

ATLAS
OF
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY
VIRGINIA

BY
NOAH D. SHOWALTER

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JOHNSON, PETTIS, AND VERNON COUNTIES, MISSOURI

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PUBLISHED BY
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HARRISONBURG, VA.

199

THE McCLURE Co., INC., Printers, Staunton, Va.

FOREWORD

The author of this atlas, returning to his native Rockingham two years ago after an absence of eighteen years, felt a keen desire of making a new acquaintance with the scenes of his early life and the people who have been active in recent enterprises and progressive movements. At the same time he was anxious to preserve in permanent form, for the benefit of school children and others, some of the constructive operations and interesting features of the past.

During the years of his absence he had an extended experience in preparing and publishing atlases in other sections of the country, and thus came to the present task as a familiar craftsman in this field. This work was undertaken, however, on a larger scale than any of his former ventures, and consequently required an increase of editorial aid. The associate editors have co-operated heartily because they found the project a worthy enterprise and desired to see it succeed in the largest possible measure.

The atlas is a composite product. The plan is the author's. He secured numerous persons to contribute information and write articles in fields in which they were qualified to speak with authority. Other articles on important subjects, prepared by the editorial staff, were sponsored by persons interested in their contents who thus made the publication possible. This fine spirit of co-operation has been a constant source of encouragement to all concerned, and is deeply appreciated.

As an atlas, this book seeks to lay Rockingham County before the reader in one view, as it were. The large and numerous maps have been prepared with painstaking care. They are, it is believed, essentially accurate. With this atlas before him the reader gets a clear view of the county as a whole, of each magisterial district, of the main towns and the city of Harrisonburg; and he can readily locate the many excellent farm homes for which the county is famous, the leading churches, the educational institutions, natural features, recreational areas, and places of historic interest, and the public road system is seen as a well articulated network leading to the remotest sections.

The book is not primarily a history—other volumes on the history of the county are extant and familiar—nevertheless, much interesting historical and biographical matter is included. The informative material is of the kind which citizens of the county and others elsewhere will recognize as showing the thrift and progress of a sturdy, resourceful, and prosperous people. The presentation of subject-matter is new, all the articles included are herein printed for the first time.

Much interest will be found in the careers of representative leaders in the various walks of life, all of which bear witness to the enterprise and steadfast character of Rockingham men and women. The county's industries, some of which have attracted nation-wide attention, are traced from their small beginnings, such as fruit-growing, including cold storage, the breeding of high-grade livestock, poultry, and scientific dairying. Institutional developments are seen as they express themselves in educational foundations, the churches, and philanthropic institutions and agencies.

The atlas is copiously illustrated. Most of the photographs were made especially for this work. Other valuable photographs and drawings were loaned for use herein. To all who have in any way contributed in making the publication the useful work it is intended to be the author and editors express their sincere thanks.

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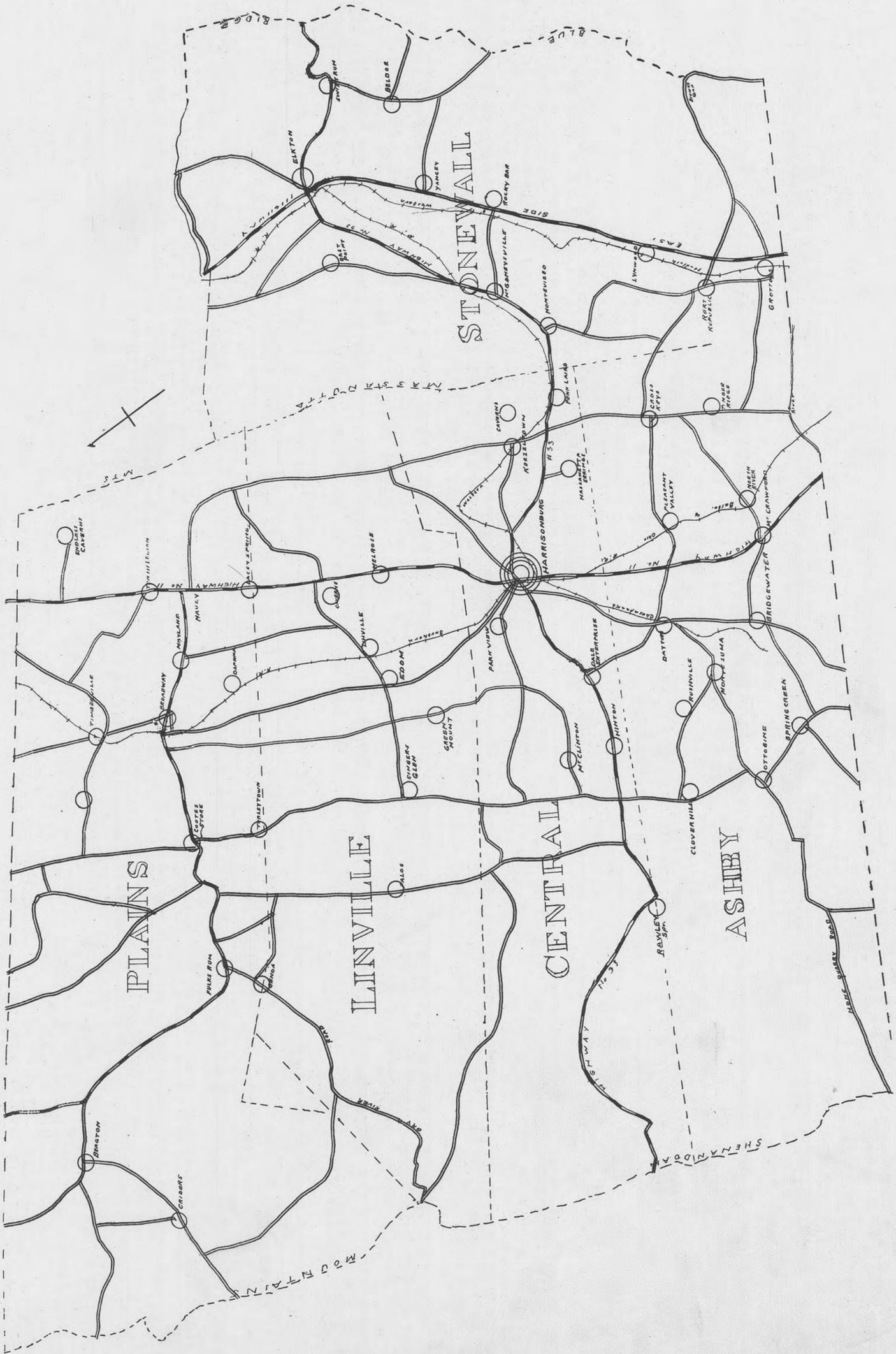
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ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

VIRGINIA

1939



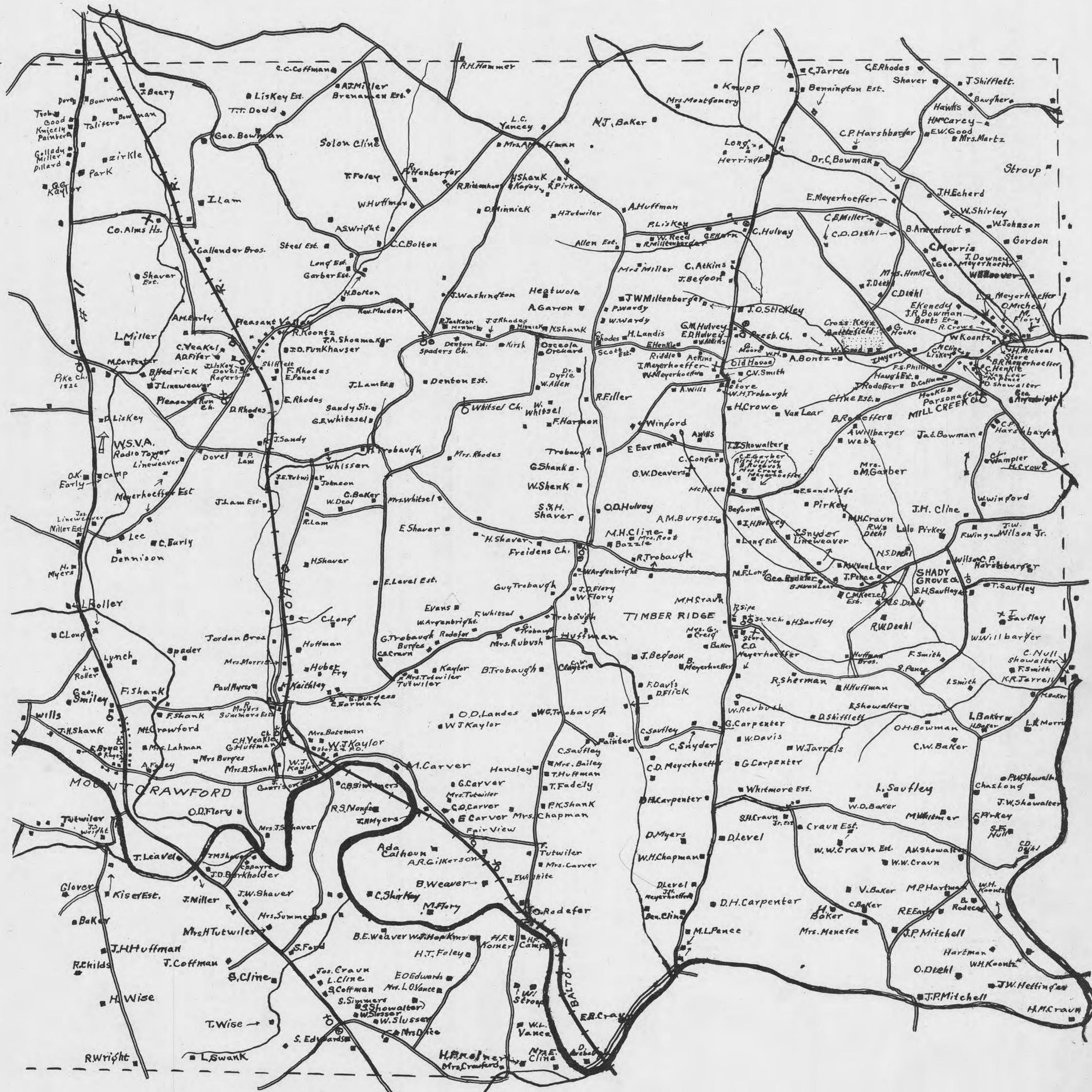
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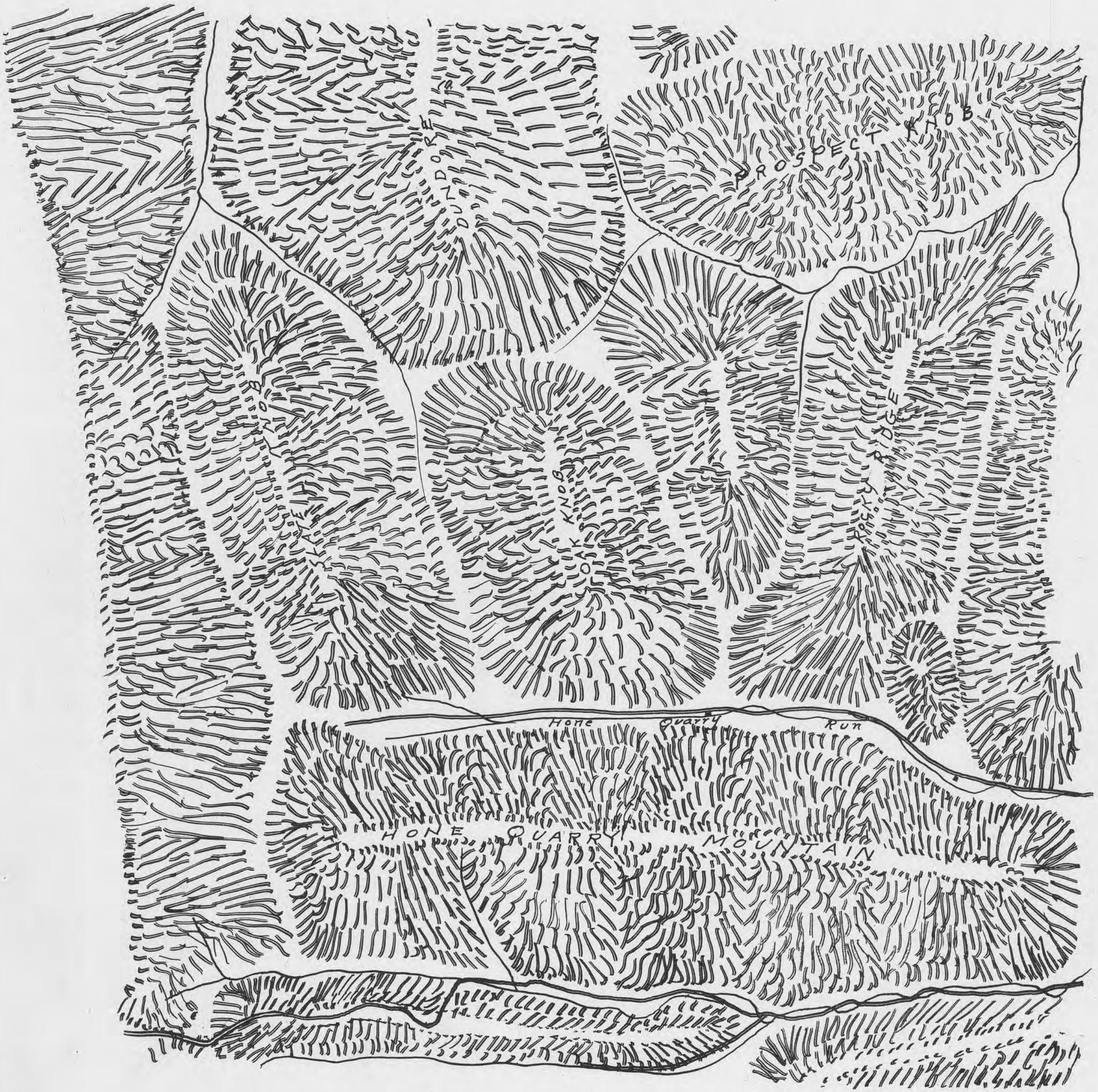
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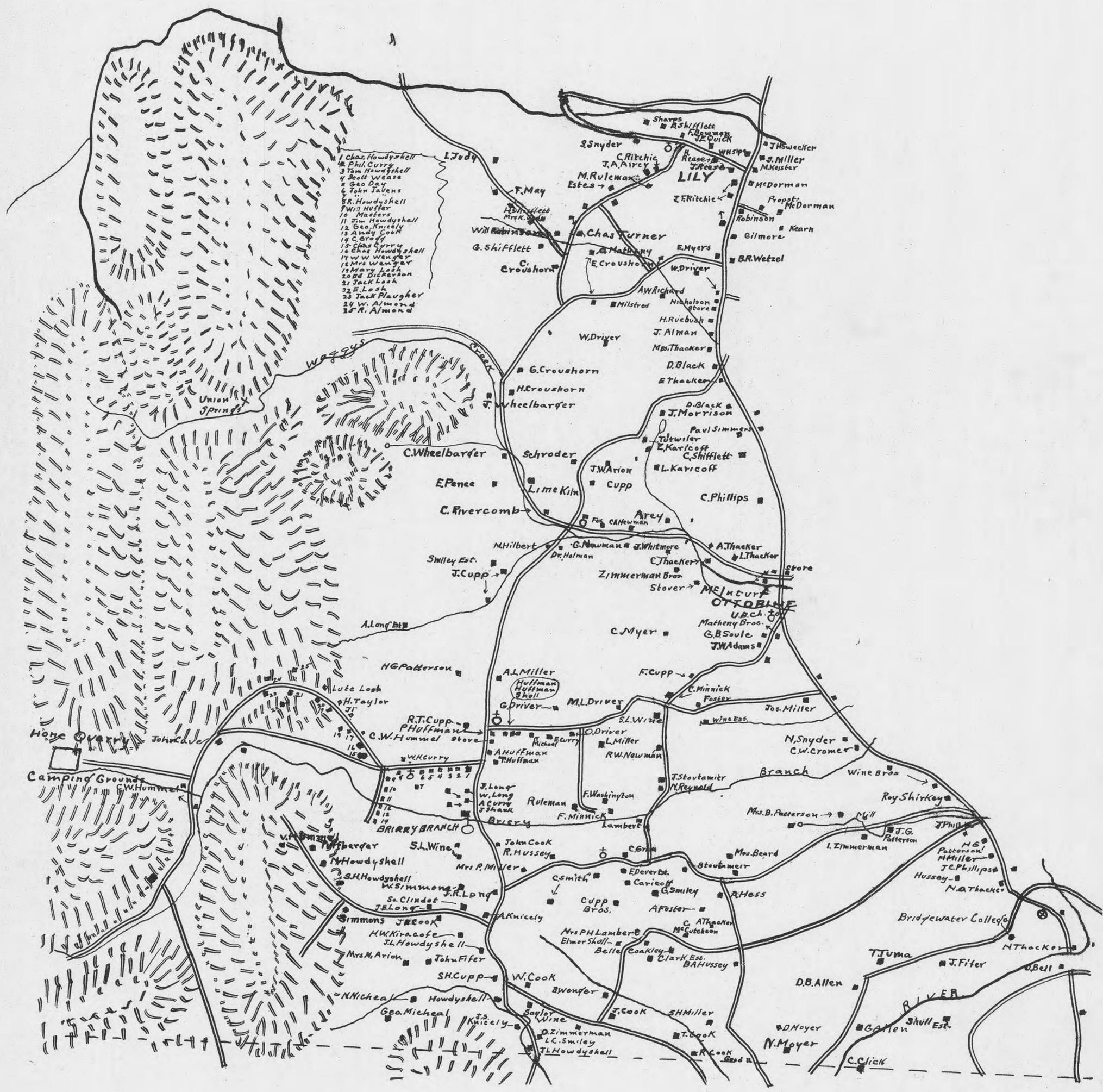
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ASHBY

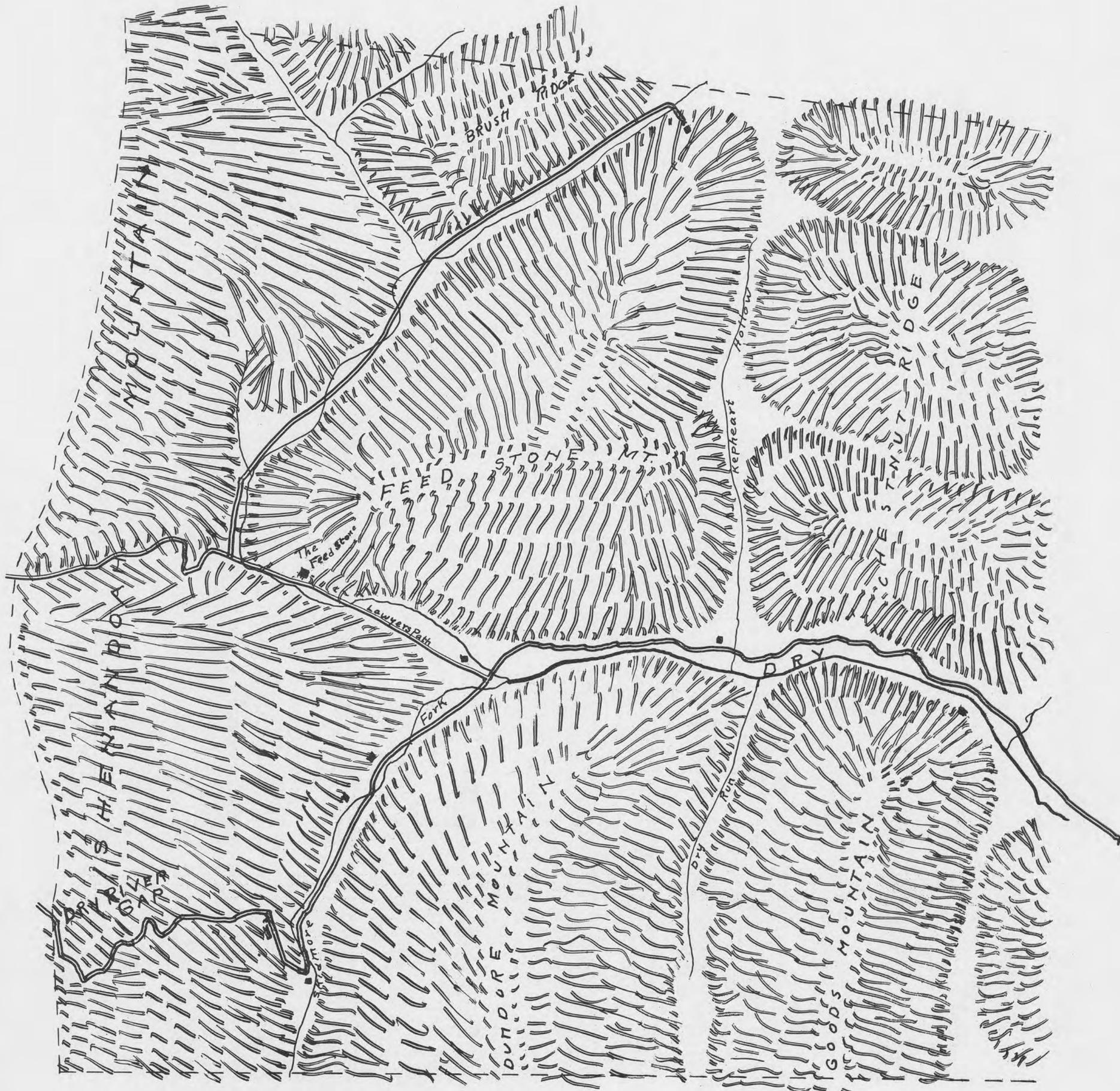
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- 1 Chas. Howdyshell
- 2 Phil. Curry
- 3 Tom Howdyshell
- 4 Geo. Wease
- 5 Geo. Day
- 6 John Tavens
- 7 R. Howdyshell
- 8 W. Huffer
- 9 Masters
- 10 Jim Howdyshell
- 11 Geo. Knickly
- 12 Andy Cook
- 13 C. Grogg
- 14 Chas. Curry
- 15 Chas. Howdyshell
- 16 W. W. Wenger
- 17 Mrs. Wenger
- 18 Mary Loh
- 19 Dickerson
- 20 Jack Loh
- 21 E. Loh
- 22 Jack Plougher
- 23 W. Almond
- 24 R. Almond
- 25 R. Almond

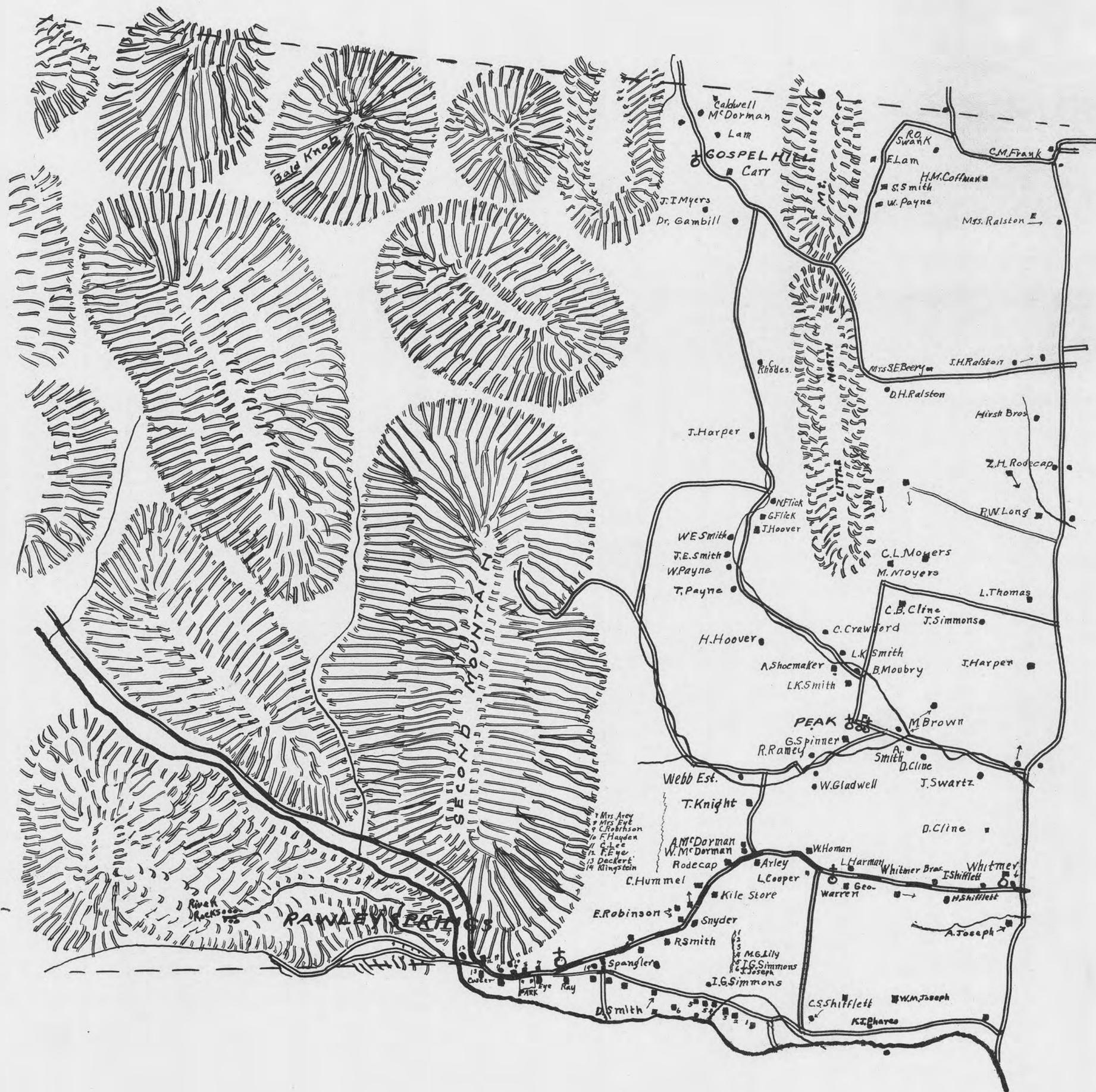
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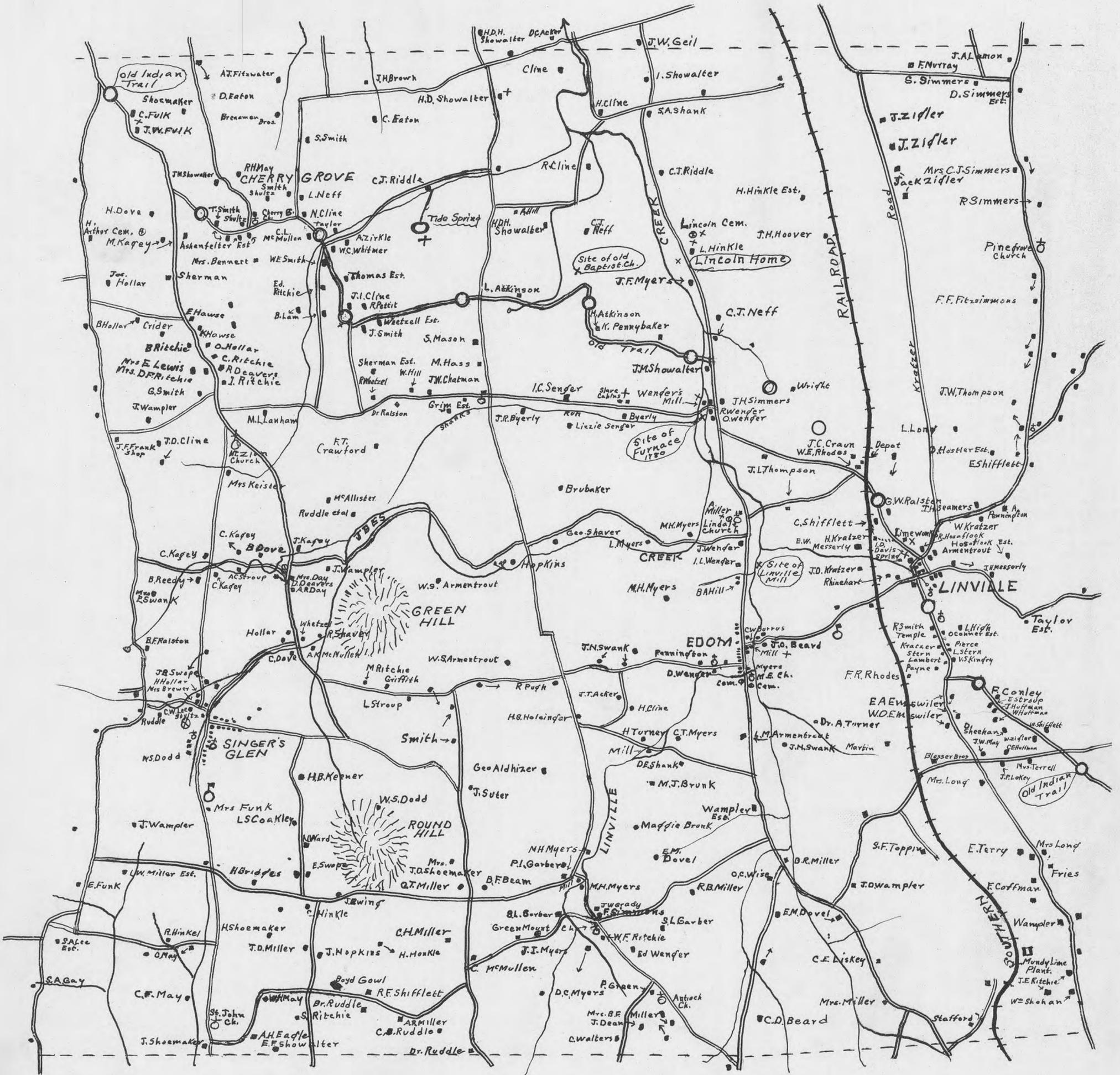
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LINVILLE CREEK

Scale 1 mile = 2"



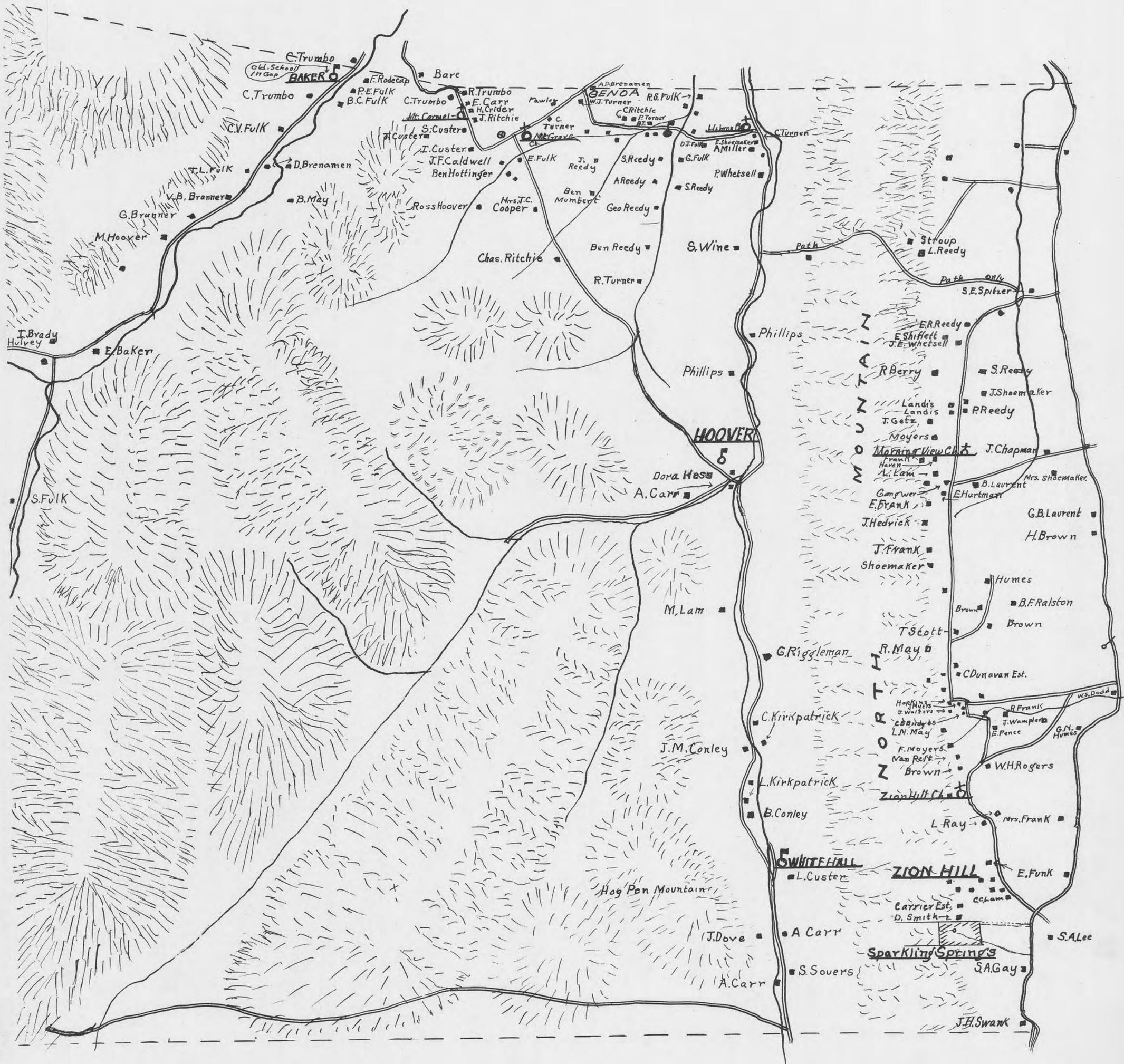
LINVILLE CREEK

Scale 1 mile = 2"



LINVILLE CREEK

Scale 1 Mile = 2"



PLAINS

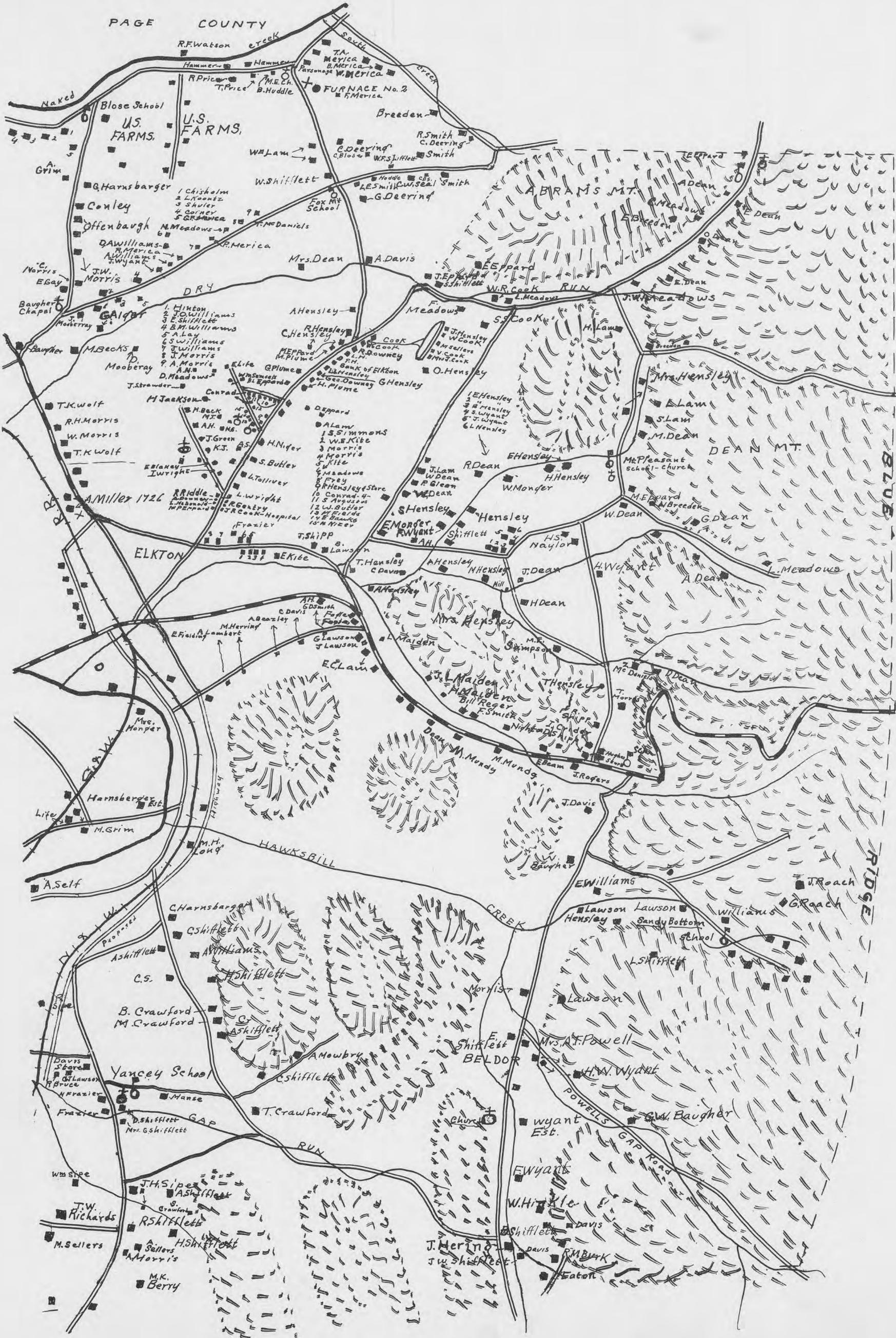
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PLAINS

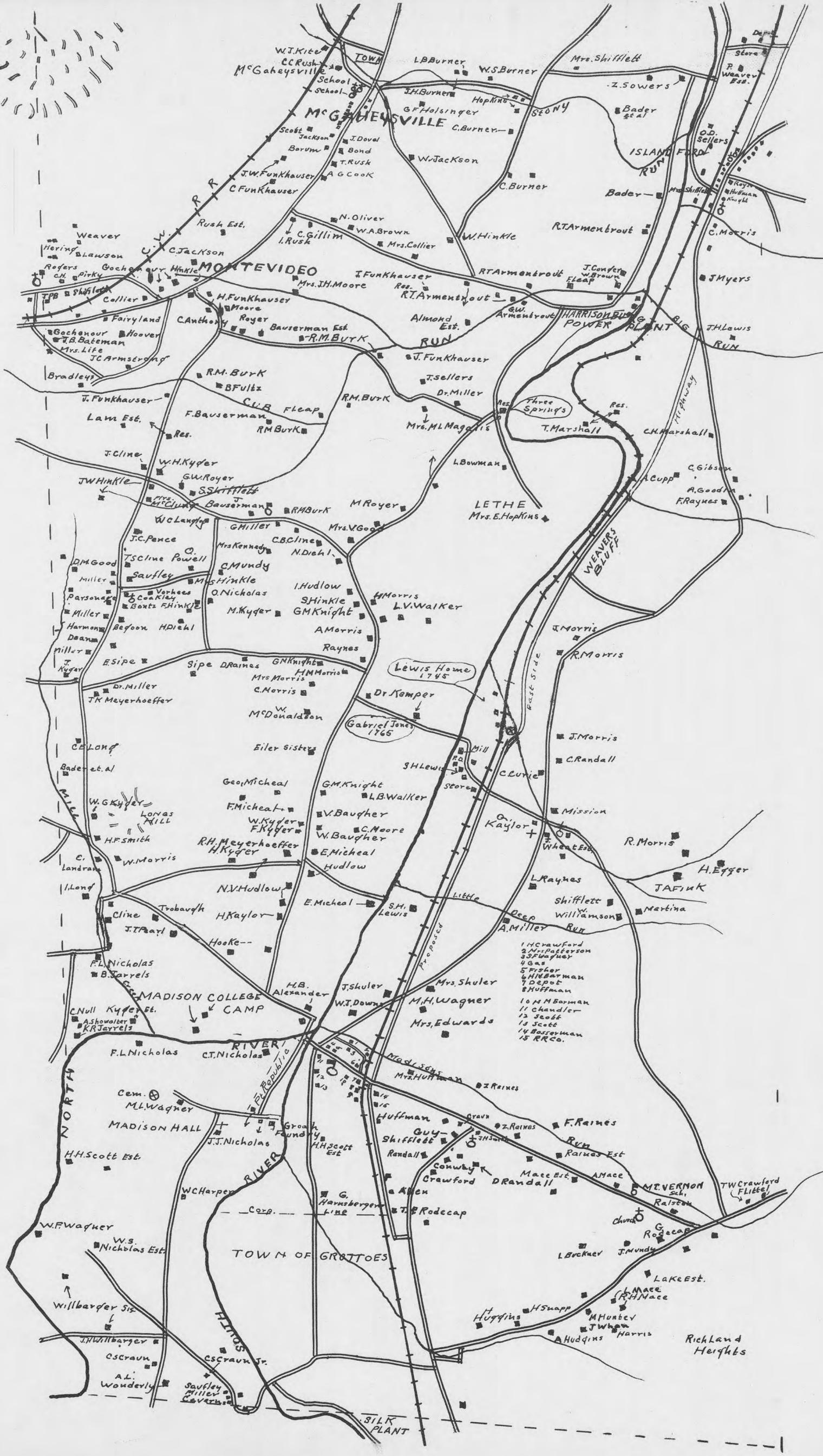
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STONE WALL RIDGE

Scale 1 mile = 2"

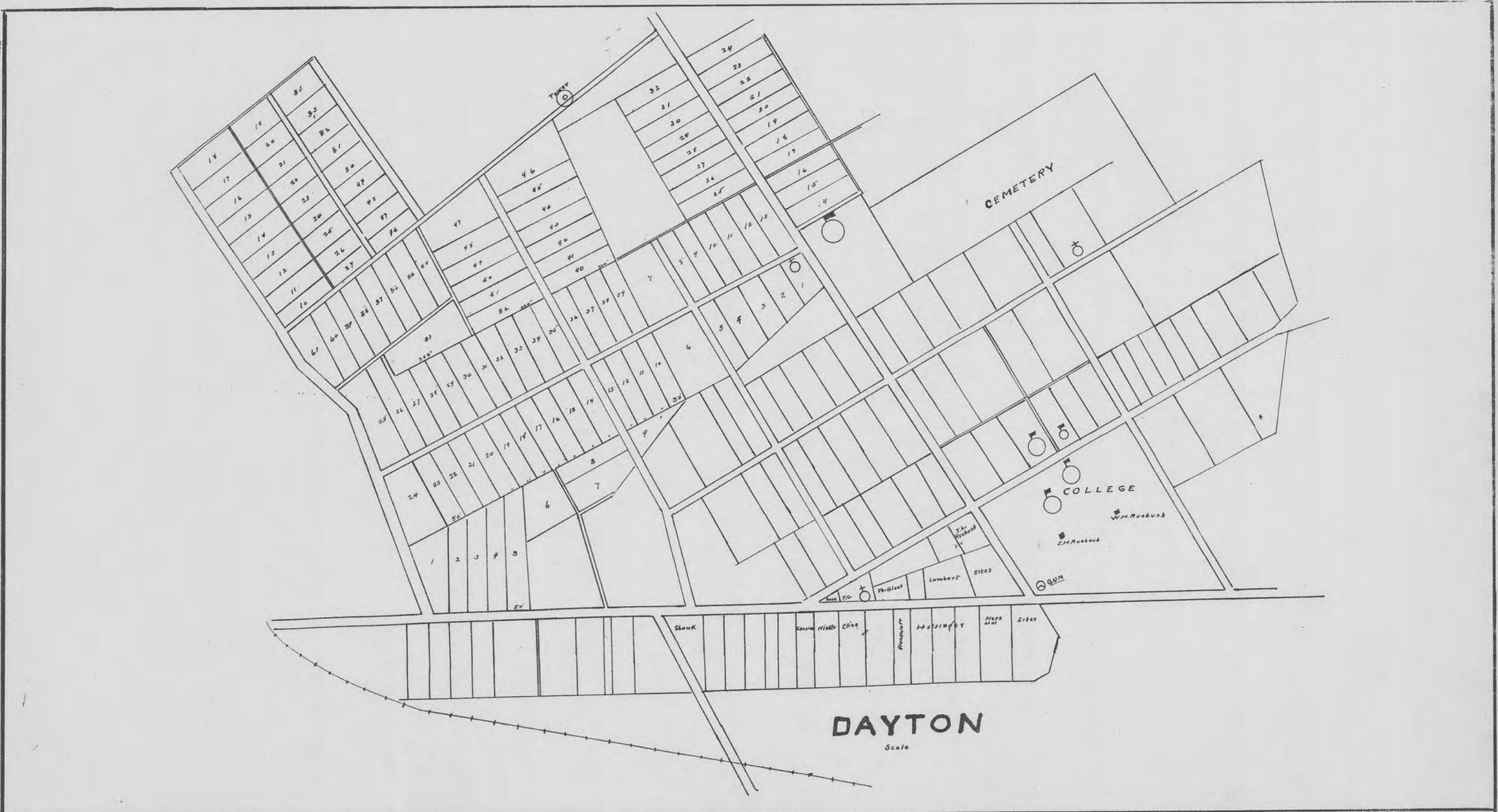
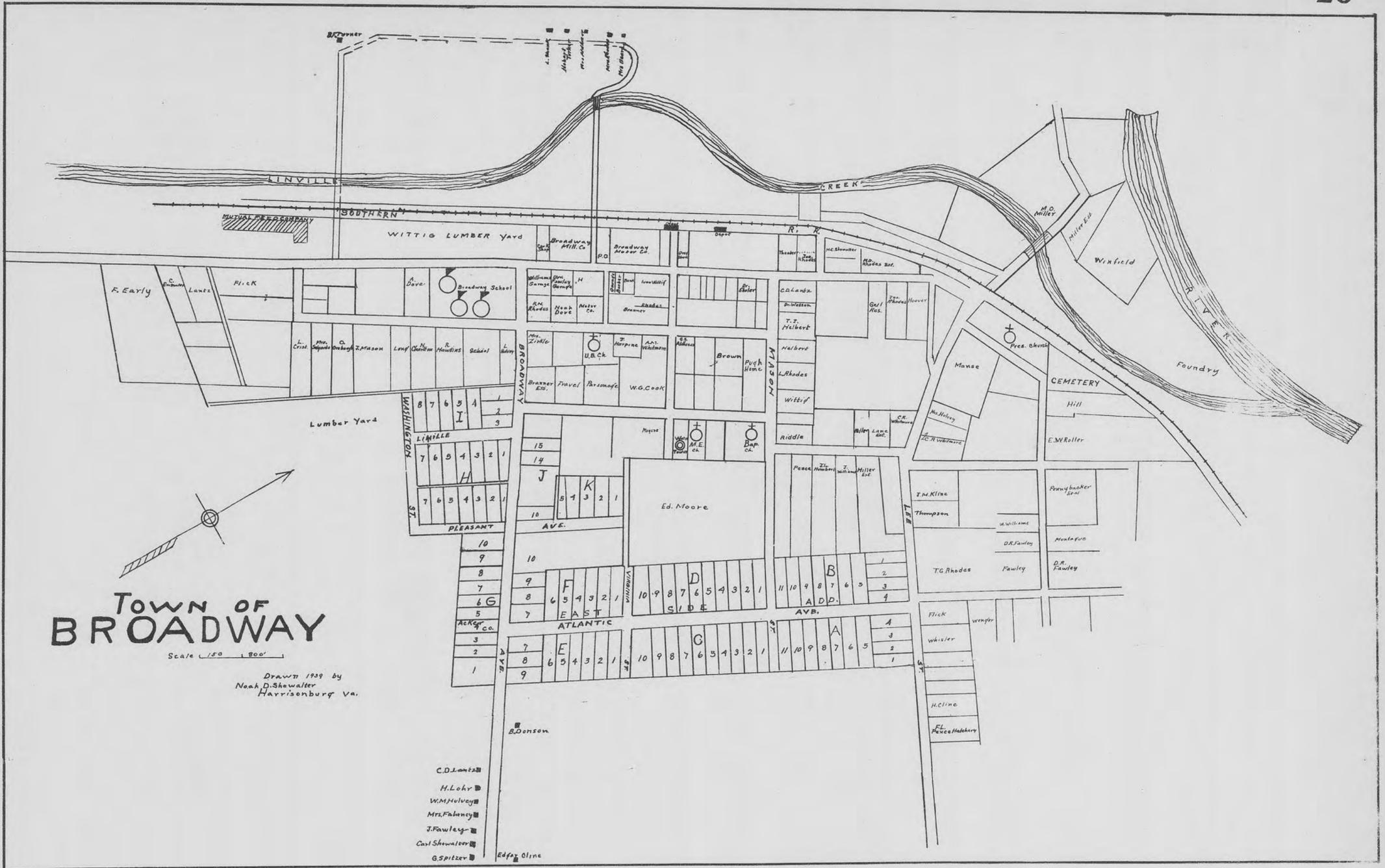


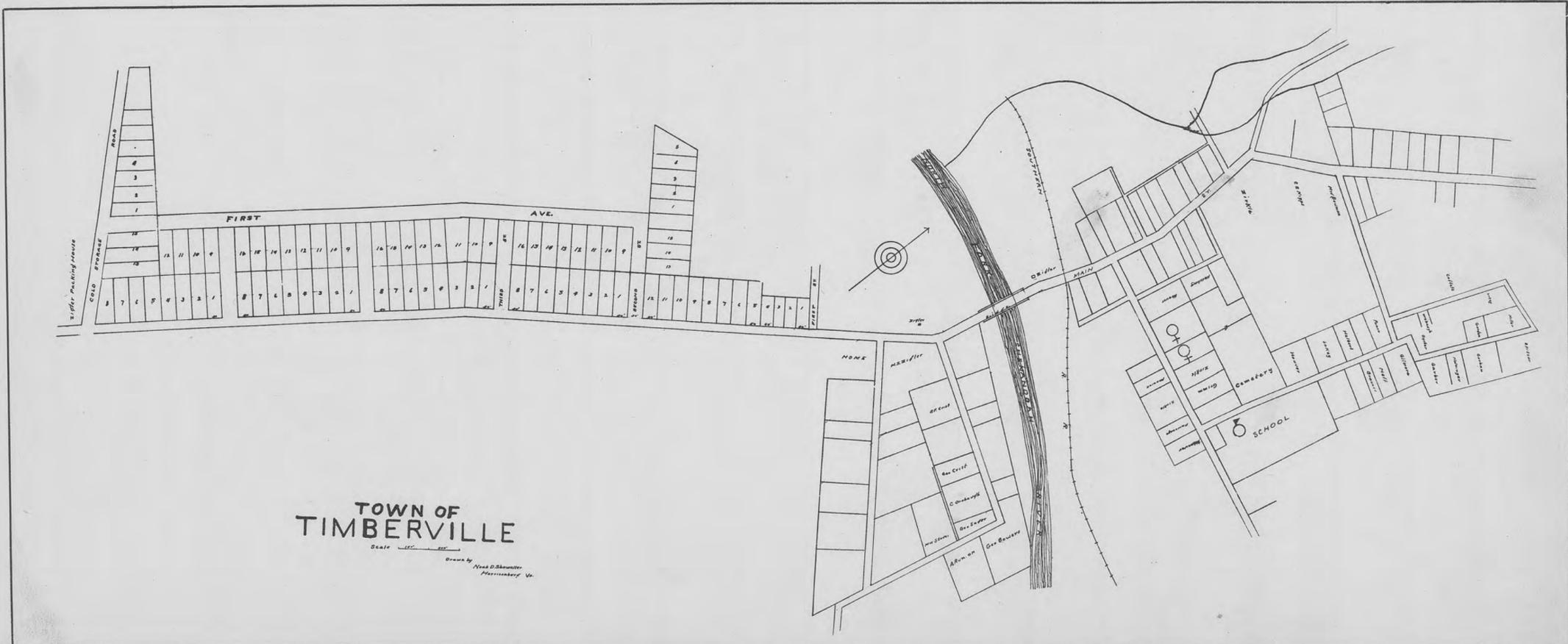
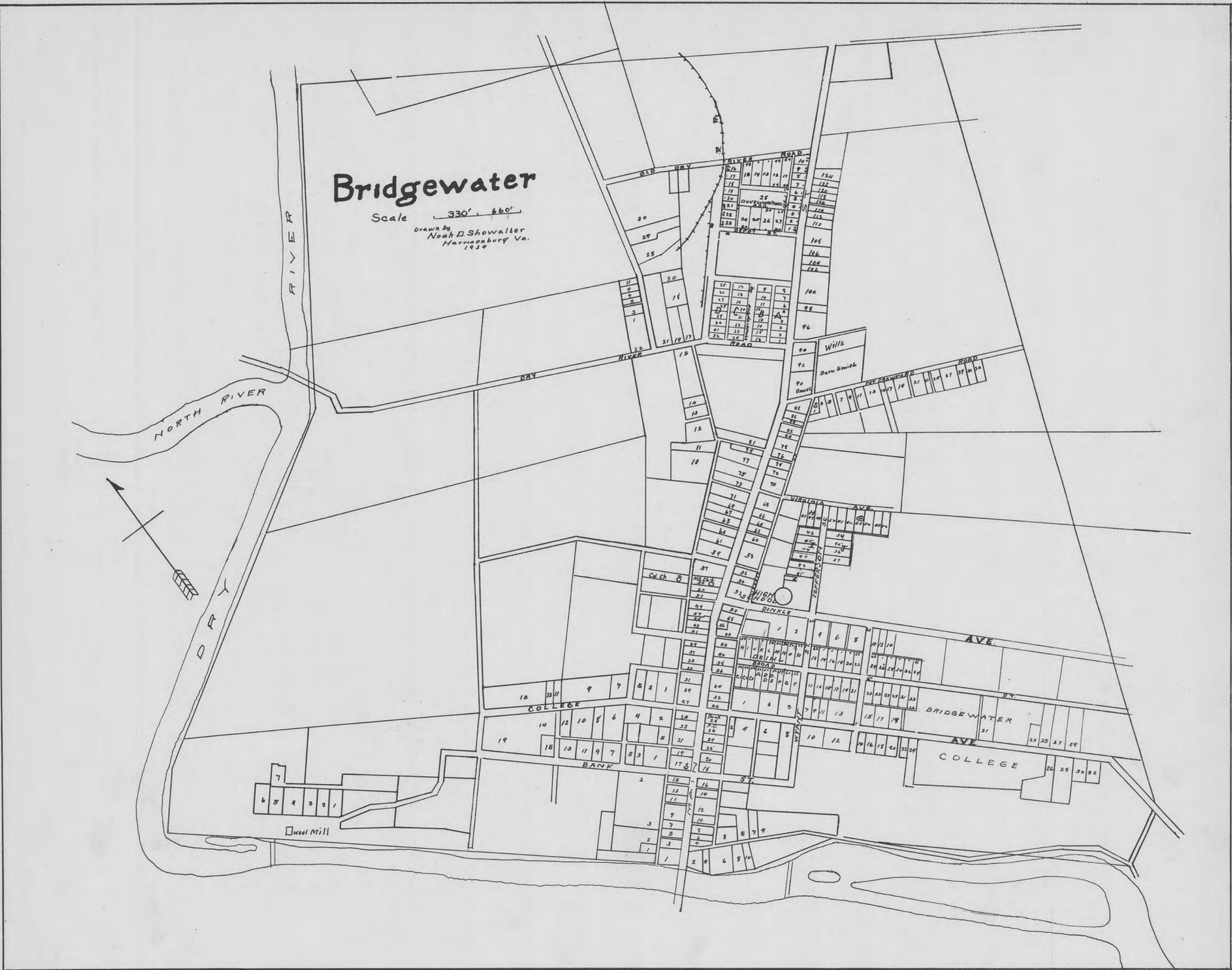
- 1 Crawford
- 2 Patterson
- 3 Sawyer
- 4 Gas
- 5 Fisher
- 6 H. Barman
- 7 Depot
- 8 Huffman
- 9 H. Barman
- 10 H. Barman
- 11 Chandler
- 12 Scott
- 13 Scott
- 14 Bauerman
- 15 RR Co.

Lewis Home
1745

Gabriel Jones
1765





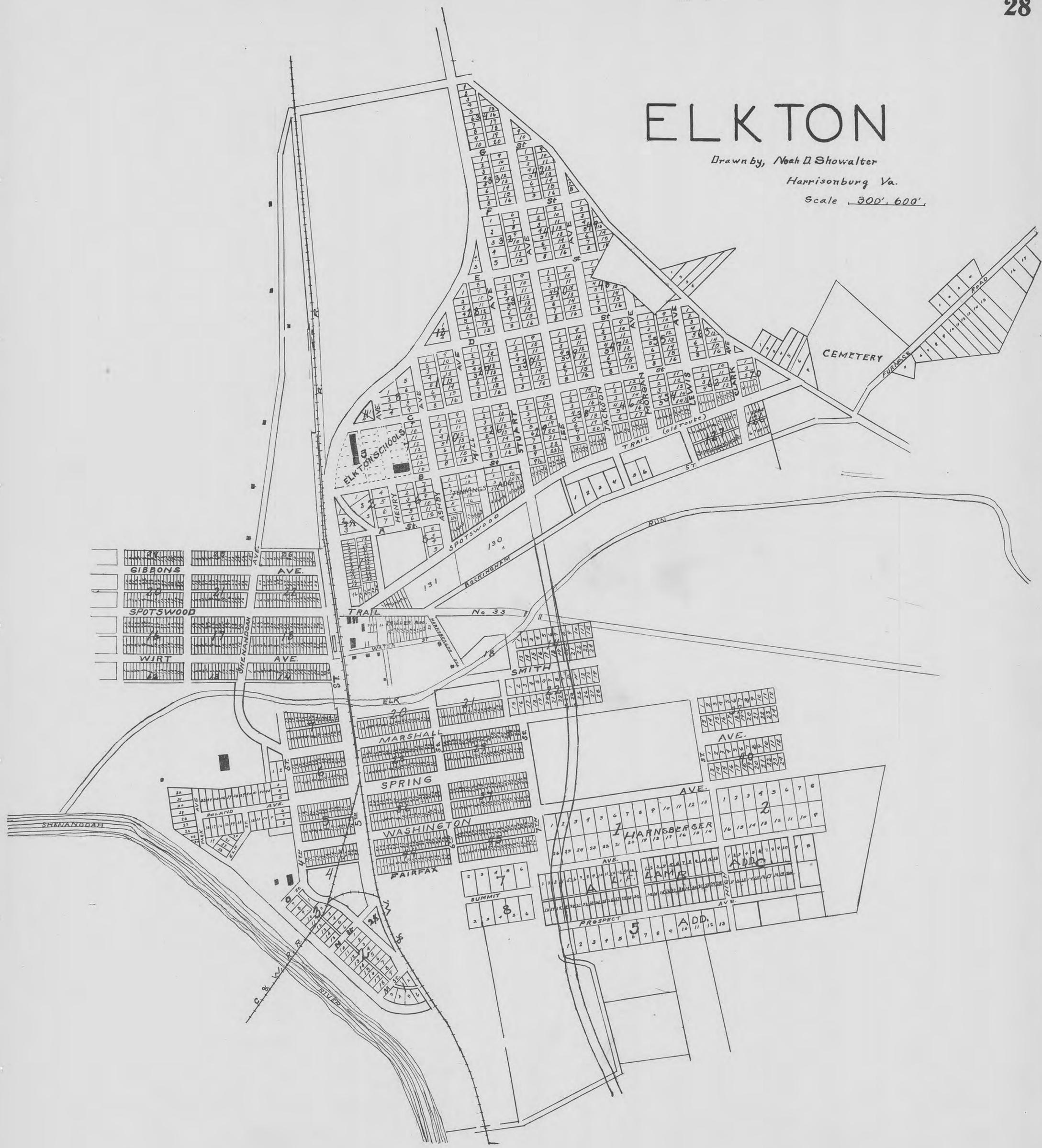


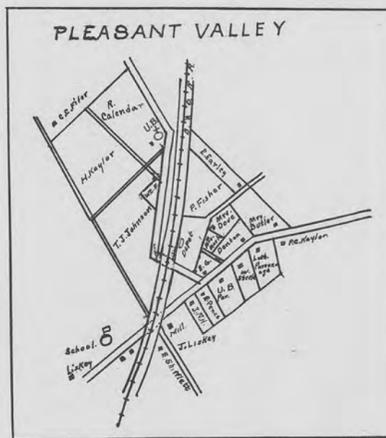
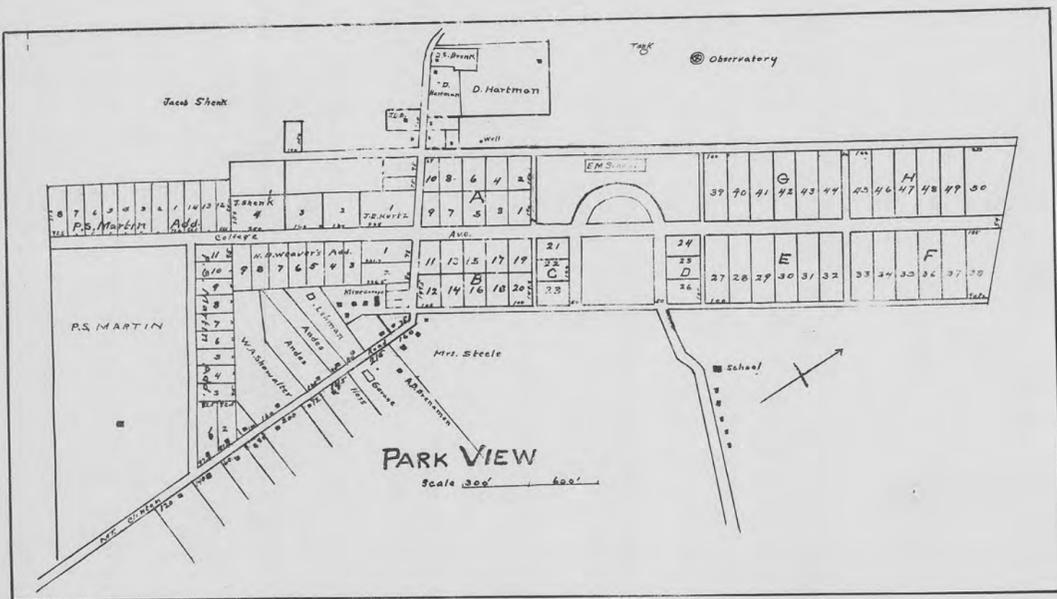
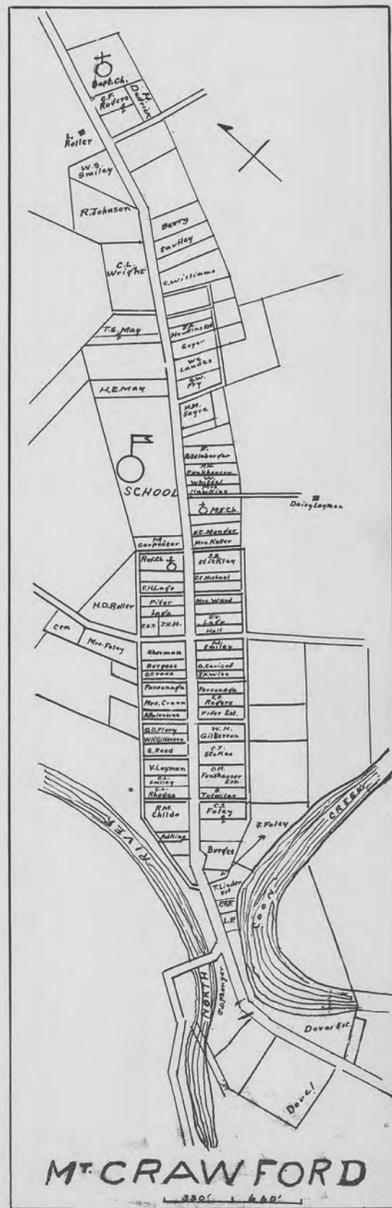
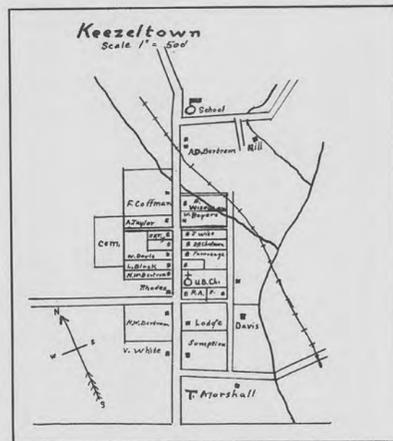
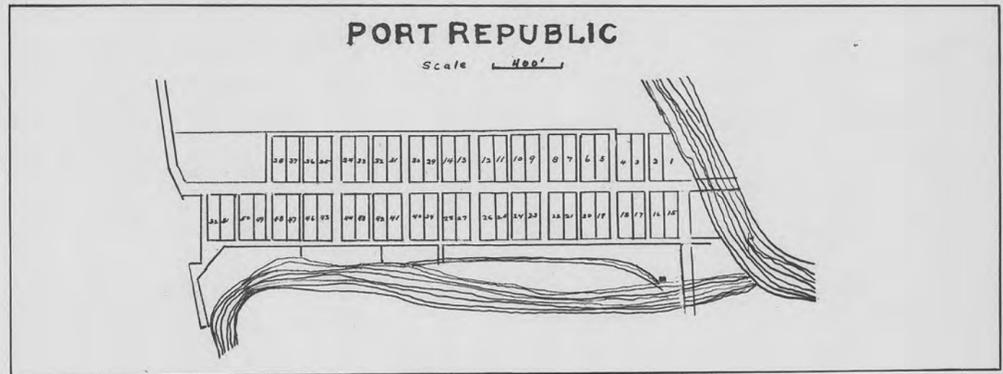
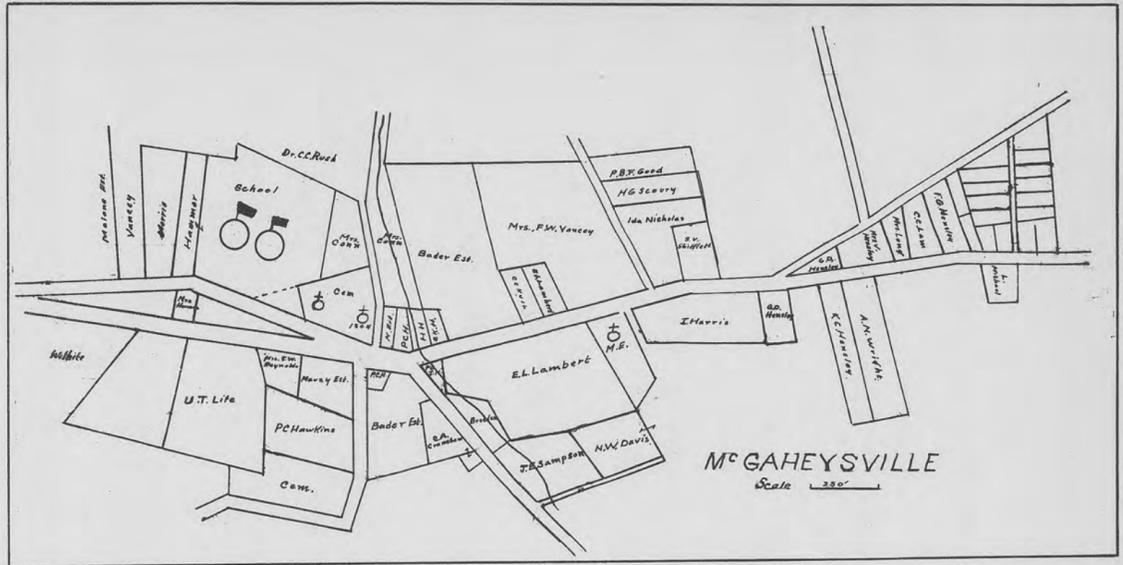
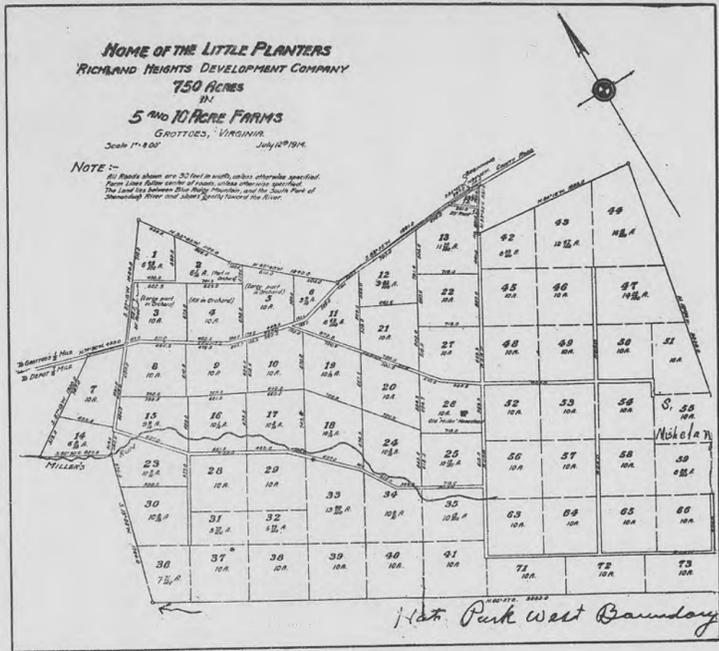
ELKTON

Drawn by, Noah D Showalter

Harrisonburg Va.

Scale 300', 600'





MAP OF HARRISONBURG VIRGINIA



ORIGINAL MAP BY W. G. MYERS, CITY ENGINEER (1927)
 REPRINTED BY PERMISSION, ROAD & SHAWLICE (1929)

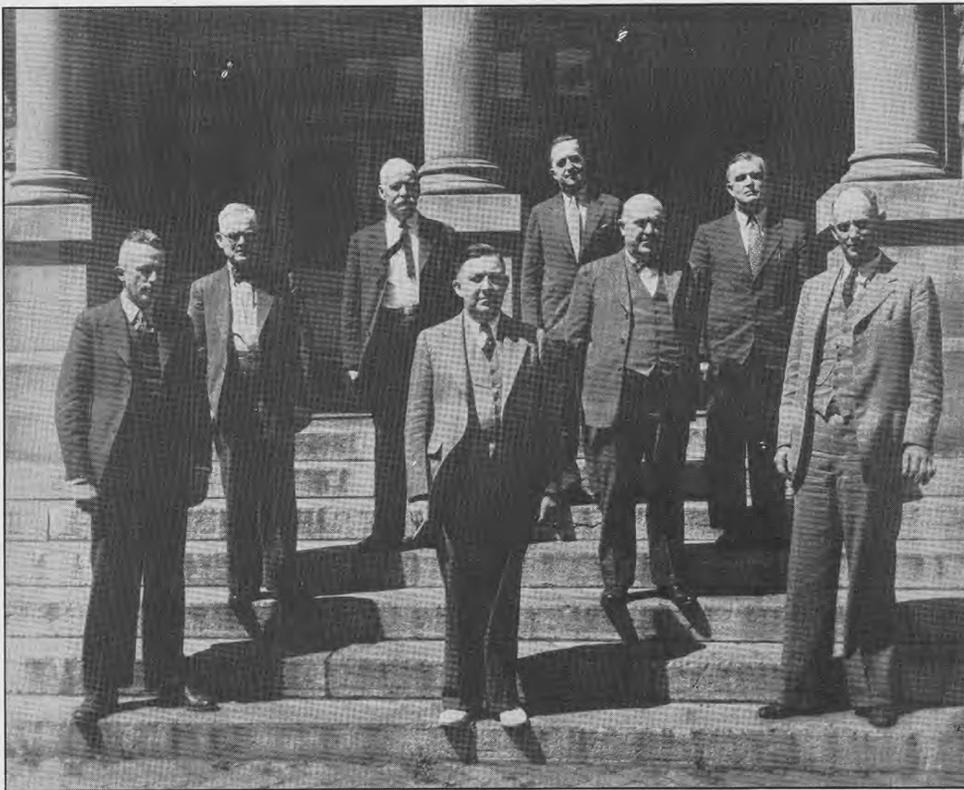
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

By an act of the Virginia General Assembly passed in 1777, Rockingham County was authorized to be formed from the northeastern part of Augusta, and in April of the next year the first courts of the new county were held at the home of Daniel Smith, the homestead two miles northeast of Harrisonburg that is now familiar as Smithland. Daniel Smith was one of the 17 prominent citizens appointed by Governor Patrick Henry to be magistrates or justices of the peace and compose the Rockingham County court. Fourteen of the 17 were present at the organization. The county at that time included about one-fourth of what is now Page; also a small part of what became Hardy in 1786 and the greater part of what became Pendleton in 1788. Hardy and Pendleton are now counties of West Virginia.

Rockingham County was named in honor of Charles Watson Wentworth, Marquis of Rockingham, an eminent English statesman who had shown a friendly attitude towards the colonies in their struggle for liberty.

In August 1779 Thomas Harrison Sr. and his wife Sarah conveyed to the county magistrates a lot of two and a half acres around a large spring for the public buildings of the county, and the next year the town of Harrisonburg was laid out on 50 acres of Harrison's land around the public square and recognized by law. In and after November 1779 the county courts were held in Thomas Harrison's house until the first court house was finished in 1780 or 1781. This court house was built of logs and was used for only ten years, when one of stone was erected. This one was replaced in 1834 with a brick structure which served for 40 years. In 1874 another brick court house was built. This was used until 1896 when the present building was erected.

For some years Rockingham was the largest county in Virginia, but its size was reduced by the formation of other counties from time to time. At present its area is 876 square miles, with a population of 30,000 or more, not including the city of Harrisonburg. In size Rockingham is exceeded by two other counties of Virginia, Pittsylvania, with an area of 1015 square miles, and Augusta, which comprises 1006 square miles. For purposes of local administration Rockingham County is divided into five magisterial districts: Ashby, Central, Linville, and Plains along the northwestern border and extending southeastward to the Massanutten Mountain, and Stonewall District, ranging along the southeastern side and including the bottom lands of the main Shenandoah River and the slopes of the Blue Ridge. Considerable portions of the county along the northwest lie in the first ranges of the Alleghenies.



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY OFFICIALS

Reading left to right: Lewis J. Miller, supervisor; E. L. Depoy, supervisor; M. H. Harrison, treasurer; W. Clyde Koontz, supervisor; W. Edgar Sipe, deputy clerk; R. S. Bowers, supervisor; J. Robert Switzer, clerk; Sam Callender, supervisor.

Rockingham County has always been predominantly agricultural, with stock-raising an important phase of farm enterprise. Within the last 40 years fruit-growing, especially of apples and peaches, has been developed into large commercial values, and more recently poultry-raising has had a remarkable expansion. The landscapes of the county are enhanced by scenic beauty; many localities are celebrated historically; and among the natural wonders are several beautiful caves with marvelous formations. The large majority of the old families in the county are of German stock, but a number of others are English, Scotch, and Irish, with a few of French and Dutch lineage. As a result of this combination of race elements the people have always displayed a versatility of talents with enterprising thrift, and the religious denominations represent an unusual variety. Education has always been fostered, and within the borders of the county and city are four colleges.

TIDE SPRING

A notable Rockingham spring, a most remarkable natural curiosity, is yet to be mentioned, namely, Tide Spring, which is located in Linville Magisterial District, three and a half miles due north of Edom. Thomas Jefferson, in his "Notes on Virginia," first published in France in 1784, speaks of it as follows:

"The mention of uncommon springs leads me to that of Syphon fountains. There is one of these near the intersection of the Lord Fairfax's boundary with the North Mountain, not far from Brock's Gap, on the stream of which is a grist mill, which grinds two bushels of grain at every flood of the spring."

In a recent bulletin on the "Ground-Water Resources of the Shenandoah Valley," issued in connection with the Virginia Geological Survey, several pages and a special chart are devoted to the Tide Spring, which is generally admitted to embody certain features that have not yet yielded to scientific explanation. The following from O. E. Meinzer is quoted from the afore-mentioned bulletin:

"The so-called 'Tide Spring,' on the farm of Cornelius J. Riddle, near Broadway, Va., is a genuine ebbing and flowing spring, which commonly has periods of flow that alternate with periods in which the water disappears completely. It is situated on a limestone hillside a short distance from the perennial stream into which its water discharges. It consists of a basin which is floored in its central part by a deposit of coarse, clean grit that rests on creviced limestone, through which the water rises during the periods of the flow. In a relatively normal period of flow the water rises through the crevices, covers the bottom of the basin, then fills the basin, and starts to overflow. This rise occurs quietly and steadily but decisively, so that approximate maximum discharge may be reached within perhaps a minute from the time the water begins to appear. The basin may then discharge at a rate of several hundred to more than 1000 gallons a minute for perhaps 10 minutes to half an hour, more or less, when the flow begins to weaken noticeably. Then overflow ceases, and the water goes down and disappears with a few gurgling sounds. The ensuing dormant period is likely to last an hour, but it may be very brief or may last several hours, or even several days, weeks, or months. For several days the spring may be very regular in its periodic behavior, but for any long time it is likely to be so variable and erratic, both in the main features and in the minor details of its performance, that it seems as if its behavior were manipulated by mischievous elves residing in the caverns of the locality who take delight in bewildering and mocking those who endeavor to discover its laws of flow."

TRANSPORTATION IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

Rockingham County is relatively young, as it was organized in 1777. But its people have used nearly every type of transportation known to the human race. Beginning with the first hunters and explorers who frequently traveled on foot, every type of transportation has been used—land, water and air.

The first white people to explore this virgin wilderness followed the Indian or game trails. They traveled on foot or rode horseback. Along with this movement the pack horse was used. With the coming of settlers more and more of these trails were widened into roads over which a wheeled vehicle might be drawn. Horses and oxen were used to furnish transportation as well as to till the soil. Rockingham County had no railroad within her borders for nearly a century after her organization. It is not strange therefore that this county became famous for the fine horses which it produced.



It is true that some goods were floated down the rivers in order to get them to the city markets, but a great deal of the surplus produce of the county was taken to distant markets like Alexandria, Fredericksburg and Richmond on wagons drawn by horses. On the return trips these farm teams frequently carried a load of goods for the merchants of the county.

Nearly five years after the close of the Civil War the first railroad train reached Harrisonburg. The county was not only without railroads during the first forty years of the railroad era but its people had no easy access to railroads in adjoining counties. Winchester had railroad connection with Harpers Ferry in 1835, but it is 65 miles from Harrisonburg to Winchester. The railroads reached Strasburg and Staunton in 1854. In 1869 Harrisonburg had railroad connection toward the north and five years later with Staunton. Near the close of the century the Chesapeake and Western Railroad Company built a line from Elkton to Bridgewater by way of Harrisonburg.

During the years that the county had to wait for railroads a great effort was made to get better wagon roads to connect with the railroads. While the railroad was being built from Winchester to Harper's Ferry a highway, the Valley Turnpike, was being laid out to connect Staunton with Winchester. This road crossed the county, passing through Harrisonburg. It was of great value locally and provided a means of reaching the nearest railroads. For many years a stage coach line was operated over this road. In this same period the Warm Springs Turnpike was built from Harrisonburg to Warm Springs in Bath County. This road like the Valley Turnpike was a toll road being built entirely within the county. Of course many other wagon roads were built as the need arose.

Rockingham County today has excellent highways. The toll roads have been incorporated in the state system. The highways of the county not only serve its local needs but are a vital part of the transportation system of the nation. Three through routes cross the county. Passenger cars, buses and freight trucks in great numbers pass through these arteries of transportation every day.

Airplanes cross the county regularly each day. Some citizens of the county own planes and no doubt there will be an airport in the county in the near future.

In less than two centuries Rockingham County has developed from a wilderness where only foot travel or riding horseback was possible to the place where the most modern means of transportation are employed. Human, animal, water, railroad, motor and air transportation have all been used. We have transported our goods in all the stages of development from the pack horse to the trailer truck.

CHARLES C. WRIGHT.

ROCKINGHAM WATERS

The waters of Rockingham County flow about equally into the two forks of the Shenandoah River. Central Magisterial District mostly, Ashby and Stonewall wholly, drain into the South Fork, some of the chief feeders being Dry River, Briery Branch, North River, Muddy Creek, Cook's Creek, Mill Creek, Cub Run, Hawksbill Creek, Elk Run, and Boone's Run; Plains Magisterial District wholly and Linville almost entirely drain into the North Fork, directly for a long distance, and also indirectly through Dry River, Shoemaker River, Runyon's Creek, Brock's Creek, Linville Creek, Smith Creek, and other tributaries.

The comb or ridge that divides the waters of the county as aforesaid consists of the Massanutten Mountain and a height of land that extends from Laird's Knob northwestwardly to Tomahawk Mountain at the West Virginia line. It passes between Smithland and Harrisonburg and across by the Eastern Mennonite School. It runs for most of the way just southwest of the line between Linville District and Central. Two rather deep interruptions may be noted: (1) the eastern branch of Linville Creek reaches up west of the Mennonite School into Central District to a point opposite Harrisonburg; (2) Muddy Creek reaches across the line into Linville District almost to Singers' Glen.

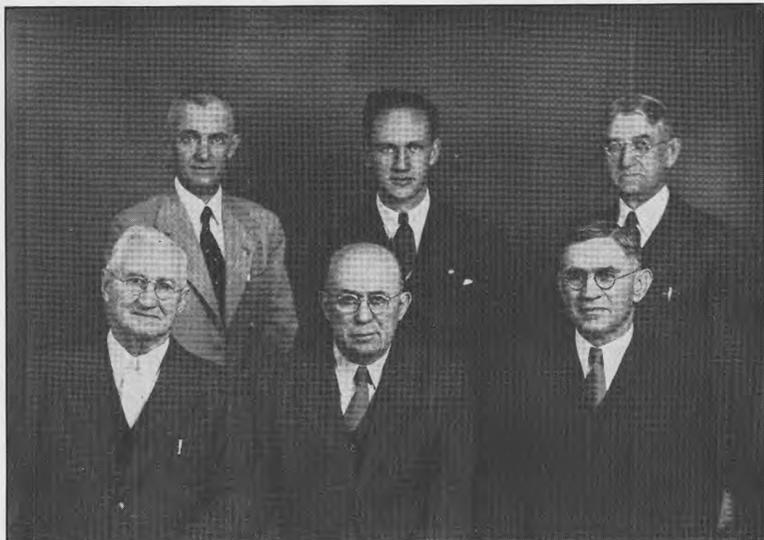
Partly within the county are two North Rivers: (1) the North Fork of the Shenandoah, already mentioned, which comes out of Brock's Gap and then turns northeast down the Valley; (2) North River, at Bridgewater and Mt. Crawford, which is an affluent of the South Fork at Port Republic. Wholly within the county are two Dry Rivers: (1) one coming out of the mountains at Rawley Springs and joining North River at Bridgewater; (2) another west of Brock's Gap, flowing into the North Fork of the Shenandoah at Fulk's Run. There are two Silver Creeks, two Naked Creeks, and at least two Dry Runs; also a Dry Branch of Smith Creek. Both Silver Creeks flow into North River, one above Bridgewater, the other just below Mt. Crawford. One Dry Run flows into Dry River above Rawley Springs, another enters the South Fork of the Shenandoah from the east below Elkton. One Naked Creek enters North River below Burketown, forming the boundary line between Rockingham and Augusta County for about three-quarters of a mile; the other enters the South Fork of the Shenandoah above Shenandoah City, from the east, forming the line between Rockingham and Page County for about five miles. The Dry Branch of Smith Creek heads at Smithland, two miles northeast of Harrisonburg, and this fact probably gave rise to the name Smith Creek. Black's Run, which drains Harrisonburg, is the eastern branch of Cook's Creek, and was so called in the surveys made here for Thomas Harrison in 1739. At least four streams in the county are named for native animals: Elk Run, Wolf Run, Beaver Creek, and Bear Creek. Two, Hangman's Run and War Branch, have an ominous sound. The former is below Lynnwood, the latter near Hinton. The writer does not have information about Hangman's Run, but War Branch took its name, so tradition has it, from a bloody battle between the Catawbas and the Delawares, two Indian tribes.

The Hawksbill Creek in Page County is very familiar, but there is another Hawksbill Creek in East Rockingham. It flows into the South Fork of the Shenandoah from the east side a mile and a half above Elkton and is made up of two smaller streams, Mill Creek and Cold Comfort Creek. The larger and more important Mill Creek heads at Massanetta Springs and enters North River above Port Republic.

Within the county are a number of large and well-known Springs: Bear Lithia, Lacey, Kratzer, and others. Spring Creek, Beaver Creek, and the neighboring Silver Creek head at large springs. One at Singers' Glen and another at Bowman's Mill reinforce Linville Creek. Lacey Spring adds enough volume to Smith Creek to run a small mill. The springs in Harrisonburg and the ones a short distance southwest of the city make up most of the volume of Black's Run. Half a dozen or more springs of the county have medicinal qualities and have long attracted summer sojourners. Among such may be mentioned Bloomer Springs, Hopkins's (Rockingham Springs), Massanetta (formerly Taylors'), Brock's, Sparkling, Liberty, Union, and Rawley. Rawley Springs and Massanetta, as well as Bear Lithia, have a national reputation. Sidney Lanier and his family spent the summer of 1879 at Rockingham Springs, and there he wrote his "Science of English Verse."

ROCKINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In Rockingham, as in other counties of Virginia, most persons up to 1870 or later were educated in "pay schools," elementary schools and academies that were established and maintained by private individuals or neighborhood groups. Many of the academies were chartered by the state legislature, like Rockingham Academy in 1826 and Woodlawn Academy in Shenandoah in 1841. In such schools advanced instruction was given, but children were provided for also, as well as in the "old field" schools. At the same time small sums were allotted to the several counties from the State Literary Fund for public free schools; but the latter were intended especially for children whose parents were not able to pay teachers, and consequently they were shunned as much as possible, even by poor families. Under such conditions there grew up a prejudice against free schools that persisted for years after 1870, when a more general system for public education was established. However, in this part of the state the prejudice against free schools was not as general as in some other sections.



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

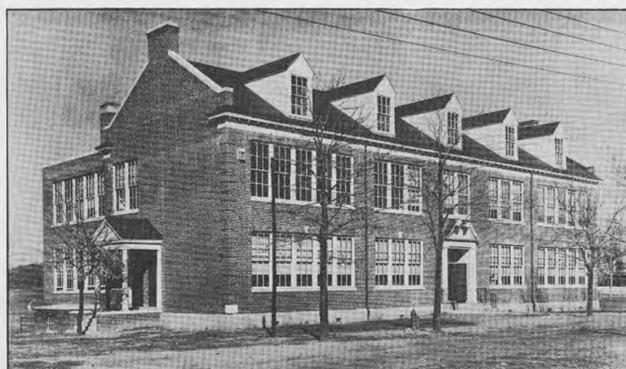
Reading from left to right—back row: Dr. G. W. Rolston, George Aldhizer II, John F. Miller; front row: Dr. C. B. Harshbarger, B. F. Suter, John C. Myers, Supt. and Sec'y

In 1826 the sum allotted by the state for free schools in Rockingham was \$942.12; in 1850 it was \$1399.00; in 1861, \$3,333.00. In 1876, after the present system had been in operation for five or six years, Rockingham County had 157 schools and the average monthly enrolment of pupils was 5060. At that time, of course, Harrisonburg was included in the county, and the school age of pupils was 5 to 21 years. The amount received from the state was \$10,165.00; from the county, \$8809.17; from taxation in the districts, \$5818.95. Salaries of teachers were supplemented otherwise to the amount of \$5050.50. All this gave a total of \$29,843.62 for the year. The average length of the school terms was slightly less than 5 months and the average monthly pay of teachers \$32.56.



TIMBERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Rockingham Academy, chartered in 1826, as already mentioned, was operated for nearly 100 years and was familiarly known as the Plains School. It was located about two and a half miles east of Timberville. In later years it was incorporated in the public school system. Beginning prior to 1860 and continuing long afterward, Joseph Funk and his sons conducted a school at Singers' Glen for young men, shaping their training especially to fit them for teaching vocal music. Within the same period Joseph Salyards and others gave advanced instruction at different places in the county. John W. Taylor, after teaching a while in Harrisonburg, opened in 1865 at Lacey Spring a school which he carried on for more than 40 years.



ELKTON HIGH SCHOOL

The first superintendent of Rockingham schools under the present public school system was George W. Holland, 1870-1872, and the next was Joseph S. Loose, who held office for the next three years. Jasper Hawse was county superintendent for seven years, 1876 to 1883, and he was followed by A. P. Funkhouser, 1883-1886. The next incumbent, George H. Hulvey, held office for 31 years, 1886 to 1917, and within that period directed the construction of a number of improved school buildings and inaugurated measures that led to progress along different lines. In 1916 the Harrisonburg schools were made a separate school division, with a superintendent of their own, and the next year Mr. Hulvey was succeeded as county superintendent by John C. Myers. The latter took office on July 1, 1917, and still continues in the same position.



BRIDGEWATER HIGH SCHOOL

Since 1870 a number of notable schools have entered into the educational life of Rockingham County and the city of Harrisonburg, each of special significance in its own way. In a brief sketch, such as this, not all of these particular schools can be recognized, but several of them must be given place, however briefly. From 1873 to 1877 Alcide Reichenbach, Jesse D. Bucher, and A. L. Funk, at Bridgewater, conducted the Valley Normal School, which trained a number of excellent teachers and was highly commended by State Superintendent Ruffner. Among the other teachers in the Valley Normal School were Miss Laura O'Ferrall and Miss Virginia Paul. Several distinguished educators from a distance were on the staff of lecturers. In 1875 A. P. Funkhouser at Dayton began educational work which has developed into Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music. In 1880 at Spring Creek Daniel C. Flory and others opened a school for higher education. This institution was soon located at Bridgewater and has long been carried on successfully as Bridgewater College. At Harrisonburg in 1908 was established a state normal school which later expanded into a teachers college. With additional courses in liberal arts, it is now known as Madison College. The Eastern Mennonite School, a junior college, also located at Harrisonburg, had its beginnings in 1916. The several faculties have cooperated most cordially with the division superintendents, and many of the teachers in the county and the city have had training in these institutions. In addition, there have been in the county other outstanding schools that have been wholly or in part integrated with the public schools, for example, Oak Hill Academy at McGaheysville and West Central Academy at Mt. Clinton. The former was brought into prominence about 1881 by A. C. Kimler; the latter operated from 1890 to 1902 under the principalship of Isaac S. Wampler and L. R. Dingus. Both were influential in training teachers for the public schools and in sending young men and women forward into college and university.



SUPT. JOHN C. MYERS

In 1914, while Professor Hulvey was still superintendent, Leighton M. Hulvey, Robert L. Eastham, and Robert C. Bowers compiled and published an illustrated volume of 142 pages on the public schools of Rockingham County and Harrisonburg, including an account of the State Normal School that had recently been opened at Harrisonburg. This publication shows pictures of many of the school buildings, reviews the progress of the past quarter of a century, and contains a classified directory of the teachers then in service in the several districts of the county and in Harrisonburg. Since that volume appeared another quarter-century has elapsed, and it will be appropriate here to present briefly the condition and progress of the county schools under Superintendent Myers.



MT. CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL



MCGAHEYSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

In 1917-1918 Bridgewater, Dayton, Broadway, McGaheysville, and Elkton were the only schools in the county having a 9-month term. Some of the other schools ran 8 months and some 6. The 1-room and 2-room schools in Ashby District ran 6 months; those in Plains and Stonewall ran 5½ months. School terms were gradually lengthened, and in 1938-1939 all the schools in the county had a 9-month term for the first time. In 1917-1918 there were 57 1-room schools, 51 for white children and 6 for colored; 30 2-room schools, 29 for white and 1 for colored; 28 schools for white children with 3 rooms and more. In all, 115 schools. Since then a number of the smaller schools have been closed and arrangements have been made for transporting pupils to the larger schools. In 1938-1939 there were still 25 1-room schools, 21 for white children and 4 for colored; 16 2-room schools, 15 for white and 1 for colored; 3 3-room schools and 20 of 4 rooms and more, all for white children.

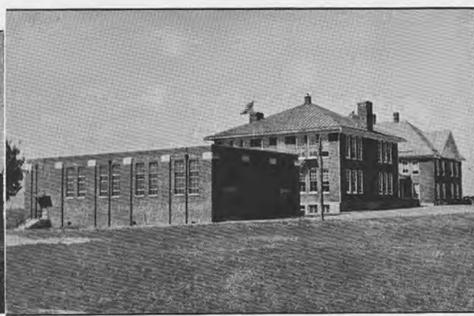


DAYTON HIGH SCHOOL

In 1925-1926 there were only two transportation routes and only 52 pupils were transported. Up to 1930 there were 5 routes, transporting 150 pupils. In 1930-1931 the first bus was purchased by the school board and additional routes were added by contract. Now (1939) the school board owns 18 buses and there are 17 routes operated by contract. During the past session 2500 children were transported. There are in the county 10 accredited high schools, one each at Bridgewater, Broadway, Dayton, Elkton, Keezletown, Linville-Edom, McGaheysville, Mt. Clinton, Port Republic, and Timberville. The high school at Singers' Glen is certified. The number of pupils enrolled in the high schools is 1368; those in the grades, including 1-room schools, number 5482. There are 246 teachers, 62 men and 184 women.



SINGERS' GLEN HIGH SCHOOL



ELKTON GRADE SCHOOL

Since 1917 good school buildings have been erected at Bridgewater, Broadway, Dayton, Elkton, Grottoes, Keezletown, Lacey Spring, McGaheysville, Mt. Clinton, Mt. Crawford, Port Republic, Singers' Glen, Tenth Legion, and Timberville. The total amount expended for new buildings and additions since 1917 is \$585,000.00. This includes \$80,000.00 now being spent in the new building at Linville-Edom where a destructive fire occurred on February 20, 1939. Training in agriculture is now given in all ten of the accredited high schools, the first department starting at Bridgewater and Dayton in 1921. Home economics is also taught in all the high schools, beginning at Bridgewater in 1922 and at Broadway in 1923. Broadway is the only school providing courses in industrial arts, since 1935. Expert supervision is now given to all the elementary schools of the county, two supervisors having been provided in 1935. In 1917-1918 the sum spent in the county for teachers' salaries was \$71,569.58; in 1938-1939 the amount was \$193,182.00.

In 1924 four Rockingham teachers, Virginia Good, Margaretta Coffman, Effie Early, and Freida Johnson, in connection with their work at the University of Virginia summer school, prepared an important work on the geography, natural resources, industries, and county government of Rockingham County. This was published by the school board of the county for use in the schools to supplement the study of local geography and related subjects. It contains several maps, numerous pictures, and useful statistics.

Many of the teachers of Rockingham County, by reason of their devoted service in the schools over extended periods, deserve recognition. Among those who taught long and successfully under superintendents Hulvey and Myers are the following: Misses Ada Baugh, Belle Hannah (later Mrs. George B. Keezell), Mary F. Hinegardner, Fanny Lowman, and Lina E. Sanger; Messrs. C. E. Bargebaugh, J. S. H. Good, M. A. Good, Daniel Hays, G. F. Holsinger, John S. McLeod, A. K. McMullen, W. O. Moubrey, E. R. Shank, and S. S. Shoemaker.

TRAILS AND ROADS

In a land of mountains, valleys, streams, and hills Nature lays down the courses of the highways no less clearly than she indicates the locations of towns and cities. In no part of northern Virginia is this more obvious than in Rockingham County. Old trails converged upon and radiated from Brock's Gap, Massanutten Gap, Swift Run Gap, Brown's Gap, North River Gap, and Dry River Gap. The towering end of Peaked Mountain caused great bends and forks in the roads across the Valley. Fordable places in the rivers and smaller streams also had an influence in determining the courses of trails and roads. Good watering places, like the springs at Harrisonburg, Dayton, Linville, Lacey Springs, Singers' Glen, Greenmount, and Bear Lithia played their part. When the white people came they found trails in their natural courses that the Indians and buffaloes had been using for centuries. These trails were wide enough for men on foot, for packhorses, and for riders in Indian file, but not wide enough at many places for wagons. Many of the first petitions to the county courts asked for more and better roads.

Up and down the Valley in 1746 and earlier white men spoke of the Indian Road. It came up on the general course of the present highway, forking just above Tenth Legion, the main branch going up by Keezletown and Cross Keys, and so on into the southwest. The other branch came up on the ridge, west of the present pike, but led past Thomas Harrison's, where Harrisonburg now stands, and so on past Mt. Crawford, towards Staunton and beyond. In 1753 some Moravians moving from Pennsylvania to North Carolina were able to follow

this course with a wagon, but it was hard going. Before 1820 stage coaches were running, but the road was still rough. In the autumn of 1825, a German nobleman, the Duke of Saxe-Weimar, traveled up the Valley from Harper's Ferry to Staunton and Natural Bridge, leaving Woodstock at half-past two in the morning and reaching Staunton late in the evening. He complained of the "miserable stage" and the "rugged road." By this time the road had been moved down off the ridge and came up by Lacey Spring ("Big Spring") and Smithland to Harrisonburg. Soon after 1830 a turnpike was built from Harrisonburg to Warm Springs, in Bath County, going out by Bridgewater (then Bridge Port) and Miller's Iron Works (Mossy Creek). A few years later the Valley stage road was macadamized from Winchester to Staunton.



One of the old roads came down through Brock's Gap and crossed over by Linville and Smithland, Keezletown, Peale's Cross Roads, and around the end of Peaked Mountain to Swift Run Gap. Just beyond Peale's (formerly Gilbert's) the Lawyer Road forked off towards Lynnwood and Port Republic. By this road Washington came over to Lynnwood in the fall of 1784. Another road to Swift Run Gap came over from the west between Harrisonburg and Dayton. As early as 1789 an act of the General Assembly was passed for repairing the road through Swift Run Gap. An early road also led through Brown's Gap towards Charlottesville.

Another old trail has been known for many years as the Back Road. It parallels the Little North Mountain at a distance of a mile or two and runs down through Ottobine, Clover Hill, Singers' Glen, Turleytown, Cootes' Store, and a short distance west of Honeyville and Mechanicsville. It avoids steep grades by running parallel with the mountains and ridges. Moreover, on this side of the Valley most of the streams are small.

In laying out new roads and in shifting old trails, line fences between farms were followed as much as possible. This explains why the old roads often went over hills that are now avoided. A notable example of this may be found just southwest of Edom. There the old road went up over the hill on the northwest side of the Noah Beery house—its course may still be traced by the deep cut in the hillside. It followed the old grant line of 1739. Less than forty years ago this road was moved down to its present course nearer to Linville Creek, where the grade is more nearly level. Such changes have been made from time to time with all the highways, to avoid hills and eliminate bends, or to make fewer crossings of railways. In general, however, all the newly built highways follow the courses of old trails that have been followed for centuries.

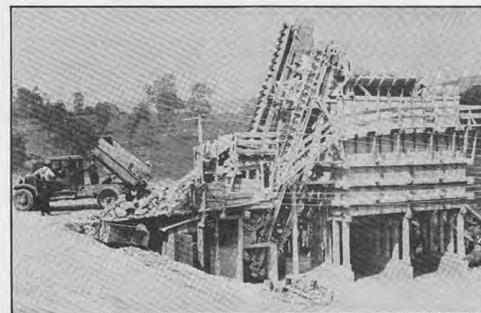
TOPCOATS FOR ROADS

The travel-ways of Rockingham received a great stimulus to improvement when the Valley Pike, now known as U. S. Route 11, was built between 1834 and 1840. This was one of the early hard-surface or all-weather roads in this part of Virginia. It was built by a private company, but the state purchased two-fifths of the stock. The company was permitted to collect tolls from travelers for up-keep of the road and interest on investment, and tollgates were familiar landmarks on this highway until 1918 when the state bought out the private stockholders and removed the tollgates.

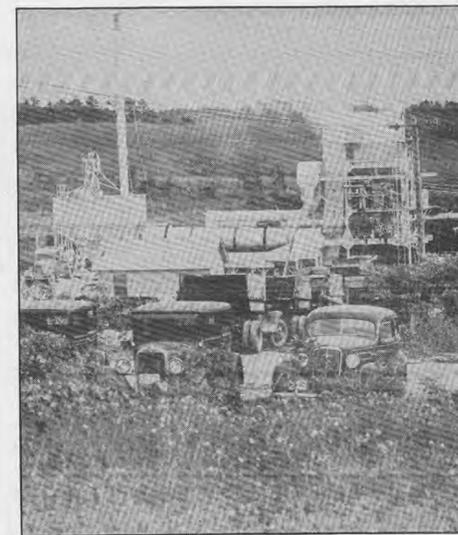
The original hard surface of the Valley Pike and similar roads was plain macadam, stone broken to about the size of a hen's egg or a hulled walnut, spread on to a depth of 6 or 8 inches, then packed down and gradually pulverized by the wheels and hoofs passing over it. Inasmuch as this is a limestone country, limestone was used (and still is used) to metal most of the roads. The stones in irregular sizes were hauled in wagons and ranked along the track to be macadamized. Workmen sitting astride the rank broke the stones to the required size with small one-hand hammers. The broken stones were then spread over the track. No binder was used. The steel tires of the heavily loaded wagons served as rollers and crushers. Narrow rims cut furrows, but wide tires pressed and packed the small stones, and accordingly on some toll roads wagons with very wide tires were passed toll-free.

Automobiles with rubber tires clawed and kicked the small stones, and soon various kinds of binders were put on the macadam. Now the topcoats of the highways consist of finely crushed stone mixed with perfected binding substances, and are put on quickly and smoothly with machines. Miles of road can now be finished in the time that would have been required in olden times to macadamize a few rods.

Fred K. Betts Jr., at Harrisonburg, is one of the well-known operators who specialize in supplying materials for building modern highways and in furnishing ground limestone for agricultural purposes. Near his quarries the Barrett Company have a large mixing plant for preparing topcoats for roads, one of the most up-to-date in the country. An average of 400 tons daily is not an unusual output.

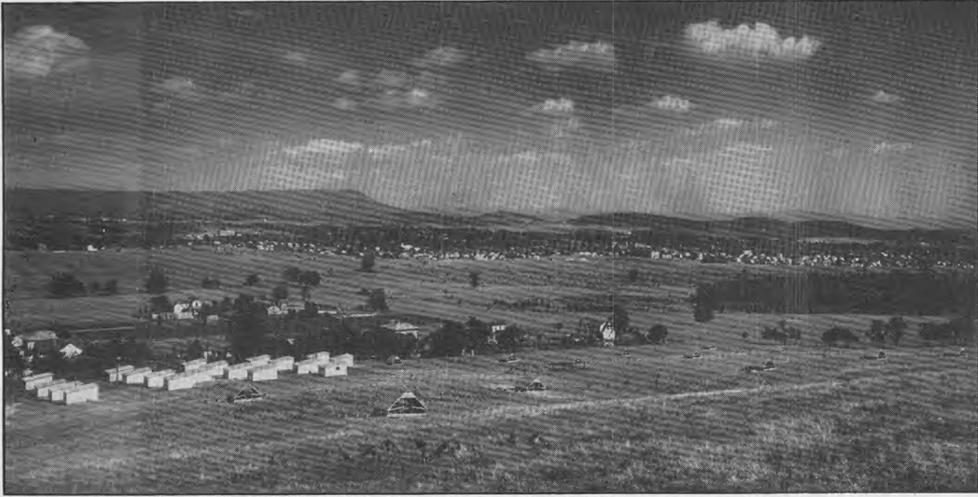


Above: BETTS STONE CRUSHER AND GRADER



At Right: BARRETT TARVIA MIXING PLANT

Long's Pump, on the Valley Pike between Melrose and Lacey Spring, has been familiar for many years to people of the locality, and Leedy's Pump, on the Rockingham Turnpike, about a mile southeast of Harrisonburg, was for a long time another well-known landmark.



HARRISONBURG FROM THE WEST, WITH PEAKED MOUNTAIN IN THE BACKGROUND

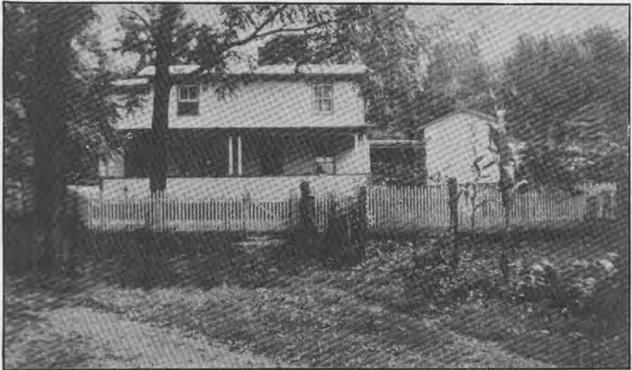
FOREST PRODUCTS

Forests have always been one of the great sources of wealth and one of the first utilized by pioneers in settling a new country. The trees with their overhanging branches gave shelter to man and beast before houses were built. Logs, bark, and branches were used in constructing camps and cabins; timbers made up or reinforced all later and larger buildings. Canoes were hollowed from logs; fences were built of poles and rails; barks were used in tanning; rude implements for shop and farm were fashioned from hard woods; and wood was used for fuel from the kindling of the first campfire to the burning of the great Yule log in the wide fireplaces of palatial mansions.

The Plains and other tracts in Rockingham County were devoid of trees when the white people came, but most regions, especially the ridges and mountains, were covered with splendid timber of pine, oak, hickory, walnut, chestnut, locust and other varieties. Forests were so extensive that they were undervalued—trees were in the way of farms, and consequently millions of them were ruthlessly destroyed to make way for fields and gardens. In time rafts and flatboats carried flour, bacon, and iron down the streams to market and were there sold for the lumber they contained. Now and then a boat went down loaded with lumber. But the main shipments of forest products, lumber, bark, ship timbers, and ties, came after the building of the railroads. Many sawmills were operated here and there in earlier years, but their output was mostly consumed locally, except along or near the larger rivers.

The Brock's Gap country has been typical in timber industries, and also outstanding, and here the Wittig family have been representative in the lumber business. The first Wittig here was Ulrich, who came from Germany in 1850 and set up a sawmill at the place now called Bergton, formerly Dovesville. As a voting place it is familiar as Wittigs. Ulrich was followed by his sons, two of whom were William and Henry. The latter had the first steam engine in Brock's Gap, used instead of water power to operate the sawmill. Henry was succeeded by his son Isaac as a lumber dealer at Broadway, but Isaac did not operate sawmills. Isaac's son Ivan has succeeded his father at Broadway, where he has added a lumber milling plant which is operated extensively and successfully. John, another son of Ulrich, had a sawmill at or near Bergton.

Luther Wittig, a son of William, operated a sawmill and a planing mill at Riverside. Layman H. Wittig, a son of Luther, is continuing his father's business with a sawmill and wood-working shop at Riverside, where his business is well established and widely known. The picture herewith shows his well-appointed residence.



HOME OF LAYMAN H. WITTIG

Broadway as a town grew up immediately after the coming of the railroad in 1869—it is the natural shipping point for the Brock's Gap region and for a considerable part of West Virginia beyond the Gap. In 1914 the freight agent at Broadway figured that over the preceding period of 30 years an average of 22 loaded wagons a day had come to the railroad station at that point—not so many at first, but later a larger number, 30 to 40 a day, up to and in 1914. If each load averaged a weight of 3000 pounds, the total weight of shipments over the 30-year period aggregated nearly 300,000 tons.

The products shipped from Broadway within this period were tan bark, railroad ties, and lumber, especially oak timbers for the construction of freight cars and ships; shingles; flooring lumber, and forest products of other kinds, including chemical extracts used in tanneries. The tannery at Lost City, Hardy County, W. Va., received many of its hides from the railroad at Broadway and shipped out its products from the same point. At the same time the large tanneries at Harrisonburg and Elkton were utilizing large stores of bark from the Alleghenies and the Blue Ridge, respectively.

In speaking of the valuable products of the forests, we must not overlook the charcoal of earlier times, which was used to operate the furnaces, forges, and foundries, as well as the blacksmith shops that were found in every village and at every crossroads. Thousands of acres of timber were used up in the great coal pits, the marks of which may be seen still at many places in the cultivated fields. The men who made a business of "coaling" were known as colliers; and on the roads were seen large wagons with huge frames, blackened from the charcoal that was hauled in them.

From about 1870 to 1892 John C. Miller and his sons made tombstones at a shop on the Glade, a mile southwest of Bridgewater. They used a circular revolving bed, operated by water power, similar in design to that used on Cedar Run many years before by Christian and Abraham Funk, but the Millers' rubbing bed was of metal instead of stone. John C. Miller began to make tombstones of onyx, a deposit of which was found on his land.

In the fall of 1938 two men killed 29 foxes in Rockingham County—an unusual number for one year.

ROCKINGHAM 4-H CLUBS

4-H Clubs are organized throughout the United States with a total membership of more than 1,000,000 farm boys and girls. The work is a part of the National Agricultural Extension System. Through it rural boys and girls are taught better agricultural and home-making practices and the finer and more significant things of rural life.

In Rockingham County 4-H Club work has won prominence. Few counties can be found that have been more outstanding in their 4-H Club program or that have won more national recognition than Rockingham, the third largest county in Virginia. The policy of placing quality before quantity in all phases of 4-H Club work has always been practiced. Each club member is required to carry some definite worthwhile project and to keep a complete record of that project, which is submitted to the club agent's office at the end of the year. The Rockingham members are organized into nine different clubs in widely scattered areas of the county. Each club has its own organization of president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, reporter, and song leader, and adult leaders for both boys and girls. Several clubs which have been organized for a number of years have in addition to the adult leaders, also junior leaders.



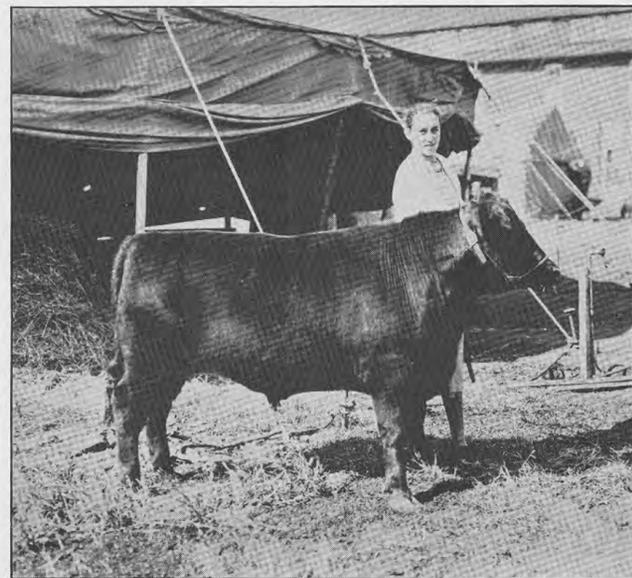
GROUP OF 4-H CLUB GIRLS AT THE TURKEY FESTIVAL KITCHEN, 1939

The areas of the Rockingham clubs are indicated by their names: Bergton, Brock's Creek-Cootes, Clover Hill, Dayton-Pleasant Valley, Keezletown, McGaheysville, Spring Creek, Tenth Legion, and Timber Ridge. Representative members from these clubs have made very creditable showings in state contests in poultry and dairy judging, having made the highest score at the State Fair in poultry for the last two years, and placing well in dairy judging. Exhibits at the State Fair have won their share of premiums in 4-H Club classes of poultry, pigs, and baby beeves each year. An effort has been made to have each project represented as far as practical at the County Fair, which is sponsored by the County 4-H Club Organization. Many of the members also exhibit at community fairs. Demonstration team competition each year makes up one evening of the program at the County Fair. Demonstration teams from this county have participated in state and national contests winning their share of honors. A rally day program is one of the annual high lights each spring, soon after the close of school, at which time the winners in health and correct dress contests are selected. Both the boy and girl winning in the correct dress contest for the county placed in the Blue Ribbon Class in the State Contest for 1939.

In the Rural Electrification Contest a girl from Rockingham County won the trip to Chicago. In poultry judging a Rockingham boy placed first in the State Contest and was a member of the team representing Virginia in the National Poultry Judging Contest. Since 1920 judging teams from Rockingham have won national recognition by representing Virginia in national contests. A large delegation of 4-H Club members attend the State Short Course in Blacksburg each year, and two members have been elected into the All-Star Organization each year for a number of years. Rockingham County has as many members in the All-Star State Organization as any other county in the state.

In the work of the 4-H Clubs of the county the boys and girls have carried projects that have been outstanding demonstrations of better practices that may be carried out on the farms. Some of these demonstrations have been far-reaching in their effect. One that perhaps had much influence on the turkey industry in the United States was first conducted by a 4-H Club member in the artificial brooding of turkeys. As a result of this project which started in 1923, people throughout the country are today raising turkeys extensively by artificial hatching and brooding. Just recently the first turkey festival held in America was successfully put on at Harrisonburg. The girl who started as a 4-H Club project modern methods of turkey production was the first queen. At the present time Rockingham clubs are sponsoring a better sheep and wool program among sheep breeders by providing a portable dipping vat for use in the county.

The motto of the 4-H Clubs is "To Make the Best Better." In Rockingham our boys and girls are living up to this motto by helping to develop better things in their homes and in their communities.



4-H PRIZE-WINNING STEER

Onyx is found at several places in Rockingham County, notably on the Miller lands above Bridgewater, near Garber's Church, and in the vicinity of Hinton.

Tradition has it that the Indians and some of the early white settlers knew of silver deposits in Massanutten Mountain.

COUNTY FARM AGENT

County agent work started in Rockingham about 1910, though complete records were not kept until 1920. C. J. Heatwole organized the first boys' corn club prior to 1910. From 1910 to 1912 Chas. W. Wampler was "Farm Collaborator," and during 1913 C. B. Kiser held the same position. Next, Professor Ferguson of the State Teachers College gave part of his time to this work, which later fell into abeyance. In 1917 it was revived by W. S. Campfield, and it was carried on successfully from 1918 to 1928 by Chas. W. Wampler as County Agent, this term having been adopted about 1920. Mr. Wampler was the first in this position to have a secretary. S. M. Cox has been County Farm Agent since 1928.

A secretary was necessary to be in the office when the agent was out in the field working with the farmers and with the boys and girls in the 4-H clubs. These clubs are typical of a number of cooperative activities that are carried on successfully in the county by adults and by boys and girls.

For many years the farm agent gave much of his time to the production problems of farmers, but with changing conditions other matters of importance have received increasing attention. In the severe drought of 1930 the emergency was so great that reduced freight rates were secured for moving feed in and for moving livestock out of the stricken areas. This was handled locally through the county agent's office, together with applications for emergency seed loans. In 1933 came the first Agricultural Adjustment Program, when the responsibility for administering the details and putting on the necessary educational programs was assigned to the county agents. The work in the Rockingham County Agent's office has increased to such an extent that a number of office employees are now required.



VIEW IN BROCK'S GAP

In addition to the office employees under the Agricultural Conservation Program, farmer committeemen and supervisors are entrusted with checking on the details of administration. More and more of the farmers are participating each year. Usual acreages for crops on each farm are ascertained, allotments for special and general crops are made, and all this information must be gotten out to the individual farmers of the county. Acreages must be computed from aerial photographs. A complete set of photographs for the county are on file in the agent's office. Crop insurance is handled. Applications for payments when payments are earned must be made and checks distributed. The office has distributed \$721,875.17 in benefit checks up to the present time (September 1939). Diseases of poultry and livestock, insect pests, fertilization problems, as well as problems of production and marketing, require endless and expert attention. In many respects the county agent serves as an advertising director for the resources of his county. Among notable cooperative programs, one of the most recent is the Shenandoah Valley Electric Cooperative, promoted through the county agent's office. Already an efficient cooperative organization is functioning, with a generating plant and a system of electric lines that serve many rural homes in Rockingham and adjacent counties. This generating plant was the first of its kind built with funds secured through the Rural Electrification Administration. Today it serves over 2000 farm homes and the monthly revenue is adequate to meet payments and take care of operating costs. The county agent is the farmers' trouble-shooter, and he is busy aiding them to develop a fuller and happier rural life.

THE AMERICAN LEGION, ROCKINGHAM POST NO. 27

This was one of the early Posts to be formed in Virginia after the close of the World War. Applicants named in its charter, granted September 4, 1919, were Capt. John Paul, Lt. Wm. B. Yancey, Robert G. Yancey, James Warren, John H. Byrd, Ralph D. Taliaferro, Geo. W. Taliaferro, Forest E. Peters, E. Brent Friddle, Arthur R. Myers, R. B. Miller, John R. Logan, Jr., J. S. Gladwell, and Kent Taliaferro. Officers elected at the first meeting were: Capt. Wm. B. Yancey, commander; Clarence A. Baugher, vice-commander; Joseph E. Shank, adjutant; Capt. R. P. Keezell, treasurer; Lt. James L. Fitzsimmons, historian; Dr. Ben F. Wilson, chaplain. An executive committee, one from each magisterial district of the county and one from Harrisonburg, was named: Capt. Wm. G. Myers, chairman; C. Lee Hawkins, Harry Bull, Allen S. Harvey, William O'Brien, and J. Owen Beard.

Commander Wm. Yancey resigned in July 1920 to enter the regular army, and a short time later Adjutant Shank moved to another city. To fill the unexpired terms, Wm. G. Myers was appointed commander and F. Wilmer Coffman adjutant. Commander Myers and Adjutant Coffman were then elected for four consecutive years, and during that time the Post raised \$10,000 and erected the beautiful memorial on South Main Street, Harrisonburg, at the junction of Liberty Street, on ground which was generously donated by the late Hon. John T. Harris.

The Department of Virginia, American Legion, held its state convention in Harrisonburg, September 7-10, 1930, and at that time the Rockingham Post assisted in unveiling the Stonewall District Community War Memorial in Salzburg Park, near Elkton, in honor of the first Rockingham soldier to lose his life in the World War, Sgt. Harry Gordon Bruce, who was killed in action in France. The funds for this memorial were raised almost entirely by a member of Rockingham Post, Herman V. Longley, who lives at Salzburg Park.

Rockingham Post ever since its formation has actively assisted disabled war veterans and their dependents in securing pensions, hospitalization, and other benefits from the Federal Government. This work grew to such an extent that in the fall of 1935 an organization was effected, known as the Veterans Service Committee, and financed by Rockingham County, Harrisonburg, and the county chapter of the Red Cross. The committee is composed of Wilmer Coffman, chairman; Dr. C. M. Vaughan, medical member; Glenn W. Ruebush, attorney; Wm. H. Byrd, treasurer; and Morris Spiro, Red Cross representative. Mrs. W. J. Gifford was made executive secretary, and offices established in the *Daily News* Building, Harrisonburg.

The greatest project handled by the Post since its formation was the raising of funds and the erection of the World War Memorial already mentioned. The cost, approximately \$10,000, was contributed by individuals and the schools of city and county. The Legion committee in charge was composed of Saml. J. Prichard, chairman; Chas. H. Chandler, E. L. Fletcher, Walter A. Flick, Wilmer Coffman, Otis T. Harpine, R. P. Keezell, Wm. G. Myers, Capt. John Paul, P. W. Rinker, Haller Vaughan, Frank Whitesel, and Clarence A. Baugher. On the memorial are carved the names of the 49 men from Rockingham and Harrisonburg who lost their lives in the conflict, from 1917 to 1919.

The Post has taken an active part in every worth-while civic endeavor in the city and county since its formation. Among these may be mentioned boys' work, boy scout activities, and child welfare; educational progress; and the planting of trees along U. S. Route 11 between Harrisonburg and Mt. Crawford. It joined with the local Post V. F. W. in buying a large plot in Woodbine Cemetery, Harrisonburg, where veterans who die in unfortunate circumstances may be buried at Legion expense. To carry on this and similar work Rockingham Post raised an endowment fund of \$1,000, the interest from which is used to insure the placing of flags on veterans' graves every Memorial Day. The Legion does not forget its dead buddies.

Since its organization in 1919 Rockingham Post has had 18 commanders: Wm. B. Yancey, Wm. G. Myers, F. Wilmer Coffman, Frank Whitesel, Saml. J. Prichard, Edgar Steele, Harry Clements (deceased), E. L. Klingstein, B. Frank Coffman, Wm. H. Byrd, Charles McKinney, Herbert Whitmore, Dr. John Sawhill, Virgil F. Ryan, Roger O. Wine, Glenn W. Ruebush, Dr. Geo. A. Williams, and Lupton L. Kaylor. In 1931 the Post published a volume of 114 pages on Rockingham County in the World War, including a list of 1226 men in service.

Working splendidly with the Post, and rendering invaluable service, has been the Auxiliary of Rockingham Post, chartered October 22, 1920, with the following members: Mrs. Jos. C. Myers, Mrs. Wm. G. Myers, Miss Delucia Fletcher, Mrs. H. N. Whitesel, Miss Mary L. Wiener, Miss Ann Wiener, Mrs. J. R. Bowman, and Mrs. Andrew Bell. This group of women, augmented by many others during the past 20 years, has rendered a service to disabled and needy veterans that has elicited high praise from all who know of their commendable work. Both the Post and the Auxiliary stand for the highest ideals in Americanism, patriotic devotion, and world peace.

FARM BUREAU

The Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau, Inc., was organized in August 1921. G. F. Holsinger of McGaheysville was elected president; D. C. Acker, Broadway, vice-president; and C. V. Smith of Harrisonburg, secretary-treasurer-manager. The first board of directors consisted of the following men: S. R. Bowman, J. H. Burner, O. L. Burtner, T. F. Bowen, M. H. Cline, Lee May, C. S. Craun, A. S. Driver, O. D. Garber, L. M. Hollen, G. P. Kiser, Q. G. Kaylor, Thomas Moore, R. E. Pugh, W. R. Sellers, H. H. Scott, J. Luther Wittig, J. S. Wampler, Brock T. White, D. F. Roller, and I. C. Crist. Other members added to the board from time to time as vacancies occurred were: John I. Getz, D. Hinton Rolston, Harry L. Garber, R. C. May, John H. Rolston, M. H. Long, G. M. Harnsberger, H. S. Zigler, D. C. Craun, C. E. Miller, Henry B. Bowman, E. A. Jordan, J. J. Nicholas, W. Clyde Koontz. In 1928 Mr. D. C. Acker was elected president and Mr. Brock T. White, vice-president. Mr. John H. Rolston succeeded Mr. White in 1934 as vice-president. Mr. C. V. Smith has filled the office of the secretary-treasurer-manager since the beginning of the organization.

The purpose of the organization was to buy supplies and market products for its members on a cooperative basis, also to help promote legislative and other measures for the benefit of the farmers.

The first year the membership fee was \$5.00 and 268 persons joined. The second year the membership fee was increased to \$10.00 and remained at that figure for three years, after which it was reduced to \$6.00, then \$4.00, and at present it is \$2.00 per year.



HARRISONBURG PLANT



ELKTON PLANT

The Bureau was organized without capital and with only the part time services of one person, without quarters, but using a railroad car on a siding for delivery of shipments to a very limited number of members. Today it has a substantial net worth represented in merchandise stocks, cash, machinery, warehouses and store rooms, modern in every detail and fully adequate for conducting the largest business of its kind, not only in Rockingham County but in the State of Virginia. In 1921 the annual volume of business did not exceed \$17,000. The fiscal year closing July 31, 1939, amounted to approximately \$1,250,000 of supplies purchased and products sold for members. The part time service of one person, all that was necessary to conduct the affairs of the Bureau during the first year, has now increased to the employment of 69 people. In addition to the great storeroom and warehouse in Harrisonburg, four branch service stores located at Bridgewater, Timberville, Elkton, and Cross Keys conveniently serve the membership of 2540 farmers, their families, their employees and their families, and members of other affiliated bureaus. A policy of the Bureau has been that 200 or more patrons, in a trade area, must be subscribed for a period of 3 years before establishing a branch. All of the branches established have been successful.

At Harrisonburg the Farm Bureau operates a service store, filling station, and modern mixing plant which annually manufactures hundreds of carloads of its own brands of feed for its members. There is also a mixing plant at the Timberville branch. Hammer mills are installed at Bridgewater, Timberville, and Cross Keys branches. In addition to supplying the requirements of its membership for a large variety of supplies for farm and home at reduced prices, the Bureau conducts a marketing service for live stock, wool, eggs, and other produce in large quantities.

The Bureau is owned and controlled by its members, whose interests are represented by the number of certificates of membership and the amount of patronage refund certificates held by them. It is a non-stock corporation and each member has only one vote regardless of the number of certificates held. After the season's expenses have been paid and a proper sum has been set aside to cover depreciation, contingent fund, and cost of expansion, the balance remaining is paid to the members in the form of a patronage dividend.

The Bureau has led in the fight for agricultural progress. Honest and economical local government has claimed its attention. Through its membership in the State Agricultural Conference Board it helped to promote legislative and other measures for the benefit of the farmer. So outstanding has been the success of the Bureau in its sphere that its reputation has become national and each year delegations of farmers from all over the United States visit Harrisonburg to inspect its set-up and study its methods and policies. The affairs of the Bureau are directly conducted by a general manager under the supervision of the board of directors.

The Rockingham Cooperative Farm Bureau believes in the "Pay as you go" policy, has consistently followed that policy in all of its activities and expansion and now owns four modern fire-proof buildings, free of debt, in which it conducts its rapidly growing business.

CLAUDE V. SMITH.



TIMBERVILLE PLANT



BRIDGEWATER PLANT



MARKER ON CROSS KEYS BATTLEFIELD



OLD STONE HOUSE ON MILLER PLACE WEST OF TIMBERVILLE



OLD SLAVE CABIN ON COFFMAN PLACE WEST OF WENGER'S MILL

Birds and beasts, mostly beasts, are memorialized in Rockingham geography, as exemplified in Fox Mountain, Wolf Run, Elk Run, Beaver Creek, Cub Run, Bear Creek, and Quails Run.

MASSANETTA SPRINGS

Massanetta Springs, formerly known as Taylor Springs, four miles southeast of Harrisonburg, has been popular as a place for religious and educational gatherings for more than 100 years. The owner in 1813 was John Taylor, who was succeeded by his son, William Taylor. In 1888 the property was purchased by Dr. Burke Chrisman and others who distributed the medicinal water widely over the country, with main centers in Washington, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. Dr. Chrisman changed the name to Massanetta.

Mr. James R. Lupton acquired Massanetta in 1909, and during the next four years he removed most of the old buildings, erecting the present substantial brick structures. From 1910 to 1920 Massanetta was operated as a summer resort. In 1920 Mr. Lupton deeded the entire plant, buildings and grounds, to Hampden-Sydney College for a boys school. One year later he joined with the college in transferring the property to the Synod of Virginia for Religious and Educational purposes, and the first conferences, following a Dedication Week, were held that year (1921). Every year since then attendance and interest have been growing. In 1937 eleven conferences, including those by Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and Lutherans, were held. Outstanding leaders of America and Europe appear on the programs.



MASSANETTA SPRINGS HOTEL

The number of buildings at Massanetta has notably increased. Fitting memorials have been erected. In 1929 was dedicated the Fannie Lupton Building, erected by the ladies of the Virginia Synodical of the Synod of Virginia as a tribute to Mrs. James R. Lupton. It stands on the spot where Mr. and Mrs. Lupton in 1873, then sweethearts, listened to political addresses by Col. Geo. E. DeNeal and Extra Billy Smith.

The same year in which the Fannie Lupton Building was constructed, Capt. and Mrs. Wm. C. Bond of Washington City provided for the building of the handsome stone wall along the front of the hotel grounds, in honor of their son, Wm. C. Bond, Jr., and in appreciation of the inspiring life of Massanetta.

Two of the outstanding features each summer at Massanetta are the sacred music festival and the elaborate pageant, historical and religious in character. The conference manager since 1921 has been Dr. Wm. E. Hudson of Staunton. He and his able associates deserve much credit for the great conferences they have assembled each year at Massanetta, which has been termed "The Northfield of the South."



JAMES R. LUPTON



MRS. JAMES R. LUPTON

THE CITY OF HARRISONBURG

Thomas Harrison, founder, settled on the eastern branch of Cook's Creek, long since known as Black's Run, about 1740. Some years later he built a stone house which is still standing on Bruce Street and which is probably 25 or 30 years older than any other house now in the city. The first courts of Rockingham County were held at Smithland, but in May 1779 the justices decided to erect county buildings on Thomas Harrison's plantation, and on August 5 of that year Harrison deeded them two and a half acres for public use. From November 1779 until some time the next year courts were held at Harrison's house. By that time the first court house, a log structure, was ready for use.

In May 1780 the Virginia legislature authorized a town, Harrisonburg, on 50 acres of Thomas Harrison's land, around the new court house. By subsequent acts of the Assembly the town was enlarged, notably in 1797, 1849, 1858, 1870, and 1896. On May 6, 1916, the circuit court of Rockingham, under an act of the preceding March, declared Harrisonburg a city of the second class, with a population of 5280.

For many years Harrisonburg was familiarly spoken of as Rocktown. The first churches were built by the Methodists (on the hill now occupied by the Church of the Brethren) and the Presbyterians (on East Market Street, northeast side, next to Federal Alley). At first Market Street ran through the public square, from east to west, and the first two or three court houses were on the north side of it. Then the square was closed, and the court houses built down over that portion of the square where Market Street had run through.

The first court house, of logs, was built in 1780; the next one, of stone, in 1791. This one was used until 1834, when it was replaced with a brick structure. This brick building was surmounted by an octagonal cupola, above which a weather vane, shaped like a fish, showed which way the winds were blowing. This stood through the stormy years of civil war, and prisoners were occasionally lodged in it or in the yard surrounding it. Thousands of soldiers, Blue and Gray, drank at the big spring near the west corner of the square. This was the chief water supply of the town until 1886 or later, when deep wells were drilled. In 1898 the town was provided with excellent water from Riven Rock, near Rawley Springs. This supply has been increased from time to time.

In 1874 a second brick court house was erected, and 22 years later it was replaced with the present splendid stone building, which was remodeled in 1931. Since Harrisonburg was made a city in 1916, the court house has been used by both the county and the city, though the city now has also municipal buildings of its own. In March 1871 Federal courts were first held in Harrisonburg, and in 1886 the first Federal court house was built on the corner lot east of Main Street and north of Elizabeth. This was used as a Federal court house, postoffice, etc., until 1939, when a new Federal building was begun upon the same ground.

Main Street in early times was often called Irish Street or Irish Road; Liberty Street until the World War was German Street. In 1885 and before High Street was West Street and East Gay Street was Wall Street. In 1867 Mrs. Emma Lyon Bryan made an excellent painting of Harrisonburg, which shows nearly every building in the town at that time. Then the railroad came only to the north end of town. It was extended to Staunton in 1874. In that period Judge James Kenney kept a diary which contains much valuable history. He lived in a brick house which stood on the lot now occupied by Denton's store.

Among the distinguished men who lived in Harrisonburg were Senator Isaac S. Pennybacker, Lieut. Chas. B. Gatewood, Dr. William H. Ruffner, Rev. John E. Massey, and Judge (later Governor) Chas. T. O'Ferrall. It was the birthplace of Gessner Harrison, Henry Tutwiler, and James Hay Jr. The father of Dr. Walter Reed lived here for many years, and Dr. Reed spent occasional seasons here visiting his father. In 1822 Lawrence Wartmann founded the *Rockingham Register*, a famous weekly newspaper which was published here for nearly 100 years. More than 100 years ago a number of books were printed here by Wartmann and others, among them a celebrated song book, the *Kentucky Harmony*, edited by Ananias Davisson. In 1813 Daniel Bryan had his epic poem on the life and adventures of Daniel Boone printed here, in a volume of over 250 pages; in 1849 J. H. Wartmann & Bros. printed for J. C. Myers of New Hope a book of 475 pages on his travels in the northern and eastern states, Canada, and Nova Scotia.

Harrisonburg has long been a favorite place of residence for men who have retired from farming or business life, and in recent years its industrial enterprises have been much increased and enlarged. For many years it has been noted for its excellent stores, and it is a shopping center for a large region. The establishment here of the State Normal School in 1908, now Madison College, has meant a great deal to the intellectual, social, and business life of the city. The opening of the Shenandoah National Park and the George Washington National Forest in recent years, and the rebuilding of important highways north and south, east and west, have brought here thousands of tourists every year. In February 1939 the mayor and council elected a city manager and a city auditor. The population of the city is now about 10,000. Following is a list of the city officials and council in August 1939:

Mayor, Ward Swank; Councilmen: F. Wilmer Coffman, L. T. Flick, H. N. Hawkins, R. A. Hivick, C. W. Lehw, J. R. Lineweaver, L. L. Loewner, Wade W. Menefee, Frank C. Switzer.

Attorney, W. W. Wharton; Chief of Police, J. H. Boice; Clerk and Auditor, R. Grymes Heneberger; Commissioner of Revenue, Sheffey L. Devier; Engineer, William G. Myers; Health Officer, Dr. LeRoy Byers; Justices of the Peace, R. S. Dwyer and Robert E. Lee; Manager, W. R. Woodbury; Police Justice, Chas. A. Hammer, Jr.; Sanitary and Weights Inspector, D. Ray Whitesel; School Trustees: Mrs. Emanuel Blosser, Dr. A. C. Byers, Mrs. Laird L. Conrad, E. R. Lineweaver, C. H. Mauzy, and S. J. Prichard; Sergeant, E. R. Rodes; Supt. of Schools, W. H. Keister; Supt. of Welfare, Miss Irene Lapsley; Supt. of Works, John F. Noll; Treasurer, E. S. Ashby.

For City and County: Judge of Circuit Court, H. W. Bertram; Clerk of Circuit Court, J. Robert Switzer; Commonwealth's Attorney, D. W. Earman; Trial Justice, Hamilton Haas.

COUNTY AND CITY COURT HOUSE,
HARRISONBURG

HARRISONBURG SCHOOLS

No complete chronicle can be attempted here—only a few outstanding facts, persons, and incidents can be presented; but among these are some that are unusual and notable.

In 1794 Bishop Francis Asbury gave sanction and character to a school that was opened in the new Methodist meeting house on the hill, where the Church of the Brethren now stands. It was an English school and ran the whole year. Attendance was limited to 40 "Scholars," for each of whom the annual tuition was 33 shillings. The teacher, John Walsh, was paid a salary of 50 pounds. No "Scholar" was to be permitted on any account to wear ruffles or powder his hair. A school garden was planned—to be provided if possible. Efforts were soon made to add a grammar school.

Two men, Dr. William H. Ruffner and Rev. John E. Massey, who later held the office of state superintendent of schools, lived in Harrisonburg, Mr. Massey from 1847 to 1854; Dr. Ruffner from about 1853 to about 1863. Dr. Ruffner married here in 1850, his wife being Harriet Gray. He was state superintendent of public instruction from 1870 to 1884 and visited Harrisonburg several times within that period. Mr. Massey held the same office from 1890 to 1897.

In August 1840 Charles Viquesney, a native of France, was advertising a night school, to teach French. For several years just preceding the Civil War the celebrated scholar, teacher, and poet, Joseph Salyards, was principal of Rockingham Male Academy, which was located on West Market Street, at Academy Street. About 1872 Charles B. Gatewood taught in Harrisonburg. He later went to West Point, where he graduated in 1877. In subsequent years he won national distinction in the West in the campaigns against the Indians. In 1886 he rode alone into the hostile camp of the wily and elusive Geronimo and persuaded that chief and his band of warriors to surrender, thus ending the war against them. Old Geronimo trusted "Big Nose," as he called Gatewood. Two other distinguished men who taught in Harrisonburg were James Hay, later member of Congress, and Charles G. Maphis, who was for many years on the faculty of the University of Virginia and a prominent educator of the state. Mr. Hay taught here from 1877 to 1879; Dr. Maphis from 1887 to 1890. The latter also married in Har-



HARRISONBURG CITY HIGH SCHOOL

arrisonburg, Miss Bessie Dold. Two boys of Harrisonburg, who received their first schooling here and later became distinguished educators, were Gessner Harrison and Henry Tutwiler. The former was for some time chairman of the faculty of the University of Virginia; the latter was the first man to receive the M.A. degree from the University. He became an eminent teacher and school leader in Georgia.

Harrisonburg never lacked schools. In 1870, for example, there were at least ten schools in the town for white children. As late as 1894, when William H. Keister, fresh from Washington and Lee University, became principal of the public school, there were still eight or ten private schools, several very good ones; and many persons still had a decided preference for "pay schools" rather than public schools. The first meeting of a school board in Harrisonburg under the present system for public schools was on September 23, 1871, with Benjamin Long chairman, Warren S. Lurty clerk, and George S. Christy the other member of the board. About this time the building of the Rockingham Female Institute, which had been erected several years prior to 1861, was donated with its grounds to the public school trustees and was at once put to use by them, as the public school for girls, with Mrs. Virginia W. Warren as principal. This school was on the familiar site of the present Main Street School. At the same time the public school for boys, with Jasper Hawse as principal, was located at Gay Street on North Main, in an old building known afterwards as the "Bee Gum." There was also a public school for Negroes, with Elizabeth James and Mary F. Jackson as teachers. This was located in the basement of the old church that stood on the west side of the railroad, on the site of the Merchants Grocery and Hardware Company building.

In 1879 a seven-room brick building was erected on the Main Street site at a cost of about \$5,000, and in 1882 a four-room building, also of brick, was put up for the Negroes on a lot facing Effinger Street at a cost of \$2,000. Both these buildings were subsequently enlarged and rearranged. In 1908, for example, a stone building for the high school was erected at a cost of \$23,000 on the Main Street site, in front of the brick structures. In 1910 Mr. A. G. Waterman of New York, whose ancestors had come to Harrisonburg shortly after the Revolutionary War and acquired large tracts of land north and west of the town, gave the city two acres upon which a stone building, known as the Waterman School, was at once erected. This was opened for use in 1911. A ten-room addition was built in 1925, and in 1935 the grounds were enlarged by purchase. Altogether the Waterman School represents an outlay by the city of \$88,500.

Between 1915 and 1928, when the present high school building was completed, the city schools were much cramped for quarters, and classes in a number of the lower grades were held at a variety of places, the most notable being in the old Heneberger residence on the east side of South Main Street and in several hastily constructed frame buildings on the adjacent lot. This aggregation in 1923 was named the William H. Keister School. In 1927 the old fair ground on the western side of the city, a tract of 22 acres, was purchased at \$1,000 an acre and a brick building for the high school was erected thereon at a cost of \$225,000. This splendid and commodious building was opened for use in September 1928. In 1934 a six-room addition was made. Just within the present year (1939) a handsome brick building for the colored school has been erected on the east side of the city on a tract of about 10 acres, a part of the old Gray estate. This with its furnishings and equipment will cost \$100,000.

For the session of 1938-39 the enrolment in the Harrisonburg High School was 330; in the Junior High School 223; in the Main Street School 539; and in the Waterman School 489. For the same session the Effinger (colored) High School enrolled 67, the elementary school 141. These figures give a total of white and colored pupils for the year of 1789. There are two commercial teachers, two manual training teachers (one white and one Negro), three supervisors of home economics (two white and one Negro), two music supervisors, one art supervisor, and a supervisor of physical education. Including these, the city has a staff of 67 teachers. There are also a school nurse and an attendance officer. Each of the school buildings is provided with a cafeteria.



SUPT. WILLIAM H. KEISTER

From the foregoing recital it must appear that the Harrisonburg schools in buildings, number of pupils, and material equipment have displayed a marked and steady growth. At the same time the passing years have registered a development of spiritual values no less gratifying. As already noted, when William H. Keister took charge of the Harrisonburg public school for white pupils in 1894, there were in the town eight or ten private schools, most of them well supported and with a prevailing sentiment in their favor. The prejudice against the public schools was still much in evidence. Now, for many years past, the public schools have been the only ones in the city, and they have the undivided and cordial support of public sentiment. Mr. Keister, at first school principal, and superintendent since the city was made a school division in 1916, has not only won favor and support for the public schools, but also affection and honor for himself. In 1934, when he had rounded out 40 years of service, the school board had his portrait painted and presented at a notable celebration in his honor, in which a number of his old pupils and other persons of distinction were delighted to participate, and attended by a large and enthusiastic audience.

The high standing of the Harrisonburg schools in the country at large and the affection in which they are held by the people of the community is due in a measure, no doubt, to the loyal and long-continued service of many of the teachers. Miss Vada Whitesel has taught in the Harrisonburg schools 26 years, Miss Elizabeth Hopkins 27, Miss Ethel Spilman 28, and Prof. A. K. Hopkins 29. Dr. J. S. Garrison retired a year or two ago after teaching here 30 years. Miss Fanny Speck, one of the teachers who started in here with Mr. Keister in 1894, retired in 1928, after an efficient service of 34 years. Mr. B. L. Stanley, principal of the high school, has held this position for 16 years. The record of the colored teachers for long periods of service is no less striking. U. G. Wilson taught 24 years; George A. Newman more than 30 years. The principal of the Negro school, W. N. P. Harris, has been in that position 24 years. The most remarkable record is still to be noted. In 1934 died Lucy F. Simms, a colored teacher, after a devoted and highly valued service in the Harrisonburg schools of 55 years. She was a graduate of Hampton Institute and was a fellow student there with Booker T. Washington. The new \$100,000 school for colored children just completed has been named in her honor the Lucy F. Simms School. It stands within a few hundred yards of the place where she in 1855 was born a slave.

In Woodbine Cemetery, Harrisonburg, is a modest granite monument erected by the teachers of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County in 1912 to Miss Fanny Lowman, one of their number who had died three years before, after a long and devoted period of service.

THOMAS HARRISON

The founder of Harrisonburg, Thomas Harrison Sr., was an early settler. In 1739 he had two tracts of land surveyed, one of 400 acres, the other of 250, at and near the site of Harrisonburg. In 1770 a survey of 1290 acres was made for him in the same vicinity. This tract included 233 acres that had been granted to him in 1744. John Harrison Sr., Jeremiah, Samuel, and Daniel also had surveys made near the site of Harrisonburg in 1739 and 1740. A volume of 665 pages entitled "Settlers by the Long Grey Trail," dealing with the Harrisons and their neighbors, was published by J. Houston Harrison of Alexandria in 1935.

CITY WATER, SEWER, AND LIGHT

Upon request, Mr. John F. Noll supplied the following items on these subjects.

The Big Spring was always here. The first settlers always located where they could have plenty of water. The first water works for Harrisonburg were provided in 1885 and 1886, from a well bored by Heatwole Brothers. Mr. Peter Heatwole still lives at War Branch on the Rawley Pike. This well was 460 feet deep and served the town for 13 years, until 1898. Then the first soft water from Rawley Springs reached Harrisonburg through a 10-inch main. By 1922 we had outgrown this pipe and put in the 12-inch pipe, completed in 1923; and it will not be many years before the city will have to get more water.

The first sewer built in the city was in 1900. It has expanded year by year until we are nearly 100 per cent sewer, putting in the sewage disposal plant and Imhoof tank.

The first electric current in the city was furnished by the J. P. Houck Tanning Company, from 1890 to 1904. Then the city built the hydro-electric plant on the Shenandoah River with two 250-KW machines. In 1922 the city built the steam plant south of town with 500-KW capacity. In 1926 we put in equipment for 1,000-KW, and in 1930 the third machine was installed at the hydro plant, absorbing all available power on the Shenandoah River. In 1937 and 1938 the steam plant was enlarged to 2,000-KW capacity in order to supply the demand.

The city supplies 2700 customers with electricity and provides 1,000,000 gallons of water daily.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The present Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce was formed in March, 1916, by a group of public-spirited citizens motivated by the need and opportunity for an organized agency for fostering and promoting the commercial, agricultural, and civic interests of the City and County. The new body succeeded the old Harrisonburg Board of Trade, which had functioned for a number of years and which bequeathed the reorganized group a splendid record of constructive work and achievements.

Heading the Chamber as its first officers were Dr. Julian A. Burruss as President; Frank L. Sublett, Vice-President; C. Thos. Martz, Treasurer, and C. Grattan Price, Secretary. Dr. Burruss, who was likewise President of the State Normal School (now Madison College), served as President during the years 1916-1917, and until his departure from Harrisonburg for Blacksburg to assume the presidency of Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

The following individuals have since served as President of the Chamber for the years indicated:

1918-1919—John W. Morrison; 1920-1921—Thos. P. Beery; 1922—John J. Reilly; 1923-1924—Dr. S. P. Duke; 1925—C. A. Mason; 1926—J. O. Stickley; 1927—C. G. Price; 1928—Geo. N. Conrad; 1929—A. P. Sumption; 1930—W. W. Menefee; 1931-1932—E. R. Lineweaver; 1933—Jos. Nielson; 1934—W. W. Berry; 1935—T. Harry Lowery; 1936—G. Fred Switzer; 1937—D. E. Shank and W. Clyde Koontz; 1938—B. Frank Coffman.

With the object of enlarging the Chamber's field of service and usefulness, and furthering closer relations and coöperations between the citizens of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, the By-Laws of the organization were amended April 3, 1935, to permit its expansion to a City-County body. Attending this action, the name was changed from the Harrisonburg Chamber of Commerce to the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce.

Officers of the organization for the current year (1939) are: President—Jos. P. Harpine, Mayor of Broadway; Vice-President—J. D. Corison; Treasurer—R. L. Jefferies, and Secretary—R. L. Stultz.

With a membership of approximately 175, the Chamber enjoys the distinction of being the largest service organization between Staunton, Va., and Washington, D. C.

Its record of activities and accomplishments during the 23 years of its existence embraces a wide range and variety of endeavor and undertakings in behalf of the community and people it serves. These activities have exerted a vital force and influence in stimulating and furthering the material, civic, and cultural welfare and growth of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County.

Below are listed a few of the Chamber's major activities and achievements during the past five years:

It has made Harrisonburg nationally known as the "Friendly City" of Virginia.

It has secured five of the City's six largest industries and one for the County.

It actively assisted in securing Radio Station WVA for Harrisonburg.

It has aided in securing approximately \$1,000,000 in state highway funds for improving Rockingham's primary road system since 1934.

It is credited with much of the success of the movement whereby U. S. Route 33 (Blue and Gray Trail) was made a Federal Highway.

It has conducted three good-will motorcades into West Virginia, one to Gettysburg, Pa., one through the National Forest, and two in the County.

It has promoted rural relations and good will in joint gatherings and conferences with citizens and organizations of the County.

It has promoted the County's agricultural resources through support of 4-H Club fair, soil conservation service, poultry industry, news reels, etc.

It has annually saved business men and citizens of the community thousands of dollars by its efforts to curb worthless selling and advertising propositions.

It has sponsored nearly 50 radio programs and broadcasts in the interests of our commercial, industrial, agricultural, natural, and civic resources.

DENTON'S FURNITURE STORE

In the manufacture and distribution of high-grade furniture, Rockingham County and the city of Harrisonburg have an enviable reputation. The above picture shows the establishment of J. S. Denton & Sons, at the west corner of Court Square, a business of long standing and worthy of mention in this work. The firm was organized in 1905 and began operations in the Paul Building on West Market Street. The founder, J. S. Denton, had previously carried on business in Basic City and Bridgewater. In 1909 his eldest son, E. Warren Denton, was taken into partnership, and eight years later the rapid growth of the business made the erection of larger quarters necessary. Accordingly, in 1917 the present building of five stories was constructed on the site of the old brick residence of Judge James Kenney. In size it is 50x155 feet and contains 30,000 square feet of floor space. The cost of the structure was \$85,000; and it houses, with few exceptions, the largest furniture and floor-covering business in Virginia. In 1919 the younger son, Bernard (Jack) Denton, entered the firm. About this time an additional storage room on Liberty Street was purchased, thus increasing the value of the plant to about \$200,000. In 1932 the third and fourth floors of the main building were remodeled and converted into 18 furnished apartments.

Mr. J. S. Denton, the founder of the business, died at a ripe age in 1930, loved and esteemed not only as a business man, but also as a citizen of public spirit and a church man of piety and devotion.



Robert E. Lee Allen of Harrisonburg, formerly tannery superintendent, has not missed a monthly pay check for over 60 years. This is a record that is probably unique.

THE HARRISONBURG CATHOLIC CHURCH

Among the pioneers of Rockingham County were a few Catholics. St. Francis Church in Staunton, records as far back as 1844 show, was the mother of the Harrisonburg church. When services were not held in Harrisonburg it was nothing uncommon for worshippers to go to Staunton, walking or riding in road wagons. In 1861, early in the War between the States, Father Joseph Bixio served here faithfully and often accompanied the Southern army to celebrate mass for the boys in Gray. Mass here was celebrated in the home of Mr. E. J. Sullivan, postmaster, and in the Virginia Hotel, which was owned by Timothy Scanlon and stood on or near the site of the present Kavanaugh Hotel. The eight staunch and loyal families included those of E. J. Sullivan, John Kelly, James Lamb, John O'Connell, Thomas Kennedy, Timothy Scanlon, Thomas Cavan, and Pat Murphy.

Wayland's History of Rockingham says that in November 1867 the Right Rev. McGill, Catholic bishop of Richmond, held services in Harrisonburg, in "Mr. Bell's Presbyterian Church." This stood at the corner of Main and East Elizabeth Street, now the site of the Federal building. The first church owned by the Catholics here was purchased in 1876 and stood just across the railroad from the present passenger station. It had been built by the Northern Methodists and in the period of war and reconstruction had been used by Federal officers and also as the first U. S. court house in Harrisonburg. Bishop Gibbons of Richmond, later Cardinal, preached the dedication sermon in August 1876. It was attended over a long period by Staunton priests and was used until 1905 when it was burned by sparks from a passing locomotive.



CHURCH OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The present imposing structure, the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, was built in 1906, the cornerstone laid by Bishop Van De Vyver of Richmond. \$15,000 of the cost (\$28,000) was generously contributed by Mrs. Ida M. Ryan, wife of the New York traction magnate, Thomas F. Ryan. The first resident pastor of this church was Father J. J. De Gryse. He was succeeded in 1921 by Father William Meredith, who was pastor over 14 years. Then followed Father Edwin J. Lee of Richmond, who was succeeded on November 29, 1938, by the present pastor, Father Edmund C. Kiefer. The Catholics of Harrisonburg have ever been faithful to their church and loyal to their city, of which they are justly proud.

ST. STEPHEN'S REFORMED CHURCH

The Virginia Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its annual meeting in May 1894, commissioned the Licentiate J. Silor Garrison to visit Harrisonburg, make a survey of the town, and report on the advisability of organizing a congregation. The survey was made and a favorable report presented to the Classis. Accordingly, a committee was appointed to effect the organization and place the Licentiate Garrison in charge. On December 3, 1894, the congregation was organized under the title of St. Stephen's Reformed Church, with seven



ST. STEPHEN'S REFORMED CHURCH, HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA
REV. J. SILOR GARRISON, D.D., Minister

charter members. The Consistory was composed of Gen. John E. Roller, elder, and B. Frank McQuay, deacon.

For a while the congregation worshiped in the auditorium of the Y. M. C. A., located over the Avis Drug-store on South Main Street. Later services were held regularly in a storeroom in the north end of town until 1897, when a brick church was built on North High Street.

In 1931 was erected the beautiful new church on the corner of South Main and Campbell Streets. It is designed in the style of an English parish church of the 14th century, and is built of native gray limestone with all trim, including the traceried windows, doors, weatherings, etc., of cast stone. The buttressed gables on Main and Campbell contain large triple windows sub-divided with mullions and rich 14th-century geometrical tracery filled with beautiful 14th-century stained glass. The lines of the gable on Main Street lead up to a richly foliated cross. The main entrance is through the tower. The latter contains a belfry with four open traceried windows of stone, finished above with a crenelated parapet. The interior of the church is a spacious auditorium, which can be enlarged on occasion. The design is in the form of a cross, with crossing arches and vaults. The chancel, with richly paneled reredos and chancel furniture, choir stalls, pulpit, lectern, and altar rail, forms the central feature of the church.

The altar and reredos, with their richly carved and traceried paneling, lead up and blend into the triple lancet window above, which is filled with richly designed stained glass. The central window has a large figure of Christ in the familiar attitude, "Come unto me," and the windows on either side contain medallions: David and Jonathan; Ruth and Naomi; The Good Samaritan; Christ Blessing the Children. The stained glass window in the east gable contains the kneeling figure of Christ praying in Gethsemane.

St. Stephen's is fully equipped with classrooms, Sunday-school auditorium and social hall, choir room, pastor's study, and kitchen. St. Stephen's minister, Dr. J. Silor Garrison, has served the longest pastorate in the history of the Harrisonburg churches.

UNITED BRETHREN

The first United Brethren church building in Virginia was at Whitesel's, near Pleasant Valley, in Rockingham County. From 1797 to 1828 Christian Newcomer of Pennsylvania visited Harrisonburg and Rockingham regularly, preaching in various homes including that of Peter Whitesel. Earlier, Philip W. Otterbein, founder of the denomination, often accompanied Newcomer. Resulting from their work, Rockingham County and Harrisonburg now have 26 United Brethren churches with 5,000 members, and Shenandoah College, founded in 1875.

The Harrisonburg church was organized June 1, 1894, by Rev. C. H. Crowel with 13 charter members in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, on South Main Street, where religious services by the United Brethren had begun in March of that year. The thirteen were already members of the church who had moved into Harrisonburg from the county. Among them were the Whitesel brothers who were business partners. In a few days the Logan store room on Kratzer Road, near North Main Street, was secured and was used from July 1, 1894, until January 1, 1896, when the Sunday-school room of the first church building on West Market Street was completed and occupied. The lot, costing \$600, had been purchased September 29, 1894. The first evangelistic meeting was held in the Logan store room, resulting in the addition of 16 members. The present church plant, including the parsonage, is worth \$200,000, and is without indebtedness. Since dedication June 1, 1918, the building has been well equipped, including a 20-tone set of tower chimes in 1927, costing \$12,000. The church maintains the most up-to-date system of organization known in modern church work, with an activity program built around life's everyday needs. Two missionary societies, six adult Bible classes, four choirs, boy and girl scout troops, four



FIRST CHURCH, UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA
REV. JAMES W. WRIGHT, D.D., Minister

Christian Endeavor societies, a large church school, a strong youth program, and a parish-wide group membership system engaging in personal visitation evangelism and included in the organization set-up. The church has grown rapidly in recent years, having now (1939) more than 1200 members. The present pastor, Rev. James W. Wright, was appointed by the Virginia Conference in 1926.

This space is donated through the courtesy of a member of the church, Mr. Marshall T. Miles, of the Miles Music Company, of Harrisonburg.



LINDALE MENNONITE CHURCH

Here is a graveyard much older than the church, in which are buried Kaufmans, Schenks, Brenamans, Beerys, Wengers, and other early settlers, mostly Mennonites. The earliest legible burial date is 1788.

Harrisonburg was named for Thomas Harrison, Sr., who gave the land for the county buildings in 1779.

The Massanutten Mountain was first called Peaked Mountain by the white people—the reason is plain as one views the range from the southeast. Now the name Peaked Mountain is applied only to the southwest end of the range.

BROADWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

This church was organized in the fall of 1868 by Rev. Thomas D. Bell, and the first building was dedicated in 1870. After Mr. Bell the following pastors served the congregation: R. C. Walker, George Cook, J. L. Wilson, A. L. Price, Patterson Fletcher, F. G. Hartman, S. S. Oliver, S. T. Ruffner, George Brown, Geo. B. Hanrahan, L. McWilliams, H. W. Shannon, and K. McCaskill. About 1924 Mr. Shannon called attention to the need of a new church building. The work was not at once undertaken, but the next year, under the new



BUILDING DEDICATED 1870



BUILDING DEDICATED 1926

pastor, Rev. A. J. Ponton, a building committee, H. H. Aldhizer, H. A. Whitmore, and J. M. Kline, was appointed. The last service in the old concrete structure was held on May 1, 1925, and on the first Sunday in April, 1926, the first service was held in the new church. In September, following, the 280th meeting of Lexington Presbytery was held here, and on November 15 the new building was dedicated. It has a full basement and is thoroughly equipped. The total cost was \$22,000, and it was dedicated free of debt. This fact is all the more notable because the membership was not large and consisted mainly of younger persons with small incomes. The women's auxiliary organizations raised large sums. Rev. Mr. Ponton and Mr. H. A. Whitmore contributed much time and labor.

The church is well organized; has four elders and seven deacons, all prominent in the business affairs of Broadway. The elders are A. P. Campbell, W. H. Rhinehart, S. L. Brown, and J. M. Kline; the deacons are C. C. Branner, L. B. Branner, S. M. Williams, D. W. Fawley, W. M. Hulvey, C. R. Whitmore, and H. A. Whitmore. The last named is treasurer of the church, with C. R. Whitmore assistant. Elder J. M. Kline is sponsor of this entry in the atlas.

Mr. Ponton was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. C. R. McCubbins. The present pastor is Rev. B. O. Shannon.

BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE

Bridgewater College, located at Bridgewater, Va., in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley, was founded in 1880 by Professor Daniel C. Flory. The institution is owned and controlled by the Church of the Brethren, which is one of the most important Protestant groups in the northern part of Virginia. Mr. Flory was a minister of this denomination and an alumnus of the University of Virginia. He had certain strong convictions about education which he endeavored to express in the institution which he founded. He was a strong believer in co-education. In his first catalogue he stated: "We regard the co-education of the sexes as the only true method of education. Their reciprocal influence will be beneficial in the chapel, dining room, and recitation rooms." Bridgewater is among the pioneer institutions in the South in this field and is perhaps the oldest co-educational college in Virginia. Mr. Flory also believed in the education of the "whole man." He therefore founded a boarding school and located it in a community where the college could dominate largely the social and moral influences to which students were subjected. He believed in the integration of religion and science as essential to a vigorous and "on-going" civilization. Finally, he had a profound conviction that the effective education of the human mind demanded the highest possible standards of scholarship and the unrestricted opportunity for study, meditation, and expression.



Above: BRIDGEWATER FROM THE WEST, WITH PEAKED MOUNTAIN IN THE DISTANCE
Below: BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE BUILDINGS

The history and development of Bridgewater College revolves mainly around these principles and convictions. The program of the college includes a well organized system of physical education and athletics; a rich social program of simple but constructive and creative activities; a strong, but liberal and sane emphasis on religion which recognizes the validity of the religious experience of all honest spirits, and finally a broad cultural curriculum with reasonable opportunity for specialized and professional study.

The college has maintained strong departments in music and other of the fine arts. Public speaking has received much attention and has been reflected in the leadership of Bridgewater men in public life. The college has prepared many teachers for the schools and colleges of Virginia and adjacent states; has sent a high percentage of her graduates into medicine, dentistry, and engineering; has contributed to the ministerial and religious leadership of practically all Protestant groups, and has sent many men into business and agricultural pursuits. Many of the most successful and forward looking enterprises of the Shenandoah Valley are led by Bridgewater men.

Bridgewater College is accredited by the State Board of Education of Virginia and by the Southern Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges. It is a member of the Association of American Colleges, and of the National Conference of Church-related Colleges. The graduates of Bridgewater have maintained a high standing in the graduate and professional schools of the country.

Bridgewater has had a very small turnover in faculty and administrative officers. The last three administrations reach out over a span of fifty years. President Walter B. Yount served as president of the college from 1892 to 1910; Dr. John S. Flory, from 1910 to 1919; and Dr. Paul H. Bowman from 1919 to the present.

The college is equipped to accommodate about 200 carefully selected students and has for many years operated beyond full capacity.

EASTERN MENNONITE SCHOOL

The need of a Mennonite School in the eastern part of United States was felt for a number of years prior to 1912. At this time active interest was found in Warwick County, Va., and steps were taken to establish a school there, but when the Virginia Conference of Mennonites took favorable action toward the establishment of a school, a more central location was sought in order that the entire eastern arm of the Church might be served. A temporary location at Hayfield Mansion near Alexandria, Va., where one short Bible Term of four weeks was conducted, was abandoned for Assembly Park, near Harrisonburg. A large frame building on this site was used for several years until the midyear of the session 1919-1920, when the new tile-stucco structure 50 by 120 was completed. To this was added in 1926 an annex 50 by 70, together with a home economics laboratory in 1929 and a physical education building 35 by 70 in 1932.



This external growth was paralleled by a corresponding development in curriculum and equipment for successful instruction, as well as the building up of a strong faculty. The first courses conducted were the Academy and Bible School. From the beginning the Bible School held first place of emphasis, work being offered on both high school and college levels. The objectives of the Bible courses were for the building up of a vital Christian experience based upon a thorough Biblical knowledge and also for the preparation for Christian service. At the present a two-year course on high school levels, called the High School Bible Course, and a four-year course on college levels leading to the degree of Bachelor of Theology are being conducted, together with a six-weeks Special Bible Term held in midwinter and the Bible Correspondence School.

The Academy, now called High School, continues, offering a wide range of electives in music, art, industrial arts, home economics, and commercial branches in addition to requirements in Bible, English, history, science, and mathematics. Junior college work, conducted since 1921 and accredited by the State Board of Education as a standard junior college in 1930 and as a two-year teacher training institution in 1932, marks another direction in growth. With well-equipped laboratories in biology, chemistry, physics, an observatory for astronomy, and a three-room elementary school for supervised teaching and a well chosen library of 4500 volumes, together with a competent faculty, thorough work is assured. Twenty-two members now compose the faculty, seventeen of whom are college graduates; and of these eleven hold the masters' or higher degrees and seven are ministers.

Among student and extra-curricular activities are found the Young Peoples Christian Association, which conducts a number of student religious activities in the school, city, and community; the Athletic Association; four literary societies; three societies for the study, respectively, of nature, birds, and stars. Three musical organizations flourish: the Men's, Ladies' and Mixed Chorus.

Religiously, Eastern Mennonite School is a denominational institution standing four-square for conservative evangelical Christianity. While the denominational emphasis is marked, all students of good moral character, willing to comply with the standards of conduct upheld, will be heartily welcomed.

CHESTER K. LEHMAN, DEAN.

ROCKINGHAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

This institution, which has proved a God-send to so many people in the city of Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, and the surrounding region of Virginia and West Virginia, was founded on provisions made in the will of William Glodomore Leake (1848-1908) of Harrisonburg, who left the bulk of his estate to establish a hospital. It was opened to patients on October 1, 1912, and has been growing in favor and usefulness ever since. The original building has been enlarged from time to time and auxiliary buildings including a boiler house and laundry (1920), a nurses' home (1925), and a new and enlarged laundry (1930) have been constructed. A bronze tablet in the main hall gives due recognition to Mr. Leake; other tablets pay tribute to Reuben M. Grubb of Keezletown, William Henry Marshall of Elkton, M. Clara Chanceaulme of Harrisonburg, and Henry E. Spitzer of Timberville, all of whom are numbered among the benefactors of the institution. Many others are held in grateful remembrance, among them J. S. Sellers, Samuel M. Bowman, Flora O. Shuler, C. Driver & Co., A. P.



Eiler, Annie Gilliam Conrad, M. H. Myers, and Mrs. D. N. Washington, who by testamentary bequests or by gifts made while living have contributed substantially to the hospital's wide scope of benevolent service. The Ladies' Auxiliary has been an active support for many years. A documentary history of the institution, prepared by Judge T. N. Haas and Mr. C. Grattan Price, was published in 1934.

One of the outstanding benefactors of the hospital has been Mr. James E. Reherd who in 1926 provided a sum of \$25,000 for erecting the northeast wing of the main building. This is known as the James E. Reherd Memorial Addition, at the entrance of which hangs the donor's portrait. This wing was erected in 1927, and an appropriate tablet pays tribute to Mr. Reherd who has been for years a member of the board of trustees and whose love for the institution inspired him to donate the means for the construction of this important addition to the hospital's material equipment.

Rockingham Memorial Hospital has had a remarkable growth and the number of persons received and treated is surprising. Complete statistics are not available, but in the five years beginning with January 1, 1933, and ending with December 31, 1937, more than 20,000 patients have been cared for, and during the single year of 1937 the surgical operations performed totaled 2493.

MADISON COLLEGE

Madison College, the second State college to be provided for white women in Virginia, was established by act of the General Assembly, March 14, 1908, as the Normal and Industrial School for Women, and was opened to students September 28, 1909. In 1916 it dropped the general industrial features and devoted its energies solely to the preparation of teachers and its official name was then changed to the State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg. By legislative act in 1924 the name of the school became the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg.

On February 17, 1938, the General Assembly of Virginia changed the name of the college to Madison College in honor of President James Madison.

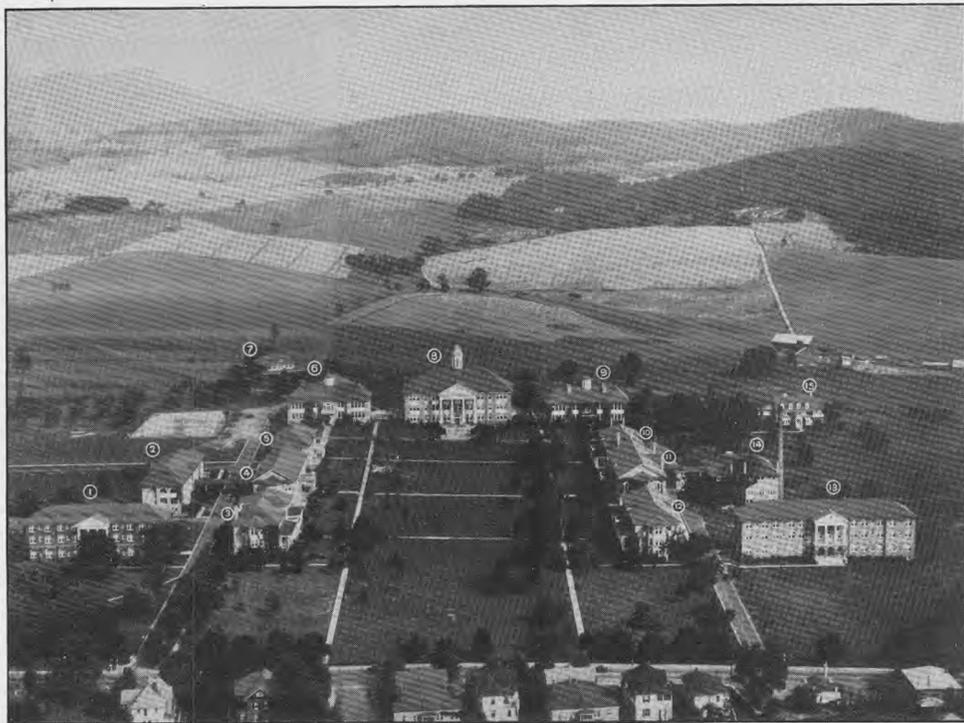
Julian Ashby Burruss, who was president from 1908 to 1919, began the work of the school in 1909 with a faculty of fourteen instructors and officers of administration. During the first session of nine months 209 students were enrolled, representing forty-seven counties and eight cities of Virginia, and three other states. The summer quarter of 1910 was attended by 207 students, from forty-one counties and five cities of Virginia, and seven other states.

A full quarter's work in the summer and the giving of a course in rural sociology from the beginning were two features that were in that time rather novel in Virginia.

In 1919 Samuel P. Duke, the present executive head of the college, became president. By that time the faculty numbered 34 and the student enrollment for the nine-months' session was 309. In those days the summer quarter enrollment usually was 800 or 900. The three buildings with which the institution started in 1909 had increased to seven.

During the session of 1937-38, three quarters, and the summer quarter of 1937, a total of 1,494 different students was enrolled. Those who received instruction in extension courses given by college teachers, in cooperation with the University of Virginia, are not included in this enumeration. The total student body represented nearly every county and city in Virginia, together with fourteen other states, also the District of Columbia and two foreign countries. Up to December 31, 1938, the institution had given instruction to 14,808 different persons, more than 3,850 of whom have gone out as graduates. At the same time the faculty numbered over 70 and the college was supplied with twenty-three buildings.

The college grounds comprise sixty acres of land with a wide frontage on South Main Street. The site commands a magnificent view of the surrounding valley in every direction, from the Blue Ridge to the Shenandoah Mountains, and adjoins one of the best residential sections of the town. The combination of city and country features makes the situation ideal for the location of a college.



AIRPLANE VIEW OF MADISON COLLEGE, HARRISONBURG, FROM THE NORTHWEST

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Junior Hall | 6. Walter Reed Hall | 11. Harrison Hall |
| 2. Johnston Hall | 7. President's Home | 12. Ashby Hall |
| 3. Spotswood Hall | 8. Wilson Hall | 13. Senior Hall |
| 4. Sheldon Hall | 9. Maury Hall | 14. Service Hall |
| 5. Alumnae Hall | 10. Jackson Hall | 15. Home Demonstration House |

WETSEL SEED COMPANY

In 1897 Mr. D. M. Wetsel began raising good seed corn. In a few years he enlarged his program to include other seeds for farm and garden. His enterprise was stimulated by the well-known desire of Rockingham farmers and gardeners for the best seeds. Seeds grown on the Wetsel farm near Port Republic were sold from wagons in Harrisonburg and other county-seats on court days for some years, and considerable quantities of seed corn were shipped out to other sections of Virginia and neighboring states. In 1911 Mr. Wetsel and his two sons, Arnie and Earl, opened a seed store on North Main Street in Harrisonburg. For four years the firm name was D. M. Wetsel & Sons; in 1915 it was changed to The Wetsel Seed Co., Inc. Though they realized the need for a dependable seed house in the Shenandoah Valley, the Wetsels have seen their business grow beyond their expectations. After moving to larger quarters from time to time, they, in 1935, built their present commodious store rooms and offices on West Market Street, beside the railroad, thus providing one of the most up-to-date seed houses and cleaning plants in the state. They are grateful to their many friends and customers whose continued patronage has made their remarkable growth possible. The name "Wetsel" stands for dependability in seeds.



NEW BUILDING OF THE WETSEL SEED COMPANY ON WEST MARKET STREET, HARRISONBURG

SHENANDOAH JUNIOR COLLEGE

Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music was founded at Dayton, Va., in 1875 by Rev. A. P. Funkhouser. The purpose was to give better advantages to young people desiring a course of training higher than the public schools then offered. Especially was there a desire to help young people who planned to enter the ministry, missionary work, or the field of teaching. In accordance with this desire, the school was incorporated in 1886 as Shenandoah Seminary.

The school was re-chartered by the Virginia Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ in 1887 under the name of Shenandoah Institute, and the Circuit Court of Virginia re-incorporated the school in 1907 under the name of Shenandoah Collegiate Institute and School of Music.

A most decisive advance in the work came in the fall of 1921. Striving to meet the ever increasing demand in the realm of education, the school enlarged its curriculum, strengthened its faculty, and entered the field of Junior College work. During 1922 the State Board of Education was invited to send representatives to examine the courses offered and to inspect the facilities at hand for doing the work. After several visits had been made by the committee, and after the school had carefully adopted plans to meet the requirements, the State Board voted the school a place among the accredited Junior Colleges of the State.

In April, 1937, the music department was separately incorporated as Shenandoah Conservatory of Music and was granted the right to award appropriate degrees in music.

The following persons have given leadership to the college.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Rev. J. N. Fries, A.M., 1875-1878; 1885-1887 | Rev. D. T. Gregory, D.D., 1922-1926 |
| Rev. A. P. Funkhouser, D.D., 1878-1881 | Rev. A. L. Maiden, D.D., 1926-1930 |
| Rev. W. J. Zuck, A.M., 1881-1882 | Rev. V. L. Phillips, A.M., 1930-1933 |
| Rev. G. P. Hott, A.M., 1883-1884; 1887-1896 | E. N. Funkhouser, President of Board of Trustees and Acting President, 1933-1935 |
| Prof. I. H. Sonnedecker, 1884-1885 | Rev. Wade S. Miller, B.D., D.D., 1935- |
| Rev. E. U. Hoenshel, D.D., 1896-1910 | |
| Prof. J. H. Ruebush, M.Mus., 1910-1922 | |



ONE OF THE BUILDINGS OF SHENANDOAH COLLEGE

THE BROADWAY AREA AS A SCHOOL CENTER

One of the earliest schools in Rockingham County was known as the Valley School, located near the mouth of Cedar Run, about two miles west of Broadway. The exact time of its origin is not known, but it was probably in the last decade of the 18th century. The location is still pointed out and for years was marked by a large stone that formed part of the foundation wall. More will be said about this stone later.

The Valley School was a community enterprise of the kind familiar in its day. The neighborhood provided the house and secured the teacher, who received his pay from the patrons at a rate agreed upon for each child. Schools of this kind were sometimes known as "pay" schools, or subscription schools. There seem to be no records of the early history of this school, but it is known that the late Rev. Geo. B. Showalter (father of the editor of this atlas) and his brother Frank attended here the first year the present free school system went into effect, which was 1870. Christley Shoemaker was the teacher. At the same time a Sunday-School was conducted in the same building by Jackson Horn of Turleytown. In 1879 C. E. Bargebaugh conducted a Sunday-School here. From 1881 to 1887 Thomas A. Long taught the Valley School.

Earlier than this, but of uncertain date, Cootes' Academy was started by Dr. J. G. Cootes at Cootes' Store, two miles farther west. This was a private subscription school of advanced grade and prepared its pupils to teach. C. E. Bargebaugh, who was destined to play an important role in the schools of this section, was born near here in 1852. As a young man he attended the Academy and was licensed to teach at the age of eighteen. The Academy closed its doors in 1870.

Another school, known as Cedar Grove Academy, was organized a half-mile south of Broadway about 1859. According to Elder John Kline's Diary, a meeting was held on February 26 of that year at which John J. Bowman, John Zigler, and Daniel Miller were elected directors of the school. This academy was an influential private school of advanced grade.

It is probable that the Valley School and the Cedar Grove Academy were merged into the free school system in the years following 1870.

In 1868 the railroad that was building up the valley reached Broadway. This brought new life to the little settlement and it began to grow. In 1870 C. E. Bargebaugh taught the first school in the village in a one-room building. He continued to teach this school for several years. About 1882 Mr. Bargebaugh, after studying at Richmond College for six years, returned to his former home and taught the one-room school which stood on the present site of the Broadway high school. The next summer he solicited funds and erected a large two-story frame building in front of the former school room and fronting on Main Street. In this building he opened a high school and provided room for a growing elementary school. This, the only high school then in Rockingham County, outside of Harrisonburg, was Professor Bargebaugh's personal enterprise. While the community provided the funds for the building, there were no funds for the support of the school, as the school law of 1870 provided only for elementary education. The high school was therefore supported by tuition fees paid by those who attended.

Professor Bargebaugh retained the principalship of the Broadway school for seven years. In this time the high school grew from 60 to 150. The first class of two, graduating in the spring of 1887, was composed of John S. Flory, now president emeritus of Bridgewater College, and J. O. Myers, long a resident of Vancouver, Canada. John C. Myers, the present superintendent of schools of Rockingham County, is a graduate and former principal of this school.

Professor Bargebaugh was an able teacher and a lovable personality. He won the affection of his pupils and inspired them. He was a wholesome example of the fine things in personal character and unselfish living, and left a lasting impression on the life of the community. He will long be remembered as the pioneer promoter of high-school education in Rockingham County.

The frame building was destroyed by fire some years ago, and was replaced by the substantial brick structure that now houses the grade school. In 1917 the high-school building, a near duplicate of the other, was erected adjacent to it. Later a spacious gymnasium was built and a cottage provided for the department of home economics.

The Broadway school plant is modern and substantial. The present principal is James Frank Hillyard. The high school has graduated more than 350 young men and women, and the entire school has an enrollment of about 500.

Lead mines were formerly worked near Timberville.



BROADWAY HIGH SCHOOL

Now, to return to the large stone in the foundation of the Valley School, it occurred to the publisher of this atlas to make it a memorial to the educational endeavor of the Broadway community. From the foundation wall of probably the first building erected in this section to the cause of education, this stone has figuratively "looked out" on all the educational development of the last hundred and fifty years. It "supported" the private or pay school of the earlier days, "saw" this merge into the free school, which sought to place education in the reach of every child, and "witnessed" the development of an efficient system of elementary, grade, and high schools, which, thanks to the present day transportation facilities, brings together at this modern plant in Broadway the young people of all the sections formerly served by the different schools.

As an appropriate symbol of this educational development, this old stone has been brought to Broadway and set up on the public school grounds as a memorial. It is a fitting monument to the memory of him who pioneered so wisely and built so solidly the foundations of high-school education in Rockingham County; and to all those who have labored and planned and sacrificed to provide the fullest educational opportunity for the young people of the surrounding region.

No. 25. TWILIGHT IS STEALING.

A. S. KIEFFER. B. C. USSELL.

1. Twi-light is steal-ing O-ver the sea, Shad-ows are fall-ing
 2. Voi-ce of lov'd ones, Songs of the past! Still lin-ger 'round me,
 3. Come in the twi-light, Come, come to me! Bring-ing some mes-sage,
 Dark on the sea; Home on the night-winds, Voi-ce of yore,
 While life shall last; Lone-ly I wan-dre, Sol-ly I roam,
 O-ver the sea, Clear-ing my path-a-way, While here I roam,
 CHORUS.
 Come from the far-off shore, For a-way be-yond the star-ry skies,
 Seek-ing that far-off shore, Seek-ing that far-off shore,
 Where the love-light nev-er, nev-er dies, Glean-eth a
 man-sion filled with de-light, Sweet, hap-py home so bright.

KIEFFER'S MOST FAMOUS SONG

THE RUEBUSH-KIEFFER COMPANY
 Successors to Joseph Funk & Sons

In 1719 Bishop Henry Funk, a German immigrant, arrived in America and settled in Montgomery County, Pa. In 1786 Henry Funk Jr. located in Rockingham County, Va. Among his children was 8-year-old Joseph. The latter had a pronounced gift for music and in 1816 issued his first music book, *Choral Music*, the first, or one of the first, of its kind published in the South. In 1832 the first edition of *Genuine Church Music*, later known as *Harmonia Sacra*, appeared. Funk's fame rests upon this book, which ran into numerous editions.

Joseph Funk died in 1862. Soon after the return of peace, in the spring of 1865, his sons reopened the office and continued work on a small scale, finally closing in 1876. Meanwhile three young men, Ephraim Ruebush, John W. Howe, and C. B. Hammack, opened a new printing office at Singer's Glen, organizing as the Patent Note Company. They published (1867) the *Christian Harp*, a small book of 112 pages, edited by Aldine S. Kieffer, and soon sold 100,000 copies.

"In September, 1853," Kieffer wrote, "Ephraim Ruebush came to Mountain Valley. . . . This was the turning point in my life. Mr. Funk determined to make a music teacher of him, and so set himself to the task." Mr. Ruebush's sister Susan married Timothy Funk, a son of Joseph; Mr. Ruebush married Lucilla V. Kieffer, sister of Aldine. Aldine and Lucilla were children of Mary Funk Kieffer, daughter of Joseph Funk.

In 1873 there was a reorganization of the Patent Note Company under the name of Ruebush, Kieffer & Company, the partners being Ephraim Ruebush, Aldine S. Kieffer, and John W. Howe. Mr. Howe, a minister in the United Brethren Church, was publicity man of the concern; Mr. Ruebush was business manager; Kieffer was the musical genius and literary chief. In the fall of 1878 the Ruebush-Kieffer Company moved its printing plant to Dayton, where better mail and shipping facilities were to be had and where a new school, now Shenandoah College, was in the making—where music teachers could be trained and sent forth. Following Kieffer as editor and composer, came J. H. Hall, S. W. Beazley, J. H. Ruebush, and William H. Ruebush. The two Ruebushes have given much of their time and talent to the musical activities of the above school and to the Ruebush-Kieffer Company. The mantle of Funk and Kieffer has fallen, in a large degree, upon William H. Ruebush, who has made an enviable reputation for himself in the field of music composition.

The Ruebush-Kieffer Company has issued more than 50 music books for church, Sunday School, glee clubs, quartets, and classes, with works on harmony and musical theory. A few of the most noteworthy have been: *The Temple Star*, *Star of Bethlehem*, *Crowning Day Series*, *Music Reader Nos. 1 & 2*, *Clippinger's Voice Book*, *Chorus and Choir*, *Practical Harmony and Composition*. The sales of these and others have run into several million copies.

Elkton was formerly known as Conrad's Store. The place was spoken of as "Conrad's Old Store" as early as 1833.

MENNONITE SCHOOLS IN ROCKINGHAM

Among the early white settlers of the Shenandoah Valley were three families of Mennonites, the heads of which were Abram Strickler, John Rhodes (later killed by Indians), and Michael Kauffman, a minister, and possibly the one buried in 1788 in Lindale Cemetery. They, with others of their faith, settled first in what is now Page County, Va. About 1780 Mennonite families began to settle in Rockingham. They were an industrious and frugal people with the ability to judge good land, and they acquired many choice tracts in the county and built up prosperous communities. In the early days they worshiped in their dwellings, some of which were built with movable partitions to provide facilities for worship. The German language was used exclusively in their worship until about the Civil War period, when the transition to English began.

As the settlements expanded they outgrew the places of worship provided in the dwelling houses, and in the 1820's four churches were built within a period of five years: Trissel's, near Cherry Grove; the Pike Church, south of Harrisonburg, on the highway now known as U. S. Route 11; Brenneman's, near Greenmount; and Weaver's Church, west of Harrisonburg; all between 1822 and 1828. An interesting fact about these people was revealed in connection with their first churches—their concern for education. The Mennonites have not been conspicuous as advocates of "higher" education, but in providing these four churches they accompanied each with a school building. In three of them the school room appears to have been an extension of the church itself; in the other the school house was a separate building. Most schools at that time were maintained by private subscription, inasmuch as the schools that were carried on by state funds were but few and were generally looked upon with disfavor by the well-to-do families.

Those school buildings, provided as adjuncts to the churches named, afford palpable evidence of the fundamental conviction of the Mennonites that Christianity and intelligence must go hand in hand. They believed in elementary education. The ability to read intelligently the Bible and religious books was recognized as necessary for sane Christian belief. So important was this deemed that means for it must be provided with houses of worship. But education beyond these fundamental needs they looked upon with suspicion. It was not denied that there might be much that was useful in the higher grades, but the danger that it might be mingled with things objectionable made it safer to forego it altogether. Thus it appears that the Mennonites, who were early patrons of elementary education, were among the last to provide facilities for higher learning.

Apart from the early instances already noted, the first known experiment by Mennonites of Rockingham to operate schools was begun by George B. Showalter in 1896, near Broadway. Having a large family of children, and anxious that they receive a practical education, he at the same time distrusted and feared the textbooks used and the teaching provided in the county schools on social standards, war and peace. In this he felt justified; so in order to solve the problem he built on his farm a small school house, still remaining and shown in the accompanying picture, and employed teachers in whom he had confidence. The school ran five years. Pupils from two other Mennonite homes attended this school, along with children from two neighboring families, not Mennonites. In the five years three different teachers were employed: Margaret Blosser, Lizzie Zigler, widow of John Shank, and Amos Showalter. Sixteen children attended, for a part or all of the time. They were Noah, Timothy, Lewis, Paul, Maggie, Mark, and Luke Showalter; Edward, Wilmer, and Mary Kathrine (Kitty) Geil; Benjamin and Maud Shank; Clell, Lynn, Charles, and Daphna Rhodes.

Of these, four later were ordained to the ministry; one became a singing teacher and was one of the founders of an academy; two were Sunday-School superintendents; one girl was a trained nurse and matron; and one the wife of a minister.

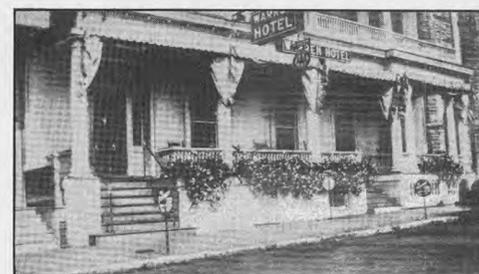
Just 90 years after the erection of the schools in connection with the early churches, some leaders of the denomination began a move for providing a school to teach Bible and higher learning under the direction of the church. About 1912 agitation started for a Bible institute, and in January-February, 1913, the first term of such nature was held for six weeks near Washington City. Two subsequent annual terms were held there. In 1916 the annual term was held near Harrisonburg at Assembly Park, then owned by A. P. Funkhouser. These grounds and buildings being for sale, a board was created in 1916 to provide a permanent location for the annual Bible terms and institutes, as well as other school facilities. In October 1916 the Bishops appointed Joseph Shank, C. H. Brunk, D. R. Martin, J. S. Martin, and A. G. Heishman as a board of trustees, who purchased the Park for a location and provisions were made for the ensuing Bible term in January 1917.



SCHOOL HOUSE ERECTED BY GEORGE B. SHOWALTER IN 1896

This plan to hold only Bible terms was not entirely satisfactory, however, to a part of the membership in the surrounding congregations, since the church had secured property with buildings that could readily be converted to general school purposes. On June 19, 1917, the trustees with others met at Weaver's Church and decided that at least a preparatory department should be started and steps taken to provide this course. A. G. Heishman was appointed general manager and L. J. Heatwole director of the short Bible terms. However, the outlook for the success of the preparatory and academy work was such that the school board declined to assume responsibility for the work at this time, but some of those in favor of the immediate opening of preparatory and academy departments volunteered to conduct the work for one year and assume all financial responsibility. Permission was granted and the first session of the Eastern Mennonite School opened October 9, 1917.

The three men who undertook the sponsorship and operation of the school were A. G. Heishman, general manager; J. Early Suter, academy teacher; and Noah D. Showalter, director of the music. These three men, acting on the permission granted them by the trustees, issued a catalogue in July 1917, announcing the first session of the academy, with provision for a Bible department. In September before the school opened the trustees secured Prof. J. B. Smith of Hesston College to teach the Bible department. School opened October 9, 1917, with J. J. Wenger manager of the buildings and grounds and Mrs. Wenger as matron. On October 22 following the opening of the school the Board of Trustees appointed J. B. Smith principal of the school and A. G. Heishman as assistant principal. Elizabeth Heatwole was later added to the teaching force. After this initial year the school was operated under the supervision of the Church as the Eastern Mennonite School, Inc.



Herewith is shown the main entrance to the Warren Hotel, at the north corner of the public square, in Harrisonburg. The building was erected in 1858 by A. B. Irick, who was president of the Bank of Rockingham (now the First National Bank of Harrisonburg). The bank was located in this building, on the main floor, east side, for a number of years. Edward S. Conrad had his law office in the same building for some time, his brother, George N. Conrad, later being associated with him. For some time after the war between the states the hostelry was known as the Exchange Hotel, with C. C. Clapp proprietor. For many years past it has been familiar as the Warren Hotel. The registers contain the names of many distinguished guests. The hotel is owned at present by the Taliaferro estate and is operated by Mr. Waldon Taliaferro.

ROCKINGHAM TURKEYS

In recent years the turkey industry has made rapid progress in Rockingham County and has reached large proportions. From early times the frugal housewife would follow her turkey hen as she stole her nest in the woods or along the zigzag rail fence, remove the eggs carefully with a ladle so as not to scare the hen away, hatch them under a turkey or chicken hen, and later send the children out of evenings scouting over the neighborhood to drive the little flock in with their craws bulging with bugs and grasshoppers. The dozen or two that escaped hawks and foxes were sold about Thanksgiving or Christmas.

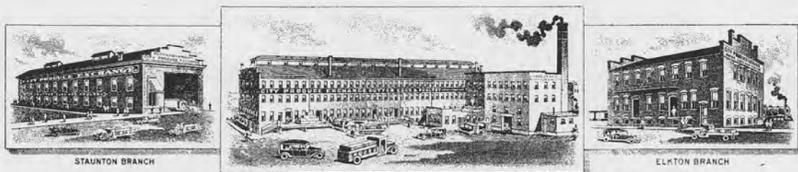
Less than 20 years ago it was found that turkey eggs could be hatched in an incubator and the poults grown successfully in brooders. This discovery revolutionized the turkey business. Now modern brooder houses are to be found on nearly every farm, and thousands of young turkeys may be seen on the sunny slopes and hilltops. The county's crop in 1938 approximated 325,000. A half-million were hatched this year (1939). The million-dollar income last year from turkeys placed them fifth among the farm products of the county, eggs coming first, followed in order by dairy products, broilers, livestock, and turkeys. More than 40 per cent of the turkeys raised in Virginia came from Rockingham. The principal breeds are the Bronze, Blacks, and smaller numbers of Narragansetts, Bourbon Reds, and White Hollands. The breeding of the broad-breasted type is well under way.



The phenomenal growth of the turkey industry here is due in large measure to the efficient cooperation of the local feed manufacturers and distributors. Another large contributing factor is the ready market afforded by reliable local dealers. For years the largest plant in the country for fattening, dressing, and shipping poultry has been operated in Harrisonburg.

Many large farms on which formerly wheat, corn, and hay were the principal crops, have been converted into turkey ranges where thousands of choice birds may be seen from early summer till autumn. Artificial lighting and proper housing bring turkey hens into laying at any season. This will no doubt make turkey-raising an all-the-year industry, like chicken-raising. It is now planned to begin the hatching of turkeys in October.

The accompanying picture, showing one of the Chas. C. Turner flocks at Broadway, is representative of the droves of turkeys that may be seen on the farms of many of the larger producers. This year (1939) Mr. Turner has 14,000 birds in his market flocks. His parent flocks contain 225 toms and 2100 hens. From 75,000 eggs placed in the incubators, 45,000 poults were hatched. One brooder, artificially heated, answers for 200 poults; later the young turkeys are assembled in flocks of about 1500 each on the ranges. Mr. Turner has developed a system of movable roosts on sleds that are moved daily to new locations, with marked results in sanitation and distribution of the manure. This method provides for larger flocks on the fields and does not change the rotation of fields in the course of farming, by using the second hay crop year for the turkeys.



BUILDINGS OF CITY PRODUCE EXCHANGE

THE MARKETING OF POULTRY

It is a far cry and a long flight from the days when flocks of turkeys were driven on foot from West Virginia across the mountains to Staunton and Harrisonburg, to be shipped thence over the railroad to the large cities. Increased thousands of live fowls, turkeys and chickens, still go to the cities, and since 1890 the shipping of dressed poultry has grown to amazing proportions. In that year Emanuel and Gabriel Blosser, as mere boys, began to ship dressed turkeys in the fall, including dressed chickens also about 1895. They are still at it.

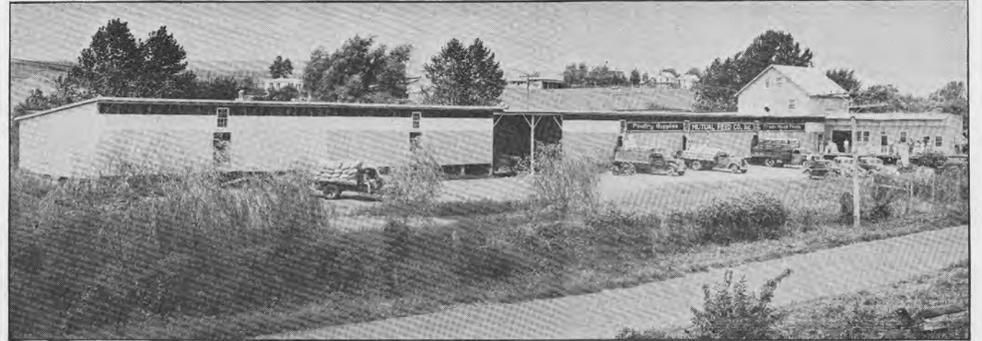
In 1899 D. M. Detwiler began fattening and dressing fowls, and was the first hereabout to ship dressed poultry (by express) in the summer. In 1907 he was succeeded by the Valley Produce Company, under the management of J. A. Burkholder. The next year a new firm, the City Produce Exchange, composed of the Blosser Brothers and H. H. Weaver, began operations in Harrisonburg, later absorbing the Valley Produce Company. Carload shipments of eggs, turkeys, and chickens date from 1908. Soon egg shipments exceeded a carload a day. By 1916 the City Produce Exchange had the largest plant of its kind in the United States. Since 1930 shipments to the cities have been made chiefly by auto trucks. At this time, while there are two other large poultry shipping plants in Harrisonburg, the City Produce Exchange ships about 11 tons of dressed chickens (broilers) each day. During the year 1939 the shipments of dressed poultry totaled about 5,200,000 pounds, while the live shipments of the county as a whole reached a figure of about 20,000,000 pounds. To collect these vast numbers of fowls, a number of trucks operate daily on extended routes, while at the same time many farmers bring in thousands of birds from their growing flocks.

The Blosser Brothers are now rounding out a half-century of successful enterprise in the poultry-shipping business.

What is now the main street of Harrisonburg was for a long time called Irish Street. The street parallel with it on the west was German Street.

THE FEEDING OF POULTRY

About 1899 D. M. Detwiler in Rockingham began the special fattening of poultry collected from the farms preparatory to dressing and shipping. This was developed on a large scale by his successors. Now the firms that dress and ship poultry do not fatten the fowls, but the fattening is done by approved methods by the poultry-raisers. The amount of feed required for the thousands of birds on the hundreds of farms and poultry ranches is enormous, and the quality of the feeds must come up to the highest standards. The feed dealers of the county, by providing proper feeds and aiding the farmers in financing their undertakings in raising and fattening large flocks, have done much to stimulate and develop the industry. At present 8 or 10 large firms are cooperating with Rockingham farmers in furnishing baby chicks and poults (baby turkeys) and in providing feeds and other necessary supplies. About 25 large trucks go out daily on their routes distributing feed, etc., carrying around 160 tons daily, or over 100 million pounds each year.



PLANT OF MUTUAL FEED COMPANY, BROADWAY

One of the pioneer firms in farming out baby chicks and more recently poults also, and in furnishing and distributing feeds and other supplies, is the Mutual Feed Company, Inc., of Broadway. This firm, which was incorporated in 1934, is composed of Hobart M. Turner, Chas. C. Turner, Edgar J. Cline, and John H. Alger. It has one of the larger plants of its kind in the county, and handles about 27 million pounds of poultry feed annually, one-third of which is used by members of the firm for their own individual flocks. Chas. C. Turner was the first to raise broilers on a commercial scale in the Broadway section. The bulk of the poultry feed used in the county is imported in car lots as corn, bran, middlings, oats, meat scrap, cotton-seed meal, peanut meal, soy bean meal, gluten meal, dried milk, etc., but is mixed here by the dealers and distributors. The farmers of the county supply considerable quantities of grain, but many of them find it more profitable to use their farms as poultry ranches than for growing grain.

A broiler (young chicken) eats about 14 pounds of feed and is usually sold at 14 weeks of age; a turkey eats 85 pounds of feed to the age of 7 months. Formerly the turkey season extended only from May to November, but now, since by methods of artificial lighting and improved feeding turkey hens can be made to lay in all seasons of the year, the hatching and growing periods have been much extended. Most of the poults are hatched (by incubators) in the county, and about 85 per cent of the baby chicks. On the large ranches the baby fowls are first taken care of in units of 300 or 400, warmed by artificial and scientifically regulated heating; later the units are combined in larger flocks. All this gives employment to a number of persons, since careful attention is necessary at all hours of day and night. Persons who can remember the occasional small flocks of chickens and turkeys that wandered about over the farms years ago, are able to appreciate the sight of a well regulated ranch in which thousands of fowls are now brought up under careful limits and supervision.

VALLEY CREAMERY, INC.

Old spring houses here and there, falling into ruin, are mute evidence that keeping milk sweet and making butter was a housewife's problem from the days of early settlement. Modern cooling systems were unknown until recent years. The thrifty housewife made butter for the family and sold what could be spared in exchange for coffee, sugar, and calico. A never-failing spring of cold water was a valuable refrigerator. In 1880 Col. Emanuel Sipe purchased the old stone building and other property at Linville to secure use of the large stone spring house over the Kratzer Spring in which to keep the butter he took in at the store. The latter was carried on in the stone building mentioned above. About the same date the first attempt was made to collect cream from the farmers for commercial butter-making. Jonas Blosser had a cream collecting station at his home on the Dayton Pike, with separating facilities of a primitive sort, enabling patrons to have their cream separated from the raw milk. They took the skimmed milk back home for the pigs and chickens. The cream was taken to Mt. Sidney to be made into butter.



MAIN BUILDING, VALLEY CREAMERY, INC

At a later date Thomas P. Yager and B. F. Suter erected a brick building at Penn Laird for a creamery. E. W. Holsinger and A. F. Howard took stock with them and the work was carried on, largely by Mr. Holsinger, who made frequent trips around over the country collecting cream. The business expanded and in time the Farmers and Merchants Creamery at Harrisonburg was purchased. At present the main plant of the company is located on South Liberty Street, and the extensive operations are carried on by the Valley Creamery, Inc. The managers are C. L. Stahl, W. C. Marsh, and M. R. Weaver. With modern machinery and improved facilities of every kind, butter and ice cream are produced in quantities and quality that would have been deemed impossible in the early days of small beginnings. The annual output of the county is about 800,000 pounds, half of which, approximately, goes to Philadelphia and New York, the other half being distributed to various points in Virginia. The farmers are paid on an average of 25 cents a pound for butter fat. Valley Gold Ice Cream and Massanutten Butter are two widely known products.

The well-known Chestnut Ridge is just southeast of Harrisonburg. Another Chestnut Ridge is north of Rawley Springs.

BABY CHICKS—ARTIFICIAL HATCHING

As wild fowl became scarce the early settlers raised more chickens and other domestic fowls. Then it became a task to guard the roosts from foxes and opossums and to find the nests of turkey hens cleverly hidden in the woods. In those days no one dreamed of the magnitude that the poultry industry would assume today. In 1884 a Rockingham County man did something that has had an important bearing on our big poultry business. In that year Samuel H. Blosser of Dayton devised the first incubator used in Virginia, and it was one of the first used anywhere in this country. He placed eggs in a box with sawdust packed around it and kept it warm with water heated in a teakettle on the kitchen stove. In three weeks he was delighted and his friends were amazed when baby chicks came out of the eggs. This was a great event in artificial hatching. He added other units to his hatchery until he had 17, and in 1911 he installed the first mammoth incubating machine in the county. He is still living and still in the hatching business.

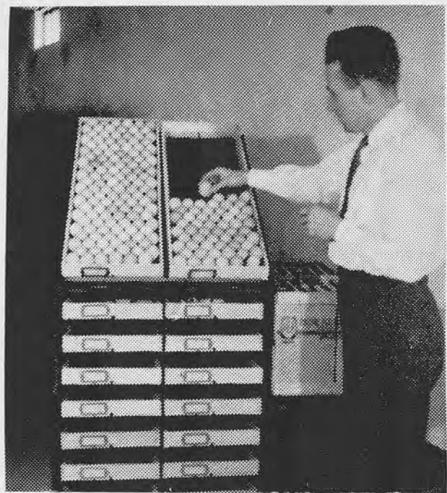


BLOSSER'S FIRST HATCHERY NEAR DAYTON

From the small beginning that Mr. Blosser made in 1884 artificial incubation has expanded until today there are in the county 34 commercial hatcheries with a total capacity of 1,427,318 eggs every three weeks. Among these commercial hatcheries, one of the larger ones is operated by Jordan Brothers of Bridgewater. Their plant is one of the most up-to-date, since this year (1939) they replaced older devices with new electrical equipment, substantially increasing their output. They began operations in 1922 with a Newtown incubator having an egg capacity of 2400. The next year they increased their incubator capacity to 7200, and by 1932 they needed 31,000 eggs for a hatching. Now, with their new equipment, they hatch 56,000 eggs every three weeks. Their hatchery was the 8th in Virginia to be certified under the state certification program, which was put into effect to eradicate Pullorum Disease. In addition to their successful and large-scale hatching, Jordan Brothers were among the first to operate a large brooding project. They built a house 30 by 100 feet, using hot water heating equipment. This plant has been improved and enlarged from time to time until now they are turning out from 50,000 to 60,000 broilers annually.

To supply the great hatcheries of the county, Rockingham hens do not lay enough eggs, and consequently many others are shipped in. Many incubators operate the year round. The poultry industry has grown to such proportions in Rockingham that it produces in the county an annual income of approximately three and a half million dollars. Rockingham baby chicks have an enviable reputation over the country, and those who purchase once usually come back for more.

(We are indebted to Mr. S. M. Cox, the efficient farm agent for Rockingham County, for most of the items in the foregoing sketch.)



A SECTION OF A BUNDY ELECTRIC INCUBATOR IN THE JORDAN BROTHERS' HATCHERY

ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE

The early history of Aberdeen-Angus cattle like that of most of our domestic breeds, seems to be lost in the unwritten annals of the agricultural era of the 17th and 18th centuries. It appears, however, that the Aberdeen-Angus breed of cattle originated from the wild native hornless cattle of Northern Scotland. In the middle or latter portion of the 18th century authentic records were made of the breed's progress in Aberdeenshire, Angushire, Kincardineshire and Morayshire. Polled cattle of Buchan had attained highest favor with the leading cattle breeders. The superior beef-producing qualities of the native polled breed attracted the leading agriculturists to it more exclusively as the demand for beef became greater; and thus it is found that by 1820 a great many of the farmers of the lower part of Aberdeenshire had commenced the rearing of pure polled herds on an extensive and systematic scale. During this period the crossing of the native polled cattle with the larger Shorthorns gave a particularly good beef animal for butchering purposes. The crossing of these cattle, therefore, became almost a craze with the people of this section of Scotland. There were, however, a number of shrewd and far-seeing agriculturists who grasped the full significance of the new fashion in cattle-breeding. They recognized the danger which threatened the native polled cattle, and for this reason they determined to disregard the popular taste and to maintain at any cost the purity of the polled race.

Among these early improvers of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, three breeders stand out as the most influential. These are Hugh Watson of Keillor, William McCombie of Tillyfour, and Sir George Macpherson Grant of Ballindalloch.

In 1873 the first Aberdeen-Angus cattle were shipped into America, and it is in the United States and Canada that the Aberdeen-Angus breed has made its most astounding progress. In 1873 not a single representative of the Aberdeen-Angus breed was to be found in the United States. Now, perhaps more than 500,000 pure-bred Angus cattle are found in America. To this number must be added the unnumbered thousands of non-registered animals of the breed and the countless crossbreeds through which the dominant never failing characteristics of the Aberdeen-Angus flow. In addition to this numerical growth, they have made an unparalleled show ring and feed lot record. It was in 1873 that Mr. George Grant of Victoria, Kansas, imported four Angus bulls, two of which were exhibited at the Kansas City Fair that same year. In 1876 Grant is said to have had 800 cross-bred Angus calves and that the polled crosses weighed about 120 pounds live weight more than the other crosses.

What might be termed the parent pure-bred herd of America was established by Anderson and Findlay, Chicago business men, residing in Lake Forest, Illinois. Mr. Findlay was a native of Buchan, Scotland, and was well acquainted with the merits of the Aberdeens. Mr. Anderson was also an Aberdonian. They imported in 1878 five heifers and a bull from the best herds of Scotland. In 1883, November 21, the American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association was formally organized at Chicago. W. T. Holt of Denver, Colorado, was elected the first president of the permanent organization; H. C. Burleigh, Vasselboro, Maine, vice-president, and Charles Gudgell, Pleasant Hill, Missouri, secretary-treasurer.

In recent years the Angus have become very popular in Virginia, and among the largest Angus herds in the east are to be found in the northern section of the state. Only a few years ago a number of the farmers in Rockingham County became interested in Angus cattle, and a few herds are being developed. Among these is the Angus herd now owned by Jordan Brothers of Bridgewater. These two young men have for a number of years been engaged in a profitable poultry business. Four or five years ago they became interested in beef animals and purchased the foundation stock for their Angus herd. At the present time they have 30 registered females headed by a splendid bull from which they are producing excellent beef animals. Through breeding done by individuals like Jordan Brothers, the Aberdeen-Angus breed promises to become more popular in Rockingham each year. They are without doubt fine cattle, and the baby beeves that have been found in this county and in other counties in Virginia that have stood at the top in the Baltimore Show have in most cases been Angus calves. Shorthorns were once the popular breed in Rockingham, but the Angus are replacing the Shorthorns due to the fact that they develop quicker into smoother butchering animals. Jordan Brothers and one or two other breeders in the county are the pioneers in this section in the production of registered Angus cattle.

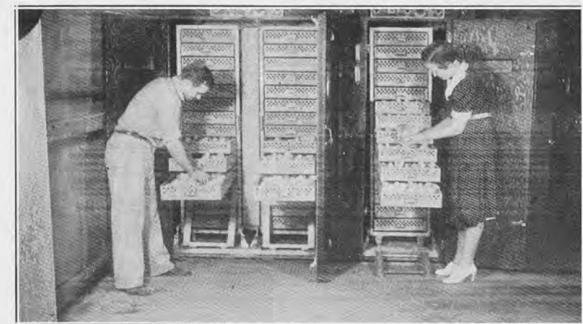
S. M. COX.



AN ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD IN ROCKINGHAM

BROADWAY HATCHERY

The Broadway Hatchery, owned by John M. Kline and operated by A. W. Fitzwater, starting about 1919 with a capacity of 1800 chicken eggs, has had a remarkable growth. For several years past it has been giving chief attention to the hatching of turkeys. For some time prior to 1928 turkey production had declined because of serious losses from diseases. Since then, however, conditions have been improved and the expansion of turkey-raising in the county and adjacent sections has been unprecedented. Much of this was due to the work of a 4-H Club girl who, in the spring of 1923, put 57 poults in a brooder house and grew most of them into splendid birds. Her success was contagious and her plans of production were generally adopted by the turkey-growers of Rockingham by 1928. That year 15,000 turkey eggs were hatched in the county in incubators. That number has increased rapidly from year to year. In 1939 there were in the county 14 commercial hatcheries producing poults, and the total output was approximately 500,000. Some one has calculated that it would have required 41,667 turkey hens, sitting faithfully on their nests, to have hatched the same number of poults in the same time.



ONE OF THE ADJUSTABLE HATCHING UNITS IN THE BROADWAY HATCHERY

The first experiments with turkey eggs at the Broadway Hatchery were made in 1933, when 200 poults were hatched in incubators. In 1939 the output was 80,000. This hatchery does much work for Howard S. Zigler, who is probably the largest producer of turkeys in the country. The hatching outfits of this establishment are housed in six different buildings. Some of the hatching units are used for turkeys, others for chickens, and some are adjustable—can be used for either. But the units employed for chickens are kept separate from those used for turkeys. The total capacity of the hatching units in the Broadway Hatchery is 200,000 eggs, and in this total 140,000 turkey eggs can be provided for. During the past season the hatching of turkeys continued from December until September, and it seems probable that in a short time the hatching of turkeys will be carried on the year round.

In Swift Run Gap are two Swift Runs, one on either side of the mountain.

McGaheysville was first called Ursulasburg.

An old trail from Gilbert's (now Peale's Cross Roads) to Bogota and Lynnwood was called the Lawyer Road because it was used by Gabriel Jones, the famous lawyer who lived at Bogota. The Lawyers' Path led across the Shenandoah Mountain northwest of Rawley Springs.

HARRISONBURG MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

On March 29, 1902, the General Assembly of Virginia granted a charter to the Harrisonburg Mutual Telephone Company, with John A. Switzer as president and Walter C. Switzer as general manager. Prior to that time it was operated as a part of The Rockingham Mutual Telephone Company. In 1899 the Valley Telephone Company, operating exchanges at Harrisonburg and Bridgewater, was purchased and made a part of the system, later incorporated. The number of company-operated stations in 1902 was 282 in Harrisonburg and Bridgewater.

Weyers Cave in Augusta County was added in 1907, Swift Run in 1911, Dayton in 1913, Burketown in 1917, Elkton-Shenandoah Mutual in 1921, Plains District at Broadway in 1926, McGaheysville in 1932, and in 1938 the first unattended all-relay dial exchange was put in operation with 59 stations at Grottoes.

On January 1, 1939, the company-operated stations totaled 3462, and service-line stations 2379, making 5841 telephone stations in operation in Rockingham County at that time. The company's investment in plant and equipment amounted to \$411,097.96.



JOHN A. SWITZER
First President



G. FRED SWITZER
President



FRANK C. SWITZER
General Manager



WALTER C. SWITZER
Founder

FOOD PLANTS AND FLOWERS

One of the most important industries of recent development in Rockingham is the culture of garden plants and flowers. Very few plants are shipped into the county, since the climate and other conditions make it easily possible to grow cabbage, tomato, and other plants in hotbeds and open frames. Many persons raise their own plants, but at the same time a number of expert growers earn a livelihood raising plants for sale to their neighbors. Many flowers also are grown in homes, and extensive flower borders are being planted along the highways. The special culture of flowers, in pots and for cutting, is being carried on extensively in Harrisonburg, at Park View, and one or two other places. In 1875 John H. Bell was advertising a greenhouse in Harrisonburg as a "new enterprise."



PLECKER GREENHOUSES, HARRISONBURG

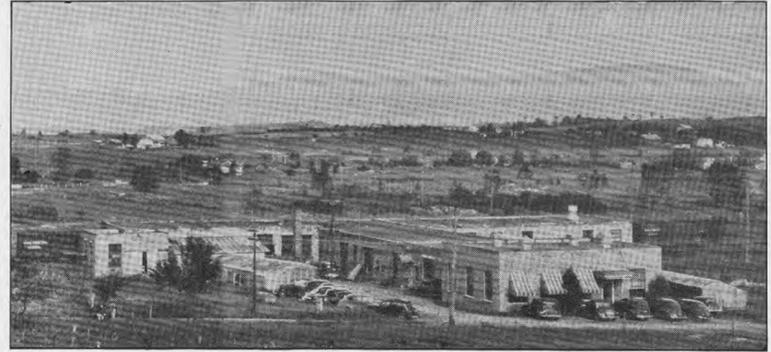
About 1909 J. E. Plecker started growing greenhouse flowers in Harrisonburg. His establishment grew from two wooden structures to the extensive and well equipped plant of the present time. In 1918 Mr. Plecker formed a partnership with Mark Bowman. This partnership continued until 1934 when the business was incorporated as the J. E. Plecker Company, Inc. Operations are now carried on in eight modern steel-frame buildings with a total floor space of 18,195 square feet, with arrangements for steam heating, the plant representing an investment of over \$35,000. It is the largest greenhouse under glass in the Valley of Virginia and provides employment for nine trained attendants. It furnishes most of the flowers used in the county and city and has a large wholesale trade in adjacent counties of Virginia and in West Virginia. Under the present management the Plecker greenhouses have gained favor and increased volume of business, and are regarded as one of the show places of the county.

SHENANDOAH EQUIPMENT CORPORATION

Harrisonburg, Virginia

This business was started in 1925 as a partnership composed of P. S. Martin, H. D. Weaver, J. E. Suter, Francis Bechtel, and A. D. Wenger, and was called the Shenandoah Manufacturing Company. It was incorporated in 1927, by the same men. Although started in a rented garage for the manufacture of Hot Water Brooding Systems and Thermostats, other items were added from time to time so that the company was soon making practically a complete line of poultry-raising equipment. Later they branched out into the manufacture of heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning equipment.

Among the various articles which the company has developed and introduced may be mentioned hot water brooding systems, automatic watering equipment for poultry, special poultry feeders, wood-burning brooders, electric brooders, incubators, and various types of battery brooders, in addition to the special heating and air-conditioning equipment already mentioned.



PLANT OF SHENANDOAH EQUIPMENT CORPORATION

The products of the company have been largely inventions of its founder, P. S. Martin, who has taken out numerous patents on various inventions pertaining to poultry husbandry and also on heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning equipment. The Shenandoah Wood-burning Brooder, which is one of the company's leading products, was originated by Charles C. Turner, the well-known turkey grower of Broadway.

In 1939 the Shenandoah Manufacturing Company was acquired by the Shenandoah Equipment Corporation, the officers of which are Lewis S. Martin, president; P. S. Martin, vice-president; Roy E. Heatwole, secretary-treasurer. Shenandoah was one of the pioneer manufacturers of poultry-raising equipment in the county, and it can be truthfully stated that the marvelous growth of the poultry industry can be attributed in no small measure to the development of poultry-raising equipment in which this company has played such a large part. Its facilities are being further increased by the installation of power presses and other machinery for mass production, and the company has recently broadened its line by announcing a new type of cabinet incubator. Shenandoah Poultry Equipment is largely used locally, is sold in every state of the Union and many foreign countries.

MILK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

In 1896 or 1897 Mr. Ritz, a German, started a cheese factory at Linville, in the old stone building that had been built for a barn in 1804; converted into a three-story dwelling and store room in 1870, and purchased by Colonel Sipe in 1880. In 1899 Mr. Ritz opened another cheese factory in Broadway. He was there succeeded by C. M. Meyers, who operated for some years. In the meantime other factories were started at Edom, Moore's Store, and perhaps other places. In 1917 the Harrisonburg Poultry and Egg Company opened a large plant for processing milk and took up the cheese factory supply for shipment to Norfolk and other points. The next year the Milner Dairy Company of Norfolk opened a plant in Harrisonburg, operating until 1922. This was taken over by the newly organized Valley of Virginia Co-Operative Milk Producers Association, Inc., with Miller D. Rhodes, president, Fred Driver, manager, and D. E. Shank, secretary and treasurer. In 1923 Mr. Shank became manager. In a short time the plant developed various manufacturing processes to dispose of the increasing supply of milk. Its output now includes powdered milk, condensed milk, sweet cream, and butter, as well as whole milk. "Shenandoah's Pride" is a familiar trademark on its dairy products.



FIRST CHEESE FACTORY
AT LINVILLE



PRESENT MILK PLANT
IN HARRISONBURG

Rockingham County has an annual output of approximately 40,000,000 pounds of whole milk, and a large number of trucks and autos are busy every day collecting the supply. Incidentally, this extensive traffic has developed a demand for better roads, and has been very influential in securing better highways for the county.

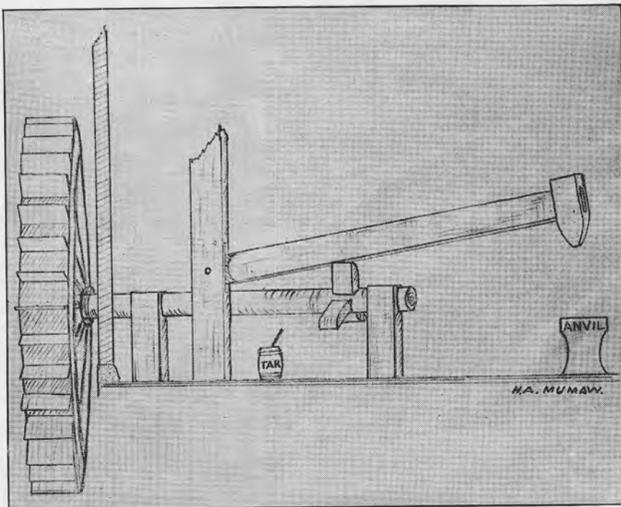
The present board of directors of the Valley of Virginia Co-Operative Milk Producers Association, Inc., are Henry Bowman, J. W. Bare, S. I. Cline, F. H. Harrison, G. F. Holsinger, W. H. Lineweaver, B. F. Miller, D. R. Miller, M. W. Miller, I. D. Myers, and R. S. Showalter. As will be observed from these names, this organization is owned and controlled entirely by dairymen of the Shenandoah Valley. General Washington is credited with making ice cream as early as 1784. Many years later young Matthew Fontaine Maury saw such a product for the first time. By 1900 the consumption of ice cream was only about one quart per year per capita; now the average yearly for each person in the United States is estimated to be between 8 and 9 quarts.

In Rockingham County are several prominent monadnocks, namely, Round Hill at Bridgewater, Round Hill near Greenmount, Green Hill near Singers' Glen, Mole Hill not far from Dayton, Shaver's Hill east of Mt. Crawford, and Long's Hill between Good's Mill and Port Republic. Another, Grattan's Hill, is on the line between Rockingham and Augusta, not far from Centerville.

A few names in Rockingham County have a sinister sound, for example, War Branch, Tomahawk Mountain, Hangman's Run, and Cold Comfort Creek.

AN OLD FORGE HAMMER

An early need of the pioneers was iron, a product hard to get and heavy to haul, especially with the roads only rough trails. Pig-iron from the primitive furnaces was fused and beaten into blooms. These were blocks about 18 inches square and 4 inches thick. The blooms were then hammered out into other forms of wrought iron. In the forges were heavy tilt-hammers, operated by water power. One of these old hammers is shown herewith from a photograph, and the arrangement by which it was operated is indicated in the drawing.



Above: OLD FORGE HAMMER-HEAD; WEIGHT, 400 POUNDS; NOW ON COURT SQUARE, HARRISONBURG; At Left: DRAWING OF OLD FORGE HAMMER MOUNTED, WITH OPERATING MACHINERY

This old forge hammer, the only one known to exist in this part of the country, was discovered by the Sisler Brothers of Harrisonburg, who donated it for the benefit of the public and, with permission from the board of supervisors, placed it on a granite base on the court square, where it will serve to remind our people of important industries that were carried on by our forefathers.

In the drawing is shown an ancient tar-bucket, which was an essential adjunct in numerous mechanical operations of former days. Pine tar, which was obtained in burning charcoal and otherwise, was used for lubrication of machinery and especially the axles of wagons. Lard and other kinds of grease were mixed with the tar. The tar made it stick and "stay put." Every wagoner, on his long trips to Scottsville, Alexandria, Fredericksburg, or Winchester, had a tar-bucket suspended at the rear of his wagon. These tar-buckets are now rare curiosities. Several may be seen in Crist's museum at Timberville.

THE BRADLEY FOUNDRY

In view of the fact that Rockingham County abounded in rich deposits of iron ore, furnaces, forges, and foundries were established and operated at early dates. The best known industry of this kind still in successful operation in the county is the Bradley Foundry in Harrisonburg. It was established some time prior to 1856 by Nelson Bradley, and was located in the hollow beside Black's Run, south of the plant now operated by P. Bradley & Sons, Inc. In 1856 Philo Bradley, brother of Nelson, bought the foundry and operated it at the original site until 1867, when he put up the present buildings. During the Civil War the Bradley Foundry cast balls and shells for the Confederate cannon, and the shells were made so that they would burst into a number of pieces of equal size and scatter in all directions, thus making them more destructive. In 1893 the two sons of Philo Bradley, Schuyler and John, took over their father's plant and operated it until 1918, when it was incorporated, with Schuyler Bradley president, S. B. Bradley vice-president, B. L. Bradley secretary and sales manager, with the entire number of shares of stock held by the Bradley families.



THE BRADLEY FOUNDRY, HARRISONBURG

The Bradley Foundry has long been known as the makers of hillside and other plows, and the entire output of the plant is about 500 tons annually. At present Schuyler N. Bradley of the fourth generation is active in the management of the business. This foundry is believed to be the oldest business in the county, and it enjoys the unique distinction of having been owned by and in the hands of one family throughout its history. In the plant are several men who are nearing the half-century mark in continuous employment.



PARK VIEW HATCHERY AND HOME OF A. G. HEISHMAN—THE FIRST HATCHERY OF PARK VIEW

Rockingham County was named in honor of the Marquis of Rockingham (Charles Watson Wentworth), an English statesman.

THE KAVANAUGH HOTEL

The lodging of strangers has been one of the outstanding traits of Rockingham folk from early days. In 1748, it is said, there was a place of entertainment, called an inn, near the site of the present town of Elkton. Such places at that time were usually called ordinaries. A tavern or inn stood for many years at the summit of the pass in Swift Run Gap. In 1753 Valentine Sevier, father of John who was later governor of Tennessee, had a tavern on the Indian Road at or near the present village of Tenth Legion. At the same time Thomas Harrison, whose house was over one spring and near another at the place where the city named for him now stands, was occasional host to passing travelers.



MAIN BUILDING OF KAVANAUGH HOTEL, HARRISONBURG

About 60 years ago a number of hotels were built in the county, most of them at the various mineral springs and places of amusement. Not many of these remain at present. In Harrisonburg were several old hotels, well and favorably known to the traveling and local public. One of these was the Virginia Hotel, now expanded into the Kavanaugh. In 1874 James Kavanaugh, father of the present owner, bought the Virginia Hotel and took possession of it, moving into Harrisonburg from his farm two miles north of town on the Kratzer Road. In 1904 James M. Kavanaugh tore down the old Virginia Hotel and replaced it with the present excellent and commodious brick structure. This originally had 53 rooms, but by 1915 the business had grown so much that 32 rooms were added; and eight years later 40 more rooms were required to accommodate the guests who sought the entertainment of this hospitable lodging-place. The name Kavanaugh Hotel is known all over the United States, and automobiles from many different states of the Union and even from other countries of America, as well as occasional ones from Europe, may be seen parked near the hotel. The business is owned and managed by James M. Kavanaugh, and is the largest establishment of its kind and class in any town of equal size in the East.

TROY LAUNDRY, HARRISONBURG

At 188 North Liberty Street, in Harrisonburg, Mr. A. P. Sumption operates one of the largest and best-equipped laundries and dry-cleaning establishments in the country. About 30 years ago J. N. Garber and I. L. Flory opened a laundry and carried it on for a year or two. They sold out to the Troy Laundry Company who continued the business, but at first laundered only collars and shirts. An extensive trade was built up, work being sent in from points as distant as Alexandria, Va. About 1914 the operations of the plant were expanded to meet the general needs of family laundry demands. The business has grown remarkably from a small plant, employing



TROY LAUNDRY, HARRISONBURG

only a few helpers, to one that occupies large buildings, includes extensive and up-to-date machinery, and gives employment to a number of men and women. The first year or two five helpers were able to do the work; now the increasing business employs nearly 50 persons, all of them from the county and city. Three trucks serve the patrons in the city; another one goes out through the county and adjoining sections, including parts of the counties of Page and Shenandoah. The Troy Laundry is owned by Mr. A. P. Sumption, who is one of the successful and progressive citizens of the community.

Brown's Gap in the Blue Ridge was formerly known as Madison's Gap, and the stream which drains it on the west side is still called Madison's Run.

Grand Caverns were for many years called Weyer's Cave and for some time the Grottoes of the Shenandoah. Near them is another underground wonder, the Cave of the Fountains; and for many years before either of these was discovered Madison's Cave in the same vicinity was well known.

Bridgewater in early times was known as Bridgeport and Dinkle Town.

Two Naked Creeks are on the boundaries of Rockingham County, one at Burkettown, on the line of Augusta, the other near Shenandoah, on the line of Page.

NATURAL WONDERS OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY



"ENTRANCE TO SKYLAND"

A Scene in the Famous Endless Caverns, Located Just South of New Market, Virginia

Rockingham County has within it some of the most spectacular caverns in the world, fantastic dreams with their great, graceful stalactites and stalagmites forming miles of grotesque and eerie yet beautiful wonders. In combination they afford, despite their marked similarities, variations in stalactitic, stalagmitic and flowstone formations that contradict a possible assumption that to "see one is to see all." Characteristically, all having been formed by similar processes through a comparable geologic age, they are alike. Nevertheless, new and startlingly different forms of travertine deposits in columns, shelves, basins, petrified waterfalls, shields and draperies in rock as widely variant as the architectural handiwork of man in as many cities, are revealed in the different caverns.

Few of the caverns in Rockingham County have been explored to their final reaches. Surface indications point, geologists say, to the presence of additional vast underground fairylands. At the Endless Caverns near New Market, Va., vast undeveloped reaches of the subterranean cavern world remain to be opened.

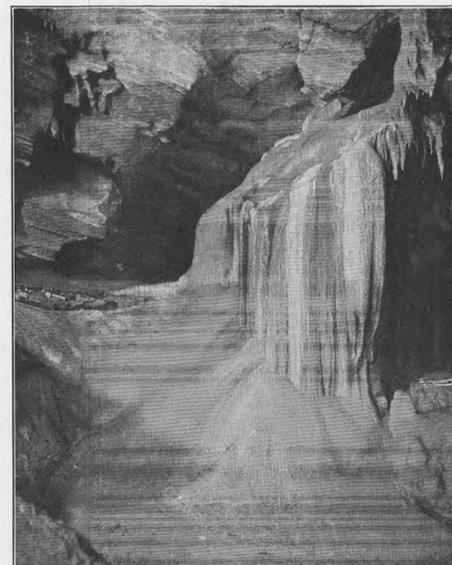
All of the caverns in Rockingham County owe their existence to upward thrusts of the earth's surface millions of years ago, these thrusts making folds and faults in the comparatively soft limestone of which the glacial-created plateau of this area is largely composed. Geologists declare that the Endless Caverns near New Market present the best present-day evidences of such rock folding and its relation to the genesis of the caverns to be found in this county.

The stalactites and stalagmites are formed by the rainfall and melting snow seeping down through the joint-planes and faults in the limestone rock. Each tiny drop as it works its way from the surface accumulates a percentage of mineral matter from the limestone rock, and when it finally seeps through to the roof of the cave a slight residue of dissolved calcium carbonate is left upon the ceiling by each falling drop, building downward into pointed stalactites, and deposited by each drop upon the floor, building upward into blunt stalagmites. Water in which mineral coloring matter has been dissolved paints some of these formations like rainbows, while dazzling white crystals are formed from water containing pure calcium carbonate. Geologists estimate that it requires from one hundred and twenty to two hundred years to form one cubic inch of the stalactites and stalagmites.



"THE SUSPENDED BALCONY LEADING FROM ECHO HALL"

A Scene in the Beautiful Caverns of Melrose, Six Miles North of Harrisonburg, Virginia



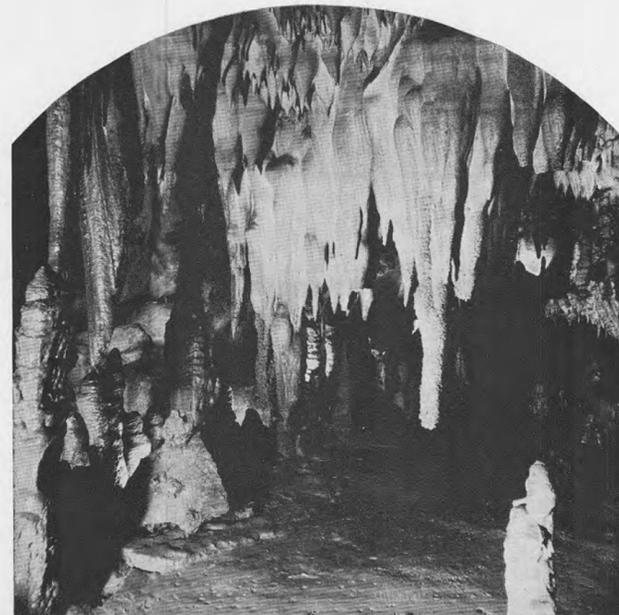
"THE SNOWDRIFT"

A Snow-White Formation in the Famous Endless Caverns, New Market, Virginia

Tangible evidence of the slowness of the rock formations is found in the Caverns of Melrose, near Harrisonburg, where, over the name of a Civil War soldier carved into the cavern wall with a bayonet point or other sharp instrument, there has been formed the filmiest coating of crystal-clear flowstone, sealing the name forever and destined, perhaps in ages to come, to completely cover it over with delicate tintings from mineral or organic matter through which the downward seeping waters pass. Elsewhere in the Caverns of Melrose is another measurement to gauge the ageless processes of the travertine deposits.

The Caverns of Melrose is doubtless one of the Civil War's most unusual movements, unique in that it bears the names of soldiers of both the Union and Confederate armies, carved by the troops themselves during April and May 1862. Pre-dating the inscriptions of the war-time soldiers is that of a cousin of President Abraham Lincoln, whose home was near by in Rockingham County, and who scratched his signature in the rock wall of the cavern on February 24, 1829, and later joined the Confederate Army to fight against the Union forces headed by his own cousin.

In Massanutten Caverns, five miles east of Harrisonburg, there have been discovered two geologic phenomena which make the caverns particularly interesting to geologists. One is a split column formed by age-joined stalactitic and stalagmitic formations, which shows evidences of being split by terrific pressure. The other unusual feature is the formation of two series of stalactites of different ages, one growing upon the broken formation of the earlier group, indicating a renewed destructive water flow through the cavern channel after travertine deposits had long been under way.

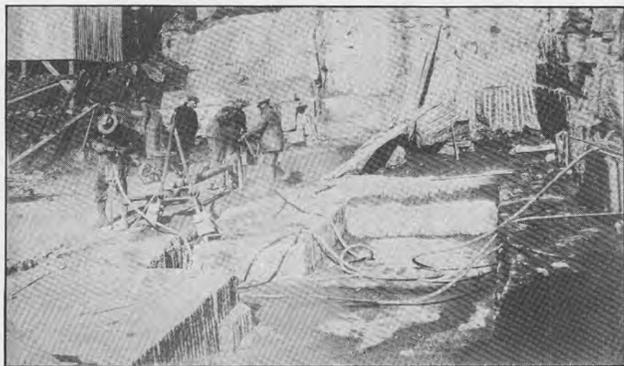


"ALADDIN'S PALACE"

A Scene in Massanutten Caverns, an Underground Fairyland, Five Miles East of Harrisonburg, Virginia

ROYAL BLACK MARBLE

Black marble, a clear dense black that will take a high polish, is rare. For many years Belgium has been the chief source of supply for the whole world. In recent years Rockingham black marble has been found comparable to that of Belgium, in some respects superior, and is being used in many buildings where its fine qualities are recognized and admired.



ROYAL BLACK MARBLE QUARRY

Rockingham County black marble was first quarried commercially by Albert Stone, from Cleveland, Ohio, on land just north of Harrisonburg, then the property of Dr. E. D. Davis. The first important building in which this marble was successfully installed was the Scottish Rites Temple, Washington, D. C., 1915-16. At that time the World War made it impossible to obtain Belgian marble, and the well known architect, John Russell Pope, was able to retain his color scheme by using the Rockingham marble. After the Scottish Rites Temple was completed the quarry lay idle for several years. In 1923 the American Black Marble Corporation leased the property from Dr. Davis and operated on a small scale without much success. In 1928 the Rockingham Marble Corporation was formed to operate the quarry and crushing plant. Five years later the first sawing and finishing equipment was installed. Before this the marble was shipped in the rough blocks. Now the marble is not only quarried here, but completely finished, and has been given the trade names of Royal Black and Royal Black and White, and is being widely used.

Many important installations have been made since 1933, among them the following: Albany Postoffice, Albany, N. Y.; Federal Building and Customs House, St. Louis; Federal Trade Commission Building, Washington, D. C.; Municipal Courts Building, Washington, D. C.; National Airport, North Beach, New York. The first Virginia installation was at Culpeper, and since then the postoffice buildings at Arlington, Strasburg, and Chatham have had their lobbies finished with Royal Black Marble.

WALNUT KERNEL INDUSTRY

Rockingham County abounds in different varieties of nut trees, among which are black walnuts. These have been valuable in providing beautiful cabinet wood and in recent years the use of walnut kernels has been extensively developed. For many years considerable quantities of nuts and kernels were handled incidentally by local merchants. The invention of nut crackers has facilitated the industry and more systematic methods of marketing have made the business of greater commercial importance. About 1934 Ernest D. Acker, a county



ASSORTING AND PACKING ROOM IN ACKER'S WALNUT KERNEL FACTORY

boy, undertook to provide and market walnut kernels in an orderly and extended manner. In 1937 the building shown herewith was erected and equipped for the business, which has expanded to a remarkable volume. Here walnuts are assembled from different points in Rockingham and also from places outside the county and are cracked by improved and sanitary methods. In many respects this plant is unique and outstanding. Mr. Acker is encouraging the planting of improved varieties of walnut trees and other nut trees that will grow into larger commercial values.



AN OLD FOLKS SINGING AT BEAVER CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY



HOME AND HATCHERY OF JACOB A. SHENK, PARK VIEW, NEAR HARRISONBURG
Photographs of this, as a model Virginia Hatchery, were shown at the New York World's Fair and the World Poultry Congress at Cleveland, Ohio

FURNACES, FORGES, AND FOUNDRIES

Iron-working has been an important industry in Rockingham County from an early date. The old road that leads out eastward from Harrisonburg is still known as the Furnace Road—it led to Faussett's Furnace at Paulington. At the mouth of Brock's Creek, between Broadway and Cootes's Store, was Oakland Furnace, operated by the Pennybackers. On the east side of the Shenandoah River, below Conrad's Store (now Elkton) the Forrers had a furnace, and in the Massanutten Mountain, west of the river, they had a furnace (named Catherine) and a foundry. In Brown's Gap, southeast of Port Republic, was Mt. Vernon Furnace, and on the river near Grottoes was Mt. Vernon Forge. At Craney Island, on Smith Creek, two miles south of New Market, Abraham Byrd had a foundry and cast stoves at an early date. There were foundries also at Port Republic and Harrisonburg. At or near the site of Wenger's Mill, on Linville Creek, Marshall's Furnace was operated for a while. Since the Civil War there have been foundries and machine shops at Rushville, Bridgewater, and Broadway. The Bradleys at Harrisonburg, W. M. Groah at Port Republic, and the Trumbos at Broadway still operate foundries.

A picture on another page shows the remains of the old furnace stack of Mt. Vernon Furnace in Brown's Gap. It was about 30 feet long, 20 feet wide, tapering to 12 or 15 feet at the top, and about 30 feet high. Like most of the old furnace stacks, it was built against a steep hillside from which a track led to the top of the stack. Over this track the ore was carried to the top of the stack and dumped into the bowl of the furnace. At the bottom were arched openings for fanning the fires and drawing off the melted iron. Charcoal fires were fanned to intense heat by means of a bellows or blowers, operated by water power. The melted iron was run out into sand beds and hardened into rough bars, called pigs. Ordinarily pig iron had to be put through a refining process in a bloomery to make it malleable, but the pig iron of Mt. Vernon Furnace was so good, it is said, that a blacksmith could hammer it out into knitting needles and other small implements.

David and Henry Forrer and their associates began working iron below Conrad's Store in 1836. There they and their successors developed extensive operations which were continued until recent years. Mr. R. F. Watson, who still manages the property, began work there as a small boy at 30 cents a day. Men at that time were paid 75 and 80 cents a day. The furnaces were run day and night. At Smith Bank 40 or 50 men were employed, and about the same number at Fox Mountain. Some 300 men were engaged in cutting wood and making charcoal. Furnace No. 2 was located on what is now Clayton Koontz land on Naked Creek, near Naked Creek Methodist Church.

In 1866 William Milnes Jr. and others bought out the Forrers, acquiring 31,483 acres, 49 square miles of ore and timber land. They developed extensive iron works at Shenandoah City, which was called Milnes for some years. From January 1 to December 11, 1880, at Furnace No. 2, they made 2200 long tons of charcoal pig iron, and at their bloomery 1635 tons of charcoal blooms. To make a ton of pig iron from Fox Mountain ore they required 2.1 tons of ore, at \$1.66 a ton; 110 bushels of charcoal, at 5 cents a bushel; and 450 to 500 pounds of limestone, at a cost of 18 cents. Counting all this, together with the wages of the laborers, hauling, wear on machinery, and interest on investment, the total cost of a ton of pig iron delivered at the forge was \$16.00. After 1880, when the Shenandoah Valley Railroad connected with the C. & O. at Waynesboro and enabled the ironmasters to use coke from New River instead of charcoal, the cost of a ton of pig iron was reduced to \$10.75.

The mineral rights in the region where the Forrers and later Mr. Milnes operated are now owned by the Alleghany Ore & Iron Company, who have about 49,000 acres in the Blue Ridge, the Massanutten, and the intervening area.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES

BERGTON

Bergton is the name of a postoffice in northern Rockingham that has been known by different names in former years. The voting place at Wittig's Store has long been known as Wittig's. Dovesville was the name of the postoffice for a long time, and then for several years it was known as West Gap. The name West Gap was applied to a mountain pass in the locality as early as 1746.



Above is a view of the home of Mr. D. W. Halterman, in northern Rockingham, near the West Virginia line, on the highway toward Mathias and Lost City. Mr. Halterman is one of the prosperous residents of the neighborhood.

BERLINTON

This village is a suburb of Bridgewater, on the southeast, and took its name from the Berlin family who were prominent in the community for many years.

BRIDGEWATER

Bridgewater dates from the early 19th century, with John Dinkle one of the first settlers. About 1810 he built a sawmill, a grist mill, and a carding machine a short distance below where the bridge now stands. On February 7, 1835, the town was established by law on 20 acres of land belonging to John and Jacob Dinkle, with the name Bridgewater, up to that time Bridgeport. Another early name was Dinkletown. Evidently a bridge was here prior to 1835, and flatboats were loaded for down-river trade. By 1835 the trail westward had become a turnpike, and consequently bridging the water grew important. The town is noted for its bridges, six of which have spanned North River in succession. The first one rested on two rows of posts, not much raised above the water. This gave way in 1853 to one built by Abram S. Williams, a noted bridge architect of the time. This was burned in the second year of the war. In 1866 a bridge was constructed with two spans, with a wooden pier in the middle. The north span of it was swept away by the great flood of October 1870. Prompt plans completed another bridge in December of the same year. This fell in the flood of 1877. The fifth wooden bridge was finished in April 1878. The end butments were raised and the stream spanned in one colossal sweep of about 240 feet, supported by huge bows at the sides. This was said to be the longest single-span wooden bridge in the world. It was replaced in 1917 by the present double-track steel bridge.

Bridgewater is a beautiful residential town of 1,000 people, with clean streets, good stores, a bank, railroad and bus service, up-to-date schools, and active churches. Since 1882 it has been the seat of Bridgewater College. Like Dayton and most other towns of Rockingham County, it is free from saloons and gambling resorts and distinguished for its thrifty, cultured, and law-abiding citizens.



The substantial residence shown above stands on the east side of the pike a short distance southwest of Bridgewater, and has had an interesting history. On this farm the Magills of colonial and Revolutionary times lived, and several Revolutionary soldiers are buried in the graveyard on the hill. From 1845 to 1863 it was the home of George Rockingham Gibbons, who then located in Bartow County, Ga. From 1863 to 1889 it was familiar as the home place of John W. F. Allemong, a prosperous merchant, bank official, and manufacturer, who moved to Salem, Va., in 1889. This place was thereafter for a number of years the home of Mr. John Cline and his family. Mr. Cline was a brother to Elder Peter Cline of Beaver Creek and Cyrus Cline, lawyer, of Texas and Virginia, whose wife was a sister to Governor O'Ferrall.

BROADWAY

The town of Broadway, with the exception of Grottoes, is the youngest in Rockingham County, and like Grottoes has had a rapid growth. Both these towns sprang up at strategic points on the railroads. Broadway following the completion of the railroad to Harrisonburg in 1868 and Grottoes after the building of the Norfolk & Western in 1880. Broadway is situated near the junction of Linville Creek with the north fork of the Shenandoah River and is opposite Brock's Gap, which is the natural outlet for an extensive region westward in Virginia and West Virginia. As early as 1808 the Custers had a mill at the mouth of the creek, site of the present foundry. The town was incorporated in 1880.

It is an important industrial and trading center, the site of a foundry, iron-working shops, flour mills, planing mills, wood-working shops, mercantile establishments, and a pottery that was operated for some years. It has a bank, several churches, and one of the best high schools of the county. On August 19, 1916, a special issue of the Harrisonburg *Daily News-Record* was devoted to a survey of the town, setting forth its natural advantages, business activities, educational and religious institutions, and paying tribute to some of the prominent families that have contributed to its life and character. At the north side of the town is the home of the Winfields. Capt. John Q. Winfield was the organizer and leader of the Brock's Gap Rifles of the Civil War. His daughter, Miss Paulina S. Winfield, has won a creditable place in the literary world. From an adjoining homestead came Dr. J. William Basore, who is a distinguished member of the faculty of Princeton University.



Above is a picture of the attractive and well-appointed home of Mr. Carl Showalter and family, in Broadway. Mr. Showalter is the well-known druggist of Broadway.

CHERRY GROVE

Cherry Grove is a neighborhood rather than a village, although there have been stores, a post office, and a church in the community for many years. It lies on the ridges between Brock's Creek on the west and Linville Creek on the east, and is on the old trail that comes down through Brock's Gap, passes Turleytown, and leads southeastward past Linville, Keezletown, and Penn Laird. The famous Tide Spring is only a mile or two from Cherry Grove, towards the southeast. As the name suggests, we are here in the heart of a region where cherries, especially sweet cherries, are in their natural element and grow abundantly without the care of man.

CLOVER HILL

Clover Hill is a village that is beautifully situated in a progressive community in the northwestern part of Ashby District, Rockingham County. The Back Road, one of the oldest highways of the western side of the Shenandoah Valley, connects Clover Hill with Ottobine on the south and with U. S. Route 33 on the northeast. The area is drained by affluents of Dry River, which passes on its course a short distance to the northeast. Rawley Springs is within easy reach to the northwest.

COAKLEYTOWN

This is a neighborhood settlement just west of Mole Hill. Among the families living hereabout have been the Coakleys, Karicofes, Sengers, and Knicylys.

COOTES'S STORE

This place took its name from Hon. Samuel Cootes (1792-1882), a prominent citizen of the county. It is located on the north fork of the Shenandoah River, at the mouth of Brock's Gap and at the junction of important roads. A voting place was established here in 1858.

CROSS KEYS

A postoffice was here as early as 1835. The name is said to have been adopted from an old bookstore in London. Rodham Kemper was a merchant at Cross Keys from 1823 to 1845, and after that the business was continued by his sons. The old Kemper house had earlier been a wayside inn on the famous Keezletown Road. Near the village is an old church, for many years a union chapel, now belonging to the Presbyterians. An Episcopal chapel was in the vicinity prior to the Revolution. On Sunday, June 8, 1862, the battle of Cross Keys was fought just east of the village. Other particulars about Cross Keys may be found in Wayland's "Virginia Valley Records," pages 300, 301, 309, 324.



This is a picture of the house on Brook Valley Farm, owned by Mr. P. B. Yancey. It stands on the northwest side of the Keezletown Road, an old Indian trail, about midway between Keezletown and Peale's Cross Roads, and is now occupied by Richard Yancey, a son of the owner.

DALE ENTERPRISE

As its name suggests, Dale Enterprise, on Cook's Creek, at the point where the road from Dayton to Singers' Glen crosses the Rawley Pike, is a progressive community. The Heatwoles, Rhodeses, Swartzes, and Minnichs are old family names hereabout. The Dale Enterprise Literary Society made history.

DAPHNA

Daphna is a station on the railroad, 10 miles northeast of Harrisonburg and two miles southwest of Broadway. It was formerly known as Cowan's Station.



Above is shown the residence and some of the out-buildings at the prosperous farm home of Mr. D. C. Acker, on Linville Creek, a mile and a half northwest of Daphna and about three and a half miles southwest of Broadway. Mr. Acker is president of the First National Bank of Broadway, and of the Rockingham Coöperative Farm Bureau; vice-president of the Mutual Cold Storage Corporation, and secretary-treasurer of the Rockingham Mutual Telephone and Telegraph Company. The name of his place is Sunny Side Farm.

DAYTON

Daniel Harrison (1701-1770) located at the site of Dayton about 1740, when his brother Thomas located four miles northeast, where Harrisonburg now stands. Both of them built substantial stone houses about 1750, both houses still remaining. It is unlikely that either of these houses had any other dwelling in its immediate vicinity for 25 or 30 years. An Episcopal chapel was erected near Daniel Harrison's shortly before the Revolution, and near by a Presbyterian church was built about the same time. Daniel also had a mill near his home. After a village had grown up it was called Rifeville and Rifetown, but in 1833 when it was recognized by an act of the Virginia legislature the name of Dayton was adopted. An old Baptist church stood just west of the town for many years. The graveyard may still be seen. Dayton is known chiefly as a publishing center, the Ruebush-Kieffer Company continuing here the printing and publishing business that Joseph Funk and his sons began at Singers' Glen. Dayton is also the seat of Shenandoah College, dating from 1875. Silver Lake, a lovely sheet of clear water, was formed by the construction of a mill dam across Cook's Creek. The town is surrounded by productive and well kept farms and enjoys many natural advantages. As a place of residence it is ideal.



ABOVE IS SHOWN THE BEAUTIFUL HOME OF DR. AND MRS. A. L. LANGLEY, FACING SILVER LAKE, AT DAYTON

DOVESVILLE

Near the northern corner of Rockingham County the Doves, Wittigs, Souders, Wetzels, and Moyers have been prominent families for generations. The postoffice at Dovesville was for a while called West Gap; it is now Bergton. Many years ago a voting place was established at Wittig's Store—it is still known as Wittigs. In 1746 the surveyors of the Fairfax Line spoke of the locality as West Gap or West's Gap.

In colonial times the growing of hemp was encouraged by the British government and farmers of the Valley produced it in large quantities. Tobacco was also grown extensively. In 1784 a petition to the Virginia legislature, asking for a warehouse with official inspection at Harrisonburg, was signed by 98 men of the town and county. In 1844 Gen. S. H. Lewis of East Rockingham, and presumably others, were still growing tobacco extensively. Flax was an important crop from the earliest settlements until 1865, or later. Wheat and corn have always been staples in this region, and within the past 25 years Rockingham fruits and poultry have reached values undreamed of before.

EDOM MILLS

There is every reason to believe that Edom has always been the location of a flouring mill, and it is a well-known fact that several generations ago the village was called Edom Mills. Tradition has it that the Linvilles, for whom the creek and the valley were named, had a mill on the stream about half a mile below the present Edom. The village has never grown to great size, but it is one of those rural centers where a mill, a store, a blacksmith shop, and a doctor could be found, all of them playing an essential part of the life of the community. Edom is specially favored with beautiful natural scenery, an idyllic setting in "sweet Linville's vale," as Aldine S. Kieffer the poet described it many years ago.



Herewith is a picture showing a portion of the old Edom Mill, with the great water-wheel that turns the machinery, and a section of the old wooden trunk or flume that carried the water from the race to the top of the wheel. This wheel, as may be observed, is metal, and the old wooden flume has recently been replaced with a metal one. In earlier times the country mill wheels were made of wood and were often larger in diameter than the metal ones which gradually replaced them. The other picture herewith shows an old wooden mill wheel, one of the last to be used in the county. The present Edom Mill was erected in 1869, on the site of an older mill. The proprietor is Mr. C. W. Burruss, who is one of the progressive citizens of the community.

In Edom are two churches, one Methodist, the other Presbyterian. The Linville-Edom School, which is one of the best in the county, is located about midway between Edom and Linville.



Here is presented a view of the home of Mr. C. W. Burruss and family in Edom, formerly the residence of the Swanks. Mr. Burruss is well known as a miller and the postmaster at Edom.

ELKTON

For 50 years or more Conrad's Store was a well known trading center of the region between the Shenandoah River and the Blue Ridge Mountain, in East Rockingham. Soon after the railroad was completed from Hagerstown to Waynesboro in 1880, the name Elkton was adopted, from Elk Run, which enters the Shenandoah River at this point, and the town entered upon a rapid growth. In 1896 the Chesapeake-Western Railway from Elkton to Bridgewater was completed, thus giving improved facilities for connections with Harrisonburg and other places along the line. The Rockingham Turnpike had long been an important highway from east to west, crossing the Blue Ridge at Swift Run Gap, opposite Elkton. The town has a bank, numerous mercantile establishments, several churches, excellent schools, popular hotels, and many beautiful homes. The natural scenery of the region is unsurpassed. Since the old Rockingham Turnpike has been made a link of U. S. Route 33 from East to West and the Eastside Highway up and down the Valley has been built, Elkton's facilities for easy communication and travel have been much enhanced. It is one of the natural gates to the Shenandoah National Park, to the opening of which its progressive citizens contributed materially. It was into this locality that Governor Spotswood and his companions descended from the mountain on their famous expedition of 1716. Here General Washington crossed, going eastward, in 1784. Between Conrad's Store and Swift Run Gap the Confederate armies under Jackson and Ewell had their camps for several weeks in the spring and summer of 1862. For years Elkton has been a favorite summer home for many persons from various parts of the country.



ADAM MILLER HOMESTEAD

One of the most celebrated homes of East Rockingham is the Miller place, a short distance northeast of Elkton, about midway between Elkton and Bear Lithia Spring. Until recently it was occupied by Miss Lizzie B. Miller, who was a descendant of Adam Miller, who is now generally regarded as the first white settler in the upper Shenandoah Valley. About

1727 Adam Miller located on the Shenandoah River, in or near the Massanutten Old Field, now in Page County. With him or soon after came Stricklers, Longs, Selzer, Roads, Kaufman, and others. In 1741 he settled at Bear Lithia Spring, and at some time later on the homestead shown above. For these items the writer is indebted to Hon. Charles E. Kemper who made extensive research in the records concerning Adam Miller and his descendants many years ago.



Herewith, in the picture above, is presented the large brick house of the Keiser Brothers, V. C. and T. M., at Bear Lithia Spring, in East Rockingham. This is the mansion house of an excellent farm in the bottom lands of the Shenandoah River. The spring, which is one of the familiar landmarks of the region, is owned by Mr. Cover of Elkton.

FULK'S RUN

Fulk's Run is a neighborhood and particularly a busy trading post on the highway leading from Broadway through Brock's Gap to Mathias and Moorefield. Baker's School, dating it is said from 1797 and the first to be opened inside the Gap, is near Fulk's Run Village. The land is part of a grant made to Fulk in 1735, or thereabouts. In the village are a church and two stores—it was the site of Custer's Mill. The postoffice, which was established some years ago, is in the building owned by Mr. S. A. Crider, a part of which is used as a residence, and part as a mercantile store. Mr. Crider has built up a very large business in the 25 years that he has been here. Many persons from West Virginia come here to do their trading. The extract plant formerly operated by Gen. John E. Roller was not far above Fulk's Run, and more recently a C. C. C. camp has been in the vicinity.

In 1870 Mr. Crider's father, William R. Crider, located on a purchase from Israel Caplinger, ten miles northwest of Fulk's Run. There in 1881 a postoffice called Criders was established, with William R. Crider postmaster. S. A. Crider left Criders in 1897. His wife was Miss Grace Wittig, daughter of Luther Wittig, and great-granddaughter of Ulrich. Mr. Crider is a well-known resident and business man of the region. He and his good wife have reared and educated a family of nine children, namely, Velma M., William L., Verdie E., Loy H., Susie C., Eleanor M., Charles F., Samuel A. Jr., and Lester G.



CRIDER'S STORE AT FULK'S RUN

GOOD'S MILL

Samuel Good founded this village and operated a mill. This was burned by Sheridan's order in 1864, but rebuilt after the war. It is located about two miles east of Cross Keys, on Mill Creek, and is only a short distance from Mill Creek Church of the Brethren.

GREENMOUNT

This village grew up around a great spring, which is one of the main sources of Linville Creek. Bowman's Mill, one of the older mills of the county, is only a short distance below the spring. Bowmans, Millers, and Myerses are some of the old families of the neighborhood. Greenmount Church of the Brethren is in the village. Antioch, the oldest Christian church in Rockingham, is a short distance south.

GREENWOOD

In Stonewall Magisterial District, on the west side of the river, and about midway between East Point and Humes Run, is the village of Greenwood, made up chiefly of thrifty colored families.



Above is a picture of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, which stands in

East Rockingham, on the northwest side of the Shenandoah River, about two-thirds of the way from Elkton to Shenandoah City. It is not far from Hume's Run School. The church, a log structure, was first dedicated in 1777, but has been repaired and remodeled in more recent years. Here, it is said, the pioneer, Adam Miller, worshipped, and it is believed by many that he is buried in the old cemetery that adjoins the church. It is possible, however, that his grave, unmarked, may be in the old Bear graveyard near Bear Lithia Spring, where the well-preserved tombstones of Jacob Bear (1724-178?) and Anna Barbara Bear (1726-1791) may be found; also the tombstone of Jacob Bear, who died May 17, 1827, aged 61 years, 5 months, and 17 days. Anna Barbara, wife of the elder Jacob Bear, was a daughter of Adam Miller.

GROTTOES

The town of Grottoes is in the extreme southern corner of Rockingham County, on the line of Augusta. Because of the nearness of Weyer's Cave (now Grand Caverns), Grottoes was for a time after the coming of the railroad in 1880 called Cave Station, as was another village farther west, on the B. & O. Railroad. Within the same period the post office had the name Liola. In the "boom days" around 1890 plans for a city were laid out and the name Shendun was adopted. Street car lines ran out over the broad river bottoms. From the steps and windows of these, we are told, thrifty sportsmen shot partridges. The Bob Whites outlived the trolleys, but even so Shendun was the only town in Rockingham County ever to have street cars. In antebellum days Mt. Vernon Furnace was operated in Brown's Gap, two miles east of Grottoes. Mt. Vernon Forge on the river just northwest of the town. Important roads converge upon Brown's Gap through Grottoes and Port Republic, used by wagons, stage coaches, and armies in earlier times, and now tapping the Skyline Drive on the mountain. The new Eastside Highway passes up and down the Valley through Grottoes, and in 1938 a large rayon plant was built here, on the Augusta side of the line.



CHINQUAPIN TREE THAT STOOD ON THE RAWLEY PIKE BETWEEN DALE ENTERPRISE AND HINTON

CHINQUAPIN TREES

Chinquapins, small acorns with a taste somewhat like that of chestnuts, usually grow on bushes, but the rule has been broken in Rockingham County in at least two cases. A chinquapin tree stood on the J. I. Wood farm below Island Ford and grew to the diameter of about 12 inches near the ground. It was reported by Mr. Wood's son-in-law, County Treasurer M. H. Harrison, who now owns the farm. The other tree in this county stood on the southwest side of the Rawley Pike, and is said to have been the largest ever reported. The trunk was nearly three feet in diameter, and the age of the tree was estimated as over 200 years old when it was cut down as a matter of safety to traffic. The chinquapins gathered from these trees were somewhat larger than those growing on bushes.

HINTON

This progressive village is situated where the Rawley Pike (now U. S. Route 33) crosses Muddy Creek. The postoffice here was formerly known as Karicofe. Mills, churches, and mercantile stores are located here.

KEEZLETOWN

Keezletown was laid out in 1781 on 100 acres of land by George Keezell, grandfather of the late Senator George B. Keezell, and was recognized by act of the General Assembly of Virginia in 1791. George Houston, George Carpenter, Martin Earhart, Peter Nicholas, John Snapp, John Swisher, and John Pierce were the original trustees under the act of incorporation. It is located on the famous Keezletown Road, one of the oldest highways through the east-central part of Rockingham County, and is the point of departure on the highway for the beautiful Massanutten Caverns. One of the landmarks of the town is an ancient stone house that may have been standing when General Washington passed in the autumn of 1784, and which bids fair to stand for many years yet to come. Other interesting particulars about Keezletown may be found in Wayland's History of Rockingham County, pages 193, 194, and "Virginia Valley Records," pages 96, 97.

What is now the Norfolk & Western Railway through East Rockingham was built in 1880. In February of that year construction began at Hagerstown, pushing southward, and in May of the same year construction began at Waynesboro, pushing northward. The two ends met at Luray in the spring of 1881.

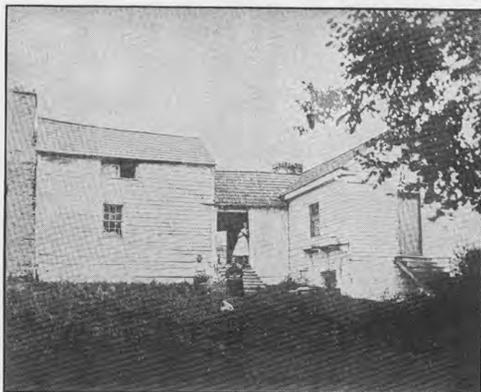
The Skyline Drive along the crest of the Blue Ridge, in the Shenandoah National Park, is on the eastern border of Rockingham County.



In the picture above is shown the residence on Dogwood Hill Farm, which is located about three miles southeast of Harrisonburg and is owned by Mr. E. B. Yancey. This house stands on a high hill and affords a wide-reaching view in all directions. It is occupied by Mr. E. R. Line-weaver and family.

LACEY SPRING

This is a well known village on the Valley Pike midway between Harrisonburg and New Market. It takes its name from a great spring of water that gushes out from under a hill at the east side of the highway. The Koontzes and Lincolns were prominent landowners here for many years, and it seems to be a singular fact that the spring and the village take their name from the Laceys, who do not appear to have been prominent in the community. In early days the place was commonly spoken of as the "Big Spring." John Harrison Sr. was perhaps the first white settler here. In 1749 his house was attacked by a band of robbers, but Mr. Harrison and his sons had warning and were ready for the marauders, two of whom were killed. The battle of Lacey Spring took place December 21, 1864. General Rosser and his men came over the hills from the west before daylight in the morning and routed Custer's camp.



OLD HOME OF JACOB LONG
At Long's Pump, on Valley Pike Two Miles Southwest of Lacey Spring. The Home of Ira Long is Now on This Site. Photo Loaned by Miss Ella Palmer.

LEWISTON

Lynnwood was the home of Thomas Lewis, first surveyor of Rockingham County, and Lewiston, near by, was the home of Gen. Samuel H. Lewis, a grandson of Thomas. Both are located between the river and the Blue Ridge, on the battlefield of Port Republic. An Episcopal chapel and community house are near Lewiston.



PORT REPUBLIC BATTLE MARKER AT LEWISTON

LILLY

Lilly is a settlement in the fertile bottom lands of Dry River, a short distance northeast of Clover Hill. Sipe's Store and other local enterprises have given the place distinction.

LINVILLE

This is the name of a creek, a railroad station, and a village. The station and the village are near together, about a mile east of the stream. The village is on the Middle or Kratzer Road and clusters around the abundant natural fountain called Kratzer's Spring. For a number of years Col. Emanuel Sipe, merchant, was a prominent resident of Linville. The Linville-Edom School, midway between the two villages, is one of the leading high schools of the county.

McGAHEYSVILLE

Tobias R. McGahey in or about 1801 became first postmaster at Ursulasville, in East Rockingham, and the office was named McGaheysville. Mauzy's, Conrads, Royers, Baders, Leaps, and Rushes were other familiar family names thereabout. Mr. Richard Mauzy, for years a newspaper publisher in Staunton, and later the historian of the Mauzy family, spent his later years in McGaheysville. Joseph Salyards and A. C. Kimler were two distinguished men who taught school in the village. One or two of the oldest churches in the county were in the vicinity. Sidney Lanier, the poet, and John R. Tait, the artist, spent the summer of 1879 at Rockingham (Hopkins's) Springs, near McGaheysville.

MELROSE

Midway between Harrisonburg and Lacey Spring, on the Valley Pike, is the rural community of Melrose. From east to west, it is midway between Paulington and Linville. The Harrisons were some of the early settlers hereabout.

MONTEVIDEO

This community is rightly named, lying as it does under the shadow of Peaked Mountain. It is situated on the main highway between Penn Laird and McGaheysville.

MONTEZUMA

This name seems to have been imported from old Mexico. The village lies at the western side of Dry River lowlands, on the road from Dayton and Bridgewater to Ottobine and Beaver Creek Church. It has a church, a graded school, and mercantile stores.



In this picture is shown the old home of Elder Peter Cline, which stands one mile northeast of Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren. In 1854 Mr. Cline married Rebecca Neff of Shenandoah County, Va. They had sons William, Charles, and Minor, and one or two daughters. Mr. Cline was a brother to Cyrus Cline, lawyer, and John Cline, who lived at Arlington, just across the river from Bridgewater.

MOUNTAIN VALLEY

Mountain Valley was the old name of Singers' Glen, but in later years it has been the name of a United Brethren church that is located two miles east of Lacey Spring.

MT. CLINTON

Located on Muddy Creek, about midway between Singers' Glen and Rushville, this village was first known by the name of the stream. The name Mt. Clinton was adopted about 1833. It has been the site of mercantile stores and local industrial enterprises, and was for a number of years the seat of West Central Academy. One of the county high schools is now located here.

MT. CRAWFORD

Mt. Crawford, on the Valley Pike 7 miles southwest of Harrisonburg, and near the junction of Cook's Creek with North River, has been known by this name for more than 100 years. Earlier names were Mt. Pleasant and Mt. Stevens. Near here was the old home of John Grattan, progenitor of a distinguished family, who had a store on the roadside as early as 1769. Martin's Gazetteer of Virginia, published in 1835, enumerates the industries of Mt. Crawford and states: "The North river is navigable for flat boats about three miles above this village." See Wayland's History of Rockingham County, page 201.



Above is shown the substantial farm home of Mr. Paul Myers, a successful farmer and stock-raiser, located about a mile and a half east of Mt. Crawford.



One of the familiar landmarks along the Valley Pike (U. S. Route 11) between Harrisonburg and Mt. Crawford is the old homestead shown above. For years it was the home of Emanuel Roller, then of his son, Peter Roller. It is now owned by the latter's son, Luther Roller, who lives at Mt. Crawford.

NORTH RIVER DEPOT

The railroad station for Mt. Crawford is located about a mile and a half southeast of the town, and is known as North River, or Mt. Crawford Station. Besides the station office and a store, there are a mill, a church, and several homes in the vicinity. Not far from the station is the substantial old brick house, now the dwelling of Mr. W. J. Kaylor.

OTTOBINE

This is the name of a postoffice on Beaver Creek, about five miles west of Dayton. The Paul homestead is nearby, and Paul's Mill has been a voting place for many years. One of the older United Brethren churches of the county is in the vicinity.



Herewith is presented a view (from the west) of Ottobine United Brethren Church. This is one of the older churches of the denomination in Rockingham County, and is located on a hill near Beaver Creek. Surrounding the church is an old cemetery in which are many graves of well-known families who have resided in the neighborhood for generations.

PAULINGTON

This is a settlement about three miles southeast of Melrose, and near Laird's Knob. Many years ago an iron furnace was operated here, and for some time a postoffice.

PEALE'S CROSS ROADS

Here the Spotswood Trail (old Rockingham Turnpike) crosses the Keezletown Road. The place takes its name from Jonathan Peale and his descendants. It was the site of Felix Gilbert's store, which was operated prior to the Revolution and was mentioned by Washington in his diary of 1784.

PENN LAIRD

This is a village five miles southeast of Harrisonburg, on Cub Run, the Spotswood Trail (old Rockingham Turnpike), and the railroad. The Lairds were early settlers in the vicinity, near Laird's Knob, a prominent elevation of the Massanutten Mountain. Near Penn Laird the Lawyer Road branched off towards the south from the main highway.



HISTORIC FRIEDENS CHURCH, SOUTH OF PLEASANT VALLEY

PLEASANT VALLEY

This village is located on the Valley Railroad between Harrisonburg and Mt. Crawford Station. Its postoffice name is Rockingham. It has a school, churches, mercantile stores, etc., and is surrounded by fertile farms. It is the home of Mr. Peter C. Kaylor, who has devoted much time and work to collecting and preserving materials on the history of the county.

PORT REPUBLIC

A strategic location opposite Brown's (formerly Madison's) Gap in the Blue Ridge and near the head of navigation on the Shenandoah River gave this town an early beginning in the history of Rockingham County, and the importance of the river as an artery of commerce in pioneer days suggested the name, Port Republic. It was an important river port for rafts and flatboats in the early years of the Republic. On one occasion, as late as the spring of 1867, Captain Zachariah Raines and 11 other men took a fleet of boats down the river from Port Republic to Harper's Ferry, 165 miles by the river, in four and a half days. This fleet carried 110 tons of iron.

Port Republic is surrounded with prosperous farms and beautiful natural scenery, and is rich in its historic associations. On Sunday, June 8, 1862, the battle of Cross Keys was fought only a few miles north of the village, and the next day a more stubborn conflict, known as the battle of Port Republic, took place just below, at Lewiston, on the east side of the river. The bridge at Port Republic was a prize hotly contended for in both these engagements. For several days prior to these battles and perhaps for a day or two following them General T. J. Jackson had his headquarters at Madison Hall, on the southwest border of Port Republic. Within the same period he was an occasional guest at the home of Dr. Geo. W. Kemper Jr., in the village, and at the Harnsberger home just across the river, a short distance above the town. Mr. George E. May of Port Republic and Mr. Peter C. Kaylor of Pleasant Valley have given extended study to Jackson's movements and stopping places at this time. Mr. May is writing an extended history of Port Republic.

RAWLEY SPRINGS

From 1810 or earlier the medicinal waters of Rawley Springs have made this place a favorite resort, especially in the summer months. It is located in the first Alleghany ranges, 12 miles northwest of Harrisonburg, near U. S. Route 33.

RUSHVILLE

Rushville is situated two and a half miles west of Dayton, at the confluence of Muddy Creek and Dry River. It was formerly a place of considerable industrial activity.

SINGERS' GLEN

This beautiful and historic village is located amid productive farms and extensive orchards, eight miles north of Harrisonburg. In earlier years it was known as Mountain Valley. Joseph Funk, "Father of Song in Northern Virginia," and his sons and grandsons made it a center for the teaching of vocal music and the publishing of music books. The Baptists and the United Brethren each have a church here.



JOSEPH FUNK'S FIRST PRINTING HOUSE



OLD PALMER HOME NEAR SPARTAPOLIS

SPARTAPOLIS

This was the old name of a small village and postoffice on the Valley Pike a mile and a half northeast of Lacey Spring. The name was often shortened to Sparta. In later times it has been known as Mauzy.

SPRING CREEK

This progressive village is on a small stream of the same name, in the midst of a prosperous farming community. It is about three miles west of Bridgewater, and here Bridgewater College had its beginnings in 1880. A mill, mercantile stores, a graded school, and other institutions are located here.



The fine old brick house shown herewith is the home of the Jordan Brothers, west of Bridgewater, who are well known as successful farmers, fruit-growers, stock-raisers, and producers of poultry.

STEMPHLEYTOWN

This village is on a fine elevation a mile and a half west of Dayton, and two miles north of Bridgewater. It was named for David Stemphey, about 1845. It is on the main road from Dayton to Montezuma and Paul's Mill.

SWIFT RUN

A small settlement east of Elkton went by this name until it was displaced by the establishment of the Shenandoah National Park. It included a church and a postoffice. The postoffice has been located outside the park area. The gap in the Blue Ridge, and two small streams, one on each side of the mountain, also bear the name of Swift Run.

TENTH LEGION

This is a well-known village on the Valley Pike, about midway between Lacey Spring and New Market. A graded school is located here, and Bethlehem stone church has long been a familiar landmark. The name survives from the time of Thomas Jefferson, who spoke of this region as the "Tenth Legion of democracy."

TIMBERVILLE

This town had its beginning as a village about 1814, when John Zigler and perhaps William G. Thompson located here. Mr. Zigler had a tannery, later a pottery and hemp mill also. Other old families here or in the vicinity were Hoovers, Drivers, and Abraham Williamson. The place was first known as Williamsport, indicating that rafts and flatboats were loaded here to carry trade down the river. About 1850 the village was called Riddle's Tavern. Just when the name Timberville was first adopted has not been ascertained, but the town was incorporated under this name in 1884. The bridges that have in succession spanned the north fork of the Shenandoah at this place have had an interesting history. One of steel and concrete was completed in 1939. Timberville has always been the center of a prosperous and progressive community. It is surrounded by fertile and well-tilled farms and by large orchards of apples and peaches.

In 1807 Dr. Peachy Harrison of Harrisonburg, writing to a journal in Philadelphia, stated that fruit of every kind in Rockingham County was at that time an uncertain crop, except along the mountains, and that apples there were often rendered unfit for use by bitter rot. Now apples are grown extensively and successfully.



The attractive home of Mr. B. R. Nair, Timberville, is presented in the picture above. Mr. Nair, like many other residents of the county, is interested in poultry-raising. He also operates a commercial hatchery.

TURLEYTOWN AND TURLEY RUN

Turleytown is located two miles southwest of Cootes's Store, where the Back Road crosses Brock's Creek (Turley Run). The village derives its name from Giles Turley who located here, or in the neighborhood, in 1804. The old trail that comes down out of Brock's Gap coincides with the Back Road from Cootes's Store to a point a short distance southwest of Turleytown, then crosses the hills towards the south and east. By this old trail General Washington crossed Rockingham in the autumn of 1784.

Brock's Creek (Turley Run) is notable and typical in early industries. It probably furnished water power for more mills, shops, and other local industries in a distance of five miles than any other stream of its size in the county. There were five mills that ground grain, a hominy mill, a sawmill or two (of the up-and-down type), a carding mill to prepare wool for spinning, a hemp stone to roll hemp and thus prepare it for spinning and making ropes, a foundry that cast iron stoves, a tanyard to make leather, and other necessary operations. Mr. Joseph Good now owns the old hemp stone, and the large kettle used for mixing home-made dyes and dyeing cloth is in the possession of Mr. Newton A. Neff. A wayside inn was maintained at Turleytown for many years. A block-house, built over a spring for defense against Indians, was near by. Half a mile below Turleytown on the creek lived John Lincoln, who operated a grist mill, a tanyard, and a bark mill. He was a brother to Captain Abraham Lincoln, the President's grandfather.

The numerous important activities that were carried on along this little stream were typical of the early self-supporting and self-providing community.

WENGER'S MILL

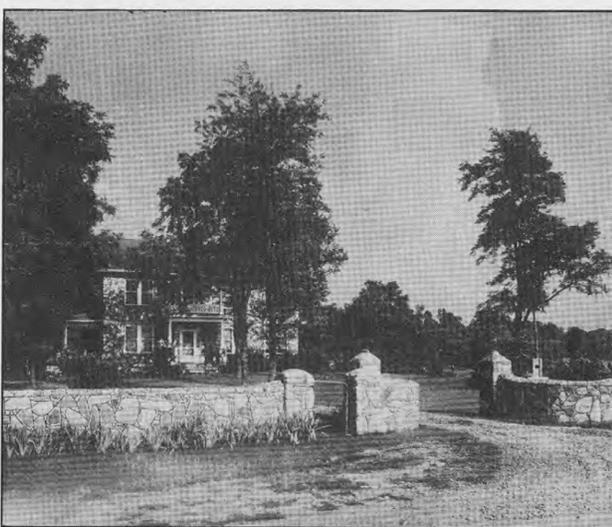
This mill, one of the 12 mills that have been operated on Linville Creek, has long been a familiar landmark on the highway between Edom and Broadway. It takes its name from Isaac Wenger, great-grandfather of the present owner, Raymond H. Wenger. The mansion house on the bank just east of the mill is one of the most substantial and well provided farm homesteads in the county. The present mill is the second one on the site. The earlier one had a sawmill in connection, and near by was a furnace that was operated by Marshall and Clem. The original estate included 1600 acres of land, of which 200 acres have been in the family continuously, coming down to the great-grandchildren of the present.



WENGER'S MILL, ON LINVILLE CREEK

YANKTON

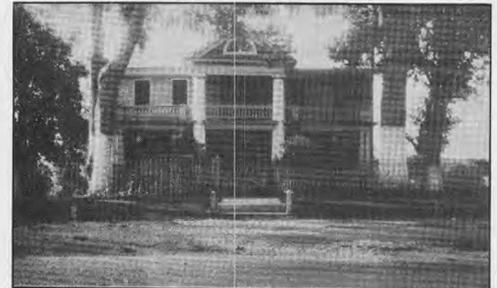
This is a small village about two miles west of Fulk's Run. For a number of years it was the seat of a postoffice and School No. 33.



MANSION HOUSE ON WALNUT GROVE FARM, HOME OF FRED C. WAMPLER, NORTHEAST OF DAYTON AND SILVER LAKE

SMITHLAND

Smithland, 2 miles northeast of the county court house, for many years the home of Mr. George W. Liskey, is one of the most historic homes in this part of the country, and the farming land is some of the best. Here in 1778 the first courts of Rockingham County were held, in the home of Daniel Smith, one of the original justices of the county. The first county jail was erected here. The house of Daniel Smith is not now standing, but its location is known—it stood near the present brick house which was erected by Edward Smith about 1844. This house and the brick house at Peale's Cross Roads were built about the same time. In the autumn of 1784, when General Washington came across the Valley, the widow of Daniel Smith was living at Smithland. Washington in his journal speaks of passing the Widow Smith's. In 1934 the Massanutten



SMITHLAND, HOME OF GEORGE W. LISKEY

Chapter, D. A. R., unveiled a large bronze tablet, fixed on a granite monument, at Smithland, commemorating the organization of the county here in 1778 and the visit of Washington in 1784. The mansion at Smithland is close to the Valley Pike and it has been a familiar landmark for many years. During the War Between the States it was passed by the armies of Jackson, Fremont, Banks, Early, Hunter, Sheridan, Breckenridge, and others. General Ashby passed here just the day before he was killed a short distance south of Harrisonburg, June 6, 1862.

THE DEVER GRANT

At an early date a grant for a large tract of land was issued to the Devers. It extended from Bridgewater westward to Briery Branch and Mt. Solon. The only descendants of the Devers now owning and living on any of this grant are Mr. H. G. Patterson and a Mrs. Beard. Mr. Patterson lives at Spring Creek. The Harvey Evers place, now owned by Rev. Gilbert E. Counts, was one of the Dever homes. The brick part of the house was built in 1825. Just south of the house on the hill is an old cemetery, near the site of the old Mud School House.



This substantial brick house stands on a part of the old Dever Grant, about half a mile south of Spring Creek and three miles west of Bridgewater, on the fertile bottom lands of North River. It is now the home of Rev. Gilbert E. Counts and family.

SEVEN IN A CIRCLE

About a mile and a half east of Timberville are the foundations of seven old chimneys which belonged to seven dwelling houses that stood there many years ago. When the Hoovers came to Rockingham in 1778 they and six other families built their houses in a circle in the edge of the Plains, on the west bank of Long Meadows Branch, near where it enters the North Fork of the Shenandoah River. The circle was about 150 feet in diameter, and a well was dug in the center of the circle. This plan was no doubt adopted for defense. The times were perilous. It was in the midst of the Revolutionary War and Indian raids were still to be feared. It is probable that a palisade connected the several houses and filled up the arcs of the circle between the houses. The names of the other families are not known at this time, but probably the Crims were one of them, since they lived very near this place in later years.

Emanuel Hoover erected a larger dwelling on this site and lived in it. Later it was occupied by his son, William C. Hoover. The land has remained in the Hoover family and is now owned by John H. Hoover, another son of Emanuel. The Plains were a large prairie tract along the river, and the name appears on the Fry and Jefferson map of Virginia, which was made about the year 1750. Considerable parts of the Shenandoah Valley were devoid of trees when the white men first came, as Kercheval, the old historian, tells us. The Indians probably burned them off each year to make pasture lands for the buffaloes and other animals that ate grass. The Fairfax Line, which was surveyed in 1746, runs just on the northeast edge of the Plains, and no doubt Peter Jefferson, who was one of the surveyors of that line, and later a map-maker with Col. Joshua Fry, observed this prairie tract in 1746 and made a note of it.

Books were being printed in Harrisonburg as early as 1813 by Lawrence Wartmann and also by Davidson & Bourne.

The first jail for Rockingham County was built at Smithland, but the first court house was located at Harrisonburg.

Joseph Funk of Mountain Valley and Ananias Davisson of Harrisonburg were both publishing music books before 1820.

SEVIER'S BIRTHPLACE

One of the most eminent sons of Rockingham was John Sevier, the first governor of Tennessee and a member of Congress from that state. His biographers give the date of his birth as September 23, 1745, and the place as a farm in the Long Meadows, east of Broadway. His brother Valentine was one of the men who discovered the presence of the Indian army at Point Pleasant on the morning of October 10, 1774; his father, Valentine Sevier Sr., owned lands along Smith Creek and in October 1753 was keeping a tavern at or near Tenth Legion. But he perhaps still owned his farm in the Long Meadows, for it still went by his name in 1783. On April 1 of that year an order was issued by the Rockingham County court, as follows:

"Ordered that Nicholas Karn be appointed Overseer of the road in the room of Ezekiel Harrison from the Plain Mills to opposite Val. Sevevor's old House in the Long Meadows including the Branch or Creek."

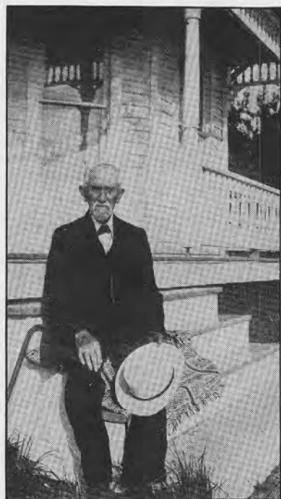


THE HOLSINGER HOME
This House is Believed to Stand on the Birthplace of John Sevier

The home of Mr. J. Frank Holsinger and his son Earl Holsinger, in the Long Meadows, is said to be the old Sevier place, and it fits the description given in the old court order. It is about three miles southwest of Plains Mill, and on an old road that leads from New Market and Plains Mill to Broadway and Brock's Gap. The present house is beside the road, just northwest of the branch or creek. This house occupies the site of a very old house, which was probably Sevier's. A second house, not now standing, occupied a position on the opposite side of the road. This information is supplied by Mr. J. Frank Holsinger, age 85. He states that the Holsingers acquired the place in 1773, have occupied it continuously ever since; and that the 8th generation is now on the place. Records show that Michael and David Holsinger purchased from Valentine Sevier on August 15, 1773.

John Sevier married at an early age and located at or near the site of New Market, which in colonial times was called Cross Roads. He is the reputed founder of New Market. He owned property in Woodstock also before moving in 1773 or thereabouts to Tennessee, where he became famous as "Nollichucky Jack."

Mr. J. Frank Holsinger has been a successful farmer and stock-raiser, and an active member of the Linville Creek Church of the Brethren. His wife was Miss Rebecca A. Wampler. He has three sons, Vernon, Carson, and Earl, and one daughter, Ethel, who is Mrs. Grover Spitzer.



MR. J. FRANK HOLSINGER

ROCKINGHAM BANKS

One day in the year 1853 or 1854 a young man named Will Dunlap, whose home was near New Erection, came into Harrisonburg driving his father's six-horse team, drawing a heavy load. He drove to the southwest corner of the public square to unload the heaviest piece of his freight, which was an iron safe that he had hauled up from Winchester for A. B. Irick, A. E. Heneberger, and other gentlemen who were starting a bank. Writing from Iowa in 1913, Mr. Dunlap said: "It weighed 4100 pounds. We took the hind wheels off the wagon and unloaded and put it in a little one-story stone building south of the spring. If I am not mistaken, Mr. Heneberger told me there was \$80,000 in gold and silver in it at the time."

The little one-story building was the Waterman house, which is still standing at the same place, but is not now recognizable because of a new front that was put on it some years ago. Shortly after the bank was started it was moved to the north corner of the square, and in 1865 it was organized as the First National Bank of Harrisonburg. This well-known institution is now located at the south corner of the square in a building which was erected in 1903, and is the oldest bank in the city and county.

Seven other banks are now operating in Rockingham County, dating from the years indicated: The Planters' Bank of Bridgewater, 1898; Rockingham National Bank of Harrisonburg, 1899; First National Bank of Broadway, 1903; the Elkton Bank, 1903; the National Bank of Harrisonburg, organized as the Peoples Bank in 1907; the Augusta-Rockingham Bank, at Grottoes, dating probably from February 1908, when the Bank of Grottoes was opened for business; and the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Timberville, organized in March 1908.

The total deposits in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham banks approximate \$8,800,000.



The home of Supervisor W. Clyde Koontz of Stonewall District, Rockingham County, is shown above. It stands on the highway between Elkton and Shenandoah, in the bottom lands of the Shenandoah River, near the mouth of Naked Creek.

MADISON HALL

A short distance southwest of Port Republic, on an elevation that overlooks the river plain and the beautiful mountain-bordered valley, is historic Madison Hall, old home of John Madison, a cousin of President Madison and the first clerk of Augusta County. His wife was a Miss Strother, whose sisters married Thomas Lewis and Gabriel Jones. His son James was the first Episcopal bishop of Virginia and for many years president of William and Mary College. Bishop Madison was born August 27, 1749, and died March 5, 1812, at Williamsburg.



MADISON HALL, HOME OF JOHN J. NICHOLAS

Madison Hall in 1810 became the property of Dr. George W. Kemper, descending to his son of the same name, and was later acquired by Dr. Albert S. Kemper. In 1864, when the house was repaired and enlarged by the Kempers, a Church of England almanac and prayer book were found in the cornerstone. The place was used by General Jackson as headquarters at the time of the battles of Cross Keys and Port Republic in June 1862. It was later the headquarters of the Federal general, Hunter, who built a large fire on top of the house, thus using it as a signal station. In the front yard, to the left of the house, are the remains of an Indian fort, believed to have been Fort Drummond. In 1908 Madison Hall was purchased from the Kempers by W. S. Nicholas, who in 1916 replaced the old mansion with a modern residence, which is shown in the accompanying picture. A tenant house was built of the materials of the old house on a part of the same farm, which was purchased in 1935 by John J. Nicholas, son of W. S. Nicholas.

BONNY BROOK

This is the name of the old McGahey homestead a mile northeast of McGaheysville, on a small stream called Bonny Brook. The present brick house, erected by Tobias R. McGahey, stands on the site of an earlier log house, which was burned. About 1850 W. T. McGahey began to manufacture various articles and implements of wood and iron, such as door latches and locks, ditching machines, corn harvesters, and machines for cleaning seeds. During the war between the states he made swords and



OLD BRICK HOUSE AT BONNY BROOK

gun caps. The massive grindstone on which swords were finished and sharpened is still preserved. He and Edward Burkhart made pianos, using a metal plate for supporting the strings. A few years ago, in an excavation at Bonny Brook, a stone was unearthed on which is the date 1701, plainly engraved. This may indicate that white men made explorations in this region prior to Spotswood's famous expedition of 1716. The present owner, Chas. R. McGahey, a son of W. T. McGahey, has an interesting collection of antiques, including a number of articles that his father made years ago.

OLD LINCOLN HOME ON LINVILLE CREEK

In 1768 John Lincoln, his wife, five sons, and four daughters moved from Berks County, Pa., into the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, where he bought 600 acres of land on Linville Creek, June 21st. His eldest son Abraham, who married in Rockingham County, was the father of Thomas Lincoln, who was born on Linville Creek in 1776. In 1782 Abraham, with his family, including Thomas, later the father of the President, migrated to Kentucky. Abraham's father, known as "Virginia John," remained on Linville Creek. He built the first unit of the present homestead, and his son, Captain Jacob Lincoln, built the second unit about 1791. He spent the remainder of his life at this home. And this was the home of John Lincoln's descendants until 1874, when it was purchased by the Bowmans.



OLD LINCOLN HOME ON LINVILLE CREEK
AN EARLY VIEW



A MORE RECENT VIEW

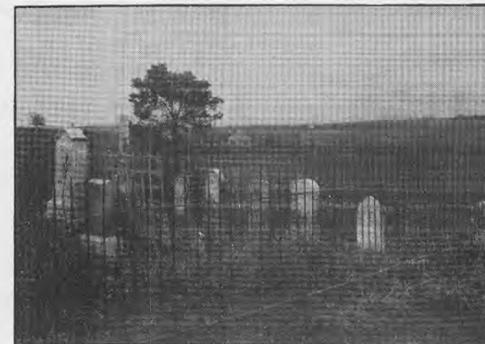
At present there are 331 acres of the original tract, now owned by the H. M. Henkel estate. Near by is the Lincoln cemetery, in which five generations of the family are buried:

- John Lincoln, who died in 1789
- Jacob Lincoln, who died in 1822
- Abraham Lincoln, who died in 1850
- Mary Lincoln Pennybacker, who died in 1905
- Miss Kate Pennybacker, who died in 1938

The Lincoln homestead, as shown herewith, is now occupied by Mr. R. W. Renolds and family, who has supplied the items for this sketch.



REAR VIEW OF LINCOLN HOUSE



LINCOLN GRAVEYARD

Daniel Boone probably met his wife, Rebecca Bryan, on Linville Creek. Daniel Bryan, said to have been Boone's namesake, wrote a book on Boone's adventures. It was printed in Harrisonburg in 1813.

The first houses of the settlers were rude log cabins. After 15 or 20 years better houses, of hewn logs and of stone, were erected. After the year 1800 houses of brick and sawn timbers were seen occasionally, and after 1840 brick houses became common, along with frame houses.

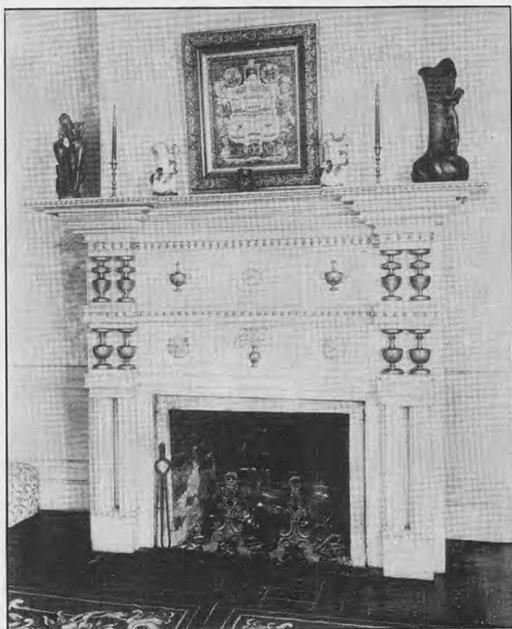
CHRISTIAN FUNK

The home of Christian Funk stood southwest of the highway from Broadway to Cootes's Store, about two miles from the former place and near the point where Cedar Run enters the north fork of the Shenandoah River. The house was built in 1804. Near the mouth of the run Mr. Funk had a shop in which he made sickles for reaping wheat, rye, oats, and barley, the long curving blades of which had serrated edges such as are now generally found on the sections of sickles in reaping machines. At the mouth of the run Mr. Funk had a factory in which tombstones were shaped, polished, and engraved. The polishing of the marble slabs was accomplished by means of a hard stone disk about four and a half feet in diameter, which was fixed in a flat position and rapidly revolved by power supplied by the waters of Cedar Run. This stone is still preserved.



CHRISTIAN FUNK HOMESTEAD

Christian Funk was the great-great-grandfather of Noah D. Showalter, the publisher of this atlas, and he was the brother of Joseph Funk, of Singers' Glen, "Father of Song in Northern Virginia." Christian Funk was also a musician. His death occurred in 1853 while he was leading a song in Trissel's Church, near his home. After his death his tombstone factory was operated for some years by his son Abraham Funk. The home of Job Crider, shown herewith, is the Christian Funk home. The small stone building at the left is very old and is believed by some to have been constructed for defense in Indian times.



ARTISTIC MANTEL

This mantel is in the brick house on what is now known as Green Bank Farm, at Mt. Crawford Station, and owned by William J. Kaylor; formerly by the Roller family.



BRICK HOUSE ON GREEN BANK FARM

Johan Peter Roller and wife Elizabeth came to America in September 1752; settled first at Lancaster, Pa., where their third son Peter was born April 1, 1761. In 1767 they removed to Virginia, buying land of Lord Fairfax on the Hawksbill Creek, now Page County. In 1780 Johan Peter Roller bought three tracts of land on North River, Rockingham County. John Roller, his grandson and son of the Peter already mentioned, in 1823 built the brick house containing the mantel shown herewith. It is all hand-made woodwork. William J. Kaylor, the present owner, has been station agent of the B. & O. at Mt. Crawford for 32 years; he is also a farmer, merchant, and banker.

In Rockingham County are several prominent monadnocks, namely, Round Hill at Bridgewater, Round Hill near Greenmount, Green Hill near Singers' Glen, Mole Hill not far from Dayton, Shaver's Hill east of Mt. Crawford, and Long's Hill between Good's Mill and Port Republic. Another, Grattan's Hill, is on the line between Rockingham and Augusta, not far from Centerville.



For many years the residence shown above was the home of Elder Frederick Wampler. It stands on the east side of the highway about two miles southwest of Edom, in the fertile Linville Creek Valley. It was the birthplace and boyhood home of Elder J. W. Wampler, Dr. Fred J. Wampler, and Rev. Ernest M. Wampler, sons of Elder Frederick Wampler. Dr. Fred Wampler, a missionary in China from 1913 to 1926, was decorated by the Chinese government in 1919 and again in 1922. He is now on the faculty of the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. Rev. Ernest Wampler was also a missionary in China from 1918 to 1922 and again in 1928.

SHOWALTER HOMESTEAD

The residence of Lewis P. Showalter and family, an old homestead one mile south of Broadway, on the Harrisonburg road, is on a farm which is bisected by Linville Creek. The first site of one of the Bowman mills was on this farm. This mill was equipped to saw logs, roll hemp, and grind grain, and was the location of a postoffice before Broadway was ever dreamed of. A letter has been preserved which came to this post-



HOME OF LEWIS P. SHOWALTER

office in 1837, addressed to John Showalter, "Linville's Creek, Saml. Bowman's P. O., Rockingham Co., Va." That was before envelopes or postage stamps were used. The letter sheet was folded in from all four sides, and a drop of sealing-wax was applied to hold it together. The old house at this place was built by the Bowmans years before the Civil War and shows excellent workmanship, especially in the wood-work.



This substantial stone house stands on the northwest side of the highway, the old Harrisonburg and Warm Springs Turnpike, now State Route 42, about a mile southwest of Harrisonburg. Like a number of other old houses, it stands over a spring of water and was built in 1793 by Lewis Bibler and his wife Barbara. Since 1839 it has been in possession of the Bowman family and is now occupied by Mr. J. S. Sharpes and family. Mrs. Sharpes was Miss Eliza Bowman, daughter of Joseph Bowman. This homestead has been a familiar landmark on the highway for generations.



One of the familiar old homes of Bridgewater is shown in the picture above. It was built in 1849 by Rev. Mr. Brown and later occupied for a number of years by the Perry family. More recently it was purchased by Mr. Jacob C. Baxter. It is now owned by his widow, Mrs. Nannie Baxter Dovel, wife of Mr. George W. Dovel, the well-known real-estate dealer of Harrisonburg, who is senior member of the real-estate firm of Dovel & Dovel.

From about 1870 to 1892 John C. Miller and his sons made tombstones at a shop on the Glade, a mile southwest of Bridgewater. They used a circular revolving rubbing bed, operated by water power, similar in design to that used on Cedar Run many years before by Christian and Abraham Funk, but the Millers' rubbing bed was of metal instead of stone. John C. Miller began to make tombstones of onyx, a deposit of which was found on his land.

GEORGE B. TURNER HOME

This modern home is situated on the northwest corner of a grant one mile square that was made to Trumbo in 1735 and purchased in 1775 by Matthew Funk of Massanutten, now Page County, for his son John Funk. The latter, whose mother was an Indian woman, came to Brock's Gap in 1770. In 1781 the Funks purchased additional land adjoining on the north. The first Funk's Run postoffice was established here in 1873, the first in



HOME OF GEORGE B. TURNER

Brock's Gap. The present Funk's Run postoffice is located about a mile farther up the river. George B. Turner, a former school teacher, married Miss Minnie Bare. Their daughter Eunice is the wife of A. J. Thomas, a Rockingham teacher. Mr. Turner is a descendant of the Funks, and his grandchild, shown on the porch in the picture herewith represents the 8th successive generation of the family occupying the homestead.



The man in the picture is Mr. J. Herschel Ringgold, with a little child, on the lawn of his attractive home near Spring Creek. Mr. Ringgold is well known as a business man and is also active in educational and religious work.



The beautiful residence shown herewith is the home of Mr. John Shank, who is extensively engaged in poultry-raising, specializing in fine breeds of turkeys. The house was built by Mr. W. C. Harrison on land that formerly belonged to Dr. Burke Chrisman. It is located in the north-western part of the county.



Lethe, one of the historic homes of East Rockingham, is shown in the picture above. This was in early times a home of the Gilmers. One of them married Elizabeth Lewis of Lynnwood and moved to Georgia. Their son, George Rockingham Gilmer, who was twice governor of Georgia, met his wife at Lethe. This attractive old home is now owned by Mrs. Edwin B. Hopkins. It stands in a great bend of the Shenandoah River.



This picture shows the attractive suburban home of Mr. Frank Cline and family, a mile southeast of the city. It is near the golf course of the Spotswood Country Club and within a few hundred yards of the birthplace of Col. Robert F. Leedy, who for a number of years was a member of the Virginia State Senate, while residing in Luray.



The home of G. B. Helmuth and family, shown above, is located in Park View, the thrifty suburb on the north side of Harrisonburg, and is typical of the new and excellent residences to be seen thereabout. Mr. Helmuth operates the Lower Hatchery.



HOME OF MR. C. D. MEYERHOEFFER AND FAMILY, TIMBER RIDGE, EAST ROCKINGHAM



STORE BUILDING OF C. D. MEYERHOEFFER, TIMBER RIDGE

Mr. Meyerhoeffer operates a farm and poultry-raising establishment as well as a store. His place is on the famous Keezletown Road.

BRICKS AND CROCKERY

Brick-making is of course an old industry in Rockingham County. Many of the substantial dwellings, dating from 1800 and later, are constructed of bricks made on the grounds. Clay suitable for brick-making is widely distributed over the county. The clay was thoroughly mixed with water in a simple machine turned by a horse-drawn sweep similar to those used on cider mills and sorghum presses. The mud thus mixed was moulded in wooden boxes of the proper size and the blocks laid out on a smooth plat, called a brickyard, to dry. They were then built up into large stacks, with fireplaces and flues running through them. Hot fires were kept going for several days, the smoke passing out through the flues. Such a burning stack was called a brick kiln. When sufficiently cooled, the bricks were taken down and used as desired. In a building the harder bricks were placed on the outside, the softer ones on the inside, where they would not be exposed to the weather. In size bricks were usually 8 inches long, 4 inches wide, and about 2½ inches thick. A three-brick wall, with the mortar, was 13 inches thick, and formerly most house walls were of this thickness. In 1914 Noah D. Showalter built a two-story house near Broadway with walls two bricks in thickness, with air chambers between the bricks, thus making a wall 10 inches thick, outside measure. This was looked upon at the time with grave misgivings by the old bricklayers, and was one of the first of its kind in the country, certainly in Rockingham County. At present most walls, except in large buildings of more than two stories, are only two bricks thick.

Years ago, each man who built a brick house burnt his own kiln of bricks. Now they are usually purchased from a regular burner. The chief commercial kilns now in the county are located near Dayton.

At several places in the county are deposits of pottery clay. For years the Suters operated a pottery near New Erection. Clay was sometimes hauled to the pottery from considerable distances. At Harrisonburg, near the present black marble quarry, and at Broadway large commercial potteries, making tableware and other utensils of excellent quality, were operated in past years.

THE OLD SHOEMAKER

Today, when shoes are fashioned by machinery in large factories, from leather tanned in distant places, and sold ready to wear in retail stores, it is hard for young persons to imagine that conditions were ever otherwise. Less than 100 years ago there were many local tanneries—tanyards, they were usually called—where the farmers sold the hides from their cattle and sheep that were butchered for home use, or placed the hides to be tanned into leather for the shoes and harness that they and their families needed. The tanner, using finely-ground dried bark from black-oaks and chestnut-oaks, put the hides through a process of soaking, scraping, seasoning, and softening that required about a year to produce the finished leather.

The farmer then took home his finished hides—calfskins, sheepskins, harness-leather, sole-leather, etc.—and waited for the shoemaker and the harness-maker to come around. Sometimes these artisans had small shops in the neighborhood, where they sat at their benches and turned out their products, but frequently they traveled about from farm to farm, making the circuit once a year or oftener. If the shoemaker came only once a year, he often found some of the boys of the family with their shoes or high-topped boots almost or quite worn out. However, in summer, the boys (and sometimes the girls too) usually went barefoot. But when the cool days of autumn came on, new shoes and boots were needed. The shoemaker measured the feet to be fitted, cut out the leather by his patterns, sewed the seams by hand, stretched the uppers over the lasts, and sewed on or pegged on the soles and heels. By the time school started at the little log school house, all the children of the neighborhood, except the very poor ones, were newly shod.



Hereabove is shown the large and modernly equipped residence of H. D. H. Showalter, about three miles southwest of Broadway. Mr. Showalter and Mr. D. C. Acker are neighbors and two well-known citizens of this community.



The picture above shows the old Showalter homestead near Tide Spring, which has been in the Showalter family, from father to son, for more than 100 years. The present owner is Mr. H. D. H. Showalter, and it is now occupied by his son, Howard DeWitt Showalter.

THE OLD SPRING

When Rockingham County and other sections of the Shenandoah Valley were first settled the people built their houses near springs and water courses so as to have a supply of water. Now and then a house was built over a spring. In most cases the spring house, frequently of stone, was a small separate building near the dwelling. The one shown in the picture herewith is typical. In the spring house was usually a trough which was kept full as the cold water from the spring flowed through it. In this trough, which was wide and not very deep, the crocks of milk, butter, and cheese were kept cool. It was a home-made and serviceable refrigerator.



As time went on some springs gave out, the use of others was discontinued, and many houses had to be built where springs were not at hand. Then wells were dug. About 1880 the well-drilling machine appeared and wells were put down wherever they were needed and most convenient. The wells and modern cooling devices, such as electric refrigerators, have displaced the old spring houses, which have now almost disappeared, but here and there one remains, often not in use, but still an interesting relic of the past. The wells of the county are of various depths, the drilled ones averaging about 170 feet in depth, with a flow of perhaps 13 gallons per minute, or less. Most of the wells are equipped with hand-pumps, though some are provided with wind-mills or other pumping devices.

The spring on the square in Harrisonburg was sometimes called the Big Spring, but this term was usually understood as referring to Koontz's Spring, later Lincoln's, now known as Lacey Spring.



In the accompanying picture (above) is shown the beautiful and well-appointed home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence F. Craun and their family. It is located near North River, a short distance south of Spring Creek and about three miles west of Bridgewater.



Above is shown the home of Allen B. Patterson, located a mile and a half southeast of Spring Creek, in the fertile valley of Mossy Creek, near the confluence of this stream and North River.



This beautiful home is located on Collicello Street, in Harrisonburg, and is owned by Mrs. Laura Hammon, widow of the late E. L. Hammon. It is near the old home of Robert Gray, a distinguished lawyer of early days, from whose residence the street takes its name.



Hereabove is reproduced the home of Frank L. Pence, one of Broadway's progressive citizens, who owns and operates the Pence hatchery.



New Dairy Barn and Silo of Wade W. Menefee, just north of Harrisonburg. This barn is built in accordance with all requirements of the Dairy and Food Division of the Department of Agriculture of the State of Virginia.

LAND SURVEYS

Records of old land surveys are very helpful in locating the homes of early settlers. Peter C. Kaylor, president of the Rockingham Historical Society, and George W. Chapplear, secretary, have rendered a fine service by abstracting the land grant surveys of 1761-1791 in Augusta and Rockingham. These abstracts were published in an indexed volume of 150 pages in 1938. Wilmer F. Coffman, George E. May, W. O. Moubrey, Joseph K. Ruebush, and Adam M. Turner are vice-presidents of the Rockingham Historical Society. These men are building up a special collection of records in the clerk's office.



CARVER PRODUCE COMPANY

Herewith is shown a picture of the Harrisonburg establishment of the Carver Produce Company, dating from 1915, of which P. A. Carver and R. F. Carver are the proprietors. This is one of the large firms of dealers in butter, eggs, and poultry that have made Harrisonburg one of the leading centers of the country in business of this kind.



Herewith (above) is shown the store and gasoline station of Mr. H. A. Alger, at Bethel Church and a short distance north of East Point, in East Rockingham.

SHIRKEY SIGN COMPANY

One of the best definitions of education was given by an old darkey who probably felt the need of it: "Eddication is so you kin read de sign-boards on life's highway an' tell which way to go." Lord Fairfax, 200 years ago, realized the need of guides that can be easily and quickly understood, and set up a white post at the point in the main trail where the path led to his dwelling. A white post is preserved there still in appreciation of his forethought. Signs and markers are needed not only on the highways and at historic spots, but also at churches, schoolhouses, cemeteries, state, county, and city lines, highway vans, public buildings, and places of business.

The Shirkey Sign Company, of Harrisonburg, with central office conveniently located at the corner of Water Street and Main, with telephone and delivery service, operate a complete system in outdoor advertising, show cards, window displays, gold-leaf lettering, and electric signs. Mr. Shirkey, after the study of art, and work for 16 years in artistic display and advertising for B. Ney & Sons, took up theatrical poster display. He now is doing work for nine theatres and directs the largest business of this kind in the Shenandoah Valley, maintaining it on high standards and reaching as many as six counties. Courteous and efficient artists are on duty at all times. Only the best grade of materials are used, and satisfactory results are always assured. In contrast with the methods of transients in his profession, Mr. Shirkey has developed a system on scientific principles and built up a permanent business.

WSVA, THE VALLEY STATION

Radio Station WSVA was established in Harrisonburg on June 9, 1935, slightly less than 15 years after the first radio program was broadcast over KDKA in Pittsburgh, in November 1920. The separation in time between these two stations represents a tremendous advance in both the engineering developments of radio and program technique.



WSVA is the average radio station at this time (1939). Studios occupy the top floor of a bank building on the corner of Main and East Market Street in Harrisonburg, and the transmitter and vertical fabricated steel antenna of 185 feet are located on the O. K. Early farm, five miles south of Harrisonburg, on U. S. Route 11. As is the case in all radio broadcasting at this time, the telephone company is of major importance to this station. It is through their facilities that the radio directors are able to transmit their programs from the studios to the transmitting apparatus. The programs pass over their wires and equipment in order to enter the transmitter, which is located miles away. This same system is used on a much larger scale in network broadcasting, stations from coast to coast being linked together by wire facilities owned by the telephone companies.

Station WSVA is much appreciated by the people of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, as well as by others at greater distances, for the information and entertainment it provides.

AYRSHIRE CATTLE

Two thousand miles across the Atlantic lie the British Isles, the center of the British Empire, an empire so big in area that its proud boast is that "the sun never sets on its flag." These Isles have founded more breeds of domestic livestock than all the other nations of the earth. Not only have the British Isles founded these different breeds, but they have developed their herds and flocks to such an extent that today we find the different nations still turning toward these Isles to get new blood to build up their stock. At this time our particular interest takes us to Scotland to the county of Ayr, famous in song and story, the birthplace of Robert Burns, an excellent farming section with a fertile and productive soil and rich in its well watered landscapes. This little county of Ayr is noted agriculturally as the home of the aristocratic Ayrshire breed of cattle.

From the best information available, the improvement in the Ayrshire breed dates from the year 1750. Ayrshire importations to the United States date to 1837. At that time the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture brought over a few head and distributed them among farmers. Prior to this time Ayrshires had been shipped into Canada by Scotch settlers who brought them over to supply milk on the voyage from Glasgow to Montreal. The Ayrshire cow is apparently a very adaptable one, and for this reason it is claimed that the sun never sets on the Ayrshire breed. The success of the Scotch enthusiasts attracted the attention of the British colonists, and as a result the Ayrshires were shipped to the United States. At the present time Ayrshires are found in practically every state in the Union, adapting themselves just as successfully to the rigors of the Canadian winters as to the mild temperature of Florida and California. Apparently the Ayrshire cows are not only noted for their adaptability, but the claim of the Ayrshire Association is that their efficiency and longevity are outstanding. The Ayrshire cow matures slowly, reaching her prime when she is about eleven years of age. The Ayrshire breed is also a breed of outstanding constitution. It has apparently been bred into the breed for generations.

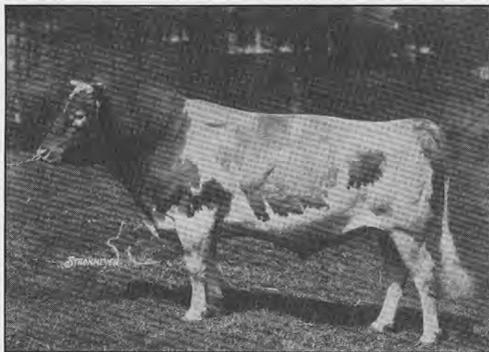
The Advanced Registry of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association proves the prepotency of the breed. Ayrshire sires have demonstrated their ability to produce high-producing daughters and to impress their characteristics on their offspring. It is said that the value of a cow is based on its ability to produce and reproduce. The Ayrshire Association claims no world's records over all breeds for any Ayrshire cows; yet the Ayrshires demonstrate year in and year out their ability as uniform, persistent producers and reproducers over a long period of years. The record of Lenetta 15474, a Maine Ayrshire, born August 16, 1898, is a good example of Ayrshire efficiency. As a 14-year-old she produced on official test 13,248 pounds milk, 465.74 pounds fat; at the age of 15 years she produced 10,714 pounds milk, 367.48 pounds fat; and at 19 years, 11,450 pounds milk, 411.14 pounds fat, and in her 20th year she was still looking unusually well.

Ayrshire cattle were first brought to Rockingham County in 1912 by Mr. C. M. Meyers, who was in the cheese business. He felt that the Ayrshire milk would be of special value to him in connection with his cheese making operations. At that time he purchased two cows and one bull. Mr. Meyers and his son John own the only Ayrshire herd in the county. Now, there are a few individual Ayrshire cows on different farms, but Mr. Meyers and his son John have maintained a registered herd of approximately 15 cows from which they retail milk in the town of Broadway. It would be extremely difficult to find a herd of cows that present a more attractive appearance. Red and white in color, with white predominating, the Ayrshire cow is shapely and handsome to look at as she stands or walks; she should, however, when handled, reveal much looseness of vertebrae and general openness of frame throughout. She is a strong, hearty cow with a vigorous appetite and, it is claimed, not too particular about what she eats. Few herds could be found in this section that would present a more attractive appearance than the registered Ayrshires owned by the Meyerses and kept on their farm near Broadway.

S. M. COX.

GUERNSEY CATTLE

Registered Guernsey cattle were introduced into Rockingham County by Miller D. Rhodes of Broadway. The first registered Guernsey bull used by Mr. Rhodes was purchased in 1904 from M. T. Phillips of Pomeroy, Pa. He purchased other registered bulls, and in 1908 his first two registered cows. His first purchases were from the best blood lines in the breed, and he followed the policy of line breeding. The high point in his breeding program was reached when he bought Langwater Darnley 100891 from Hon. Westmoreland Davis for \$1100 in 1930. Good grade cows were kept in the herd until 1932, when he sold his last grade cow. At the time of his death in 1938 there were about 35 registered head in the herd; he still owned 9 daughters of Darnley with records of over 600 pounds fat and 12,500 pounds milk; 5 with records of over 500 pounds fat and 11,000 pounds milk.



In the spring of 1936 Mr. Rhodes sold his first cow, Darnley Snow Queen, for over \$1,000. That fall her daughter, Broadview's Snow Queen, doubled her price, bringing \$2,050. This was a good two-year-old heifer, which has made a record of 610.1 fat and 12,076.3 milk in Class G. In the fall of 1937 this cow and a bull bred by Mr. Rhodes were prize-winners in the New York State Fair, the Eastern State Exposition, and the National Dairy Show. Animals of the Rhodes herd have the approval of the buying public and have gone into some of the best herds in the East as foundation stock. It was largely through Mr. Rhodes's interest and efforts that the Guernsey breed has been established in Rockingham and adjoining counties. There are now approximately 500 head in Rockingham County herds, and among the owners are J. H. Alger, Dr. Gilbert Rolston, M. E. Miller, T. Showalter, Edgar J. Cline, and Endless Caverns.



WAYSIDE HATCHERY ON THE EDMO ROAD, AT ASSEMBLY PARK, OWNED BY MR. AND MRS. J. B. HEISHMAN

THE MARKETING OF LIVESTOCK

For more than 100 years the buying and selling of cattle, horses, sheep, and hogs has been an important business in Rockingham County and adjacent regions. In February 1824 a drove of hogs from the South Branch, on the way to market, broke down the bridge over the Hawksbill Creek in Luray. A dozen years later Beale Steenbergen and other cattle men in Shenandoah and Rockingham formed an unsuccessful combine to corner the cattle market of Baltimore. As early as 1842 Geo. W. Rosenberger, on Smith Creek, near the Endless Caverns, began raising improved breeds of cattle, sheep, and hogs. Major George Chrisman, Sen. John F. Lewis, Peter S. Roller, John S. Funk, John B. Bowman, Dr. E. A. Herring, and others contributed much towards the introduction of better breeds of livestock.

Before the railroads were built through the Valley large herds and flocks passed through on foot towards the markets of Washington and Baltimore. The Kratzer Road, known also as the Ridge Road and the Harrisonburg Road, and farther down as the Middle Road, was often spoken of as the Ox Road. The flocks and herds avoided the macadam surface of the Valley Pike. Herds from Randolph, Highland, and Pendleton usually followed the Back Road, through Singers' Glen, Turleytown, and Columbia Furnace; those from Tennessee, southwestern Virginia, and the eastern side of the Valley used the Keezletown Road.

J. Perry Swank of Rockingham was a well known buyer a generation or two ago, and his home near Singers' Glen was a favorite stopping place for drovers. Another well known station was at Peter Long's, near Melrose, at the farm now owned by Richard Long. Emanuel Hoover, near Timberville, was another well known stock dealer of Rockingham of Civil War times and later.

Twelve miles a day was an average drive. Drivers were paid 50 cents a day and given two meals, dinner and supper. Many a young man, with an ambitious outlook, was glad to get a job as driver, for thus he was enabled to see Washington or Baltimore. The drivers had to walk all the way down, and they usually walked home after the herd was marketed. The buyers (boss drovers) rode horseback and frequently took along an extra horse with a strong pair of saddlebags to bring home the money, which was in silver dollars. Mr. Swank left Baltimore one Thursday afternoon and reached home near Singers' Glen on Sunday. This was considered a fast trip.

Farmers along the roads provided entertainment over night for the drovers and their drivers; also pasturage or feed for the flocks and herds, charging 25 cents for a man and 5 cents a head for cattle on grass. They also had a chance to buy stock for themselves, and often did so. Now and then a small herd would be sold out before the city market was reached. The larger herds of cattle contained hundreds of head, and sometimes there were as many as 2,000 sheep in one flock or drove, though it might be broken up into sections as it passed along the road. With moderate driving and good feeding the stock did not lose any more than at present, when they are hauled by rail or truck. Sometimes, indeed, they gained in weight.

The coming of the railroad to Harrisonburg in 1868 and the building of the Norfolk & Western through the eastern side of the county about 1881 gradually took the herds and flocks off the highways. The Narrow Passage railroad bridge was broken down in March 1876 by a train heavily loaded with cattle and other stock. With it went down a number of stock dealers, several of whom were killed.

Among the more recent stock-buyers of Rockingham were Philip Yates, Joseph Bowman, John H. Hoover, Cornelius Driver, W. C. Harrison, B. F. Turner, and A. U. Wise. Some of those familiar at present are William Joseph, C. J. Riddle, J. Newton Swank, H. D. H. Showalter, Frank Driver, James E. Roller, S. F. Toppin, and Hirsch Bros.



In 1911 Mr. S. H. Blosser built at Dayton the first mammoth hatchery employing artificial incubation. This celebrated and epoch-making hatchery is shown in the picture above. It is now operated, with expanded and up-to-date facilities, by Mr. Fred Blosser, son of the pioneer in this industry.

Around the big spring on the public square in Harrisonburg in primitive days were ledges of rock high enough to hide a horse. Shortly before the county-seat was located here Thomas Harrison, owner of the land, offered Richard Ragan, a blacksmith, a tract of 10 acres around the spring if he would put up a shop near the spring. Because of the rocks, thorn bushes, and other undergrowth the offer was refused.

It was reported by an old resident of Harrisonburg that in one summer, about 1822, William Sites, who lived just southwest of town, had a cow with twin calves, a mare with twin colts, and raised nearly 100 turkeys.

FRUIT GROWING IN ROCKINGHAM

For generations Rockingham County fruit has been celebrated. At first the farmer thought only of supplying his own household from his small orchard or fence-row trees, but in the decades following the Civil War a few of the more progressive heads conceived the idea of putting out larger orchards for a financial return. In the 1860's and 1870's a few rather extensive plantings were made in what has now come to be the Broadway and Timberville fruit section.

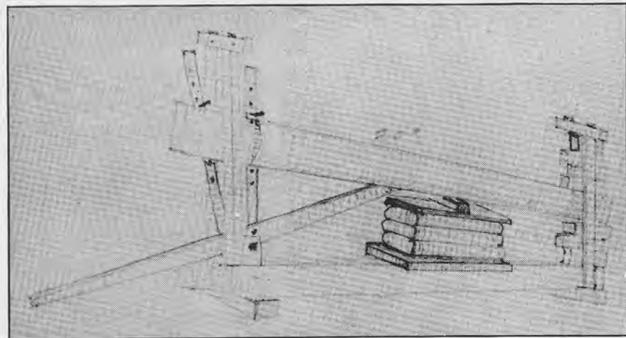
One of the pioneers in this venture was Jacob Senger, brother of Felix Senger, a pioneer fruit nurseryman, also of North Rockingham. Mr. Senger was peddling peaches from his orchard near Cherry Grove around 1880. But the borer played havoc with his orchard. About the same time, Jacob Fifer's apple orchard on Cedar Run was coming into full bearing. His principal late varieties of apples were Milam and Ralls Jenet. He stored them in his barn floor under straw or fodder and sold them out by the wagon-load through the fall and early winter. When he sold 100 barrels of Jenets at 80 cents a barrel in the orchard to Richard Clark, a local buyer, his neighbors lifted their eyebrows.

George B. Showalter was successful with a peach orchard which he planted on his farm on Linville Creek a few years later than the Senger venture. He dug the borers out from the roots of the trees and was selling fine budded peaches by 1888. The next to undertake peach-growing were Noah F. and Andrew Kline, on lower Cedar Run. They planted their orchard in new ground, in the early 1890's, and the result was quite satisfactory as to both the delicious quality of the fruit and the financial returns. In 1897 D. H. Zigler set out 24 acres of new ground with apples and peaches mixed, at Mayland. In 1900 he sold 1,000 bushels of peaches, nearly all at the orchard, at good prices, and one year later repeated the transaction. Not long afterwards, before pulling out the peach trees, he sold his first apple crop for \$1200 in the orchard. He accomplished the growing thus far with but little spraying.

Scientific fruit culture was still in the experimental stage, but there was pay in it, and it was fascinating. D. Frank Zigler bought some choice peaches at the D. H. Zigler orchard for his wedding, and straightway he and his brother John set out an orchard at Mayland. Orchards now sprang up rapidly. Among those who entered extensively into the fruit-growing business in north Rockingham were D. Saylor Wampler, Dr. Kelley, George Crist, Floyd H. Bowman, J. M. Kline, Bishop Lewis Shank, George Sager, Frank H. Driver, George Bowers, H. J. Garber, H. F. Byrd, and others. W. J. Dingleline and T. N. Thompson were among the first to set out fruit trees in the Chestnut Ridge section, about 1910 and later.

MAKING CIDER

Old-time cider presses were of at least two different types. The drawing herewith, made by Mr. C. E. Nair of Broadway, shows the form of a lever press, a type that was familiar until about 1890, when hydraulic and other power presses came into common use. Apples were ground into pomace between heavy fluted cylinders, set upright, and turned by a long overhead sweep pulled by a horse walking in a circle around the mill. Such a mill was similar to those used in crushing sorghum, only the cylinders



of a sorghum mill are smooth, not fluted. The apples were fed into the mill by means of a wide hopper or funnel. The pomace was then built up on the bed of the press in successive layers or rings, held in place by long, clean rye straw, folded over on each ring. The heap of pomace, made up of several rings, was called a cheese. The heavy lever or beam of the press was a hewn log about 24 feet long, pulled down at one end by means of a walking lever, as shown in the drawing. The other end was adjusted to the proper height with blocks, above and below. Another type of press was operated by means of a large wooden screw, fixed upright in a strong frame above the bed of the press and turned with hand-spikes or levers.

A cider press of the kind shown here used to stand under a large oak tree on the west side of the road at the Jacob Lincoln place on Linville Creek. It was a familiar landmark for many years to persons going along the Linville Creek road, but it and the great oak have long since disappeared.

ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY

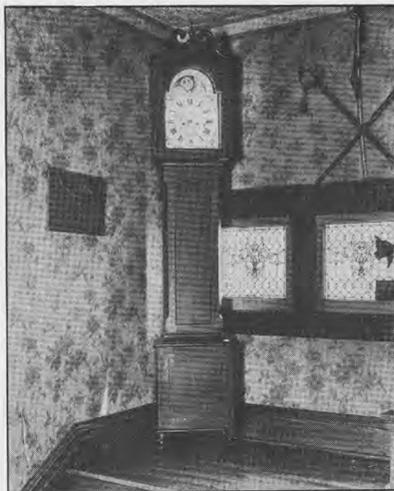
Rockingham County now has an observatory after two earlier attempts failed. In 1868 steps were taken to establish one on Round Hill near Bridgewater. In 1918 Noah D. Showalter, then connected with the Eastern Mennonite School, took the matter up with the University Observatory at Charlottesville, to set up an electrically connected substation on the hill where the present observatory stands. Entry of the United States into the World War caused that effort to fail. Consequently it was left for the graduating class of the Eastern Mennonite School of 1938 to bring the long-cherished plan to a reality. Funds were provided by the class. A telescope with a 6-inch lens was constructed by some of the students and is said to be almost perfect. In the summer of 1938 Professor M. T. Brackbill, instructor in mathematics and astronomy, made another telescope with a 12-inch lens, which is electrically mounted. The building was erected under the supervision of Professor Brackbill. The Astral Society has charge of the observatory.

Joseph Funk of Mountain Valley (now Singers' Glen) had his first music book printed in Harrisonburg in 1816. The first edition of his famous "Harmonia Sacra" was printed for him in Winchester in 1832. By 1847 he and his sons had a printery of their own at Mountain Valley.

GRANDFATHER CLOCKS

More than a century ago grandfather clocks were made in Harrisonburg by Peter Heneberger, a silversmith whose residence and shop were on the northeast side of the public square, just east of where the Presbyterian Church now stands. He was born in 1784, probably in the Duchy of Brunswick, Germany. The family coat of arms displayed three hens on a mountain.

Peter Heneberger's silversmith shop was in the front room of his house. Mrs. Maria G. Carr, in her reminiscences of early Harrisonburg, tells how she as a child would watch Mr. Heneberger at work: "I often went to see him make spoons, and was always infatuated with his work, and loved to stand by the counter and see the bowls placed in the moulds and manipulated into shape. People furnished their own coin to be made into spoons, and were charged for the labor of making." The bowl and the handle of a spoon were made separately and then put together so expertly that one would not have known they were ever separate, unless told.



CLOCK OWNED BY R. G. HENEBERGER

Just when Mr. Heneberger began to make clocks is not known, but in the Zigler home at Timberville is one (still running) that was put into the house when it was built in 1832, and it was purchased and in use for several years preceding. Another Heneberger clock is owned in Harrisonburg by the maker's great-great-grandson, Mr. R. G. Heneberger, attorney and city auditor. This one bears the date 1834, and still keeps good time. Other Heneberger clocks are in the vicinity, and one or two have been heard of elsewhere.

Peter Heneberger was twice married: in 1813 to Elizabeth Bear; in 1827 to Mary Gibbons. Dr. L. G. Heneberger, grandfather of R. Grymes, was a grandson of Peter and his first wife, Elizabeth Bear. Dr. Heneberger was surgeon on the *Maine* when it was sunk at Havana in 1898, but he escaped without serious injury.

It may be of interest to note that grandfather clocks are now being made near Harrisonburg by Daniel S. Brunk.

GEORGE WASHINGTON NATIONAL FOREST

This National Forest consists of more than 900,000 acres of timber land located in twelve counties of Virginia and three of West Virginia, acquired under the Weeks Law of 1911, authorizing the purchase of lands for the protection of the watersheds of navigable streams. All of the national forests which have been established since 1911 through the purchase of land in the East are included in the Eastern Region, under the direction of the Regional Forester at Washington, D. C.

The part of the George Washington National Forest within the limits of Rockingham County, purchased and owned by the Federal Government, consists at this time (1939) of 131,347 acres, about one-tenth of which lies in the Massanutten Mountain, the larger portion being in the Alleghenies, on and near the western border of the county. It is expected and provided that additional purchases for the Forest may be made from time to time within these rugged sections of the county. The George Washington National Forest is directly administered by a forest supervisor and assistants at Harrisonburg. The Forest is divided into ranger districts and forest rangers in charge are located at Bridgewater, Buena Vista, Edinburg, Staunton, and Covington. District rangers are assisted by lookouts, patrolmen, and organized groups of public-spirited citizens who serve as fire wardens without pay, except when actually engaged in fighting fire. The forest administration is greatly indebted to and appreciative of the splendid service rendered by these citizens, the wardens, who many times sacrifice convenience, personal comfort, and even important business to fight forest fires, which would otherwise often be a serious public menace.

The forest ranger has a wide variety of duties. He builds and maintains roads, trails, telephone lines, lookout towers, and other protective and administrative improvements. He leads an aggressive fight continuously against fire, often spending days and nights on the fire line. He estimates timber, marks it for cutting, measures the timber cut, and administers timber sale contracts. He plants fish in the streams and game in the woods. He is responsible as the guardian and manager for 50,000 to 200,000 acres of publicly owned forest land.

The fundamental purposes for the establishment of a national forest are to protect the watersheds of important streams, produce continuous timber crops, demonstrate to the people the methods and results of practical forestry, provide free public playgrounds, and furnish homes and protection to game animals, birds, and fish.

Some of the important roads in Rockingham County that give access to the George Washington National Forest are the following: the Lee Highway and the Spotswood Trail, north and east of Harrisonburg, leading to the borders of that part of the Forest that lies in the Massanutten Mountain; the Broadway-Brock's Gap Road, the Rawley Pike (now part of U. S. Route 33), and State Route 257 leading west from Dayton, past Montezuma and Ottobine. Some of the forest features of special interest within Rockingham County are Massanutten Peak and the Kettle, Rawley Springs, Hone Quarry Forest Camp, and Cow Knob, High Knob, and Bother Knob fire lookouts.

WORKING STREAMS

The early settlers of Rockingham were fortunate in having at hand an abundant supply of water power in the rivers, creeks, and larger spring branches. Some of the small streams, like Brock's Creek, supplied a large amount of power in short distances because of their rapid fall. Linville Creek does not fall as rapidly as some other streams in the county, but it did supply power, within its length of 12 miles, for a remarkable number of industrial operations. Its name, which was in use as early as 1739, was derived from a pioneer Linville, or Linwell, who lived half a mile below the site of Edom and had a grist mill on the creek near his home.



AN OLD WOODEN OVERSHOT MILL WHEEL

At the mouth of the creek, just below Broadway, was a flour mill. A foundry is there now. Upstream a short distance were the Bowman mills and one on the Sam Early place. The original Bowman mill had hemp rollers and a sawmill in connection. Near by was the post office, in Samuel Bowman's house, which preceded the one at Broadway. Next above were the Kline mills. These ground grain and sawed wood. At or near the point where the Tide Spring branch enters Linville Creek was a small grist mill of which Thomas Jefferson wrote in his Notes on Virginia in 1784. Next upstream came several mills of different kinds along the Lincoln and Bryan (later Pennybacker) lands. One of these was a powder mill. Wenger's Mill has had several names and several locations. At the original site was a flour mill, a sawmill, and a furnace.

On Joe's Creek, a branch that comes into Linville Creek just above Wenger's Mill, from Singers' Glen, were at least two mills. The Linville mill, half a mile below Edom, has already been mentioned. In Edom a mill has been operated for many years—Edom Mills was an old name of the village. Less than a mile above Edom one may still trace the foundations of the Beery Mill, opposite the old red brick dwelling. On the main branch of the stream, which comes down from the great springs at Greenmount, were a number of industries, some of which are still active. On the west side of Edom, near the Presbyterian Church, an old race is plainly visible. Next upstream towards Greenmount came Brenaman's Mill, now owned by J. H. Turner. Above this was a sawmill, combined with a grist and hominy mill and carding mill; and at Greenmount were the Bowman mills, among the oldest on the busy stream. One of these still remains.

Linville Creek and Brock's Creek are typical. A similar story might be written of Smith Creek, Cub Run, Mill Creek, Cook's Creek, Mossy Creek, Beaver Creek, Muddy Creek, and many other streams in the county. At present, when so many of our local industries have been abandoned, it is hard to appreciate their importance in past generations and the value of the operating power which was supplied by our streams, even the small ones. At first crude water wheels of wood, mostly of the overshot type, were constructed. Now and then a breastwheel or one of undershot fashion was used when a swift stream could be utilized without the construction of an expensive dam or a long race. In time the old wooden wheels were replaced with iron ones, and here and there a turbine was installed. At a few places, when new mills were built, the races were lengthened to carry the head of water to a greater elevation, and the new mill was placed farther down the stream. In some instances, no doubt, the same effect was secured by building a new dam farther up the stream, though a higher dam required the construction of a new race, which was a laborious and expensive task.

RELICS OF THE PAST

In this picture is shown an old millstone of the kind that was used to grind flour and meal in the old water-power mills. These heavy circular stones lay flat, one revolving upon another. Against the millstone are

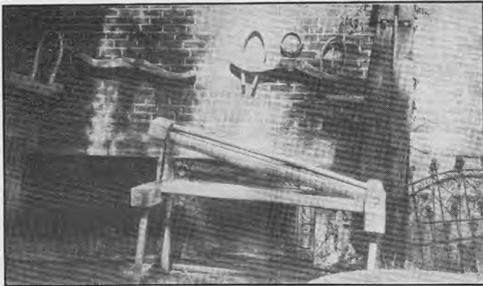


MILLSTONE, OX-YOKES, BROAD-AXE, AND ANDRONS

two ox yokes, a large one and a small one, and propped against the larger yoke is an old broad-axe of the kind that was used in hewing timbers. At the left on the ground are two old andirons. These were set in the open fireplaces and held up the logs of wood for the fire.

FLAX AND HEMP

For many years in the early history of this country both flax and hemp were grown extensively. In Rockingham County are still to be found many pieces of fine linen—sheets, tablecloths, and counterpanes—made by farmers, their wives and daughters, from the "ground up"; the men and boys growing the plants and preparing the fiber, the women and girls spinning and weaving. At the proper stage flax was pulled up by the roots and the seeds combed off by drawing the plants through a hackle, a strong comb with a large number of heavy, sharp-pointed iron or steel teeth. The flax was then spread out on a damp piece of ground to rot. When properly rotted the useless part of the stems was broken (crushed) by means of a flax-break, one of which is shown herewith. The hammer was fastened at the end of three parallel shafts about five feet long, hinged at one end. The hammer end was lifted with the right hand and pounded down on the flax stems. Scutching and other processes were then necessary to clean the fiber and prepare it for spinning.



OX-YOKE AND FLAX-BREAK

Hemp was not pulled up, but cut off. The stalks were much larger and heavier than those of flax, but they were also rotted and broken. To break or crush the useless parts of hemp stalks a heavy stone was rolled around in a circular bed on which the hemp stalks were laid. Some of these old hemp stones still remain, here and there, six being known in Rockingham County. One is shown in the accompanying picture. Such a hemp stone is about two feet high and the same in diameter at the larger end. In the smaller end is a square mortise in which was fixed a shaft. The other end of this shaft was fixed at the center of the bed, but in such a way as to allow the shaft to turn and the stone to roll around at the outside edge of the mill bed. One of these stones weighs several hundred pounds.



AN OLD HEMP ROLLER

Hemp was generally used for making ropes and cords, and the tow (short fibers of both hemp and flax) was used for various purposes, among others for catching sparks from a flint to start fire and as wadding in loading guns. Before the Revolutionary War the British government paid a bounty on hemp grown in the colonies. This was to obtain a plentiful supply of hemp for naval stores—ropes, cables, sail-cloth, calking, etc.—for ships of the royal navy. At that time large quantities of hemp were grown in the Valley and other parts of Virginia. In the old court records are dozens of entries certifying that such and such men had grown so many hundred or so many thousand pounds of hemp, and in most cases it was declared to have been "winter rotted." This indicates that winter rotted hemp was regarded as the best.

In the picture with the flax-break are shown several old ox yokes, an old-time wooden pump, and one or two old iron stoves.

CRIST'S MUSEUM

The Shenandoah Valley Museum, at Timberville, B. F. Crist, owner, is an unusual and valuable collection. It will compare favorably with many that are to be found only in large cities. The arrow heads and other pieces of Indian craftsmanship in weaving, basketry, etc., are of extensive variety and rare beauty. Certain pieces wrought in obsidian are well-nigh perfect. There are relics from historic ships and buildings. Curios from Mexico, India, the Philippine Islands, and many other parts of the world have been assembled. One rare piece is a stove plate cast in 1742 by some German founder on which is portrayed in design and text the parable of the Pharisee and the Publican. Mr. Crist has spent years in making his collection and is continually enlarging it. Just recently he has acquired a manuscript in the handwriting of Rev. Samuel F. Smith, author of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee." All of this painstaking and expensive work has been carried on for the love of it, not for any commercial purpose.

The first town clock of Harrisonburg was put into the tower of the county court house in 1875.

On December 5, 1923, the Harrisonburg *Daily News-Record* stated that 30 bears had been killed in Rockingham County during the preceding year; and in the same periodical, October 27, 1924, the number for the year ending February 1, 1924, was reported as 50.



WOODEN MORTAR FOR MAKING CORN MEAL AND HOMINY

The picture herewith shows an old-time hominy mortar, hollowed out (frequently by burning) in the top of a hard-wood log. This one is made of sugar maple, is 33½ inches high, 13 inches across the top, outside measurement, with a cavity 14 inches deep, narrowing towards the bottom. It is shaped on the outside with some degree of art—most of the old mortars were left rough and unshapen on the outside. In them, with a wooden or stone pestle, corn was crushed into hominy or coarse meal. Sometimes the pestle, if heavy, was suspended from a spring-pole.

RAIL FENCES

Many of the first fences hastily thrown up by the pioneers consisted of poles and brush. Soon split rails made from straight-grained logs of pine, oak, chestnut and other varieties of trees were extensively used for fencing, and were the kind most generally seen in wooded sections of the country until 1900 or later, when wire fencing came gradually into use. Fence rails were usually 11 feet long and four or five inches in rough diameter. Smaller ones were used near the ground to make the cracks narrow enough to turn pigs, heavier ones towards and on the top. An old Negro said that he built rail fences that were "horse high, bull strong, and pig tight." Simple rail fences were often only seven or eight rails high, propped or braced at the corners with other rails or shorter pieces. Fences ten rails high were usually of the stake and rider type, as shown in the picture herewith. These had stakes with the lower ends dug into the ground 8 or 9 inches, with top rails, or riders, clamping down in the forks



OLD-TIME STAKE AND RIDER FENCE

of the stakes. An improved type of rail fence was called a "cap fence." In this the corners were built up between parallel posts with horns at the top, held together with caps about 15 inches long, in which were two-inch auger holes fitting down on the horns of the upright posts. Such a fence was more secure than the ordinary kinds and was more nearly straight—did not require so much "worm" or zig-zag. The final type of rail fence had the ends of the rails mortised into heavy posts, and was usually straight. Such a fence built of locust posts and chestnut or heart-pine rails would last 50 years.



CAP FENCE



MORTISE-POST AND RAIL FENCE

COLD STORAGE OF FRUITS AND MEATS

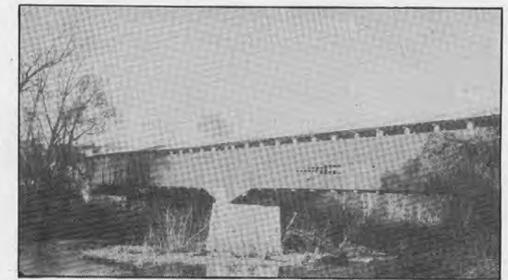
As fruit-growing on a large scale developed in different parts of Rockingham County the difficulty of handling the crop in a short time without serious loss also increased. The idea of local cold storage plants was suggested and discussed among the growers, D. H. Zigler being the chief mover in the plan. A meeting was called at the old Strickler mill below Broadway on July 4, 1916, and an organization for the enterprise was effected. A stock company was formed and buildings constructed. From this beginning a large cold storage plant has developed with a capacity of many thousands of barrels. Recent additions include equipment for processing fruits and meats at low temperatures and lockers for the convenient use of patrons. At the same time similar facilities for cold storage and related processes have been provided in Harrisonburg.

THE BAKE OVEN

The bake oven was very important in the life of nearly every Rockingham family three or four generations ago. It was sometimes built beside the fireplace in the kitchen chimney, and thus accessible from the kitchen, but usually it was out of doors and roofed over, but open around the sides. A smooth floor of several square yards in area, made of flat stones, bricks, or iron plates, was arched over with brick, stone, or concrete, as shown in the photograph herewith. The opening was closed with an iron door. Fire was built inside, and after the oven was heated sufficiently the coals were raked out, the floor of the oven mopped clean, the hunks of dough and pies placed inside, and the door closed. The chimney could also be closed for baking. There are ovens constructed on this principle now in use in modern bakeries.



The oven shown herewith is on the George N. Saufley farm in the Shady Grove neighborhood of East Rockingham. It was in use until about 1880. A few ovens of this kind were continued in use somewhat later. This one is rather unusual in that it has two chimneys.



OLD TIMBERVILLE BRIDGE

WOODEN BRIDGES

Until recent years when iron, steel, and concrete came into use for building bridges, most of the bridges in Rockingham County and other parts of the Shenandoah Valley were of wood. East of the Blue Ridge, over Bull Run, Goose Creek, and other streams there were some stone-arch bridges; there was one such over the Opequon near Martinsburg and perhaps others in the lower Valley. In Fluvanna County and adjacent sections were a number of old wooden bridges of the cross-cross pattern, in which the structure was given rigidity and strength by having the timbers crossed and securely pinned or bolted together. One such stood over the Hardware River between Scottsville and Fork Union and was in use for nearly or quite a century. Another of the same pattern was over the Rivanna at Palmyra. Most, perhaps all, of the wooden bridges in



OLD BRIDGE AT LEXINGTON

Rockingham, Shenandoah, Augusta, and Rockbridge were supported by long wooden arches that sprang across the stream from one stone abutment to the other. These, like the criss-cross type, were roofed over and weatherboarded on the sides. One of the longest known spanned North River at Bridgewater until about 1915, when it was replaced by the present iron bridge. It was over 200 feet long, in a single span. The one at Timberville, shown in the picture herewith, over the north fork of the Shenandoah at Timberville, was made up of two long spans, with a stone pier in the middle of the river bed. The other picture shown herewith is of the old bridge at Lexington. This, with the weatherboarding removed, reveals very clearly the style of construction of this type. The support under this was not a part of the original structure, but was put in place to strengthen the bridge after it had been in use for many years.



WITTIG'S OLD STORE AT BERGTON

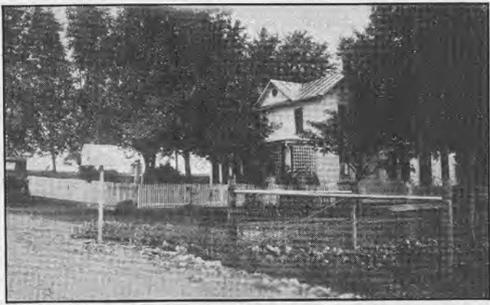
At the county court of January, 1881, the number of sleighs in Harrisonburg was reported as 476.

THE DALE ENTERPRISE LITERARY SOCIETY

Fifty-five years ago the Dale Enterprise community had a number of boys, fast growing into manhood, who were casting about to see what the world had in store for them. Most of them grew up on good farms, equipped with the best that the time afforded, but much labor was required to plant, cultivate, and reap the crops. Accordingly, these boys worked long hours and six days in the week. Their homes provided substantial food and plenty of it, but there were no telephones, radios, or cars, but few musical instruments or daily papers, and not much of other reading matter, except the Bible and a few church books.

Each week-end some of the boys gathered at the neighborhood store and postoffice to discuss things relevant and irrelevant. Miss Tiretta Minnich, a teacher in the community, who was experienced in directing the thoughts of young people, recommended that a reading club be organized to meet weekly, and that suitable books be secured. This plan was supported by Mr. David A. Heatwole, a substantial citizen of the neighborhood. A meeting was appointed and held in the wide-open outdoors, with no light but the stars above. There the boys, eight of them, effected an organization, the influence of which was destined to be felt in many states. Subsequent meetings were held in wash-houses, shops, and other places for a few years, and the enrolment grew from 8 to 50. Mr. David A. Heatwole built for the society a hall in which meetings were then held and programs given for friends and neighbors. This hall is now a part of the residence of the late Bishop L. J. Heatwole.

What became of the society? Even things that are good and noteworthy do not go on forever. As some of the older members went away to school or were called to other fields of work meetings of the society became irregular, interest waned, and finally meetings ceased. But the names of several of the members of the society are listed with biographies in "Who's Who in America." A number have been distinguished as Christian ministers; others have won prominence as authors, editors, and journalists, as teachers and educators, in law, medicine, and public service; and on the roll are successful farmers, fruit-growers, mechanics, and merchants.



HOME OF BISHOP L. J. HEATWOLE, REAR OF WHICH WAS THE OLD HALL OF THE DALE ENTERPRISE LITERARY SOCIETY

In 1914 a reunion was held near the spot where the society had its beginning in 1885, and plans were made for other reunions at ten-year intervals. Accordingly the "old boys" came together again in 1924 and 1934. Although a number had died in the long period of 49 years, 28 were present in 1934, among them several of the original members. Another meeting was appointed for 1944.

The editors are indebted to Professor J. S. H. Good of Dayton, a member of the society, for the items presented in this sketch.

BEGINNINGS OF THE BRETHREN CHURCH IN ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

The first permanent settlement of the Brethren (Dunkers) in Rockingham County was made on Cook's Creek some two miles south of Harrisonburg about 1784-85. The settlers came from Flat Rock in Shenandoah County, where Elder John Garber had located in 1775 and started the first Brethren church in the Shenandoah Valley. After the Revolution, in 1782, six families from Pennsylvania and Maryland, including two of John Garber's sons, came to find new homes in the same vicinity. Two years later a tide of migration set in, which brought to the Valley more than two dozen families in two or three years, most of whom stopped, at least temporarily, at Flat Rock; and the tide, once started, continued to flow.

The settlement on Cook's Creek was at first regarded as an outpost of Flat Rock, but the rapid increase of population at each place suggested the need of establishing a line between the two points for the better administration of church affairs. This was done in 1788 by designating Market Street through Harrisonburg as the line.

The recognized leader and first elder at Cook's Creek was Daniel Garber, a son of Elder John Garber of Flat Rock. He was soon joined by John Flory, whose wife was Daniel Garber's sister. These two brothers-in-law, established in the ministry no doubt at Flat Rock, worked in harmony and with commanding ability in establishing the Brethren Church in Rockingham. Here the first church building of the Brethren in the Shenandoah Valley was erected in 1822 on land donated by Daniel Garber and still known as Garber's Church. The third church house now stands on the original site.

There were isolated families of Brethren in Rockingham County earlier than either of the settlements mentioned. The Holsingers were at Long Meadows in 1773, and Jacob Bowman may have located on Linville Creek about the same time, as he had been living near the site of Broadway for several years when his family, following his death, moved to Tennessee about 1780. He was an ancestor of Dr. Paul H. Bowman of Bridgewater College and had occupied the Jacob S. Rhodes farm, now owned by S. R. Kline. There were doubtless other isolated Brethren families of which we have no record.

A settlement was begun at the head of Linville Creek at nearly the same time as that on Cook's Creek, and was due to the same migration. Here Elder Benjamin Bowman located soon after the close of the Revolution, perhaps as early as 1785. He was born in 1754 and lived till 1829. A mill known as Bowman's Mill was probably built by him near the head of Linville Creek. Here were gradually gathered a group of families which formed the second Brethren congregation in Rockingham and was known as Upper Linville Creek. Elder Bowman was an able church leader and was one of five elders who represented the Valley churches at the general conference at Pipe Creek, Md., in 1814. The others were Samuel, Martin, and Daniel Garber, and Isaac Long. It is thought that Elder Peter Bowman, of whom little is known, was a brother



BRIDGEWATER AND ENVIRONS

to Benjamin; that he lived here and had a part in establishing the Upper Linville Church. He was one of the early writers of the county, publishing, in German, a brief treatise on baptism in 1817.

A third settlement grew up near the mouth of Linville Creek, the site of Broadway. The first leader here was John Cline (1763-1844), father of Elder John Kline of martyr fame. The latter was born here in 1797. About the turn of the century the first John Cline's sister Catherine was married to John Hoover of Timberville, and they became the first Hoover family to adhere to the Brethren Church. It is but natural to think of these related families as visiting and worshipping together in their homes and receiving ministerial comfort from the Brethren at Flat Rock. So far as the evidence indicates, there was no resident minister in this section until Elder John Wampler located in Long Meadows in 1811. He built his residence with movable partitions to adapt it for worship service. The coming of the Drivers, Ziglers, Millers, Rhodesees, Bowmans, Younts, and others to the region soon after 1800 made this a vigorous, progressive community. Later, in 1825, Elder John Kline laid off a plot of ground on his farm for a church. Five years later, 1830, the first church was built here. This was the second congregation of the Brethren in Rockingham County to provide itself with a house of worship. The brick structure erected here in 1917 is the third church upon this site.

Another of the early Brethren centers was near the boundary between Rockingham and Augusta, at Sangerville. George Wine, born in 1774 and reared at Flat Rock, with Magdalene, daughter of Elder John Garber, as his bride, settled here about 1800. It would seem that John Brower and a family of Millers in the same period located on Beaver Creek, some miles farther east, and it is probable that these families worshiped together in the early days, as there is record of a Brethren group holding services hereabout in 1806. The number was six souls. This was the beginning of the Beaver Creek and Sangerville congregations. The territory has since been divided, leaving only Beaver Creek in Rockingham. The combined membership of the two congregations has grown to about 1200.

These four centers, Cook's Creek, Upper Linville Creek (Greenmount), Linville Creek, and Beaver Creek, all lie along the western side of the Valley. It was probably a little later when the Brethren went into the eastern side of the county, where Elder Isaac Long was the first leader. He located on Mill Creek, three miles north of Port Republic, where he spent his life. He was father of the Elder Isaac Long whom some now living remember so affectionately. He was an able church leader and greatly beloved by his people. He was ably assisted in establishing the church in East Rockingham by Elder John Harshbarger (1800-1867). They worked together in harmony for many years and left a rich legacy of good works and devotion to the cause of Christ. As the first elder of the Mill Creek congregation, Isaac Long did his work and passed away before a church house was built or even a cemetery laid out. Four generations of the Long family have been leaders through its entire history. The congregation was formally organized in 1830 and has served its community in a large way.

From the five centers named above the Brethren population of the county has grown. By subdivision and expansion there are now 11 organized congregations or parishes in the county, with 32 churches and chapels and a total membership exceeding 4400.

JOHN S. FLORY.



RUINS OF MT. VERNON FURNACE, BROWN'S GAP

Water from Riven Rock, above Rawley Springs, was first piped to Harrisonburg in 1898.

Rockingham County is traversed by two national highways, U. S. Route 11 from northeast to southwest and U. S. Route 33 from southeast to northwest. They cross at right angles in the public square of the city.

Stages ran up and down the Valley over the old Indian Road, beginning some years prior to 1825. Between 1834 and 1840 the road was made a turnpike from Winchester to Staunton, and tolls were thereafter collected until midnight of August 31, 1918.

The most prominent and familiar landmark in Rockingham County is Peaked Mountain, which extends out into the plain between Keezletown and McGaheysville.

COOK'S CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The name of this church appears first upon the records of the Synod of Philadelphia in 1756, and the organization had its beginnings a number of years earlier. Rev. Andrew Miller was pastor from 1756 until 1764. For the next six years no pastor appears, but Rev. Thomas Jackson served from 1770 till his death in 1774. The first church building, with graveyard adjacent, was near a big spring which is now covered by the waters of Silver Lake, at Dayton. The next, a frame building, called New Erection, was located on the site of the present church, four miles northwest of Harrisonburg, and was built about 1795. This was replaced in 1835 with a brick structure which served the congregation until 1912, when the present excellent brick building was erected. Commodious Sunday-school rooms were added in 1926.

The membership of Cook's Creek Church is large, made up chiefly of substantial families that have been living in the neighborhood of Harrisonburg, Dayton, Dale Enterprise, and Mt. Clinton for generations, and the church has been served by a long line of eminent pastors, among them Benjamin Erwin, A. B. Davidson, A. H. H. Boyd, Thomas D. Bell, and W. T. Price. Mr. Bell's pastorate extended over a period of 22 years, from 1846 to 1868; Mr. Price's for 16 years, from 1869 to 1885. The place is still known familiarly as New Erection, and the church is the center of a rural neighborhood, almost a village, of thrifty and prosperous character.



THE OLD DUTCH CHURCH

Philip Armentrout, great-great-grandfather of C. E. Armentrout of Linville District, living east of Lacey Spring, with other early settlers of the same neighborhood, petitioned the king of England for permission to establish this church. Authority was granted and the church was organized. A building later was erected of logs, as the picture shows. This church stood where the cemetery is now, just across the road from the present Bethel Church. The old church was later used as a school and a number of men still living along the Keezletown Road and in its vicinity attended school here.

FELLOWSHIP METHODIST CHURCH

In 1854 Andrew Sellers made a deed for the site, one mile southeast of Melrose Caverns, where two meeting-houses had already stood, and it is probable that grove meetings were held here before any church house was erected. The seven trustees to whom the deed was made were Jacob Cole, Peter Henton, William Sellers, Michael Sellers, Silam Sellers, Milton Carrier, and Reuben W. Harrison, father of county treasurer M. H. Harrison. Mark Lawson, ancestor of many Lawsons now living in the vicinity, built the foundation for the third church and Reuben W. Harrison did the carpenter work. This building, after serving for more than half a century, was replaced by the present church. In 1911 the Rockingham Circuit and the McGaheysville Circuit were united and Rev. Geo. W. Richardson was made pastor. The next year he named a building com-



FELLOWSHIP METHODIST CHURCH

mittee: C. E. Long, chairman; J. Owen Long, secretary; C. E. Armentrout, treasurer; C. B. Lawson, D. B. Reed, Wm. H. Howard; with the pastor as a member ex-officio. The contract was awarded to L. B. Morris and by the end of the year the house was practically complete, but not furnished. In 1913 pews and other furniture were provided and in the early summer Dr. H. M. Canter preached the dedicatory sermon, with the presiding elder, Dr. B. W. Bond, officiating at the dedicatory service in the afternoon. In 1932-33, with money furnished by the ladies aid society and a considerable part of the work done by the men of the church, the social hall was built and since then it has proved a valuable addition. In December, 1938, both the church and the hall were wired for electric lights.

These notes have been compiled from a paper that was prepared and read by C. E. Armentrout at the Fellowship Church home-coming, held on July 16, 1939.

The Kettle is a deep canyon in Peaked Mountain, at the bottom of which are several never-failing springs of water.

Bridgewater in early times was known as Bridgeport and Dinkle Town.

LINVILLE CREEK CHURCH

For many years the early Brethren at Linville Creek met in their private homes for public worship. Some of their houses were commodious and were constructed on a plan to accommodate such meetings by having the partitions of the lower floor on hinges so they could be raised and the rooms thus thrown together. Two such houses, the Peter Nead house and the Elder John Kline house, both brick, still stand on opposite sides of the road a short distance southwest of Broadway and near the church. These houses served for meetings of the congregation until a church house was erected on the John Kline farm about 1825. In 1869 the first meeting house, which was built of logs, was replaced with a larger frame building, 45x80 feet, with a kitchen 18x25. In 1917 the frame structure gave way to the present brick building. But this house has in it some of the



LINVILLE CREEK CHURCH, BUILT 1917

materials of the original meeting house. Two of the annual conferences of the Brotherhood have been held at this place, one in 1837, the other in 1879. Many veterans of the congregation sleep in the adjacent cemetery, which is extensive and full of interest to persons who are disposed to study or make a record of tombstone inscriptions.

C. E. NAIR.

MILL CREEK CHURCH

One of the familiar landmarks of south Rockingham is Mill Creek Church (of the Brethren), which stands in the edge of the timber just beyond the battlefield of Cross Keys, on the road to Port Republic. The old church, which was erected in 1830, was used as a hospital by the Confederates on June 8, 1862, while the battle of Cross Keys was going on. A number of soldiers were buried in shallow graves in the church-



yard, but all were taken up later and placed in one grave. The present excellent church building, the third upon the site, was finished in 1921. Several prominent ministers of the Long family, of successive generations, have served this church, and for a number of years it was under the eldership of Henry C. Early. The residence of Dr. C. P. Harshbarger, a prominent member of the congregation, is near by.

TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH, MT. CRAWFORD

The earliest records were carried away by the Union soldiers during the Civil War. The Classical record shows, however, that in the spring of 1848 permission was granted the Rev. Daniel Feete to organize a Reformed church at Mt. Crawford. A year later, in the spring of 1849, the church was dedicated and is therefore 90 years old this year, 1939. Dr. George W. Willard preached the dedicating sermon from Psalm 115:25. The charter members were: Peter S. Roller and wife, Col. Peter Roller and wife, John F. Craun and wife, John Roller and wife, George Sherman and wife, Adam Detrick and wife, William and Sarah Carpenter, and Mrs. Anna Pence. The first officers were the following: Elders, Col. Peter Roller and George Sherman; deacons, John F. Craun and Peter S. Roller. The building committee were Col. Peter Roller, George Sherman, and Peter S. Roller.



The congregation worshiped in the first church building for 56 years. In the spring of 1905 a new edifice was decided upon. The last services were held in the old church on Sunday and Monday evenings, April 16 and 17, 1905. The present building was erected in 1905 and 1906 during the pastorate of Rev. B. K. Hay, and was dedicated on March 18, 1906. The building committee were Rev. B. K. Hay, Dr. H. M. Rogers, Wm. R. Wise, Wm. F. Meyerhoffer, and J. F. Craun, treasurer.

In 1936, during the present pastorate of Rev. Harvey A. Welker, the membership of St. Mark's Reformed Church of Pleasant Valley was transferred to Trinity Reformed Church, Mt. Crawford. Following is the roll of ministers from the organization to the present time:

Rev. Daniel Feete	1848-1858
Rev. John C. Hensel	1858-1872
Dr. S. N. Callender	1872-1891
Rev. Calvin B. Heller	1892-1898
Rev. Harry W. Wissler	1899-1902
Rev. Benjamin K. Hay	1903-1907
Rev. Moses A. Keiffer	1908-1910
Rev. James B. Stonesifer	1910-1913
Rev. W. H. Causey	1914-1917
Rev. Lloyd Anderson	1917-1920
Rev. Harry W. Wissler	1920-1929
Rev. Clarence M. Arey	1929-1933
Rev. Roy L. Frazier	1933-1934
Rev. Harvey A. Welker	1934

The membership of Trinity Reformed Church has always exerted a great influence upon the town of Mt. Crawford and surrounding community and has been most faithful in helping to build the Kingdom in the hearts of men and leading other precious souls to Jesus Christ.

DR. B. H. BEYDLER

The subject of this sketch is typical of a class of men who, in a quiet field of service, have ministered to rich and poor, high and low, facing dangers and enduring hardships in soothing tragedies and promoting happiness. B. H. Beydler, son of Robert A. Beydler and his wife Rachel Maphis, was born in Shenandoah County, Va., September 12, 1872. After attending schools in his native county he, in June 1897, graduated in medicine from Baltimore University, now the University of Maryland. The same year he began practice at Spring Creek, Rockingham County, where he remained until 1909, when he located in Bridgewater. Here he continued his practice and at the same time was active in fraternal orders and in civic affairs. He was a member of Eureka Lodge No. 195, A. F. and A. M., of Bridgewater, for 29 years, serving terms as secretary and master; was also a member of Rockingham Royal Arch Chapter No. 6, in Harrisonburg. He was an active Democrat, being chairman for a number of years of the county Democratic committee. He was instrumental in promoting important enterprises for the good of the town and county, notably in securing water works for Bridgewater and the opening of a road through Briery Branch Gap to Reddish Knob. He was also active in professional organizations, being a member of the Medical Society of Virginia and the county medical association.

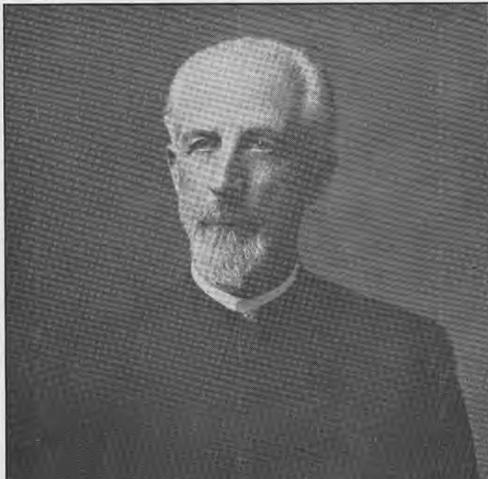


In 1899 Dr. Beydler married Miss Jessie I. Staubus of Rockingham, who survives him, with a son, Lester E. Beydler of Bridgewater, and two grandchildren, Lester E. Jr. and Benjamin David Beydler. He died at his home in Bridgewater, October 27, 1936. His devoted professional work for 39 years in the counties of Rockingham and Augusta endeared him to a large number of families, where he was welcomed not only as a skilled physician but also as a sympathetic and helpful friend. His advice and counsel were valued in many a household.

Fond of fishing and hunting, he would seek occasional relaxation at his camp in the Shenandoah Mountains and then come back to his friends and patients refreshed and strengthened for his difficult and exacting work. He built his own monument in the hearts of those he served, answering their calls day and night, in rain and snow, as well as in days of balm and sunshine.

ELDER HENRY C. EARLY

Henry C. Early, an active leader of the Church of the Brethren for many years, was born in Augusta County, Va., May 11, 1855, the son of Noah and Sarah Early. He grew up in a good farm home, attending the public schools and later a normal school, in which he prepared for teach-



ing. Beginning at the age of 19, he taught nine consecutive terms. In 1876 he married Mary A. Showalter and, on December 12 of the same year, he became a member of the Church of the Brethren. The young couple established themselves on a farm where they lived for 25 years. Eleven children came to bless the home, six of whom grew to maturity.

Following his conversion, Mr. Early became active in the work of the church, especially as Sunday-school teacher and superintendent. In 1880 he was called to the ministry, and two years later advanced. His teaching experience proved a valuable preparation for the ministry, in which he soon became proficient. He became one of the leading evangelists of the church, a calling to which he gave much of his time and abilities for 40 years. Through his efforts many were brought into the church. He was an able expounder of the Word and a strong defender of the church's doctrine. These activities brought him prominently before the councils of the church, in her district and annual conferences. Over these bodies he was frequently chosen to preside. He was eight times elected moderator of the General Conference. He served on many of the most important conference committees, and had a prominent part in shaping the policy of the church. He also contributed for many years to the church periodicals and was for some time a contributing editor of the *Gospel Messenger*. One of his special interests has been in the foreign mission work of the church. He served on the General Mission Board for 23 years, and for 15 years was its chairman. In 1913-14 he made a trip around the world, visiting and inspecting the mission stations in India and China. He was also for some years on the church's General Education Board and served as its presiding officer. During most of his active church leadership his home was in the Mill Creek congregation, in Rockingham County. Over this church he presided as elder for about 20 years. The present church building at Mill Creek, costing \$35,000, was built under his eldership.

JOHN S. FLORY.

JOHN I. FRIES

Mr. Fries, 70 years of age, is probably the oldest stone-cutter in the county still active in the business. He started early in life as a burner of lime. He then began to fill orders for building stone from a quarry purchased 45 years ago, and still operating. He has been actively engaged in selling and cutting stone for 40 years. His first big job was in connection with the erection of some of the college buildings at Dayton. More recently he has had contracts in the building of the large Stonewall clubhouse near Staunton and in constructing the Echols Vault in that city. For the latter 12 carloads of stone were used, and the edifice required the finest workmanship. Much of the stone that has been used in the past 25 years for the buildings of Madison College has come from the Fries quarry. He has had important contracts in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Washington City, one of the most notable being in the reconstruction of the McCormick buildings.

JOSEPH FUNK, FATHER OF SONG

Joseph Funk was born in Berks County, Pa., March 9, 1777, the 7th son of Henry and Barbara Showalter Funk. In 1786 his parents moved to Rockingham County, Va., and settled on a tract of land near Sparkling Springs which is now owned by Henry Funk's great-grandson, J. Earle Funk. On Christmas Day, 1804, Joseph Funk married Elizabeth Rhodes and they built a home two miles east of Sparkling Springs which was the beginning of the musical town of Singers' Glen, which Joseph christened as "Mountain Valley." This home was of the pioneer type, built of logs from the primeval forest. Recently modernized, it is now the home of Joseph Funk's great-grandson, Billie Dodd.

Elizabeth Funk died in 1813, leaving five children. In 1814 Joseph married Rachel Britton, who died in 1833, leaving nine children. The following grandchildren of Joseph Funk still live in the vicinity of Singers' Glen: Edwin and J. Earle Funk, Mrs. John S. Funk, Miss Docia Funk, Mrs. W. C. Funk, Mrs. J. R. Funk, and Fred S. and Rev. Jerome R. Baer.

By his own studious habits Joseph Funk acquired a good education, becoming a master of English and related subjects. He specialized in the study of music and became an authority in sacred song. He was influential in the evolution of the patent note system of musical notation, which has had preference in the southern states for generations, and his book, the famous "Harmonia Sacra," has gone through 20 editions. The first edition was printed in Winchester, later ones in Harrisonburg. In 1847 Funk and his sons established their own printery and bindery at Mountain Valley, hauling the first press from Philadelphia. His publishing work and his music schools were continued by his sons, of whom Timothy was the most distinguished, and his grandson, Aldine S. Kieffer, after his death in 1862. Shenandoah College and the Ruebush-Kieffer Publishing Company of Dayton are both among the results of Joseph Funk's life and labors. Edward, James, Will, and Joseph Ruebush, the present owners and publishers, are great-grandsons of Joseph Funk.



TIMOTHY FUNK AND WIFE

Joseph Funk will be revered as "Father of Song in the Southland." He was a member of the Mennonite Church, which has always emphasized the importance of sacred song. In connection with his publishing business he found time to organize and teach vocal music classes in many counties of Virginia and in adjoining states. He was a prolific writer and besides

carrying on an extended correspondence and preparing the manuscripts for his music books he translated several learned treatises, including the Mennonite Confession of Faith, which he had published in 1837 in a volume of 461 pages. On one point he differed from most of his brethren, in that he advocated the use of musical instruments in divine worship. While the orthodox membership still taboo instrumental music in churches, they are zealous in sacred vocal music and are leaders in the "old folks singings" that are observed annually in various parts of the country, especially Rockingham County. Students and graduates of Eastern Mennonite School and Shenandoah College (United Brethren) continue to organize and instruct singing classes in many parts of the country. The publisher of this atlas is in large measure a product of the teachings of Joseph Funk, and was the first music teacher in Eastern Mennonite School.

W. O. MOUBRAY.

JUDGE GEORGE G. GRATTAN

George Gilmer Grattan was a great-grandson of John Grattan, who came from Ireland and settled in the Virginia Valley prior to the Revolution. John Grattan was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and one of the original trustees of Liberty Hall Academy, afterwards Washington College, and now Washington and Lee University. He was a member of the House of Delegates; also one of the justices appointed for Rockingham County at its formation in 1777. He was too old to serve in the struggle for independence as a soldier of the Continental Army; but did efficient service as an ardent patriot. His only son, Major Robert Grattan, grandfather of George G., was a mere lad during that war, but commanded a company of cavalry from Augusta and Rockingham which served under General Harry Lee (Light-Horse Harry) in quelling the "Whiskey Insurrection."

The father of George Gilmer Grattan, born in Rockingham County, March 31, 1800, was one of the most successful and intelligent farmers of the State. He studied law, was licensed to practice, but on the failure of his father's health took charge of the family estate, "Contentment," and lived on it until his death in August 1855. He was for many years a justice of the peace, and at the time of his death a trustee of Washington College. He married Martha Divers Minor of Albemarle County, who died in Harrisonburg in 1869. Their son, George Gilmer Grattan, was born in this county, February 12, 1839. In May 1861 he enlisted lieutenant of the Gilmer Blues from Oglethorpe County, Ga., which mustered in at Atlanta, Co. K, 6th Ga. Infantry, Col. A. H. Colquitt commanding. When Col. Colquitt was made brigadier-general in the fall of 1862, Lieutenant Grattan was appointed assistant adjutant-general with rank of captain of cavalry and assigned to duty with Colquitt's Brigade. The command served under General Lee until after the battle of Chancellorsville, when it was ordered to North Carolina, thence to Charleston, S. C., taking part in the siege of Sumter and Morris Island; thence to Florida, taking part in the battle of Oolustee; returning to Virginia in May 1864.

Among the battles not already mentioned, in which Captain Grattan took part after his return to Virginia, were Yorktown, Williamsburg, South Mountain, Sharpsburg, or Antietam, Shepherdstown, Fredericksburg; Drewry's Bluff, Walthall Junction; and second Cold Harbor, where he was wounded, losing a leg and ending his active service for the Confederacy. He had been recommended for promotion, but had not received his commission when his wound incapacitated him for military duty.

Charles C. Jones, Jr., in his book, "Historical Sketch of the Chatham Artillery," says of him: "For the graphic and accurate account of the battle of Ocean Pond, I am indebted to Major George G. Grattan, the accomplished and gallant Adjutant-General of Colquitt's Brigade, who during the progress of that memorable engagement, was in all parts of the field accurately noting the occurrences of the day, and by his personal experience and accustomed bravery contributing most materially to the achievement of that noted victory."

On October 18, 1870, Major Grattan married Mary Ella Heneberger, daughter of Andrew E. and Mary Effinger Heneberger. They had two sons, Robert, born December 27, 1871, who married Harriet Hook, and George G. Jr., born July 5, 1875, who married Frances Lewis Roller; and one daughter, Mary H. Grattan, born December 28, 1889, who married Barrington Wight.

George G. Grattan was an eminent lawyer and jurist. He filled the office of commonwealth's attorney by appointment for 18 months, and by election, May 1879, for four years. He was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, session 1883-4, and judge of the county court from 1886 to 1904. He was a life long Democrat, and an elder in the Presbyterian Church from 1873 until his death November 1, 1915.



PETER S. HARTMAN AND WIFE

In coming years "Uncle Pete," as this man was affectionately known in his old age, may not mean so much to the younger generations, but this tribute is here recorded to perpetuate his memory. He rose from conditions that were not favorable to progress and culture, but became a pioneer advocate and promoter of Sunday-Schools, the temperance cause, and especially of a great educational institution. At the same time he made a success as a business man. He and his wife afforded the wholesome influence of an exemplary life.

Black's Run in Harrisonburg is really the east fork of Cook's Creek, and is so called in the record of survey made for Thomas Harrison, December 18, 1739.

BISHOP L. J. HEATWOLE

One of the honored sons of Rockingham, a man deserving prominence in the annals of his country and highly esteemed during a long life by his friends and neighbors, was Lewis J. Heatwole, born at Dale Enterprise, December 4, 1852, eldest son of David A. Heatwole, and brother to Dr. Timothy O. Heatwole of Baltimore and Dr. Cornelius J. Heatwole of Richmond. As a boy he made a pledge never to deserve a red mark in school, a pledge that his exemplary conduct fully carried out. As a man he was a successful teacher, a beloved pastor, and an eminent student of science. For years he was a prominent bishop of the Mennonite Church and an authority on the history of his denomination. He was one of the founders of the Eastern Mennonite School at Harrisonburg. One of his favorite studies was astronomy, making the calculations for a large number of the almanacs that were published in the United States and



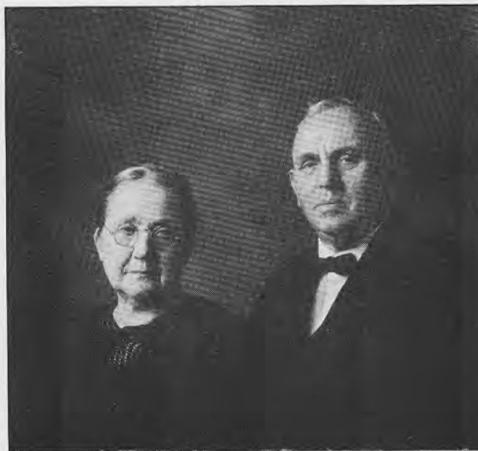
BISHOP HEATWOLE
ASTRONOMER AND WEATHER RECORDER

Canada; and in 1885 he began to record weather observations which he continued regularly until near the time of his death in 1932, when he was succeeded in this work by his son and daughters, who are still carrying on this work at his late residence on the Rawley Pike. In 1908 he published a 238-page volume entitled "Key to the Almanac"; and later he devised a perpetual calendar which has received favorable notice in this country and Europe. Another of his published works is "Moral Training in the Public Schools"; and in 1910 appeared a volume on the history of the Mennonite Conference of Virginia, of which he was joint author with C. H. Brunk and Christian Good. Bishop Heatwole was also a frequent contributor to local periodicals, writing interestingly on the traditions and folk-lore of Rockingham and adjacent sections of the country. His personal diary covers 64 years, beginning in 1868.

JOHN H. HOOVER

John H. Hoover represents the 4th generation of the Hoover family in Virginia, his great-grandfather, Jacob Hoover, having moved from Pennsylvania to Virginia about 1773, settling on a 625-acre tract on the Shenandoah River two miles below Timberville. Part of this tract remains in the family at the present time. Here the subject of this sketch was born, December 4, 1863, the oldest son of Emanuel and Annie Cline Hoover.

Educated in the public schools and at Bridgewater College, Mr. Hoover early showed a marked interest in farming and in live stock. At the age of 18 he was buying cattle and managing the farm for his father. At 21 he married Ann Rebecca Flory, daughter of Daniel and Susannah Wampler Flory. They settled on a part of the original Hoover tract, and in addition to his farming he developed a large business in live stock. Later, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Cornelius Driver, the business expanded. They handled cattle and sheep by the hundreds each year, supplying farmers with feeders, distributing others to their own farms for feeding, and shipping many to market. With the later addition of a son of each partner, Frank H. Driver and Ernest M. Hoover, to the firm, they did a business that ran into hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.



JOHN H. HOOVER AND WIFE
Photo Taken on 54th Anniversary of Marriage

Besides his own extensive business, Mr. Hoover has been called to many activities of trust and responsibility. He helped to organize the first telephone company in the Shenandoah Valley; was for many years a director and vice-president of the West Rockingham Mutual Fire Insurance Company; a trustee of the Old Folks Home at Timberville; and for 31 years its treasurer. For more than 20 years he was a director of the First National Bank of Harrisonburg; was president of the Farmers and

Merchants Bank of Timberville from its organization in 1908; a trustee of Bridgewater College since 1919; director of the Rockingham Memorial Hospital since its beginning in 1909; for many years a trustee and leader in the Timberville Church of the Brethren. Never in politics, as such, but known for his public spirit and sound judgment, his counsel and advice in matters of business and public policy have been widely sought. It would be hard to find any man in the county who has had a longer career in active business life.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoover reared a family of eight sons, Ernest M., Stanley F., Lester D., Charles E., Mervil J., Sailor C., Raymond L., and Lawrence H., and one daughter, Flora A., the wife of Dr. Paul H. Bowman, president of Bridgewater College. Owner of a number of farms and other valuable property, Mr. Hoover has been, for half a century, a leading citizen of Rockingham County, and has made a solid contribution to the life and progress of this part of Virginia.

GEORGE B. KEEZELL

George B. Keezell was born at Keezletown, Va., July 20, 1854, the only child of George and Amanda Fitzallen (Peale) Keezell. His grandfather, George Keezell, came to Rockingham from Pennsylvania and in 1781 laid out the town which bears the family name. He lived on the farm now owned by N. H. Keezell. George Keezell, father of George B., was the youngest son. He was born and always lived on the original farm. He served in the War of 1812. He married late in life and died in 1862, when his son was 8 years old.

After attending private schools in Rockingham, George B. Keezell went to Stuart Hall, a collegiate institution in Baltimore. Because of the critical post-war conditions he remained there only two years, and at the age of 15 took charge of his mother's farm. Here he spent his entire life. He grew to be an outstanding figure in the agricultural life of the county and his judgment was sought by many. In 1875, at the age of 21, he was elected a justice of the peace, serving 8 years. In 1883 he was elected to the State Senate of Virginia and served therein until 1911, being a member of many committees and chairman of the Finance Committee for more than 20 years. He retired from the Senate when he was appointed treasurer of Rockingham County, but in 1921 returned to the legislature as a member of the House of Delegates, where he served 8 years. During this period he was on the committee to reorganize the state government and was House leader against the \$50,000,000 bond issue advocated for roads. He had as much to do, it is said, with defeating that proposal as any one and in launching the pay-as-you-go plan, supported by the gasoline tax.

He was chairman of the state Fish Commission under four governors and an influential member of the constitutional convention of 1900-01. He is known as the "Father of the Harrisonburg Teachers College," now Madison College. His efforts secured passage of the bill to locate this school in Harrisonburg and the appropriation to build it. He was chairman of the first board of trustees. As a tribute to his services the *Schoolma'am* of 1912, volume III of the college annual published by the students, was dedicated to him as "a progressive farmer, a Virginia statesman, a patron of education, and a friend of Virginia teachers."



In Rockingham and in Virginia, Mr. Keezell was a political power. His judgment was respected by those who opposed his views, and they no less than his allies admired his undaunted courage, his outstanding ability, and his rugged honesty. At the time of his death glowing tributes of esteem were paid him by every newspaper in the state. During the manhood of his 76 years he occupied many posts of influence in his native county, as, for example, chairman of the Democratic organization, the county school board, president of the Mutual Insurance Company of Cross Keys, and director of the Mutual Telephone Company. During almost half a century he headed nearly every important delegation from Rockingham County. He organized the *Rockingham Daily Record* and was for a number of years manager of the *Daily News-Record*, which was formed by a combination of two dailies, the *News* and the *Record*. Most of all, he was loyal to the people of Rockingham, often sacrificing his own interests for theirs. He devoted his marked business ability to the county and the state. He had a remarkable memory and was often urged to write memoirs of his life. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Harrisonburg, having come from a long line of Presbyterian ancestry, and supported all religious enterprises wholeheartedly. The Massanetta Bible Conference was one of his special interests.

Mr. Keezell's long and useful life ended June 22, 1931, at Rockingham Memorial Hospital, as a result of a fractured hip caused by a fall

in the basement of his house. His age was 76 years and 11 months. He married sisters, his first wife being M. Kate Hannah, the second Belle C. Hannah. Of the first marriage seven children were born, of whom at the time of his death five were surviving: Walter B., Captain Rembrandt P., and Nathaniel H. Keezell; Mrs. Claude V. Smith and Mrs. J. Fred Simms. Grandchildren are George B., Martha, Claude Jr., and Edward Smith; George B., David, and Walter B. (Jr.) Keezell; N. H. Keezell Jr.; Cornelia C. Simms; Rennie and Narice Keezell.

JOHN E. KELLEY

The subject of this sketch is one of the oldest residents of Harrisonburg and has a remarkably retentive memory. For example, he remembers seeing in the spring of 1862 the two railroad engines that Stonewall Jackson had hauled with horses up the Valley Pike from Mt. Jackson to Staunton; and he is one of the few men now living who helped to fight the big fire of Christmas Day, 1870, when nearly all the buildings on the south side of the square to Water Street were burned, and water had to be gotten in buckets from the Big Spring. He was born June 10, 1857, the son of John Kelly and his wife Honorah Flinn. As a boy he carried the mail from Harrisonburg to Conrad's Store (now Elkton) and other points in the eastern side of the county. He has crossed the river at Elkton on four successive bridges, and on several occasions forded the stream at the same place. He also recalls that he carried the mail to Tenth Legion after the stage coaches stopped running on the Pike. He assisted in building the railroad from Harrisonburg to Staunton, and later was conductor on a freight train. Altogether he was in the railroad service 33 years. In 1880 he helped to drill a well in Harrisonburg, the first drilled well in the county. Later he assisted in drilling others at Broadway and other places. In 1898 he opened his coal yard in Harrisonburg, weighing coal on hand scales. Later he purchased a double-beam scale, which is still in use and is believed to be the first one of its kind that was used in Harrisonburg. He is still active as a dealer in coal, lumber, lime, and tile, and still uses horses instead of auto-trucks. He owns much real estate in the city.



JOHN E. KELLEY AT HIS PLACE OF BUSINESS

Mr. Kelley is a Catholic. His mother purchased the old Methodist Church that used to stand just west of the railroad on West Market Street. In this the Catholics held regular services thereafter until it burned in 1905. Mr. Kelley has the historical instinct and has assembled a fine collection of coins, pictures, riding equipment, and other interesting relics.

ELDER JOHN KLINE

John Kline, Christian martyr, born in 1797, was an active leader among the Brethren in the middle years of the 19th century. With very limited educational opportunities, but richly endowed by nature and with a will to know, he largely by his own efforts became farmer, evangelist, physician, traveler, author, philanthropist, church leader, and preacher of righteousness. Buying and borrowing books and applying himself closely to mastering their contents, he acquired a good command of both the English and German language. Later he taught himself the science of medicine and became an able practitioner. He studied botany, acquiring expert knowledge of the medicinal properties of plants, and compounded his own remedies. He and his wife, Anna Wampler, married in his 21st year, established their home on a farm near Broadway, where they spent the rest of their lives. He gave the ground on which the first meeting house of the Linville Creek Church was built in 1830. In 1834 he was called to the ministry—he had united with the church in early life. Soon active in preaching and visiting, he gave comfort to body and soul. This to him, as to his Master, was one work. It is estimated that during the last 30 years of his life he traveled more than 100,000 miles, mostly on horseback. His generosity expressed itself in many ways; for example, at threshing time one bin of grain was set apart for the poor.

When the war of the Sixties came on Elder Kline was an ardent worker for peace and understanding, and he was influential in having the exemption law passed by the Virginia Assembly. Under its provisions he secured the release of all those drafted from his congregation, providing much of the redemption money from his own hands. He wrote extensively and published two small works on church polity: "The Lord's Supper" and "Apology and Defense of Baptism." His Diary, a daily record covering nearly 30 years, is one of the most complete and revealing mirrors of a life to be found anywhere. In addition to current entries, it contains many sermons, conversations, private meditations, resolutions, and prayers.

As a church leader John Kline was outstanding. His voice was potent in council, and he was chosen moderator of the last four General Conferences held in his lifetime. His was a strong personality; he was an able preacher and a delightful companion. His sincerity and integrity were beyond question. During the four years of the war he had been given permits to go and come freely through both the Northern and Southern army lines, and was fully trusted by both civil and military authorities. Local gossip, however, accused him of bearing military secrets to Federal generals. Of this there was no evidence whatever, but on June 15, 1864, while riding through a strip of woodland a few miles from his home, he was shot by some one hid in the bushes. A suitable memorial marks the place of his martyrdom.

JOHN S. FLORY.



The above house, well built of brick, a mile south of Broadway, was the home of the distinguished minister, Elder John Kline, a Civil War martyr, who gave the land upon which Linville Creek Church of the Brethren was erected in 1830. Prior to that date meetings were held in this house, which was constructed in a manner that made possible a large audience room by the raising of partitions. This is now the home of Mr. John Alger and family.

COLONEL D. H. LEE MARTZ

Few sons of Rockingham have won more distinction than the subject of this sketch. His military career, as commander of the famous Tenth Virginia Regiment, C. S. A., and his extended service later in important civil offices enabled him to impress his high-toned personality upon thousands, and no one earned a warmer place in the hearts of his fellow citizens. He was born March 23, 1837, on the family homestead near Lacey Spring, the son of Hiram Martz, who represented his county four terms prior to the Civil War in the Virginia House of Delegates. After his youth on the farm, he was a merchant in Harrisonburg both before and after the war. As a sergeant of the Valley Guards he was on duty at Charles Town during the trial and at the execution of John Brown in 1859. This company formed the nucleus of the Tenth Regiment in 1861, composed mainly of Rockingham men. S. B. Gibbons, first colonel of the regiment, was killed in the battle of McDowell, May 8, 1862, and in later battles other commanders suffered the same fate. At Chancellorsville, Martz, then a captain, was wounded by fragments of a shell which struck him in the right hand and shoulder. At the Bloody Angle, near Spotsylvania C. H., in May 1864, many of the gallant Tenth, including Lieut.-Col. Martz, were captured in Hancock's famous assault. Martz was exchanged the following August and shortly afterward was placed in command of the remnant of the Tenth, together with the 23d and 27th. The battle-scarred flag of the Tenth was saved at the surrender, hidden under the coat of Lieut. J. G. H. Miller. An extended account of the Tenth Regiment was prepared by Colonel Martz in 1912 and published in Wayland's History of Rockingham County, pages 134-141.

In 1875 Colonel Martz was appointed deputy clerk of the circuit court at Harrisonburg. In 1887 he was elected clerk, and by successive elections held the office until his death, October 20, 1914. His funeral was attended by an immense throng, among whom were many veterans who had worn the Gray and followed him on bloody fields. For many years he had been an official of the Methodist Church, and was a leader in many of its outstanding movements. His wife, married November 14, 1860, was Miss Mary Nicholas Carter of Nelson County, Va., who survived him until December 20, 1922. A daughter was Mrs. G. Richard Berlin of Bridgewater; a son is Edward C. Martz, a prominent member of the Harrisonburg bar.

EDWARD C. MARTZ

Edward Carter Martz, only son of Colonel D. H. Lee Martz, was born December 28, 1868. He was educated in the Harrisonburg schools and at the University of Virginia, graduating in law in 1892. From this date until 1910 he was associated with Col. O. B. Roller in the firm of Roller & Martz. His practice has taken him before all the state courts and the Federal courts. He was the first president of the Rotary Club of Harrisonburg, and represented it at the district meeting in Winston-Salem, N. C. Besides his extensive legal business, he has numerous civic and industrial interests. He is a member of the Methodist Church, the Phi Gamma Delta college fraternity, is a past commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans of Rockingham County, and has been prominently identified with the work of the national organization, Sons of Veterans.

At Clarksburg, W. Va., June 27, 1904, Mr. Martz married Miss Stella Bowcock, a native of Clarksburg and daughter of Dr. J. M. Bowcock. Their only child, James Lee, died in infancy; Mrs. Martz, on November 24, 1921. The maiden name of Mr. Martz's second wife, married March 4, 1929, was Miss Margaret Russell Patterson. Her first husband was Roy R. McDowell.

PHILIP W. PUGH

For many years one of the leading citizens of the Broadway community was Philip Williams Pugh, merchant, notary public, and school trustee. He was born in Hardy County, Va., now West Virginia, August 21, 1837. At the age of 24 he enlisted in the 25th Va. Infantry and was made sergeant of Co. A. On July 11, 1861, he was taken prisoner at Rich Mountain, and after he was exchanged was transferred to Imboden's command. He was slightly wounded in the battle of New Market, May 15, 1864. He was finally paroled at Moorefield on May 19, 1865, and held at that time the rank of 2d lieutenant. Soon thereafter, with J. W. Basore, his companion in arms, he came to Broadway and engaged in merchandising in the old stone store, which was then about the only place of business at Broadway. On December 23, 1869, he married Mary Elizabeth Branner, to whom seven children were born. At his death the following were living: Robert E., of Edom; Misses Minnie and Sallie, Philip, and Mrs. Sidney Aldhizer, all of Broadway.

For more than 30 years Mr. Pugh was on the school board of Plains District, and was serving as clerk of the board at the time of his death. He was succeeded as school trustee by his son-in-law, H. H. Aldhizer of Broadway, and the latter was succeeded, after an interval of five years, by his son, George Aldhizer II, the present incumbent. Mr. Pugh was a member of the Presbyterian Church and was active in church work. He died June 30, 1908. His funeral was conducted by his pastor, Rev. S. T. Ruffner, D.D.

MILLER D. RHODES

Mr. Rhodes was a son of Reuben and Nancy Shank Rhodes, born near Broadway in 1874. He and his wife, Hannah Neff, married in 1895, reared a family of four children, all living in prosperous farm homes in the Broadway neighborhood. Miller D. Rhodes was a practical farmer all his life. In 1904 he began raising better cows and purchased his first registered Guernsey bull. His operations finally resulted in sales topping the list of any breed in Rockingham to this date. His work was stimulated by the opening of a cheese factory at Linville in 1897, moved to



Broadway in 1899. He was interested in this enterprise and naturally he took steps for a larger production of better milk. A community interest soon developed in the milk and cheese industry, and in 1922 Mr. Rhodes was elected president of Valley of Virginia Co-Operative Milk Producers Assn., Inc. The present was an outgrowth. He continued as president of the organization until his death in 1938. He served his community and county with a busy and useful life. In the "Virginia Breeder" of August 1939 a fine tribute is paid to his initiative and successful enterprise.

GENERAL JOHN E. ROLLER

John Edwin Roller was born at Mt. Crawford, Va., October 5, 1844, the oldest of eight children, son of Peter S. Roller who was a great-grandson of John Peter Roller who came to Philadelphia in 1752, and of Frances Sidney Allebaugh, a descendant of Christian Allebach and John Boneauvent. Fond of books, John Edwin Roller made rapid progress when in school. Even in his boyhood and early youth he felt the keen impulse of ambition. In 1861 when he was but 16 years of age and was just prepared for a course at the University of Virginia, at the first call to arms, he left for the nearest camp to enlist. He was so young that they would not muster him in; but this did not discourage him. He attached himself to Company I, of the 1st Va. Cavalry and began active service by taking part in the engagement of the first day of the first battle of Manassas; known as the "infant of the regiment," his comrades say that he stood under fire like a veteran.

In 1862 he was appointed a cadet to the Virginia Military Institute, graduating with distinction, July 4, 1863. Elected lieutenant of Captain Blackford's scouts, the death of Captain Blackford prevented his serving long in that company and he was appointed lieutenant of engineers in the regular service. He was soon ordered to the Institute as Assistant Professor, teaching Latin and Mathematics to the young men who afterward distinguished themselves at New Market. Applying for active service in 1863, he was ordered to Charleston, serving there under Beauregard during part of the siege of that city and accompanying General Beauregard to Virginia in the spring of 1864. Assigned to Hoke's division of the 4th corps of the army of North Virginia, as engineer officer, he was promoted two grades for his share in the campaign of 1864 and the defense of Petersburg. In the winter of 1864-5 he organized Companies G and H of the 2nd regiment of engineers, and commanded them until relieved by Major B. M. Harrod. He served in front of Richmond and Petersburg until the evacuation, April 2, 1865, when he was in the retreat of Lee's army. He was in the last line of battle at Appomattox, and was there paroled.

John E. Roller led the work in restoring his father's place "The Dale," which had been laid waste during the war. In September, 1865, he opened the old academy at Pleasant Grove, and managing with success the full school, which soon assembled, he earned enough in this year to pay his way for the next year at the University, where he began the study of law. He was admitted to practice in August 1867 and settled at Harrisonburg in 1869. He was elected a member of the Virginia Senate, serving four years; and young as he was he became one of the leading members of the senate. Governor Gilbert C. Walker appointed him Major-General of the State Militia in 1872.

The deed books at Harrisonburg had been burned and most of the title-records destroyed or mutilated. Much litigation involving titles resulted from the destruction of these records. General Roller was soon recognized as the leading land lawyer of his county, and was engaged in most of these cases. A distinguished U. S. judge said of him, "He has no superior, as a land lawyer." In his good judgment, in his power to prove the minds and character of witnesses, in his earnest and logical presentation of his case, with learning, dignity and intense interest, he distinguished himself; and his practice covered a wide field. Heidelberg University at Tiffin, Ohio, conferred upon him the honorary degree of L.L.D., in 1905.

General Roller collected a large library representing his varied intellectual interests and was often in demand as a lecturer and speaker. In 1887, led by his views upon the protective tariff, he identified himself with the Republican party. He was a member of the D.K.E. Fraternity, the American Historical Society, the Southern Historical Association; of the Virginia, South Carolina, and Texas Historical Societies—president at one time of the Pennsylvania German Historical Society, and president of the Rockingham County Historical Society.

An elder of the Reformed Church in the United States, he was for many years an officer and director of the institutions of that church. Among these was Hood College, at Frederick, Md., on whose board he

served when the college was first organized. He served as a member of the noted committee which successfully discharged the duty of forming a plan of federation of the churches which hold the Presbyterian form of government.

On June 27, 1878, General Roller married Miss Margaret Rector Shacklett, a descendant of Samuel Henry and John Rector. She died May 12, 1888, leaving two children, Frances Lewis, the wife of George Gilmer Grattan, Jr., and Margaret Stuart, the wife of Dr. John Egerton Cannaday. On November 11, 1896, he married Miss Lucy Brown Cabell, daughter of Patrick Henry Cabell, who died on February 7, 1914. The children of this marriage are Lucy Cabell, Elizabeth Henry, now Mrs. William Bottimore, and Anne Woolston, now Mrs. Wilfrid Pyle. General Roller died August 10, 1918.

JOSEPH SHANK

Joseph Shank of Broadway is entitled to recognition here because of his untiring devotion to the building up of the telephone service of the northeastern part of Rockingham County. In 1897, when the mutual plan of telephone lines started, he was the builder of the first lines extending from Broadway towards Harrisonburg. Poles were set and four-pin cross arms attached. Four wires were strung up on the grounded line system, and in most cases the patrons had switches so arranged that they could use any one of the four lines, in case their own particular line was busy. Sometimes they failed to switch back, and this led to the removal of all switches because the operator could not give service in such a confusion of switching.

For many years Mr. Shank continued as the builder and repair man of the telephone system from some distance south of Edom to New Market. He exerted a strong influence towards unifying the claims and interests of the subscribers, who were not always easy to hold together on telephone operation and policy. As a result of his efforts, carried on through years of patient service, the subscribers of his district now seem to have reached a state of congenial cooperation. Judging from the results achieved, we may believe that no other man could have been found who was better suited to his work than Mr. Shank.

WILLIAM H. SIPE

William H. Sipe was a leading merchant of Rockingham County for more than 50 years. Born near Tenth Legion, November 12, 1858, son of Col. Emanuel Sipe, he early acquired some knowledge of the mercantile business in the stores of his father and his brother-in-law, J. B. D. Rhodes.



In 1882, in partnership with Mr. Rhodes, he opened a store in the western part of the county, and in a short time acquired the entire business which in time grew into a large department store. New features were added until he carried in stock about everything the people of a rural

community needed. He did a thriving business and his name became a household word in the homes of half of the county. He continued to operate this store until he was succeeded by his son Herbert.

In 1899 Mr. Sipe moved to Bridgewater, where there were better facilities for his children. Here in partnership with W. J. Arey and others he opened another department store. In a few years he became sole owner and, operating as the W. H. Sipe Company, in which his three sons were later associated, he continued the business until his death, January 9, 1939.

While an outstanding and successful merchant, Mr. Sipe had also other interests. He was one of the promoters of the Bridgewater Creamery and Ice Corporation, served on the county board of supervisors, and was president of the Planters Bank of Bridgewater for 20 years. He also had business interests in Harrisonburg and during the World War was a member of the executive committee of the Red Cross in Rockingham County. From 1904 to 1909 he was on the board of trustees of Bridgewater College, serving as president of the board. He was a liberal contributor to the support of the college, in which all his children were educated. He was a man of many admirable qualities and had an unusual faculty for making and holding friends. In early life he married Miss Maggie Beery, daughter of Noah W. and Catherine Neff Beery of Edom. He and his wife built a good Christian home and reared a family of three sons and four daughters. As members of the College Street Church for many years they were faithful and loyal supporters, in both service and contributions to the church's program. For many years he was a trustee of the church and took pride in keeping the property in good condition.

ROCKINGHAM PERIODICALS

Books were printed in Harrisonburg as early as 1813. In 1822 appeared the first numbers of the *Rockingham Register*, a weekly newspaper, and since that date more than 50 periodicals, monthly, weekly, and daily, have been published in various parts of the county. The *Register*, founded by Lawrence Wartmann, was issued for nearly 100 years, until superseded by the daily papers. In 1861 and 1864 it was spoken of as having the largest circulation of any "country" paper in Virginia.

In 1865 the *Old Commonwealth* was started and appeared thereafter each week for about 20 years. In 1869 a monthly magazine, the *Musical Million*, was launched upon a notable career from the Funk press at Singers' Glen, where it was published until 1878 when it was moved to Dayton. It continued there until about 1920. In the same year (1878) that the *Musical Million* first came out at Dayton, the *Spirit of the Valley*, a weekly newspaper, made its debut in Harrisonburg. It continued until 1905, when it was converted into the *Daily Times*, which ran for a number of years. In 1894 G. Richard Berlin began publishing the *Bridgewater Herald*, which appeared weekly until 1906.

In 1898 the *Harrisonburg Daily News* was started, and thirteen years later appeared the first issues of the *Rockingham Daily Record*, also in Harrisonburg. These two publications were at first rivals in the fields of news and local politics, but in 1913 they were consolidated into the *Harrisonburg Daily News-Record*, which has for a number of years been one of the outstanding newspapers of the state. It continues to report the news, local, state, national, and international, irrespective of party affiliations, and is a potent advocate of all progressive movements.

P. F. SPITZER

P. F. Spitzer was born on a farm one and a half miles west of Edom, Rockingham County, October 19, 1860. He attended one-room county schools four or five months each year until he was 19 years of age. Having taught four terms in the county, he came to Harrisonburg October 1, 1884, as clerk for A. M. Effinger in the Valley Bookstore, which was located at the corner of West Market Street and Court Square, in the present Municipal Building. He continued with Mr. Effinger and his successor, Rev. L. C. Miller, until 1894. On March 1 of that year he opened his own book and stationery store at No. 2, Spotswood Block, where he continued until January 1, 1922, when he sold the book and



stationery department to the Nicholas Book Company and moved the wall paper and framing business to 83 East Market Street, adding a line of paints to his stock. He is continuing the business in this location at the present time (1939).

In 1908 Mr. Spitzer married Miss Emma Mabel Baldwin of Trenton, N. J. He has two daughters, Mary R. and Ruth B., both teachers, the latter specializing in music.

COLONEL EDWARD T. BROWN

No resident of the Shenandoah Valley in recent years has done more to develop our scenic resources and make them known to the world than Col. Edward T. Brown. Motoring along the Valley Pike in 1919 with his wife, his attention was arrested by the unusual attractions of nature and the rich historical associations that surround them. Almost immediately he and his son, Major Edward M. Brown, purchased the Endless Caverns and began their development. These caverns had been discovered in 1879 and were very popular locally for a number of years. Then, owing to imperfect equipment and the lack of financial resources for proper advertising, they were neglected. Colonel Brown at once saw the untold possibilities in this great wonder of nature, and his vision and faith have been fully justified. An expenditure of approximately a half-million dollars in opening, equipping, and advertising the Endless Caverns soon bore fruit in the constantly increasing tourist tide that began to flow to them.

Colonel Brown was born in Gainesville, Ga., in 1858. After graduating at Davidson College, N. C., he began the practice of law in Athens, Ga., locating later in Atlanta, where he won wealth, reputation, and wide influence. For some years he was counsel for the Seaboard Airline Railway and other carriers. He was an important figure in the political life of the state—a number of governors owed their places largely to his aid and sage counsels. He served on the staff of Governor Chandler as a lieutenant-colonel—and was "Colonel Brown" ever after. He was one of the organizers of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Woodrow Wilson was a relative and close personal friend.

Colonel Brown had much to do with the routing and building of the Lee Highway, and it was due largely to his progressive vision that the Valley Pike was widened and rebuilt. To show his plan and his confidence in the project, he bought land along the highway and moved his fence back twenty feet along the old right of way. The wisdom of his foresight has been amply proved and his handiwork has become an example and an inspiration to others. This splendid highway is not only a monument to Colonel Brown and other courageous leaders, but it has set a standard for many other highways in various parts of the country.

In 1928 Colonel Brown leased the old Harrison Cave, near Melrose, and at once proceeded to make it accessible to the public. Although it is located most conveniently on the Lee Highway, and had been visited by thousands of people years ago, the difficult entrance had been a barrier to continued popularity. Colonel Brown provided a new and easy entrance, built attractive gate houses, and equipped the cave with a splendid lighting system similar to that which had been installed in Endless Caverns. The natural wonders of the "Blue Grottoes" were greatly enhanced by the hundreds of names and initials of Civil War soldiers that remain from the tragic yet romantic years of 1861-65. For a short time the old Harrison Cave ("Blue Grottoes") was known as "Virginia Caverns," but more recently this natural and historic wonder has been rechristened, most appropriately, as the "Caverns of Melrose."

Attending upon the first inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in March 1933, Colonel Brown contracted pneumonia and died at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, March 9, 1933. His body was brought to his son's home near the Endless Caverns and thence carried to his native state of Georgia for burial at Athens. The affection of his many friends in the Valley of Virginia and elsewhere followed him and sought to do him honor.



Glacial Stone, washed out of the Shenandoah River at the time of the Johnstown Flood, 1889. This stone is mounted at the home of Mr. M. H. Harrison, at Island Ford, on a stone column which was formerly a lintel in the county court house which was torn down in 1896.