



The Old BARN POST

A publication of Friends of Ohio Barns • February, 2014 • Vol. XIII, Issue 1

Ohio Barn Conference and Barn Tour XV

Knox County. Have you been there? I recently spent the day there with Laura & Pam finalizing the plans for the upcoming conference. We didn't see it all but enough to know why it will be a great venue for a Barn Conference! Rolling country, large Pennsylvania barns, New England barns, trees (I love trees) beautiful architecture, many tree lined streets with amazing houses, waterways and nature trails, not to mention the nature preserves and there is Gambier with Kenyon College. I could go on and on. There is no reason one couldn't extend their stay if they came to the Ohio Barn Conference and see some great sights!

But, I'm sure you want to know about the conference, so here goes. Thursday afternoon, April 24th, we have a JBD Workshop planned at The Barn, owned by Janet & Steve

Thompson. It is a fine example of a repurposed barn that is used and seen by many people. Come and ask questions about how they accomplished this goal and saved a barn.

Friday, April 25th, is the annually anticipated Barn Tour. Knox County is beautiful to drive through and the barns will not disappoint. We have a couple barns with swing beams, a Sweitzer barn, a barn stumper (what is that, you ask?) and the Agricultural Museum. The Morgan Farm has a barn that Doug moved from Columbus and re-purposed for a wood shop. They also moved two 1800's log homes and combined them for their house. The carriage house on the property was re-purposed into a garage with a hunting lodge in the loft. One treat will be having lunch in the Great Room at the Mt Vernon Developmental Center. More outstanding architecture to be found on this campus.

The conference on Saturday, April 26th, will be held at the Glenn A Gallagher Centre which is located just outside of downtown Mt Vernon and very easy to find. We have a slate of speakers addressing the issues and awards of re-purposing old historic barns. Jeff Marshall, President of the Heritage Conservancy in Pennsylvania will be our Keynote speaker. His presentation "Barn Conversions: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" will depict how they can be go wrong if the contractors don't know how to preserve the character of an historic barn. Mr. Marshall has extensive knowledge in architecture and historic preservation as well as barns of Pennsylvania, New England, New York, Ohio, Michigan and the south. Doug Morgan, President of Mt Vernon Barn Company, LTD will have a lot to discuss as this

Please See CONFERENCE, Page 3



The Cellar Barn in Delaware County was disassembled in 2013 as it was in the way of a new subdivision development. Conservation and recovery of the Cellar barn will be the focus of a presentation at the 2014 conference.
Photo by Dan Troth

Random Thoughts

It's conference time again!! Your board members, and a few volunteers, have been hard at work finalizing details, scouting out interesting barns, and getting ready for another exciting barn conference. Knox County has some special barns and we are excited to show you a few of them. Our local hero this year is Pam Gray. She has lived in Knox County for a number of years, so she knows all the cool places...

Our theme this year focuses on adaptive re-use. Our barn tour, presenters, and the pre-conference work shop will all deal specifically with repurposing barns. We will have a number of presenters who'll discuss the importance, the possibilities, the pit falls, and their experiences of being a part of such a worthwhile process. This conference will be a great opportunity to get some great free advice on "how to do it".

The board's attention hasn't all been on the conference though. Some of our lofty goals include revamping our web-site this year, consistently adding more content to our Facebook page and updating our contractors list. We encourage you to send us stories and pictures of barns to our Facebook page. We're also working on a documentary possibility about barns in the Midwest including Ohio. If it goes through, we'll be busy this summer!

We are still working to assist in barn restoration projects across the state. Negotiations are ongoing in Athens for another barn on the Dairy Barn site. We've hit a temporary wall at the Historical Village in Columbus but are still hopeful. If your community might be interested in re-purposing a local barn and saving a valuable piece of history, give us a shout!

As you look through this newsletter, you will see that annually we have board members eligible for "retirement" though few take advantage. That doesn't mean we wouldn't gladly consider someone interested in working for a noble cause. Please read the desired skills we would like a board member to possess and consider volunteering!

Finally, I would like to thank our loyal members for their support! Without you, we wouldn't be trying out all these hair brained ideas! But we always could use more folks joining up... more members helps in keeping costs down, helps the organization grow, helps to bring in new ideas, and, most importantly, helps to raise more awareness! We are devising a little incentive for you loyalists to encourage your neighbors to get involved. We will discuss this more at the conference member meeting, so don't miss out!

Looking forward to seeing old friends, making new ones and spreading the gospel of barns...

Respectfully,
— Ric Beck, President

"Architecture is inhabited sculpture."

— *Constantin Brancusi, sculptor*

A special Thanks to our donors

We would like to recognize the donors who helped to build our endowment fund in 2013. Listed alphabetically, they are not related by placement to the value of their donation: Charles Bauer, Matt Carter, Christopher Lance and Kinsman Historical Society. Additionally the proceeds of the 2013 special auction of Hubert Wilhelm's autographed book *Barns of the Midwest* went directly to the fund. More information will be shared at our member meeting scheduled during the 2014 annual conference.

Register Securely Online for the Ohio Barn Conference XV, Barn Tour & Workshop

Click on the Event Calendar at the top of the menu column to the left on the homepage located at www.friendsofohiobarns.org and you will then see the registration buttons to click on in both the JBD Workshop and the Ohio Barn Conference XV boxes. Please note that you have to sign up separately for these two events. For the Conference please select your type of registration on the first page knowing that you will be able to sign up your guest/spouse on the second page where it has a button to "add a guest" at the guest/spouse reduced rate. If you have any questions or difficulties please call Sarah Woodall at 330-856-9053 or 330-550-6982.

Upcoming Events

APRIL 25-26, 2014

Friends of Ohio Barns

Annual Conference XV • Knox, County

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Photo by Tom O'Grady

The frame for shelter awaits more clement weather for the installation of a roof and the electronic information kiosk

Amesville Mayor Designs Timber Frame Shelter for Electronic Kiosk

After proclaiming April 26, 2013 as "Friends of Ohio Barns Day" in Amesville, Ohio, Mayor Gary Goosman went on to design and construct a timber frame shelter for an information kiosk in the village park across from the old Amesville Grange where he dished out lunch to Ohio Barn Tour attendees.

The wood was milled and the joinery cut by Amish craftsmen in nearby Chesterhill, in Morgan County. The kiosk is being erected in honor of Goosman's predecessor, Mayor Frank Hare who served the village as mayor and minister for almost three decades. The kiosk will shelter an electronic kiosk where visitors can learn about the rich history of the community and surrounding area, noted for the famed Coonskin Library.

Goosman enlisted a number of the loyal volunteer contingent that regularly steps up to serve a variety of needs in the small community, not unlike those who set up the lunch and helped serve the attendees of the 2013 Ohio Barn Tour.



Photo by Gary Goosman

Chuck Blythe, left and Kevin Smythe, right putting the finishing touches on corner joinery.



Photo by Gary Goosman

Joinery on the timber frame shelter designed by Amesville Mayor, the Honorable Gary Goosman.

CONFERENCE, Continued from Page 1

ambitious man and his wife, Beth, have a goal to save 100 barns by 2032. That is less than twenty years from now! Preserving and saving barns by re-purposing them has become his passion. Mr. Vice President Dan Troth has been busy "Saving the Celar Barn and House" and will, no doubt, deliver an entertaining presentation on this project that has been taking up most of his time as of late. We can't have a conference in Knox County without learning "A Little Bit of Knox County History" delivered by

our own star gazing historian and newsletter editor, Tom O'Grady! But really, "From Cow Manure to Contra Dances"? Laura and Rudy, and you all know who they are, will have to fill you in on what that title means. I can tell you that it does fit into our overall theme of Adaptive Re-use. Barn Detectives? Yes, of course they will be on the Barn Tour Friday and at the conference Saturday for their recap performance. There will be the Silent Auction (please bring items to donate) running all

day. The annual Member Meeting and Barn of the Year Awards will occur during lunch and there will be exhibitors and vendors as well as new merchandise from Friends sporting our new logo.

So please plan on attending. What could possibly keep you away? Look for more information on our website. Secure registration is available online or use the insert to register soon – remember, seating is limited on the buses!

— Sarah Woodall

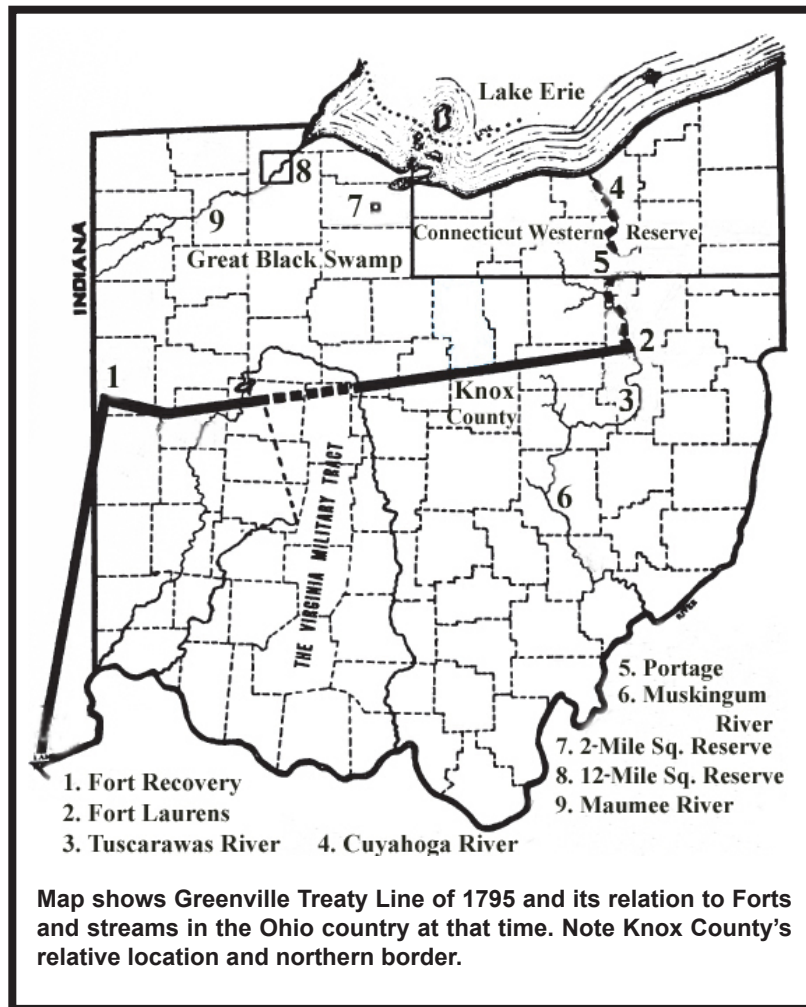
Diverse Knox County Settlement

The last gathering of Friends of Ohio Barns was the annual picnic in September in Greenville, Ohio. Greenville was the site of the famed 1795 Greenville Treaty which wrested more than half of the lands of the Ohio country from Native Americans and opened the region for settlement. The next gathering of barn enthusiasts will be for the annual Ohio Barn Tour and Barn Conference XV in Knox County whose northern boundary is a Greenville Treaty artifact. The Greenville Treaty Line marked the frontier between Indian lands and those ceded to the United States and distributed for settlement and serves today as the county line of Knox County.

The Federal government had begun the township and range land survey for the distribution Ohio lands immediately following the Land Ordinance of 1785. Settlers began migrating to these lands straightaway from the east and south and hostilities increased between the settlers and native peoples. On three occasions President Washington had sent an army to confront local tribes, especially the Miami and Shawnee, and remove them from the region. Disastrous results followed the campaigns of General Josiah Harmer and Arthur St. Clair – nearly complete annihilation of the military forces.

General 'Mad' Anthony Wayne's decisive defeat of native Indian tribes at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 changed it all. Leaders of most Indian nations marked the peace treaty. The only native holdouts from that treaty were Tecumseh, his brother 'The Prophet', and their followers who continued to resist European settlement until the War of 1812. The Greenville Treaty established a definite boundary line which ran from Fort Recovery, near the Indiana border, to Fort Laurens on the Tuscarawas River, and then north over the Portage with the Cuyahoga River to its mouth at Lake Erie. All land south and east of that line was up for grabs beginning in 1795.

The Treaty of Greenville displaced Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanoes, Ottawas, Chipewas, Pottawatomies, Miamis, Eel River, Weas, Kickapoos, Piankashaws, and Kaskaskias and replaced them with New Englanders, Pennsylvanians, and Virginians, British, Germans, Irish and other Europeans. Some of the names remain such as Wyandot County, Miami University, Chipewa Lake, and Delaware, Ohio. These



are neighbors to places such as Knox County, Greene County, Washington County, Morgan County, Wayne County, Harrison County, Cleveland, Steubenville, and St. Clairsville, named for so many generals and towns called Mount Vernon, Newark, Granville, Lancaster, New Albany, New Lexington, New Philadelphia, London, Dublin, Cambridge, and so many other places from which these generals came.

The treaty line left native tribes of the Ohio country with less than half of what they started — and that in the northwestern region, most of which was known as the Great Black Swamp. Only a knee deep, muddy warrior's footpath traversed the great swamp. Part of the territory set aside for native tribes by the Greenville Treaty line was immediately encroached upon by General Moses Cleveland and his survey party which established the early village of Cleveland and its Public Square on the east side of the treaty line when they came to survey the Connecticut Western Reserve in 1796.

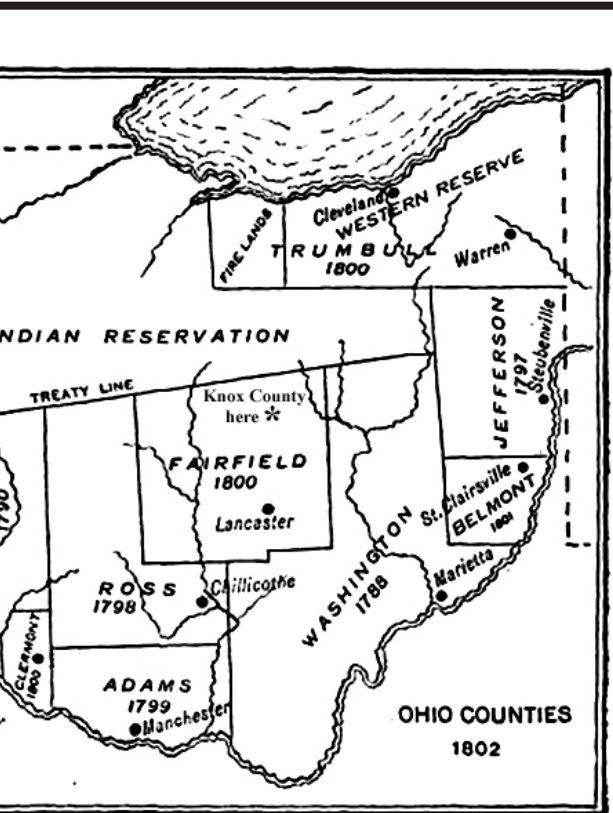
Even the land reserved for the native tribes had reservations for the United States government — the Two Mile Square Reserve on the Sandusky River encompassing Fort Stephenson (Fremont, Ohio) and the Twelve Mile Square Reserve on the Maumee surrounding Fort Miami (Perrysburg, Ohio). Both of these forts played an important role in the War of 1812. During that conflict troubles worked their way to Knox County. One John Chapman, a gatherer and planter of appleseeds and owner of properties and orchards along Owl Creek in Knox County, scurried on foot from Mansfield to Mount Vernon on an evening in September, 1812 to warn settlers of an impending assault after the attack known as the Copus Massacre. Chapman's first land holdings were in the Mount Vernon area.

After the War of 1812 settlement progressed more rapidly in Knox County. Mount Vernon became a major crossroads for New Englanders, Pennsylvanians, and Virginians. After girdling trees, scalping wolves, and



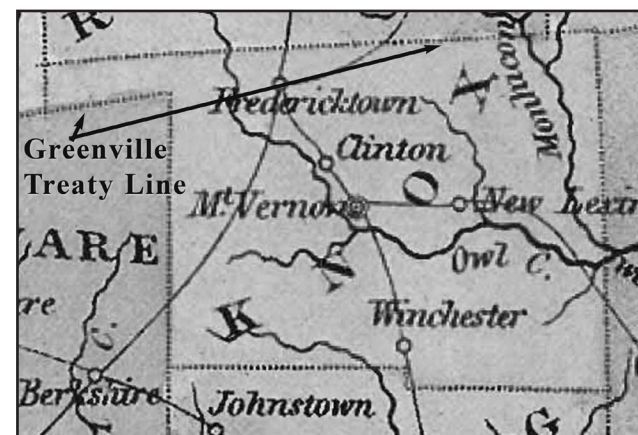
This map shows of statehood. County at that

Bounded by Greenville Treaty Line



HOW OHIO APPEARED WHEN THE STATE WAS FORMED.

vs Ohio counties and the Treaty line at about the time
Note that Knox County was part of a larger Fairfield
time and whose northern boundary was the treaty line.



Map of Ohio in 1846 when an earlier version of Knox County sported a northwestern panhandle that had its southern boundary and northeastern border defined by the Greenville Treaty Line.

growing corn and rye mills and stills began popping up along the Mohican, the Walhonding and Owl Creek, now known as the Kokosing River. Taverns and Inns surrounded the New England style public square in Mount Vernon. From this village great cattle

and pig drives assembled for the long trek along warrior paths to Sandusky, then following the Lake Trail along Lake Erie to Utica, New York and then on to New York City. The new Ohio farmers shipped tens of thousands of sheep east annually.

Knox County was carved from an earlier and much larger Fairfield County in 1808.



Image from Ohio Memory Project

This fence row follows the Greenville Treaty Line over the hill to the southwest. On the right is Ashland County and on the left is Knox County.



Image from Ohio Memory Project

The Center of this road is on the Greenville Treaty Line which extends over the hill to the southwest. On the right is Ashland County and on the left is Knox County.

The county line in northern Knox County, where it angles northeasterly toward Fort Laurens, follows the Greenville Treaty Line. Earlier maps of Knox County show a northwestern panhandle bordered on the south by the same treaty line. Knox County's shape has evolved but its northern boundary still marks the treaty line. By 1850 migrants

Please See GREENVILLE, Page 7



Photos by Google images

Above: Carlisle Building ablaze in spring of 2003 on the evening of the Ohio Barn Tour during the state's Bicentennial year.

Right: The Carlisle Building, on the corner of Main and Paint, the heart of downtown Chillicothe, is poised to re-enter an improved economic future of this town with a commercial and residential adaptive reuse.



Chillicothe's Carlisle Building May Yet Rise from the Ashes

Some FOB members will recall the eventful evening in 2003 after the Ross County Barn Tour. While having dinner at the Cross keys Tavern in Chillicothe a fire erupted in the historic Carlisle Building across the street. We watched for a few hours while firefighters from a number of precincts tried to contain the blaze.

While much of our built environment gets neglected and often demolished, Chillicothe has struggled to find an adaptive reuse for this damaged structure. The community seems to recognize the value of our built heritage.

Excerpt from Chillicothe Gazette: by Matthew Kent – Staff Writer

"I think it's been vacant too long and an eyesore, and I think, soon as something starts happening over there, it's going to jump-start the downtown, and hopefully, it'll make downtown Chillicothe back to a destination not only for visitors but for people

to live, for businesses, and I think it's all going to happen," said Melody Young, executive director of the Ross County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Things may be changing for the better if plans by Michael Chesler, a Cleveland-based developer, move forward. The Chesler Group is leading the charge to renovate the building, joined by its planned tenant Adena Health System, which hopes to use the space for nonclinical use. The Chesler Group is slated to purchase the building in March.

Nearly three dozen apartments intended for medical students and staff are planned for the project, which is expected to begin in April. Also planned are a retail pharmacy, office space and stores on the lower level. Chesler told city leaders in January that he thinks the work will take 15 months, with the renovated Carlisle Building on track to open in September or October 2015.

Board Member Elections

Friends of Ohio Barns will once again be seeking candidates to fill board positions of members whose terms are expiring.

Responsibilities include participating in the annual barn conference, attending board meetings and conference calls, and representing Friends at festivals and events with the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing something to help save a part of Ohio's rich agricultural heritage.

If you are interested in a board position, please send a short biography with your goals and ideas to Friends of Ohio Barns, PO Box 203, Burbank, OH 44214 or email us at friendsohiobarns@gmail.com. Remember, new blood brings fresh ideas and keeps the organization alive with promise!

Membership renewal time is here!

Each year we are excited to send out our Ohio Barn Conference newsletter to all our past members. We do so to invite all Ohio stewards of our magnificent barns to see more excellent examples of barns in the state, and be better informed of what is being done by Friends of Ohio Barns and our current members to help preserve the Ohio barn heritage.

We also do this in the hopes that you consider re-joining us by renewing your membership with Friends of Ohio Barns. Your membership helps us maintain valuable programs such as the barn survey, the Junior Barn Detective program, the kids mini-barn raising, and most importantly all the educational and awareness programs that arm enthusiasts with information and aid in their preservation efforts.

So please consider renewing your membership! Check out our website for costs and our secure online payment method. Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you in April!

SOYBEANS

The October air was warm and musky, blowing
Over brown fields, heavy with the fragrance
Of freshly combined beans, the breath of harvest.

He was pulling a truckload onto the scales
At the elevator near the rail siding north of town
When a big Cadillac drove up. A man stepped out,
Wearing a three-piece suit and a gold pinky ring.
The man said he had just invested a hundred grand
In soybeans and wanted to see what they looked like.

The farmer stared at the man and was quiet, reaching
For the tobacco in the rear pocket of his jeans,
Where he wore his only ring, a threadbare circle rubbed
By working cans of dip and long hours on the backside
Of a hundred acre run. He scooped up a handful
Of small white beans, the pearls of the prairie, saying:

Soybeans look like a foot of water on the field in April
When you're ready to plant and can't get in;
Like three kids at the kitchen table
Eating macaroni and cheese five nights in a row,
Or like a broken part on the combine when
Your credit with the implement dealer is nearly tapped.

Soybeans look like prayers bouncing off the ceiling
When prices on the Chicago grain market start to drop;
Or like your old man's tears when you tell him
How much the land might bring for subdivisions.
Soybeans look like the first good night of sleep in weeks
When you unload at the elevator and the kids get Christmas.

He spat a little juice on the tire of the Cadillac,
Laughing despite himself and saying to the man:
Now maybe you can tell me what a hundred grand looks like.

— Thomas Alan Orr

Windshield View – A Reaction to “Soybeans”

I came across “Soybeans” and thought our group could relate to the life of this farmer. Even though I am not a farmer, I felt a touch of the anger and resentment that he felt towards the guy wearing the “three-piece suit and a gold pinky ring.” In particular, the line about the subdivisions struck a chord as a new 150 home subdivision is now underway just a stone's throw from where I live, on one of the first plots of land deeded in my area in 1802. In that wheat field a hewn barn and house from the early 1800's were slated to be burned down by the developer. We all know of similar stories that have taken place across Ohio over the years.

I truly believe that most people love barns but they love them in a detached sort of way, having only seen them from a distance, from their cars, in what one could call the windshield view. We admire their beauty on our landscape but would seldom be so curious or so bold as to venture over to take a closer look or, heaven forbid, stick our heads inside the door. The thought of stopping by a farmhouse to talk to a stranger or track down the owner is all too uncomfortable and time consuming. We have more important things to do. So we continue to drive by, year after year, looking from afar, admiring and sometimes wondering what life must have been like back then. And, year after year, we watch them fall down and disappear and think to ourselves how sad it all is. And some of us probably sigh and think that it's a shame but there's just not much we or anyone else can do.

We need to remember that each one of the barns we see tells a story; a story that spans a century or two and crosses generations and chronicles the sacrifices that were made to get us to where we are today. Ironical that the comfortable spot “where we are today” is oftentimes the warm and cozy car from which we stare through the windshield and watch the barns fall down. It can't possibly be what our ancestors would want for us or the legacy we wish to leave our children. I'd like to think that Friends of Ohio Barns is engaged in a noble endeavor. The fact that you are reading this assures me that your heart is in the right place. So we will continue doing what we do and we appreciate your support. And so, this year, let's all resolve to make an effort to stop the car.

— Dan Troth

GREENVILLE, Continued from Page 5

from the east were largely from Middle Atlantic States and Virginia with a good dose from New England. A large contingent of immigrants from England, Germany, and Ireland settled in Knox County.

These settlement groups transformed the wilderness of Knox County and have left their mark on the landscape. One can see the influence of each of these groups in no better way than by the presence of their barns and place names. The large German and Pennsylvania Dutch influence can be seen in the numerous bank barns with the overhanging forebay. The New England three bay ground barns and bank barns are also distinctive. Virginians made their way

into this U.S. Military District, just south of the Greenville Treaty Line, in a region that straddles the glaciated and unglaciated plateau of Ohio and they built their barns with the entry on the gable end and the characteristic hay hood. Names such as Berlin Township and the villages of Fredericksburg and Brinkhaven suggest a German influence, while the city of Mount Vernon and Clay Township reflect a bit of Southern persuasion, Kenyon College in the town of Gambier are both named after English Lords and many of the towns in Knox County echo New England and other Middle Atlantic names.

The War of 1812 increased a demand

for improved roads which soon connected Mount Vernon to Mansfield, Granville, Newark, Coshocton, and Delaware which helped improve the strong agricultural economy of this hilly country. Knox County contains a portion of one of the oldest railroads in Ohio, the Sandusky, Mansfield & Newark part of it chartered in 1835. A number of railroads eventually crossed the county aiding in its growth.

Knox County and Mount Vernon, nearly the geographic center of Ohio, grew in political and cultural diversity and many characters in its story came to play and influential role in the American Civil War.

— Tom O'Grady

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village, though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

— Robert Frost

*The winter of 2014 has been a frosty one that
might call to mind images such as those evoked
in this famous verse by Mr. Frost.*



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