AREA FARMS C. 1900

Research of local farms and farmers, listed in the Brighton Argus, their background and location continues. R. B. Robert's PINE GROVE FARM is this issue's subject.

R. (Richard) B. Robert's PINE GROVE FARM is found in the 1915 atlas in Brighton Township, Section 30, S1 W1. The Grand River Road crosses the southeast corner on its way north (at that point). This piece comprised 63 acres on the north side of Cross Street, Neighbor. Holmes Tunis, has a 63 acre piece directly north, bounded by Chaliss Road. This was part of the original c. 120 acres bought by Kinsley Bingham and Robert Warden, in 1833, from the government (Bingham was Michigan's governor during the mid 1850s.) Warden has transferred his interest by 1835. Robert's also owns a 10 acre piece on the west side of North Second Street, north of Walnut, just outside the Smith-McPherson Addition which was platted c. 1870.

In the 1859 atlas Robert and Fanny Charles are owners of the c. 120 acres. A structure is indicated on the east side of Grand River just north of Cross Street. Fanny is the daughter of Truman and Jane N. Warden. Truman is noted as original owner of property in Genoa Township Section 25, which is on the border of Brighton Township. Now we know how Worden Lake got its name. (Truman has the dubious distinction of being the first person buried in the Old Village Cemetery, 1857.)

Interesting questions arise. Are the Worden's and the Warden's related or is it a transcription error from the handwritten records? It is difficult to arrive at a clear relationship. Both spellings are found in early records.

Altho' the Robert's name is found in early Livingston County census records none is Richard B. and all are in neighboring townships. One resource indicates R.B. was born in 1852 in Lyon Township, Oakland County. The 1890 Residents of Livingston County notes Richard B. and wife, Etta, became parents of Clifford December 28, 1890. Early obituaries indicate R. B. and Etta had buried an infant years earlier. This same source lists R. B. as a 'saloon keeper' in Brighton. Son, Cliff, is the person responsible for the building of the Rialto Theater on W. Main, across from the mill pond in 1918. This building was demolished for a parking lot after WW II.

It is of interest to note that Robert's 63 acres now holds Mejjer's Inc., Mejjer Skateboard Park and GM Power Train, on the west side of Grand River. In the area where the house stood on the east side, at one time Uncle John's Pancakes, then GM实业 Center were on site and most recently Real Estate One. Other owners of PINE GROVE FARM included E. Bidwell and Rudy Bowen, owner of Michigan Landscape Nursery. Following a disastrous grass fire in March, 1969, a few birches stood there until recently. (Compiled from Early Land Owners and Settlers and early obituaries compiled by Milton Charboneau and from Livingston County atlas and plat maps. Additions/corrections? Marieanna Bair, 810/229-6402.)
MEMBERSHIPS

PATRON: Phil & Jeanne Smith and Peter & Anne Stratigos.

COUPLES/INDIVIDUALS: Mike & Sue Kelly, Bob & Shirley Knight (02), Bill & Barb McGrath (02), Roland & Jane Ovens, *Thomas Reinke*(FLAV), Bill & Jane Tomlinson (05), Dennis & Janoszyk Paul Zunaski.

*A hearty welcome to new member Thomas Reinke. New members infuse new energy to the society. Longer time members are those who are the sustaining vital force.*

If you are not a member consider joining this society or making a financial contribution. If this issue is stamped “COMPLEMENTARY COPY” – someone is paying the bills. Your support is appreciated.

THANKS THANKS THANKS

...Norm Catrell, John & Janice Field and Shirley Ritter for helping get the June newsletter in the mail.

...Brighton Township for donation upon receipt of the Kensington Cemetery transcription.

...Bob Watson who will be taking photos of local historic sites. These will be included in the Historical Resource Survey records.

...Wilton Charbonneau for additional information relative to the Quaker family whose farm was featured last month.

...Fran Fick who has stocked the society coverlets at her Main Street apparel shop for several years. Fran is selling out.

...Fay Hall, daughter of Henry Hall, who built Bright's ski jumps on Flint Road in the early 1950s, for her fine album. Her family's history and a number of photos are included. Thanks also to Tom Leith and Horace Taylor whom Fay interviewed.

...Harold Salow for making arrangements to move a bookcase from a closed one-room school near Conway Township to the Lyons School. Also to Conway Township for the donation.

...Bill & Jane Tomlinson for including a donation with their dues.

ARCHIVES: The recent addition of the album of Henry Hall and the ski jumps he built in Brighton in the 1950s is most welcome. We encourage others to consider donating similar records of ancestors' connection to the area.

HISTORY BOOK: Carol McMacken, 251-2957, is a determined and restless compiler of the area's history. An excellent book will result, call with your offer of help.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: Bob Watson will be photographing area sites. We are grateful to fine pictures of earlier sites! These will be a treasure for future researchers.

The society expresses sincere sympathy to the family of Herbert Munzel. He was a long time member of the Society.

BRIGHTON ART FAIR – AUGUST 11 & 12

Brighton's annual Art Fair, in August, will be the site, again, for the Society Booth. Contact Nancy Frederick, 810/220-7936 and offer your help. This is good visibility for the Society and a lot of fun for you.

YEAR 2001

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Advance Craft Home Builders, Inc., Brighton Bar & Grill, The Fence Spot, First Presbyterian Church and the Yum Yum Tree have expressed support of the Society's mission. Please support them.

NEEDED NEEDED NEEDED

...Box of address labels – Avery #5551.

...Books of 1st class postage stamps, for administration and archives mailing.

...Three hole notebooks, 11” D ringed properly file archival information.

...People to serve on Society board or on a project committee.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

Post cards with early local scenes. PKG of 6/$5.50. Note paper @ 2/$5.00. Copies of 1875 plat maps of Brighton, Good, Green Oak and Hamburg townships and a 1915 map of Brigh- ton for $1. Needlepoint kits $8, show the Brighton Town Hall as do rugs @ $5, and 100 treats @ $5. Coverlets; red, green or blue have nine local sites woven in $95. All the above at 810/220-6402.

A new TAPESTRY pillow, $30, depicting the Brighton railroad depot and train is available. A fine companion to the coverlets above. 810/220-7934 in order.

WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

July 28, 10-4, Waterford Area Farm Museum. Quilt & Fibber show plus Civil War encamp- ment. (Also July 29) Blacksmith at the museum forge every Saturday during the summer, http://wsc.k12.mi.us/museum

HOME TOURS ON THE CALENDAR

August 11, 12, Milford Society will host a home tour plus an ice cream sale and a flea market. Farmington Society will have a home tour September 15, 16. These events are good fund raisers and raise awareness of preservation of early structures. We can do the same. Call a board member with your offer to help.

The SIGNATURE QUILT, on which are embroidered signatures for a donation of $10.00, has room for yours. Send in your signature or that of a relative. A file of signatures of early residents is available. Your donation is an appropriate and simple way to support the Society's activities.

TILES: 13 different local sites are shown on black/white 6” square ceramic tiles. These are in limited editions. Nostalgia Antiques, 116 W. Main, has them in stock at $8.00 or 3/$21.00.
ARCHIVES: The recent addition of the album of Henry Hall and the ski jumps he built in Brighton in the 1950s is most welcome. We encourage others to consider donating similar records of ancestors’ connection to the area.

HISTORY BOOK: Carol McMacken, 251-2957, is a determined and resourceful compiler of the area’s history. An excellent book will result. Call with your offer of help.

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY: Bob Watson will be photographing area sites. We are grateful to fine pictures of earlier sites! These will be a treasure for future researchers.

The Society expresses sincere sympathy to the family of Herbert Munzel. He was a long-time member of the Society.

Brighton Art Fair - August 11 & 12
Brighton’s annual Art Fair, in August, will be the site, again, for the Society booth. Contact Nancy Freedenburg, 810/220-7954 and offer your help. This is good visibility for the Society and a lot of fun for you.

2001 BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS
Advance Craft Home Builders, Inc., Brighton Bar and Grill, The Fence Spot, First Presbyterian Church and the Yum Yum Tree have expressed support of the Society’s mission. Please support them.

July 28, 10-4, Waterloo Area Farm Museum, Quilt & Fiber Show plus Civil War Encampment. (Also July 29) Blacksmith at the museum forge every Saturday during the summer. http://scs.k12.mi.us/~waterloo

HOME TOURS ON THE CALENDAR
August 11, 12, Milford Society will host a home tour plus an ice cream sale and a flea market. Farmington Society will have a home tour September 15, 16. These events are good fund raisers and raise awareness of preservation of early structures. We can do the same. Call a board member with your offer to help.

The SIGNATURE QUILT, on which are embroidered signatures for a donation of $10.00, has room for yours. Send in your signature or that of a relative. A file of signatures of early residents is available. Your donation is an appropriate and simple way to support the Society’s activities.

TILES: 13 different local sites are shown on black/white 6” square ceramic tiles. These are all limited editions. Nostalgia Antiques, 116 W. Main, has them in stock at $8.00 or 5 for $21.00.

FUND RAISING PROJECTS
YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL
POST CARDS with early local scenes. PKG of 6/$5.00. NOTE: PAPER @ $2.50 for 1875 PLAT MAPS of Brighton, Genoa, Green Oak and Hamburg Townships and a 1915 MAP of Brighton for $1.00. NEEDLEPOINT KITS $5.00. SHOW THE IBD Town Hall as do RUGS at $5.00 and TOILETT $10.00. COVERLETS: RED, GREEN OR BLUE have nine local sites woven in, $49. All the above at 810/220-6402.

A new TAPESTRY PILLOW. $30.00, depicting the Brighton railroad depot and train is available. A fine companion to the coverlets above, 810/220-7954 to order.

With other organizations
Brighton Area Historical Society Membership/Donation Form
P O Box 481, Brighton MI 48116-0481

NAME ____________________________
ADDRESS __________________________
PHONE ____________________________

Send membership card? (Y) Yes (N) No
(_______) New (_______) Renew. Your help is needed with: [Historic Preservation Projects, **Fund Raising Projects**], **Administration of the Society**, (Please circle one.)

DUES: ( ) $5.00 Patron ( ) $7.00 Couple ( ) $2.00 Student (K-12) College ( ) $15.00 Individual ( ) $50.00 Life

DONATION: ( ) $10.00 ( ) $20.00 ( ) $50.00 ( ) $100.00 ( ) $ OTHER

The Society is a 501(c)3 Income Tax Deductible Organization.

*Historic Site Restoration/Registration/Markers, Lyons School, Oak History/Video. Photography.
*Fund Raising Projects: Bake Sale, Coverlets, Home Tour, Rugs, Needlepoint Kit. Note and Post Card, Signature Quilt, Special Events, Tote Bags, Pillow.*

**Administration of the Society, Board/Officer/Committee Member, Newsletter, Publicity.


AREA FARMS C. 1900

Research of local farms and farmers, listed in the Brighton Argus, their background and location continues. R. B. Robert’s PINE GROVE FARM is this issue’s subject.

R. (Richard) B. Roberts’ PINE GROVE FARM is found in the 1915 atlas in Brighton Township, Section 30, T4N, W1L. The Grand River Road crosses the southeast corner on its way north (at that point). This piece comprised 63 acres on the north side of Cross Street, Neighbor Holmes Tunis, has a 63 acre piece directly north, bounded by Chalis Road. This was part of the original c. 120 acres bought by Kinsley Bingham and Robert Warden, in 1833. From the government (Bingham was Michigan’s governor during the mid 1850’s.) Warden has transferred his interest by 1835. Roberts also owns a 10 acre piece on the west side of North Second Street, north of Walnut. Just outside the Smith-McPherson Addition which was platted c. 1870.

In the 1859 atlas Robert and Fanny Charles are owners of the c. 120 acres. A structure is indicated on the east side of Grand River just north of Cross Street. Fanny is the daughter of Truman and Jane H. Wodden. Truman is noted as original owner of property in Genoa Township Section 25, which is on the border of Brighton Township. Now we know how Wodden Lake got its name. (Truman has the dubious distinction of being the first person buried in the Old Village Cemetery, 1857.)

Interesting questions arise. Are the Wurdens and the Wardens related or is it a transcription error from the hand written records? It is difficult to arrive at a clear relationship. Both spellings are found in early records.

Although the Roberts name is found in early Livingston County census records none is Richard B. and all are in neighboring townships. One resource indicates R.B. was born in 1852 in Lyon Township, Oakland County. The 1890 Residents of Livingston County notes Richard B. and wife, Etta, became parents of Clifford December 28, 1890. Early obituaries indicate R. B. and Etta had buried an infant three years earlier. His name source lists R. B. as ‘saloon keeper’ in Brighton. Son, Cliff, is the person responsible for the building of the Rialto Theater on W. Main, across from the mill pond in 1918. This building was demolished for a parking lot after WW II.

It is of interest to note that Roberts’ 63 acres now holds Meijer’s Inc., Meijer Skateboard Park and GM Power Train. On the west side of Grand River. In the area where the house stood on the east side, at one time Uncle John’s Pancakes, then GM Health Center were on site and most recently Real Estate One. Other owners of PINE GROVE FARM included E. Bidwell and Rudy Bowen, owner of Michigan Landscape Nursery. Following a disastrous grass fire in March, 1969, a few birches stood there until recently. (Compiled from early land owners and settlers and early obituaries compiled by Milton Charbonneau and from Livingston County atlas and plat maps. Additions/corrections? Marieanna Bair, 810/229-6402.)