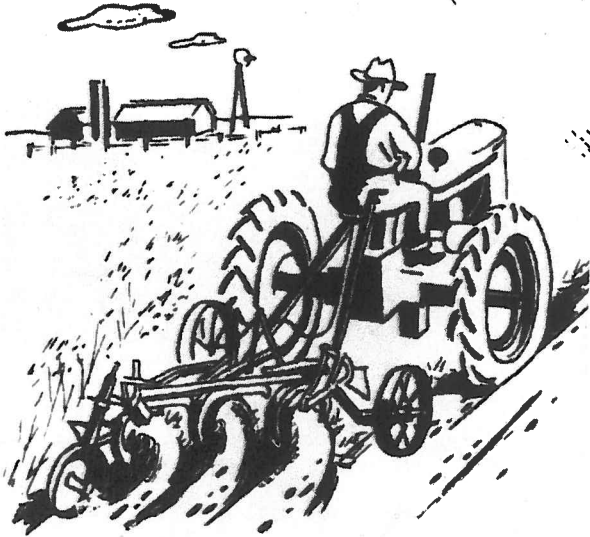


# Chapter VI

## Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township



### EARLY HISTORY

For a period of fifty-six years from 1837 to 1893, the eastern portion of this territory east of Maumee River was a part of Oregon Township. The dense forest and swamps made it difficult to penetrate so there was little development and growth until 1860.

Previous to 1837, it was inhabited by Indians of the Ottawa tribe with some Frenchmen and half-breeds who were interested in trapping, hunting, and fishing.

A group of Indians settled just east of Bono and others, to the north. There are evidences of a burial ground where the Howard home is located just north and east of Bono. Another group lived on Jerusalem Road at Cedar Creek. No doubt other members of the tribe lived at various points along the trail they formed as they traveled to and from Presque Isle. Part of this trail is now Jerusalem Road. Evidences of their having lived along Lake Erie and Maumee Bay to the north are found in the form of arrowheads, stone hatchets and burial places. Another trail was established along the northern boundary of Lake Erie and Maumee Bay.

Part of this trail is now Bay Shore Road. The trail east of Norden Road has disappeared. At one time the trail extended to North Curtice Road. However, the lack of development to the east made it possible for it to be lost in the growth of trees and bushes. Furthermore, erosion has changed the shore line to a great extent.

These trails led to Presque Isle where the Indians met for their religious ceremonials.

### CEDAR POINT COMMUNITY

A number of families moved into the territory between Cousino and DeCant Roads.

A right of way had been given to extend Cedar Point Road eastward from Big Ditch as early as 1859. This afforded an opening for the families of St. Johns, Bourdos, LaCourses, Larges, Yeupells, Gongias, and Cousinos to settle along the eastern portion of this road as far as what is now the DeCant Road.

Another group moved south about one half and opened a narrow trail later known as the Arquette Road.

Both groups were engaged in fishing, hunting and trapping. Travel was very difficult and time consuming on these narrow mud trails. To overcome this problem they took their furs and other products by boats to Toledo.

By 1860, a number of families had settled on the north side of the Arquette Road. Among them were Mills, Cousino, DeCant including Peter, John Duff, Peter and Dennis Arquette, Glodi and January Cousino.

Richard Cousino opened a general store where he sold groceries, machinery, tools, shoes and other articles of various kinds. Frank Mills, near the eastern end of the road, had a meat shop and also sold a few groceries.

The first schoolhouse was located on Cedar Point Road where Earl St. John now lives. Later this school was discontinued and a new one built on the Arquette Road.

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

## ALEX ST. JOHN

In an interview with Alex St. John the writer learned that his father, John, was driven out of Montreal by the Indians. He came to Cedar Point where he purchased a tract of land covered with forest. He began clearing the land and farming the patches he cleared. To obtain ready cash, he cut the trees into cordwood which he sold for fuel. The Board of Education was one of his customers. Like other pioneers he hunted, fished, and trapped.

Alex attended the little school on Cedar Point Road, but his attendance was irregular as he had to help his father haul wood, farm, trap, and fish. His father joined the 182nd O.V.I. Co. D during the Civil War. This placed even greater responsibilities upon the family as they struggled to make a living. When Mr. St. John returned from the service, he was in poor health which meant that the family continued carrying the responsibilities.

## E. B. WARD — EARLY PROMOTER OF EASTERN JERUSALEM

Mr. Ward, a prosperous business man from Detroit, visited the eastern portion of what is now Jerusalem Township. He purchased 8,177 acres near the mouth of Crane Creek for \$14,996 from J. B. Kilbreth and 320 acres from H. D. Cornwell for \$1,950. Part of this large amount of land purchased extended from the lake to North Curtice Road. This was covered with forest of oak, walnut, hickory, ash, and maple. He sent Mr. Lyons, an expert lumberman, with his son, Charles, to build a shipyard and sawmill.

## WARD'S SHIPYARD AND MILL

He located the shipyard north of what is now Bono on north side of Jerusalem Road. The sawmill was located about one and one fourth miles west on Cedar Creek on the south side of what is now Jerusalem Road. A large canal was dug connecting the sawmill and shipyard with Lake Erie, a distance of approximately two and three fourth miles. This was a large, deep canal with about fifteen feet of water in it all all times. It served two purposes. Steamers came in with supplies and it drained the land making it possible to get into the forest to cut and haul the timber.

A double plank road was built so the lumber could be hauled in wagons to the shipyard.

## WARD'S SHIPYARD

In addition to the shipyard, a blacksmith shop was built to take care of the shoeing of horses or oxen, the setting of wagon tires and other repair jobs. Wells were drilled to supply good water. Barges and tugs were built at the shipyard. Large timbers 24 x 24 inches x 40 feet and mud scows were shipped to the Soo.

Mr. Tank recalls that a steamer named *Fred Tank* was built.

According to Jerome Navarre, Mr. Ward purchased the land in about 1867; and the shipyard opened in 1870. It was operated between 1870 and 1873, after which Fred Tank operated a stave mill making barrels which he shipped through the canal to the lake and thence to Kelly's Island.

These activities attracted men who were interested in working in the mill. At times as many as one hundred men worked in the shipyard. The stave mill employed about thirty-five families. These industries brought the village of Shepherdsville and the settlement of New Jerusalem into being.

## SHEPHERDSVILLE NOW BONO

D. C. Shepherd purchased land between Jerusalem and Veler Roads, most of which was plotted. The lots were sold to the mill hands. The town was called Shepherdsville. Captain Rueben Grant purchased some of the land. He plotted ten acres and the remainder was known as Rueben's Reservation. Mr. Tank purchased this reservation which he plotted under the name of Tank's Subdivision.

## GROCERY STORE

A grocery store was opened by Mr. Green. It catered to the needs of the people. The population grew since men were needed in the shipbuilding business and in the sawmills. The government employed a man to carry the mail to and from Trowbridge. This trip, a distance of ten miles, was made daily on foot. The mail was deposited in a basket at the store. As customers came to purchase supplies, each one examined the pile of mail taking any letters, papers or packages addressed to him or his family. In some cases an individual took his neighbor's or friend's mail which he promptly delivered.

## NEED FOR POST OFFICE

The people felt the need for a post office of their own. A petition was sent to the government. A reply

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

was received stating that they must change the name of the town if they desired a post office since there was another town by the name of Shepherdsville in Ohio.

The people discussed the problem and decided to name it after Bono, the only Indian family who refused to move when the government transported the Indians to Walpole Island. Thus the town's name was changed from Shepherdsville to Bono. The post office was opened December 17, 1898, and the following served as postmasters:

- Henry A. Murphy — December 17, 1898 - April 26, 1900  
Stephen D. Aubry — April 27, 1900 - October 18, 1901  
Dona Aubry — October 19, 1901 - January 31, 1907  
August W. Tank — February 1, 1907 - December 12, 1926  
Emil L. Kaiser — December 13, 1926 to present

## CHANGES IN THE TOWN

The local school has been abandoned and the children are transported to a modern centralized school some distance away.

The two large general stores of August W. Tank and Lyman Cousino have been closed. A new store located on Jerusalem Road replaces these stores and also houses the post office.

On Main Street the saloon is still operating while on the opposite side of the street is a small barber shop and another small building where groceries are sold. Auction sales are held in the old building of Lyman Cousino's grocery store.

The Baptist Church is active and has added an educational building to meet the needs of the children.

The Catholics have erected a church and a hall which indicates their growth and ability to meet their needs.

## NEW JERUSALEM

Mr. Ward was a world traveler. As he looked upon the vast tract of land, desolate and cut off from all communication, except that made by his canal to Lake Erie, he was reminded of Jerusalem. He applied the name of New Jerusalem to his little community built near his sawmill on the corner of Lyons and Jerusalem roads. Here he built a large

home, a boarding house, stables and a race track for their riding horses.

Fred Buehler purchased the property on which the house and race track were located. One of his sons lived in the house for some time. It has been replaced by a new home which Fred Buehler, Jr., built. The old mill was remodeled by Mr. Reno and used for several years as an onion storage. Part of the name of this remote village still remains as Jerusalem was the name given to the trail which later became a busy highway. In 1893, when the eastern portion was organized as a township, the name Jerusalem was chosen as being the most appropriate.

## DEVELOPMENTS WEST OF LYONS ROAD

The Indian trail leading westward to Toledo was now used as a wagon road to bring some of the supplies to New Jerusalem. Others became interested and soon more industries were developed.

## ALBERT DIER'S COKE OVENS

A demand for coke by laundries led Albert Dier to build coke ovens on the south side of this trail just west of where St. Luke Church is now located. Mr. Smarkel was employed to deliver the coke to the various laundries. For a description of coke ovens see Chapter VIII.

## O. B. DEAN

O. B. Dean built a sawmill on the Brown and Cousino Roads. He built a home nearby for his family. Later he purchased a large tract of land at the corner of North Curtice and Jerusalem roads where he lived a number of years. This home has been converted into an eating place called *Eastwood*. Here truck drivers stop to eat and rest.

## YONDOTA

Not far west of Ward's Mill on Jerusalem Road between what is now DeCant and Yondota roads, M. G. Witty opened a grocery store. In addition to groceries, he ordered other supplies for his customers. A saloon including a dance hall was opened and it became a center for the people for miles around.

## NEED FOR POST OFFICE

On March 4, 1895, this center, now known as Yondota, was given a post office. M. G. Witty was

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

appointed as postmaster in which capacity he served until it was closed August 16, 1906.

## RURAL FREE DELIVERY

By this time many homes had been built along the main highway and on the crossroads. The government discontinued some of the small post offices and organized routes ranging in length from twenty-five to thirty-five miles. Routes that began at Curtice served most of the people of Jerusalem Township. However, the post office at Bono was retained and still serves the people of that vicinity.

## SAWMILLS AND THEIR INFLUENCE

Good timber land induced many to invest in sawmills. In a short time mills were in operation throughout the entire territory. Some of the most prominent were Ward's at Cedar Creek, Dean's on Brown Road, Stang at the Ottawa County line, Ames-Feller's at Amesville, Johnston's at North Curtice and Jerusalem, Soncrant's at end of North Curtice and Maumee Bay, and Heller's south of the Corduroy Road.

Small settlements developed around each sawmill. Many came to find employment in the mills, others were interested in purchasing land which they planned to clear and improve as a home for their families.

## SONCRANT'S MILL

A description of the community that was developed around this mill is given in Chapter VIII.

## HELLER'S MILL

This mill was somewhat different from that of the others since a settlement was not developed in its vicinity. It was located on a knoll south of Corduroy and west of Teachout Roads. The workmen were from Canada. They lived in a camp near the mill and purchased their supplies from Emos Momenec's General Store.

Between the mill and Jerusalem Road, the land was quite swampy. To bring wagons loaded with timber into the mill, a single track train road was built. At different points along the road, by-passes were built. When a driver reached a by-pass, he stopped his team and listened. If he heard a team coming toward him, he drove his team on the by-pass and waited until the road was clear. If all was quiet, he continued on to the mill with his load.

Near the mill a large reservoir about twenty foot square had been dug. This provided the water necessary to run the mill.

The lumber was hauled to Lake Erie where it was sent by boats to Canada.

## JOE CHIO

At the time this mill was operating, Joe Chio was a young boy of eight or ten years of age. He lived with his parents on Teachout Road a short distance north of Jerusalem Road. He described his home as being located in a low, swampy place. At times the water in the lake rose and flooded the land. During such times, the family could hear the waves dash against the house.

Their water supply came from a hole which his father dug near the house. Water drawn to the surface often contained frogs and snakes. These were thrown out of the water pail and the water taken into the house to be used for cooking and drinking purposes.

Under these conditions the members of the family contracted fever which continued over a long period of time. Young Joe battled the disease over a period of six or eight years. At the age of about ten, he gradually improved and developed into a strong man.

When a doctor was needed in the home, his father had to make a trip on horseback to the doctor's office. Such a trip would take two or more hours; thus it would be several hours before the doctor arrived. Living under these conditions people developed into courageous, self-reliant citizens. Homes were equipped with the bare necessities. Heat was supplied by a small stove in which wood was used as a fuel. Meals were prepared on a small kitchen stove. The food consisted of hominy, corn bread and salt pork. Part of the time homemade white bread was available. Fortunately wild game was available and salt meat could be replaced by wild duck, turkey or some other wild meat at various times.

Strangers were welcome and members of the family were willing to share what they had with anyone who called at their homes.

## JERUSALEM TOWNSHIP ORGANIZED THE LAW

The law provides that when eighty or more people reside within a district of five or more square

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

miles, they may petition for the organization of such territory into a township. At this time the population was increasing. Many men were employed in the various communities where sawmills were in operation.

These people found it difficult and inconvenient to travel so far to transact business with the clerk and trustees. Therefore, a petition was sent to the legislature requesting that the eastern portion of Oregon Township be organized as a new township. This request was granted on March 10, 1893. The act provided, "That the Township of Oregon, in the County of Lucas and State of Ohio be divided as follows: All that part of said township lying west of a line running north and south, commencing on the county line between the counties of Ottawa and Lucas, eighty rods west of the southeast corner of Section seventeen (17), Town ten (10) south, of Range nine (9) east; and running thence north through the center of the east half of sections seventeen (17), eight (8) and five (5), town and range as before described; thence through the center of the east half of sections thirty-two (32), twenty-nine (29) and twenty (20), Town nine (9) south of Range nine (9) east, shall be known as Oregon Township."

"All that part of said township lying east of said line shall be known as Jerusalem. Provided, that so much of the election precincts as remain in Oregon shall be and remain as they now are and all in said Township of Jerusalem shall be one precinct."

This act further provided that the trustees of Oregon Township should hold an election in the new Township of Jerusalem on the first Monday in April, 1893. — Vol. 1 — *Killetts Toledo and Lucas County*

## ELECTION

As provided by law the trustees of Oregon arranged for the election of officers for Jerusalem Township. The results were as follows: Trustees: John St. John, Lambert Navarre and Thomas Ames. H. A. Schabow, clerk; M. G. Witty, treasurer.

Now, Jerusalem, a township of 34 square miles with two small villages—Shepherdsville, later known as Bono just off Jerusalem Road at the extreme eastern portion of the township, and Yondota on

Jerusalem Road about two miles west of Bono, was ready for business as a township.

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

This phase of township government has been covered in Chapter IV under Oregon Township.

## FIRST MEETING

The first meeting was called April 8, 1893, for the purpose of determining the amount of bonds required for each official elected. The bonds as established were H. A. Schabow, Clerk \$500; F. R. Navarre, Assessor, \$100; James Emeline, Constable \$500; and Charles Reese, road superintendent \$100. The bond of M. G. Witty as treasurer was to be considered at a future meeting.

## SPECIAL MEETING

On April 12, 1893, the Board of Trustees met in special session and appointed John St. John as chairman of the trustees.

There was some disagreement in regard to the bond of M. G. Witty and no action was taken.

On April 24, 1893, another special meeting was called. At this meeting arrangements were made to rent a room from H. A. Schabow, clerk for the sum of \$12.00 per year. This room was to be used for meetings and elections and the rental was to be paid from the township fund.

The time of the regular meetings of the board was set for the first Saturday of June, and every other month thereafter.

## JOINT MEETING WITH OREGON

On May 13, 1893, the trustees, clerks, and treasurers of the two townships met at Oregon Township Town Hall for the purpose of dividing funds. This division had been specified by law. Two funds had to be considered, the road and sparrow. Since the other funds had been spent leaving no balance they were not mentioned in the minutes.

It was determined that Jerusalem Township was to receive .247% of the balances. Therefore, \$52.16 was turned over to the road fund and \$5.56 to the sparrow fund.

## SPARROW FUND

This is an unusual fund in which the reader might be interested. Sparrows multiplied so rapidly that they became a menace to the country destroying crops and driving away other birds that were a

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

benefit to the farmers. To help eliminate them, a law was passed which gave the trustees authority to pay a bounty for sparrow heads. Young teen age boys were interested in collecting the bounty and spent evenings in farmers' barns hunting sparrows.

## PROBLEMS FACING THE NEW TOWNSHIP

Some of the problems facing the new officials were as follows: (1) The upkeep and improvement of roads and building of new roads, (2) Drainage which meant cleaning of ditches and opening new ditches, (3) Care of the poor, (4) Building of a town hall, (5) Purchasing land and planning for a cemetery, (6) Health, (7) Subdivisions and other problems that arose from time to time.

## ROADS

One of the most important responsibilities of the trustees was concerned with roads. As more people moved into the territory, the need for more and better roads continue to increase. To obtain new roads the residents signed a petition which they presented to the trustees. It then became the duty of the trustees to view the site and decide whether or not the road should be granted.

When Jerusalem was still a part of Oregon, a right of way had been granted for each of the main roads running east and west. Therefore, these roads were extended eastward as the population in this portion of the territory increase. These main roads are Cedar Point, Corduroy, Seaman, Jerusalem, and Brown. In addition to these roads, a few shorter roads were opened namely: Arquette which extended eastward from Causino to DeCant, Sacks from Yondota to Teachout and Veler from Lyons to Bono-Port Clinton Road.

## THE CEDAR POINT ROAD

This road was opened in 1851. By 1857, it was extended east to Big Ditch. In 1859, another extension eastward was added and in time it was opened to what is now the DeCant Road. During the winter and spring it was very difficult to travel over this road. An effort was made to make it passable by grading and draining but at times it was next to impossible to travel with a horse and buggy.

In 1899, a ten foot wide stone road was built from Big Ditch to the DeCant Road. Running parallel to this, the other half of the road was mud.

Since the part stoned was built from one to one and one half feet higher than the mud road, those traveling west found it difficult when passing an approaching vehicle. Some years later the entire width of the road was improved and macadamized.

## THE CORDUROY ROAD

This road had been stoned as far as Big Ditch leaving a long stretch of muddy road to be traveled by those residing east of this point. The cost of improving these roads was exceedingly high since so much stone was needed for a good foundation. However, in 1916, it was stoned as far east as DeCant Road. Perhaps the fact that Mr. Ames succeeded in getting the County Surveyor to survey the road when travel was at its worst helped the situation. He took the surveyor over the road in a one horse gig. In 1936, the road was improved as far east as the Howard Road. This improvement was financed by money appropriated from the Gasoline Fund after being approved by the County Surveyor.

The remainder of the road from Howard to the Lake was improved later by special arrangements with the county.

## THE SEAMAN ROAD

The roads running east and west had been improved to Big Ditch. In 1920, Seaman was improved as far east of North Curtice Road. However, the eastern section was unimproved for a number of years.

## SEAMAN EAST OF NORTH CURTICE

It is interesting to know that Victor Anderson purchased forty acres of land in 1888, at the corner of what was later known as North Curtice and Seaman roads. At this time there was no road running south from Seaman to Curtice, or east to DeCant. This portion was covered with dense forest. Strange as it may seem, the road leading north from Seaman to the lake had been opened. No doubt Soncrant's sawmill had made this possible. Trails were opened to the east and south. These were improved by draining and widening of the roads. In about 1930, Seaman was stoned as far east as DeCant where the trail ended.

## THE JERUSALEM ROAD

This, as you recall, was the old Indian trail which was one of the first to be improved as far as

# *Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township*

Big Ditch Road. It was improved to Lyons Road before 1900. In 1904, another section was improved. A number of people recall the large slabs of stone used to make a foundation. After the slabs were dumped on the road bed, two workmen, one on each side of the road, were assigned the task of breaking up the stone with sledges. At regular intervals along the road men were engaged in the this same task. Upon this foundation smaller stone was spread after which a steam roller pressed it into a smooth surface.

The old mud road had followed the north side of the canal bank. However, when the road was improved it was moved to the south side. By 1910, the road was improved to Bono.

## THE BROWN ROAD

This road had been improved to North Curtice. In 1930, the trustees arranged with the County Commissioners to stone it from North Curtice to the Martin Williston Road. By means of a special contract with the commissioners the county paid 75% of the cost, the township 15% and the abutting property 10%.

## THE VELER ROAD

This road runs eastward from Lyons to Bono-Port Clinton Road. In the early days it was part of a trail which was used as a detour in going around the sawmill. The detour turned south on Lyons thence east on Veler to a point east where it turned north and returned to the canal bank. Later it was extended to Main Street in Bono. In 1933, the extension was stoned to the marsh.

On August 1, 1936, \$1,950 was appropriated to improve this road from Lyons to the end of the road. This was assigned as W.P.A. project. A road ten feet wide was constructed and treated with macadam continuing east to the Pin Tail Marsh Farm.

On September 10, 1937, the trustees requested the County Commissioners to place this road on the County Highway System. This request was granted thus relieving the trustees of some of their burdens.

## THE SACKS ROAD

This road extends from Yondota to Teachout and was improved in 1934.

## THE ARQUETTE ROAD

This road, extending from Cousino to DeCant, was only a mile in length. Here one of the earliest settlements of Jerusalem Township, then Oregon, thrived. From a narrow dusty trail it gradually was improved by the regular method of digging a ditch that ran parallel to the road. Using the earth removed from the ditch to grade the road, it served the community until 1929, when it was stoned.

## THE NORTH AND SOUTH ROADS

These roads are important since they are the crossroads which connect the main roads and make it possible to reach all portions of the township. They include North Curtice, Cousino and DeCant which extend from Brown to Cedar Point; the Yondota Road from Brown to one-half mile north of Corduroy; the Teachout and Howard from Jerusalem to Corduroy, and later the Howard was extended to the lake, the Lyons-Elliston road and Bono-Port Clinton roads which extend south from Jerusalem into Ottawa County.

## NORTH CURTICE ROAD

In 1910, the County built the North Curtice Road under State Aid. Under the law the state paid 25% of the cost; the county, 50%; the township, 10%; and the abutting property, 15%. This improvement extended from Jerusalem Road to the County Line and the cost amounted to \$9,960.12. Later it was improved from Jerusalem north to Cedar Point Road. In 1943, the portion from Cedar Point to the lake was improved.

## COUSINO ROAD

In 1919, this road was graded and drained. This served as one of the crossroads for a period of ten years at which time it was stoned and the farmers were able to travel in and out freely regardless of the weather.

## DeCANT ROAD

In the early days this was a narrow trail. However, in 1919, the trustees had the road graded and drained which made it passable even during the winter months. In approximately 1932 it was stoned.

## YONDOTA

When the trustees planned for improving the DeCant Road in 1919, this road was included. Part

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

of this road was stoned in 1936. Later the remainder from Jerusalem to the lake was constructed.

## RAPID IMPROVEMENTS

The rapid building of roads was a blessing, yet a burden to many farmers. Many of them were paying taxes on from three to five roads for a period of years. The County Commissioners and many of the farmers felt the roads were a necessity so the majority were willing to pay higher taxes.

## THE TEACHOUT ROAD

The original right of way for this road was approved by the Commissioners in 1901 and provided for a sixty foot wide road from Jerusalem to Corduroy. The first improvement made was from Corduroy to a distance of eighty rods south of this point. This improvement provided for a ten foot wide road with two courses of stone ten inches thick. In 1943, it was continued to Jerusalem Road.

## THE HOWARD ROAD

This road passed through low, swampy ground and at times was impassable. Howard and others presented a petition to the Board of Trustees and in 1923, the petition was granted on the basis of abutting property paying 75% and the township 25% of the cost.

## ROADS IN BONO, RENO AND OTHER SUBDIVISIONS

The trustees met the problem of stoning the various streets and roads in their subdivisions by use of the gas tax fund with the approval of the County Surveyor. There are too many of these roads to give the detailed procedures on each one.

To enable the reader to understand just what action was taken, the following resolution on First Street in Bono will explain transactions necessary for the improvement of each of the streets or roads when requested.

Copy of Resolution

October 18, 1933

"Resolution to Improve First Street in Bono. Force Account Gas Tax Fund Section 5541-8

Resolved, that after careful inspection, we, the Trustees of Jerusalem Township, Lucas County, Ohio, find that for the welfare and best interests of said township, Street No. -- known as First Street, beginning at Main Street and running in a west-

erly direction to end of First Street, being a distance of 650 feet, should be improved by grading, draining with tile and constructing a ten foot wide, one course six inches compacted water bound stone road and do hereby request the County Surveyor to approve the improvement of same."

Signed: Christian Heiber  
John M. Hansen  
Charles Herman

Attest: Otto Klaege, Clerk Trustees of  
Jerusalem Township  
Surveyor's Approval

"I, the County Surveyor of Lucas County, Ohio, do hereby approve the above Resolution, to be constructed per plans and specifications prepared by me."

Signed: B. Kesting,  
Surveyor, Lucas  
County, Ohio"

## ROADS CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT

On July 2, 1959, the County Engineer of Lucas County, Ohio supplied the Trustees with information on the cost of patching, surface treating and constructing seventeen roads. The total cost of the material was \$12,193.92. The County Surveyor agreed to provide the labor and the Trustees provided the material.

With the help of the County and the use of the Gasoline Fund the Trustees have provided their citizens with fine roads which have encouraged many to buy homes in this township.

## DITCHES

Another important duty of the Trustees was to provide for proper drainage. This was an important and costly transaction for owners of property. The surface of Jerusalem Township is flat, low and in the extreme eastern portion below the lake level. Two small streams enter into the southwestern portion of the township, namely Cedar and Crane Creeks and flow in a northeasterly direction to the lake.

To drain this land it was necessary to construct many ditches. Therefore, along each road large ditches ran parallel with the roads. Ditches running eastward emptied into other ditches running north to the lake. These ditches not only drained roadbeds and farms but provided the extra soil for grading the roadbed.



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## OTHER DITCHES

Farmers realized that if they increased their production, they must plan to drain their farms. To do this, they depended upon having trustees open new ditches as the need arose. Therefore, they were willing to sign petitions and cooperate in solving the problem.

A petition describing the course the ditch should take and the necessity for it was signed by owners of the land and presented to the Trustees. They checked on same by following the course requested. If they decided it was necessary, the petition, was granted and notices were given to farmers whose land would be benefited by the ditch. Each was assigned the number of rods of ditch he must dig. If anyone failed to dig the sections assigned, the work was advertised and sold to the lowest bidder. The cost of the same was added to the taxes of the individual for whom the work was done. For further discussion of procedures see Ditches, Chapter IV.

## OTHER DRAINAGE

The land in the eastern portion being below lake level was swampy. During severe storms when the wind was blowing from the northeast the water from the lake covered the land. To provide drainage under these conditions, the owners built dikes around the farms to be drained. To assist in the drainage projects, pumps were installed. At times the water in the lake rose and backed onto the farms. This started the pumps and the water was forced out into canals or ditches. By this method hundreds of acres have been converted from swampy lands into fertile farms. This method of drainage is still in use.

## POOR RELIEF

When Jerusalem was organized as a township, all the money that had been in the poor fund had been used. This meant they started without any funds. To take care of this situation the Board of Trustees levied .4 of a mill for the year 1894, which produced \$117.90.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

According to the minutes, those unable to support themselves were supplied with food, clothing and medical services. In case of death, the burial expenses were paid by the Trustees.

## FIRST PAYMENT

The first payment made as recorded in the minutes were:

December 24, 1894

To Dr. Bowman for medical services	
Eli Berry	\$14.00
To Dr. Bowman for medical services	
John Burn	91.60
Total	\$105.60

## MEDICAL SERVICES

For a period of time bills went sent to the Board of Trustees by the physicians. After investigations were made the bills were paid. Their March settlement indicated they paid Dr. Bowman \$105.60 and Dr. Walker \$109.60. This put the fund in the red again and another levy had to be made to take care of the needs.

## BIDS BY PHYSICIANS

The Board of Trustees decided to request bids for medical care. Accordingly notices were sent to the physicians November 19, 1900, inviting them to send in bids.

On November 24, 1900, they received two bids and accepted the bid of \$125.00 by Dr. Ingraham of Curtice.

As time elapsed the method of accepting and paying bills of physicians was resumed. Later they returned to the method of inviting physicians to send in bids for this service.

## DURING DEPRESSION

The task of taking care of the number who needed help was so great that the trustees requested the County officials to take over the problem. Under this arrangement food was distributed from a given point at certain times.

## THE STATE RELIEF COMMISSION

This Commission was set up by law as the problem became so acute that it was necessary to have the State help. Laws were passed providing for projects giving work to the unemployed. During this time the CCC camps for the younger men were established and the WPA projects came into existence.

Whenever possible, the improving of roads, cleaning of ditches, and building schools were used as projects to give men work. The state, county and township worked together to supply the needy with employment.

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

## STATE RELIEF COMMISSION DISCONTINUED

On April 15, 1937, the State Commission was discontinued. The County Commissioners then notified the townships that they must assume the responsibility of caring for their poor.

## TRUSTEES TAKE OVER

On April 24, 1937, the Trustees making use of Section 3476 of the General Code adopted a schedule stating amount allowed each one needing help.

## SCHEDULE

1 in the family	\$1.50	per week
2 "	2.50	"
3 "	3.50	"
4 "	4.25	"
5 "	5.00	"
6 "	5.70	"
7 "	6.35	"
8 "	7.00	"
9 "	7.50	"
10 "	8.00	"

In addition to the above a certain amount was allowed for fuel, light, cooking and heating.

## APPROPRIATION IN 1938

On May 7, 1938, the Board of Trustees appropriated \$971.81 as their share of funds to match the State Poor Relief Fund. For this same year \$991.00 was the amount of the bill for medical services and \$500 for burial.

## REQUEST TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

On July 31, 1939, a request was made by the Trustees that the Commissioners administer poor relief under House Bill No. 675.

In time the problem became less acute and the township again resumed the responsibility.

## THE TOWN HALL

When Jerusalem became a township there was no town hall. To meet this problem a room was rented by the trustees on April 24, 1893, from H. A. Schabow, Clerk, for twelve dollars a year. On May 5, 1894, Witty's Hall was rented for township purposes at fifteen dollars a year. Mr. Witty was to furnish a table, chairs, stove and lamps. On March 2, 1897, the contract was renewed with the under-

standing that in addition to the furniture, he was to build a cupboard for the books, voting booths, and put on a new lock. The rent was raised to twenty five dollars a year.

## INTEREST IN A TOWN HALL

An interest in acquiring a site and building a town hall was aroused. On January 11, 1897, the trustees discussed the possibility and ordered the clerk to post notices about the need for a town hall.

## TRUSTEES TAKE ACTION

At a regular meeting of the trustees on March 12, 1898, a motion was made and carried that a levy be made to purchase a site and build a town hall the cost of which was not to be over six hundred dollars. The Clerk was ordered to post notices. The record does not give any further account of their action on this motion.

On March 2, 1900, a motion was made and carried that the electors be given the opportunity of voting on a tax to build a town hall, the cost of which was not to exceed one thousand dollars. The date of election was set for April 2, 1900.

## RESULTS

As recorded in the minutes April 6, 1900, the majority voted yea.

The trustees decided to purchase a site. A levy of 3 1/4 mills was established which would produce \$995.64.

## SECOND REQUEST

Evidently the cost as set by trustees did not provide enough money for the site and building. Therefore, the trustees on March 4, 1901, made a motion which carried, requesting the electors to vote an additional levy for town hall not to exceed \$1,000. At this time the clerk reported there was \$641.70 in the Town Hall Fund.

## RESULTS OF ELECTION

On April 5, 1901, the minutes stated that the levy passed. On May 3, 1901, the trustees levied 3 mills on the tax duplicate or \$981.75 for the Town Hall.

## FURTHER ACTION ON TOWN HALL

On June 3, 1901 specifications for a town hall were presented. Provisions were made to advertise for bids which were to be received July 2, 1901.

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

The bids were opened and all rejected. The trustees made a motion to readvertise and open bids August 3, 1901.

On August 5, 1901, the bids were rejected for the second time. At this same meeting a motion was made to purchase one acre of land as a site for the town hall.

Lyman Brough, one of the trustees, was given authority to see contractors in Toledo and ask for estimates on cost of a town hall similar to the one in Oregon Township.

## SITE PURCHASED

On September 3, 1901, an acre of land was purchased from Otto Laboschewski for \$113.50. This site was located on Jerusalem Road between DeCant and Yondota roads.

## ARCHITECT EMPLOYED

O. B. Dean, one of the trustees, was authorized to employ A. Liebold as architect and have him provide plans and specifications.

A special meeting was held on September 16, 1901, at the home of O. B. Dean to study the plans. The plans were accepted and arrangement made to advertise for bids. Plans and specifications were available to bidders at Wolf's Hardware.

On October 7, 1901, O. B. Dean made a motion to employ Hans Jensen to build the town hall for \$1437. This motion was seconded by Anthony Veler, all voting yes.

A motion was made and carried to pay A. Liebold, architect, nine dollars for the plans and specifications.

## PURCHASE OF STOVE AND FURNITURE

The trustees acted as a whole in purchasing these items. They met at Wolf's Hardware on January 2, 1901, where they purchased a stove for \$28.60. They finished their shopping tour at Kieffer Brothers where they purchased a nine foot table for \$19.00 and 7 chairs for \$20.00.

At a later date they purchased 100 chairs from Kieffer Brothers for \$40.00.

## THE FIRST MEETING IN TOWN HALL

The first meeting was held in the Town Hall April 11, 1902.

## CHANGE

The Town Hall was used until 1947, when the new fire house was accepted and trustees now meet in the Fire House which serves for both purposes.

## CEMETERY

A number of the people requested the trustees to place before the people the issue as to whether or not they were in favor of providing a township cemetery for the people of Jerusalem Township.

On November 5, 1912, the question was placed before the electors with the following result:

For a cemetery	151
Against	31

## SITE

The above issue also included a site which the trustees had viewed and accepted. This site included two acres located on Brown between Cousino and DeCant roads.

## PURCHASE

On April 4, 1914, two acres were purchased from Catherine Henninger for \$600.00. The land was surveyed by Arthur Hatch for which he received \$19.20.

## IMPROVEMENTS

The trustees arranged for the grading and fencing of same. The grading was given to Gus Lorenzen for \$86.00 and the fencing to Frank Laboschewski for \$50.00.

Gradually other improvements were made such as the building of a tool house, outhouses and walks.

## DEDICATED

The cemetery, now known as Oakwood, was dedicated on Sunday, October 25, 1914, with Reverend A. C. Koester as speaker. Fred Murphy, Justice of Peace, also participated. All officers of the township were invited. About fifty people gathered at the services.

## SEXTON

On October 3, 1914, Pierce Heltebrake was appointed sexton. He was paid on the basis of work he did, such as mowing the lawn and digging graves.

# *Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township*

## PRICES ESTABLISHED OCTOBER 3, 1914

For Residents		For Nonresidents		Nonresidents
				July 7, 1959
Full lot	\$10.00	Full lot	\$15.00	\$20.00
One half lot	6.00	One half lot	8.00	15.00
Single grave	2.00	Grave	3.00	5.00

## APRIL 5, 1958 PRICES AMENDED

For Residents		For Nonresidents	
Full lot	\$25.00	Full lot	\$75.00
Three fourths lot	20.00	Three fourth lot	60.00
Half lot	15.00	One half lot	40.00
Single grave	10.00	Single grave	20.00

## FOR DIGGING GRAVES

### OCTOBER 3, 1914

For wood roughbox	\$3.00
For steel roughbox	4.00
For stone roughbox	5.00
Amended May 4, 1958	
For wood roughbox	5.00
For steel or stone roughbox	6.00

## HEALTH

### EARLY DEVELOPMENT

This is given under Chapter IV on Organization and Development of Oregon. A description of the method now used under the County Health Department is also described.

### SOME INTERESTING DETAILS

As mentioned in a previous discussion the clerks were appointed as health officials for the townships. There were times when some other person acted as health officer. The minutes record the appointment of Dr. O. L. Butterick as Health Officer beginning January 2, 1909. Others were appointed at various times, Later the clerk served. This was not changed until the law provided for a County Board of Health who in turn appointed a County Doctor to supervise the program for the entire county except any cities located within the boundaries.

### SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC

On February 2, 1903, the Board of Trustees authorized a doctor to visit McNutt, Bailey and Yondota schools and vaccinate all the pupils. If any parent refused to have his children vaccinated, these children were excluded from school.

### SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Board of Health and Trustees were called February 10, 1912, to discuss

means of obtaining money to defray expenses caused by the smallpox epidemic.

A resolution was passed by the trustees to borrow \$1,000 as an emergency to keep the epidemic from spreading.

Legal procedures were set up whereby the trustees were authorized to borrow \$1,000 from the Commercial Savings Bank and Trust Company. This was to be paid by arranging the Commercial Savings Bank and Trust Company. This was to be paid by arranging for two notes. One note was for \$600 dated March 1, 1912, payable three months after date with interest at 6% per annum. The other note given on the same date was payable in 18 months at the same rate of interest.

## THE NURSE

A nurse from the County Health Board is assigned a definite territory. Previous to incorporation of Oregon one nurse was assigned Oregon and Jerusalem. At present Oregon has requested a full time nurse. Thus the nurse who travels Jerusalem Township is responsible for some other part of the county.

Among the many duties of the nurse is that of visiting the school to check on contagious diseases, eye sight, hearing, and other problems. This gives her a direct contact with the homes of children needing attention. Much is being accomplished by these visits.

## THE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

This Board has recently added to its staff a health educator, Charlotte Richards. This official assists in educating the citizens on the problems of health and their responsibility in solving these problems. She will work with lay and professional groups for the promotion of continued progress in sound health practices.

## SANITARIAN

Another official who is a great help in improving the County Health Program is the sanitarian. An example is the inspection of migrant camps. The State of Ohio has adopted regulations regarding the living quarters of these migrants. Before these camps are approved these regulations must be met and approved by the sanitarian.

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

## CLINIC FOR MIGRANTS

Each summer arrangements are made by the County Board of Health for a clinic to take care of the needs of the migrants. Headquarters for the clinic for the past two years were at Bono Catholic Hall. This year it is at Oregon City Hall. Various types of "shots" are given and a general check up. If anyone needs special treatment, arrangements are made through the Health Department to have such care provided.

## SUBDIVISIONS

During the early development of the eastern portion of Jerusalem Township Shepherdsville, now Bono, was platted. It was the first subdivision in Jerusalem Township.

After a period of time the following subdivisions were developed: Reno, Howard, Ingraham, Sacks, Curtice Gardens and the one between Donovan and Howard roads.

Old Reno, as it is called, was the development of ten acres on the lake. It has grown now to include the land between Coolie and Corduroy Roads extending all along the lake. The one on Howard Farm is known as Reno-by-the-Lake and is the development south of the Corduroy Road to Ward's Canal and west to Howard Road. Ingraham is north of Curtice extending to Brown Road and west to North Curtice Road. Curtice Gardens is at the corner of Jerusalem and North Curtice roads.

There is a question about Sacks as it has only one street. The trustees have requested the Planning Commission not to consider an addition unless it has two or more streets.

The division between Donovan and Howard roads has been established for some time.  
Fire Department of Jerusalem Township

## INTRODUCTION

The residents of Jerusalem Township realized some measures should be taken to provide for a fire department. This problem was discussed with the trustees who found that equipment could be obtained through the Office of Civilian Defense.

## FIRST STEP

The trustees met September 2, 1944, to discuss the requirements that must be met to obtain fire fighting equipment. It was learned that in order to obtain equipment the Office of Civilian Defense re-

quired the signature of the Chief of Auxiliary Department and Property Officer.

Since Jerusalem Township did not have a Fire Chief the Board of Trustees met the problem by adopting a resolution. This resolution provided that the trustees be authorized to sign for the equipment. Arrangements had been made previously with the Office of Civilian Defense and the following receipt was signed.

## COPY OF RECEIPT FOR TRAILER PUMP

"Toledo District Defense Council  
315 Superior Street, Toledo, Ohio  
To: Jerusalem Township Fire Chief and  
Property Officers, C.D.  
From: Chief Fred T. Schlorf, Toledo Fire  
Department  
Date: August 24, 1944

Received from Fred T. Schlorf, City of Toledo Fire Department, one Trailer Pump complete with attachments to be used by Jerusalem Township for Civilian Defense Auxiliary Fire Services. The undersigned assumes responsibility for the equipment and will be held accountable for its use on a loan and recall basis and will pick up the above described property at #8 Engine House, Division and Indiana Avenues, Toledo, Ohio

Signed: John M. Hansen  
Ferdinand Lehman  
Charles Herman,  
Trustees of Jerusalem Township,  
Lucas County, Ohio"

## THE SECOND STEP

The Board of Trustees met on September 6, 1944. Captain Schroeder of the Toledo Fire Department and Chief Huss of the Oregon Volunteer Fire Department were invited to attend this meeting. In addition, several interested residents of Jerusalem Township were present.

Captain Schroeder explained how to use the Trailer Pumper.

Chief Huss told them of ways and means of organizing a volunteer fire department.

## FURTHER PREPARATION

The trustees passed a motion to have a Fire Fighting Trailer demonstration on Sunday, September 10, at 2 P.M. at Reno-by-the-lake. Arrangements were made to have a fireman from Toledo take charge of the demonstration.

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A second motion was passed which provided for a meeting September 13, for the purpose of organizing a volunteer Fire Department.

## SPECIAL MEETING

At the special meeting Captain Schroeder gave the following rules required for Civilian Defense Auxiliary Firemen and care of Pumper Equipment.

1. Members of Civilian Auxiliary Fire Department must fill in the information and sign the Civilian Defense Cards, which were furnished by the Office of Civilian Defense.

2. That one chief must be appointed for the Jerusalem Township Auxiliary Fire Department.

3. It is necessary for each member to have 10 hours instruction on First Aid.

4. That each member of the Auxiliary Fire Department must learn to operate the Pumper and be properly qualified to handle every type and kind of fire fighting equipment.

5. That the following name shall be painted on the Trailer Pumper, "Jerusalem Township Auxiliary Fire Department, CCD."

6. That the hose must be properly dried after same is used and that the Pumper must be housed in a heated building during the cold months.

The following signed as member of the Jerusalem Township Auxiliary Fire Department:

Elmer Baker	Fred Martinez
Calvin Carter	James Perry
Burton Cousino	Elroy Pfeiffer
Leo Cousino	Edward Romstadt
Clifford Diefenthaler	Gilbert M. Sanford
Alden Dreier	A. Scheerer
Emery Foreman	Milton Siglow
Edward Habegger	Arthur Tank
Harold Habegger	Emery Tank
John Hirzel	George Tachann
Murl Kuhn	Ralph Turnow
Rollin LaCourse	Louis Vogelbacher
Virgil LaCourse	Melvin Wright
Edwin Lenter	

The group elected Elmer Baker as temporary Fire Chief of Jerusalem Township Auxiliary Fire Department.

A meeting of the Fire Department was held September 20, when Mr. Speiber Fire Inspector of Toledo Department demonstrated the different kinds

of fire extinguishers and chemicals. He explained the various fires and which chemicals to use on each type of fire.

At the next meeting September 27, 1944, two more men signed as members: William Carstensen and Donald Tank.

The following officers were elected: James Perry, Assistant Fire Chief; Alden Dreier, Engineer; Murl Kuhn, President; Arthur Tank, Vice President; William Carstensen, Secretary-Treasurer.

The trustees applied and later received a Skid Mount Pump from the Toledo District Civilian Defense. They also rented a garage at Bono which had been used as an onion storage for a period of seven months. A Reo schoolbus was purchased from the Board of Education and converted into a water wagon by removing the body and mounting a tank on the chassis.

## NEED FOR FIRE EQUIPMENT AND GARAGE

A fire department had been organized and had been given a limited amount of equipment by the Civilian Defense Office. On July 24, 1945, the trustees, by resolution, requested the electors of Jerusalem Township to vote a \$20,000 bond issue for erecting a fire house and purchasing equipment. The date of the election was set for November 6, 1945.

## RESULTS OF ELECTION

For	230
Against	27

## BIDS

The trustees advertised for sale of notes and accepted the bid of Ryan Sutherland and Company. A note dated April 1, 1946, bearing 1 3/4% interest was delivered to above company April 23, 1946, and in return the money was placed at the disposal of the trustees of Jerusalem Township.

## ARCHITECT

Britsch and Munger had been employed as architects. They presented the plans for the Fire House which had been approved by the Civilian Production Administration.

## BIDS

Bids were opened May 24, 1946, and the general contract was given to Rinker for \$10,700; the

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plumbing and heating to Gibboney for \$3,863; and the electric contract to Romanoff for \$2,105.

## FIRE TRUCK

On May 18, 1946, a new fire truck was purchased to replace the old 1935 Reo.

## CHANGE IN BOILER

On July 10, 1946, the Board of Trustees changed the type of boiler to be used in the Fire Station which reduced the bid from \$3,863 to \$3,663.

They also appropriated \$460 for a fire siren which was to be paid from Fire Building and Equipment Fund.

## CHANGE IN ELECTRICAL CONTRACT

On September 7, 1946, changes were made in electrical contract which increased the cost \$103 making it \$2,208.

## CHANGE IN PLUMBING HEATING CONTRACT

On April 5, 1947, there was added to this contract a deep well Duro-Jet ejector at a cost of \$240. Other changes were required which added \$190.64 to the contract.

## APPROVED FIRE HOUSE

At a meeting August 13, 1947, the Fire House was accepted and approved. Later the building and equipment were insured.

## COMPENSATION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

Under the Workmen's Compensation regulations volunteer firemen were unable to collect in case of injury or death. Therefore, to protect these men who gave freely of their time and service, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution which provided that each volunteer firemen be paid the sum of one dollar a year payable in December of each year.

First Payroll for Volunteer Firemen January 17, 1948.

Elmer S. Baker, Service as Fire Chief	\$1.00
Charles Bench, service as active Fireman	1.00
Arthur Bodi	1.00
Martin R. Busse	1.00
William C. Carstensen	1.00
Calvin H. Carter	1.00

Earl R. Carter	"	1.00
John F. Combs	"	1.00
Leonard Davis	"	1.00
Clifford Diefenthaler	"	1.00
Richard Diefenthaler	"	1.00
Frank Dobrosky	"	1.00
Robert C. Draper	"	1.00
Alden A. Dreier	"	1.00
Harold C. Dreier	"	1.00
Erwin I. Eisham	"	1.00
Otis Goulet	"	1.00
Harold Habegger	"	1.00
John P. Hirzel	"	1.00
Herbert Lehman	"	1.00
Alfred W. Matthews	"	1.00
James Perry	"	1.00
Elroy Pfeifer	"	1.00
Donald C. Rietz	"	1.00
George C. Schupp	"	1.00
Richard Smarkel	"	1.00
John W. Sorensen	"	1.00
John Spetz	"	1.00
Emery Tank	"	1.00
Ralph Turnow	"	1.00
Louis Vogelbacher	"	1.00
Fred Witty	"	1.00
Total		\$32.00

"I hereby certify that the amount of \$32.00 required to meet the payment of the above has been lawfully appropriated or authorized or directed for such purpose and is in the treasury to the credit of the General Fund.

Otto Klaege, Clerk  
John Hansen  
Ferninand Lehman  
Charles Herman  
Attest  
Otto Klaege, Clerk"

## FOR FURTHER PROTECTION

On May 24, 1946, a contract was made between Allen Township Board of Trustees and Jerusalem Township stating in case of dire need each department held itself in readiness to send their volunteer firemen and equipment into the territory of the other township to fight fire. Later a similar contract was signed between Oregon and Jerusalem.

## THE DEPARTMENT

From time to time appropriations are made to keep the equipment and fire house in good condition

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and to add equipment as needed.

The men are faithful and are doing a fine service for their community.

The fire house is located in about the center of township so that any point can be reached within a short time after a call is received.

## CHANGE IN ALLOWANCE FOR FIREMEN

On June 3, 1959, the trustees allowed each Volunteer Fireman two dollars per month. This is not to compensate the firemen for the services but as stated previously to meet the requirements of the Workmen's Compensation.  
Development of Howard Farm

## EARLY TRANSACTION

From the early settlers it was learned that John J. Gillette and a partner by the name of Parks purchased the vast tracts of marsh land. After making some changes they sold it to the Howard Company.

## GEORGE A. HOWARD

From a twenty-nine page pamphlet entitled, *The Story of the Howard Farm* (author's name omitted), the following information was obtained.

George A. Howard was a cultured, widely traveled man who was interested in the development and growth of living things. With others, he bought approximately 1,485 acres of marsh land which included Ward's Canal and almost two miles of beautiful sand beach.

The purchase of the land and development of same amounted to about three hundred thousand dollars.

## DRAINAGE BY CANALS

A dredge was purchased to be used to drain the marsh. A dike was built along Lake Erie. The bank of Ward's Canal formed a bank on the southern side of the tract and a canal and dike were dredged upon the north and western sides. A deep and wide canal was put through the center of the tract. This canal was crossed by another which was almost at right angles with the center canal. All the canals were graded toward the pumping station, and gradually the water was pumped and drained from the marsh.

## MUCK

This left a very fertile bed of land. Seven hundred and fifty acres were of muck which was made up of decayed vegetation from six to eight feet in depth. The remainder was a rich clay subsoil with a more shallow deposit of muck. The stumps were then removed and tiles were laid in the lower places which were drained into the canals. This was a wonderful accomplishment. Mr. Howard had studied drainage and irrigation in Holland and the west. He made use of this knowledge in carrying out this project by planning to use a combination system of drainage and irrigation. To accomplish this he had a sluice constructed at the mouth of Ward's Canal. When the water was needed it could be raised so that the soil could be refreshed by absorbing the lake water from the tile and from the banks of the canal. This became a profitable investment for several years.

## ILL HEALTH CHANGES PLANS

Mr. Howard became ill and on advice of his physician he was required to rest and spend some time on Gulf of Mexico for several years. During this time the farm was not kept up, repairs were neglected and financial difficulties arose. Mr. Howard was unable to cope with the problem which would necessitate his returning to a strenuous life so he decided to sell in 1916.

## NEW OWNERS

The new owners took care of the indebtedness and spent many thousand dollars dredging the old canals. More tiles were laid, new buildings were erected and modern farming appliances were purchased at enormous cost. New bridges were built and roads were developed. At times reverses came when the dikes broke through and the land flooded, but by constant vigilance and hard work the farm is still very productive. The name of the George A. Howard Farming Company has been retained and many changes have been effected.

## HENRY RENO

Henry Reno became interested in the farm. He rented it with the idea of raising onions and using other portions for general farming. He interested other people to move from Hardin County since they had experience in the raising of onions. Dur-



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ing this time he employed many people including men, women, and children.

He bought the old Ward's mill in 1899, and converted it into a storage. At times he stored as many as eighty carloads of onions.

## PURCHASED LAND

In 1902, Mr. Reno bought 900 acres of land from the Little Cedar Point Club. In addition to this he purchased more land at \$35 an acre from Niles.

## OLD RENO

This included forty acres along the lake which was divided into lots. Many of the lots contained one fourth acre while a few were larger. People bought the lots as they were interested in living near the water. This led Mr. Reno to organize the Reno Amusement Company. For further details see Recreation Facilities.

## ONION FARMING

Edward Stoddard, who had been engaged in onion raising in Hardin County, decided to move on the Howard Farm and try his hand at raising onions in this new muck land that had been reclaimed from the marsh.

In 1897, he planted twenty acres of onions. The seed was planted by means of a hand drill in rows one half mile long. These rows were thirteen inches apart. A man with a hand drill planted two acres a day.

## LABOR

Men were paid at the rate of one dollar a day of ten hours duration. The hours were long and the work of the back breaking type. When weeding the onions an adult took three rows at a time, while children weeded one. A number of boys ten and twelve years of age were employed.

## METHOD OF HARVESTING

Workers pulled the onions and threw them into heaps. Six rows were pulled and heaped by each worker. Then onions were topped with sheep shears and put into crates. The workers were paid two cents a crate and were able to fill about one hundred crates a day.

## SALE OF ONIONS

The onions were sold by the carload to commission men in Toledo. About two thirds of the crop was sold directly from the field, the other third was stored.

## RECREATION FACILITIES

The Reno Amusement Company under the leadership of Mr. Reno developed facilities on the lake. A space was devoted to picnic benches where people brought basket lunches or planned weiner roasts.

A sandy beach was kept clean and people enjoyed boating and swimming.

## GOLF COURSE

In addition to this Mr. Reno developed 400 acres into a golf course. To induce people to purchase lots, each lot owner was given a membership ticket and had the privilege of using the course.

Non-residents were charged a fee. This was developed in 1921 but was not profitable and was discontinued in 1945.

## FLOOD

During a severe storm the dike gave way in places and this territory was flooded. It took some time to pump out the water and restore the homes. No effort was made to continue the amusement park facilities.

## COMMUNITY HALL

Alfred Matthews became interested in a community hall for the township. He succeeded in interesting the other volunteer firemen and citizens in the project. After some discussion he and the others convinced the trustees that it would be a good investment for the township if they donated the old town hall for this purpose. However, previous to this the trustees had advertised for bids for the old town hall. The highest bid received was \$100. They discussed the problem and rejected the bid as being too low.

It was then arranged for the members of the fire department and citizens to raze the old town hall and use all the material they could salvage for the building of a community house. They arranged to rent the back portion of the township's site on which the firemen built the community house.

This gave them a good start, but more money

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was needed to buy equipment and furnish the building as a recreation center. Again the firemen and citizens led by Alfred Matthews contacted the various firms with which the trustees and Board of Education did business as well as other business organizations. By this method they collected about \$5,000.

The recreation center was completed and certain regulations established. Many organizations used it. The clubs that were organized for the welfare of children and young people were given permission to use the building free. This included such groups as the Scouts, Four H, and others.

## NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

The hall needed to be modernized and an addition added. To meet requirements this was considered as a Town Hall thus giving the trustees authority to take over and make improvements and regulations.

## BIDS

The trustees advertised for bids to provide an addition and install heating, plumbing and electricity. Johnson's Lumber Company's bid of \$8,240 was accepted on March 21, 1955.

## RENTAL

The rental of the building was raised from ten dollars per night to twenty-five dollars.

## PUBLIC BEACH

A public beach is available to those interested in boating and swimming at Lakemont Landing.

## BOAT MARINAS

The lake front has brought about the development of marinas which make it possible for owners of boats to rent a convenient space in which to keep their boats during the summer. Among these are Anchor Point, Howard's Farm Marina and Romstadts.

## ANCHOR POINT

An illustration of one of these marinas, that has been developed is that known as Anchor Point. It is located on the back twenty acres of swamp land of Diefenthaler's farm north of Corduroy Road.

Carlton E. Diefenthaler owns 220 acres of land. Mr. Diefenthaler was engaged in raising of cattle and sheep. The twenty acres bordering Lake Erie

had been kept dry by a diking system and was part of the regular farm. The dike crumbled a few years ago and the waters of Lake Erie poured in. This led Roland Diefenthaler, a graduate of Clay High School, to think of developing the twenty acres into a boat marina. He and his father talked it over.

## STOCK COMPANY

A stock company, Anchor Point Inc., was formed. It is composed of the members of the family with one exception. Roland Diefenthaler is president of the company.

At present the company has developed facilities for 400 boats with plans to add space for an additional 100 by next summer.

## RENTERS OF DOCK SPACE

The renters are residents of Toledo and surrounding area. The season begins May 1 and extends through October. There is the special attraction of perch fishing during the months of September and October. The rental of space is no problem. They have a waiting list.

## ENTRANCE TO MARINA

This entrance is on Corduroy near Teachout Road. The road extends northward for some distance following a canal bank part of the way. As one enters the marina more canals come into view. These have been dredged through the swamp with banks built up for docking space. All canals lead to the opening into the lake.

## A STORE

This enterprising company has established a store which sells fishing gear, boat equipment and light refreshments. Mr. Diefenthaler is at the store to provide for the needs of the customers.

## THE FARM

Henry Diefenthaler purchased the farm in 1910. In 1950, Mr. Diefenthaler sold it to his son, Carlton. At the present time they are raising soybeans and tomatoes on the remaining two hundred acres.

## COST OF THE PROJECT

Such a project requires hours of labor. Much time and money was spent in the dredging of the canals, the building of the dikes and planning the dock spaces. Much work is still necessary to provide more dock space and make improvements. At

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

present \$500,000 has been spent to change this swampy land into a useful marina.

## STATE PARK

The edge or extreme western portion of the Crane Creek State Park is in Jerusalem Township. This park with its picnic facilities, bathing, and boating is open to all who care to enter. The entrance is in Ottawa County off State Route #2.

The state has appropriated a large sum to improve this park which will make it much more attractive.

## ZONING

On May 17, 1958, a petition was presented to the trustees by William Craig and others for zoning Reno Conservancy District and Howard Farms Conservancy.

## ACTION OF TRUSTEES

A motion was made and passed that action be deferred until names on petition could be checked.

On June 16, 1958, the trustees met with the petitioners. Six signers were present and action deferred for further checking of signatures.

## ACCEPT PETITION

On June 21, 1958, the trustees passed a resolution stating that the petition had been signed by at least 8% of all votes cast for candidates for governor in the last general election and therefore the petition was granted.

## ZONING COMMISSION APPOINTED

At the same meeting a zoning commission was appointed as follows:

William H. Mikesell for term ending  
June 30, 1963

George Franks for term ending June 30,  
1962

Roger Van Hoose for term ending June  
30, 1961

S. J. Lewen for term ending June 30,  
1960

Charles L. Davis for term ending June  
30, 1959

## FUNDS APPROPRIATED

By resolution \$500 were appropriated for planning consultants, executive and clinical assistants

the money for the same was to be taken from the Unanticipated Emergency and Contingency Fund.

## WORK OF COMMISSION

A report of the Commission was read at the regular meeting of the trustees which in part is as follows:

"The action by the Planning Commission as well as the public hearing held by Jerusalem Township Zoning Commission fulfills the requirements of Sections 519.06 and 519.07 of the Ohio Revised Code, and pursuant to Section 519.07 of the Ohio Revised Code, we do hereby certify to the Jerusalem Township Trustees said Zoning Plan, Text and Maps."

Very truly yours,  
Jerusalem Township  
Zoning Commission  
Signed by Wm. H.  
Mikesell, Chairman

## BOARD ACTION

The Trustees passed a resolution calling for a public meeting July 16, 1959, at Jerusalem Township Hall at 7:30 P.M.

Another resolution gave the description of the part to be zoned and the portion of residents to be heard. All information in regard to the zoning was made available to those interested at the City Service Gasoline Station at the corner of Howard and Corduroy Roads from June 9, 1959 to the date of the public hearing.

## REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARLES DAVIS

On June 20, 1959, Charles Davis was reappointed on Zoning Commission for a period of five years beginning July 1, 1959 and ending June 30, 1964.

## PUBLIC HEARING

On July 16, 1959, five electors appeared at the meeting. No objections to the zoning were made. The Board of Trustees postponed action on the zoning until July 18, 1959.

## BOARD ADOPTED ZONING AND ORDERED AN ELECTION

On July 18, 1959, the Trustees adopted a resolution accepting the zoning plan and ordered an election for the acceptance or rejection of plan by the people at a general election to be held November 3, 1959.

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township

## RESULTS OF ELECTION

The zoning plans was approved by the electors on November 3, 1959.

## INSPECTOR AND FEES

On April 18, 1960, Alden I. Dreier was appointed zoning inspector and the following zoning fees established:

For inspecting house	\$3.00
Garage	1.00
Commercial Building	5.00

## GROWTH INCREASES RESPONSIBILITIES

The growth in population and the organizing of subdivisions increased the responsibility of the trustees. Such additional responsibilities are shown, (1) by the forming of a fire department, (2) the housing and upkeep of same. (3) the request for more subdivisions, (4) the consideration of their special needs as curbing, sidewalks, gutters and lighting, (5) the need for more and better improvement of roads, (6) regulating of speed and other safety and protective measures for the benefit of the citizens.

## POPULATION GROWTH

The census shows the growth of Jerusalem and Oregon as follows:

	Jerusalem Township	Oregon
1840		
1850		456
1860		913
1870		1873
1880		2381
1890		3160
1900	1581	2702
1910	1431	2568
1920	1297	3500
1930	1739	5756
1940	1910	6409
1950	2463	10193
1960	2463	13301

## TRUSTEES OF JERUSALEM TOWNSHIP

John St. John	1893 to October 7, 1893
F. P. Cook	October 7, 1893
Lambert Navarre	1893-1897

Thomas Ames	1893 — Completed John St. John's term
Fred Tank, Sr.	1894-1899 and 1903-1909, part of 1918
H. G. Sharp	1894-1895
Richard Cousino	1896-1899 and 1903-1905
Herman Huss	1898-1901
Lyman Brough	1900-1902
Anthony Veler	1900-1902
O. B. Dean	1901-1904
William Friemark	1905-1911
H. G. Yohnke	1906-1909
George H. Sharp	1910-1913
Frank St. John	1910-1913
Louis Beuhler	1912-1919
Henry Romstadt	1914-1917
January DeCant	1914
Fred Wolfe	1915-1917
Chris Heiber	1918-1927 and 1932-1939, also part of 1940
Arthur Wilkinson	1918 finished term and vacancy of Fred Tank, Sr.
Gilbert Gea	1920-1929
C. H. Smarkel	1920-1923
Charles Romstadt	1924-1931
Charles Herman	1928-1960
John Hansen	1930-1960
Ferdinand Lehman	1940-1955

## CLERKS

H. A. Schabow	1893 - 1899, 1903 - 1907, 1916 - 1917
August Tank	1899-1902
N. Gueldenzoph	1908-1915, 1918-1927
Elmer Hartenfeld	1928
Otto Klage	1929-October 5, 1959
Alden Dreier	October 5, 1959-1960

## TREASURERS

M. G. Witty	1893-1897
Leander Shinavaree	1898
Stephen Aubry	1899-1901
Dona Aubrey	1902
Albert Dier	1903-1909
L. Lorenzen	1910-1917
Charles Romstadt	1918-1931

Note: A new law placed the responsibility for handling the funds in the hands of the clerk and made it mandatory for the Board to advertise for

# *Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township*

a depository. Banks bid and the one offering the highest rate of interest was chosen.

## INTERESTING COMPARISONS OF BUDGETS

On May 12, 1894, the following budget was adopted:

For township purposes 8/10 mill	\$ 235.80
For road purposes 1 mill	294.75
In addition amount to be worked out	294.75
Interest and debt 1 mill	294.75
Poor Fund 4/10 mill	117.90
Spring election 3/10 mill	88.42
Total 4-4/5 mills	\$1326.37

## BUDGET FOR 1938

General Fund	\$1000.00
Personal Expenses	300.00
Other	50.00
Town Hall	
Other	200.00
Cemetery	
Personal	200.00
Permanent Improvement	200.00
Other	200.00
Poor Relief Personal	2000.00
Other	5000.00
Contingent Fund	500.00
Total General Fund	9650.00
Road Fund	
Personal Service	1000.00
Other expenses	2500.00

Total Road Fund	2500.00
Gas Tax Fund	
Road Construction Personal Service	100.00
Permanent Improvement	1400.00
Other expense	100.00
Total Gas Fund	1600.00
Grand Total	\$14750.00

## BUDGET FOR 1960 — ADOPTED JULY 2, 1959

General Fund	
Personal Services	\$4800.00
Other expenses	600.00
Personal	200.00
Town Hall	
Permanent Improvements	1000.00
Other Expenses	500.00
Personal Service	1600.00
Fire Protection	
Permanent Improvement	1000.00
Other expenses	2500.00
Poor Relief Fund	750.00
Refuse Dump	
Rental of site	200.00
Other expenses	500.00
Contingent Fund	500.00
Contribution to Public Employees Retirement System	150.00
Workmen's Compensation	200.00
County Board of Health	1400.00
Election expenses	650.00
Total	\$16,550.00

# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township



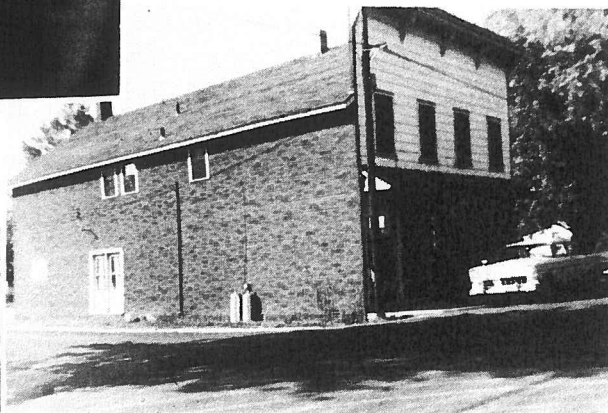
Thomas Ames, one of the pioneers of Jerusalem Township.  
Pictures loaned by Mrs. Otto Turnow



Thomas Ames with surveyor on Corduroy Road.

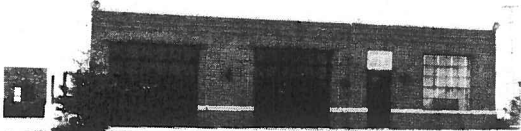
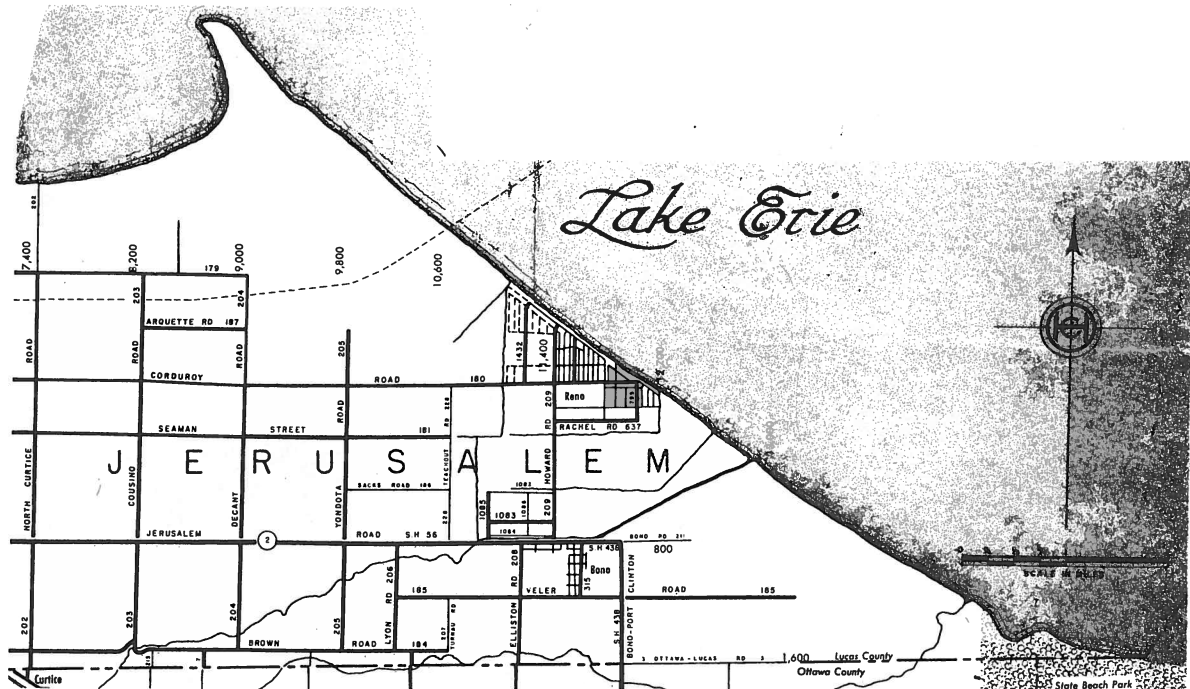
The horse and gig took one through the mud.

Tank's Store at Bono.

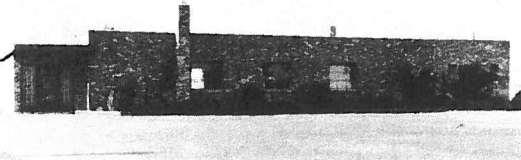


Cousino's Store at Bono.

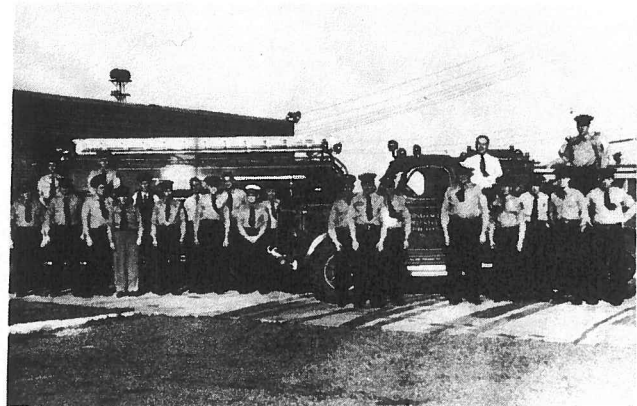
# Organization and Development of Jerusalem Township



This new building replaced the old Town Hall. It is used as a Town Hall and Fire Station.



The Community House was built by a group of men living in the community for a social center. Now under the control of trustees.



Firemen and Equipment — Jerusalem Township

Picture provided by Alden Dreier, Clerk of Jerusalem Township.

## Present Members of Jerusalem Volunteer Fire Department

Richard Smarkel — Chief  
 Alden Dreier — 1st. Ass't.  
 Earl Carter — 2nd. Ass't.  
 Charles Bench  
 Arthur Bodi  
 Harvey Bodi  
 Elmer Busse  
 William Carstensen  
 Calvin Carter  
 Robert Cook  
 Orvall DeLong  
 Clifford Diefenthaler

Robert Draper  
 Walter Ehrsam  
 Otis Goulet  
 Harold Habegger  
 Leo Howell  
 Leonard Klaege  
 Herbert Lehman  
 Ralph Nissen  
 Elroy Pfeiffer  
 Donald Poenicke  
 Lyle Romstadt  
 John Sorensen

Ralph Turnow  
 Robert Varga  
 Joe Verb  
 Louis Vogelbacher  
 Wade Wolf  
 Clyde Witty  
 Jack Hitts  
 John Henning  
 Ray Satowski  
 Richard Peth

Walter Ruth — Dispatcher