



THE HISTORICAL TIMES

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Downtown Granville: 1960



Remembering a time when the village was still self-sufficient

In 1960, Taylor's Pharmacy took up the space in downtown Granville now occupied by the Village Coffee Company, and next door was The Village Market, one of four grocery stores of that time located downtown. Read about downtown Granville in 1960 in recollections by then-Granville newcomer Rob Drake, starting on page 2. *From Granville Historical Society Archives*



Scott's Drugs once occupied a space in the dark brown brick building on the south side of East Broadway downtown. Note the telephone booth at far left. Also in that building were the 5 and 10 Cent store, Hanby's Electric and Charlie Sellers' real estate office.

Photo from Granville Historical Society Archives

Texas boy learns the territory in his new home

By **ROB DRAKE**

In 1960 our family moved from Austin, Texas to Granville when my father took a position in Columbus. We were not complete strangers to Licking County as my mother had grown up in Newark, had graduated from Denison University and my grandfather still operated his hardware store on the south side of the Newark Square. We had visited Granville before and even dipped our toes into Spring Valley Pool.

But Granville was a very new experience. Although Austin was then only a fraction of the size that it is today, when we left there it was a city of about 200,000 people and we lived in a suburban neighborhood where every house and school had been built since the end of the Second World War. I had attended a junior high school in Austin with 1,800 students, but in Granville walked over to the then high school on North Granger Street to take bus number 7 out to Union Junior High School on Route 37, with a total of about 180 students.

The entry sign on the viaduct as we came into the Village from Spring Valley said that 2,001

people welcomed us to Granville, although that may not have been a census number. While there were a few new homes being built in the Township, almost all of the area outside the Village consisted of farms, and almost all of the Township roads were paved with dirt, with clouds of dust in the summer and deep mud in the winter and spring. We had not lived in a community before where a 12-year-old boy could strike off on foot or on a bicycle and visit every corner of town in fairly short order. Imagine the excitement living within two and a half blocks of a drugstore that had a soda fountain where one could get a cherry coke or a mint chocolate chip ice cream cone!

I made no notes of what I saw as I got to know Granville. These recollections are just those of a boy, and others may indeed be able to correct and amplify them. But let's begin our tour by going to the point where East College Street runs into Broadway, at that time the eastern boundary of the Village proper. Broadway was, at that time, State Route 16, running from Columbus to Newark, so while the truck traffic was much less than it is today,



THEN AND NOW: The Aladdin restaurant (see sign) is one of the few holdovers today from the 1960 downtown business scene. The produce in the foreground, right, is evidence of Fuller's Market.

Photo from Granville Historical Society Archives

what of it there was all ran right down Broadway. It exited Granville as it ran down the hill, past the golf course and toward the bridge over Clear Run. At that starting point was the Pure Oil gas station and we will walk west, toward what most of my contemporaries called "uptown" as opposed to my thinking of it as "downtown."

At the corner of North Granger Street one went past the parking lot for Granville High School. The parking lot was where the school administration offices are now located, and beyond that the high school extended up to East College Street. Crossing to the next block, one first passed the College Town House, and then the Granville Inn. Sallie Jones Sexton owned the Inn and the golf course, which was then associated with it and the Bryn Du Farm that consisted of all the property between the golf course and Jones Road, except for the houses along Newark-Granville Road. Sallie was considered, by

young people, to be a woman of considerable mystery.

About halfway through the next block, after crossing Pearl Street, was Dick Beeson's Marathon gas station. I don't know how it came to pass that we would become Beeson's patrons, but we did. Beeson's was where the Huntington Bank now is. Next to Beeson's was the old Granville Hotel, then divided into three storefronts. The first doorway let one into Gregory Hardware, which also sold sporting goods, the middle doorway let one into Gregory Toys and the westernmost doorway opened into Gregory "Yardware". Being able to walk into a toy store was also a new and exciting experience. Later, as Boy Scouts, we came to know and use the shooting range that was in the Gregory Hardware basement.

Crossing North Prospect Street, the first storefront was Granville Shoe Repair, operated by



A movie theater occupied the main floor of the Granville Opera House in 1960, where at that time there was also a children's clothing store. *Photo from Granville Historical Society Archives*

Ernie Welsh. Next to that was the Granville Times, operated by the father and grandfather of Jay Young of Kussmall Gallery. The Times had every sort of item needed for running an office and had a bookstore in its basement. Next to the Times was Aileen Duncan's (of Granville and Palm Beach, no less!) where Whit's Frozen Custard was more recently located. This shop sold high quality jewelry and *objets d'art* and was not on my list for visits. Next was the Denison Alumni Office and then The Village Market, where Day y Noche is now located. This was the first of four functioning groceries one passed in this same block. Upstairs over the grocery was dentist Dick Cartnal's office. The next storefront was Taylor's Drugstore, with its soda fountain and Mr. Taylor himself manning the prescription counter. Next beyond that was Roland Thompson's photography studio, located where Green Velvet is today. The last merchant before the alley, which

was then open to automobile traffic into the center of the block, was Fuller's Market, with baskets from all over the world. Upstairs over Fuller's was the office of lawyer Dick Paugh. The alley led back to Tug Fryman's Central Garage in what has come to be called Petunia Park.

Beyond the alley, one first came to Sargent's Market, then the James Store where both men and women's clothing were sold, and then to an institution that remains as it was then, the Aladdin Restaurant. Beyond the Aladdin was Cunard's Jewelry Store, and then in the building that was recently Donato's Pizza was Jim Remmele's Investments and, finally, the last grocery on the block, Welsh's.

Crossing Main Street one saw the churches where they are today, although the only one that had added an education building by 1960 was the Baptist Church, now the United Church of Granville.

Just beyond the Presbyterian Church, continuing west on the north side of Broadway was Nan's Sport Shop, which I believe sold casual women's clothing, although I never went in. Pinkerton Real Estate is in that building now.

One could look down West Broadway to see Jenkins' Sunoco gas station at the corner of West Broadway and Cherry Streets where the Lutheran Church is now located.

Going east along the south side of Broadway from Main Street, on the corner where Opera House Park is now located was the imposing Opera House. Upstairs it was an operating movie theater.

Downstairs was Rush's Children's Corner for clothing and behind Rush's was the office of dentist Dr. Ed Sheffler and the Granville Township office. Beyond St. Luke's Church, the Historical Society Museum was in the same location but had not been expanded, and on the side of the museum next to the bank building was Bus Roberts' barbershop. Next was the Peoples State Bank, the only financial institution in the Village, later to be bought by Park National. Next came the 5 and 10 Cent store operated by Harry I. Kaylor, and next to that was Hanby's Electric. Still moving east, the small office was Charlie Sellers' real estate office, and one then came to Scott's Pharmacy, where the Dragon Village restaurant is now located. The telephone company office has been updated but not moved. In the building that is now the Village Hall, the Ohio Baptist Convention was located, and a part of the first floor was given over to the Town and Gown shop.

Crossing Prospect Street, one came to the Post office, largely unchanged; the library, since expanded twice; and Robbins Hunter's antique business in the Avery Downer House. The Buxton Inn, hidden behind a curtain of vines, was so far as we knew completely closed.

Up the east side of North Prospect, beside Gregory Hardware, the next business was Don



The pool hall was a staple of North Prospect, giving way to the Everest Gear store today. *Granville Historical Society Archives*

Bennett's Sinclair gas station, where First Federal is now located. The large brick building on the corner of Prospect and College streets had a bowling alley upstairs where pins were still set by hand. Downstairs were Tony's Pizza and Callendar's Cleaners.

Crossing North Prospect to the west side, one came to the since replaced old fire station, which included the meeting rooms for the Boy Scouts in the back and the town siren, sounded at noon and as the call for volunteer fireman, on a post out back. Next was a pool hall, but one had to be 16 to enter, and by the time I reached 16 the pool hall was gone. Then came The Hut Restaurant. Next was Don Johnson's dry cleaning shop and then Oscar Brown's barber shop, right before the alley into Petunia Park.

There were also businesses off Broadway. The Morrow Crouse Funeral Home was located where McPeck Hoekstra is today and provided in addition to funeral services the ambulance service in town. At the southeast corner of South Prospect and East Elm was the Granville Furniture House. And on East Elm between South Prospect and South Main was Hud's Chevrolet automobile dealership.

On South Main Street were the Village Offices and police department, right behind the Opera House in

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ANNUAL REPORT: Society back on the move in 2021

In spite of COVID-19, 2021 was a busy year for the Granville Historical Society and one that got us back to business despite the continuation of the pandemic.

The commitment of our working board and volunteers to documenting, preserving, and presenting Granville's history never wavered. The archives and collections teams remained busy upstairs and down. The museum was open with limited hours, on weekends, with a new exhibit of artifacts found in the Welsh Hills by Granville High School student Ethan White. The museum was also, again, a popular stop on the Christmas Candlelight Walking Tour with nearly 900 visitors.

Getting more serious, our Building and Grounds team assessed the condition of the Old Academy Building so we can prioritize needed repairs.

Looking ahead, our Annual Fund drive was launched with a new, exciting goal of hiring for the first time a part-time Executive Director.

In spite of the pandemic, we had several very popular speaker events held through a mix of in-person and Zoom attendance. The first program in a year and a half featured Granville native Jack Wyant, discussing his grandfather Foster Wyant and Granville of the twentieth century. Historical Society author Laura Evans gave a program on her new pocket history, *Granville's Tycoon: John Sutphin Jones and the Gilded Age*. Local storyteller Jeff Gill gave a program entitled "History at the Crossroads: Newark-Granville Road and Cherry Valley Road," and Doug Stout, Veterans Project Coordinator with the Licking County Library, gave a program on Granville's significant veterans of foreign wars.

We also thanked Janet Procida and Nancy Rush, who ended their terms on the Board of Managers.

All of these people, and more, work all year to make the Society an organization that you, our members, can be proud of.

--Heidi Drake, President,
Board of Managers

Approved 2022 budget

	2021 Approved Budget	2022 Approved Budget
Revenue		
Annual Fund Prior Year	-	-
Annual Fund Current Year	12,000	15,000
Books and Merchandise	1,500	1,500
Membership Dues	10,000	10,000
Other donations	700	2,000
Programs	-	-
Other Income	1,000	-
Withdrawal from Investment Account	7,000	7,000
Withdrawal from Mahard Trust	2,460	2,500
Withdrawals from Knobel Funds	3,000	-
Grants	-	-
Granville Community Foundation	-	-
Granville Garden Club	-	-
Village of Granville (Archive)	1,500	1,500
Township (Archives/Maple Grove)	3,000	3,000
Columbus Foundation	500	500
Total Revenue	\$ 42,660	\$ 43,000
Expenses		
Accessions	\$ 1,000	1,000
Archives	\$ 400	400
Board Expenses	\$ 700	700
Building and Grounds Budget	\$ 18,430	18,950
Collections Budget	\$ 500	500
Exhibits Budget	\$ 500	500
Grant Expenses	\$ 1,500	1,500
Membership	\$ 300	800
Museum Operations	\$ -	-
Programs	\$ 3,000	-
Publications	\$ 3,200	3,200
Publicity	\$ 500	500
Society Support	\$ 19,014	19,500
Payables - payroll taxes accrued not yet paid		
Total Expenses	\$ 49,044	\$ 47,550
Excess Revenue/Expense	\$ (6,384)	\$ (4,550)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Granville Historical Society entered 2021 in a very strong financial position. Even so, we've met challenges in keeping costs down. In 2021, maintenance amounted to more than \$8,000 due in part to replacing the furnace and an air conditioning unit, and there have already been some unexpected repairs in 2022 to the museum.

The 2021 Annual Fund income was \$18,000 with donations still arriving in early 2022.

The 2021 finances realized a \$9,000 deficit, but in 2020 the Society had income in excess of expenses of about \$5,500, driven by \$8,500 in membership income, about \$23,000 in Annual Fund contributions and sale of \$1,700 in books. Our board exercised good cost-containment measures to help with these results.

— Kim Manley, Treasurer

Society's investments gained ground in 2021

The Granville Historical Society has three separate investment "accounts." In all cases the goal for these accounts is to preserve capital and grow the accounts after permitted withdrawals:

• **Endowment Fund** – Proceeds for museum operations.

- Balance as of 1/1/2021 = \$209,630.
- Balance as of 12/31/2021 = \$246,925.
- No withdrawals during 2021.

• **Mahard Trust** – Proceeds only for the maintenance, operation, and utilities for the Old Academy Building.

- Balance as of 1/1/2021 = \$140,780.
- Balance as of 12/31/2021 = \$143,987.
- Withdrawal of \$10,000 during 2021.

• **Knobel Fund** – Proceeds for Society programming.

- Balance as of 1/1/2021 = \$61,063.
- Balance as of 12/31/2021 = \$71,860.
- Withdrawal of \$500 during 2021.

The committee met in May and December 2021 with our financial advisor to review the portfolio and make changes as necessary to meet the Investment Policy of each Fund/Trust account.

A Gift Acceptance Policy was added to our financial guidance policies in November 2021 with an appropriate revision reference made to the Endowment Fund Investment Policy.

The investment vehicles have been chosen by members of the Finance Committee (Kim Manley, Tom Martin, Charles Peterson, Jane Wilken, and David Rinehart-chair) with thanks to the able advice of Rick Moller.

--J. David Rinehart, Chair, Finance Committee

Downtown Granville 1960

(Continued from page 5)

the building that is now the St. Luke's Parish House, and farther down was Granville Lumber Co. Opposite Granville Lumber was the Granville Mill. If you walked down Munson Street beside the lumber yard you could come to Baker's Lawn Mowers and Repairs and to the Granville Livestock auction building.

There were at least four doctors with general practices working from houses in the Village. These were Dr. Allen Avery, on West Broadway; Dr. Larry Miller on South Prospect Street; Dr. Irv Nickerson on North Granger Street across from the elementary school and Dr. Geraldine Crocker next to the high school on East College. Just beyond Dr. Crocker's office was the office of the *Granville Booster*, which was a free advertising paper distributed around the Village. The Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal and Presbyterian churches were on the downtown corners; the Pilgrim Lutheran Church was located in a house on East College Street.

We arrived in Granville at the end of its era as a self-sustaining community. Within walking distance, all inside the village boundaries, were four gas stations, four grocery stores, five churches, four general practice MDs, two drug stores, two dry

cleaners, one hotel and restaurant, three other food outlets, four clothing stores, two barbershops, two dentists; and one of many things — an automobile dealership, a garage, a shoe repair shop, a 5 and 10, a real estate agent, a stockbroker, a lawyer, a bank, a furniture store, and the funeral home. For entertainment there was the pool hall, a bowling alley and a movie theater. In a more miscellaneous category one might place one antiques dealer, one museum, one lumberyard, one hardware store, one toy store, two sellers of lawn equipment and one lawn equipment repair shop, a jewelry shop, a high-end gift shop, a mill and a livestock auction yard.

There was still bus service to downtown Newark every day for what could not be found here. But all was about to change.

One thing that could not be found in Granville was a drink; Granville was dry. Not that I needed a drink to enjoy exploring our new home.

A note of thanks: I was stumped on a couple of these businesses and want to acknowledge the help of three men with whom I was a student at Granville High School: Eric Jones, Ned Preston and Ross Lichtenstein, who filled in a few of the blanks for me. All errors, if any, are mine.

Rob Drake is a retired attorney and a 1965 graduate of Granville High School. He is a member of the Historical Society's Publications Committee.

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THE HISTORICAL TIMES

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GET CONNECTED, JOIN THE SOCIETY

The Granville Historical Society is an all-volunteer, non-governmental not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization with membership open to all. Joining the Society is a delightful way to meet people who share a love of and interest in Granville's rich, well-documented history. A variety of programs, quarterly publications, and a museum chock full of intriguing artifacts are some of the ways that enable Society volunteers to share facets of what makes Granville so fascinating with members and guests. Volunteers are welcome in the Archives and Museum Collections areas, as well as volunteering as museum hosts. Please visit Granvillehistory.org for further information about all that we do and how you can get involved.

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