



Homecoming Gala on July 4, 1939

by Suzy Millar Miller

Reynoldsburg was incorporated as a Village in 1839. To honor the 100th anniversary of that event, the Reynoldsburg Business Men's Association, Inc., sponsored a "Centennial Celebration and Homecoming" on July 4th, 1939.

The Mayor, H.K. Steckel, wrote a welcome to "Friends and Citizens" which read:

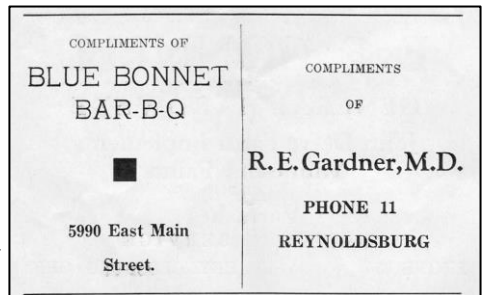
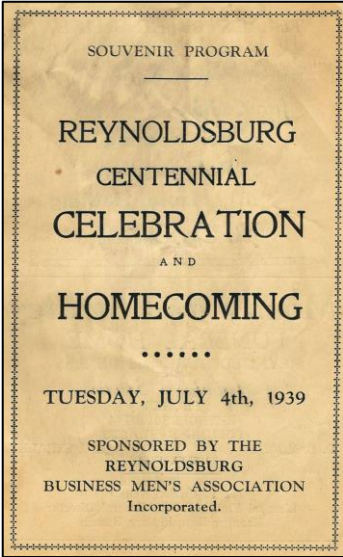
"It affords us great pleasure to extend a most cordial greeting to you upon this celebration of our Nation's Birthday. Reynoldsburg is celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of its incorporation as a village so may we all be doubly happy and gay at this double celebration. May your visit be a joyous one. The latchstring is out. We are happy to see you and invite you to return soon."

The June 22, 1939, *Reynoldsburg Press* announced the event as "a special speaker, a big parade, varied athletic contests, and a free movie will be featured on the day's program and those who attend the celebration will be treated to all these spectacles free of charge, as guests of Reynoldsburg's merchants and professional men."

There were no fees involved to enter the parade or events, but there was a total of one hundred dollars in cash prizes awarded to winners of the various classifications. Organizations were invited to make floats displaying the 100-year theme.

Guests were encouraged to bring box lunches to eat while they enjoyed the events to celebrate an old-fashioned homecoming. The featured film at the end of the day "is a picture of rare, high quality entitled, *The Mine with the Iron Door.*"

The scheduled events began at 11 a.m. with the formation of the "Big Parade." Various units formed at the school house. The units then moved west on Broad Street to Lancaster Street, North to Main Street, East to Graham Road, South to Broad Street, West to school house and then disbanded. The *(continued on Page 02)*



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judges were stationed on the M.E. Church lawn. Prizes were awarded at the Speaker's Stand.

The following is a listing of **Parade prizes** with the 1st and 2nd prize value

listed for each event: Best Commercial Advertising Display, Truck or Trailer (\$6, \$3); Best Historical Display, Truck or Wagon (\$10, \$5); Best Agricultural Display, Truck or Wagon with arrangement of display being considered (\$8, \$4); Best Decorated Float for Church or Fraternal Organization on Automobile or Wagon (\$10, \$5); Best Decorated Automobile (\$8, \$5); Most Dilapidated Auto Driven by Own Power (\$3, \$2); Most Comical Group (\$3, \$2); Best Single Rider on Horseback (\$4, \$2); Nicest Appearing Couple on Horse Back (\$4, \$2); Most Comical Clowns or Clown (\$4, \$2).

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 REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO

Junior Parade Contest for Children under 14 years of age. Best Decorated Bicycle (\$2, \$1); Best Decorated Toy Wagon or Auto (\$2, \$1); Most Beautifully Decorated Pet (\$2, \$1).

Athletic Contests. Bicycle Races: Boys under 12 years, Girls free for all, Boys free for all; 50-yard dash: Boys under 10 years; Boys free for all, Girls under 12 years, Girls free for all; Pipe Smoking Contest (Men 21 years, over); Nail Driving Contest (Ladies); Ball Throwing Contest (ladies, boys under 9 years and girls under 10 years); Tug of War – to be announced.

HAYES
Patent Medicine Stor
 Magazines-Sundries-Candy-Cigarettes and Tobacco
FURNAS
QUALITY ICE CREAM
 In Ten Different Flavors
 DELICIOUS SODAS AND SUNDAES.
"The Coolest Spot In Town"
 PHONE 66 REYNOLDSBURG, O.

The **Athletic Committee** consisted of: R.T. Whitehead, Dr. E.W. Porter, Harry Hayes, and Raymond Shaffer. Valuable prizes were awarded for each event. After the athletic events there was a ball game.

According to the homecoming program, a basket lunch and picnic began at noon on the shady lawn in front of the school building. Tables and chairs were provided by the committee. Families and well filled baskets were encouraged to



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enjoy a get-together with friends and neighbors. This event was accompanied by a speaker and a band concert by the Pickerington High School band. The Athletic Events began at 1 p.m. with the Ball Game starting at 3 p.m. A free open-air movie started at 9 p.m. with chairs arranged on the south side of the school building.

The **General Committee** members of the Business Men's Association were: Rev. John Batterson (Chairman), Dale H. Graham, C.G. Roshon, E.E. Connell, and E.T. Hayes. The Sub-Committee members were: Programs: F.B. Poole, C.W. Fishpaw,

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Main 1859

H. K. "DOC" STECKEL

E.T. Hayes; Parade: Vernon Ashton, Fay May, E.R. Cheatwood, and E.E. Connell; Publicity: C.G. Roshon, Richard Evans, Harry Sinsabaugh, and J. Ruvoldt; Athletic: R.T. Whitehead, Harry Hayes, Bryant Slack, Dr. Porter, and R.C. Shaffer; Movie: Rev. E.W. Welch, Miss E.M. Lunn, and A.C. Straley; Safety: Bert Ebright, R.C. Shaffer, and H.L. Budd.

The **Reynoldsburg Village Officers** at the time were: H.K. Steckel (Mayor), Alonzo Fishpaw (Clerk), Remus Hemy (Treasurer), Walter Stump (Marshal), and H.L. Budd (Traffic Officer). The **Councilmen** were: Dr. G. P. Taylor, R.R. Rickly, J.M. Brill, J.A. Morrison, R.T. Whitehead, and George Lorentz.

I found the "athletic" contests listed very interesting. I had never heard of a "nail driving" contest or "pipe smoking" contest, so I asked a couple of "experts." Mary Stoots wrote to **Ray Karnes** about these events. Ray responded,

"Jeezie, weezie. Madge that beez 'bout 80 years ago. And I have trouble remembering yesterday. As matter of fact I do recall (I think) some of it. The nail driving contest was pretty fiercely contested. It consisted of the driving of
(continued on page 04)

<p>K-O-D-A-K</p> <p>Developing, Printing and Enlarging</p> <p>BY</p> <p>Quick Foto Works, Inc.</p> <p>LOCAL AGENCY</p> <p>HAYES STORE</p> <p>Kodaks, Films and Supplies</p> <p>REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO</p>	<p>ROSE HILL</p> <p>LUNCH ROOM</p> <p>JERRY and FANNY MYERS</p> <p>CHICKEN DINNERS OUR SUNDAY SPECIAL</p> <p>STANDARD OIL STATION</p> <p>1 mile West of</p> <p>REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO</p>
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Homecoming Gala on July 4, 1939 by Suzy Millar Miller

(continued from page 03)

one or more nails into a board, not sure but probably a 2x4 and the scoring was comprised of timing, and/or number of strokes to complete the drive. Some could drive a nail (or spike) into a board in one stroke of the hammer which was pretty awesome. However, these were men who, if not professional, did their own construction work such as building hen houses, sheds, barns, home additions, and outhouses by themselves because few could afford to pay someone else to do so."



I asked **Jim Diuguid**

about the pipe smoking contest. He said the goal was to smoke the full bowl of the pipe of tobacco after being given only **one match**. Apparently, it is difficult to get the tobacco started and even more difficult to keep it lit. I do remember when watching black and white movies, that the pipe smokers were always applying more fire to the pipe. I imagine it was also a trick to blow a smoke ring or some other accomplishment.

There were a number of **advertisers** in the July 4th Program including: **Haft Acres** (Saddle Colts and Pleasure Horses – Mr. & Mrs. Al Haft, 6767 National Highway); **Esta M. Lunn** (We congratulate Reynoldsburg for the improvements in the last one hundred years. Having struggled thru all the past hardships we are up to date with modern “better living”); **Evans Bros.** (Poultry and Sausage, We sell the best, Phone 53, Reynoldsburg); **E.E. Connell** (General Hardware, John Deere Farm Implements, Minnesota Paints and Varnishes, delivery service, Phone 35); **Bryant Slack** (Local Linco Dealer, Linco Gasoline, Marathon Motor Oil, complete lubrication, tire and battery service, Phone 20); **Carl Whitmer** (Barber, Agency, Acme Laundry); **Glen Rest** (Mr. & Mrs. Harold A. Temple, superintendent and hostess); **Raymer’s Garage** (Anywhere, Anytime, We service all makes of automobiles, Reynoldsburg’s most modern equipped shop with 24 hour road service, Shop Phone 6, Home Phone 39); **Moody and Straley Funeral Home** (Reynoldsburg and Bexley, Ambulance service, E.R. Cheatwood, Licensed Embalmer and Funeral Director, manager, Reynoldsburg branch); and many more advertisers.

We only have 19 years to plan for Reynoldsburg’s 200th anniversary. I guess our events will include cell phone tricks, computerized car decorating, and hover boarding.

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2020 CALENDAR

JULY 2020

- 14 – TUE – Board Meeting **CANCELLED**
- 18 – SAT – Open House & Yard Sale
9:00am - 3:00pm **CANCELLED**
- 22 – WED – City BBQ Fundraiser

AUGUST 2020

The Tomato Festival is CANCELLED

- 11– TUE – Board Meeting **TENTATIVE**
7:00pm
- 15 – SAT – Open House 10am-2pm
- 19 – WED – Pizza Cottage Fundraiser

SEPTEMBER 2020

Publish September Courier

- 15 – TUE – Board & General Meeting
Combined, 6:30pm Family
Indoor Picnic & Guest Speaker
- 19 – SAT – Open House 10:00am-
2:00pm Artisan Exhibit
- 23 – WED – Max & Erma's Fundraiser

OCTOBER 2020

- 01 – THU – Board Game & Card Party at
the Reynoldsburg Senior Center
5:30pm to 8:00pm



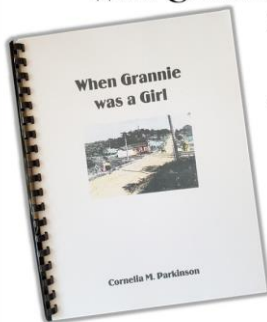
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- **Vice President** – Dick Barth
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- Publicity Chairman:** Mary Turner Stoots
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When Grannie was a Girl

by Cornelia M. Parkinson



This 59-page book has card stock front and back covers. It is spiral-bound 8-1/2" x 11"

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When Grannie was a Girl was originally written by Connie for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Since it's full of stories we can relate to, she has decided to share it with us!

If you would like a copy, feel free to call Mary Stoots at (614) 560-4987 or send an email to RTHSCourier@aol.com

OR - you can write a check payable to "RTHS" and put the name of the book in the memo line, then mail it to: P.O. Box 144, Rey, OH 43068

TWO ROSE HILL STOCK FARMS

BY CORNELIA M. PARKINSON



RTHS president Mary Stoots has had questions about the Rose Hill Stock Farm: where was it, when was it, and all that. We



**The Hickman
Home on Rose Hill**

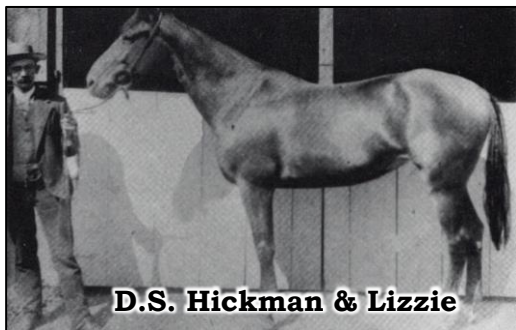
don't have exact times for the first, except that it flourished before 1895.

The first, Rose Hill Stock Farm, was a father-son partnership of two men named Daniel Seymour Hickman. There were several of that name in a row, but birth-death dates that a family member gave me don't fit the father. The son was born 1858, died 1892. The second, Rose Hill Farm, was owned by Henry Clay Smith 1882-1963. We'll go at them chronologically.

Rose Hill Stock Farm was located on 112½ acres at the top of Truro Township, except for the 50 acres owned by P. Fultz that ran along the township's north edge. An 1872 map shows buildings on both sides of

Blacklick Creek, which divided Hickman's acreage. Possibly the barns and the house of the parents were nearer Rose Hill Road, and the smaller building shown at the far northeast end of the field was the house of the son. Historian Fay May told that father and son were "very close."

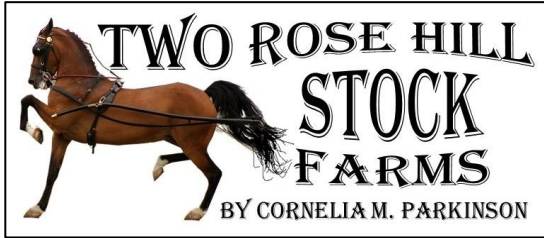
The Hickmans were horse men: they bred, trained, raced, and sold "High-Bred Trotters, Pacers, and Roadsters and young stock . . ." The difference among horse gaits is in the way the horse places his hooves and legs when in motion. A trotting horse, for example, pulls a sulky [a one-person cart, hardly more than a seat, an axle, and two wheels -- plus a connection to the horse] rather than having a jockey sit on a saddle on his back. A "double-gaited"



D.S. Hickman & Lizzie

horse could be both a trotter and a pacer. The running-trot gait of a Tennessee Walking Horse must be seen to be believed.

In their time, the Hickmans increased the importance of the trotting industry, not



**TWO ROSE HILL
STOCK
FARMS**
BY CORNELIA M. PARKINSON

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only in Ohio, for they sold fine swift Hambletonian-Wilkes stallions, besides others, to breeders in several states.



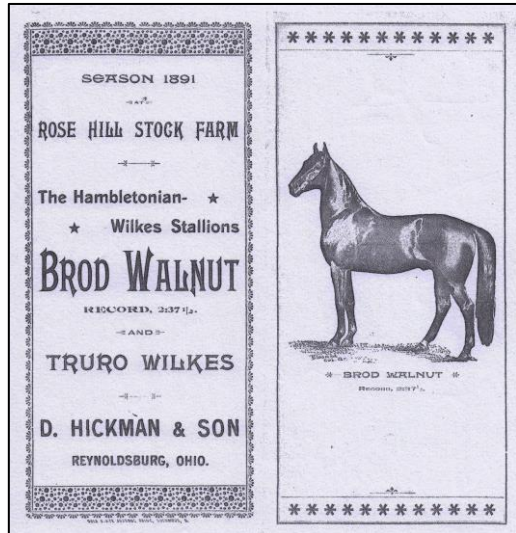
Daniel Hickman Jr. & Patch

Something else they did might have been a new idea at the time: they made available 7" X 14" double-folded printed brochures, professionally written and illustrated with photos, detailing the fine points of their horses and their stud services. (As an advertised Condition of the stud service they required that they be able to "hobble" the mare-- fasten her legs together so she couldn't walk away if she got tired of the situation. Hopples were universally used as needed to keep other farm animals from straying.) Some brochures gave breeding records several generations back. It is hard to estimate today how broad their operation was, but it was large, and its *intelligence* was admirable. These men knew what they were doing. They did it well.

Wilkes's blood was famous in the horse world. One of the earliest of that name was George Wilkes, a stallion who sired 68 colts in the 2:30 class (including the Hickmans' consistent blue-ribbon winner Truro Wilkes), and more. These all carried the Wilkes surname included Red Wilkes, Star

Wilkes, Hinder, Zany, Victor, and Gambetta Wilkes. These were listed in the 1889 Horse Breeder's Directory, a national publication of nearly 200 pages - in which the Hickmans advertised their horses.

Brod Walnut, one of the Hickmans' finest studs, was bred by M. J. Ridgway, Door Prairie Stock Farm, La Porte, IN, foaled in May 1884. A mahogany bay 15¾ hands high and weighing 1100 pounds, he was a "pure-gaited natural trotter... a horse of great style and beauty. . . and superior breeding," and not to be outclassed in harness. He won three racing first premiums in succession at the Ohio State Fair in the roadster stallion class. In 1890



he ran first, leaving 13 competitors eating his dust. In a season advertised, his oldest colts were nearly three years old. "Only five of his get were handled for speed last year," the timing being from 2.32½ (two-year old

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TWO ROSE HILL STOCK FARMS

BY CORNELIA M. PARKINSON

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Fannie Rush) to 2.54, with the fifth (Tinker) poking along at 3.12. In the 1887 season, Brod Walnut was offered at stud for \$20 and limited to 20 mares, the season to close July 1.

A subsequent season for Brod Walnut was open March 1 to June 1, to serve only thirty mares. In 1891 his fee to "insure a mare in foal" was \$30,

payable the following year. Stud fees could run as high as \$500 at the time; and some breeders required spot cash, but with return privileges should the mare not catch.

Another of the Hickmans' acquisitions was Truro Wilkes, bred by Patrick Dolan in Lexington, KY, foaled in 1888, who had "grand proportions and exceptionally fine carriage...nice bay in color, star (forehead), two white ankles behind. . . a full, expressive eye... powerful back and loin... great length from point of hip to hock, showing immense leverage... level-headed ... fine style of movement ... perfectly balanced trotting action. As a two-year-old, after a heavy season at stud, he showed a trial of 3.04 ... Wilkes gaited, bold and resolute ..." A horse you'd want to take home to Mother.

Truro Wilkes's sire was Wilton, a trotter,

whose "service fee in 1891 will be \$500. And his book of fifty mares is already full."

After the breeding season [three to four springtime months] came the racing season. Too long or heavy a breeding season might slow a stallion's track speed; so the number of mares a particular stallion would serve was advertised and careful records were kept. "Every second that a stallion is able to reduce in his record, and every colt that makes a fast record himself, adds dollars in value to all the rest of his get, whether or not they are ever developed."

Fannie Rush, a brood mare/pacer owned by blacksmith Wilson Rush, was the most noted of Brod Walnut's get. Broken and driven by the younger



Daniel, she was remarkable on the track. A newspaper clipping boasted, "She is considered the best two-year-old ever bred and raised in central Ohio." Rush sold her for \$1100- "big money for a two-year-old," said Fay May- to G.D. Stuart in Kalamazoo.

Fay also said that Wilson's brother-in-law, local pharmacist Ira Oldham, took her to Stuart by rail. There in Michigan the mystery began: overnight, Fannie Rush simply vanished. Was her named changed? Or did she meet some other fate? If anyone ever found out, they kept mum.

The son Daniel Hickman married Sarah Catherine "Sallie" Ashton, daughter of Joseph. They had two children: Erma and Joseph Nelson. On a June day, Daniel was on a sulky training Dr. Walnut, "a handsome spirited yearling," one of Brod Walnut's get. Dr. Walnut was owned by Dr. Valsalva Anton Valentine, who had a stable

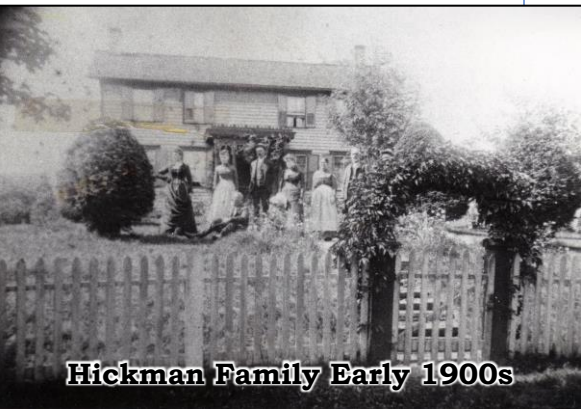
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of eight brood mares he bred to Brod Walnut exclusively, and a pasture full of young stock. On the track ahead were two buckets that had been left there by persons picking stones up off the track. Daniel stopped, perfectly confident of the colt, holding the lines as he alighted from the sulky. But instead of picking up the buckets - maybe annoyed that the buckets had been carelessly left there -- Daniel kicked one. The clatter frightened the colt, and he started to run. Daniel's leg caught in the sulky wheel. He dropped the reins and tried to hold the wheel. The colt ran for the barnyard, but Daniel's leg was nearly tom off at the knee when the wheel struck the gatepost.

Over two days, Daniel blamed only himself, begging Dr. Valentine to keep and train the colt. Daniel's injuries were so severe that maybe even current medicine could not have saved him. In the end nothing could be done.



Hickman Family Early 1900s

Afterward, Valentine could hardly look at the colt, and finally sold him.

Many held affection for and greatly mourned Daniel Hickman. He was said to

have such a happy disposition that he made others happy just to encounter him. So many came to his funeral that scarcely half could get inside the old M.E. church. He was variously described: "calm and even-tempered; family man; church man; a reasonable individual; a noble and well spent life; he was afraid of no one and no one was afraid of him." In a period when nearly all men belonged to more than one lodge, Daniel belonged only to the



P.O.S. of A., Camp 71, Reynoldsburg. (??)

His extensive eulogy was delivered by Dr. J.B. Dysart, a school classmate, who said that his friend had "a sterling character that

added dignity and honor to all his undertakings." It was also said that "the unity and reciprocity existing between him and his father were phenomenal. They seemed each to live in the other." With Daniel's death, the heart went out of his father. In the last record that I was lent, Daniel Sr. intended to have his stock appraised, and to sell it all.

Joseph Thomas Ashton, the father of Daniel's widow, Sallie, died in August 1904. Exactly a year later, Sallie and her children went to live with her mother, Hannah *(continued on Page 10)*

TWO ROSE HILL STOCK FARMS



BY CORNELIA M. PARKINSON

Catherine (nee Vernon). Hannah died in October of the following year. Sallie lived out her life there; and so did her son Nelson. Her grandson Seymoure (RHS 1941) served in the military, got out, married and had children, and lived a long life.

This account is more personal, for members of the family were our neighbors.

There was a second stock farm on the same road. For 20 years it was owned and operated by Henry Clay "Hen" Smith. He called it Rose Hill Farm.

In a more rural period, father-son farms were common. The son(s) expected to carry on the farm -- it was what you *did* then. Henry's father, Owen, was a horse trader. Henry helped; but

he never really cared much for horses or their habits. Early on, he decided to sell cattle instead; and he did that all his career, as well as owning farms other men ran for him. Henry became partners with Charley Nessley, buying cattle and selling them all over the area, but not breeding.

The early days of cattle trading were not like the present. A farmer kept cows to milk, sometimes having one or two to sell. So one at a time, Henry bought cows and pastured them in his own fields. He and his wife Ada milked them all twice a day. When there were enough to make up a drove, Henry and daughters Evelyn (Brown) and Mildred

(Shively) would leave their warm beds at 2:30 in the morning, and walk to the various fields where the cattle were, to pick them up to join the drove. [This was before the days of trucks, so everybody including the cattle had to walk the entire way. They droved the cattle to a holding lot in Pataskala, then walked back home. Their farm was south of Pickerington.] Henry might stop to talk with a farmer, so the girls -- neither one ten yet -- would be on their own with a bunch of unfamiliar cows until Dad caught up.

After nearly ten years in Pickerington, in 1920 Henry announced, "We're moving to Reynoldsburg." Henry and Ada bought Wilson Rush's vine-covered stone house at Rich Street and North Lancaster Avenue. They were to live on the property to the

ends of their lives. Henry rented a field on North Lancaster. He was still selling cattle year round; they were still milking twice a day. He bought cows at \$100-200 each, to be shipped to

Pennsylvania dairy herds, where their milk was made into cheese. In the late 1920s Henry bought a big house and land from Homer Parkinson, heir of Edward and Daniel Parkinson. [In their lives Ed and Dan owned land from Rose Hill Road east past North Lancaster Avenue.]

The northeast corner of the land Henry bought was at present Rose Hill Road and Prior Place. [A man named Prior bought nearby land in the 1940s.] Henry called this Rose Hill Farm. His son Marvin and family came to live in the house. Henry built a big barn to shelter his cattle for sale. The field was large enough to pasture them. Marvin was, for a while, a partner in the business,

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Dairy Cows at Private Sale

ROSE HILL FARM

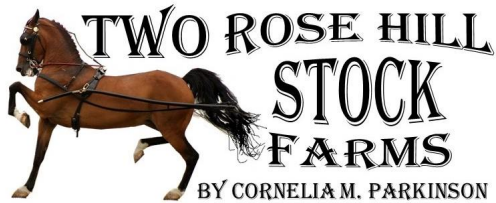
(8 miles east of Columbus, on U. S. Route No. 40, then north ¼ mile on Rose Hill Road, on Saturday of each week or by appointment.)

Holsteins, Guernseys and Jerseys Fresh and Close Springers on hand at all times. T.-B. Tested and Bang Test if requested. (Replacement Cows for Bang Tested Herds). Cows sold to you for what they are at market price.

HENRY C. SMITH
Phone 30

MARVIN L. SMITH
Phone 44 F-5

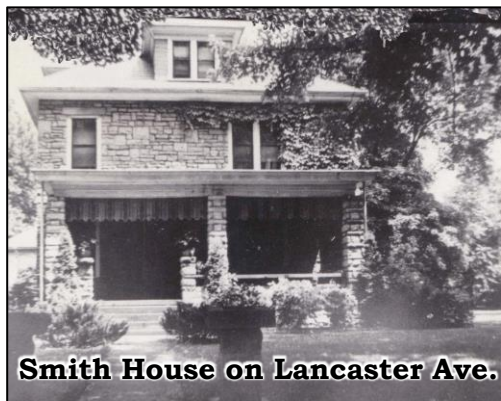
REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO



but didn't care any more for cattle than his father had for horses, so he went into insurance in Pickerington.

Henry, a Scottish Rite Mason, was awarded a 50-year pin. In 1930 and 1931 he was The Burg's mayor. During his terms, there was a five-member recreation board; a bridge was built over Blacklick Creek; and traffic lights were on 8:00 to 8:00.

In 1940 Henry began to get out of the cattle business, and by 1945 "Smith's Cow Market" on Rose Hill Farm had ceased altogether.



Smith House on Lancaster Ave.

Marvin died in 1957. Henry died in 1963, age 81 His grandson Jack [Marvin's son, also an insurance agent] and *his* family lived there on Rose Hill Road until Jack died, and the house and land were sold.

The stock farms are long gone. Both houses still stand: the 113-year-old one facing North Lancaster Street, and the 170-year-old one far back of the lawn on Rose Hill Road.

THE COURIER

July 2020 Issue

**Reynoldsburg-Truro
Historical Society**

Mailing Address:

PO Box 144

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Street Address (NO MAIL):

1485 Jackson Street

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Museum Phone: 614-902-2831

Courier Editor: Mary Turner Stoots

Courier Editor Phone: 614-560-4987

Courier Email: RTHSCourier@aol.com

Photos & Illustrations Provided by:

Suzy Millar Miller, Connie Parkinson,
Mary Turner Stoots, Colin Sutphin,

Contributors:

Suzy Millar Miller, Connie Parkinson,
Mary Turner Stoots, Colin Sutphin,
Carolyn Ashton Hill, Martha Ashton
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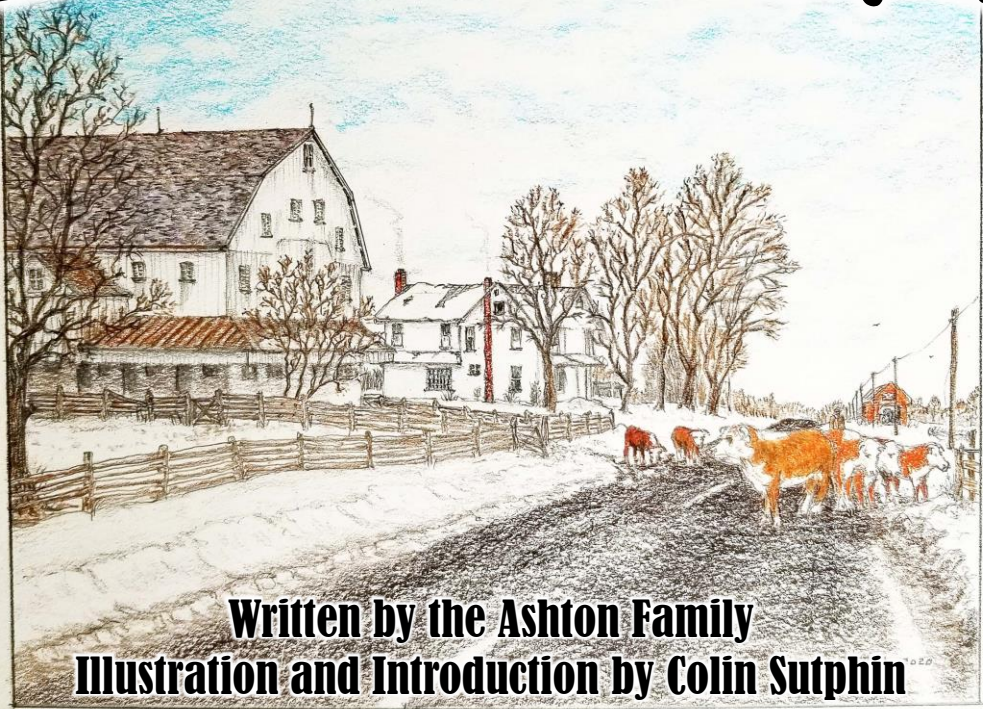
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Make Check Payable to RTHS and mail to: RTHS, Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Invite your friends to join!

The Old Ashton Farm ~ A Reynoldsburg Vignette



Written by the Ashton Family
Illustration and Introduction by Colin Sutphin

The Sutphin family moved to the Burg in June 1958. Exploring our new town I remember seeing a large farmhouse and huge barn just south of Livingston Ave. on Rt.256, Reynoldsburg-Baltimore Rd. It was on the right side just over the Fairfield County line.

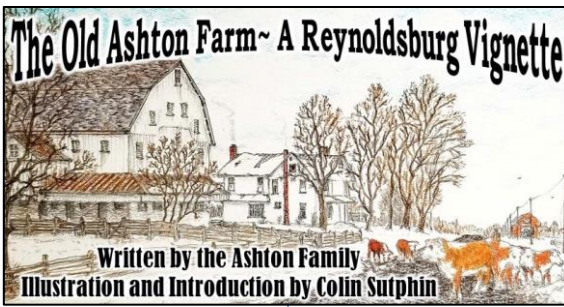
That fall, attending high school, I learned that our principal, Hannah J. Ashton, lived there. For years I called it Hannah's farm, not knowing its long history.

In a recent search for information about the Ashton farm, I received a very nice story from Joseph Ashton's children. In their writing they describe the farm's history and family along with the day-to-day operations. Also included are their personal childhood memories. Joe's children grew up on Livingston Ave. just a short distance from the farm.

I think you will enjoy the article.

William Vernon Ashton had the house built in 1898 and the barn around 1904. He married Birdie Alice Green in Feb. 1901. Hannah and Joseph (twins) came along in November that year. In 1909, William Vernon Jr. (Pete) was born. Hannah, Joe, and Pete attended Reynoldsburg school, walking the mile and a half round trip each day.

When their father bought an automobile in 1915, the children may have ridden to school. Father passed away in 1917, leaving Joe no choice but to drop out of school and farm full time. He did return later to finish his high school education. Birdie died in 1945, leaving Hannah the farm. The house and barn were torn down in 1966 to make way for the new interchange at Rt.256 and I-70.



Hannah's house leaves us with great memories. Family, teachers, and students from Reynoldsburg High School would visit frequently. Coming through the front door, which the family never used, you entered a vestibule. The entry was always cold in the winter but was an excellent place for Hannah to store the cookies and candies she made during the holidays. There was a large parlor and staircase with a banister that was so much fun to slide down. Hannah always decorated it at Christmas. The living room next to the parlor had a large fireplace. A large dining room off the parlor also had a fireplace. Then, the sitting room, today's family room. The warmest room in the winter was the big kitchen with the wood-burning stove. We spent most of our time there.

The family spent all holidays at Hannah's. More than 30 people would gather there for Memorial Day. We would pick flowers and arrange bouquets in Mason jars or tin cans. It looked like a parade going to the cemeteries to place the flowers on our ancestors' graves. In the afternoon, the young cousins would play tag football. Dinner, adults ate in the formal dining room, young folks ruled the kitchen eating area. Thanksgiving and Christmas brought a smaller group, but we had our football game.

Another pastime was hunting arrowheads after the fields were plowed for spring planting. Hannah had a collection of arrowheads and Native American stone tools gathered from the farm.

Spring and fall presented a challenge, moving the Hereford cattle from one farm to the other. We herded them east on Rt. 204, with family following on foot. Funny, the cattle seemed to know they were going to the other farm on Milnor Rd. All the farmers along Rt. 204 would come out to help herd the cattle past their farms. Spending the spring and summer grazing on lush green pasture, the cattle would be returned to the farm on Rt. 256 in the fall. Hay and grain were their feed in the colder months.

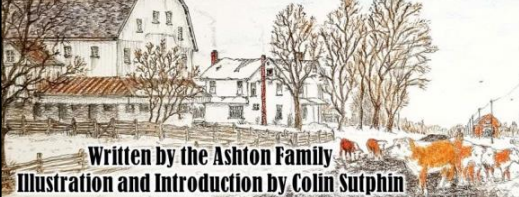
In late summer we would take a pail and head for the pasture across from the house to pick Blackberries. They were the biggest berries and made the best cobbler or pie. And, of course, someone always got poison ivy.

Then there was the time the cows got out. Hannah was alone and trying her best to get the animals back to the barn. She yelled for Tip, her Border Collie, who heard Hannah from inside the house. The dog jumped through the large sitting room window coming to her aid. With Tip's herding instincts the cows were soon rounded up.

Thank you, Joe, Martha, Carolyn, and John for this story. I'm sure the times that you shared at Hannah's Farm bring back fond memories. I for one enjoyed learning more about Reynoldsburg's history.

In my color pencil drawing the scene is late winter sometime in the 1950s. Snow had
(continued to page 14)

The Old Ashton Farm~ A Reynoldsburg Vignette



Written by the Ashton Family
Illustration and Introduction by Colin Sutphin

(continued from page 13)
fallen a few days earlier. The Ashtons had a stove and fireplace going that day, and were out moving a few of the Herefords.

If you want to see the exact location of the Ashton Farm today.. Drive north on Rt.256 from I-70, and if you get caught by the red light at Farmsbury Dr. just look out your windshield to the left. That is where the cattle were crossing the road so many years ago.

I hope you enjoyed this trip back in time.

Colin Sutphin

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*** All proceeds benefit the Reynoldsburg Truro Historical Society, which is self supporting and receives no funding from the City of Reynoldsburg**