

**CENTENNIAL**  
**1882 - 1982**

# Calendar of Centennial Activities

1982

- March 1, 1982 ..... St. David's Day (Dydd Dewi Saint) .  
March 10, 1982 ..... A Pictorial History of Wales Presented by the Wales Women's Club.  
March 14, 1982 ..... Raising of the Welsh Flag at the Village Hall.  
March - 1982..... Display of Wales History Memorabilia and Heritage - at the Village Hall during regular office hours.  
April - ..... Watch for the sale of the Wales Elementary PTO, "1882-1982" Centennial Edition Cookbook.  
May 2, 1982 ..... Annual State Gynanfa Canu-Welsh Singing in Mauwatoso, Wis.  
May 19, 1982 ..... "Discovering Waukesha County Past & Present" and the repeat of "A Pictorial History of Wales" presented by the Wales Women's Club.  
June 13-18, 1982 ..... Banner Contest Judging

## Saturday, June 19, 1982

- 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. .... 8 Team Slo Pitch Softball Tournament  
Games  
Pepsi Challenge  
Wales Village Park  
11:00 a.m. .... Centennial Parade  
Starts at Intersection of Hwys. G and GB  
Followed by Parade Awards  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. .... Youth Soccer Tournament  
Kettle Moraine High School  
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. .... Jerusalem Annual Chicken Bar-B-Que  
Jerusalem Church  
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. ... Centennial Dance  
Wales Village Park  
— Live Music —

(Continued on inside back cover.)

# Wales Centennial Celebration Begins

Sunday, Mar. 14, saw the raising of the Welsh flag at the entrance of the village hall. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts presented the colors following a recital of the history of Wales by Mrs. James Southcott. Mrs. Southcott also donated the Welsh flag to the village in honor of her father, Thomas J. Hughes, who was the first railroad station master in the village.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was the singing of the Welsh national anthem, "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau," (Land of My Fathers) by Morris Stealey in his native tongue, followed by the English version sung by those not so talented.

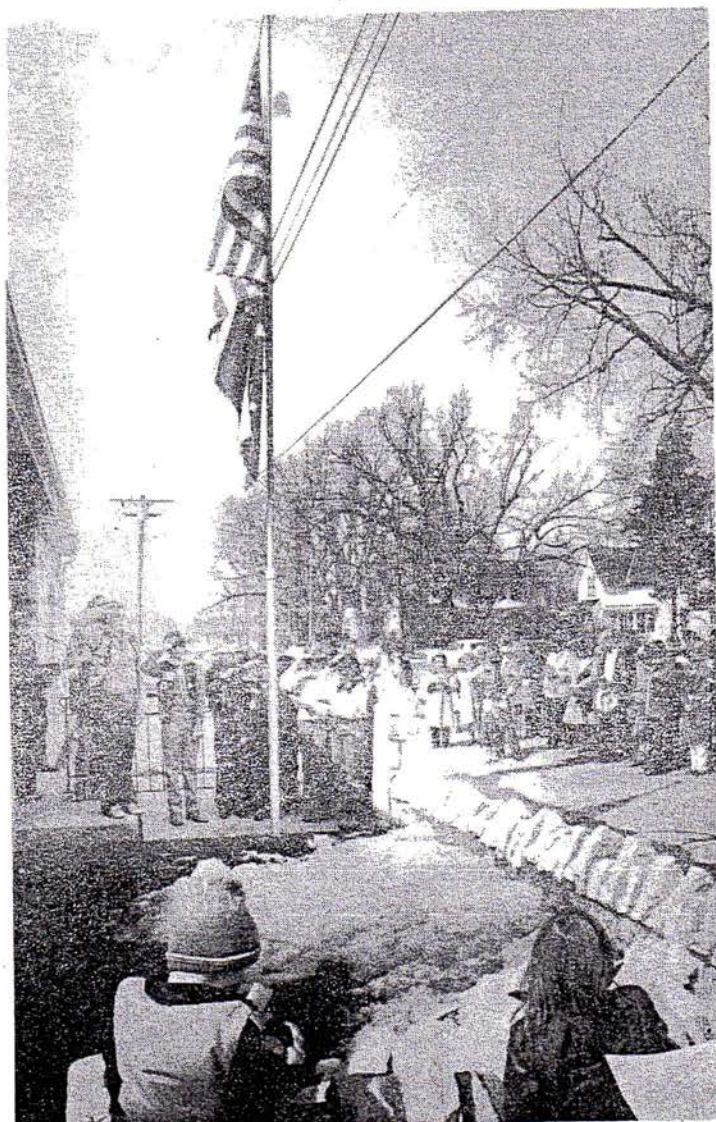
A display of Wales history memorabilia and heritage was set up in the village hall by Gerry Henry. It can be viewed during regular office hours, weekdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Other events with a Welsh flavor are on the agenda, culminating with a family picnic, parade, soccer and baseball tournaments, and the "Wales 100," an open run for the weekend of June 19 and 20.

David Williams of Phoenix, Ariz., formerly of Wales, is contributing articles to the Index on early history.



Flag Raising



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Wales Fire Department

The Making of a Village

Why...the Move to Wales?

Members of the Wales Centennial Committee

Acknowledgements

Patrons

# Message From The President

I am very proud to be serving the Village of Wales as President during this its Centennial year. Wales has had a very interesting past and has a bright future ahead. This book is an attempt to capture that history and the flavor of life in Wales during the past 100 years so that it will be preserved and remembered for future generations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Centennial Committee for the excellent job they have done in organizing this celebration. No matter if you are a life-time resident, a new member of the community or a visitor, I invite you to participate in the celebration of the Wales Centennial.

Mrs. Patricia Feldner

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Feldner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

Village President

# How Fast Is Wales Growing?

## A centennial story

By David H. Williams

How fast has Wales grown? Not very fast in the early years. There were eight houses for the first year, 1882, and after nearly 50 years there were only about 40 homes. The village limits changed very little before 1950.

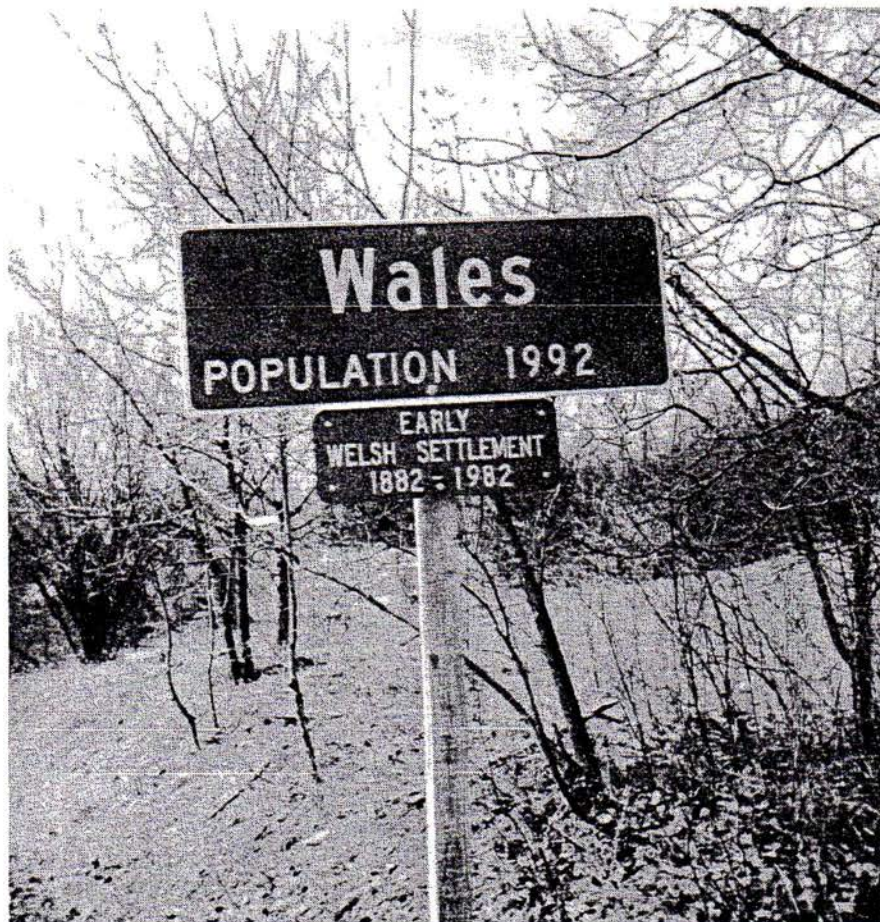
Not many people would come until people from Milwaukee, Waukesha and other places recognized the beauty of the hills and wooded areas in this attractive Kettle Moraine Country. The significant growth

started when developers laid out subdivisions.

What about the population? I recall that when I left for school in Madison in 1923 the road sign read "Wales population 100" and it didn't change much for many years. And, of course, the big boom came when Kettle Moraine School was located in Wales.

So from a population of about 35 in 1888 to the 100's in the twenties and thirties it has grown to nearly 2,000 - a much faster recent growth.

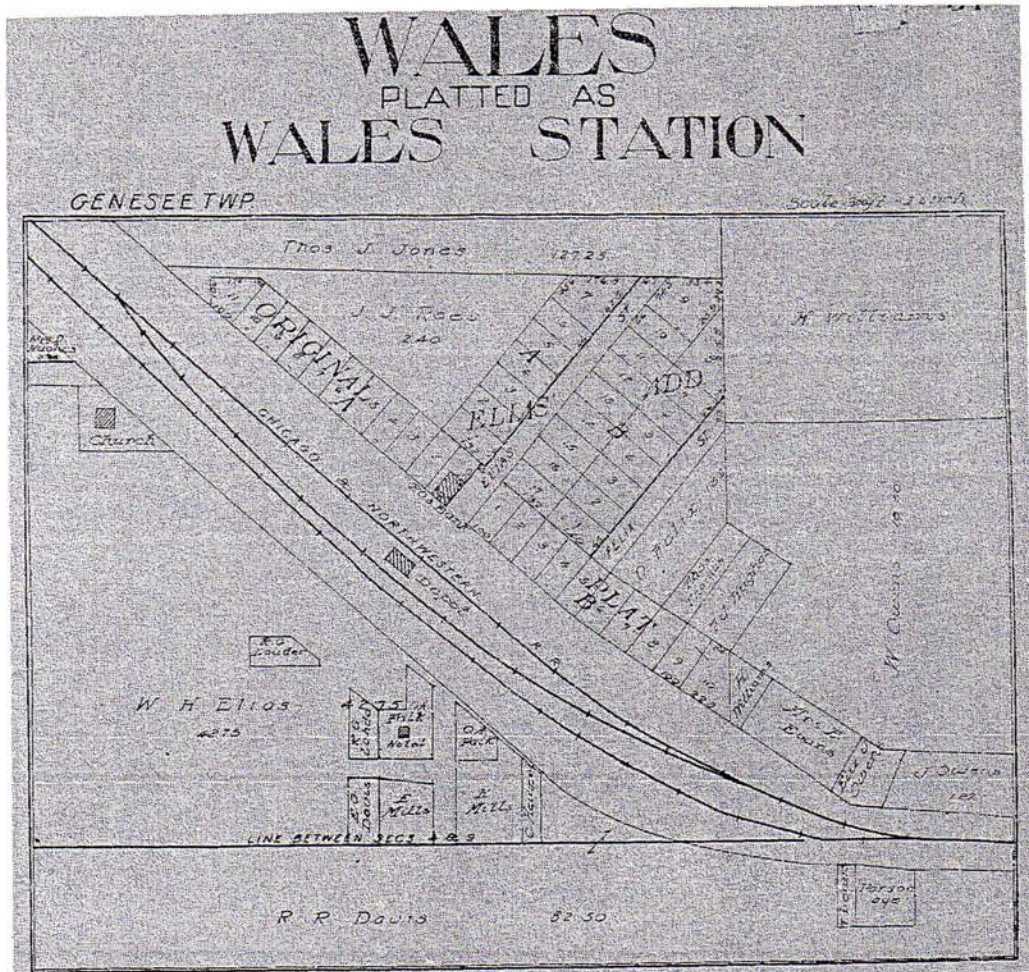
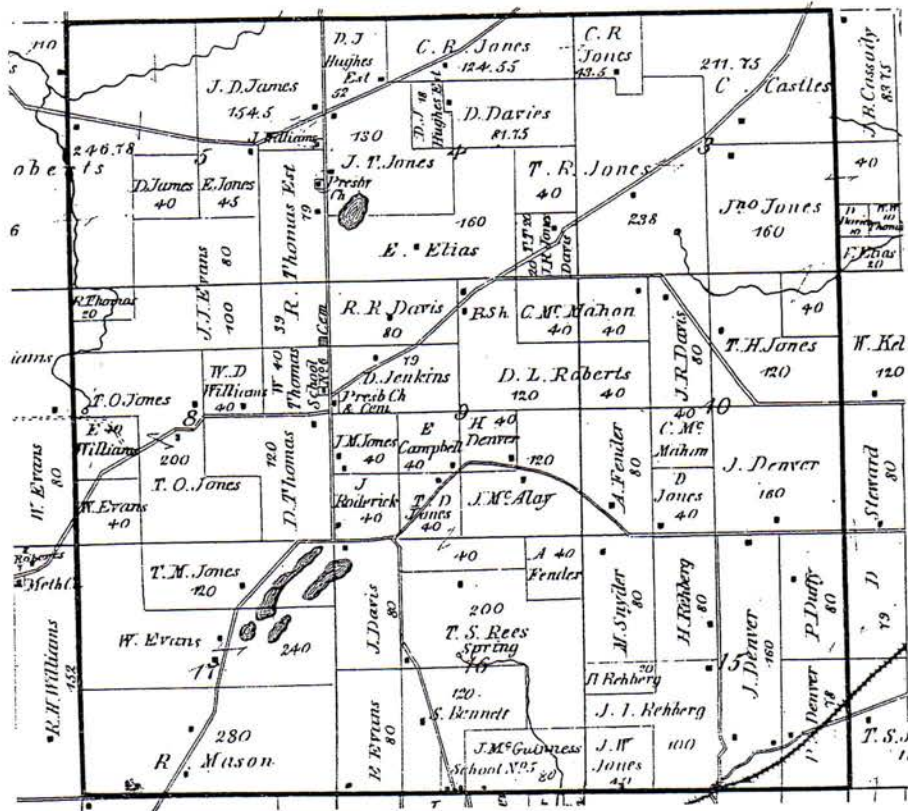
What will the next 100 years bring?



# Maps of the Area

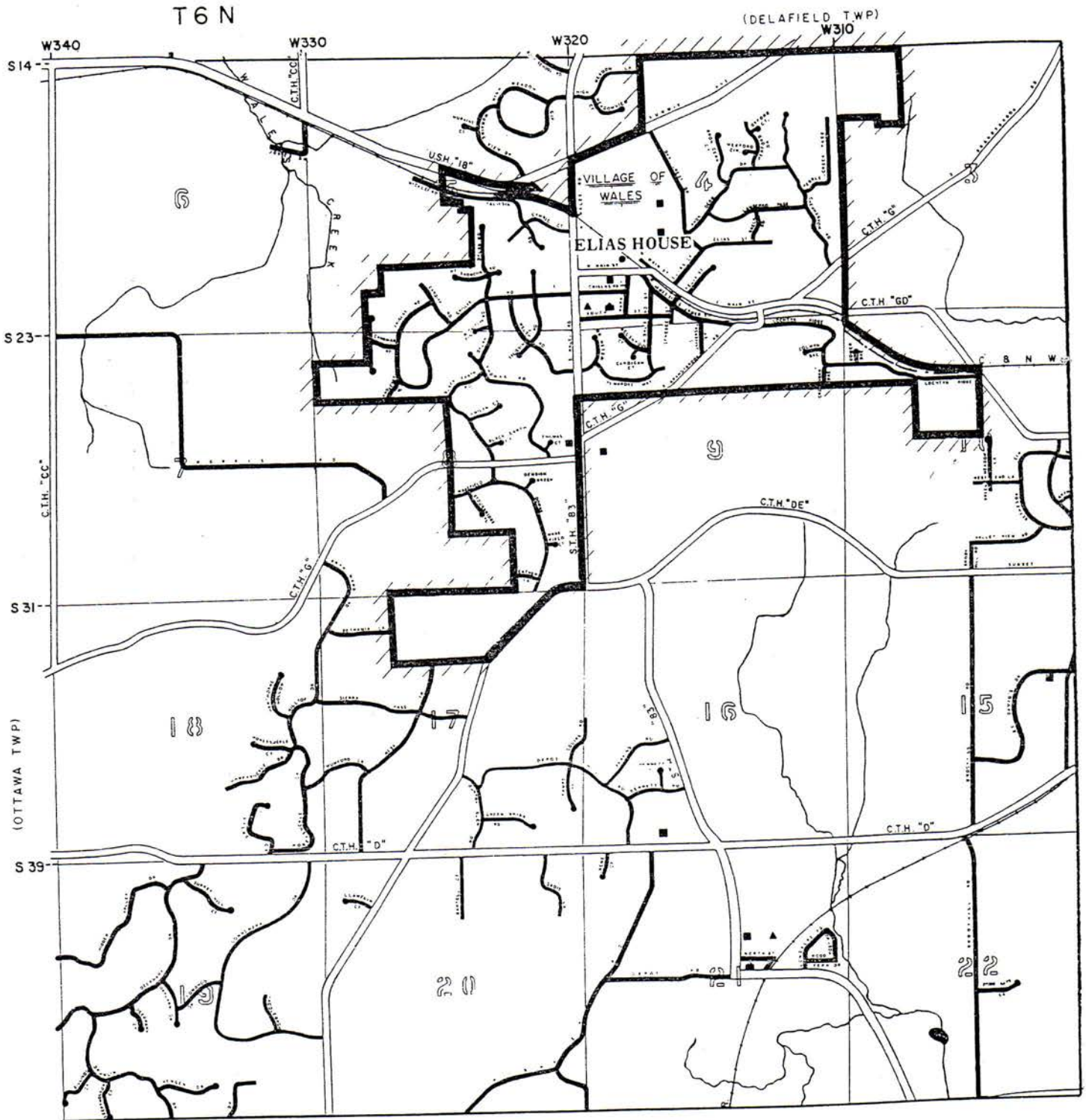
Genesee 1874

Scale 2 Inches to 1 Mile  
Township 6 North, Range 18 East  
of 4th Principal Meridian



Wales 1914

# Wales 1982

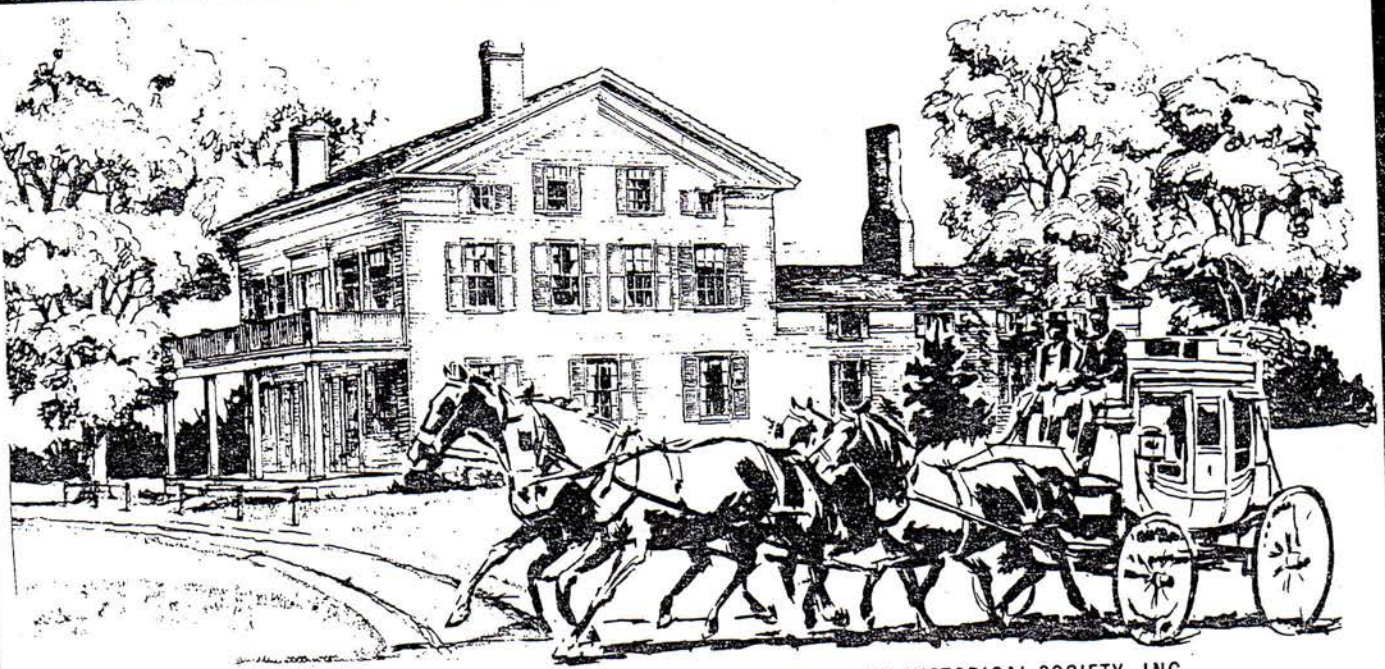


The Boundaries of Wales  
 1882 - 30 acres - one farm  
 Now - 1600 acres - 15 farms  
 Map by Waukesha County  
 Park and Planning Commission

Population: 1992

Area: 1443 Acres





# HAWKS INN

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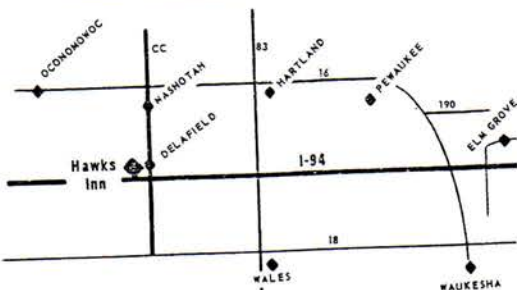
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# The birth of Wales

By David H. Williams

(Ed. note: The author of this article, David H. Williams was a long-time resident of Wales, having moved there with his family when he was six. Williams now lives in Phoenix and often visit his sisters, Betty McDowell and Gwen Rowlands. Other stories he plans to write are "Early Wales Homes," "First Businesses in Wales," "The First Schools," and "Pioneer Families" as we approach what he refers to as "the true centennial in 1982.")

Wales is my hometown. I was six years old when our family moved to Wales and lived there until 1923, when I left to attend the University of Wisconsin in Madison. During my sixteen years in Wales I saw it grow from a dozen families to a busy village. Growing up there, and weekly and annual visits since, have endeared this beautiful part of Wisconsin to me as no other place I've lived or visited.

I saw not only growth but other changes. In 1907 it was a 90 percent Welsh community. It still has a Welsh name and many Welsh descendants of early settlers remain, but many ethnic groups are resident of the village today. It has spread from a few acres of the Elias farm to all or part of about ten farms totaling over 1000 acres with a population of more than 2000. Wales boasts families engaged in a host of professions and trades.

The Elias farm has remained just that - a farm - except that a railroad was built right through the middle of the farm. This was the beginning of the village of Wales. Construction of the railroad was started one-hundred years ago in 1880.

Why was it called Wales? Because the Eliases and most all of their farm neighbors had been born in Wales, Britain - so - of course, Wales would be the name. Why had the Welsh people settled here in this rough hill and dale country? Because the topography was much like their native country. The countryside is so rough that the geologists have called this area of Wisconsin the Kettle Moraine.

The Kettle Moraine area, with its kettles (depressions) and inverted kettles (hills and bluffs) presented the railroad company problems in filling in the depressions and cutting through the hills to form a level roadbed.

The biggest dip of the 84 mile railroad between Milwaukee and Madison was just east of Wales and was known as the "big cut." Excavation was started in September 1880. Such was the nature of the engineering project of digging this part of the roadbed which was nearly a mile long, about 50 feet deep and in places, 100 feet wide at the top of the cut. The use of steam shovels was limited because of the depth of the excavation. Most of the earth was removed by men and horses pulling "slip scrapers" - a most strenuous and exhausting job for man and beast. Horses died of sheer exhaustion or had to be shot because of broken legs or other injuries. So the big cut and many smaller cuts were big engineering problems of building the roadbed between Milwaukee and Madison.

Another great task was filling in the depressions or low places of the roadbed. Much of the fill came from the Wales area. The gravel pit which is across Highway 18 just west of town, supplied much of the fill. Before the railroad was built, the hill from which

the ground was taken extended several hundred feet to the north almost to the present roadbed. Thousands of railroad carloads of fill and ballast were taken from this gravel pit pushing the hill back to its present location which is now being sodded over in a restoration project.

The highest point of the railroad between Milwaukee and Madison is in Wales, just as it passes the Allen Lumber Yard. I grew up on Main Street - just opposite the lumber yard - and as the trains, especially the long freight trains, huffed and puffed their way from Waukesha and finally passed the high point, the steam locomotives would seem to say "I thought I could." Often, a freight locomotive on the climb would run out of steam and would stop until a head of steam was built up again.

The railroad station was built in what was later about the exact center of the village. Thomas J. Hughes was the first station agent. Mr. Hughes was the father of Mildred Hughes Southcott, who, with her husband Jim, live on Main Street, Wales. Mr. Hughes' family lived on a farm on present Highway 18, near Wales and this was his first job away from the farm. He learned telegraphy and the other station agent's tasks through a training program, much of which was on the job. In turn he trained Allie Pelner who followed him in 1900. In 1908 Ben Edwards came to Wales as depot agent and served in this position until his death in 1932. Other agents who followed were Ellis Altwise, Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Schuppner, Arvin Jenks, and Carl Wolf, who is now the Wales postmaster.

In the early days many trains, both freight and passenger, went through daily and most stopped at Wales. The only transportation available to get to larger cities for shopping and other business was with horses, so the coming of the train made it possible to get to Waukesha and Milwaukee and return on the same day. It brought people in Sullivan, Dousman, and Wales areas within easy shopping range of Milwaukee.

In the 1900 to 1920 period, before cars were very common property, many of us used the trains to get from Dousman and Wales to Waukesha where we attended high school. I remember getting on the early morning train and joining LeRoy Waite and others from Dousman to get to Waukesha in time for the opening of morning classes and then conveniently, in late afternoon, catching a train home again.

The train also served those who wished to visit relatives and friends at the Wisconsin Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Government Hill just three miles from Wales. (This is now the Boy's School location). Horses drawn buses were used to convey passengers from Wales to the Sanatorium and return. Dan Rees had a livery service in connection with the Wales Hotel and with others offered this service. It was a great day when he bought a new Buick bus for this purpose. This early Buick bus was cranked from the side. Passengers faced each other on bench-like seats entered from the rear of the bus.

Wales was, a water stop between Milwaukee and Madison. From the earliest days there was a huge tower just west of the station where the thirsty locomotives could fill their huge water reservoirs. It was most often used by freight trains after their uphill pulls to the high point of the line.

Continued from previous page

The passenger trains provided a triple service: Carrying passengers, express, and mail. The station was divided into a passenger waiting room, office and telegraph room, and a freight and express room. Mail pouches were usually transported at once to the post office, which in the early days was located directly across from the station in the James Grocery Store, which served as post office for many, many years. In later years, when some passenger trains did not stop at Wales, a mail sack catcher was used to snatch the mail bag from the moving trains.

This story would not be complete without mention of the maintenance of the roadbed. A Mr. McGarvie was an early section foreman, and Mr. John Glynn, became foreman in 1898. The crew would ride out daily on their handcar, operated by manpower, to inspect the track, make repairs, replace rotting ties, tighten rail spikes, work ballast under loose ties, etc. The handcar carried men and tools over the several miles of their section. In later years, a little putt-putt engine was used to propel the "handcar." John Glynn served as section boss for many years. What a contrast with the modern maintenance vehicles which are much like pick-up trucks and travel the rails on rubber tires.

There were wrecks in the early days, too. On May 3, 1883 a bad wreck occurred west of the overhead bridge. A passenger train collided with an engine and caboose. The fireman of the passenger train was killed.

Alas, this is another day for the railroad that goes through Wales. Passenger service was discontinued in about 1950. Even the few freight trains seldom stop. The station was closed in 1957 and was torn down in 1960. The water tower is gone.

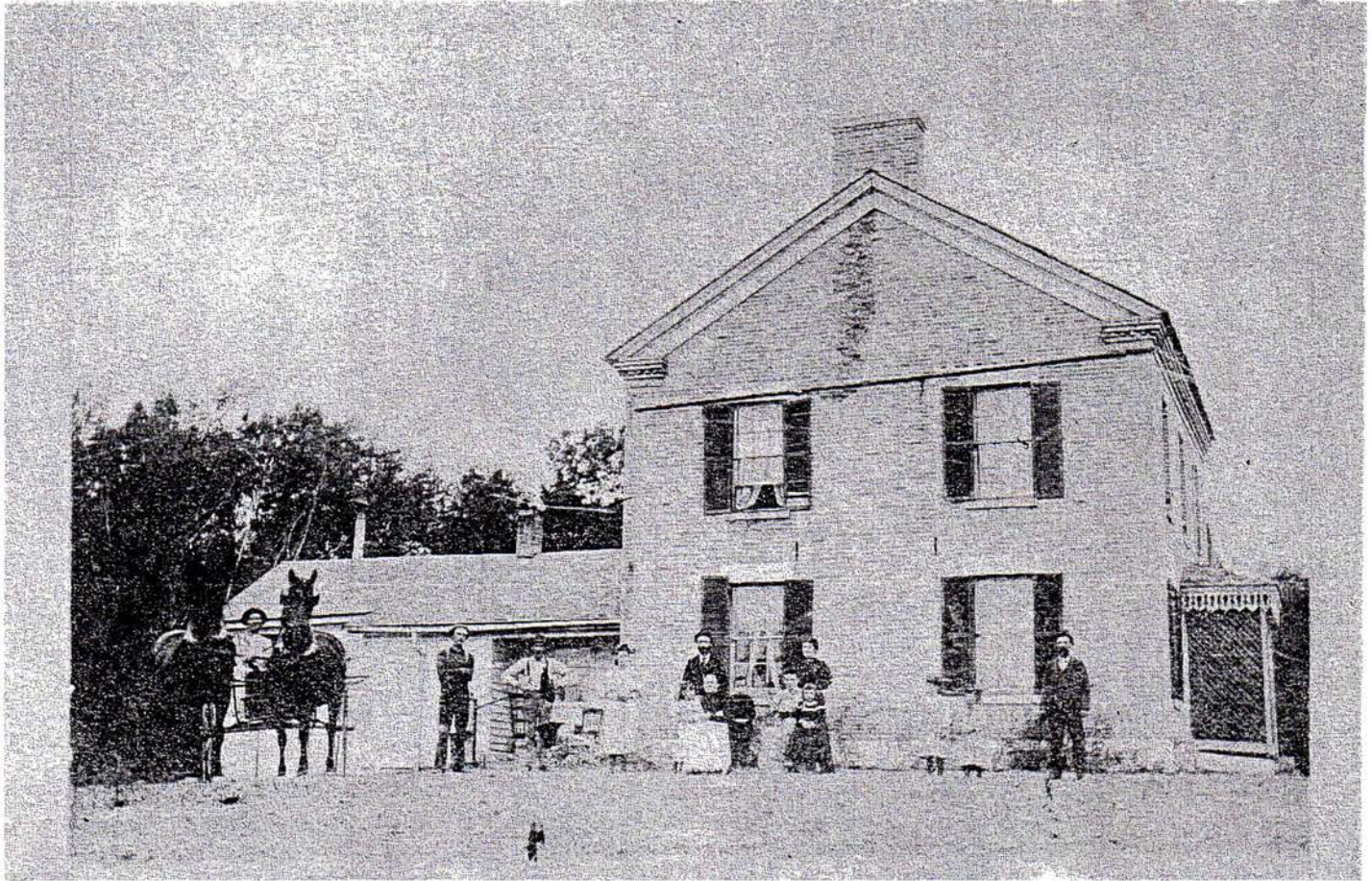
But the romance and nostalgia of the railroad are still with those of us old enough to remember.

The excitement of the trains coming into town! The steam whistle, which, night and day, alerted the countryside with its shrill sound. The thrill - and sometimes the terror for children - to stand on the station platform when the train, drawn by its huge locomotive pulled in. No wonder some chose to stay inside the station until the train came to a stop because of the smoke and escaping steam, the deafening clanging of the huge wheels on the rails, the noise of the connecting rods that drove the wheels, and the rush of hot smoky air which seemed strong enough to pull one under the train.

But it was the railroad that was responsible for converting the Elias farm into the Village of Wales.



Big Bridge East of Wales - 1882



Elias farmhouse built about 1845

## A look at early homes in Wales

by David H. Williams

Hugh Elias came from Anglesey, Wales in 1839. After a short stay in New York state he came to Wisconsin in 1842 and obtained the deed to the farm that became Wales, Wisconsin.

From 1842 to 1882, a period of forty years, the only house on the Elias farm was the red brick farmhouse across from the present Jerusalem Church. The other farm buildings were across the road from the house, one barn to the east of the church location and one to the south. Part of this second barn was later remodeled into a residence.

When the railroad came, Mrs. Hugh Elias - Mr. Elias had died in 1871 - hired a man to plot lots along the right-of-way. These lots were offered for sale and seven houses were built in 1882 as shown on the accompanying map.

Wales house No. 1 is, of course, the Elias farmhouse. This old house could well become an historic landmark for the village.

William H. Elias was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Elias. He, with his wife and daughter, Elizabeth, lived in the old farmhouse until 1895. In the 123 years since the Elias family moved from the old, red brick house, many families have lived in the old homestead, including John and Mary Pugh and Jane Rees (Mary's mother). John Pugh Jr., son of John and Mary, is known to many Index residents as vice-president of the Waukesha State Bank. Homes Built in 1882

**HOUSE NO. 2** In 1882, Mr. John D. James built a general store on the northeast corner of present Main and Elias streets with a house attached to the store. The house and store were directly opposite the railroad station built in the same year. This is the present Kopecky store. The location of the store was ideal - just across from the station and the probable center of activities for a new developing village. It became the first Wales post office. The attached house and upstairs of the store was their residence.

**HOUSE NO. 3** Was built in the east end of town by Rev. R. H. Evans who served as pastor of Jerusalem and Bethesda churches for nine years beginning in 1878. In later years, Rev. Owen O. Jones and Rev. R. J. Williams lived there. It remained a parsonage for many years. Other owners and residents include Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jarmon and daughter Dorothy, and much later the Joe Ferrara family. Today, Herb and Rena Mills live there. Herb is the son of John and Rose Mills of Wales Corners, and Rena is Clayton and Joyce Evans' daughter.

**HOUSE NO. 4** 319 James Street was built by Mr. Enoch Evans, who, with his family, lived there until 1905 when it was sold to Mr. Tom Lewis. Mrs. Lewis, who outlived her husband by many years, lived there until a few years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Brandt live there now.

**HOUSE NO. 5** In 1882, Mr. William C. James moved his blacksmith shop from the "four corners" to lot No. 2 and built a house on adjoining lot No. 3. This house has been lived in by many families including his son, Art and wife, Rose, and by his other son, Harv, and wife, Edna. Harv was the first baby born in Wales.

**HOUSE NO. 6** 121 Elias Avenue. Mr. Evan Roberts built a house which Mr. J. J. Rees bought and lived in. Some time later, Mr. Rees built a slaughtering house and butcher shop just south of the house. Later residents were Mr. and Mrs. Ed Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Hauser. The Cleve Crossman family lives there now.

**HOUSE NO. 7** 140 West Main Street was built by Hugh Edwards. Now, it is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Otto Ellertson.

**HOUSE NO. 8** Hugh Roberts bought a lot on which he built a shoe shop. This was later remodeled into a house which was lived in by Mrs. Thomas Jones and Mr. and Mrs. Harv James. It is now lived in by the Leisinfelders.

The first nineteen homes in Wales were built by Welshmen, many of whom had migrated from the old country.

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The predominance of Welsh in early Wales was typical of the way ethnic groups spread across Wisconsin: for example, early Brussels was settled by Belgians; Pulaski by Polish; New Glarus by Swiss; Stoughton by Norwegians; and Sullivan by Irish, as Wales was settled by Welsh. This was the way our country developed as the "Great Melting Pot."

Wales will always have a Welsh tradition and many people of Welsh descent; but like so many villages and towns in America, it has been enriched by the mixing and blending of folks of many ethnic origins. It is and will continue to be a beautiful place to live.

#### The Elias Home

In 1895, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Elias and daughter Elizabeth moved to their beautiful new home. This architecturally distinctive home was truly a showplace with attractively landscaped grounds and graceful driveways and hedges. The barn or more properly the "Carriage House," was truly just that as the interior finish would equal that of many homes. The barn stabled a beautiful team of horses, which when hitched to the "carriage with the fringe on top" really caused heads to turn.

When the Eliases entertained, it was a real thrill to see the inside of the elegant house with its beautiful furnishings and to enjoy the warm hospitality.

Later residents of the home were the George Webb family. Mr. and Mrs. James Green live there now.

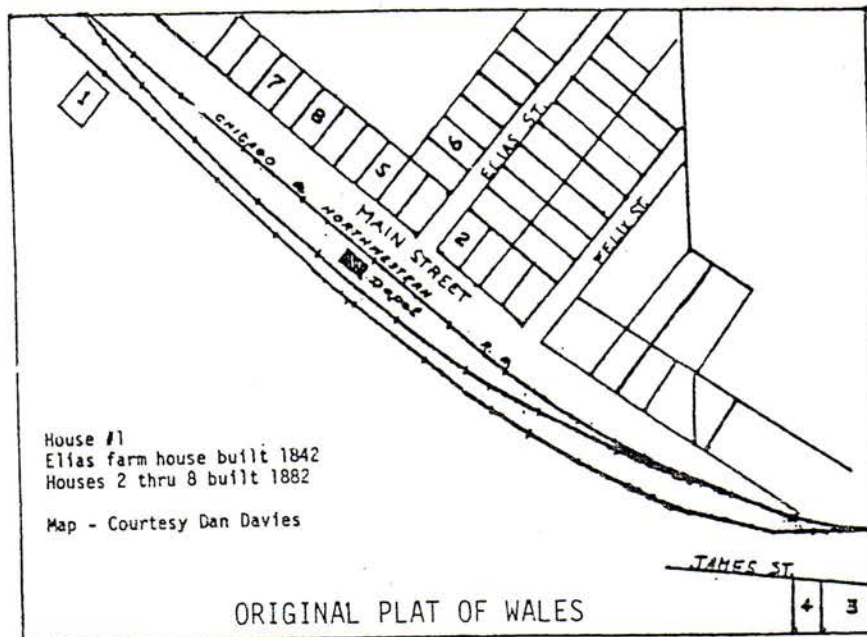
#### Early One-Family Homes

It should be pointed out that there are two Wales houses which have been occupied by only one family. Mildred Hughes Southcott with her husband, Jim still live in the home built by her father T.J. Hughes in 1913. Willard Allen and his wife Virginia are living in the house they built.

Betty Williams McDowell was born in the house purchased by her father, Humphrey Williams from Morgan Jones in 1907, and she still lives there.

#### Home Conveniences

Did these early Wales homes have such services as telephones, electric lights,



The new Elias home built in 1895

bathrooms and central heating? Not in 1882!

#### First Telephone Service

We learned from the Milwaukee office of the Wisconsin Telephone Co. that the Northwest Telephone Co. with headquarters in Tomah might supply information on telephone service to Wales. A search of old records revealed that the Eagle Telephone Co. was incorporated on Feb. 26, 1902, and served Eagle, Mukwonago, Genesee Depot, Dousman, East Troy and Palmyra. Genesee Depot service, which included Wales, was made available in 1905. "Central" offices were often in private homes in the early days. I can remember that for several years our "Central" was in Genesee Depot.

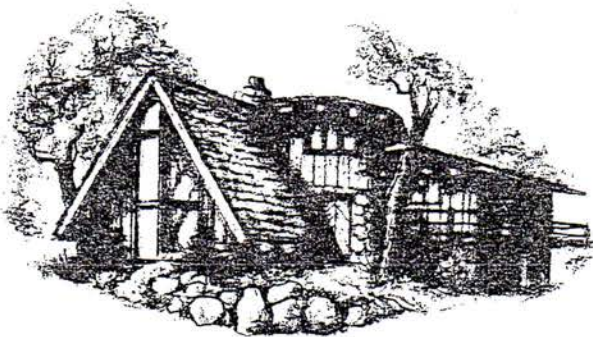
I had a most interesting visit with Marie Tinnes Perkins who for several years was a telephone "operator" at Genesee Depot and later at Delafield when the central office was moved there after World War II. Her father, Everette Tinnes had been manager of the Eagle Telephone Co. in the thirties after Fred Schwin of Genesee Depot, the first manager, from 1902 to 1929 had retired. She said the central office was operated on a three shift basis, morning, afternoon and the night shift which allowed the operator to nap between the infrequent night calls. She recalled some of the early operators - Agnes Gibson Pronold, Florence Carroll, Vivian Sayles, Bertha Tinnes and a more recent operator, Lucy Carlson. These girls got to know subscribers quite well. Some subscribers on party lines would tie up the line for long periods of time visiting with relatives or friends, but most were considerate in their use of the service. The operators were often able to be of service to subscribers by delivering messages to individuals returning home after having missed an earlier call. Operators occasionally helped in emergencies such as helping locate a family doctor out on calls or alerting the fire department and neighbors in case of a fire.

# Congratulations Wales

on your  
Centennial

Ty Carreg Antiques

1/4 mile east of Hwy. 83  
on Hwy. 18

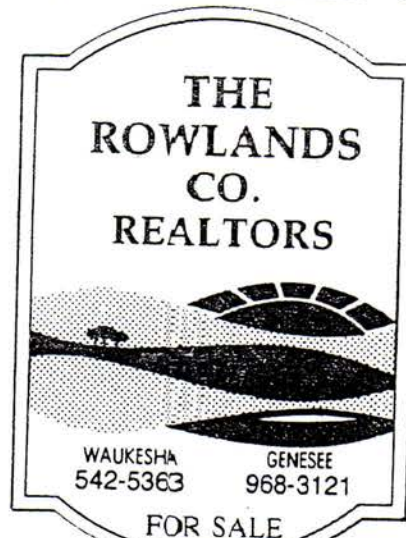


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Continued from previous page

The service in recent years has been taken over by the North West Telephone Co. with headquarters at Tomah. Mr. Wm. Heinzelman is now district manager.

Perhaps Index readers can supply more information about early telephone service. If so, please send to the Index, P.O. Box #218, Dousman, Wis. 53118. In the beginning, practically all telephones were on party lines so that from two to 10 families could listen in on conversations. At extra cost, private phones were later available. The early telephones were mounted on a wall and you "got central" by turning a crank on the side of the wooden telephone box. Incidentally, telephones did not come in your choice of styles or colors.

#### Electric Service Comes to Wales

Through the kind efforts of Ray Jackowitz of the Communications Department of the Wisconsin Electric Power Co. of Milwaukee, we learned that the Wisconsin Gas and Electric Co. obtained an easement to put up electric poles for Genesee, Delafield and Wales in August, 1916, and that service was supplied to those who subscribed in early 1917. The Milwaukee Electric Railroad and Light Co. purchased the Wisconsin Gas and Electric Co. in 1921 and today the Wisconsin Electric Power Co. generates and distributes the power. Mr. Jackowitz stated that the early records indicated that service was made available to "so called Wales" because Wales was not incorporated until 1922.

#### What About Plumbing and Bathrooms?

Probably few appeared before 1900. The "little house out back" served all Wales homes in 1882. Perhaps the first home with a bathroom and central heating was the new Elias home built in 1895. Again our readers may be able to supply more accurate information.


#### Central Heating

Furnaces probably came into use about the same time. Our home, built by Morgan Jones in 1901 and purchased by my father, Humphrey Williams, in 1907, had furnace, bathroom and generating plant for gas lights. However, quite likely other homes had these conveniences earlier.

#### So! The Year 1882 Gave Wales a Great Start:

The railroad was completed; the station was erected; on Feb. 1, 1882, the first passenger train and the first freight train came through Wales; the first mail came on Feb. 10, 1882; seven new homes were built and occupied; a general store opened for business; a backsmith shop was built; a shoe shop was built.

NOTE: Some of the early information in this article was obtained from "History of Wales, Wisconsin, from 1882 to 1933" by William H. Elias, lifelong resident of Wales.



Bill Wilke

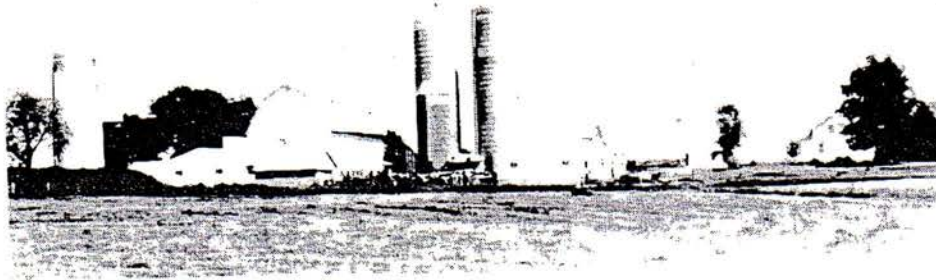
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Watertown  
261-8118  
593-8540 Sullivan  
1 Mile So. Watertown on Hwy. 26



# First family of Wales

At this Centennial time it is appropriate that we review the coming to America and to Wisconsin of Mr. Hugh Elias. He emigrated to New York state from Anglesey Wales in 1839. After spending several years in the state of New York he came to Wisconsin and settled on Section 4 Town of Genesee. He received the deed to his farm in 1842 which was six years before Wisconsin became a state.

Hugh Elias married Miss Ann Jarmon in 1844. While they were on a visit to Wales G.B. in 1858, Mrs. Elias died. After his return to Wisconsin he married Miss Elizabeth Jones in 1859. Hugh and Elizabeth had two children, a daughter Hannah who died at an early age and a son William H. Elias. Mr. Hugh Elias died in 1871.

The first trains went through the Elias farm on Feb. 1, 1882 and Mrs. Elias hired a surveyor to plat lots along the north side of the right of way. These lots were offered for sale and the settlement which developed was given the name Wales. Three business places and seven homes were built during the first year.

The Elias family ranks as the "First Family" of Wales for several reasons. First, the Village started on the Elias farm through the foresight and initiative of Mrs. Elias.

Second, her son, William H. Elias, was a public spirited promoter and champion of the Village. With others, particularly Mr. Thomas J. Hughes, he helped in the development of new businesses such as the hotel and the bank.

Third, Mr. Elias was the first Village president, a position he held for many years. The Village board in those early days helped promote better roads and streets and encouraged the building of homes and business places in the Village.

Fourth, the Elias family, like most Welsh, were church people with strong Christian beliefs. As early as 1842 Hugh Elias served as an elder in the first church of the area. His son, William H. Elias, too, was an active church leader serving both as elder and as song leader in the early Wales church. When the new church was built in Wales, Mr. Elias helped with the planning and contributed liberally toward financing the new building. One of the large stained glass windows remains as a memorial to the Wm. H. Elias family.

Fifth, the family was active in community affairs. Mrs. Elias often entertained in their beautiful home. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was a popular member of the community and used her many talents to help make the Village an interesting place to live. With Mrs. Beth Williams Nuoffer, she encouraged and coached young people in singing in the church choir. They planned and directed home talent plays and musical programs in the community.

Sixth, William H. Elias was something of an historian. He compiled a "History of Wales Wisconsin from 1882 to 1933" which was a rather complete listing of Wales events during that period. Without this information it would have been impossible to put together the stories I have written on homes and businesses and other events in early Wales. Hopefully someone is performing this valuable service for present day Wales.

We recognize and salute the contributions of the Elias family as we celebrate this important milestone in Wales history.



Elizabeth Elias Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Elias, is the only surviving member of the Elias family. She was graduated from Carroll College as valedictorian in 1909.



Mrs. Hugh Elias, the former Miss Elizabeth Jones, whose foresight and initiative brought about the beginnings of Wales.

She was married to Harley Williams in 1915. He died in Fairhaven in White-water; she still lives there.



Mr. and Mrs. William H. Elias. Mr. Elias was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Elias, and Mrs. Elias was the former Hannah Roderick. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was born Dec. 28, 1892.

# Thomas Hughes, outstanding citizen

Abraham Lincoln once said "I like to see a man proud of the town in which he lives." Thomas J. Hughes was such a man. During his life, which was cut short tragically, he made great contributions in developing the business and community life of the fledgling Village of Wales.

First a little about the man and his family. Far away in Cardigan County, south Wales, in the year 1840, a little family of three - a father, mother and son, David, Elizabeth and John Hughes - bade farewell to the old country in which they had been reared, to start their new adventure.

It took six weary weeks to cross the Atlantic Ocean. Landing in New York, they took boats up the lakes into the State of Ohio, settling for a time in Van Wert County, where two children were born - William and Mary.

After four years here, they decided to move to Wisconsin, where land was just as attractive and less expensive. So on the 4th of July, 1844, David and Elizabeth Hughes with their three children, two sons and a daughter, landed in Waukesha, then called Prairieville. They traveled west six miles to a place called Nantycalch, or Lime Brook. Here lived an uncle of David Hughes by the name of John Hughes, who was the first Welsh settler in Waukesha County, settling there in the year 1840.

David Hughes soon found a home for his family, the homestead remaining in possession of the family for over 60 years. This, too, was the birthplace of Elizabeth, David, Jane, Margaret, Harriet, Maria, Daniel and Thomas, eleven in all.

David Hughes was unusually privileged for those days, having been graduated from Oxford University, England, and held in high esteem by his countrymen, who looked to him for legal advice and general information about their new country. To them he was the surveyor, lawyer, interpreter, and general counselor.

Most of his time was spent in finding homesteads for the early Welsh settlers, not only in Waukesha County, but in Oshkosh, Columbus, Cambria, Randolph and Dodgeville.

The Hughes home was a very hospitable one where many received refreshments and rest, sometimes lingering for many days until they located homesteads of their own.

Elizabeth was a very capable woman and kept the home fires burning, reared her children, kept her house, was hostess and business head, while her husband was away finding homesteads for the Welsh pioneers.

As time passed the children grew up and left the old homestead for new ones. William, the second son, south the southland, settling in Missouri. When the Civil War broke out he joined the southern forces, was taken prisoner, and died in a Chicago hospital. He was buried in Indiana. This was the first link to be broken in the Hughes family. John, the oldest son, joined the northern forces, serving the full four years in active service, bearing the scars of battle for the rest of his life. The older daughters in turn were married and made for themselves new homes.

Thomas J. Hughes, born in 1859, youngest of the family of children, left the farm in 1882 at the age of 23 to take his position until 1900.

On Jan. 28, 1892 Tom Hughes married Margaret Jones, CaMadoec. They lived in Wales.

In 1900 Mr. Hughes went into partnership with W. E. Cooper and started a lumber yard in Wales and later in other towns such as Nashotah and Dousman, Wisc. and Jonesville, Mich.

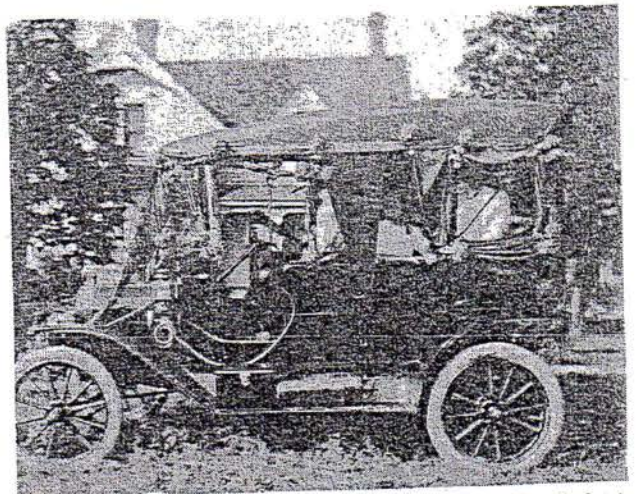
The venture was financially successful but more important for Wales it was a source of building materials for the Wales area at a time when the village was growing and in need of such materials.

In 1907 they sold the Wales Yard to the Barker Lumber Co. About this time they extended business activities in lumber and land to western states including Montana and California. These ventures were successful. From a telegrapher Mr. Hughes grew to be a businessman of considerable influence. He was on a business trip in the west when he met his untimely death in an automobile accident in 1922.

Tom Hughes, as he was known by his Wales neighbors and friends, did much to develop Wales and the Wales community. He, with others, worked to bring the Wisconsin State Tuberculosis Sanatorium to the nearby Government Hill - an ideal place for the institution and a boost for business in Wales. With Mr. Cooper and



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hughes with daughter Mildred (Southcott) riding on an ostrich, and Mrs. Hughes' brother, Rees Jones, on a visit to California in 1912.



The Hughes' Model T was decorated for the July 4 parade in 1910. See the big "Wales" banner on the side.

Mr. Heimeral, he built the Wales Hotel to accommodate friends and relatives who visited patients at the sanatorium. With William H. Elias, he was the founder of the Wales Bank. He was always interested and active in projects that helped to develop the Wales community.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes were faithful members of Jerusalem Church and were active in promoting the building of the new church in Wales in 1912. One of the large stained glass windows that help to beautify the building was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Hughes.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes had one daughter, Mildred. In 1929 Mildred was married to James Southcott. They have one son James Jr. and two grandchildren, Jennifer and Tom.

Mildred is a member of the Wales Centennial Committee.

# The Evan G. Davies Family

By Joan Carlson  
and David H. Williams

Thomas Davies was born in 1760 and lived in Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire, Wales, G.B. and died at the age of 93.

His son, John Davies and his family came to America in 1845 on a sailboat called the "Hindo". After a voyage of seven weeks they landed in New York, June 15, 1845. By boat they came to Milwaukee and then to Waukesha County. They located on a farm in the town of Ottawa, but shortly after bought a farm in the town of Genesee, the present Cambrian Hills addition to Wales.

The son of John Davies, Evan Davies, married Catherine Robert February 7, 1855. There were nine children born to this union. One of the nine children was Evan G. Davies, born July 14, 1877 and baptized August 19, 1877. His father died in 1888 when he was 11 years old.

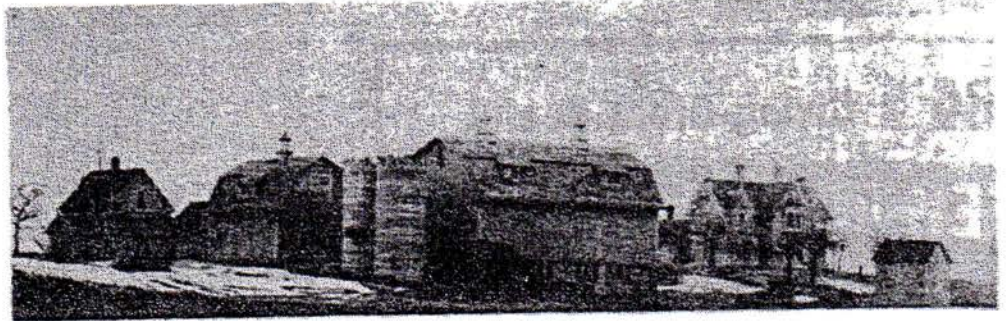
An uncle, Richard Davies and wife Jane, raised Evan G. Davies.

Evan G. Davies and Emma Erbe were married Nov. 5, 1902 in Dodgeville, Wisconsin. In 1881 the big house was built and then in 1902 the small house was built for Evan and his bride Emma.

Evan Davies was very active in the affairs of village, county and state. He was a State Assemblyman for eight years. While Mr. Davies was in the State Assembly, he fought against dog racing in the State of Wisconsin. In the Apr. 19, 1929 issue of the Milwaukee Journal "HOUSE PASSES DOG RACE BAN - VOTE IS 60-16 ON LAW TO PREVENT GAMBLING ON HOUNDS." Mr. Davies was the author of this bill. Mr. Davies served on the Waukesha County Board for 15 years. He was a member of Jerusalem Presbyterian Church all his life where he was an elder and member of the choir.

Mr. Davies donated the land presently used for the Wales Village Park.

To the union of Evan and Emma Davies were born two children, Richard R. Davies, born February 8, 1907 and Bertha J. Davies, born May 6, 1904.



The Davies farm, now Cambrian Hills subdivision. The large house on the right was built in 1881 and the one on the left in 1902.

Richard is deaf and went to the School for the Deaf at Delavan, WI. He met Cora J. Jensen of Stoughton, Wis., there. They were married Sept. 22, 1932. Mr. Davies is an accomplished artist. He did his art work in his spare time while running the farm. He farmed the homestead in Wales until the Fall of 1966 when the farm was sold.

Dick did many varied things in his lifetime, such as farming, art work and umpiring Land O' Lakes baseball. Dick presently lives with his daughter Peggy and son-in-law at 481 Welsh Road on the land that once was the farm. Mr. Davies lost his wife Cora May 18, 1973. Three children were born to this union.

Helen Joan Davies Carlson born Oct. 12, 1933, married Richard Carlson Feb. 7, 1952. Joan has lived on the former farm for the past 16 years. She is employed at the Waukesha County Court House as a secretary. She is a member of Jerusalem Presbyterian Church where she is Choir Director. Joan also plays on a baseball team of Over 26ers. Richard and Joan have three children, Sharon, Steven and Jacqueline and three grandchildren.

Richard (Dick) E. Davies, born Sept. 8, 1937, married Marion Margaret Stocks Apr. 10, 1965. Dick lives on the former farm off of Highway 83. Dick is a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Wales. Dick served four years in the U.S. Air Force. He is a meat cutter by trade. Dick served one term on the Village of Wales board. He is sexton of



Back row, Evan G. and Emma Davies, Richard and Jane Davies; front row, Richard R. and Bertha J. Davies.

Salem and Jerusalem Cemeteries and first vice president of the Wales Cemetery Association. Dick and Marion have five children, Deborah, Daniel, Jonathan, Jeffrey, and Richard.

Margaret (Peggy) Davies van Hemert, born February 25, 1942, married Wim van Hemert Nov. 30, 1974. Peggy also lives on the former farm in a home Southwest of Wales. She is employed by Waukesha County. Peggy was married previously and from that union three boys were born, Kevin age 19, Scott age 18 and Eric age 15.

Bertha Jane Davies Sorensen was born May 6, 1904. She married Irving A. Sorensen of Madison, Wisconsin Aug. 30, 1928 at Jerusalem Presbyterian Church. The Rev. J. Pugh Jones was the pastor who married them. Bertha went

to school to become a teacher and taught for a short time, but she didn't care for teaching so Bertha went back to school to be a nurse.

She graduated from Columbia School of Nursing with a R.N. degree. She practiced her nursing in Milwaukee, Madison and Oconomowoc. During her marriage, she resided in Madison and Mt. Horeb. She and her husband ran a Ford Motor Garage in Mt. Horeb until his death in 1956. Bertha then moved back to Wales where she lived with her parents on the farm until their death. Bertha practiced nursing at Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital and the Wisconsin Masonic Home. Bertha is a member of the Eastern Star and was a Worthy Matron. No children were born to this union. Bertha also resides with her brother's daughter, Peggy.

# The Humphrey Williams Family

## A Centennial Story

The parents of both Humphrey and his wife, Sara, had come to this country as young people from Wales, G. B. in the 1840's and 50's. After marriage they settled on two neighboring farms, "Maesmauer" and "Maldwyn" midway between Wales and Waukesha on present Highway 18.

Humphrey had to only walk across a field to do his courting. Humphrey and Sara started married life in South Dakota in 1893 where three children, Jane, Eunice and David were born. The family returned to Wis. in 1903 and lived on a small farm where another child, Gwen was born.

In the fall of 1906 Humphrey purchased and began to operate the hardware and farm implement business located on what is now James Street in Wales. The next spring in 1907 the Williams family moved into the nearby new residence they purchased from Morgan Jones located on East Main Street. Elizabeth (Betty) was born in Wales.

Later the older children spent time tending shop while Humphrey was delivering machinery or installing and repairing equipment such as windmills, wells, etc.

About 1917 Humphrey sold the business to Mr. Art Dodmead and returned to farming which was his first interest. His farm was on the edge of the village and is now in a housing development. Humphrey, with family help, supplied and delivered milk to the Village of Wales for over 30 years.

The family took part in the life of the community. The children attended District #6 school and Waukesha High School. All were participating members of Jerusalem Church where Humphrey served as elder for over 40 years and the entire family was active in church programs. Eunice, who, as a teacher remained in the area was a church leader especially with youth programs and remained active until her death in 1980. Betty (Mrs. Ray

McDowell) has served as church organist for 40 years and participates in the general activities of the church. She was also a member of the Wales village board for 15 years. Jane served in various church programs and later married Rev. John Jones, an Indiana clergyman. Gwen (Mrs. Wm. O. Rowlands) served in the church choir for most of her life, was a deacon and worked in women's activities.

Humphrey and Sara's family has grown. There are now 10 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.



The Humphrey Williams Family



The Humphrey Williams Home in Wales



Enjoying their visit to Wales, G.B. are (l-r) Jane A. Jones, Betty McDowell, Eunice Williams, Gwen Rowlands and

Dave Williams. Also pictured are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Perry, English friends of the travelers.

# The Tom Evans Family



**Thomas E. Evans**  
Outstanding early Wales citizen

The farm where Thomas H. Evans was born and lived for 69 years was known as Cruglas farm and later became one of the early Wales subdivisions known as "Genesee Farms."

The Evans family has been distinguished with service to the community over a period of seven generations. The accompanying generation chart lists some of the contributions and history over a long period of years.

Tom Evans, as he was known by friends and neighbors, was born one of eight children and first to be born in the "new house". Some of the brothers and sisters were born in the earlier log house.

As a boy and young man he attended District #6 school; Carroll College for two years and in the years 1902-04 attended the University of Wisconsin Short Course in Agriculture.

With his family he attended Jerusalem Church. He was active in the Sunday School serving as teacher and secretary and in later years was an elder of the church for over 50 years - the longest period ever served by any member.

In 1910 he purchased Cruglas farm which he operated with the help of his family until he retired to Wales in 1947.

In 1911 he married Elizabeth Williams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Williams of nearby Ottawa township. Elizabeth had been one of the most successful and best liked teachers in District #6 school.

Mr. and Mrs. Evans' family born from 1913-1928 were six boys and three girls. All but one son who died in infancy, have married and all have families. There are 12 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. Many remain in the Wales area in various businesses and services. The later family members carry on the fine tradition of the Evans family in the community.

## GENERATIONS OF THE THOMAS H. EVANS FAMILY

According to Webster "The average period between the birth of one generation and that of the next is about 30 years".

I. From 1750 Ann Roderick came from Wales G. B. to America with her daughter's family. She died in 1842 and was buried on Maesmawr farm - was later exhumed and was first to be buried in Salem Cemetery. Seven generations of Evans' trace their ancestry to her.

II. From 1780 Thomas Jones and wife, Ann Roderick Jones came to America about 1840 and lived on Maesmawr farm. A very capable man, he was active in the early development of the area. The family later moved to Minnesota.

III. From 1810 William Evans, paternal grandfather to Thomas H. Evans, emigrated from Wales and helped built "Capel Log", the early Jerusalem church; was clerk of district #6 school board and an elder in Jerusalem Church from 1871 to 1883.

IV. From 1840 John J. Evans born in Wales G.B. in 1840. He married Ann Jarmon, granddaughter of Ann Roderick. John was

first of family to live at Cruglas farm. Like his father was influential in church, school and community affairs.

V. From 1870 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Evans. On Mrs. Evans side five generations have lived in the community.

VI. After 1900, children of Thomas H. and Elizabeth Evans Harold married Marion Roberts; Clayton married Joyce Siewert; Janet married Everett O'Rourke; Merlyn married Donna Burke; Byron married Beulah Siewert; Roger died in infancy; Sarah married Richard Pronold; Elizabeth married William Knoebel; Robert married Delores Dedee.

VII. After 1930, fourteen grandchildren.

VIII. After 1960, seventeen great-grandchildren.



Row 1: Marion Evans, Joyce Evans, Donna Evans, Beulah Evans, Elizabeth Knoebel. Row 2: Harold Evans, Clayton Evans, Janet O'Rourke, Merlyn Evans, Byron Evans, Sarah Pronold, William Knoebel. Row 3: Delores Evans, Robert Evans, Everett O'Rourke, Richard Pronold.



Mr. & Mrs. Thomas H. Evans and son Harold - 1913



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# The Thomas John Jones Bron Derw Family

Genealogy & Pictures  
Courtesy Margaret Jones  
Engler

The campus of the Kettle Moraine Schools is on the Bron Derw farm. So is the Wales Kettle Moraine Bank and the Production Credit office and many other businesses and homes.

## Once a Premier Farm

But before all this, the Bron Derw farm was one of the best farms in the whole Kettle Moraine area. Moraine country is rough, hilly and stony, but this farm was mostly level and its soil was deep and rich with fewer pesky stones to plague the farmer.

## Four Generations of Joneses

The first generation of the Joneses to live on Bron Derw was the Thomas C. Jones family which emigrated from North Wales in 1846 - one of the early Welsh settlers in the Wales area. At first the family was known as the Jones "Four Corners" as the farm buildings were then at the intersection of present highways 83 & 18 adjacent to the settlement of Enos. The farm buildings were later built at the present location where the Herb Schuster family now lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Jones had two children - boys - John T. and Thomas. The family operated Bron Derw until the sons came of age when Thomas bought the Oak Grove Farm located at the junction of County Trunk GD and the C & N.W.R.R. The sturdy stone farmhouse still stands.

## Second Bron Derw Generation

The other son, John T. took over the farm when his father retired. He had a daughter, Catherine, by his first wife, Mary DAVIES, and later a son, Thomas John Jones, born in 1865 by his second wife, Margaret Griffith.

Thomas John Jones operated the Bron Derw farm with his father until his father's death in 1897.

## Third Bron Derw Generation

Thomas John Jones and his wife, Nellie Pugh Jones had three children, John T. born in 1900, Margaret born in 1901 and Russell born in 1906. Nellie Pugh was the daughter of John Pugh who arrived in Wisconsin with his wife and three children in 1879 from South Wales. (More about the Pugh family in a later story)

Thomas John and Nellie Jones were prominent in the life of the Wales community: in church activities, in supporting the country school district #6 and other activities in the Wales area. Bron Derw farm was one of the best operated in the county with excellent horses and high producing Holstein cattle.

The children, John T., Margaret and Russell, attended district

#6 school. When John finished #6, he attended Waukesha High School for one year. Having a keen interest in the farm and especially cattle, he told his father that instead of continuing high school he would like to get into purebred Holstein cattle. His father agreed and bought him four purebred Holstein cows. That was the start from which a sizeable herd of cattle was developed. A herd of great promise was in the making in less than ten years, when a great tragedy occurred. Young John T. received fatal burns from an explosion while operating an equipment sterilization unit on the farm. He died Sept. 29, 1925 when 25 years of age and with him went the possibility of a fourth Jones generation on Bron Derw. His death shocked not only the family but also the entire Wales community.

His sister Margaret became a stenographer and in 1927 married Erich Engler who was in the purchasing department of the Teweles Seed Co. of Milwaukee. Following his retirement, Erich and Margaret continue to live in Milwaukee.

Russell attended dental college and practiced dentistry for 13 years in Waukesha. He joined the army in 1941 and gained the rank of captain in the medical corp. He was killed in action in North Africa in 1943.

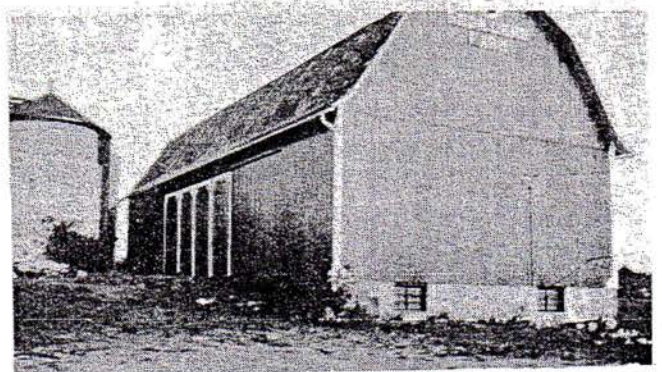
After the death of his elder son, Thomas John Jones continued to operate Bron Derw until his death in 1931. The farm was sold to Herb Schuster.



The Thomas John Jones family, about 1910. Thomas John Jones and John. Margaret, Russell, Nellie Pugh Jones.



Margaret and Erich Engler, 1940.



The Bron Derw farm buildings today.

# Roberts Family Comes To Wales In 1898

David J. Roberts came to the Wales area about 1898 purchasing the farm at the junction of Highway 83 and County Trunk G.

Mr. Roberts traced his ancestry to a Sir Richard Bulkey, a Scottish nobleman, as well as to his Welsh forebears from old Wales.

He was united in marriage to Gwendolyn James (a sister to Howeli James), they had two children, John and Margaret. Some years later, upon the death of Gwendolyn, Mr. Roberts married Kathryn Davis from Dodgeville and to them Gwilym ("Gig") was born. Mr. Roberts had the second misfortune in the death of Kathryn and later again married. David and Ella had three children, Winogene, Howell and Wilfred. All the children married

but Wilfred, who died at 16 years and Howell, who served in the Army as Captain and died in 1945. John also was in the service. John and Gwilym had children and grandchildren. Margaret married John Jones of Bethesda. They had two children, Gwendolyn and Juanita, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Winogene married Poetsch of Waukesha. They had three children and five grand-children.

A most exciting recollection for me is of "Dave" Roberts and later his sons John ("Jack"), Gwilym ("Gig") and Howell, doing the threshing for the farmers of the community. What excitement! Threshing time was like going to the circus for a young boy my age. The huge steam engine weighing tons and the big grain separator; the skill it took to maneuver these big machines into position; the lining up of the steam engine and the grain separator so that the 40 foot belt would transfer the power to the separator; the water wagon, with the "water boy" which supplied the water and coal needed to generate the steam to run the outfit!



Gwilym Roberts and his wife, the former Ruth Noble with their four children: (left to right) Harold, Shirley, Jack and Donald. Gig died

Yes - threshing was exciting. It took big crews to operate these machines and 10 or 12 neighbors would come - some with teams and wagons - to haul the grain to the machine and carry on their backs the threshed grain to the farm bins and also to stack the straw. And the crews had to bed, so the farm wife would exhibit her best culinary skill in feeding the hungry crews. Yes, today's combines, operated by one or more men are efficient, but cannot compare for excitement with "threshing time" in the early 1900s and the Robertses, in addition to operating their farm were our threshermen.

During the years that Gig and Ruth operated the farm, it was increased in size to 340 acres and the dairy herd was increased from about 30 cows to 125 cows when they discontinued dairying.

Gig was a life member of Jerusalem Church. Ruth, also a member, is active in community and church activities, including

in 1975. Ruth has 14 grandchildren. Hal operates the farm. The dairy herd was sold but about 150 feeder cattle are finished yearly.

having served as elder and presently as a deacon.

About 70 acres of the farm are now in a Wales subdivision.

We wish  
to thank everyone  
on the  
Wales Centennial  
Committee  
which made  
this book possible!



# 1982 - Wales Centennial Year

## The Willard Allen Family



### Genealogy and Pictures Courtesy of Willard Allen

In 1855 Willard's paternal grandfather, Oswald Allen, came from Great Britain and settled in Waukesha County near what is now Wales. In 1896 his maternal grandfather, John G. Jones, came from Wales G. B. From this lineage was born Arthur J. Allen and Mable Jones Allen, the parents of Willard.

Arthur J. Allen farmed near Brandybrook School all his life. He was a good farmer and an active citizen. He was the first president of the Waukesha County Farm Bureau and for many years was town clerk and clerk of the Town of Delafield. He was also, for many years, a member of the Agricultural Committee of the Waukesha County Board. This committee is responsible, jointly with the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture, for the hiring of county agents and conduct of the County Agent's office.

Willard D. Allen was born in 1915. He attended Brandybrook, Waukesha High School and graduated from Carroll College in 1937. He bought the J. J. Rees Lumber Co. in 1938 and has operated it continuously since that time.

Willard's mother, Mable Allen, was an active person in the community - in church, school and community affairs, especially with music in which she was talented. She died in 1980 at age 93.

Willard inherited his mother's love of and ability in music. For 42 years he was a member of the Oconomowoc Legion band which he directed from 1946 to 1976. The band had a great record of performance, playing in three Presidential Inaugural Parades, the Tournament of Roses in 1960 and over 300 Veteran Hospital concerts in 39 states and two foreign countries.

Wales' growth from a village of only about 200 people to nearly 2000 came as a result of the development of subdivisions in the beautiful wooded hills surrounding the village. Carnarvonshire subdivision was the first of these - developed by Willard Allen in 1964.

Willard served as Wales Fire Chief in the 40's and 50's. He served as Village president from 1955 thru 1965 and was a member of the Waukesha County Board 1955 thru 1965.

Following the death of his father, Willard continued operation of the home farm and developed an outstanding herd of Purebred Hereford cattle. He has shown in eight states winning twelve state championships and many blue ribbons. He won the coveted "sire group" in the 1976 Central University of Wisconsin Test Station at Lancaster, Wisconsin. He has exported cattle to Japan and South America and is himself a recognized cattle judge, having judged shows in six states.

He is a member of Kiwanis, of the Milwaukee Farmers' Club and participated in the People to People Agricultural Tour to Russia in 1960. He is a Thirty Second Degree Mason and a director of the Marine National Bank of Waukesha; of the Wisc. Retail Lumbermans Association and of the Wisc. Polled Hereford Association.

Willard married Virginia Tabbert in 1940. They have one son, David Allen of Oconomowoc and two grandchildren, Katie aged 8 and Nathan, aged 7.

We welcome this opportunity to salute a fine citizen and a good friend.

## The Sam James Family



The Samuel D. James family was one of the earliest and most prominent in Wales. From left, Mrs. James, daughters Mary (Mamie) and Sarah (Sadie) and "Sam" James.

One of the earliest and most prominent families in early Wales was that of Samuel James.

Mr. James bought the store, now owned by Mr. Kopecky, from his father in 1884. The family operated the store and lived in the attached home, the first building in Wales other than the Elias farmstead buildings. Mr. and Mrs. James operated the store until 1912 when it was sold to George Zoch.

# Non-Welsh Family Moves In

by Ida Glynn Nelson  
and David H. Williams

The Glynn family was one of the first non-Welsh families to live in Wales. No doubt this presented some difficulties for them, but as a family they adapted to the situation and became an integral part of the community. The Glynnns were railroad men, including grandfather Glynn, father John Glynn, sons George and William, and son-in-law Ellis Altwise.

Ida Glynn Nelson wrote the following concise and interesting story of the family:

"My Dad was born on a farm near Wyocena, Wis. -his father and mother were Irish - Grandmother Glynn was born in Ireland. Grandfather was born in U.S.A. My Dad had two sisters and four brothers. He and Evan G. Thomas were schoolmates. My grandfather was in charge of railroad section near Wyocena and was killed by a train at a young age.

"My father, when a young man came to Madison to work on the St. Paul Railroad. In Madison he met my mother. They were married in Doylestown, Wis. in August 1896. In about 1898 they came to Wales.

"My mother was born in Germany. When she was about six years old, her family came to the U.S.A. She had three sisters. My grandmother died on the boat coming to the United States. Grandfather William Behling came to Concord, Wis. and bought a small farm. There he met his second wife. They were married and had three sons and one daughter. My mother was a classmate of Mrs. Ellis Mills in Concord.

"Mother and Dad had seven children. One little girl passed away at birth. Sister Evelyn passed away with pneumonia when she was nine months old. My brother John and his wife, Helen Dawson, who was born in Marshfield, Wis. had 10 children - four boys and six girls. George Glynn did not marry. He did book work for the Chicago Northwestern R.R. William Glynn married Rhea Hammond from Camp Douglas. They had one son. William worked for the Chicago and Northwestern R.R. My sister Isabelle married Ellis Altwise. Ellis worked as a telegrapher for more than 40 years on Northwestern R. R. He started out in Wales under Ben Edwards. Ida Glynn married Stanley Nelson, July 1943. Stanley was born in Madison and was a painter.

John Glynn Jr. spent nine months in Europe during World War I. William was to go but Armistice was signed when he was in a camp in southern U.S.A.



The Glynn Home in Wales. From left: George on horse, Mother

Bertha Glynn, Isabelle with doll, John and William with cow.

We were all members of St. Paul's Catholic Church in Genesee, where we traveled every Sunday to church by buggy, car and sometimes we walked.

My folks lived in the house which was later owned by Mary and John Pugh."

"We had cows, horses, chickens, geese, ducks, goats and I never did find another spot I loved so much. Green grass of home!

Of course, all those but me who resided here have passed away.

"I can hear my Mother still—she would stop your father when he was passing our house with a team and ask if she could go up in the woods to get some good black dirt for her flowers. The answer was yes—she had such beautiful flowers growing in Wales."

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# Jerusalem Church Started In Barn

## A Wales Centennial Story

By 1842 there were enough Welsh immigrants in the Wales community to form a church, for it was unthinkable for these deeply religious people to live without one. Richard Jones, Bronyberllan, who had migrated to America in 1842 from Cardiganshire, Wales, was a natural leader. In the year of his arrival, he invited the new Welsh settlers to worship in his barn in the summer and his house in winter. His farm was located about a mile east of present Wales on County Trunk G. Readers may more easily identify the farm as the Rees Brothers' place where the barn was struck by lightning and burned during the summer of 1981.

The first children baptized in the settlement were baptized in the barn and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was likewise celebrated for the first time in the same barn.

After three years of this arrangement the members decided that a church should be built, and so the men of the congregation turned out with axes and saws and built a log church - 18-20 feet. It was called "Capel Log" or "Church made of logs". The building was located at the junction of Highway 83 and County Trunk G. It was built by the members themselves, some of whom were expert in hewing out the logs with an axe, and some who were "corner men" with the skill to shape logs to form the four corners of the building. The finished building had a door and three windows. Inside was a box-like basswood pulpit with benches around the outside of the room.

The structure was erected at little cost as the logs came from the farms of the members and the labor was donated by the men of the church. The women probably furnished noon meals. The outlay in money for windows, door hinges, latch and stove was nominal but the first Jerusalem church was a reality.

Wouldn't it be interesting if some member had recorded some of the happenings in that early log church. Many incidents of great human interest took place, we can be sure, but, alas, no one wrote them down.

We do know, from work handed down by parents and grandparents, that regular and frequent meetings were held there and not only on Sundays. During the week there were prayer meetings and singing schools.

It was a much used building, especially as in the first four years it was also used as the country public school with over 75 young people enrolled.

## Singing Schools

The Welsh always have been and still are great singers. The movie "How Green Was My Valley" depicting life in Wales in the 1850s thru 1880s, showed the Welsh coal miners singing going to work and returning from the mines. The Welsh who came to the United States continued their love of singing and Gymanfa Ganus and Eisteddfods (singing conventions) of today manifest their desire to come together for a day or a half day of singing hymns.

They sang them, as they do now, with great fervor filling the church with their melodic enthusiasm. The Welsh have a word for this-hwyl-which also applied to the delivery of many sermons which were preached with great emotional vigor and feeling. As one member stated, "I like a preacher who brings a tear to the eye."

This interest in singing was shown by the early Welsh settlers who set aside two or more nights a month for singing schools. They would get together, adults and young people, to enjoy an evening of singing under the direction of a singing leader. The do-re-mi system was used instead of the regular notes we sing by today.

The singing schools were social events that brought people together. As many of the participants walked, the young people often chose partners on their way to and from the church. The rock and roll and western music singing of today is not more enthusiastically supported than these early singing schools. Some good romances were started that way.

Some of the early song leaders in Jerusalem Church were William Evans, Thomas J. Thomas, Thomas M. Jones and Mrs. Theodore "Beth" Nuoffer.

## The New Church

The log church - "Capel Log" - was used for fifteen years. People came to feel that a better church should be built. Mrs. William Evans expressed the need this way, "Everybody has a better house than the Lord" so a new frame church was built in 1859. Hewed hardwood logs were used in the framework which were joined by hardwood pegs - no nails were used. The church was built on the same site as Capel Log, but this time finished with milled lumber. This church was used until 1870 when it was enlarged by adding 20 feet to the front making what seemed at the time, a very large building. The building was used for about 40 years until the present church was built in the Village of Wales in 1912.

But the story of the church buildings would not be complete without mention of the "horse sheds" and the "soup house."

# JERUSALEM CHURCH



### The Horse Sheds

As the method of transportation to church was by horses and buggies - or carriages - it was necessary to build sheds to protect the horses from the cold of winter zero weather and the hot summer sun. Accordingly sheds were built with about fifteen stalls, wide enough to accommodate a team of horses and deep enough to cover not only the horses, but also the buggies or carriages. This was a sizeable structure about 100 feet long and 20 feet deep. It was not uncommon during service to hear a commotion in the sheds. One or two men would then go out to quiet a horse that had gotten mixed up in its harness or had started a little nipping at the horse in a neighboring stall.

### The Soup House

The old "soup house" was at one time another Welsh church, built just south of the C. & N.W R.R. on present Highway 83. This was known as Salem Church. It was established because of dissension among members of old "Capel Log" when a daughter of one of the members died and was refused burial in the adjoining Jerusalem Cemetery. Thus, Salem Cemetery was established a few hundred yards down the road and also Salem Church, less than a mile away. The animosity existed for several years. A prominent citizen was asked why two cemeteries? His answer "I wouldn't be caught dead in Jerusalem."

But the churches were too close together and soon Salem was closed and the church building moved across the road from Jerusalem Church. It became known as the "Soup House" as for many years on New Year's Eve an oyster supper was served - an event that became very popular for many miles around. Following the supper a program of music and drama was presented in the church across the road.

The Soup House was used during the week for ladies' church meetings, for weekly prayer meetings and for occasional church dinners. The building is still in use as a tenant house on the neighboring Roberts' farm.

### The Ministers

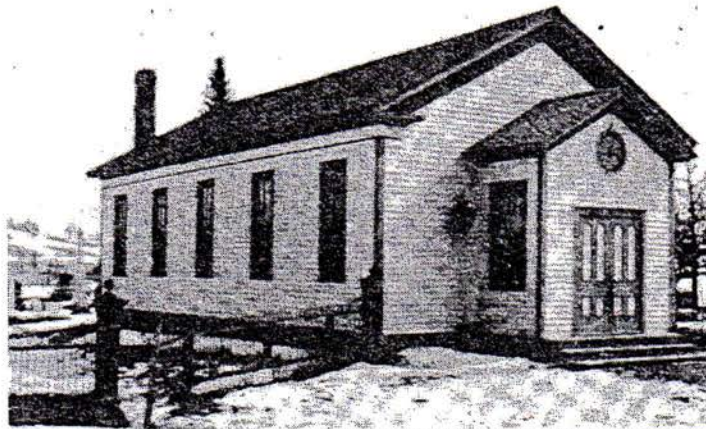
The story of Jerusalem Church would not be complete without reference to the ministers who served. In the early days itinerant pastors served, not only Jerusalem but also several other Welsh churches in the area. Perhaps the first was William T. Williams, an ordained minister from Wales, G.B. who arrived in the community in 1844. He preached in the Richard Jones Barn, gave the dedication sermon in Capel Log, and preached in many other early Welsh Churches. Many fine ministers have served Jerusalem Church in the 140 years since it began in the Richard Jones barn. For most of this period the same minister served both Jerusalem and Bethesda churches. Space will permit mention of only a few.

### Presbyterian Church in Modern Wales

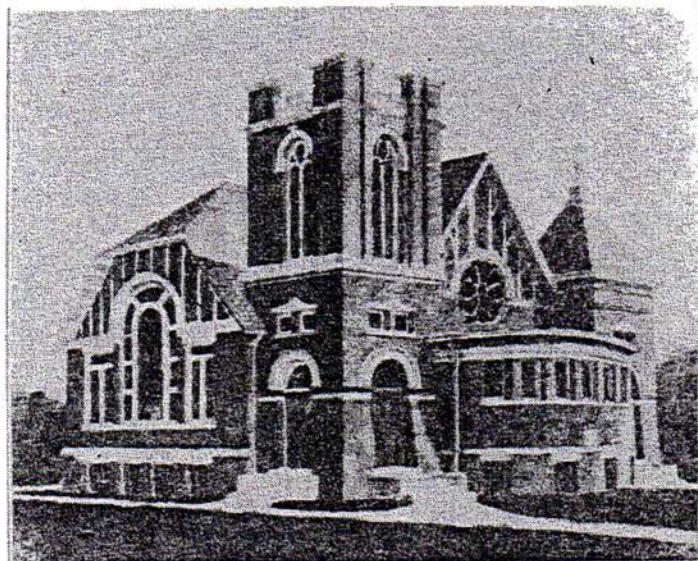
As has been mentioned, the third Jerusalem church served the community for forty years. In 1912 the present church was dedicated and is in its 71st year of service. Some of the families in the church trace their church affiliation back as far as Capel Log. As Wales has changed through the years so has the church. Babies have been baptized, weddings performed, and dear ones laid to rest from this building. At the present time Jerusalem is a member of the Kettle Moraine parish, which includes several churches. Three ministers serve the parish, rotating their services among the several churches.

### Footnote by David Williams

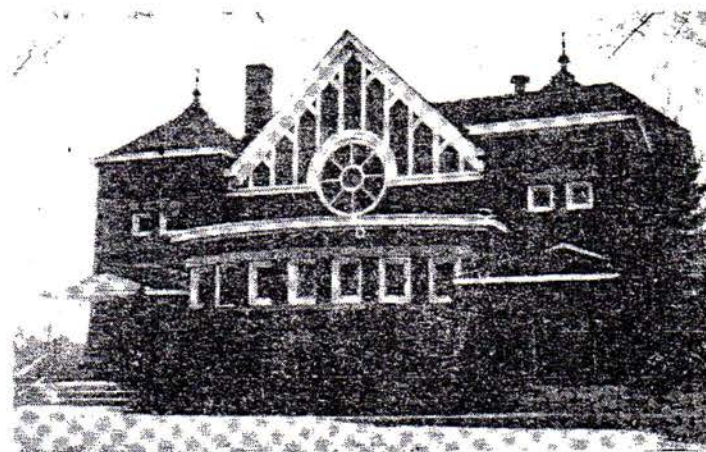
1. I am indebted to Rev. Daniel Jenkins Williams for portions of the early history of Jerusalem church, taken from his excellent history "The Welsh Community of Waukesha County."



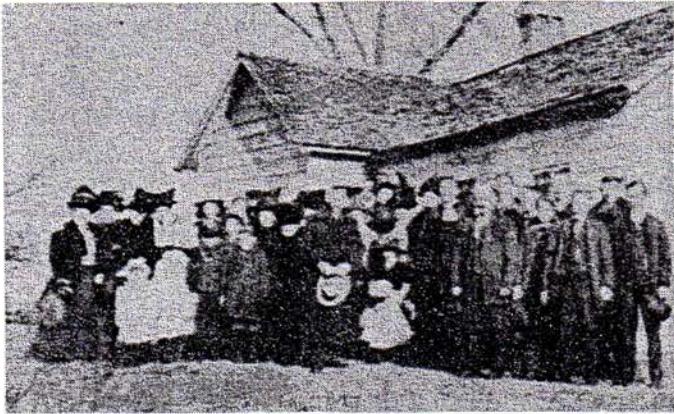
The Second Jerusalem Church (1870-1912)



Jerusalem United Presbyterian Church, Main Street, Wales was built in 1912.



Present Jerusalem Church - 1982



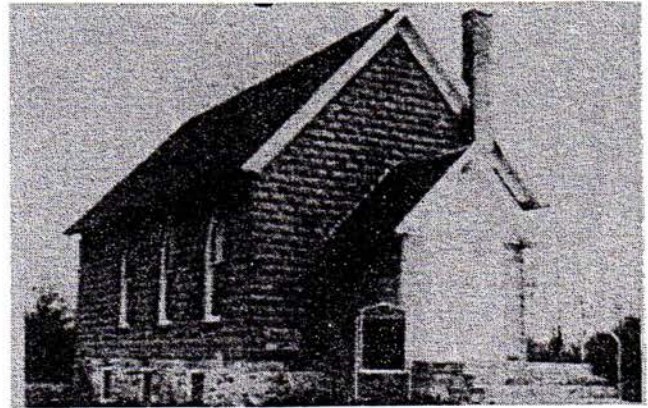
Bethlehem Lutheran was formally organized in 1906 with 10 men singing the first constitution as the original charter members: Carl Boettcher, Edward Schultz, John Schroeder, Otto Falk, Charles Falk, John Schwartz, August Bahr, Herman Rupp, Carl W. Tessman and Gustav Bahr.

by Mrs. Robert Pett

Wales, a predominantly Welsh settlement, found in tis midst a few families of German heritage. A Lutheran Church had already been established in North Prairie and Pastor Hitzeroth, concerned about the spiritual welfare of the families in the Wales area, invited them to worship with them. But the distance of six to eight miles by horse and buggy seemed prohibitive and so a stalwart group of Christians decided that they preferred to worship locally. So, in the Fall of 1905, plans were in the making and by January of 1906 10 men signed the constitution of a church first known as St. Mark's which shortly thereafter was renamed Bethlehem Ev. Lutheran, by which it is still known today.

Having thus decided a place of worship was needed, a hall belonging to Mr. James was put at their disposal and was rented for future services at a modest fee of 50 cents per service with 25 cents extra if heat were needed. German tradition prevailed in this new congregation and services were held in their native tongue. They continued to follow their custom of segregating the congregation with men sitting on one side of the church and women and children on the other. It proved quite a challenge for the wife to take care of a number of children herself while taking an active part in the service, especially since families were not small in those years.

Less than a year after their first service, these energetic Lutherans looked for a more permanent place to worship. On October 2nd, 1906 they purchased two acres of land from Mr. Ed Jones for \$400. This seemed quite an undertaking, as records showed a balance of only \$1.85 in the treasury on Apr. 1. However, they proceeded to remodel the existing home on the property and held services there until Sept. 14, 1913 when a more permanent church was



The church, just east of Wales at the corner of Highways G and GD was dedicated Feb. 15, 1914.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church today at Highway 18 and Oak Crest Drive.

deemed necessary and the cornerstone was laid. It was constructed of rock face concrete blocks, and with members willing and able to do most of the work themselves, dedication was held on Feb. 15, 1914, a mere five months later.

Pastor Hitzeroth continued to serve this congregation until 1912 when Pastor Menkins succeeded him at both North Prairie and Wales.

This church, which as since been razed, stood at the corner of Highways G and GD East of Wales. A small cemetery was located at the rear of the church, but these graves had to be relocated when the building committee decided to sell the building which, because possibly of its location, was constantly being vandalized.

It was a simple, modest church with a seating capacity of about 80, but with none of the modern frills. No stained glass windows, cushioned pews, or mothers' room were included. The altar, very traditional and beautiful, was further enhanced by an oil painting of "Christ in Gethsemane" which had been painted by Mrs. Jessie Fitting of Rochester, Minn. and donated by the Schumacher family. The altar was moved into the education unit of the new church and is still used for small group devotions. Electricity, furnace, carpeting and candleabra were

to be added after 1945. No well was dug, and when water was needed for a baptism, an elder brought it along. If he happened to forget, a quick trip to a nearest members' home had to be made.

As a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Falk, Mr. Falk being the last charter member to pass away, an illuminated cross was installed on the roof of the church. So for many years, people driving east out of Wales in the evening hours were confronted by this beautiful cross. It has since been relocated on the front lawn of the new church. Shrubs, too, were added in memory of Otto Boettcher, and other additions and improvements continually made to the "little old church in the fork of the road." With nostalgia we turn back the pages of time leaf by leaf, slowly, thoughtfully recalling an era through which many of us have lived and wishing the church could have been preserved, not only for us, but for future generations.

The congregation remained small and closely knit as the surrounding area changed little in those days and few new members were added. Pastor Winter served the congregation from 1920 to 1959, and during this time the services were conducted in the English language every other Sunday. During the summer months an early morning service was held every Sunday. Sunday School was taught for many years by Mrs. Reinhold Bauman with just a few children in attendance every Sunday, but by 1946 we find that six teachers were needed as the growth was

already evident.

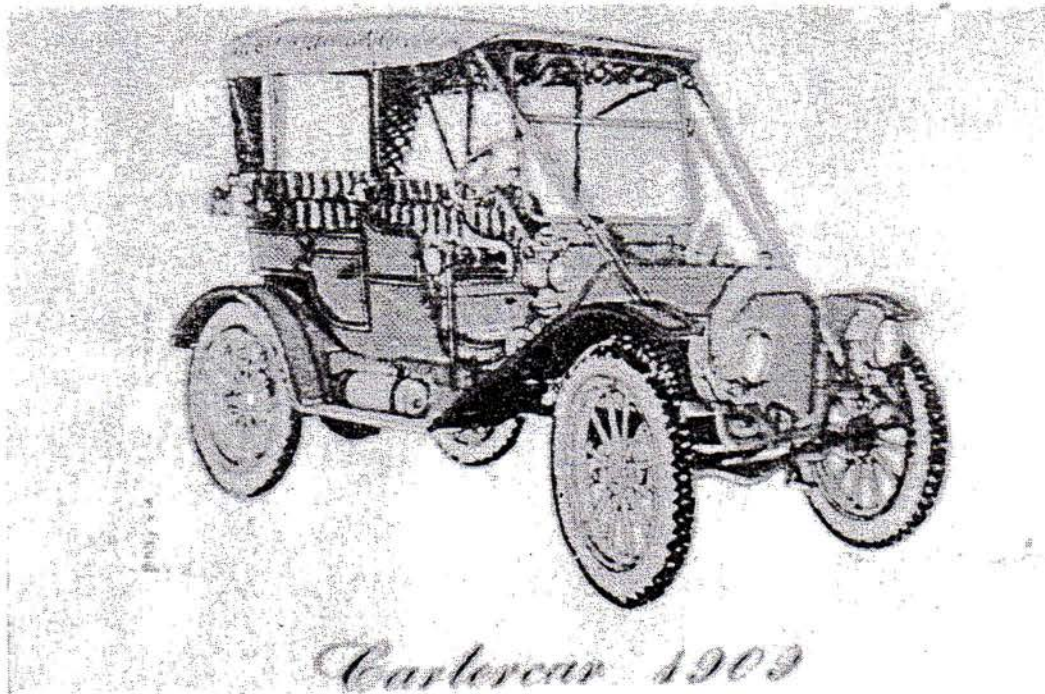
An interesting comment by Pastor Winter is noted--"The horse sheds are gone, an oil burning furnace has replaced the coal stove, electricity has replaced the oil lamps, the German language has given place to the American, but one thing has not changed--The preaching of GOD'S WORD," and that the pastors and members vow, will never change.

In succeeding years, Pastors Henry Naumann, Wm. Lewis and Marvin Hoyer served Bethlehem along with St. John's of North Prairie. However, as subdivisions were developed, and people began relocating in the Wales area, it was found necessary to enlarge the building or build a new structure. And so plans were made to relocate at the corner of Hwy. 18 and Oak Crest Drive with the purchase of 10 acres. A few years later, in 1971, the first full time pastor, Burton Harger, was called. Growth has continued over the years from 120 members in 1966 to over 500 members this year. Since 1979 Pastor Richard Schaefer has served, holding two services every Sunday, together with numerous Sunday School and Bible classes. Just last year the 75th Anniversary was celebrated with numerous activities.

Bethlehem Lutheran church continues to be a beacon, in an ever-growing community, teaching and preaching the pure and precious word of God that souls might be saved through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

E. Pett

## Cartercar 1909



Automobiles were just beginning to be used as a mode of transportation. The first cars began to appear in Wales about 1910. The real classic of this era was a Cartercar owned by the Humphrey Williams family. The Cartercar was an elegant automobile,

fine leather upholstery, huge brass head lights and side lights. Mechanically it was not so efficient. It's two cylinders didn't have enough power for our hills. It had a right hand drive, acetylene lights and a rubber bulb horn.

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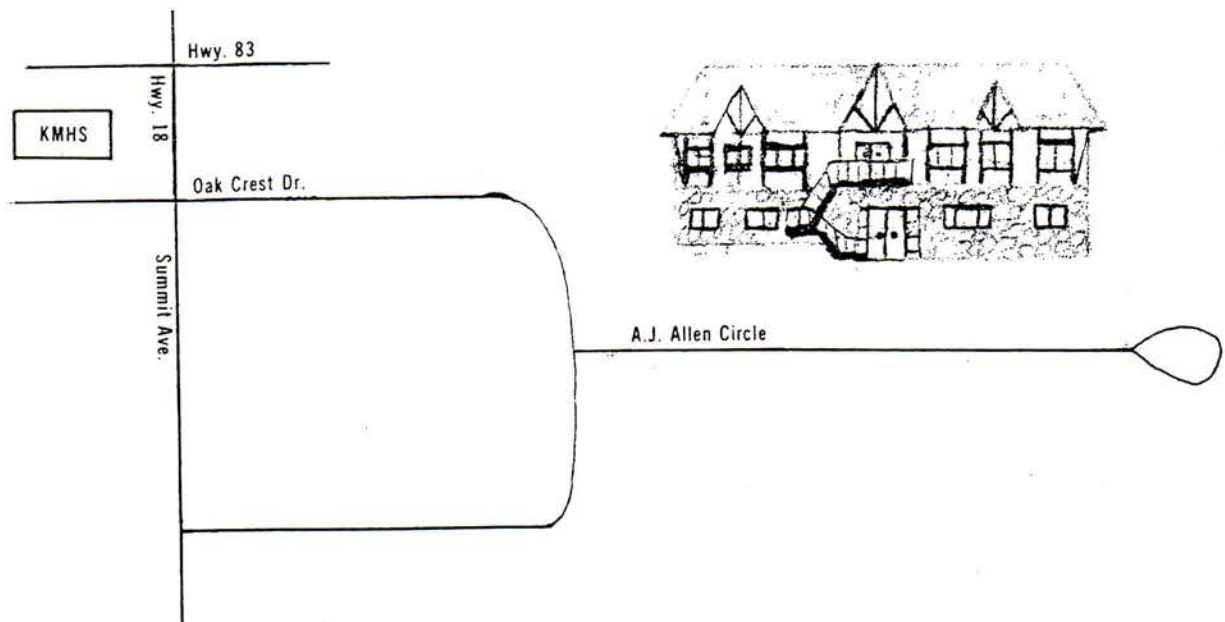
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# Early Wales Business Places

In 1882, the year that the first trains went through Wales, and the year that the railroad station was built, Mr. John D. James, who had emigrated from Wales, G.B., built a general store, with attached living quarters, at the corner of Main and Elias Streets. It provided the community with food and dry goods.

After two years, J. D. James sold the store to his son Samuel D. James, and he returned to the old country. Mr. and Mrs. Sam James operated the store until 1912, except for a four-year period when he rented to David Evans.

It was truly a "cracker barrel" store. Soda crackers came loose in a big barrel and most foods, like beans, sugar, and salt, were sold from bulk containers. Cheese came in big wheels or "cheddars" and slices were cut off to suit the customer. Most items were wrapped in paper torn from a big roll on the counter and the package was tied with string, which hung from an overhead dispenser. Bananas came in big bunches, — hung by a cord from the ceiling. Coffee came as coffee beans and was ground to a fineness to suit the customers. The coffee grinder had two big fly wheels to give it momentum to do the grinding.

Most produce was weighed out by the ounce or the pound. Customers brought their own containers for such items as vinegar or kerosene, and often a small potato was jammed onto the spout of the kerosene can to keep it from spilling.

Farmers brought in eggs and homemade butter to sell or trade for other merchandise. Few vegetables were sold as each family had its own garden.

There were always cookies, candies, tobacco and cigars for sale. Children asked for only pennies for candy in those days.

Meat was cut on the solid butcher block from the carcass which was taken from the big ice box. Meat was wrapped in "butcher paper," a heavier, moisture-proof grade. The cattle were grown by local farmers and slaughtered in the "killing shed" attached to the rear of the store. Strings of dried meat and sausages hung behind the counter.

Customers did not help themselves but were "waited on" by Mr. or Mrs. James, and each item was recorded on a pad of paper which was the statement or bill (see illustration).

The dry goods included shoes, stockings, dresses, bolts of

calico, gingham and finer fabrics, spools of thread, towels, and many other items necessary for the homemaker.

The village store was a meeting place for anyone who came to town. The potbellied stove was a good gathering place. The fact that the post office was in the store added to its popularity.

The Sam James store will always be remembered, not only as the first Wales business, but also as a monument to the birth of a small business community. This store has been in constant operation since 1882 and at present is a thriving small-town business operated by John Kopecky. The attached house has been converted to additional store space.

Others who have operated the store since Sam James sold it in 1912 include: Mr. and Mrs. George Zoch, Mr. Louis Propp, Mr. Chas Vredenbreght.

## Second Business in Wales

Also in 1882, Mr. William C. James moved his blacksmith shop from the Four Corners (now the intersection of highways 18 and 83, which was then known as "Enos") to Main Street, just two lots west of the corner of Main and Elias streets. He operated the blacksmith shop until 1887 when he built a general store on this location and for many years the two James families (not related) operated general stores.

The second floor of the store was the Village Hall which was used for many kinds of events, such as home talent programs, sewing classes, box socials, and other kinds of programs. Medicine shows were common in those days. A company would come to town and present shows of magic, vaudeville and other acts. During breaks in the show, the barker would expound on the virtues of his elixir, which would cure anything that might ail you. Usually the shows were free if you didn't buy their medicine.

Others who operated this store were: Wesley Kerr, Evan G. Thomas, Duke and Janet O'Rourke, Mr. Waner, and Charles Vredenbreght.

In later years the upper floor was remodeled into apartments.

## Shoemaker Shop Started

Mr. Hugh Roberts built a shoemaker shop on Main Street in 1882. He operated the shop for a few years before it was converted into a residence.



The James General Store - the first business in Wales - built in 1882. This store has been in continuous operation.

Continued from previous page

**Grain Elevator Erected In 1888**

In the first few years several different men owned and operated the elevator including a Mr. Johnson, John E. Jones, David Thomas and a Mr. Armstrong. Then Mr. David Felix and J. T. Rees ran it until Howel Felix bought it in 1909 and operated it for many years.

The elevator served farmers as a source of seeds, feed, such as wheat bran, and "middlings" which could be mixed with farm grains for their dairy cattle rations. It also served as a market for farmer's grain crops which were stored in bins at the top of the high structure. The machinery which elevated the grain to these bins was run by horse power in the early days. I can recall as a boy dropping in to watch the horse go round and round. It was amusing because Howie would start him out on his endless circular route and then go about other work in the mill. But without attention the horse would go slower and slower until Howie would return to the horse power room, crack his whip and yell "giddup," which would get the horse back to normal speed again.

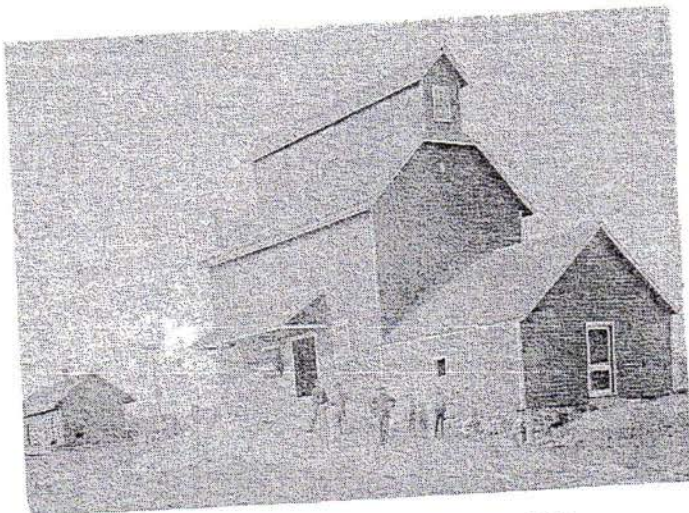


Cooper Hughes Lumber Co. - 1908

In later years a gasoline motor was installed for power and when electric power came to Wales in 1917 an electric motor was used.

Howie Felix was also a livestock buyer and would travel the countryside buying up stock from farmers. He shipped on regular shipping days from the Chicago and Northwestern R.R. stock yards located between the elevator and the Wales lumber yard.

A later owner was La Budde Feed & Grain. In 1956 the elevator was purchased by Bob Pett who is the present operator.



Wales elevator completed in 1889.

**1895 - The Heimarl Creamery**

The creamery was built across the road from the lumber yard and a little to the west. Charles Heimarl and his brothers ran it for 14 years until it was destroyed by fire.

This was the time of sour cream butter. Much of the cream was farm-separated and most often delivered to the creamery or picked up at the farm only once or twice a week, hence the cream soured and butter had a somewhat stronger taste than the sweet cream butter of today.

The Heimarl Bros. invited anyone who wished to drop in the creamery for a refreshing dipper of buttermilk right from one of the big vats.

**The Lumber Yard**

In 1900 Mr. Thomas J. Hughes and Mr. W. E. Cooper started in the lumber business. This is another Wales business that has operated continuously to the present time. In 1907 they sold to the Barker Lumber Co. which after another seven years sold to John J. Rees and James J. Davis. Later Mr. Rees bought out Davis and ran the yard until it was sold in 1938 to Willard Allen, the present owner.

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**Another General Store**

In 1901 Mr. Ellis Mills built a store and living quarters. His family operated the store for 12 years when he sold the store property and bought a farm at Wales Four Corners. This is the farm presently owned by Mrs. John Mills.

**Wales Meat Market**

In 1902 Mr. John J. Rees built a slaughtering house and meat market just south of his residence on Elias Street. He operated this business for 12 years until he bought into the lumber yard in 1914.

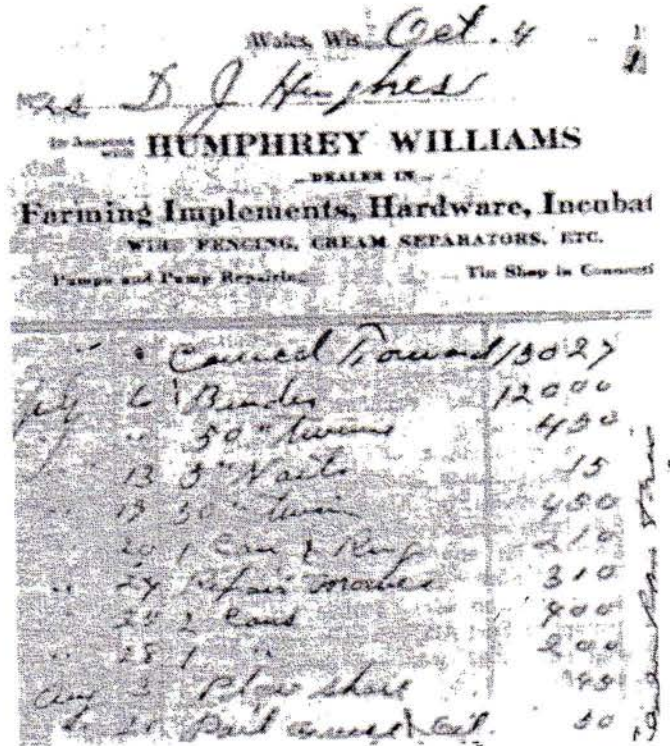
**A Hotel in Wales**

In 1904 Mr. T. J. Hughes, Mr. W. E. Cooper and Mr. W. H. Elias built a hotel. It was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Heimarl for several years; by Mr. Joseph Dracon for one year; Mr. E. J. Rice for one year; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Jones for three years; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Rees for four years, and by Mr. and Mrs. Otto Falk for 10 years. Mr. Rees added a tavern which was operated by him and later by Mr. Falk. There was a livery stable in connection with the hotel. The livery business was chiefly transporting visitors from the railroad station to the Wisconsin State T. B. Sanitorium and return.

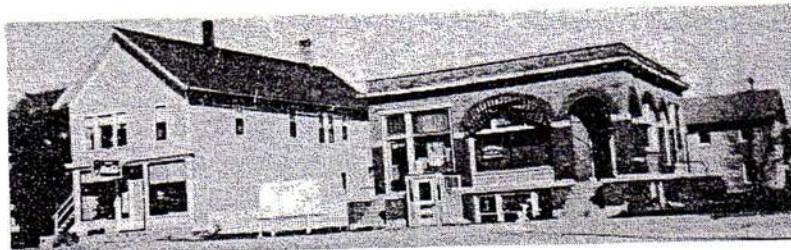
**Wales Hardware and Implement Business**

In 1901 Mr. Morgan Jones built two buildings and an implement shed which housed this business. It was purchased by my father, Humphrey Williams, in 1907. In addition to hardware and implements, much time was spent with farm wells and windmills. I recall the many times when my father and his helper would be away from the store fixing pumps or windmills. When I became old enough, I would be pressed into duty "tending shop" in the hardware store. Being a young lad, the farmers would come in and have fun kidding me by asking for a "sky hook" or "lumber stretcher." But the one that really fooled me was a farmer who came in and asked for five pounds of eight penny nails. As I was weighing them out, he asked me, "Davie, are they fresh?" This had be stopped, so I said, "I don't know, but I can call up my dad and find out."

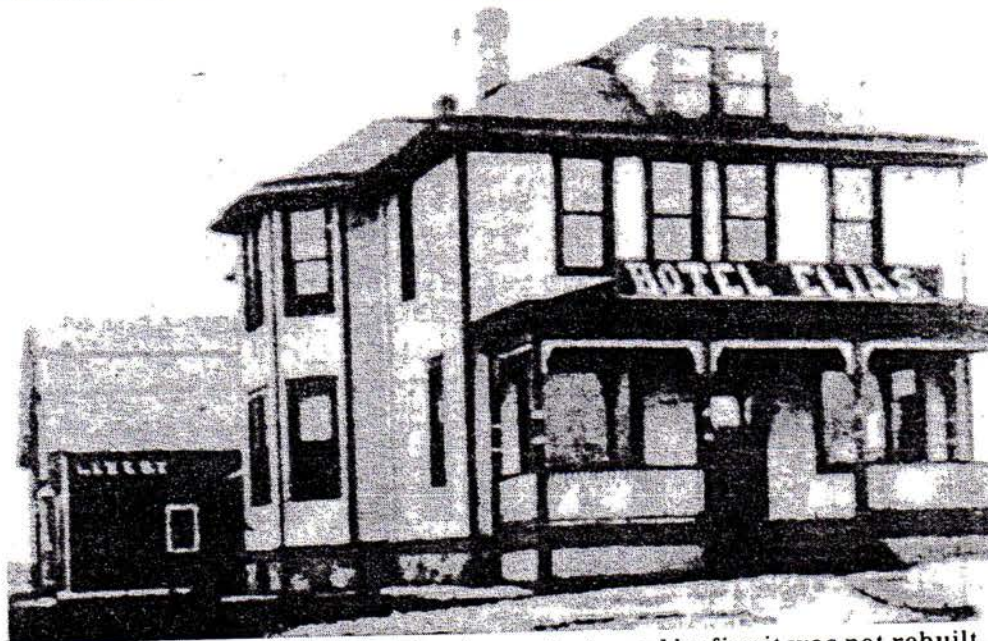
My father sold the hardware business about 1915 to Art Dodmead. Until the buildings were destroyed by fire in 1923, others who owned and operated the business were the partnership of W. B. Owens and J. J. Davis, Harley Williams, Elmer Schmidt and William Brooks. The store was not rebuilt following the fire.



In 1912 you could buy a plowshare for 45 cents.



General store and post office in large building and bank building. Old fire hall in background. - 1940



Hotel Elias was built in 1904. After it was destroyed by fire it was not rebuilt.

### Wales Blacksmith Shop

On Mar. 1, 1906, Robert G. Lodha came to Wales and started a partnership with Ray E. Bielke who had been blacksmithing in Wales for several years. Together they built a new shop which served the area for many years. Bob Lodha did most of the general blacksmithing and Ray Bielke did the horseshoeing.

When a farmer would bring in a piece of machinery that needed repairing, Mr. Lodha would look over the problem and determining how it should be fixed often would exclaim, "I'll fix the s.o.b." This was not regarded as a profanity, but as his way of expressing confidence in his ability to do the job. And he would "fix" it. He was a good blacksmith.

Ray Bielke was equally proficient in horseshoeing, which was an important service at the time in history when most hauling and travel was accomplished by horsepower on the hoof. Ray knew how to handle horses which often disliked having their feet lifted and worked on in the shoeing process. He had a way of calming down a skittish horse and for the rare horse that would not allow his feet to be worked on, the shop had a big rack to which the horse was securely restrained so that it could be "shod" without danger to the horseshoer. Ray knew how to properly shoe problem horses such as those that "interfered." A horse that interfered had a defective way of walking and would strike one leg with the hoof of the other in walking or running. This would lame the horse. This defect could often be corrected by altering the shape of the shoe and how it was attached to the hoof. In this regard, too, Ray Bielke was a good craftsman.

Wales had the distinction of manufacturing some of the first cow stanchions in America. W. D. James, with his father, conceived the idea of a stanchion which would allow the cow to turn its head from side to side for greater comfort and greater ease in reaching the hay and feed in its manger. The James family lived on a farm on present Highway 83 two miles north of Wales and came to Lodha and Bielke to fabricate their idea. The stanchion proved to be most successful in use by dairymen in the community and many were manufactured.

As there was great interest in the new invention and as news

spread to more and more dairymen, it was hoped that a plant to manufacture the invention would be built in Wales. But Jameses, because of better shipping facilities and labor supply decided to build their manufacturing plant in Fort Atkins Wisconsin. The James Mfg. Co. became one of the leading bicycle equipment companies in the U.S.

As my father's hardware store was next door to the blacksmith shop, I paid many a visit to watch these capable men pound out red hot iron, repair farm implements and machinery and fit horseshoes with new shoes. I'm reminded of Longfellow's "Village Blacksmith" and especially these closing lines: "Thanks, that to thee, my worthy friend for the lesson thou hast taught, thus at flaming forge of life our fortunes must be wrought."

Blacksmiths who followed Lodha and Bielke were Henry Ansoerge, who served for about 10 years, and Dan Davies, who served the community from 1944 to 1977. The service of blacksmithing during the years from 1900 to 1940 changed greatly. Instead of heating iron in the forge and shaping it to repair machinery, the service changed to that of a machine shop. When Dan Davies could still work iron in the forge and on the anvil, most of his service in later years was that of a machinist which required different skills and know-how.

### Wales Bank Opened in 1912

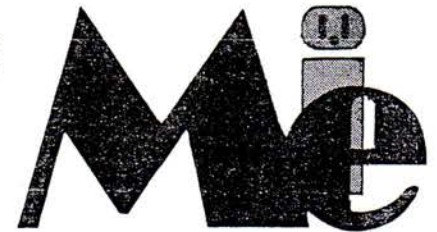
A bank and office building was constructed by the partners of Hughes and Elias on the corner of Elias and Main Streets. The bank opened for business on Dec. 16, 1912, with Mr. William Owens as cashier. Other businesses in the building were an office for Elias and Hughes, the Wales Post Office, and a pool hall and barber shop in the basement level.

### Early Business Only

This is an account of the business places in Wales started in 1912. It does not account for the many more recent industrial businesses and services that have since come to the village. As we approach the centennial year, 1982, a more complete account of the Wales industry should be highlighted.

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WALES  
(414) 968-3753

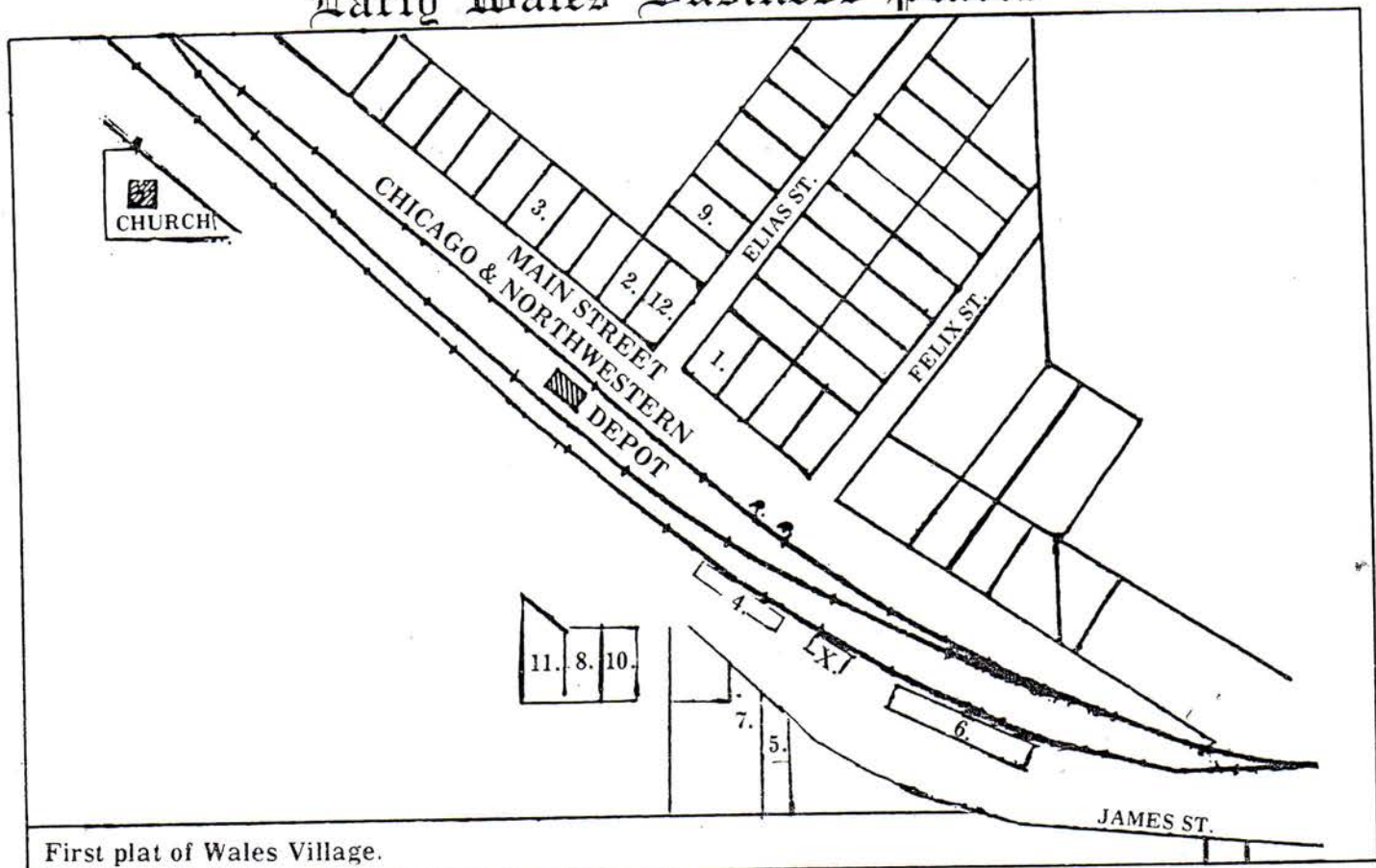
WAUKESHA  
(414) 544-9478

MUKWONAGO  
(414) 363-8551

## QUARTER OF A CENTURY OF SERVICE

# CONGRATULATIONS WALES AND THANK YOU!

# Early Wales Business Places



First plat of Wales Village.

1. The Sam James Store built in 1882.
2. William James moved his blacksmith shop to Wales in 1882.
3. Hugh Roberts built a shoe shop in 1882.
4. Grain elevator completed in 1889.
5. Heimarl Creamery started in 1895.
6. Lumberyard started in 1900.
7. Ellis Mills opened general store in 1901.
8. Hardware and implement business begun in 1901.
9. J. J. Rees opened meat market in 1902.
10. Wales hotel completed in 1904.
11. Blacksmith shop rebuilt in 1907.
12. Wales Bank opened in 1912.
- X. C. & N.W. R.R. stockyards.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY WALES!

Le Duc's

### Frozen Custard

Sundays      Cones      Shakes

CUSTARD TO GO

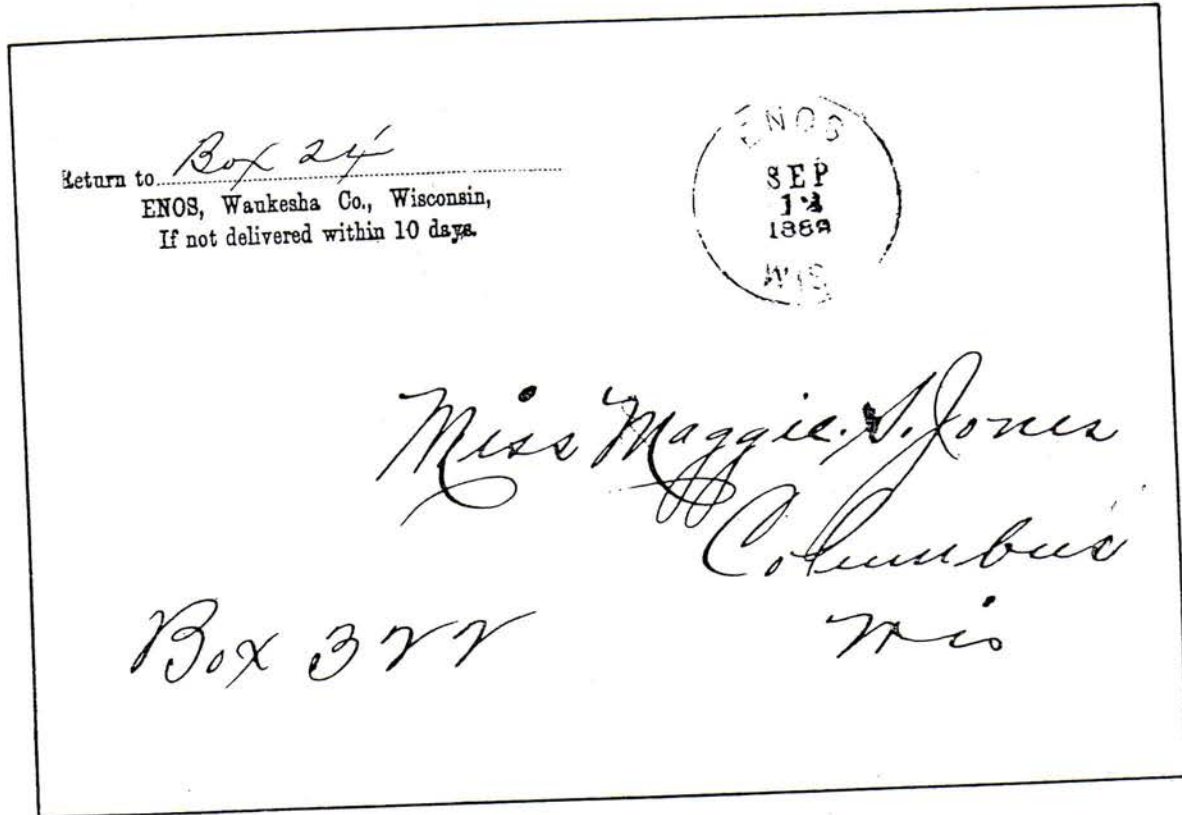
Pints      Quarts      Gallons

## ALSO,

Custard Party Cakes

OPEN 11:00-11:00 SEVEN DAYS A WEEK (YEAR ROUND)  
31884 SUMMIT ROAD, WALES, WI 968-2894

# Mail Call



This letter was mailed from Enos almost 100 years ago. Enos was the name of the post office at the corner of Highways 18

and 83 before the railroad came through and the name was changed to Wales.

## Wales Post Office

The Wales Post Office was established Apr. 13, 1881, as Enos. It was situated on the corner of Highways 18 and 83 and moved to the Village of Wales. Oct. 10, 1890 the name changed to the Wales Post Office.

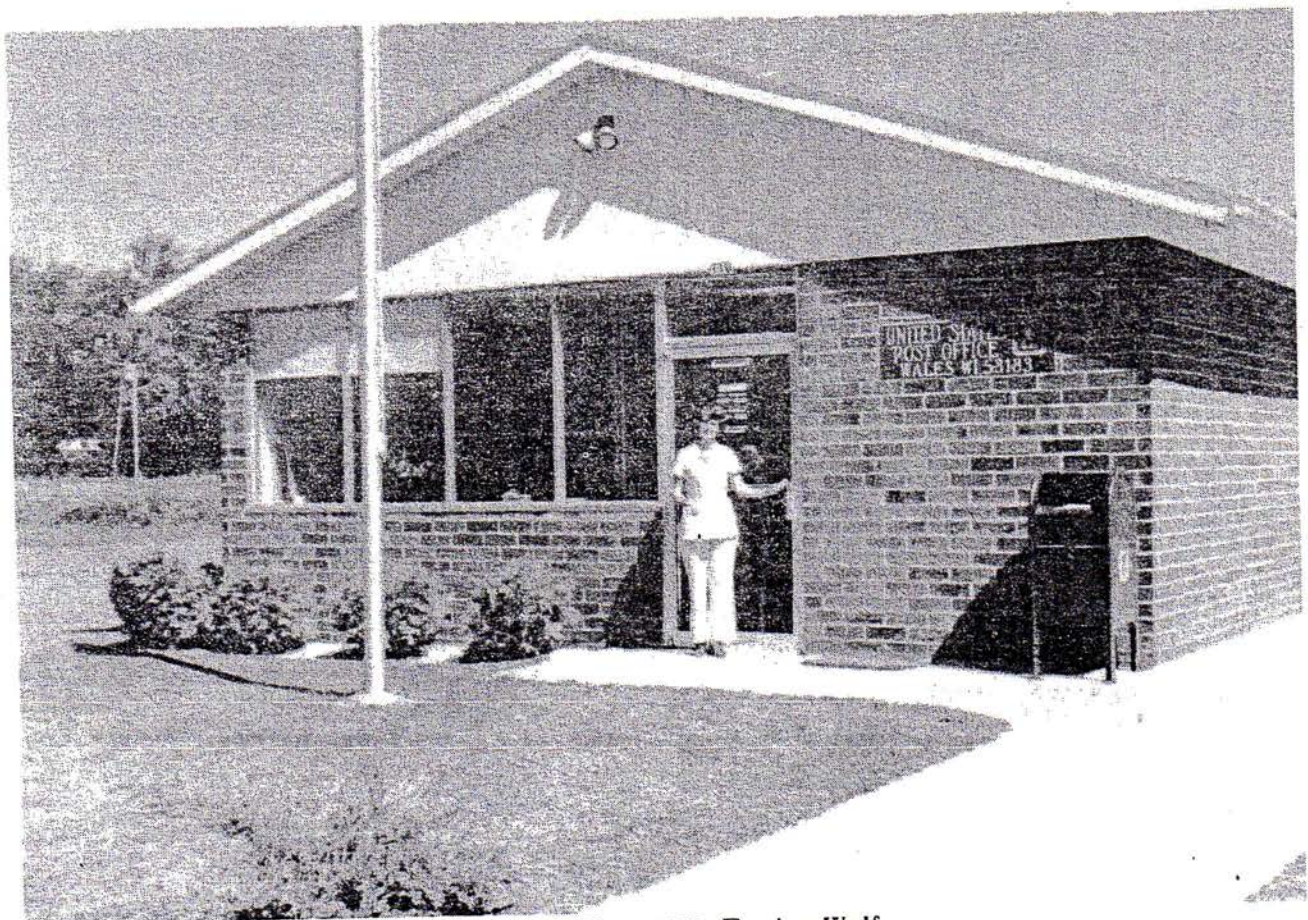
The first post office was in the store of W. C. James. The first postmaster was William C. James. The post office later moved to S. D. James' store; the postmaster then was S. D. James.

Other postmasters have been: Mrs. Dan Hughes, J. J. Davies, Mrs. Ray Bielke, Otto Radtke. Mrs. Chester Mason built a new post office and living quarters at 103 Main St.

The present post office opened July 10, 1976 at 110 James St. Carl Wolff is the present postmaster. In 1978, the village changed its confusing five different mail routes to either a street address or Route 1, Wales, with the street name and house number.



Pre-1882 post office. Wm. James, Johnson, Tom Hughes, Art & Tom Thomas



New post office, 1982, Eunice Wolf.

# Then Came The Railroad

## Station Agents



Thomas J. Hughes — Wales first station agent, 1882. At left is Mr. Pelter - assistant agent.

## THE OLD CHICAGO AND NORTHWESTERN DEPOT AT WALES WISCONSIN 1881 - 1964

First land purchased by C. & N.W. R.R. summer 1881  
 Depot erected during year of 1881  
 Wales first established as a community in 1881  
 First passenger train arrived on Feb. 1, 1882

First freight train arrived on Feb. 1, 1882  
 First mail arrived at Wales on Feb. 10, 1882.  
 First Postmaster - W. C. James

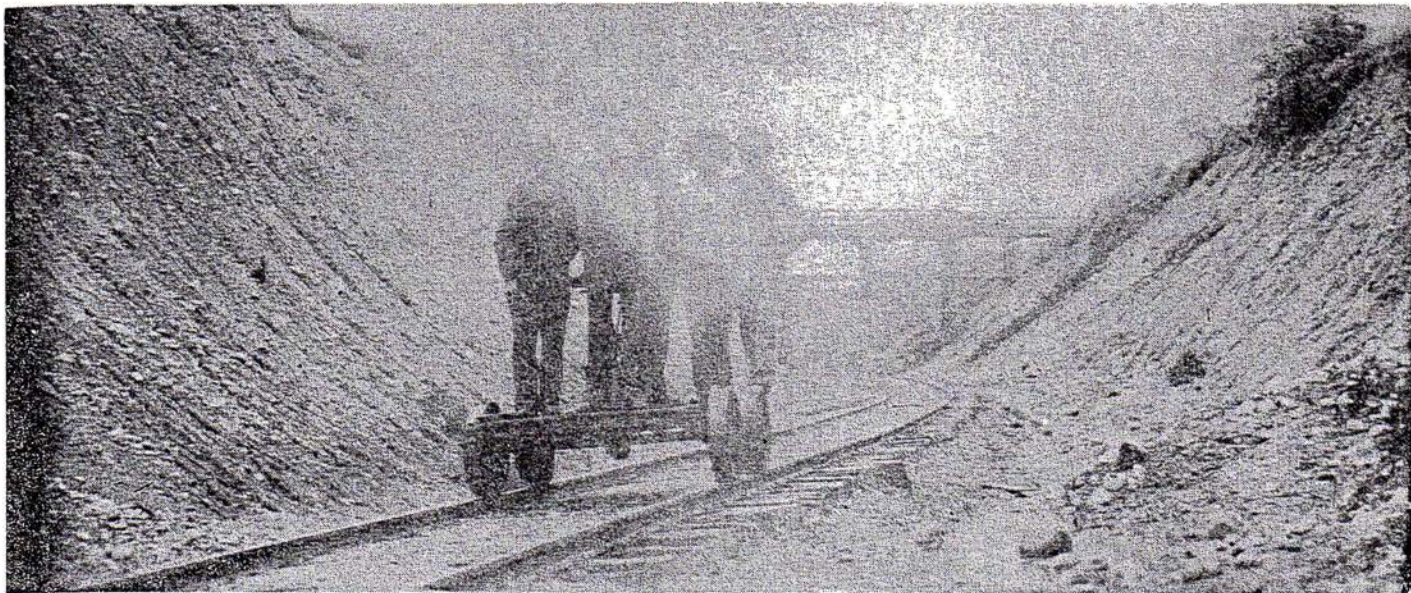
### Depot Agents

T. J. Hughes, Feb. 1, 1882 - Mar. 12, 1900  
 Al Pelter, Mar. 12, 1900 - Jan. 18, 1908  
 B. F. Edwards, Jan. 18, 1908 - Feb. 22, 1932  
 H. B. Schuppener, Mar. 1932 - Jan. 1934  
 V. R. Martin, Jan. 1934 - July 1939  
 A. J. McCulloch, July, 1939 - Feb. 1949  
 A. H. Jenks, Feb. 6, 1949 - June 15, 1956  
 C. H. Wolff, Feb. 1, 1957 - Mar. 9, 1959  
 Depot closed Mar. 9, 1959

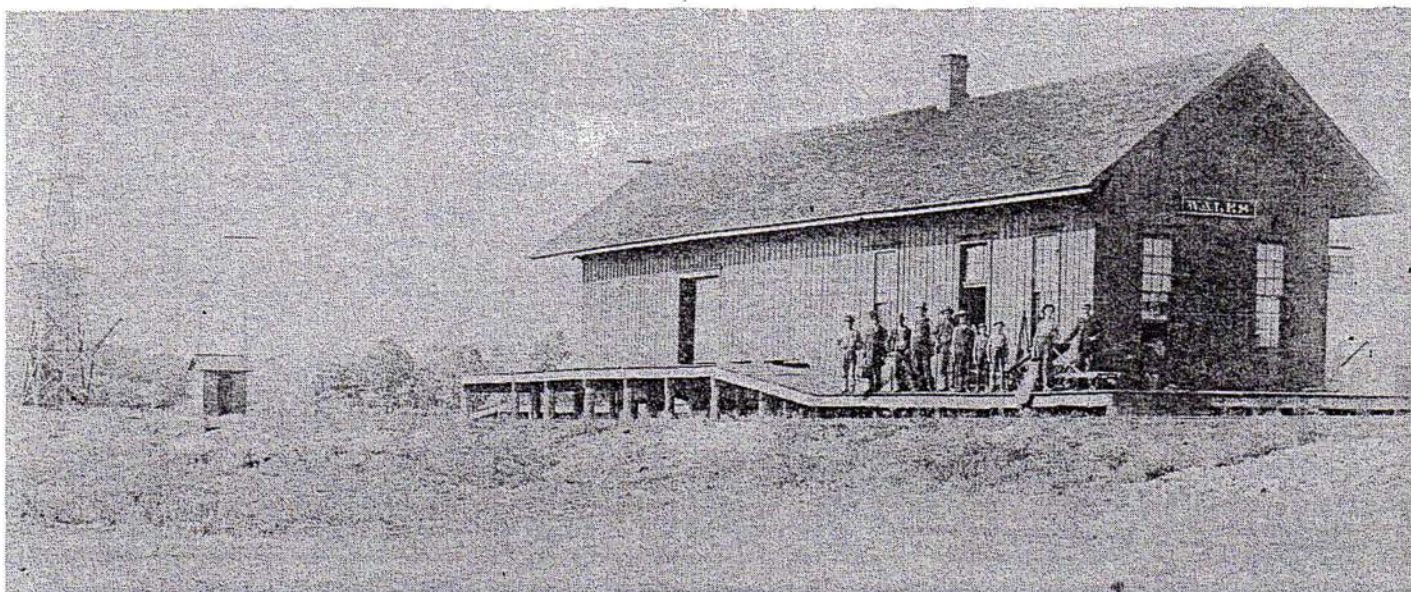
Depot Dismantled, Fall of 1964

First land purchased by C. & N.W. R.R. summer 1881  
 Depot erected during year of 1881  
 Wales first established as a community in 1881  
 First passenger train arrived on Feb. 1, 1882  
 First freight train arrived on Feb. 1, 1882  
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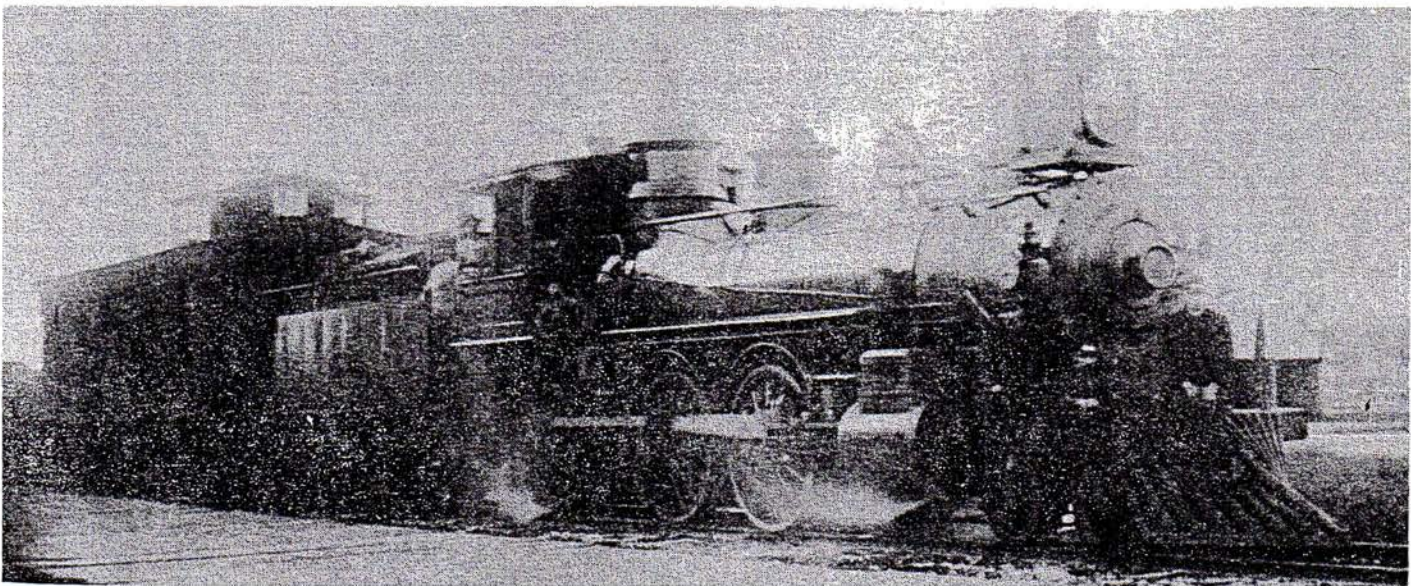




Section gang & handcar in Wales "Big Cut"



Train Station



Locomotive

# Early School Days In Wales

The Welsh who pioneered in early Waukesha County were generally literate, thanks to a significant change in the previous century in old Wales. Reading schools which used the Bible as the textbook grew very popular. Thus the Welsh learned to read and at the same time became a very religious people.

When they settled in Wales, Wisconsin, they wanted schools for their children. As early as 1847 a meeting was held to establish a school. T. H. Evans was elected moderator. Griffith Roberts, Hugh Elias and Owen Jones were elected trustees of the school district. Owen Hughes was elected clerk and William Evans, collector. It was decided to build a school 22 by 21 feet at the junction of present Highway 83 and County Trunk G.

Probably because of financial limitations, no schoolhouse was built then. However, school started anyhow using the log church, known as "Chapel Log." Its size was 18 by 24 feet. Unbelievably, 70 students attended school in this small building in 1849-50. Generally older children attended classes in the winter months. Younger children were more likely to be in classes during the summer. Israel H. Castle taught that first winter and Catherine Roberts that summer. Both terms were three months.

Rev. Daniel Jenkins Williams reported that most of the children were from Welsh homes. It was said that the children "played in Welsh, quarreled in Welsh, and talked in Welsh, except when making recitations — and that was partly Welsh."

As the community grew, so did the number attending school, which in 1853 reached 74. The crowded conditions renewed the consideration of building a schoolhouse. An annual meeting was held in September, 1853, and a resolution was passed to levy a tax of \$300 for building the school by the fall of 1854.

At the next meeting it was decided to erect a frame building 22 by 32 feet. The contract was let to James Hughes. The cost of the schoolhouse was \$408, the plastering another \$29.54, and a stove cost \$17.59. Ten dollars was paid to William Thomas for the site for the schoolhouse. This building, costing less than \$500, was the first occupied in 1855. It served as the Wales school — District #6 — for the next 66 years. What a remarkable period of service for such a modest building! Wouldn't it be interesting to know how many children received their first eight years of education here? This building served about three generations, and those who attended went out to many occupations in many parts of the country.

These early settlers were of necessity economy-minded. A unique method of supplying fuel to heat the school was worked out by a resolution that required each student to furnish one-fourth of a cord of wood each year. If a student failed to do so, his share was supplied by a Joseph Jones at the rate of \$2 per cord. This plan was carried on for 10 years, until a resolution was passed which provided that the fuel be supplied by the lowest bidder.

A lighting system was installed in 1859 which meant that evening activities were added, such as magic lantern shows, sleight of hand performers, the annual school exhibitions and public lectures. Old No. 6 was indeed a community center. But the principal functions were spelling matches. To this were sometimes added contests in geography, adding, reading. There were contests between schools in different districts, too.

The largest number of pupils that attended District No. 6 in any single year was 97 in the year 1858-59. From that time on enrollment declined. In 1896, 50 years from its organization, the number reported was 60.

Over 70 teachers taught in the 66 years from 1854-1921. The following are the last to teach in District No. 6: Nellie Gill, Kit Garrity, Ida Roberts, Elizabeth Williams (later Mrs. Thomas Evans of Criglas Farm), Margaret Partridge, Miss Mockross, Margaret Williams, Jessie Conrad, Alvira Thomas and Eunice Williams.

I remember that one day Margaret Partridge whacked me over the knuckles with her 15-inch hickory ruler — for good reason, I expect. Alvira Thomas lived with her family just south of the

school on Porthomel farm which is now mostly subdivided as a part of Wales. This farm can be remembered by the huge concrete post markers still standing on Highway 83. Alvira Thomas was not only a good teacher, but also a good disciplinarian. I remember the day during the noon hour when three of us boys had fun taking an old battery apart, releasing the black carbon on the school porch. This was carried on 30 pairs of shoes tracking up much of the school floor. When we took our seats, we were questioned and admitted doing the prank, so we thought that was the end of it. But at four o'clock dismissal we were instructed to walk to the Porthomel farm where Mrs. Thomas supplied us with hot water, soap, and scrubbing brushes which we wielded until the entire school floor was cleaner than it had been for months. Eunice Williams taught 2½ years in the old District No. 6 and continued after the school was moved to the new location where it continued as District No. 6 until it became part of the Kettle Moraine System.

Salaries of the early teachers were small. In the 1850's the teachers would "board around," spending a week or two in the home of each of the pupils, with perhaps \$10 or \$15 a month for salary. Even as late as the 1900's salaries were often in the range of \$20 to \$30 per month.

District No. 6 had a playground in front of the school large enough for baseball. When I attended in 1907-1915, we had many a pitched battle (no pun intended). There was also a short but very steep hill down which in snowy weather we would slide on anything from sleds to barrel staves, even the seat of our pants. "Pump, Pump, Pull Away" was a popular game for all. We had many wrestling matches. I remember one in which the two boys wrestled for three days as neither one could pin the other. As soon as the bell rang for recess they would go at it again until a winner was finally declared. The school was surrounded by 20 acres of hilly woods. When the teacher would permit it, many a noon hour was spent playing "Indians and Settlers." There were plenty of big trees and hills to hide behind. The big school bell called us back in time for afternoon classes.

Most of us walked the mile or two from home every day, except when parents would bring us to school on exceptionally cold or stormy days.

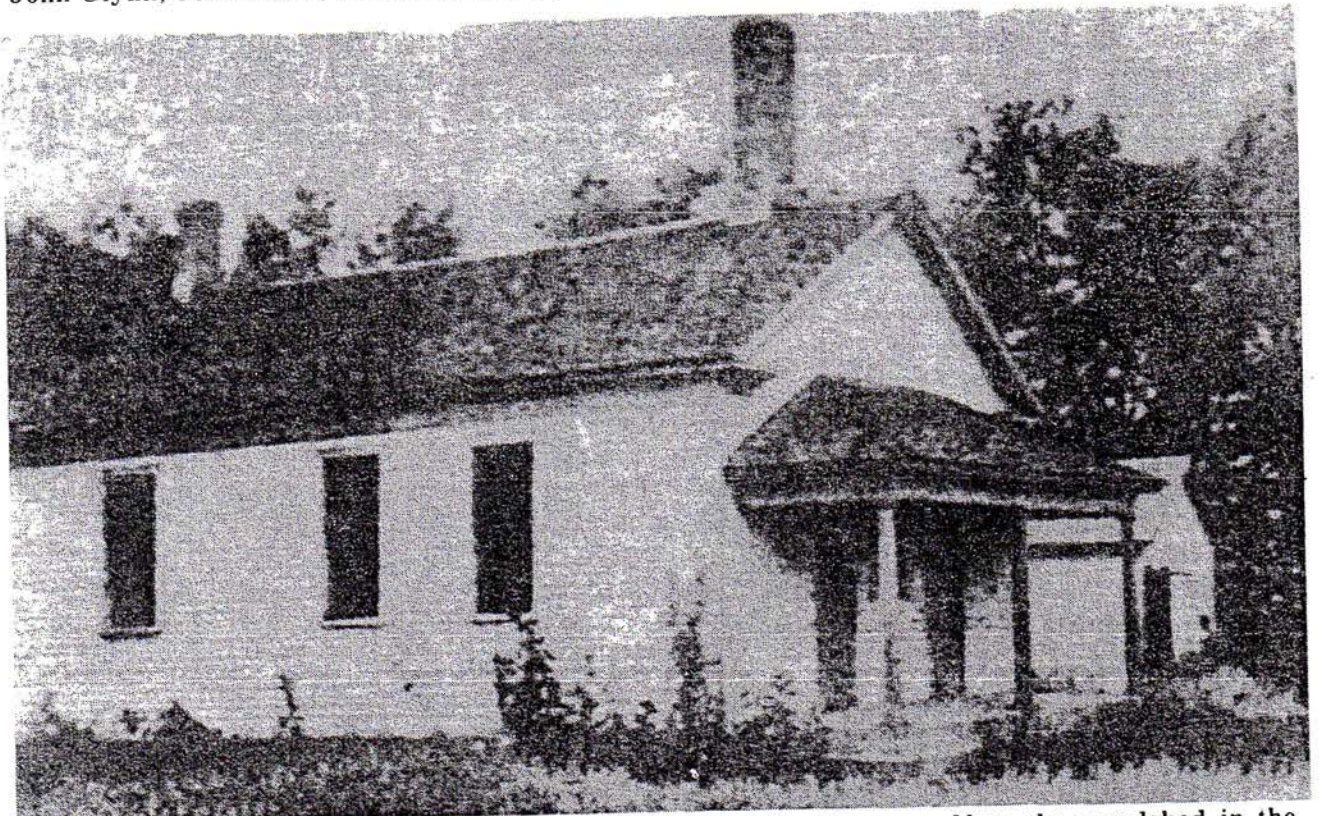
As there was no well on the school grounds, two of the older boys were daily assigned the task of going to the nearest farm well for a pail of water. The two nearest were Thomas J. Thomas, Porthomel and Howell James farms. In the earliest days we all drank from a community tin dpper. In later years a water container with a spigot at the bottom was provided and each could drink from his own cup.

The old schoolhouse still exists. It was purchased by David Roberts and moved to his adjoining farm. District No. 6, like many country schools across the nation, produced men and women of leadership who helped to make America great. Among them were surgeon Curtis Evans; civil engineer David Mason; U.S. Army officer W. P. Evans; baritone Hugh Williams; Ripon College President Silas Evans; professor of Hebrew & Sanskrit William Holmes Williams; attorney and judge Thomas C. Martin; inventor and president of James Manufacturing Company of Fort Atkinson, David D. James; pastor and author Dr. Daniel Jenkins Williams, and John Pugh, banker.

Dr. Daniel Jenkins Williams was born on a farm a few miles southwest of the Village of Wales. He attended Carroll College and graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1899. Dr. Williams completed his ministerial studies at Union Theological Seminary in 1903 and later continued his post-graduate work at Columbia University and Oxford University in England. In 1914 he received his Ph.D. from Ohio State University. Carroll College honored Dr. Williams with an honorary doctorate of divinity. His pastorates included Oshkosh and Wausau in Wisconsin, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Columbus, Ohio.



District #6 about 1913-1914 — front row, George Glynn, Russell Jones, Gomer Evans, Mildred Krause, Elizabeth Williams, Margaret Williams (teacher), Marion Rees, Elizabeth Hughes, Elizabeth Van Dorf, Ruth Bielke, Elsie Van Dorf, Mildred Hughes, Gwilym Roberts; second row, Esther Bielke, Lucille Dodmead, Pearl Krause, Bertha Davies, Eunice Schook, Vera Rees, Florence Evans, Gwendolyn Williams, Florence James; third row, Margaret Jones, Hertha Bielke, Hazel Evans, Isabelle Glynn, Eunice Williams, Margaret Roberts, Catherine Davis, Margaret Caneen, Margaret E. Jones; back row, Walter Evans, William O. Rowlands, Fred Van Dorf, William Glynn, Dave Roberts, John Glynn, John Jones, Albert Rowlands, David Williams.



Old District #6 — A modest schoolhouse which served for 66 years. Note the woodshed in the background.

# The Kettle Moraine School District

The grade school graduates of our area in past years continued their education in nearby high schools in Waukesha and Oconomowoc as tuition students. As the enrollments increased in the city schools, the school officials became concerned about overcrowded classrooms. Someone remarked that "the welcome mat is not out for us anymore."

Soon a state law was passed that ordered all unattached elementary school districts in the state to be in a high school district by July 1, 1962. A county school committee was formed and it began to seek formation of a West Central High School District to provide educational services for the area students.

Many meetings were held and decisions were made, sometimes in turmoil. Eventually a West Central District was created in August, 1962. A school board was elected and an administrator was chosen. Mr. Dale Davis became the district's first administrator on July 1, 1963. His secretary was Mrs. Violet Lurvey of Ottawa. She served faithfully until June 30, 1973.

The first school board consisted of Donald Cheeseman of Delafield, chairman; Al Barry of Ottawa, secretary; John Curren of Zion, treasurer; Conrad Lurvey of Dousman, and James De Long of Genesee.

Fifty-five acres of the Bron Derw Farm owned by the Herbert Schuster Family in Wales was chosen as the site for the new high school. A ground-breaking ceremony was held on July 1, 1964.

A contest was held among all seventh and eighth grade students in the West Central School District to name the new school district. A student from Cushing School submitted the winning name of Kettle Moraine.

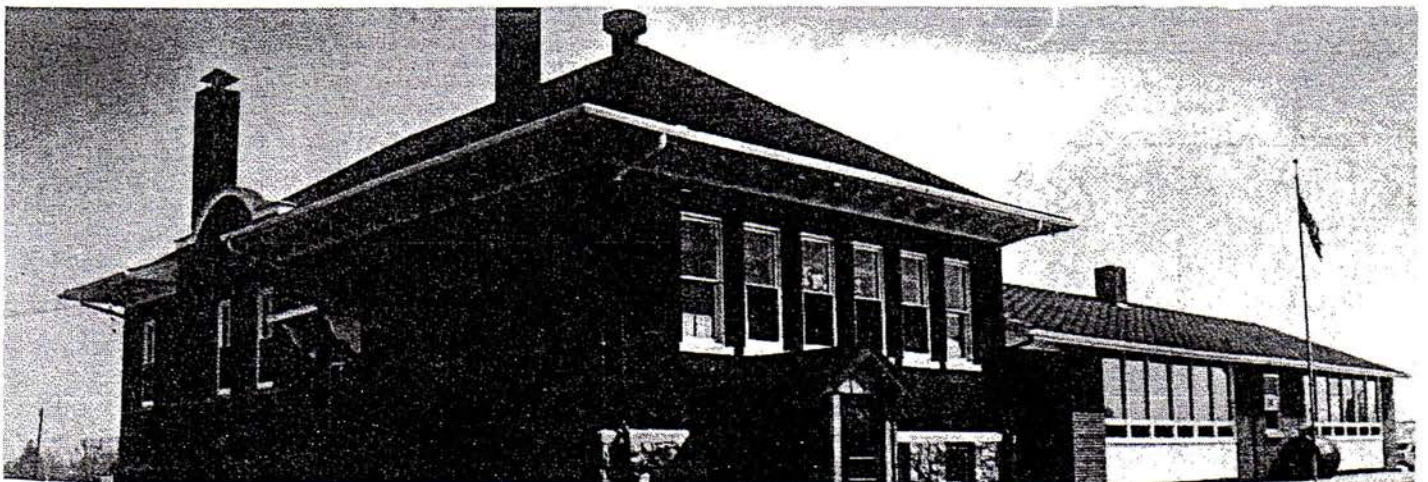
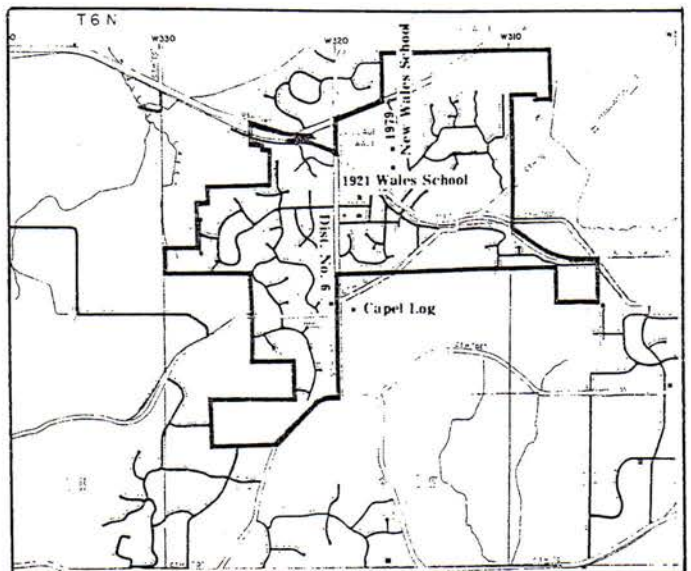
The new Kettle Moraine High School opened on Sept. 1, 1965. Only ninth and tenth graders attended the first year. An enrollment of at least 630 students was anticipated in 1967 when the full four-year program was offered.

In June, 1966 a proposal was presented to the district to reorganize from a Union Free District with independently operated elementary schools to a K-12 district.

The district eventually did vote for the K-12 district in 1968. The elementary schools were: Hillside, Magee, Wales, Brandybrook, Cushing, Highland View, Moriah, Dousman, Ottawa, and Sandy Island.

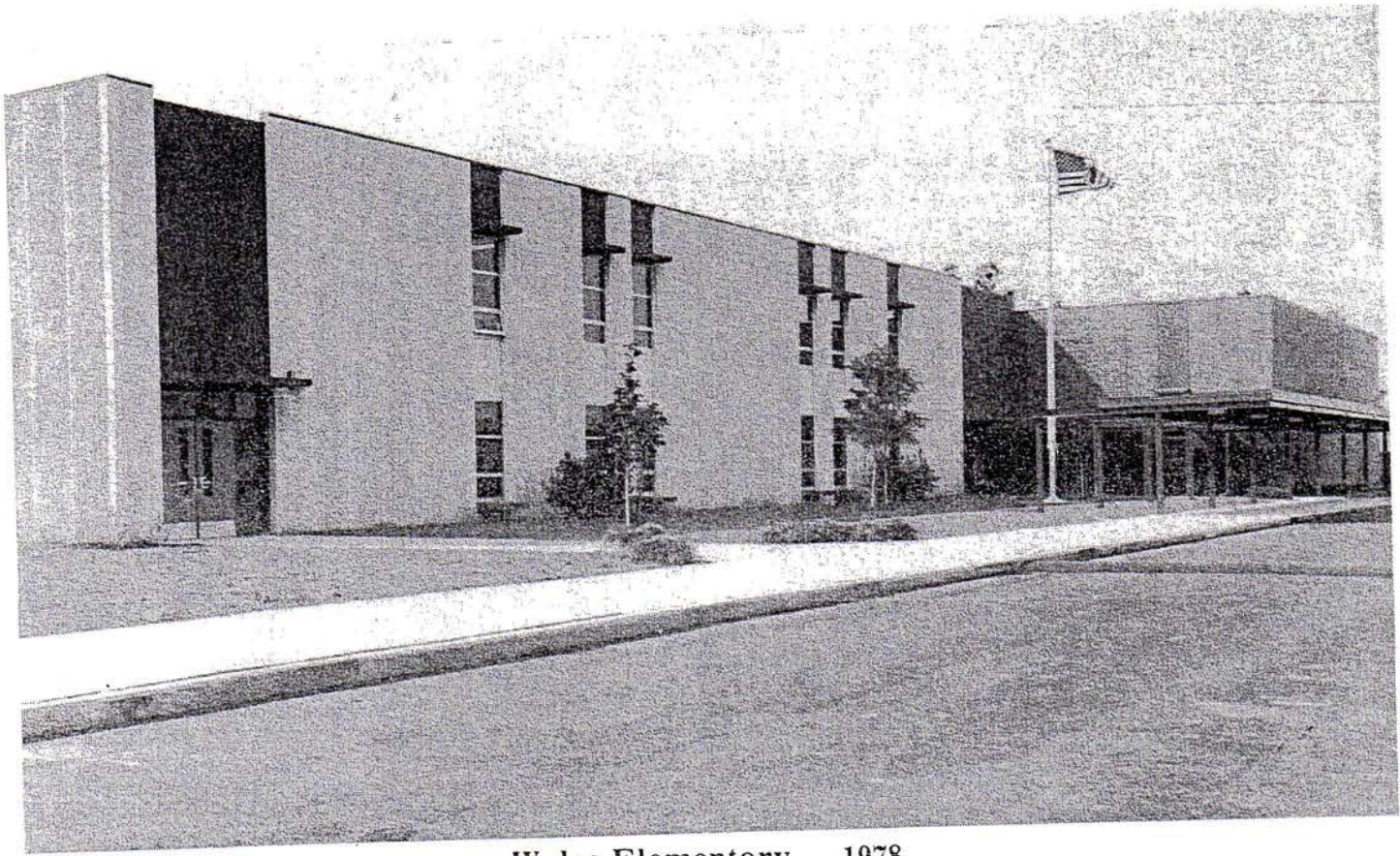
The district's population was increasing as new subdivisions were developed and the area started to change from a rural to a suburban area. The enrollment in the area's elementary schools was also increasing, making the schools very overcrowded. To relieve the overcrowded conditions, a middle school was built in Dousman in 1971. In 1978 two new elementary schools were built. One was built in Dousman near the middle school and the other was built in Wales near the high school.

We have reason to be proud of our new schools and of our educational system. The administrators and teachers are striving to provide the very best education possible for the area students. We have come a long way in the few short years since 1962. The achievements in academic studies, music, and sports have been rewarding to the students and the community.

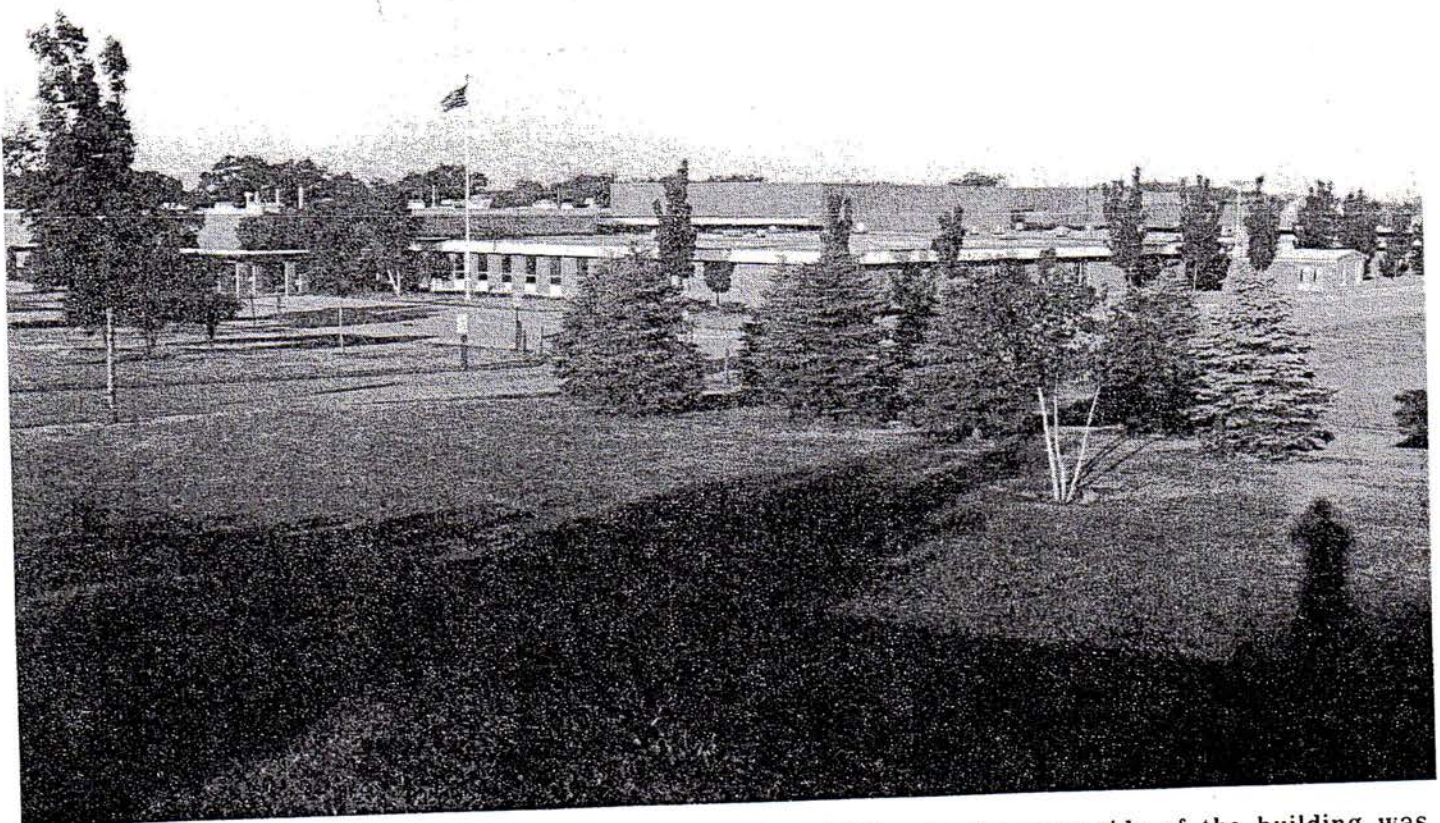


Locations of the Wales grade schools: The log church, "Capel Log," was used from 1849-1855. District #6 schoolhouse served from 1855-1921. The new Wales school has served from 1921 until the present. It was a

one-room school for many years before it was enlarged and became part of the Kettle Moraine system.



Wales Elementary — 1978



The high school opened in 1965 with only freshmen and sophomores — the first class graduated in 1968.

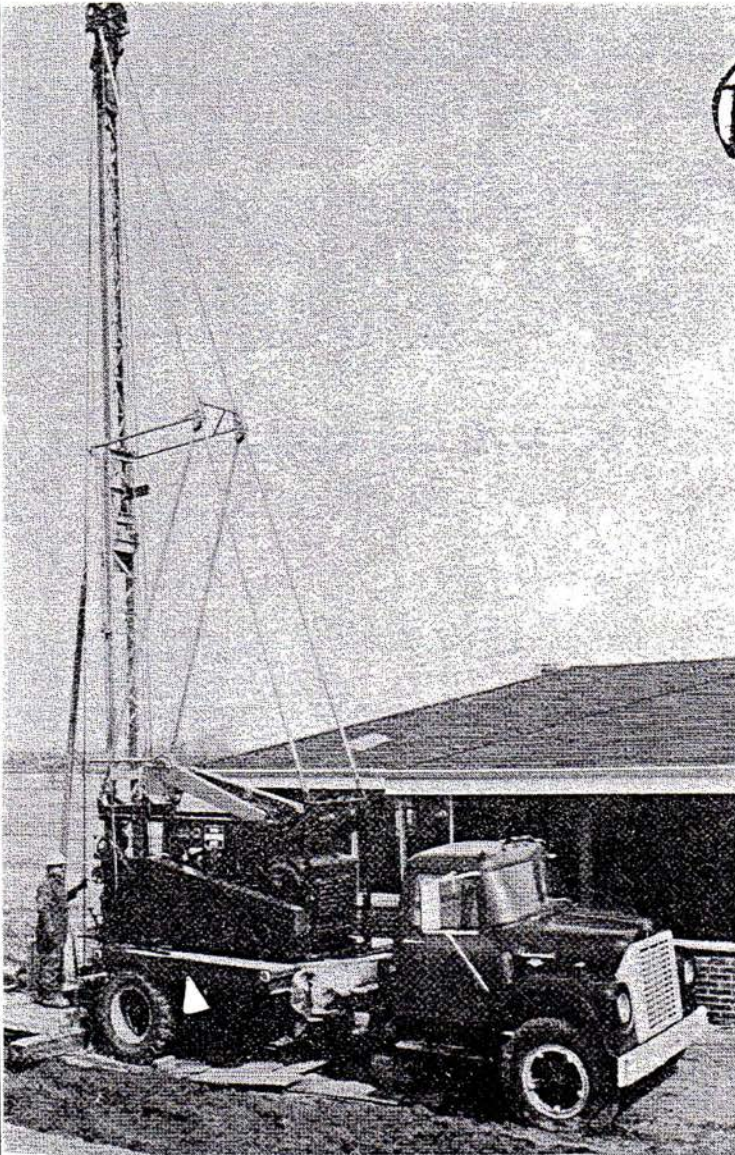
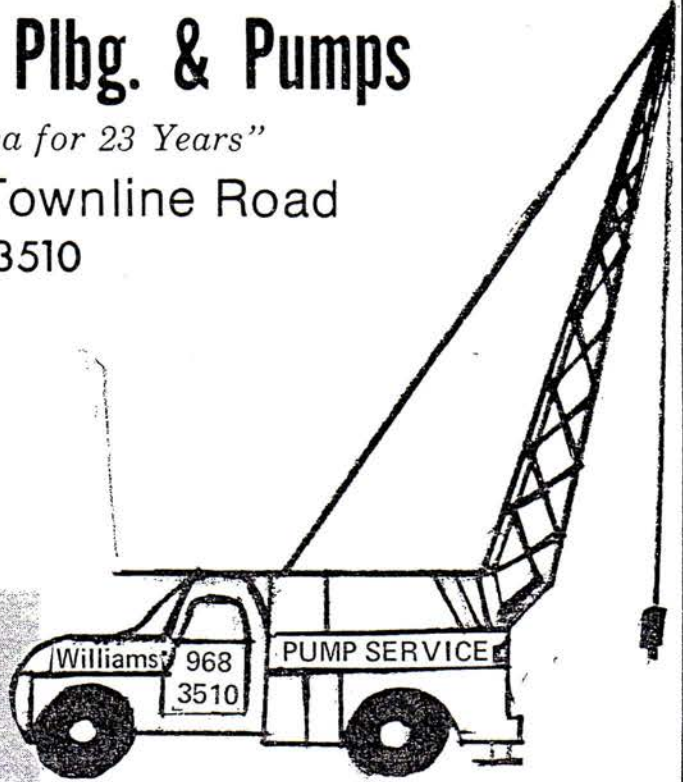
An addition to the west side of the building was completed in 1978.

Small vertical text on the right edge of the page, likely a page number or reference code.

FOR SERVICE CALL  
**Everett Williams Plbg. & Pumps**

*"Serving the Area for 23 Years"*

W-279 S-3248 Townline Road  
968-3510



**RANDY**

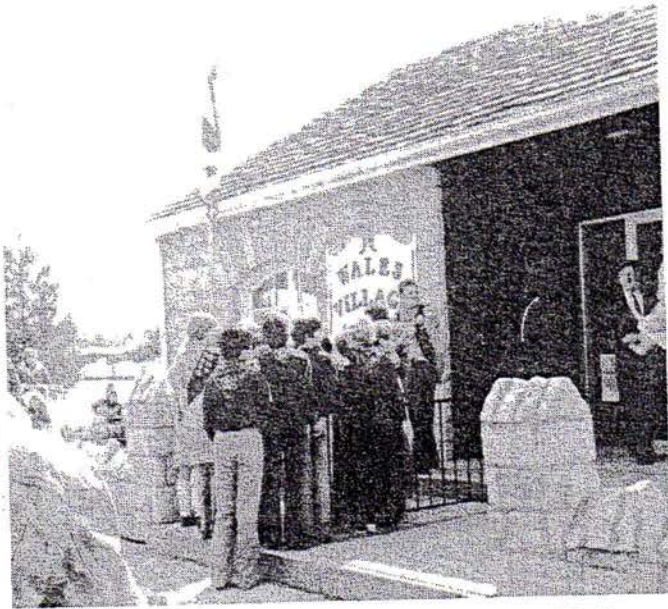
**WILLIAMS**

WELL DRILLING & PUMPS

**549-6067**

Congratulations Wales on your Centennial and Thank You for your support these past and coming years.

# Community Life



**Girl Scouts Troop #698:** leader, Barbara Wallace; co-leader, Marcia Goodrich, Lisa Liesenfelder, Charlene Goodrich, Dawn Geboy, Karen Ernest, Ann Hannan, **Boy Scouts Troop #135:** Scott Liesenfelder, Greg Sment. **Cub Scouts pack #91:** leader, Wolfgang Hemschik.

## Boy Scouts of Wales

The present Boy Scout Troop 135, Wales was started in approximately 1971. Mr. Chuck Paepke was the first Scoutmaster for the troop which was sponsored by the Good Shepherd Church of Waukesha. This is where the troop originally met. Mr. Paepke, who stayed on as Scoutmaster for several years, brought the troop out to Wales. St. Paul's Church in Genesee Depot eventually took over sponsorship, then later it was turned over to the Wales Fire Department, which is also the present sponsor.

Scoutmasters to follow Mr. Paepke were Mr. Bill Doerr and Mr. Gene Landers.

Many of the boys from the Cub Scout Pack here in Wales, which was started several years ago, join Troop 135. Mr. Rich Heuer is current scoutmaster.

## Girl Scouts of Wales

In the late 1960's, because of the growing population in our Wales area, the surrounding Girl Scout Troops were becoming overcrowded, thus, the Girl Scout Council determined the Wales area could create it's own troop.

Girl Scout Troop 602 was organized in the fall of 1969, with twenty-four girls. Their eagerness, guided by the hands of their two leaders resulted in meaningful scouting years. They focused their efforts and activities around their local Village of Wales. The troop aided in bringing closer together all ages of new and existing residents.

Troop 602 has grown along with the population of the area, and seven more troops have been created with twenty leaders and approximately ninety girls.

Their spirit and dedication of good scouting continues and is reflected by their many contributions to our Wales area.

### Salute Wales Girl Scout Leaders

**Troop #32** - Mary Ann Evert and Roxy Gass, 4th Grade Leaders: Susan Mortensen also is involved with the Troop and helps kindergarten students in reading.

**Troop #602** - Florence Brehm, 4th and 5th Grade Leader who also volunteers many hours publishing children's stories for the Dragon Press. During the summer her volunteering turns to summer Bible school. Bonnie Weigan and Geri Bloedorn are co-leaders.

**Troop #112** - Vickey Dobberstein has 10 3rd grade Brownies. She volunteers at school and sews children's costumes as a part-time job. Linda Surries is the co-leader of the Troop.

**Troop #679** - Nancy Prellwitz has another 3rd grade Troop. She has worked with these Brownies for three years and has found it a pleasure watching the girls grow and mature. Nancy also is a substitute teacher in Kettle Moraine Schools and at church. Suzanne Silberg is the co-leader for the Troop.

**Troop #25** - Nancy Seybold has 18 Brownies in her Troop. Nancy has kept these second grade girls busy. Fourteen of the girls sold over 65 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies and will earn patches. Pat Czerwonka is the co-leader.

**Troop #701** - Carol Doerfler keeps busy with a first grade Troop and working as an L.P.N. nurse on the night shift. She has four children ranging in ages from 3 to 21. Carol loves crafts of any kind. Judy Veigh is the co-leader. Judy works at W.C.T.I. and is a realtor.

**Troop #696** - Sandy Widmann and Jeanne Holtzer have the other first grade Troop in Wales. There are 13 girls in the Troop.

**Troop #698** - Barbara Liesenfelder is the sixth grade Troop leader. Barb enjoys her Troop and found time to get married this month. Marcia Goodrich is co-leader and has a full-time job. In addition to Girl Scouts, Marcia works with 4-H drama and church activities.

Area Co-ordinator: Monique Sadler.

At the national level, a United States flag honoring the service of the nation's 300,000 Girl Scout leaders will be flown over the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. Apr. 22.

Watch for the Girl Scout activities during the Centennial Celebration in June.

## Wales Women's Club

In the late 1960's the trend of the American people, was to move their families to the near countryside, thus the creation of subdivisions. Our Village of Wales was no exception, with it's hilly terrain and tree studded areas, the farmland seemed to be transformed overnight and suburbanites were occupying their new homes. New unfamiliar faces were outnumbering the familiar ones, without children in school or your neighbor attending your church, it was difficult to get acquainted. Therefore, in the spring of 1971, six women of the area decided to refurbish the village spirit, to acquaint our new village residents together with a Wales village picnic.

The success and rewarding response of the picnic inspired the gals to go one step further and organize the Wales Women's Club.

"The purpose and fuction of the Wales Women's Club is a community service club. Our intention is to welcome and acquaint new residents with the community. Our activities are directed to meaningful projects for the benefit of the community. Thus, keeping alive the spirit of the Wales pioneer's."

Since then it has flourished, continuing its purpose with annual activities, prevailing on its course to strengthen the unity of the village, by being helpful, meaningful and proud to live in a friendly neighboring village.

### Officers

President, Debbie Jocrs; vice-president, Kay Herne; treasurer, Cindy Leibner; secretary, Grace Phillips.

Their club has 25 members. They sponsor breakfast with Santa, Easter baskets to the elderly. Membership luncheon in August. All proceeds from money making goes to service clubs in the community on March 10. This year the club is sponsoring a Pictorial History of Wales Area on May 19. Discovering Waukesha County Past and Present and a repeat of the March 10th program.

## 4-H Clubs

Head, Heart, Hands and Health the 4 H's of the 4-H clubs. Waukesha County Fair, projects, solo and speaking contest, drama talent, baseball, basketball, ribbons, awards and so many other things are all part of 4-H.

4-H clubs have always been an important part in the lives of the people in the Wales area. If there wasn't a club in the village, there were always clubs for the village youth in the surrounding areas. Bethesda, Brandybrook, and Moriah were some of the clubs that were in the area early as the 1930's.

The Waukesha County Fair was held in the Village of Wales in 1961 and again in 1962. The fair was held at the Wales Village Park and at the Wales Elementary School. Horses and livestock were shown at the park and the other projects were exhibited at the school.

Many of the area youth belonged to the Wales Silver Crown 4-H Club during the 1950's and 1960's.

Wales currently has two very active 4-H clubs. The Wales Hi-Flyers 4-H Club and the Moriah 4-H Club. The Moriah Club has been an active club since the mid-1930's. The Wales Hi-Flyers 4-H Club was organized in 1978.

The Wales Hi-Flyers has about 50 members in their club. Some of the projects that they offer are rabbits, woodworking, model railroads, cake decorating, macrame, models, bow and arrow, cross country skiing, sewing, cooking, ceramics, plants, photography, knitting, quilting, drawing, covies and cats. The Wales Hi-Flyers meet at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church on the third Thursday of each month.

The Moriah 4-H Club has about 30 members in the club. Some of the projects that the club offers are dairy, sheep, beef, horses, poultry, woodworking, macrame, cake decorating, models, drawing, vet science, woodburning, electricity, sewing, basketry, home environment, gardening and photography. The Moriah Club meets at the Wales Fire Hall on the first Tuesday of each month.

4-H is no longer considered a rural club for farm kids. The 4-H program is varied and offers something of interest for urban, suburban and rural youth.

### Moriah 4-H Club Officers

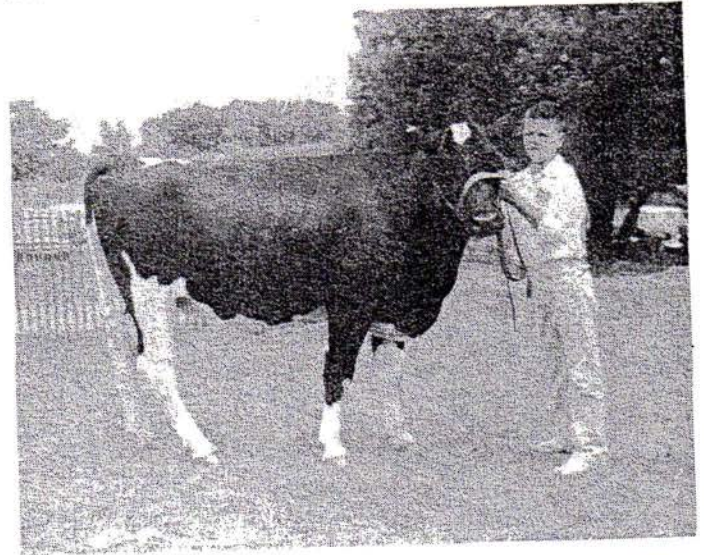
President, Debbie Davies; vice-president, Paul Bauman; secretary, Ann Hopkins; treasurer, Kim Foss; reporter, John Wilson.

### Wales High Flyers 4-H Club Officers

President, Peter Glover; vice-president, Melissa McGlinchey; secretary, Tim Bryan; treasurer, Kerri Baggentoss; reporter, Karrie Rittler.



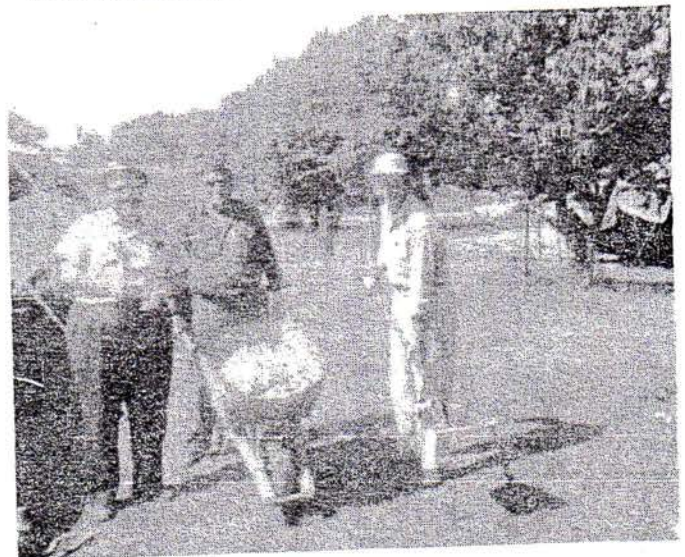
4-H Float in Genesee Park Parade, July 4, 1981 with 4-H staff: Karyn and Kevin Isleb, Shane, Heather, Renee Gottschalk, Wendy and John Graf, Joslyn McGlinchery, Khri Gilboy, Karrie Rittler, Mary Beth Mathes and Mr. John Graf on tractor.



Waukesha County Fair held in Wales - 1961. Tom Morris, Moriah 4-H Club.



Jeff Badciong, Jamie Badciong, Steve Badciong



The clean-up committee, Waukesha County Fair in Wales, 1961. Bill Rogan, Dan Davies and Willard Allen.



## Wales - Genesee Lions Club

### WALES-GENESEE LIONS CLUB

The evening of March 25, 1973 ushered in a new era of community involvement for the Village of Wales with the organization of the Wales Lions Club. Upon receiving the club charter from District Governor Joe Wimmer, Charter President Ron Koepl pledged commitment to the goals of Lionism by "men with a sense of purpose and dedication to the community they serve." The nineteen charter members and their wives were honored by Lion dignitaries who contributed over \$500. to fund the Club and presented it with the symbolic gong and gavel, the American flag, and official charter.

Lions are most noted for - those aiding the visually handicapped.

It has assisted the visually handicapped by providing eyeglasses and funds for eye examinations for needy families. It has assisted the community with glaucoma tests. It donated \$2,000 to help purchase an ambulance for the Wales rescue squad. It has consistently generated revenues netting \$2,000 annually from these various projects and poured them back into the community.

Ron Koepl	1973-1974
Lee Hetrick	1974-1976
Don Gottschalk	1976-1977
John Rittler	1977-1978
Dennis Mortensen	1978-1979
Bob Hamilton	1979-1980
Bob Gibson	1980-1981
Bill Geszvain	1981-1982

Currently the Club is 27 members strong of which six are charter members. Club activity and membership increased significantly when, in 1976, the Genesee community was annexed to the Club.



Wales Festival Sunday — Preparation for the first annual Wales Lions Festival are being completed this week. Shown above, announcing the event, are John True, promotion chairman; Ron Koeppel, president; and David Rowlands, Lion tamer. Features of the event this Sunday include a Kettle Moraine band concert at 2 p.m. and a fire department staged burning car rescue operation at 3 p.m.

## Wales YMCA - 1934



Back row: Wilfred Roberts, John Nelson, Howell Robert, Harold Evans, Middle row; Clarence Wilson, Clayton Evans, Willard Allen. Front row; Rev. John

Pugh Jones, Byron Stickles, Robert Wilson, Howard Stickles, Allen Wilson & Gilbert Thomas.

# Park and Recreation Program

Wales Park Commission has primary responsibilities in two areas:

1. Develop and supervise parks in the village: Breconshire and Fireman's Park.
2. Organize sports and recreation activities within Wales. Among the programs are: downhill skiing, baseball, soccer. The Wales Soccer program

is the largest in southeast Wisconsin. It was also the first program formed in this part of the state.

The Park Board is always looking for volunteers. Meetings are held first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 at the Village Hall. Current members are: Dan Johnson, Lloyd Bloedorn, Joe Setnicar, Tom Burtara.

## Soccer

Who ever heard of tornado with it's beginnings at a Wales baseball awards dinner? Well, the Waukesha County soccer program which has taken over spring and fall Saturdays by storm, began when Jim Campbell, Wales and Sue Kappes, Wales, began to talk in 1978 over the possibilities of a soccer program at Jim's son Chris' awards picnic. That discussion led to a meeting at the Wales Village Hall of representatives from Wales, Genesee, North Prairie, Dousman and Hartland. Plans were drafted for a Land O' Lakes soccer program to be run in the same fashion as the baseball program.

During that first season, 425 youngsters ages 6-15 from all those communities played soccer. Now over 2400 kids, including those from Pewaukee and Oconomowoc, play this most popular of sports, and that figure doesn't include the seven teams that are being formed for 16-19 year olds. Spring and fall, parents now expect seven of their Saturdays to be swept away by the whirlwind of activity on "game days".

In 1982, Wales will suit up 230 kids (in Centennial game shirts depicting the Welsh dragon) on 14 teams with 28 coaches guiding them. And interest keeps building!

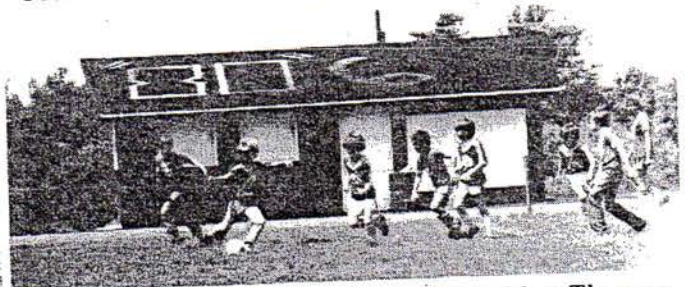
It's amazing; and it all started at the Wales Village Hall!



1981 Wales Kickers coached by Clark Beier and Dave Jennings. In the third season of Wales soccer, this team won all 14 of its games. Front row (left to right), John Jennings, J.B. Jacks, Kevin Bonne, Mike Mikolozec, Karen Thayer, Kerry McDowell; back row, Ryan Lortz, Matt Thomas, Mike Sment, Brian Grall, Greg Cheesebro, Coach Jennings, Coach Beier, Eric Konczal and Jason Beier.



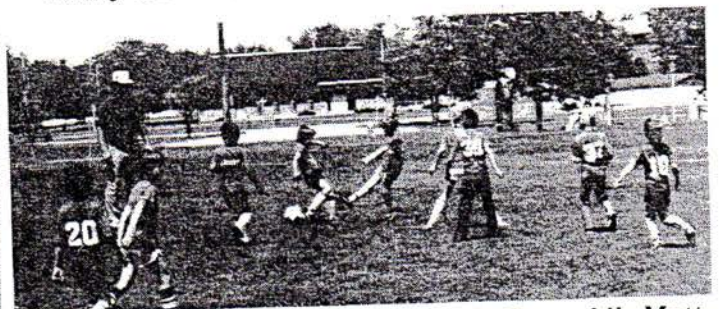
Left to right: Robbie Henschik, Matt Beier, Billy Sigmundt, Mary Bloedorn, Eric Lortz (official)



Left to right: J.B. Jacks, Jason Beier, Matt Thomas, Kerry McDowell.



Left to right: Reid Lortz, Greg Cheesebro, Matt Beier, Eric Thayer, Mary Bloedorn

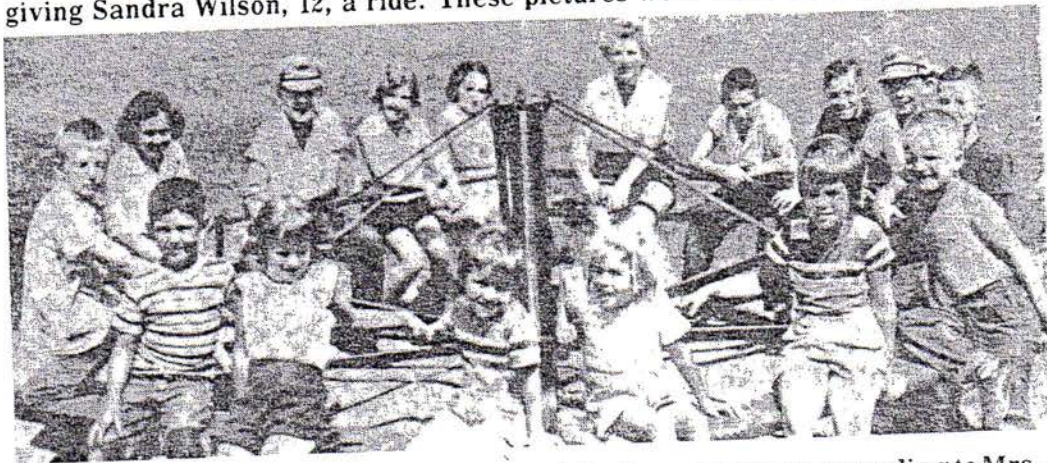


Left to right: Greg Cheesebro, Robbie Henschik, Matt Beier, Karin Thayer.

# Children Of All Ages Take Part In Summer Recreation Program At Wales Park



On the swings at Wales program are (from left) Gene Carrell, 9, pushing Cheryl Hansen, 6; Bruce Carrell, 10, behind Sherry Carrell 12; and Bobby Wilson, 10, giving Sandra Wilson, 12, a ride. These pictures were taken in July, 1956.



Everyone enjoys a merry-go-round, especially the youngsters, according to Mrs. Charles Versh, director, and Shirley Roberts, co-director. Play programs are held each morning.



Crafts — The Wales recreation program offers a variety of crafts, with the older girls and boys acting as counselors. Shown are (from left) Jack Wilson, 13, Shirley Robert, co-editor, and Holly Jean Evans, 8. Jack is making a belt.

# Wales Fire Department

by Karen Swart

The Wales Firemen's Auxiliary was first organized in 1939. The purpose of this auxiliary was to aid and assist the fire department in serving the community.

Mrs. Freida Zock was instrumental in organizing the auxiliary, so she was given a lifetime paid-up membership. Doris Wilson, an active member still with the auxiliary, also joined in 1939 and has served with the auxiliary for the past 42 years. The only other original members still living in Wales are Marge Stocks, Myrtle Davies, Ellinor Kranpitz and Virginia Allen.

The auxiliary meetings were held once a month at the old fire hall. This was the cement block building at 109 Elias St., now owned by the Turnmyers. At this time, Red Cross meetings were held.

In 1958 the fire hall on South Street was built and the auxiliary then moved their meetings to the new hall and started to equip the new kitchen.

Over the years the auxiliary held Halloween parties, dances and Christmas movies with small gifts for the children. Socials were also held with the other surrounding area fire department auxiliaries. And at fires, the auxiliary served refreshments to the firemen.

In 1972 the auxiliary sponsored the "Operation Red Ball" program. This project is designed to help firemen locate and evacuate children and invalids in case of fire. To do this, a red ball is placed in the upper lefthand corner of a bedroom window so the firemen will know how many children and invalids to look for when there is a fire. The auxiliary still sponsors this program and has red balls for anyone who does not have them.

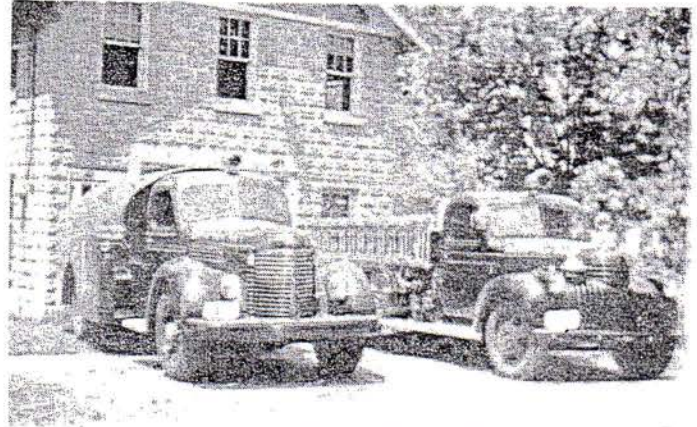
Today, the auxiliary's most important function is still the same, to aid and assist the fire department. We provide meals and beverages to the fire fighters during prolonged fires and training sessions. Other projects include hosting the biannual bloodmobile collection and raising funds for special fire and rescue equipment

such as a stretcher, air compressor, resuscitator, hose washers, and the Jaws of Life.

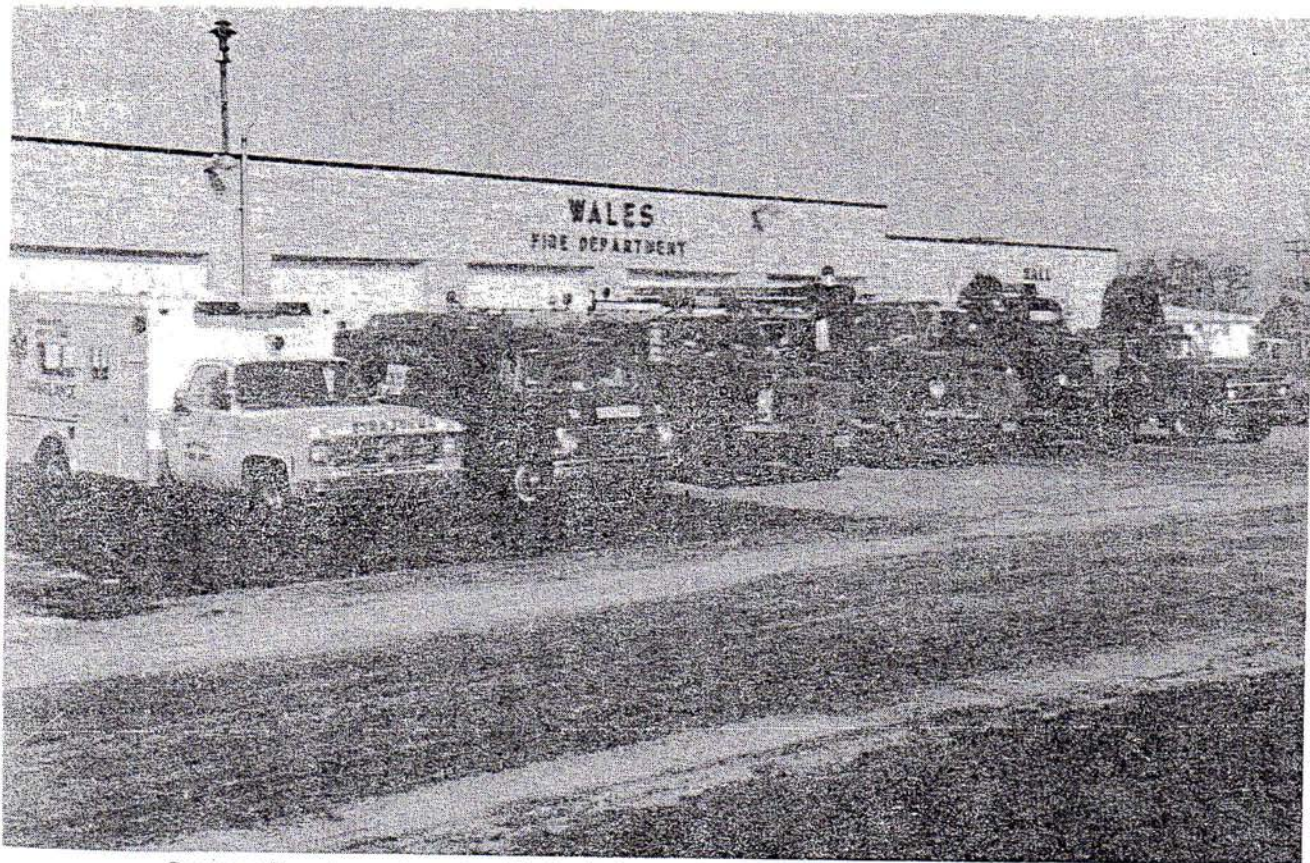
The bake sales, Easter egg hunt and the Christmas bazaar are the auxiliary's major fund raisers.

The current members of the auxiliary are Karen Swart, president; Sally Lemke, vice-president; Jeanne Holtzer, secretary; Lillian Eckstein, treasurer; Doris Wilson, Sandy Landers, Marylou Hanus, Barb Wallace, Joanne Small, Mary Dopp and Sherri Rigden.

The firemen's auxiliary is open to any adult woman in the Wales community regardless of whether or not her husband is a fireman.



1946 Chevrolet custom Peter Pirch Pumper and IHC Tank Truck in front of original Village Hall and Fire Hall on Elias Street.



Current fire department vehicles in front of current Fire Hall on South Street.

# Wales Volunteer Fire Department

1923-1982

## Centennial Year Report

by James M. Morris  
Assistant Chief

Today the Village of Wales is 100 years old. One of the longest running organizations in the village is the volunteer fire department. The need for a fire department was first seen on June 23, 1906 when a large fire did several thousand dollars worth of damage. However, nothing was organized until August of 1923, when on a warm summer night, the hotel on the corner of Genesee and James Street caught fire about 10:30 p.m. At this time, the only fire protection immediately available was the bucket brigades. Everyone in the village turned out to fight the fire. Fire apparatus from Delafield and Waukesha were called, but due to the roads in those days, it was midnight before it arrived. They continued to fight the fire, and it was finally declared under control at 2 a.m. However, it well into the next day before everything was put out. Total loss was estimated at \$50,000; this was in 1923. Gone were the hotel owned by Otto Falk, Robert Lohda's Blacksmith Shop, and Phillip Brook's implement shop and hardware store.

In September of 1923, several businessmen met and decided it was time for the village to obtain its own fire prevention equipment. Now on display in the village hall is the original subscription forms that were circulated. Businessmen, residents, and surrounding farmers signed up to donate money for the equipment. These forms are in the handwriting of each subscriber with his name and the amount pledged. The total number of subscribers was 60 and they donated \$1,680.

This money was then used to purchase a 4-cylinder Chevy truck with a chemical fire extinguisher mounted on it. What this was, was a large soda acid unit. When it was to be used, the soda acid was mixed with water and the pressure forced it through a hose to extinguish the fire. The same principle is still used in the upright cans that appear in many public places.

This truck served for several years. In 1929 a village hall and garage for the fire engine was built. This block building still stands on Elias Street just north of Main Street by the village square.

The next piece of apparatus bought was a Packard car which was remodeled to contain the chemical extinguisher, ladders, and other equipment. This vehicle had all the essentials to fight a fire. However, if two men got on the rear step and the clutch was let out a bit fast, the front wheels would come off the ground. This was in 1932. In 1939 the chemical equipment was replaced with a booster tank and pump. This apparatus served until 1946 when the most important purchase in the 23-year-old department was made.

The purchase was on a new 1946 Chevrolet Custom Built Peter Pirsch fire engine with a 500 gallon a minute pump, 500 gallon booster tank, and 1,800 ft. of fire hose. This engine served as the first line piece of equipment for the next 24 years. It is now owned by Bill Vandorf of Antigo, Wis., and is still driven in parades.

In 1948 the Chevy pumper was supplemented by a used International truck with a 1,500 gallon tank for water and a portable pump. In 1952, another tank truck was purchased which gave the Wales Fire Department the real ability to combat fires in a rural environment.

Along with the addition of equipment came the need for more room to park the equipment. So in 1958 a new fire hall and village hall combination was built on South Street by the Village Park. This building currently houses the fire department. The Wales Fire Department continued to serve the community replacing and updating equipment through the '50's, '60's and '70's.

The current complement of equipment consists of the following vehicles: 1969 Ford 600 with Melray body, 1,000 gallon tank, 750 GPM, front mount Barton American pump; 1972 GMC 6500 with Melray body, 1,500 gallon tank, 750 GPM, front mount Barton American pump; 1977 IHC Fleetstar 1900 with Melray body, 1,500 GPM, front mount Barton American pump; 1970 Ford Econoline Van converted into an ambulance; 1977 Ford 250 4WD Pickup with 275 gallon tank and portable pump for grass fires; 1978 GMC 3500 with custom built Horton Modular ambulance body.

About 1970 there became an awareness for the need of emergency medical services to be brought from hospital emergency rooms out to the scene of the injury. Immediate treatment of the sick and injured was what had to be accomplished. Prior to the 1970's when you called for an ambulance, what came was usually a station wagon that would take the victim to the hospital as quickly as possible. With the advent of the

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), the biggest single change in fire department responsibility started to take place. Wales Volunteer Fire Department was one of the first departments in the county to send members to receive this training. Through many hours of volunteer work, the department's Ford Econoline Van which was used as an equipment van, was converted into an ambulance as per the current Federal and State specifications. In early 1973, the Wales Fire Department was one of the few departments in Waukesha County to have EMT's and an ambulance to provide emergency medical care. This service has grown and developed through today where we now have two ambulances and 27 EMTs who serve the community 24 hours a day on strictly a volunteer basis. Recognition should be given to Mike Biondo for this fine service. Without his forethought, dogged determination, persistence, and many hours of work, we would not have the fine emergency medical service we have today.

As a youngster, I remember the faint sound of the fire whistle echoing across my dad's farm from east of the hills that now make up Genesee Farms. Hearing that sound always made your blood run fast and seemed to bring excitement. When it came on a quiet summer night, it was an eerie sound. How well I remember getting up in the middle of the night and looking for the glow in the sky. Many times the phone would ring and on the other end would be an Evans, a Jenks or an Allen telling us of a barn fire somewhere in the neighborhood. Many were the times we would all rise, get dressed, pile into the car, and go to lend whatever help we could. I can still picture people like Bill Vandorf, suspenders over his undershirt, his ever-present bent pipe resting on his chin, standing along the side of the '46 Chevy pumper with its hood propped open, engine singing into the night and pumping water all night on what was someone's life work that was now being reduced to ashes by a fire.

When the whistle blew, the entire village would come to a halt, listen and respond to the fire house. Never was a thought given to time of day or business at hand. If you were at the feed mill, lumber yard, or Dan's blacksmith shop, you had better not be standing in the door looking or you would probably get run over.

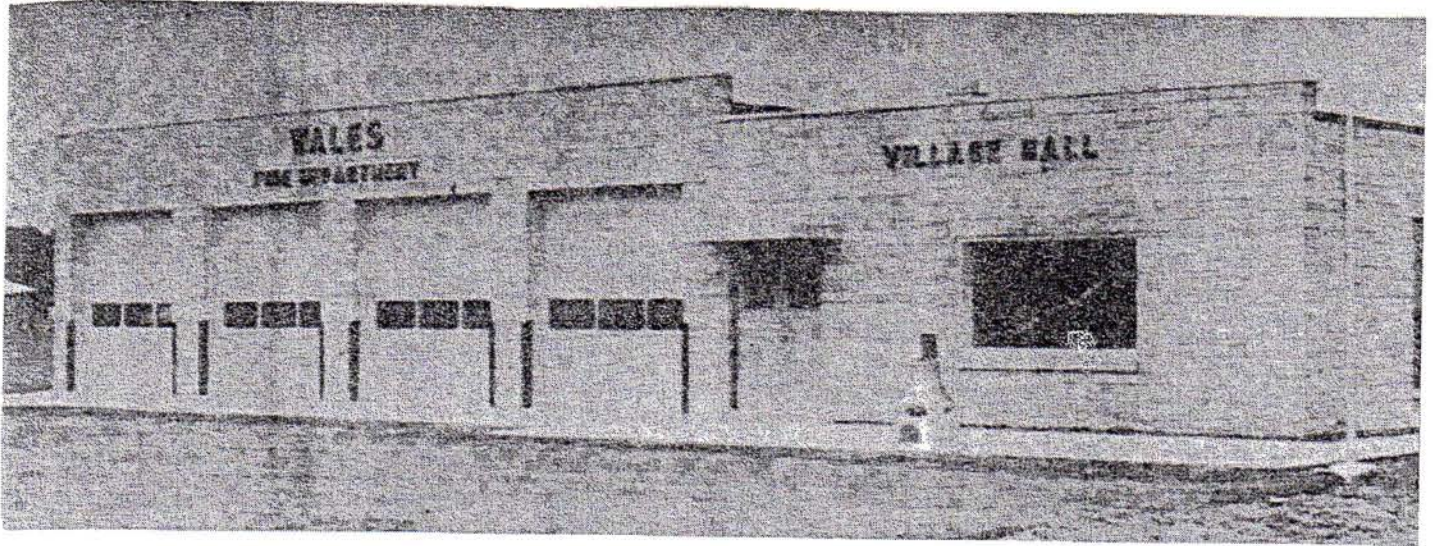
When mentioning the Wales Fire Department, one must mention Dan Davies. Dan served the department as chief for a total of 28 years. As a kid growing up in Wales, the fire department and Dan were synonymous. From his blacksmith shop on James Street he ran the department, worked on the trucks and equipment, and responded to all alarms. If you were there to get a piece of farm equipment fixed when the whistle blew, it was too bad; you had to wait until the emergency was over. Dan was instrumental in getting several fire organizations such as Jefferson-Waukesha County Firemen's Association and the Waukesha County Chiefs' Association started. When Dan retired as chief, he was given the position of deputy chief in which he serves to date. When Dan retired from his blacksmith business, he took the position of village engineer. Few people have ever or will ever give as much to the Village of Wales as this man has and continues to give.

Today the Wales Volunteer Fire Department stands proud of the fine equipment we have. All equipment was purchased new and is kept in like-new condition.

Every fire department has to have a chief. This is a list of all the men who have served as fire chief of the Wales Volunteer Fire Department: John Rees, 1923; Phineas Jones, unknown length; George Zoch, unknown length; Clarence Wilson, 1940-1941; Willard Allen, 1942-1944; Dan Davies, 1937-1939 and 1945-1971; Wayne Ansoerge, 1972; Rich Ferguson, 1973-1978; Jerry Renner, 1979; Ron Weber, 1980-present.

Since the "old days" the Wales Fire Department has made some giant strides. We now average about one call per day and most of the residents of the village never even know where we go or when we go. The 40 members of the department meet at least one night a week. Everyone who applies must take either Firemanship I or the Emergency Medical Technician course or both at WCTI to become a member. Every member now carries a radio pager with him which summons him to the fire house in case of a call. Very seldom does the siren blow. Today we are para-professionals taking great pride in what we do. More often than not we help our neighbor whose name we do not even know. Today as it was 59 years ago, the Wales Volunteer Fire Department is there. As it says in our by-laws: "To save lives and protect property of the residents of the Village of Wales and its contracted areas."

# The Making Of A Village



## Open House Set For Wales Building

### New firehouse, village hall is completed

WALES — The Wales fire department and the village board of Wales invite the public to attend an open house of a new building on Sunday from 1 to 8 p.m.

The new \$30,000 building houses the fire department and village hall chambers. It was engineered by Sylvan Baudhin of Menomonee Falls and constructed by A. Walters associates, Sussex.

Village board members extending the invitation to the open house are Evan G. Davies, president; Everett O'Rourke and Howard Daane, trustees, and Lillian Edwards, clerk.

The fire department originated in 1923 with one truck used for fire fighting. The first fire chief was John Rees.

A single-stall, two-story building has served as fire station until the present time. The department has grown through the years.

Today three trucks are maintained, two tank trucks and one pump truck. Some 3,300 gallons of water are immediately available for village protection.

The fire equipment has recently been moved into the new four-stall firehouse which also has a 20,000 gallon underground water reservoir.

Officers of the fire department are Dan Davies, chief; Ted Kranpitz, assistant chief; Everett Ferguson, captain; Wayne Ansorge, lieutenant.

William Knoeble is secretary, and James Hansen, treasurer.

## New Village Hall

The Village of Wales has entered into a purchase agreement with the American Kettle Moraine banks and American City banks to purchase the present bank building in Wales. American City has applied to the State Banking commission for permission to move their banking operations out of the center of the village to the intersection of Highways 83 and 18.

The building once remodeled will serve as the Wales Village Hall and will house the village offices. The present village hall will continue to be used for village functions and fire department meetings.

The Wales village board has included the purchase price of \$30,000 in the proposed 1972 village budget. The building and an additional fee of \$1,000 will be taken out of existing village reserves.

It will probably be early spring 1972 before the final purchase is consummated and the purchase complete.



The Village of Wales has signed a purchase agreement with the American City banks to purchase the present American Kettle Moraine bank building, Wales. The building will be remodeled to serve as the village hall and will house the clerk's and other village officials' offices. The reported purchase price is \$30,000.

# Wales Golden Anniversary

The year 1972, while at first glance may not mean much out of the ordinary, does however have special significance to residents of the Village of Wales. The significance lies in that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the village which was incorporated in 1922.

Housed in the county courthouse, the original incorporation order signed by Judge C. M. Davison is a most important document. According to the order, a petition for incorporation was first initiated by Mr. B. F. Edwards, W. B. Owens, George C. Zoch, W. H. Elias and S. D. James.

The original size of the incorporated village was set at 316.89 acres. The document contains the legal description of the first village which since then has grown to include almost 500 acres within the Kettle Moraine community.

Village President Arvin Jenks announced at the Monday night village board meeting that 1972 was a year out of the ordinary for the village. Jenks said that he will appoint a committee to possibly make plans to commemorate the event and make plans for a special celebration.



Wales Village President Arvin Jenks views a copy of the 1922 order, incorporating the Village of Wales. The 1922 date makes 1972 the Golden Anniversary of the Village. The

original order is kept in the Register of Deeds Office at the county courthouse. Congratulations is in order to our Wales area residents.

# Village Officials

It is most appropriate here to give mention to those citizens who gave of their time and efforts in the governing of the Village. The first officers were elected in October, 1922, and were:

President — W. H. Elias  
 Trustees — T. J. Jones and W. R. Owens  
 Treasurer — S. D. James, who was later replaced by John S. Williams after it was found he had been elected illegally.

Assessor — Rees P. Jones  
 Constable — Phineas Jones  
 Clerk — Mrs. Theodore Nuoffer (Beth)  
 Supervisor — Evan Davis

Other Village Presidents were:

George C. Zoch (1923-1925) (1934-1936) (1938-1942)  
 Evan G. Thomas (1926-1932) (1936-1938)  
 John J. Rees (1932-1934)  
 James Southcott (1942-1944)  
 Evan Davies (1944-1959)  
 Willard Allen (1959-1963)  
 Douglas Anderson (1963-1969)  
 Arvin Jenks (1969-1979)  
 Frank A. Mueller (1979-1980)  
 Patricia Feldner (1980-current)

Supervisors before 1972 when combined with Presidency:

Evan Davies  
 John J. Jones  
 Edwin J. Jones  
 W. R. Owens

Trustees included:

T. J. Jones  
 W. R. Owens  
 Edwin T. Jones  
 John Pugh  
 George Zoch  
 W. H. Elias  
 W. B. Owens  
 Fred Kiekhefer  
 Algot Anderson  
 Humphrey Williams  
 Evan Davies  
 Alexander McCulloch  
 Everett O'Rourke  
 Daniel Davies  
 Arvin Jenks  
 Howard Daane  
 Carl Smaglick (current)  
 Lloyd Bloedorn (current)  
 Patricia Feldner  
 Robert Bewley  
 Dennis Golden

Byron Evans  
 George Bingenheimer  
 Elizabeth McDowell  
 Douglas Anderson  
 Sylvester (Ted) Kranpitz  
 Jerry Baalrud  
 Willard Allen  
 James Hansen  
 Gerald Sikora  
 Frank Mueller  
 George Traugott  
 William Knoebel  
 Phillip Dressler  
 Donald Gottschalk  
 Anita Mulkey  
 Richard Davies  
 Gene Mayernick (current)  
 Wolfgang Hemschik (current)  
 Rodney Childs (current)  
 Michael Wettstein (current)

Treasurers before 1967:

S. D. James  
 John S. Williams  
 Thomas J. Davies  
 W. B. Owens  
 Mrs. D. H. Jones  
 Mrs. George C. Zoch  
 Alice Wilson  
 Marie Carrell  
 Mrs. Thomas (Patricia) Massey  
 Jean Worden

Clerks before 1967:

Mrs. Theodore (Beth) Nuoffer  
 Mrs. Phineas (Lucy) Jones  
 Mrs. David O. (Lillian) Edwards  
 Jean Worden

Clerk/Treasurer combined office in 1967:

Jean Worden  
 Mrs. George (Doris) Traugott  
 Charlotte Jeffery (current)

Deputy Clerks:

Charlotte Jeffery  
 Geraldine Bloedorn (current)

Constables:

Phineas Jones  
 Arthur C. James  
 C. I. Wilson  
 Henry Ansoerge  
 George Bingenheimer  
 Tony Bralich  
 Chester Mason  
 Gerhardt Schmidt

Sylvester (Ted) Kranpitz  
 Edward O'Connor  
 Daniel Davies  
 Wilmer Ristow  
 Clarence Wilson  
 William Van Dorf  
 Gene Landers  
 Larry Barzyk (current)

Assessors:

Rees P. Jones  
 Rees P. Jones  
 Evan G. Thomas  
 Howard Felix  
 David E. Kennedy  
 Daniel Rees  
 Thomas J. Davies  
 Ray Passalt

James Hansen

James Hansen  
 William Knoebel  
 Gerald Baalrud  
 James Southcott  
 Great Lakes Appraisal  
 Henry Trilling  
 Lew Tompkins (current)

Justice of the Peace from 1933 to about 1963:

David O. Edwards  
 Morris Stealey  
 Arvin Jenks  
 William Van Dorf  
 William Knoebel  
 Douglas Anderson  
 Wayne Ansoerge

Board of Health members until about 1963:

William R. Owens  
 Evan G. Davies  
 Gilbert Thomas  
 Mrs. Phineas Jones  
 Harvey James  
 W. H. Elias  
 J. J. Rees  
 Mrs. D. O. Edwards

Thomas J. Davies  
 Daniel Rees  
 George C. Zoch  
 Lucy Jones  
 Phineas Jones  
 James Southcott  
 Harvey James  
 Willard Allen

Building Inspectors beginning in 1957:

Daniel Davies (current)  
 Willard Allen  
 John Carrell

Plan Commission was established in 1964. Current members are:

Edward Bladow, Chairman	Jeff Krumrich
Dean Mickel	John Graf
Donald Gottschalk	Daniel Davies
John Rittler	Michael Wettstein
Edgar McCarthy	Patricia Feldner

Village Board meetings were held once per month until 1978 when they were increased to twice per month since Village business was becoming more complex. There were only two trustees elected until February, 1961 when the population increase required the number of trustees to be increased to the current number of six. In February of 1927 the Fire Department came under the supervision of the Village Board as it remains today. (More about our Volunteer Fire Department in another article.) The Fire Hall, which also originally served as the Village Hall, was built on land purchased from Willard Allen in August of 1958. In November of 1971 the Village Board approved the purchase of the American Kettle Moraine Bank building to house the current Village Hall.

The Village of Wales is dry. No intoxicating beverages may be sold within the Village limits. According to one article, this was a stipulation in the grant made by Mrs. W. H. Elias of the land which has become the center of the Village. There were heavy fines for persons found intoxicated within the Village limits and under the provisions of the Prohibition Act even non-intoxicating liquor (fermented malt beverages, light wine or soft drinks containing less than 1/2 oz. of 1% alcohol by volume) was regulated by the Board.

The Welsh heritage of our early settlers is shown in the liquor ordinances as well as other early 1923 ordinances. Any circus, caravan, theatrical performance, slight-of-hand performance, natural or artificial curiosity, merry-go-round, entertainment or show of any kind was prohibited except scientific, moral or literary lectures or concerts of music if there were no objections. The Village was also obligated to relieve and support all poor and indigent persons lawfully settled therein whenever they shall stand in need thereof. It was unlawful for any person to allow any horse, team of horses, mule or team of mules or other domestic animal to be fastened to any post, etc. in any public street or alley for a period exceeding two hours in stormy weather or four hours at any one time. Nor could they be ridden on any sidewalk in the Village.

In early 1923 there was an ordinance prohibiting any horse, ass, mule, colt, gelding, mare, cow, calf, goat, sheep or other meat cattle, swine, goose or duck from being at large, lying, running, grazing, feeding or depasturing on any street, alley or public place. This gave way to the common dog ordinance in 1957 which is still enforced today.

There were many annexations of land from the Town of Genesee between the years of 1960 and 1978 to form the current Village of Wales. And all developers have been required since 1975, to donate to the public adequate land to provide for park and recreation needs of the area or pay a fee in lieu of such dedication. The actions of the Board Members and the Plan Commission have insured the responsible development of the Village and have provided a strong foundation for its future development.

(Special thanks to Geraldine Bloedorn for her research efforts.)



# Why The Move To Wales?

My husband, Larry, and I and our son, Shawn (7), moved to the Village of Wales in July of 1979. We built our home in Caernarvonshire, on Caernarvon Road. In the morning we can see the Herefords grazing on the hills at the end of the road; at night we can see the "city lights" of Waukesha. And the sunsets through the trees are beautiful! We love our neighborhood and have wonderful neighbors.

We looked at quite a few lots in Waukesha County before we decided on Wales. I think the small town atmosphere was appealing to us since we both grew up in the country (myself in Big Bend and Larry in Muskego). It's nice to go to the store or post office and know your "neighbors." Also, we had heard great things about the Kettle Moraine school system. Shawn is in first grade at Wales Elementary School, and we are very pleased with the school and the staff.

I wanted to be on the Centennial Committee because I have a strong interest in history and heritage. Although I am not of Welsh descent (actually Danish and Irish), I'm finding the history of the early settlers to our area very interesting. Since I've been on the committee, I've learned more about Welsh heritage and customs than I would have otherwise. We've having a lot of fun, too. There are many activities planned to celebrate our "100th Birthday" — it's a once in a lifetime chance and I don't want to miss it!

Barbara Jensen-Stigler

*Barbara Jensen-Stigler*

421 Caernarvon Road  
Wales, Wisconsin 53183

My husband and I moved to Wales purely by chance. We were looking for an old house in the country near Waukesha that we could buy and restore to its original condition. We found the perfect house in Wales and moved in in May, 1977.

I had never been in Wales before and for the first few weeks I thought it was a very tiny village since the subdivisions are hidden among the hills. Living so near to the village hall, I became interested in their meetings, started attending and eventually filled a vacancy on the board. We sure don't have the house finished yet, but we've come to love this community.

Pat Feldner

*Pat Feldner*

## Members Of The Wales Centennial Committee



R. Morris Stealey

Mr. Stealey is one of the Village of Wales' elder statesmen. Wales has been his home since 1935, and he believes he's its last Welsh-speaking resident.

Stealey, of 134 E. Main St., proudly wears his heritage on his sleeve. He gladly hands out clips with "R. Morris Stealey — Cyrmo Glan" (which means pure Welshman) printed on it. His home is littered with Welsh knickknacks. There are Welsh sayings printed on ink pens he gives away, in his living room and on his home's red garage door.

Stealey relishes the chance to pass his heritage on. He teaches Welsh to all comers once a week and is a member of organizations that sing Welsh hymns on St. David's Day — the patron saint of Wales — on Mar. 1, and on Gymanfa Ganu, another Welsh holiday celebrated the first weekend in May.

(Used by permission of the Freeman)



Mr. and Mrs. Morris Stealey of Wales pose with a costumed Welsh doll which they brought back with them on their last trip to Wales. The Stealeys will be just one of many families participating in the upcoming Gymanfa Ganu on May 4 in Milwaukee. The Gymanfas, a traditional Welsh songfest, is just one way that the Welsh people of the area carry on the native traditions of their homeland.

# Members Of The Wales Centennial Committee

## Centennial Committee

Robert & Diane Sment  
Carl Smaglick  
Gerry Henry  
Patricia Feldner  
Janet Schuster  
Joan Carlson  
Rita Petchel  
Barbara Stigler  
R. Morris Stealey  
Mildred Southcott  
Anna Mae Badciong

## Parade Committee

Willard Allen  
Don Lomax  
Horace Wilke  
Al Schlender  
Ted Kranpitz  
Patrick Hultman  
Romane Gotter  
Jack Bryan

## Centennial Book

Mildred Southcott  
Betty McDowell  
Janet Schuster  
LouAnn Myers  
Joan Carlson  
Laurie Meyers, Advertising

## Banner Contest

Barbara Stigler

## Run

David Zalar

## Children's Games & Races

Monique Sadler  
Wales Organizer for Girl Scouts

## Music & Dancing

Barbara Jennings

## Park Activities

John Kopecky

## Soccer Tournament

Clark Beier

## Baseball Tournament

Butch Brandenburg

# Acknowledgements

Dave Williams, the driving force of this project. Without his interest and enthusiasm in writing about his recollections of the Wales he knew as a boy, this booklet might not have been written.

The Dousman Index and the editor, Mrs. Montgomery for printing the articles and also as a source for pictures and historical materials.

Mrs. John Henry for the use of her files of newspaper clippings and pictures.

Lou Ann Meyers for designing the cover and her

help with the lay-out of the ads.

Mrs. Jeffery, the village clerk for her information on the village officers.

Printed Sources: The Waukesha Freeman, The Welsh Community of Waukesha County by Dr. D. J. Williams without which many of us would not have a complete record of our Welsh background.

The many people of this town of varying ages and interests who have pooled their talents to write articles for this Centennial booklet.

## David Williams



David H. Williams has written or edited many of the stories in this booklet. He was born in South Dakota. His family moved to Wales in 1907 where he attended country school District #6, Waukesha High School and the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture. He taught agriculture in Dodgeville and Baraboo for 13 years; was Sauk County Agricultural Agent for nine years and a member of the faculty of the University of Wisconsin for 27 years, retiring as Emeritus Professor in 1967.

A fifty six year member of the Masonic Lodge, he was the first to receive the Master Mason Degree in the then new Dousman Masonic Temple in 1926. For over fifty years a Kiwanian, he is a past president and past Lieutenant Governor. He has organized and conducted People to People Goodwill Visitation programs to South America, the Orient, the South Pacific and to Russia and Europe.

His home is in Phoenix, Arizona.

# Patrons

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Mr. & Mrs. David H. Williams

(Continued from inside front cover.)

# Calendar of Centennial Activities

## Sunday, June 20, 1982

9:00 a.m. ....	Wales 100 Centennial Run Kettle Moraine High School Presentation of Awards to Follow
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. ....	Wales 100th Birthday Celebration Wales Village Park
12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m. ....	Centennial Dance Wales Village Park Live Music
2:00 p.m. ....	Presentation of Awards: Soccer Softball Banner Contest Wales Village Park
August 1, 1982 .....	Wales Gymanfa Ganu Jerusalem Church 2:00 p.m.

Rain Date - June 19 - 20, 2082

This book is not meant to be a complete history of Wales.  
The committee has tried to include as much as possible.  
If we missed an important event, we regret the error.