

THE HISTORICAL TIMES

Newsletter of the Granville, Ohio, Historical Society

Volume XIII Issue 4

Fall 1999

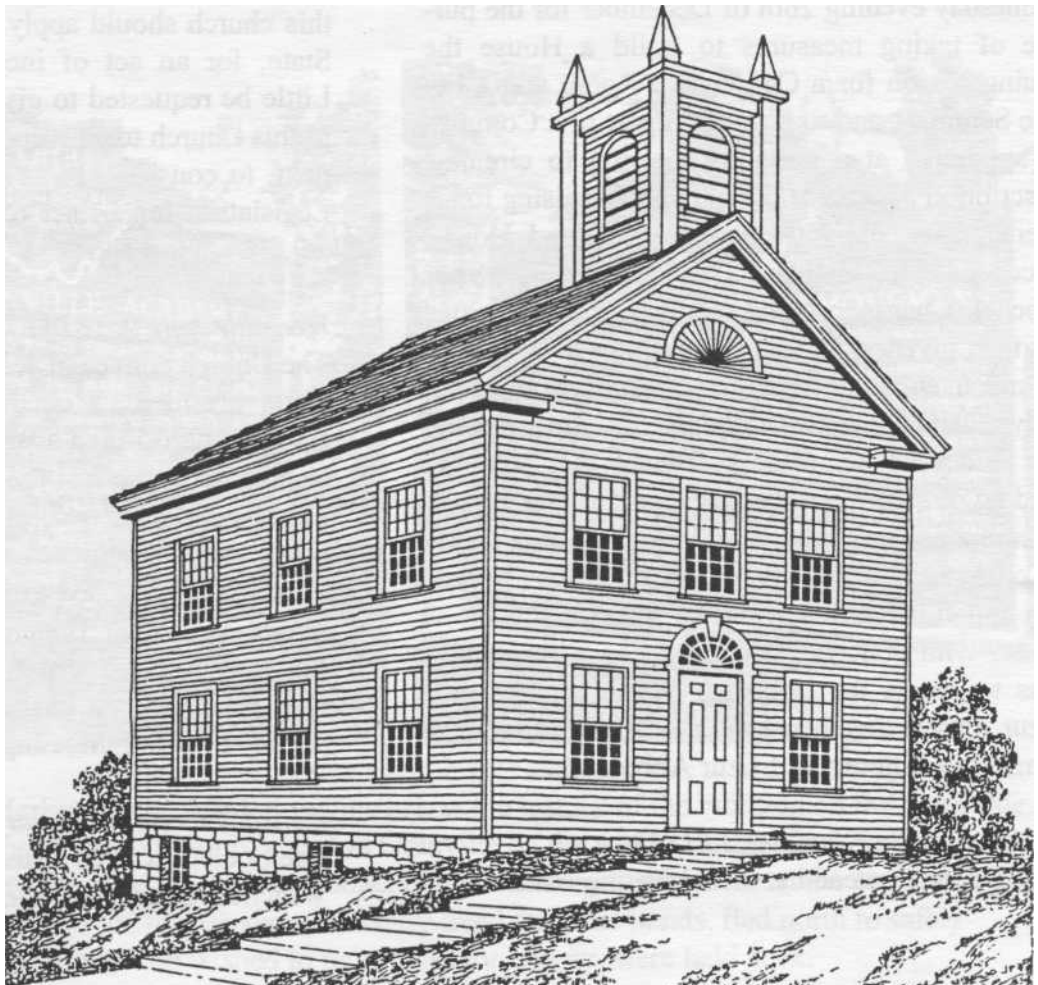
The Old Academy Building:

Standing Proudly For 166 Years

The Old Academy Building on Main & Elm Streets has been honored with an official Ohio Historic Marker which will be unveiled during a celebratory program on Sunday, October 24, 1999.

Built in 1833 by the Congregational Church, it has served as a school for girls, meeting house, boy's school, courtroom, church, Grange Hall, and exhibition space. Many programs, weddings, receptions, and community events have been held within its walls.

Professor Horace King's original drawing portrays the building as it must have looked in 1833, when a school bell hung in the tower.



Building the Academy

After the Reverend Jacob Little came to Granville in 1827 he worked to restore harmony in the congregation. His concern for the young people and for the moral state of the community led him to hold a series of lectures on the Bible which were well attended. The Sunday School held between the morning and evening services increased in size. Miss Mary Ann Howe's Select School had more than 30 pupils in the crowded office of Dr. Cooley. Space was needed for these activities so the Congregational Church formed a committee to solicit pledges to construct a building to provide a conference and meeting room in the lower floor and space for a Girl's Academy on the upper floors. The minutes of that committee are printed below with the original spelling and syntax.

Granville December 1832

The Presbyterian or Congregational Society of Granville convened at their Meeting House on Wednesday evening 26th of December for the purpose of taking measures to build a House the ensuing season for a Conference Room and a Female Seminary and to hear the report of a Committee appointed at a previous meeting to circulate subscription papers for the purpose of raising funds to erect and complete the above named House. Proceeded to business by appointing Silas Winchell Chairman. The report of the committee was then given in substance as follows. That they are much encouraged from the subscriptions already received and that they are fully in the belief that funds can be raised sufficient to justify the building of said House. This report was accepted. Whereupon Knowles Linnel, Elizur Abbott, G.P. Bancroft, Sereno Wright, and W.H. Brace (?) were then appointed a Committee to select a site for sd House, with conditions of purchase with instructions to report the same on Wensday eve next. Elizur Abbott was then appointed clerk after which the meeting adjourned. Elizur Abbott elk.

Wensday evening January 2d 1833.

The Society convened at their Meeting House.

Appointed S. Winchell to the Chair. Then moved that the Committee appointed to select and locate a site suitable to build a House to be occupied for a Conference Room and Female Seminary to hear the report of a Committee appointed at a previous meeting to circulate subscription papers for the prupos of raising funds to erect and complete the about named House. The report was then given in substance as follows. The Committee have bestowed as much time in viewing and in making and receiving proposals as they have thought the nature of the case required. And taking a general view into consideration, unanimously agreed to locate sd Building, on a Lot of ground owned by Dr. W.W. Bancroft, and lying opposite and west of E. Abbotts House, and on the corner south of Sereno Wrights garden. This Lot of ground can be obtained for \$100 exclusive of Dr. Bancroft's subscription. This report was then accepted. A question then arose, how the Society could become legal possessors of this or any other real estate and after some considerations, it was thought best, that this church should apply to the Legislature of this State, for an act of incorporation, and that Mr. Little be requested to give notice next Sunday (?), to this Church to convene in this place on Wensday next, to consider the propriety of applying to the Legislature for an act of incorporation. Meeting adj. E. Abbott elk.

Wensday Jany 9, 1833.

The Church convened according to motion. Rev. J. Little presided as chairman. Then moved that Judge Bancroft read a Bill which he was requested to prepare at the last meeting, containing the substance and forms necessary to an act of incorporation. The Church then voted to become incorporated, and proceeded to fill blanks in the Bill presented by Judge Bancroft, after which Hon. S. Bancroft was requested to forward the said Bill, with the names of its Petitioners to the Genl Assembly of Ohio. Meeting adj. E. Abbott elk.

Wensday Evening January 23d 1833.

The Society conved at the Meeting House apptd S. Winchell Chairman, after considerable discussion

as to the plan and size of said House, for Conference Room & Seminary, it was agreed the Building Committee do prepare a plan for said Building, to be 28 feet wide and not less than 40 feet nor more than 44 feet long. and report the same at the nextmeeting. adj. to wensday next. E. Abbott clk.

Wensday eve Jany 30, 1833.

no business done this evening.

Monday eve Feby 5, 1833.

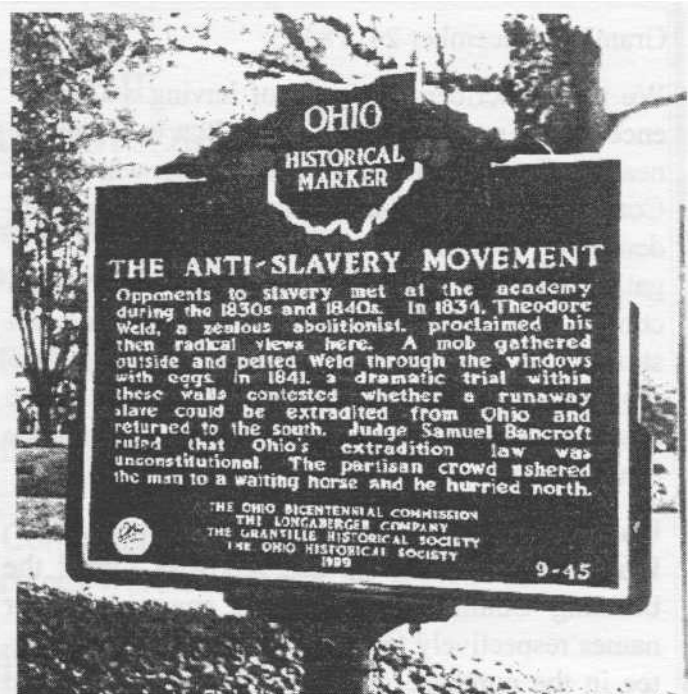
The Society accepted of the plan as drawn by E. Abbott for Said Building, and added J. Lennel Esq. to the building Committee, it was agreed that the building Committee make known on Wensday next specifications for receiving proposals for the building the Basement story, the Frame, and the enclosing of said building.

Wensday Feb 8, 1833. The building Committee presented the plan of said Building, together with the specifications for building same, and publikly declare themselves ready to receive proposals for

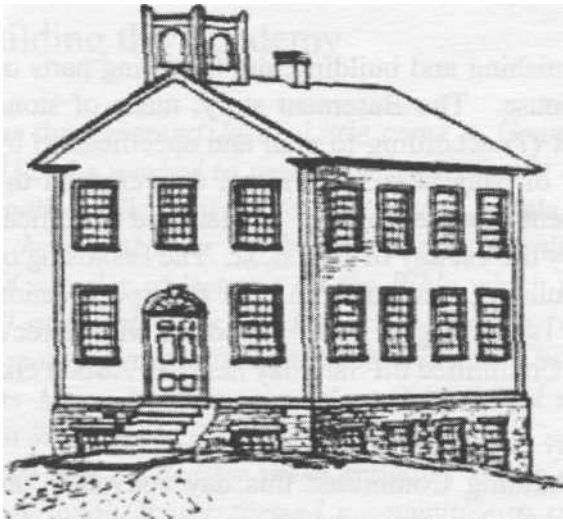
the furnishing and building, the following parts of said House. The Basement story, made of stone and det (?) according to plan and specification by the 20 of May next, the Frame, delivered on the Basement story according to plan and specifications by the 1st day of June next. The Enclosing of said Building, according to plan and specification by the 1st of August next. Proposals will be rec'd by the Committee till Saturday next. E. Abbott clk.

Monday Feby 12, 1833.

The building Committee this day convened and proceeded to examine the several propositions presented by sundry individuals for the building of said House. On examination it was agreed by the Committee, to accept the proposition of Curtis Howe, Hosea Cooley, and Erastus Allen, for the building of the basement storie, and of Leonard Bushnell, and G.P. Bancroft, for the building of the Frame, and of Henry L. Bancroft for the enclosing the same. E. Abbott clk.



The Ohio Historic Marker for the Academy summarizes the history of the building on the north side, at left above, and an important abolitionist event in Granville on the south, at the right. An escaped slave was apprehended here and tried by the local judge, Samuel Bancroft. He declared the extraditon law unconstitutional, and the former slave, instantly freed from his bonds, fled north to safety while those who wished to return him for bounty, were held back.



Drawing of the Academy from Henry Bushnell's
History of Granville, Licking County, Ohio

The text below is transcribed from a Congregational Church notebook now held by the Granville Presbyterian Church.

The following is a copy of the subscription papers circulated to obtain subscriptions for the purpose of building a Conference Room and Female Seminary with the names of the subscribers and amount of their subscription.

Granville December 24, 1832

We the subscribers desirous of having a Conference House erected on the Town Plat in Granville near the Congregational Meeting house, which said Conference House shall be under the superintendence and direction of the members of the Congregational or Presbyterian Church and which shall consist of three stories, viz. the first or basement story to be devoted to conference and other religious meetings. The 2d and 3d stories to be devoted to schools and under the superintendence of the Church.

Do hereby agree to pay to Amasa Howe, G.P. Bancroft, Elizur Abbott, and Knowles Linnel the building Committee, the sums annexed to our names respectively to be laid out by said Committee in the purchase of a piece of ground on said town plat and the erection of a suitable Building and we do hereby agree to pay the same amt to said Committee in months following that is to say one third when the frame is erected, one third when the same is enclosed and the other or last payment when the said Building is completed.

Names of Subscribers as taken from the subscription papers:

Sereno Wright	\$70.
G.P. Bancroft	50.
Silas Winchell	40.
Tillison Kling	5. lumber
Simeon Chester	20. 1 con d. 10 ft.
Aaron Pratt	5. In labor
Justin Hillyer	2. Laying stone
Theodore Gaylord	10. in labor
Jacob Little	10.
Lemuel Rose	40.
Giles Hickox	10.
Leml Rose Jr	30.
Lucius Cook	5.
John Starr (?)	10.
D. Wright	5.
E. Crawford labor	5.
Jus I (?) Langdon	45. materials & labor
Erastus Abbott labor	2.
Hiram P. Rose	30.
Abeal G. Graves	1.
Saml Fally	3. in invests
Josiah H. Graves	1.
Stephen G. Goodrich	25.
E.B. Pratt in lumber	5.
Charles Root 1 con	10.
A.A. Bancroft	40.
Joshua Stark	20.
Wm H. Brown (Braun?)	25.
Samuel Bancroft	50.
I.T. Clapp	25.
Sereno Wright Jr	10.
Joseph Lennel	50. fasty cloth
Paul Eager	20.
M.M. Houghton in lumber	10.
T.M. Rose	30.
Wm W. Bancroft	40.
Theophilus Little	15
Wm. Smedly	30. (joint? lumber)
Joseph H. Weeks	10.
Ebenezer Weeks	5.
Gershom Griffith	5. timber
G.W. Griffith do.	4.
Robert T. Griffith do.	4.
Horace Wolcott lumber	10.
David Pettiforce	10. 1/3 cash, 1/3 halg, 1/3 timber
James Pope	4. stone goods
Orlando M. Thrall cloth	10.
John Pettiforce	10. stone work
T.M. Thompson	10.
Joseph Loveland trade	6.
Edward Nicoll hauling	5.
Cornelius Deviney lumber	10.
A.E. Howe carpenter work	15.
A. Merriman shingles	20.

James G. Irwin	10.
Hosea Cooley	30.
Thomas Wells	5.
Enoch Graves Jr.	3.
Anthony Carroll	2. lumber park
Lewis Floode (?)	
Asahel Griffin	10.
Amasa Howe	15.
H.L. Bancroft	50.
C.B. Carmichael	10.
D.M. Baker	10. ½ hauling
Madison Houghton	5. cab. makr
H.L. Copeland labor	5.
Knowles Linnel	50.
Leonard Bushnell	30.
Curtis Howe	30.
Simon Prouty	10.
Peter Higbee	5.
Lewis Sturgis	15.
William Mead	10.
Samuel Miller	.1

Some of the costs of the building were noted in the minutes book:

Howe, Cooley & Allen	
Basement guard walls	\$355.00
Paving	59.00
L. Bushnell & G.P. Bancroft	
Frame	226.00
H.L. & G.P. Bancroft	
Enclosing	440.00
Howe & Cooley	
Laying Basement Floor	33.56
Henry L. Bancroft	
Finishing 2nd Story	64.16
Nathan Phelps	
Laying Upper Floor	21.37
Lumber, finishing, etc.	
making 30 spikes for eve troughs	1.60
schoolroom table	3.50
painting - Freeman Haskel	1.25
blacking small board	.25
stove	10.00
baling kettle	.50
building wood house	95.00
2 loads lime	

HISTORY OF THE OLD ACADEMY BUILDING

Built in 1833	by	The Granville Congregational Church Now the Granville Presbyterian Church
1833 - 1837		Granville Female Academy
1837 - 1863		Granville Male Academy
1863 - 1923		Welsh Congregational Church Services were conducted in Welsh
1923 - 1973		Granville Grange, Number 2230
1973 -		Granville Historical Society



Fall Banquet

The annual fall banquet meeting of the Granville Historical Society will be at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday (Oct. 20) at the Granville Inn. The program will be highlighted by the inaugural presentation of the Society's "Volunteer of the Year" award and a presentation by the Ohio Bicentennial Literary Committee chair, Miss Betsy Butler, on "Showcasing Literary Ohioans."

The Bicentennial Literary Committee hopes to raise Ohioans' awareness of the state's importance in the advancement of the printed word. Butler's presentation will elaborate on the projects being considered by the committee. Some of these are historic markers, a literary guidebook, a homecoming for authors, scholars and readers, and an anthology of Ohio poetry by contemporary authors.

Director of public relations at the Bricker & Eckler law firm, Butler was named as one of the Columbus Junior Chamber of Commerce's Ten Outstanding Young Citizens this year. She also was the recipient of Business First's Forty Under 40 Award in 1997. A graduate of Sweet Briar with a bachelor's degree, cum laude, in history and European civilization, Butler returned to Columbus and earned her master's degree in journalism, also cum laude, at Ohio State. She developed the public relations department at Bricker & Eckler where she is responsible for press releases, brochures, and other promotional literature as well as preparing the annual strategic public relations plan.

Butler is an active volunteer for the Columbus Museum of Art, Pro Musica, The WOSU stations and her alma mater. She is a member of the Legal Marketing Association and the Public Relations Society of America and on the steering committee of the Life Care Alliance Conference.

The banquet's move to the Granville Inn, necessitated by construction in progress at the Presbyterian Church, will afford us the opportunity to enjoy the Inn's buffet for dinner, but it also increases our cost and the importance of advance reservations. Please send \$20 per person to Maggie Brooks, c/o Denison University Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box A, Granville, OH 43023 no later than Oct. 16 to reserve your place at the 1999 banquet.

Excerpted from The Granville Times, January 4, 1934

MEMORIAL MEETING

GRANVILLE FEMALE COLLEGE COMMEMORATES THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMPLETION OF ITS SECOND HOME

There is in Granville a building to whose historic importance age has recently added the distinction of one hundred years. This, situated on the southwest corner of Elm and Main Streets, is now the home of the Granville Grange. Just a century ago, in December, this building *was* sufficiently near to completion to serve as the second home of the Granville Female Academy. This, celebrated as the first institution in the West for the higher education of women, was started in 1827 by the Rev. Jacob Little, pastor of the Granville Congregational (now Presbyterian) Church. Its original home was the office of John B. Cooley, M.D. whose site is now occupied by the Granville Public Library.

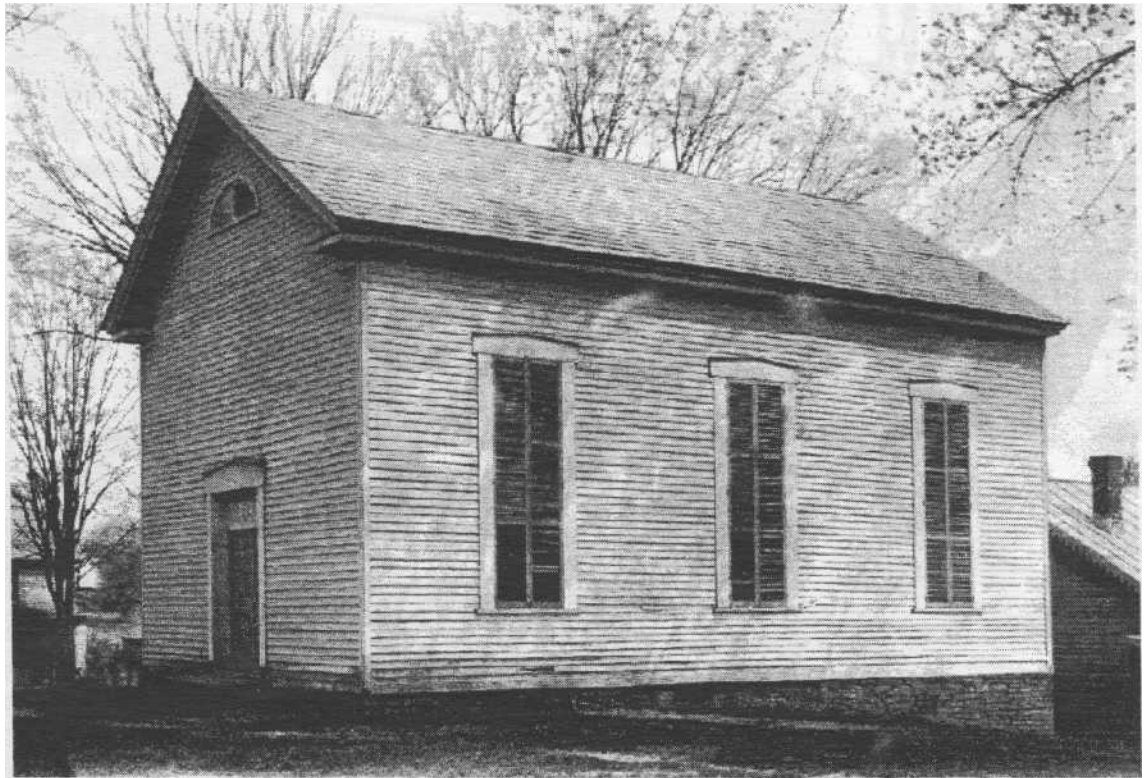
In recognition of the one hundredth anniversary, the society held a memorial service in that building, the identical structure which was completed and occupied in December 1833. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Clara Sinnett White, President of the G.F.C. Society. Miss Minnie Belle Jones read from Bushnell's history of Granville. The President read the names of the subscribers to the building and requested that descendants of those subscribers should arise. The oldest alumna present was Mrs. Dell Jones Howe, Class of 1870, who recited some very interesting reminiscences of her college days. Letters were read from members whom illness or infirmity kept them from the meeting, including a remarkable message from Miss Amelia Bancroft, Class of 1858, the oldest living alumna and the only person now living who was a student in the Granville Female Academy.

It was a happy reunion in every way. As a physical entity, Granville Female College no longer exists; but her influence is imperishable.

The Academy Building was remodeled by the Welsh Congregational Church in 1863 by changing the two upper stories into one large auditorium with full height side windows.

The windows were removed from the north wall and the doorway framed in Greek Revival style.

Photo taken about 1930



Civil War Roundtable

Clarke Wilhelm, the Coordinator of the Civil War Roundtable for the Historical Society, announces the Fall Schedule of meetings. The Roundtable meets regularly on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Society's Old Academy Building. All members and guests of the Society are welcome to attend these presentation and discussions..

September 21: "Camp Chase: A Parole Camp"

Roger Pickenpaugh, author of the recent book, Rescue _{ki} Rail, examines the parole system as it operated at Camp Chase on the west side of Columbus. Mr. Pickenpaugh is a public school instructor from Caldwell, Ohio; he has published articles in the Ohio Historical Society's *Timeline* and in *Country Living*.

October 19: "Winchester: The Most Fought-over Town in the Civil War"

Roundtable member Ed McCaul, a regular speaker for our Roundtable and an occasional Civil War Game Show host, will relate the bitter history of Winchester, Virginia, which was the

epicenter of the serious fighting in the Shenandoah Valley.

November 16: "The Legend of Johnny Clem Revisited"

Roundtable member Chris Evans (a.k.a. General William T. Sherman) has been instrumental in erecting Johnny Clem's Statue, will reexamine Clem and the myths that have grown around him. Everyone is encouraged to attend the unveiling and dedication of the John L. Clem statue at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 14, at Veterans Park, 6th and W. Main Streets in Newark.

December 21: "Los Confederados: Confederates in Exile"

Roundtable member Kevin Bennett, after all of his work on General Charles Griffin of Granville, now turns his attention south of the border to those Confederates who refused surrender and emigrated to South and Central America to set up colonies. Kevin's discussion will center on the history of those colonies and their modern-day descendants.



Grange members after a meeting in 1948.
 Granville Grange, # 2230, owned the Old Academy Building from 1923 to 1973.
 During those fifty years, institutes, lectures and state wide Grange events were held there.

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The Granville Historical Society
P. O. Box 129
Granville, OH 43023-0129

This is the thirteenth year of publication for

The Historical Times