THE CAMPBELL TOWN MILL

Bradford Campbell (b. 1804) and Henrietta (b. 1805) of New York, arrived in Hamburg Township, Livingston County in the mid-1830s. With them came seven children, three boys and four girls. The 1840 census tells us an elderly mother also came. The purchase of NE/4 NW 1/4 of Section 12, Hamburg Township is recorded on December 9, 1836. At that point Oreo Creek flows through a gravel screeve from which aggregate materials were quarried.

It was 1841, when Campbell and partner Abel Peck constructed a dam across Oreo Creek; on the south side of Hamburg Road and its junction with Melby Road, a half mile north of Oreo Lake. Within the year Campbell, a miller, had his grain/gyrist mill erected on the creek. (One of the several millers taking advantage of the power of the stream to grind grain and saw lumber.)

By 1850, Bradford and Harriet, with daughters Mary 25, Rachael 18, Helen 14 and son, Archib 15 (recorded as a miller also) were firmly established in Hamburg Township. The grain mill had many customers from the farms for miles around. A distillery was also built but burned some years later.

1860 finds them running the mill. Daughter, Rachael and her husband, John Cavel a miller, with four month old Millien, are living with her parents. Also Mary Nealley 16 and Thomas Peck 17, a son of Able.

Through the years Bradford had purchased several other 40 acre parcels in the area. After Bradford’s death in 1864, Henriette appears to have returned to New York. She sold some Hamburg Township property in 1876 while living in Painted Post, Steuben County, N.Y. (A Solomon A. Campbell and wife, Emily, acquire the mill property March 25, 1894, selling the same year. They are also of Painted Post. Solomon may well have been an elder son).

December 17, 1864, Esil Bolder is owner of record of the mill property, until he sold to Luther Moon January 19, 1859. A few months later Moon sells to Alton Melby May 19, 1870. (Melby had constructed the saw mill in Brighton in 1833 on Oreo Creek.) By 1877 the mill is sold again. The Tencray brothers (by 1880 Huntley Tencray below) are running the mill; then James Pearson, then George Killin are successive owners. A source indicates the mill was in operation in 1907. Over the years the dam had collapsed several times but was always rebuilt (until the last time). The May 1, 1912, issue of the Brighton Argus notes the sale of the Campbell mill property to Carl Conrad of Brighton. He planned to build an electric light and power plant expecting to supply the citizens of brighton three miles away. The actual demise of the mill, whether by fire, neglect or demolition still needs to be determined. (Compiled by Marleena Blair from Census records; 1880 History of Livingston County; “Hamburg Memories” by Joyce Dewolf Terry; Brighton Argus May, 1972; and “Landowners and Settlers of Livingston County” and “First Landowners of Livingston County” by Milton Charbonneau. Photos, information, etc., welcomed.)
MEMBERSHIPS
Pat & Josie Arnold (03), W.A.J. Terry Brown (CA), Doris Housner (03), GLIN & Nancy Schlagel.

W.A. joyfully welcome to new members Terry Brown and Bill and Nancy Schlagel. New and remaining members must give the Society board encouragement to continue; that the Society’s mission is important to others also.

Time is fleeting; in a few months the annual review of the mailing list must be made. If interested in supporting the Society is not evident via membership or donation it must be assumed the newsletter is of no interest. Policy dictates removal of the address label. Members should not be expected to subsidize unintended persons. If the mission is of importance to you follow up with a donation, an offer to help and/or membership.

Changes of address information is appreciated.

THANKS THANS THINKS
...John G. Janice Field, Jane Kibbe and Shirley Ritter for their help in mailing the August newsletter.
...New members Bill & Nancy Schlagel and Terry Brown for donations with their memberships.
...Doris Singer (Grand Rapids) For the dictionary she won in the 1962 Detroit News spelling Bee at Lyons School.
...St. Paul's Episcopal Church for use of their fellowship hall and Sheryl Vigmostan for the program for the historic marker dedication at the Old Village Cemetery.
...Art Fair booth helps Bonnie Sorensen, Nancy Fredenburg, Mindy Kinsey and Tom Bridge.
...Bruce Owens for donating the hand made rocking motorcycle as a fund raiser.
...Dick Mealing for donating a pommeu and to Dick and Jim Deljohn for their continued work on the Lyons School restoration and maintenance.
...Tillie Bitten for sharing her family’s genealogy with us.

PRESEVATION/RESTORATION
ARCHIVES: Over the years a number of photos, artifacts and written material has been acquired. To gain the most benefit they are being inventoried and filed. You can help. Archival storage boxes are also needed. You can buy or make a donation.

HISTORY BOOK: Activity ongoing.

LYONS SCHOOL: The recitation bench will have legs soon as will other desks. The metal parts are being pressed (not invasive) for painting. Window painting can use help.

BOARD ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER
All positions on the board are one year terms. All officers and director positions need nominees. What is an officer’s responsibility? The president presides. The V.P. can take over if necessary, the secretary records meeting decisions and the treasurer records income and pays bills. Directors direct Society administration including funding, determining and supporting projects in fulfilling the Society’s mission. Consider dedicating a year to board membership. Your input, your time, your energy are all needed to assure the Society’s viability and effectiveness. Long time, even local, residence is not a requirement. If the regular board meeting date is impossible for you a change will be considered. (4th Monday, 7 p.m.)

HARVEST FAIR, SEPTEMBER 28
We need help in the Society booth at the Harvest Fair, September 28, 8-4. On, two hours or whatever. 810/229-8402 to reserve your time, please.

The Society extends sympathy to the family of HERBERT WARNER
A Brighton native, Lyons School alumnus 8HS class of 1932, Society member, Active in restoration of Lyons School Often answered researchers’ questions

MORE THANKS
...Bill and Jackie Armstrongs for their donation to Lyons School restoration in memory of Herb Warner, Alumnus.

FUNDS RAISING PROJECTS YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL
For $10.00 your signature or that of another of your choice will be embroidered on the SIGNATURE QUILT. A file of signatures of early residents is available. Your donation is an appropriate and simple way to support the Society’s activities. This quilt will stay in the Society’s archives.

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 3/$21.00.

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Fund Raiser
1st Prize - Motorcycle Rocker
2nd Prize - Reserved School Desk
3rd Prize - Algon or 5 Scenic Tiles

Brighton Area Historical Society
Fund Raiser

Brighton Area Schools Alumni Association - All alumni dinner, September 21, 6 p.m., high school cafeteria, 7878 Brighton Road. P.O. Box 1163 for reservation.

September 28, 8/5 p.m. National Alliance of Preservation Officers, Michigan History Center, Lansing. Registration deadline September 13. $15.00. 517/373-1630.

BUSINESS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS
Advoca Craft Home Builders, Inc., Brighton Community Bank, First Presbyterian Church, Lawrence Autobody, The Source. Support of these local businesses is much appreciated. Give them your consideration, please.
MEMBERSHIPS
Pat & Josie Arnold (03), M.A.J. Terry Brown (CA), Doris House (03), C.B. Bill & Nancy Schlagel.

A hearty welcome to new members Terry Brown and Bill and Nancy Schlagel. New members are encouraged to continue activities and that the Society's mission is important to others.

Time is fleeting; in a few months the annual meeting and mailing list must be made. If interest in supporting the Society is evident, it is important to continue the mailing list. If the mission is of interest to you, follow up with a donation. An offer to help and/or membership is appreciated.

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The Society extends sympathy to the family of Herbert Wanner.

A brighton native, Lyons School alumnus, 6th class of 1932, Society member active in restoration of Lyons School often answered researchers' questions.

...MORE THANKS...

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3rd Prize - Algon or 5 Scenic Tiles

BRIGHAM AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM
P.O. BOX 451, BRIGHTON, MI 48116-0451
NAME______________________________________
ADDRESS____________________________________
CITY_ STATE_ ZIP______________________________
PHONE_ (Please include Zip + 4 digit)
Send membership card? ( ) Yes ( ) No
New ( ) Renewal. Your help is needed with: Historic Preservation Projects, Fund Raising Projects, Administration of the Society. (Please circle your preference)
OUES: ( ) $50.00 Patron ( ) $25.00 Couple ( ) $20.00 Student (K-12, College) ($50.00 Individual) ($50.00 Life DONATION: ( ) $100.00 ( ) $200.00 ( ) $500.00 ( ) $1,000.00 ( ) $2,000.00 ( ) $5,000.00 ( ) Other. The Society is a 501(c)3 Income Tax Deductible Organization.
(G)Historic Preservation Projects: Archives, Historic Book, Historic Resource Survey, Historic Site Marker/Restoration, Lyons School, Oral History/Video, Photography. (G)Fund Raising Projects: Bake Sale, Coverlets, Home Tour, Raffle, Needlepoint Kit, Raffle and Trust Cards, Signature Quilt, Special Events, Tote Bag, Pillows. (G)Administration of the Society: Board/Officer/Committee Member, Newsletter, Publicity.

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FUND RAISER DRAWING, OCTOBER 1

Tickets For the October 1 drawing are available at Harley-Davidson Motorcycle Store on Whitmore Lake Road and at the Little Professor Bookstore on West Main in Brighton. Only 100 tickets will be available. The rocking motorcycle, hand made by Bruce Oden, has been donated as first prize. An oak desk is 2nd and 3rd is your choice of five tiles or an afghan. Tickets are $5. They are available also at 810/229-6402. Picture on page 3.

HISTORIC SITE MARKER DEDICATED

Under the direction of V.P. Sheryl Vigmostad, the August 25 dedication of the historic site marker in the Old Village Cemetery was most successful. Michigan State Historic Commission President, Keith Molin, Brighton Mayor, Kate Lawrence and State Senator, Valdez Garcia all spoke briefly following a short history of the cemetery by Marleena Blair. John and Jenice Field did the honors in removing the veil covering the marker. Several in the audience have ancestors buried in this cemetery. Cake and punch were served in the St. Paul Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall.

NEW PROJECT?

The National Trust for Historic Preservation annually lists the "11 Most Endangered Places in the US." Not all are saved but recognition is brought before the public which in turn promotes support for historic preservation. Are your "11 Most Endangered Places in Livingston County"? Send your nominations to the Society for possible inclusion in our list.

Dates to Remember:
23: 7 p.m. Society Board Meeting. Welcome. 28: 6-8, Help in Society booth at the Harvest Fair, Main Street.