ROSEVILLE'S SESQUI-CENTENNIAL

150 YEARS

ROSEVILLE - OHIO
1840 - 1990
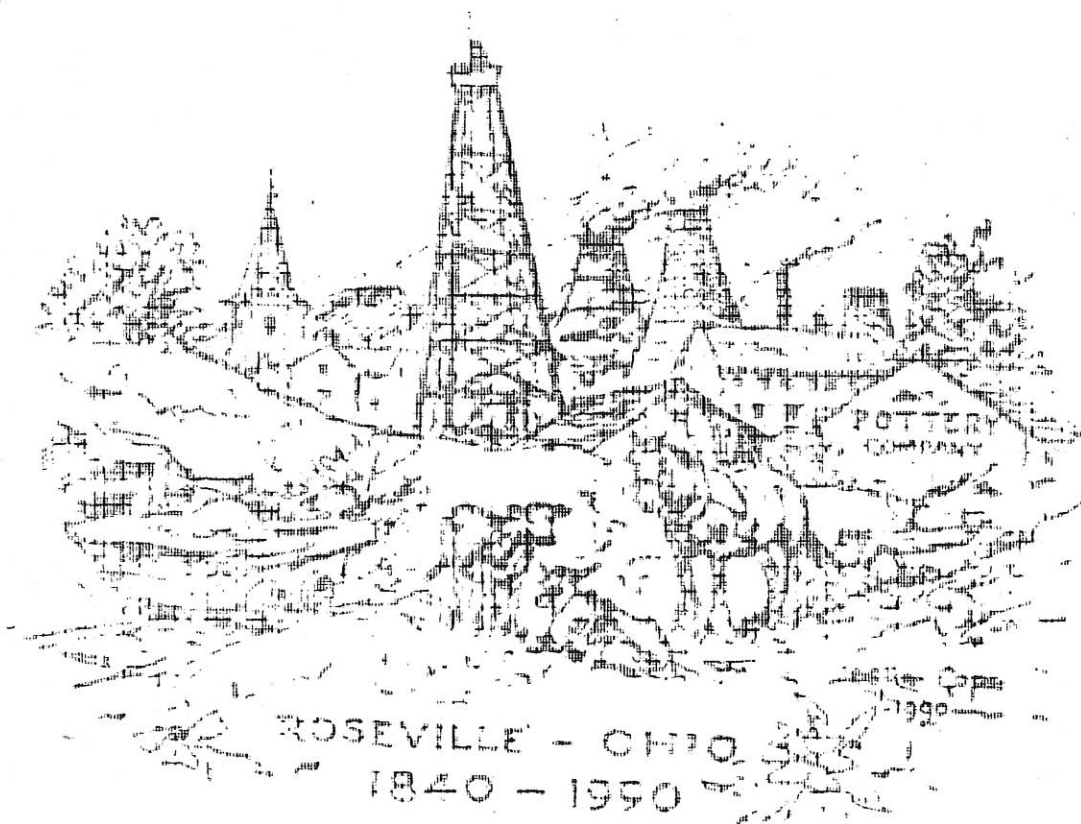
OCTOBER 20, 1990

ROSEVILLE 1-5-0 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson . . . . Bobby Tracy

Co-Chairperson . . . . Donna Allen

Treasurer . . . . Debbie Bell

Entertainment . . . . Ted Graybill

Decorations . . . . Velam Cope

Parade . . . . Bobby Tracy

. . . . Rock Samson

. . . . Jeff Slack

Donations . . . . Barb Crowder

Games . . . . Joan Spring

. . . . Cheryl Caton

Booths . . . . Barb Crowder

Publicity and Advertising . . . . Donna Allen

. . . . Melody Kirkwood

Barvarian Garden Fest . . . . Roseville Fire Department

Souvenier Book . . . . Author . . . . Jenny Dunn

History . . . . . . Helen Kildow

Art Work . . . . . Leslie Cope

Assistants . . . . Joan Spring

. . . . . Patsy Samson

. . . . Barb Crowder

. . . . . Donna Allen

. . . . . Bobby Tracy

Main Street Roseville
at Third Street

How was Roseville long ago?

Was there churches and buildings,

  I just don't know.

Some people came and started us to grow,

Now we have a community that shows.

Happy Birthday Roseville.

> Trent Daniels
> Third Grade
> Roseville Primary School

* * * * * * *

CELEBRATION

> Balloons are swirling all around,
>
> Some are flying, some are bound.
>
> A celebration's going on,
>
> People are happy all day long.
>
> All the children laugh and play,
>
> Roseville's 150th Birthday is today!

> Renee Kimpel
> Seventh Grade
> Roseville Middle School

* * * * * * *

ROSEVILLE'S 150TH BIRTHDAY

A town was started long ago,

A small, quiet town that most people know.

A town of roses, cheer and peace,

A place for man, a place for beast.

In eighteen-forty this town began,

Started by one certain man.

His name right now I can't recall,

But he must have been a friend for all.

For he started Roseville long ago,

A small, quiet town that most people know.

The town where I live, the town where I grow,

The town that everyone should know.

> Alison Jones
> Seventh Grade
> Roseville Middle School

White stone in lower left corner of soldier's section is a reminder that Ezekiel Rose, founder of the town, is buried in an unknown grave in another part of Roseville Cemetery.

HISTORY OF ROSEVILLE

Captain Ezekiel Rose came from Virginia about 1804 and settled at Deavertown, but after prospecting around he decided that the present location of Roseville would be a good mill site. Accordingly he bought the land, from whom it is not known, and in 1812 laid out the village which he called New Milford, in honor of his natal place in Pennsylvania, although another story has it that this name was given because of the fact that William Wonn built a mill by the ford at Moxahala Creek.

The plat consisted of 69 plots. There was one Main street, one cross street called Dover Street on the west and Water Street on the east side of Main Street. There was also one north and south alley called Market alley and two cross alleys. A survey of the creek made in 1812 by Moses Nye of Zanesville is still in the posession of the Brummage family of Roseville. Incidentally the name Moxahala is apparently taken from the Shawnee tongue meaning Elk's Horn. A cursory survey of the headwaters of the creek lends credence to the tale. Also it is sometimes called Jonathan Creek, but according to certain historians, Jonathan live in Madison Township, Perry County.

Mr. Rose built the first house here in 1814, said to be on the James farm, although others report the location at the head of Main Street. The first lot was sold to Jeremiah Spurgeon the same year, and he also built a house.

On the site selected by Ezekiel Rose, William Wonn built a saw mill some time before 1820 and William Petty's distillery followed. In 1830 a post office was established with John Allen as the first postmaster. Postage was 25¢ a letter and was paid by the person receiving the letter. The first mail route connected Roseville with Athens and trips were made once a week on horseback. The name was changed from New Milford to Roseville at about this time.

However, the beginning of Roseville was long before this:

Her history goes back to 1804 when Chauncey Ford and his brother-in-law, David Stokely built cabins on Fords Run, where the two main Indian trails, north and south and east and west crossed. The remains of these trails were visible as late as 1880. Ford, who came to this country indirectly by way of Marietta and Watertown from Connecticut, soon served notice that he intended to stay by planting a peach orchard in 1805, as evidence of his satisfaction of this location. It should be noted that descendants of both Ford and Stokely still occupy the original land which they entered. Adam Rider came shortly afterward from Deleware, to be followed by William Wonn, the Brummages and the Wileys.

The first school in Roseville proper was a log structure, with benches and puncheon floors and was taught by Elisha Kennedy.

At the southwest corner of Main and Second stood the two-story brick house of Dr. James Little. It was the first brick residence in the town. Dr. Little came from Vermont in the 1820's and taught in the log school about a mile north of Roseville and boarded with David Stokely. Two years after he came he sent for his wife and children.

S.W.Howard said "The doctor was a good man, of fair abilities, and a successful physician. He held the office of justice of the peace for several years, was elected mayor, school director, and village councilman."

Jonas Burton said that the Dr. Little house was built in 1831. The brick was made about three rods west of the house. Burton was one of six boys who made the brick. "We had two clay beds. The top soil was thrown off, the clay was dug up with a mattock, and water was thrown on the clay and it was tramped with oxen on a "G" turn. We six boys worked about six months. We made and set a kiln of about 200,000 well-burned brick."

Two weeks after the brick had been burned, they secured four brick-layers from Zanesville, and in eight days the house was ready for the carpenters and finishers.
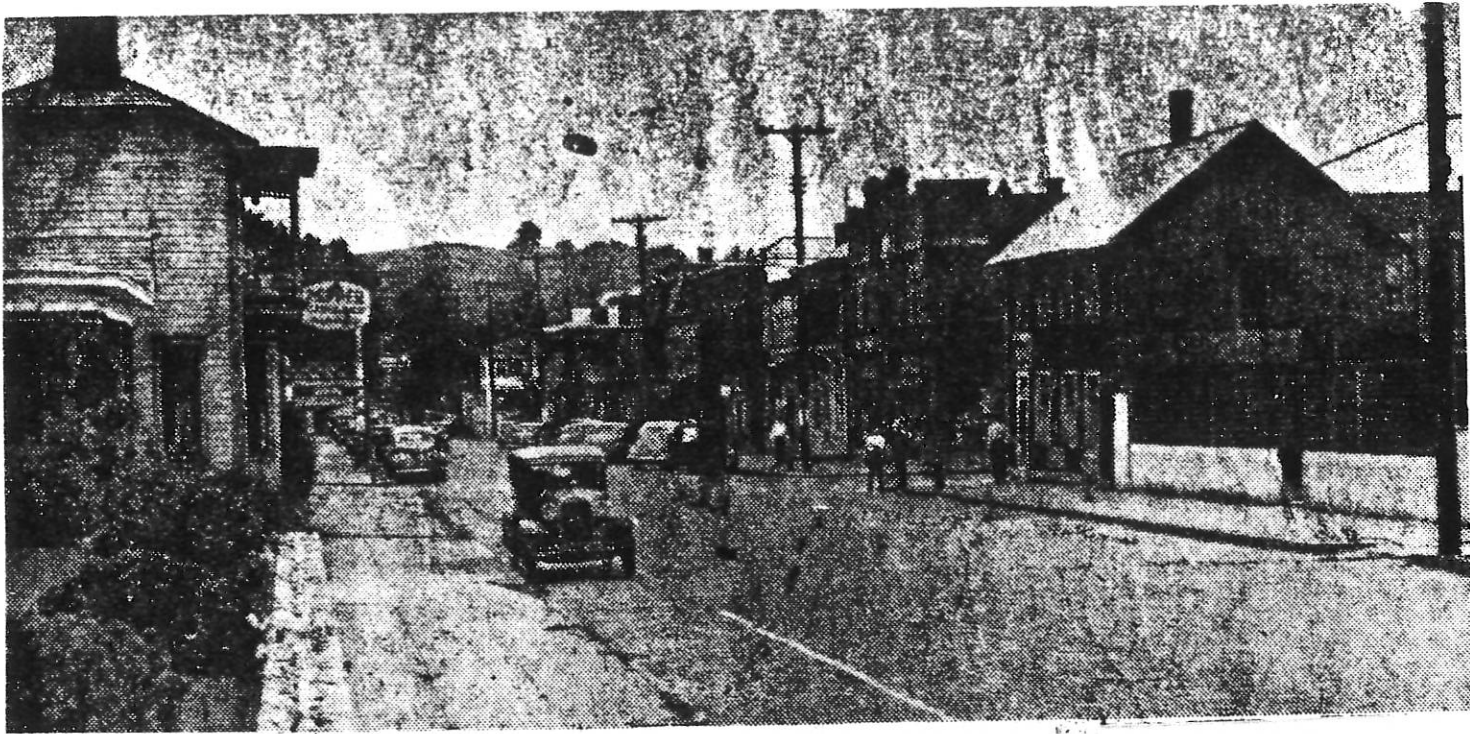
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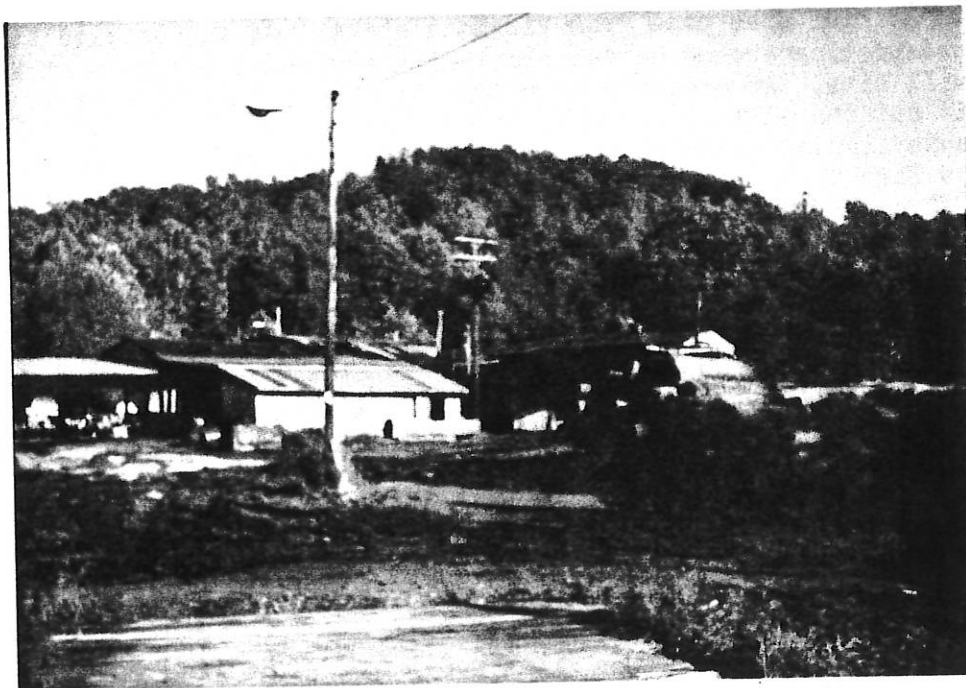
GRAYBILL HARDWOOD LUMBER COMPANY

Roseville, Ohio   697-7859

The typical Southeastern Ohio Main street in Roseville, is also the century-old road from Athens to Zanesville, still a well-traveled arterial highway.

Robert Allen opened the first store in the town, later followed by Allen and Copeland. John Laughrun operated the first tavern, a log structure. The first blacksmith was Zedekiah or Zedek Wilson, who also made solid walnut caskets for $15. The first shoe cobbler was a man named Forgrave.

Much of the business of Roseville in the 1830's was carried on by barter. The Allen and Copeland store on the site of the Becom residence offered to take in exchange wheat, corn, oats, seeds, dried peaches, apples, lard, tallow, pork, butter, feathers, wool, and spcial notes of broken banks at current rates.

Reference has been made to other streets. When F.W. Beers edited his Atlas of Muskingum County in 1866 he lists Water Street, Dover Street, Whiskey Street, and Lowery's Lane. Others later show the streets as First, Second and Third Streets with no mention of Lowery's Lane.

North of First Street, Zedek Wilson, blacksmith and miller lived. Next came Dr. Little's home, John James's store and Hugh Laughrun's tavern on which site later was Koble's Confectionery.

Hugh Laughrun came to town in 1818 and opened the "Black Horse" tavern on the west side of Main Street between Water and Dover (First and Second) Streets. The "old-timer's" who wrote about Roseville blamed Laughrun's hard liquor for the bad reputation of the town in the early days. One man called it Sodom. While he conducted the "Black Horse" the worst elements of the region gathered on Saturdays to indulge in horse racing, gambling, target shooting, drinking, quarreling and sometimes fighting in true Southern style. In short they would 'paint the town red' or make 'Rome howl' with their boisterous carousals and midnight orgies. In this way it came about that Roseville got a bad name. The old-timer's also wrote that the county line was so close that the offenders could escape quickly into Perry County beyond the officers. To control these lawless men, as well as to have a closer voting place, the citizens of Roseville incorporated their village in 1840, and the next year they helped to cut off a nine-square-mile section of Brush Creek Township to form Clay Township. Then Roseville became a quiet, moral neighborhood.

The site of Laughrun's tavern was later to be Koble's Confectionery. Here Arthur Koble served soft drinks as well as magazines and newspapers. It also served as bus station for the town. His lifelong hobby was collecting rocks and minerals. From these semi-precious stones, he fashioned sets for rings and other jewelry.

Kate Conaway and Mrs. L.J. Good owned millinery stores in Roseville in 1885. Jonas Rarick was the village tailor. Abraham Goodlive sold boots and shoes. C.W. Rinehart repaired worn shoes.

Food was supplied by the following: S.R. Baughman, J.C. Brown, and J.V. Weaver, grocers; George Tanner, baker; and John J. Tanner, meat market.

Three doctors prescribed for the aches and paine of Roseville and Clay Township residents in the last quarter of the 19th century. The pottery industry had developed a town with all the professions and stores needed by people within driving distance of their horses and buggies. After the interurban and the automobile started to carry shoppers to larger cities, Roseville lost some of its services.

The Zanesville "Courier" announced on May 14, 1883, that J.A. Williams had launched the Roseville Times. When his effort did not succeed, G.H. Stull established the Independent in 1888.

With increase in population came social problems. The Courier said on February 4, 1902: "Two years ago Jennie Smith, the railway evangelist, visited Roseville and persuaded the citizens to turn from their evil ways." At the next election the voters made the town dry.

But the Courier continued: "It was soon remarked that many of the citizens were purchasing nails by the keg, but the sound of hammers was seldom heard." A beer club was organized, and in 1902 a saloon was opened.

MAIN STREET, LOOKING NORTH, ROSEVILLE, O.
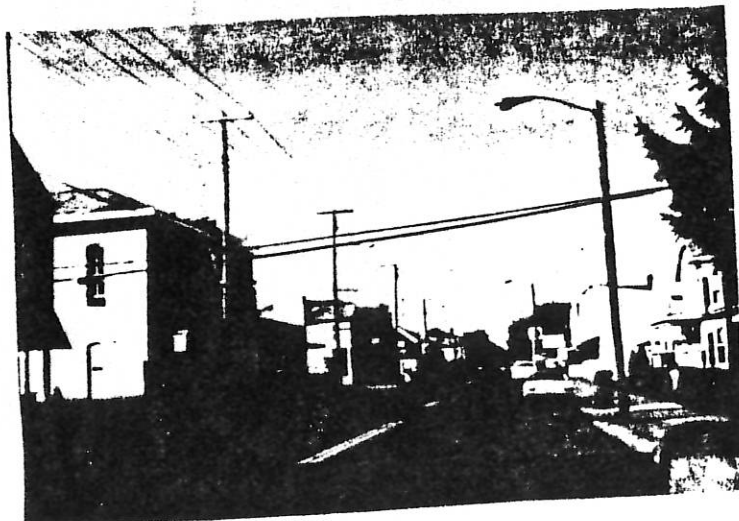
North of Second Street in Roseville during the 1830's, a high gate kept people out of Dr. James Little's meadow. Dr. Little hired Jonas Burton to chop down the dead beech trees in this meadow and laid it out into lots called Little's Addition. The new subdivision extended from Dover, now Second Street to Whiskey Street. When the whiskey disappeared from that district, the name was changed to Third Street.

Roseville in the 1830's was vividly described by F.W. Howard and Jonas Burton in articles published by the Zanesville "Courier" in 1887 and 1891. Little's Addition built up slowly. Therefore Howard and Burton wrote manily about residents on the original plat, especially those living on Main Street between First and Second.

Starting at the south end of Main Street on the east side, we find that William Petty owned several lots. Howard and Burton mentioned that "Pettysburg" was the nickname for the southern district in the 1830's and that name still lingers in later years.

Howard said that Petty came with his family from Virginia. "He had two sons and one daughter, all objects of sympathy, being poor and demoralized by the savage system of slavery, among which they spent their days." Petty had a log cabin home and a copper shop. At one time he also operated a distillery.

W. R. Becom, watchmaker and jeweler, has lived and worked since 1914 on the site of the brick store built by J. S. Copeland in 1836.

North of the creek on both sides of Main Street was an area not laid out in lots, on the original plat. A millrace crossed Main Street from the bend of the South Fork on the west to a mill site at the creek bank on the east. William Wonn bought and operated the mill during the 1830's.

On the east side of Main Street below First Street, Jonas Rarick, a tailor lived in a long, unpainted weatherboarded building. He came from Virginia. Near the corner stood a red frame house bought by Dr. John F. Cunningham in 1840.

Across First Street lived William Patterson. North of him was the residence of John Forgrave. He had served in the U.S. Navy with his brother-in-law John Horn. In 1839 he came from Philadelphia to Roseville. He was a shoemaker by trade. One time when he had little work to support his large family, he persuaded Howard and Copeland to start a small shoe factory and make him manager.

W.R. Becom, a watchmaker and jeweler occupied one of the oldest and best business sites in Roseville. The original building was built by J.S. Copeland in 1836.

North of Second Street on the third lot below Main Street the first log cabin in the town was built.

At the southwest corner of Main and Second Streets stood the two-story brick home of Dr. James Little.

These homes and stores in Roseville in the 1830's as recalled by these two men many years later, are probably not complete, but they give the best picture available of the pioneer town of Roseville.

Adam Gobel was a true pioneer of Roseville. He founded the Adam Gobel and Son Hardware Company on Main Street in Roseville in 1910. He also manufactured Black Jack chewing gum of which his favorites were "chickle", "Rosebud" and "Mint". Mr. Gobel installed the town's first gas pump in front of the store.

He was the last of 12 children of the late Peter and Mary Raquet Gobel, natives of Germany, who were early residents of the Deavertown community.

He was a member of the Roseville Lutheran Church and served as treasurer of the church for 50 years.

He married Catherine Baughman Gobel and had one daughter, Erma and one son Charles.

The hardware is still in operation today and occupies the same building as when it was opened.

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THEN (1959)

Dutch and Mary Jo Barker started their family owned grocery store in Roseville in 1957. It was a small one-room store on Zanesville Road. When the business grew and they needed more space, they built a new building in 1959 across the road on the present location today. Throughout the years, more additions have been built onto the store as it continues to grow. Their son Bill took over ownership upon Dutch and Mary Jo's retirement. Now, after 33 years of business in Roseville, Bill and his children Tad and Tricia Barker work to keep the family tradition.
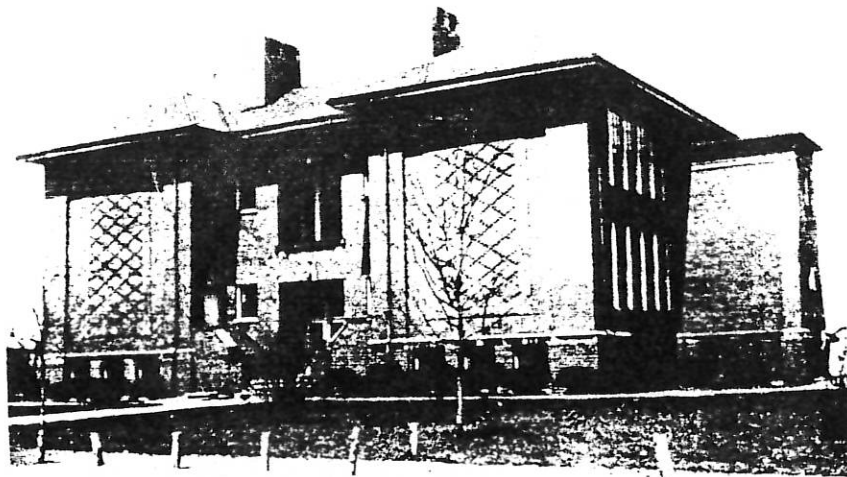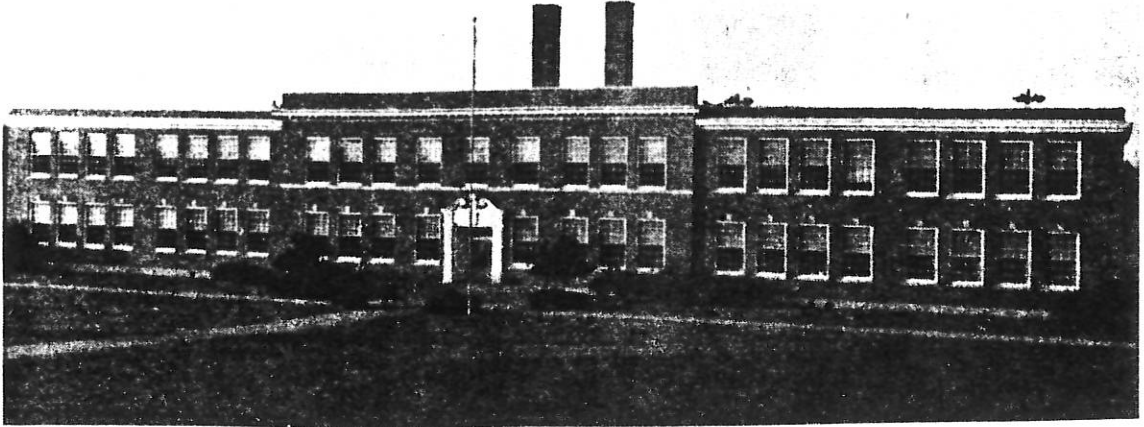

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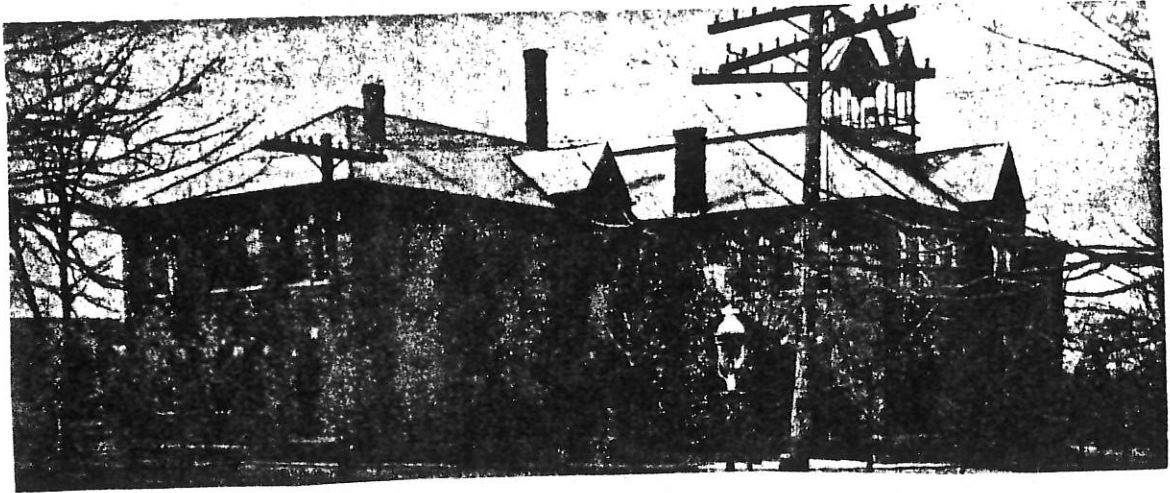
In the late 1800's the East School or Bluffdale School was erected. It was used for all twelve grades until 1914. Then just the first eight grades attended.

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In 1914 West School was constructed on Stokely Street. It was a four year high school. It was later closed in 1970. At that time is housed only elementary students.

The Roseville High School, located on West Athens Road was erected in 1938. It housed high school students until 1970 when all Roseville Schools became a part of the Franklin Local School District. The building is now Roseville Middle School where students in grades 4-8 attend. The attendance today is 318 students.
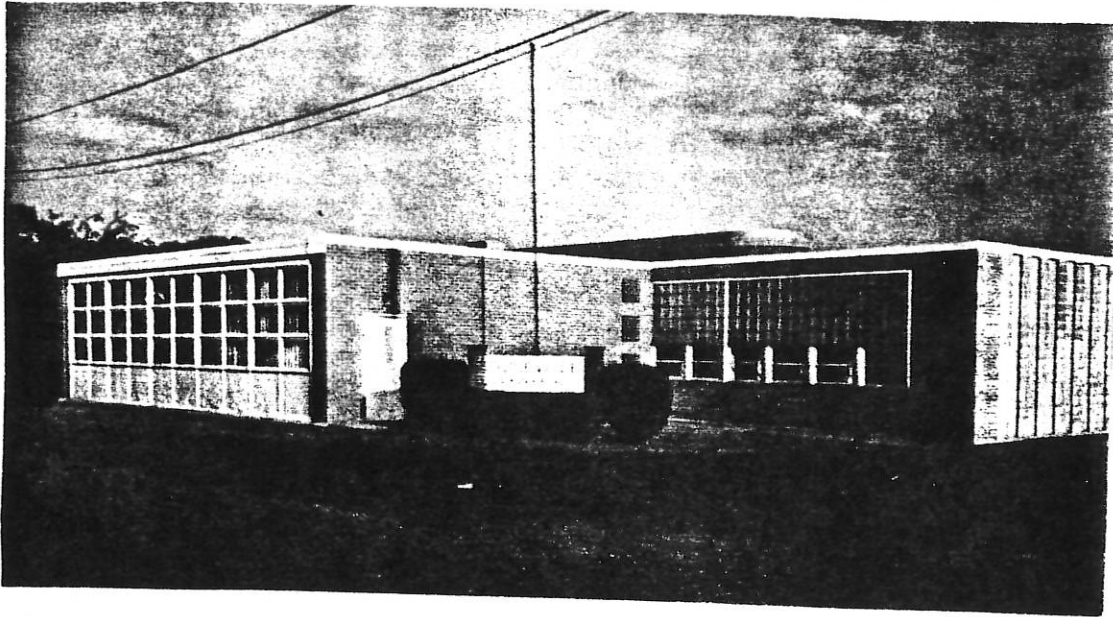
The Roseville Primary School was built in 1959. It housed children in grades Kindergarten through third grade and still does. Since joining the Franklin Local School District the building has had several additions. It now has 244 students attending classes.

Residents were always proud of our schools, both academic and athletic and felt a real loss when the system became a part of the Franklin Local District in 1970. Our high school students now attend Philo High School.