AREA FARMS C. 1900

This second of a series of notes on farms and the names given them, will be concerned with the Ernest M. Crippen farm, Springdale farm. Located just north of the Charles Jacobs farm, which was described last month, it was also on Ore Creek.

Ernest was born in the home on Hacker Road, 1/8 mile north of Grand River, April 14, 1862, the youngest son of Amsel and Mariella Crippen. His parents had settled in that SW of Section 18 in Brighton Township a few years earlier. By the time he reached maturity he had served in the Civil War - 12th Michigan Volunteers, Co. 1. Ernie married Helen Luce, July 4, 1870. (127 years ago this month.) They farmed there until moving into Brighton in 1904. Ernest Crippen died in Brighton March 15, 1920. (Helen died in 1912.)

How might the farm have acquired the name Springdale Farm? The barn was located at the top of a steep hill above Ore Creek. A shallow pond (locally called Moss Lake) lay just below. One night, during an unusually heavy rainfall, an enormous gully was formed in the hill below the barn. The next day a large spring was discovered flowing from the gully. This spring, undoubtedly, was the source of Moss Lake. The lake’s water level was greatly lowered and never resumed its former size. The spring ran strongly for years providing an abundant supply of water for the live stock and for cooling cans of milk-in preparation for shipment to the dairy for bottling. The dam on Ore Creek, which formed Woodland Lake, has obliterated all evidence of the spring.

At that time Grand River continued north on Hacker Road, making a sharp left turn (at Berdix) to skirt a large hill, before continuing west toward Howell. More research is necessary to note when the cut was made through the hill providing an easy curve instead of the original sharp turn. (Surely some of our readers can help with this date.)

During the ‘30s, perhaps earlier, Crippen’s barn became a clubhouse for a real estate venture. High school proms and other parties were held there. The barn burned in the mid 1950s (?). The house still stands.

Ore Creek now quietly flows under I-96, under Grand River (south of Cross Street) and into Brighton’s downtown where another dam forms the Mill Pond. (Compiled from Bill Fluss’ Memories; Mrs. Myron West’s scrapbook. 1915 Livingston County Atlas. Marieanna Bair. 810/229-6402)

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**JULY 3:** 7 P.M. Livingston County Genealogical Society, 227-1760 for info.

9: 10 A.M. Independence Day Parade.

9: 5:15 A.M. and JULY 22, 1-5 P.M.

Genealogical Help at the Library.

**15:** 1-3 P.M. Archiving group. Join in.


26: 7:30 P.M. Board meeting. Welcome.

JULY/AUGUST: Sunday nights, 7:30 concerts at the Mill Pond. Sponsored by Brighton Kiwanis.

**CALL TO CONFIRM MEETING SITE. 810/229-6402.**
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ARCHIVES: THE SORTING, IDENTIFYING, IN- 
TERESTING, FILLING, COPYING, ETC., OF PICTURES, 
WRITTEN MATERIAL, MAPS, DIRECTORIES, ETC. 
CONTINUES, WHETHER THE SOCIETY HAS A HOME 
OR NOT. IF IT IS A DEDICATED GROUP.) YOUR 
HELP, INTEREST, INFORMATION, AND CONCERN 
FOR PRESERVATION IS ESSENTIAL. CALL 
229-6402 FOR LOCATION.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: TAKING PICTURES 
OF LOCAL SITES AND RESEARCHING THEIR 
HISTORY IS A MAJOR PURPOSE OF THIS 
COMMITTEE. CALL DALE BARTON, 229-5213 OR 
LISA CAYE, 229-0683 TO HELP.

HISTORY BOOK: THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE 
SEPTEMBER 25. CONTACT CAROL McCAMMACK, 
251-2957 IF YOU HAVE LETTERS, PICTURES, 
STORIES, ETC., TO MAKE THIS BOOK AS 
COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE.

LYONS SCHOOL: JIM VICHICH, 227-4920, WILL 
SCHEDULE CARPENTERS, PLUMBERS, ELECTRICIANS, 
ETC., TO CONTINUE WORK ON THIS BUILDING. 
CALL HIM WITH YOUR HELP.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

DANA FOSTER, BRIGHTON CITY MANAGER; 
MARY JANE BEREID, DAVID PAULI AND GLORIA 
PHILLIPS, OF THE BRIGHTON DISTRICT LIBRARY; 
JOHN AND JANICE FIELD, GARY MCRIERIE AND 
CARL McCAMMACK OF THE SOCIETY WHO MET LAST 
MONTH TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE SOCIETY 
BECAUSE OF ITS DEPARTURE FROM THE OLD 
TOWN HALL NECESSITATED BY THE LEASING OF 
THE ENTIRE BUILDING BY THE BRIGHTON ARGUS.

THANK YOU TO LISA CAYE, NANCY FREDEN- 
BURG OF THE SOCIETY AND DAVE BLACKMORE; 
NICK ARCHER AND OTHER CITY WORKERS 
FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN REGARDS TO THE VAC- 
ATING NOTED ABOVE.

LIZ AND PAUL ANDERSON FOR PICTURE WITH 
J.W. OF THE WILLIAM VICK FAMILY.

KATHERINE STURSSBERG FOR THE QUIZ TO 
BE USED FOR A RAFFLE.

LISA CAYE FOR RECHARGING A COPIER 
CARTRIDGE.

SYPATHIES OF THE SOCIETY 
TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS 
OF MARGARET GOLDSTEIN 
A LONG TIME RESIDENT OF BRIGHTON 
AND MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

COVERLETS: WOVEN COTTON WITH NINE LOCAL 
HISTORICAL SITES, ARE AT NAUGHT 'N NICE. 
412 W. MAIN, FOR $49.00.

POST CARDS: ARE AT THE BOOK NOOK, 322 
N. MAIN., LOCAL HISTORICAL SCENES. 6/$.

TILES: 6" X 6" WHITE CERAMIC TILES CAN 
BE PURCHASED AT NOSTALGIA ANTIQUES, 116 W. 
MAIN, 98¢ OR 5/$21. TILES FROM 1986 ON 
ARE AVAILABLE.

SIGNATURE QUILT: A $10.00 DONATION 
ASSURES YOUR NAME, OR THAT OF ANOTHER, IS 
EMBROIDERED ON THIS QUILT, WHICH WILL REMAIN 
IN THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES.

NEEDLEPOINT KIT OF THE OLD TOWN HALL, 
10" X 14" PICTURES OF MILL STREAM DAM 
AND PACKETS OF GEOPAPERS CAN BE ORDERED 
FROM 229-6402.

JULY 4 PARADE

BOARD MEMBERS ARE COORDINATING THE BUGGY, 
THE HORSE, THE DRIVER, THE PARADE COMMIT- 
TEE, THE WEATHER (?) IN ORDER THAT THE 
SOCIETY WILL HAVE A PRESENCE IN THE 
ANNUAL PARADE IN BRIGHTON.

RESTORATION OF THE BUGGY PUT A DENT IN THE 
HISTORIC PRESERVATION/RESTORATION FUND NOT 
TOO LONG AGO: A $295.00 DENT. IF 28 PER- 
SONS DONATED $10.00 EACH, IT WOULD JUST ABOUT 
COMPLETELY REPAIR THAT DENT. (ALL DONA- 
TIONS ARE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE. THE 
SOCIETY IS A 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION)

BRIGHTON VILLAGE CEMETERY TOUR

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 7 P.M.

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS THE SOCIETY 
HAS CONDUCTED A HISTORIC TOUR IN 
JULY. THESE HAVE BEEN WELL ATTENDED 
GENERAL MEETINGS. THIS YEAR WE'LL 
TOUR THE VILLAGE CEMETERY BEHIND 
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

YOU'LL SEE A SHORT HISTORY OF ST. 
PAUL'S CONGREGATION AND THE VILLAGE 
CEMETERY. YOU'LL LEARN OF THE SEVER- 
AL TYPES OF STONE, THE MATERIALS 
OF WHICH THEY ARE MADE AND THE 
SPECIAL PROBLEMS THAT COME WITH 
CEMETERY CARE. WE'LL HEAR FROM 
SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO ARE DESCENDED 
FROM EARLY LOCAL SETTLERS WHO ARE 
BURIED THERE. WE WILL VISIT THE 
SITE OF THE COUNTRY'S FIRST REPUBLIC- 
AN GOVERNOR'S SINGLE DIAMOND CEMET- 
ERY AND THAT OF A FORMER NEGRO SLAVE.

MEET DOWNTOWN IN THE ST. PAUL 
PARISH HALL ON W. ST. PAUL STREET 
AT 7 P.M. TO LEARN OF THE BACKGROUND 
OF THE CONGREGATION AND CEMETERY. 
IN CASE OF RAIN WEAR RAINCOAT.

OH YES: PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE 
A TICKET TO A SINGLE DIAMOND ICE CREAM 
CONSOLE FROM THE YUM YUM TREE COURTESY 
OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. BRING A 
FRIEND. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

THE SOCIETY CANNOT CONTINUE TO WORK 
OUT OF A STORAGE LOCKER. A HEAD- 
QUARTERS IS NEEDED. IT IS IMPERATIVE!

MARIE ANN BARR, PRESIDENT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ARCHIVES: The sorting, identifying, interest, filing, copying, etc. of pictures, written material, maps, directories, etc. continues, whether the Society has a home or not. (Is it a dedicated group?) Your help, interest, information, and concern for preservation is necessary. Call 229-0402 for location.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: Taking pictures of local sites and researching their history is a major purpose of this committee. Call Dave Barton, 229-5213 or Lisa Cave, 229-0883 to help.

HISTORY BOOK: The next meeting will be September 25th. Contact Carol McHaken, 231-2957 if you have letters, pictures, stories, etc., to make this book as complete as possible.

LYONS SCHOOL: Jim Vichi, 227-8490, will schedule carpenters, plumbers, electricians, etc., to continue work on this building. Call him with your help.

THANKS

DANA FOSTER, BRIGHTON CITY MANAGER: Mary Jane Bennett, David Paul and Gloria Osburn, of the Brighten District Library; John and Janice Field, Gary McRorie and Carol McHaken of the Society who met last month to address the needs of the Society because of its departure from the Old Town Hall necessitated by the leasing of the entire building by the Brighton Argus.

THE FIELDS: Lisa Cave, Nancy Fredenburg of the Society and Dave Blackmer, Mike Archinal and other city workers for their assistance in regards to the vacating noted above.

ALEXE & PAUL ANDERSON for picture with T.P. of the William Vichi, family. KATHERINE STUNBERG for the quilt to be used for a raffle.

LISA CAVE for recharging a copier cartridge.

SYMPATHIES OF THE SOCIETY TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MARGARET GOLDSTEIN

A long time resident of Brighton and member of the Society

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

COVERLETS: Woven cotton with nine local historical sites, are at Naughty 'N Nice, 412 W. MAIN, for $45.00.

POST CARDS: Are at the Book Nook, 322 W. MAIN. LOCAL HISTORICAL SCENES, 6/$.

TILES: 6"x6" white ceramic tiles can be purchased at Nostalgia Antiques, 116 W. Main, $8.00 or 5/$21. Tiles from 1850 on are also available.

SIGNATURE QUILT: A $10.00 donation assures your name, or that of another, is embossed on this quilt, which will remain in the Society's archives.

NEEDLEPOINT KIT OF THE OLD TOWN HALL, 10"x14" pieces of the mill stream dam and packets of dotter paper can be ordered from 810/229-0402.

JULY 4 PARADE

BOARD MEMBERS ARE COORDINATING THE BUGGY, THE HORSE, THE DRIVER, THE PARADE COMMITTEE, THE WEATHER (?!) in order that the Society will have a presence in the annual parade in Brighton.

RESTORATION OF THE BUGGY PUT A DENT IN THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESTORATION FUND not too long ago: a $2965.00 dent. If 26 persons donated $100.00 it would just about completely repair that dent. (All donations are income tax deductible. The Society is a 501(c)3 organization.)

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(Continued from page 1)

However the Society cannot continue to work out of a storage locker. A headquarters is needed. It is imperative!
AREA FARMS C. 1900

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How might the farm have acquired the name Springfield Farm? The barn was located at the top of a steep hill above Ore Creek. A small shallow pond (locally called Moss Pond) lay just below. One night, during an unusually heavy rainfall, an enormous gully was formed in the hill below the barn. The next day a large spring was discovered flowing from the gully. This spring, undoubtedly, was the source of Moss Lake. The lake’s water level was greatly lowered and never resumed its former size. The spring ran strongly for years providing an abundant supply of water for the live stock and for cooling cans of milk-in preparation for shipment to the dairy for bottling. The dam on Ore Creek, which formed Woodland Lake, has obliterated all evidence of the spring.

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BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116
Vol. XV No. 7
JULY, 1997

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ANNE STRATTON - HOSPITALITY 229-5985
HERB WARNER - LYONS SCHOOL 229-6504

DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY 3: 7 P.M. LIVINGSTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, 227-1760 for info.
4: 10 A.M. INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE.
9: 5-8 P.M. AND JULY 22, 1-5 P.M.
* GENEALOGICAL HELP AT THE LIBRARY.
* 15: 1:30 P.M. ARCHIVING GROUP. JOIN US
19: 10-9 P.M. QUILT/CRAFT SHOW. WATERLOO HIST. SOC. FARM MUSEUM 517/655-3080.
24: 7 P.M. GENERAL MEETING. TOUR VILLAGE CEMETERY. EVERYONE WELCOME.
26: 7-9 P.M. BOARD MEETING. WELCOME. JULY/AUGUST.
SUNDAY NIGHTS, 7:30 CONCERTS AT THE MILL POND. SPONSORED BY BRIGHTON KIWANIS.
*CALL TO CONFIRM MEETING SITE. 810/229-6402.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MOVES OUT OF THE OLD TOWN HALL TO ?


BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS WERE HELD THERE AS WERE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS TO WHICH THE PUBLIC WAS INVITED. ARCHIVAL FILES WERE DEVELOPED AND LOCATED IN PLACE. EQUIPMENT FOR USE AT VARIOUS EVENTS (SPAGHETTI SUPPERS, HOME TOURS, ART FAIR, JULY 4 PARADE, ETC) WAS LOCATED THERE. ALSO FUND RAISING ITEMS: FILES, COVERLETS, POST CARDS, NOTE PAPER, ETC.

IT WAS A DRY, COMFORTABLE SITE FOR THE MANY ITEMS RELATED TO THE AREA'S HISTORY WHICH WERE DONATED AND COLLECTED BY THE SOCIETY.

WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE BRIGHTON CITY MANAGER, FOLLOWING THE DIRECTIVE OF THE CITY COUNCIL, HELP IN MOVING WAS PROVIDED. A STORAGE LOCKER HAS BEEN RENTED FOR A SHORT TIME.

THANKS TO THE LABORS OF JOHN AND JANICE FIELD AND JOANNE CERU, MUCH OF THE MATERIAL HAD BEEN PACKAGED IN STRONG, COVERED BOXES; CONTENTS IDENTIFIED AND TAPED IN PREPARATION FOR THE MOVE.

WHILE MOST FILES AND ARCHIVES ARE IN THE STORAGE LOCKER, THOSE ITEMS RELATED TO VARIOUS PROJECTS ARE WITH THE SEVERAL CHAIRMEN. LISA CAVE IS STORING ART FAIR EQUIPMENT AND NANCY FREEDENBURG IS STORING SPAGHETTI SUPPERS MATERIALS. HISTORY BOOK CHAIRMAN, CAROL MCMACKEN, HAS THE MICROFILM AND READER.

(Please turn to page 3)