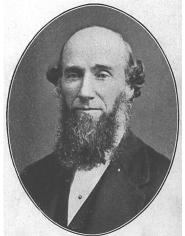
## JOEL MACMILLAN (1822-1877)

Joel MacMillan opened a book and wallpaper store in Salem in 1850. It was the first store in Salem to carry wallpaper. The store was later located in the three-unit Trinity Block, which Joel built in 1859.



MacMillan's Bookstore served the Salem community for well over a century, first under his management, and later under his daughter, Alice, and Ora Vincent. Joel's old desk and the memorable front doors to the store are preserved at the Salem Historical Museum

Joel married Sarah Morris (1822-1908) on Aug. 10, 1848. Born in Lloydsville (Belmont County), Ohio on Jan. 19, 1822, she attended school there. She later attended a private school in New Lisbon. Prior to her marriage, she spent two years as a pioneer in Illinois.

Sarah was born of Maryland and Virginia ancestry, with her family being slaveowners. Her grandmother, with whom she lived as a child, voluntarily freed her slaves. This influenced Sarah to become an ardent supporter of the anti-slavery

movement. Both Joel and Sarah were abolitionists.

The MacMillan homestead was located off Franklin Ave. near Grandview Cemetery. Their home was a station for hiding runaway slaves on the Underground Railroad. The original kitchen was in the rear of the basement. Behind the kitchen fireplace in an old storage room were arched brick alcoves, where the fugitive slaves were hidden. They passed through the fireplace to this haven, which could not be detected when a fire was burning.



Grave marker for Joel MacMillan and family at Hope Cemetery. He built the Trinity Block downtown, and operated the oldest store in town

MacMillan's Bookstore.



One time at the MacMillan home, Sarah served several slave-catchers dinner after offering to let them search the house, distracting them with kindness even as an escaped slave looked on through cracks in the wall.

When a young slave girl was rescued from a train by Salem abolitionists on Aug. 28, 1854, she was given the name Abby Kelley Salem and cared for by the MacMillans. She resided with them and in other Salem homes for many years, keeping the name of the city that gave her her freedom.

The MacMillans had two sons, Ernest and Arthur, and a daughter, Alice. Joel died on Aug. 15, 1877 at the age of 55 from typhoid fever, after helping tear up the plank road on Main (State) St. Sarah died on Jan. 5, 1908. She was the last of the active workers in the anti-slavery movement in Salem.