



# THE HISTORICAL TIMES

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## The varied history of the Granville Times Building

**By Lyn B. Boone**



**The Granville Times building in 2013, still going strong at age 182. On the eastern exposure the two wings of the building are clearly visible, with the south wing facing Broadway, and the north wing facing Prospect Street. The "crow step" gable at the north end of the north wing is barely discernible in this photo. For a better view of that Federal-style gable, see the 1866 drawing of the building also reproduced in this article. Article begins on page 2.**

**Photo by Keith Boone**

# Business uses at E. Broadway-N. Prospect corner roll with nearly 200 years of changes

If you're a long-time Granville resident, you've probably entered the building on the northwest corner of Broadway and Prospect scores of times, if not hundreds. Even if you're a newcomer to Granville, you'll recognize it as the Kussmaul Gallery and the Keller Williams-Greater Columbus real estate office. For more than 180 years, this neat brick building has been at the heart of Granville's business activity. Almost universally known as the *Granville Times* building, it has housed a range of the Village's most important enterprises, besides the *Granville Times* company itself, long the town's valued newspaper, printer, and office supply shop. Some of the building's former tenants are now scarcely remembered. Come with me for a whirlwind history of this fascinating location in the heart of Granville commercial history.

## **First, some architectural and structural comments**

Let's agree to call our building the Granville Times building, even though the Times did not actually inhabit the structure until 1897, some 66 years after it was built in about 1831. It was constructed in the Federal style and featured two wings, the south wing facing on Broadway and the north wing on Prospect Street. According to architectural historian Horace King, "both wings have fine molded cornices with gable returns. The end wall of the north wing has a 'crow-step' gable, which is a common feature of the Federal style." Take a close look at the building next time you're downtown. Besides these features, you'll also notice that on the Prospect side, there is a large freight door on the second floor, above which is a mount that could have held a pulley or other lifting device.

Don D. Young, the longtime 20<sup>th</sup>-century proprietor of the Granville Times business, observes that while the Broadway wing clearly was built as a store, the north (Prospect-facing) wing was likely used as a warehouse during the canal period (1830s and following). Young recalls hearing from his father that an elderly person had said he remembered when the

building was "full of hams." The building has an interior lift, according to Jay Young, Don's son and proprietor of the Kussmaul Gallery. He points also to the previously-mentioned second-floor freight door and pulley mount. Early written descriptions of the building refer to the "store room" in front and the "ware room" in the rear. And in the archives of the Granville Historical Society there is an 1834 contract from the business then lodged in the building, involving 3,000 "provision barrels" to be transported via the Granville Canal.

The building's two wings may not have been constructed at the same time, according to Don Young. One can see the remnants of a massive internal wall running east/west inside the building about 33 feet back from the Broadway entrance. That wall, he says, may have originally been the exterior wall of the Prospect wing. Jay Young suggests that the way the front wing's upper beams, which are free of tree bark, meet the bark-bearing beams of the back wing also witnesses to the possibility that the segments were constructed separately. However, no written evidence has been found on this question, and it's clear from written descriptions that by about 1835 (about five years after construction began), both wings of the building were present and in full use. So, the Youngs' theory about the two wings being constructed separately remains logical but unconfirmed.

Another unresolved question revolves around when the east-most storefront (now Keller-Williams Realty) was partitioned off from the rest of the building. We know that in 1835 the "rooms were together and made one front store room," according to a later letter, written by Marvin Munson. We also know that by 1865, when the east room was sold to the First National Bank, these spaces were two separate storefronts facing on Broadway, suggesting that the partition was installed sometime between 1835 and 1865. But the second-floor rooms and cellars belonging to each side of the building are completely separate from each other as well, which is difficult to explain if the street-level

partitioning of the east room was not original. Perhaps another researcher in the future will be able to resolve this mystery.

The chronology of the Granville Times building's uses and tenants is complicated because each section (the Broadway wing, the Prospect wing, and the corner storefront) has a separate occupancy history. Moreover, at times during its history there have been business activities on the second floor and in the cellars of all sections of the building. In this article I will chronicle the most prominent businesses that have operated there, knowing it is likely there have been uses I have missed over almost two centuries of occupancy.

### **Who built the Granville Times building?**

The building dates to 1830 or 1831. There is some ambiguity not only about the exact date of construction (our best sources conflict slightly), but also about who actually built it. In 1823 the property right on the corner, measuring about 18 x 33 feet, was purchased by Granville merchant Anthony P. Prichard. Originally Mr. Prichard built a small frame building on the spot, measuring almost the full size of the lot, and that small building served for several years as Prichard's early drug store. Prichard himself relates this in a letter written many years later.

In 1830, Prichard joined in a business partnership with Col. Lucius D. Mower, another prominent Granville businessman, and Mower's brother Horatio. At this time the frame structure was moved off the corner lot and, according to Henry Bushnell's 1889 *History of Granville*, Lucius Mower purchased more adjacent property and "put up the two-story brick which still stands." But according to Licking County real estate transfer records, Prichard himself was also a party to the purchase of the additional Broadway property, and he also purchased the Prospect-side property of about 30 feet on which the north wing was built. In his own recollections, Prichard does not credit either Mower or himself with the construction. Having mentioned his partnership with the Mowers, he says only "...the little one story frame building was removed being too small and *the present brick was erected*," (emphasis added). I conclude that it's likely both Prichard and the Mowers were



**One of the earliest existing renderings of the building that would become the Granville Times building depicted it incorrectly, with a flat roof on the south (Broadway-facing) wing. This drawing was among other sketches of Granville that appeared in the 1866 *Atlas of Licking County* (Beers, Soule & Co.). It correctly shows that the businesses occupying the building in the mid-1860s were the First National Bank in the corner (east-most) storefront, and the Jewett grocery in the west side of the building. A.P. Prichard's drug store had by this time been moved to the next storefront to the west.**

participants in the project. Begun in 1830, the finished building, measuring slightly over 34 feet along the Broadway frontage, and about 63 feet along the Prospect side, probably was actually completed in 1831.

Amid shifting partnerships and the early deaths of all three of the Mower brothers (Lucius, Horatio, and a third sibling, Sherlock) in the 1830s, the building and its neighboring building to the west saw a dizzying sequence of owners and co-owners involving combinations of Prichard, the three Mowers, and another partner, Alfred Avery. But by 1839, Prichard says, he and Avery split the business, Avery taking "the notes and accounts," and Prichard claiming "the house and goods." With what almost sounds like a tone of relief, Prichard says, "I then commenced business in my own name." The building became known as "the Prichard block."

### **The great safe robbery of 1835**

As recorded by multiple authors, the business of Mower and Prichard was the scene of the most renowned moment in the annals of Granville crime – the great safe robbery of 1835. It was a comedy of inept larceny gone awry, as a local rascal planned and executed, none too successfully, a break-in at the store. On an April night, the ne'er-do-well managed to gain entry and to remove the immensely heavy iron safe, which he transported with difficulty on a hand-truck part-way down Main Street. Near the old burying ground, the weighty cargo fell off the truck and mired in the mud, leaving the hapless thief to pursue an equally ineffective Plan B. There are several detailed and amusing accounts of this fellow's notorious crime and punishment; I recommend Bushnell's narrative on pages 310 to 313 of his *History of Granville*.

### **The Prichard block**

Anthony Prichard remained prominent in the building's history almost until his death in 1866. Under the partnership of Mower and Prichard, it served as a general store offering dry goods and hardware. Later on his own, Prichard sold drugs, schoolbooks, stationery, glassware, and sundries. In the *Granville Intelligencer* (the local newspaper of 1848-51), Prichard advertised medicinal substances such as "Phoenix Bitters," along with "Choice Wines & Spirits, pure and unadulterated, for mechanical and medicinal purposes only." A 1932 description from an old-timer identified by *The Granville Times* only as "B.W." recalls the Prichard drug store of about 1857. "There was a long counter on the west side, and also on the north side, back of which was a large display of bottles of drugs... In the southeast corner of the room was the telegraph office with its ancient Morse machine." Prichard himself was the telegrapher. "Off from the salesroom ... was the druggist's sanctum sanctorum, i.e., his laboratory, ... with its bulbous and long-neckt affairs suspended from the ceiling and various instruments for occult practices.... The proprietor was Mr. Anthony P. Prichard, one of the staidest and most dignified personages I ever saw. He looked the part of a manipulator in occult arts to perfection."

### **Mid-1860s – a grocery and a bank**

At some point after the period described above, Prichard moved his drug business to the adjacent store front to the west, a property purchased in 1832 by Mower and Prichard. After the removal of the drugstore, the grocery business of C.A. "Al" Jewett occupied the west storefront of the building (now the Kussmaul Gallery). And the First National Bank of Granville, anchored by Henry L. Bancroft and Henry M. Downer, purchased the corner room in 1865. The resulting row of businesses on Broadway is portrayed in a drawing (reproduced in this article) that appeared in the 1866 *Atlas of Licking County* (Beers, Soule & Co.). Horace King observed about this sketch that the artist took liberties in rendering the building, depicting it with a flat roof on the Broadway wing. But we have separate verification that the artist at least got the order of the businesses correct, with the bank on the corner, the Jewett & Wright grocery next door to the west, and Prichard's drug store in the adjacent building.

It is not easy today to uncover much information about the Jewett grocery of the 1860s and 70s, except for one memorable story. In 1896 Francis W. Shepardson recalled in *The Granville Times* that Jewett's grocery of the early 1870s used "Granville money" for wrapping paper for fine-cut tobacco. Pages of uncut bills authorized by The Bank of Granville, and long since discredited, were stored in a hogshead up on the second floor of the building, and were evidently used freely as utilitarian wrapping paper. Shepardson rues that fact that as he writes, more than two decades later, there is not a single bill of old "Granville money" to be found.

In 1883 Mr. H.M. Carpenter purchased "the Jewett block" and established his own grocery in the space. *The Granville Times* of March 2, 1883 waxes eloquent about the beautiful improvements Mr. Carpenter made to the building, including new lowered floors and raised ceilings. The shop was said to have light from three sides, referring to the Broadway side, the Prospect side, and windows in the back wall. "Inside the front door, on Prospect street, is a freight lift, for lowering heavy packages into the basement room, or elevating them to the store room above." This is probably the lift we already

noted as possibly serving the Mower and Prichard ware house, and so may not have been an innovation by Mr. Carpenter. The article goes on to say that the basement and second-floor spaces were redone at this time as well, and the upstairs front room "will be fitted up for an office and rented to other parties."

### **The 1880s and 1890s: Hardware, shoes, jewelry, and clothing**

Despite its updates, the Carpenter grocery did not last long. In 1884 Mr. William Geach bought the remnants of the grocery, sold the stock, and moved his hardware store into the space. *The Granville Times* reports that he took over "the room one door west of the Bank of Granville..." It is worth noting, because this fact can cause so much confusion, that the bank in the corner room was no longer the original First National Bank that had occupied that space in 1865. After liquidation in 1879, that bank took on new life down the street, and another bank took up residence in the corner space in about 1880. It also seems to have flirted with the name, "First National," but was more broadly known as "The Bank of Granville."

Geach's hardware probably stayed in our building only until 1890, when *The Granville Times* reports that Geach moved to another location. In the meantime, next door in the corner room, 1886 saw the departure of the Bank of Granville and the arrival of J.M. Pierson's shoe store, foreshadowing a long shoe-related occupancy that would come to the Granville Times building in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Pierson was there for only about a year, moving out in 1887 to make way for the jewelry store of L.A. Austin. *The Granville Times* comments that "Mr. Austin's new place of business, the Granville Bank corner, has been remodeled, a large plate glass window put in the front ... so that he will now have one of the finest places of business in town." Austin ran his successful store there until 1898, when he closed out the business to become Granville's postmaster. A younger man who had been his assistant, Fred Buxton, would soon come to the corner with his own jewelry business.

The west-side storefront, vacated by Geach's hardware, was claimed in 1891 by J. Edgar Brown, a merchant who moved his notions store there from the south side of Broadway. *The*

*Granville Times* reports that Mr. Brown "will soon move into the large and commodious store room owned by H.M. Carpenter, on the north side of Broadway, near the corner of Prospect Street. This room is now undergoing repairs, which when completed, with a fine plate glass front, will be a splendid well lighted and attractive storeroom." Brown's inventory included sewing notions, fabrics, "gents' furnishings," hosiery and underwear, and "all the popular reading matter of the day, including everything in the book line..." Today's shoppers might find it odd for a store to mix dry goods and books, but such eclecticism seemed not unusual in 19<sup>th</sup>-century emporiums. Brown's business clearly prospered in this location, for by 1895 it was reported that he would be opening up a second store in Granville, while maintaining the original one. Nonetheless, by 1896 Brown and his store had vacated the Granville Times building.

### **The Granville Times moves in -- 1897**

The Granville Times business, which was already well established in Granville, moved into the brick building in 1897, using the Prospect Street door as its main entrance. The company installed its printing equipment upstairs on the second floor over the Prospect wing, and its typesetting room over the Broadway wing. According to Don D. Young, the huge and heavy Miehle press, just one of the company's major pieces of equipment, could never be cranked up to full speed, because at high speed it shook the old brick building.

The Granville Times company had been founded by Harry A. Church in 1880 and soon became a thriving village institution as both a weekly newspaper and a business offering printing services and office supplies. Church installed William Henry Kussmaul, previously a pressman with the *Newark Advocate*, as printer. Later Church sold the concern to C.B. Downs, and eventually Kussmaul became owner and publisher. In 1913 Kussmaul hired Don W. Young, father of Don D. Young, and in the late 1930s Don W. and his brothers, Wilbert and William, became owners. The elder Don retired in the late 1970s, and Don D. acquired ownership in the late 1980s. During all this time, *The Granville Times* remained lodged in the brick

R



A . P . PRICHARD ,

Dealer in

Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Varnishes,  
Dyestuffs, Window and picture glass,

GLASSWARE, CHEMICALS, SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

Perfumery, Soaps, Brushes, Inks,

and all kinds of patent medicines, &amp;c.

A full assortment just received. Selected for their  
*purity* and not for their *cheapness*, and are offered at  
prices as low as articles of equal quality can be had in  
the west. Oct. 11, 1848.

ANTI-BILIOUS FAMILY PHYSIC.

building, becoming its longest-enduring tenant. In 1936 it expanded into the first-floor Broadway storefront, where Don D. recalls tending the store as a child.

The company remained a mainstay of Granville life, with its printing services, office and art supplies shop, and book store, long after the newspaper ceased publication in 1941. By the mid-1970s, "cold type" was giving way to offset printing in the printing industry, and *The Granville Times* would have required a major retooling to remain in the printing business. In 1976 the heavy equipment was removed from the second floor. Vestiges of a great era remain, however, such as the top of an antique roll-top desk, which Jay Young retains to this day on the upper floor.

### **A long tradition of bookstores in the Granville Times building**

The Granville Times building boasts a long history of bookselling. A.P. Prichard included books among his wares in the 1840s, as did clothier J. Edgar Brown in the 1890s. Books

This ad from an 1848 issue of the *Granville Intelligencer* attests to the range of goods available at A.P. Prichard's drug store in mid-century.

became the primary focus in the west-side storefront in 1897 under Henry Kussmaul, who along with his partner Francis W. Shepardson had bought the old Granville Bookstore from L.W. Perry in 1888. The Feb. 18, 1897 issue of *The Granville Times*, reporting its own change of home base to the second floor of "the Prichard block," adds with enthusiasm, "The Book Store will soon be removed to the elegant store room on the first floor beneath the printing office."

The bookstore under Kussmaul sold art supplies, office supplies, wallpaper, interurban tickets, and, of course, books. The business remained in the storefront we now know as the Kussmaul Gallery even after 1906, when it was sold to druggist William P. Ullman. Ullman's drug store moved in and maintained the book trade at least through the time that Ullman moved his business in the early 1920s. After that, it would be the late 1950s before Don D. Young reintroduced book-selling to the Granville Times building. For decades then, readers headed to the Granville Times to feed their literary addiction. In 1989, Young sold the bookstore,

with its art and office supplies, to a couple from Ann Arbor, Michigan, Catherine McLoughlin and Kevin Coyle. The pair expanded the display space used for books to include the cellar, and ran the store under the name "The Book Cellar" for about five years before closing the business in about 1995.

### **Another drug store, another jewelry store, and a barber shop for a new century**

Anthony Prichard would not be the only druggist in the history of the Granville Times building. William P. Ullman's drug store occupied the west-side storefront from 1906 until about 1921 or 1922, when the business was moved across Prospect Street to the old Granville Hotel building. The drug store's original location was remembered nostalgically for many years by longtime Granvilleans such as Minnie Hite Moody, who wrote in 1983 about its stock of books, ice cream, and sheet music. The store's centrality in Granville life is indicated by the fact that in 1912 it was reported that the Bell Telephone Company was relocating the village's long-distance telephone booth from the Candy Kitchen to the Ullman drug store. And in 1916 it was big news when a serious fire caused extensive damage to the drug store. In those days, such damage to drugs and books was reckoned to "run into the hundreds of dollars," according to *The Granville Times*. *The Times* also observed, from the perspective of the upstairs tenant, that "The fire was under our seven ton Miehle press and had the fire lasted much longer the press would probably have landed in the cellar."

Back in the corner storefront next door, Fred Buxton's jewelry shop arrived in 1899, the year following the departure of jeweler L.A. Austin. Buxton's store, which stayed in that location for almost three decades, would become another well-remembered fixture in Granville's collective memory, as it was often mentioned in mid- to late-20<sup>th</sup>-century reminiscences about the earlier era. To this day, the visitor to the Keller Williams real estate office can find a long-lasting testimonial to Buxton's occupancy a century ago: if you pull back the floor mat at the front door, you will find that under it, the flooring holds a mosaic-tiled rendering of the word "Buxton."

In 1903 Buxton constructed an external

stairway to the second floor on the east side of his store, setting the stage for the use of the upstairs corner space by other entrepreneurs. For example, we know that in the fall of 1906, barber Enoch Johnson moved his shop into the upstairs space. Later *The Granville Times* reported that Johnson had "his handsome parlor over the Buxton jewelry store newly papered and furnished. Enoch is operating with two chairs and is enjoying a fine trade, especially among the students." By 1914, Albert P. Nichol had rented the second-floor space for his real estate office.

As late as 1927, Buxton Jewelry was still listed at 142 E. Broadway in the village directory, but by 1929 the corner storefront had a new tenant: R.F. Johnson dry cleaning, pressing, repairing, and hat blocking. Johnson's clothing service stayed on the corner about five years.

### **Shoe repair, cigars, insurance, and real estate through the 20<sup>th</sup> century**

By the mid-1930s, a decades-long tradition of shoe repair had taken hold in the corner store, which now more frequently was designated 142 East Broadway. The New Way shoe repair shop on North Prospect Street, sometimes spelled "Nu Way," had been bought by Guy Fisher in 1927. Also called Fisher Shoe Service, it had moved to our corner storefront in the Granville Times building by 1934, and was still there in 1949, but now was associated with one Darwin Smith, according to village directories. By 1952, the shop was the Granville Shoe Service, and by 1955, it was John Green's Shoe Repair. It was also called Welsh Shoe Repair at some point. Steve Smith, writing in the *Granville Sentinel* in 1983, remembers the shoe repair shop on the corner in the early 1960s, with a proprietor named Ernie, who "always had a half chewed, half smoked stogie hanging from his mouth..." Smith went on, "Ernie's was a good place to hang around if you wanted to learn some new, dirty words."

In the west-side shop (now referred to as 140 East Broadway), Granville Electric moved in following the departure of Ullman's drug store in the early 1920s. In 1925, former jeweler L.A. Austin was listed as manager of Granville Electric in an ad that offered "Useful Christmas Gifts" including toasters for \$2.85 and up, and



**We know this photo dates from 1906 or after, because we see both the Buxton jewelry shop, with its non-functioning clock in front, and the Ullman drug store, which arrived in 1906. The clock was purely an advertisement, and had no works. Readers with good eyes will be able to make out the sign atop the barber pole, saying "Barber Shop Up Stairs." The awning in front of the Ullman drug store offers "Drugs and Books." Photo from the Granville Historical Society Archives.**

electric heaters for \$5.00 and up. By 1932, as the Great Depression deepened, C.B. Slack moved his insurance and real estate office into 140 East Broadway as well, a shared arrangement that seems to have lasted at least through 1935. By the year following, the Granville Times had taken over the Broadway storefront.

A fascinating example of small-town philanthropy blossomed on the corner during the 1930s. P.J. "Patsy" Cordon, a popular Granville restaurateur, had fallen seriously ill with diabetes, and as a result had lost both his legs at the knee. No longer able to run a restaurant, Cordon was aided by Granville businessmen who in 1935 constructed a cigar stand for him under the outdoor stairs on the

Prospect side of the building (the external cellar stairs were not yet there). For several years Cordon ran his tobacco and candy business in that location. For at least part of that time, he lived in the room upstairs and descended just once each day to do business from his wheelchair. The January 1939 issue of Denison's literary magazine, *Portfolio*, features a tribute "to Patsy," recommending that students greet him and make a point of buying their cigarettes from him ("the machine dispensers don't need the money nearly as much as he does"). The makeshift stand evidently disappeared with Patsy's death in 1942.

Albert P. Nichols, who in 1914 ran his real estate business out of the second-floor office above Buxton Jewelry, might have been the first

but would not be the last Realtor to find a place in the small corner storefront of the Granville Times building. With the end of the shoe repair dynasty came the real estate period, starting in the 1960s and continuing to this day. Known for years as the Granville Corner Real Estate office, this small business was long owned by the late Realtor and developer David S. Klauder, and his colleague was the well-known Fred Palmer. Later company names at the address have run the gamut from Century 21, Woeste, and Prudential to the current-day Keller Williams, where Adajune Parker and Tim Hughes recently welcomed me and pointed out the "Buxton" tile mosaic in the floor of their historic entryway.

### **Fine Arts in the Granville Times building – 1989 to the present**

When Don Young sold the Granville Times business/bookstore to Catherine McLoughlin and Kevin Coyle in 1989, Young's son Jay had already established a gallery for his own art and that of others in the second-floor space that formerly housed the printing presses. He gave the boutique a historic name: Kussmaul Gallery. When the Book Cellar, as it was then called, closed its doors in 1995, Jay expanded his business to encompass the entire building (with the exception, of course, of the long-separate corner storefront).

The artist and entrepreneur created an atrium in the building and tore out the attic, exposing the massive upstairs beams to view from the first floor. He also bared the west-side brick wall and installed skylights and track lights to create a bohemian atmosphere. Today, Young's thriving businesses features his own paintings of rural and farmscape scenes, a framing service, and a gift shop offering unique jewelry, pottery and glassware, leather and fabric goods, and cards.

### **Going on two centuries of Granville business**

Other stories could be told about the building that helped build Granville. There were more burglaries, renovations, and tales of human foible than could possibly be recited here. During my research, I learned that dressmaker Nettie Blade had her shop on the second floor during the early 1930s before Patsy Cordon took

up residence, and that a nurse named Mrs. Mabel Davis lived there in the early 1950s. Other all-but-forgotten occupants of the Granville Times building have included Zoomwerx Productions in the mid-1990s, Bamford Lumber in 2000, and even – more than four decades ago – a pottery studio complete with potter's wheel. Yes, Sharon Joseph made and sold stone ware in "The Lower Level" under the real estate corner for a year or so in 1970 or '71.

Who knew? It's enough to make the historian wonder how many more lives and businesses will have flourished and faded in the sturdy brick building 100 years from now. I'm banking on someone keeping track. And I hope this article is a worthy start.

### **Sources**

The author is grateful to persons who provided invaluable assistance in researching this article, especially Theresa Overholser, Archivist for the Granville Historical Society; Don Young, former owner of the Granville Times business; and Jay Young, owner of the Kussmaul Gallery. Thanks also go to Heather Lyle, Denison University Archivist, and Keller Williams realtors Adajune Parker and Tim Hughes. Important sources of first-person memories were Pete Ullman, grandson of Granville druggist William P. Ullman; John Klauder, son of realtor and developer David S. Klauder; and former pottery *shop owner Sharon Joseph*.

Printed sources consulted for this research included newspapers, histories, deeds and property transfer records in the Office of the Recorder at the Licking County Courthouse, village directories, atlases, Masonic yearbooks, and a vast range of documents in files of the Archives of the Granville Historical Society. Key among the newspapers were many issues of *The Granville Times*, as well as issues of various short-lived area newspapers of the 19<sup>th</sup> century: the *Granville Intelligencer* (1848-1851) and *The Licking Monitor* (1872-1874). The author made use of late 20<sup>th</sup>-century issues of the *Granville Sentinel*, available at the Granville Public Library. The *Sentinel*, the *Community Booster*, and the *Newark Advocate* all contributed the invaluable "memory round-up" columns by authors looking back on 20<sup>th</sup>-century Granville businesses as remembered from their childhoods. These authors were Minnie Hite Moody, Ann Schellens,



**This photo from the mid-1950s shows the shoe repair shop in the east corner of the Granville Times building (142 East Broadway), and the Granville Times office itself next door, at 140 East Broadway.** Photo from the Granville Historical Society Archives.

*The Sentinel*, the *Community Booster*, and the *Newark Advocate* all contributed the invaluable "memory round-up" columns by authors looking back on 20th-century Granville businesses as remembered from their childhoods. These authors were Minnie Hite Moody, Ann Schellens, and Steve Smith.

Because the use of street addresses for businesses was non-existent in the 19th century and spotty in the early 20th century, even earlier "I remember" pieces, in which the author lists businesses in order along the street, were indispensable. Examples of this type included "The Boys of '75," by L.D. Inskip in the Nov. 19, 1925 edition of *The Granville Times* and "Business Places Past and Present," by George Stuart (Granville's Oldest Merchant), reprinted in a special edition of *The Granville Times* in 1955. Especially notable for tracking Granville businesses is *The Granville Times* issue of July 31, 1930, which contains a long article citing not only the active businesses in Granville in 1930, but

also the many businesses that had advertised in the Times since its inception in 1880, along with a compendium of businesses that advertised in the *Granville Intelligencer*. Much of the information from the 1930 *Granville Times* issue was repeated and updated in articles in the already-referenced special edition of *The Granville Times* in 1955. One more helpful section is titled "Retail Stores as They Are in 1955."

Granville historians will recognize the use of the key Granville histories, which provide the foundation for local historical research: the Rev. Henry Bushnell's *The History of Granville*, Press of Hann & Adair, Columbus, Ohio, 1889; William T. Utter's *Granville: The Story of an Ohio Village*, Granville Historical Society and Denison University, 1956; and the three-volume bicentennial history, *Granville, Ohio: A Study in Continuity and Change*, edited by Anthony J. Lisska and Louis I. Middleman, Granville Historical Society and Denison University Press,

# The untold story of the D-Day that wasn't

For decades at mid-Twentieth Century Denison, the tradition of an uncalendared, spontaneously announced day of canceled classes, accompanied by an all-campus concert, occurred each semester. It was announced by the student government, which was called DCGA in 1963, when the events described in this article occurred, by the ringing of "Hold that Tiger" on the Swasey Chapel bells—which were kept under lock and key with very limited access. Over the years there grew a tradition of false announcements, often made by the Wingless Angels, at the time an elite and relatively harmless clandestine group of campus leaders dedicated to pranks they thought were clever. The number of false alarms and academic disruption caused by the D-Day tradition finally led to truce in the early 1970's under which the authorities agreed to preserve one D-Day per semester and the student leadership agreed to its being a calendared event. Thanks to 1965 graduate and onetime Granville resident John Fitzpatrick, who became a Wingless Angel the year after this prank, for this article -Ed.

In the fall of 1963, two seniors, Jerry Shepard and Tommy Lee, were Wingless Angels who had become frustrated by the group's lack of imagination. They decided to upstage and

inspire their own group with a spectacular prank. They recruited three other fraternity brothers who were not Wingless Angels at the time: junior Tully Rogers, whose girlfriend's roommate was the chapel bell-ringer; senior Tex Finefrock, a slightly off-center Physics major whose evening pastime was to (try to) shoot out the chapel walk lights from the Phi Gam porch or lob homemade mortars at the Sigma Chi house; and me, for no obvious reason.

The prank? Pull off a flawless fake D-Day before the real one was scheduled. First,

Tully makes a few surreptitious visits to the chapel bell tower to learn "Hold That Tiger" and to get a copy of the key. Next, we find a licensed pilot (a DU freshman sworn to secrecy) willing to rent a plane and divebomb the academic quad while dumping leaflets. Then, find out the real D-Day date so we'd be sure to precede it. Finally, print hundreds of leaflets to look like the usual DCGA announcement...the entertainment was Odetta!

On the eve of the fateful day, Tully, Tex and I spent the night in the dusty bowels of the chapel. On cue, as classes were changing at 9:50, Tully started playing "Hold That Tiger". The plane, with Jerry and Tommy aboard, cruised over the quad disgorging the leaflets. Also on cue, the student body immediately sprinted away from their

**Continued on page 18**

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2004. An important piece on the Granville Times building is included (pp. 190-192) in Horace King's *Granville Massachusetts to Ohio: A Story of Migration and Settlement*, The Granville Sentinel Publishing Company, 1989.

Another valuable resource was the collection of old village directories in the Archives of the Granville Historical Society. Directories are available intermittently for years starting in 1921. The earliest of these were published variously by Thomas E. Hite & Co. and Simhite Directory Company. The author consulted George W. Hawe's *Ohio State Gazetteer & Business Directory*, 1860-61. Also useful, especially for illustrations, was the *19th-*

*century Atlas of Licking County, Ohio*, by Beers, Soule & Co., 1866.

Archival holdings of the Granville Historical Society that were especially useful were the records of the Prichard Family; Morrow [sic, read "Mower"] and Prichard Accounts file (83-25); Business Locations files (83-025); Businesses & Industries file (M15C, File 83-25); and records of Marvin Munson (File 83-030).

*Lyn Boone is a member of the Publications Committee of the Granville Historical Society and is retired from many years in the Advancement division at Denison. She is the community board member of the Old Colony Burying Ground.*

# 'Glorious living light in motion'

# Mary K Campbell

By **WILLIAM NICHOLS**

Speaking in the British House of Commons in 1944, Winston Churchill famously said: "We shape our dwellings, and afterwards our dwellings shape us." He might have been speaking of communities too, and of Mary Katherine Campbell's relationship with Granville. Mary K was born in Pittsburgh in 1914, attended Denison in the 1930's, and returned in 1956 to live in Granville for fifty years. If there are hints in this village of the kind of beauty you might find in one of Mary K's stained glass pieces, it might be no coincidence.

Mary K was a powerful physical presence in Granville, despite her short stature. Friend and neighbor James Hale remembers her striking profile buzzing through town in a white Honda Civic, intent on one errand of generosity or another. "Her hair was twisted into a bun on the back of her head, and she was known to use it as a foundation for wire antennae, flowers in bloom, fresh carrots, or two of her favorite leaves in season - rhubarb or bloodroot." Mary K always dressed in bright, highly-saturated colors, the colors of zinnias. "Never a dull, subtle, muted shade of anything



**Mary K Campbell was passionate about vibrant colors and bold graphic lines.**



**Mary K with one of the stained glass windows she designed, in the stairwell of her West Broadway home. 1990s photo by Phill Samuell**

- it had to be bright yellow, bright orange, bright magenta, and in any combination. In that way she was a work of art, her own graphic composition."

MacArthur Fellow Lewis Hyde, a Kenyon professor whose books explore "the public life of the imagination," is probably the person best prepared to understand the role Mary K Campbell played in Granville's history. In *The Gift* (1983) Hyde considers the social role of the artist when art is viewed as a gift rather than a commodity, and he might understand why so many citizens of Granville were beneficiaries of her hand-delivered, artful notes and drawings. James Hale recalls "her daily custom of motoring around the village with small notes, newspaper clippings, and a roll of scotch tape. I know few people who didn't find messages of good cheer, commendation, support or whimsy, usually on bright yellow

paper with orange magic marker, taped to their front door. This was her social medium. In our neighborhood, we called them her 'elf notes,' and like an elf she wouldn't be caught in the act of delivery. If you called out her name, she'd race away without looking back, waving her fingers in the air as a cloak of invisibility. This was an extraordinary effort of imagination and organization, and she used it to let people in the community know she was thinking of them, paying attention to their lives."

April Fool's Day and Halloween were important in Mary K's calendar, and she had the ability to give any day of the year the whimsical feel of one of those holidays. Even though she shunned publicity, there is newspaper evidence that her activities, which she sometimes called "antics," did not go unnoticed. In the December 30,

1982, *Sentinel*, for example, Steve Smith writes in his "Random Remarks" column: "She has steadfastly refused to be a feature subject for the *Sentinel* and has been genuinely embarrassed the few times I've 'caught' her in one of her costumes with my camera." Seeming at first to honor her preference for anonymity, Smith concludes his description of an important Granville character: "From everyone whose days you've made brighter, thanks Mary K. Campbell." And Mary K herself wrote a brief summary of one of her prized April Fools antics, performed in 1995 at the Granville Lumber Company, where, dressed as a rabbit, she greeted Tom Lawyer on his birthday by pinning the bright orange numbers 5 and 6 on his shirt and reciting this poem:

To be kissed by a rabbit is very risky  
Because it might make you frisky.  
...but I'll risk it.

And she threw her arms around Tom Lawyer's neck and kissed him on the ear.

Mary K's return to Granville in 1956 was probably connected with her family ties to Denison. Her mother, Caroline "Carrie" Woodrow Deckman, graduated from Denison in 1904, and her aunt, Lorena Woodrow Burke was also a Denison graduate. The Lorena Woodrow Burke chair in the Denison English department, held in recent years by Paul Bennett, Tony Stoneburner, Bill Nichols, Desmond Hamlet, and now Linda Krumholz was named for Mary K's aunt. In the Fall 1996 issue of the *Historical Times* Gail Myers writes of Charles Felix Burke, Mary K's uncle, who served on the Denison Board of Trustees. And Lorena Burke was elected to the Board after her husband died. Charles Burke's brother Edmund donated Burke Hall on Denison's lower campus. Charles and Lorena Burke are buried in Granville's Maple Grove Cemetery, and so is Mary K.

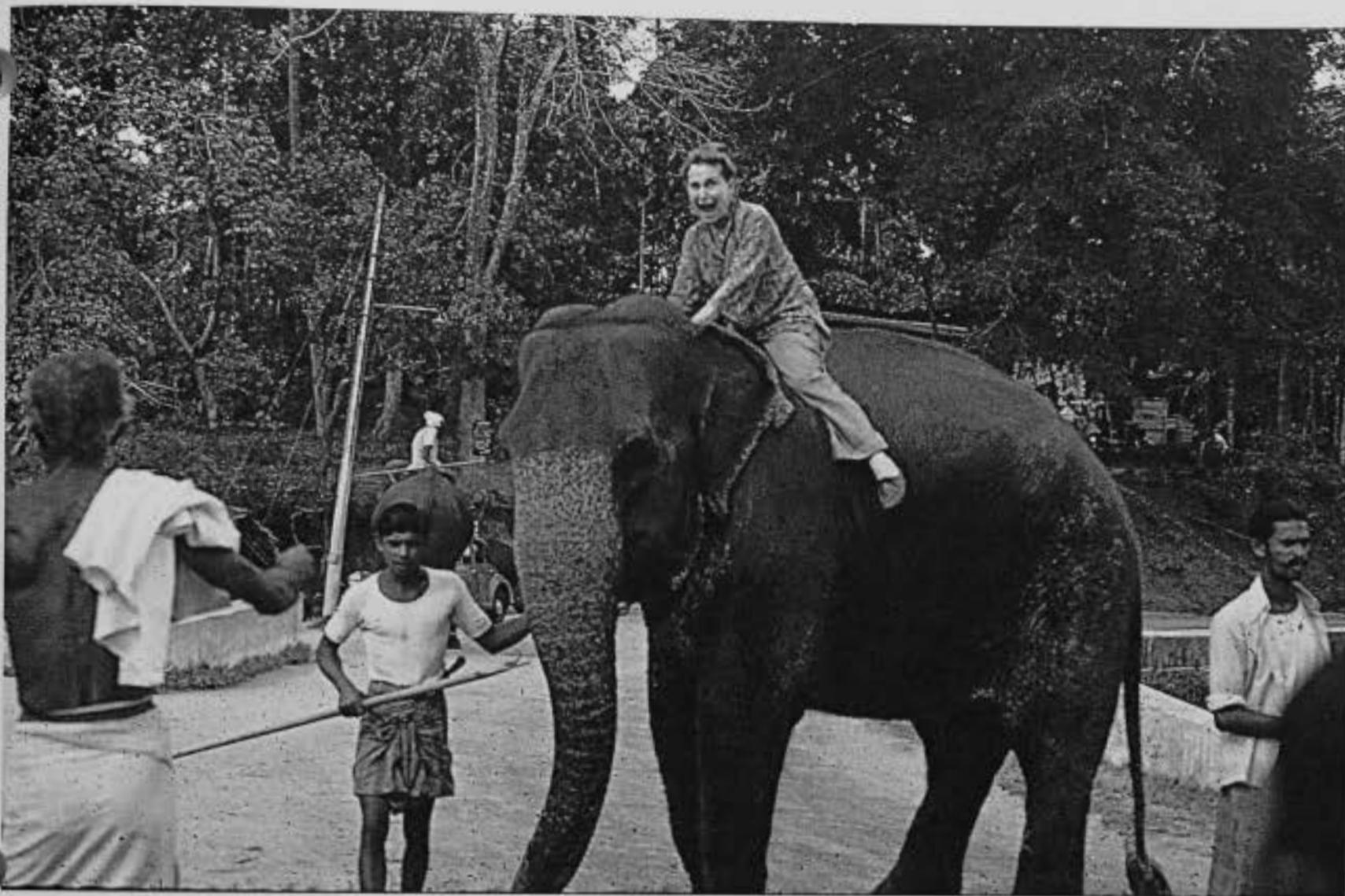
As a Granville citizen, Mary K functioned much as she did when she was teaching, an approach well documented by students who have written about it. Madge McKinley, for example, who says Mary K was her teacher for many years, adds this: "she seemed to shine with an inner light." Phyllis Danielsen writes: "She's inspired me since day one and she isn't about to stop now." Her students



**A portrait of Mary K, possibly the 1940s.**

describe a kind of teaching that continued long after they took a class with Mary K. Ned Bittenger recalls: "For the past thirty or so years I have received letters and postcards from this extraordinary woman, each one saturated with her sparkle and uniqueness." For Diane Gibbs Bryce the "encouragement and delightful whimsy" continued for forty-five years. And Gail Lutsch noticed that Mary K's enduring connections with her students didn't happen by chance: "She kept an extensive file of addresses, photos, and letters from former students who had become life-long friends."

Encouragement and inspiration didn't rule out serious critiques in Mary K's teaching or other conversations. She was known to say exactly what she thought and to describe with candor what she saw. Artists who were once her students have expressed their gratitude by recalling occasions



**An elephant ride was in store for Mary K during a 1970s trip to India.**

when she disapproved of something in a way that influenced them powerfully. John Hand remembers a day when he was “trying to paint like somebody else,” and Mary K stopped by his studio to look at his work and say, “I wouldn’t like that if it was good.” Jack Reilly had a note from her once that said he’d be taken off her Christmas card list if he didn’t include a “newsy” note with his next card. Phyllis Danielson tells of drawing a rabbit on her first day in class with Mary K, who studied it and said: “Well you draw a nice little bunny. What else do you draw?” Diana Gibbs Bryce, who found her way into fashion design with Mary K’s help, remembers this: “Mary K. gave me the lowest grades I ever got at Denison, yet she was still my very favorite teacher.” Years after Gail Lutsch began to teach art at a Bethel College in Kansas, she showed her Denison teacher a photo of one of her own recent landscape prints, and Mary K said, “The colors aren’t balanced.” When Gail got home, she made

changes to the print. Maybe Melanie Sherwood, who also became a teacher, summed up the key to Mary K’s pedagogy: “She was always so enthusiastic about your artwork, finding ways to push you to be your best.”<sup>1</sup>

As with any serious artist, Mary K’s life includes mysteries. One is how she conveyed so much joy in her art and her social interactions despite a large measure of sadness and pain in her personal experience. That the exclusion of pain from her art was intentional is suggested in a letter to a friend in 2003; amid sentences that convey the joy and delight that mark almost everything she made and said, she admits: “Deliberately I avoided mention of war which is the [*the* is circled] horror of my days/nites.” Another mystery is how she came to be an artist whose ambition seems to have focused more on enriching the lives of those around her than on achieving recognition. If the first mystery is likely to go largely unexplained, maybe understanding



**Mary K is  
pictured with two  
design students  
during the 1960s.**

how she came to see her art as a gift for others is as close as we can come to knowing one source of the joy to be found in her life and art.

Fortunately, Mary K's aunt, Lorena Woodrow Burke, wrote and Denison published in 1948 a two-volume book about their family, *Our Kith and Kin*, which is available in the Denison library.<sup>2</sup> Burke tells the story in *Our Kith and Kin* of an American family that honored women well before women could vote in the United States. She writes of how John F. Woodrow, Mary K's grandfather, told Lorena and her sister Caroline, Mary K's mother, about hearing Carrie Chapman Catt speak for women's suffrage: "How eagerly he reported to us, when we came in from school, his admiration and approval of the rights for which Mrs. Catt pleaded. . . . He felt he wanted us when we grew up to have the grace and charm of Mrs. Catt and to be as intelligent, if we could."<sup>3</sup> Years later, when Mary K was twenty, Lorena Burke's husband, Charles, would urge her to paint a portrait of her grandmother, Mary Patterson Woodrow, and the family clearly valued the result of that assignment: "Sitting so very still was tiring for a woman of eighty-eight but fortunately Mary K. is speedy with pencil and brush and in two weeks the portrait was completed. This is one of our most valued possessions for not only is it

Mother's face and features realistically drawn, but it reveals that evanescent something which is Mother's spirit, her inner being." When Mary Patterson Woodrow died, Mary K wrote a poem that Burke included in her book:

Eyes are twinkling ever—now,  
Eyebrow slightly lifted.  
Never was a soul so rare,  
So truly gifted

Gifted with a heart of love,  
Gifted with the grace to charm,  
Gifted with the Christian light,  
Never mean, no will to harm.

Treasured in her major roles,  
Mother, Grandma, Wife,  
Witty, winsome, wise sweet lady,  
Bearer of the Radiant Life.<sup>4</sup>

It seems likely that Mary K never doubted her art could make life richer for others.

In 1944, after studying at Denison and the National Academy of Design in New York City, Mary K went to work at Charles J. Connick Associates in Boston, where she designed stained glass windows. Asked in 1995 to reflect on her



**The Denison Art Department during the 1960s: From left - Jim Grimes, Eric Hirschler, Mary K and Horace King.**

time at Connick Associates, Mary K wrote in a letter that working in the Connick studio "one inevitably faced the cardinal truths: no color lives by itself alone; windows must express glorious living light in motion." The last phrase seems to capture the task she set for herself as an artist. She was a skilled printmaker and produced her own handblocked fabrics, and she continued designing stained-glass. Thanks to the late James L. Martin, our daughters grew up across the street from a piece of Mary K's stained-glass work, which hung in the window of Jim's house for many years. It was the closest thing to public art in our neighborhood, a bucolic scene that suggested to me the spirit of springtime in Granville.

In 1999 Tony Stoneburner wrote a poem that attempts to capture the magic of Mary K's art:

**SHE MAKES THE WORLD  
A STAINED-GLASS WINDOW  
(for the artist upon becoming 85)**

Let us declare, without preamble,  
Our world minus Mary K Campbell  
Would be less "camp" & be less "belle."  
It would be but a subtle hell  
For things would be most dull

That, with her, are so colorful,  
Who has the flair & has the verve  
&, more important, has the nerve

Audaciously to decorate  
Herself & all of her estate,  
Her house & car, her school & church,  
&, not the least, her curbside perch.

In the hospital, Mary K  
Received her doctor day by day  
With a new mask upon her face  
To keep him careful. At our place,  
She tipt large rhubarb leaf on hair  
As though it were latest headwear  
& balanced it with great aplomb  
To let us know that she had come.

Like elf or gnome, our Mary K  
Makes monochrome America  
Red, White & Blue (not black & white  
Or gray on gray)--to our delight.

Juliana Mulroy, a plant ecologist, has offered an additional comment, a virtual environmental impact statement, on Mary K's sense of vocation: "She was a walking work of art, always with a humorous twist. Her presentation of self in public



**Mary K is pictured in Slayter Hall during the 1960s with department colleague Jim Grimes**

## The untold story...

**Continued from page 11**

classrooms.

Over 100 classes were cancelled, many of which were midterm exams.

As Tully, Tex, and I attempted to leave the chapel, we were confronted by the stern face of a very large member of the custodial staff, who told us to stay put until Al Johnson, DU's Business Manager, arrived to identify us. A glance at our muscle, big Tex, revealed that we weren't going to make a run for it. We were busted! Dean of Men Mark Smith, the more likely authority figure, never appeared. He was probably back in his office chuckling.

Jerry and Tommy were never caught...or given up. The pilot lost his license for flying below the legal ceiling. The three of us apprehended at the chapel by the apoplectic Mr. Johnson were sent to Men's Judicial Council. We were placed on some new version of "ultimate probation" by our peers, who seemed more amused than upset.

**-- John Fitzpatrick**

was provocative, in the sense of provoking laughter and good feelings. Just the colors she wore brightened the streets of Granville. It's interesting to speculate about whether she dressed that way to improve her own mood. Her home was much more soothing, and less of a statement." Like Stoneburner, Mulroy, and others, I conclude that Mary K's vision of a stained-glass window as "glorious living light in motion" became a role she played as artist, friend, and neighbor.

*Gratitude: Ellen Kraft, long a friend of Mary K, was invaluable in bringing together material for this brief meditation on the life and art of Mary Katherine Campbell. Alan Campbell, Mary K's son, provided crucial help. Jamie Hale offered important insights and description. And I'm grateful too for the imaginations of Tony Stoneburner and Juliana Mulroy.*

### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Quotations from *Memories of Mary K Campbell*, [http://www.denison.edu/academics/departments/art/memories\\_of\\_mary\\_k.html](http://www.denison.edu/academics/departments/art/memories_of_mary_k.html)

<sup>2</sup>John F. Woodrow and Lorena Burke, *Our Kith and Kin*, Volume I. Granville, OH: Denison University Press, 1948. Lorena Burke, *Our Kith and Kin*, Volume II. Granville, OH Denison University Press, 1948.

<sup>3</sup>*Our Kith and Kin*, I, p. 123.

<sup>4</sup>*Our Kith and Kin*, I, p. 198.

*Longtime Granville resident William Nichols is Professor Emeritus of English at Denison University and now lives in West Lebanon, N.H.*

# Book fair, ghost walk highlight fall schedule

The Program Committee of the Granville Historical Society announces four programs for the fall of 2013:

**Oct. 5, History Book Fair—Old Academy Building: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.** Over a half dozen authors will be present to sign and discuss more than thirty of their books ranging from historical novels to geology and botany in both the forms of fiction and non-fiction. Several books published by the Granville Historical Society will be available as well.

**Oct. 23, John Montgomery's World War II Experience in Burma—Old Academy Building: 7 p.m.** Longtime Civil War Roundtable organizer Ed McCaul will discuss the American campaign in Burma during World War II and specifically area resident John Montgomery's role in it

**Oct. 25-26, "Historical Granville Ghost Walk" --- Old Colony Burying Ground: 4-6:30 p.m.** Visitors may arrive at any time during those hours for the forty minute walks; tour groups will begin every five to ten minutes. Six "ghosts" standing by their headstones will address the tour groups, telling a little of their lives in 19th-century Granville. There will be no charge for admission, but contributions benefiting the Old Colony Burying Ground restoration project will be welcome. Sponsored by St. Luke's Episcopal Church and the Granville Historical Society. Rain date is Oct. 27. South Main Street.

**Nov. 12 Megan Daniels: Genealogical Research for her book "Little Misery" with its Granville roots. 7:30 p.m., Bryn Du Mansion.** Megan Evans Daniels will tell of her experiences researching her family history and how they led her to discover a great-great-grandfather who served as a three-term mayor of Granville and his daughter, the author of a book that she has republished.

As the carrier of a name that shouts her ancestry, Megan Evans Daniels became interested in her Welsh roots and began researching them as a college project during a study term in the U.K. almost 35 years ago. Her Evans ancestors had

settled in Newark from Aberystwyth, Wales, in the 1840s and many of their descendants still reside in the area. Megan's great-grandfather, William Benjamin Evans, married Anna Mary Swartz. They lived all their lives in Licking County, raising seven children on a farm in Pataskala.

**April 26, Professor Mitchell Snay: The Anti-Slavery Movement in Central Ohio** As part of a year-long examination of the anti-slavery movement in Granville that began with the May recreation of a visit by Frederick Douglass and will end April 27, 2014 with a reenactment of the 1836 Anti-Slavery Society Convention in the North Street Barn that led to the famed "Granville Riot," Professor of History Mitchell Snay of Denison University will present an historical perspective of the Abolition movement as a larger phenomenon and link it to local events. Dr. Snay will also author a Pocket History on the topic. The current display in the meeting room in the new Robinson Research Center is devoted to anti-slavery activities and philosophies in 1830s and 1840s Granville.

## **ABOUT THAT RED STAMP ON THE BACK PAGE: Will you stay on the Historical Times mailing list?**

Since the capital campaign for the Robinson Research Center began, all donors to the campaign have been included on the Historical Times mailing list whether or not they are paid members of the Granville Historical Society. Now that we are a year away from the end of the campaign, as good stewards of the Society's always tight operating budget, we must begin to pare our mailing list to one which includes current members and institutions. If the stamp, "Courtesy Copy" appears near the label on the back cover of this issue, we may need to remove your address from future issues. If you wish to become an active member, please send \$40 (household) to the Granville Historical Society, PO Box 129, Granville, OH 43023, or better yet, go online to <http://www.granvillehistory.org/why-join/> for full information about membership.

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