

THE HISTORICAL TIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANVILLE, OHIO, HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume XI Number 2

Spring 1997

THE HOUSE ON LOUDON STREET

On a knoll rising from Loudon Street and nestled behind two ancient locust trees is an old house nearly forgotten in the mists of time, yet it is either the oldest or second oldest brick house in Granville Township. Facing the setting sun, it was built in 1812 by Hosea Cooley of bricks kilned right there on his farm. He even put the date on some of them.

Hosea Cooley was born in Granville, Massachusetts June 20, 1786, the son of Clark and Sabra (Bancroft) Cooley. Clark Cooley, a great-grandson of Captain Daniel Clark, one of the patentees named in the charter of Connecticut, was a member of the Convention of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1788 for the ratification of the U. S. Constitution. Like most farmers of western Massachusetts, he distrusted a strong central government and voted against its adoption. The following year he was a member of the General Court of Massachusetts (the state legislature).

As Hosea was reaching manhood, New England-

ers were looking westward. Granville, Massachusetts families were large and the land was rocky; better land was to be had across the Alleghenies. The story of the migration to Ohio in 1805 is too well known to be repeated here. Those families who left their old homes to build new ones and new lives in the Ohio Country carried with them the blessing of the Reverend Timothy Mather Cooley, Hosea's cousin, who was des-



The House on Loudon Street
as it appears today

tinued to be the pastor of the Congregational church in the old Granville for 64 years. Hosea's older brothers, Zadock and Elihu, had been members of the advance parties, and his older sister, Sabra, with her husband, Hiram Rose, and their four children, were in the first company to arrive in November 1805. It was only natural that the

nineteen-year-old lad would yearn to go too.

A few months later, in 1806, before the snows of winter had melted in the Berkshires, Hosea, having obtained the permission of his father, set out for the new land accompanied by his cousin

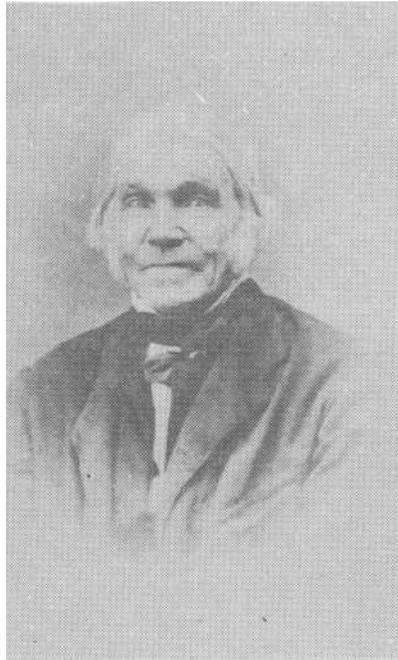
Samuel Bancroft who was eight years his senior. According to family tradition the journey was made on foot. Samuel Bancroft, whose bassoon is preserved in the Granville Museum, was the first music instructor in Granville Township and was later a judge.

For \$177.30, he and Oliver Coe, both of Granville, Massachusetts had purchased 100 acres of land from Benjamin Wettim of Bethlehem, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, January 18, 1806. This land which Wettim had bought from members of the Licking Land Company lay in the second, third and fourth sections of the second township in the thirteenth range; second section of the fourth township in the thirteenth range; second and fourth section of the fourth township in the fourteenth range, and first section in the fourth township of the fifteenth range. Part of this land lay along what would be Loudon Street, but the acreage could not have been contiguous as, according to the description in the deed which was recorded May 11, 1808, it would have

been in what is the present Granville, St. Albans, Burlington, Bennington and Hartford Townships. It is likely that Samuel Bancroft and Hosea Cooley erected a cabin on the land in Granville Township. Then in May of the following year (1807), Samuel married Clarissa Rose, daughter of Timothy Rose and niece of Hosea's brother-in-law, Hiram Rose.

On January 7, 1808 a deed was signed "State of Ohio, Fairfield County, Granville," giving title to Josiah Graves and Hosea Cooley for land which they purchased for \$150 from Samuel Thrall. This

land consisted of "lots numbered one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, twelve, thirteen and fourteen in Block number eighteen which is more particularly described in the partition Deed of the Licking Land Company." The deed was recorded July 8, 1808. Josiah Graves was Hosea's brother-in-law, the husband of his sister Hannah. They had been married in Granville, Massachusetts on February 7, 1798 and Josiah, a shoemaker, had first bought land in Granville on December 21, 1807.



Hosea Cooley

Two years later Hosea made the purchase of the land where he would build his home. For the sum of \$350, he obtained title from Timothy Spellman for "a lot containing 96 acres, 2 roods and 36 rods lying in the second section of the second township in the thirteenth Range of the United States Army lands and known by lot number Three in the seventh Range of the first division of the Licking Land Company's Purchase, which was surveyed out by James Coe. . ." Cornelius Slocum and Ethan Bancroft witnessed the signing of the deed February 3, 1810. As Hosea was the only one of Clark Cooley's children not named in his will, it is probable that he

received his inheritance in advance in order to purchase his land in Granville.

It was probably in the spring of 1811 that Hosea Cooley walked back to Granville, Massachusetts fulfilling a promise he had made to his father at the time of his first journey to Ohio. There apparently was another reason for the visit to his old home beyond telling his father that he had found the place where he wished to spend the rest of his life. He was going to marry Statira Roberts of Middletown, Connecticut who had been born there

September 28, 1790. She was the daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah (Whiton) Roberts as Sarah had Whiton relatives in Granville, Massachusetts. Their intent to marry is recorded in the Granville (Mass.) Town Records July 29, 1811. According to family tradition, the bride's father gave the newlyweds a horse which she rode, with Hosea walking beside her back over the mountains to Granville Township. It was the last time he would see his parents as less than two years later, in February 1813, they died four days apart from putrid pleurisy.

Nearly every trade was practiced in Granville, making the village self-sufficient from its earliest days. Besides fanning the land surrounding his newly-built home, Hosea pursued the trade of shoemaking. His cobbler's shop was built at the foot of the knoll beside the road, but no trace of it remains today.

Four children were born to them in the house on Loudon Street. The first was Samantha, baptized in the Granville Congregational Church September 19, 1812. The following year Hosea was in the First Ohio Militia Regiment in the War of 1812. He served from July 31 to August 15, 1813 when he was discharged at Upper Sandusky and allowed five days' pay to return home. The other children were Bela, Sarah Ammarilla, and Loring Hosea who was born October 2, 1822.

As his father had done before him, Loring looked westward, and in 1856 he and his wife, Mary Ann Mead, whom he had married March 1, 1846, and their three sons set out by covered wagon for

Hampton, Iowa to farm the land bought from Clark Fuller, his sister Ammarilla's father-in-law. Two daughters were born there in a log cabin, one of whom was my grandmother, Sylvania Cooley Schaus. She told of how her mother kept water boiling on the fire in order to scald the Indians if the need arose — which it never did.

By the summer of 1860 they were back in Granville. The clouds of the Civil War were gathering, and after the firing on Fort Sumter, Loring enlisted in Company H, 76th Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry, December 15, 1861 at Newark. His eldest son, Edelbert, not yet fifteen, enlisted on the same day, so father and son went off to war together.

Tragedy struck the house on Loudon Street. Edelbert was sent home ill with remittant fever and dysentery in August 1862, a mere shadow of his former self. He died two weeks later, nearly four months before his sixteenth birthday. Then on July 23, 1863, Loring died in Mississippi of "inflammation of the liver." Twin sons had been

born after he joined the army; one had lived three weeks and one three months. Now all that was left for Mary Ann and the other children were the homesick letters Loring had written to her wishing he could be home in his rocking chair with a bowl of blackberries and cream and his children around him. Invariably he ended his letters with, "A kiss for you and each of the children. Good night." He lies in the National Cemetery at Vicksburg.

Before these terrible years of the Civil War were over, death stalked again. On January 23, 1865 Statira Roberts Cooley died and was buried in



Statira Roberts Cooley

Maple Grove. The old house passed from the family when Hosea sold it to Ralph Granger February 16, 1865 for \$5000, and moved into Granville to spend the remaining six years of his life with his granddaughter and her husband, Frank Carter, grocer and photographer, in their home at the northeast corner of College and Prospect Streets. There he died January 14, 1871, and was laid to rest beside his wife, far from the hills of their native New England.

The old house and 100 acres of land on Loudon Street passed to Frank F. Robinson in 1880 when Granger sold it for \$6500. Other owners followed: William P. Warner lost the property by foreclosure on the mortgage March 4, 1924, and it was sold by sheriff's sale. James Carlile Tatham, of an old Alexandria family, acquired it for \$5000, which was above the two-thirds of the appraised value, at an auction held on the steps of the courthouse in Newark on June 7. From then until his death some fifty years later the house crumbled. A derelict with fallen chimneys, it was buried in the weeds.

In 1978 Kenneth Wakefield and his wife, Malen, purchased the property, now shrunken to fifty acres, with the intention of razing the house to provide a building site for a new home. After discovering that only one of the black walnut beams under the house was rotted, they decided to restore it instead of pulling it down. With an addition skillfully constructed on the rear and much of the original woodwork and hardware intact, it is once again a beautiful home worthy of its past. Hosea Cooley would be proud of his old house on Loudon Street.

An extensive obituary for Hosea Cooley is in the Smucker Scrapbook in the Granville Public Library.

Ann Natalie Hansen
Granville Historical Society



Hannah Kenah receives Bill Utter Award

Granville High School graduating senior, Hannah Kenah, has received this year's William T. Utter Award from the Granville Historical Society. This award goes annually to a senior at Granville High School who has demonstrated academic excellence in the field of history. Congratulations to Hannah for her very fine work. In addition to this award, Hannah is the salutatorian of her high school class.

Annual Walking Tour in Old Colony

Flo Hoffman and her Old Colony Burial Ground Committee arranged for the annual walking tour for June 11. This has become a highly popular event during which various 'ghosts' from Granville's lively historical past provided glimpses of our village from the Nineteenth Century.

Flo also received a well deserved award from the Granville Rotary for her continued commitment to the ongoing preservation efforts in the Old Colony Burial Ground. Flo received the "Service Above Self" award. Our appreciation and gratitude to Flo for her continuing oversight of this important Historical Society Project.

Civil War Roundtable

Clarke Wilhelm is the new coordinator of the Historical Society's Civil War Roundtable. Clarke announces that he has almost a full schedule of events for the fall series put together already. If you wish to be on the CWRT mailing list, please contact Clarke in care of the Society. Our appreciation to Kevin Bennett for serving as coordinator of the CWRT for the past two years.

President's Message

This past year has been an enjoyable one for yours truly, albeit a learning one. I wish there were some way to document all of the hours donated by the Board of Managers and all of the other volunteers who have embraced the purpose of the Granville Historical Society. I know it would be in the thousands. Let me take this opportunity to thank the veteran board members who have taken me under their collective wings and shown me the ropes. I would also like to thank the new board members who stepped forward to take the reigns of very active committees when others needed to move on. This community is blessed with quality volunteers who have a sense of history about Granville and willingly take up the banner to preserve and pass that history along to others. The 1996-97 fiscal year has also been a very productive year. A special thank you to each committee chair and to committee members who have accomplished so much this year. We are working hard at becoming organizationally more efficient and responsive to the community.

This past year we have expanded and restructured our museum committee to accommodate the growing needs and community requests for this facility. Membership rosters have been updated and made more complete. A number of needed facility repairs have been completed and an assessment of future facility maintenance estimates has been gathered. Tremendous strides in the ongoing restoration of the Old Colony Burial Ground have been made possible with the leadership efforts and volunteer hours given by dedicated board members with community help. Working together works!

The addition of the Cambrian Society into the GHS allows us to share in the Welsh history and culture and this inclusion has enriched both groups. Preliminary phases of the 2005 Bicentennial Publication have been addressed and deliberate steps are being taken to carry out this ambitious project.

The Historical Times exemplifies our stated purpose to preserve the heritage of Granville and enrich the lives of even the newest members of our community. Our Program and Civil War Roundtable committees have increased the number of exciting program offerings and attendance at these programs continues to rise.

Without question, there is much more to be done. Nonetheless, we are excited about the direction we are headed and the plans we are making. At our January 14, 1997 planning board meeting, we challenged ourselves to accept a vision for the coming year, one which would make us more focused in our tasks and more responsive to the community. In addition to carrying out the purpose of our constitution to promote interest in and appreciation of the history of Granville, collect and preserve items that pertain to Granville history and culture, we have added the following three specific missions for the 1997-1998 fiscal year:

- To increase and enhance our membership, endowment and volunteer help.
- To improve our knowledge, communication, outreach and education and use of our resources.
- To increase and improve the presentation and understanding of our historical past.

As part of the outreach and education mission, I am encouraging the development of a "traveling historical trunk" and program that we can take into our schools to provide our youngsters with a sense of history about our community.

We pledge to make sure that our efforts reflect this vision. As members of the GHS, you will hear this theme repeated in committee reports and discussions throughout the year. As members of the GHS, we invite each of you to provide us with additional ideas. We also invite you to roll up your sleeves and join in. As I mentioned earlier, 'working together works!' And I might add, 'the more the merrier!'

Dick Daly
President, Board of Managers

Future Supreme Court Justice Pens Civil War Letter to Newark Friend

Twenty years ago, Monsignor Herman Mattingly, the Archivist for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus, found a fascinating letter in the papers of the Wehrle Foundation. This letter was from the pen of then Brigadier-General William Burnham Woods to his friend in Newark, Captain Joseph C. Wehrle. General Woods wrote to Captain Wehrle in March, 1865, from Goldsboro, North Carolina, where Woods was serving on active duty with the Union Army.

Judge William B. Woods

General Woods was born in Newark on August 3, 1824. He attended Western Reserve University before going on to Yale University. He was admitted to the Bar in 1847. Elected to the Ohio



William B. Woods

Legislature under the banner of the Democratic Party, he served with distinction, becoming the Speaker of the House in 1858. General Woods entered army service in November, 1861 and promptly was named a Lieutenant Colonel in the 76th Ohio. Later he marched with fellow Ohioan, William T. Sherman, from Atlanta to Savannah, to Raleigh, and on to Washington. In 1863, Woods was promoted to the rank of Colonel; to Brigadier-General in 1865, and finally to Major General. General Woods was mustered out of the Union Army on February 11, 1866.

In December, 1869, President U.S. Grant appointed General Woods a Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in Georgia. In December, 1880, his friend and former soldier comrade, President Rutherford B. Hayes, named Judge Woods to the Supreme Court of the United States. As far as we know, Judge Woods is the only native of Licking County to be named a Supreme Court Justice.

Judge Woods died in 1887 and his body was returned to Newark. He was buried in the Civil War Section of Cedar Hill Cemetery, near the final resting place of his brother, Charles B. Woods [1827-1885], and the later burial site of their Civil War friend and brother-in-law, Granville's own Willard Warner [1826-1906]. Charles B. White includes all three men in his list of famous sons and daughters of Licking County.

Captain Joseph C. Wehrle

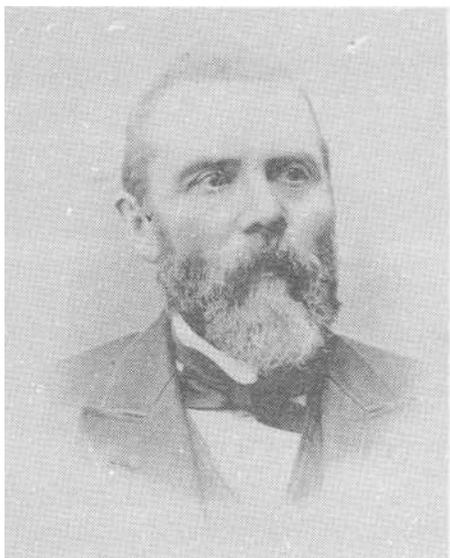
Captain Wehrle, to whom General Woods wrote in the spring of 1865, lived in Newark. He was born in 1836 in Germany and died in 1890. His bride, mentioned in the letter from General Woods, was the former Philomena Maurath. Philomena was the daughter of a famous brewer in Newark. This accounts for the "bottle" reference in the letter. Philomena was born in 1840 and died in 1907. Joseph and Philomena were the parents of 11 children. Six of the children died in childhood. Captain Wehrle eventually was promoted to Colonel.

Joseph and his sons developed an extensive industrial, oil and real estate business. Probably their most famous enterprise was the Wehrle Stove Company, whose buildings were demolished earlier this year. Their former mansion and accompanying land on the south shore of Buckeye Lake is being developed as Heron's Bay. The Wehrle

farm near Hebron now serves as the site for the PIME seminary complex.

Two of the children became a priest and a nun in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus. Father Joseph Wehrle, who died in 1924, was an educator and a pastor. The former Wehrle High School in the south end of Columbus was named for him. He served

many years as pastor of St. Mary's Church on Third Street in German Village. A daughter of Joseph and Philomena entered the St. Mary of the Springs Dominican Convent in Columbus



Joseph C. Wehrle

and became Sister Mary Eulalia, O.P. The beautiful Wehrle Art Gallery on the campus of Ohio Dominican College was a gift to the Dominican Community from the Wehrle family.

The considerable wealth of the family was placed in the Wehrle Foundation. For many years, the Foundation was located in Newark. The Wehrle Foundation was dissolved in 1978 and its assets distributed to several religious institutions in central Ohio. None of the Wehrle family remains alive today.

The Letter from General Woods to Captain Wehrle

Hd. Or. 1st Brig., 1st Div. A.C.
Goldsboro, N.C., March 30, 1865

Dear Captain:

I have just received your very welcome letter of Feb. 4th. I thank you for the kind expressions of which it is full. I do not at all regret that I did not remain in Savannah. I prefer field service, and Gen. Sherman told me it would be better for me.

We have had a pretty rough and tough campaign from Beaufort, S.C., to this place. The main fighting fell to the 14th & 20th Corps (left wing). My brigade was twice engaged, once near Columbia and once at Bentonville about 17 miles from here. I only lost 22 killed and wounded & 8 captured on the campaign.

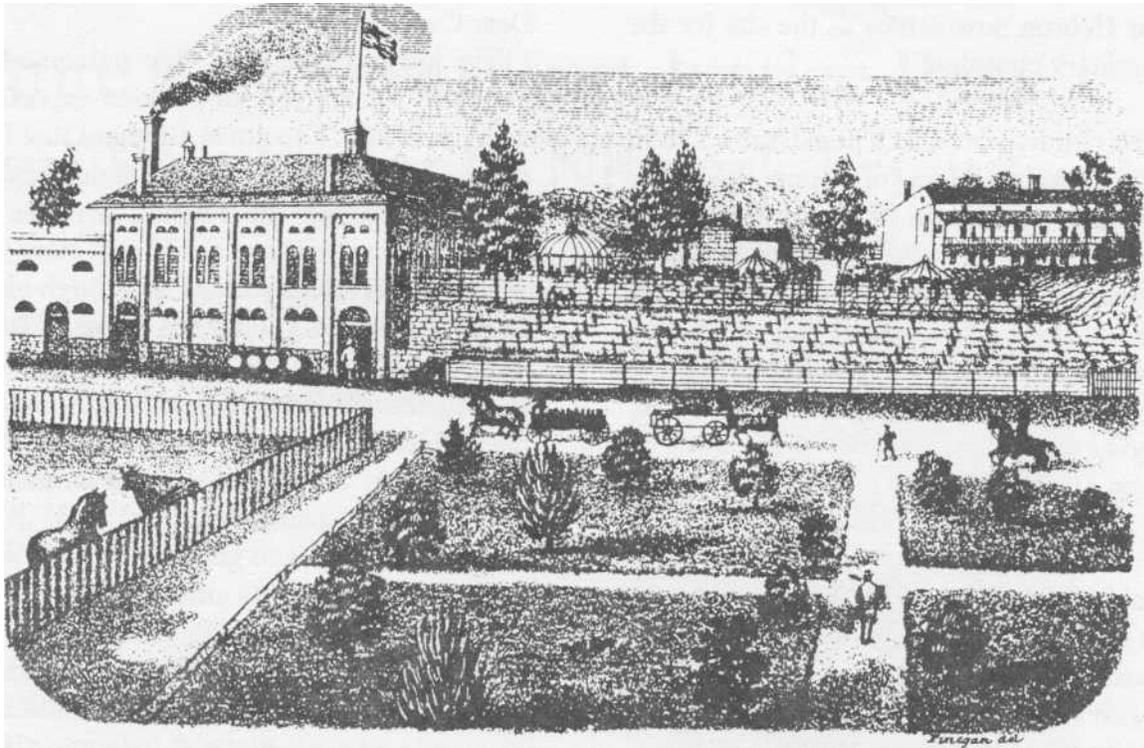
We are very agreeably situated here. I have the most splendid line of works in front of my brigade I ever saw. I can hold them against all odds should the rebel "come for us."

We are rapidly getting up stores, clothing and ammunition here, and as soon as we are refitted I presume "Tecumseh" will light out again. I believe we shall substantially close out the Rebel by the 4th of July. I do not expect peace till we whip and disperse Lee's army, and I think that between Grant and Sherman that will be done.

Allow me, my dear Captain, to congratulate you on your marriage with one of the sweetest girls in Licking County. I have to regret that I lost my only chance of kissing your pretty bride by not being at the wedding. Present Mrs. Wehrle with the kind regards of one of her and your best friends. I have known her since she was born and know that you have chosen a good wife who I know will make you happy.

Remember me to my trusty friend, Mr. Michael Maurath, and tell him I will return those bottles when I come home. (*See print on next page.*)

With kind regards to all Friends,
I am very truly your Friend,
W.B. Woods



M. Morath's City Brewery Newark, O.

from the 1866 Atlas of Licking County

1997 marks the sesquicentennial of the pioneer Mormon journey from Illinois to Utah. Joan Hays has contributed the following account of that religious passage and writes about how the local church in Granville will remember this important historical event.

Faith in Every Footstep

One hundred and fifty years ago, the Mormons endured a long, arduous journey to their promised land, a place of refuge in the tops of the Rocky Mountains. They were driven from Nauvoo, Illinois in February, 1846, camped for the winter in desolate conditions, and then embarked on their journey with 'faith in every footstep' over

the plains and rivers, desert and mountains, and arrived finally in July, 1847 in the Salt Lake Valley.

Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Later-Day Saints, wherever they live, share this common spiritual heritage. This heritage will be honored and remembered in 1997 as church members around the world celebrate the invaluable legacy of courage and dedication that pioneers in all times and places contribute to their communities.

Local members of the church plan to honor and celebrate this Sesquicentennial in a variety of ways. A service project is scheduled to assist the directors of the Infirmary Mound Park. Articles in



area newspapers will highlight local activities and illustrate the pioneer stories of sacrifice and devotion. Young persons dressed in period costumes will experience the trials of travel as they pull loaded handcarts.

The historical celebrations will culminate on July 26 at the Church on the Newark-Granville Road from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy pioneer displays and activities and a Sesqui-centennial concert featuring the pioneer story through a multi-media presentation.

The early Granville settlers who left their homes in Massachusetts for the unknown horizons and overcame the challenges in forging a new community in Licking County may have felt somewhat like Bathsheba Smith, a Nauvoo pioneer. Her journal records the following account:

My last act in that precious spot was to tidy the rooms, sweep the floor and set the broom in the accustomed place, behind the door. Then with emotions in my heart that I could not now pen and which I then strove with success to conceal, I gently closed the door and faced the unknown future, faced a new life, a greater destiny as I well knew, but I faced it with faith in God... .

The members of the local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints invite members of the Granville Historical Society to participate in the celebration of this historic event. Further information is available from Joan Hays [366-6167] or Gloria Lloyd [522-4466]

Two Granville Churches Celebrate Anniversaries

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and the Church of St. Edward the Confessor, both located on the Newark-Granville Road, will be celebrating historical events this summer. July 20 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the first Roman Catholic Mass offered in Granville. On July 26, the Mormon community will remember the sesquicentennial of their pioneer journey from Illinois to Utah. Both religious communities will offer programs centering on their respective historical celebrations.

Annual Meeting News

Election Results

At the annual meeting held in April in the Old Academy Building, Cynthia Cort, George Wales and Clarke Wilhelm were elected to membership on the Board of Managers. Cynthia and George were re-elected after serving on the Board as appointed members filling the remaining parts of terms from former members. Cynthia has worked diligently bringing the membership list up to date on the Society's computer. George continues with the work of keeping our buildings in good order. Clarke will succeed Kevin Bennett as the coordinator of the Society's Civil War Round Table.

Bud Abbott named Historian of the Year

Society member and former Board of Manager Bud Abbott was named as the Historian of the Year. Bud served faithfully for many years on the Board of Managers. Recently Bud has performed the important task of indexing the articles of Minnie Hite Moody which appeared for many years in the Newark Advocate. Society Treasurer David Neel read a tribute to Bud indicating Bud's care and concern for the history of our community.

From the Archives. . . .



The founding members of St. Edward the Confessor Roman Catholic Parish in Granville gather in front of their first place of worship, the house at the northeast corner of Broadway and Pearl, following the first mass, July 20, 1947.

Board of Managers
of
Granville Historical Society

<u>President</u>	Richard Daly
<u>Vice President</u>	Thomas Martin
<u>Secretary</u>	John Senn
<u>Treasurer</u>	David Neel

Term Ends 2000
Clarke Wilhelm
George Wales
Cynthia Cort

Term Ends 1999:
Florence Hoffman
Anthony Lisska
Richard Shiels

Term Ends 1998
Robert Watson
John Kessler
Maggie Brooks

*This is the Second Issue in Our
Eleventh Year
Of Publishing
The Historical Times*

*We hope that the members of the Society
have enjoyed the articles.*

Editorial Board

*Flo Hoffman
Maggie Brooks
Cookie Sunkle
Tony Lisska*

*Send comments, suggestions
or queries to:*

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