OFF TO MICHIGAN! THE BISHOPS LEAVE NEW YORK

Among the flood of Easterners to Michigan following the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, came several by the name of Bishop, all born in New York. Their relationship has not been established. They may be brothers or cousins.

The patriarchs included Edward b. 1796 (to Michigan 1836). A land purchase is recorded November 15, 1854, Hamburg Township section 3. He and Lavina have eight children, one of whom, Henry, saw much action in the Civil War. Lyman b. 1833, records his first land ownership in Hartland Township, January 5, 1848. However he was in Michigan in 1837, when his third child, Henry, is born to Martha. They have four children. The 1860 census records Andrew J., b. 1834, in Howell. In 1861 he enlists for three years, was promoted to Captain of the 15th Infantry, Co. D and was mustered out January 29, 1865. He served as deputy sheriff of the county. The 1870 census records Wallace, b. 1840, living with another settler in Hartland Township. Otto, b. 1823, is boarding a laborer in Hartland Township in 1880 census.

It was April 18, 1856, that Horace K., b. 1823 and Elizabeth, b. 1830, record land bought in Section 3, Hamburg Township, in the area of present Bishop Lake. There are six children born to them: the first two in New York. The first son, Clarence A., b. October 31, 1856, is in Green Oak Township Section 5, in 1890, having purchased 300+ acres from Mr. McPherson, an officer in the company building the railroad. By 1870 the tracks run diagonally, NW/SE across the property which is east of the Ann Arbor Road across from Lee Road; from Maltby Road north to the township line. Clarence is a farmer and reaper of stock. He served as township supervisor 1903-09. He married Isadora Pesch, daughter of Joseph and Ermina Pesch, early settlers in the township. After living in the old house, perhaps built by Royal Rumsey, the first owner, a new house was built to which they retired. A four column, Greek Revival with adjoining wings was built across from the end of Maltby Road on the east side of the trail. Several large evergreens shaded the yard. Clarence died April 14, 1927, and Isadora, in 1938. They are buried in the Plains Cemetery on Maltby Road. (Bishop Road is named for the family.) They had two daughters, Daisy b. October 19, 1880 and Ermina b. April 17, 1883, who married Claude M. Taylor. Their daughter Thelma married Dr. F. Height. A son and daughter came from this union. Daisy married Judson Timothy Warner December 4, 1906, and moved to Ronan, Montana, For his health in 1910. He died March 26, 1947 and she September 18, 1957. Both are buried in Ronan.

After their parents' death Daisy and Ermina own the property, c. 175 acres. The portion north of the railroad is privately owned and 60 acres are part of the Island Lake Recreation Area. By 1961 the house is gone and acreage is reduced because of US 23 Interstate and Freeland Road construction. In 1979 Height Industries, Inc. is the owner of record. 2005 saw the beginnings of Green Oak Village Place Mall. (Compiled by Marleena Bair from census records; Early Landowners and Settlers of Livingston County and Obituaries compiled by Milton Charbonneau; cemetery records by John S. Janice Field; 1990’s of Green Oak 1830-1930. Additions/corrections gratefully received. 810/229-6402.)

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Preserve, Advance and Disseminate Knowledge of the History of the Brighton Area.

PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR 2006

1. Improve connections to local schools to facilitate visits to Lyon School. A liaison is needed.
2. Make better use of the site for community events. Host groups.
3. Continue the 1st Sunday schedule of Lyon School Open Houses.
4. Acquire appropriate costumes for docents.
5. Encourage recognition of Friends of Lyon School.
6. Install motion detector lights on the school.
7. Build early style barn on site - develop agricultural display program.
8. Continue restoration of desks.
9. Inventory archival holdings. Develop appropriate filing system.
10. Coordinate personnel to promote P.A. via Farmers' market, Art Fair, etc., booth. A P.A. person needed.
11. Promote local historic site designations; erect markers.
12. Develop/promote public local historic programs to children and adult groups.

The continued support and cooperation of readers of Trail Tales will move these projects to the 'DOEE' column at the end of 2006.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY BICENTENNIAL

January 1, 1805, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark are awakened by a volley of small arms unloading in the new year, the only sign of celebration available to the corps. Ginning on boiled elk meat, their only beverage water, the Captains' thoughts turn to New Year's Day 1807, and its celebration.

Now that Ft. Clatsop is completed the relationship with the Clatsop Indians becomes even more important. Roots, berries and blubber from a beached whale are traded for beads and fishhooks. Aware

Dates to Remember:
Jan. 1: HAPPY NEW YEAR
Jan. 12, 19: 1-3 p.m. Archive filling. Welcome: 810/229-6402 to confirm.
Jan. 25: 7 p.m. Lyon School maintenance. You can help.
Jan. 26: 8:30 p.m. Society board meeting. Welcome.
Jan. 31: Lyon School, 11455 Bono Road, Brighton.