

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

December 2017

The Newsletter of **Muskingum County History**

MUSEUMS OF MUSKINGUM COUNTY HISTORY

The Stone Academy Historic Site & Museum
115 Jefferson Street
Zanesville, Ohio

Dr. Increase Mathews House Museum
304 Woodlawn Avenue
Zanesville, Ohio

Both museums will open for the season in May but are open to groups at other times by appointment. Call the museum office at the Stone Academy at 740 454-9500 or contact us through our website

Muskingumcountyhistory.org

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

BEST WISHES FOR AN HISTORIC

NEW YEAR,

FROM

MUSKINGUM COUNTY HISTORY



Postcard sold by The Art Manufacturing Company of Zanesville, c. 1912.

MUSKINGUM COUNTY HISTORY

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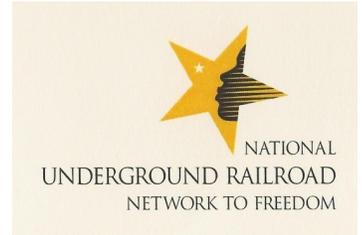
Stephanie Kline John Lear

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National Park Service Grant



A new interpretive Underground Railroad exhibit is being planned for the Stone Academy Historic Site and Museum thanks to a \$9200 Network to Freedom (NTF) grant from the National Park Service. The primary focus of the exhibit will be Underground Railroad and abolitionist activities associated with the five NTF sites in Zanesville's Putnam Historic District and the Nelson T. Gant House on West Main Street (also an NTF site). The sites in Putnam are the Stone Academy, the Presbyterian Church, the Albert Austin (A.A.) Guthrie House, the George and Sarah Guthrie House, and the Major Horace and Lucinda Belknap Nye House (aka: Nye-Potts House).

Another key element of the exhibit will be an examination of the significance of the 1835 Ohio Anti-Slavery Society convention held in the Stone Academy. The national influence of such notable attendees as Theodore D. Weld, John Rankin, James G. Birney, James Thome, and John B. Mahan, before and after the Putnam gathering, will be explored.

Related topics under consideration for the exhibit include Frederick Douglass' July 1850 visit to Putnam and a related law suit, the 1839 "battle" at the Third Street Bridge, the Lett Settlement in southeast Muskingum County, the 1846 trial of Nelson Gant, Joshua M. Simpson, and a 1959 fugitive slave case decided in a Zanesville courtroom.

The grant will be administered for the National Park Service by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). Local businesses will be contracted to design and fabricate the new exhibit, scheduled to open in September.



A. A. Guthrie House



Nye-Potts House



George Guthrie House



Nelson Gant House

All photos taken from Google Streetview.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

DECEMBER 2017

A LOOK BACK AT 2017

Last year was an outstanding year for Muskingum County History as we offered over eighteen different programs on the subject of the Underground Railroad and the Abolition movement. This year's programs were not as numerous or as focused on one theme but we continued to present interesting talks dealing with local people and events and we received recognition for our work last year.

School tours are an important part of our mission. Face it, kids don't go to museums because they want to, they go because they are taken there, but once inside the Stone Academy and Increase Mathews House they begin to realize that there was life before they were born and if we do our job correctly, they see that Zanesville once had an importance that might not be grasped by driving through our now deserted downtown. Conducting school tours requires docents that are dedicated enough to attend training sessions and then face large groups of students with short attention spans. Our corps of docents had been ageing and we were not doing a good job of recruiting replacements but this year there was a turnaround as new people joined the ranks. School tours were well organized and were run in an efficient manner. I thank all of you all who took part. Next year we get to do it again and there will be opportunities for more people to participate.

Programing this year focused on individuals, some well-known and some obscure. We learned about Muskingum County natives Eva Prout Geiger and her long friendship with James Thurber; Sister Monica Maginnis, a leader in Catholic education in America as well as a researcher and writer; and Lt. Daniel VanVoorhis, the grandfather of the U.S. Army's armored division. President James Monroe paid us a visit on the 200th anniversary of his last trip through Zanesville and Putnam. We learned of the importance of poster art in World War I, including works by Howard Chandler Christy and we heard of the rich history of baseball in Zanesville. We enjoyed a pleasant evening in the gardens of the Dr. Increase Mathews House with barbershop harmonies and complimentary snow cones.

Our following on Facebook has continued to grow and it has become our prime medium for communicating with people interested in our his-

tory but who do not receive the member benefits of our newsletter and Journal. With almost daily posts, we are presenting a visual history of Muskingum County that would not have been practical in the era of printed media before the development of the internet.

We knew that 2016's programing was exceptional but the rest of Ohio's museum community found out in October when we received a History Outreach award from the Ohio Local History Alliance for "Exploring Our Underground Railroad Heritage."

The slow quiet work of building our already impressive Underground Railroad bona fides is receiving national attention as shown by the recent awarding of a National Park Service grant which Jim Geyer writes about on page 2. This award will enable us to enhance our UGRR exhibits and will drive us on to even more research. There is more to be learned about the political and humanitarian activities of the citizens of Putnam and Zanesville in the period leading up to the Civil War and we will continue to keep you informed of developments in this newsletter and in *Muskingum Journal*.

I have greatly enjoyed serving as president of MCH the past two years but I am pleased to be able to step aside and turn the position over to Pete Cultice. Pete presented two of our programs this year and his research has rewritten the history of the Abolition movement in Putnam. I look forward to continuing to serve on the Board under his leadership.

Mitch Taylor, PRESIDENT MUSKINGUM COUNTY HISTORY



TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



Membership renewal notices were sent to all annual members in November. Many of you have already sent in your dues for 2018 for which we are thankful. If you haven't mailed your dues yet please do so soon - as articles in this newsletter demonstrate, we have work planned for next year and we want you to be a part of it. This is also a good time to make your year-end tax-deductible donations to Muskingum County History if you want to do more to support the cause. In case you have misplaced your membership form, dues are \$30 for a family, \$15 per individual, \$10 for students and Senior Citizens, \$100 to be a Local History Partner and \$300 for a Life Membership. Checks may be mailed to Muskingum County History, 115 Jefferson St., Zanesville, OH 43701.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2018

On November 14 the MCH Board of Trustees held their regular monthly meeting in conjunction with a general membership meeting. One order of business was the election of officers for 2018. Vice-president Bob Jenkins and Treasurer Donna Taylor will retain their seats. Mitch Taylor will be replaced as President by Pete Cultice, a frequent speaker at MCH and Civil War Roundtable programs and an active researcher in several areas of local history. Long-time Secretary Janet James had asked for a break from her duties and Morten Bach, Associate Lecturer of History at Ohio University Zanesville, will take on the responsibilities of secretary.

A vacancy on the Board was created in October when Alan King tendered his resignation. As the former site manager for the National Road/Zane Grey Museum Alan was the only Trustee with experience in the day to day operation of a museum and his expertise and input at

meetings will be missed. At the November meeting Neil Denton was elected to succeed Alan and he will join the Board at their January meeting.

The general membership meeting was called to approve several minor changes to the organization's by-laws which will bring them into conformity with current practice. These changes are part of an ongoing effort to adhere to the Ohio Secretary of State's guidelines for non-profit organizations. The changes involve such things as making reference to our trade name, clarifying how decisions are made regarding acceptance of donations of artifacts, and establishing the ground work for an investments policy. If you have any questions about matters related to the governance of MCH contact the Museum Director or any member of the Board of Trustees whose names are given on page 1 of this newsletter.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ANNOUNCED

In our June newsletter we announced the establishment of the Muskingum County History Mike Kline Scholarship at Ohio University-Zanesville with funding from MCH, friends of MCH, friends of Mike Kline and from many people who see the value of supporting the education of history professionals at a local institution of higher learning. Money donated to the scholarship is invested with the interest generated used to support the awarding of scholarships in perpetuity. We are pleased to announce that OU-Z has selected **Brady Tumblin** as the first recipient of this scholarship.

The trustees and staff of MCH do not participate in any way in the selection of scholarship recipients but we are quite pleased with the university's selection. Brady has worked for us the past two summers as a docent and researcher and we have been impressed with his work ethic and willingness to tackle any job we have thrown at him. Brady also works at Riesbecks, giving him real world experience in addition to his academic studies. Congratulations Brady and good luck in your future endeavors.

If you are a student and would like information about the scholarship contact the Financial Aid office at Ohio University-Zanesville. If you want to contribute to the scholarship send your check, made out to Ohio University Foundation, to Ohio University Zanesville, 1425 Newark Rd, Zanesville OH 43701.

MATHEWS HOUSE HOURS EXPANDED IN 2018

Jim Geyer, Museum Director

When our museums open in May visitors will be able to tour both buildings on the same day. For the first time in many years the Stone Academy and the Dr. Increase Mathews House will be open at the same time. New hours for both museums will be 1:00 – 4:00 Wednesday thru Friday and 10:00 – 4:00 on Saturdays. Other times will continue to be available year round by appointment.

There are several reasons for the change. First and foremost is a desire to do a better job promoting and marketing the Mathews House and Gardens. More special events at the MH are in the works as well for next year. Another reason is to better serve the traveling public. Out-of-town visitors frequently expressed disappointment not being able to tour both attractions on the same visit. More volunteer availability is another important consideration.

Expanded museum hours, the new UGRR exhibit (see NPS grant article on page 2), and the expected increase in motor coach visits will mean an increased need for museum volunteers. Look for more details about volunteer opportunities in our March 2018 newsletter. In the meantime, if you have questions call the office at 740-454-9500 or send an email to director@muskingumcountyhistory.org.



OUR COMPLETE AS WE CAN DO HISTORY OF BURROUGH & CO

In our March newsletter we will list all of our new accessions for 2017 but we want to use a little virtual ink to describe one new accession now. If you follow the local roots music group **The Wayfarers** you might have noticed that they usually perform seated on the same chairs. Those chairs are from the Odd Fellows Hall in Philo and thanks to Caralee Cartwright Dannison we now have one in our collection.

What makes these chairs special is the stenciled name of the manufacturer on the bottom of the seat. Each one is marked **BURROUGH & CO MAKERS NO 70 MAIN ST. ZANESVILLE O.** Burrough and Company arrived in Zanesville too late to be included in the lists of early furniture makers, an omission which set us off on a research mission. The only mention of the company in the three early Muskingum County Histories comes in the 1892 Goodspeed history where "Burrough & Co." is included in a long list of "the leading manufacturing and commercial interests in 1880." Norris Schneider mentioned Burrough and Company and other furniture makers in his weekly *Times Recorder* column on November 20, 1966. He referred to Clement and Robert Burrough as the "Burrough brothers" but did not give a source for claiming this family relationship.

For more information we turned to city directories, census records and Sanborn Insurance Company maps. The earliest listing we have found so far is in the 1872 Zanesville city directory where "Burrough & Co. furniture manufacturer

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

and dealers" was at 70 Main St., on the south side of the street just east of the alley between 2nd and 3rd Streets. Clement B. Burrough's residence was given as "River nr Railroad." River Street is now Linden Avenue and the railroad is the one which crosses over Linden near the Y Bridge. Robert Burrough was a boarder at the Sherman House which was on the north side of Main Street between 1st and 2nd streets, not far from the shop.

The 1873 directory lists Burrough & Co. "Parlor and Chamber Sets" still at 70 Main St., Clement on Water Street which was another name for what is now Linden and Robert a boarder at the Central Hotel.

The 1875 directory located the business at 67 Main St. which was catty-corner across the alley from 70 Main St. on the north side of Main. The 1886 Sanborn Insurance map, the earliest to which we have access, shows 67 Main as housing "Furniture" which could mean either manufacturing or retailing. Clement is again listed at 19 River St. and Robert is back at the Sherman House.

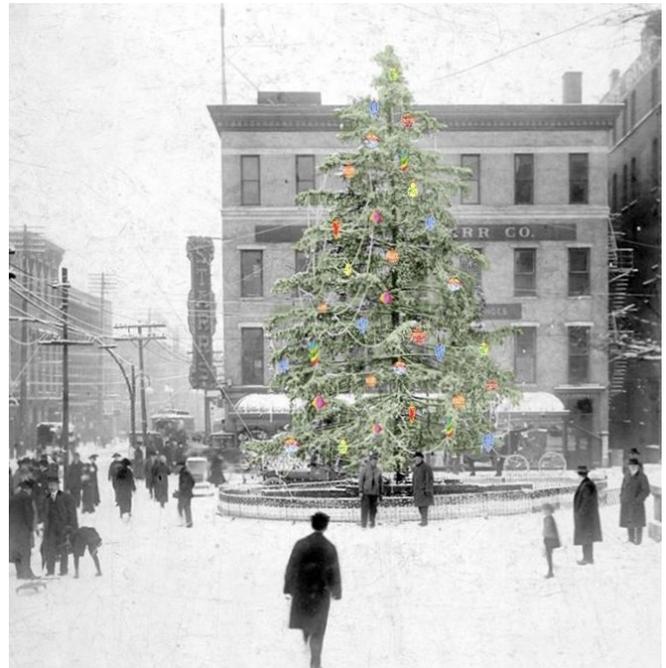
The 1883 directory lists "Clement B. Burrough, furniture manufacturer 21-27 River, h [ome] 19 River." There is no listing for the company or for Robert Burrough. Following this we lose track of Clement in Zanesville but what appears to be the same Clement Burrough shows up in the Dayton, Ohio, city directory in 1896 living on McPherson St.

From here we go to the Sanborn maps. The 1886 map shows "Burrough's and Co Furniture Fac." on the west side of Linden Ave. at the present site of the Farm Supply Center, with "No Watchman, Propit [proprietor] Lives Near, Heat 3 Stoves, No Lights." The company's buildings occupy a narrow space running from Linden Ave. to Peters Alley. Clement's residence at 19 River St. is just three lots south of the business.

The 1889 Sanborn map shows the building labeled "Plang & Sawing Cabinet" in 1886 but it is now shaded which might indicate that it was no longer used for that purpose or was no longer standing (Sanborn maps were originally printed in color but the on-line scans are in black and white, which can make interpretation difficult.) One interesting feature shown on the 1889 map but not in 1886 is an underground power shaft running to the planning and sawing building from the Drone & Co. Flour Mill across the street which might show that the furniture company's equipment was run by water power.

It is fortunate that Burrough without a final s is not a common name which aids in running down census and other records available online. Using these sources we believe Robert Burrough was born circa 1834, died July 4, 1879, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery. Clement was born July 31, 1830, in Virginia, died June 2, 1913, in Louisville, Kentucky, and was also buried in Greenwood Cemetery. An interesting note in Steubenville *Weekly Herald* of May 7, 1880, mentions Miss Mollie Burrough of Dennison, Ohio, "daughter of Clement Burrough, extensive furniture dealer of Zanesville."

The above gives our entire body of knowledge concerning Burrough & Company and its owners. It is a bare bones outline but it is a start. Prowling through newspapers looking for obituaries and advertisements to flesh out the story is next and perhaps one of you will have something to add. Have you checked the furniture in your house? If you find that you have a piece of furniture with the name of a Zanesville manufacturer on it please take a picture of it and post it to our Facebook page. Social media can be a tool to democratize local history research and gives us all an opportunity to preserve our community's history.



This is one of our most popular Christmas photos on Facebook. After we posted it on FB last year Sue Stephenson colorized the tree giving new life to a faded B&W shot. The tree is located within the enclosure built for the "Naked Ladies" fountain in front of the Muskingum County courthouse with the A E Starr store in the background. The photo was taken after the WCTU fountain was installed in 1905.