

THE HISTORICAL TIMES

Newsletter of the Granville, Ohio, Historical Society

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The Granville Historical Society and the Homer Historical Society, in conjunction with the Catholic Record Society and the Knox-Licking Vicariate of the Diocese of Columbus, have raised the funding necessary to place an Ohio Historical Society marker in Homer honoring General William Starke Rosecrans and Bishop Sylvester Horton Rosecrans. The dedication of this marker will take place at 2:00 on Sunday afternoon, September 23, 2001 on the grounds of the Homer Public Library.

Sylvester Horton Rosecrans

The "Other" Rosecrans from Homer

**Founding Bishop
Roman Catholic Diocese of Columbus
1868-1878**

Homer is a rustic village in the northernmost reaches of Licking County. From Homer, two eminently famous folks emerged in the 19th century; Victoria Clafin Woodhull [1838-1927] and General William Starke Rosecrans [1819-1898]. Woodhull went on to fame as the first woman to run for the office of president of the United States and Rosecrans served with distinction and fame in the Civil War before his later election to Congress from California and his appointment as the Ambassador to Mexico.¹

Both Victoria Woodhull and William Starke Rosecrans had siblings justly famous in their own right but who are largely neglected in the historical narratives of the 19th century. Tennessee Clafin was the younger sister of Victoria, and Sylvester Horton was the younger brother of William Starke. This biography is a brief

account of the younger Rosecrans brother who served the Roman Catholics of central and southern Ohio with admirable distinction.

Early Days in Homer



Bishop Rosecrans, 1827-1878

The family of Crandall Rosecrans and his wife, Jemima Hopkins Rosecrans, moved to the Homer area from Kingston Township in southern Delaware County in the 1820s. Crandall was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in 1794, and he was 14 years old when the family moved to Delaware County, Ohio. Crandall and Jemima Hopkins were married in 1816. The new Mrs. Rosecrans was a daughter of Timothy Hopkins, who in turn was a relative of Stephen Hopkins of Rhode Island, an original signer of the Declaration of Independence.

William, the oldest surviving son, was born in Kingston Township in 1819.² He was baptized into the Church of England. Two other sons were born in Homer before the birth of the youngest son, Sylvester; Charles Wesley was born in 1822 followed by Henry Crandall in 1824. Sylvester was born in Homer on February 5, 1827. The family home was just east of the main intersection in Homer on the north side of the street. This building still stands, but it is in a serious state of disrepair. The house was built in 1825 on Lot 12, one of four lots that Crandall Rosecrans purchased in Homer. According to several historical



The Rosecrans House, built in 1825, shown here at the turn of the century, was located on Utica-Homer Road.



The Rosecrans House as it looks today.

sources, later the family moved to a farm on the east side of the present Route 661 just south of Homer. In Homer, Crandall Rosecrans opened a tavern and store. An energetic citizen of Homer, Crandall also acquired additional houses and lots, maintained a garden and owned a potash factory. Devoted to the

commonweal of his community, Crandall commanded the local militia and also was engaged periodically in the construction of public works.

Both William and Sylvester appear to have been studious young men. William was self-taught in several areas of inquiry but also received tutoring in some subjects. He received an appointment to West Point in 1838, and, in preparation for his entrance examinations, he spent several months in study at Kenyon College in Gambier.

Student at Kenyon College, 1843-1846

In 1843, the young Sylvester enrolled at Kenyon College, the Episcopal institution founded by Philander Chase some 20 years earlier. A brilliant and precocious young man, Sylvester appears to have done quite well as a Kenyon student. He spent three years studying in Gambier. The archivist of Kenyon College once suggested that young Sylvester, with a near perfect academic record, was probably the top student in his class.

Some time during his college days at Kenyon, Sylvester became interested in Roman Catholicism. One historical reference suggests that Sylvester's interest in Roman Catholicism came about through the Oxford Movement, which was a revolution within Anglicanism begun by John Henry Newman. Certainly the college in Gambier, with close ties to traditional Anglicanism, would have been aware of the growing restlessness among the Anglican clergy in Britain. However, probably a more direct influence in Sylvester's move to Rome from Canterbury came through the conversion of his brother, General William Starke Rosecrans, then a professor at West Point. Another source notes that Sylvester discussed Roman Catholicism with the then pastor of St. Luke's Parish in Danville, Father Jean Baptiste Lamy. Lamy went on to fame as the Archbishop of Santa Fe, about whom Willa Cather wrote her great American novel, *Death Comes For the Archbishop*.

Always a person to whom decisions came slowly and with much deliberation, Sylvester wrestled with the possibility of becoming a Roman Catholic. This slowness and deliberateness in decision-making



General William Starke Rosecrans

appears to have been a characteristic of both Rosecrans brothers, as the General, later in the Civil War, would suffer from a lack of decisiveness, especially at the loss of the major Battle of Chickamauga.

Nonetheless, in 1846, while visiting

his brother at West Point, Sylvester embraced Roman Catholicism and was baptized in a little church across the Hudson River from the military school preparing officers for the United States Army. The Roman Catholic Chaplain of West Point at Cold Spring, New York, which was opposite West Point, baptized Sylvester. His brother and sister-in-law served as the godparents or sponsors at the rite of baptism.

Writing in 1886 from his position with the Registrar's Office in the Treasury Department to the long time pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Mt. Vernon, Father. L.W. Mulhane, General Rosecrans offered the following narrative about his brother's conversion to Roman Catholicism:

Dec. 11, 1886

Dear Father Mulhane:

*Bishop Rosecrans was baptized at Cold Spring on the North River opposite West Point, N.Y., by the Rev. Dr. Villani, pastor of the Catholic Church at that place, and in charge of the station at the Post of West Point, in the summer of 1846. I was his godfather and my wife his godmother. I do not remember whether it was sub conditione.*³

My baptism in 1841 was sub conditione, because it was a vague tradition that in my early infancy a Protestant or Wesleyan Methodist minister at my grandmother's instance had baptized me, following the traditional ritual of the church of England in so doing.

*Yours most truly,
W S. Rosecrans*

*To the Rev. L. W. Mulhane,
Mt. Vernon, Ohio*⁴

Following his conversion to Roman Catholicism, Sylvester transferred from Kenyon College to St. John's College, Fordham, New York. There is historical evidence that the parents showed some opposition to the newly found religious convictions of their sons. On William's advice, Sylvester, so it seems, transferred to the Jesuit college just north of New York City. This is the present Fordham University in the Bronx. Sylvester graduated with high honors from the then St. John's College in 1847.

While in the last months of his study in New York, young Sylvester wrote home fondly of his thoughts about a Homer springtime:

*It must be delightful spring at home now I imagine the fields are plowed, the logsheaps are smoking, the lettuce in the garden is just coming up, the orchard in bloom, and the grass all green in the meadows, and I think home a delightful place.*⁵

Student in Rome for Roman Catholic Priesthood

While a student at St. John's College, Sylvester decided to embark on study for the Roman Catholic priesthood. He became affiliated with the Diocese of Cincinnati and was accepted for seminary studies by Archbishop John B. Purcell, the long-term ecclesiastical leader of the Diocese of Cincinnati, which then encompassed all of Ohio.

Purcell appears to have realized that young Sylvester was not an ordinary student but one naturally endowed with tremendous intellectual gifts. Hence, Purcell sent Sylvester to the College of the Propaganda in Rome for his seminary training. While a student in Rome, Sylvester kept a lively journal containing reflective comments on the political turmoil then raging in Italy. Portions of the diary describe graphically the war events of the day. Selections of this interesting personal narrative have been published in the *Bulletin of the Catholic Record Society*.

Completing his theological studies with honors, Sylvester was ordained a Roman Catholic priest on July 5, 1852, in Rome, when he was twenty-five years old. He also was awarded a Doctorate in Theology,

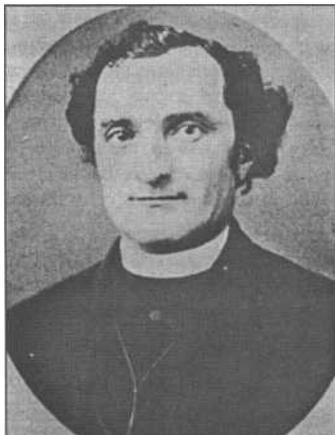
which is an indication once again of his deep study and intellectual rigor. A brief note in *The Catholic Telegraph of Cincinnati* indicates the honors the young seminarian from Homer received as a theology student in Rome.

A Priest of the Diocese of Cincinnati

Following his ordination and a tour of Europe, Sylvester returned to Cincinnati and was assigned to St. Thomas Church in Purcell's see city. He next was assigned to St. Peter in Chains Cathedral and also began teaching in the major seminary in Cincinnati. When Purcell opened a college in Cincinnati, he appointed his young but intellectually vibrant new cleric to the position of president of the institution. Rosecrans served in this role until the college closed at the outbreak of the War Between the States. A contemporary description of Rosecrans in the classroom notes that "as a professor of dogmatic theology, he was at his best. He seemed to be a born teacher—in theology his clear philosophical mind made his lectures most entertaining and instructive for the students."

A person with some printer's ink in his veins, Rosecrans became an editorial contributor to *The Catholic Telegraph*, which was the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. In 1866, he also authored a book of theology entitled *The Divinity of Christ: Together with Thoughts on the Passion of Jesus Christ*. Sections of this book were in continuous publication through the first quarter of the twentieth century.

Purcell observed first-hand Rosecrans' fine administrative abilities. Hence, while only in his mid-thirties, he was consecrated Auxiliary Bishop of



This unusual photo of Bishop Rosecrans appeared in the St. Joseph's Academy centennial yearbook in 1975.

Cincinnati on March 25, 1862. Rosecrans was the first person in the United States appointed as an Auxiliary Bishop. Several sources suggest that Archbishop Purcell had wanted Rosecrans for his assistant for some time. Rosecrans continued teaching at the seminary until 1864. One document portrays the new bishop's duties in the following way:

*After his consecration, he continued as professor of dogmatic theology in the Seminary. His duties as Bishop seemed never to interfere with his classes. Relieving the Archbishop of the more onerous work of visiting the outlying parishes of the Diocese, and teaching theology in the seminary made up his routine of life until he was sent to Columbus to act as pastor of St. Patrick's Church and finally to become the first Bishop of Columbus.*⁶

The young Auxiliary Bishop attracted wide attention during the Civil War for his bold patriotism in support of the Union cause. For this set of firm convictions, he was severely criticized by the anti-war editor of the powerful lay-edited national newspaper, *New York Freeman's Journal*. Purcell too was a staunch supporter of the Union aspirations during this terrible time of civil strife. Rosecrans also exhibited a strong sense of character and courage when burglars wounded him as he refused to give to them a church collection. On another occasion, he also calmly but firmly dispersed a band of religious bigots intent on crashing into the Bishop's residence in Cincinnati.

The Founding of the Diocese of Columbus

The assembled bishops from all the dioceses of the United States, meeting at the Second Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1866, recommended the establishment of the Diocese of Columbus from territory of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. The Diocese of Cleveland had been established in 1847. In 1867, the very talented and energetic Rosecrans was assigned as pastor of St. Patrick's Church on North Grant Avenue in Columbus. This appointment was certainly a harbinger of important events to come for Roman Catholicism in central Ohio.

Pope Pius IX established the newly founded Diocese of Columbus on March 3, 1868 and the Auxiliary Bishop of Cincinnati, Sylvester Rosecrans, was appointed the first bishop. The area of the new diocese included most of central Ohio and all of southeastern Ohio. Even today, the Diocese of Columbus, from Hardin County north of Columbus to Portsmouth on the Ohio River in the south, is the largest Roman Catholic diocese in the state of Ohio, with territory covering twenty-three counties.

An Energetic Leader

Right from the start, Rosecrans demonstrated strong qualities of dynamic leadership. He soon became a very active bishop in a rather poor area covering much of central and southern Ohio. This extensive diocese, moreover, had few Roman Catholics as residents. Nonetheless, Rosecrans embarked upon his new bishopric with vigor and gusto.

Long a firm believer in the importance of the printed word, in 1875 Rosecrans founded a newspaper, *The Catholic Columbian*. This paper was long-lived in Columbus and was published weekly until 1939. Moreover, Rosecrans believed strongly in the importance of education, especially for the seminarians embarking on theological studies. With this in mind but with hardly sufficient financial resources, he founded St. Aloysius Seminary on the near-west side of Columbus. The first year witnessed 34 students enroll in this fledgling institution. The seminary functioned between 1871 and 1876. The forced closing of this seminary, for financial reasons, was a heart-felt loss for Bishop Rosecrans. Its most famous alumnus is probably Bishop James J. Hartley, the long-term Bishop of Columbus [1904-1944]. It was not until 1925, almost 50 years later, that once again the Diocese of Columbus would have its own seminary with the establishment of St. Charles Preparatory School and College on East Broad Street at Alum Creek.

The new bishop was concerned that there be a proper burial site in his see city for Roman Catholics, and he established and dedicated Mt. Calvary Cemetery on the near-west side of Columbus on Mound Street. An earlier cemetery on Mt. Vernon Avenue, now the site of Columbus State Community

College and the former home of Aquinas College High School, had lain vacant and unused for some time. He also founded St. Vincent's Orphanage on East Main Street in Columbus in 1874.

With a continuing interest in education, in 1873 he was instrumental in the foundation of the Dominican Sisters of the Sacred Heart. This religious congregation was a spin-off from the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs, whose Motherhouse was located on the banks of Alum Creek in the eastern part of Columbus. The school and convent of this second branch of the Dominican Sisters was located at East Broad Street and Grant Avenue in downtown Columbus. The Sisters established Sacred Heart Academy, which was a select school for young women. This group of Dominican Sisters eventually moved to Galveston, Texas in the 1880s. In addition, Rosecrans strongly desired a secular college for young men to be built in Columbus, but he was unable to achieve this goal.

Outside of the city itself, he was instrumental in the foundation and establishment of St. Aloysius Academy for young women in New Lexington, Ohio, in 1876. A year earlier the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur established St. Joseph's Academy on Rich Street near Sixth Street just east of the downtown area of Columbus. In addition, Rosecrans, as bishop, established three parishes in Columbus and three parishes outside his see city together with two mission stations.

The Construction of St. Joseph's Cathedral

Sensing the need for an adequate cathedral for the capitol city of Ohio, Rosecrans embarked on a building plan for a suitable cathedral. He built St. Joseph's Cathedral on East Broad Street at Fifth Street in downtown Columbus. Before this, the bishop's church had been St. Patrick's Church on Grant Avenue at Naghten Street in the then predominately Irish section of Columbus.

What became the cathedral church had begun as a parish church in 1866. A cornerstone was laid in November of that year. In 1867, however, the founding pastor of this new edifice, Father Edward



St. Joseph's Cathedral, East Broad Street at Fifth Street in downtown Columbus (from *Diocese of Columbus: The History of Fifty Years, 1868—1918*)

Fitzgerald, was named the Bishop of Little Rock, Arkansas. Construction essentially was halted on the building. In March 1868, when the Diocese of Columbus was established, Bishop Rosecrans determined that this building should be the site of the new cathedral. There were several building troubles in the construction of the cathedral. The original foundation was replaced, because the new building was now to be of sandstone rather than brick. The bishop's older brother, General Rosecrans, came to Columbus in the summer of 1870 and assisted in the redesign and eventual construction of the religious edifice. St. Joseph's Cathedral was dedicated on October 20, 1878. The debt for this building alone was over \$200,000.⁷

In 1872, Bishop Rosecrans wrote a "Sketch of St. Joseph's Cathedral" in which he described in some detail the origin, development and construction up to that date of the cathedral building. He noted in particular the difficulties present in raising the necessary funding for this project. There is a hint of discouragement in the sketch because so much fund raising had depended upon "Fairs, Lectures and Concerts" rather than direct contributions. Rosecrans noted that

"much has been borrowed...but what has been paid exceeds by far the most sanguine hopes we dared to entertain four years ago." Expressing the anguish he had felt at times during the construction process, Rosecrans noted that "we do not deny that we have sometimes felt misgivings about the solidity and costliness of the work for which we made ourselves responsible." Yet Rosecrans affirmed the judgment concerning construction costs:

*The means invested in the cathedral have gone to poor and honest laborers. They have not gone to enrich any private man or corporation, but have been distributed among the mechanics of the city, who are still in our midst, contributing their share to the city's prosperity and advancement.*⁸



Old interior, St. Joseph's Cathedral (from *Diocese of Columbus: The History of Fifty Years, 1868—1918*)

Rosecrans then provided a list of names of contributors who had given windows to the cathedral, and his brother's name is there as the person who donated the sacristy windows. This document certainly notes the anxiety experienced by this new bishop in his central Ohio see city brought about by the construction problems for his cathedral.

The cathedral building remains today at Fifth and Broad Streets as an impressive structure on the eastern edge of the Columbus downtown area. The foresight of Rosecrans is manifested by the use of this Columbus landmark building for nearly one hundred and twenty-five years.⁹

The Early Death of Bishop Rosecrans

Bishop Sylvester Horton Rosecrans died on October 21, 1878, the day after the dedication of his newly-built St. Joseph's Cathedral. He suffered a stroke—what the documents of the day call a "series of hemorrhages that came suddenly upon him"—at Vespers in the cathedral on the day of the dedication. He was taken to the Sacred Heart Convent two blocks east of the cathedral, where he suffered throughout the night and the next day. Bishop Rosecrans expired on Monday October 21, about ten o'clock in the evening.

Bishop Rosecrans probably died from overwork, worry, and exhaustion. *The Granville Daily News*, in an obituary of Rosecrans, notes the following about his strenuous and demanding work habits:

*In addition to his duties as bishop, he took upon himself the extra work of teaching in St. Aloysius Seminary, the Sacred Heart convent and the Academy of St. Mary of the Springs. Moreover, he performed the duties of a priest, and to accomplish all this, his hours of labor were from four in the morning until half-past nine at night.*¹⁰

He appears to have suffered from a somewhat nervous temperament, and the undue stress and turmoil of leading a poor diocese in a poor area with relatively few Roman Catholics probably hastened his untimely and early death. Moreover, the construction of the cathedral was, so it appears from reading the documents now more than 125 years afterwards, a nerve-wrenching and tedious project. During these years too, he witnessed the demise of his long-sought-after seminary. Seeing the need to continue the education of these future priests, Rosecrans appears to have continued their education by serving as one of their tutors in special classes held at the bishop's residence. That Bishop Rosecrans was engaging in what

the next century would call "multi-tasking" is not an overstatement.

In concluding its obituary on Bishop Rosecrans, the editor of *The Granville Daily News* wrote the following:

A scholar of rare attainments, a deep thinker and powerful preacher; but withal a man of wonderful simplicity of manner and life. Inside his church he stood high and wielded a powerful influence in its councils. Outside the church he enjoyed the confidence, respect and esteem of all who knew him—either personally or by reputation. His death will be a severe blow to the Roman church in Ohio, and will be mourned by Catholics and Protestants alike."

Postscript

It is significant historically that two important persons in the narrative of 19th-century Ohio history came from the same small, remote village in northern Licking County. One was an acknowledged military leader whose overall concern for his troops caused disagreement with his major military superiors; the other was an acknowledged religious leader whose concern for the members of his poor diocese caused his early and untimely death. Both of these men contributed much to the general welfare of local, regional and national causes. Both were firm believers in the American democracy and contributed their efforts and support to preserving the Union during the Civil War. Both were unselfish in their work for others and both were committed firmly to the commonweal of social institutions.

The Rosecrans brothers have been largely neglected in the general histories of the area. The general is more known, but his roots in Homer or Licking County are hardly mentioned. The bishop is known primarily as a moniker for a Zanesville High School. His zeal and contributions as a religious leader in central Ohio are, at best, marginally known today. Through the new historical marker dedicated in Homer and by two articles in *The Historical Times*, the illustrious careers of these two native Licking Countians will be more widely known.

Anthony J. Lisska
Denison University
Granville Historical Society

A Note on Sources

Two informative articles on Sylvester Rosecrans appeared in *The Bulletin of the Catholic Record Society*. Don Schlegel's "The Bishops of Columbus: Right Rev. Sylvester Horton Rosecrans" was published in the January 1997 issue, and the late Monsignor Herman Mattingly's "The Home of the Rosecrans Family: Homer, Licking County, Ohio" appeared in the March 1981 issue. The December 1993 issue of the *Bulletin* reprinted a portion of Father L. W. Mulhane's Memorial of Major-General William Starke Rosecrans, which first appeared in 1898. Accounts of both Rosecrans brothers are also found in several encyclopedias. Bishop James J. Hartley's *Diocese of Columbus: The History of Fifty Years: 1868-1918* (Columbus, 1918) contains much information on the founding of the Diocese of Columbus together with a collection of writings of Bishop Rosecrans. The archives of the Granville Historical Society contain the issue of *The Granville Daily News*, which appears to have been a short-lived publication. This present biographical sketch of Sylvester Horton Rosecrans is much dependent upon the fine historical work of Don Schlegel and Monsignor Herman Mattingly. Chris Evans kindly provided the photographs of the Rosecrans house in Homer and the photograph of General Rosecrans. We acknowledge Chris's wonderful assistance in providing these rare photographs. Thanks also for our eagle-eye proofreaders—Flo Hoffman, Bill Hoffman, Maggie Brooks, and Marianne Lisska. Sam MacKenzie-Crane skillfully provided the formatting and design for this issue.

Endnotes

Earlier issues of *The Historical Times* have contained accounts of both Victoria Woodhull and William Starke Rosecrans.

^z There is a stone marker on this site in Kingston Township. The author's friend, Jim Logsdon, kindly sought out this site and photographed it for the record. Several historical accounts of

William's life incorrectly state that he was born in Kingston, Ohio, rather than in Kingston Township. The former is a village in Ross County near Chillicothe.

- ³ The phrase "*sub conditione*" means that William may have been baptized earlier, and the Roman Church has always recognized the sacramental validity of any Christian baptism.
- ⁴ *The Bulletin of the Catholic Record Society*, December 1993, p. 288; from Mulhane's "Memorial of Major-General William Starke Rosecrans, 1898."
- ⁵ From a letter in the William Rosecrans Collection located in the UCLA library, Los Angeles, CA; this passage is reprinted in Monsignor Mattingly's account of the Rosecrans family's days in Homer.
- ⁶ Found in *The Diocese of Columbus: The History of Fifty Years*, Bishop James J. Hartley [Columbus, 1918], pp. 30-31.
- ⁷ A hand-written document in the archives of the Diocese of Columbus reports that the cost of the cathedral up to January 1, 1877, was \$216,854.87. An additional \$697.83 was due for coal, and \$66.00 was necessary to repave the street. This was the cost before the cathedral was dedicated almost two years later in October, 1878.
- ⁸ This document appeared in the *Bulletin of the Catholic Record Society*, August, 1977; an original copy is in the archives at the University of Notre Dame.
- ⁹ The present rector of St. Joseph's Cathedral is Father G. Michael Gribble, a native of Licking County and the former pastor of the Church of St. Edward the Confessor in Granville.
- ¹⁰ *The Granville Daily News*, October 23, 1878. The publication appears to have been issued at the time of a Baptist Church convention held in Granville.
- II *Ibid.*



The Rosecrans Brothers' Marker

The process undertaken in order to provide an Ohio Historical Society marker honoring two famous but often overlooked residents of northern Licking County has been long and protracted. Many people interested in regional history have been involved with this project. Mrs. Joseph Berg of the Homer Historical Society has been a strong advocate of this endeavor from its beginning. Mr. Joseph Berg, along with Mr. Alan Megaw and Mr. Chet Geiger of the Homer Public Library, have arranged for the erection of the marker on the grounds of the library.

Mrs. Joan Beumel of the Knox-Licking Vicariate of the Diocese of Columbus has been involved from the beginning and was instrumental in the original fund raising for this project. Mrs. Beumel was singularly effective in keeping this project before the nine parishes in the Vicariate. These nine Roman Catholic parishes contributed to this marker fund. The Civil War Roundtable of the Granville Historical Society, under the direction of Ed McCaul, has supported this project. Additional funding came from the Catholic Record Society of the Diocese of Columbus with Mr. Pat Mooney as president and the Granville Historical Society with Mr. Dick Daly as president. Mr. Ed McCaul, Dr. Charles Sinsabaugh, and an anonymous donor also contributed financially to this fund.

Mr. Phil Ross of the Ohio Historical Society kindly oversaw the application process from its origin to its completion. Mr. Ross's expertise and continual oversight was particularly effective and deeply appreciated. The Sewah Studios in Marietta produced this marker for the Ohio Historical Society.

The Rosecrans Brothers Marker Committee gratefully acknowledges all the assistance and enthusiasm exhibited in the process of securing this marker honoring two famous Nineteenth Century residents of our area.

Continuing Progress in the Old Colony Burying Ground

Flo Hoffman reports on the progress in the restoration of the Old Colony Burial Ground:

We've done a lot during the 2001 season! The Annual Walking Tour on May 31 on a beautiful evening was well attended. Jesse Munson, Eliza Avery, Susana Rose Carpenter, Silence Rose, Hiram Page and Periander Taylor "returned" to tell of their life in 19th century Granville. One and all enjoyed refreshments, including outstanding gravestone cookies, after the tour.

Have you noticed the fresh look of the cemetery storage building? After very efficient organization and preparation by our caretakers, Ken and Sandy Nihiser, a dozen volunteers applied that paint before noon on July 21. One of them returned two weeks later to give the south side a second coat! We kept the original traditional colors.



Consultant James Fannin and Mark Masterson of Felumlee Monument Company reinstall a grave marker at the Old Colony Burying Ground.

The Fannins, our consultants from Concord, Massachusetts, were with us in May and again in early August, for 10 days each time. They both help and inspire us. More than 50 gravestones were treated, including several very difficult repairs. We are pleased to report that three very large heavy gravestones that had fallen many years ago are now upright. New marble base supports were installed for the stones commemorating Sarah Little, Emily Richards, and Samuel Richards. The Felumlee Monument Company assisted in lifting the gravestones into place. We hope that many of you can visit the cemetery to admire them.

This year, the descendants of two families have committed to provide funds to restore the grave markers of their ancestors buried in the Old Colony. We are very grateful to those who contribute in this way. Also, we are grateful to each person who has helped. The volunteers who dig, weed, tend flowerbeds, scrub gravestones and help in countless other ways are invaluable. John Senn designed and maintained the self-guided walking tours, which have informed and pleased many visitors. Members of the Granville High School Honor Society worked very hard one morning for each of the past two years. We appreciate the care taken by the township mowing crew. Our caretakers, Ken and Sandy Nihiser, deserve special thanks for their initiative and constant vigilance.

Would you like to help to preserve and enhance this important historic place? Call 587-3951 to leave a message.

The Civil War Roundtable

Ed McCaul, the chair of the Civil War Roundtable sponsored by the Society, announces an exciting fall schedule of events. All meetings normally take place on the third Tuesday of the month in the Old Academy Building at Elm and South Main Streets in Granville at 7:30 p.m.; this fall, however, two meetings will take place on the second Tuesday of the month.

Tuesday, September 18th: Union Shipbuilding

Dr. Bill Roberts, who gave a presentation to us a few years ago on the USS Ironsides, will discuss Union shipbuilding. It took the North quite a bit of time and effort to achieve superiority in this area. Bill will be explaining to us how it was achieved and the various personalities that were involved.

Tuesday, October 16th: Newspaper Publishing

Jim Cole, who collects Confederate newspapers, will give a talk on the role of newspaper publishing during the war and the many difficulties newspaper publishers, especially Confederate ones, faced during the war.

Tuesday, November 13: Battle of Picketts Mill

Dave Larrick, who is the current historian general for the Central Ohio Civil War Roundtable, will discuss the Battle of Pickett's Mill. This was an important battle during the Atlanta Campaign and another nail in the coffin of the Confederacy.

Tuesday, December 11: British Invasion of Ohio

John Montgomery, who discussed St. Clair's defeat with us last year, will be discussing Colonel Henri Bouquet's march into Ohio following his relief of Fort Pitt during Pontiac's War. Colonel Bouquet was responsible for the return of the captives held by the Indians.

The meetings will be held, as usual, at the Old Academy Building at Elm and South Main at 7:30 p.m. **Please note that the November and December meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month rather than the third.** If you have any questions or wish to be involved in any future presentations, please call Ed McCaul at 522-5091 or e-mail him at mccaul.1@osu.edu

All meetings, of course, are open to the public. The only requirement is a general interest in Civil War matters.

The Fourth of July Welsh Exhibition



This year, over the July Fourth Celebrations, the Society sponsored an exhibition of Welsh history materials. This is the bicentennial year of the Welsh settlers arriving in the northeastern parts of Granville Township. A collection of old photographs chronicling the Welsh foundations in our area together with displays of Welsh artifacts and memorabilia served as the mainstays of this exhibition. Society Board Member Maggie Brooks arranged for this historically interesting and significant program.

The Sinnett House

The Board of Managers of the Historical Society has been in negotiation with the Board of the Granville Public Library over the future of the Sinnett House. The library plans to expand its facilities, and this expansion entails either moving or destroying Sinnett House. This house was the girlhood home of Clara Sinnett White. The Board of Managers has been concerned that one of the most historically significant houses in the village be preserved and kept for public use.

With this in mind, the Board has developed a preliminary plan to move the Sinnett House to the rear of the present museum building. We have engaged the assistance of an architect to help us determine the feasibility of this project. In addition to preserving a historic structure, the move will provide desperately needed additional space for the Society, especially for the archives and for exhibition space.

The Board of Managers entered into these discussions primarily to provide a means to preserve a historic structure in our village. We are mindful of the fact that a bequest from Clara Sinnett White enabled the Society to renovate and enlarge the 1816 bank building to serve as a museum for the Society during Granville's sesquicentennial in 1955. It seems fitting to add her childhood home to this property. Bob Hill and Dick Daly of the Board of Managers have spent much time and effort on this project, and we gratefully acknowledge their Herculean efforts.

Additional reports on this project will be forthcoming in future issues of *The Historical Times*.

Restoration of the Old Academy Building

Under the watchful eye of Board Member George Wales, the restoration work on the exterior of the Old Academy Building has been completed. The cost of this restoration project on an 1833 structure was beyond the normal budget lines for the Society.

The Board of Managers kindly acknowledges those members of the Society, and several other citizens of Granville, who generously contributed to funding this special restoration project. Additional contributions are welcome. In particular, a huge "thank you" goes to George Wales for his constant vigilance over all the properties entrusted to the Society and for which the Society is responsible.

Docents Needed

Society Vice-President Maggie Brooks is in charge of the Docent Committee for the Museum of the Granville Historical Society. Maggie is in need of volunteers to serve as docents for our museum, which will be open on Saturdays and Sundays until mid-October. Please consider helping Maggie as she endeavors to increase the visibility of our outstanding museum collection. No special prior knowledge is necessary to serve as a docent, other than an interest in the rich history and fascinating artifacts of our village. Maggie's committee can provide the necessary knowledge for persons interested in serving our society in this way. Please contact Maggie in care of the museum or at 587-6266.

Membership in the Granville Historical Society

Membership in the Granville Historical Society is open to all persons with an interest in the rich history of our village. The annual membership dues are \$10.00 for the calendar year. Membership benefits include a subscription to *The Historical Times*, which is the quarterly publication of the society, notification of and free admission to all Society-sponsored events, and the satisfaction of participating in preserving, for future generations, the important history of Granville.

To become a member of the Society, now in its 116th year of existence, please send a check for payment of one year's dues to the Membership Committee:

Lance Clarke
Membership Chair
The Granville Historical Society
P.O. Box 129
Granville, OH 43023-0129

If you have been a member and have not yet renewed your valuable membership to the Society, please do so right away! Many thanks!

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