



## The Dysart & Henderlick Tile Company

by Suzy Millar Miller

*Originally published in the May 2011 Courier~*

I received an e-mail from Barb Tomich requesting information about the Dysart Tile Company. Her great-great grandfather and grandmother were Hiram Dysart and Rebecca Dunlap. They had two sons: William D. and James B., who was a prominent doctor in the area. They also had a daughter named Elizabeth. Here is a little



of what I found out about the Dysarts, the tile company, and a few other pieces of history. On January 21, 1846, James C. Reynolds, the namesake of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, bought land from John Dysart. Reynolds was apparently planning to build another mill. Dysart sold the land, water and privileges to James Reynolds for \$40. The transaction was witnessed by George D. Graham, Justice of the Peace for Franklin County. This fact was noted in

Cornelia (Connie) Parkinson's book, *History of Old Reynoldsburg*, 1981. So, it is clear that the Dysart name is shown in the earliest history of Reynoldsburg.

In Connie Parkinson's book, *More Historical Tales of Old Reynoldsburg*, was a written account of "The Old Tile Mill." The original story had been written by Fay May in *Boots and Saddles* on April 21, 1938. The tale of:

"A century ago, between the ballpark (on Graham Road) and the Academy (presently Hannah Ashton Middle School,) was one of the Burg's busiest spots. Here stood the tile mill and brickyard. At the north end were the grinder and mixer. These were used to temper the clay that made the tile and brick for Hiram Dysart and Solomon Henderlick. The firm was established in 1874.



On the east were great kilns and a drying shed about 125 feet long. There was a hand-car railroad track running down the (continued on page 02)

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*(continued from page 01)*

center aisle. Here, the “green” tiles were cured before being placed in the kiln to burn and harden. The kilns were fired with four-foot cordwood, and once started, the fires were kept burning steadily several days and nights.



One of the secrets of good tile was an even temperature of heat throughout the burning. The day of opening the kiln was exciting, for then you saw if the tiles came out firsts or seconds. A lot of money was involved with every full kiln. During the firing season many a party was held, with the neighbors’ chickens as featured entrees.

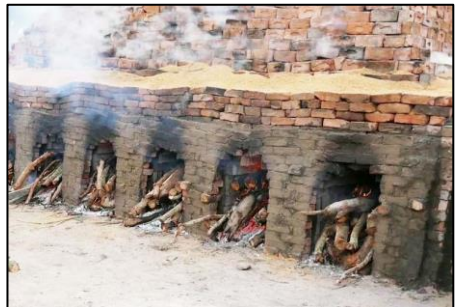
Tile was in demand, as the land in this area was wet and needed draining. Even the higher ground in Highland Terrace had a line of tile down through it to the creek. Then the company began to make brick as well. The Mason Block at South Lancaster and Main was built of Dysart and Henderlick brick. It was their first large order. (Note: the brick had a dark exterior; the building was two stories tall with a basement.)

The bricks were hand made in a wooden mold, six to a mold. The mold was turned upside down, and the bricks were dumped onto a thin layer of straw to cure before being baked or “burned” as it was called. Great care was taken to maintain the bricks in the shape of the mold.

A man’s job was to make 5,000 bricks per day. The top man got \$2.00 a day, lesser ones down to \$1.25.

After the tile and brick were done here, Henderlick went to Brice, where he opened the same type of business. The Burg’s plant was turned into a sawmill.”

In David Graham’s History of Reynoldsburg, 1885, there was also some information about the tile factory.



“There is here a large tile factory, where hundreds of dollars worth are

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sold every year. Also in connection with it is a steam sawmill, run by the same steam engine that saws a very considerable amount of lumber. They sometimes fill a bill for a small number of brick to build houses and chimneys. (Dysart and Henderlick Tile Co.)”

Hiram Dysart was also president of the Silent Home Company which purchased a lot on the south side of the corporation. This was set aside for a graveyard, Silent Home Cemetery. The grandfather of Clark Oldham, James A. Oldham, was one of the men who laid out the land in 1880. James originally paid \$10 for six burial plots. Silent Home Cemetery is also known as Truro Township Cemetery. To see a listing of more than 3,300 burials at Silent Home go to:

[http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohio/cemetery\\_misc/ohio/franklin/silent.htm](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohio/cemetery_misc/ohio/franklin/silent.htm)

### From the *News Gazette*, Reynoldsburg, December 24, 1908

- Miss Lulu Ashton, teacher of Latin and German in Ironton schools, is spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Ashton, in Delaware at Ohio Wesleyan University.
- Some fine gifts remaining in stock will be sold at reduced prices to close out. W.S. Johnson, Jeweler.

From the April 1995 Courier 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition



Lulu

## THE COURIER

March 2021 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  
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Suzy Millar Miller, Connie Parkinson,  
Mary Turner Stoots

**Contributors:**

Suzy Millar Miller, Connie Parkinson,  
Mary Turner Stoots,



### New Members!

Thaah Young – individual  
Joseph Bauman – Individual

Take your family out to dinner and benefit the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society!

**Max & Erma's**  
8050 East Broad Street  
(In front of Meijer & Target)

**WHEN?**  
Wednesday, March 24th  
All Day Long!  
11am to 9pm

**TAKE THIS FLYER WITH YOU!**  
All flyers must be turned in to the server at the time of purchase for the donation amount to count towards the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society. Flyers may be turned in and counted towards **dine-in or CARRY-OUT purchases.** Gift card and alcohol purchases do not count towards any donation amount.

Join the Fun!  
**FUNdraiser**  
Max & Erma's  
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11am to 9pm at 8050 East Broad Street  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068  
614-367-0750



**RTHS 2021 OFFICERS**

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- **Vice President** – Dick Barth (614) 866-0142
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# Local Members!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 24!

We are having a Max & Erma's fundraiser! Purchases apply for **Dine-in AND Carry-out orders.**

11:00am-9:00pm

You can also download a flyer at our website under "Calendar & Events" [www.RTHS.info](http://www.RTHS.info)

# Sunshine Committee



**Do you know someone who needs some Sunshine?**

Contact Wendy Raftery if you are aware of an RTHS member who could use a Get Well, Thinking of You, Sympathy, or any other type of card for some added sunshine in their life ...

**(614) 262-2673**

**Please call after 2:00pm**

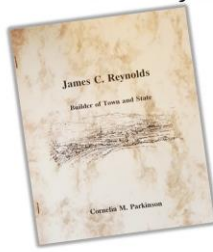
**Write "SUNSHINE" in the subject line of your email: [cdutchman1@aol.com](mailto:cdutchman1@aol.com)**

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- Courier Editor:** Mary Turner Stoots
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- Museum email:** [RTHSCourier@aol.com](mailto:RTHSCourier@aol.com)
- Museum Phone:** (614) 902-2831

## James C. Reynolds Builder of Town and State

by Cornelia M. Parkinson



This 17-page book has card stock front and back covers 8 1/2" x 11"

**Only \$21.00**

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\*A Free Membership will be given to Non-Members through 12/31/2021 for the purchase of a book, which includes Bi-Monthly issues of the Courier Newsletter to be delivered by email ONLY (no hard copies)

**NON-MEMBERS  
GET A FREE  
MEMBERSHIP\*  
THROUGH  
12/31/2021**

by Mary Turner Stoots and Suzy Millar Miller

Mary Turner Stoots and Suzy Millar Miller co-authored a new book published for the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society (RTHS). The title is “Reynoldsburg High School 1899 to 1970.”

Our Board of Directors has decided to offer a free gift 1-year membership to non-members who buy this book. Plus, they will receive six issues of our bi-monthly newsletter (via email only).

If you are from this town or have relatives from this town, chances are that they are pictured here. It’s a valuable resource for genealogy research. And it’s not only family. Do you realize how many of our teachers graduated from Reynoldsburg?

The book is spiral bound, around 100 pages, and includes:

- chronology of the Reynoldsburg school system from 1833 to 1980
- a story about the acquisition of the class composites
- a compilation of 62 class pictures from 1899 to 1970
- indexing of every graduate by the year of graduation from 1871 to 1970

■ An alphabetical index by the name of each graduate from 1871 to 1970

The book contains high quality photos of every class composite we have at the RTHS Museum from 1899 through 1970. It is available to purchase at the cost of \$35 for RTHS Members or \$37 for Non-Members plus \$5 to cover the cost of post-

age and a padded envelope. The sales tax is already configured into the price. If you are interested, you can send a check in the amount of \$40 for Members or \$42 for Non-Members to RTHS at the following:

**Please write “RHS SCHOOL PHOTO BOOK” on the memo line of your check.**

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society  
PO Box 144

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0144

Please include your contact information with your check, including your email account (if you have one) and your phone number for our database.

Due to the size and weight of the book, USPS First Class is not the best option, so we are sending it via “Media Mail.” It may not arrive in a timely manner (2 to 9 business days). If you would like to save \$5.00, we will schedule a pickup time for the local people.

So far, everyone has given us wonderful feedback. It is well worth the price.

~ Mary Turner Stoots, RTHS President  
RTHSCourier@aol.com

# Happiness

We find ourselves situated in a temperate and healthy climate, and on a fruitful soil that yields great rewards to the hands of the industry. In fact, this may be considered one of the most highly favored countries on the face of the globe.

Therefore, we as intelligent beings, if we are not happy, we cannot consistently say that it is some unavoidable outward or external circumstance in which we might have been placed.

It is true there are some afflictions that visit human life, which are impossible for persons to escape, yet it is generally light when compared with the vexations and sorrows that distress the minds of those persons who have brought on their own troubles by their own misconduct.

We are rapidly passing through all the busy scenes of this life, for it is of short duration. Therefore, time we should value as a sacred gift, for our future happiness depends in a great degree on our being qualified to perform all the duties manfully that may devolve upon us through life, and in order to obtain this qualification it is highly necessary that we improve our time well in youth.

Some persons bring trouble on themselves by talking in vain or ill of other persons thereby causing many disturbances and troubles which might be avoided, and many by spending their time and money at the taverns for liquors which is calculated in its very nature to injure a person's system, and impair his health, and bring sickness and distress upon him entirely by his own bad practice.

Our happiness certainly depends almost entirely on our own actions and being convinced of it as we all desire happiness, it is a high duty we owe to ourselves to learn how to be happy in the full sense of the word, in order that we may escape the way that leads to trouble. Before it is too late.

Composed by Eli Noe, January 1852

*This letter is courtesy of RTHS member Barbara Cheney Spangler.*

*Eli Noe, 1829-1904 was Barbara's Great-Grandfather*



**ELI NOE**

Happiness Reynoldsburg, Jan. 1852

We find ourselves situated in a temperate and healthy climate, and on a fruitful soil that yields great rewards to the hands of industry. In fact this may be considered one of the most highly favored Countries on the face of the Globe. Therefore we as intelligent beings, if we are not happy, we cannot consistently say that it is some unavoidable outward or external circumstances in which we might have been placed. It is true there are some afflictions that visits human life, which is impossible for persons to escape, yet it is generally light when compared with the vexations and sorrows that distress the minds of those persons who have brought on their own troubles by their own misconduct. We are rapidly passing through all the busy scenes of this life, for it is of short duration. Therefore time we should value as a sacred gift, for our future happiness depends in a great degree on our being qualified to perform all the duties manfully that may devolve upon us through life, and in order to obtain this qualification it is highly necessary that we improve our time well in youth. Some persons bring trouble on themselves by talking in vain or ill of other persons thereby causing many disturbances and troubles which might be avoided, and many by spending their time and money at the Taverns for liquors which is calculated in its very nature to injure a persons system, and impair his health, and bring sickness and distress upon him entirely by his own bad practice. Our happiness certainly depends almost entirely on our own actions, and being convinced of it as we all desire happiness, it is a high duty we owe to ourselves to learn how to be happy in the full sense of the word, in order that we may escape the way that leads to trouble, before it is too late. (Composed by Eli Voe

# 2021 CALENDAR

## MARCH 2021

16 – TUE – Board & General Meeting  
Combined- 7:00pm **CANCELED**

20 – SAT – Open House, 10am-2pm  
**CANCELED**

24 – WED – Max & Erma's ALL DAY  
Restaurant Fundraiser!

## APRIL 2021

Directory/Roster Published

13 – TUE – Board Meeting, 7pm **TENTATIVE**

17 – SAT – Open House, Helping Hands  
Shower 10am-2pm **TENTATIVE**

20 – TUE – Deadline for May Courier

## MAY 2021

Publish May Courier

11 – TUE – Board Meeting - 7:00pm

15 – SAT – Western Electric Open House,  
10:00am-2:00pm **TENTATIVE**

18 – TUE – Western Electric Open House,  
5:00pm – 8:00pm **TENTATIVE**

31 – MON – Memorial Day Service – 9:30am  
at Seceder Cemetery

Help Support the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

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## COMMUNITY REWARDS

If you haven't already done so, sign up for the Kroger Community Rewards.

Go to [www.Kroger.com](http://www.Kroger.com), scroll to the bottom of the page, and click on *Kroger Community Rewards*.

Then - follow the directions!

It's free, and every time you shop, RTHS will benefit. This is a fundraiser that doesn't require any extra time or effort on your part. Help Support RTHS!



## SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY

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Individual - \$20 Family - \$25 Sustaining - \$30 Contributing - \$50 Life Membership - \$300

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Additional Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable to RTHS and mail to: RTHS, Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068**

**Invite your friends to join!**



# Blacklick Indian Raid

by Cornelia M. Parkinson

From the *History of Reynoldsburg and Truro Township, Ohio*

by Cornelia M. Parkinson

Sometime between 1812 and 1820, at the home of William Armstrong of Blacklick, there was an Indian raid whose consequences were never forgotten. Armstrong had come here from New York and built a log cabin and a mill on Blacklick Creek about a quarter mile from the cabin. One day Armstrong and a son Robert were at the mill when another son came running breathless, saying "Indians are at the cabin!"

While William and Robert Armstrong were at the mill, the Indians had come. Mrs. Armstrong tried to hide in the chimney, but she was killed, and so was the baby. Another son was scalped, but lived long enough to speak to his father before he died. The son who had escaped had been in the loft and tried to shoot at least one Indian, but none of the guns would fire.

When William Armstrong stood over the

bodies of his wife and children, he swore he would avenge their deaths. Then he made another horrifying discovery. His 13-year-old daughter and his two sons, ages eight and six, had been made captives by the Indians.

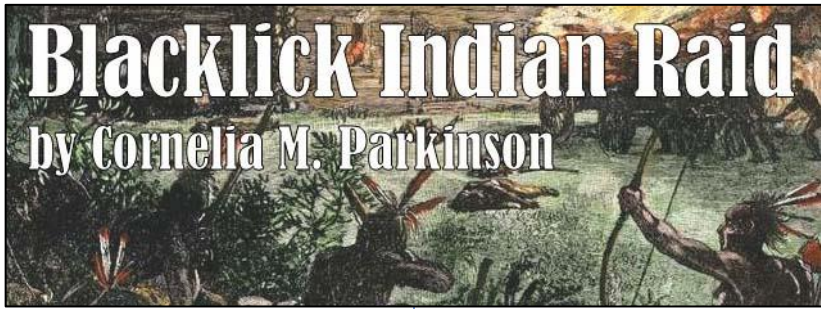
That very night Armstrong set out on a trail that lasted for three years. Often cold and hungry, nevertheless he pursued his children's captors. When going overland he carried his canoe. He paddled many miles, occasionally returning home, then starting out again at any new reports of white children being seen with Indians. His hope never died.

Meantime, the federal government had made the Indians sign a treaty agreeing to give up any white prisoners. Armstrong found his sons in an encampment near Detroit; but they had forgotten him. Dressed like Indians,

*(continued on page 10)*

# Blacklick Indian Raid

by Cornelia M. Parkinson



(continued from page 09) they fought like tigers when he tried to take them with him. William Armstrong used force.

On the return journey, when they were riding in a canoe, the boys escaped, but Armstrong caught them. Then he became critically ill. Worn out by the years of travel, often going for days without food or rest, his strength almost failed him. But the boys did everything they knew to help him. So he returned home with part of his family. A government agent told him his daughter had been given a good home in Canada. She was 16 by then, a woman able to choose for herself, and Armstrong gave her up without ever seeing her again.

The only signs left of Armstrong's cabin, where he and a new wife and additional children lived for many years, are two gateposts. These stand at the entrance lane of the property, on the east side of Blacklick Road about a hundred yards south of the railroad track.

Carved by William Armstrong's son, S.R. Armstrong, the posts show a log cabin like the original and give Armstrong's name.

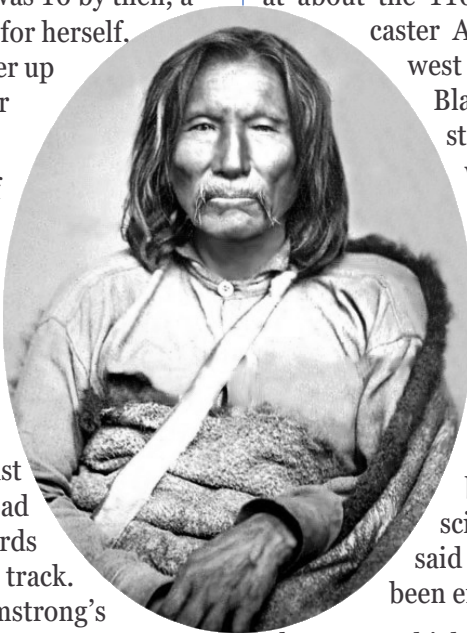
Other signs of Indian habitation have

been found at Blacklick Woods. It was an important archaeological discovery when the remains of several campfire rings were located along Blacklick Creek at the east end of the bicycle and jogging trail. On the site of Blacklick Woods Golf Course, which was farmed by Frank Seitz, Jim Kielmeyer used to find quantities of Indian projectile points.

Around Reynoldsburg there were several ceremonial burial mounds, as well as fortifications. One mound was at Burkey Avenue and Graham Road. Another was at about the 1100 block of North Lancaster Avenue. A third was just west of the bridge across Blacklick Creek on Livingston Avenue. A fourth was on a farm about 2½ miles north of town on Waggoner Road. A fifth was on the farm of Dr. Walter Havens, west of Reynoldsburg a little; and there was found a human leg bone so large that the scientists who examined it said that the man must have been eight feet tall.

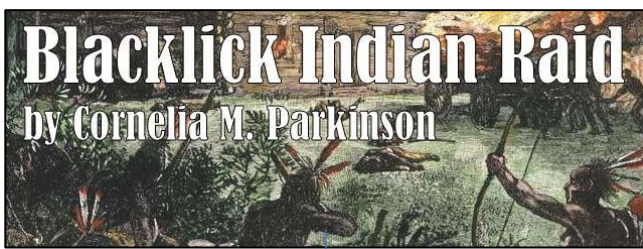
There was a high mound at the corner of Main Street and Noe-Bixby Road (the so-called Davis Mound) and another a mile north, the Greenbrier Mound.

(continued on page 11)



# Blacklick Indian Raid

by Cornelia M. Parkinson



An Ohio Gazetteer of 1831 made the observation that the earth of which Indian mounds were made was of a different variety from that in the vicinity of the mound, indicating that the earth had been transported some distance for this particular purpose.

Jim Donahey tells how Indian tribes from Southern Ohio used to camp on Blacklick Creek and steal flint. The main party, the squaws and children and the elderly, remained here. A select group of young braves would go about 20 miles to the east, to the flint quarry at Flint Ridge, where they would steal flint for projectile points. This was a highly dangerous procedure, as another tribe "owned" the quarry, and if they caught the thieves, they might torture and kill them.

The braves would have to take the flint in big pieces and walk back to Blacklick Creek with it. They brought back as much as they could carry. Then for several weeks they stayed here, separating the flint with fire. Once they had made their arrowheads, spear points and other projectile points, leaving behind the extra weight of unusable bits of flint, they would return to their own territories.

The story has often been told of the times Indians were "sugaring off" maple sap, at a camp just west of present Cotner Funeral

Home. There were several big bonfires over which were great kettles of boiling sap. Some of the tribe were seated around

the fires, and the others were jumping around in the moonlight, racing each other with wild gesticulations and shrieks of glee, throwing limbs on the fires and having a fine frolic. One Indian, staggering under an overload of white man's firewater, lost his balance and fell into one of the kettles and was scalded to death. He was buried on the spot. His grave was

fenced in with poles which stood there for many years.

About a quarter mile north of present Main Street there once stood a great oak.



This was a favorite of the Indians, who used to like to stay hidden in its branches while they waited for bear or deer to come to drink at the Black Lick. They would then kill the animals to use for food and hides.

For our members who don't get the opportunity to browse through our Museum Gift Shop, we will bring a portion to YOU!



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- **White or Khaki:** S-XL **\$11.00**  
XXL-XXXL **\$13.00**

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by Cornelia M. Parkinson

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