

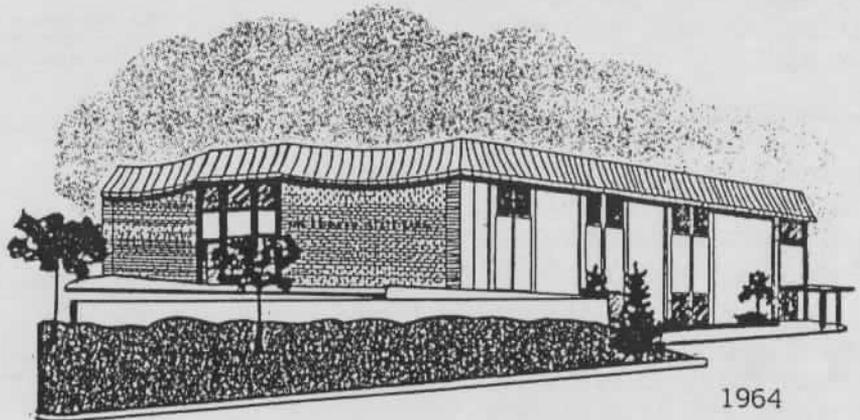
BANKING IN THE BRIGHTON AREA (Cont.)

In 1960 the Brighton State Bank's first annex, housing the Installment Loan Center, was opened across the street at 317 W. Main. The 1951 addition to the original building was already proving to be inadequate for housing the bank's business.

August, 1963, saw the first branch of the expanding bank opened in nearby Hamburg in a mobile office on M-36 in a shopping center. Also that year, prior to construction of a new banking facility, the original building was sold to the city of Brighton for use as a city hall and police department for \$20,000. After 53 years the main office was to be moved from its original site next to the mill pond. Construction of a new main office in 1964, at 300 W. North Street, continued the expansion program and ushered in other major changes. Located on the hill above the filled in valley, through which Ore Creek flows by way of a tube under the neighboring city parking lot, the building has been described as a 'contemporary brick and glass interpretation' with a 'flare of French Regency', 'capped with gold anodized aluminum'. Two drive in windows were a significant innovation of the times.

Other expansion changes included the opening of more branches: 1967, Highland; 1969, Island Lake (an A-frame); 1972, Brighton Mall; 1979, Pinckney (closed December, 1987); 1988 Clarkston and 1989, Ann Arbor.

In 1985 increased activity necessitated a significant enlargement of the main office. That year changes of a business nature included joining Pacesetter Financial Corporation, a merger with Old Kent Financial Corporation and a name change to Old Kent Bank of Brighton. That year's remodeling of the physical structure included the first ActionBank 24 Machine installed at the main office and their subsequent appearance at all branches. (By Marieanna Bair. To be continued.)



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