peopled principally by farmers of Pennsylvania German descent.

These people are religiously disinclined to owning or driving automobiles, hence the use of the horse and buggy as a mode of conveyance among them. Their conservative principles also prohibit them from making use of the telephone, radio, and other modern conveniences of communication and travel.

They still cling to their sunbonnets and broad rimmed hats, and somber old-fashioned attire. Old dobbin is symbolic of the plodding steadfast faith of these home loving people who take great pride in their horses. Constant breeding for better equine stock is an important industry in this unique community, and the conspicuous hitching rail on the main street here is not a relic of the past.

*This story was about the Old Order Mennonite community. The community declined rapidly after this article was written as many moved away and the rest joined the new order of Mennonites who allowed cars, tractors, and telephones. The story on page 59 is about my family who switched from Old to New Order.*



**The Wagley Store [after the hitching rail came down]**







**The Hathaway Gas Station and Store**



## **Horses and a Model T – by Lawrence Eby**

Shortly before I was born in 1934, Dad bought his first car, a Model T Ford, a versatile vehicle with interesting quirks that made driving at times eventful. There were times when Dad had very little cash in his pocket to buy gasoline. The Model T gas tank emptied by gravity feed through a tube toward the front of the tank. Sometimes the long hill out of Brutus meant that if the tank was low, the tube emptied and the motor ran out of fuel. That could be corrected temporarily by reversing the car. The gasoline would once more be over the emptying tube and the car could be backed the rest of the way up the long hill. This may have only happened once or twice, but it was part of our family lore. The Model T did not have a gearshift lever like later cars but a series of foot levers that transferred belts onto drive pulleys. Mom learned to drive this complicated apparatus but later when we got the Model A with a hand gearshift, she did not want to try it. For many years, someone had to drive her wherever she went.

Our farming was done with horses until sometime in the early 1940's. That meant plowing, disking, and harrowing with walk-behind machinery. The one-furrow plow was drawn by the team with the driver following along in the furrow with the reins tied around his waist. His main attention had to be on the plow handles grasped in each hand. This control kept the plow at the correct depth and direction. One had to be strong enough to correct its direction if a stone was hit, but judgment sometimes indicated that the wiser course was to let go of the plow handles rather than be thrown forward over the upended plow. In such a case, the horses must be stopped and the plow up-righted and drug back to start about where it left the furrow.

It was a matter of pride for a good horseman to plow a straight furrow. I was not old enough to do any of the plowing before we discarded it for tractor pulled plows, but I liked to follow Dad or one of my older brothers. The odor of the newly turned earth, the coolness of it between my bare toes, and the wiggling earthworms that were uncovered by the plow blade were a sure sign that spring had arrived, with the short Northern Michigan summer to follow.

## The Dam Site Inn and the Maple River Inn

The Dam Site Inn area was homesteaded by Henry Park in 1877. Two Park daughters [twins] married and stayed on the farm. Effie Sage lived on the north side of Woodland road and Elbie Eftting lived on the south side. Effie died and Elbie divorced. Elbie went away to live with her older sister, Nancy, who was married to Sam Hady. About 1923, Nancy and Elbie [and Sam] came back to the Maple River and started the Maple River Inn on the Eftting land. The Inn was a tea room and restaurant. The Inn was still in operation in 1940. Elbie and Nancy moved to Harbor Springs in 1942 and the Inn became a private residence.

Nicholas and Effie Sage sold their land in 1908 to John Lemley, a land dealer, who may have rented out the farmland. In about 1925, Edmund C. Wright of Florida [a very wealthy bachelor] started a new nightclub on the banks of the dam. It was called Wrightington Gardens but it did not last very long. In 1932, a Hunting Club owned the land. It may have been called the Battle Creek Club.

Ken and Kathy McLaughlin started the Dam Site Inn in 1953 after the dam had washed out in November of 1951. The McLaughlin's sold the restaurant to Joe and Betty Church in in 1977. Both were very successful.



## **The Purple Inn and Evans Store Burn**

*Petoskey Evening News, May 6, 1937*

The famed Purple Inn, popular Brutus hostelry since the early days of the town, was destroyed by fire this morning when a strong north wind whipped flames across the street from the Evans store. Starting in the living quarters of Mrs. Adele Evans and her daughter Jill, which adjoined the store, the fire spread over the building so rapidly that only the cash register was saved. A strong wind blew the flames directly across the street to the old Purple Inn, operated by Mrs. Nellie Purple. Quickly organized volunteer crews removed some of the furniture from the Purple Inn but the building and much of the furnishings were lost.

“There was angel food cake in the oven and chicken in the ice box all ready for the opening on Sunday,” Mrs. Purple said. “We had just finished placing the old home in the best shape it has ever been, anticipating an outstanding season.”

Mrs. Evans was working in the store when her daughter called from the living quarters. Jill came out and said that something terrible has happened in the kitchen. I ran into the kitchen and found the wall behind the stove a mass of flames. It spread so rapidly we could not save a thing. There had been a fire in the kitchen stove at breakfast time but I had not touched it for at least an hour and a half. I don’t know how the fire started on the wall.”

“The Evans store was partially covered by insurance,” she said. Mr. Evans is working in Detroit. Mrs. Purple said her building was partially covered by insurance. The Alanson, Pellston and Petoskey fire departments were called but they could do nothing to save the Evans and Purple buildings. A barn belonging to Zach Frye caught fire but a crew extinguished the blaze. All furnishings were removed from other nearby buildings in fear the blaze would wipe out the town. Combined efforts of the fire departments and volunteers saved adjoining buildings. When the fire broke out, the wind was directly in the north, threatening the Pennsylvania railway station. Later it changed to the north-east and spared the depot. Mrs. Evans suffered a minor burn on her wrist and scorched hair. The daughter, four years old, was not injured. They were taken to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Griener.





**The Purple Inn**  
**Sam Midgley and his daughter Nellie Purple**



## **Families and Persons; Some made a financial impact while others were inspiring, mysterious, or scandalous.**

### **William and Nellie Purple**

In 1903, William and Nellie Purple came to Brutus and purchased the Pier House, the town's hotel since the earliest days of the settlement. William added a barber shop and a pool room. William was Emmet County sheriff from 1911 to 1916 and 1920 to 1923. Will was a popular sheriff but was murdered on the fifth of September in 1923. He was killed by gunfire when he tried to repossess some property. He went to the Joe Grosskopf farm near the Wequetonsing golf course to discuss repossessing an automobile. An attorney went with him. After telling Grosskopf that they were taking the car, Grosskopf went to the house to get a gun and started shooting. Although badly wounded, Purple returned fire. Grosskopf died ten days later in Petoskey.

After his death, Nellie came back to Brutus and got serious about operating a first-rate restaurant. She was successful. The fame of Mrs. Purple's chicken dinners was known throughout the country as more and more visitors stopped there for meals. As cars became more common, people drove long distances to visit her place. The Inn was remodeled several times to look good. After the fire, Nellie was not yet ready to retire so she moved to Petoskey and started a new Tea Room. The old site of the Purple Inn has never been used again. It has trees and a few relics in the old foundation area.

### **Elias Snyder**

Elias Snyder had made a small fortune before coming to Ayr from Canada in 1875. At a time when nearly all settlers were very poor, Snyder had assets. He bought a large piece of land for resale, and recruited settlers. He helped start a store, church, and sawmill. After Brutus started, he built the first frame house in town in 1883. He helped his boys build the first big store in Brutus. His children seemed to have failed as farmer-merchants and moved away. Elias also moved away in 1900 after his wife died.



## **Lynn Wagley**

Lynn Wagley might be the most famous or intriguing resident of all time in Brutus. He was born near Cross Village and his mother died when he was a baby. His father James came to Cross Village in about 1866 as one of the earliest white children in Emmet County. His mother's parents, Henry and Mary Pier, reared him and the Piers came to Brutus in 1889. Lynn first came to fame as a great amateur baseball player. He married young to a Brutus woman, but his divorce papers show that he was still a playboy. They had a daughter before they separated. He tried several small businesses before he met success. He started the pickle station in Brutus and helped start them in other towns. In 1922, he married Cynthia Burtch, a widow who had a store in Brutus. They became popular store owners.

Wagley was involved in township politics, and prominent in county politics. Lynn stayed active in baseball as a sponsor and manager. I have interviewed several people who remembered Wagley and they all remember that he was an occasional binge drinker, but one source said that Wagley made some of his best business decisions while on a drunk. He was also known as a person who would give food to beggars during the depression. Cynthia became ill and died, and most sources believe that Lynn drank himself to death in grief. His official cause of death was something else. He was only 49 years old.

## **Homer and Dana Hinkley**

The Hinkleys did more to benefit the economy of the Maple River Township area than any other person or family. The Hinkley brothers came to the area in 1892-93. Homer bought a saw mill in Brutus and Myron bought a saw mill in Alanson. They hired many workers and bought logs from local landowners. Dana, the son of Myron, worked at Brutus while he was in high school and college. Homer did well for 10 years and retired, and Dana took over the Brutus mills. Dana became interested in politics, and was elected as a Republican representative to Lansing from 1912 to 1918. He was the only state office holder to come from Brutus. After the mills closed, Dana bought the Petoskey Evening News, and Lou Hinkley who ran the Alanson mills bought and ran small businesses in Petoskey.

## **The Wooden Family**

Henry Wooden and his three sisters came to Brutus in the 1870's. They all had Civil War veteran homesteading privileges and took free 160 acre homesteads in the same township; however they were several miles apart. Henry settled four miles NE of Brutus on the Arnold Burkhart place. Harriet Case settled two miles south of Brutus on the O'Reilly farm. Wilmina Lewis settled north of Brutus on the Budnek place and Mary Harrington settled 3 miles NW of Brutus. Mary was the widow of a soldier and was the only woman to get a free homestead in the township. Henry was the first to leave. He sold his farm to his sister Mary and moved to Petoskey. Mary sold this Woodland farm to her sister Harriet, and moved to Harbor Springs. Harriet sold the place after a few years, so three siblings owned the same farm. Wilmina moved back to southern Michigan.

## **Frank and Elizabeth Haley**

Elizabeth McGary grew up in Kentucky and married Frank Haley. They had seven children while living near the Ohio River in Kentucky and Ohio. About 1902, they moved to a cabin in the woods, two miles NW of Brutus on Lockwood Road. An eighth child was born in 1903. Frank worked in the timber for Tindle and Jackson and was killed by a falling tree or limb in 1904 near his home. There were eight young children. How did they survive? Six years later (1910 census), they were still living in the cabin in the woods. Elizabeth never remarried. Many women became widows with children but Elizabeth was exceptional because of the number and ages of the children and she kept the family together without known help or assets.

The boys worked in the mills but they left eventually, of course. Somehow, Elizabeth did OK. In 1920, she lived near Alanson with her youngest daughter who was in Alanson High School. Daughter Ollie graduated from high school and moved to Detroit. Elizabeth lived in Detroit for the rest of her life with this daughter who never married. The other children married and presumably succeeded in life. Everything would seem easy after their tough start. Elizabeth and Ollie were buried in Detroit. A nice formal picture of Elizabeth is at [findagrave.com](http://findagrave.com).

## **Nora**

Nora may have finished her life on a good note, but her paper trail suggests an unhappy chaotic early life. I am going to omit some last names. Nora was born in Ohio to an unmarried mother in 1873. Her mother married a few years later, but in the 1880 census, Nora was living with her grandparents. Her mother and step-father had children by that time. In the 1880's, the parents moved to Ayr and they were members of the Mennonite church for the rest of their lives. Nora seems to have come with them as she married Charles, an Alanson man in 1889 at age 16. On the marriage certificate, she gave her last name as Baker, her mother's maiden name. A daughter was born six months after the marriage. The marriage did not last and Nora kept the child.

In 1893, Nora married again to James, a Brutus area man. This time, the marriage certificate said that her maiden name was the same as her step-father. I found a story that claimed that they divorced because of conflicts about raising the girl. They had no other children. Nora left Brutus and married Ed at Charlevoix in 1900. This time, she said that her maiden name was Williams. Maybe her mother had now told her who her father was (or maybe she made it up.) They divorced. In 1918, Nora married Charles. Do you want a good ending to this story? Charles and Nora were married for 40 years, and Nora's only child had a 50-year marriage and 4 children.

## **Herman Morford**

I was taking pictures of tombstones in the Alanson Cemetery when I saw a big one. I am always attracted to the big ones. It said Morford on it. This surprised me as I was aware of Herman Morford from previous study and he was not a prosperous man. Why the big tombstone? Morford also had a small Civil War marker. Herman was a veteran who came to north Ayr before 1880 to claim a free homestead. He tried to farm for several years before he gave up and moved to Brutus and lived on Railroad St. He had a small store for a few years. Herman died in 1910. Francis, his wife, was burned out of her Brutus house in the big fire of 1915. She went elsewhere and remarried.

The clue to the big stone must lie with the children. Four children moved to Brutus and lived by the railroad. The oldest boy, Merton, started out working for the R.R. and then became a piano tuner in Grand Rapids. Merton's first wife died young at Brutus. His only child was a lifelong Episcopal priest who was a WW II chaplain for four years. The next son of Herman, Vere, worked for the R.R. for most of his life. The youngest boy, Frank, worked for the R.R. for several years before becoming a full-time church worker. Three boys grew up beside the railroad tracks and all went to work for the railroad.

Finally, I looked for the daughter. The daughter of Herman was Maude who got married in 1886 at age 15 to Martin Markham. Eureka! The mystery of the big tombstone is now solved. Markham was a longtime Alanson sawmill owner, businessman, and postmaster. He had money. Martin and Maude Markham also have large tombstones in the Alanson Cemetery.

### **Jonathan and Eva Hunt**

Jonathan had an exceptional work history, and a scandalous personal life. He lived in Brutus from about 1895 to 1920. Hunt came to Brutus to work in sawmills. He was a skilled operator and was a mill foreman. After Hinkley closed his mills, Hunt ran the Maxfield mill. I suggest that Hunt worked more days in Brutus sawmills than any other person. When young, Hunt married Mary who was 15 years older than he was. She had children from a previous marriage but they had none together. She died in 1910. In 1915, the 56-year-old Jonathan married Eva Hunt who was barely 15 years old. It gets worse; Eva was his niece, the daughter of Jonathan's brother.

Eva was born in Brutus in 1900 when her father also worked for Hinkley's Mills. Jonathan and Eva had five children in the next 10 years, the last one in 1925. Eva divorced Jonathan in 1926 and charged him with extreme and repeated cruelty. Jonathan disappeared from records after 1926. In 1926, Eva married James Earl at Charlevoix. In 1930, she lived in Muskegon with this new husband and the five Hunt children. In 1935, Eva divorced Earl and also charged him with extreme and repeated cruelty. When Eva's father died at Petoskey, his obituary stated that his daughter was Eva Hayes of California.

## **Franklin L. Powell**

Franklin Powell was born in New York in 1849. His father died when he was a child. He came to Central Michigan and married Anna Bruce in 1872. She was a school teacher. At times her name was given as Phila. They came to Brutus in 1875 as one of the first homesteading families. Their place was the long time Buckhorn place and their child, Cora, was the first child born in Maple River Township. Anna was the first Brutus school teacher. Franklin was a leader. Besides farming, he was a surveyor. He was the first township clerk, and was township supervisor for several years. By the 1880 census, Powell had only cleared 14 acres of land, which is less than normal. He must have been busy with his surveying.

I could not find the Powell family in a census after 1880; however, Phila (Anna) Powell died in Seattle in 1901. Franklin L. Powell also died in Seattle in 1909. He was a medical doctor. Wow! How did that happen? First, he got training as a surveyor, and married a teacher. Then, Franklin Powell got a free homestead at Brutus and developed it until he could sell it and his livestock for enough money to afford college. He went to medical college in Cincinnati, Ohio.

## **Jesse Dennis**

Dennis bought the farm at the bottom of the Brutus hill in 1903, and built a produce warehouse by the railroad spur. For the next 20 years, he was a successful produce/potato dealer. He had several sons who joined in the business. He bought potatoes from local farmers and stored them until sale time. Jesse died in 1923 after being run over by his caterpillar tractor. After his death, the business ceased and most of the family moved away.

## **Jesse and Harvey Brubacher**

Jesse Brubacher came to Brutus in 1879 as a child in a very poor family. He became the most successful farmer of his time in the area. He hired many men to clear his land, and had several sons to help. The farm was mostly along Woodland Road. Jesse retired and moved to Pennsylvania. The oldest son, Harvey, took over the farm and was a big acreage potato grower at one time. He acquired the above-mentioned Dennis warehouse to store his crop.

## The African-Americans

In the early 1900's, three black couples came to Brutus, and stayed for the rest of their days. Sylvester and Emeline Johnson came to Brutus in 1900. Their children left the area so their only remaining mark is the road named for them. Charlie Duke settled at Brutus in 1915 after he married Julia. [See story below] Julia's father, Charles Hill, had come to Brutus twelve years earlier. Hill bought the property on Euclid and High Street in 1903, the same property that his great granddaughter Juanita Bland still owns. This is by far the longest that any piece of land in Brutus has been owned by one family.

I made a small family tree for Juanita Allen Bland, and made an interesting discovery. Usually, we think of the African Americans as being freed after the Civil War or the Emancipation Proclamation Act of 1863, however, most of Juanita's ancestors were free before the end of slavery. This is unusual.

Cliff Allen was born in Ohio in 1897. His grand-father, Benjamin Allen, was in Ohio in 1840 as a free man. The Allens were in Virginia before 1840. Benjamin's father-in-law, Phillip Mains, may have been free in Ohio before 1820. Brutus resident Charles Hill was born free in 1846 in Ohio and his first wife, Minnie, was also born free in Ohio. I do not know how they got their freedom. The father of Charles Duke was possibly born into slavery as he was born in Virginia. All of these above-mentioned persons were called mulattoes in the federal census when that term was officially used.

*Petoskey News-Review, Jan 1978*

"Charlie Duke was a cook for the Great Northern Railroad near the turn of the century. Working for the railroad, Duke traveled extensively. He saw a lot of the country, including northern Michigan. Duke remembers one trip well. The train left St. Paul, Minnesota for Grand Rapids, he recalled, where a business group was to be picked up and taken to Mackinac Island for a convention. Everything was running smoothly, he remembered. The train was getting close to the Straits of Mackinac when in the midst of a heavy snowstorm, it got stuck. It was stuck for three days just outside Brutus. 'We never did make it to Mackinac Island.' Duke said. But Duke did make it back to Brutus."



“In 1915, Duke and Julia Johnson took a train to Petoskey, got married and then moved to Brutus where her father lived. Duke has been there since. He turned 97 years-old Monday. Although his hearing is not as sharp as it used to be, his memory is. Duke was born in Memphis in 1881. When he was nine or ten, his family moved to Kingfisher, Ok and homesteaded on 160 acres. While in Kingfisher, Dukes father died. Because of his father’s illness, Duke, the eldest of four children, stayed home from school to watch over the farm and his father. He moved to Kansas City, and ended up in St Paul, Minn. as a cook for the GNR.”

“When Duke got married, his traveling stopped. He found work in the lumber mills around Brutus, cutting wood and towing it to the mill on sleighs pulled by horses. He also worked with a road construction company. He remembers well what Brutus was like in the early 1900's. Duke’s wife died in 1957. After her death, he began living with his grand-daughter Juanita Bland. Duke has a daughter, Leona Briscoe who lives in Detroit, two granddaughters, and six great grandchildren.”

## **Christopher Mindel**

Christopher Mindel was among the first homesteaders in Maple River Township in 1874. Mindel was in Ottawa Co., Michigan in 1870 as a married man with children. In 1880, Christopher and wife Anna lived in Petoskey but in different houses and they soon divorced. Anna Mindel married August Stenzil in Petoskey in 1881. Whoa! August Stenzil was the single homesteader who lived just south of Mindel on Brutus Road [near the Wilson Snider house] in 1875-78. The former Mrs. Mindel and Stenzil left Emmet County and moved to Niagara, New York. The Mindel children also moved to New York.

Christopher Mindel then married Caroline (Ewald) in 1884. Caroline was a widow and had children. She was the sister of Mrs. Sydow. Caroline Mindel married John Strayer in 1890. What happened to Mr. Mindel? There is no death record of Mindel in Michigan. In March of 1889, Christopher and Caroline sold their farm for \$900. In September, Caroline bought a lot in Brutus without Christopher. He probably died at Brutus in the summer of 1889, and his death was not reported. He is buried in the Mennonite cemetery without a stone.

## **Isaac M. Lusk**

Lusk had a fascinating life before moving to the boondocks of Emmet County in 1876. He was born and raised in New York and graduated from college. He lived in California in 1854 and 1855 and made a lot of money. On his return trip, he took the Panama route. Somewhere in the ocean, his ship sank or was wrecked. Nearly everyone died but he survived, however, his money was lost. He joined the Union Army in the Civil War and rose steadily in rank and finished as a Lt. Colonel. He probably served at Gettysburg. For the rest of his life, he was known as Colonel Lusk. In 1876, he took a homestead at the corner of Ayr and Edward roads and started an apple orchard. We can still see some of the old trees that he planted. Lusk continued to be a leader. He was a township supervisor in Maple River and Littlefield for many years.

In 1889, when his wife Mary died, they were still living on the homestead. The fluently written obituary of Mary said that “she was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church and while for many years she had been an invalid, she was a power in the community because of her lovely character, her intelligence, her womanly virtues and unaffected piety.” Sometime after 1890, Isaac moved to Petoskey and lived with one of his children. His obituary in 1908 said of him “Throughout his life, kindness and generosity had been a predominate trait in his character to a degree that was sometimes detrimental to his own good. Honesty and perseverance won him a place in high esteem in his business life coupled with an integrity that is seldom excelled.”

## **Amy Lusk**

Amy was an early women’s rights advocate. She never married and lived at home for many years to help with her invalid mother. She taught school at Brutus, North Ayr, and other country schools. She owned land in Maple River Township. Even though women could not vote, she ran for a township office, but she lost, of course. After teaching school, she became the founding director of the Petoskey Public Library. She remained in that position for many years. A friend of this writer was dismayed when he discovered that this important woman had no gravestone in Greenwood Cemetery. He raised the money and gave her a small memorial.

## **Loren Maxfield**

Loren and wife Katie (Edgerton) came from Lapeer, MI and started a store in 1888. The store business became quite large, the biggest in Brutus for many years. He added a saw mill in about 1899. The mill burned in 1920 and was not replaced. The first store and other buildings burned in 1915 so he built the still standing store building. He sold the Brutus store to Lynn Wagley in 1925 and moved to Pellston and bought another store. It also burned down. His Edgerton relatives ran a blacksmith shop in Maxfield's barn/livery.

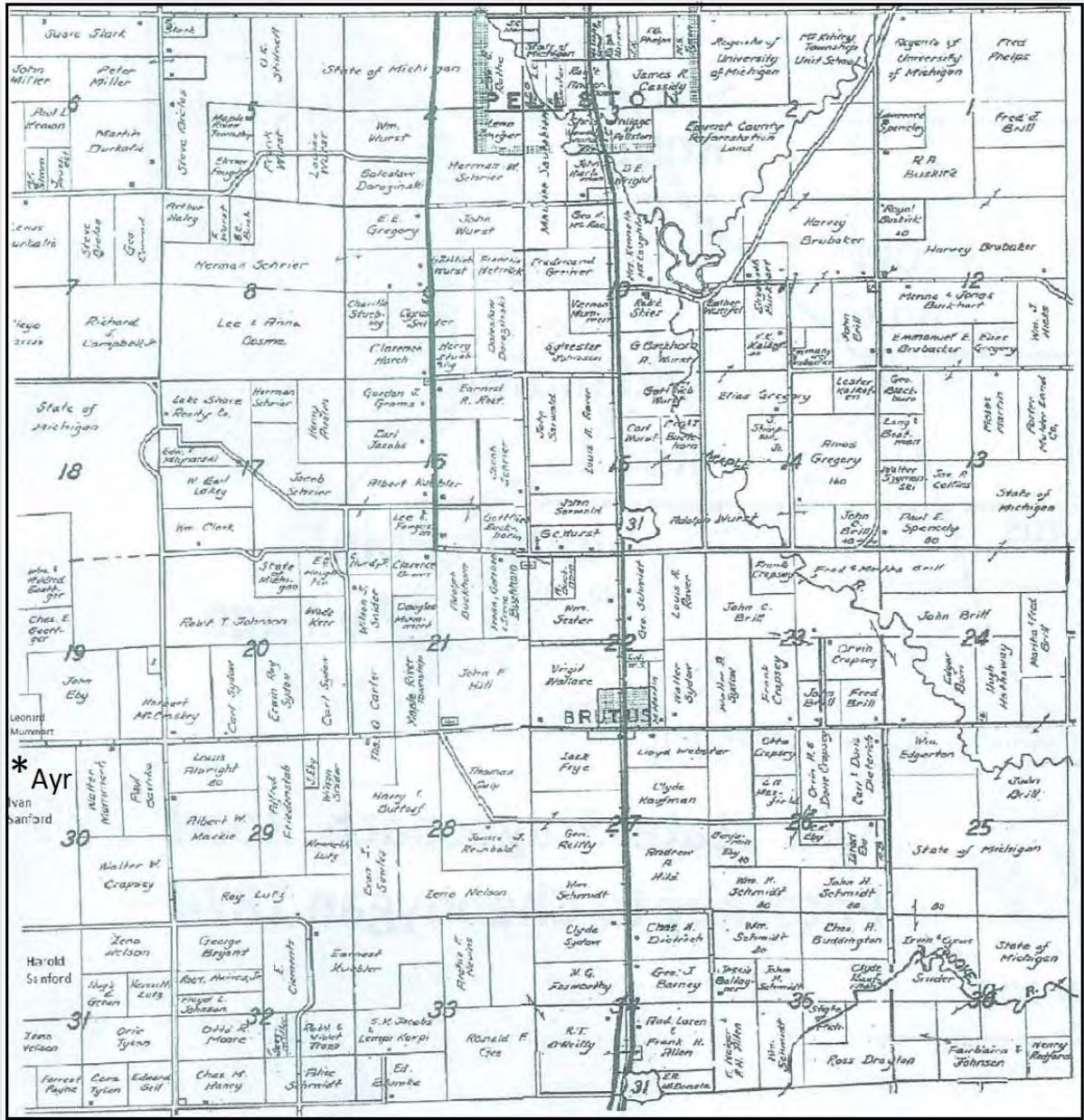
## **Joseph K. Dettwiler**

Joseph was the foremost builder in Maple River Township from about 1890 to 1910. A newspaper story in 1902 said that he had finished three barns and two houses in that year. Many of his big barns still stand. He obviously hired a large crew. This writer especially likes to see the long hand-hewn timbers and special joint making. Joseph was active in township politics. Dettwiler and many of his crew moved to Alberta, Canada in 1910.

## **John Dimling, Sr. and Jr.**

John was born in Germany, immigrated to New York, and joined the Union Army in the Civil War. He moved to Brutus to homestead in 1876. He worked in Petoskey as a shoemaker while beginning his homestead. He bought the prime business corner lot in Brutus as soon as it was platted, but he did not build his first store until 1890. His first wife, Cornelia, died in 1891 and they had no children. John married the much younger Kittie in December of 1891. They had a son, John, in 1893. John Sr. bought a second store in 1897, and usually tried to rent out one store. John and Kittie divorced in 1903. She was accused of adultery. Her boyfriend sent her a letter and John picked up the mail and read it. Oh No! John got custody of the child. John Jr. may have been a genius. He was a wireless telegraph operator and ran a wireless station of his own in Brutus. He invented apparatus to be used in conjunction with wireless systems and was offered a position by the government. Unfortunately, he got T.B. and died in 1912 at the age of only 18. His father died in 1914.

# Maple River Township 1955



## MAPLE RIVER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

### And some Pleasantview Township People

This listing is of township residents who have passed away. This listing is largely based on the census reports from 1870 to 1950. Only adults are included.

Although the listing should be easy to understand, some explanations may be needed. The head of the family is listed first with the years of his/her life. The spouse is listed next. In many cases, men and women had more than one spouse. I have only listed one of them. The years of residency are listed next. This is the area that may have the most mistakes. This is a general guide. 'Life' means most of life in area. 'Various' means that the persons came and went a couple times. The residency years may include years that the wife lived in the area beyond when the husband did. The final column is location of residency and the section number is given. Many families lived in several locations but I have only included one spot. I have also made a data base of township residents with extensive details on Ancestry.com. It contains about 5000 names. This includes parents and children of residents who did not live in the area.

Adams	Maynard	1894-1935	Muriel Bradford	1962-72	Brutus
Adams	Bradford	1925-2014	Marie Taylor	1964-	Brutus
Aho	Wayne	1947-2014			Brutus
Aho	Martin	1917-99	Eleanor Samkowiak	?-2015	Brutus
Albright	Louis	1905-92	Marguerite Dingwell	1952-	29
Allen	Cliff	1897-1980	Blanche Williams	1970-80	Brutus
Angevine	Ralph	1903-52	Alice Culp	-1930-40-	Brutus
Aurand	Garold	1913-77	Wilma Peabody	1944-80	Brutus
Aurand	Glen	1934-2020	Joyce Smith	life	23
Austin	Henry	1919-2004	Thelma Labadie	-1940-99-	16
Babcock	George	1867-1923	Nellie Knowles	1906-23-	14
Babcock	Charles	1903-1967	Mattie Brubacher	various	20
Barney	George	1888-1976	Ora McMichael	long time	34
Barkley	Gordon	1845-1929	Sarah Pelsue	1881-88	27
Bathke	August	1845-1917	Blondina Kuhl	1879-1910-	29
Bathke	Carl	1849-1926	Bertha Lucht	1882-1940-	29



Bathke	Heber	1909-1959	Katherine Raferty	1909-40-	29
Bathke	John	1823-1905	Wilhelmina Block	1882-1905	29
Bathke	Otto	1882-1941	Abbye Palmer	life	29
Bathke	Paul	1888-1960	Iva Starling	1888-1933-	29
Bathke	Ray	1916-1980	Helen Phelps	life	Brutus
Bechtel	Henry	1830-1892	Catherine Histan	1879-92	22
Bechtel	Henry	1895-1970	Ethelyn	1895-1925	22
Bechtel	Jesse	1856-1922	Mary Greiner	1879-1922	22
Bechtel	Merrit	1865-1926	Belle McPhee	1879-91	22
Beyer	Peter	1862- 1905	Dora VanAmtwerp	1894-95	Brutus
Bielas	Joe	1922-2003	Helen Parks	life	5
Bielas	Steven	1885-1962	Mary Kurandy	1922-55	5
Blakely	Harry	1866-1932	Sarah Henderson	-1920-30-	5
Bland	Juanita			life	Brutus
Blumke	Edward	1890-1970	Hazel Hall	life	33
Blumke	George	1887-1968	Pearl Kitchen	life	32
Blumke	William	1839-1916	Anna Mugge	1876-1920-	32
Boda	John	1887-1968	Anna Parkey	-1920-	Burt
Boettger	Charles	1886-1954	Myrtle Barry	life	19
Boettger	William	1884-1957	Mildred Cease	life	19
Bond	Samuel	1880-1962	Letitia Hinshaw	-1910-	
Bontrager	Merle	1941-2010	Naomi Burkhart	various	11
Brenneman	Henry	1863-1943	Lydia Buehler	1905-43	11
Brenneman	Joe	1897-1997	Myrtle Babcock	1905-53	13
Brenneman	John	1888-1974	Elzina Ruffert	1905-40-	
Brill	Don		Joy West	life	23
Brill	Dorothea	1812-1909		-1900-09	23
Brill	Edward	1928-	Phyllis	1928-90-	11
Brill	Fred	1892-1959	Martha Kuebler	life	23
Brill	James	1878-1945		-1920-45	Brutus
Brill	John	1885-1978	Lelia Bryan	life	23
Brill	Valentine	1849-1932	Caroline Meier	1878-1932	23
Brown	Will	1872-1957	Lelia Crapsey	-1896-1920-	23
Brubacher	Clayton	1897-1977	Lydia Kilmer	1897-1931	26
Brubacher	Daniel	1870-1961	Annie Eby	1895-1939	12
Brubacher	Eli	1872-1953	Lovina Ernst	1879-1912	16
Brubacher	Emanuel	1923-2018	Della Lowery	life	12

Brubacher	Ezra	1904-1991	Martha Tyson	various	1
Brubacher	Harvey	1895-1966	Susannah Eby	life	11
Brubacher	Henry	1884-1950	Katie Gehman	1909-22	11
Brubacher	Jesse	1869-1955	Anna Kilmer	1879-1937	11
Brubacher	Jesse	1928-2002	Patricia Caulk	various	12
Brubacher	John	1867-1938	Catherine Lehman	various	16
Brubacher	Jonas	1843-1915	Magdalena Gingrich	1879-1910	16
Brubacher	Noah	1869-1918	Mary Kilmer	most	17
Brubacher	Peter	1880-1969	Sarah Brenneman	1905-40	12
Brubacher	Walter Dean	1954-2021	Rita		12
Brubacher	William	1902-1978	Anna Weaver	1902-42	12
Brubaker	Amos	1862-1939	Mary Dettwiler	1880-1901	8
Brush	Charles	1853-1937	Laura	1878-81	
Buckhorn	Adolph	1903-1990	Vivian Brown	life	22
Buckhorn	Christian	1878-1916	Freida Wurst	1898-1916	21
Buckhorn	Frederick	1844-1930	Henrika	1898-1930	21
Buckhorn	Gottlieb	1906-1993	Irene Lease	life	21
Bull	Henry	1845-1913	Emma Flint	1882-89	22
Burgess	George	1857-1914	Grace Kilpatrick	1909-13	
Burkhart	Eli	1873-1935	Lizzie Brubacher	1900-50	11
Burkhart	Jonas	1912-1998	Ruth Snider	life	11
Burkhart	Ken	1956-2014		life	11
Burkhart	Don	1953-2015		life	11
Burkhart	Lydia	1925-2003	single	various	
Burkhart	Menno	1910-1999	Mary Gregory	life	12
Burtch	Levi	1855-1921	Cynthia Sterling	1913-21	Brutus
Burtch	Robert	1856-1924	Gertrude	1916-24	16
Bush	Joseph	1936-2009	Bobbie Hart	1972-	2
Buskirk	Luke	1922-1999	single	various	12
Buskirk	Royal	1888-1981	Sarah Martin	1937-81	12
Campbell	George	1867-1911	Margaret Partridge	1903-11	1
Campbell	Roy	1899-	Erma Dennis	1899-1928	Brutus
Carter	Thomas	1904-1992	Gladys Aurand	1944-77-	28
Carter	Rex	1926-2010	Marie		20
Case	Harry	1875-1958	Lottie Christiansen	1877-1911	23
Case	John	1846-1916	Harriet Wooden	1876-1907	34
Cassel	Gerald	1934-2017	Shirley Bontrager		19

Clark	Duane	1906-1980	Marie Babcock	1907-40-	17
Clark	Leo	1904-1990	Edith Mayle	life	Brutus
Clark	William	1860-1946	Charlotte Chapman	1907-46	17
Cleven	Robert	1938-2013	Virginia Sydow	-2013	14
Coby	John	1877-1953	Rose Emerie	1927-5	Brutus
Connelly	Richard	1857-	Laura White	1880-92	
Connelly	Eugene	1882-1933	Florence McFall	1908-18	
Cook	George	1878-	Fern Wells	1902-18	
Cox	Edwin	1872-1948	Sarah Bly	1896-1930	35
Crapsey	Isaac	1828-1888	Harriet Lyons	1878-88	
Crapsey	Alonzo	1863-1930-	Anna Hawley	1880-1900-	19
Crapsey	Clarence	1900-1990		life	23
Crapsey	Frank	1867-1959	Elizabeth Sauder	life	23
Crapsey	Fred	1858-1910-	Maude Harrington	1880-1910	
Crapsey	George	1862-1943		life	23
Crapsey	Orvin	1910-1991	Doris Ulmon	life	23
Crapsey	Otto	1922- <b>2017</b>	Audrey Hathaway	life	<b>26</b>
Crapsey	Walter	1915-1989	Gladys Lutz	life	30
Crapsey	William	1854-	Lucy Hawley	1878-1902	19
Crawford	John	1893-1949	Ethel Chambers	life	16
Crawford	Phillip	1855-1933	Mattie Dettwiler	1880-1933	16
Crawford	Ralph	1890-1930-		1890-1930-	16
Croff	Gordon	1914-1987	Elizabeth Hills		5
Crump	Daniel	1829-1912	Lucy Bugbee	1877-95-	31
Crump	Eli	1857-1910	Barbara Dettwiler	1877-92	
Crump	James	1863-1935	Nora Baker	-1930-	
Crump	Jim	1943-2020	Grace Werden	life	
Crump	Levi	1850-1920	Ellen Duffy	1896-1920	23
Crump	Martin	1875-1949	Florence Freed	life	31
Crump	Ronald	1913-1987	Connie Kaiser	life	31
Culp	Thomas	1873-1966	Ida Donaldson	-1930-40-	21
Cupp	Jackson	1818-1900		1886-94	Brutus
Cupp	Samuel	1841-1921	Margaret Shiveley	1884-21	28
Davis	Orlo	1873-1928-	Bessie Carrow	1907-17	
Dieterich	Carl	1894-1984		1894-1940-	26
Dieterich	Gottlieb	1857-1922	Magdalena Kilmer	1883-1922	26
DeLorme	Harvey	1937-2006	Betty Cabinaw		

Dennis	Clyde	1891-1929		1903-18-	27
Dennis	Edwin	1866-1921	Ada	-1921-	27
Dennis	Jesse	1863-1922	Lizzie Moore	1903-22	27
Dennis	Leo	1888-1958	Cora Wright	1903-40-	27
Dennis	Lloyd	1897-1920	Minerva Guetschaw	1903-20	27
Densmore	Harry	1901-1971	Waunetta Peterson	1935-55-	Burt
Dettwiler	Aaron	1888-1961	Minerva Snider	various	Brutus
Dettwiler	Abram K.	1862-1949	Veronica Sauder	1879-1913	20
Dettwiler	Abram W.	1828-1912	Barbara Koch	1879-1912	20
Dettwiler	Christian	1845-1917	Susannah Johnson	1882-1917	9
Dettwiler	Isaac	1828-1908	Elizabeth Wideman	1885-90-	9
Dettwiler	Joseph K.	1860-1940	Elizabeth Leinbach	1879-1910	16
Dettwiler	Joseph W.	1834-1917	Anna Martin	1880-1908	21
Dettwiler	William	1887-1972	Lela Armock	life	9
Detzler	Art	1882-1958	Caroline Rogers	1906-23	3
Dicus	James	1879-1952	Bertha Tyson	1908-20-	31
Dillman	Henry	1860-1930-	Mary	1886-90	10
Dimling	John	1844-1914	Cornelia Phillips	1877-1914	Brutus
Dixon	James	1898-1955	Mary	-1940-	Pellston
Duke	Charles	1883-1978	Julia Hill	1914-78	Brutus
Durkalic	Martin	1882-1954	Anna Dzikowna	-1913-42-	6
Eby	Cyrus	1866-1951	Elizabeth Brubacher	1898-1951	19
Eby	Elton	1943-		various	19
Eby	Henry	1860-1947	Nancy Schrock	1882-99	Brutus
Eby	Israel	1897-1981	Alma Kilmer	1898-1941	26
Eby	Jeremiah	1891-1961	Mary Shaum	life	29
Eby	John	1917-1978	Naomi Buskirk	life	19
Eby	Maurice	1944-	Sue Burrows	various	Brutus
Eby	William	1877-1943	Mary	1900-22	26
Eby	William	1911-1992	Emma Reed	Various	Brutus
Edgerton	Custer	1881-1967	Lillie Hoyt	-1909-16-	Brutus
Edgerton	Harris	1839-1915	Delia	1904-15	Brutus
Edgerton	William	1858-1918	Sarah Lathers	1886-1918	Brutus
Effting	George	1862-1930	Elbie Parks	-1900-42	10
Evans	Dan	1907-1982	Adele Wagley	1934-37	Brutus
Falk	Henry	1888-1964	Emma Bathke	1924-50	29
Falk	Russell	1902-1978	Leona Steele	1937-50	29

Fause	Louis	1887-1976	Bertha Reich	1922-32	Brutus
Ferguson	Lee	1900-1987	Reta Barney	1948-87	16
Flatley	Samuel	1870-1930-	Ida Cook	1896-1914	Brutus
Ford	Tom	1894-1975	Leora Wildfong	life	Brutus
Ford	Tom	1928-2015	Lois Spencley	various	10
Foxworthy	Leland	1924-1957	Valera Schreier		
Foxworthy	Leslie	1879-1951	Ida Beck	-1940-	34
Foxworthy	Will	1892-1948	Emily Wittenstrom	-1948	34
Friedenstab	Alfred	1910-1966	Nellie Mayle	life	29
Friedenstab	Wayne	1938-2001		life	29
Frye	Zack	1876-1965	Maria Nadelhoffer	1930-55	Brutus
Fuller	Everett	1903-1987	Mary Raney	1957-87	Brutus
Gallagher	Peter	1901-1978	Jessie Cox	1932-46	35
Gehman	John	1891-1982	Beatrice Reigle	1891-1931	9
Gehman	Jonathan	1857-1893	Mary Bahr	1882-1931	9
Gehman	Joshua	1847-1917		1883-1905	9
Gerow	Gilbert	1836-1920		1900-20	Brutus
Gilbert	Don	1896-1967	Clara Tyson	-1900-42	34
Gilbert	Robert	1868-1927	Maude Matthews	-1900-20-	31
Goltry	Leroy	1872-1952	Laura Sebring	1906-18	
Grace	Frank	1889-1937	Mary	-1920-	
Green	Rensaler	1809-1881	Caroline Latie	1874-90-	31
Green	George	1828-1904	Catherine Green	1874-1904	31
Gregory	Abe	1889-1959		1907-59	14
Gregory	Amos	1892-1982	Elsie Brubacher	various	14
Gregory	Dan	1957-2005	Tina		3
Gregory	Eli	1887-1964	Susie Gehman	life	14
Gregory	Frank	1863-1936	Iva Morris	1907-55-	14
Gregory	Frank	1922-1998	Inez	1922-49	Brutus
Gregory	Henry	1857-1946	Leah Reist	1907-46	14
Gregory	Henry	1887-1958	Nora Karr	1912-24	Brutus
Gregory	Isaiah	1887-1967	Magdalena Sitler	1907-30	14
Gregory	John	1921-2003	Agnes Neiswander	life	14
Gregory	Leroy	1936-2016	Marilyn Warren	life	14
Gregory	William	1927-2015	Ila Gregory	various	3
Greiner	George	1841-1919	Rosina	1895-1919	
Greiner	Ferdinand	1877-1968	Ellen Cameron	1890-1968	Brutus
Grigsby	Clyde	1895-1967	Erla Brown	1914-35-	26

Grigsby	Berneth	1906-1981	Edna Sydow	1914-40-	
Grigsby	Otto	1892-1972		1914-20-	26
Grigsby	Wallace	1868-1941	Lennie Allen	1914-41	26
Hady	Samuel	1876-1947	Nancy Parks	-1940-	10
Hahn	Jerry	1939-2011	Gloria Fuller	1967-2011	Brutus
Haley	Frank	1864-1904	Lizzie McGarey	1903-10-	16
Hall	George	1875-1960	Mable Patterson	1896-1940	33
Hall	Howard	1878-1936	Bessie Edmonds	-1930-36-	
Hall	Hugo	1906-2001	Edith Freed	1906-49	33
Hanmer	Ralph	1884-1959	Minnie Grauel	-1920-60-	3
Hans	Fred	1875-1934	Barbara Dettwiler	1904-20-	21
Harrington	Fred	1848-	Mary Foss	1877-88	17
Hartman	Don	1940-2021	Ruth Burkhart	-2008	10
Hartman	Earl	1914-1995	Irene Schriener	1954-89	11
Hartman	John	1898-1962	Lydia Cox	1934-94	3
Hatch	Clarence	1893-1958	Emily Simpson	1936-58	9
Hathaway	Hugh	1901-1963	Hazel Baker	1928-40	Brutus
Higinbotham	John	1842-1915	Mary Hart	1886-92	30
Hill	Charles	1847-1925	Hannah	1903-25	Brutus
Hill	John	1885-1967		1945-55-	21
Hinkley	Dana	1879-1933	Mary Averill	1899-1914	Brutus
Hinkley	Homer	1850-1911	Adeline McElwain	1892-1904	Brutus
Hoig	George	1885-1920-	Stella Haley	1907-18	Brutus
Hoig	Marian	1861-1932	Minnie Woodruff	1888-1900-	Brutus
Hoig	Thomas	1850-1916	Emma Burt	1900-16	Brutus
Holmes	Charles	1877-1946	Amanda Owen	-1945-	SE
Holmes	George	1906-1996		-1945-50-	16
Horst	David	1873-1965	Mary Martin	1900-17	20
Howell	Theo	1850-1946	Augusta White	1884-1912	34
Howell	William	1875-1954	Helen Kneale	1907-18-	34
Hunt	Isaiah	1874-1962	Annie Spura	-1900-	Brutus
Hunt	Jonathan	1858-1925-	Eva Hunt	1892-1920-	Brutus
Hunter	Homer	1922-1988	Vivian Brown		
Hurd	Cyrus	1845-1898	Rosanna	1875-98	34
Hurd	George	1815-1887	Susan	1875-87	34
Hutto	William	1938-2004	Joyce VanHaften	1960-	9
Jacobs	Earl	1898-1955	Leona	-1940-	16



Janousek	Gerald	1922-2011	Charlotte Hicks		22
Johansen	Robert	1929-	Joyce Wurst	1960-80	15
Johnson	Sylvestor	1848-1915		1900-15	10
Kage	William	1847-1933	Augusta	1876-80-	29
Kauffman	Clyde	1890-1980	Rosetta Tyson	1921-90-	27
Kalkofen	Lester	1902-1991	Sarah Dickinson	1930-80	11
Kalkofen	Karl	1932-	Griselda Lomedico	1935-79	14
Kerr	Wade	1902-1974		-1950-	20
Killian	Goodloe	1862-1932	Anna Musiol	1898-1909	16
Kilmer	Clayton	1903-1987	Lydiann Eby	1903-36	16
Kilmer	Christian	1912-1999	Betsy Brubacher	1912-36	12
Kilmer	Isaac	1880-1935	Katie Zimmerman	life	12
Kilmer	Martin	1905-1984	Mary Brubacher	1905-36	16
Kilmer	Owen	1871-1945	Lydia Brubacher	life	
Kilmer	Urias	1910-1967	Rhoda Gregory	life	
Klenk	Albert	1901-1984		1901-20-	15
Klenk	Carl	1894-	Ida Schreier	1894-1929-	15
Klenk	John	1855-1920	Louisa	1882-1920	15
Kuebler	Albert	1893-1964	Irene Holmes	life	16
Kuebler	Albert	1857-1906	Christine	1891-32	22
Kuebler	Charles	1865-1942	Christine Stiefel	1886-1961	SE 16
Kuebler	Ernest	1905-1981	Wanda Lutz	life	NE 32
Kuebler	Henry	1896-1963	Ellen	1896-1940-	
Kuebler	Karl	1893-1987		1893-1927	Brutus
Kuebler	Otto	1898-1946	Dorothy Howard	1900-46	
Kuebler	William	1898-1996	Lydia Alber	1898-1940-	16
Kugler	Charles	1856-1924	PaulinaKlenk	1883-1924	15
Kugler	John	1890-1958		1890-1946-	15
Kulp	Isaac	1864-1943	Barbara Brubacher	1902-41	Brutus
Kulp	Manasseh	1902-1982	Amanda Eby	1902-41	19
Lathers	Charles	1889-1971	Ruth Richmond	1931-1962	Burt
Leinbach	Christian	1878-1946	Fannie Martin	1911-26	11
Leinbach	Jonas	1823-1902	Esther Gehman	1882-1902	16
Leinbach	Noah	1870-1970	Mabel Earl	life	16
Lewis	Warren	1831-1913	Wilmina	1876-80	
Lewis	Neil	1934-2012	Shirley Rutledge	1968-	Brutus
Lindenman	George	1850-1935	Charlotte	1883-1935	16
Lizakowski	Frank	1889-1930	Kate	-1920-40-	6

Lockwood	Eugene	1869-1937	Edith Baker	1909-18	17
Lockwood	John	1841-1914	Catherine Gould	1909-14	14
Lockwood	Reuben	1866-1914	Eva Hoxie	1909-14	14
Longaker	William	1851-1930	Juliette	1877-84	29
Lusk	Isaac	1826-1908	Mary Hudson	1875-95-	31
Lutz	Carl	1920-2010	Mildred Crapsey	life	29
Lutz	Kenneth	1911-1966	Emma Kruzel	life	31
Lutz	Roy	1883-1963	Anna Clements	1906-63	29
Main	Sidney	1844-1917	Jennie Campbell	1888-1917	Brutus
Martin	Elias	1908-2003	Leona Dettwiler	various	
Martin	Henry	1874-1944	Matilda Kilmer	1900-39	20
Martin	Mahlon	1912-1989	Marjorie Bathke	life	Brutus
Martin	Moses	1884-1977	Betsy Gregory	1902-70	13
Martin	William	1892-1985	Barbara Brubacher	1910-23	12
Maxfield	Loren	1859-1939	Katie Edgerton	1888-1924	Brutus
Maxon	Wilson	1876-1921	Pearl	1913-21	28
McDonald	Gordon	1913-1985	Carol Brubacher		11
McFarlane	Edward	1874-1950	Lorena	-1897-1900	14
McKay	Karyl	1937-2015			
McLaughlin	Ken	1914-2003	Kathleen	1955-82	10
McPhee	Henry	1842-1915	Barbara	1878-80-	32
Midgely	Samuel	1844-1944		-1920-40-	Brutus
Mika	Ernest	1853- ?	Anna	1877-88-	28
Miller	Peter	1918-1990		-1930-60-	5
Miller	Michael	1876-1952	Mary	-1930-50-	5
Mindel	Chris	1850-1888	Anna	1875-88	21
Morford	Herman	1840-1910	Francis Smith	1880-1914	Brutus
Morris	Joseph	1850-1915	Ella	1886-1915	Brutus
Mortenson	Chris	1853-1939	Anna	1876-80-	6
Mummert	Charles	1881-1958	Amelia Sydow	life	19
Mummert	Chuck	1917-1995	Viola Ford	life	Brutus
Mummert	Earl	1907-1939	Mildred Crump	life	30
Mummert	Harold	1914-1978	Rose Buchhorn	1914-40-	Brutus
Mummert	John	1846-1996	Henrietta Ebling	1877-96	19
Mummert	Leonard	1909-1986	Marguerite Blumke	life	19
Mummert	Stanley	1910-1987	Ruby Crump	life	Brutus
Mummert	Walt	1922-2000	Grace Baker	life	30
Mummert	William	1880-1932	Alwina Dumke	1880-1916	

Mundt	Paul	1874-1940	Lillian Edgerton	1896-1912	Brutus
Mundt	Frank	1907-1994	Elenora Paske	life	Burt
Mundt	Ralph	1869-1934	Susan Dettwiler	1896-1934	Brutus
Murphy	Ed	1893- 1971	Christie Bosma	-1932-44	
Newland	Charles	1870-1920	Jessie Stout	1904-12	19
Newsome	William	1916-2000	Juanita Boettger		19
Newswanger	Elias	1881-1920	Anna Martin	1914-20	1
Newswanger	John	1907-1996	Emma Gregory	1914-90	Brutus
Neuenschwander	Chris	1862-1932	Elizabeth Spindler	1916-32	3
Neuenschwander	Chris	1901-1979	Elenor Scott	1916-31-	3
Neuenschwander	Otto	1900-1982		1916-70-	3
O'Reilly	George	1870-1950	Caroline Vick	1888-1950	27
O'Reilly	Louis	1867-1946		1888-1909	34
O'Reilly	Matthias	1863-1946	Susanna Scherrer	1888-1909	34
O'Reilly	Mickey	1930-2016	Ann Carter	1930-70-	27
O'Reilly	Richard	1868-1956	Effie Bridge	1888-1956	34
O'Reilly	Richard	1896-1931		life	34
O'Reilly	Thomas	1801-1893	Catherine Mayze	1888-93	34
Parks	Henry	1838-1905	Margaret Andrews	1877-88-	10
Patterson	Ben	1844- 1910	Phoebe McKillips	1893-1904	22
Patterson	Grant	1863-1946	Alice Patterson	1894-1904	22
Percy	Stephen	1847-1920	Mary	1877-80	22
Phelps	Ben	1917-2008	Mildred Durkalec	life	6
Phelps	Fred	1875-1969	Annie Hamper	1915-	Pellston
Pier	Henry	1836-1911	Mary J. Bennet	1889-1940	Brutus
Pier	Nelson	1866-1956	Olga Paske	1889-1940-	Brutus
Plumb	John	-1895		1877-95	28
Porter	Thomas	1843-	Jane	-1890-1910-	32
Powell	Franklin	1849-1909	Anna	1875-82	21
Pruss	John	1877-1928	Katie	1902-20-	6
Purple	William	1868-1923	Nellie Midgely	1904-37	Brutus
Rau	Carl	1847-1896	Louise Ackerman	1893-1920-	22
Rau	Carl	1887-1923		life	22
Rau	Pauline	1881-1930-		1893-1920-	22
Reed	George	1913-1988	Eliz. Newswanger	1918-40	1
Reed	Martin	1915-2005	Norma Brenneman	1918-43	
Reed	Wilson	1891-1972	Susannah Brubacher	1918-43	11
Reinbold	Jacob	1876-1957	Mary Garber	1895-1907	
Reinbold	James	1890-1983	Leah Reist	Various	28
Reinbold	John	1849-1919	Catherine Yoder	1895-1910	28

Reist	Abraham	1828-1909	Mary Brubacher	1904-09	14
Reist	Elias	1863-1957	Anna Auker	1901-10	11
Reist	Jonas	1861-1935	Barbara Ernst	1900-13	
Reist	Soloman	1892-1960	Myrtle Babcock	1901-35	Brutus
Ringler	Abe	1880-1961	Fannie Kilmer	1896-1938	3
Ringler	Sam	1856-1929	Hannah Buehler	1896-1910	17
Rischel	Joe		Millie Martin	1978-	20
Rought	George	1859-1922	Sarah	1890-1910-	Brutus
Sage	Nicholas	1867-1924	Effie Parks	1897-1911	10
Sanford	Charles	1872-1929	Pearl	1892-1927	Brutus
Sanford	Eugene	1862-1951	Rachel Sanford	1890-1951	31
Sanford	Harold	1901-1985	Betty Donnelly	1901-40-	31
Sanford	Imus	1820-1905	Letitia Mitchell	-1905	31
Sanford	Ivan	1905-1992	Edith Gilbert	life	30
Sanford	Jesse	1840-1909	Adeline Hoig	1891-1915	Brutus
Sauder	Jacob	1848-1918	Esther Dettwiler	1880-1918	19
Sauder	Abe	1877-1968	Juliann Ringler	1880-1940-	11
Schreier	Herman	1893-1972	Vera Larson	life	9
Schreier	Henry	1891-1979	Mary Fike	life	16
Schrier	Robert	1918-1998	Theresa Tichelaar	1956-2005-	12
Schreier	Albert	1903-1986		life	16
Schreier	Helen	1900-1986		life	16
Schreier	Jacob	1856-1934	Katie Klenk	1883-1934	16
Schreier	Leslie	1929-2013	Sarah Tippett	life	9
Schmidt	George	1906-1970	Clara Kuebler	1906-65	22
Schmidt	John	1845-1912	Margaret	1897-30-	26
Schmidt	John	1873-1952	Elizabeth	1897-40-	26
Schmidt	William	1909-1974	Lena Kableman	life	26
Scott	Chauncey	1921-1993	Ruth Sydow		
Seater	William	1899-1979	Alice Sager	-1960-	22
Shiefly	Susannah	1846-1927	[widow]	1880-90-	21
Shantz	Menno	1869-1927	Rebecca Brubacher	1899-1947	10
Shantz	Ed	1903-1973	Pearl Lamain	1903-40	10
Shaum	Harvey	1877-1946	Matilda Weis	1911-35	11
Shier	Robert	1914-1979	Lodema Flood	1947-79-	10
Shultz	Isaac	1877-1956	Mary Sauder	-1900-40-	23
Smith	Art	1860-1943	Vesta Wicks	1907-30-	22
Smith	Bob	1912-2000	Lorraine Phelen	1946-2000	Brutus

Snider	David	1889-1982	Lizzie Brubacher	Life	16
Snider	Fannie	1903-1989		1905-40	Brutus
Snider	Joel	1847-1898	Mary Reed	1882-89	22
Snider	Nelson	1909-1948	Martha Wurst	life	Brutus
Snider	Noah	1864-1944	Mary Burkhart	1905-44	26
Snider	Owen	1854-1917	Mary Eby	1890-1920	27
Snider	Soloman	1893-1925		life	27
Snider	Wilson	1921-2009	Barbara Gregory	life	29
Snyder	Caleb	1860-1933	Mary Howe	1875-98	Brutus
Snyder	Elias	1828-1908	Mary Kauffman	1875-1900	Brutus
Snyder	Titus	1854-1906	Mary Weaver	1875-98	Brutus
Spencley	Lawrence	1908-92	Lavina Stark	1940-73	1
Spencley	Walter				1
Stanton	Leonard	1838-1900	Lucinda	1889-1903	Brutus
Stanton	Thomas	1866-1940		1889-1940	26
Stark	Elwood	1924-1998	Junie Simeral	various	6
Stark	George	1889-1938	Susie Hartung	1920-58	6
Stark	James	1947-2013	Vicki		6
Steen	John	1888-1976	Dorothy Howard	1928-52	Brutus
Stearns	Merton	1873-1947	Alma	-1935-40-	
Stenzil	August	1853-1942	Anna	1878-82	29
Steubing	Henry	1867-1922	Charilla Dettwiler	-1890-1956	
Steubing	Vern	1893-1932	Peggy Williams	1893-1940-	9
Stimpson	John	1857-1912	Loretta	1903-40-	Brutus
Strayer	John	1851-1922	Caroline Ewald	1876-1912	17
Sullivan	Patrick	1879-1923	Mable Clemmens	-1910-19	Brutus, Ayr
Sydow	Albert	1925-2010	Bonnie Benidick	life	15
Sydow	Carl	1889-1956	Freida Wurst	life	20
Sydow	Carl		Marcia Reinhardt	life	15
Sydow	Clyde	1915-86	Helen Steen	life	34
Sydow	Elsie				15
Sydow	Gottfried	1844-1926	Wilhemina Ewald	1882-1926	20
Sydow	Harold	1934-2017	Lela Bonter		15
Sydow	Herman	1875-1964	Ella Jennings	1882-1918	24
Sydow	John	1880-1959	Estella Flager	1882-1920-	
Sydow	Marvin	1934-2019		life	20
Sydow	Robert	1912-1977	Verna Kellogg		
Sydow	Walter	1897-1963	Freida Munz	1897-1947	Brutus
Sydow	William	1882-1974	Eva Hoig	life	Burt



Tappy	Frank	1901-1940	Elenora Frye	-1930-40-	Brutus
Thompson	James	1929-1978	Lois Spencley	life	10
Thompson	Stan	1907-2000	Gladys Clark	life	Brutus
Thorp	John	1940-2011	Betty Bayha		18
Turner	John	1843-1921	Eliza Catren	-1910-21	Brutus
Tyson	Isaac	1853-1931	Rebecca Cupp	1887-1931	31
Tyson	Jonathan	1886-1961	Mary Chambers	1886-1920-	31
Tyson	Ora	1891-1987	Winifred Gilbert	life	31
Vance	George	1898-1963	Edith	-1918-23-	
Wagley	Lynn	1883-1932	Cynthia Sterling	life	Brutus
Wallace	Virgil	1898-1972	Grace Collier	1934-72	Brutus
Weaver	Rose	1885-1985		1941-49	Brutus
Webster	Clyde	1925-1997	Clara Sydow	life	Brutus
Webster	Lloyd	1893-1961	Elizabeth Potts	1923-75-	Brutus
Weller	George	1881-1928	Paula Friedenstab	1920-40-	21
Weller	Earl	1926-1991	Elaine Braun	-1980-92-	34
Wibert	Sylvanus	1848-	May Whitman	1895-1901	
Wickey	Bill	1929-2022	Florence Miller	1963-77	Brutus
Wiertalla	Greg	1957-2011			
Wiertalla	Maynard	1931-2014	Ruby Sanford		30
Winkler	August	1845-1904	Anna Beasley	1878-84-	18
Woodward	George [Dr]	1857-1897	Ethel Boulton	1888-93	Brutus
Wooden	Henry	1827-1906	Sarah Harris	1876-80-	12
Woodruff	Theron	1838-1892	Martha Phillips	1876-87	Brutus
Workings	Simon	1861-1912	Anna Wart	1904-12	Brutus
Wurst	Adolph	1882-1969	Mina Buckhorn	life	15
Wurst	Carl	1890-1978	Edith Burgess	1890-1918	
Wurst	Frank	1901-1974	Mary J. Ellenberger	1902-1940-	
Wurst	Gottlieb	1854-1936	Theresa Schonfelder	1882-1936	15
Wurst	Gottlieb	1887-1956		1887-1930-	15
Wurst	Joseph	1890-1944		life	
Wurst	John	1855-1936	Rosina Waechter		15
Wurst	John C.	1893-1957		1893-1930-	9
Zuck	Samuel	1866-1943	Laura Frank	1893-1901	Brutus

## PLEASANTVIEW TOWNSHIP

This listing is of those people who lived within one mile of Ayr Road and Maple River Township. They have passed on. These people were in the census from 1900 to 1950 [and other sources]. The last column is approximate years of residence in area.

Angevine	John	1911-95	Thelma Werden	-1935-40-
Angevine	Ralph	1903-52	Alice Culp	-1950-
Boettger	Christian	1817-1893	Hannah	1883-93
Boettger	John	1854-1934	Maria Grauel	1883-1934
Boettger	Noah	1889-1948	single	life
Brown	Marion	1865-1946	Minnie Warren	-1890-1914
Burns	Patrick	1848-1908	Ellen O'Reilly	1876-1908
Burns	William	1884-1959	Neva Smith	1884-1922
Cameron	Francis	1850-96	Mary Chapman	1877-1900
Chambers	Alfred	1858-1928	Angeline Hall	1893-1940-
Clemens	Amos	1865-1946	Lydia Battler	1893-1920-
Clemens	Levi	1857-1942	Mary Scheirschmitt	1880-1930-
Coleman	John	1844 -1924	Lucretia	1880-1900
Crawford	John	1894-1949	Ethel Chambers	1935-44
Dietz	Amos	1835-1927	Louisa Severy	1876-1900
Flager	Paul	1864-1940	Lucinda Wise	-1910-25-
Fletcher	George	1870-1961	Emma Rubin	-1935-50
Fletcher	Sydney	1893-1980	Delores Sellen	-1950
Forshee	Frank	1858-1938	Elsie Cameron	1925-49
Grauel	Fred	1893-1952	single	1893-1950
Grauel	Henry	1824-1893	Adolphenia	1882-1904
Grauel	John	1888-1957	single	1888-1950
Grauel	William	1856-1923	Johanna Bathke	1892-1923
Harter	George	1839-1920	Elizabeth Post	-1892-1907
Heidrick	William	1879-1948	Vera	1914-27
Hicks	John	1865-1932	Annie	1877-1932
Kabelman	Charles	1847-1921	Freiedericka Karich	1881-1921
Kabelman	William	1873-1961	Martha Bathke	1881-1921
Kennedy	William	1867-1959	single	life -1955
Kingman	Warren	1873-1944	Jennie Thompson	1925-60
Linehan	Roger	1840-1916	Mary Mackey	1875-1920-
Linehan	John	1870-1926	Letitia McCambridge	1880-1920-
Lounsbury	Ralph	1888-1972	Marjorie Dickinson	-1950-
Marihugh	Everett	1914-83	Virginia Hoffman	
Mulholland	Henry	1860-1923	Catherine	-1910-23

Pergler	Emil	1882-1955	Elizabeth Bicek	1923-30-
Pergler	Joseph	1907-87	Bertha Warren	1935-40-
Robbins	Andrew	1902-94	Thelma Van Dusen	1933-80-
Robbins	Lloyd	1861-1954		1933-40-
Sydow	Morris	1926-2017	Alma Bosma	life
Scherer	John	1863-1935	Sarah Weber	1892-10-
Tyson	Sam	1848-1931	Diana Baker	1884-1931
Tyson	David	1817-1884	Margaret Henry	1884
Tyson	Erva	1877-1962	Daisy Harter	life -1950-
Tyson	Noah	1884-1975	Grace Chambers	life -1950-
Wareck	Alex	1887-1959	Flossie Lizakowski	1910-59
Warren	Clarence	1907-70	Mabel Dell	life -1950-
Warren	Edward	1871-1932	Mary Bettschen	life
Warren	Frank	1869-1925	Jessie Cameron	life
Warren	John	1836-1902	Sarah Hart	life
Werden	Carl G.	1891-1943	Anna Manchan	1921-43
Werden	Fred	1895-1977	Rhoda Caywood	1921-77
Werden	George	1944-2021	Brenda Cook	life
Werden	Joseph A.	1859-1948	Mary Rehlau	
Werden	Joseph	1941-86	Janice Marihugh	life
Werden	Wilbert [Bud]	1918-75	Tina Creech	life
White	Edward	1871-1923	Esther Barnard	life
White	Robert	1828-1900	Julia Chichester	1875-1911
Wurst	Elmer	1915-2004	Jane Forshee	life

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Farmer Boy                              Ayr Country School

Pellston High School              Eastern Mennonite University

Pellston teacher - five years              Farmer - four years

Prison worker - 24 years              Alaska fish - four summers