

Industrial History
Oak Hill, Ohio



by
Evan Edward Davis

Hanes Diwydiannol Oak Hill, Ohio



gan

Evan Edward Davis

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GOGONIAN I GYMRU

*Fy henwlad fendigaid, mae anian yn urddo
Pob mynydd a dyffryn, pob clogwyn a glyn!
Ac yspryd prydferthwch a'i liw yn goleuo
Pob afon ac aber, pob llanerch a llyn;
Gwladgarwch a rhinwedd fendithiant dy enw,
Dy feibion a'th ferched a garant dy fri;
Gorhoffedd dy feirddion yw denu dy sylw —
Er gwaethaf pob gelyn eu testyn wyt ti.*

— *gan Talhaiarn*

YR AWDUR

Mr. Evan Edward Davis was born and educated in Oak Hill, where he graduated from high school. He is a graduate of Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio, and is associated with his father, Mr. E. E. Davis in the brick and banking businesses.

The proceeds from the sale of this book are donated to The Welsh-American Heritage Museum of Oak Hill, Jackson County, Ohio, for the purpose of buying and restoring the old Welsh Congregational Church on East Main Street.

Mae wedi rhoi i Oak Hill ac i'r byd, bobl enwog un gwleidyddiaeth, gwyddoniaeth, a diwydiant.

Yr hen eglwys cyfrifir erioed fel twr cadarn i bopeth pwysig yn ein treftadaeth ardderchog.

— yr hen Arddwr

Gair O Eglurhad

*Credwch fi annwyl frodyr mae'r Cymru yn hil fendigedig.
Maent wedi bod yn arweinyddion rhagorol am flynyddoed mawr.*

*Gadewch i mi ddiolch i'r Meddyg Gwyn A. Parry, i Mr.
Daniel M. Jones, i Mr. E. E. Davis, ac i Mrs. Edmund Schwinke.
Bu y pedwar yma yn gymorth mawr i mi with gyfrannu o'u
gwybodaeth helaeth o hanes Jackson County.*

*Cyflwynaf yr Hanes Diwydiannol hwn i'r arloeswyr Cymreig.
Yr oeddent yn ddynion diwyd, hoff o ganu, gwaithwyr caled
ac yn iawn o'r Capel. Y maent wedi gosod esiamplau ardderchog.
Gadwch i ni eu dilyn.*

E. E. D., Glo Bryn

Y Pymthegfed O Ionwar 1973

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this book is to present a history of the major industries in the Oak Hill area for the enjoyment of all during its Centennial Year. Some industries are omitted as they were short lived or did not make a significant contribution to our local economy.

The material for this account was gathered from numerous written sources as well as from personal interviews, most of which are properly acknowledged herein. Over the years I have interviewed numerous persons and feel indebted to practically everyone in town for contributing vital information. Local names have been confusing to non-residents for years. In some instances I have followed the custom of adding the local Welsh or English name to properly identify individuals. The identification of those in the early photographs has been difficult. Many people have eagerly assisted me with this problem. We have done our best!

The Welsh Pioneers are the heroes of this account since they established and operated our first industries. The organizers and stockholders of Jefferson Furnace were endowed with rare ability and wisdom. This group and their relatives later invested their capital, or talents in numerous other local industries.

The Pioneer Workers played a prominent role in local history for without their dedication and hard work, success would have been impossible for our early industries.

I sincerely hope the reader finds enjoyment in these pages as we return to former times.

Evan Edward Davis

Oak Hill, Ohio

15 January 1973

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Pioneers

The Oak Hill area had many pioneers. Originally they were of Scottish, Irish, or German origin who came first to trap the abundant wild life living in the region, and later to clear the land for farming.

WELSH PIONEERS

Wales was destined to provide virtually all our Pioneers of Industry. The first group of Welsh immigrants arrived at Gallipolis, Gallia County, Ohio in 1818 from Plwyf Cilcennin, Cardiganshire, Wales. Within a few years as others arrived they established the communities of Centerville, Tyn Rhos, Moriah, Nebo, Peniel, Horeb, and many more bringing with them their language, and culture, much of which remains today. Old Wales and these Welsh communities were destined to provide virtually all the men to lead our industries as well as many to do the work, clear the virgin forests for farming, and develop our culture.

These early Welsh were not all temperate; some of them were heavy drinkers. Indeed, there were a few *defaid du* among them who were fugitives from justice. They were not all successful in their business ventures. The Welsh organized three charcoal iron furnaces in this county: Jefferson, Cambria, and Limestone. Jefferson was highly successful, but the other two were failures! Many who settled here possessed unusual industry, vision, and the ambition to make good the honest way regardless how much hard work was involved in the process. Our fine churches, schools and other institutions are monuments to their enlightenment as several shared their success with the entire community. The pioneers of industry were those great men who organized and operated our first industries.

ONE LADY AMONG THEM

There was one lady among them, Miss Anna M. Davis. Many persons were involved in organizing the first industries. Only one of these survives; Miss Margaret J. Davis, the sister of Miss Anna M. Davis. There are others who started their careers many years ago just as the Pioneer Period was ending.

Therefore, they are considered as part of it. Such men are R. S. Williams, O. E. Miller, and E. E. Davis.

Since only a few photographs are available, the absence of such does not detract from the greatness of those who organized and operated our early industries.



FIRST MAYOR OF OAK HILL

J. EDWARD JONES

1812 - 1903

Mr. Jones was born on Ynys Mon (the island of Anglesey), North Wales, where his family were cheesemakers. He formed a partnership in 1848 with T. L. Hughes and operated a store in East Oak Hill. He later moved the store to Portland when the railroad was built and purchased Hughes' interest. He, with R. H. Jones and Joseph Rule, were the original incorporators of the village of Oak Hill. He was elected its first mayor, holding the office for 25 years. He was an original stockholder in The Aetna Fire Brick and Coal Company, as well as a prominent banker. He, with David Wynne, John C. Jones and Elias Morgan organized the first bank, The Farmers Bank in 1891. He was elected its president. Later, Mr. Jones, D. D. Davis, and others organized The Oak Hill Savings Bank Company in 1902, which purchased The Farmers Bank and elected him its president. Mr. Jones has four grandchildren here: Miss Betty Jane Jenkins, Dr. Howard J. Jenkins, Mrs. Dan M. Jones, and Mrs. Bess Wilson. Three others: Miss Helen E. Jones, Donald A. Jones and Dwight Jones reside in Jackson.

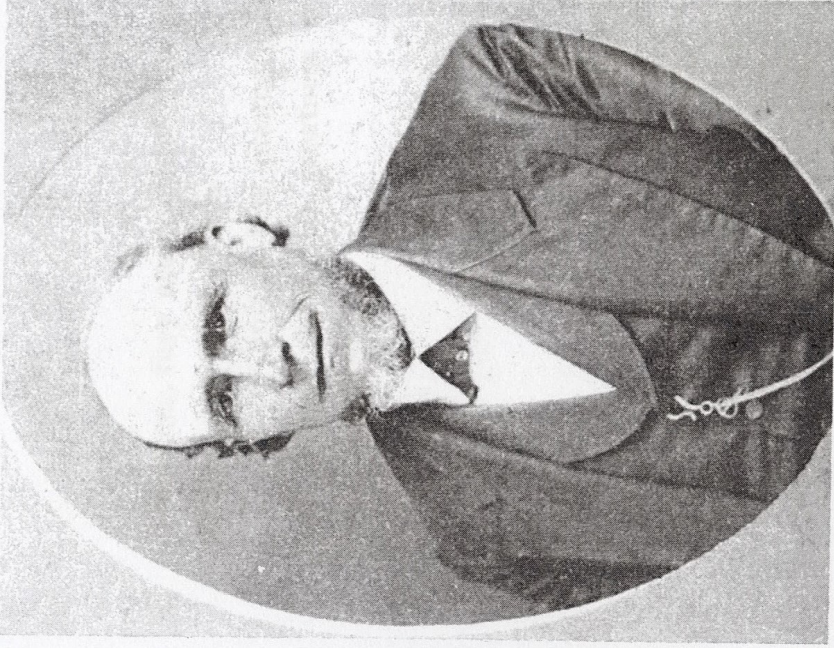


FIRST BUSINESS WOMAN

ANNA M. DAVIS, GLO BRYN

1879 - 1946

Miss Davis was born in Oak Hill, attended Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, and was a teacher at Jefferson Fur-nace School. She was an organizer and secretary of The Ohio Fire Brick Company from 1898 until 1946. She was an organizer and secretary of The Davis Fire Brick Company from 1901 until 1946. Few women were given such responsibilities in those days. She was a sister of Margaret, D. D., Evan J., and Edward P. Davis, Glo Bryn.



JOHN D. DAVIS, MANAGER

1822 - 1901

Mr. Davis was born at Tanyralit, Llancwnlle, Cards, South Wales. He was an early member of Tyn Rhos Church, Gallia County, a founderman at Gallia Furnace, an organizer of The Jefferson Furnace Company; its first founderman; manager 1857-1877; superintendent and financial agent 1877-1890, and an owner of The Buckeye Furnace Company. He was a brother of Lot Davis and the great grandfather of Mrs. Sarah Shackleford, Willard Davis and Myron E. Davis.



HON. LOT DAVIS

1830 - 1903

Mr. Davis was born at Tanyralit, Llancwnlle, Cards, South Wales. He was an early member of Tyn Rhos Church, Gallia County, founderman at Cambria and Jefferson Furnaces, and organizer and president of The Huron Furnace Company, Jackson, Ohio; an owner and manager of the Buckeye Furnace Company; an organizer and director of The Oak Hill Fire Brick and Coal Company. He was manager of The Jefferson Furnace Company from 1890 until 1897 and a member of the Ohio House of Representatives. He was a brother of John D. Davis, Manager.

HON. T. L. HUGHES

1806 - 1896

Mr. Hughes was born at Ffynon Tudor, Llanellidan, in the Vale of Clwd, Denbighshire, North Wales, where he was a correspondent for Y Cyfaill, a Welsh American religious periodical. He formed a mercantile partnership with J. Edward Jones in 1848; was an organizer of The Jefferson Furnace Company, serving as its first secretary and cashier. He became a stockholder and director of The First National Bank in Jackson, Ohio, and a member of The Ohio House of Representatives. He was a distinguished author of religious articles and books.



JOHN J. JONES, TYN RHOS

1826 - 1894

Mr. Jones was born near Tyn Rhos, Parish of Llancwnlle, Cardiganshire, South Wales. He, with his father, organized Tyn Rhos Church in Gallia County. He was a merchant and early railroad agent. He laid out and developed the settlement of Portland. He was an organizer, director and general manager of The Aetna Fire Brick and Coal Company, where he fell from the clay tippie and was killed in 1894. He was a brother-in-law of John J. Thomas and a father-in-law of Elias Morgan.



JOHN J. THOMAS, COCH PEN

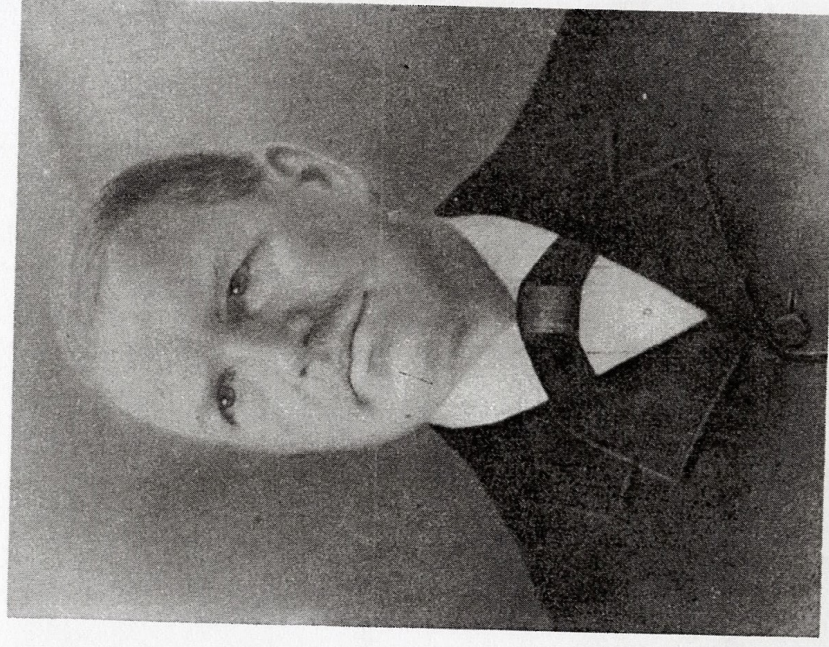
1839 - 1916

Mr. Thomas was born in Cardiganshire, South Wales, where he was reared and educated. He was an organizer and president of The Oak Hill Fire Brick and Coal Company, a coal mine operator, an organizer of The Globe Iron Company of Jackson, Ohio, and with D. D. Davis, Moses Morgan and others, organized The Jackson Iron and Steel Company. He built our largest building, The Thomas Block, and was a stockholder in The Jefferson Iron Company. He was the great grandfather of Mrs. Sarah Shackelford, Willard Davis, and Myron E. Davis.

MOSES MORGAN

1840 - 1931

Mr. Morgan was born near Horeb in Jackson County; he attended Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, taught school in Scioto, Lawrence and Jackson Counties, was storekeeper, bookkeeper and manager of Jackson Furnace. He was manager and agent of The Hope Manufacturing Company, Mason City, West Virginia, and with his brother Elias Morgan and John J. Jones, organized The Aetna Fire Brick and Coal Company. He was its first president. Later, with D. D. Davis, John J. Thomas and others, he organized The Jackson Iron and Steel Company of Jackson, Ohio. He was its first president. Mr. Morgan was a Civil War veteran who was very active in G. A. R. affairs.





D. D. DAVIS
1867 - 1954



EVAN J. DAVIS
1868 - 1960

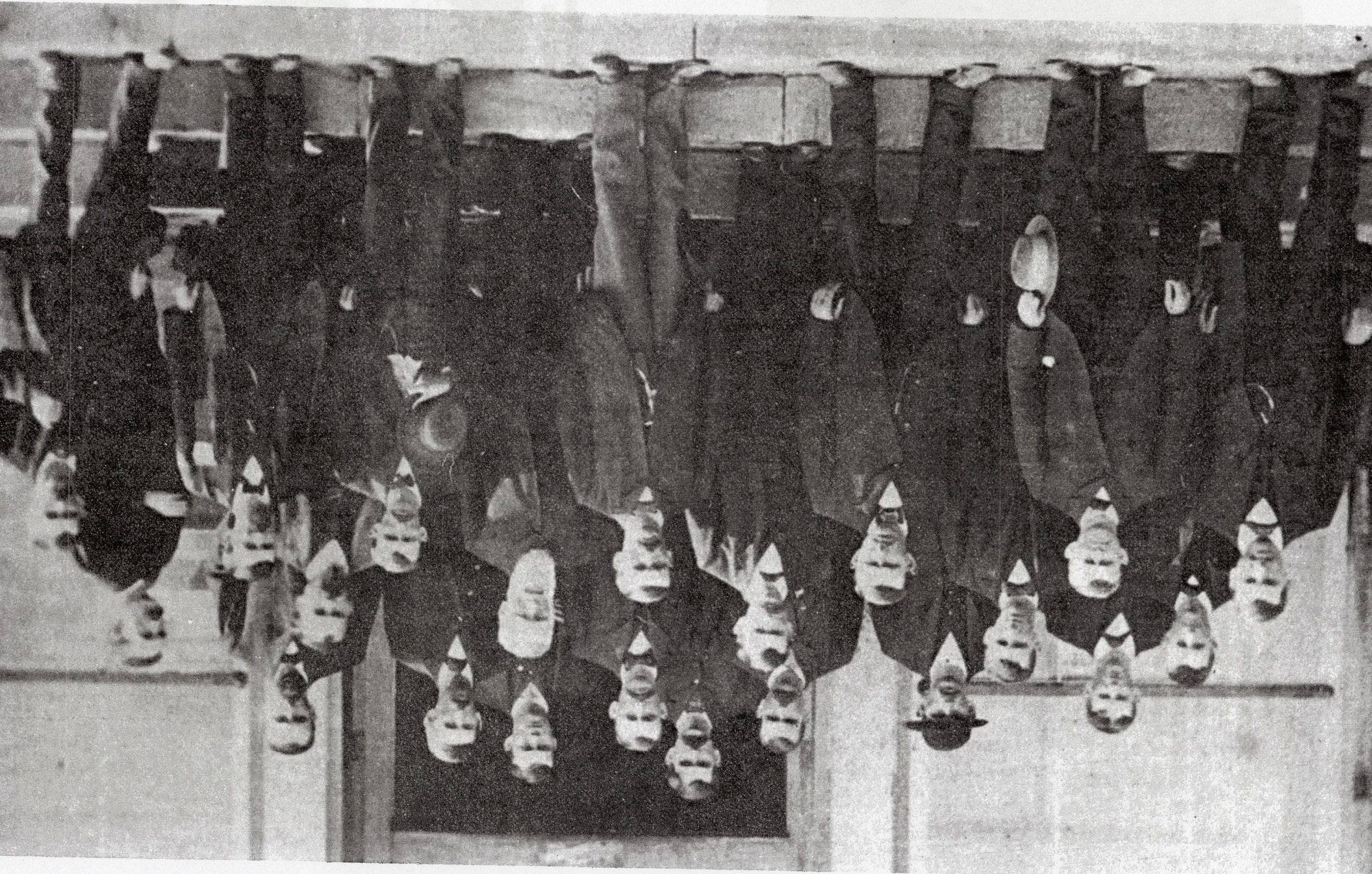


EDWARD P. DAVIS
1871 - 1956



MARGARET J. DAVIS
Last Pioneer: 99 years young

All the Davis Family, Glo Bryn, except Anna, were natives of the Tyn Rhos - Centerpoint area of Gallia County. This family of brothers and sisters organized The Ohio and Davis Fire Brick Companies. D. D. Davis was an industrialist and banker. He, with J. Edward Jones and others, organized The Oak Hill Savings Bank Company of which he was president for many years after the death of Mr. Jones. He, with Moses Morgan, John J. Thomas, and others, organized The Jackson Iron and Steel Company. He organized and operated many brick and sewer pipe firms in the Mid-West.



MASONIC PICTURE: PROMINENT MEN ABOUT 1890

First row, L to R: 1. Evan I. Evans, 2. Hon. Daniel W. Williams,
3. John I. Evans, 4. Joe Phillips, 5. David J. Harris, 6. Dr. E. E.
Hughes, 7. Edward Roberts.

Second row: 1. Morgan E. Davis, 2. I. N. Evans, 3. William

D. Evans, 4. David Evans, 5. Dr. J. B. Warren, 6. Joe Warren.
Third row: 1. John A. Davis, 2. Charles Lloyd, 3. Benjamin
Rule, 4. William G. Evans, 5. David S. Parry, 6. John Jones.

Fourth row: 1. Evan D. Davis, 2. Thomas J. Davis.

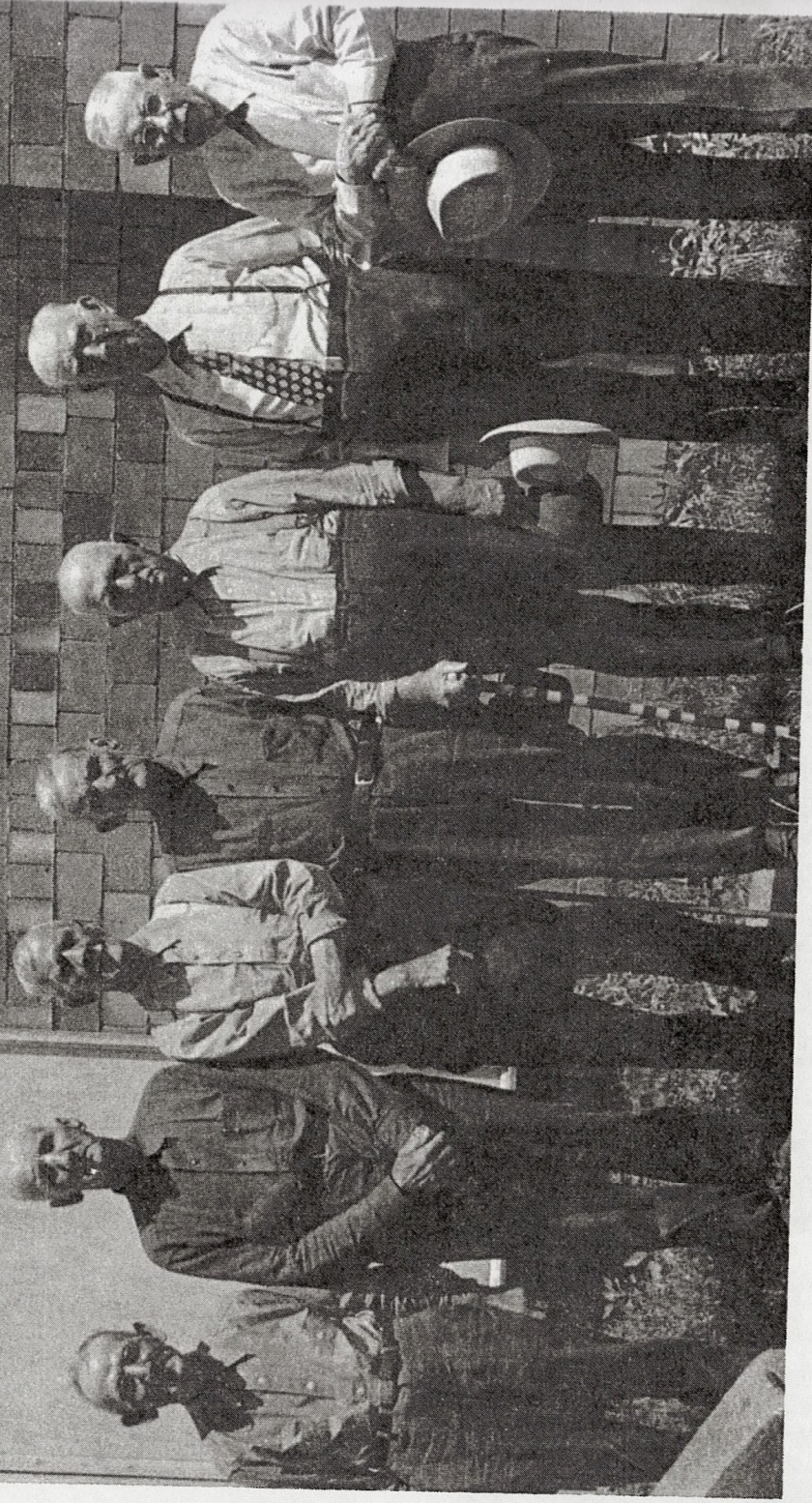


CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 1946

First row: 1. E. O. Evans, U. S. Army Ret., 2. Roscoe Kerns, President, Chamber of Commerce.

Second row: 1. Morris E. Davis, President Oak Hill Fire Brick Company, 2. William E. Jones, Treasurer, Village of Oak Hill, 3. Thomas Jenkins, Jenkins Grocery, 4. Hon. Wendell Horton, Mayor of Oak Hill, 5. T. E. Ridgeway, 6. R. T. Grace.

Third row: 1. Lew Foster, Supt. Aetna Fire Brick Company, 2. Dewey Sims, Manager Gallia Produce Company, 3. Ernie Waller, 4. Dan T. Davis, Editor, Oak Hill Press, 5. D. Paul Morgan, Jones and Morgan Hardware Company, 6. L. F. Sims, Manager Aetna Fire Brick Company, 7. Ed Kellerman.



OLD TIMERS 1946

1. David J. Jones, 2. I. N. Evans, 3. John Rodgers, 4. John Seel, 5. William D. Williams,
6. Edward J. Jones, 7. D. D. Davis.



R. S. WILLIAMS

Mr. Williams was born in Oak Hill, where he worked as a molder for The Ohio and Oak Hill Fire Brick Companies. He is a former postmaster, Coal Mine Operator, and Past Commander of The Ohio American Legion. He is presently head of The Jackson County War Veterans Commission.

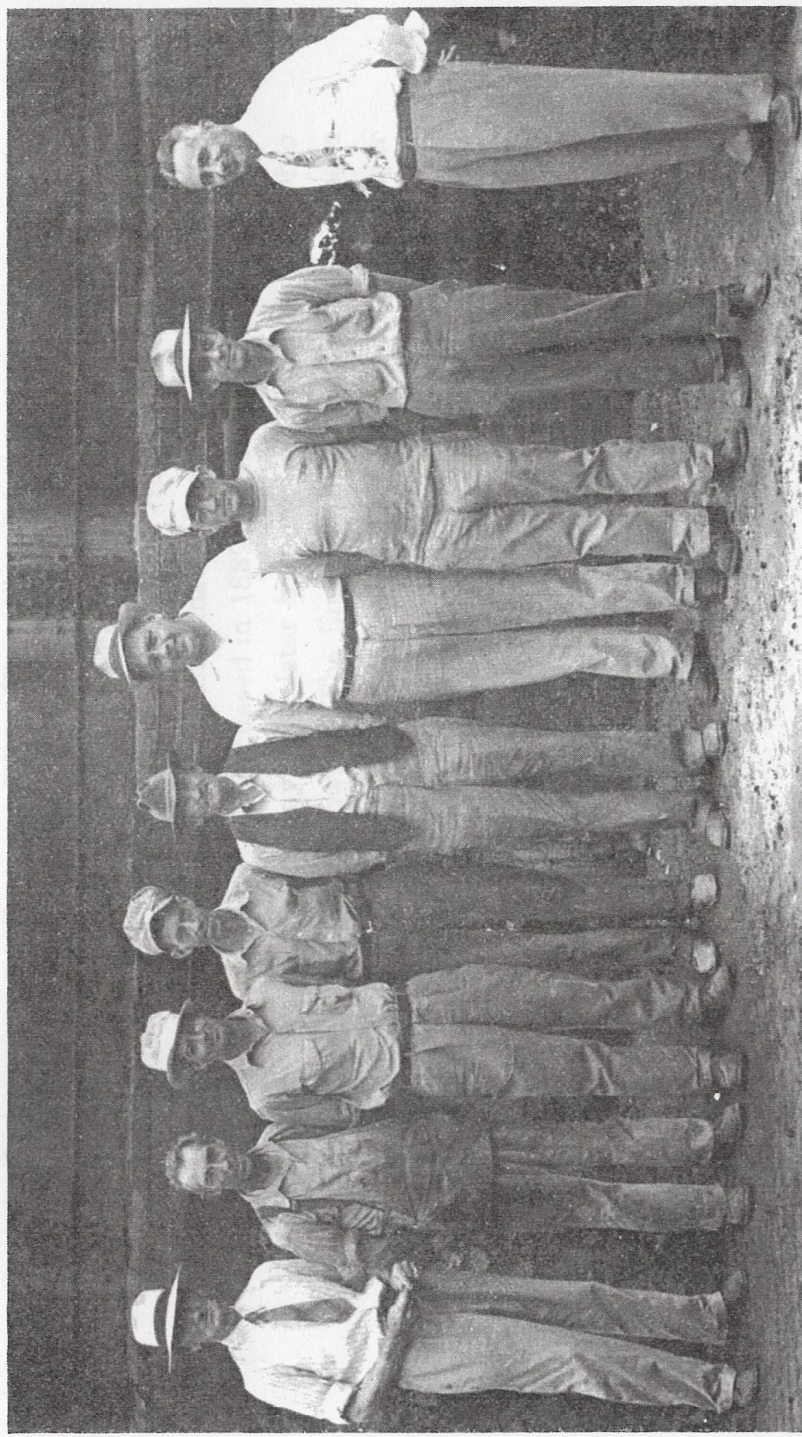


E. E. DAVIS, GLO BRYN

Mr. Davis was born at Tyn Rhos, Gallia County. He attended Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. He is a member and life-long business associate of The D. D. Davis Family, Glo Bryn. He is president of The Oak Hill Savings Bank Company, The Ohio and Davis Fire Brick Companies, The Cambria Clay Products Company, and The Tyn Rhos Cemetery Association.

O. E. MILLER AND ASSISTANTS (PYRO CLAY PRODUCTS) 1947

L to R: 1. Frank Conn, 2. William Adams, 3. Jack Sellers, 4. Archie Lambert, 5. Clinton Jones, 6. Bill Lloyd, 7. Fred Jones, 8. Moffat Edwards, 9. O. E. Miller, President.



Iron Horses

RAILROAD BUILT

The Iron Horse sired the present town of Oak Hill and its industry.

When the first train on The Scioto and Hocking Valley Railroad, a "broad gauge" line, arrived here from Portsmouth on June 2, 1853, pulled by a spotless little steam engine named *The Bloomfield*, there was quite a celebration. All to the disgust of *Old Dobbin* who considered this smoke-belching, shrill whistling monster his worst enemy. The railroad gave this area its first convenient means of transportation by linking it with the busy Ohio River port of Portsmouth, 35 miles to the south. At that time, a turn around was built near the present Davis Switch. The first depot was built there and for a time was called Damarinville. In August 1853, the line was completed to the town of Jackson Court House, 12 miles to the north. It was a victory for the organizers of Jefferson Furnace who had promoted this line and opposed an extension of the Iron Railroad from Ironton, which was later built by The Dayton and Southeastern Railroad.

The railroad was completed from Jackson to Hamden in 1856, where it connected with The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad, that later became a main rail route running East and West. The railroad has had many owners. In 1863, the Scioto and Hocking Valley Railroad was purchased by The Portsmouth and Newark Railroad which was purchased on January 20, 1864 by The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad. On January 1, 1883, The Marietta and Cincinnati Railroad was sold to The Cincinnati, Washington and Baltimore Railroad Company. This line was purchased in 1889 by The Baltimore and Ohio South Western Railroad Company, that later became the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, its present owner. The line was financed by a bond issue approved by the voters of the county on March 7, 1850. It provided passenger service from Oak Hill to Hamden and Portsmouth for almost a century.

FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN

The Bloomfield and its train were quite different from those of today. The engine was toy like in appearance while the passenger cars it pulled were actually stage coach bodies mounted on railroad wheels. The first locomotives used wood for fuel and were named for areas along the line. The first locomotives were *The Bloomfield*, a former name for South Webster, The Portsmouth,

The Jackson, and The Vinton, which was named after Vinton County. They were later renamed *Betsey*, *Belle Flower*, *Sun Flower* and *May Flower*.

FIRST TRAIN WRECK

The first major train wreck occurred between Oak Hill and Jackson, near the present Jackson County Home on December 8, 1856. A passenger train pulled by *The Vinton* derailed. The engine and tender turned a somersault and rolled down a steep embankment. The baggage cars overturned. The fireman, baggageman and 39 sheep were killed. Several passengers were injured. The official cause of the disaster was "a flock of sheep on the track." Such were the perils of railroading in those days.

SETTLEMENT OF PORTLAND

The settlement of Portland soon sprang up on both sides of the new railroad. The tiny settlements of Damarinville and Pinch Gut were built near the present Oak Hill Garage and Davis Switch. The hamlet of Reed's Station was laid out near the same area. They all became a part of The Village of Oak Hill when it was formed by merging the original settlement of Oak Hill located in an area near the intersection of Bingham and East Main Streets with Portland. This occurred officially on January 12, 1873.

DAYTON AND SOUTHEASTERN RAILROAD

The Dayton and Southeastern Railroad completed a narrow gauge line from Wellston to Dean Junction, near Ironton in 1881. It provided rail service for the cities of Rempel, McKittrick, Kitchen, Gallia, Peniel, Hoadley, and Olive. Later, its track was changed to standard gauge, and while it was operated under many different names through the years, in 1895, it became a part of the famous Cincinnati, Hamilton, and Dayton Railroad.

In early years, The Dayton and Southeastern operated a flag stop named Oak Hill Station which was located at the intersection of County Road number 2, the C. H. and D. Road, and the Moriah Road. Its daily passenger trains to Wellston and Ironton were a source of many local stories. Older residents recall the trains being late very frequently . . . sometimes two days late. The train crews were described as pleasant men who enjoyed fishing, hunting and blackberry picking so much, they would regularly stop the trains at certain spots to do so. There was one period when the passenger trains would wreck at least once every day. Yet, this was better than walking or riding a horse to the booming iron metropolis of Ironton where one could spend all his wages buying the latest fashions, or in seeking the culture of Buck Horn

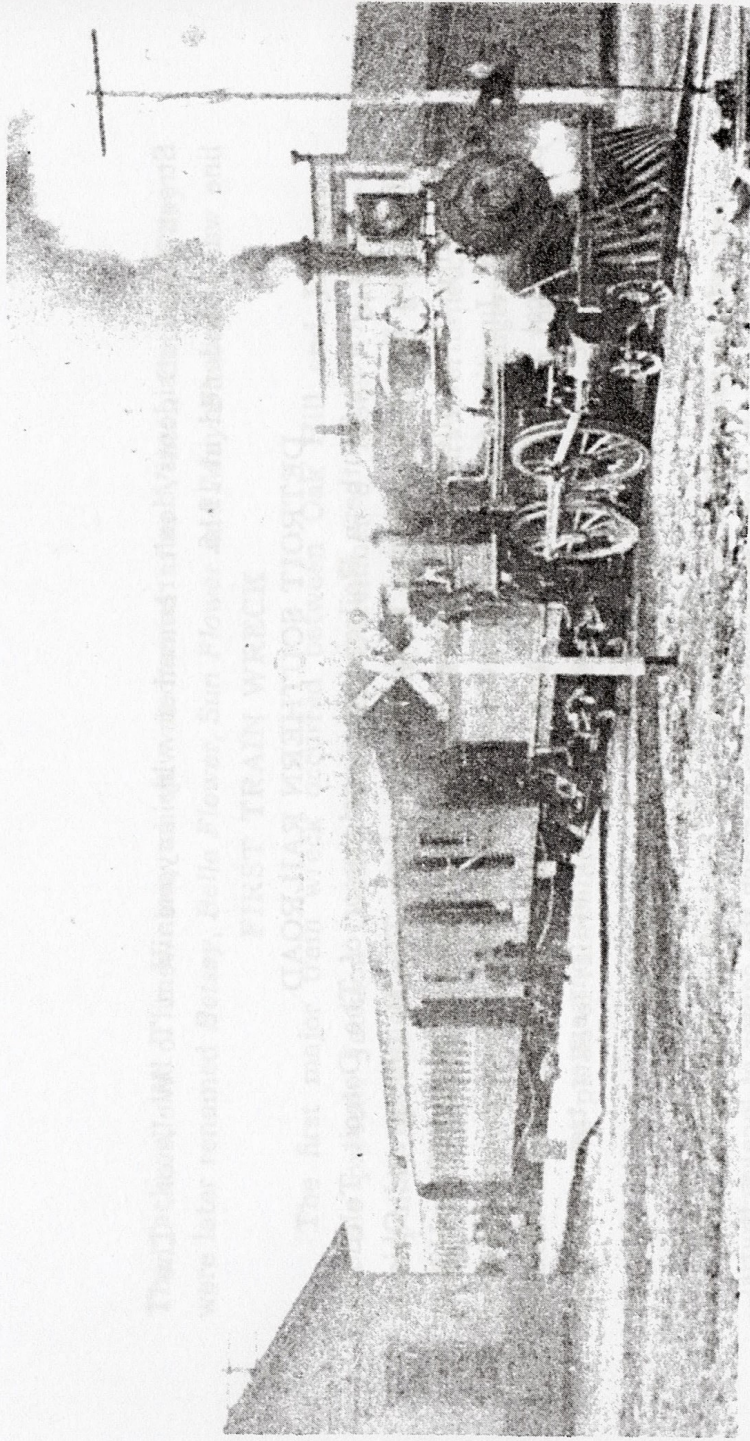
Street. Local residents don't remember why anyone went to Wellston. The line was abandoned in 1916.

DETROIT SOUTHERN RAILROAD

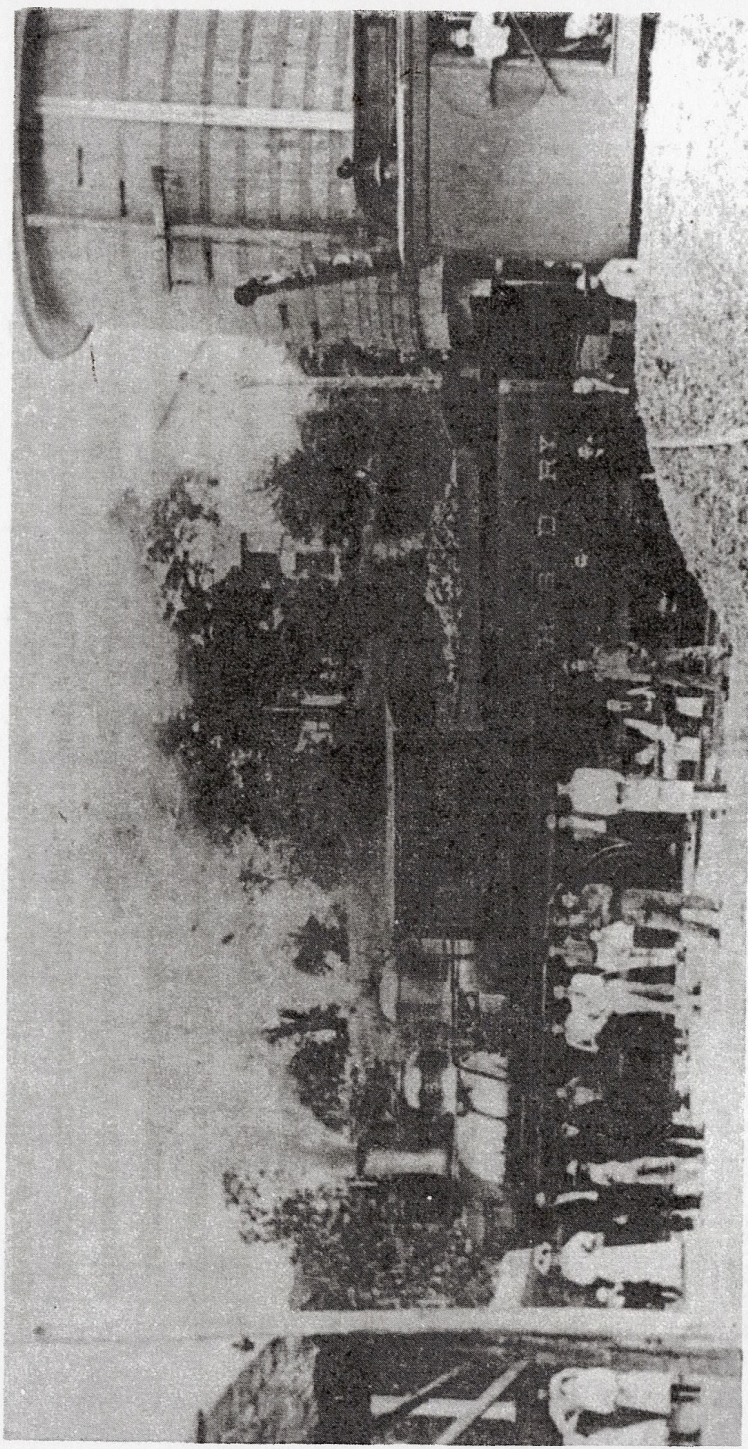
The Detroit Southern Railroad, the predecessor of The Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Railroad, obtained trackage rights from The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in 1903, allowing it to operate trains from Jackson through Oak Hill to Bloom Junction from where it built a line to Ironton. While it could not provide local freight service, its fancy passenger trains stopped here daily providing direct service to Detroit and Ironton. These passenger trains made their last run on September 18, 1932.

BUSY DEPOTS

For over eighty years, the depots were as much the center of local activity as most city airports are today. The first depot was located in Damarinville near the present Davis Switch. Two others were built in later years at the present location near Main and Front Streets, the oldest being the present freight house. During the Civil War, many troop trains passed by, coming and going from Portsmouth where they connected with river transports carrying Union troops to and from the battle fields of The South. Special trains carried such dignitaries as James G. Blaine, William H. Taft, Henry Ford and Wendell Wilkie past them over the years. The chatter of the telegraph key was the only fast means of communication available for many years. John J. Jones and Elias Morgan, who were organizers of the Aetna Fire Brick Company were both early railroad agents here, but just a few years ago, people rode such B & O trains as *The Accommodation*, *The Mail*, *The DT&I's No. 1* and *No. 2*, and bought their tickets, or picked up their freight from L. F. Sims, Colonel Dave Jones, Truman Faulkner, Luther Slagle, P. P. Potts, L. W. Parks and J. E. Hen-son. The present railroad agent is Mr. R. R. Moss. B&O passenger service ended on January 16, 1950, and the Iron Horses are gone, but the powerful diesel locomotives of today are still providing our community with the service which made industrial development possible here 120 years ago.

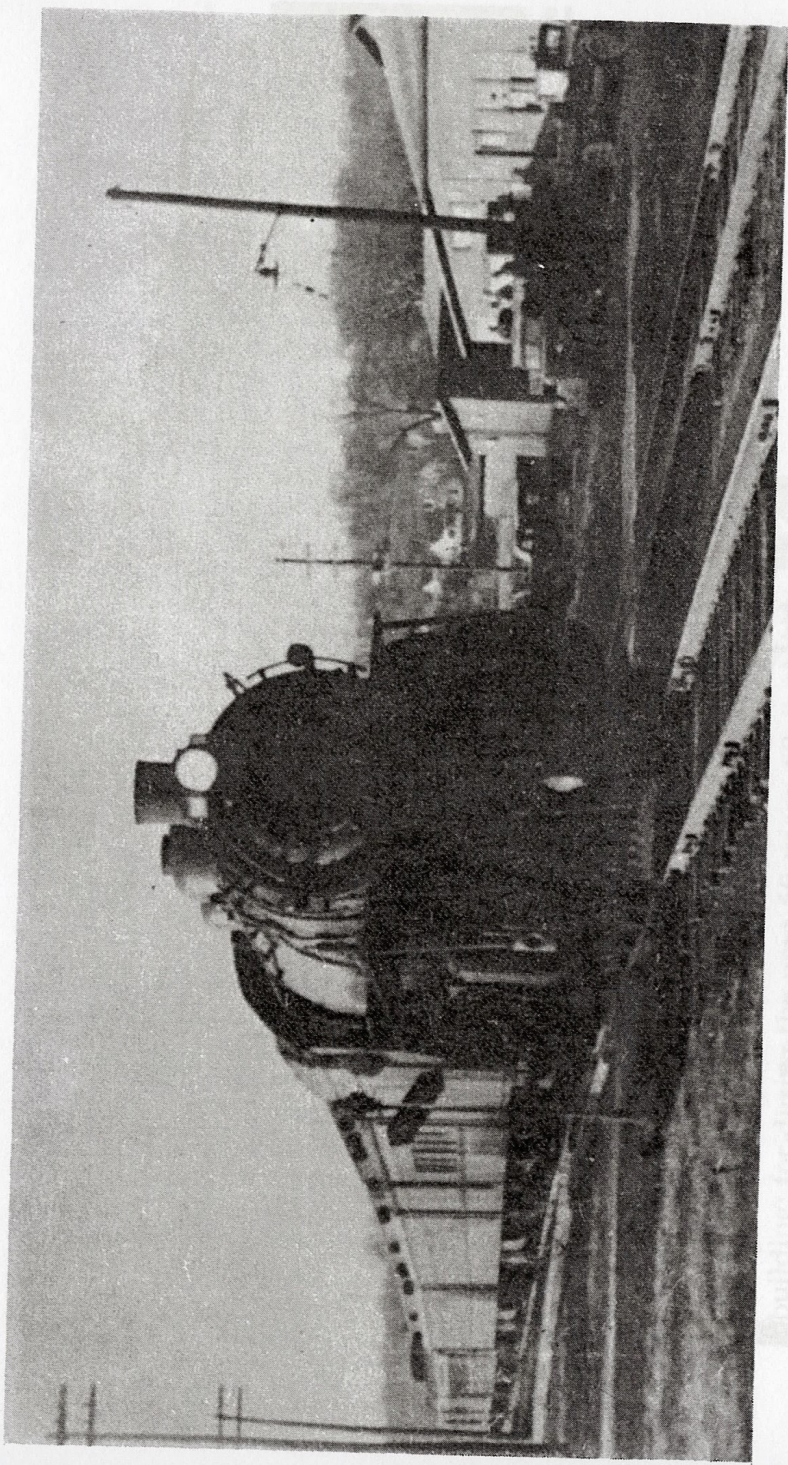


B & O SW PASSENGER TRAIN 1900

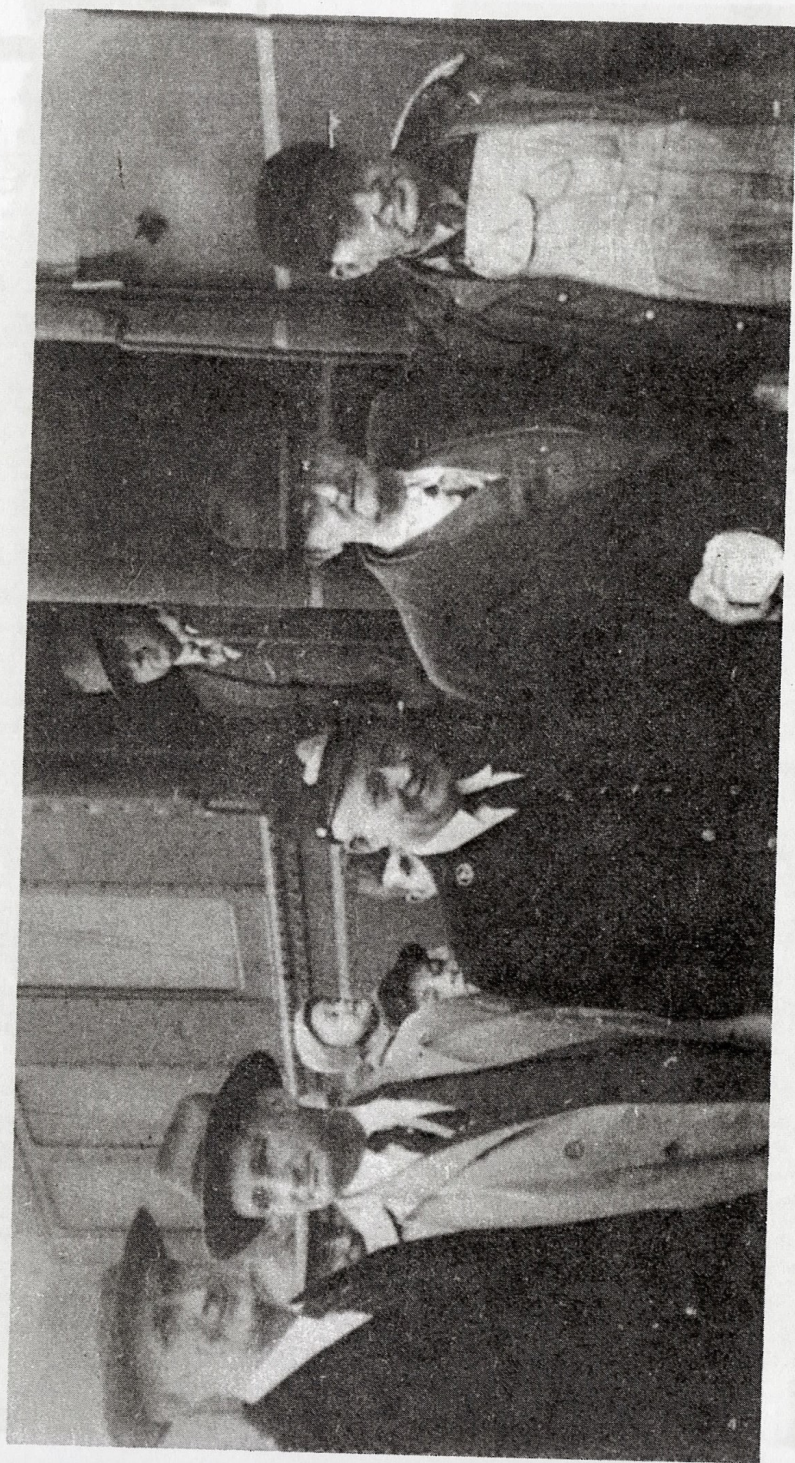


CH & D PASSENGER TRAIN AT GALLIA 1911 (Courtesy W. M. Kiser)

L to R: 1. Ruth Woods, 2. Gusta Woods, 3., 4. Tanner Woods (Boy), 5. Mrs. Ida Woods;
 6. John Lee, 7. John Hickie, 8. Ed Faulkner, 9. Dave Lewis, 10. George Faulkner; 11. W. M. Kiser,
 12. Gus Woods, Storekeeper, 13. Ora Faulkner, 14. Alva Faulkner, 15. J. N. Tanner, 16. Henry
 Warnakee, Telegraph Agent, 17. John Griffith, 18. Bill Sweeney, Conductor, 19. Charlie Hall,
 Engineer, 20., 21., 22., 23., 24. Bill Stewart,
 Mail Clerk in Baggage Car.

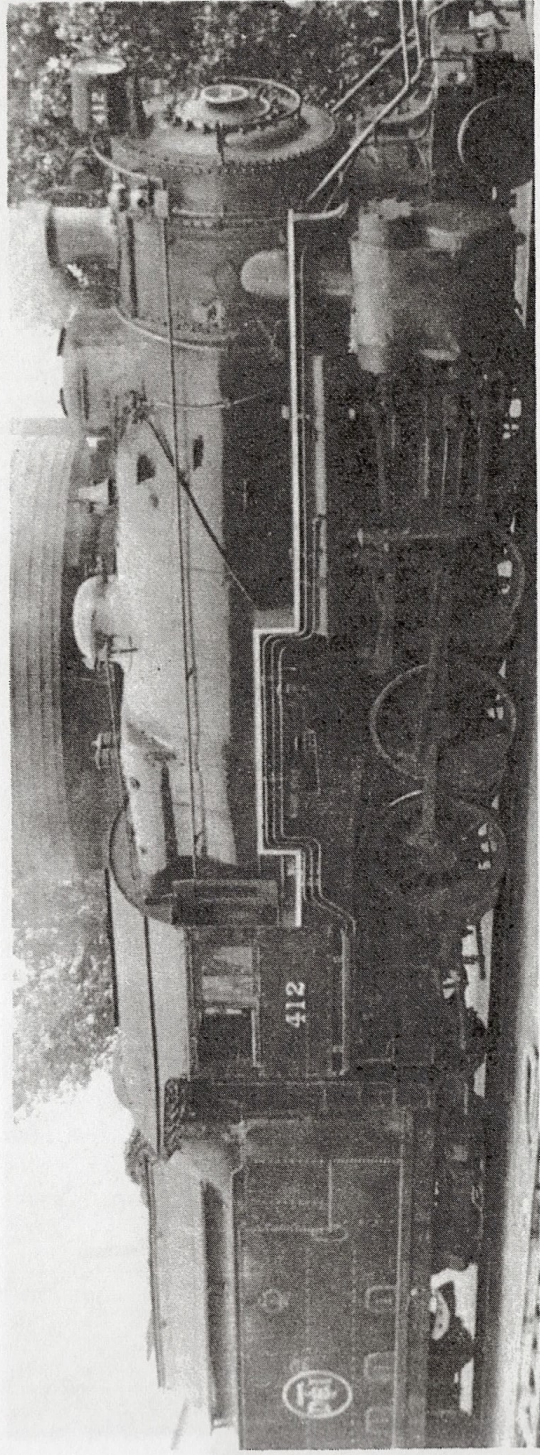


LAST RUN OF "THE MAIL" B & O RAILROAD 1950

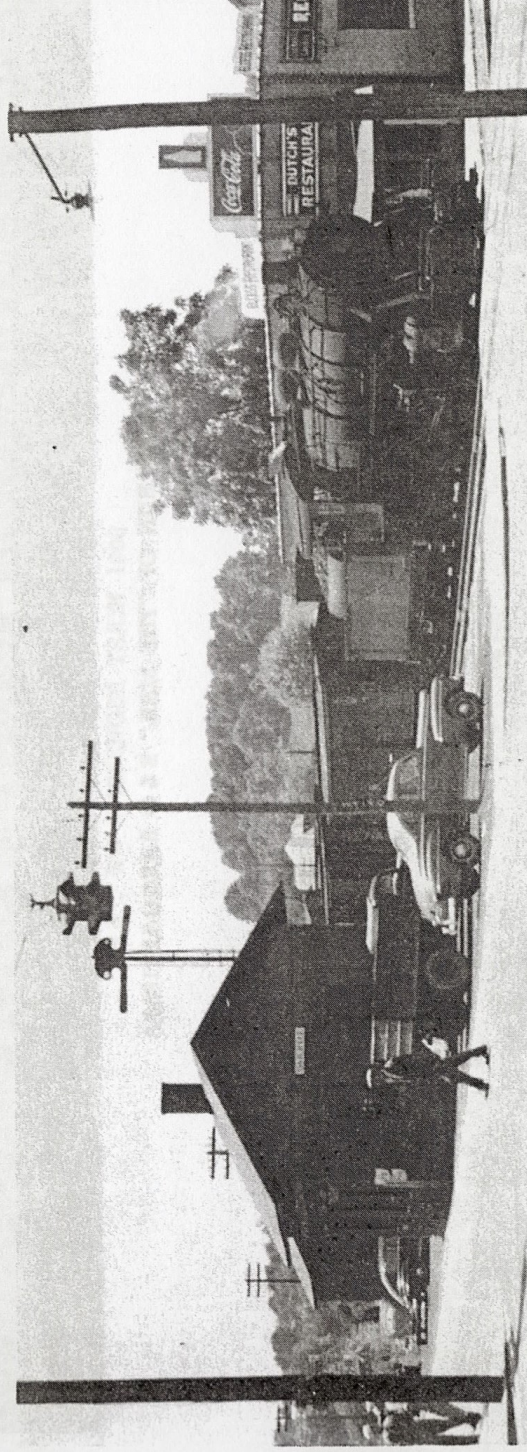


B & O OFFICIALS AND CREW ON LAST RUN:

1. P. P. Potts, Agent, 2. Ed Schlag, Division Freight Agent, 3. Carl Skinner, Conductor,
4. John Potter, Train Master, standing in coach, 5. Roscoe Kerns, President; Chamber of
- Commerce, 6. Lewis Knost, Engineer.

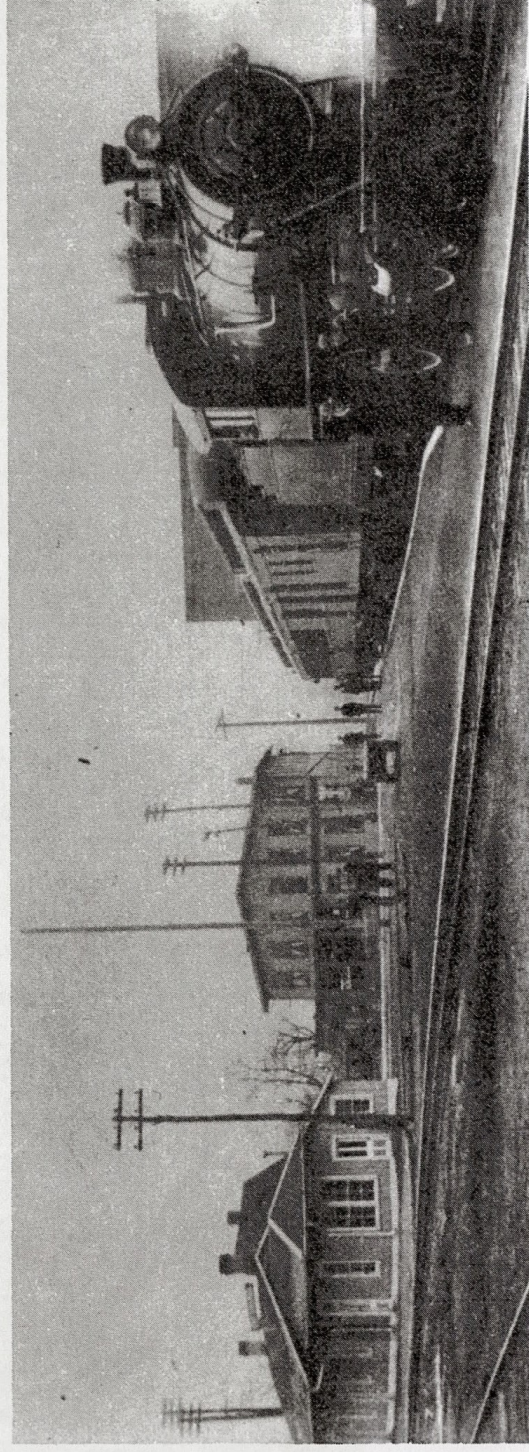


D T & I Railroad Freight Engine #412 used frequently on Train #101 from Jackson to Ironton.
 (Courtesy Floyd Coyan)



B & O SWITCHER 1947

Three prominent men were often in the crew: John (Turnip) Jones, Conductor, and Brakemen Tom Addis and John Hollback.



LAST RUN OF D T & I PASSENGER TRAIN #2 1932 Jackson Depot, Frank Pritchett, Yard Master;
L. W. Loney, Shop Superintendent.
 (Courtesy Floyd Coyan)

Old Jefferson

WELSH AND IRON FURNACES

The year 1818 was important locally for two historic events. This was the year the first Welsh immigrants arrived at Gallipolis, Gallia County, Ohio, many of whom settled near this area.

Also, during this same year, Argellite Furnace was built in Greenup County, Kentucky. It was a small iron smelting furnace using the native iron ore and limestone of that region. Since charcoal was used as fuel, its product was named charcoal iron. This event was the beginning of a great age of furnace building; for during the next 50 years, 69 charcoal iron furnaces were built in an area of Southern Ohio and Northern Kentucky called "The Hanging Rock Iron Region."

The first furnaces were built along the Ohio River, or near streams the builders thought could be used by flat boats during the Spring to transport the iron to market. In as much as an abundance of iron ore, limestone, and timber from which charcoal could be made for fuel was available in our local-area, Jackson Furnace was built in Hamilton Township, Jackson County, in 1833, and Gallia Furnace at Gallia, Gallia County, in 1847. Unfortunately, they were too far away to effect our local economy, and lacked adequate transportation facilities to ship their products to market.

The Scioto and Hocking Valley Railroad solved our local transportation problem when its line reached here in 1853. A furnace building boom started in several locations after it was completed to Jackson. Six iron furnaces were soon built within a few miles of town; Washington at Blackfork in 1853, Jefferson at Horeb in 1854, Cambria near Kitchen in 1854, Monroe near Monroe in 1854, Madison near Pyro in 1854, and Limestone at Limestone in 1855.

Since Jefferson was built only a mile away, it immediately produced a profound influence upon this town. The Jefferson Furnace Company was organized in the small farming community of Horeb, Jefferson Township, Ohio in January, 1854. It was a carefully planned project. The organizers held numerous preliminary meetings at the home of John Hughes (Penbanc) on Hickory Ridge. The furnace site was located at the base of Horeb Hill near the present

entrance to Laurel Point Park. Part of this hill-top was used for charging the furnace and storing raw materials. Its stack can still be seen resting in the tranquil waters of Lake Jackson.

The following persons were the original stockholders of the Company: W. P. Jones, James R. Jones, Joshua Evans, Will Williams, John T. Jones, David P. Davis, Thomas Jones (Cooper), Thomas G. Davis, Robert Edwards Thomas J. Jones, (Oak Hill), Thomas Jones (North), Richard Morgan, John I. Jones, Evan Williams, Thomas T. Jones, Evan T. Jones, John J. Jones, John H. Jones, John Walters, John D. Jones, John Hughes (Penbanc), Thomas S. Jones, David Edwards, William C. Jones, John D. Davis, William S. Williams, John Jenkins, William Hughes, Thomas Hughes, T. L. Hughes, Morgan Williams, Thomas Edwards, and T. M. Jones

The following men were elected officers of the Company: Thomas T. Jones, Financial Agent, John D. Davis, Founderman, T. L. Hughes, Secretary and Cashier, and William M. Jones, Storekeeper.

The by-laws of the company required all stockholders and officers to be of Welsh descent.

Most furnace operators viewed this ambitious venture with amusement. How could a group of "foreigners", many of whom could not read, write, or fluently speak English, raise \$50,000 in capital and successfully operate a large business? They felt it would soon fail. This prediction nearly came true!

MANY PROBLEMS

This generation cannot comprehend the primitive conditions or complex problems confronting an iron company in 1854. Since the country had no reliable banking system, the barter system of trading goods for the payment of debt was used by most business firms and individuals. The only experience most men had with money was the gold or silver coins they used to pay their annual real estate taxes. Paper money was not accepted as payment by most people as it was freely printed, often with little or no backing, by practically every bank, both large and small, in the entire country. Money panics frequently bankrupted business concerns, bank failures were common, and large epidemics of disease wiped out entire families or communities from time to time. The horse, mule, and yoke of oxen were the chief means of transportation until rains would make travel impossible on the mud roads of that day.

Old Jefferson solved these problems in a manner similar to its competitors. They hired Thomas M. Jones, a young Welsh furnace builder to build the

furnace. Much of its capital stock was issued for work performed on the construction of the furnace, the land needed for raw materials, and timber land needed for the making of charcoal. Near the furnace, it built an entire village of log homes for its employees, along with a company store and school house. No residence was built for the furnace manager as was the custom at most charcoal iron furnaces in those days. The Company decided to invest that money in the furnace where it could get a better return. The store is near the entrance to Laurel Point Park. The village was almost entirely self supporting. Each family was given a log house to live in, a plot of land on which to raise a garden, and had a cow to supply the family with milk and butter. The company store issued its private money called "script" to employees for work performed, which could be used to purchase goods in the store. Rarely did the store exchange the script for "hard" money, although it was readily accepted as payment of debt by farmers and businessmen in the area.

SUCCESS NOT EASY

Success did not come quickly or easily for Old Jefferson. Many ups and downs were experienced in the early years. From the very beginning, collecting from customers was a major problem. The first shipments of iron were paid for with promissory notes; cash payments were slow. About half of the original stockholders left for the West in 1856, creating a financial strain on those remaining who were obligated to purchase their shares. Finally, in 1858, the business situation became so bad, the group tried to sell the furnace but could find no buyers. However, Thomas T. Jones, and John D. Davis, with a few of the others realized that war was inevitable and skilfully operated it until the war improved business.

During these early years, the company operated a farm which raised cattle and sold meat to the company store. In one of the early director's meetings, the secretary reported about the furnace losing money for lack of business, but how the farm was making a handsome profit from a newly acquired bull whose services were in great demand from local farmers desiring to improve their herds. Immediately, the directors ordered the manager to "shut down the furnace and promote the bull". Such decisions were necessary for survival in many businesses over 100 years ago.

The furnace normally operated 8 to 10 months a year. The remaining months were used to repair the furnace and to stock those raw materials needed for the next run. As many as 100 men were directly involved in operating

the furnace, mining the iron ore, limestone, and the making of charcoal. Many "spans of mules" and "yoke of oxen" pulled the heavy wagon loads of raw material to the furnace, or the finished iron to Oak Hill, where it was stockpiled near the Post Office on Railroad Street, and later along the west side of Front Street, north of the depot, for shipment to market on the railroad.

While the management expected a days work of 12 hours for a days pay, it would hire anyone willing to work regardless of his origin. From the beginning, it employed numerous Irishmen who had worked building the railroad. It had fine employee relations, never experiencing a strike or major employee problem during its entire existence. The management strictly enforced one of its by-laws which has never been fully understood by many others.

NO SUNDAY OPERATION

The furnace never operated on Sunday, nor were its employees permitted to work there on that day. Most of the officers and stockholders were from the farming area of Cardiganshire, South Wales. Many were men guided by strong religious convictions who insisted they be followed by the company. Also, they were practical men who realized the effect of Saturday night on an Irishman's Sunday work. The amusement of Old Jefferson's competitors gradually changed to amazement as it eventually became the most efficient and most profitable charcoal iron furnace in Southern Ohio. It produced a daily tonnage of 14 tons of high quality "Anchor" brand iron which became popular in the manufacture of heavy machinery and railroad car wheels.

The Civil War brought fame and prosperity to Old Jefferson. Its high quality iron was used in the manufacture of cannon, and in the armour plate of the famous Union gunboat "Monitor".

Old Jefferson closed down in 1897, but was reorganized under the name of The Jefferson Iron Company on January 4, 1900. The following is a list of stockholders after the reorganization: Thomas J. Hughes, John C. Jones, Ellen C. Jones, Joseph J. Jones, John J. Thomas, John Jones, Mrs. Webster Jones, J. Gomer Jones, John E. Jones, Thomas J. Davis, and Eben J. Jones. The following officers were elected: John C. Jones, President, T. J. Hughes, Vice President, Joseph J. Jones, Secretary, Eben J. Jones, Manager, Henry Hughes, Clerk, and Thomas Hughes, Storekeeper.

It was still a Welsh organization.

SUCCESS RESULT OF ABLE MANAGEMENT

Its phenomenal success has prompted much speculation over the years, and cannot be fully explained by many people today. For those familiar with

the organizers and officers of the Company, the explanation was elementary; it was operated by a group of men whose industry, genius and vision were rare for those times in America, yet possessed by many who resided in Wales in those days. Many of these men were small in stature, but stood head and shoulders above most of their competitors in business ability. Three of them later served as members of the Ohio House of Representatives: T. L. Hughes, Lot Davis and Morgan Williams.

The following men were officials over the years:

Thomas T. Jones, Financial Agent 1854-1877

Thomas M. Jones, (who had built the furnace) Manager 1854-1857

John D. Davis, Manager 1857-1877, Superintendent and Financial Agent 1877-1890

Eben J. Jones, Manager 1877-1890

Lot Davis, Manager 1890-1897

Joseph J. Jones, Manager 1902-1916

HOREB — MOTHER OF BRICK AND CLAY INDUSTRIES

Old Jefferson operated long after the other furnaces in the area were closed. Limestone closed in 1860, Cambria in 1878, Washington in about 1880, Monroe in 1882, and Madison in 1902. It was the last charcoal iron furnace to operate in the Hanging Rock Region, making the last tap of iron on December 26, 1916. During its years of operation, it performed a financial miracle by paying \$957,000 in dividends to its stockholders, and the community of Horeb became the mother of the fire brick and clay industries in Oak Hill since so many of its residents or their families later invested their talents or capital in these plants.

*Ardal Horeb! O Mor Anwyl!
Dena hon fy serch i gyd;
Yma'n ganwyd, yma'n magwyd,
Cyssegredicaf fan o'r byd,
Swynol yw ei bryniau moelion
Swynol ei dyffrynoedd gwyrdd
Hoff yw'r coed ei nentydd gloewion,
Hoff ei ffyrdd ei llwybrau fyrdd.*

A R D A L H O R E B

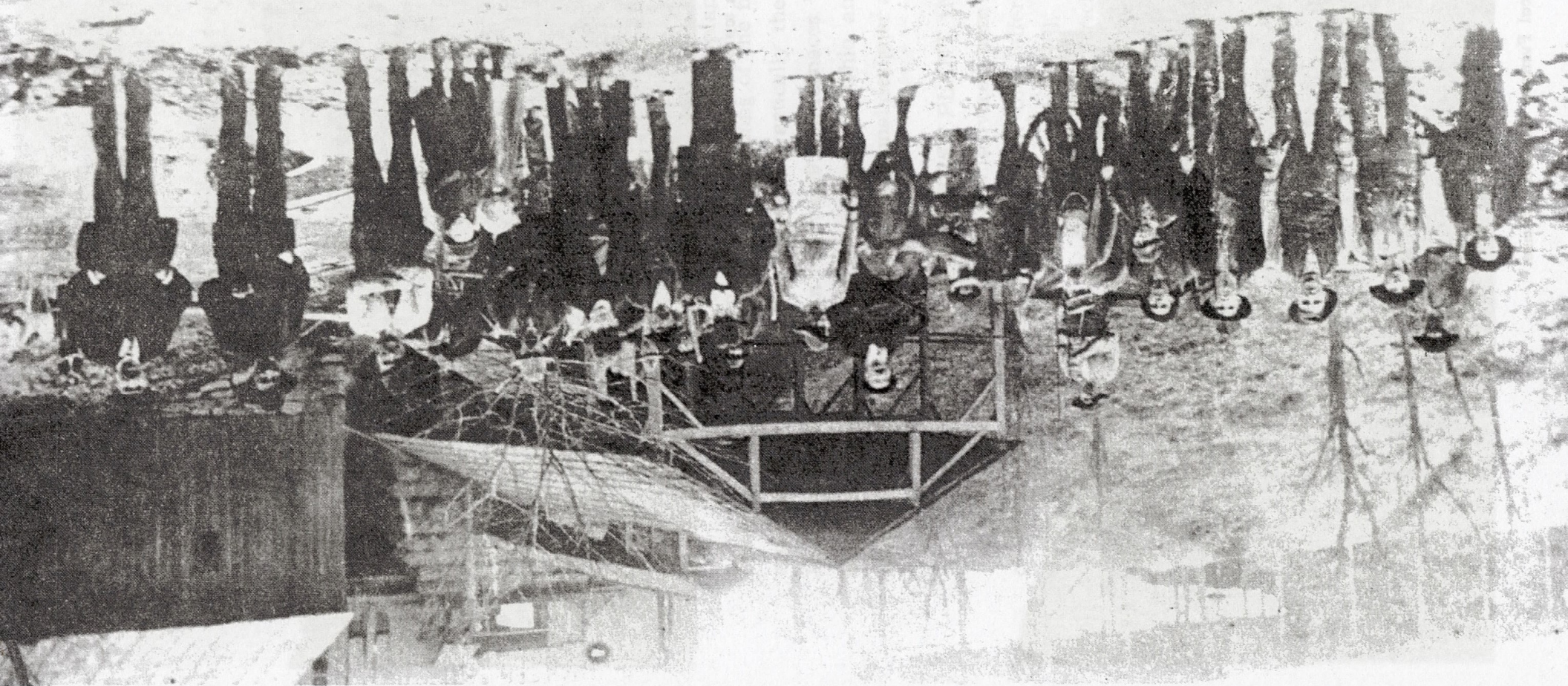
*Anwyl hefyd ei phreswylwyr,
Anwyl ei phalasau clyd;
Ond anwylach, Ty yr Arglwydd
Lle moer llwythau'n dod ynghyd.
Yma er's dros deugain mlynedd,
Codwyd i ni allor wiw;
Enw hon yw allor Horeb,
Dyma'r fan addolwn Dduw.*

*Tua dechreu mis Gorphenaf,
Deunaw cant tri deg a saith,
Ymsefydlodd David Edwards,
Draw o Aberteifi daeth,
Datydd Evans, Joshua Evans,
William Jones, a Jenkins gawn
Yn ei ganlyn yma'n faun
Dynion dewr, a duwiol iawn.*

*Amryw eraill, draw o Gymru,
Ymfudasant cyn bo hir;
Cyn pen blwyddyn, eu rhifedi
Gawn tua deugain yn y tir.
Dyma Pioneers Horeb,
Dyma'r rhai roddasant fod
I'r anwylaf o'r ardaloedd,
Ardal Horeb mawr ei chlod.*

— "Ardal Horeb"

Gan Dan W. Lloyd 1857-1914



OLD JEFFERSON FURNACE AND EMPLOYEES 1896

1 to R. 1. Frank Allen, 2. Sam Sherman, 3. Charlie Metzler,
 4. Gruffy Crabtree, 5. Tom Allen, 6. Dave Hughes, 7. Bill Hughes,
 8. Jimmie Crabtree, 9. Jerry Hughes, 10. Martin Hughes, 11.
 Grant Meldick, 12. John Johnson, 13. Charlie Leonard, 14. Hon.
 Evan J. Davis, 21. Cleo Metzler, 22. D. W. Morgan, 23. Joe
 McKenzie (driving horse in background).



Raw Material Yard on top of hill; Charcoal, Iron Ore, and Limestone.



Typical Furnace Company House.

Brick Plants

CLAY DISCOVERED AT SCIOTOVILLE

Rees P. Thomas was an experienced fire brick maker from South Wales. He was a restless man who settled at Sciotoville, Scioto County, Ohio, about 1859, where he started operating a saw mill. However, his restless nature soon prompted him to take long walks into the nearby hills that reminded him so much of his native land. While on one such walk, he came upon an exposed mineral deposit he recognized as flint clay. Upon further investigation, he discovered large quantities of both flint and bond clay, the two clays used in the making of fire brick which are used mainly in the iron and steel industries.

FIRST BRICK PLANT IN SOUTHERN OHIO

He converted his saw mill into a brick plant which started producing brick in 1861. This plant was the beginning of the fire brick industry in Southern Ohio and Northern Kentucky in practically the same area as that of The Hanging Rock Iron Region with its 69 iron furnaces. Within the next 50 years, 40 brick plants were built in these areas of Ohio and Kentucky. Mr. Thomas soon sold his plant, becoming a professional designer and builder of "brick yards."

RACE TO BUILD FIRST PLANT IN OAK HILL

Both types of fire clay were discovered here in 1872. Two rival groups of Welshmen, one being stockholders in Old Jefferson Furnace, began a race to organize and build the first plant in Oak Hill.

The winning group was the Aetna Fire Brick and Coal Company who filed for incorporation in February, 1873, just 12 days before their rivals.

The following persons were stockholders in this company: Moses Morgan, John J. Jones, J. D. Davis, J. Edward Jones, David Edwards, Dr. T. E. Griffith, Elias Morgan, John D. Jones, Dr. William S. Tyrrell, John Davis, Captain S. D. Morgan, John Rogers, Mrs. Ellen Edwards and Miss Elizabeth Morgan.

A site was selected along the railroad in the north end of town, and the plant started operating that summer with the first car of brick being shipped in September. On May 1, 1874, the plant was totally destroyed by fire, but was quickly rebuilt by its able management. While the earlier years were difficult,

the firm became very successful during its many years of operation. The Aetna brand of brick became famous throughout the iron and steel industries. Initially, 8,000 hand made brick were produced daily. These brick were made of clays mined on nearby property and burned in rectangular coal fired kilns. Eventually, the firm used round or periodic kilns which became popular in the industry. The firm installed 2 dry presses and a stiff mud machine which gave it a capacity of 30,000 brick daily in later years. In addition, it built a successful plant for the crushing and bagging of rejected brick thereby converting them into a salable product.

The following is a partial list of its management:

Presidents —	Moses Morgan
	James W. Morgan
	E. E. Morgan
	L. F. Sims
Vice Presidents —	John Stanley Morgan
	John E. Morgan

The Aetna Fire Brick Company ceased operations in 1963 when it was sold to the Davis interests. The officers at that time were as follow:

E. Emory Morgan	—	Chairman
Lester F. Sims	—	President
John E. Morgan	—	Vice President
Edwin Morgan	—	Secretary
William Barrows	—	Plant Superintendent

OAK HILL FIRE BRICK COMPANY

The Oak Hill Fire Brick and Coal Company was the second brick company to be organized, filing its incorporation papers just 12 days after the Aetna Fire Brick Company in February, 1873. This plant was built on a site along the railroad at the south end of town. The Company was incorporated for \$30,000, with the following persons being the first stockholders: Lot Davis, John P. Lloyd, John N. Jones, Jr., John D. Jones, Evan C. Davis, Elizabeth Davis, Lewis C. Morgan, David C. Morgan, John M. Morgan, John N. Jones, Sr., Margaret Jenkins, Margaret Davis, David N. Jones, Robert Howells, John D. Williams, John W. Evans, Sr., Isaac Evans, Morgan Williams, John J. Thomas, Thomas Rhyderick, John E. Jenkins, Thomas E. Edwards, John J. Roberts, John Owens, Evan Davis, David T. Davis, David Rowlands, David D. Thomas, John E. Evans, David E. Davis, John W. Evans, Jr., Thomas J. Hughes, Daniel

J. Davis, W. H. Boggs, William D. Jones, E. J. Jones, D. J. Jones, J. J. Jones, Kate Jones, Evan J. Jones, Joseph J. Jones, Edward J. Jones, David L. Evans, Rees P. Thomas, and John D. Evans.

The following men were elected directors: D. L. Evans, R. W. Jones, John D. Jones, Lot Davis, Isaac Evans, John D. Williams, and John J. Thomas. Mr. D. L. Evans was elected President, and D. J. Jones, Secretary. Many of these persons were stockholders in or connected with Jefferson Furnace.

The firm employed Mr. Rees P. Thomas, who was now a prominent designer of "brick yards" to build the plant and sold him stock in the company. Brick were first produced in September, 1873, which was the start of a long and successful operation. By using the brand name "Oak Hill", the management literally put the new town on the map by spreading its name to all the major steel producing centers. At first, all brick were made by hand, and burned in rectangular coal fired kilns. Later, round kilns were used, and mechanical brick presses were installed in the 1920's. In more recent years, it installed a stiff mud production line and dryer as well as a separate plant for manufacturing plastic fire brick. Over the years the following men served as officers:

Presidents —	D. L. Evans, John J. Thomas, Thomas J. Hughes, Eben J. Jones, Thomas J. Davis, D. W. Morgan, W. E. Davis, M. E. Davis and Myron E. Davis.
Secretaries —	David J. Jones, Thomas W. Jones, Jr., T. E. Edwards, Eben J. Jones, John E. Jones, D. W. Morgan, M. E. Davis and Lewis Hughes.

The company discontinued its operations in 1961, at which time it was sold to the Davis interests. The following persons were its officers at that time:

President —	Myron E. Davis
Vice President —	Thomas R. Davis
Secretary —	Lewis Hughes
Plant Superintendent —	Art Brisker

REMEMBER 1873!

The year 1873 is the most important date in local history! Not only was our village formed in that year, but also our first two industries were built here during that same year. This was the start of the refractories industry in this area of which Oak Hill is still the center! Unfortunately, since many of the

plants were scattered, Oak Hill did not become as large as Jackson or Wellston which had numerous industries concentrated within their corporation limits.

EARLY OPERATIONS

Building and operating the first brick plants were no easy tasks in 1873. While economic conditions had improved greatly since the building of Jefferson Furnace in 1854, man and mule provided most of the energy for the early plants except the few grinding and mixing machines which were run by stationary steam engines. Sound money was more plentiful, making it possible for the plants to pay their workmen in cash. Large tracts of mineral and timber lands were not required by the early brick plants which were able to mine their raw materials for several years from nearby farms. Moreover, no houses or stores had to be built for the employees. In the Oak Hill area, a local flint clay deposit called Oak Hill flint lies immediately above the #5 or lower Kittanning coal, and a bond clay deposit lies immediately below this coal. Therefore, the flint clay and #5 coal were usually mined underground together while the bond clay was surface mined by using horses and scrapers. The first two plants both had extensive coal and clay mining operations using tram roads with high trestles on which to transport these raw materials into their plants. Usually the plants purchased some clay and coal from others which resulted in the development of several mines in the area. Following World War II, the local plants changed from the local flint clay to Kentucky flint clay which was better quality. All the plants had changed from coal to natural gas as fuel by the mid 1950's.

BUILDING BRICK PLANT

In the late 1870's, Mr. Ed Miller built a very primitive plant for manufacturing building brick on a site directly behind the present Oak Hill Garage. The operation had only one machine; a combination grinder and mixer which was mule driven. Production was largely dependent upon the mood of the mule. Brick were made from the local bond clay, dried in the sun, stacked in a crude wood fired kiln, and burned from Monday until Saturday. The plant was short lived, employing mainly a few school boys during the summer months. Many of the early houses and business establishments of the town were made of these brick. One example is the east wall of the building presently occupied by Smith's Flower Shop on Main Street.

DAVIS BOYS BUILD PLANT

The Aetna and Oak Hill Fire Brick Companies enjoyed considerable growth during their first 25 years of operation. Sound business principles were practiced by both firms. Starting in the early 1880's, two brothers, D. D. Davis and Evan J. Davis started working for the Oak Hill Fire Brick Company as laborers. Over the years, Mr. D. D. Davis was promoted from gin boy in 1882, to manager; the position he held during the 1890's. His brother Evan also advanced to foreman in the '90's. Another brother, Edward, had worked at both local plants, but had gained most of his brick making experience while working on various projects for Rees P. Thomas, the professional builder of "brick yards."

YOUTHFUL ORGANIZATION

These three young men together with their sisters, Anna and Margaret, decided to organize their own brick company. This was a youthful organization as D. D. Davis was 31, Evan 30, Ed 27, Margaret 24, and Anna 19 years of age at the time.

THE OHIO FIRE BRICK COMPANY

As a result, The Ohio Fire Brick Company was organized on July 1, 1898, with a capital of \$20,000. The first stockholders were: D. D. Davis, Evan J. Davis, Edward P. Davis, Anna M. Davis, Margaret J. Davis, John E. Jones, Charles S. Cherrington, and Felix Haas. The first officers were: D. D. Davis, President, Edward P. Davis, Vice President, Anna M. Davis, Secretary-Treasurer, and Evan J. Davis Superintendent. They employed Mr. Ben Jones, a prominent architect to design the plant, and a site was selected at the corner of Front Street and Maple Avenue where the plant began producing "Ohio" brand brick. In December of that year. The equipment and processes used were similar to those of the other two plants except they were of a newer design. This plant experienced considerable growth over the years which has led to many innovations since its original construction. In recent years, it installed two continuous tunnel kilns thereby increasing its capacity to 60,000 brick per day by the dry press method. In 1961, the company built a basic brick plant near Jackson, Ohio, where it produces an entirely different product.

The officers of the company over the years have been as follow:

Presidents —

D. D. Davis 1898-1954

E. E. Davis 1954-Present

Vice Presidents —

Edward P. Davis 1898-1956
J. L. Cummings, Sr. 1956-1963
Evan E. Davis 1965-Present
Harvey R. Hiller 1963-Present
John D. Kidd 1970-Present

Secretaries —

Anna M. Davis 1898-1946
E. E. Davis 1946-1954
Francis McGown 1954-1956
C. Albert Burns 1956-Present

This plant not only began the career of the Davis family who later operated numerous refractory plants here and in other areas, but also it is the last of the original four brick plants built in Oak Hill that is still in operation. Come December, The Ohio Fire Brick Company will celebrate its 75th year of operation; being just 25 years younger than the town itself. Mr. D. D. Davis served as President of the company for 56 years and Edward P. Davis as Vice President for 58 years.

THE DAVIS FIRE BRICK COMPANY

On September 16, 1901, the Davis family organized The Davis Fire Brick Company which had a capital of \$30,000. This plant produced the "Davis" brand of brick. It was located between Main and Bingham Streets in East Oak Hill. In 1957, the firm built a new plant directly in front of the original one. By using semi-continuous shuttle kilns, a stiff mud line, and 3 dry presses, the plant produces 36,000 brick daily. During May, 1971, the original plant was closed with its operations being transferred to the newer plant. Mr. D. D. Davis served as President of The Davis Fire Brick Company for 53 years, and Edward P. Davis as Vice President for 55 years. The following persons have been officers of The Davis Fire Brick Company over the years:

Presidents —

D. D. Davis 1901-1954
E. E. Davis 1954-Present

Vice Presidents —

Edward P. Davis 1901-1956
J. L. Cummings, Sr. 1956-1963
Evan E. Davis 1965-Present
Harvey R. Hiller 1963-Present
John D. Kidd 1970-Present

Secretaries —

Anna M. Davis 1901-1946

E. E. Davis 1946-1954

Frances McGown 1954-1956

C. Albert Burns 1956-Present

The four brick companies which were all located in the city limits were controlled primarily by The Moses Morgan-Elias Morgan family of Aetna, the John J. Thomas-Thomas J.' Davis family of Oak Hill, and the D. D. Davis family of the Ohio and Davis companies. Although they were staunch competitors, they maintained a very ethical business relationship over the years, frequently lending each other brick molds, machinery parts, or actually buying brick from one another for resale. Of the many persons involved in organizing these four companies, only Miss Margaret J. Davis remains. She is just one year younger than the town.

DIAMOND BRICK COMPANY

Another group of Welshmen: E. E. Hughes, Joseph J. Jones, Eben Jones, Thomas J. Hughes, and John O. Thomas organized The Diamond Brick Company on February 27, 1903. They raised \$20,000 for its capital, built a plant south of town on Route 93, and started producing fire brick, building brick and chimney liners. The plant was small but successful. It was sold to The Portsmouth Refractories Company in 1936, which was purchased by The General Refractories Company in 1939. The plant was permanently closed in 1939.

THE DU BRUL COMPANY

The brick plant at Pyro which is located 4½ miles northeast of town was built in 1908 by The Du Brul Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. It was incorporated on September 15, 1903, by E. F. Du Brul, H. Whyrich, F. Broerman, D. S. Du Brul, and W. G. Griffiths, all of whom were residents of Cincinnati. The company planned to build both a fire brick plant and cement plant at that location, but later decided to build just the fire brick plant.

THE PYRO CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY

On May 28, 1909, the Du Brul Company was reorganized with the Pyro Clay Products Company being its successor. The new company had an authorized capital of \$150,000 and its first officers were: E. F. Du Brul, President, and W. G. Griffiths, Secretary and General Manager. The first board of directors consisted of: E. F. Du Brul, W. G. Griffiths and Napoleon Du Brul. The present

village of Pyro was built by the company in 1918. It consisted of about 30 houses, a company store, and school. This firm experienced considerable difficulty in the earlier years as competition from the other plants was very severe. However, because W. G. Griffiths was an able manager, the firm finally became established and the village of Pyro became famous as "Pyro" brand brick were sold in all the major steel centers. In 1930, Mr. Griffiths and some associates purchased the Du Brul family's interest in the company. A reorganization occurred in which the following officers were elected: W. G. Griffiths, President, H. W. Miller, Secretary, and O. E. Miller, Treasurer. Upon the death of Mr. Griffiths in 1944, Mr. O. E. Miller, who was a local resident, succeeded him as President. Mr. Miller and his associates later acquired The Durex Refractories Company of Jackson, and The Portsmouth Clay Products Company at South Webster. In 1953, the company name was changed to The Pyro Refractories Company, a name reflecting the diversification program of the management. In 1956, The Pyro Refractories Company was purchased by the A. P. Green Refractories Company of Mexico, Missouri which is now a subsidiary of The United States Gypsum Corporation. The officers at that time were as follow:

O. E. Miller, President

W. E. Benner, Vice President

Mrs. Olive Wilson, Secretary-Treasurer

This plant has a large brick making capacity by both the stiff mud and dry press methods. In 1971, the company built a new plant for the manufacture of refractory specialties. The present local officials are as follow:

E. K. MacFarlane, General Manager

Ed Whitt, Superintendent Brick Plant

Lloyd Hughes, Superintendent Specialty Plant

THE JONES FIRE BRICK AND CEMENT COMPANY

Mr. Benjamin Jones, Benjamin Smith, W. H. Merten, Hugh Jones, and Charles H. Jones organized The Jones Fire Brick and Cement Company on March 13, 1906. The company had authorized capital of \$65,000 and a site was bought about ½ mile south of town on Route 93. A fire brick plant was erected but financial difficulties forced it to close in 1911. Plans to build a cement plant were discontinued at that time. Robert E. Miller and William E. Dee of Chicago, Illinois, purchased the plant in 1913. They initially manufactured building brick, building tile, and fire brick, but later made sewer pipe also. The plant was badly damaged by fire in 1927. In 1932, this plant was closed by

financial problems again. It was purchased in 1933 by The Portsmouth Refractories Company, and later sold to The General Refractories Company of Philadelphia, Pa. in 1939.

THE GENERAL REFRACTORIES COMPANY

This firm made numerous changes in the plant, but limited its production to fire brick. In later years, the plant was very successful experiencing a good business from the sale of blast¹ furnace stove and checker brick, which were a type of complicated, precision made brick. However, the rapid decline in the use of fire brick forced its closing in 1961. At that time, Hayden Stroth was plant manager and Miss Mary Dawson, office manager.

This plant was purchased by The Cedar Heights Clay Company in 1966, who leased the main building and kilns to the Plibrico Company. Part of the former brick shed was leased by The Nock and Son Company of Cleveland, Ohio. The plant, during the years, has been called "Good Hope, Dee, Hitchcock, and General" by local residents.

THE CAMBRIA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY

The D. D. Davis family with some associates formed The Cambria Clay Products Company on November 7, 1912. This firm was capitalized for \$75,000. It was formed to purchase the coal mines and building brick plant of The Blackfork Coal Company which had been organized in 1902. In that year, it had built several houses, a store, and was operating coal mines five miles south of town on Route 93. The Cambria Clay Products Company elected the following directors: D. D. Davis, E. P. Davis, Edward J. Daehler, Simon Labold, and Simon Reitz. The following persons were officers:

D. D. Davis, President

Edward J. Daehler, Vice President

Simon Reitz, Secretary-Treasurer

The company eventually closed its coal mines, converted the building brick plant into a stiff mud fire brick plant, and built a sewer pipe plant about ½ mile southwest of the present village of Blackfork. This was a large plant with 29 coal fired periodic kilns. Over 400 men were employed by this operation. During the 1920's, Blackfork was a busy village consisting of over 150 company houses, a department store, motion picture theater, restaurant, pool room and barber shop. Both plants of the company were very successful, but on November 30, 1931, the sewer pipe plant was destroyed by fire. During 1936, a silica brick plant was built on the same site which utilized the brick kilns. Silica

brick were made from silica conglomerate pebbles, a deposit of which had been found 12 miles away at White Gravel. This operation expanded its production to 100,000 brick per day making it the largest silica brick plant in the United States. The company built another silica brick plant in Liberty Township near Jackson in 1957. Nevertheless, changes in the making of steel gradually made these products obsolete, forcing the company to close both its Blackfork plants in 1961. Later, the firm converted part of the silica plant into a refractory specialties plant in 1971, where it makes high temperature cements, mortars, and plastic fire brick. The present officers of the company are as follow:

E. E. Davis, President
Evan E. Davis, Vice President
Harvey R. Hiller, Vice President
J. D. Kidd, Vice President
R. C. Evans, Secretary

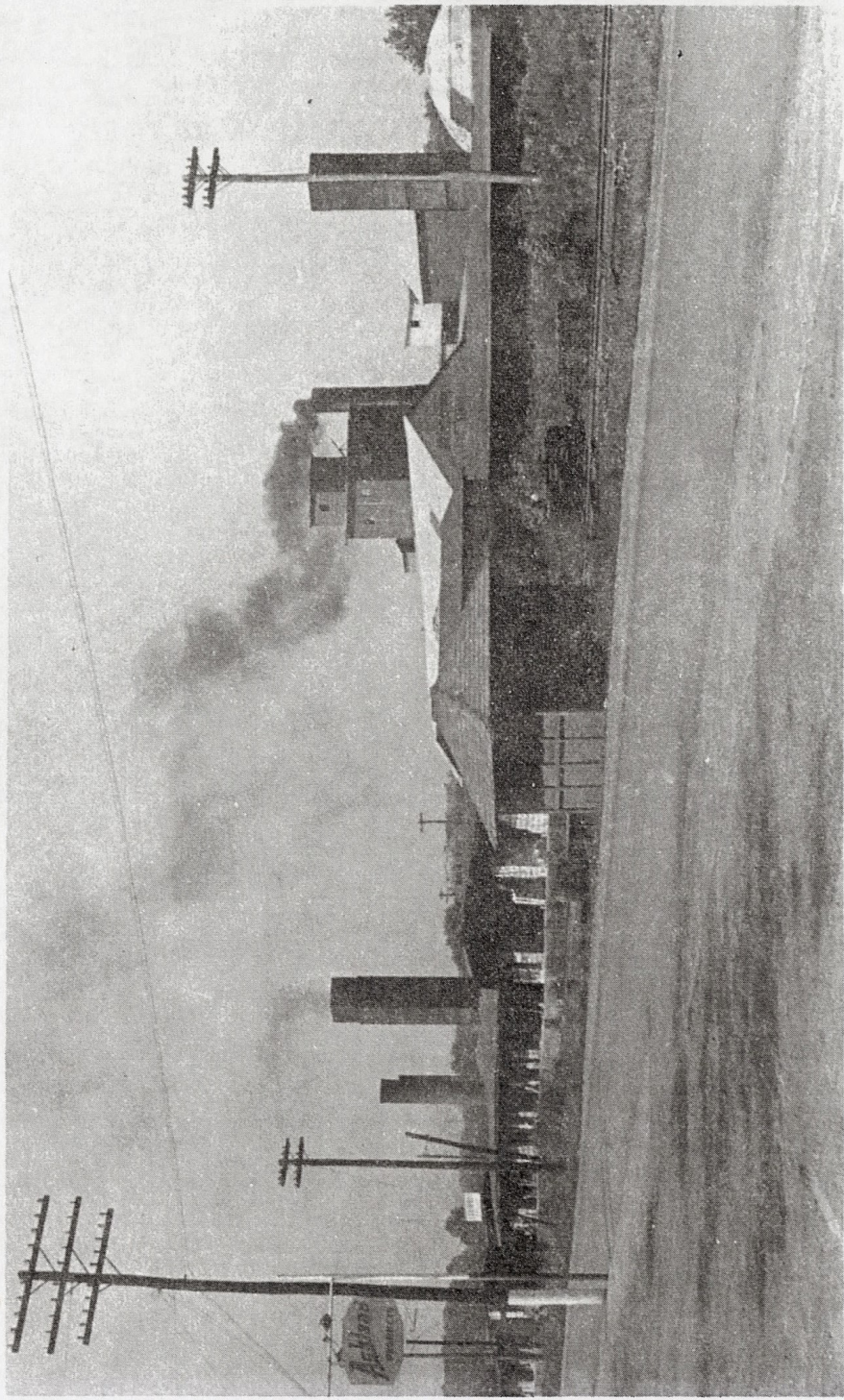
PORTSMOUTH REFRACTORIES COMPANY

The Portsmouth Refractories Company was a brick firm owned by Mr. William L. Hitchcock and sons of Portsmouth, Ohio, where they operated two brick plants.

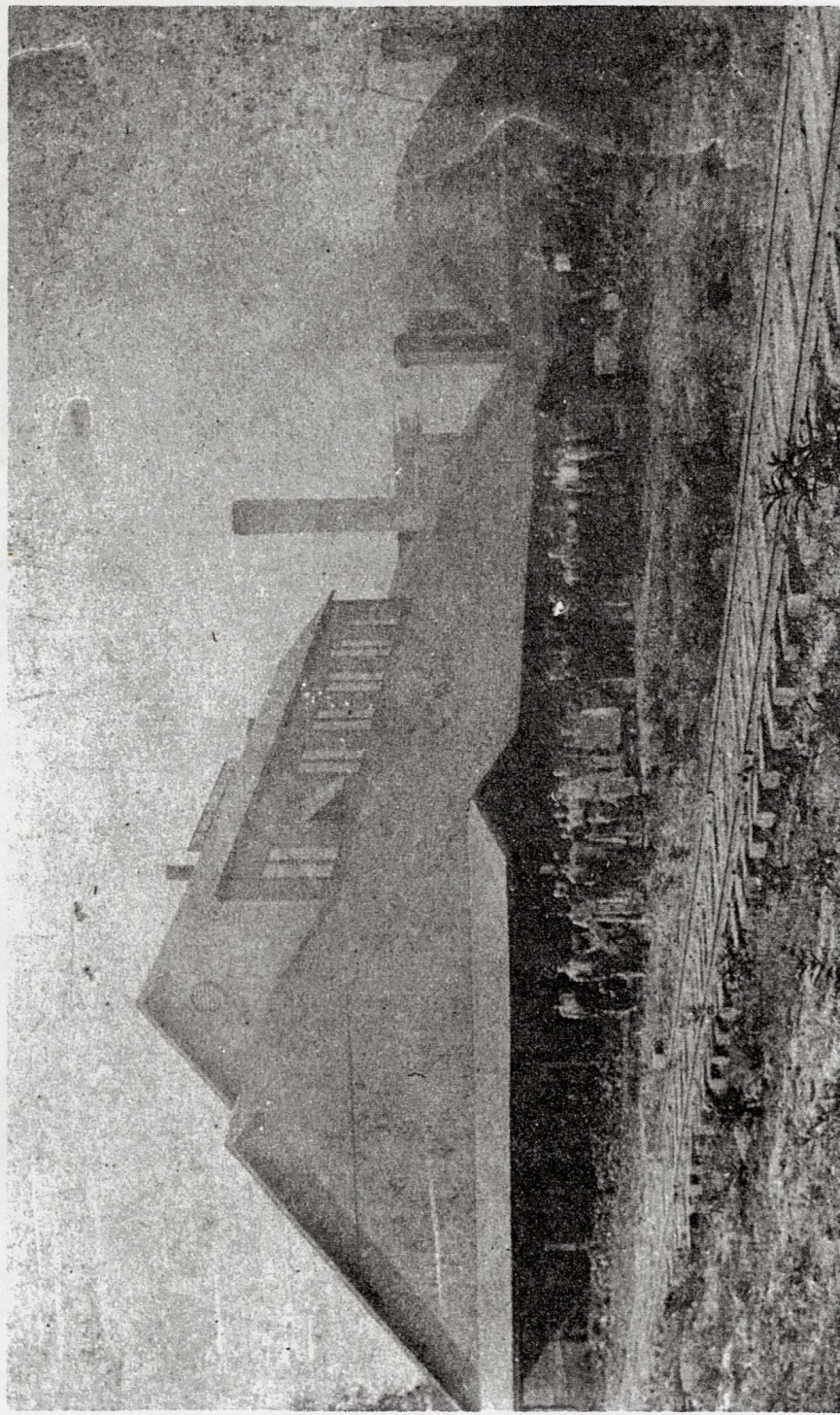
In 1905, they built a fire brick plant and established the village of Fire Brick, about six miles south of town on Route 140. The firm purchased the William E. Dee, and The Diamond Brick Company plants in 1936. The former hamlet of Hitchcock on the south edge of town was named after this family. The company did not operate its plants in this area long. The plant at Fire Brick was sold to the Plibrico Company in 1928; the two local plants to The General Refractories Company in 1939.

DECLINING INDUSTRY

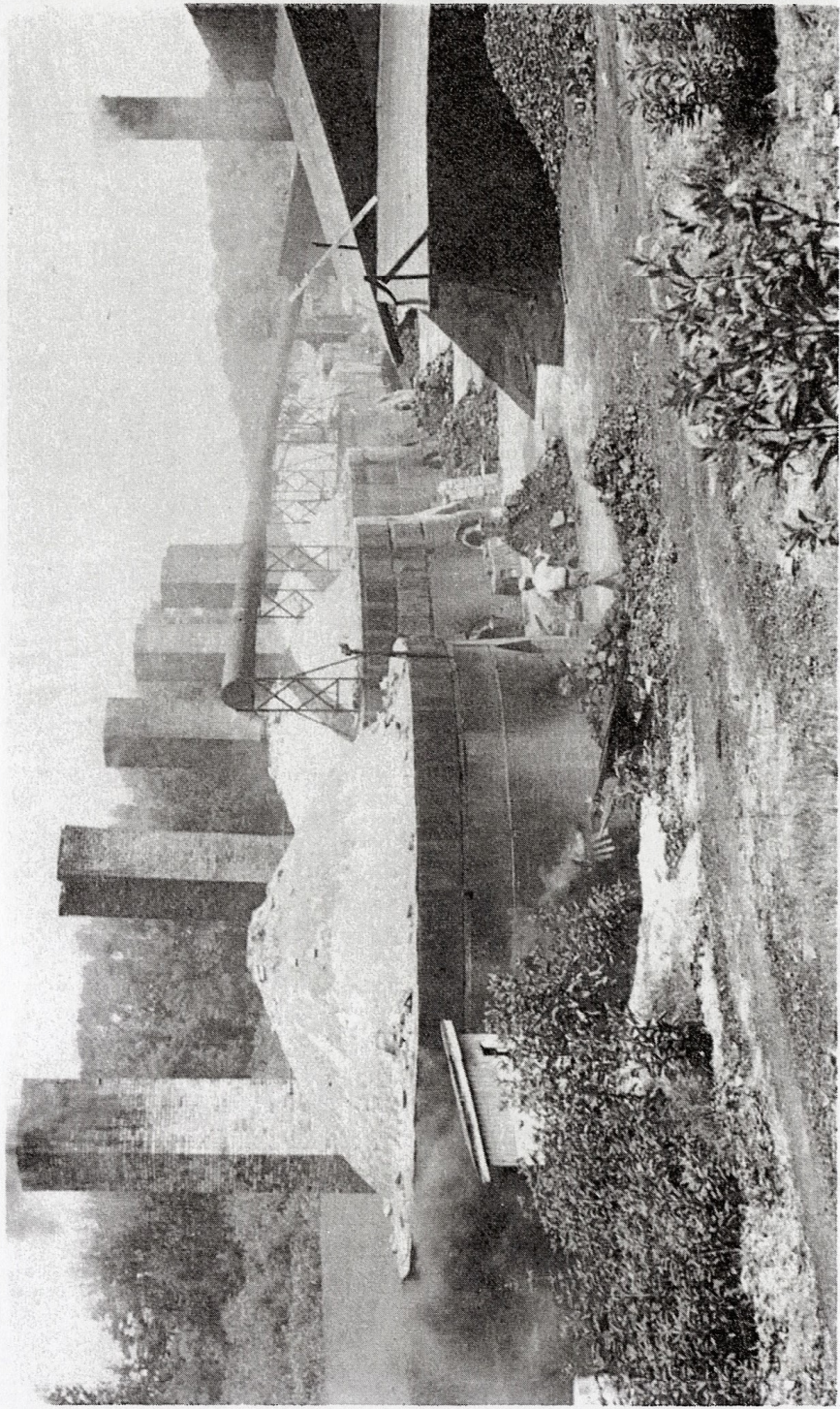
The brick industry in the Oak Hill area has rapidly declined in recent years due to new methods for producing iron and steel which require very few brick. At the present time, only two plants are operating in this town; The Ohio Fire Brick plant and the Davis Fire Brick Plant No. 2. However, The A. P. Green Company is also operating its Pyro plant. These three are the sole survivors of the industry that has made Oak Hill world famous during the last 100 years.



AETNA FIRE BRICK COMPANY 1947

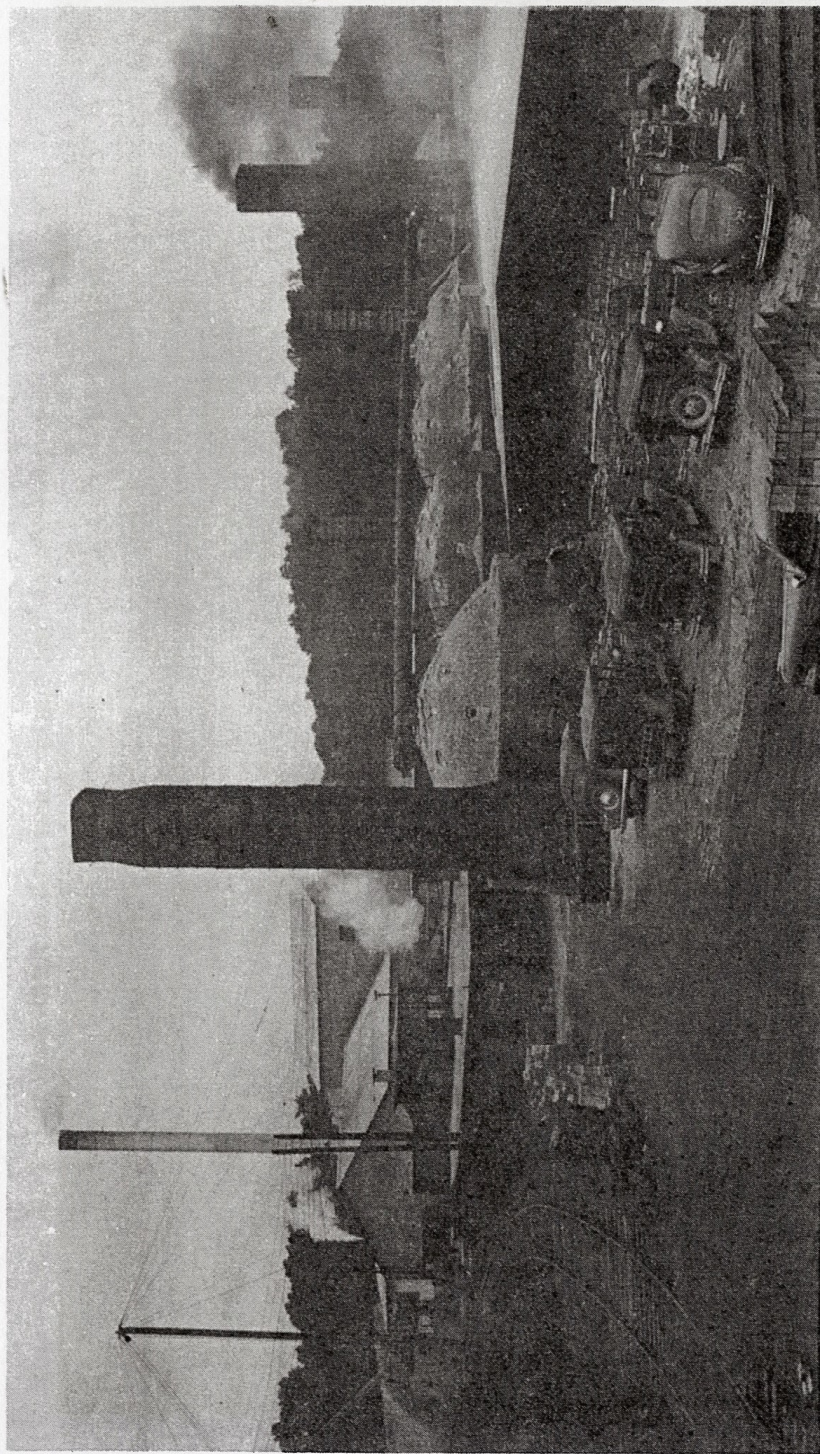


OHIO FIRE BRICK COMPANY 1900



DAVIS FIRE BRICK COMPANY 1947

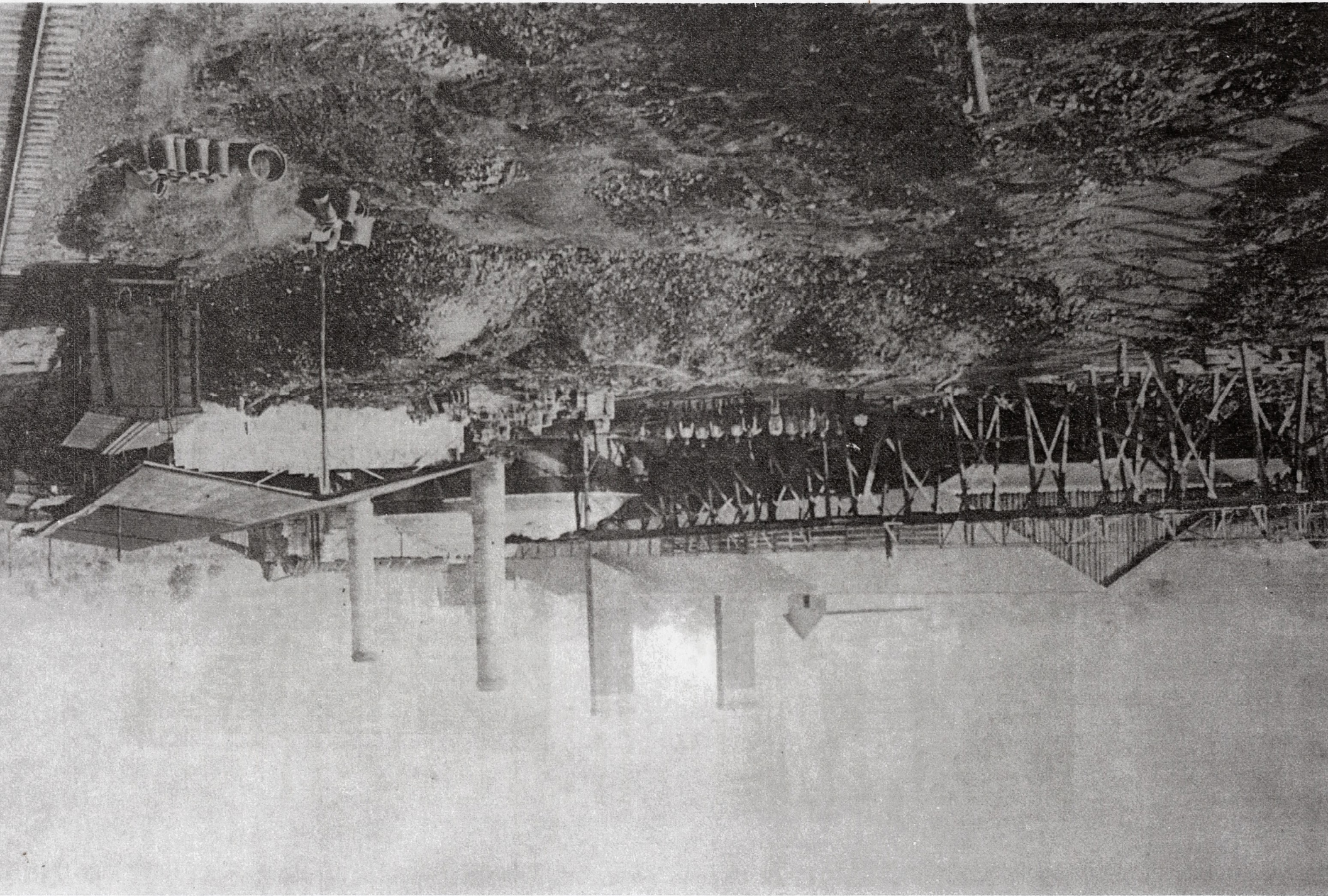
The Portsmouth, Ohio, Fire Brick Company was a brick firm owned by Mr. William L. Hickcock and sons of Portsmouth, Ohio, where they operated two brick plants.

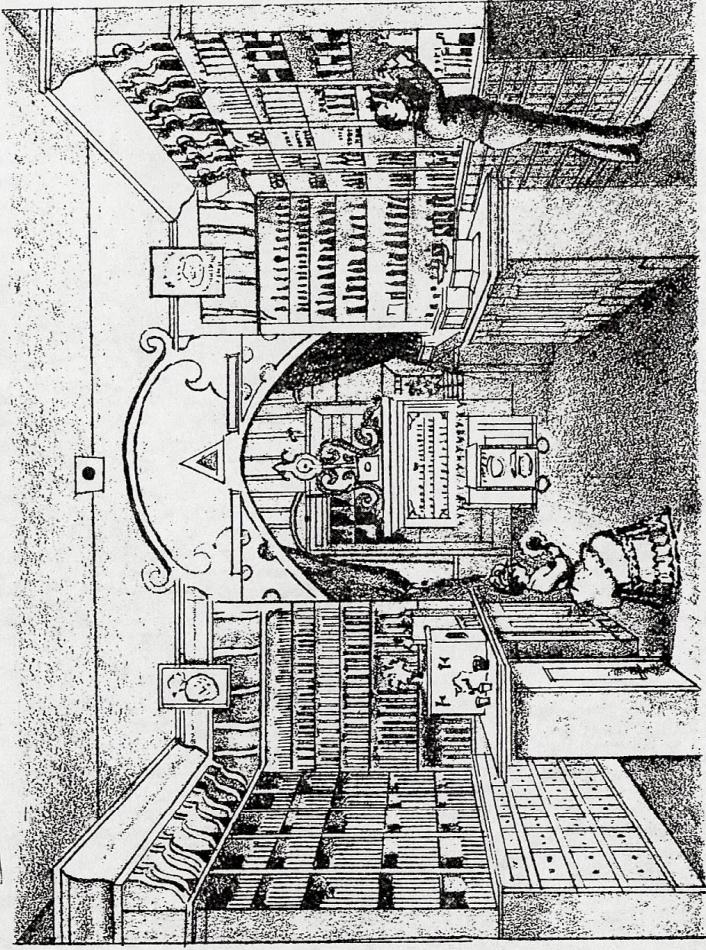


PYRO CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY 1947

THE PYRO CLAY COMPANY 1947

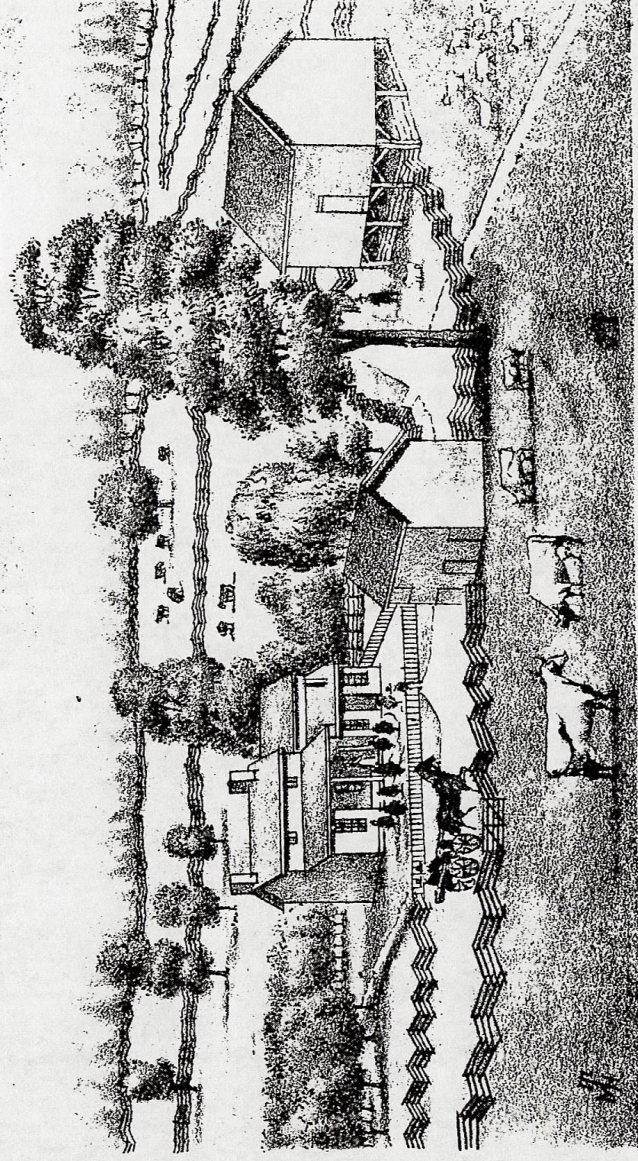
OAK HILL FIRE BRICK COMPANY 1890





INTERIOR OF SALES ROOM OF

DR. JOSEPH JONES, DENTAL SURGEON.
AND DEALER IN DRUGS, PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES, PERFUMERY,
AND TOILET ARTICLES. MAIN ST. OAK HILL, JACKSON CO. OHIO.



RES. OF ISAAC^{MD} JENKIN EDWARDS.
MADISON TP. JACKSON CO. OHIO.

Clay and Specialties

CEDAR HEIGHTS CLAY COMPANY

The Cedar Heights Clay Company was organized in April 1924, by Mr. James G. Morgan, Roscoe Kerns, and A. E. Howell. Mr. Morgan was elected President, Mr. Kerns, Vice President and Mr. Howell, Secretary-Treasurer. The firm built a plant on the north edge of town which produced ground fire clay both in bulk and in bags for use in the iron, steel and ceramic industries. In 1936, the company built a new plant at the south edge of town where all manufacturing was done for several years. Mr. Kerns and Mr. Howell eventually sold their interests to the Morgan family who are the present owners. The business has gradually expanded until today it is one of the foremost producers of ground fire clay in the country. An additional plant was acquired in 1966 when the company purchased the former General Refractories plant part of which has been converted into a clay grinding operation. The firm was managed for many years by the late Howard Morgan whose two brothers Myron and Everett presently operate the business.

THE PLIBRICO COMPANY

In 1928 a Chicago corporation, The Plibrico Jointless Fire Brick Co. purchased the Fire Brick plant owned by the Hitchcock interests at Fire Brick approximately 6 miles southwest of town on State Route 140. Here they started producing new products called refractory specialties consisting of high temperature cements for brick laying purposes, unfired clay materials called plastic fire brick, castables, and other products which are poured or pounded into areas where fire brick were once used.

The use of these products has grown very rapidly in recent years as they are much easier and cheaper to install than ordinary fire brick. This operation has always contributed substantially to our local economy and has made numerous additions to its plant in recent years. It expanded further in 1969 by leasing the brick kilns and main manufacturing building of the former General Refractories Company from The Cedar Heights Clay Company where it presently produces insulating aggregate and refractory cast blocks.

The present plant management consists of the following:

Felix M. Fraulini	--	Manager Fire Brick and Oak Hill Plants
Clifford Morgan	—	Assistant Manager Fire Brick and Oak Hill Plants

THE SIVAD CERAMIC CORPORATION

Mr. D. D. Davis and his family built the Sivad Ceramic Corporation plant on East Main Street in 1953. The plant was jointly owned by the Ohio Fire Brick Co., The Davis Fire Brick Co., and The Cambria Clay Products Co. Its purpose was to manufacture refractory specialties. This plant operated successfully until August 1971, when it was replaced by a newer plant The Cambria Clay Products Co. completed at Blackfork. It was the last plant to be planned by Mr. Davis who died before its completion in 1954. During its period of operation the officers were:

E. E. Davis, President
J. L. Cummings, Sr. Vice President
Evan E. Davis, Vice President
C. Albert Burns, Secretary-Treasurer
William Sutton, Plant Superintendent
Arthur Brisker, Plant Superintendent

NOCK AND SON

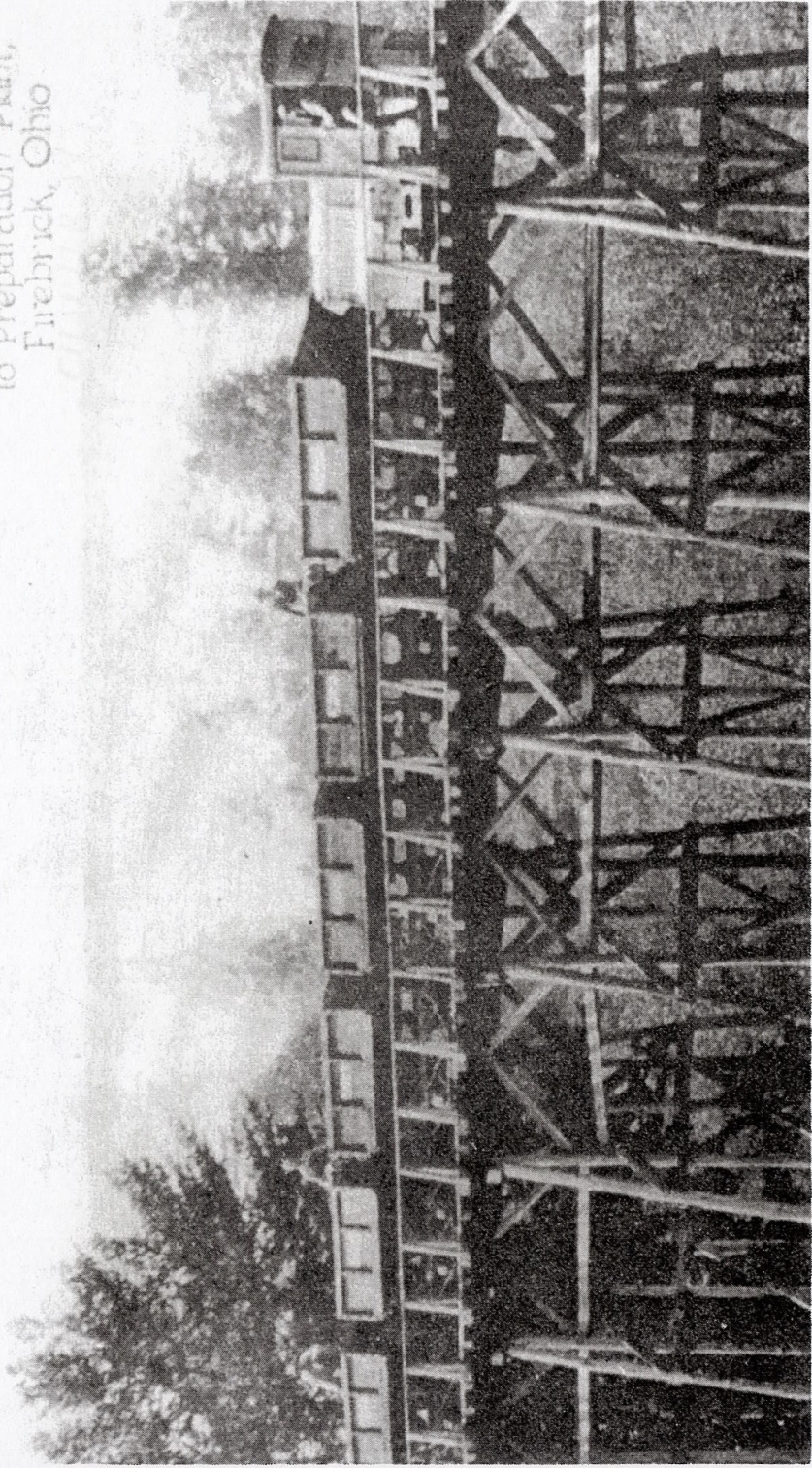
The Nock and Son Company of Cleveland leased a portion of the former General Refractories brick shed from The Cedar Heights Clay Company in 1968 where it started producing refractory specialties. It experienced a large volume of sales making it necessary to build a new plant at Monroe in 1971. This new plant started production on March 20, 1972 at which time the operation at the former General Refractories plant was discontinued. The company is operated by Mr. Charles Nock of Cleveland and Mr. William Sutton is plant manager.

A. P. GREEN REFRACTORIES COMPANY

This firm completed a large new refractory specialty plant adjoining its brick plant at Pyro in 1971. It has a large daily capacity of numerous products and is a welcome addition to the area's economy. Mr. Lloyd Hughes is superintendent of this plant.

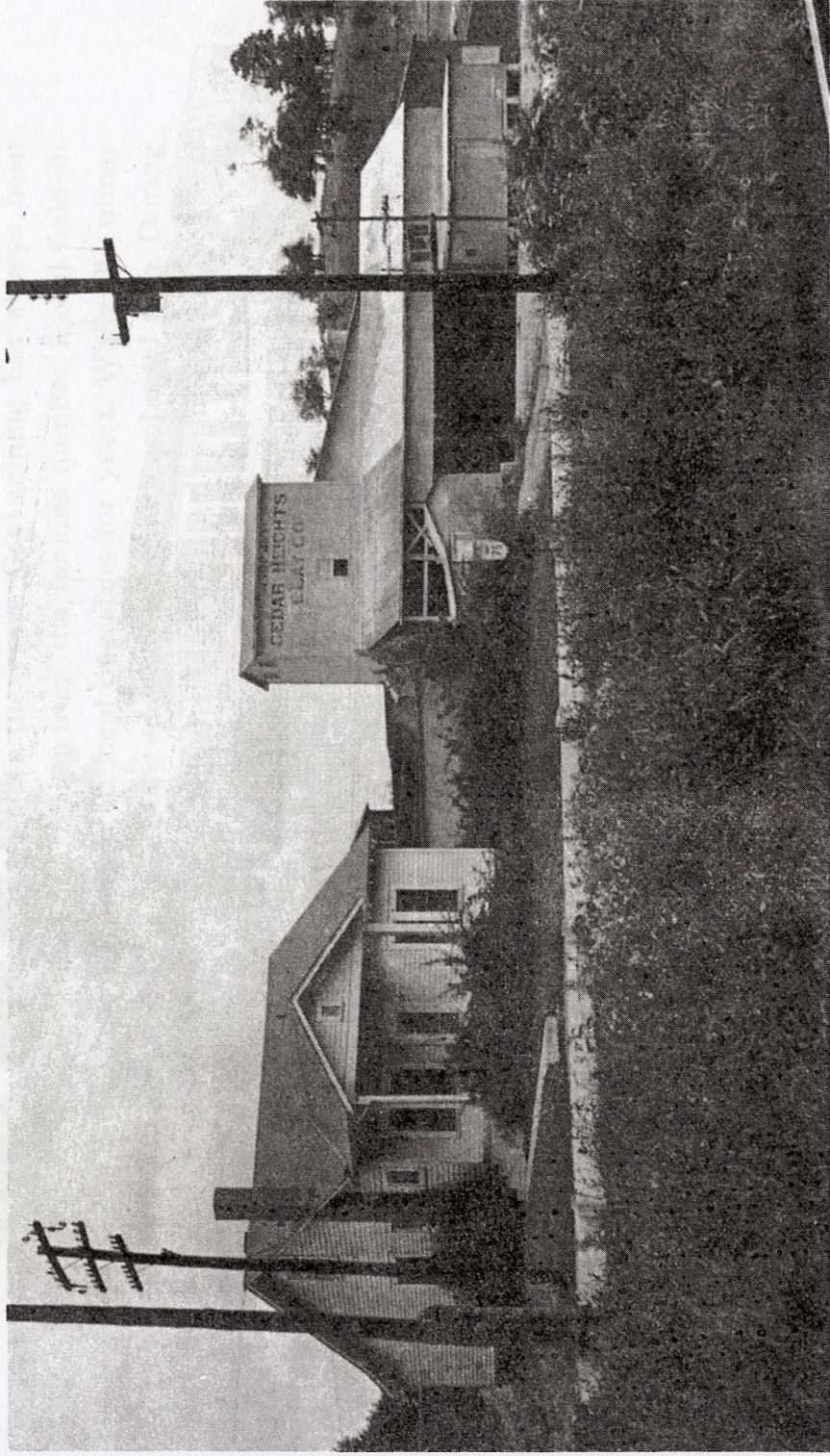
The refractory specialty industry is the only part of the refractories industry to experience growth in recent years. These products replace fire brick to a large extent, but are also a part of the new steel making practices in which refractories are actually sprayed into place from large guns in much the same manner paint is sprayed upon a house. Unfortunately, these products do not use all local raw materials as they require large quantities of clays from distant areas.

Handling Clay from Mines
to Preparation Plant,
Firebrick, Ohio

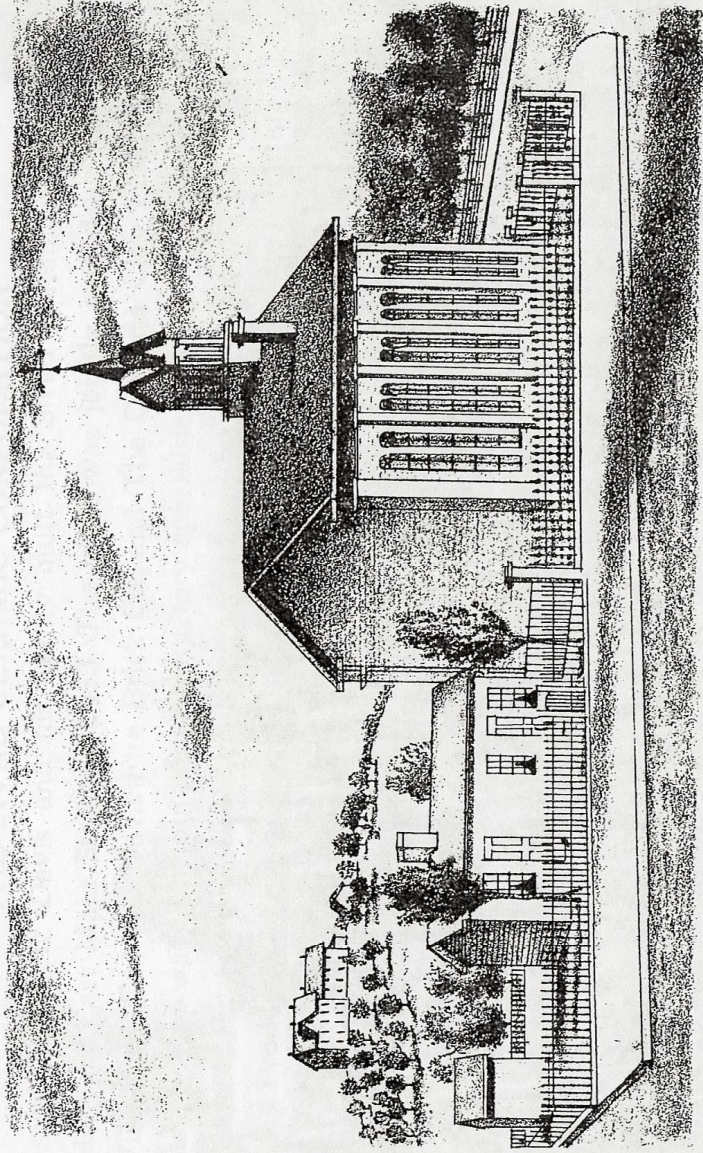


PLIBICO JOINTLESS FIREBRICK COMPANY 1930

(Courtesy Mrs. Charles Jenkins and Dan M. Jones)



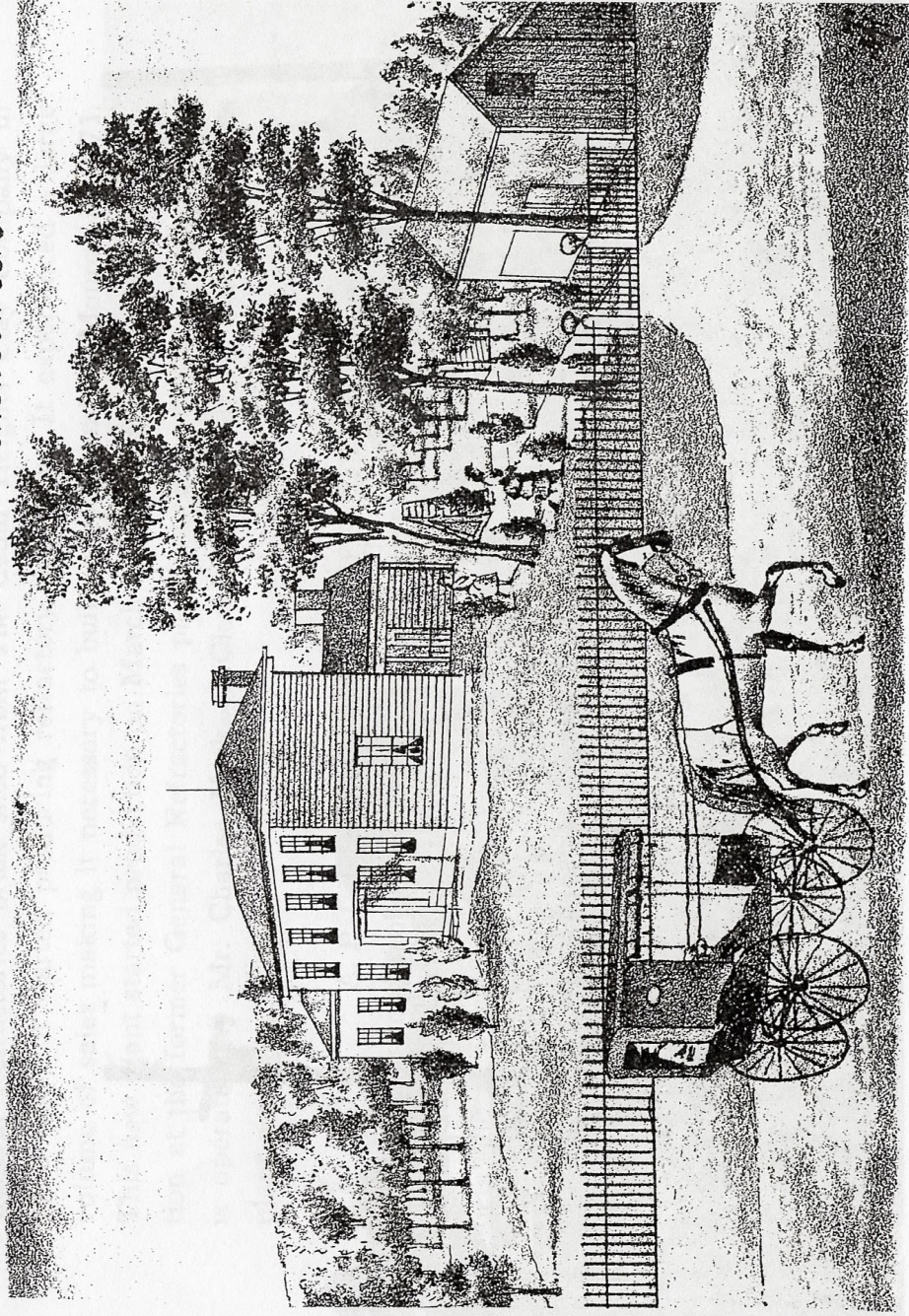
CEDAR HEIGHTS CLAY COMPANY 1947



RES. OF JOHN J. JONES, BLACKSMITH
 WORK OF ALL KINDS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO
 AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. SHOP ON

PORTLAND ST. PORTLAND, JACKSON CO. O.

CALVANISTIC METHODIST CH.
 COR. OF PORTLAND ST. PORTLAND.
 JACKSON CO. O.



RES. OF REV. ROBERT WILLIAMS
 MADISON TP. JACKSON CO. OHIO.

Coal

Coal mining started here just after the railroad was completed. One Mr. Baldridge of Adams County was operating The Rambo Coal Bank north of town in 1854, and P. Powell and Company was operating a mine at McNeals Switch in 1856 according to the earliest accounts. These were small railroad mines.

IMPORTANT INDUSTRY

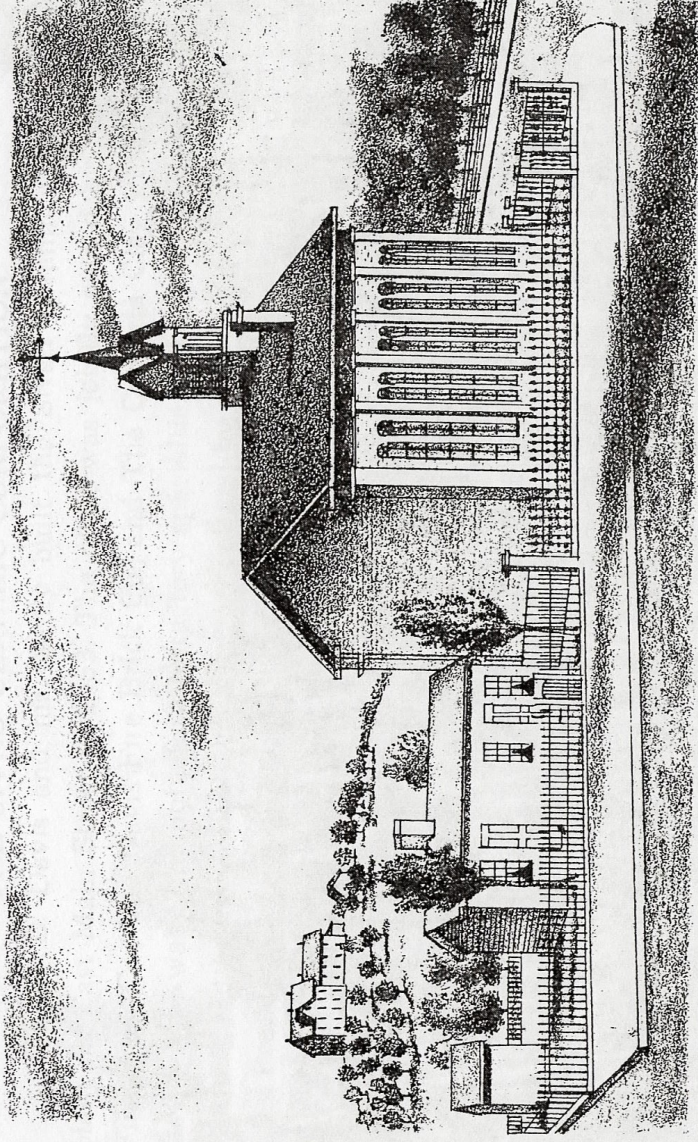
It became an important industry locally when the first brick plants were built in 1873. They used coal as fuel; mining it for their own use and buying it from others.

The Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern Railroad was a local buyer of coal. For many years it operated a coal dock for its steam locomotives along the tracks near the present Oak View School. A number of mines were located North and South of town on the C.H.&D. Railroad. Two coal seams are mined in our area. The Lower Kittanning or number 5 Coal has been mined extensively here for years as it is the most abundant coal. There has been some mining of the Clarion or 4a coal, but to a much lesser extent here. There have been innumerable underground mines over the years. Coal mining has always been a very risky business and competition from the famous number 2 coal field in northern Jackson County hampered local operators for years. While the mines here were small; when combined they employed a large number of men. During the Great Depression of the 1930's many of these small mines operated when most of our other industries were idle.

Mr. Frank C. Morrow has listed the following local mines as being among the principal mines of Jackson County in the early days:

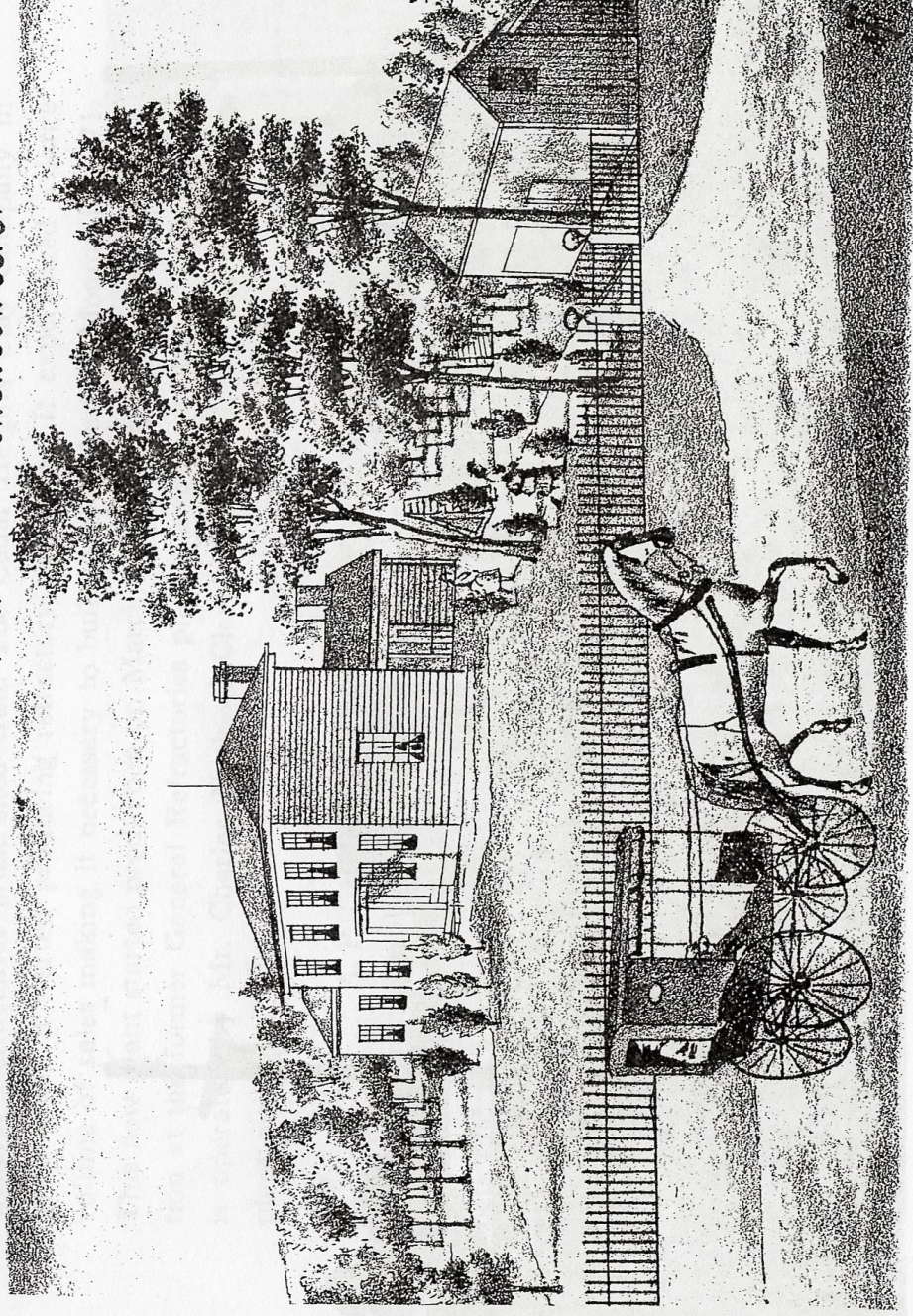
Company	Name of Mine	Location	R. R.	Coal	Opened-Closed
Oak Hill Coal Co.	Jones	Oak Hill	B&OSW	#5	1895-1897
Briggs Coal Co.	Monroe	Monroe	B&OSW	#3	1896-1899
McKitterick Coal Co.	McKitterick #2	Oak Hill	CH&D	#5	1899-no record
Symmes Creek Coal Co.	Symmes Creek	Madison Furnace	CH&D	#5	1902-1908
Commercial Coal Co.	Commercial	Madison Furnace	CH&D	#5	1903-1914
McKitterick Coal Co.	Limestone	Madison Furnace	CH&D	#4a	1904-no record
John F. Hall Coal Co.	Rempcl	Limestone Furnace	CH&D	#4a	1908-1910
Ward Coal Co.	Evans	Oak Hill	B&OSW	#5	1910-1913

This list is by no means conclusive as there have been many other mines over the years.



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 WORK OF ALL KINDS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO
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BLACKFORK COAL COMPANY

The largest mining operation was started by The Blackfork Coal Company at Blackfork in Lawrence County. It built a switch from Samsonville in 1902 to a point east of the present village of Blackfork where it opened mines in the #4a seam. It also built a track and opened larger mines further west in Irish Hollow near the present town of Blackfork, where it mined the #5 seam. These mines produced 2 train loads of coal daily for several years. Many of the existing houses and store buildings were built by the coal company during the Coal Boom. The larger mines were all closed by 1918.

Until the middle 1930's all local coal was mined underground by the drift or tunnel method. Since the local coals are thin, they are currently mined by the strip mining method.

There have been many operators in recent years, but these have been significant:

R. S. WILLIAMS

Mr. R. S. Williams who was a local postmaster for 8 years started his own coal business north of town near Clay in 1932. He later operated both the coal and limestone mines for The Superior Cement Company at Superior. Mr. Williams operated underground mines on Nigger Creek and near Olive Furnace for many years. In 1946 he purchased the Zane Oak Coal Company and within a short time became the first large strip mining operator in this area. On January 1, 1952, Mr. Williams sold the business to a Marietta group who operated it for only a short time. He is of pioneer stock; a self made man who was successful in a very risky business at a time when many others failed.

ZANE OAK COAL COMPANY

Mr. George Carr, Clyde Carr, and Emmitt Hurst who had established a successful coal operation near Buckeye Furnace in Milton Township, formed the Zane Oak Coal Company here in 1934. They built a large truck tippie for those days on the Lambert farm about a mile and one half northwest of town on County Road 64.

FIRST STRIP MINING OPERATION

This was the first strip mining operation in the area mining mainly the #5 coal, and selling some bond clay to the local industries. Most local residents had never seen power shovels and bulldozers until this operation began. For years Zane Oak Coal was popular with coal buyers and truckers who purchased

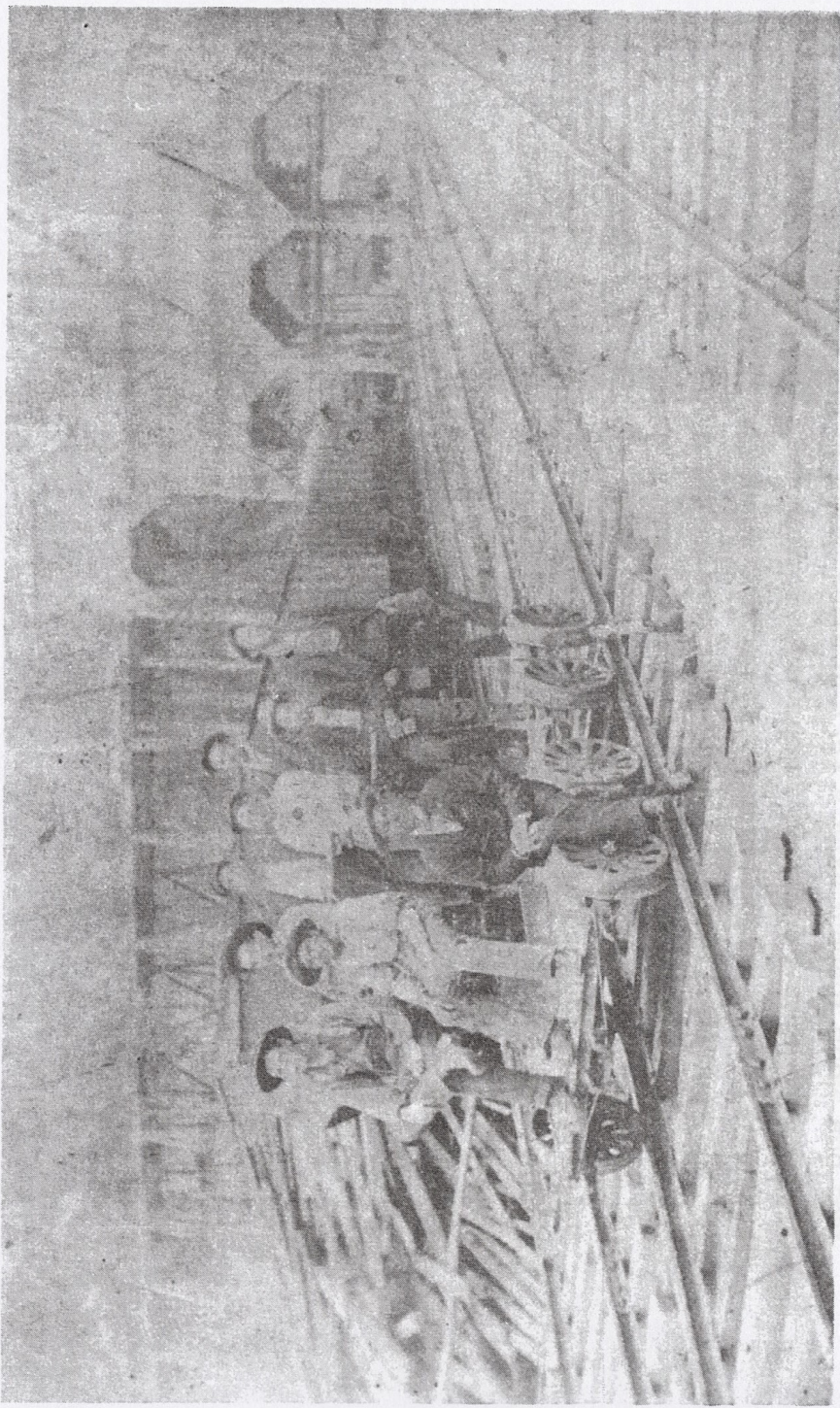
it for resale. The big tippie was a land mark for many years, but was destroyed by fire about 20 years ago. The company was quite successful being acquired by Mr. R. S. Williams in 1946.

WATERLOO COAL COMPANY, INCORPORATED

Mr. Charles A. Bowman, Thomas McCray, Leslie P. Donley, H. L. Hartman and H. F. Burnside organized the Waterloo Coal Company, Inc. on October 16, 1934. Mr. McCray was elected President and H. L. Hartman, Secretary. They opened a mine and built a tippie near Waterloo but in Gallia County. This mine contained the thickest seam of #7 coal in this part of Ohio. Moreover, its quality was excellent, but transportation created problems as the nearest railroad was at Blackfork and the roads of those days were poor. For several years the village of Waterloo was famous for its basketball team and this coal mine. Mr. Bowman eventually purchased the interests of the others. When the Waterloo operation was closed a strip mining operation was begun at Clay about 2 miles North of town. There in 1954 a large modern tippie and coal washer were built from which truck or rail shipments can be made. Mr. Bowman's son, Harold, purchased his interest in the business which is operated by Mr. Harold Bowman's sons, Keith and Phil today. The firm built a large limestone crushing and sizing plant near Soar in 1959 and is the only plant of this kind presently operating in Jackson County. In 1970, the company opened a large underground mine in the #4a seam near Buckeye Furnace, Milton Township. This company is an important asset to the community as it is one of our largest employers.

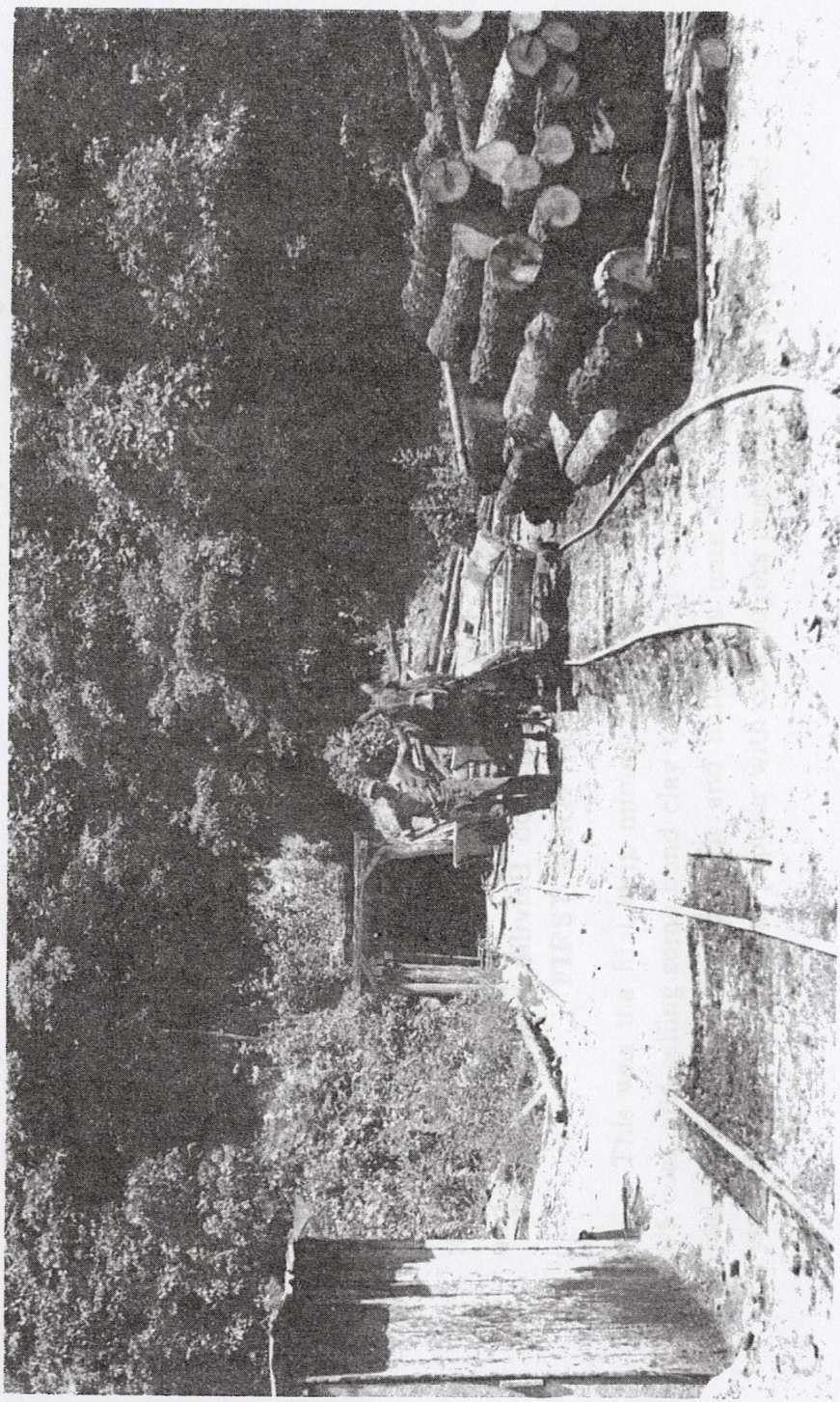
BELVILLE MINING COMPANY

The Belville Mining Company was started in Lawrence County by Mr. Lindsay Belville and his sons Tom and Bob. The firm operated a strip mining operation there for several years, moving it to Horeb in 1963. At that time, they acquired the lands of The Jefferson Iron Company and built a large coal tippie near Horeb church in 1964. This has been a successful operation furnishing employment to many persons. Tom and Bob Belville presently operate the business.



THE PIONEER MINE TIPPLE

Blackfork Coal Company, Blackfork, Ohio 1902 — John Lewis and friends. (Courtesy Bernard Knigge)



TYPICAL MINE ENTRANCE — COAL AND CLAY MINE

page fifty four Cambria Clay Products Company, Blackfork, Ohio — Keck Taylor, Mule Driver —1947

Additional Industries

THE OAK HILL FOUNDRY AND MACHINE WORKS

This business began in 1901 when Mr. Samuel Dole and his sons John and Enos moved their small foundry and machine shop to Oak Hill from Portsmouth. For many years this firm made castings and performed machine work for the local brick plants. Mr. Enos Dole became the sole owner in 1913, and remained in charge until the business was purchased by his son-in-law Mr. George T. Needham in 1950. Through the years this has been a growing and successful industry. In recent years the company has discontinued its machine shop activities concentrating entirely on the production of castings. This modern foundry which is located on South Front Street is one of the area's largest employers.

During 1972 Mr. George T. Needham sold his interest to Mr. Frank Wasch and Mr. William Rowland of Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Wasch is President and Mr. Rowland is Vice President of the company.

THE OAK HILL MILLING COMPANY

The Oak Hill Milling Company was built at the corner of Mill and Cross Streets in 1902 by Mr. John Jones and his three sons John Webster Jones, Will J. Jones and Morgan J. Jones. A smaller mill The Oak Hill Steam Grist Mill which formerly occupied the site had been destroyed by an explosion. It was built in 1866 by W. W. Evans and later operated by Davis and Williams. The Jones Family erected a large modern building for the purpose of grinding flour and feed. The mill produced Victor brand flour, buck wheat flour, and corn meal. For many years it did a brisk business and was a prominent local landmark. It discontinued operations in 1929.

GALLIA COUNTY PRODUCE CO.

The Gallia County Produce Co. was organized in 1925. It raised \$10,000 in capital by selling stock to numerous farmers in Gallia and Jackson Counties. The main operation was established in Gallipolis but a branch feed mill and store was opened on Hill Street in Oak Hill. Mr. Evan Lloyd of Centerpoint, Gallia County was the first local manager. He was followed by Mr. Dewey Sims who was manager when the firm was sold to the State Farm Bureau in 1958. This company formerly ground corn meal, feed, sold feeds, farm supplies, building supplies, and poultry. "The Town and Country Center" sells general merchandise, feed and building supplies, having transferred the feed grinding operation to Jackson a few years ago. The present manager is Mr. Kenneth Brown.

ELECTRICITY

The Ohio Fire Brick Company started generating electricity for the residents of Oak Hill in 1907 with a steam powered electric generator. At first arc lights were installed for street lighting, and later lines were built from which private homes could obtain service. This was not the same type of service available today. As a matter of fact it was promptly discontinued at 11:00 p.m. on week nights, 11:30 p.m. on Saturday nights, and 10:30 p.m. on Sunday nights. At 15 minutes before 11:00 on week nights the electricity was momentarily shut off causing all lights to flicker, but promptly at 11:00 p.m. it was shut off until 5:00 a.m. the next morning when the generator was started. Since Saturday night was a special night local residents were given an extra half hour of service. There were no minimum rates and bills of 25 to 30 cents were common.

GREAT LOVERS PLEASE NOTE

Former Casanovas recall this as the most romantic period in local history! For what greater thrill could a young man get than to be listening to the victrola with his girl when the lights went out! Such thrills were usually very short since mothers always had a candle or kerosene lamp ready for such emergencies. The Columbus and Southern Ohio Electric Company ruined all of this when it purchased the franchise and lines in 1926 at which time transmission lines were run into town making 24 hour service possible.

T. E. RIDGEWAY

Mr. T. E. Ridgeway of Jackson established a bakery here in February, 1916. His business grew over the years into a large commercial bakery which was located at the corner of Cross and Front Streets where it employed several persons. He not only sold his products locally, but in five neighboring counties. Mr. Ridgeway was famous for his "Mother Goose" bread which was widely acclaimed. The business was purchased by The Adams Baking Company of Portsmouth on December 5, 1945. The plant was later moved to Jackson.

THE GLAMORGAN TIRE AND RUBBER COMPANY

The Glamorgan Tire and Rubber Company was organized on September 18, 1918 in Orrville, Ohio. The firm planned to build several small automobile tire plants around the state and found sufficient backing here to do so. The firm built a plant in the north end of town where it started producing tires in 1919. Countless stories have been told about these tires, but few of them have been complimentary. Nevertheless, many residents still claim few tires were actually worn out mainly because all four tires would frequently come off the rims simultaneously often travelling long distances down the road in front of the car. Financial difficulties closed the plant in 1920.

The Glamorgan plant changed owners several times in the next 17 years, but it was purchased on March 1, 1937 by Mr. William A. Byrider who then organized The Oak Hill Sponge Rubber Company. This plant manufactures a line of sponge rubber products, and is still operated by Mr. Byrider who serves as President and General Manager.

R. T. CRACE

Mr. Roland T. Crace opened a scrap yard on South Front Street across from The Oak Hill Fire Brick Co. in 1928. He built an attractive metal building and for many years operated a successful business employing several persons. Originally Mr. Crace had started business in a small garage in East Oak Hill. No job was too big or too small for Mr. Crace, whose operations extended into the Hocking Valley, as well as Kentucky and West Virginia. He is a self made man who became successful only through hard work. He made a successful business by buying what other people couldn't use or threw away. In the Welsh community of Oak Hill this was a great achievement.

CHERRINGTON SCRAP METAL CO.

Mr. Crace sold the business to Mr. Paul Cherrington, a son-in-law, in 1953 who formed The Cherrington Scrap Metal Co. Mr. Paul Cherrington and his son Mr. Irving Cherrington operate the business today.

GRANT TRUCKING COMPANY

Grant Trucking Company was started in 1935 by Mr. Raymond Grant of Jackson, Ohio. Mr Grant transported soil pipe and brick from the Jackson-Oak Hill areas to nearby markets. The firm was purchased by Mr. Darrel Detty and associates in 1955. Shortly thereafter, its main office and terminal was moved to its present location north of town on Route 93. Today, the company operates 73 large semi-trailer trucks and offers the area a complete line of flat bed, van, tank and dump equipment. It transports bulk or bagged specialties, clay, as well as fire brick to all the major steel producing centers and hauls other commodities into the area from distant points. The present officers of the company are Mr. Darrel D. Detty, President and Mr. Joe Hayden, Vice President.

VICTORY CHARCOAL COMPANY

Roland T. Crace and E. E. Davis formed a partnership in 1944 for the purpose of making charcoal for the war effort. They leased a number of former sewer pipe kilns from the Cambria Clay Products Co. at Blackfork which they used for burning charcoal. This plant was closed and a new one built at Clay in 1946 to produce domestic charcoal. In 1950, Mr. Davis sold his interest to Mr.

Crace and Mr. Roy Allen. Mr. Allen later purchased the interest of Mr. Crace and sold the business in 1969, to Jay Allen, Keith Bowman, and Phil Bowman. Mr. Jay Allen is General Manager.

A. E. HOWELL, JR.

Mr. A. E. Howell, Jr. established a drilling business in 1947. Doing business as A. E. Howell, Inc., the operation has grown until today it is a large contract drilling and blasting firm doing business not only with local mining operators, but also with road contractors and strip mine operators in adjoining states. The firm is also engaged in the sales and service of numerous construction and mining products. The business is owned by Mr. A. E. Howell, Jr., who along with his son Mr. David E. Howell and brother-in-law, Mr. Richard E. Davis, operate it.

LOFTIS MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Mr. Homer Loftis, formerly of Ironton, Ohio, organized the Loftis Manufacturing Company in the summer of 1959. He leased a portion of The Oak Hill Sponge Rubber Plant where he installed the equipment necessary to manufacture custom rubber products. The firm specializes in custom rubber molding and has experienced considerable growth since its start. Mr. Homer Loftis is presently operating the firm.

BIG TIRE SPECIALISTS

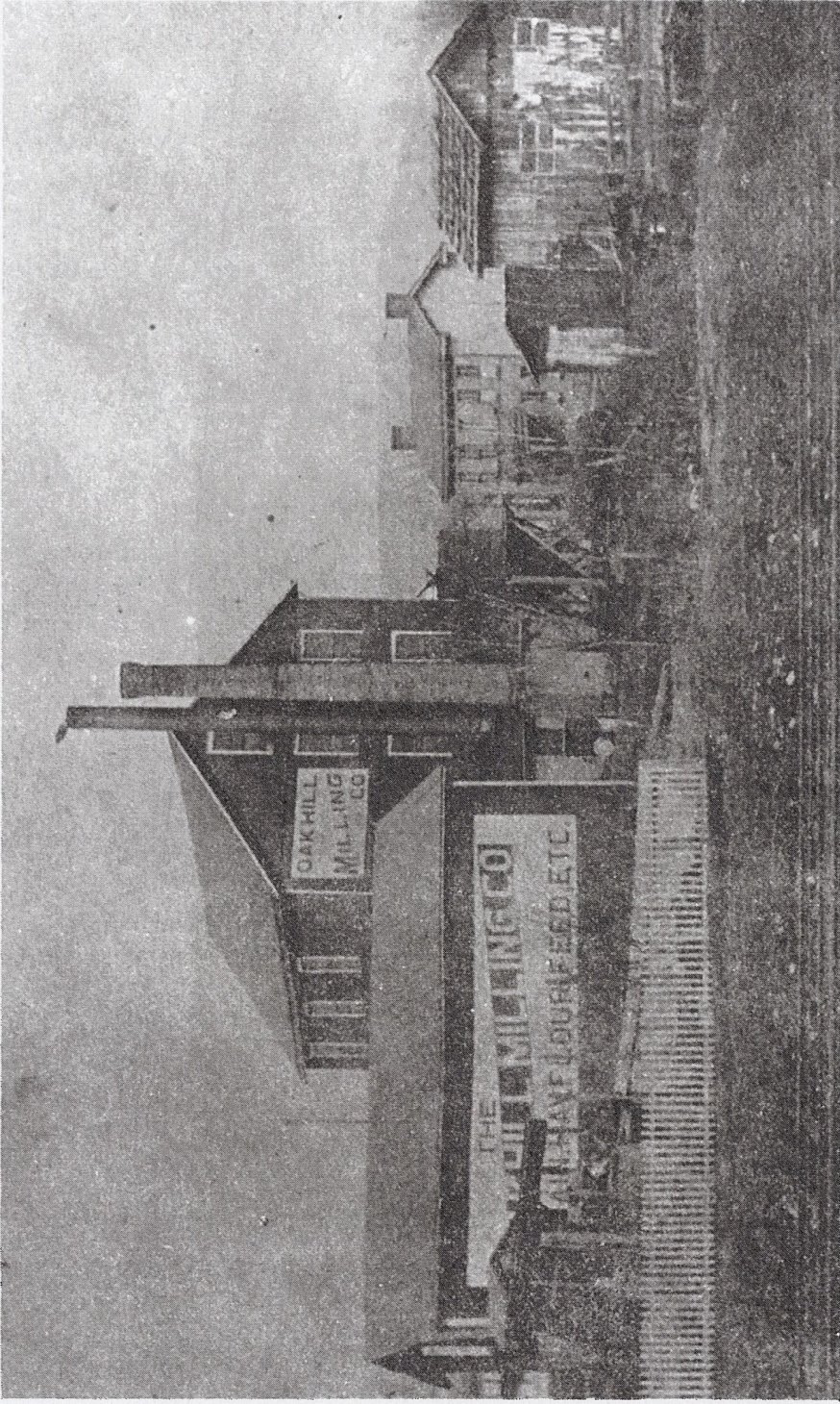
Mr. Mel Boright and Ralph Brown of Ironton started a tire retreading operation in 1963 on property adjoining The Grant Trucking Co. on Route 93 just north of town. This plant specializes in retreading large rubber tires for heavy earth moving equipment. The business has been very successful and has expanded its sales into neighboring states. Mr. Ralph Brown is manager of this operation.

INDUSTRIAL WOOD AND PALLET COMPANY

The Industrial Wood and Pallet Company of Cleveland, Ohio erected a saw mill and wood storage facility at Clay in late 1972. The firm plans to saw lumber, make pallets and other wood products.

It is managed by Mr. Harold Stewart.

The timber industry has been a major employer here since the charcoal furnace era. There have been numerous saw mills, but in recent years the cutting of paper wood has been a very important industry. Most of these operations are small and change locations frequently. When combined they employ many men who contribute much to our local economy.

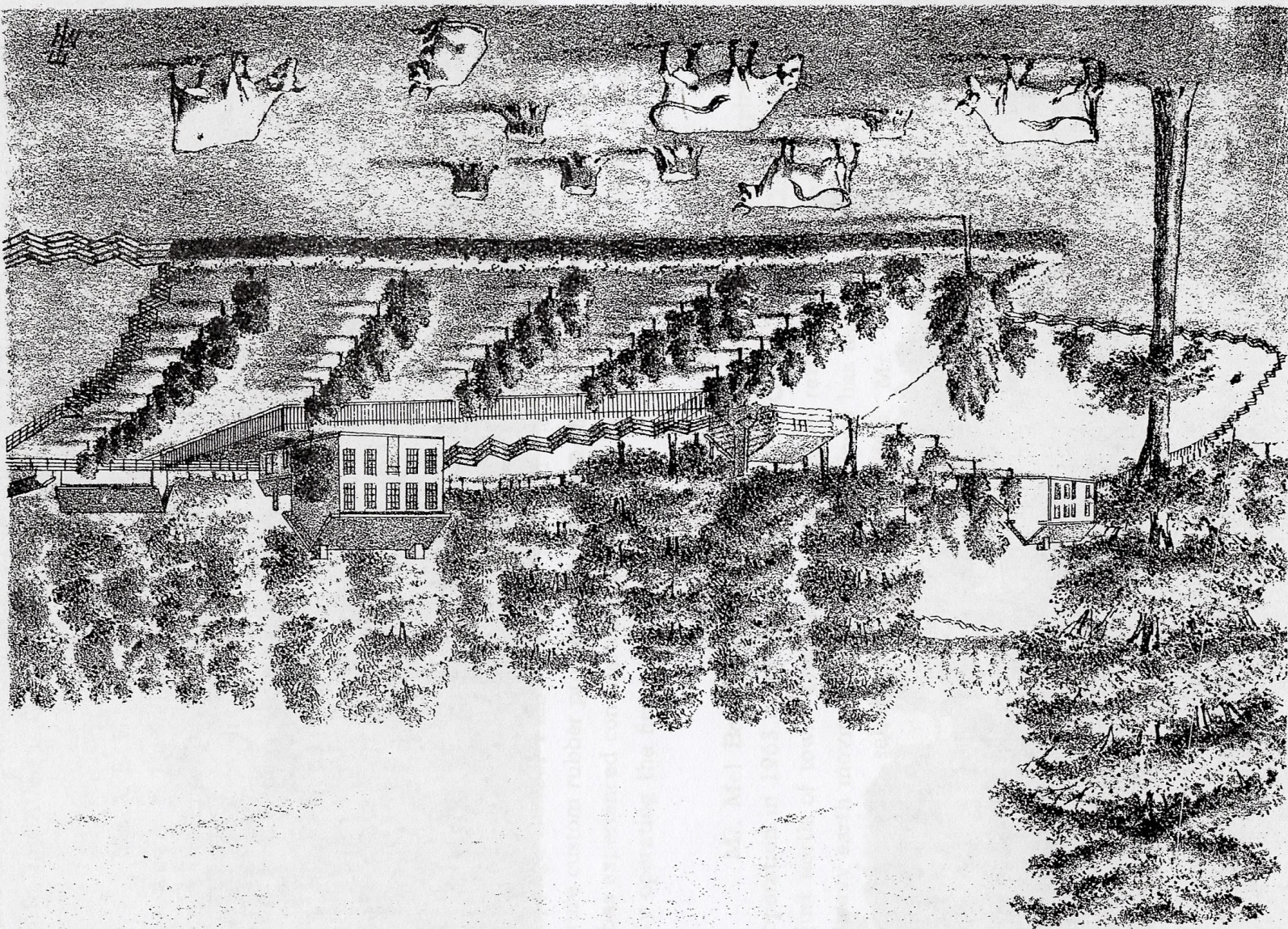


OAK HILL MILLING COMPANY 1902

...ants were frequent
...Pay was low.
...most industries
...goods at the
...place in



OAK HILL FOUNDRY AND MACHINE WORKS 1947



RES. OF THOS. J. ALBAN.

MADISON TP. JACKSON CO. OHIO.

Workers

WORKERS

The early Welsh were really only a part of the total work force in our early industries. The majority of which were of German, Scottish, and Irish origin. A few were on farms here when the iron furnaces were built. Others remained after the railroad was built, while some moved here from the mountains of Kentucky and West Virginia to work at the furnaces, brick plants, or in the mines.

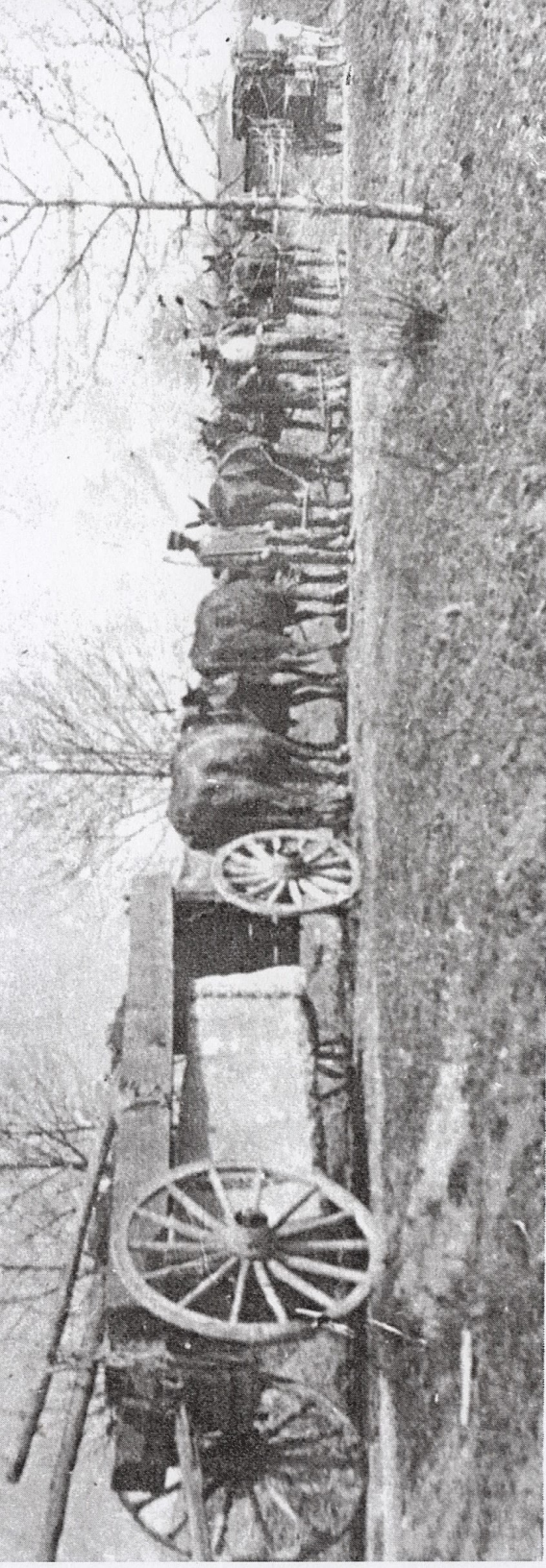
DIFFERENT AGE

This was an entirely different age from our present Space Age which is seemingly one of great prosperity for all. Circumstances, conditions, and attitudes are not comparable to most existing today. The Pioneer Philosophy prevailed in those days. Work was hazardous and hard. Tragic accidents were frequent with the work day being 12 hours, or from daylight until dark. Pay was low, being eighty or ninety cents a day, or less until about 1900 in most industries, many of which paid in script that could only be redeemed for goods at the company store.

PIONEER WORKERS GREAT MEN

The pioneer workers were great men. They deserve a lofty place in local history. Without these dedicated and hard working men our local industries would have failed. This happened in other areas where a lack of pride and willingness to work brought failure to the entire community.

Who were these pioneer workers: The colliers who made charcoal, the proud teamsters, those hardy ox drivers, mule drivers, molders, wood choppers, off bearers, wheelwrights, and blacksmiths? Perhaps one of them married grandmother. They are described better in the following pictures than by the written word.



Hauling a Stone to Reline Old Jefferson Furnace. Date Unknown.



Making Charcoal for Old Jefferson — Pant Smith, Collier 1911.

Loading Charcoal for Old Jefferson — Pant Smith and others, 1911.





**THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH AND
EARLY MAYOR OF OAK HILL, ABOUT 1910.**
I. N. Evans, center. His two distinguished
companions, left, Rev. Roland Evans, C. M. Mis-
sionary to Africa. Right, Thomas J. Hughes, Vice
President, Jefferson Iron Company, and Presi-
dent, Oak Hill Fire Brick Co.

**OHIO FIRE BRICK COMPANY MINE AND
WAGON, 1904. JOHN C. MORGAN, TEAMSTER.**

L to R: 1., 2. Oscar Jenkins, 3. Levi
Conn, 4., 5., 6. William Burn-
sides, 7. Cliff Jenkins, 8. Steve Williams, 9.





OAK HILL FIRE BRICK COMPANY EMPLOYEES, 1900.

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Matt Shelton 2. Ed Loux 3. John Thomas 4. Harry Hutchison 5. David Williams 6. Harry Johnson 7. Jap Heading 8. John Howells

9. Little Boy —

SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. 2. Billy Elcess 3. Dan Faulkner 4. Pearl Davis 5. Smith Kent 6. Willard Quick 7. Tom Davis 8. James Herbert 9. Warren Grashel 10. John Jaynes 11. Lon Leonard.

THIRD ROW: L to R — 1. D. W. Morgan, Manager 2. William Sallards 3. Robert

M. Jones 4. John Allen 5. Jenkin Jones 6. Albert Marks 7. Albert Heading 8. George McNeal 9. Morgan Alban 10. Oscar Malone 11. Daniel Evans 12. Thomas J. Morgan (Tregaron) 13. John Carpenter.

FOURTH ROW: L to R — 1. Charles Ross 2. Frank Elcess 3. John McGown 4. John Hughes 5. Charles Imes 6. Enoch Jenkins 7. William Betts 8. David Jaynes 9. Dan Betts.



JOHN DALTON, SR. — TEAMSTER 1900

W. G. EVANS DRAY 1902

Art Evans, W. G. Evans, Eben J. Jones





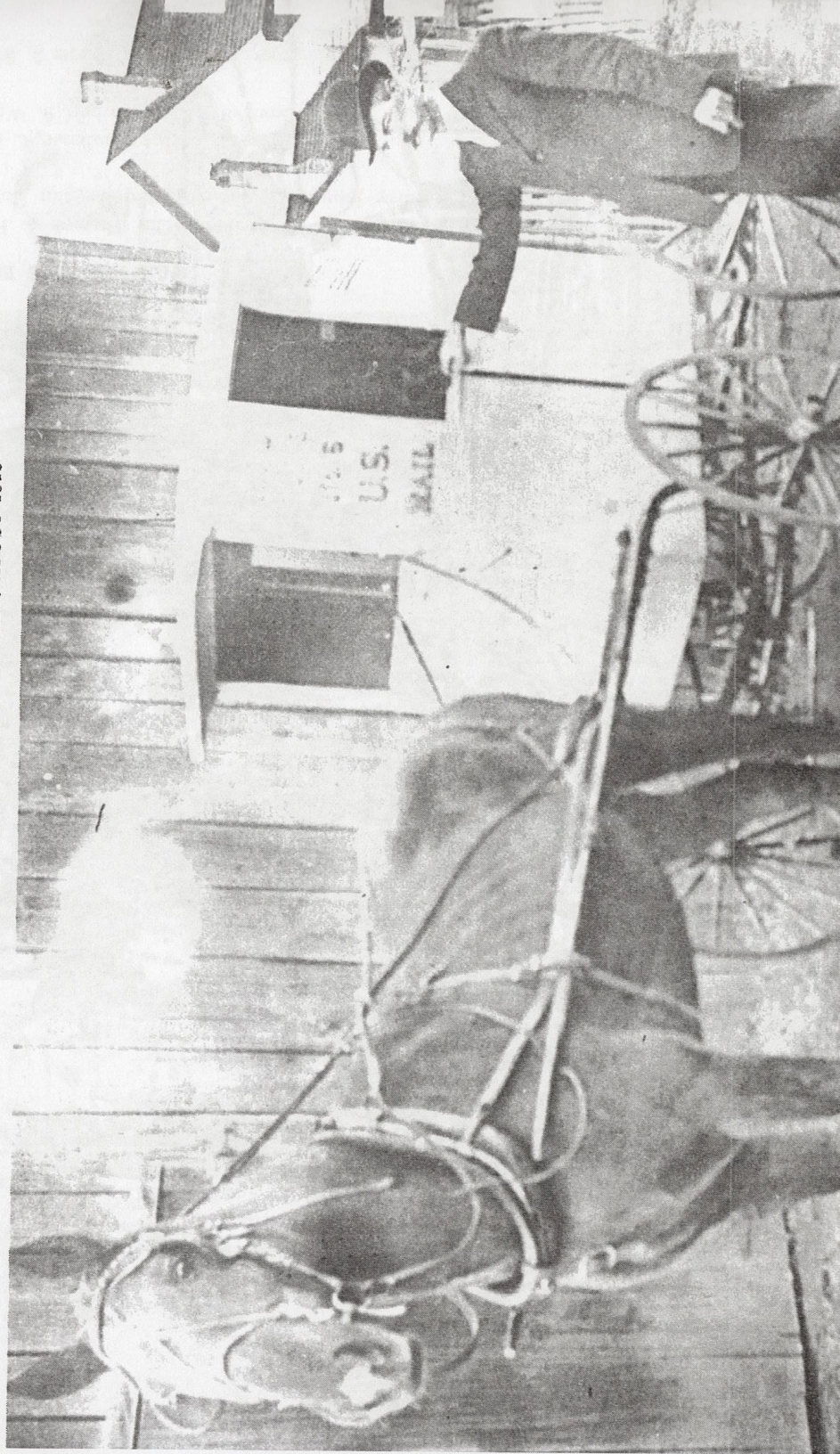
DIAMOND BRICK COMPANY EMPLOYEES 1913

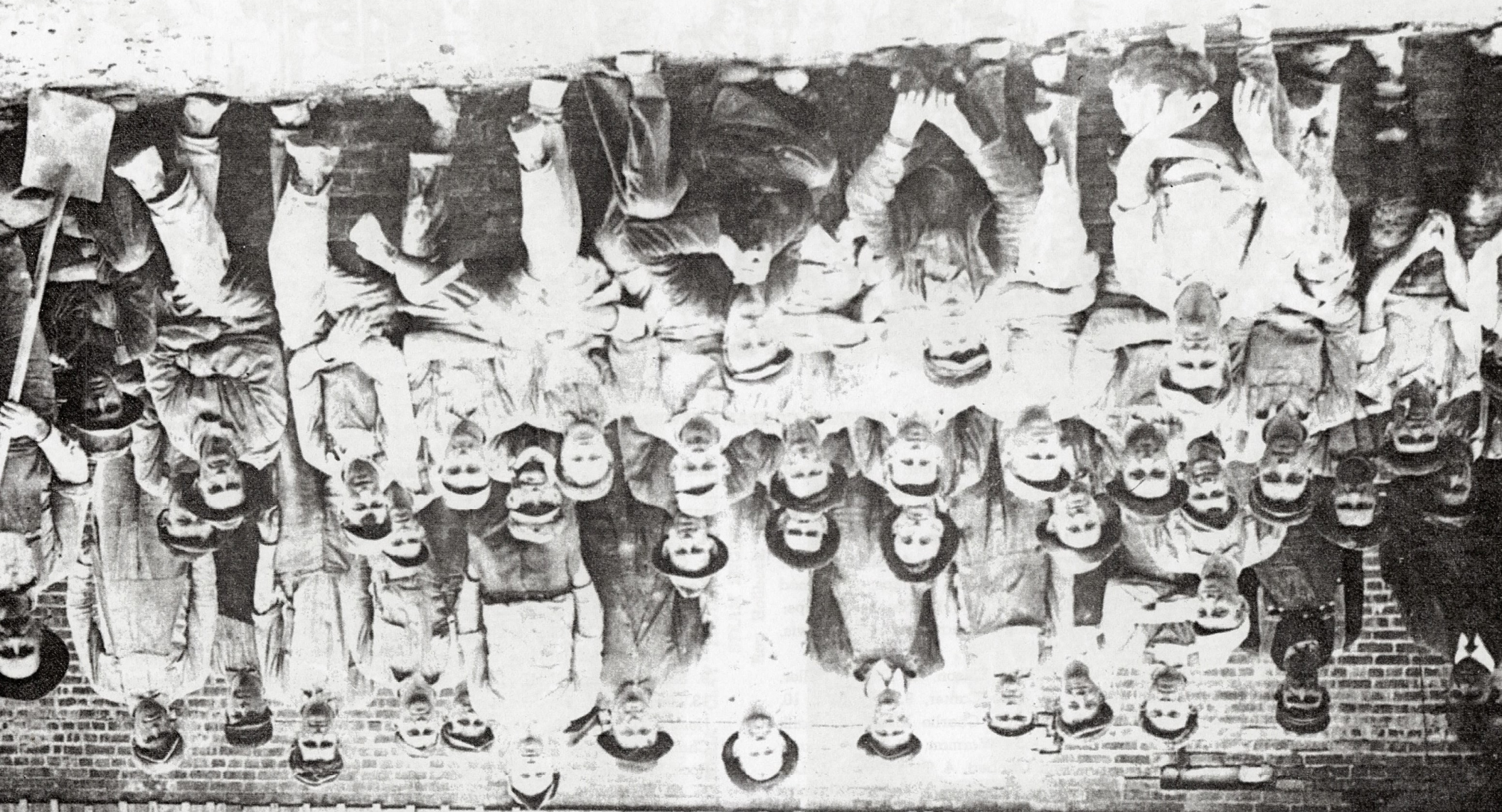
FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Joe Christian 2. Fred Metzler
3. Bob Sly 4. Theophilis Jones 5. Tom D. Jones 6. Henry
Kelley 7. Charlie Williams.

SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. John West 2. Allen Christian
3. Luther Sharp 4. Walker Jaynes, Superintendent 5. Andy

Sharp 6. Pete Strickland 7. Anderson Christian 8. Jack Kiser.
THIRD ROW: L to R — 1. George Canter 2. Newt Hughes
3. John Reese 4. Charles Leonard 5. Frank Reese 6. Lonnie
Metzler 7. Rube Wilson.

DAN J. LLOYD, RURAL MAIL CARRIER, ABOUT 1910





WILLIAM E. DEE COMPANY EMPLOYEES 1917.

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Mason Seel 2. George Christian 3. Billy Christian.
 SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. Ralph (Shorty) Comer, boy 2. George (Bunt) Comer
 3. Jim Kiser 4. Jim (Prunty) Metzler 5. Davey Lewis 6. Jim Herbert 7. Charles
 (Pud) Hughes 8. John Foster Dunn 9. Gordon Faulkner 10. Ellis Smith 11. Joe
 Vickers 12. Jim Howell 13. Everett Boggs 14. Big Bill Betts.
 THIRD ROW: L to R — 1. Hartley Arthur 2. Henry Miller 3. Tom (Tug) Dunn 4.
 Jesse Smith 5. Glennie Miller 6. Jerry Hughes 7. Warren (Doc) Jaynes 8. Herb

Whitt 9. Mart Vickers 10. George Sims.
 Standing between rows: Harmon Brisker
 FOURTH ROW: L to R — 1. Morris Machelhamy 2. Ben Walker 3. Chester
 Metzler 4. John R. Evans 5. Jess Vitaoe 6. Albert Marks 7. Del Shepard 8. Boyd
 Christian 9. Wallace Jaynes 10. Henry Boggs 11. John Dalton, Sr. 12. Ed Crab-
 tree 13. Elmer Vitaoe 14. Ed Hill.



CAMBRIA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY SEWER PIPE EMPLOYEES 1925

(Courtesy Burgess Tope, Sr.)

McWilliams, 11. Hick Phillips, 12. Bill Arthur, 13. Walter Wallace, 14. Glen Scott, 15. Roy Norman, 16. Herman Long, 17. Bill Rankins, 18. Floyd Jackson.

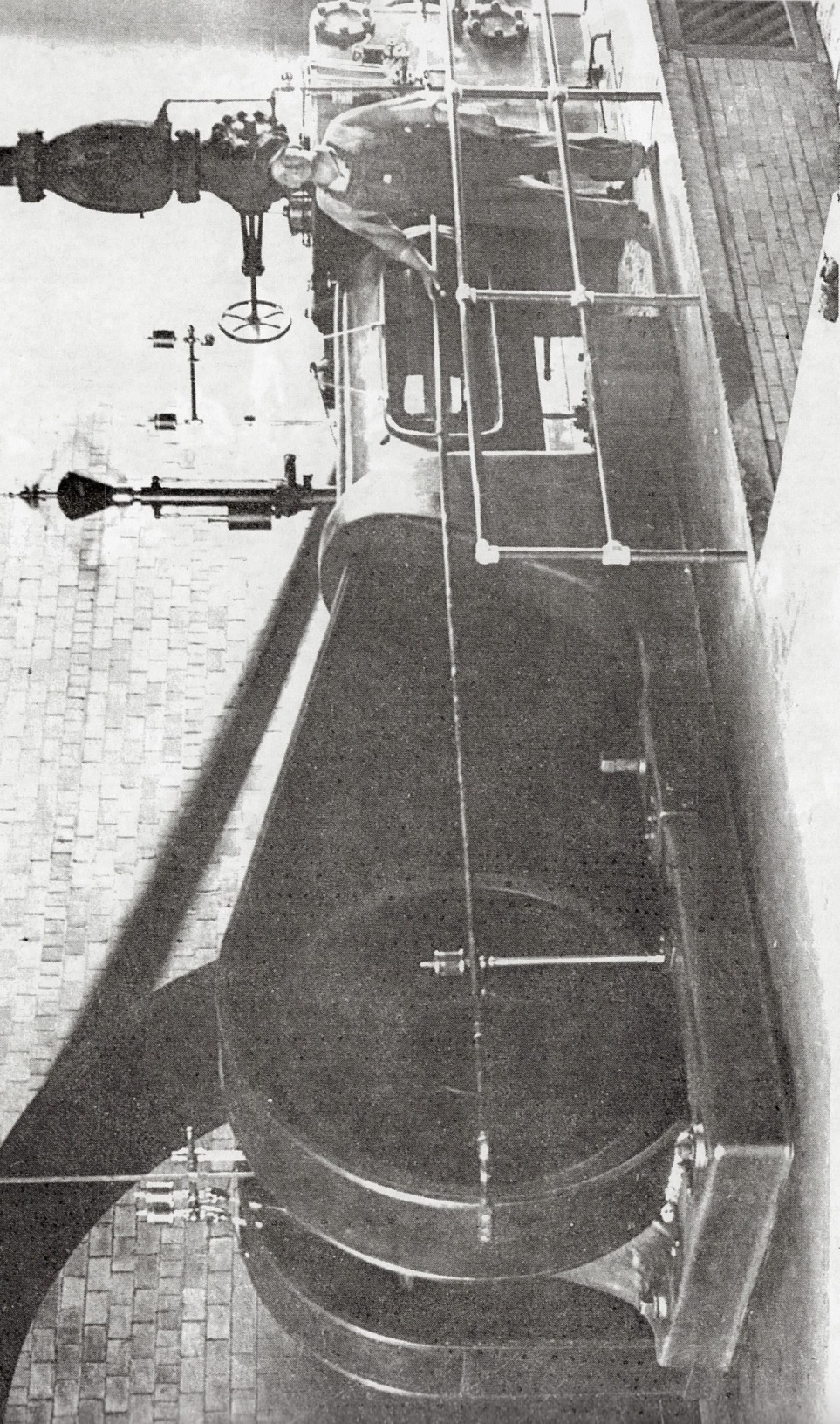
FIFTH ROW: 1. Ed P. (Big Ed) Davis, 2. Charles Keels, 3. Rastus Woolum, 4. Hayden Miller, 5. Lester Long, 6. Tommy Miller, 7. Mert Smith, 8. Roy Hicks, 9. Cecil Jones, 10. Charles Lambert, 11. John Smith, 12. Dugal Pickins, 13. Fitz Keels, 14. Dick Long, 15. Alva Craddock, 16. Harold Simpson, 17. George Stroth, 18. Cotton Eye Sharp.

SIXTH ROW: 1. Gib Hollback, 2. Mose Hendershot, 3. Bill Lavey, 4. Shorty Brock, 5. Walter Jenkins, 6. Albert Edwards, 7. Beaver Kiser, 8. Elman Callihan, 9. Skinny Campbell, 10. Edwin Stumbo, 11. Bennie Stumbo, 12. Jess Hendershot, 13. Bob Miller, 14. Herman Trainer, 15. Walter Little, 16. Harry Gilland, 17. Hershel Lomax, 18. Browney Keels, 19. Johnny Henson, 20. Fred Wasmer, 21. Charlie Wallace, 22. Slick Tope, 23. Hooky Nolan, 24. Desmond Keels, 25. Rock Phillips.

FIRST ROW: 1. Dan Wilson, 2. Luther Carpenter, 3. Charles Miller, 4. Bill Darnell, 5. Jim Miller, 6. Sam McDaniel, 7. George Baysinger, 8. Richard Jackson, 9. Grover Day, 10. Hayward Harris, 11. John Henson, Sr. 12. Allen Zearns, 13. Frank Zearns, 14. Sherman Phillips, 15. Hugh Martin 16. Lige Zearns.

SECOND ROW: 1. Fred Meers, 2. Lefe Brown, 3. Job Evans, 4. Bill Wasmer, 5. Mervin Woolum, 6. Tip Trainer, 7. Shorty Comer, 8. John Phillips, 9. Elwood Trainer, 10. Sam Butcher, 11. Pokey Sharp, 12. Did Phillips, 13. Hershel Phillips, 14. Robert Delaney, 15. Harmon Malone, 16. Hershel Norman, Lawrence Lewis, 18. Leon Whitehour.

THIRD ROW: 1. Jack Martin, 2. Bob Baker, 3. Elza Ellison, 4. Everett Miller, 5. John Clark, 7. Ervin Kerr, 8. Jake Canter, 9. Roy Bird, 10. Turkey Bob Lewis, 11. Henry Scott, 12. Dick Rose, 13. Charlie Kiser, 14. Frank Heidorn, 15. Harold Flowers, 16. Buss Canter, 17. John Warman, 18. Henry Sharp. FOURTH ROW: 1. Gini Yates, 2. Bill Bird, 3. John Lambert, 4. Tom Brown, 5. Lee Hall, 6. Lester Canter, 7. Claude Heffner, 9. Ray McWilliams, 10. John



CAMBRIA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY STATIONARY
STEAM ENGINE 1947
Roy Hollback, Engineer

OHIO FIRE BRICK COMPANY STEAM SHOVEL 1947
Jack Morgan, Operator, Willard Evans, Helper,





CAMBRIA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY CLAY AND NO. 4 COAL MINE EMPLOYEES 1924 — BLACKFORK, OHIO (Courtesy Jack Watson)

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Elijah Clarkson, 2. Harmon Brown, 3. George Shelton, 4. Dan Hollback, 5. Jim Murray, 6. Lester Long, 7. Adrian (Jack) Watson, 8. Henry Watson, 9. Gilbert Craddolph.

SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. Jake Brown, 2. Forrest Murray, 3. Walter Craddolph,

4. Israel Watson, 5. Edward Keels, 6. Lawson Watson, 7. Edison Gallimore, 8. William Long.

THIRD ROW: L to R — 1. Chester Craddolph, 2. Charlie Harrison, 3. Mac Craddolph, 4. Lew Craddolph.



PYRO CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY EMPLOYEES 1941 (Courtesy of Earl D. Miller)

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Lew Canter, 2. John Lambert (Clay) 3. Arch Lambert, 4. Alwyn Miller, 5. Bill Staten, 6. Walter Lambert, 7. Pee Wee Cayton, 8. Hershel Norman, 9. Otte C. Miller, (Pyro) 10. Leroy Meadows.

SECOND ROW: 1. O. E. Miller, 2. Elijah Canter, 3. Glenn Lambert, 4. John Comer Jaynes, 5. John Lambert (Pyro) 6. Harry Howell, 7. George Griffiths, 8. Lester (Daddy) Howell, 9. Mary Rowland, 10. Olive Hartman Wilson, 11. Ethel Sell 12. Ray Ankrum, 13. Jack Siagel, 14. Rudy Echelmeyer, 15. Otte J. Miller.

THIRD ROW: L to R — 1. Allie (Ponto) Miller, 2. W. G. Griffiths, President, 3. Albert Henson, 4. David Delaney, 5. Tom Taylor, 6. Truman Jenkins, 7. Orville

Mines, 8. Cecil Morris, 9. Wayne Metzler, 10. George Christian, 11. Thoburn Landrum, 12. Tom Stumbo, 13. George Elcess, 14. Moffat Edwards.

FOURTH ROW: L to R — 1. Lester Oiler, 2. Wilbur Howell, 3. Floyd Carter, 4. Earl Miller, 5. Mendel Davis, 6. Tink Jenkins, 7. David Bates, 8. Weldon Miller, 9. Bus Taylor, 10. Vic Jackson, 11. Mutt Smith, 12. Raymond Rainier.

FIFTH ROW: L to R — 1. Wells Howell, 2. Evan Jones, 3. Fred Jones, 4. Shad Hughes, 5. Anderson Vitale, 6. Jube Canter, 7. Ray Carter, 8. Dave Lewis, 9. Vinton Evans, 10. Walter Delaney, 11. Clarence Davis, 12. Art Taylor, 13. Raleigh Taylor, 14. Bill Smith.



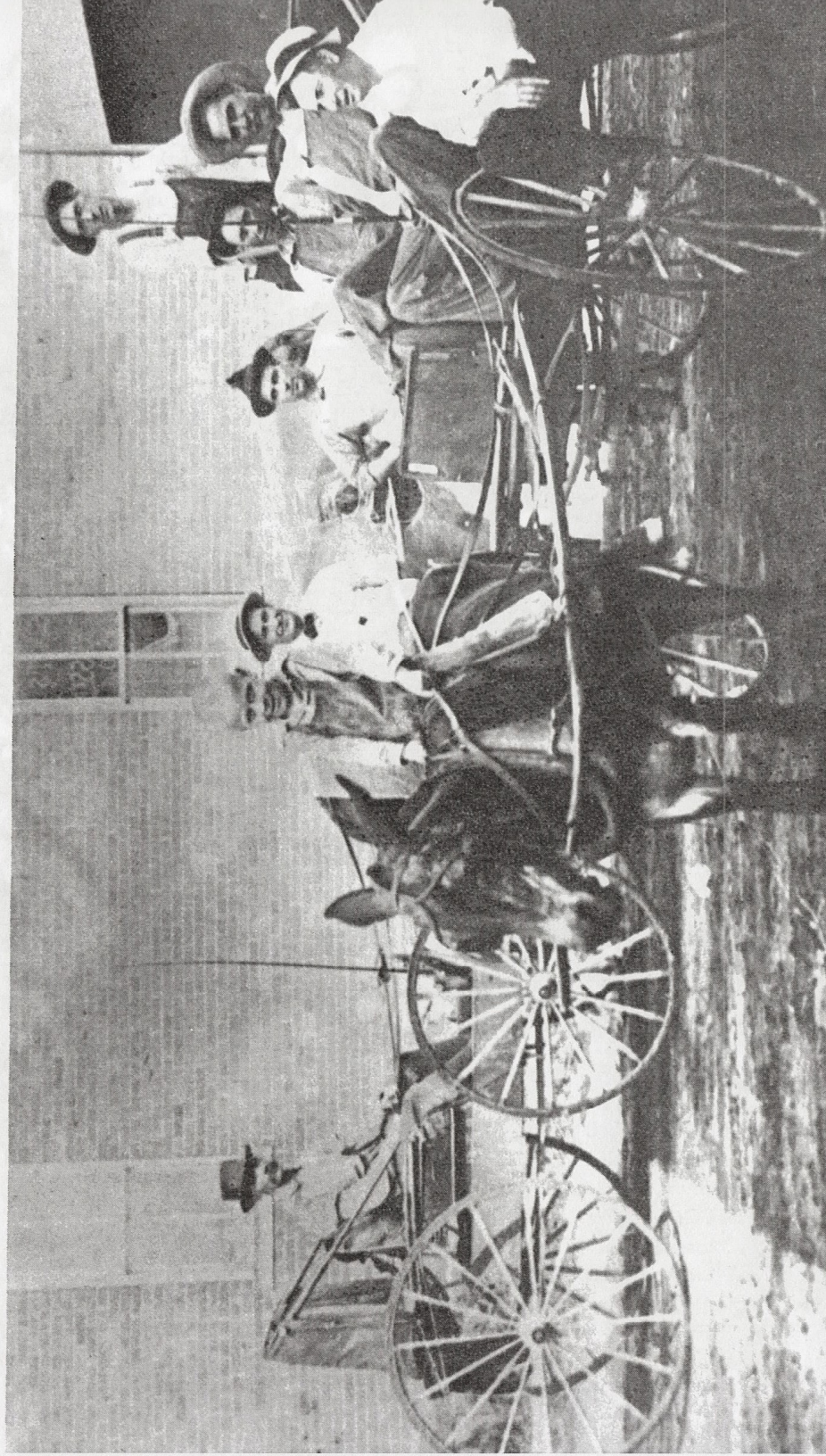
CEDAR HEIGHTS CLAY COMPANY EMPLOYEES 1947

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Lewis Rowland, 2. Everett Morgan, 3. William Brady, 4. Donald Canterberry, 5. Joseph House, 6. Ed Windon, 7. Howard Morgan, Manager.

SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. Ted Coleman, 2. Emil Woolum, 3. Othel Windon, 4. Glen Short.

RELAXING AFTER WORK 1903

L to R — 1. Dan J. Lloyd, 2. Kenny Dunn (little boy), 3. T. S. Davis, 4. Everett Alban, 5. Dan Isaac (on buggy), 6. James Herbert, 7. David Jaynes, 8. Dr. J. T. Hughes.

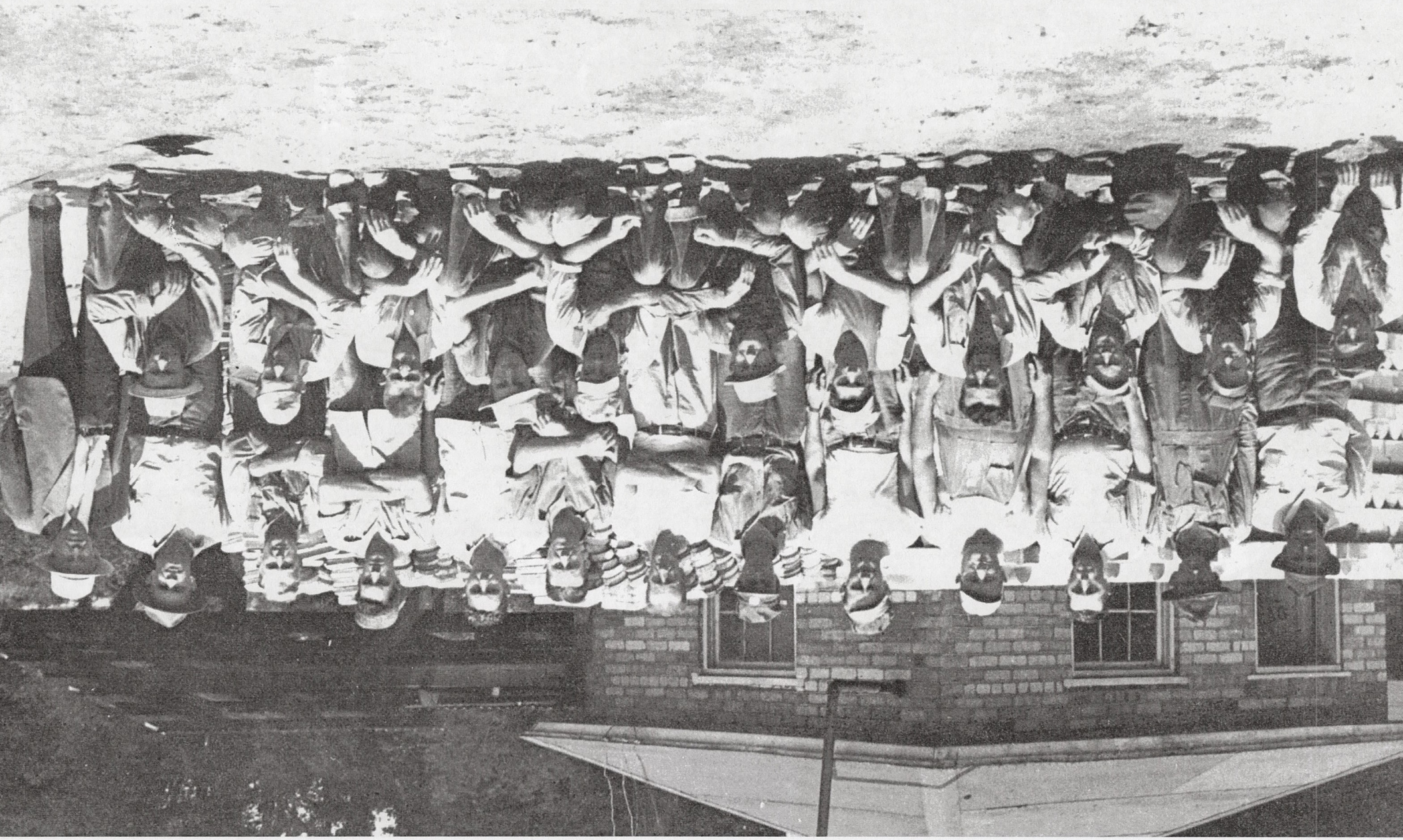




OHIO FIRE BRICK COMPANY EMPLOYEES 1947

FIRST ROW: 1 to R — 1. Clare McCoy, 2. Albert Emerson, 3. Marvin Snyder, 4. Lewis Clarkson, 5. Sherman Coleman, 6. Orville Rankin, 7. Kenneth Silvey, 8. Russell Hughes, 9. David Patton, 10. Frank Allen, 11. Ben Colby, 12. Fred Lewis, 13. William Smith, 14. D. D. Davis, President.

SECOND ROW: L o R — 1. E. E. (Little Ed) Davis, 2. Harmon (Tube) Knigge, 3. Superintendent, 4. Ambrose (Ham) Evans, 5. Willard (Red) Evans, 6. William (Little Bill) Hughes, 7. Harrison Betts, 8. Floyd Harrison, 9. Hayden Miller, 10. Kenneth Lewis, 11. David Clarkson, 12. Donald Miller, 13. Herb Jones, 14. Edward Shaffer, 15. John Lewis, 16. Charlie Kiser, 17. Edward P. (Big Ed) Davis.



DAVIS FIRE BRICK COMPANY EMPLOYEES 1947

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Eddie Comer, 2. Frank Snyder, 3. Carl Comer, 4. William Hughes, 5. Wilbur Myers, 6. Charles Lambert, 7. John Brown, Sr., 8. Wesley Saunders, 9. Lester Gillispie, 10. John McGown, 11. Elwood Richmond.

SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. Raymond Dunn, 2. Lester Myers, 3. Turner Saunders, Williams, 12. Joe Smith, Superintendent, 13. D. D. Davis, President.



AETNA FIRE BRICK COMPANY EMPLOYEES, ABOUT 1920

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. John Tope, 2. Russell Hughes, 3. Jess Dunn, 4. Jasper Elcess, 5. George Comer, 6. Morgan J. Jones, Superintendent, 7. Bill Angle, 8. Ed (Speedy) Rainer, 9. Irma Rainer.

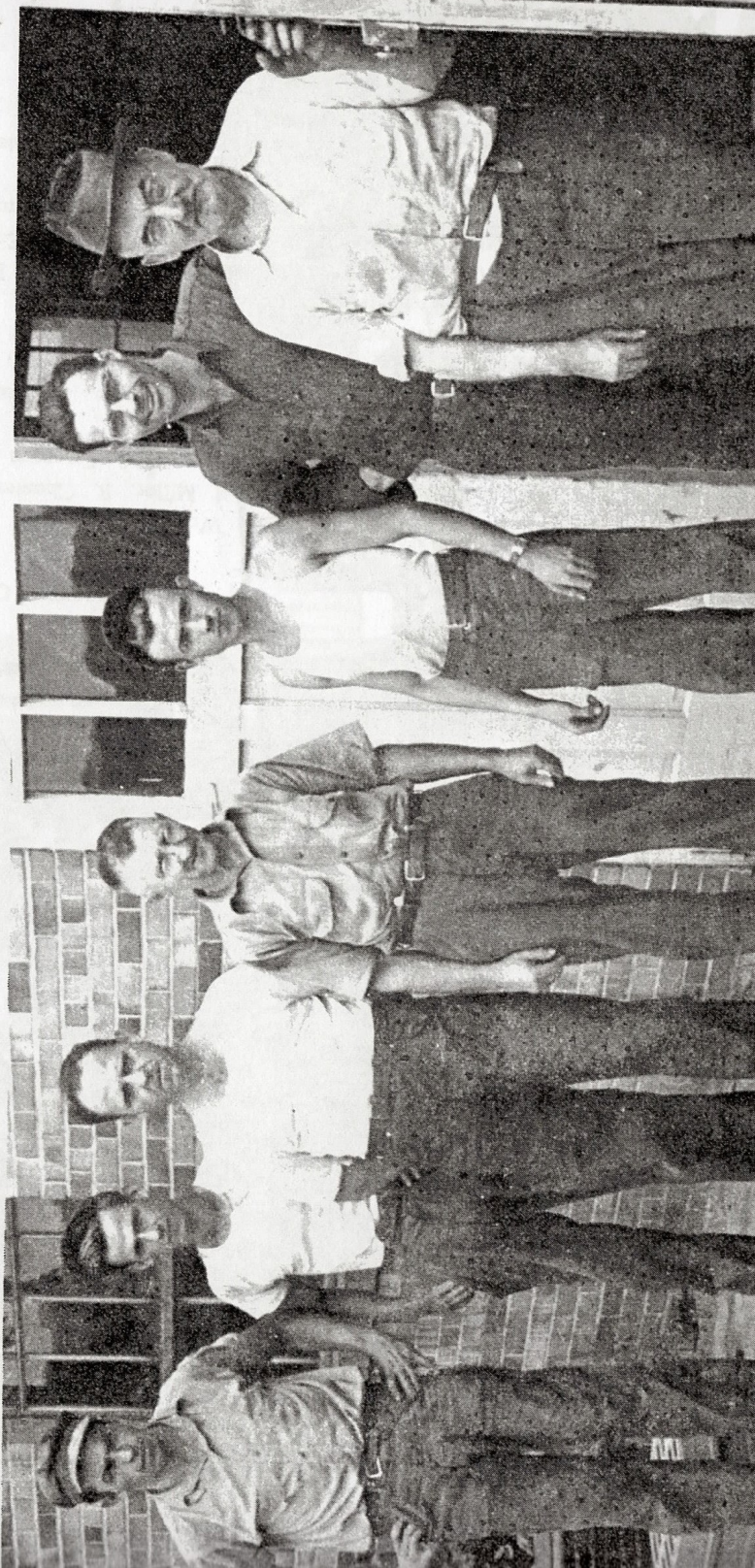
SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. Jim Herbert, 2. Billy Christian, 3. Shad Hughes, 4. Fred Stempshorn, 5. Othel Windon, 6., 7.

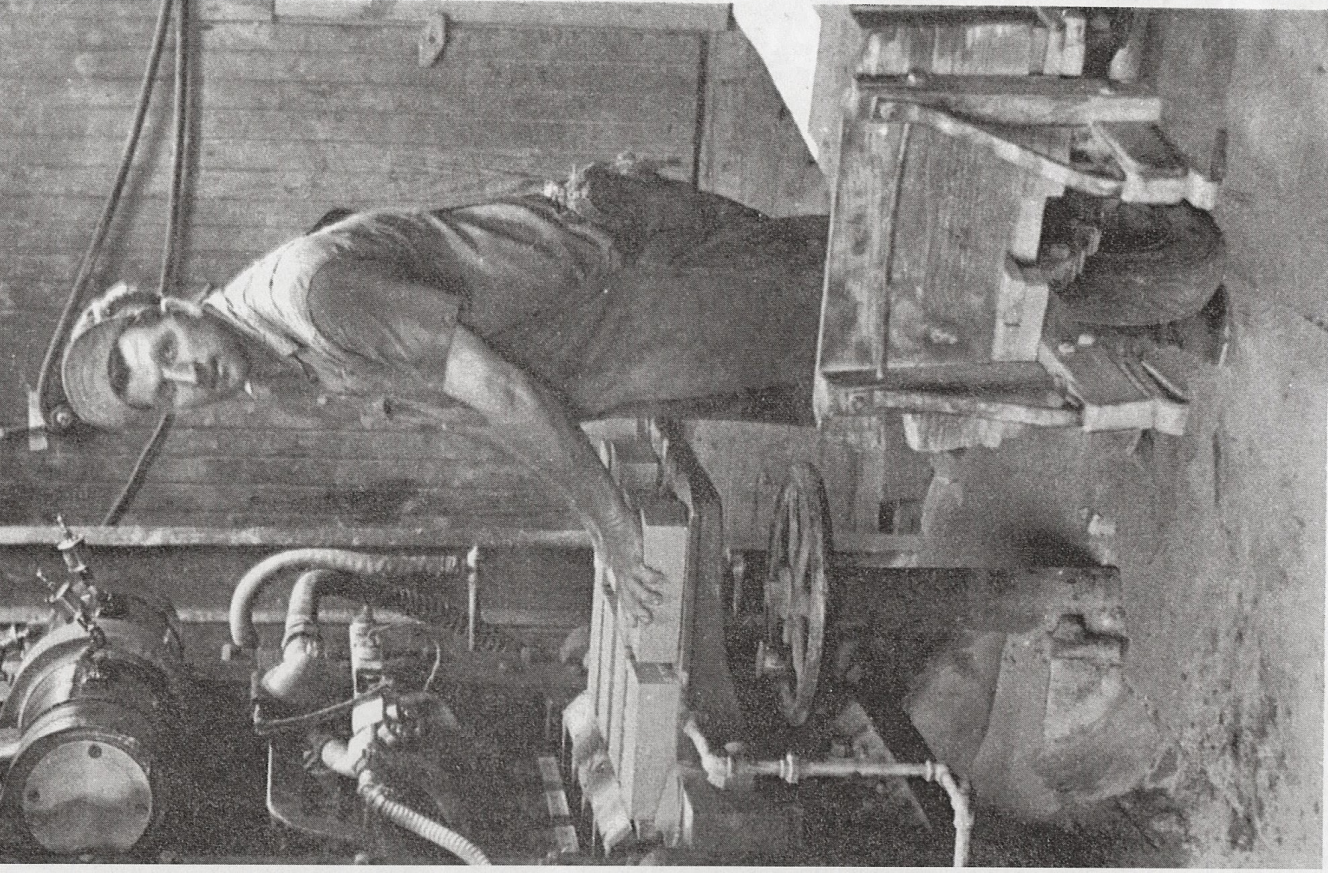
THIRD ROW: L to R — 1. Ott Miller, 2. Newt Hughes, 3. Chess Metzler, 4. Joe Jaynes, 5. Thurman Spriggs, 6. Emery Morgan, Mgr.

3. Orville Smith, 4. Gould Smith, 5. George Seel, 6. George Elcess, 7. Ed Sims, 8. Ed (Weavy) Miller, 9. James Reese.

OAK HILL FOUNDRY AND MACHINE WORKS EMPLOYEES 1947

L to R — 1. Dan Clarkson, 2. Richard McFann, 3. Bud Needham, 4. Jul Kress, 5. Glen McFann, 6. Jim Kerns, 7. W. E. Dole, Sr.

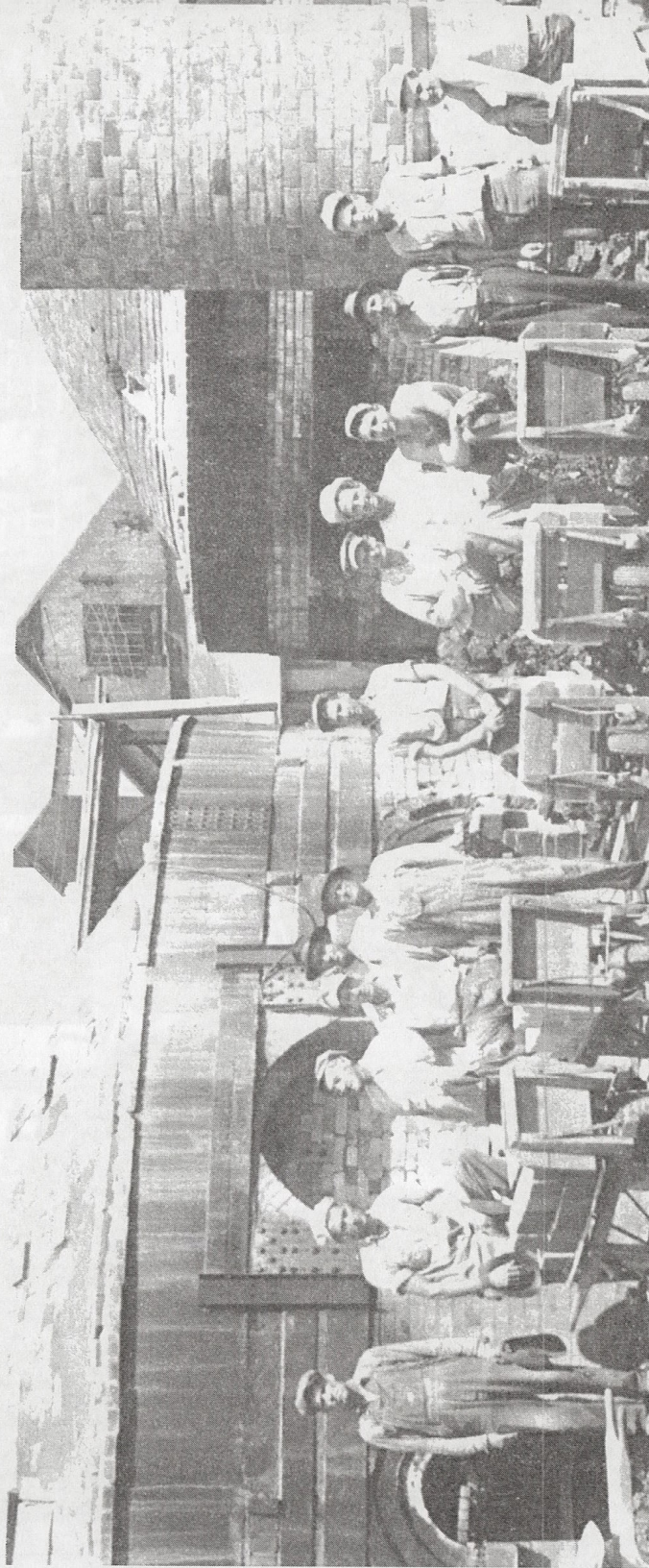




BRICK PRESS, PYRO CLAY PRODUCTS
COMPANY 1947 Floyd Carter, Operator

AETNA FIRE BRICK COMPANY EMPLOYEES 1947

L to R — 1. Ed Hilt, 2. Charles Jenkins, 3. Archie Tope, 4. Henry McClurg, 5. L. F. Sims, General Manager, 6. Homer Wilson, 7. Edwin Dunn, 8. Amos Dixon, 9. Thomas Miller, 10. Joe Miller, 11. Sam McNerlin, 12. John Gray, 13. Arthur Clark.





CAMBRIA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY PLANT EMPLOYEES 1941

FIRST ROW: 1. Louie House, 2. Jack Watson, 3. 4. Red Coffey,

5. Carl King, 6. Hoot Miller, 7. Ancil Miller, 8. Chester Boster, 9. Richard

Hutchinson, 10. Ervin Ford, 11. Harry Coburn, 12. Emerson Watson, 13. Popeye

Taylor, 14. Brady Boster.

SECOND ROW: 1. Bill Howell, 2. Orville Grover, 3. Jesse Harrison, 4. Ivan

Figins, 5. Harm Malone, 6. Bob Kiser, 7. 8. 9.

Walter Miller, 10. Lawrence Fisher, 11. Stanton Scott, 12. Lawrence Robinson,

13. Clare Burns, 14. Frank Harper.

THIRD ROW: 1. Charlie Miller, 2. Walter Simpson, 3. Ernie Miller, 4. Tom Taylor,

5. Weiner Woolum, 6. Herman Myers, 7. Dave Smith, 8. Eddie Rauh, 9. Stanley

Hollback, 10. Ernie Bailey, 11. Dick Long, 12. John Jenkins, 13. Roland Keels,

14. Earl Watson.

OFF TO SIDE ON LEFT: 1. Lee Hall, 2. Lloyd Shires, Superintendent, 3. Slick Tope,

4. 5.

FOURTH ROW: 1. Earl Figins, 2. Jim Miller, 3. Bob Miller, 4. Bill Poelker,

5. Ed Watson, 6. Bill Coon, 7. Charlie Shelton, 8. Garnet Straight, 9. William Rice,

10. Ott Scott, 11. Reggie Scott, 12. Billie Grubbs, 13. Oscar Grover, 14. Charles

Scott, 15. Bill Honeycutt, 16. Oakley Brooks, 17. Frank Davis, 18. Vance Watson,

19. Ack Shires, 20. Walter Stroth.

FIFTH ROW: 1. Clarence Green, 2. Alfonso Coffey, 3. Gib Craddolph, 4. Morgan

Davis, 5. Woodie Tope, 6. Wheatrow Simpson, 7. Oscar Straight, 8. Lawrence

Garnes, 9. Clarence Evans, 10. Lawrence Woolum.

SIXTH ROW: 1. Richard Scott, 2. Chester Coburn, 3. Bill Straight, 4. John

Harrison, 5. Elmer Woolum, 6. Dave Shaffer, 7. Homer Fultz, 8. 9.

10. Wilbur Stiles, 11. Bunt Harrison, 12. Ed Yates.



BLACKFORK DEPOT: WAITING FOR A TRAIN

There were eight daily passenger trains. Samsonville, Ohio — about 1910. 1. Ed Prosch, Agent 2. Bill Kuhner,

3., 4., 5., 6., 7.

CAMBRIA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY STORE EMPLOYEES

Blackfork, Ohio 1925 (Courtesy Burgess Tope, Sr.)

1. Ed Booth, 2. George Walker, 3. Mart Flowers, 4. Ruth Warman, 5. Hazel Wallace, 6. Pete Peterson, 7. Ray Webb, 8. Art Morgan.





CAMBRIA CLAY PRODUCTS COMPANY SILICA PLANT EMPLOYEES 1948

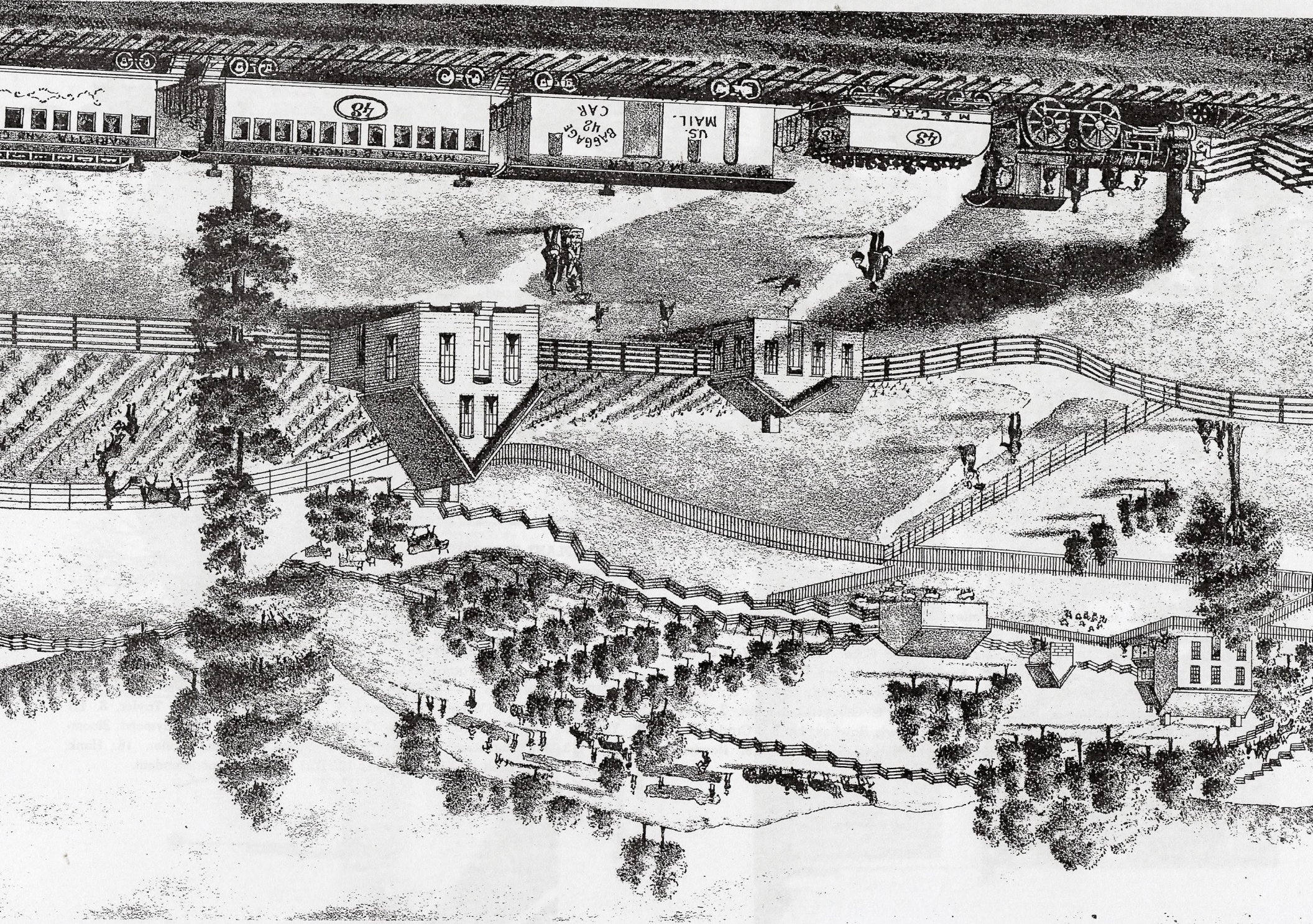
(Courtesy Vance Watson)

FIRST ROW: L to R — 1. Ernie Bailey, 2. Cleve Woodruff, 3. Carl Parsons, 4. Harvey Neal, 5. Bill Coon, 6. Bill Howell, 7. Emerson Watson, 8. Ray Keels, 9. George Pierson, 10. John Bowns, 11. Walter Coker, 12. John Woods, 13. Alfred Grubbs, 14. Glenn Farney, 15. Frank Davis, 16. Jess Johnson.
SECOND ROW: L to R — 1. Othel Woolum, 2. Charlie Tanner, 3. Ward Bloomfield, 4. Matt Woods, Jr., 5. Banty Woolum, 6. Gilbert Craddolph, 7. John Bowns, Sr. 8. Forrest Harris, 9. Earl Keels, 10. Lewis Rawlins, 11. Bus Craddolph, 12. Vance Watson, 13. Ralph Flowers, 14. Hubert S. DeHart, 15. Newton Cotton, 16. Sherman Sparks, 17. Bobby Harrison.

THIRD ROW: L to R — 1. Israel Watson, 2. Bud Hollback, 3. Ed Sickles, 4. Ruben Woods, 5. John Grubbs, 6. Franklin Rawlins, 7. Franklin Hollback, 8. Curt Watson, 9. Danny Harris, 10. Gordon Keels, 11. Frank Harper, 12. Herb Harris, 13. Wayne Morgan, 14. Max Wiley, 15. Chip Bailey, 16. Tony De Andre. FOURTH ROW: L to R — 1. Emerson Watson, 2. Frank Rawlins, 3. Woody Tope, 4. Earl Figgins, 5. Wheatrow Simpson, 6. Horsey Hale, 7. John Taylor, 8. Ed Yates, 9. Burt Ervin, 10. Clarence Green, 11. Sam Oney, 12. Raymond Bloomfield, 13. Bill Hutchison, 14. Lawrence Robinson, 15. Paul Coffey, 16. Hank King, 17. Herb Scott, 18. Bill Bowns, 19. Earl Mickey, Superintendent.

MINERAL FIELDS, IRON ORE,
NEAR OAK HILL, JACKSON CO. OHIO

RES. OF JOHN T. JONES

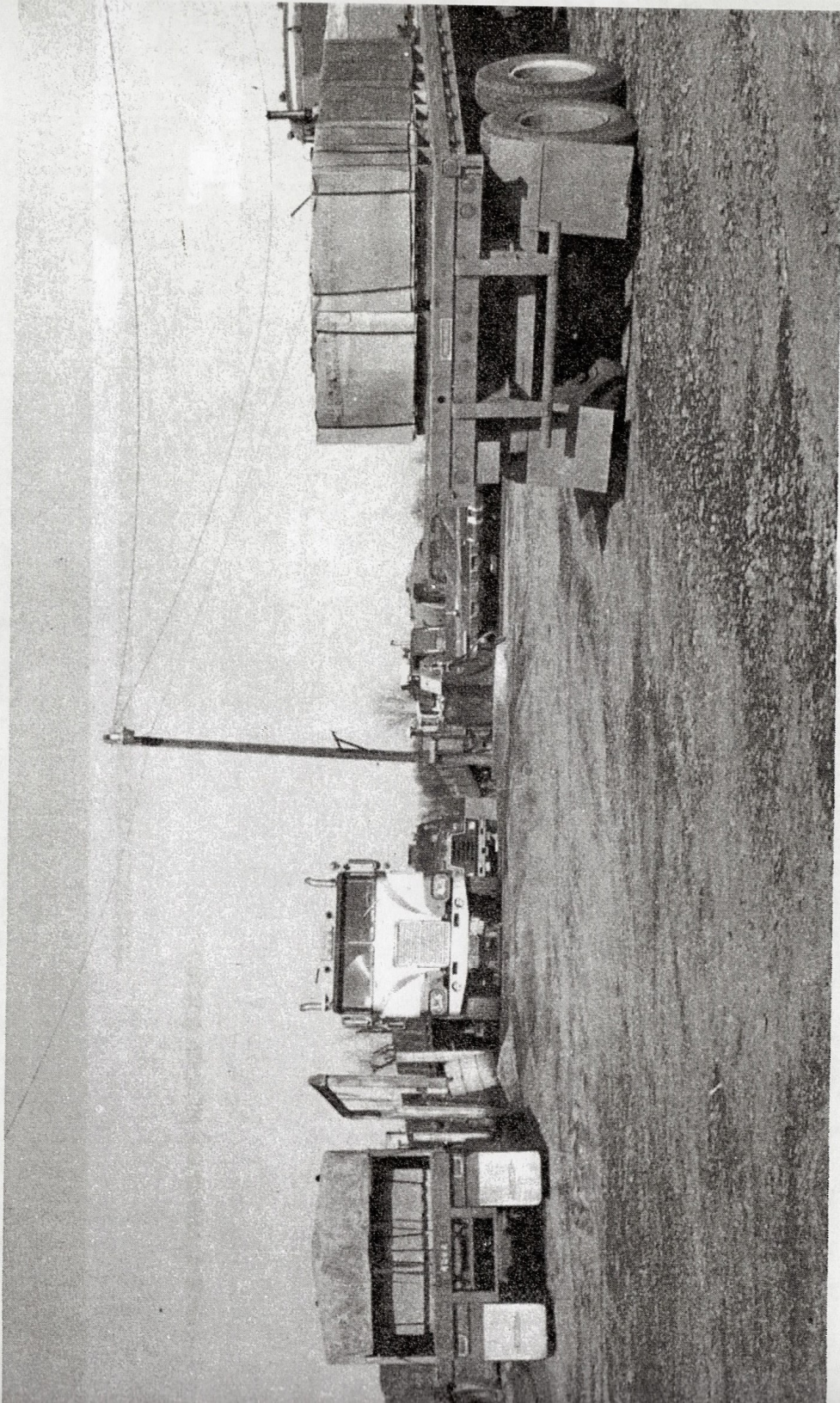


CHAPTER IX

Today

TODAY

Today, industry is entirely different from that of the early days when most of the work was done by man, mule and oxen. The following photographs are a sample of modern industry.



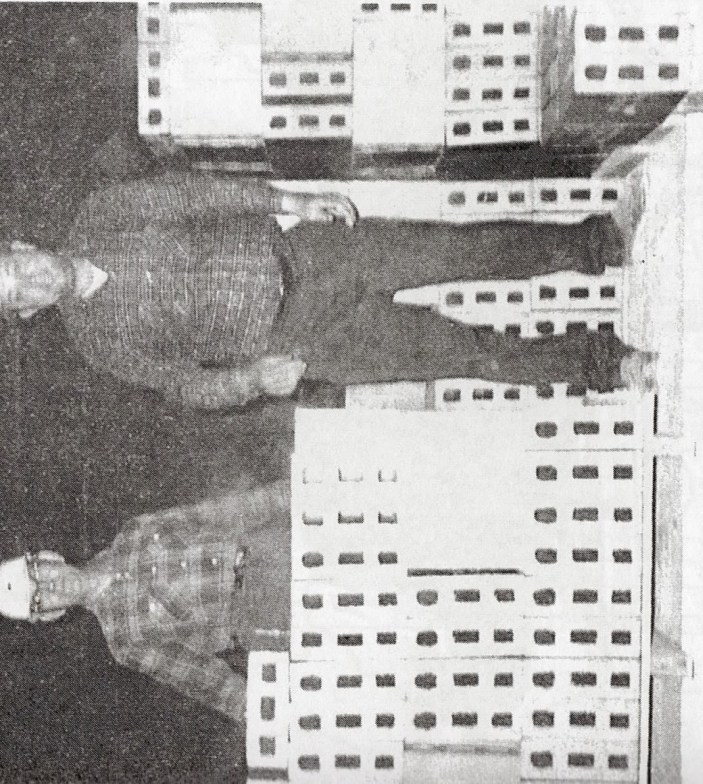
GRANT TRUCKING COMPANY TERMINAL



DT & I FREIGHT #101 PASSING MAIN PLANT OF CEDAR HEIGHTS CLAY COMPANY

NOCK AND SON COMPANY PLANT

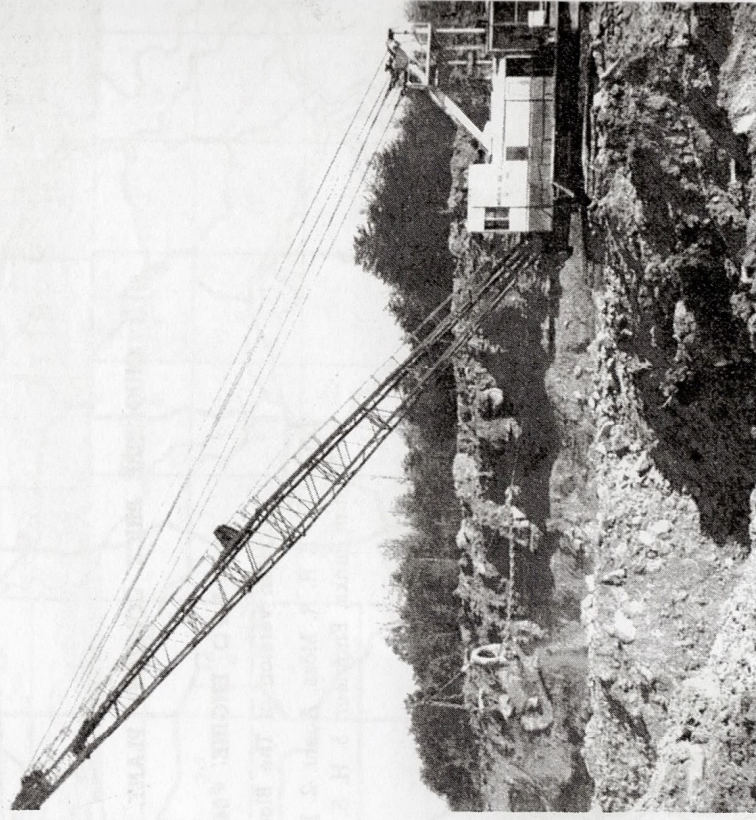




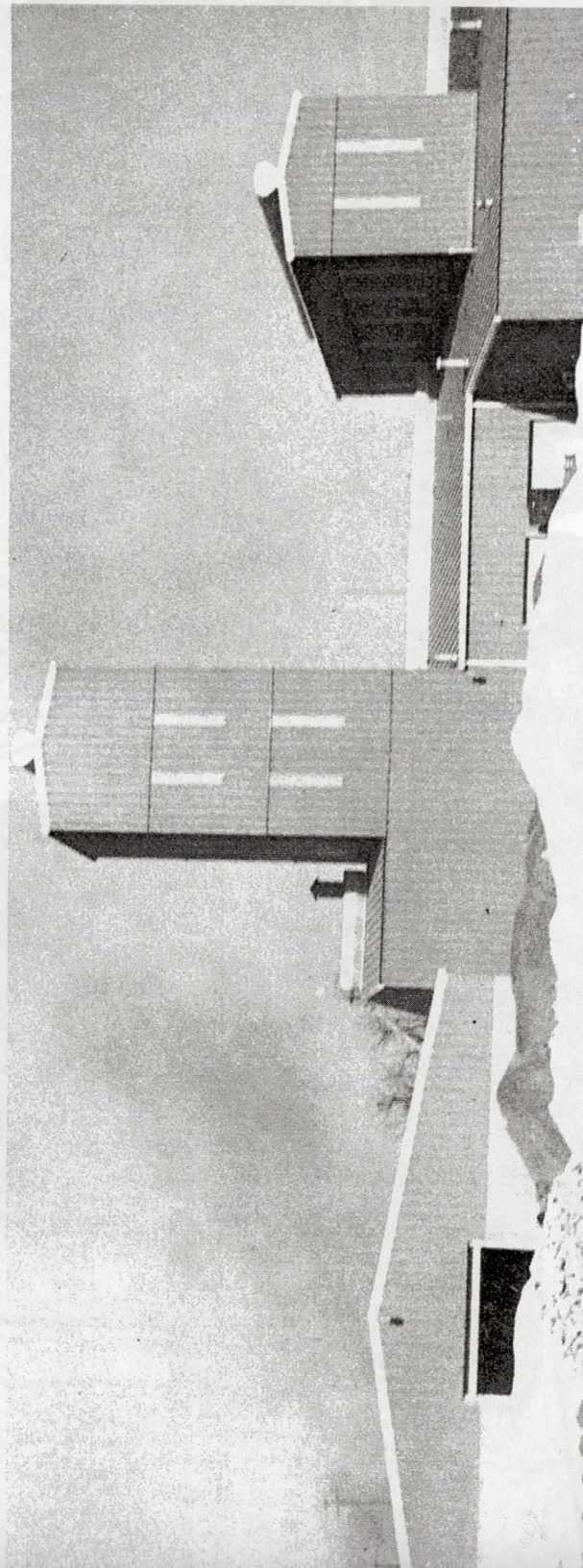
SETTING BRICK ON KILN CARS,
DAVIS FIRE BRICK COMPANY

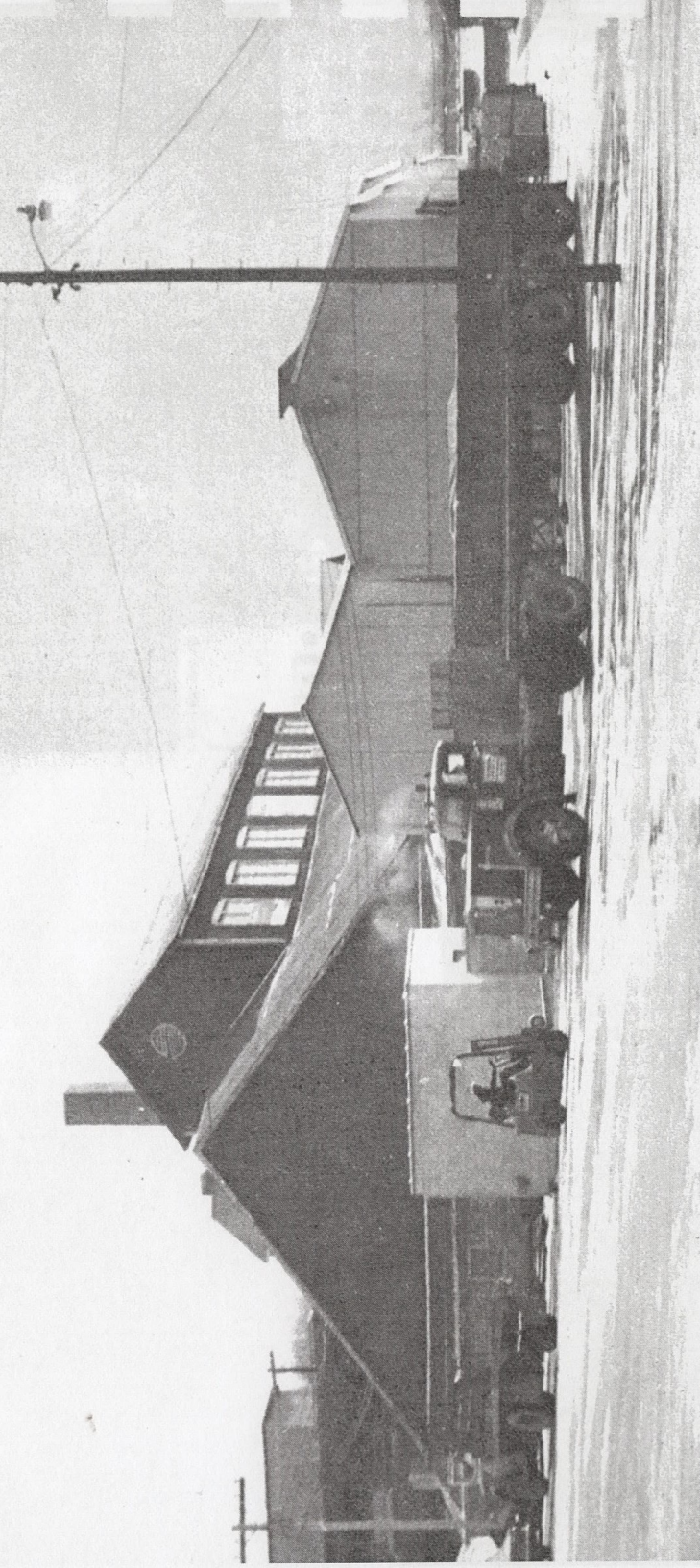
Lawrence Vickers and Jack Ward

WATERLOO COAL COMPANY DRAGLINE



SPECIALTY PLANT, PYRO DIVISION, A. P. GREEN REFRACTORIES COMPANY



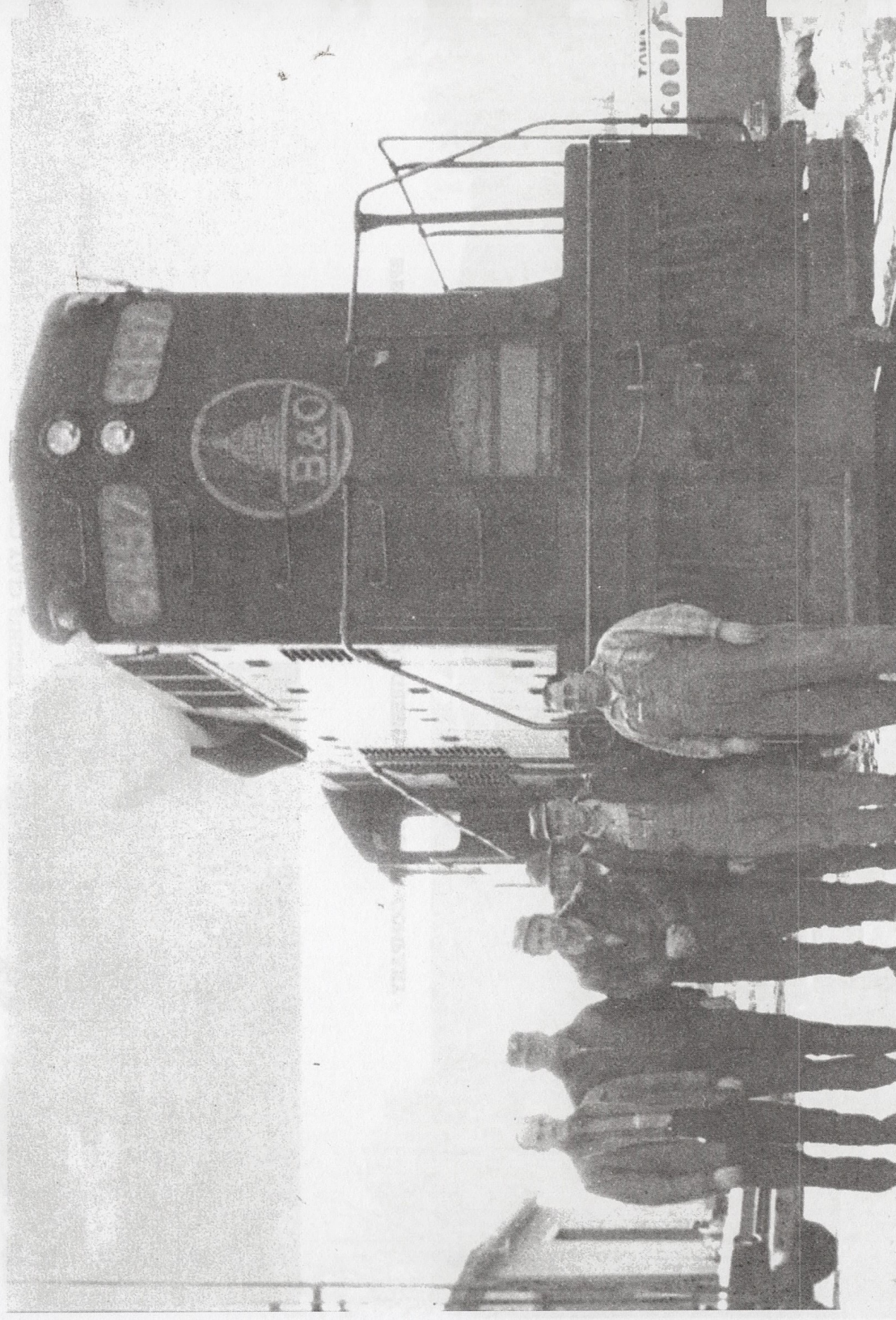


OHIO FIRE BRICK COMPANY PLANT, OUR OLDEST CONTINUOUS INDUSTRY

B & O ENGINE #6497 AND CREW

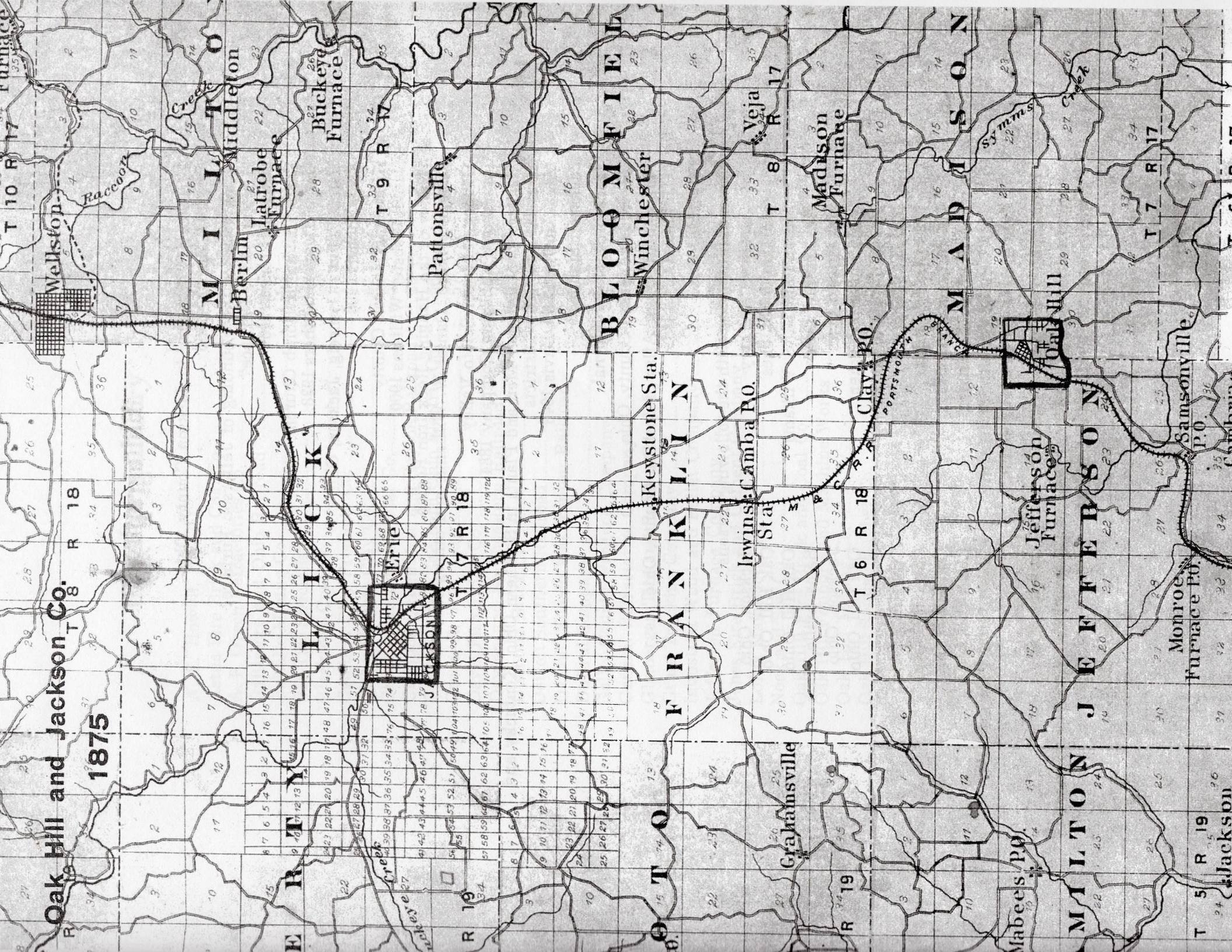
Modern version of **The Bloomfield**, later named **Betsey**

L to R — 1. R. R. Moss, Agent, 2. Joe Bond, Fireman, 3. Tom Madison;
4. Truman Jenks, Engineer, 5. H. S. Cassill, Conductor, 6. Cloyce May.



Oak Hill and Jackson Co.

1875



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- Map and Etchings: Atlas of Jackson County, Ohio
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- Personal interviews with the following persons:
- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dr. Gwyn A. Parry | Jackson, Ohio |
| Mr. Daniel M. Jones | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Williams | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Mr. Arthur Lewis | Samsonville, Ohio |
| Mr. Floyd Coyan | Jackson, Ohio |
| Mr. Truman Faulkner | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Mr. Clifford Morgan | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Mr. E. E. Davis | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Miss Betty Jenkins | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Mr. Burgess Tope, Sr. | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Mr. Delmar Christian | Oak Hill, Ohio |
| Mr. L. Allen Smith, Felin Cwm | Llanrhystyd, Cards, S. W. |
| Others too numerous to mention. | |
- Photography by Broadway Studios Jackson, Ohio
- Numerous photographs are from the Evan Edward Davis collection, many
of which were donated by local residents.

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E P I L O G U E

Still the mighty mountains stand,

Round them still the tempests roar;

Still with dawn through all the land

Sing the shepherds as of yore.

Round the foot of hill and scar

Daisies still their buds unfold;

Changed the shepherds only are

On those mighty mountains old.

Passing with the passing years

Ancient customs change and flow;

Fraught with doom of joy or tears,

Generations come and go.

Out of tears' and tempests' reach

Alun Mabon sleeps secure; —

Still lives on the ancient speech,

Still the ancient songs endure.

J. Ceiriog Hughes

