

### You are

## Welcome to Discover Troy, Ohio



Dear Readers,

Welcome to Troy, Ohio, USA! This magazine and its partner website, www. discovertroyoh.com, will give you a view of all things historic in Troy, Ohio. Our community is rich in history, and we in Troy want to preserve our heritage and share the many "treasures" that make up this small midwestern city.

Quality partnerships

are a unique feature within our community that certainly has allowed us to achieve *Ohio Magazine*'s distinction as one of Ohio's Best Hometowns. When it comes to preserving our history, we have formed an alliance of support for the City of Troy. History comes alive through our Museum of Troy History, the Overfield Museum, our WACO Airfield and Museum, the Local History Library, the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology, the Miami Valley Veterans Museum and our active Troy Historical Society. All these entities support each other and give one a total glimpse of Troy, past and present.

Troy continues to grow, but we have not lost sight of our past. We have many historical treasures in the form of our distinctive architecture and characteristic building structures. I encourage you to visit our city website, www.troyohio.gov, and browse through our many links. Better yet, why not personally visit Troy, Ohio, USA and "discover the charm." Bring the family; we have family-friendly activities and programs for all ages!

Enjoy the magazine. Let us show you why we believe "Civic Pride is City Wide." Our history and tradition await you, the reader, and you, the visitor.

With sincere regards,

Michael L. Beamish

Michael L. Beamish.

Mayor of Troy, Ohio, USA



Dear Troy Traveler,

Come with us to find the "treasures" of Troy, Ohio, with our magazine, DISCOVER TROY. We've filled our pages with stories of the historic gems throughout our town. DISCOVER TROY is not just a magazine, it's a map to explore Troy's rich history.

If the magazine isn't enough, drop by the Troy-Miami County Public Library's Local History Library at



100 W. Main St. There you will find stories, history books, maps and photographs to bring to life the people and companies that are part of our heritage. The collection is a joint collection with The Troy Historical Society, which has been gathering materials for over forty years.

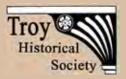
If you haven't time to stop by the library, visit us online. The Troy Historical Alliance website, which has stories, "how to" and "where to" information, is www.discovertroyoh.com. The Troy Historical Society website, which has records and stories from historical sources for Troy and Miami County, is www. thetroyhistoricalsociety.org.

Take a moment to look through this magazine and plan your own journey of discovery: dine at a historic restaurant, stroll through a museum or wander through one of our beautiful parks. Remember, it takes more than one trip to see everything here. Plan a second visit too.

There are lots of reasons to return to Troy; history is only one of them. Explore our wealth of activities. You will make memories that you will treasure forever. Once again, welcome to Troy!

Judy Deeter, Judy Deeter,

President, The Troy Historical Society



## Table of Contents

The Troy Historical Society	4
Local History Library	6
Overfield Tavern Museum	8
Museum of Troy History	12
WACO Historical Society	16
Brukner Nature Center	17
Troy-Hayner Cultural Center	20
Hobart Gallery of Welding History	24
Miami Valley Veterans Museum	28
City Hall and Fire Department	32
Public Square	34
Troy Hall of Fame	36
Hobart Arena	38
Miami County Courthouse	40
Historic Educational Buildings	42
Southwest Historic District	44
Historic Churches	46
Historic Homes	48
Historic Factories and Industry	50
Historic Businesses	52
Historic Art in Troy	54
Historic Community Centers	55
Historic Architecture	56
Historic Markers	58
Troy Events	60
Miami and Erie Canal	62
Great Miami River	64
Miami County Visitors Guide	66
Business Patrons	68
Credits	70
Genealogy Resources	71

"All things historic" forms not only the magazine byline but also a brief explanation of the magazine's content. Find within this magazine 70 pages of information and photographs of local historic places, architecture, art and more throughout Troy, providing a near-complete picture of Troy's history.

Front/back cover photo courtesy of Terrilynn Meece and Stillwater Photographic Studio

Star emblem indicates a listing on the National Register of Historic Places



The home of The Troy Foundation, at 216 W. Franklin St. in Troy, is an excellent example of Georgian Revival architecture and was built in 1921 by Herbert Johnston. An ingenious inventor who gave us the electric coffee mill and the meat chopper, he was president of the Hobart Electric Co. from 1929 to 1938.

Mr. Johnston hired the notable landscape architect firm founded by Fredrick Law Olmsted, designers of New York City's Central Park, to design the lawn and garden areas around the house. In 2005, architects Pretzinger & Musselman refurbished the building after it suffered disrepair and fire.

## The Troy Historical Society

Content contributed by Judy Deeter and The Troy Historical Society

**Mission Statement:** To meet the needs of the general public and our members through the acquisition, preservation, and dissemination of historical and genealogical information, and to promote the study of local history.

The Troy Historical Society was organized in the summer of 1965 by a group of historically-minded individuals who wanted to educate the public about the rich history of Troy, Miami County and the Northwest Territory and to preserve important records related to these areas. A society newsletter dated November 1965, thought to be the group's first newsletter, reads, "There were 28 of us who met the hot night of July 28th in the conference room of the Troy Library to take initial steps to form the Troy Historical Society."

The society created a constitution and became incorporated as a not-for-profit organization through the State of Ohio on September 10, 1965.

Each of the first members brought a specific talent to the society. They combed through historical documents and published books based on old records, wrote history-based newspaper articles, and typed hundreds of pages of records from dusty manuscripts and courthouse records. One member supposedly walked through every cemetery in Miami County to write down tombstone information, and another published information about Troy African-American families. Members recalled and wrote about area events and business places they had known. They also documented important historic sites in Troy and placed markers throughout the town (see pages 58-59). For a time, they operated the Overfield Tavern Museum in Troy. Along the way,

friends of the society donated all kinds of historical items from attics, antique stores and faraway places. Most items are now in downtown Troy, and the society now collects only a limited amount of historical artifacts. Most artifacts are placed in Troy museums.

Many years ago, The Troy Historical Society formed a partnership with the Troy-Miami County Public Library. Together, the two groups have worked to make their historical records available to the public. For years, the collection was housed at the beautiful Troy-Hayner Cultural Center. In the spring of 2002, the Troy-Miami County Public Library purchased the former Fifth-Third Bank building on W. Main

Street in downtown Troy. Following extensive remodeling, the Local History Library containing the joint collection opened in the summer of 2003. The Troy Historical Society also maintains an office in the building.

Throughout the years, society members have left their mark in the creation of tours, exhibits and programs about Troy and Ohio history.

In addition, records that members compiled long ago have been preserved forever in electronic format and are now available to people around the world via the society's website.

The public library and The Troy
Historical Society continue to support
the Local History Library.



Above: Terry Purke, curator of Museum of Troy History and Miami Valley Veterans Museum, and Judy Deeter, president of The Troy Historical Society and Overfield Tavern, discuss a point of history during a local event.

## More About The Troy Historical Society:

#### Location/Contact

100 W. Main St., P.O. Box 401 Troy, OH 45373 937-339-5900 tths@frontier.net

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.
East on State Route 41/Main Street approximately one mile.
Society office is on the corner of Main and Cherry streets.

**Parking** two-hour on-street parking, metered parking available one half-block south

#### Open Hours

Society office hours vary. Local History Library hours: Mon/Wed: 10 a.m.—8 p.m. Tues/Thurs/Fri: 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Sat: 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

#### **Admission**

Free

#### **Online Information**

www.thetroyhistoricalsociety.org Search "The Troy Historical Society of Miami Co, Ohio" on Facebook

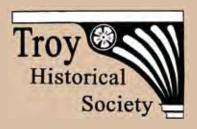








Above: activities of The Troy Historical Society. Top to bottom: Fourth of July parade, community event booth, office research, speaker program.





Above: Barbara Besecker, Local History Library assistant archivist, in historical period clothing during the National Night Out celebrations.



### **Fulton Farms**

2393 S. State Route 202, Troy, OH
937-335-6983 | www.fultonfarms.com
In 1977, Bill and Tom Fulton purchased over 2000
acres from Mark Knoop, making it the largest farm in
Ohio and a far cry from the two acres of strawberries
planted in 1963.

## **Local History Library**

Content contributed by Patrick Kennedy of the Local History Library and by The Troy Historical Society

Mission Statement of Troy-Miami County Public Library: The library promotes full and equal access to information and ideas while encouraging a love of reading, of Local History Library: Where history comes to life every day.

#### Background of the Troy-Miami County Public Library-Local History Library

The first free public library in Troy, Ohio, was organized in 1896 by members of the Alturian Club. At that time, the city council set aside a room in the city building for library use. Soon the collection grew to occupy the entire first floor of the building.

In 1942, the late Mary Jane Hayner bequeathed her home to the Troy

Board of Education to be used as a public library or for other educational or cultural purposes. The library moved there in 1943. In early 1960, the Troy-Miami County Public Library (located in the Hayner mansion at that time) set aside a small space to make its collection of local history material available to the community, and the community responded by donating historical materials to this collection.

In 1965, The Troy Historical Society formed a partnership with the library to organize a place to maintain its research materials.

As the size of the collection grew and the circulation increased, the library began to outgrow the stately Hayner mansion also.

Groundbreaking for a new public library building began November 27, 1974. Materials were moved into the new library on February 14, 1976, and the building was dedicated on May 16.

The Local History Library is a branch of the Troy-Miami County Public Library created for local history and genealogical research.

This historical collection of published books, photographs, manuscripts, records and original

research materials is made available by the Troy-Miami County Public Library and The Troy Historical Society.

The historical collection, which had remained at Hayner when the new library was built, again outgrew its space, and the Troy-Miami County Public Library purchased the former Fifth-Third Bank on W. Main Street in 2002.

After extensive remodeling, the Local History Library moved into this



The Troy-Miami County Public Library-Local History Library collection (located at 100 W. Main St.) was first housed in the city building and then in the Hayner mansion, which served as the Troy-Miami County Public Library from 1943-1976.

## More About the Local History Library:

#### Location/Contact

100 W. Main St. Troy, OH 45373 937-335-4082 pkennedy@tmcpl.org lhl@tmcpl.org

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.
East on State Route 41/Main Street approximately one mile.
Library is on the corner of Main and Cherry streets.

**Parking** two-hour on-street parking, metered parking available one half-block south

#### Open Hours

Mon/Wed: 10 a.m.—8 p.m. Tues/Thurs/Fri: 10 a.m.—4 p.m. Sat: 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

#### **Admission**

Free

#### **Online Information**

www.troypubliclibrary.org/content/ troy-local-history-library

Right:The Local History Library, located at 100 W. Main St., has a resource room and many historical collections. The Local History Library in Troy is one of only two history libraries in the entire state of Ohio.

space in the summer of 2003. Staff and patrons continue to enjoy the extra room and pleasant surroundings the new facility affords. The facility is also conveniently located near many downtown sites, restaurants and the Miami County Courthouse.

The library's collection includes:

- · City and county directories
- Historical county maps and plat books
- High school yearbooks
- Free internet access to ancestry. com and Heritage Quest
- Newspapers on microfilm dating from the 1820s (Miami Union: 1864-1952; Troy, including the Troy Daily News: May 1914-1949; Bradford, Covington and Dayton)
- County birth and death records (1867-1908) and marriage

- records (1807-1968) on microfilm
- Histories on Miami County townships, cities and villages
- Census and microfilm records, including original Miami County Quaker meeting records, manumission records of slaves, Ohio Civil War Roster name index and county court records
- Miami County cemetery inscriptions and locations
- Photographs of Troy and other Miami County sites
- Over 1700 surname genealogy files, manuscripts and books
- Histories and records from other Ohio counties and other states

These historical and genealogical materials will help preserve local history for future generations.





## **Home Comfort Gallery**

105 W. Main St., Troy, OH

937-335-1849 | www.homecomfortgallery.com Originally the Gault House, the building was Troy's leading hotel from 1871 to 1987. The Masons bought the property in 1896 and built the current structure, which was completed in 1908.



## Overfield Tavern Museum

Content contributed by the Overfield Tavern Museum

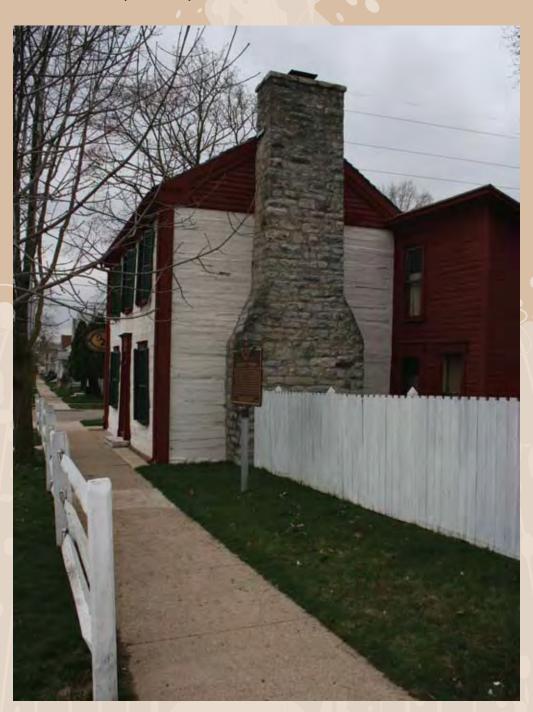
Mission Statement of Overfield Tavern Museum Corporation: To preserve the building and its contents and to provide the community a window into the early life of Troy.

When the frontier town of Troy was laid out in the early 1800s, Benjamin Overfield paid Cornelius Westfall and Fielding Lowry \$95 for Lot #2 at the northeast corner of Water and Mulberry streets. There he built a two-story, Federal-style house of squared oak and beech logs cut from the surrounding forests and chinked with mortar, typical construction of most other houses in town.

Overfield gave Westfall and Lowry a mortgage secured by the land, the house, some livestock and many household items. Completed in 1808, the structure would serve as home for Overfield, his wife and their two children, as well as an inn and tavern for travelers, the license for which he was granted in the same year.

Benjamin Overfield II was born in I774 in Lower Smithfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania. His father had fought with Washington in the Revolutionary War and was believed to have crossed the Delaware with the general that historic night. His mother was of a noble Spanish family that had emigrated to America in the seventeenth century.

While still quite a young man, Benjamin left Pennsylvania for Quebec, where he met and married Margaret Snow around 1800. Heeding the call of the then-western frontier, the Overfields left Canada for the United States and came to Troy three years later. Here they built a log cabin in 1803 on the high ground across the Miami River from Staunton and became



Above: Visit Troy's oldest surviving building, the 1808 Overfield Tavern Museum. It served as a home to the Overfield family as well as an inn and tavern for guests. The second floor served as a temporary courthouse until a courthouse was built in 1811.

the parents of two children, John and Susan.

Never moved, the Overfield Tavern is the oldest surviving building in Troy. The tavern provided food, lodging, space for business and social gatherings, and aid in contacting friends or relatives. Overfield agreed to let the county use a room on the second floor of the building as a temporary courtroom until a courthouse was built in 1811.

In March of 1810, before the start of the War of 1812, Margaret Overfield died. Before 1849, local residents, including Margaret, were buried in a cemetery that was located at the present site of Forest Elementary School at the intersection of Union and Canal streets. The bodies were moved to Rose Hill Cemetery's current site, which was established in 1849 (see \* on page 10).

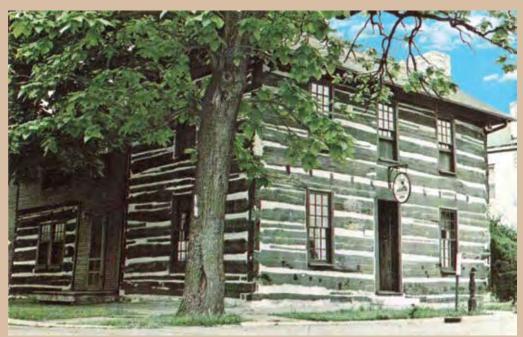
Soon after Margaret's death, Overfield then encountered competition from the first lawyer in Troy, George Tennery, who opened a tavern two months later. However, when Tennery died the following year, his tavern was closed. Logs from Tennery's tavern are currently in storage at Overfield Tavern Museum to be used for repair purposes. Overfield recruited Tennery's widow to become hostess at Overfield Tavern and to care for his children when he was drafted into military service at the outset of the war. He was stationed at Fort Greenville, where in July of that year he met and married Rebecca Sumption.

Mustered out of service, he returned with his new wife to Troy where she succeeded Mrs. Tennery as Overfield Tavern hostess, soon becoming known for her efficiency and hospitality. As the town grew, the tavern prospered, and the mortgage was paid in 1814. Overfield's tavern became the center of Troy's social and civic life.

In 1824, Overfield sold the building to his sister Elizabeth's husband, David

In the early 1800s, Overfield's tavern became the center of Troy's social and civic life.





Above: Restored in 1948 by Edward A. Hobart and William H. Hobart, Sr., the Overfield Tavern at the northeast corner of Water and Mulberry streets was constructed in 1808 by Benjamin Overfield. Court sessions were held there until 1811. Previously owned and maintained by the C.C. Hobart Foundation, the tavern is now operated by the Overfield Tavern Museum Corporation. Many articles of historical interest may be viewed there, and it is furnished with antiques of the period.



Above: Overfield Tavern is registered as an Ohio historic landmark building. This Ohio Historical Marker was dedicated on October 30, 2007. Benjamin Overfield built this log structure in 1808. It housed his family, served as a tavern and provided a place for the court to meet on its second floor. Overfield's tavern was the first building raised in the newly-platted county seat of Troy and is open to the public today.

### **Overfield Tavern Museum Continued**

Overfield continued from page 9

Daily, for \$200, rented a two-story frame building on the northwest corner of Market Street and the public square, and moved his tavern to this location, closer to the new county courthouse and the commercial center of town. A short time later, fire destroyed the entire block. Fortunately, Overfield was able to save the tavern's furnishings, which he moved to a building he rented at the northwest corner of Main and Cherry streets. He named this establishment the Cross Keys Tavern, which he operated until his death on July 20, 1831, at the age of 57 years.

\*Benjamin Overfield's final resting place is Rose Hill Cemetery in Troy. The military marker at his grave acknowledges his service in the War of 1812 as Private, 2nd Regiment, Ohio Militia. Sixteen years later, his son John would be buried alongside him.

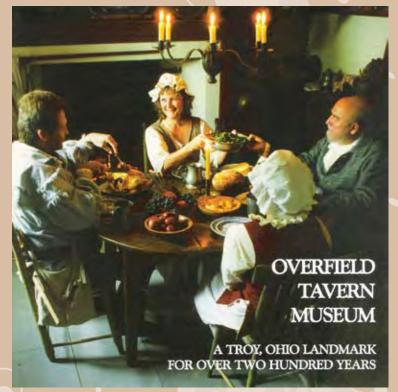
As administrator of her husband's estate, Rebecca sold the tavern equipment and bought back the original tavern building from the Dailys.

Arrival of the Miami and Erie Canal in Troy in the 1830s sparked further growth and prosperity, linking Troy with the Ohio River to the south and Lake Erie to the north.

As the years passed, many of the city's original buildings were torn down and replaced by sturdier brick, stone or frame construction, but Overfield's two-story log building survived. It was continuously occupied as a residence until the middle of the 20th century.

In 1948, investigation revealed that beneath its 19th-century siding were massive square-hewn logs that marked Overfield Tavern as a notable historic building that merited preservation.

Civic-minded brothers Edward A. and



Left:This book, Overfield Tavern Museum, tells the story of Benjamin Overfield and the oldest building in Troy, his tavern. Contact the museum for more information or to obtain your own copy. Below: Guests were welcomed in this entrance hall of Overfield Tavern. A guest hung his hat and coat here before signing his name in the register and receiving a lantern to find his way to an upstairs room.



William H. Hobart, Sr., who owned the building, arranged for its restoration and furnishing and established the

Overfield Tavern Museum. In 1960, an early childhood education program was started in

Troy by Julia Hobart. Her husband is William H. Hobart, Jr., whose father and uncle had saved and sponsored the renovation of Overfield Tavern. Julia's husband offered her rooms in the tavern/museum for what would be named the Overfield Nursery School. This program is now housed in the former home of Edward A. and Martha Hobart on Ridge Avenue (see page 48).

Today, Overfield Tavern Museum is furnished with authentic early 19th-century furniture, tableware and utensils, gifts from The Troy Historical Society and from local individuals and families. Visitors can thus easily imagine experiencing the tavern as its early 19th-century guests and proprietor Benjamin Overfield might have experienced it.

After the extensive renovations of 1996 and the generous contributions

of many furnishings and artifacts, Overfield Tavern was reopened to the public.

#### **Overfield Tavern Museum** Annex

Located across the street from the museum at 121 E.Water St. is the later-acquired Overfield Tavern Museum Annex. The annex includes the museum gallery, learning center, library and museum office. The gallery is a space for art, exhibits, social functions, and educational activities related to the preservation of Troy, Miami County and early Ohio history.

Begin here, where the community of Troy's history started, and continue to discover the City of Troy by visiting the many other places of historic importance.

# Location/Contact

201 E.Water St. Troy, OH 45373 937-335-4019 info@overfieldtavernmuseum.com

More About Overfield

**Tavern Museum:** 

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.

East on State Route 41/Main Street. North on Mulberry Street one block.

Museum is on the northeast corner of Mulberry and Water streets.

Parking: on-street parking

#### Open Hours

April-October, Sat-Sun: I-4 p.m. and by appointment School, family or group tours are best scheduled during the week or before open hours on the weekend.

Admission Donations accepted

#### Online Information

www.overfieldtavernmuseum.com Search "The Overfield Tavern Museum" on Facebook

#### Or contact the **Local History Library**

See pages 6-7

Left:The Overfield Tavern Museum Annex was built in 1854 by Thomas R. Orr.





Search "Have History Will Travel" on Facebook

## **Have History Will Travel**

Terry and Karen Purke, Troy, OH 937-216-6955

Have History Will Travel provides history programs that travel to schools, seniors' facilities, youth organizations, park programs, churches, museums, businesses or special events. The Purkes can create uniquely-tailored programs for businesses and organizations of all kinds.



## Museum of Troy History

Content contributed by the Museum of Troy History

**Mission Statement:** To promote education about the history of Troy, Ohio, from 1850 to the present by the displaying of appropriate artifacts and the presentation of yearly planned programs.

The Museum of Troy History offers a rich tapestry of history in the restored pre-Civil War home of John Kitchen. Exhibits of the history of Troy and Miami County follow the period exhibited in the Overfield Tavern Museum (see pages 8-11) and enhance this restored house. Each year, different parts of that history are presented and made available for viewing. Inside the 1860s parlor, rotating exhibits embrace lifestyle themes such as sports, religion, industry and health care. The museum also has an extensive permanent exhibit on food preservation, and it continually features common household items used from 1850 to 1950.

#### The Kitchen House

Kitchen, a tailor by trade, built his home in 1847 and sold it in 1860. The brick house rose two stories in the front and one story in the back until the current owners of the time made additions to the back of the house and to the second floor. The present kitchen was added circa 1900. The wallpaper in the entryway and bedroom accurately represents the Victorian era. The paint was matched to the color found on the woodwork in the hall and bedroom after layers of varnish and paint were removed. It is likely the color used by Kitchen. The original banister and spindles were replaced sometime in the late 1800s when the house was "modernized."

The Girls' Civic League, later

known as the Civic League of Troy, Inc., was founded in the early 1920s as a community-minded group. The members purchased the Kitchen house in order to have a place to meet. The upstairs had been made into an apartment in the early part of the century. Eventually one of the members of the Civic League maintained a residence there and was caretaker of the building. The first floor was used by many in the Troy community for recitals, receptions and meetings.

By 1985, membership in the Civic League had dwindled. Times had changed, and women did not need

such a support system. The community had other places for meetings. When the members learned a building was being sought for a museum that would tell the story of life in Troy beyond its pioneer history (told so well by the Overfield Tavern Museum), they decided to offer their beloved home to the community for use as that museum. The location, across from the Overfield Tavern Museum, made the house ideal for the purpose of telling the story of Troy from 1850 to the present time, and the Troy Museum Corporation was formed to accept this generous offer.

Numerous exhibits have been



Above: The living room of John Kitchen's home now forms part of the Museum of Troy History. With both permanent and temporary exhibit space, the museum has featured almost every aspect of Troy's history.

featured here over the past 20 years. The parlor, kitchen and upstairs rooms are permanent exhibits. The temporary exhibit areas have featured every aspect of Troy's history from physicians and churches to toys and cameras. On the first floor, the kitchen, circa 1930, features George and Eva Carey's fruit jar collection, and the parlor is furnished circa 1860. The larger room behind the parlor features exhibits that change once or twice a year. Although these exhibits represent various themes from Troy's history, they have universal appeal. The second exhibit room showcases Troy industries and businesses, including Sunshade Company, Hobart Manufacturing, Hobart Cabinet, Skinner Irrigation, Cress Educational Toys, St. Regis Paper, Hobart Brothers, Tip-Top Potato Chips, Braun Brothers Packing, McKinnon Dash, Troy Buggy Works, Troy Wagon Works, Hayner Distillery and Harter's Patent Medicine (see pages 50-53). Following the Civil War, Troy citizens strove to bring industry to the town, an effort that continues to this day. Each of these businesses has its own story to tell within this city on the Miami River. The second floor includes the Geisinger bedroom, circa 1880, and nursery, circa 1900. Also found on the second floor is a school room, circa 1900. Desks in the school room come from the Forest and Edwards schools.

Visit the Museum of Troy History to follow the progress made by Troy and Miami County and witness an era of tremendous change and challenge.

This small community with a rich history and legacy of industrious creativity and civic pride continues to provide generations of citizens with a vast multitude of resources and inspiration.

See more photos and information from the Museum of Troy History on pages 14-15.

See pages 60-61 for special activities and events at the Museum of Troy History.





Above:The front entrance of the Museum of Troy History features the retractable ceiling light fixture. This fixture was part of the original home. It has been converted from candlelight to electricity. The entryway with Victorian-era-styled wallpaper and paint matched the color found on woodwork that is probably the original color used by John Kitchen.

### **Museum of Troy History Continued**

Members of the Civic League of Troy, Inc., offered this building to the community when they learned a building was being sought for a museum that would tell the story of life in Troy beyond its pioneer history.

This page, top right: Featuring this red and white enamel table and chairs, the kitchen is filled with many period artifacts. Bottom right: One room is reserved for industrial artifacts, which highlight many local companies.

Opposite page, above: This building still exists... visit it today! Below: The larger room behind the parlor includes this map of Miami County in the exhibit area.



#### **Inscription:**

The Museum of Troy History
The John Kitchen House 1847
A gift to the community from the
Civic League of Troy Inc., formerly
the Girls' Civic League.
Founded January 6, 1920





After serving many years as a dwelling and home to the Civic League of Troy, Inc., this location, across from the Overfield Tavern Museum, made the house ideal for the purpose of telling the story of life in Troy from 1850 to the present time.





# More About the Museum of Troy History:

#### Location/Contact

124 E.Water St.
Troy, OH 45373
937-335-4188
museumoftroyhistory@gmail.com

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.

East on State Route 41/Main Street to Mulberry Street.

Left on Mulberry Street one block to Water Street.

Museum is on the southwest corner of Mulberry and Water streets.

Parking: on-street parking

#### Open Hours

April–October, Sat–Sun: 2–4 p.m. and by appointment

#### Admission

Donations accepted

### Online Information

www.discovertroyoh.com

## Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7

## **Expressions of the Home**

6 S. Market St., Troy, OH 937-332-9227

Tues-Fri: 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sat: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Hours available by appointment

Built in the 1870s, the building features Italianate facade, double-hung sash windows and stone quoins on the corner.



## **WACO Historical Society**

Content contributed by WACO Historical Society and The Troy Historical Society

**Mission Statement:** Preservation of history of the WACO Aircraft Company and the Golden Age of Flight and the education of young people in the areas of math, science, technology and history, using aviation themes as a means toward enhancing student enthusiasm and response to traditional classroom curriculum.

WACO (Weaver Aircraft Company), based in Troy, was the Boeing of its day and produced more civil aircraft than any other manufacturer in the country in the late 1920s and early '30s.

WACO's history began in 1919 when businessmen Clayton J. Brukner and Elwood Junkin met barnstorming pilots Charley Meyers and George Weaver. Although their initial floatplane design was a failure, they went on to found WACO in 1920 and establish themselves as producers of reliable, rugged planes that were popular with traveling businessmen, postal services and explorers. After 1930, the company began producing closed-cabin biplane models as well as their open cockpit biplanes, which increased the company's popularity.

The WACO name was extremely well-represented in the U.S. civil aircraft registry between the wars, with more WACOs registered than the aircraft of any other company. Production types included open cockpit biplanes, cabin biplanes and cabin sesquiplanes (known by WACO as custom cabins), as well as numerous experimental types.

During World War II, WACO produced large numbers of military gliders for the United Kingdom's Royal Air Force and U.S. Army Air Forces for airborne operations, especially during the Normandy Invasion and Operation Market Garden. The WACO CG-4 was produced more than any of

its other glider designs. At the same time, WACO produced over 600 of its UPF-7 open biplanes and 21 VKS-7F cabin biplanes for the Civilian Pilot Training Program, which supplemented the output of the military training establishments.

WACO ceased operation in 1947, having suffered the fate of a number of general aviation companies when the anticipated boom in aviation following World War II failed to develop. The company continued to do subcontract work and commercial fabrication until 1962 when the buildings and tooling were sold to Goodrich. Today, the

factory is the site of the Goodrich Aircraft Wheels and Brakes Division.

The WACO Historical Society, Inc., was founded in 1978 and is a non-profit organization that operates historic WACO Field, an authentic public grass airstrip.

The field, opened in 1997 with the help of WACO Historical Society members, many generous donors and supporters, consists of a 77-acre site and features a 2,200-foot runway (2,000 feet of which are usable) south of Troy. The first building erected on WACO Field was a historic 1856 barn relocated to the premises and



Above: Visit the WACO (Weaver Aircraft Company) Air Museum at 1865 S. County Road 25A.

restored thanks to a generous grant provided by The Troy Foundation (see page 3). A traditional barn raising was held on the site on October 7, 1997. More than 300 volunteers from all over the United States helped rebuild the barn. The second building project was the 7,500 square-foot hangar, which became home to the WACO Air Museum, research library, classroom/ conference room and museum offices. In September of 2009, construction was completed on a new museum hangar. This new building is home to vintage WACO aircraft, displays and the history of WACO. The historic WACO Field also has a radiocontrolled aircraft flying field located on site, which is home to the WACO Barnstormers RC Club.

In addition to preserving aviation's past, the WACO Historical Society is dedicated and actively works to nurture aviation's future through its Learning Center programs. Programs are conducted at WACO's Learning Center with schools, Scout Troops, and Civil Air Patrol posts at the field and at other local airports.

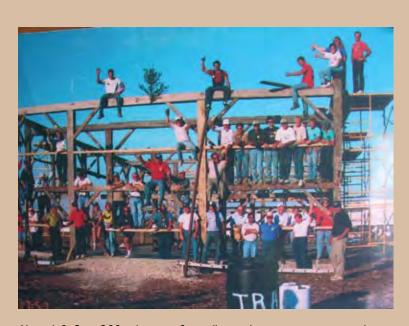
The WACO Air Museum features two hangars of vintage WACO aircraft and historical aviation artifacts, housed within a complex that incorporates a functioning 2,000-foot grass strip reminiscent of the 1930s.

WACO Air Museum exhibits also include the 1929 WACO ATO Taperwing, which won the 1936 International Aerobatics Medal, and a 1926 WACO Model 9 Miss



McKeesport, one of the first aircraft used to fly airmail in the U.S. between Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Additional aircraft include a 1928 WACO Model 10, the first mass-produced airplane built by Troy-based WACO, flying replicas of the WACO Cootie, the first FAA-licensed aircraft built by WACO, the WACO Model 4 and a

WACO continued on page 18





Above left: Over 300 volunteers from all over the country participated in a traditional barn raising to reconstruct the relocated 1856 barn on October 7, 1997. Above right: The barn constructed by these volunteers, as it stands today.

## **Brukner Nature Center**

5995 Horseshoe Bend Road, Troy, OH 937-698-6493 www.bruknernaturecenter.com

Right: Iddings House, the oldest Miami County building in its original location



This nature preserve is nationally recognized for its wildlife rehabilitation and education programs. Visitors enjoy six miles of hiking trails and an 1804 log cabin (the oldest Miami County building on its original site) as well as live Ohio native wildlife exhibits, interactive displays and bird vista rooms.

### **WACO Historical Society Continued**

WACO continued from page 17

WACO UMF3. Non-aircraft exhibits include a factory exhibit showing the tools and construction methods of 1930s aircraft and thousands of rare photographs and artifacts from the "Golden Age of Aviation," a WACO RC model collection, a radial aircraft engine collection, a museum archive library, a classroom/theater and gift shop. A Hartzell propeller display of early wood propellers and methods of construction was recently added.

Visitors have the opportunity to experience and learn about the "Golden Age of Aviation" in which Dayton and the greater Miami Valley played a key role.







"Donating Joe Mackey's Taperwing to the WACO Historical Society underscores the rich aerospace heritage that Goodrich shares with the City of Troy. Many of our employees grew up in this area, and several have volunteered to ensure the preservation of this extraordinary aircraft. We are proud of our history and appreciate the cooperative efforts of the historical society to help us celebrate the accomplishments of aviation past, present and future."

Brian Brandewie, president, Goodrich Aircraft Wheels and Brakes

This page, above right: The 1929 WACO ATO Taperwing, which won the 1936 International Aerobatics Competition in Paris, is on display at WACO Air Museum. Above left: Aerial photos show fly-in events, which are held each year at the WACO Field. Planes from across the U.S. join the Troy community for these events.

Opposite page, above: A flyable replica of the 1924 WACO 4 sits outside the barn at WACO Field. WACO was founded in 1920 and established as a producer of reliable, rugged planes that were popular with traveling businessmen, postal services and explorers.



See pages 60-61 for special activities and events of the WACO Historical Society.



## More About WACO Historical Society:

#### Location/Contact

1865 S. County Road 25A Troy, OH 45373 937-335-9226 admin@wacoairmuseum.org

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #69 from I-75.
Two miles north on 25A.
Field is on the right.
Parking: free, private lot

#### Open Hours

January-February: by appointment only

March-December:

Mon-Fri: 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Sat-Sun: 12 p.m.-5 p.m.

#### Admission

Adults: \$6 With Military ID: \$5 Students 7-17: \$3 Children 6 and younger: Free WACO Historical Society: Free

#### **Online Information**

www.wacoairmuseum.org

Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7

## **Troy Civic Theatre**

937-339-7700 | www.troycivictheatre.com In 1965, it was decided Troy needed a civic theatre. The first season opened at the Hobart Technical Center and lasted for ten seasons. It then moved to Adams Street and Riverside Drive. The Barn in the Park, as it is now known, was previously a final assembly barn for the WACO airplane.





## Troy-Hayner Cultural Center

Content contributed by Troy-Hayner Cultural Center

**Mission Statement:** To preserve and maintain the Hayner mansion as a cultural resource center for the present and as a historical legacy for future generations of the community of Troy, Ohio.

In 1942, Mary Jane Harter Coleman Hayner left her beautiful home at 301 W. Main St. to the community in the care of the Troy Board of Education. For 33 years, the house served as the public library and then began a new era as the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center in 1976. In June of that year, citizens of the Troy-Concord School District passed a .5 mill levy to provide for the preservation, restoration and maintenance of the Hayner home for use as a community cultural center. Subsequently, at five-year intervals, voters have continued to approve the operating levy.

Renovations began at once with the help of generous gifts from The Troy Foundation and from private donors. The center first opened its doors for an open house on December 6, 1976, thus beginning an annual holiday tradition of decorating for the Holiday Open House, held on the first full weekend of December.

#### The Hayner as a Home

Mary Jane Harter Coleman Hayner was born into a prominent Troy family in 1855. Her first husband was Horace Coleman with whom she had four children. Three years after a scandalous divorce, she married wealthy William Hayner, owner of the Hayner Distillery Company, with whom she had one child, a daughter.

She built the home in 1914 after Mr. Hayner's death and lived there until her own death in 1942. A gracious hostess, Mrs. Hayner enjoyed

entertaining, and her home was the scene of frequent dinners, garden parties and receptions. Mrs. Hayner willed her home to the Troy Board of Education to be used for educational and/or cultural purposes.

From 1943 to 1976, the building housed the Troy-Miami County Public Library, and the house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

After it was known that the library would relocate, members of The Troy Historical Society campaigned to

use the building for a cultural center. Through their efforts, the levy was voted on and approved by the citizens of Troy.

Mrs. Hayner's life story, including the history of the two fortunes she inherited, is told in the biography Mary Jane Hayner, the Woman, the Fortunes, the Legacy, by Joanne Duke Gamblee. The book can be found at Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, Around About Books, and the Local History Library.

Permanent exhibits at the center include a Victorian dollhouse, historical



Above: The Hayner study decorated for the holidays in December 2009. The first Holiday Open House to introduce the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center to the community was December 5, 1976. The annual Holiday Open House has been held ever since.

furnishings and works of art belonging to the mansion when it was a residence, and a comprehensive collection of Hayner Distillery memorabilia.

#### The Hayner Distillery Collection

Over a lifetime, native Trojan John E. Lutz assembled this premier collection of Hayner Distillery memorabilia and supporting business documents.

Purchased by the Friends of Hayner, Inc., in 2003 with a considerable donation by John E. and Kay R. Remley Lutz, this collection was given a special room of its own in what was originally Mrs. Hayner's dining room.

The distillery was a landmark business of Troy's history, founded in 1866 by Lewis Hayner, William Hayner's uncle. By the mid-1890s, William Hayner had controlling interest and appointed his brother-in-law, Walter S. Kidder, as manager of the Dayton operation. The distillery grew into a nationally-recognized and enormously-profitable mail order whiskey business.

Passage of the Webb-Kenyon Act in 1913, the onset of World War I limiting grain supplies, and the Volstead Act in 1919 that resulted in Prohibition effectively stopped production of Hayner liquors, although the corporate existence continued until 1928.

"I'm a real believer in preserving history for future generations... Hayner succeeds in doing that."

Mary Lafferty, former president, Troy-Hayner Cultural Center's Board of Governors

#### **A Community Center**

Many volunteers assist the day-to-day operations. A full-time director reporting to a Board of Governors is responsible for management. The membership organization, Friends of Hayner, is the repository for donations and provides assistance with special projects.

More than 39,000 people pass through the doors each year to enjoy the many opportunities for enrichment provided by the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center. The center presents the finest quality and widest variety of exhibits, classes, concerts and recitals in the area. Housed in an elegant Romanesque mansion, Hayner radiates an aura of warmth and charm not easily found today. Troy is fortunate to be home to one of the finest community centers in all of Ohio.

#### **Exhibits**

The volunteer exhibit committee works two to three years in advance, planning and researching subjects to show. Behind-the-scenes work is quite intensive, requiring research, exploration, communication with sources and much organization.



Approximately eight exhibits are presented each year, occasionally spread throughout all three floors. Artist talks, workshops, tours and opening receptions are sometimes

#### Hayner continued on page 22





Above top:The Hayner mansion can easily be seen from Main Street today and (directly above) in 1914 during a phase of its construction. It was built by Mary Jane Harter Coleman Hayner, two years after the death of her second husband, William Hayner, who owned the Hayner Distillery Company. In 1942, Mrs. Hayner willed the mansion to the Troy Board of Education to be used as a library, museum or for other educational and cultural purposes. It served as the public library from 1943 to 1976. It was subsequently restored and maintained as the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, as it is known today.

### **Troy-Hayner Cultural Center Continued**

Hayner continued from page 21

offered in connection with exhibitions.

The center occasionally sponsors community art projects such as the photography show, "Through Our Eyes." Begun in 1993 and occurring every other year, it features photographs depicting life in Miami County and is open to photographers of all ages.

In addition, the Troy-area student art show and the Ohio Watercolor Society exhibition are presented annually.

#### **Performing Arts**

An average of 25 performing arts events are offered free and open to the public each year. This entertainment includes theater, dance and special

"The timeless beauty of this structure is highlighted through all the exciting programs and events that take place each year. The Hayner is a destination for all ages and interests."

Candace Goodall, former president, Troy-Hayner Cultural Center's Board of Governors cultural performances, in addition to a series of musical concerts and theatrical acts for children and their families.

In the summer, weather permitting, concerts are given in the outdoor courtyard. The center also collaborates with Troy Main Street and The Troy Foundation in presenting outdoor programs on the square in Prouty Plaza. Diverse styles of music including classical, folk, ethnic, jazz, and blues are presented by both professional touring artists and local musicians.

#### Classes

Hayner makes available a variety of classes and one-day workshops in art, pottery, dance, self-improvement, and other subjects for adults and children. These classes are offered by

Above: This portrait of Mary Jane Harter Coleman Hayner hangs in the study of the Hayner mansion.

independent instructors for a fee. A summer art day camp for children is also offered.

The center produces three schedules annually that list classes and events. These can be found at the center or its website, www.troyhayner. org.

### Troy-Hayner Cultural Center at a Glance

The center was founded in 1976 and is operated by a community Board of Governors under the auspices of the Troy Board of Education. The organization annually provides:

- 19-24 free concerts/performing arts events including theater, dance, musical concerts and cultural performances
- 8 exhibits of fine art, local history or cultural significance, planned two to three years in advance by the volunteer exhibit committee
- A full schedule of classes for both children and adults including art, pottery, dance, self-improvement, technology, genealogy and fitness
- Activities for children and their families
- Antiques seminars and poetry readings
- Meeting space for civic groups, local businesses, community events, and private parties including weddings and receptions
- Opportunities for volunteerism
- Cultural programming and displays
- House tours



Above: One of the most fascinating exhibits is permanent in the Hayner home. Started by John E. Lutz over fifty years ago, the Lutz exhibit of artifacts and printed materials is the premiere collection in the United States of Hayner Distillery memorabilia and is housed in the former dining room of the Hayner home. A landmark business in Troy history, this exhibit documents the 1866 founding of the company through the passage of the Webb-Kenyon Act in 1913 and the Volstead Act in 1919 that resulted in Prohibition in the 1920s. The corporate existence continued until 1928, when it was dissolved.

### More About Troy-Hayner Cultural Center:

#### Location/Contact

301 W. Main St. Troy, OH 45373 937-339-0457 troyhaynercenter@troyhayner.org

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.
East on State Route 41/Main Street approximately one mile.

Center is on the corner of Main and Short streets.

Parking two-hour on-street parking

#### Open Hours

Mon-Thurs: 7-9 p.m. Tues-Sat: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun: I-5 p.m.

#### **Admission**

Free, with the exception of a few key events

### Online Information

www.troyhayner.org

## Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7

## Patty Rose, Allstate

315 Public Square, Suite 204, Troy, OH
937-332-6942 | pattyrose@allstate.com
Patty Rose, CFP, Exclusive Agent, Rose & Associates
Allstate Insurance Company, 24-hour customer service
This 1871 home was built across from the current location
of the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center by Phillip Gates, circa
1890, and extensively altered in Queen Ann style.

#### Future home of Allstate



220 W. Main St., Troy, OH

## Hobart Gallery of Welding History

Content contributed by the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology

**Mission Statement:** To serve as an educational resource to explorers of all ages to observe and learn the history of welding and how it has evolved to help create the ingenious tools, products and services that touch your life daily.

The creation of a gallery dedicated to the history of welding and to the founder, family and employees of the Hobart Brothers Company has brought to life a long-time dream of Troy historians.

The story of Hobart welding began in 1939 when an application was sent to the Ohio Secretary of State for a non-profit charter designation for the Hobart Welding School. The name was changed to the Hobart Trade School to reflect the broadened curriculum that was a result of the popularity of the school's welding courses. On January 2, 1940, the articles of incorporation document was signed, and a formal organization was set up and led by a board of directors.

At the first board meeting, action was taken to contract a separate building on N. Elm Street to house the school. The main factory did not have room for school expansion, and

the Hobart Brothers
Company needed the
space for manufacturing.
This new building
was one of the most
prominent steel
buildings in Troy.

The completion of the facility on N.
Elm Street was timely.
The following year, the nation entered WW II, bringing a flurry of activity to the school.
Welder training was vital for the war effort. The

federal government and the State of Ohio cooperated with the school and established a two-shift training program to meet demand. Twenty more arc welding booths and 12 additional gas welding stations were installed on the second floor of the building, bringing the total number of booths to 96 (72 arc welding and 24 gas welding). The school operated at full capacity during the war, training people for wartime industries.

Since many of the young men were in the armed forces, most of the trainees were women. Rosie the Riveter soon became Rosie the Welder. Between six and ten million women contributed to the war effort between 1942 and 1945. Real-life "Rosies" built 297,000 airplanes, 88,000 warships, 102,000 tanks, and 372,000 artillery pieces and produced 47 million tons of artillery munitions and 44 billion



Above: Motor generator welding machines, the left one built in 1928 and the right one built in 1930.



Above: Portable electric compressor for painting and inflating tires, built in 1928.



Left:The Hobart Gallery of Welding History covers 5,000 years of welding history.



Above: Partial view of historic Hobart equipment exhibit.

"The gallery displays major milestones in the joining of metals from antiquity to the present time," says André
Odermatt, president of Hobart

Institute.
"We are incorporating antique welding machines, as well as pictorial displays of photographs and collages."

rounds of arms munitions.

In 1955, about ten years after the war ended, Hobart Brothers Company management reviewed the welding industry and their position in the market. Management made a decision to be more proactive in new applications of welding technologies, as well as in the development and dissemination of welding education and training materials through the Hobart Trade School.



Below:The Hobart Trade School was one of the most prominent welded steel buildings in Troy. Remaining on N. Elm Street until 1958, it was designed and welded entirely by Hobart Brothers Company employees.





Above: AC-type shop welder "Hustler," built in 1957.

As a result of this decision, the Hobart Technical Center was completed in the late summer of 1958. It contained about 80,000 square feet of space. The Hobart Trade School moved from its unique metal building on N. Elm Street to the north wing of the new building on Trade Square E., while the south wing was occupied by Hobart Brothers Company's welding procedure laboratory. The laboratory designed welding systems and procedures and demonstrated welding processes for customers, bringing equipment and filler metals together.

The school's directors also thought that this major training center for the welding industry should encourage

the use of welded metal as an art form. They wanted a sculpture that would express vigor, life, growth, enthusiasm, and strength, all attributes of welding and the welding industry. On August 11, 1966, the Hobart Technical Center accepted a proposal from George Tsutakawa, professor of art at the University of Washington. Architecture professor David Niland designed a pool, and on June 14, 1967, the work was completed and the Unity of Man fountain was lowered into place in the center of the pool. The fountain signified 50 years of progress in welding at Hobart Brothers Company. The fountain received major renovation in time for the celebration

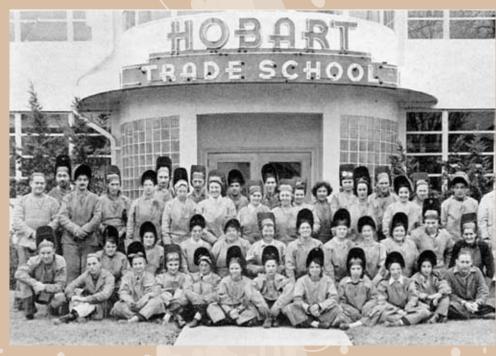
### Hobart Gallery of Welding History Continued

of the Hobart Technical Center's (now called the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology, or HIWT) 75th anniversary on May 14, 2005.

The Hobart Gallery of Welding History was conceived as a way to pay tribute to both the rich history of welding and to the Hobart family, who have been instrumental in the development of welding technologies in America. February of 2010 marked the premiere opening of the Hobart Gallery of Welding History. Five thousand years of welding history is depicted throughout the panels that wrap around the gallery, beginning with the early brazing, soldering and forging processes and progressing through current processes.

Prior to opening, the second floor of the school was totally remodeled into a spacious gallery using ideas from HIWT staff, architect Candace Goodall and Ferguson Construction Company. André Odermatt, Hobart Institute of Welding Technology president, then began collecting memorabilia, much of which was obtained from the Hobart family collection. He located patents attributed to numerous Hobart Brothers Company engineers for various welding processes and equipment.

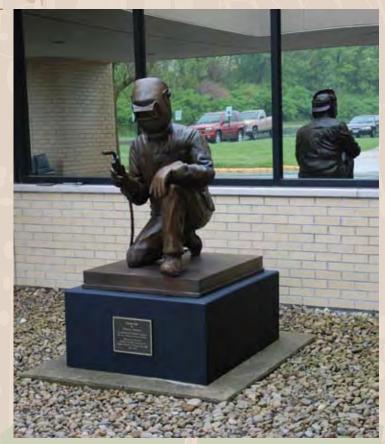
The origins of welding education and the part that training has played in the expansion of welding technology are thoroughly explained in the gallery. The displays also highlight related industries, including mining, heavy construction (structural), primary metal manufacturing, fabricated metal products, machinery manufacturing, electrical equipment, welding equipment, transportation including motor vehicles, railroads, shipbuilding, aerospace manufacturing, and repair



Above: During WW II, men went to war, and women filled the Hobart Trade School to learn to weld. Below: Welder Bob, created by Gregory Johnson, was dedicated in remembrance of Robert C. Bercaw, the first welding instructor at Hobart Welding School. It was dedicated on May 15, 2010, in honor of the 80th anniversary of the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology, founded in 1930.

and maintenance.

A Hobart history library provides space for books and small memorabilia, while an expanse of floor space allows viewing of the larger pieces of equipment and displays. The secondfloor gallery provides a panoramic view of the artistic Unity of Man fountain that welcomes visitors and reminds them of the part welding plays in the field of art.



"To me, the design expresses balance and harmony of man and his environment – nature. The totemic form stands for the past, present and future...and the water action symbolizes continuity and rhythm of life."

George Tsutakawa (1910-1997)



Above: In the forefront is the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology monument sign, which stands in front of the school on Trade Square E. In the background is the Unity of Man fountain, designed by George Tsutakawa (1910-1997) and dedicated on June 20, 1967. The 19-foot tower column is one of the largest welded bronze fountains in the United States. David Niland designed the reflecting pool and raised concrete stage architectural setting after the fountain design was completed. Engineering work was completed by Jack Uchida.

### More About Hobart Gallery of Welding History:

#### Location/Contact

400 Trade Square E. Troy, OH 45373 800-332-9448 hiwt@welding.org

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.
East on State Route 41/Main Street.
Left on N. Dorset Road.
Right on Fleet Road (Gallery
building is straight ahead
overlooking the fountain.)
Left onto Trade Square E. to North
Road parking lot.
Enter the north entrance of the
building.
Parking: free, private lot

### Open Hours

Tours by appointment only

#### Admission

Free

#### **Online Information**

www.welding.org

## Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7

## William & Boss Jewelry

217 S.E. Public Square, Troy, OH
937-335-6755 | www.williamandboss.com
The original structure was built in 1907 by John C.
Schaible with Italianate commercial elements. The building features corbelled brickwork, stone lintels and sills, and five circular windows.



## Miami Valley Veterans Museum

Content contributed by the Miami Valley Veterans Museum

**Mission Statement:** To honor, preserve and perpetuate the memory and dignity of the men and women who have served in the U. S. Armed Forces, Coast Guard and Wartime Merchant Marine.

The mission of the museum began in the summer of 2009 with the goal of making sure that veterans "Shall Not Be Forgotten."

The museum houses reproductions and original uniforms and equipment worn and used by veterans from the Miami Valley as early as the French & Indian War (1748-1763) and the Revolutionary War (1775-1783). While some of the clothing is not uniquely military, it represents everyday wear for men of the western frontier. Every adult male between 18 and 45 years of age was required to serve in the militia during the Indian Wars (1783-1813), and, for some, a black leather cockade (a rosette worn as a badge on a hat) was the only uniform item they had.

Uniforms from the War of 1812 (1812-1815), the Civil War (1861-1865) and from our more current history are also on display. Most Miami Valley veterans of the Civil War served in the Union Army, but a few wore the gray of the Confederacy.

Utensils and food from these early wars such as deer jerky, hardtack and

jowl bacon, as well as the MREs (meals ready to eat) of today's military, are exhibited.

A vast array of uniforms and memorabilia from the World War I

era through the present is on display. Patches and pins adorn every wall, commemorating each branch of the military and the numerous ranks, units, ships, and awards that area servicemen



Above: The Miami Valley Veterans Museum now resides on the second floor of the Masonic Temple. This space offers a much larger area than its previous location and may be found in the heart of downtown Troy, conveniently near several other historical attractions.



### Hobart Institute of Welding Technology

400 Trade Square E., Troy, OH 800-332-9448 | 937-332-5000

www.welding.org | hiwt@welding.org

Attention Veterans! Hobart Institute welcomes veterans and other individuals who are interested in welding training and certification. G.I. benefits may be applied to complete welding training programs.

Hobart Institute is a nonprofit, educational facility accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the Career Schools and Colleges No. 000403 and registered with the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools Registration No. 70-12-0064HT.

and women have received, worn and/or donated.

An exhibit of photographs and accompanying newspaper accounts honors a young local Navy serviceman who was injured when the USS Brush DD-745 was disabled by a mine in the Sea of Japan. This U.S. ship was the first to come into contact with a mine during the Korean War, and nine sailors

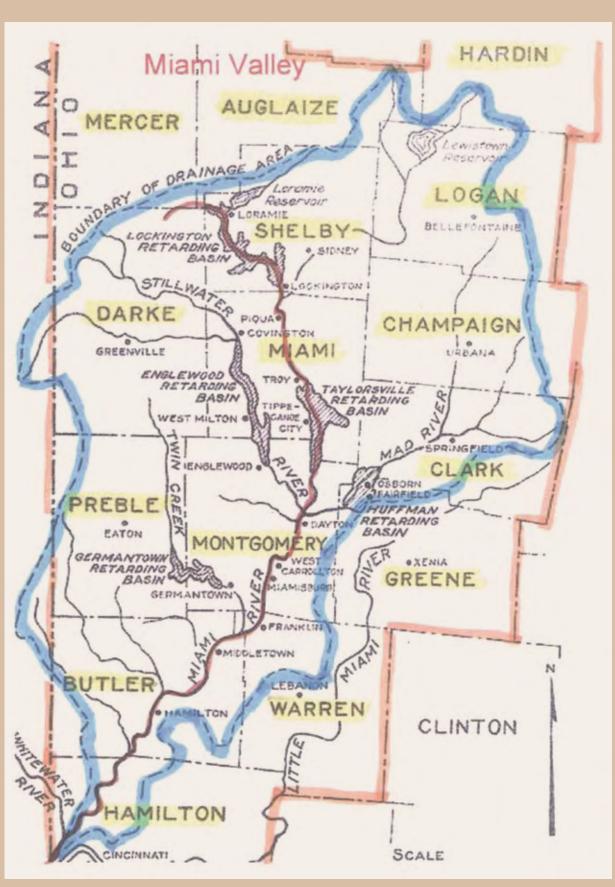


Veterans continued on page 30

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty."

John F. Kennedy

Right: This map outlines the Miami Valley, an economiccultural region centered primarily in the greater Dayton area, which is served by the Miami Valley Veterans Museum.



### Miami Valley Veterans Museum Continued





Veterans continued from page 29

lost their lives in the incident.

Another exhibit case features a WWII ration book, dog tags, prayer book, shaving kit, pilot's log book and a host of other items. Items like these that have been donated by local servicemen, women and their families radiate a sense of their family pride and honor.

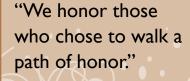
The research library of the Miami Valley Veterans Museum, which includes the Official Roster

of Ohio Soldiers, Sailors & Marines for World War 1917-1918, is growing, and volunteers are available to assist with questions or material research.

The museum supports the community through its activities, educational programs, oral histories and community programs that keep alive the contributions and experiences of those who served. First and foremost, the museum's purpose is to honor and preserve the memory of local veterans, specifically by operating this museum dedicated to their contributions. Second, its purpose is to serve as an educational tool that teaches youth about U.S. military involvement throughout the world. Finally, the Miami Valley Veterans Museum serves as a unique tourist hotspot in Miami County.







Steve Skinner, board member and volunteer







#### Permanent 9/11 Memorial in Troy

In mid 2012, a piece of the World Trade Center made its way to Troy to find its home at the Miami Valley Veterans Museum.

This permanent memorial was made a reality with the cooperation of the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology, the Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau and the City of Troy.





This page, above: Vietnam, Cold War and current military uniforms and artifacts. Below: WW I and earlier military miniatures on loan from a local collector. Opposite page: WW II Army and Navy artifacts featured in the Miami Valley Veterans Museum.

### More About Miami Valley Veterans Museum:

#### Location/Contact

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 154
Troy, OH 45373
Location:
107 W. Main St.
Troy, OH 45373
937-451-1455
director@theyshallnotb

director@theyshallnotbeforgotten.

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.

East on State Route 41/Main Street approximately one mile.

Museum is on the 2nd floor of the Masonic Temple on the left.

**Parking:** free, two-hour, on-street parking

#### Open Hours

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat: I-5 p.m.

#### **Admission**

Adults: \$2

Children under 17:\$1

Veterans: Free

Group rates available

#### **Online Information**

www.theyshallnotbeforgotten.org

## Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7



### **Submarine House**

14 N. Market St., Troy, OH 937-335-6479

www.submarinehouse.com
In 1824, most of this block burned.A row of two-bay structures of early commercial construction was rebuilt by Henry Mayo in 1833.

## City Hall and Fire Department

Content contributed by Thomas Bemis Wheeler in Troy The Nineteenth Century

**Mission Statement of Troy, Ohio:** Through sound and prudent leadership, the City of Troy is committed to sustaining its continued prominence as a regional hub by providing a well-balanced community for its residents, businesses and visitors, consisting of a vibrant downtown, growing economic base, strong educational environment, and plentiful recreational opportunities strengthened by public/private cooperation and grounded in financial stability. Where civic pride is city wide.

In 1846, Troy's Town Hall was constructed as a narrow, three-story brick building on the corner of Main and Cherry streets. Its first floor housed the Fire Department, as well as a number of market stalls. The town offices were located on the second floor.

In 1876, work began on a new City Hall. Stone was brought from Piqua on canal boats and from limestone quarries in northern Ohio. The brick came from Dayton. A central heating system was installed, but there was no running water, as Troy still depended on wells for its drinking water. When completed, the total cost of the building was \$75,000.

The third floor of City Hall was originally designed for use as an opera house. The audience entered from the second floor, up two winding staircases at the back of the building. The opera house served as the main auditorium in Troy for many years but fell into disuse in 1912.

City Hall was originally topped by a tower that contained a clock with four faces and a fire bell beneath it. In 1936, the tower, with its clock and fire bell, was removed.

Although City Hall has housed municipal offices from the day it was completed, parts of the building have been used at various times as a market, a library, a grocery store and a post office. Changes in the use of the building resulted in the removal of the attic and third floor in 1950.

#### Troy Fire Department

In 1839, R.C. Langdon, the new editor of the *Troy Times*, called for a public meeting to raise money to buy a fire engine and equip a fire department because of disastrous fires that had occurred in Troy. He estimated that the cost would be two dollars for each citizen and would perhaps save thousands of dollars of property. In 1847, a meeting was called to form a hook and ladder company. Not until 1850, however, were the Troy Hook & Ladder Company and





Photo contributed by André Odermatt

Top: City Hall today. Below: One of the first pieces of equipment purchased by Troy's Fire Department.

the Troy Bucket Company organized. Henry S. Mayo was captain of the Troy Hook & Ladder Company, and Henry S. Culbertson was captain of the Troy Bucket Company. After discussing the pros and cons of purchasing a fire engine for several years, an ordinance was presented in a meeting of the council in 1857 to purchase one. A Mohawk hand-pump engine was purchased from the Cincinnati Fire Department and installed on the ground floor of the Town Hall.

The Fire Department of Troy was formally organized in the fall of 1857. The company consisted of about 75 members, 50 of which belonged to the Mohawk Company and the remainder to the hose carriage. Jack Julian was the first foreman of the department.







### More About City Hall:

#### Location/Contact

100 S. Market St. Troy, Ohio 45373 937-335-1725

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.

East on State Route 41/Main Street to Public Square. Turn right on S. Market Street.

Hall is located right past Franklin Street.

Parking: free, two-hour, on-street parking

#### Office Hours

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed holidays Tour by appointment

#### **Admission**

Free

#### **Online Information**

www.troyohio.gov

#### Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7

Top: The original three-story City Hall with its tower. Below: The original Fire Department building.



215 W. Water St.

# Shipman, Dixon & Livingston, L.P.A.

937-339-1500 | www.sdlattorneys.com This building was developed in 1879 as a factory and office for medicine by Rev.Thomas P. Childs. In 1913, it became the Miami Aerie #971 F.O.E. and in 1989, a new law firm.



## **Public Square**

Content contributed by Troy Main Street, The Troy Historical Society and the City of Troy

#### **Listed on the National Register of Historic Places**



#### S.W. quadrant of Public Square **Beehive Corner, 1874**

The Beehive Corner was built by Joseph Brown to replace a three-story building burned by an arsonist. In the 1880s, the building housed the Beehive Dry Goods Store, which offered textiles, clothing, notions and a variety of other household items. The third floor (now renovated) hosted dances, a rollerskating rink, a gym, and rooms for the Grange and fraternal organizations' meetings. Today, it houses the Troy Community Room. The building was renovated by Parker Behm in the 1990s.

#### **Kelley Building** 9-11 S. Market St., 1887

This downtown building housed the Great A&P Tea Co., McKnight & Lippincott, various attorney and real estate offices and a beauty shop. This high Victorian Italianate building features an unusual pressed metal facade intended to look like carved stone. A collection of rectangular windows is featured with semisegmental arches over them.

#### Fountain, 1976

The Public Square, laid out in 1807 by Andrew Wallace, features handsome Victorian-age buildings, many of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The architectural charm is enhanced by a high curbed central garden, complete with a large fountain and seasonal plantings. Starting in 1999, the square and downtown area underwent an extensive streetscape renovation, including new lighting, street trees, planters, outdoor furniture and brick sidewalk pavers. The Ivan Terrel Memorial Fountain was dedicated in 1976 in memory of Mr. Terrel, a former mayor, civic leader

and supporter of the humanities. The fountain is the most recent of many centerpieces that have graced the center of the square. Other centerpieces have included a globe, a smaller replica of the Eiffel Tower, a courthouse building and a 160-foot liberty pole.

#### Mayo Hall 12 S. Market St., 1854

The third floor of this building featured an auditorium with a stage, balcony and orchestra area, and it seated 500 people. Graduations, plays and literary programs were held here between 1854 and 1866. The performers and actors liked the passthrough from the Mayo Hall to the Morris/Lollis Hotel next door (see page 52).

#### Harr's on the Square 319 S.W. Public Square, 1866

This building rests on the site of a building constructed in 1866 by Daniel Harr. The structure that now stands here was built in 1925 as a twostory, 20th-century, Commercial-style building and features a stylized logo of the store that once occupied the space.



www.ledouxsrestaurant.com

## LeDoux's Restaurant

116-118 W. Main St., Troy, OH | 937-875-2000 Mon-Thurs: 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri: 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Sat: 4-10 p.m. Designed by William B. Johnson and built by A.E. Trumbull, it was originally built as Troy's courthouse in 1841 and features a mural in the front eating parlor. In 1888, the building was sold to the International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF). In 1892, the face of the building was remodeled to its present form, but traces of the

#### N.E. quadrant of Public Square Buckeye Building I N. Market St., 1839

The oldest brick building on the square, it was built by Aaron Tullis, John Telford and Isaac Peck and remodeled in 1871 by Joseph Henne. In the 1840s, the third floor hosted theatrical performances and meetings of the Benevolent Society. Later, it housed a men's clothing and shoe store, saloon and pool room, and the building is now home to Ruby's Salon.

#### N.E. quadrant of Public Square Coleman-Allen Building 3-5 E. Main St., 1855

It was built by pioneer Dr.Asa Coleman and Henry Allen, president of First National Bank, and its fourth floor was added after 1872.









#### N.W. quadrant of Public Square Mayo-Harter Building 2 N. Market St., 1848

This corner building was constructed by Henry S. Mayo, who arrived in Troy an orphan and became the second most affluent citizen. The third floor was owned separately by Troy Lodge #43 International Order of Odd Fellows, a black fraternal organization. Its first 50 years housed the Harter and Cosley Hardware Store, and it now houses the restaurant La Piazza.

## S.E. quadrant of Public Square Dye Building, 1865

Built in 1864-65 by William Henry Harrison Dye, distillery and mill owner, its third floor featured Troy's second opera house, seating 500. The entire first floor was occupied by G.C. Murphy Co. from 1917 to 1972. It now houses The Caroline (see page 53).

#### Other Public Square buildings:

Old Market

S. Market Street, between Public Square and Franklin Street, 1831

Dunlap Building 6 S. Market St., 1837

Briggs Monuments
11 N. Market St., circa 1900

Morris/Koerner Building 301 S.E. Public Square, 1904

Old First National Bank 8 S. Market St., 1929

Schaible-Dilts Building 217-221 S.E. Public Square, 1907

Building used as second jail 122-124 W. Main St.

## For complete listings of historic downtown Troy:

#### See "Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Troy, Ohio" brochure

from Troy Main Street, 937-339-5455

Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7



### **Around About Books**

8 W. Main St., Troy, OH
937-339-1707 | sales@aroundaboutbooks.com
www.aroundaboutbooks.com
Built in 1856 and remodeled in 1910,
this simple three-story, early-20th-century building
features stone lintels and sills.

## Troy Hall of Fame

Content contributed by the Troy Hall of Fame

**Mission Statement:** To honor outstanding citizens of Troy who have significantly excelled beyond the normal requirements of their chosen fields of endeavor.

The Troy Hall of Fame is a project of the *Troy Daily News* with funding support from The Troy Foundation.

In the mid '90s, Joel Walker, theneditor of the *Troy Daily News*, was instrumental in the creation of the Troy Hall of Fame, and he serves as the hall of fame's president to this day.

To be considered, the candidate's achievement must not only bring honor to the individual but also to the City of Troy. The individual must have had a positive impact on the quality of life shared by the people of Troy, either by serving as a widely-recognized role model or by providing generous financial support to the community.

The fifteen members featured on the opposite page were the first inducted to the Troy Hall of Fame. They



were inducted during a ceremony held in October of 1996 at the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center.

Troy Hall of Famers include those featured on the opposite page and the following individuals:

Robert (RI) Brown Paul and Richard Duke Iohn Edward Fulker Joanne Duke Gamblee Stephen D. Hamilton William and Mary J. Hayner Julia DeCamp Hobart Bond Houser, Sr. R. George Kuser Fred, Virginia and son John LeFevre Thomas M. Myers Aka B. Pereyma Patricia and Thomas Robinson Katherine Shilling Dr. William E. Shoupp Dr. Carl E. Tate Max Franklin Urick Thomas R. Vaughn Randolph J. Walker Lucille Wheat Megan Williams

To learn more about the criteria for nominating a Troy resident or former resident for membership in the Troy Hall of Fame, please contact Joel Walker at the hall of fame office.

Left: One of several displays within the Troy Hall of Fame, this one featuring Nancy Decker Currie's spacesuit and other memorabilia.

## More About Troy Hall of Fame:

#### Location/Contact

Mailing address: 405 Public Square, Suite 341 Troy, OH 45373 937-335-9548 joelwalker@mac.com

Permanent Display at Hobart Arena 255 N. Adams St. Troy, OH 45373 arena: 937-339-2911 ken.siler@troyohio.gov

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.
East on State Route 41/Main Street.
Turn left on Adams Street.
Arena is before Riverside Drive.
Parking free, private lot

#### **Open Hours**

Mon-Sun: 7 a.m.-10 p.m.
Hours change as needed, call ahead
for current open hours to verify
before visiting

#### **Admission**

Free

#### Online Information

www.discovertroyoh.com

## Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7



### Charter Members of the Troy Hall of Fame:



**David Bowyer** Meeker Growth leader and company president



**Harrison** Hobart, Sr. Successful sales and business leader

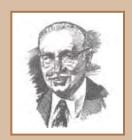
William



Guy **Stoddard Frisbie** Innovative leader and company president



Lois S. **Davies** Author



Clayton J. **Brukner** Pioneer aviator. inventor, industrialist and philanthropist



**Hobart** Company owner and mail order business leader

**Charles** 

Clarence



Robert Ferguson, Sr. Troy's first All-American football player and Pittsburgh Steeler



**Charles** Hobart Influential business leader

Clarence



Johnston Company founder and business leader

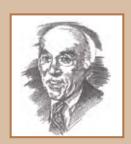
**Herbert** 



John Mitchell **Spencer** Company president and developer



Augustus G. Stouder Manufacturing company president and business leader



Harrison **Hobart** Successful business executive

William



**Edward Hobart** Welding technology pioneer and company president



**Anderson** Meeker

**David** 

Patent holder and company president



**Nancy Currie** Astronaut on Endeavor

## Hobart Arena

Content contributed by Hobart Arena

### More About Hobart Arena:

#### Location/Contact

255 N. Adams St. Troy, OH 45373 937-339-2911 ken.siler@troyohio.gov

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.
East on State Route 41/Main Street.
Turn left on Adams Street.
Arena is before Riverside Drive.
Parking free, private lot

#### Open Hours

Mon-Sun: 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Hours change as needed, call ahead for current open hours to verify before visiting

#### Admission

Event admission available online Free building tours available, please call ahead to schedule

#### **Online Information**

www.hobartarena.com

#### Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7

Right: A member of IAVM (International Association of Venue Managers, Inc.), Hobart Arena finds its home in Troy.

Opposite page, above: A pre-Zamboni machine at Hobart Arena. Below: Edward, William and Charles Hobart skate at the opening ceremony of the Hobart Arena in 1950.

In 1946, William H. and Edward A. Hobart had a vision. Their vision was a vastly expanded recreational program for the City of Troy, Ohio. This expansion would involve an 18-hole golf course, a new football stadium and a winter sports arena.

They proposed that if the citizens of Troy passed a \$450,000 bond issue to build the golf course and stadium, the C.C. Hobart Foundation would build and give to the City of Troy a winter sports facility.

Troy City Council accepted and approved the plan. On March 4, 1947, the bond issue won, 3,519 votes to 466 votes. The 88.3 percent approval rate marked the highest favorable vote Trojans had ever given a ballot issue.

The new municipal golf course opened in April of 1949, and the stadium was built in September of that same year. On September 6, 1950, the complete vision became a reality

with the opening of Hobart Arena. The Troy Skating Club was soon organized and became a member of the United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA). Frederick C. LeFevre, of Troy, was elected president of the USFSA, his wife, Virginia, was an international figure-skating judge, and their son, John, later served USFSA as executive director. All three were inducted into the Troy Hall of Fame in 2001 (see pages 36-37).

Since the early '50s, many charitable, religious, civic and educational groups have benefited from the facility. Some of the best known entertainers in the world such as Elvis Presley, Lawrence Welk, Martina McBride, Alabama, and the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus have performed at Hobart Arena. The Troy Skating Club has also helped sponsor and produce amateur ice shows and host competitions.



Photos on this page courtesy of André Odermatt and the Hobart Institute of Welding Technology

In 1995, Lucia Bravo, William Hobart's daughter, visited Hobart Arena and noticed several areas that needed to be upgraded. After discussing this with her husband, Robert, the Bravos decided to give more than one million dollars to be used as seed money for the renovation of Hobart Arena. They felt by committing such an amount that the citizens of Troy and other groups and organizations would also donate to upgrade the facility.

In 1996, Troy City Council and the Recreation Board approved the project and a renovations committee was formed. The architectural firm of

Lorenz and Williams of Dayton, Ohio, was hired, and a complete assessment of the facility's needs was made and prioritized.

The goal of the Bravos, the arena's renovation committee and the architects was to restore Hobart Arena to the standards of the day it opened. The first project was begun in April of 1997. Since then, the arena's roof and exterior have been repaired, windows have been replaced, a rubberized floor was installed, concession stands were relocated to make room for the Troy Hall of Fame, and numerous other renovations were made.

Today, numerous activities including sporting events, trade shows, concerts, graduations, conferences and political rallies are hosted there. Hobart Arena has generated millions of dollars for the greater Troy area and introduced the community to people from across the country, fulfilling the

vision of Troy's community leaders.









## K's Hamburgers

117 E. Main St., Troy, OH | 937-339-9114
Opened for business July 31, 1935, by twin brothers Paul & David Klein, during the Great Depression when it was a big gamble to sell hamburgers for a nickel, it is still owned by the Klein family and features the original, functioning neon "Eat" sign. It reflects the style of its time and has served vice presidents and other high-ranking politicians.

## Miami County Courthouse

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society

Built in 1885, the Miami County Courthouse stands as a symbol of the pride residents have felt toward their thriving community since the early days. Miami County's first courthouse stood just a mile or so to the northeast, over the Great Miami River in the tiny burg of Staunton. When Troy began to overtake Staunton in size and influence, courthouse business moved in September of 1808 to the still-standing Overfield Tavern, now a museum on the corner of Mulberry and E. Water streets (see pages

A second courthouse in Troy was completed in 1825 and sat square in the middle of what Trojans now call the traffic circle. This brick-walled building served as the center of town until it was razed so the county could move to what became known as the 1841 Courthouse. which is located at 116 W. Main St. and is still standing just east of today's Safety Building.

As Miami County continued to prosper, plans for a much larger courthouse took shape until, in 1885, work began on the present-day building. The county solicited the architectural skills of J.W.Yost to build what has now become one of the most famous "old courthouses" in the Midwest.

Yost drew inspiration from the U.S. Capitol building, as well as other Grecian and Romanesque structures, to design the monolithic structure that measures 114 feet square and stands 185 feet to the top of Lady Justice, perched high atop the ornate dome.

The total cost for the building was about \$400,000, which included the price of the limestone walls hauled in from quarries in Amherst and the second-floor marble that came from Kentucky.

As impressive as the structure is from the outside, the interior also draws praise from anyone lucky, or unlucky, enough to sit inside any of the building's courtrooms.

Frescoes painted on the hallways include American Indians, early pioneers, and animals that depict life, culture and livelihoods of Miami countians.

On Thursday, July 16, 1885, ceremonies to commemorate the new courthouse were held. By 9 a.m., the Public Square was full. A procession of bands, fire departments and people formed in the Public Square at 1:30 p.m. and marched up Main Street to Short Street and



Above: The three-story stone courthouse that was built in 1888 is a formidable structure. On each of its four sides, a grand staircase ascends to a central portico, where the main entrances are sheltered by a balcony below a central bay. Squat domes on each corner balance the big iron globes of the central bays. The great central dome of four stages is similar to that of the U.S. Capitol, but this dome includes four large clock faces above the colonnade.

#### More about the Miami County Courthouse:

#### Location/Contact

215 W. Main St. Troy, OH 45373 937-440-5900 commissioners: 937-440-5910 awblakley@co.miami.oh.us

#### **Driving Directions**

Exit #74 from I-75.

East on State Route 41/Main Street to Short Street.

Courthouse is on the northwest corner of Main and Short streets.

Parking: free, two-hour, on-street parking

#### Open Hours

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

www.co.miami.oh.us

#### **Admission** Free

### **Online Information**

www.co.miami.oh.us

#### Or contact the **Local History Library**

See pages 6-7

entered from the west side of the courthouse grounds. Attorney Elihu S. Williams had been chosen orator for the event and closed his speech with the following:

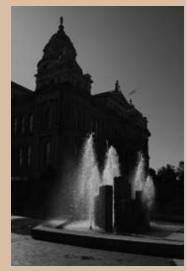
"I thank God that I am an American, a resident of Ohio, and that I live in Miami County — a county in which no home is out of sight of a schoolhouse, nor out of the hearing of a church bell... Let this courthouse be built upon the foundation, the corner stone of which we this day plant. Let it rise in architectural beauty as a sign and symbol that the protecting arm of the law is around each home, and that justice, like the sunshine and the rain from Heaven, falls alike upon the rich and the poor, without regard to race or color ... a shield of

protection for the innocent, and a swift, strong arm of punishment for the guilty."

The Miami County
Courthouse underwent an
extensive \$4.6 million

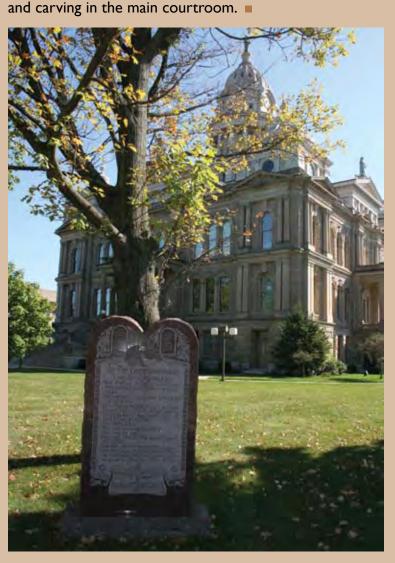
Visit the courthouse fountains, built in 1976 from the stones of the old jailhouse, as well as other memorial displays.

The Miami County Power Plant, located at 209 W.Water St. and completed in 1886, was built to heat the Miami County Courthouse across the street. This well-preserved red brick industrial-style building features a chimney that towers 86 feet and dominates the downtown Troy skyline. The innovative heating and natural air conditioning system for the courthouse pipes air through tunnels under Water Street.





restoration project that was completed in 1998. The project began in 1996 to restore the domes and pavilions to a condition that would last for another 100 years and still maintain the integrity of its historical appearance. Many restorations were completed on the existing clockworks, bell, statuary and other features. Restorers also replaced the slate roof, painted and finished in the original color, and completed other restorations to the interior, particularly the woodwork





### Lopez, Severt, Pratt & Co.

18 E. Water St., Troy, OH

937-335-5658 | www.lopezsevertpratt.com Built by Angeline Wright in 1886, the building features Queen Ann Style Chicago windows with art glass, a polygonal turret with multifaceted roof and fenial ridge ornaments.

## Historic Educational Buildings

Content contributed by the Troy Board of Education and The Troy Historical Society

**Mission Statement of the Troy City Schools:** In partnership with our community, to provide a quality education so our children become productive and responsible citizens.

The earliest record of a school in Troy dates back to 1808, when Andrew Wallace taught in a log house on N. Franklin Street. Historical records show that parents paid approximately \$2 per student for a three-month term.

During the first week of June in 1849, a Board of Education was created. The first members included Charles Morris, Benjamin F. Powers, William B. Johnson, Zachariah Riley, Henry S. Mayo and Rev. Daniel Rice, who served as the first president. That year, the public voted \$6,000 to erect a new schoolhouse, which would be called the Troy Union School and later became the Edwards Building (after W. N. Edwards, Troy's first superintendent of schools). The building was located on the corner of Main and Oxford streets, the current location of the Troy-Miami County Public Library.

The Kyle School was completed next in 1884, after two years of construction. This school was named for Lt. Col. Barton S. Kyle, a president of the school board who had been killed at the Battle of Shiloh. Kyle School was designed by Peters and Burns, Dayton's leading architects, and contained over 1.5 million bricks. The Cherry Street tower reached 110 feet high and the Plum Street tower, 80 feet high.

Primary grades were on the first floor of the Kyle School, the manual training department was in the basement, and the attic housed the spacious gymnasium. High school

students were taught on the second floor until the Van Cleve School was opened in September of 1915. To make way for the present Kyle School, the building was razed in 1950.

In 1874, a two-story brick building facing Franklin Street, which would be named Forest School because of the cluster of maples and elms that surrounded it, was completed at a cost of \$10,000. In 1905, a second Forest School building was constructed, and the present Forest School was built in 1950.

In 1889, the Board of Education established the first Junior High School with Ralph M. Brown in charge. This Junior High School claims the



## Current School Buildings (Year Built):

- 1. Van Cleve 6th-Grade Building (1914)
- 2. Heywood Elementary (1931)
- 3. Forest Elementary (1950)
- 4. Kyle Elementary (1950)
- 5. Troy High School (1958)
- 6. Concord Elementary (1919)
- 7. Cookson Elementary (1964)
- 8. Hook Elementary (1967)
- 9. Troy Junior High School (1973)

distinction of being the first organized in Ohio along the lines of activity followed today.

Van Cleve School was built for the high school grades in 1914. It next served the junior high students when the present high school was built in 1958. Later, it became an elementary school once the present junior high building was ready in 1973, and Van Cleve now houses the sixth graders of Troy.

The Troy City School District is currently comprised of one high school, one junior high school, one sixth-grade building and six neighborhood elementary schools.



Above left:Troy High School
Above right:Troy Junior High School
Opposite page, left column, top to bottom:
Cookson Elementary, Concord Elementary,
Heywood Elementary and the first Kyle School.
Right column, top to bottom: Edwards School (no longer exists, where the Troy-Miami County Public Library now sits), Van Cleve 6th-grade building, second Forest School, Hook Elementary









#### **Contact:**

Board of Education 500 N. Market St. Troy, OH 45373 937-332-6700



Or contact the Local History Library See pages 6-7











#### **District Motto:**

In Pursuit of Excellence

#### **High School Motto:**

Truth, Honor, Sportsmanship



### **Brower Stationers**

I 6 S. Market St., Troy, OH
Built in 1851 by the Troy Hotel Company, the building
was constructed in early Victorian style, featuring I/I
windows with shaped head molds and stone sills. Known
as the Morris Hotel and then the Lollis Hotel, today it is
the Morris House, a residence for older adults.

## Southwest Historic District Tour

Content contributed by the Southwest Historic District of Troy, Ohio

**Mission Statement:** To foster a spirit of community support, interaction and appreciation for the unique qualities and opportunities of life within our neighborhood.

The Southwest Historic District is a group of neighbors in downtown Troy, Ohio. This friendly, social organization promotes the great aspects of the downtown Troy neighborhood.

The Southwest Historic District is located in the southwest quadrant of downtown Troy, bordered on the north by W. Main St. and bordered on the east by S. Market St. It runs west to Garfield Street and the railroad. The

organization publishes a cookbook, sponsors a variety of activities including a Christmas Walk and SWHD Dining Club, and participates in the Troy Strawberry Festival and Troy Main Street events.

100 block of S. Short Street



300 block of S. Plum Street



300 block of Drury Lane





300 block of S. Plum Street



300 block of Grant Street



500 block of Lincoln Avenue



#### 400 block of Lincoln Avenue V



400 block of Garfield Avenue



Opposite page and this page: Some samples of historic homes in downtown Troy.

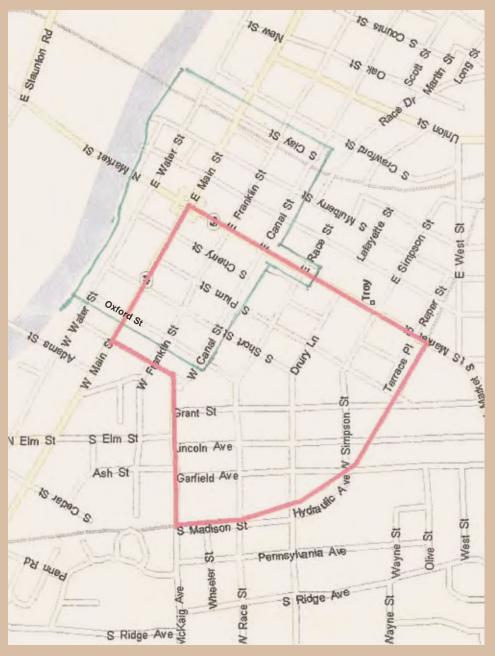
## More About Historic Troy Tours:

#### Contact

937-440-6811 info@troyswhd.org

## Or contact the Local History Library

See pages 6-7



Above: The red perimeter outlines the area of the Southwest Historic District in Troy.

#### Stewart House



16 S. Cherry St., Troy, OH

## Mark A. Puthoff, Esq., LLC

Attorney at Law

937-335-5252 | www.puthoff.us

This Gothic revival style house was built in 1870 by Emiline Stewart. In 1880, it was owned by Judge Henry Williams who subsequently built the addition. In 1892, Dr. Charles Hartley, a prominent doctor, owned the house.

## Historic Churches

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society



# Grace Family Worship Center (originally, the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Troy) 214 W. Main St., 1912

The church was dedicated June 1, 1913. The dedication was delayed because of building damage from the 1913 flood. The new church and its windows were featured on the front page of the Troy Daily News on June 5, 1913. Some windows had been donated to replace family windows in the church's former building.

## La Bella Viaggio (originally, the First Baptist Church of Troy) 101 W. Franklin St., 1855

This brick church building was built by Andrew Helpman with the influence of Rev. Thomas P. Childs. The original cost was \$4,636, though it wasn't until 1866 that the interior was completed at an additional cost of \$5,525. The stained glass windows were memorials for church members and their families who lived and died in the late 1800s.



## First United Methodist Church 110 W. Franklin St., 1901

After a fire destroyed the church's former building on Mulberry Street on Easter Sunday, April 2, 1899, the present building was constructed at a cost of \$65,873 in 1901. The art glass windows were designed at a cost of \$1,820. Sunday school superintendent Harvey A. Cosley, who operated a hardware





store on the first floor of the Masonic Building at the time, served as the chairman of the art glass committee during the church construction.



## First United Church of Christ 120 S. Market St., 1904-6

The church was dedicated on April I, 1906. According to a church document, the stained glass windows were designed "...to capture the spirit of Psalms 96." The original cost for 59 windows was said to have been \$2,106. The Gethsemane window, originally donated by George McCullough, was destroyed by a storm in 1920 and was replaced by his son, D.M. McCullough, in a slightly different style than the others. A tornado in 1960 moved the window Christ Knocking at the Door a few inches but did not blow it out of its frame.

## St. John's United Church of Christ 130 S.Walnut St., 1882

This church was dedicated on January 7, 1883. The church started in the 1840s and was known as St. John's Evangelical Church. In 1923, the church held a Diamond Jubilee celebration

### **More About Historic Churches:**

See "Stained Glass Window Tour" brochure. Contact The Troy Historical Society (see page 5) or the Local History Library (see page 7).

in honor of its 75th anniversary and added a new Sunday school hall with a basement and 11 stained glass windows.



## Redemption Gospel Ministries (originally, the First Church of the Nazarene of Troy)

#### 111 E. Canal St., 1937

This building was built in the middle of the Great Depression by the church pastor, Rev. J.I. Moore, his sons Carlan and Ray, and members of the congregation. According to a 1937 Troy Daily News article, the family and congregation worked nearly every day on the building. It is believed they started gathering building materials in 1933, began construction about 1935 and held the first service there in 1937. However, the building may not have been completed until the early 1940s. Church families purchased colored glass for the windows, many to honor their deceased family members. The colors of the glass, especially the brilliant red, can only be seen from inside the building.



## Barbel E. Adkins Educational Center (originally, the Trinity Episcopal Church of Troy)

## Corner of Franklin and Walnut Streets, 1833-35

This has long been known as the oldest church building in Troy. Built on land donated by Dr. Asa Coleman, bricks for the church were made on his farm, located two miles north of Troy. General William Henry Harrison (later U.S. President Harrison) gave a speech on the steps of this church to open the Miami and Erie Canal (see pages 62-63) on July 5, 1837. A former slave named Aunty Green once lived in the church basement until slave hunters beat on the church's front door demanding she come out. She escaped through a window to elude her captors. One of the tunnels of the Underground Railroad can be seen through a floor grate near the inside of the church entrance.

## First Presbyterian Church 21 E. Franklin St., 1859

This church was built at a cost of \$12,000. A memorial service was held here for President Abraham Lincoln following his assassination. Stained glass windows were not added until

1895-1905. The memorial window for Catherine Margaretta Hoagland was one of few to contain the full birth and death dates, and another, the Eliza Telford Brown window, was the only one to be signed by its artist, Zinser.



## St. Patrick's Catholic Church 409 E. Main St., 1916

Built on the site of a blacksmith's shop, this church replaces the earlier church built in 1858. The church has 26 stained glass windows, 10 of which were preserved from the congregation's former church building. Inspiration for both the building and the windows came from a young priest named Anthony Mentink. He came to St. Patrick's in 1906 on a temporary assignment and stayed for 52 years. He launched a building campaign for every member to pledge a penny a day to build the church.







8 S. Market St., Troy, OH, 1929 937-332-8311 | www.usbank.com

This building was designed by Hopkins & Dentz of New York City and features a two-story-high semicircular entrance way, framed by 13 carved limestone relief panels (see First Troy National Bank & Trust on page 53).

## **Historic Homes**

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society and Troy Main Street



## William Barbee House 3 E.Water St., 1835

Built in 1835 by the son of one of Miami County's most prominent early settlers, Judge Barbee, William Jr. was a blacksmith as a young man. He later became the president of the Miami County State Bank.



Sabin House
23 S. Mulberry St., 1847
Dr. Roswell Sabin's home is an excellent example of Federal

architecture.



Built by Augustus G. Stouder (see page 37) around 1916, this home is one of the best examples of Prairie Style architecture in southwest Ohio.



## E.A. Hobart House (steel house) 172 S. Ridge Ave., 1940

In 1960, an early childhood educational program was started in Troy by Julia Hobart. Her husband, William H. Hobart, Jr., offered her rooms in the Overfield Tavern Museum for what would be named the Overfield Nursery School. The program is now housed in this former home of Edward A. and Martha Hobart on Ridge Avenue.



## William Harrison Hobart House 80 Plum St., 1928

This Colonial Revival Adams style house features a double-round stairs entrance and a hip roof with quaint windows in the roof line. This house was built by a co-founder of Hobart Manufacturing Company, known worldwide for its welding equipment.



## 2-9 Hobart Circle Other Steel Houses

113 S. Ridge Ave.

121 S. Ridge Ave.

129 S. Ridge Ave.

145 S. Ridge Ave.

203 Penn Road

1020 W. Main St.

1022 W. Main St.

119 Jackson St.

(Lustron all-steel house)

320 Race St.

(Armco-Ferro all-steel house)

#### **More About Historic Homes:**

See "Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Troy, Ohio" brochure. Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).



## Robert Culbertson House 304 E. Franklin St., 1841

Robert Culbertson was an early pioneer resident and prominent merchant in Troy. This is an excellent example of pure Greek Revival architecture. The house was enlarged in 1854.



## Horatio Phillips House 122 W. Franklin St., 1847

This house was built by Horatio Phillips, a dry goods merchant in Dayton with a business interest in Troy. He later sold it to Joseph Brown, secretary of the Dayton and Michigan Railroad.

## These homes still exist. Visit them today!



#### 511 W. Race St., 1870

This house is one of a small number of octagon-shaped houses left in Ohio. Built about 1870 of poured gravel in cement, it was plastered and then stuccoed. It had French doors facing east and west and formerly was situated across the street from where D.A. Meeker (see page 37) lived. Pipes that were used for communication throughout the house and its odd shape caused children to call it "the haunted house."



#### Solomon R. Drury House 420 S. Market St., 1856

Built by Solomon and Sarah Drury, this house is noted for its beautiful original circular staircase, which extends from the first floor reception hall to the attic, and for the "widow's walk" on the top of the roof.





#### W.K. Dunlap House 16 E. Franklin St., 1873

William Dunlap was a successful partner in a fruit tree nursery located southwest of town. At that time, Miami County was the largest fruit tree shipping center in the Midwest. This Second Empire style brick structure features floor-length windows, a mansard roof and dormers with semicircular windows.





12 S. Cherry St.

# Faust, Harrelson, Fulker, McCarthy & Schlemmer, Attorneys at Law

P.O. Box 8, Troy, OH | 888-365-9584

Built in 1872 by Jacob Harter, this Queen Anne Style building features two and a half stories, irregular massings and roof forms, slate roof, cornice details and clipped corner windows.

## Historic Factories and Industry

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society



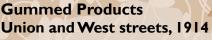






**Brown-Bridge Mills** 518 E. Water St., 1928 This company, now called Spinnaker Coating, is a manufacturer of pressure-

sensitive rolls and sheets, gummed boxes and sealing tapes, printing papers, veneer tapes, dry gum, conventional stamps, heat seat, sealing labels and industrial products.

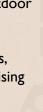


The first gummed products manufacturer located west of the Hudson River, the company manufactures assorted sealing and locker tapes. It changed owners several times and today is named Troy Laminating & Coating, Inc.



**Troy Sunshade Company** S. Grant Street, Circa 1930s

With Grant Street on the left and Lincoln Avenue in the middle, Troy Sunshade Company was a manufacturer of quality metal outdoor and indoor furniture for hotels. dormitories, clubs and homes. It also made automotive accessories, metal awnings, garden and advertising umbrellas and cloth specialties.



#### Tip Top Company 513 McKaig Ave., 1907

Established in 1907 in New Hampshire, the company moved to Troy in 1923. In 1949, a new factory was erected, complete with the latest modern equipment and employing 20 people. It manufactured potato chips and other semi-perishable food items and distributed the products within a 200mile radius.



Manufacturers of wood and metal patterns and non-ferrous castings, the company made patterns and molds for equipment for Hobart Corporation.



See "Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Troy, Ohio" brochure. Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).





## Troy Buggy Works Company 707 S. Crawford St., 1881

The company's surries were known from Maine to California and from Manitoba to Mexico. It employed 175 men who worked year-round and were known for high-quality work.



## Hobart Brothers Company 600 W. Main St., 1917

Hobart Brothers Company is a welding trade school and developer and manufacturer of welding equipment, welding filler metals, airport ground power equipment and more.





## Troy Champion Planter and Plow Works Race and Mulberry streets, 1875

This factory on the northwest corner of Race and Mulberry streets was owned and operated by Asa Beedle and John Kelly. By 1882, the factory doubled its size and employed between 75 and 100 men, who turned out 4,000 corn planters and 2,000 sulky hay rakes a year. The Miami and Erie Canal (see pages 62-63) ran outside its back door, and the company's coal and lumber arrived by canal boat. Fire destroyed the factory in November of 1883 and with it, the company's corn planter, plow and hay rake business. Rebuilt on the same site, its name was changed to the Troy Wagon Company, and the sturdy, four-weeled, high box wagons it built became well-known all over the United States and in many foreign countries.





#### Braun Brothers Packing Company 100 Dye Mill Road, 1885

This meat-packing company started as a meat market in the Gault House at 107 W. Main St., where Masonic Temple now resides. Now located just outside Troy's corporation limits where they purchased a slaughterhouse near Dye Mill Road, this company once operated a fleet of 20 refrigerated trucks. The company's first of several slaughterhouses started in 1885, and the company incorporated in 1919.



# Troy Area Chamber of Commerce

405 S.W. Public Square, Suite 330, Troy, OH
937-339-8769 | www.troyohiochamber.com
This commercial structure was originally built by the firm
Hays, Cruishank & Wilmington in 1878.

## **Historic Businesses**

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society



Morris Hotel/Lollis Hotel I W. Franklin St., 1854

This early Victorian hotel was completed by the Troy Hotel Company. In later years, it was known as the Lollis Hotel, a very posh and expensive place to stay. At one time, WACO determined which customer was next in line to receive a WACO biplane by the order of names on the hotel registry (see Brower ad on page 43).



#### Hatfield House 123 E. Main St., 1835

This imposing brick structure was built as a hotel by Sylvester Green. In 1855, it was enlarged and renamed by Elias Hatfield. At that time, there were 20 large rooms, including an office, parlor, dining room, kitchen and toilet room. Stables once stood behind the hotel, which is still called the Hatfield House.





## Gillis Taxi Company 101 Public Square, early 1920s

Gillis Taxi Company started in the livery barn built on Walnut Street by William Gillis. Horses were replaced when automobiles became popular, and the taxi company started in the early '20s. The Gillis Taxi Company office was located behind a hotel on the corner of S. Market and W. Franklin streets. The office later moved to the northwest corner of the Public Square and then to E. Main Street.





## Troy Interurban Station 220 S. Market St., 1904

Above: This building formerly housed the Troy Interurban Station. Below: The Dayton & Troy Electric Railroad Company's interurban car has crossed the W. Main Street bridge over the Miami and Erie Canal and is about to turn south into Market Street on its way to Dayton.



#### **More About Historic Businesses:**

See "Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Troy, Ohio" brochure. Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).



## Commercial Row: 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 N. Market St., 1833

In 1824, most of the wooden buildings in the block were burned by arsonists. In 1833, Henry S. Mayo rebuilt them, this time of brick. This remained the most important business block in town until after the Civil War. Following a decline into almost a "skid row," the buildings were rehabilitated in 1975.



## Trojan Coal Company 305 E. Main St., 1911

Later known as Trojan Coal & Builders Supply, it features a natural rock coal facade applied to a frame building. The building is located in the area where Troy's railroad roundtable and stock yard once stood. This busy and pungent area was bordered by Main, Crawford, Water and Clay streets.



#### Dye Building S.E. Public Square, 1865

Built by William Henry Harrison Dye who also built a distillery at Dye's Pond, this building was converted to a flour mill after the Civil War. The Dye Building has housed Dye's own bank, the Mammoth Store, Toby's Drug Store, Knights of Pythias, GC Murphy Co. and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. The third floor housed the second opera house in Troy. Five hundred people could be seated in the space, which was also used for graduations, balls, church fairs, traveling entertainers, ministers and orators (see page 35).



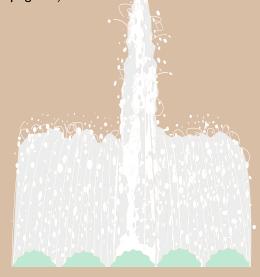
## First Troy National Bank & ATrust: 8-10 S. Market St., 1929

This building was designed by Hopkins & Dentz of New York City and features a two-story-high semicircular entrance way, framed by 13 carved limestone modern stylized relief panels.



#### Hawley's Cabs N.E. Public Square, Circa 1938

Hawley's Cabs was one of two taxi companies servicing Troy during the 1930s and '40s.





# Hobart Institute for Welding Technology

400 Trade Square E., Troy, OH
800-332-9448 | www.welding.org
This Hobart Trade School on N. Elm Street was
designed, built of steel and welded entirely by Hobart
Brothers Company employees (see pages 24-27).

## Historic Art in Troy

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society





Above: **Eclipse** by Aka Pereyma. Located at Hobart Urban Nature Preserve, 1400 Tyrone Road.

Left: Jacob's Ladder, by Aka Pereyma. Created in memory of Glyn Williams and Howard Cary, members of First Presbyterian Church and leaders in the welding industry. Located at E. Main and Walnut streets.

Below: **Guardian Steed,** a Troy High School student project, available only by appointment. To view, call the Troy High School at 937-332-6170.



More About Art in Troy:

Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).

Upper right: **Paul G. Duke**, by sculptor Michael Major, from Urbana, OH. Paul Duke was a nurseryman and orchard farmer, as well as co-founder of Chemlawn Corp. Located at Duke Park.

Lower right: **Sound Chamber** by sculptor Michel Bashaw. Presented to the City of Troy by Hobart Institute of Welding Technology. Located at corner of E. Main Street and Staunton Road.





Left: Murals of Canal and Interurban, painted in 1976 as a bicentennial project by the art department of Troy High School, using historical photos. Located at southeast corner of N. Market Street at Water Street, on the side of the Troy Rec Association building in downtown Troy (see below).





### **Historic Community Centers**



#### **Troy Rec Association**

II N. Market St., Troy, OH | 937-339-1923 | www.troyrec.com

One of the oldest, if not the oldest, continuously running community youth centers in the United States, the Troy Rec Association has been serving the citizens of Troy, especially its young people, for over 70 years.

According to a September 15, 1964 article in the *Troy Daily News*, "The idea for an organized recreation program for Troy young people originated with Rev.A.M. Dixon on the city's baseball diamond in 1932 and reached fruition nine years later in the Troy Recreation Hall on the Public Square. The youth of Troy have had a 'Rec' ever since."

### **Lincoln Community Center**

110 Ash St., Troy, OH | 937-335-2715 | www.lcctroy.com

Built on the grounds of a former one-room schoolhouse that had educated the black community of Troy, the Lincoln Community Center was built in 1939 and dedicated in the same year with the understanding that "Happy living depends upon cooperation between peoples," as stated by E.T.Attwell of the National Recreation Association at the dedication ceremony. When this building was constructed, it was an unusual and outstanding achievement for Troy in that only two cities of similar size in the nation had been successful in such a project.



## Historic Architecture

**Treasure Hunt** 

Match architectural elements A-Q featured in these photos with their correct locations below.

#### **Locations:**

I.\_\_\_\_\_ I2 W. Main St.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 16 S. Cherry St.

3. \_\_\_\_ II W. Main St.

4. \_\_\_\_ 9 W. Main St.

5. 8 S. Market St.

6. Near 315 Public Square

7. \_\_\_\_\_ 12 W. Main St.

8. \_\_\_\_\_ 100 S. Market St.

9. \_\_\_\_ I W. Franklin St.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ 12 W. Main St.

11. \_\_\_\_ 17 W. Franklin St.

12. 21 S. Cherry St.

13. \_\_\_\_\_ 17 W. Franklin St.

14. \_\_\_\_\_ 21 S. Cherry St.

15. \_\_\_\_ Near 16 S. Market St.

A



В



C



Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society

D



E



F



#### More About Historic Architecture:

Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).



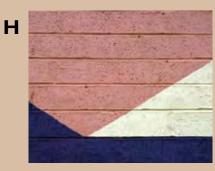






K















P

See answer key on pull-out Word Search page.



## David C. Murray & Co., Inc. McCullough Manor, 104 N. Market St., Troy, OH

937-335-3652 | 877-335-3652 Dave-M@Murray-CPA.com Built in 1875 by Attorney C.H. Culbertson of native hardwood, this manor may possibly be the oldest frame structure in town.

## Historic Markers

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society

Historic markers are plaques or signs that commemorate an event, place or person of historic interest to associate that point of interest with a specific location to visit. The Troy Historical Society has documented important historic sites in Troy and placed markers throughout the town, working with the Ohio Historical Society and the WACO Historical Society to place these markers.

Visitors and Troy community residents interested in Troy's rich history are invited to travel around town and read the various historic markers placed on city buildings and at various landmarks. This adventure would be like going on a poker run or a scavenger hunt. Some of the markers are located in interesting and unusual places and the goal is to read each one. You are invited to start your journey, learn our history and have some fun!

- Herrlinger Park at Union and E. West streets WACO Facilities (see pages 16-19)
  The marker on Union Street at the park entrance commemorates Plant I where the first WACO Model 9 fuselage was built under the business name Advance Aircraft Company. Prior to this, the building was a blacksmith's shop for the Pioneer Pole & Shaft Company.
- Herrlinger Park at Union and E.
   West streets WACO Facilities (see pages 16-19)
   The marker on Herrlinger Way

identifies the location of **Plant 2** of the Advance Aircraft Company. This is where more than 1,000 Model 10s, WACO's most popular plane, were built.



- Herrlinger Park Junior Girls Canteen, 1943-1946, #13-55 During WW II, volunteers from Troy provided necessities for more than 600,000 soldiers on their trips to and from Europe and the Pacific with support and donations from Miami and six other counties.
- 209 E.Water St. (south side of street) WACO Facilities (see pages 16-19)
   This was a storage facility for WACO engines. This facility was formerly the Hayner Distilling Company's manufacturing plant.
- 201 E. Water St. Overfield

- **Tavern Museum** (see pages 8-11)
  Ohio Historical Society marker
- 255 Adams St. (in front of Hobart Arena) – WACO Facilities (see pages 16-19)
   This marker commemorates the

This marker commemorates the assembly barn, which may have been dubbed Plant 4 in 1927. When Hobart Arena was built, the barn was relocated from its original site to the city park across the street. The barn is now home to the Troy Civic Theatre and is known as the Barn in the Park (see page 19).

- On the levee, behind the Troy
  Aquatic Park WACO Facilities
  (see pages 16-19)
  This marker commemorates Judd
  Boak's Flying Field. Pictures
  include one of Charles Lindbergh,
  two years before his famous
  transatlantic flight, while he was
  employed by Missouri WACO
  dealer Tex LaGrone.
- Troy City Park Across the



street from Hobart Arena
There are markers about the **trees**and vegetation in the park. The
Barn in the Park is located in the

#### More About Historic Markers:

Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).

Park – see more at 255 Adams St.

Adams Street Bridge
 This marker commemorates the building of the bridge.



Market Street Bridge
 This marker commemorates
 travel over the river from ferry
 to modern-day bridge.



419 W. Main St., at Water

Street entrance of Troy-Miami
County Public Library
Several markers are located here, including a memorial marker honoring William Norton
Edwards, a dedication marker for Brukner Park (behind the library, on Water Street) in honor of
Clayton J. Brukner, and a 4 Way
Test marker in memory of three

generation Rotarians, Walter E. Bowyer, David A. Meeker and David B. Meeker.

- Courthouse (see pages 40-41)
  The south column of the courthouse features a memorial marker in recognition of the people of Miami County who oversubscribed their war savings quota in 1918. There is also a memorial to "all Miami County Law Enforcement Officers who have died in the line of duty and those who continue to risk their lives while protecting our communities."
- The building at this marker was constructed in 1847 with bricks salvaged from the courthouse that at one time was located on the Public Square and razed in 1845.



- 122-124 W. Main St.
   This marker identifies the Sheriff's House and Jail.
- S.W. Public Square
   This marker identifies the third

- **Miami County Courthouse** (see pages 40-41).
- 12 E. Canal St.
   This marker commemorates the Canal Boat history of Troy.
- 1865 S. County Road 25A –
   WACO Facilities (see pages 16-19)
   This is the current site of the
  - This is the current site of the **WACO Field and Museum**.
- N. County Road 25A (across from the Miami County Fairgrounds)
   This historic marker honors
   William Barbee, Sr.,
   Revolutionary War veteran and Concord Township pioneer. His service included crossing the Delaware River on December 25, 1776. He later joined Daniel Boone and George Rogers Clark in fighting Native American Indians. He died in 1813 of his wounds from the War of 1812.
- N. County Road 25A at Eldean Road – Eldean Covered Bridge This bridge is the only covered bridge that remains of about thirty that once spanned Miami County streams (find two markers here).
- Archer Drive (between State Route 55 and Peters Road) – **WACO Facilities** (see pages 16-19)

The double hangar building, visible from the street, is where WACO moved its operations in 1929. However, there is **no marker** here because of restrictions.



# Visit Concord Township's Historic Covered Bridge

concordtownship@netzero.com

Take N. County Road 25A out of Troy to Eldean Road.

Turn right and find park on the right.

## **Troy Events**

Content contributed by Troy Main Street, the Museum of Troy History, WACO Historical Society and The Troy Historical Society

#### **January**

Film series: Let's Go to the Movies, (Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, see pages 20-23)

### **February**

Martin Luther King, Jr., Walk (annual community event)

Annual Valentine Dinner and Show (Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, see pages 20-23)

Film series: Let's Go to the Movies, (Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, see pages 20-23)

#### March

Barn in the Park Beginning of Production Season (Troy Civic Theatre, see ad on page 19)

Film series: Let's Go to the Movies, (Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, see pages 20-23)

### **April**

Film series: Let's Go to the Movies, (Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, see pages 20-23)

#### May

Family Kite Fly "Wings on Strings" (WACO Historical Society, see pages 16-19, Troy Noon Optimist)

WACO Bike Tour & Music Festival (WACO Historical Society, see pages 16-19)

Upper Valley Fiber Festival (www. uppervalleyfiberfest.org)

St. Patrick's Church Festival (St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 937-339-2833, www.stpattroy.org)

### June

Concerts on the Square, all summer (Troy Main Street, 937-339-5455, www. troymainstreet.org)

Troy Strawberry Festival, first full weekend of June (Troy Chamber of Commerce, see ad on page 51)

National WACO Club Fly-in (WACO Historical Society, see pages 16-19)

### July

Troy Fourth of July Celebration (Independence Day Celebration









Exact dates and times of events are not listed, as these change yearly. Find more information from sponsoring organization(s) listed with each event.

### **More About Troy Events:**

Contact the Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau (see page 66).

Association, City of Troy, www. celebratejuly4th.org)

WACO Robotic Camp & WACO Summer Day Camp (WACO Historical Society, see pages 16-19)

### August

Miami County Fair (Miami County Fair Board, 937-335-7492, www. miamicountyohiofair.com)

Troy Festival of Nations (City of Troy, Mayor's office, 937-339-1221, www. troyohio.gov)

National Night Out (Troy Police Department, 937-339-7525, www. troyohio.gov/NightOut/NightOutHome. html)

Annual Mayor's Concert on the Square (City of Troy, 937-339-1221, www.troyohio.gov)

### September

WACO Wag-in Dog Fest (WACO Historical Society, see pages 16-19)

WACO Fly-in (WACO Historical Society, see pages 16-19)

Taste of Troy (Troy Main Street, 937-339-5455, www.troymainstreet.org)

#### October

Fall Farm Fest (Miami County Park District, 937-335-6273, www.miamicountyparks.com)

Historic Homes Tour (Museum of Troy History, see pages 12-15)

Hometown Halloween Harvest Festival (*Troy Main Street, 937-339-5455, www.troymainstreet.org*)

Film series: Let's Go to the Movies, (*Troy-Hayner Cultural Center*, see pages 20-23)

#### **November**

Grand Illumination, Friday after Thanksgiving (Troy Main Street, 937-339-5455, www.troymainstreet.org)

Film series: Let's Go to the Movies, (*Troy-Hayner Cultural Center*, see pages 20-23)



Christmas Open House (Museum of Troy History, see pages 12-15)

Holiday Open House (Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, see pages 20-23)

Santa Visit and Holiday Exhibit (WACO Historical Society, see pages 16-19)





This page, top to bottom: Troy Strawberry Festival's 2010 theme, "Volunteers, Changing the World," and the fountain dyed pink, the Grand Illumination, WACO Fly-in. Opposite page: Troy Strawberry Festival. Top to bottom: parade, strawberry mascots, Troy Strawberry Festival Singers, bed races.



### **Troy Sports Center**

401 S.W. Public Square, Troy, OH
937-339-1618 | www.troysportscenter-ohio.com
Offering sports apparel and supplies
This commercial structure was originally built by
the firm Hays, Cruishank & Wilmington in 1878.

## Miami and Erie Canal

In 1825, access to and from the

fliami Valley was enhanced when onstruction began on a series of anals throughout the eastern half of the United States. Canals gave on the plant areas easier access to the county Road 25A, between Troy and Piqua. The other is located southwest of Toledo. The arch in Miami County was built in 1837 when the Miami and Erie Canal was extended from Dayton to Piqua and it was considered.

Dayton to Piqua, and it was considered one of the architectural feats of the 19th century. From July of 2002 until the following July, the twin arch was unearthed and restored.

The Troy lock on W. Main Street was built of stone with wooden gates and a wooden floor, and it measured

90 feet long and 15 feet wide. The lock tender lived in the house to the right of the lock, and the building was also a grocery and saloon that provided food and drink for the canal boatmen (see photo on opposite page, lower left).

The first canal boat came through the lock in 1837 and the last one in 1913. The lock is now part of the foundations of the Hobart brothers' factory at W. Main and Elm streets, now the company called ITW.

In 1825, access to and from the Miami Valley was enhanced when construction began on a series of canals throughout the eastern half of the United States. Canals gave inland areas easier access to the major waterways, and they were mainly used for the movement of farm and industrial goods and public transportation. Canals opened up all parts of Ohio to settlement and commerce. In 1827, work on the canal in Dayton began with surveys of the land. Nearly two years later, the Miami and Erie Canal to Dayton was completed. Almost immediately, it was decided it should be extended north. Work on the canal north of Dayton began in 1833 and was completed to Piqua in 1837. The part of the canal north of Dayton is often referred to as

The Ohio and Erie Canal linked Lake Erie with the Ohio River in the eastern part of the state, and the Miami and Erie Canal linked the two waterways in the west. Major stops in the Miami Valley were at Hamilton, Dayton, Tipp City, Troy, Piqua and Lockington, which was founded as Locksport. A portion of the Miami and Erie Canal is still in operation at the Johnston Farm near the Conservancy Dam at Lockington, near Piqua, Ohio.

the canal "extension."

The twin arch stone culvert, one of only two such structures of the Miami and Erie Canal remaining in Ohio, is located at the Miami County Park District's Twin Arch Reserve at 3147 N.

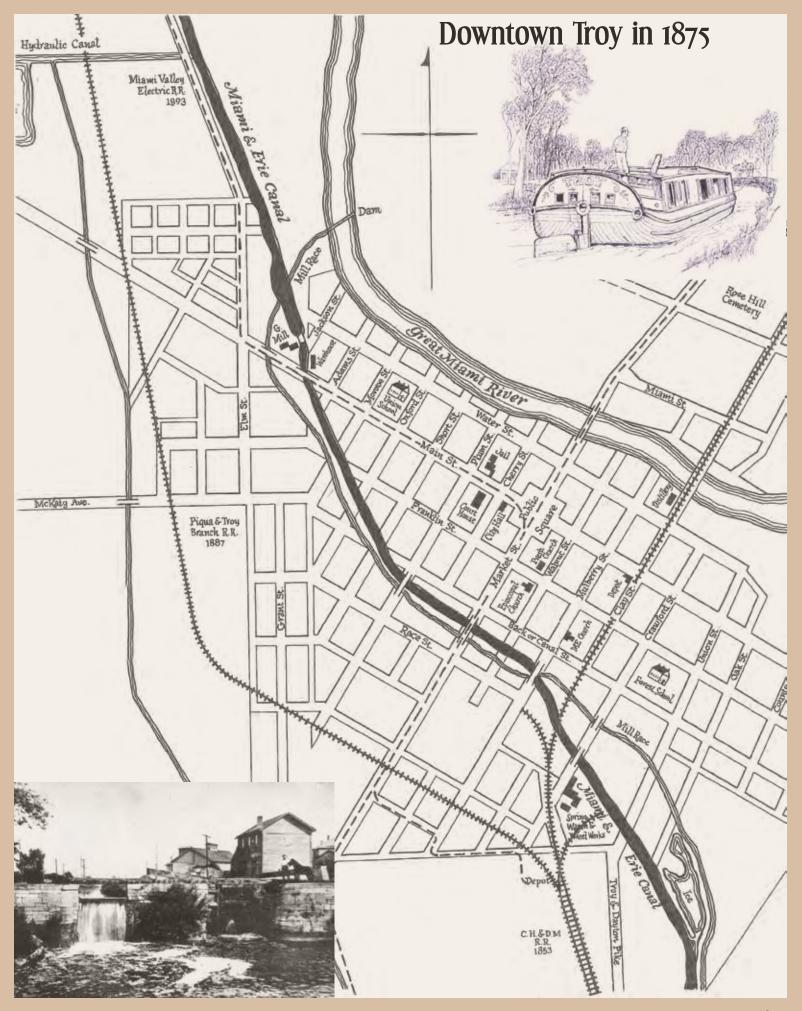


Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society and the Miami County Park District

Above:The Twin Arch Reserve is located at 3147 N. County Road 25A in Troy. Find more information at www.miamicountyparks.com. Between 1833 and 1837, the canal was built with the archway beneath to support it. The canal was used until the flood in 1913, when the canal was destroyed. County Road 25A eventually was built in the canal's old path. The railroads took over shortly after. Opposite page, lower left: The excess water flowed through the spillway at the left where once this water turned the wheels of a three-story flour mill.

#### More About Miami and Erie Canal:

Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).



## Great Miami River

Content contributed by The Troy Historical Society, the Miami County Park District and the Miami Conservancy District

Named for the Algonquian-speaking Native American people who lived in the region during the early days of European settlement, the Great Miami River runs through the heart of southwest Ohio.

The Great Miami River is a tributary of the Ohio River approximately I50 miles long and begins at the outflow of Indian Lake in Logan County. The river flows south past Piqua and Troy through Dayton, where it is joined by the Stillwater and Mad rivers. It continues to flow by charming communities in three counties before it is joined by the Whitewater River close to the Great Miami River's confluence with the Ohio River.

As was common in early industrial days, the river served as a source of water and a method to dispose of wastes for a variety of major industrial firms, but heightened attention to water pollution in the 1950s and '60s led to significant improvements. Today, much of the water quality of the Great Miami River is excellent.

#### Flooding History

Settlers found the region to combine all of the qualities needed to support a good life and to make a good living. The river, however, the source of most of this good fortune, could also take it away in minutes. The region

Top:The flood in 1913 before the levee was built. Below:Troy in its current day, after the levee was built to protect the city.





#### More About Great Miami River:

Contact Miami Conservancy District at 937-223-1271 or info@miamiconservancy.org.

suffered a disastrous flood in 1805.

As years passed, floods continued to recur. Destructive floods hit the area in 1866, 1883, 1897 and 1898, but none of those equaled the flood of 1805 or the one that was yet to come.

The Miami Valley suffered a catastrophic flood over a three-day period beginning Easter Sunday (March 23), 1913, when 9 to 11 inches of rain fell over the watershed. The storm that brought the flood to the Miami Valley was part of a system that left behind damage throughout the Midwest. Floodwaters and fierce winds took lives and destroyed property in several states from Nebraska to Pennsylvania, making it one of the worst natural disasters ever suffered in this country. In the Miami Valley, more than 350 lives were lost, and property damage totaled \$100 million, nearly \$2.2 billion in today's economy.

After the flood, the Miami Conservancy District (MCD) was created in 1914 to build a system of dams, levees and channel improvements to protect communities from future floods. By the end of 2011, the five dams had stored floodwaters more than 1,770 times.

## The Great Miami River Recreational Trail

Miami County, the Miami County Park District, the City of Troy, Concord Township and the Miami Conservancy

The Tin Roof Restaurant, also known as the Hobart Boathouse, overlooks the Miami River and is a stop along the trail, also a popular walking path (see insert at right).

District, with private cooperation from Martin-Marietta Aggregates and assistance from The Troy Foundation, combined efforts to construct the Great Miami River Recreational Trail, which opened in July of 2005.

The process of trail construction required the restoration of an abandoned railroad bridge. The trail travels along a river, underneath a state highway, along an older railroad bed, by a golf course, and by a major mining and asphalt facility. Although these organizations faced many challenges, the trail exists today and is a popular attraction for visitors and long-time residents of Troy.

The trail is open from 8 a.m. to sunset every day of the year. Sunset times can be found by visiting www. miamicountyparks.com and clicking "Park Hours" under the "Mission

Statement" menu.

#### **Trail Features:**

- 10.5 miles of trail opened to date
- View of the Great Miami River and Miami Shores Golf Course
- · Two historical locks along trail
- Scenic wooded areas
- Two free parking areas at 901 Dye Mill Road and 940 State Route 202 in Troy

More information and updates about the Great Miami River Recreational Trail can be found at www.miamicountyparks.com.

#### State of Ohio Water Trail

The Great Miami River also is designated by Ohio as a State Water Trail and provides 150 miles of waterway for kayaking, canoeing, fishing and wildlife watching.

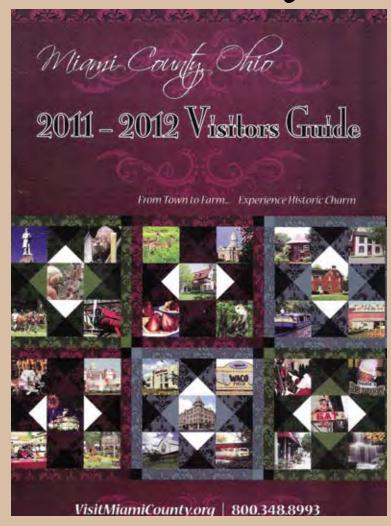




# Tin Roof Restaurant on the Miami

439 N. Elm St., Troy, OH | 937-339-1305
www.tinroofonthemiami.com
Great steaks, ribs, seafood | Seasonal patio seating open
Party rooms and catering available
Known as the Hobart Boathouse, it was built in 1946 by
E.A. Hobart, primarily for the benefit of the residents of Troy.

## Miami County Visitors Guide



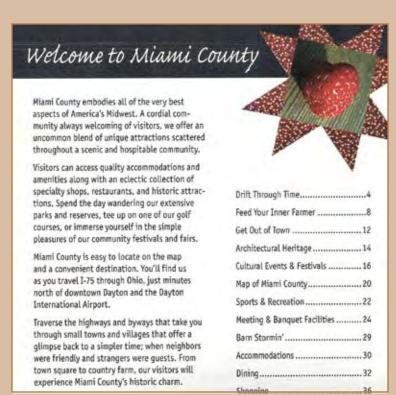
Welcome to beautiful Miami County. Contact the Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau for the most recent Visitors Guide. Enjoy learning about our county's history!

### More About Miami County:

#### Contact

Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau 405 S.W. Public Square, Suite 272 Troy, OH 45373 937-339-1044

Toll Free: 800-348-8993 info@VisitMiamiCounty.org www.VisitMiamiCounty.org





### **Riverside of Miami County**

1625 N.Troy-Sidney Road, Troy, OH 937-339-8313

#### www.riversidedd.org

Our mission is to empower children and adults with developmental disabilities to live, work and play as full members of the Miami County community!

### Other Miami County Attractions to See:

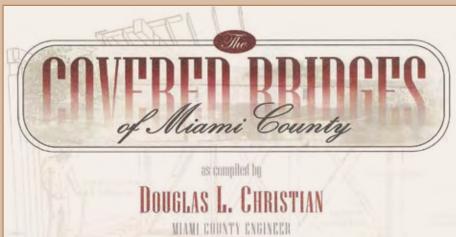
#### **Upper Valley Medical Center (UVMC) Historical Collection**

Located at 3130 N. County Road 25A, Troy, OH.

See information desk at UVMC or call 937-440-4000 for more information.

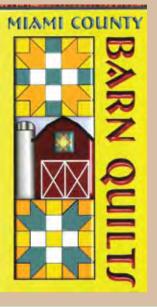






For bridge tour, see "The Covered Bridges of Miami County" brochure. Contact the Local History Library (see page 7).

For more information, contact the Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau (see page 66) or visit www. visitmiamicounty. org and click "Barn Quilts Project" or "Barn Quilts Guide."





#### El Sombrero

1700 N. County Road 25A, Troy, OH
937-339-2100 | www.elsombrerotroy.com
Fine Mexican Dining and Cuisine
Owner Ruben Pelayo is a sponsor of the Troy-Miami County Public

Library summer reading program, a Troy Little League baseball team and the annual St. Patrick Church Festival in Troy. Ruben also provides an annual Thanksgiving Day meal for the community.

## **Business Patrons supporting**



### **Dungan & LeFevre**

A Legal Professional Association
210 West Main St., Troy, OH
937-339-0511 | www.dungan-lefevre.com
Built in 1957 for People's Building and Savings Bank, the twostory brick and stone building features the late version of
traditional classically-inspired bank design. It also includes a
smooth limestone on the front and exterior lanterns.



1801 Towne Parke Drive, Troy, OH 937-332-7811 | OBS3665@outback.com We start fresh every day to create the flavors that our mates crave. Best known for grilled steaks, chicken and seafood!





### **The Filling Station**

2331 W. Market St., Troy, OH

937-339-4800 | www.thefillingstationsportsbar.com Open Sun-Thurs: II a.m.-I0 p.m., Fri-Sat: II a.m.-II p.m. Offering fun for the whole family or a relaxed atmosphere for the office staff. Full bar, arcade, flat screen TVs, XM radio, jukebox and state-of-the-art party/banquet room.All-American menu strives to provide something for everyone.

### **Unity National Bank**

1314 W. Main St., Troy, OH 937-339-6626 | www.unitynationalbk.com Open Mon–Thurs: 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri: 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Personal solutions, at your service.

Serving the financial needs of Miami County communities and their residents for more than 125 years.



## **Troy Historical Alliance**



### For All Seasons

2 W. Main St., Troy, OH | 937-875-2599
Retail store benefiting Hospice of Miami County,
a local non-profit organization
"It's all about how you live"
Built in 1856 and remodeled in 1910, this simple,
three-story, early 20th century building features
stone lintels and sills.

# Fraternal Order of Eagles 971

225 N. Elm St., Troy, OH | 937-335-7630
Aerie meetings take place the 1st and 3rd
Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m.
Auxiliary meetings take place the 1st and 3rd
Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m.







# Habitat for Humanity of Miami County

I 50 E. Race St., Troy, OH | 937-332-3763

Seeking to eliminate poverty housing one house at a time, Habitat has built 44 homes in 19 years! Be a part of Habitat by volunteering to build the next house or by shopping in the ReStore. ReStore hours: Wed: I2–8 p.m., Thurs–Fri: 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.–4 p.m.



www.hfhmco.org

### Troy Historical Alliance presents Discover Troy, Ohio, First Edition, 2012

The eight Troy Historical Alliance partners include the WACO Historical Society and Museum, the Overfield Tavern Museum, the Museum of Troy History, The Troy Historical Society, the Local History Library, the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, the Miami Valley Veterans Museum and the Hobart Gallery of Welding History. These partners maintain their individual identities but work together to better serve all things historical in the City of Troy through a variety of collaborations, including this magazine.

Featured Business Patrons:	
Around About Books	35
Brower Stationers	43
Concord Township	59
David C. Murray & Co., Inc.	57
Dungan & LeFevre	68
El Sombrero	67
Expressions of the Home	15
Faust, Harrelson, Fulker, McCarthy & Schlemmer	49
For All Seasons	69
Fraternal Order of Eagles 971	69
Fulton Farms	5
Habitat for Humanity of Miami County	69
Have History Will Travel	11
Hobart Institute of Welding Technology	28, 53
Home Comfort Gallery	7
K's Hamburgers	39
LeDoux's Restaurant	34
Lopez, Severt, Pratt & Co.	41
Mark A. Puthoff, Esq., LLC	45
One Trust Financial	69
Outback Steakhouse	68
Patty Rose, Allstate	23
Riverside of Miami County	66
Shipman, Dixon & Livingston, L.P.A.	33
Submarine House	31
The Filling Station	68
The Troy Foundation	3
Tin Roof Restaurant	65
Troy Area Chamber of Commerce	51
Troy Civic Theatre	19
Troy Main Street	70
Troy Sports Center	61
Unity National Bank	68
US Bank	47

#### Thank you to...

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The Troy Foundation for their continued dedication to the City of Troy and for providing funding for a great portion of this project.

## Created and edited by Discover Troy project team:

Terri Boehringer Marinda Hanover Wesley Jones

#### Questions or comments?

We welcome your comments and ideas for future issues of this magazine.
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Troy Main Street

27

TroyMainStreet.org 937. 339. 5455

William & Boss Jewelry

## **Genealogy Resources**

- Covington-Newberry Historical Society 101 E. Spring St., Covington, OH 45318 city office: 937-473-2102 Local items for viewing by appointment www.covingtonohio.org
- Miami County Historical and Genealogical Society P.O. Box 305, Troy, OH 45373 | mchgsoh@gmail.com Historical workshops and publications available www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohmchgs
- Union Township Historical Museum and Quaker Research Center
   47 N. Main St., West Milton, OH 45383
   937-698-3820 | 937-778-3811
   Genealogy history from early 1700s

- The Troy Historical Society
   100 W. Main St., Troy, OH 45373
   Numerous genealogical resources available at Local History Library (see pages 6-7)
   www.thetroyhistoricalsociety.org
- Piqua Historical Society
   I 16 W. High St., Piqua, OH 45356
   937-773-6753
   Historical publications available at Local History
   Department of the Piqua Public Library
- Elizabeth Township Historical Society 5710 E.Walnut Grove, Troy, OH 45373 937-335-ETCC | info@335-etcc.com

For additional resources, see "Genealogical Research Guide to Miami County" brochure. Contact the Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau (see page 66).

### Troy's Museum in a Mausoleum

by Judy Deeter, exact reprint courtesy of in75

Throughout the Miami Valley, museums tell stories of people who once lived in our communities, but have long ago passed away. There is one unique museum, however, that tells the story of people who are buried in the city cemetery and exhibits equipment used to put them in the ground. This historical place is in the public mausoleum at Troy's Riverside cemetery.

Over the years, only a few people have known about the tiny, one-room museum. There are no signs in the cemetery that read "museum" nor have advertisements for it been run in the local newspapers.

It was started in 2004 when a barn on the cemetery property that had housed historical items was demolished. The equipment in the torn down building needed to be put in another new location. Cemetery staff member Cheryl Lavin suggested that the mausoleum be used to store the equipment and eventually organized the exhibits there.

The century old mausoleum provides a safe environment for the cemetery to store outdated burial equipment, cemetery lawn furnishings, building remnants, newspaper clippings and photographs. Items have been carefully arranged to present the history of the facility. An old shovel and a device to lower caskets in the ground are reminders of how bodies used to be buried. A set of beautiful wire love seats might have been used by those mourning lost loved ones. Windows salvaged from the demolished barn hang on the room's back wall.

The museum honors five people: Nathan Whitaker is remembered as the first person to be buried at Riverside. He died in May 1867. According to a museum newspaper clipping, he was a man "poor in purse but rich in spirit." A picture of the tomb of Frank Edgar Scobey and his wife Evaline is shown along with information about Mr. Scobey. Scobey was the Director of the US Mint from 1920 to 1923 during the administration of US President Warren G. Harding. Cpl. George Green of the 11th Ohio Infantry was a Civil War Medal of Honor Recipient. Green, who lost his leg during the War, also served as Miami County Recorder. A photograph of the tombstone of Josephine Miller Rogers Slyder is exhibited. During the Civil War Battle of Gettysburg, she cared for wounded soldiers in her parent's bullet-riddled farmhouse next to the battlefield. It was considered a miracle she survived the many flying bullets. She was eventually made an Honorary Member of the Third Army Corps of Veterans. Former cemetery Superintendent Lew Deeter, who passed away in March 2010, is honored with a program from his funeral service and newspaper articles about his life.

The mausoleum housing the museum is kept locked, but anyone wishing to see the room may do so by contacting the Riverside Cemetery Office or asking employees on site for entrance. Riverside Cemetery is located at 101 Riverside Drive (near the intersection of Adams St. and Staunton Rd./Riverside Dr.) For information call 937-335-2710.

