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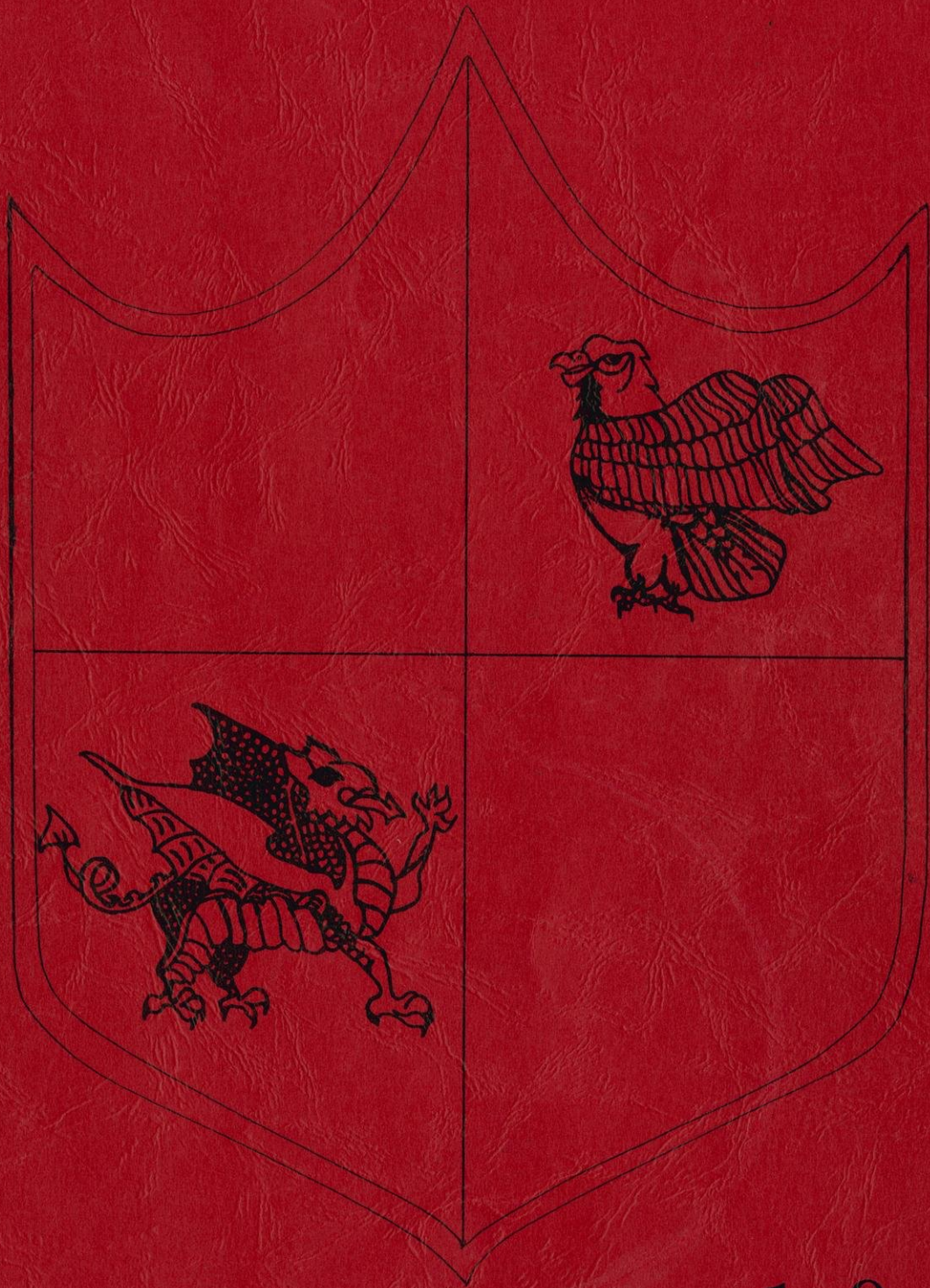
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A History of  
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*OF PLACES, OF PEOPLE, OF ERAS*

*CAMBRIA, 1844-1976*

Nancy Schreiber Nettesheim  
editor

funded by  
Sarah Jones, Penllyn

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Mary Fisher



## Preface

The Bicentennial is a facet of our lives now and of past history. It is also the moving force behind this book; a book which attempts to explain the results of the legislation on the settlers of Wisconsin which was passed by an early Congress.

When the Cumberland Gap was found through the Appalachian Mountains, Daniel Boone and the leaders led groups through the Gap into the Southwest Territory, to form the new communities there. Later this was Kentucky and Tennessee. They had to hew their way through the wilderness, struggle against the Indians, build their forts and organize a government. This was the ordeal of the settler.

After the Revolutionary War the United States owned all lands as far west as the Mississippi River. This included the Northwest Territory. People in the east were ready to enter, but did not want to until an organized government started. This area comprised what later became the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Congress passed the Ordinance of 1785 and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787. After the treaties to remove the Indians were conducted, these Ordinances provided for surveying the land into townships and creating land districts to sell at \$1.25 an acre. The township system of surveying was used in all these lands from that time on. Statehood was provided for as well as other rights.

So it is that Wisconsin and Cambria are closely allied to those people and that era of early America.

Sarah Jones  
1976

*Other sources:*

*A History of Wisconsin Highway  
Development 1835-1945*

*100 years of Welsh Calvinistic Methodism  
in America by Daniel Jenkins Williams*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Of Places, Of People, Of Eras was born much as it's title suggests. Many people, of greatly varying ages and residences, pooled their talents in the creation of this written history.

I would like to recognize three of those contributors. The driving force, the philanthropist, of this project was Miss Sarah E. Jones. Truly, without her this book would never have been written. Ruth Abendroth, who like a director's assistant, was a "go-for". She "went for" pictures, information on any type of pertinent material available. Without her this history would have lacked much. The J. W. Jung Seed Company, especially Wilfred Jung, Kenneth Ziemann and Wilma VanderVelde, showed it's continuing interest in this area by being such an able and helpful publisher.

Finally, the many townspeople: Maude Schemmel Lee, Marjorie Jones Healy, Wm. Slinger, Hugh Williams, Sarah Jones, Kathy Williams, Tom Gallion, Gwen Achterburg, Mrs. G. O. Jones, Carl Parker, Wallace Kukuk, Hayden Jones, Emil Marquardt, Arvon Morgan Sanderson, Edrys Morris, Laura Hopkins, Mrs. George Smith, Anna Jones, Ray Jones, Tom Thomas, Helen Goff Roberts, Della Leary, Morris Williams, Hubert Cottom, Wm. Gorsuch, Nellie Williams, (Buck Hill), Barbara Daniels, Eldon Rode, Orma Pickruhn Blankschein, Jay Williams, Jennie Mae Jones, David E. Hughes, and interviews with various civic organizations.

At this point, several printed sources should be mentioned: "The Mid-County Times", "The Cambria News", The History of Columbia County - 1880, History of Wisconsin's Great Canning Industry, The secretary's book of the Cambria Music Company, Cambria-Friesland Area School Records, John Dodge Family Record, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire profile on Wm. R. Davies.

It is my hope that all who have contributed have been acknowledged. If not, my sincerest apologies and thanks.

Nancy Schreiber Nettesheim  
Editor



## Table of Contents

- I "I Lit My Lamp Beside the Golden Door"
- II Cymru Am Byth
- III "Faith As to Move Mountains"
- IV "The Art of Making Money Plenty" - Ben Franklin
- V Stamps, Stevenson and 'Scoops'
- VI Rails of Growth
- VII "On cold windy winter days water froze on floors of the old school".  
- remarks of Mr. Temp Slinger
- VIII From Lodges to Garden Clubs
- IX A Time of Rest
- X Thereby Hangs a Tale
- XI Providers, Protectors and Promoters
- XII "I Pledge Allegiance.."

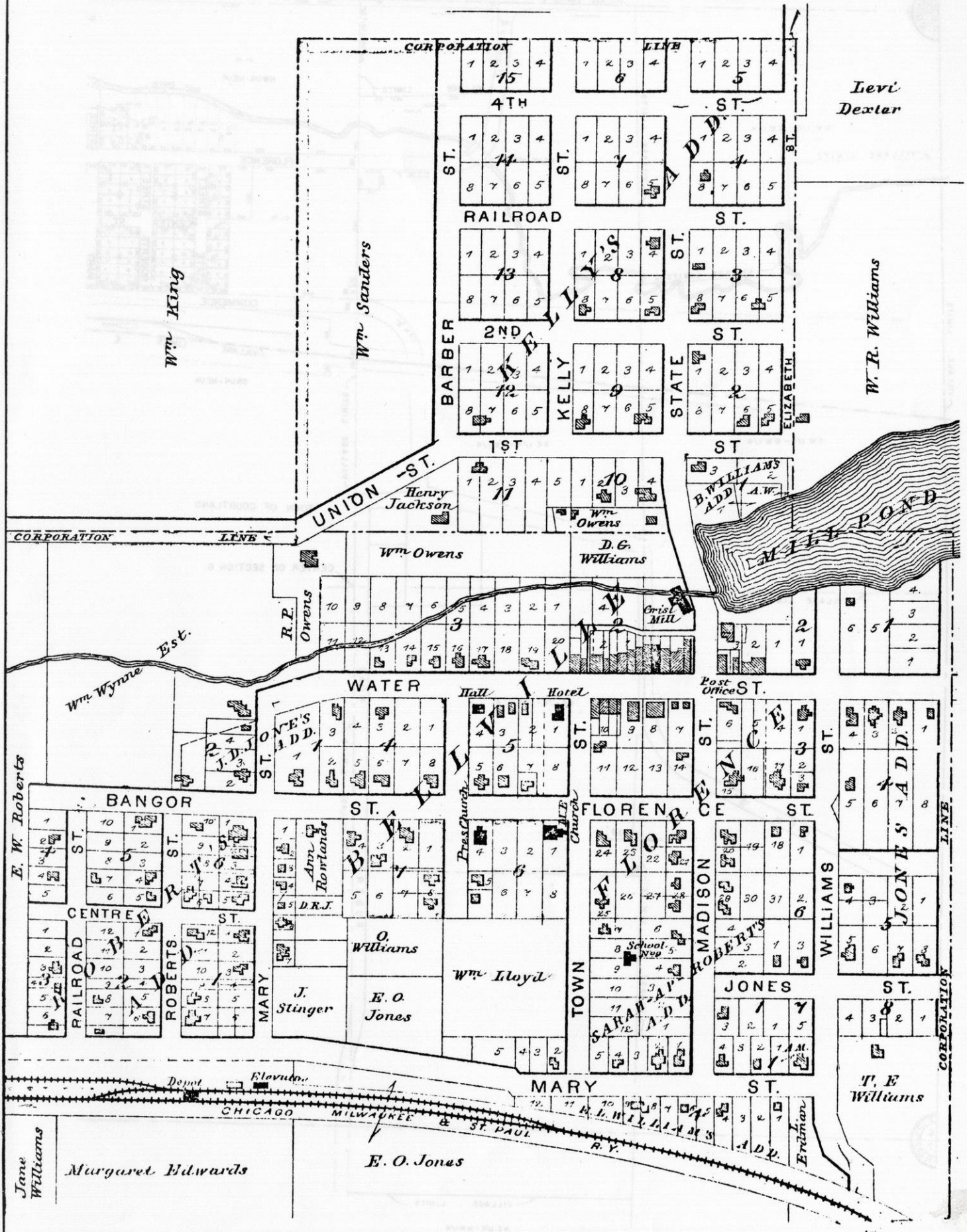
Postscript



# CAMBRIA

1890

Scale 20 Rods 1 inch



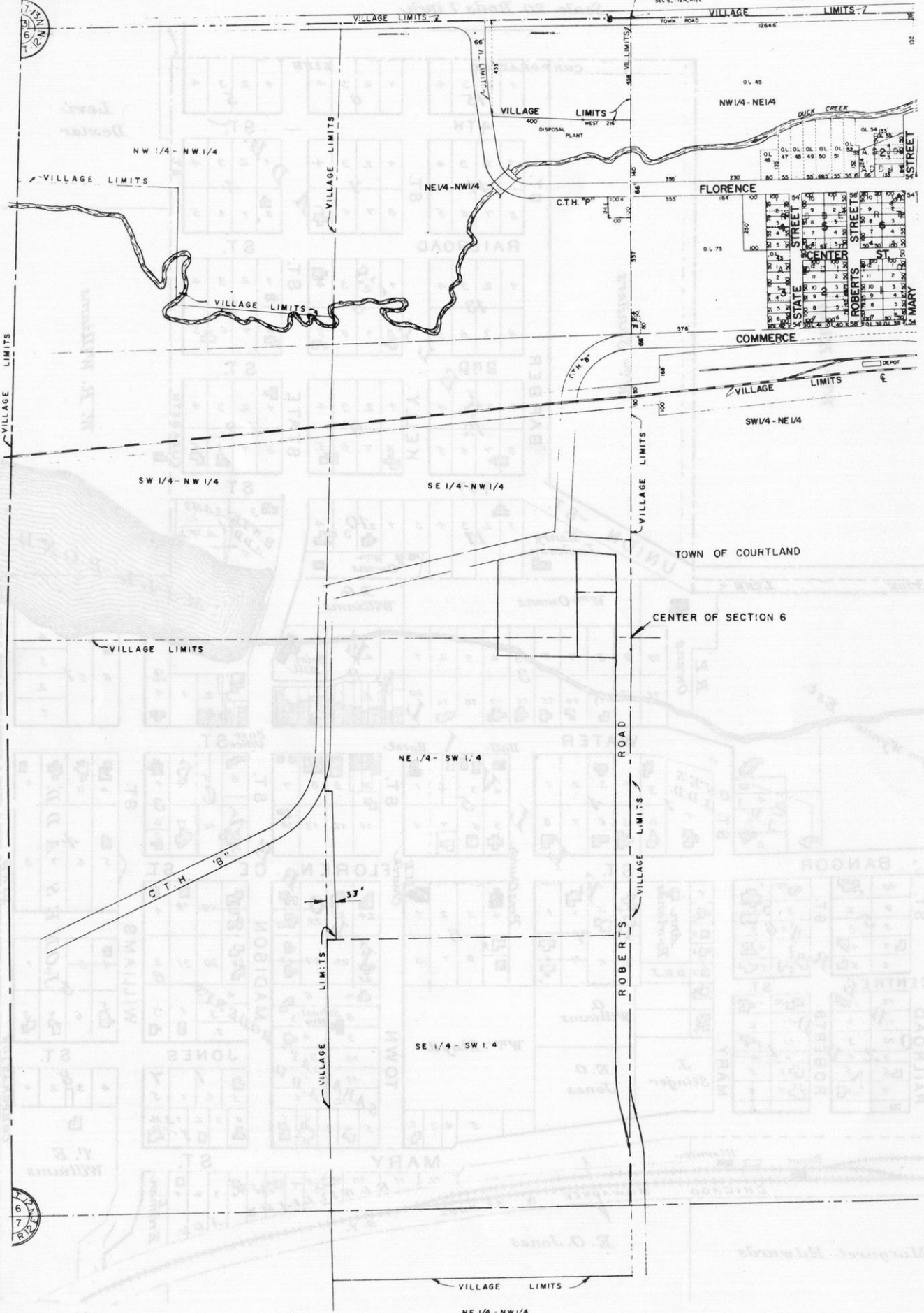


1890

GAMBRIA

NORTH  
CORNER  
SEC 6, T2N, R12E

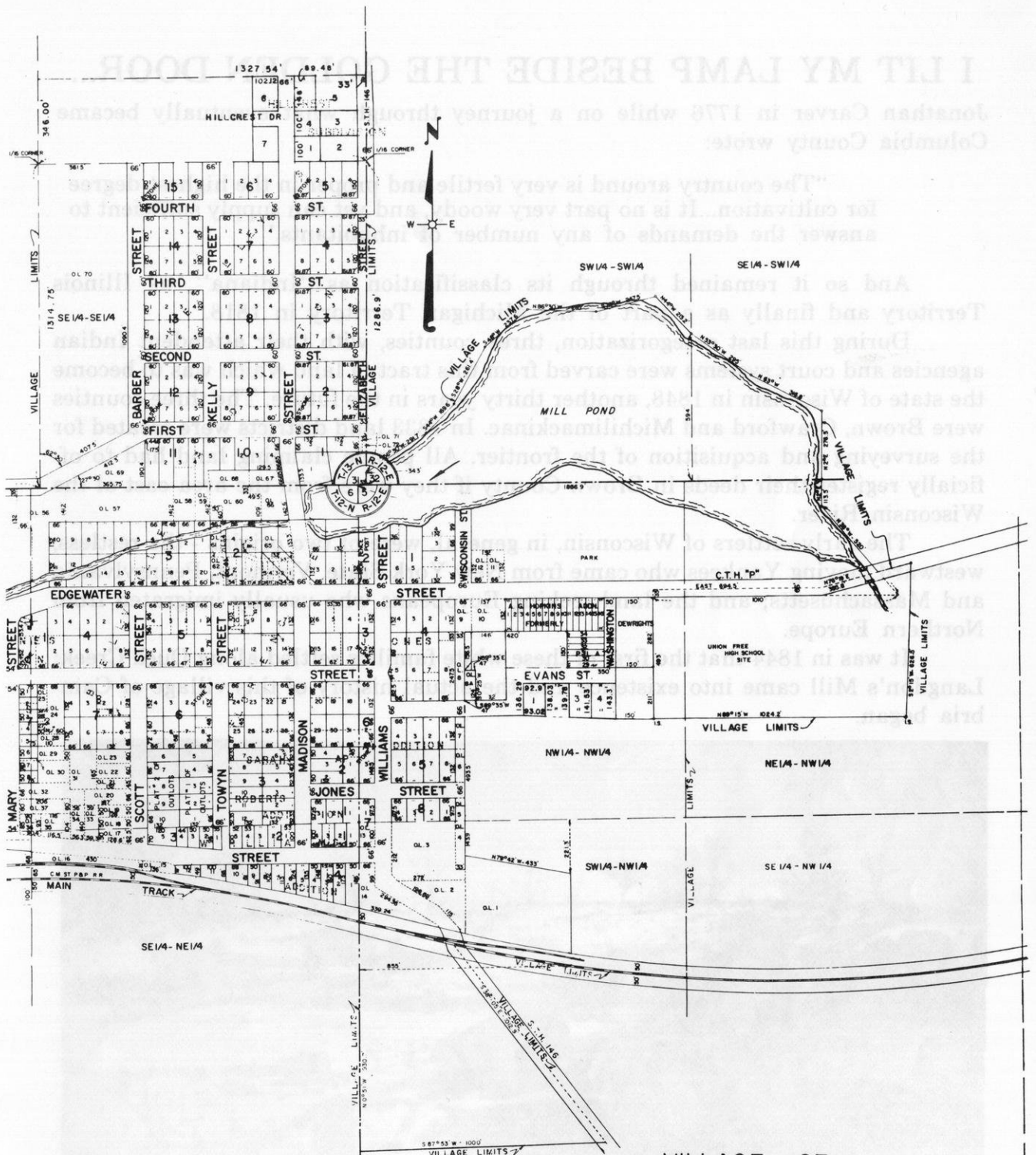
1363.8'



NE 1/4 - NW 1/4

V





# VILLAGE OF CAMBRIA, WISCONSIN

LOCATED IN SECTIONS 5, 6, T-12-N, R-12-E  
SECTIONS 31, 32, T-13-N, R-12-E  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, WIS.

0 100 200 300 400 500 - FEET

MAP PREPARED BY  
MID-STATE ENGINEERING CO.  
BARABOO, WISCONSIN  
1960

REVISED 1967  
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## I LIT MY LAMP BESIDE THE GOLDEN DOOR...

Jonathan Carver in 1776 while on a journey through what eventually became Columbia County wrote:

“The country around is very fertile and proper in the highest degree for cultivation...It is no part very woody, and yet can supply sufficient to answer the demands of any number of inhabitants.”

And so it remained through its classification as “Indiana”, as Illinois Territory and finally as a part of the Michigan Territory in 1818.

During this last categorization, three counties, with their attendant Indian agencies and court systems were carved from this tract of land which was to become the state of Wisconsin in 1848, another thirty years in the future. The three counties were Brown, Crawford and Michilimackinac. In 1833 land districts were created for the surveying and acquisition of the frontier. All people claiming land had to officially register their deeds in Brown County if they were from the area east of the Wisconsin River.

The early settlers of Wisconsin, in general, were of two origins - the restless, westward moving Yankees who came from New York State, Vermont, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts; and the land-seeking Europeans who usually immigrated from Northern Europe.

It was in 1844 that the first of these white families settled along Duck Creek; Langdon's Mill came into existence and the actual history of this village of Cambria began.



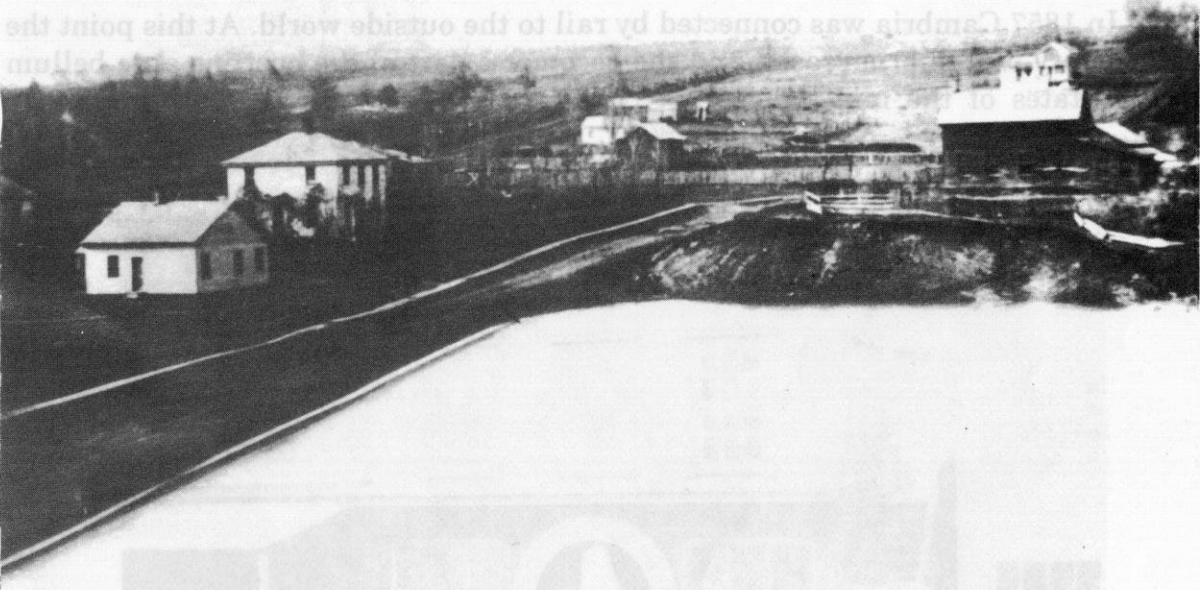
Looking south from the saw mill in 1855, one would see the panorama above. The photographer's thumb blotted out what was the saw mill in the lower left hand corner



This family, the Langdon's came originally from the north of England to Massachusetts in the late 17th century. Over the generations they moved westward to Illinois and finally to this section of Wisconsin.

John Langdon and his grown sons, Samuel, James, Roland and Fred, began construction of a saw mill and also a home along the south side of Duck Creek. An eyewitness account at the time describes how men came from a radius of ten miles to help with the raising of the mill. Wood from the white oak and hackberry trees around the mill site were used for posts and beams in the mill itself. After the first proprietors, Samuel Langdon and Jonas Warncke, got the mill in operation, the lumber was sold for \$8.00 a thousand.

During the brief five year interval of the Langdon's prominence, the early settlement was called Florence although generally known in the neighborhood as Langdon's Mill ("Felin Li" if you were Welsh). A store, several more homes and a large Welsh settlement continued the line of civilization begun in 1844.



Ten years later, in 1865, the village of Cambria had expanded north as shown in this picture taken along what is now Madison St.

One of these early Welsh families was the Richard Jones'. They came to Cambria in 1845, settling on land adjoining that of the Langdon's on the east. The high school stands on the land of one son, David R. This David Jones was an architect who designed many buildings in Cambria including several Victorian-style homes, churches, and the Music Hall. Another son, Evan O. was located across the



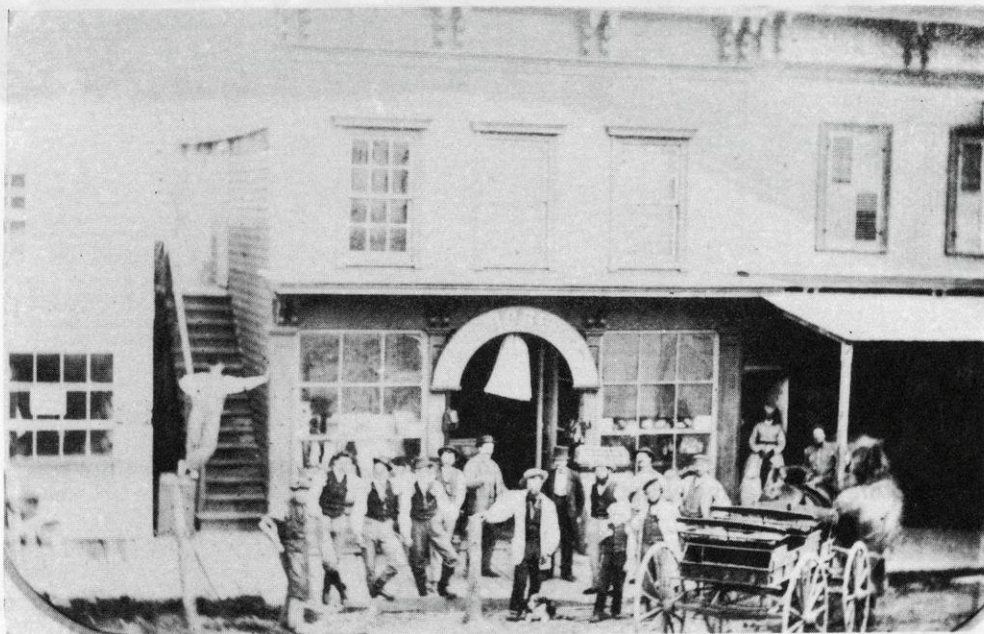
road just to the east of the mill pond, and he later engaged in many businesses. The third son, John, settled on what is now the Lloyd farm on County Trunk P to Randolph.

In 1846, Columbia County was created and populations in the surrounding countryside began increasing as more farmland was being developed. In 1847-48, the Langdon's began a new mill - a grist and flour mill. However, they were unable to purchase the necessary machinery to operate it. In the spring of 1849 Mr. James Bell provided the appropriate funds and took a mortgage on the Langdon property. He shortly foreclosed and all the Langdon property belonged to him. The Langdon's moved to Vernon County, Wisconsin. Mr. Bell proceeded to survey and plat a four block area along the creek and named the new village Belleville.

The time from 1847 to 1851 was busy and progressive. Cambria now had a saw mill, a flour mill, a school, stores, a doctor, a blacksmith, and in 1850 the first white child, Richard Williams, was born in Cambria to Owen Williams (Y Gof). This was at a time when Randolph, to the east was not platted; when Pardeeville to the west was in the process of being surveyed, and Columbus, to the south, had 800 inhabitants.

The years following 1850 found Mr. Bell disposing of his "Belleville" interests to John Ap Jones and Evan Edwards. The village then officially became known as Cambria.

In 1857 Cambria was connected by rail to the outside world. At this point the early history of Cambria ceases, and she becomes a part of the bustling ante-bellum United States of the mid-1850's.



A view to the west of Cambria's Main St. in 1860-1865



## “CYMRU AM BYTH”

“Cambria”, a Welsh designation for a village in the wilderness by Riviere aux Canards, the name given to Duck Creek by the French explorers, illustrates how one people supercede another, each leaves its mark and influence as a stepping stone for those who follow.

So it was that the first large group of immigrants in this section of Wisconsin were from Wales. A large majority of those who came were farmers or men who took up farming soon after their arrival.

They came from north Wales and sailed from the port of Liverpool. In sailing vessels, the trip to New York required six weeks. The crossings were made in summer or fall to avoid cold weather and the icebergs. There were no cooking stoves or heating facilities on the vessels except small crocks for coals to heat water for tea. Large quantities of oat bread, bar-a-cerch, which would not become moldy were carried with them in barrels. Drinking water also had to be taken on board.

After reaching the port of New York, passengers continued their journey to Albany by steamers. There they transferred to slow boats drawn by oxen or horses over the Erie Canal. Boys could even get off to pick apples in orchards and then catch up with the boats. When they reached Buffalo, they had steamers for the trip through the Great Lakes. It required about two weeks to travel from New York to Milwaukee or Racine. The women and children stayed at boarding houses near the ports while the men walked into the interior to look for farms.

### Welsh Settlers in Columbia County

The village of Cambria in Columbia County became the center of a large Welsh population. They settled about the village in several neighborhoods of limited areas. The Welsh liked to have adjoining farms in church centered communities. The church was the social center as well as a place for religious ceremonies. No one could live more than two miles from a church for those were the days of horse and buggy and pedestrian traffic.

The area inhabited by the Welsh in Columbia, Dodge and Green Lake counties might be described by taking the village of Cambria as the center and drawing a circle with a radius of ten or twelve miles. Within that circle most of the communities of this large settlement, each distinguished by a separate name, would be included.

Proscarion, Blaen-y-Cae, Lake Emily, Portage Prairie, and Rock Hill were such communities north of Cambria. The village of Randolph, Columbus and its outlying community, Welsh Prairie, were on the east and south of Cambria.

### The First Welsh Settlers

Thomas H. Roberts and a few other men came in the summer of 1844 to Fox Lake and entered Columbia County five miles north of present day Randolph. Later that same summer, Catherine Foulks, who always used her maiden name,



and her three grown sons, David, Foulk, and Thomas D. Roberts came with James Evans and family, John Evans and family, Ebenezer Evans and family. Later Ebenezer Jones came to Lake Emily and Evan Roberts went to the Proscarion neighborhood. Catherine Foulk bought land on the north side of Blaen-y-Cae road. Here a log house was built...which she called Blaen-y-Cae after her home in Wales. This was the name eventually adopted for the community in which she lived.

### First Churches

The first pioneers soon wrote letters to friends describing Wisconsin Territory and urging them to leave Wales and come to America. It was extraordinary that so much settlement took place in the 1840's and 1850's. Most of the country churches around Cambria were organized within ten years after the first settlers came here.

The first Welsh service in central Wisconsin was held on the second Sabbath in November, 1844 when John J. Evans, later Rev. Evans, took his Bible and went to an open faced shanty to read. He was soon followed by David and Foulk Roberts with their Bibles. They held a Sunday School as they had done in Wales, and decided to invite everyone in the neighborhood to come to Catherine Foulks' home the next Sunday, the third of November. Twenty persons came and the Sunday School was organized.

In a short time a fellowship meeting ("seiat") was called to organize the first Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Society in central Wisconsin. There were twelve charter members chosen from the families present, all of those mentioned in the settlement of this area.

This was the Blaen-y-Cae or Engedi Church group, built on the north side of the road, section 12, Randolph Township. John R. Daniel was the first and only pastor in Engedi Church for forty years.

The Proscarion Church which was the first frame building to be built in the area, was constructed in 1850 and Lake Emily, the last of the three to be built in this area of Welsh settlement.

The first settlers in Portage Prairie were John G. Evans and William Owen, who came in 1846. At first a small church was built with a stove in the center and benches around the walls. In 1865, a large church was built. The congregation lasted until 1918, and the building was sold in 1920. W. W. Davies was the only pastor for twenty years. Also, two young men from this church became ministers, Rowland Evans and William Davies.

In 1851, the Rock Hill Church was erected due in part to the pastor. David Pugh hauled the bricks for the structure in a home-made wagon with oxen from Marquette. He had made the wheels by sawing through a tree trunk.

Southwest of Cambria stood another Welsh community church. Zion was started in 1845 following the arrival of a group of Welshmen who had met in Liverpool on the journey over. These people reached New York in early September. Coming along the usual route, they reached Wisconsin in late September. Nine men of the group from Wales, left their families in boarding homes and started on foot to look for farms. They came to Fox Lake and Catherine Foulk's log home on a



Saturday night in late September (1845). They rested over Sunday and then started out with David Roberts as their guide, for he had worked in London and could speak English.

The group went west as far as the marshes of the Fox River. Then they turned south and stopped at the John Dodge cabin for a meal. They continued south to the top of a hill south-west of the Zion Church site and admired the country. So it came about that this section of land was to bear the name Welsh Prairie. The names of these early settlers were: David Roberts, John R. Rowlands, Robert Closs, Evan Edwards, Jabez Lloyd, E. B. Williams, William R. Williams, John R. Jones and John Edwards.

These men started back immediately to Fox Lake to register their land. After reaching Racine they bought wagons and oxen to move their families, arriving back in Welsh Prairie by the third week of October. It was too late in the season to build a cabin for each family, so they jointly constructed a long log shelter. There the fifty-two people of this settlement spent the winter together until they could build their cabins the following year (1846).



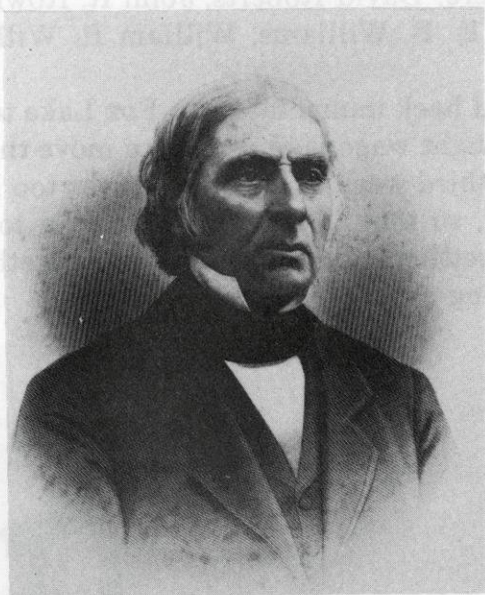
Zion Calvinistic Methodist Church built in 1847 and razed in 1930

Later, three community churches grew from this company. The first was Zion church. Originally it was a small structure until the large brick edifice was built in 1847. It became an important church and twenty-one Welsh churches were under it's supervision. A famous minister, William Jones, Snowdon, came to live two and



one-half miles South of Zion Church. He organized most of the Welsh Churches here in Central Wisconsin and administered to them as long as he lived.

In 1859 a church was organized east of Rev. Jones's home which was called Carmel. This preacher had, until that event, equipped his basement for services for about eight years prior to the building of Carmel. However, the erection of a proper church was necessary because of the increasing Welsh population. Jerusalem Church, southwest of Zion, was built about the same time.



Rev. William Jones, Snowdon

The Cambria Welsh Calvinistic Church was the last of the Welsh churches to be built. It was the largest and called 'Capel Mawr'. Thus church and the Welsh Prairie Presbytery came to be well known throughout the United States. More churches were added to this Welsh Presbytery such as Oshkosh, Berlin, Wild Rose and Baraboo.

Within Wisconsin there were four Welsh Calvinistic Presbyteries namely: Waukesha, Welsh Prairie, Dodgeville, and LaCrosse. Welsh Prairie was the largest of those.

However, the Welsh churches only lasted about eighty years, 1859-1920. The Welsh language died out when students began to attend high schools at the turn of the century. Neither were there any Welsh ministers being trained, and at the general assembly in 1920 it was agreed to end the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist denomination. However, the Cambria church continued services until 1955 as a separate Presbytery in the English church.

#### The Origin of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church

The Calvinistic Methodist church was the strictest denomination among the Welsh churches in America...and most of the Welsh in this area were of that order. It began in Oxford College in 1729 when a group of students went about reading and praying to prisoners and poor people.



As time passed leaders of the Methodist Society in Oxford began to differ in opinion in regard to theological tenets. English Methodism found itself divided into two groups - one following John Calvin and the other John Wesley. Welsh leaders had been in Oxford and found themselves in agreement with the Calvinistic group.

In America there was so little difference between the Calvinists and the Presbyterians that some Welsh people wanted to call the church Presbyterian. However, more voted to call it the Calvinistic Methodist, as the church in Wales was called.

A people, a time, and a language have been described which today in America exist only in the minds of the few who were there...of the Welsh era.

### German Settlement

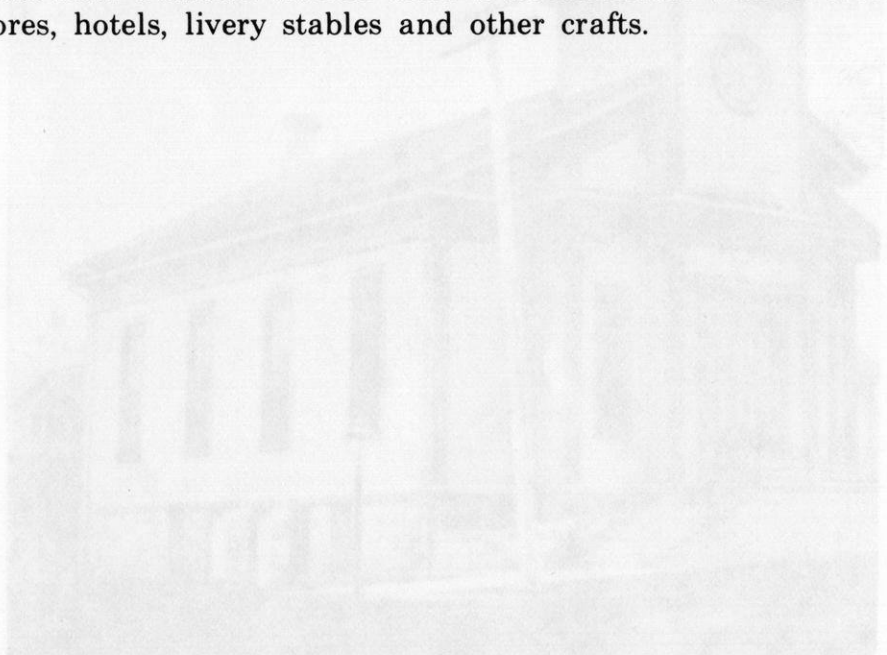
Paralleling the Welsh settlement of Cambria in 1848 was another group of settlers who also were making their mark on the prairie north of Cambria.

These were part of the first wave of German settlers in this area. They soon came to be known by the name of their first church - the Inglehart community.

Two of the first settlers of this group were Dr. C. W. Arch and Henry Hentzel. They paved the way for the immigrants who followed. These later comers were mainly farmers. Soon, this prosperous agricultural community had enough people to construct a church.

From that decision came several families whose descendants moved to Cambria and made their mark there. The names of those charter families were: Mohr, Scharf, Marquardt, Schliesman, Schmidt, Ruehl and Peterman.

These later Cambria citizens came to be associated with several growing concerns: stores, hotels, livery stables and other crafts.



"Capel Mawr", the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church after remodeling in 1808

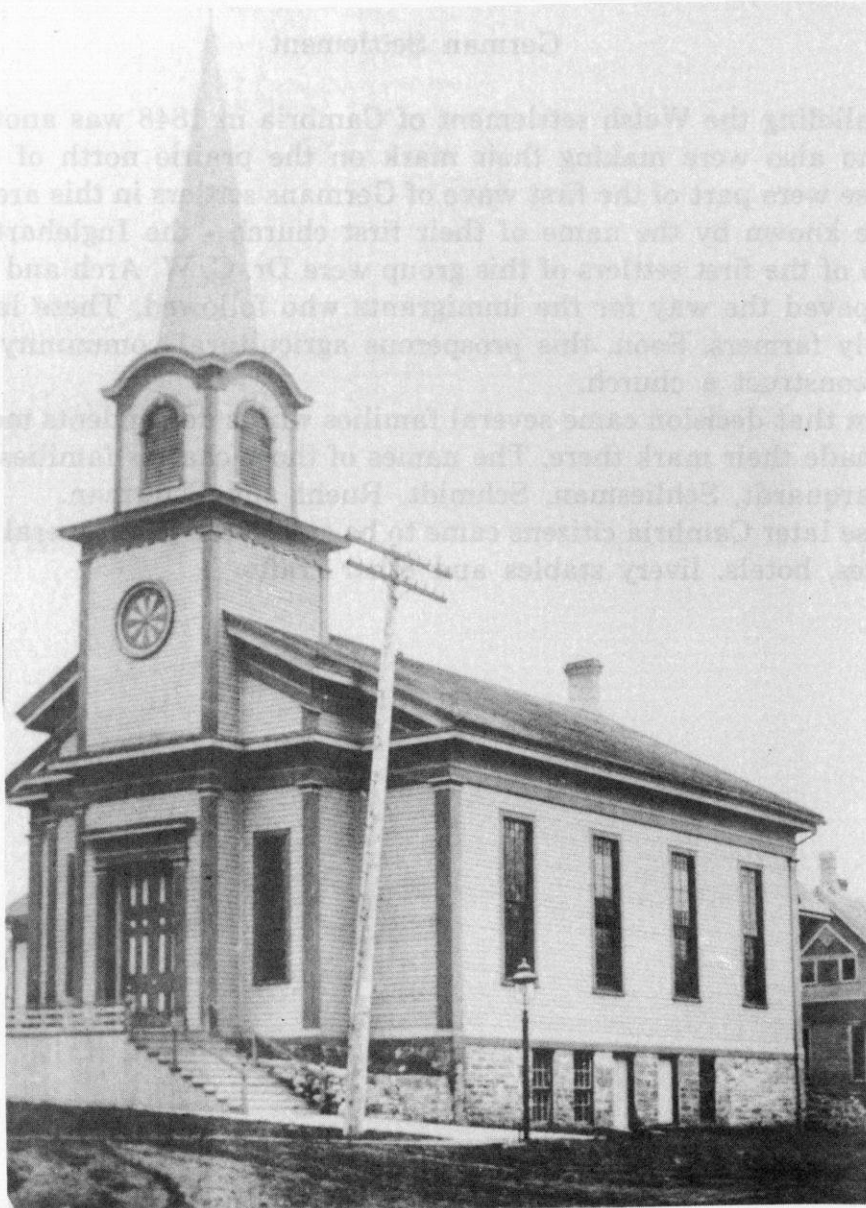


## FAITH AS TO MOVE MOUNTAINS

Perhaps there was one commodity that every settler - Yankee, German, Welsh, English, Scots - possessed which enabled them to venture into a wilderness. That commodity was faith. It had to be not only faith in one's self, but also faith in God.

This faith manifested itself in the growth of many religious institutions in the early years.

### Welsh Calvinistic Methodist



"Capel Mawr", the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church after remodeling in 1908





The historic Capel Mawr before it was razed in 1970

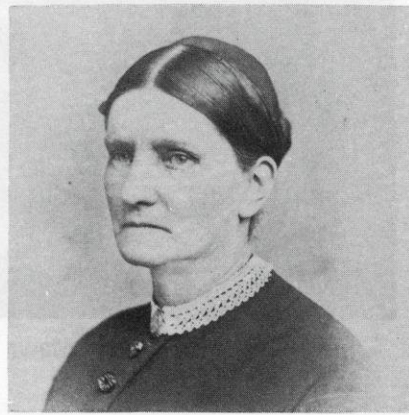
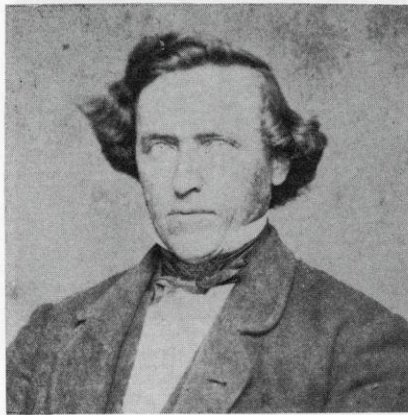


Monument in Cambria marking the site of the Capel Mawr



One of the earliest organized churches in this area was the rural Welsh Calvinistic Methodist church called Zion. Built two miles southwest of Cambria on John R. Evans land in 1847, this Zion was what was known as a "Mother church". Organized by William Jones, Snowdon, newly arrived from Wales, this church was the first of twenty-one in central Wisconsin organized by Rev. Jones. Due to the transportation difficulties most of the churches of the early period in this section of Wisconsin drew a congregation from a fourteen mile radius. It was this facet of early pioneer life that caused the creation of so many rural churches.

One of the "children" of the Zion "mother church" was Capel Mawr of the village of Cambria. Organized by zealous Rev. Jones, Snowdon in 1853, the congregation built it's first church in 1857. They were ministered to in the four formative years, when the services were held in the school-house, by John Ap Jones already mentioned as an early businessman. Their first minister was Rev. Rees Evans who began his "labors in word and doctrine" from June 1857 to June, 1879.



Rev. and Mrs. Rees Evans, first Welsh Calvinistic Methodist minister

As the congregation grew the church was remodeled in 1908. Eventually the surviving Welsh churches merged in 1955 and in 1970 the historic Capel Mawr was razed.

### Welsh Methodist Episcopal

One of the earliest religious organizations in Cambria proper was the Methodist Episcopal Church which originally worshiped in a schoolhouse at what are now the very southern-most limits of Cambria. Their history began in 1850 with fifteen members. In 1856 a church was built in Cambria.

1873 saw several changes in this religious body. The church was moved to a more central location, and the services were held in English rather than the original Welsh.

However, the pull of the other churches in Cambria was too much for the struggling membership, and 1878 witnessed the membership dropping to twelve, and the Sunday School disbanded.



## Welsh Congregationalist

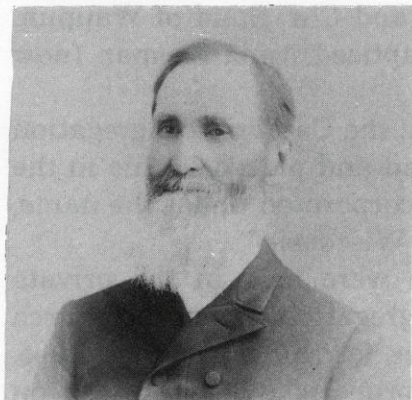


Welsh Congregational Church, known as the Fish Church due to the Christian emblem of the fish on the steeple, built in 1856

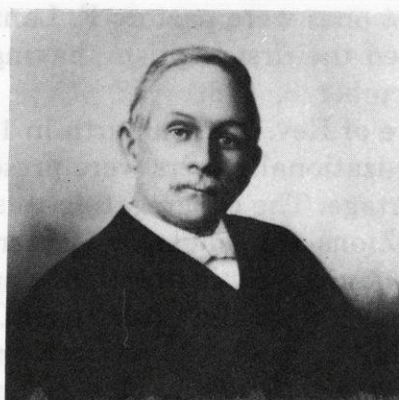
1858 on State Street saw the construction of the first Welsh Congregationalist Church. This was the realization of a long-worked-for goal of the congregation which began worshipping together in 1853 under the guidance of Rev. John Parry.

A church census in 1879 showed a membership of fifty, and the Sunday School was instructing about sixty children.

At the turn of the century, the Fish Congregational Church disbanded, and the members dispersed to the other village congregations.



Rev. R. H. Evans, Olivet Church minister and father of Curtis and Silas Evans.



Rev. and Mrs. Edward Morgan, the last Congregational minister





## Zion Lutheran Church

(excerpted from "Seventy-fifth Anniversary, 1891-1966, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church)



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

It wasn't until the 1880's that Lutherans came and settled in the area. Those who came to work here, mostly on farms, were usually of German descent, and came from Germany, or they came here from other areas of the State of Wisconsin.

The church records of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Congregation give evidence of the fact that from 1885 to 1889 pastoral service was provided to the Lutherans of the Cambria area by pastors who came to serve them from Waupun and Manchester. The first ones were pastors F. Lanzer and Chr. Sund of Waupun. This Pastor Sund recorded the first baptism, having baptized Anna Seeman (now Mrs. Anna Tonn) on October 8, 1886.

Under the guidance of Rev. E. Schubarth in 1891, the Cambria congregation was organized, and organizational papers were presented and placed on file in the county court house in Portage. The congregation was incorporated under the name, "Evangelish Lutherishe Zions Gemenide in Cambria, Wisconsin".

In 1891 divine services and instruction classes were held in the private homes of those who attended. Soon, however, Zion Congregation rented the church facilities of the English Presbyterian Church in Cambria for this purpose and use. When the Presbyterians later chose to relocate, this property was purchased on May 1, 1894.



In 1898 the churches at Doylestown, Cambria and Pardeeville formed one parish. In 1903, Doylestown left the tri-parish, and in 1922 Pardeeville and Cambria mutually agreed to dissolve. Prior to that in 1912-1913, the dual parish joined the Wisconsin synod.

In 1923 the cornerstone for a new church edifice was layed.

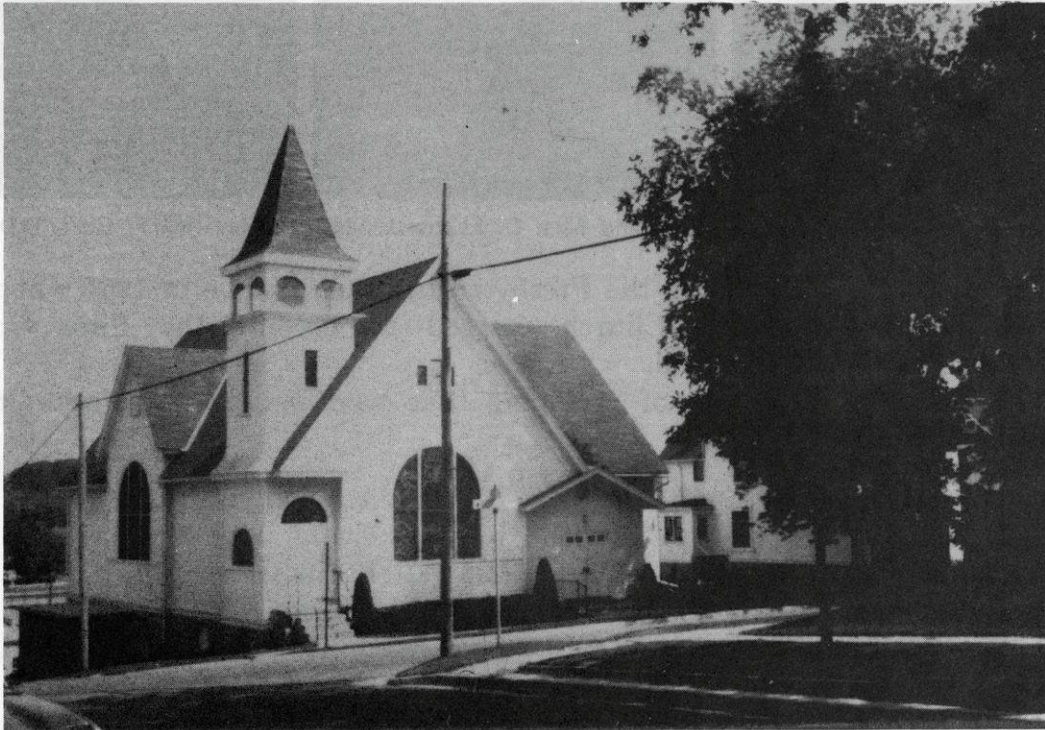
In June, 1966, the Zion Congregation set aside a day for special services in commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the organization of this Lutheran Church in Cambria.

The following are ministers who have served the Zion Congregation:

Rev. E. Schubarth	1889-1891	Rev. A. Weir	1922-1927
Rev. R. Koch	1891-1898	Rev. F. Weerts	1927-1935
Rev. W. Biedenweg	1898-1899	Rev. O. P. Kuehl	1936-1943
Rev. H. Brockman	1899-1902	Rev. E. C. Schewe	1944-1954
Rev. B. Gladosch	1902-1903	Rev. M. C. Smith	1954-1959
Rev. A. Ph. Pankow	1903-1910	Rev. E. E. Kolander	1959-1962
Rev. L. C. Kirst	1911-1915	Rev. W. E. Schulz	1962-1964
Rev. G. Pieper	1915-1922	Rev. E. P. Pankow	1965-

#### First United Presbyterian Church

(excerpted from, "1859-1959, Centennial, First United Presbyterian Church")



First United Presbyterian Church

Early in 1859, a small group of people living in Cambria were in need of a place to worship. These people were non-Welsh speaking, and the two churches in Cambria at the time were exclusively Welsh-speakers.



In the fall of 1859, Rev. George C. Heckman organized a church of eight members which was placed under the care of the Presbytery of Winnebago.

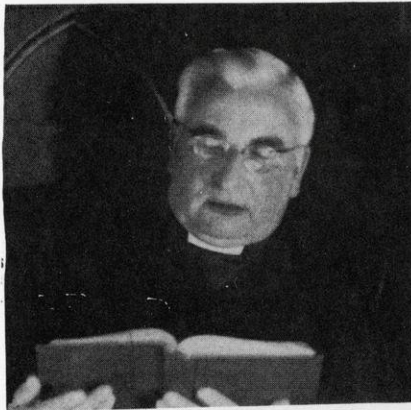
A Rev. Hardie, who had been coming to Cambria to preach in English was retained as their minister. The first meetings were held in the public schoolhouse until the spring of 1861 when a church building was completed.

This church was always called "The Brown Church" and stood on ground donated by John Ap Jones on the southeast corner of Scott and Florence Streets, the present site of the Lutheran Church.

Over the next thirty years came a succession of ministers and supplies from other churches.

In 1891, the congregation had grown, and the people began to feel the need of a larger building. The present edifice was then constructed on land purchased from Margaret McConochie.

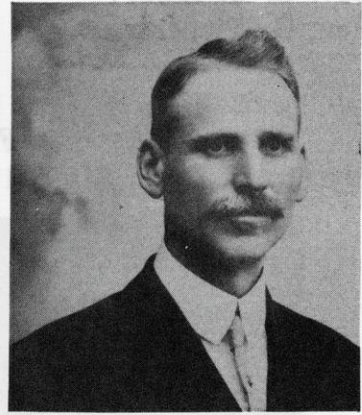
The manse was constructed in 1901 and during this same period further additions were made to the church; an organ was donated by Andrew Carnegie and Mr. H. F. Schemmel in 1907.



Rev. Moses Breese, D.D.



Rev. and Mrs. D. Evans Jones



Rev. W. F. Goff, D.D.

The next major change in the Presbyterian Church came in 1955 when the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church merged to become the First United Presbyterian Church of Cambria.

The following is a list of ministers that have served the First United Presbyterian Church:

Rev. Andrew Hardie	1855-1863	Rev. W. F. Goff, D. D.	1909-1913
Rev. J. C. Kelly	1865-1870	Rev. D. Evans Jones	1913-1925
Rev. D. Davis	1874-1880	Rev. R. Frank Jones	1925-1928
Rev. R. Roberts	1880-1886	Rev. F. T. Schuster	1929-1936
Rev. O. W. Winchester	1887-1890	Rev. Marvin E. Kausler	1936-1943
Rev. Roger Williams	1892-1901	Rev. Marion Nollen	1944-1958
Rev. Moses Breese, D. D.	1901-1908	Rev. Robert O. Larson	1958-

#### Church Organizations

Early churches provided more to the early settlers than merely a place to worship and to renew one's faith. By and large they were also the cultural, social



and service centers of a community or an area.

Sunday, with its several services was the most totally religious day of the week, in the early Welsh churches, However, there were also meetings throughout the week of various groups. Over the years, records have been lost and organizations have changed. The following is a partial list of the many service, social and religious organizations directly related to the First United Presbyterian and the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Churches.

Presbyterian Church

Women's Association -consolidated in 1947

Missionary Society - c. 1880, organized; 1939, reorganized

Willing Workers - 1887, organized

KD - 1921, organized; no longer in service

H. B. (Hoi Boithois - These Helpers) 1908, organized

YDC — (Y Dwyllaw Cynorthwyl - The Helping Hand) 1905, organized at Capel Mawr

Dorcas - 1935, organized, Bible study

Electi Societies -1950. organized

Young Peoples Organizations -

Christian Endeavor - 1897, organized

Youth Fellowship - 1947, organized

Young Adults Club - 1953, organized

Men's Club - 1933, organized, social club

Zion Lutheran Church

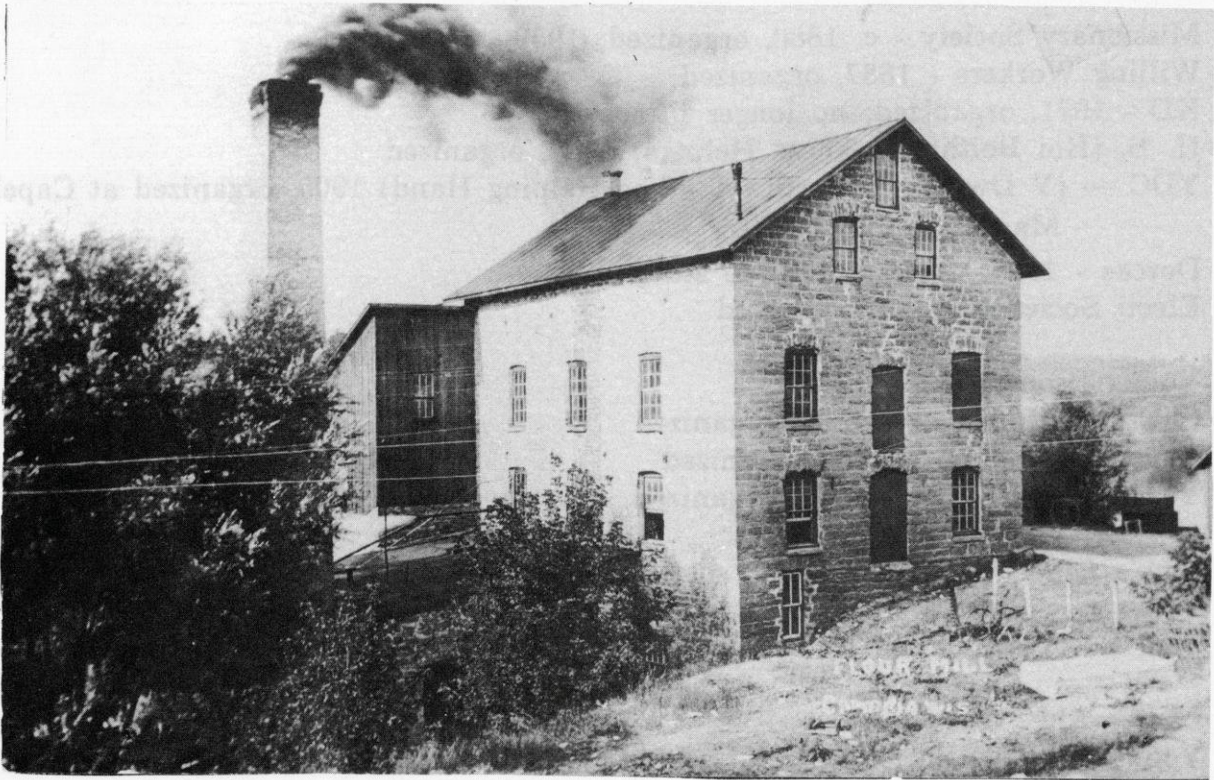
Ladies Aid

Young People's Society



**“THE ART OF MAKING MONEY PLENTY”** *Ben Franklin*

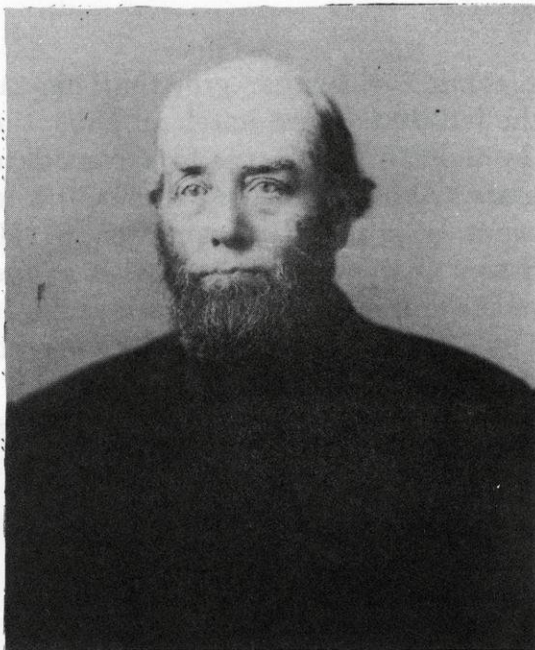
Industry - business - commerce. Three words that were there at the founding of the Village. The first buildings were commercial enterprises. The Langdon's sawmill in 1845 and David Langdon's store in the same year on the south side of Edgewater Street. This family enterprise was only the beginning as the Langdon's branched out into the flour milling business after a spring flood washed out the sawmill. However, a James Bell had a mortgage on the property; he foreclosed, and the Langdon's lost everything, and left the village for Vernon County, Wisconsin.



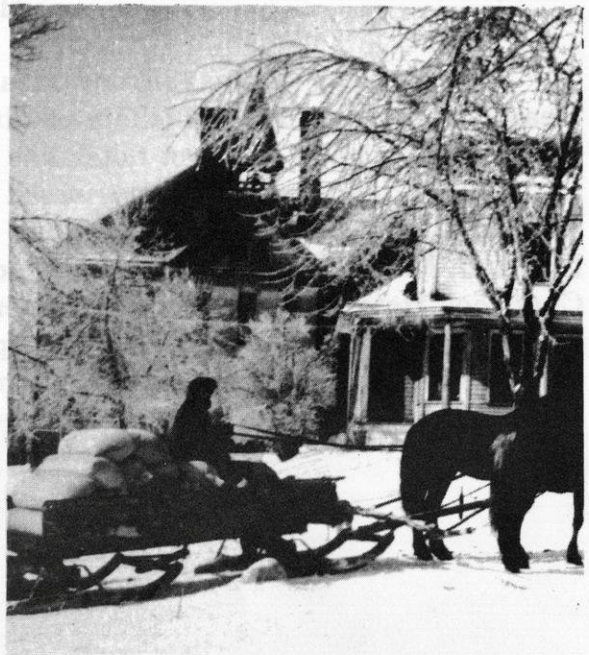
Front view of the first grist mill built in 1848

The property belonging to the Langdon's then was in the ownership of James Bell until 1851 when he sold out to John Ap Jones. The frame gristmill was washed away in the spring of 1858. After John Ap Jones acquired the property, he built a large stone mill in 1860. Not being a miller, he hired Gabriel Williams to run it and sold it to him in 1867. That mill was run by family members for 47 years: Gabriel Williams, his son David, and his grandsons, Frank and George. They then sold it to George Wright in 1907, who in turn sold it to Jake Dodge and Temp Slinger. Those last owners sold the flour making machinery to Canadian parties in 1920 and ground only grain for grist. The mill changed hands again to Miller, Kasten and Frederick.

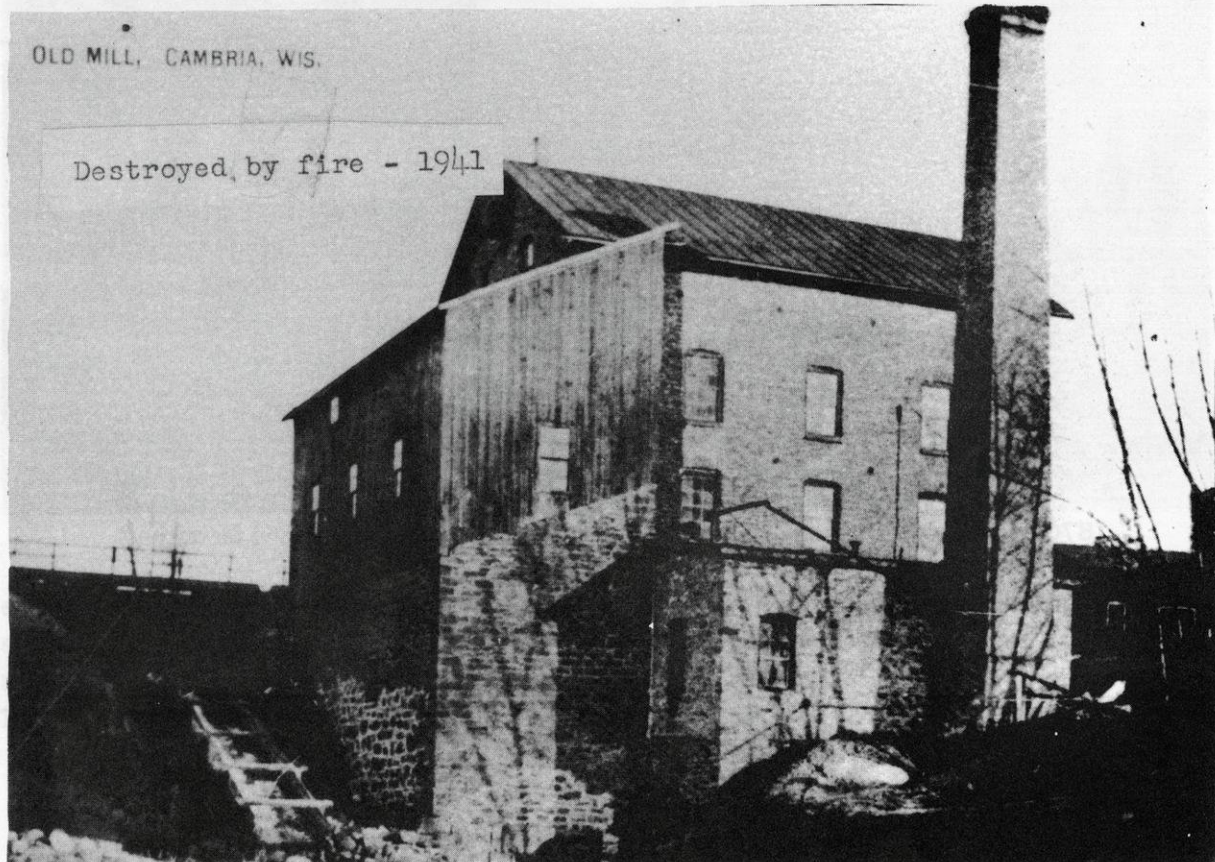




John Ap Jones



People came to the grist mill in all sorts of weather, from all directions and in many forms of transportation.



Rear view of the flour mill (grist mill) which was destroyed by fire in 1941

After remaining idle for some time, the old mill burned in 1941; the fire department records say 3:15 A.M., August 2, 1941.



## Hotels

The coming of the railroad meant the coming of further growth. This increased prosperity had immediate results in the building of the hotel. In 1856, the year of the railroad, the first hotel was built by Griffith and Evans to accommodate the influx of travelers. It shortly passed to Messrs. Gibbs and Halsey who sold it to John O. Jones. Following Mr. Jones as owner was the amalgamation of H. Dunham, Murdoch, Smith and Chatwood and son. It was popularly known as the Chatwood Hotel and occupied the corner where the present Post Office is located. It was burned in a fire in 1872 and was replaced by a two-story building which served as a display room for the sale of farm machinery of that period.



1870 - south side of the business district with the Chatwood Hotel in the far corner

In addition to the Chatwood, two other hotels made their appearance on the Cambria streets - the Peterman House and Cambria Hotel. The former was a large stone structure, erected in 1874 and destroyed by fire in 1879. The latter was opened in 1872 after the Chatwood burned, and it was commonly called the Hotel Parry as it was owned by Issac Parry.

## Elevators

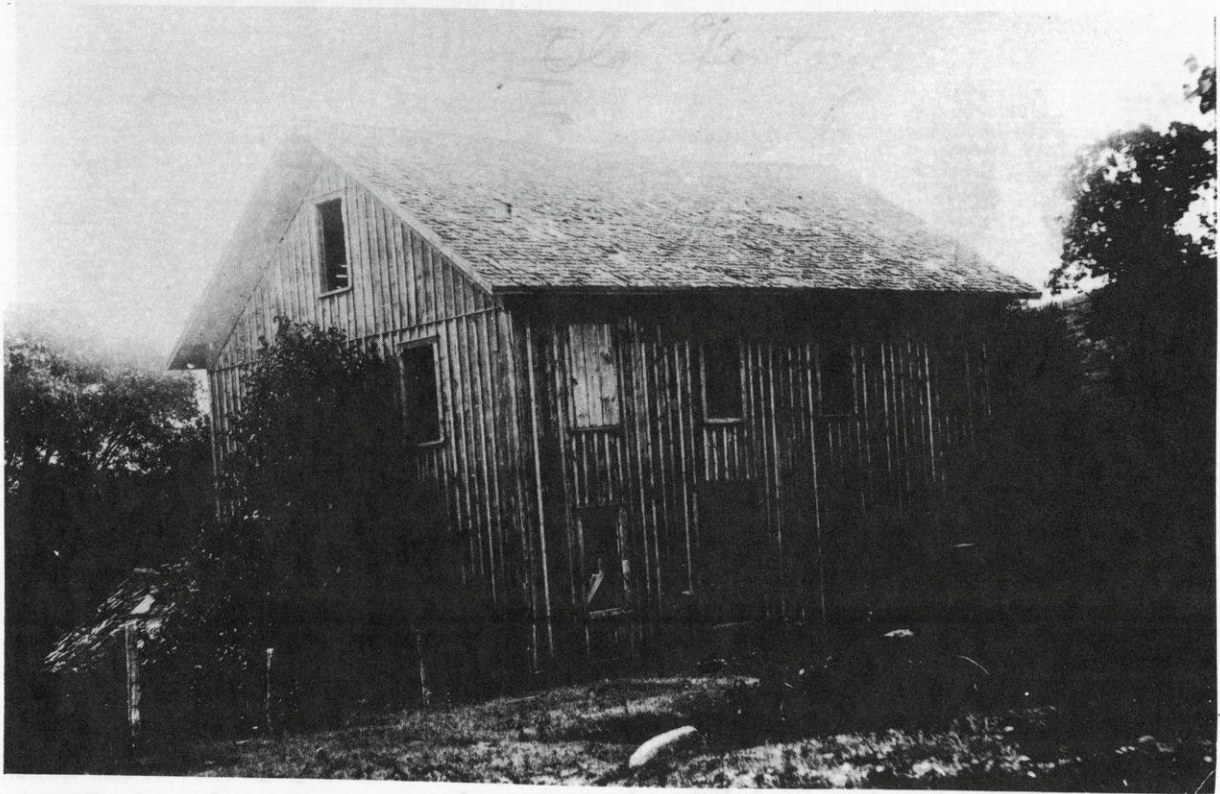
The railroad was not only responsible for the growth of hotels, but also for the increase in agricultural output. With a direct interstate route to a large market,



the two elevators were erected in the sixties to handle grain raised by farmers of the community. They stood east of the depot between Commerce Street and the railroad tracks. One was owned by John Ap Jones and the other by William Ap Jones. Later, D. R. Williams and W. C. Davies acquired one. Wheat was one of the first cash crops of the early farmers, and Milwaukee was a great market for wheat.

As a result the elevators were large structures, about forty feet in height with a cupola on top for ventilation. The farmer who sold his grain to the dealer had to engage in the following process. First the grain was emptied into a bin below ground level of the elevator so that the farmer's grain could be shoveled in and the front end of the wagon could be raised to let the grain run inside. The upper part of the building was divided into four large bins whose floors were just above the tops of freight cars, so the grain could flow through chutes into the waiting freight cars. The grain was raised to that height from the lower bins by means of an endless chain on which cups were fastened. When the cups reached the top of the chain they emptied into which ever bin was desired. All of these procedures were enacted through horse power until gas engines were devised in the 1900's.

However, the inroads of cinch bugs caused farmers to raise different crops and wind blown machinery replaced the cup in elevating grain. When the Farmer's Union bought the property it was converted into a corn drying plant. When the company built a new plant west of Cambria in 1974, the elevators were closed as their days of usefulness had ended.

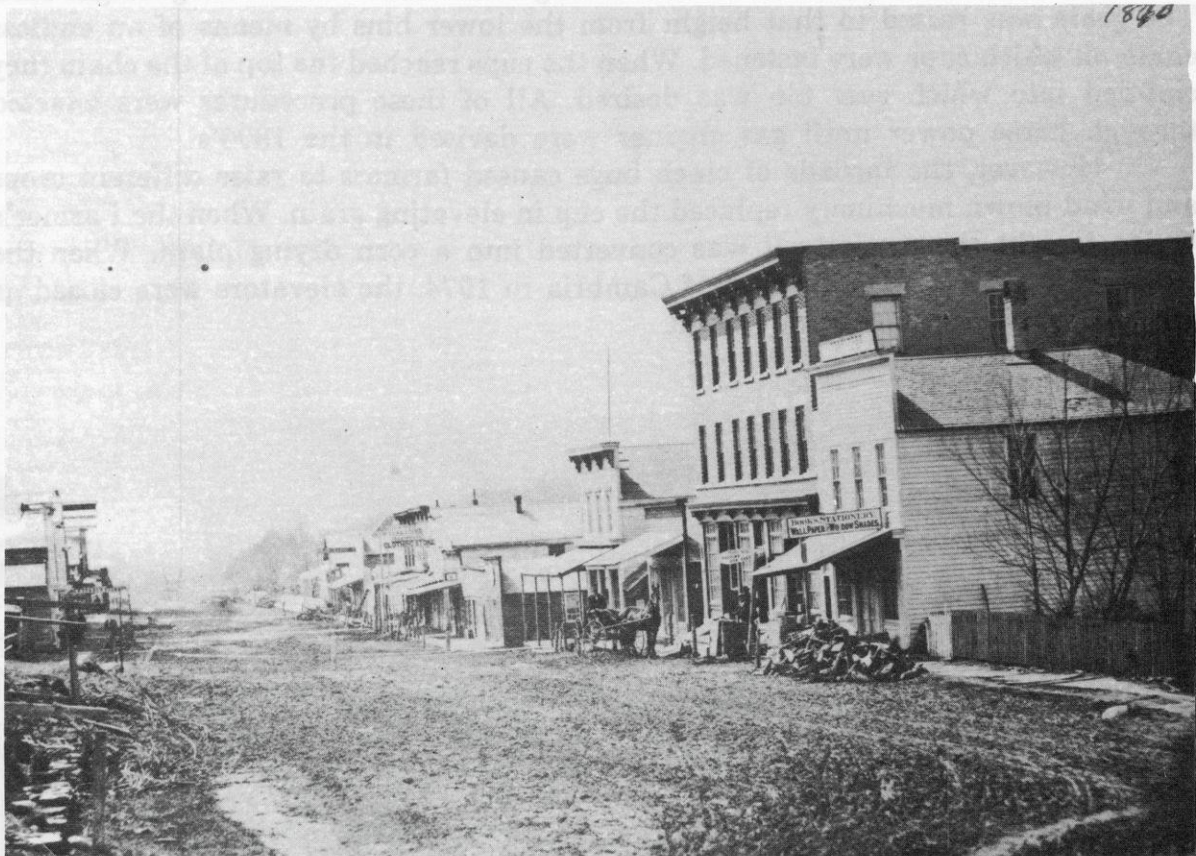


Original structure of the woolen mill which stood near the site of the present sewage system. The mill operated for a short time after it's construction in 1857



## Early Store Operations

Moving from the 1860's to 1880, The Columbia County History of that year recounts the business prosperity of Cambria: "The general business of the village has always been good and is now represented by four general stores, one exclusive grocery store, one hardware, one furniture, one book, one restaurant, three saloons, one photography gallery, two harness shops, three shoe repair shops, three wagon and blacksmithing shops, one machine shop, two tailor shops, two paint shops, one pump shop, three millinery stores, three dressmakers, three physicians, three grain and stock dealers, one express agent, two insurance agents, two lumber yards, one hotel, one grist mill, two sewing machine agencies and three agricultural agencies".



1865-1870 were years of business growth. Note the wooden sidewalks, wood pile in the street and dirt roads - all representative of even the most prosperous villages.

A survey of the businesses that lined the commercial center of Cambria at this time would illustrate the history of several enterprises both presently thriving and obsolete.

One of the first is Lazarus Richard's. He was an early Welsh storekeeper who came from Virginia in 1853. It is interesting to note that when he was leaving Virginia a customer gave him a black slave boy as part of the payment of his debt. Mr. Richards sent him to school. When he grew up he was sent to a farm in Blaen-Y-Cae, for there was no work for him in the small store. He grew up to be an unhappy man and left the community.



In the same block was Enoch Eyans' drug store. He was soon to be followed in this particular enterprise by J. E. <sup>Roberts</sup> Rowlands who continued his business for fifty years. It was in what is now the west part of Chris' Shopping Center. R. J. Rowlands also had a drug store just east of the Bank of Cambria for over fifty year. Other early businesses belonged to R. O. Williams and D. Ll. Williams who owned a general store for many years. Later they were bought by Thomas R. Jones who continued it for forty years in various locations.

Being a thrifty village, a shoe repair shop run by Adam Schliesman operated many years. He spoke three languages -his native German, English and Welsh since many of the early settlers who were his customers could only speak their native tongues. His son Fred continued the business until his death, and the business ended.

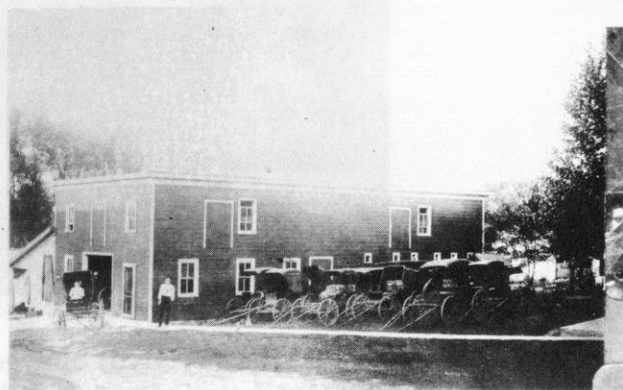
In the days of the horse and buggy, three men in succession ran a harness shop for many years. They were E. R. Williams, J. C. Hughes and his son Byron Hughes.



Vaughn's blacksmith shop in 1920

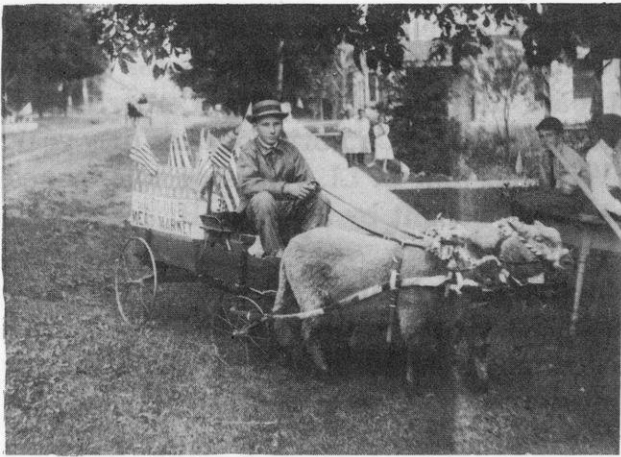


Mohr's Livery Stable in 1910



Edward's Livery Barn in 1916





John Wesley Gorsuch advertising for the Sam Dodge Meat Market.



George Marquardt's drygoods store in what is now the first floor of Chris McConnichie's store



Younglove, O.

CAMBRIA, WIS.

The Harness Shop

In 1892, Owen Williams (Glyn) opened a hardware store. Soon he was joined in the business by his brother Daniel, called Dan Glyn. Of late years Owen's daughter Mary Williams Enerson has conducted the business, thus the Williams



Hardware Store had, to date, a history of being in the same family for eighty-four years.

The large brick building at the north-east corner of Edgewater and Madison Streets has also had a long history. It was built in the 1870's and operated by Hugh



←  
Eve  
Rowlands

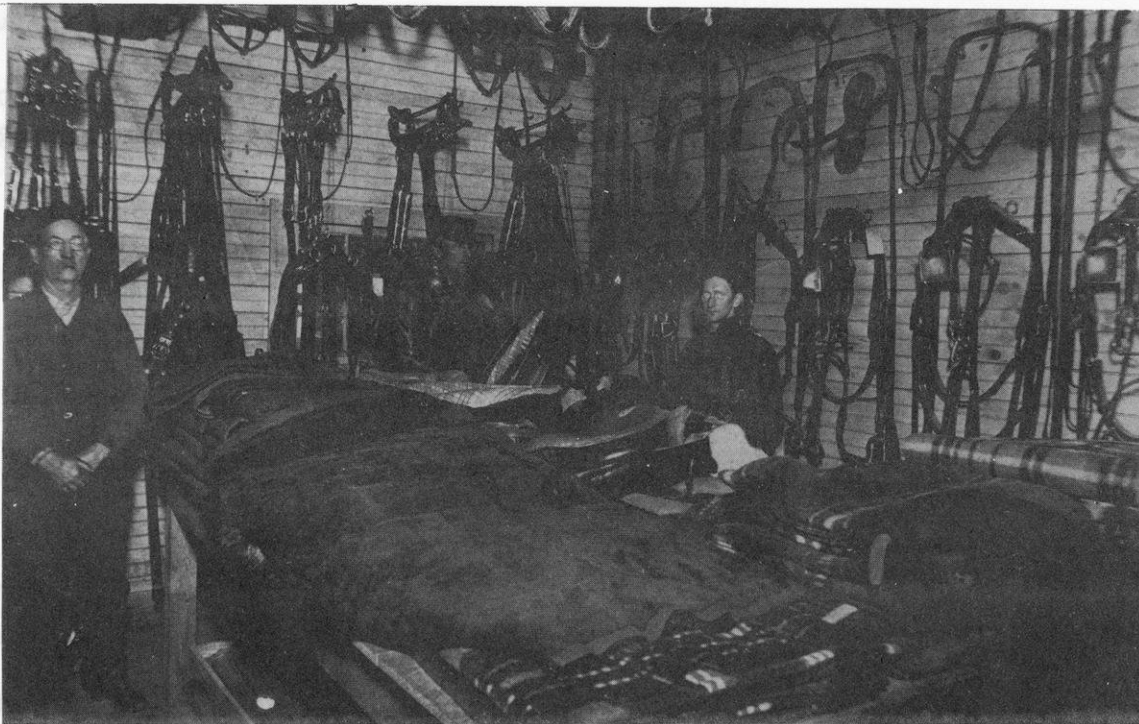
1908 - The Marquardt Building

Thomas and a Mr. Lloyd as a general store, supplying every need of people of that time, such as groceries, dry goods, coats and shoes. The top story was the meeting place for the Masonic Lodge for many years. It was operated for forty years by Hugh Thomas, his partners having died before the 1900's. His business was continued by Gustav Marquardt and his son, George, who owned the building and operated the store for about thirty-five years. Later, a cheese processing plant used the building from 1954 to 1956 when the contents were destroyed by fire. At present Chris' Shopping Center occupies the site.

The first blacksmith shop in Cambria stood where the Crossroads Restaurant is today. It was owned by Owen Williams who was the father of the first white child born in Cambria. That child was Richard O. Williams, the father of Ruth and Howard Williams.

Another blacksmith shop stood at the south-west corner of Edgewater and Madison Streets, owned by David Vaughn, Sr. In the early 1900's, Tom J. Pritchard owned another blacksmith shop on Madison Street north of Edgewater, opposite the Thomas building. When he left town, David Vaughn bought it and operated it with his son David Jr. until the late 1920's when all blacksmithing ended in Cambria.





Interior of the Byron Hughes Harness Shop. Left to right - Mr. John C. Hughes, Mr. Jm Sanderson, Mr. Byron Hughes

Another of the larger Cambria structures was a three story brick building on the north side of Edgewater east of the present Crossroads building. This was built in the 1860's by Robert J. Lloyd who utilized the first floor for stores. The building was then sold to J. J. Edwards who used the east half for a store, and Perry Williams had the west half for her book, variety and candy store. The second floor was for personal dwellings and the third floor was a large hall used as the meeting place of the Modern Woodman's Lodge. E. W. Edwards succeeded his father until 1926. He was followed after that date by A. A. Kuehn who had a store there for a number of years. Mr. Bergum was the last owner. The building stood idle for a number of years until it was razed in 1970.

Looking at the businesses on the south side of Main Street during the years of growth, an implement shop occupied the ground floor of a two story building which stood on the corner where the present Post Office now stands. The top floor was a dwelling place and the implement shop on the ground floor was operated by a succession of dealers, namely: F. J. Crandall, Hughes Brothers, Will Thomas, and Enerson and Eggen.

A section of buildings known as the McCall Block was probably built in the 1880's. It consisted of a series of three attached structures. The first floor of each was shops, the second was used for living quarters. However, the buildings on the south side never drew as much trade as those on the north side. One of the shops was occupied by O. A. Sasada of Randolph as a men's clothing store. Jonathan Hughes and Everett Jones each had confectionary - ice cream parlors in one of the buildings. In the middle structure, Perley and Leonard Dodge had a garage, one of the first in the village. In the early 1940's the property was purchased by Ervin Rausch for a garage, and the old McCall Block was razed.



The next building to the west was last occupied by Milton Lockhart who sold it to the Cambria State Bank for a parking lot. It was recently razed.

The corner building was known as the Brandt Building for years. At one time Adam Brandt had a saloon there, living quarters on the second floor. It presently houses the Venture Restaurant.

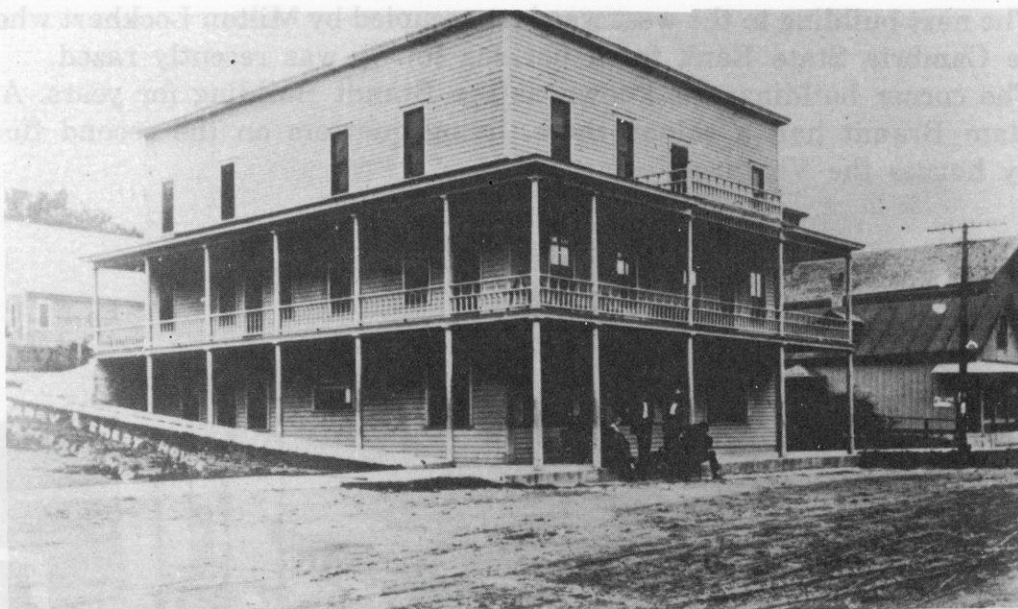


1912 - Cambria Main Street



and 1922 - how it changed in ten years





The Hotel Parry in 1910

Concluding the survey would be the Parry Hotel which was built in 1873 by Issac Parry. It was operated continuously by members of the family for some eighty years. In 1923 it was remodeled and called the Cambria Hotel. Matilda Parry, her husband Bert, and Frank Parry and his wife Ida were the operators of the hotel. Its good rooms and dining room facilities attracted traveling salesmen who made business calls here between trains for many years. In 1900 Herman Tonn and Adam Kuhn built a bus that Homer Parry, brother of Frank and Matilda, used to meet the trains. The building was finally sold to Morris Williams in 1960 who, with his son David, operated their Morry and Dave's TV Shop. In 1974 it was sold to Robert Herwig.

### Livery Stables

Several of the stores mentioned above were on-going concerns for several years especially through the turn of the century. One of those was the livery stable.

Before the days of the automobile, it was "the surrey with the fringe on top" for classy transportation. Cap Keil, had a livery stable on the site of the present Presbyterian Church. In her report on the history of Cambria, Marie Kuehn mentioned that his three-seated surrey with tassels and fringe around the top with himself as the good-natured driver was popular for taking the dressmaking girls for a ride.

After the turn of the century, George and Charley Mohr's livery stable, just past the mill and the dam, had a three-seater, too. Charley had a supply of one and two seaters, also. He regularly furnished transportation for Dr. Williams on his medical calls.

In 1906 the stable of Dr. William E. Edwards was north of his residence on 203 E. Edgewater Street. Reminiscences recall the wide door to the west end of the stable, an aisle through the center with horse stalls on either side, buggies here and there.



## Restaurants

One group of businesses that have not only a lengthy past, but also a commendable present and future is restaurants.

In the years after the turn of the century ice cream, candy or a lunch was available at Bill Polly's, the Wm. Evans place where the taxidermist shop is now housed. If you took a pail with you, fresh milk could be purchased in case you didn't keep a cow.

John W. Jones and later Harry Morris had confectioner's stores on the north side of the Main Street. However, if you wanted groceries also, Mrs. Morgan's business across the street from the confectioner's shops was the place to mix sweets and a shopping list. Eventually she retired, and Mr. Robert Tarrant equipped it for an ice cream parlor which was managed by Wally Sanderson and later Joe and Myfanwy Archer until the building was renovated for use as the Cambria Library.

Later in the 1920's, Jonathon Hughes began a grocery-confectionary concern on the north side of the business district along with the Everett and Milton Jones venture.



Interior of Jonathon Hughes' grocery store. Both George and Jonathon Hughes pictured here managed the Hughes Brothers Lumber Co. from 1905-1916

In the 1930's a succession of three businessmen - Frank Muenchow, George Smith and finally, Carl Frederick, stocked groceries, candy and ice cream in the stone building where Mrs. Morgan formerly had her store.



But there came a time in Cambria when there was no place in the village where refreshments, lunches or meals were available. Laura Hopkins was prevailed upon to furnish just that. The owner of the former Harry Morris building renovated that structure, equipped it with booths and other facilities, and so Cambrians began to eat out. This was about 1938 when \$8.00 paid the rent for a month, \$3.00 was the weekly wage for help, hamburgers and hot dogs were 10 cents and the highest priced sandwich cost 15 cents. Even a steak dinner was only \$1.00.

In spite of the Depression her business outgrew the facilities in a year or two. Seeing the situation, Mr. Billy Thomas who had recently purchased the building formerly occupied by the Lockhart Store and set up his undertaking establishment there, offered Laura a solution. Would she bring her restaurant to the west rooms in his building if he would remodel and completely equip it? The move was then made, and she continued in business for eight more years.

Ethel Hughes carried on the tradition, especially with her homemade pies. Another advantage to the community was the availability of a suitable place where groups, banquets or special parties could meet and be served.

Ethel Hughes retired in 1929. The business passed into the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Verne Manthey, then to the Clifton Rings. About 1965, Ruth Jones took over the management and still continues the service. In 1972 the east room of the building became vacant; it was added to the establishment as a bar, and in partnership with Ray Jones, the Crossroads Restaurant had its beginnings.

In 1972, Evelyn Leystra opened the Venture in the one-time Adam Brandt Building at the corner of E. Edgewater and Towyn Streets thus continuing the tradition.



Southside of the business section from 1909





*west*

Looking ~~east~~ *west* in 1907 along the business district

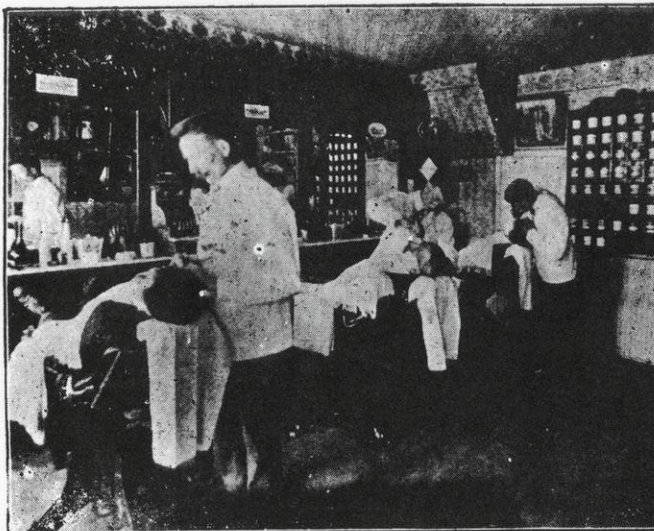
### Barbershops

In the Gay Nineties, all prosperous communities had not only ice cream parlors, band concerts and millinery shops, but also the all important barber shop.

Mr. Fred Pickruhn was the gentleman who supplied this ingredient in the east side of the former Jake Scharf building, now occupied by Bill's Tap. It was about 1900 that Mr. Pickruhn bought the building which now houses Chuck's barbershop.

Following Mr. Pickruhn's death in 1926, Paul Kitman who had worked with Mr. Pickruhn, took over as sole operator. This arrangement lasted until 1933 when Bill Blankschein took over the management of the shop. He maintained the operation until his death in 1962.

At present Mr. Chuck Dykstra is the operating barber in that building.



INTERIOR VIEW OF SHOP.

When you want an easy shave,  
As good as barber ever gave,  
Just call on me at my saloon  
At morning, eve or busy noon,  
I will cut your hair with grace,  
To suit the contour of your face,  
My shears are sharp, my razors keen,  
My shop is neat and always clean,  
And everything I think you'll find  
To suit the taste and please the mind.

**Fred A. Pickruhn's**  
**Shaving Parlor, Op. Hotel Parry,**  
**CAMBRIA, WIS.**

Ladies and children's haircutting and shampooing a specialty. First-class work, clean towels and courteous treatment guaranteed.

Shears ground, razors honed and put in order good as new.



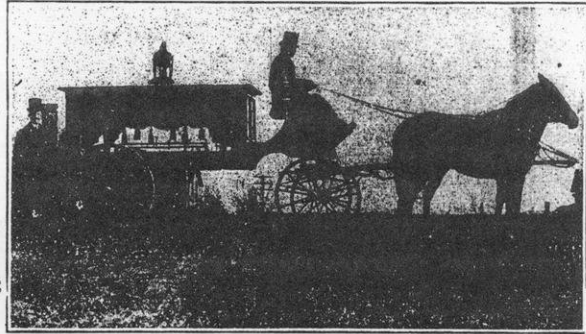


J. AP.  
**EDWARDS**  
**Undertaker**

and Funeral Director  
Licensed Embalmer.

**Picture Framing**  
**promptly done**

TELEPHONE AT RESI-  
DENCE, NO. 30



The undertaking business as it began with J. Ap Edwards

### Funeral Parlors

One enterprise, however, that wasn't listed in the business summary of 1880 was that of casket making and its related arts.

David R. Jones and Evan O. Jones were early casket makers in Cambria. In fact, Evan O. Jones made his own casket many years before he needed it and stored it in his attic. It was shaped narrower at the foot than the head. The name of the first undertaker is not known, but W. E. Evans was the undertaker in the 1890's.

John Ap Edwards became the embalmer and undertaker from 1900 to 1926. At first the embalming was done in the homes. Later, this task was performed in a building north of the Presbyterian Church in what had originally been a photography gallery. At that time the bodies were returned to the homes until the services at the church.

W. G. Thomas purchased the business from J. Ap Edwards and became the embalmer and undertaker after a period of study. During this interval he bought the Lockhart Hardware and Furniture Store which he converted to a funeral home about 1938.

After W. G. Thomas's son, Thomas W. Thomas came home from the service in World War II, he joined his father after a period of study. He also became an embalmer and funeral director. Following the death of his father, the junior Mr. Thomas and his wife Sarah continued the business. In 1967 they built a new funeral home at the corner of Commerce and Mary Streets.



The Thomas Funeral Home in 1967



## Lumber Companies

Following the sawmill which was the earliest profit-making business in the village, was another associated industry. Various lumber companies were in Cambria in the 1860's and several prominent citizens - Wm. Ap Jones, John Ap Jones, the Currie Brothers, D. R. Williams, and the Hughes brothers - were associated with their management.

However in 1923, the Cambria Lumber Co. came into existence with Mr. Evan A. Rowlands as manager and co-owner. In 1927, he became the secretary-treasurer as well, with Mr. J. H. Mair as the president.

From 1935 until 1951 the lumber company also handled fuel, seed and grain products, but at present only the solid fuels and oil are the commodities that are handled.

Evan Rowlands continued in the business until his death in 1957. Since then Warren Williams became a shareholder and is the active manager. In the last few years there have been extensive improvements made to the physical plant, including a new millwork room and work shop, also a new office and display room.

## Telephone

As the above mentioned enterprises came into existence, "Mr. Bell's invention" was making its mark in the area.

The first telephone in Cambria was installed in the print shop of Mr. Streeter, editor of the "Cambria News" about 1903. The next one installed was in the farm home of Mr. Thomas Williams, Buck Hill. Previous to that the nearest telephone was in Wyocena.

The many calls coming into Cambria became a nuisance to Mr. Streeter, so Mrs. Morgan had one installed in her confectionary store next door.

Later, the Farrington Telephone Company set up a central office in Cambria. With increases in business, The Farrington Company changed its name to the People's Telephone Company.

At the same time a new telephone company was organized, north of the village. It was named the Farmer's Line. Its central office was located in the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Charles; she and her daughter, Lydia operated it.

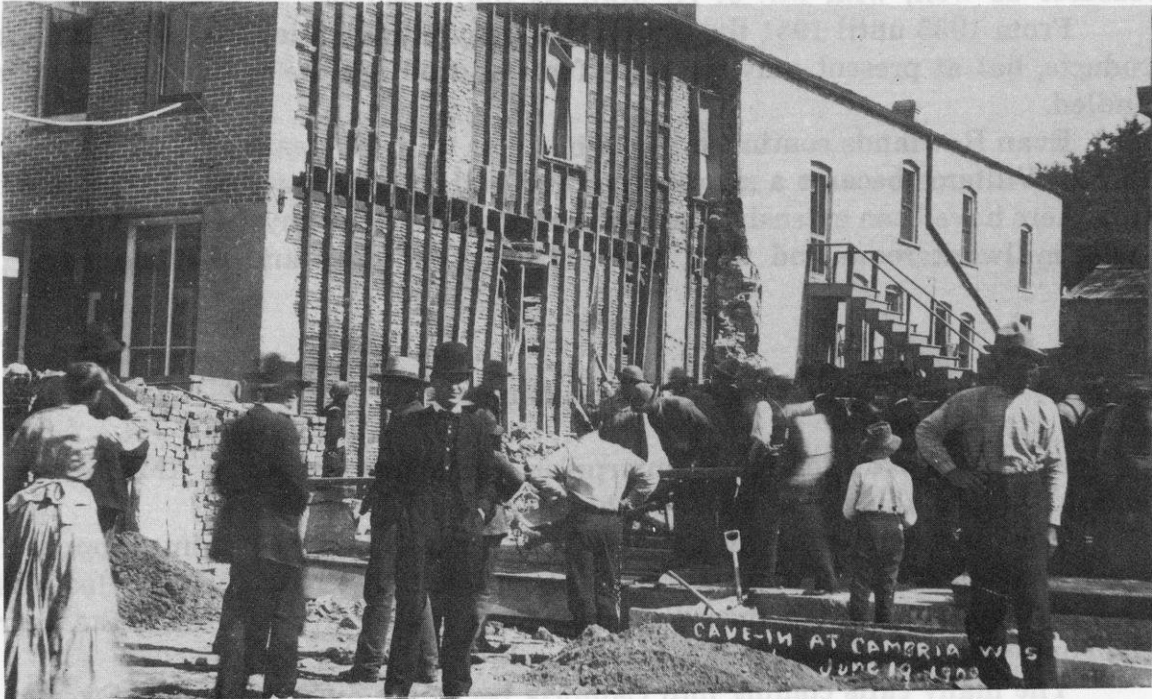
When major necessary repairs were needed, the Farmer's Line sold out to the People's Telephone Company who now had their main office in Rio. This newly expanded company established the Cambria central office in the Inglehart building. It remained there until 1964 when the dial system was installed. At that point, all of the mechanical equipment was housed in a new brick building south of the hotel building, on Towyn Street. The chief operator now is in Beaver Dam and the business office is in Randolph.



## Banks

To grow and prosper a community needs financial institutions, so it was that the Bank of Cambria was organized in 1881 under the auspices of Mr. Edward Harris. Morris J. Rowlands was president in 1881 with his son, David M. as vice-president.

After the death of the senior Mr. Rowlands, David M. became the president. C. A. Scott and E. Merwin Rowlands were cashier and assistant cashier, respectively.



During the construction of the Cambria State Bank in 1908, the wall of an adjoining building collapsed.

In 1936 the Bank of Cambria was purchased by the Cambria State Bank. This bank began operations in 1909 with Henry Schemmel as its first president from 1909 - 1936. Evor Roberts, the owner of the first bank building holding this concern, was the cashier until his death in 1918.

Owen I. Jones followed Mr. Schemmel as president from 1936 to 1949; then D. Claude Roberts from 1949 to 1960. Upon his death, Anna L. Jones became president until she retired in 1962 after forty-eight years of service to the bank. Mr. A. M. Schou was president from 1962 until 1968.

With a capital stock of \$15,000.00 in 1909, the growth is over \$8,000,000.00 (Eight Million) during these 67 years.

### Present Officers:

Maurice Colby, President since 1969

Eleanor Davies, came to the bank in 1945, Vice President since 1966

Dorothy Colby, Vice President since 1969

Jean Downen, came to the bank in 1953, Cashier since 1966



Directors: Chairman, O. A. Evenson  
Maurice Colby  
Eleanor Davies  
Peter Klootra

Dorothy Colby  
Jean Downen  
John J. Koopmans



Inside view of the completed Cambria bank with Evan O. Roberts and Owen J. Jones  
*Evan* *J.*

### Creamery



The creamery as it was upon completion in 1892

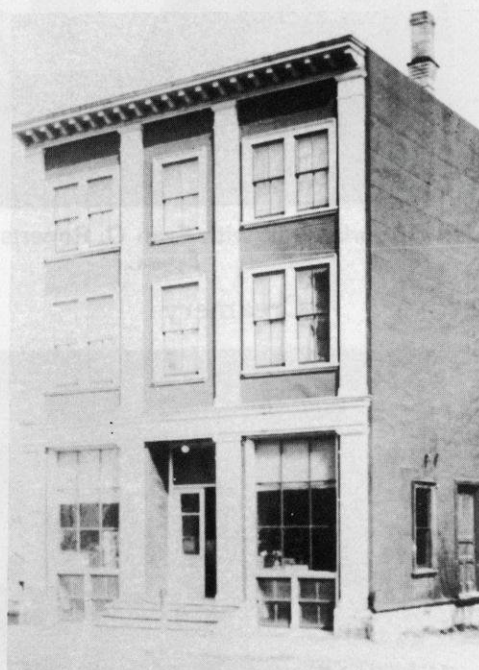


Completed in 1892, the Cambria Creamery processed milk, butter and cheese. Early names associated with the plant were Bailer, Moldenhauer, Fred Friday and Kaiser. Later Emil Marquardt, the Warnke brothers and the Wuethrick brothers purchased and ran the plant. Frank Westphal from Randolph who managed a chain of cheese factories in the area had a part in the operation, also. Emil Marquardt bought out the two sets of brothers in 1940.

When the Borden Company purchased the facility in 1941, they needed a more adequate water supply for rapid milk cooling, so they proceeded to dig a deeper well, about 165 feet. The Borden Company continued to use the plant as a receiving station and departure point for milk going to the Columbus plant where it was processed into powdered milk.

The village of Cambria bought the facility a few years later because of the good well and of a need to supplement its water supply. It was then incorporated into the village system.

### Cold Storage



Cold storage business as seen in 1899.

Another turn of the century business enterprise was the cold storage industry.

The cold storage building, a landmark on Cambria's Main Street for three-quarters of a century was removed in 1975. Modern methods of refrigeration had made its use obsolete. Originally the produce business in Cambria was situated in a building which in the early years of the town was located on the site of the old post office on the north side of the street. One of its first occupants was Cambria's first doctor, John L. Williams. After several changes of ownership, it was occupied by Sam Toay and a partner whose name is not known. They had a produce business



and employed E. O. Roberts. Sometime later he bought the business. At that time ice cakes were used for refrigeration, and were stored in an ice house on the south side of the pond. They were packed in sawdust, for insulation.

In the 1890's a new method of refrigeration in the form of cold storage buildings came into use in which large quantities of eggs, butter and cheese could be stored for several months. In 1897 a building of this type was erected by E. O. Roberts. An item in the "Cambria News" of October 1987 read, "H. P. Delorson left for his home in Whitewater after completing construction of the E. O. Roberts Cold Storage." The late Adam Kuhn was the carpenter who built the structure. The huge amount of lumber to be used was piled on a vacant lot across the street. This building was used as a storage area for much of the areas perishable produce. Farmers in the community sold eggs and poultry here. Two egg routes also brought in eggs. One team and wagon driven by Ned Lloyd brought in eggs from the Kingston-Marquette area, and David Wynn gathered eggs on the route south of Cambria.



Ben Price with his egg wagon next to the cold storage business

Thousands of these eggs were candled by Rudolph Rausch, in a dark room with a kerosene lamp back of a shoe box set on end with a hole the size of an egg opposite the chimney. He could pick up 4 eggs in each hand and with one turn of his wrist candle four eggs.

Mr. Roberts sold a half interest in the business in 1906 to A. G. Hopkins, and in 1908 Mr. Hopkins bought out the entire business, which he operated for more than twenty-five years. Others he employed were Herman Martin, Ben Price and Ervin Hopkins. Price and Hopkins drove the first trucks used to gather eggs.



In the earliest years of produce selling, the frontier farmers brought eggs in baskets or pails of oats to stores to be traded for goods in the merchant's store. Butter was also used in five pound crocks to barter for goods. The cold storage paid cash that could be spent anywhere, so encouraging improvement in poultry raising.

Mr. Hopkins retired in the thirties, and Wallace Kukuk became the next proprietor. He extended an addition to the east of the large building which contained the feed grinding machinery. A change of ownership again took place when Hayden Jones and Dennis McCarthy bought Mr. Kukuk's interests in 1959. Then Hayden Jones purchased the McCarthy shares and was sole owner, for a time until he sold the business to the Rio Farmer's Union Co-op. He remained as manager until the Cambria plant was closed. The Rio Co-op built a modern agricultural facility one mile west of Cambria on Highway P in 1974.

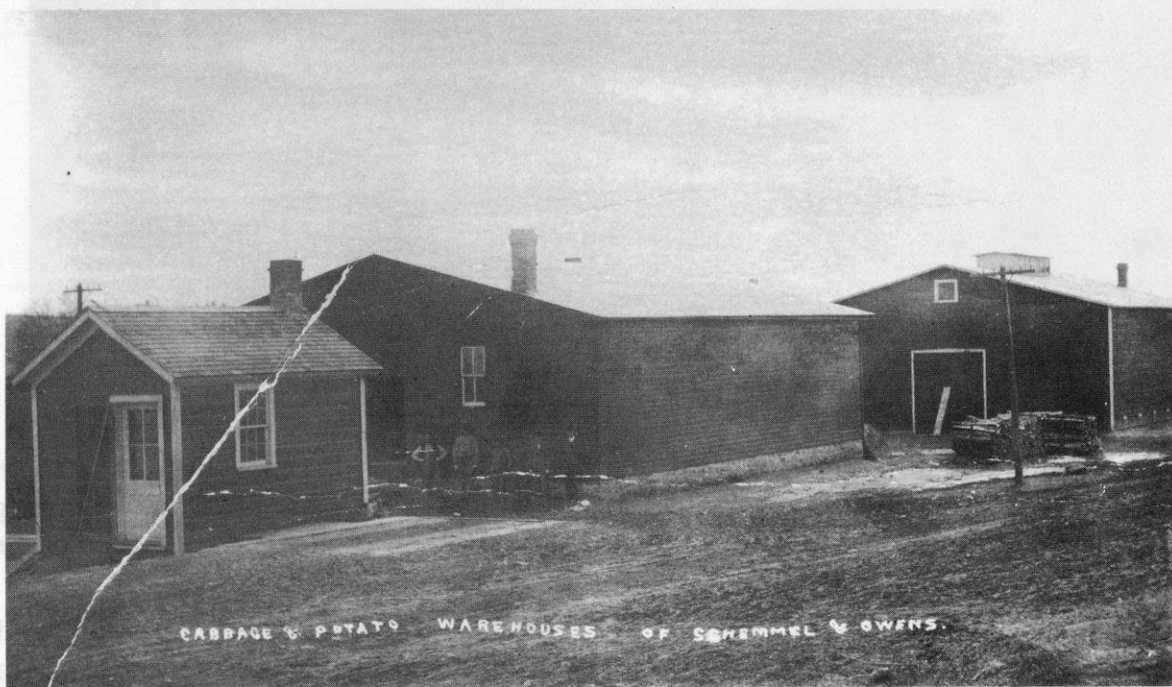
The old storage building was removed in 1975 in sections which were taken to Baraboo. The new owners rebuilt the sections into a home.

### Canning Companies

Continuing the industry and creativity of the early settlers, several new firms have been developed and prospered.

One of these was Columbia Canning Company. The forerunner of the present plant was organized in 1920 by a group of farmers and citizens affiliated with banker, D. M. Rowlands.

The plant was built on a hill to the south-west of Cambria, south of and adjacent to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad tracks.



Cabbage and potatoe warehouses of Schemmel and Owens



Initially, it was a two line operation to handle peas only. In 1946 a line was installed to handle creamogenized corn.

In 1956 it became part of Michigan Fruits, a division of Consolidated Foods, Inc.

Through the years of it's operation a goodly list of farmers and citizens have served in various capacities at the plant: Mr. D. M. Rowlands for 15 years, Henry James until his death in 1946; Ben Dodge until his retirement in 1947; W. W. Jones for many years. Among others there was Temp Slinger, W. W. Bird, Greydon Jones, A. A. Kuehn and John Gorsuch.

In 1973, the Larson Company purchased the Michigan Fruit Plant in Cambria. This company is entirely a Wisconsin operation which consists of seven plants, the head office being in Green Bay.

At Cambria, the plant continued to process peas and whole kernel corn in addition to a green bean processing plant. The year around employees number about 29 with peak season employment at 325, 70% of whom are migrant.



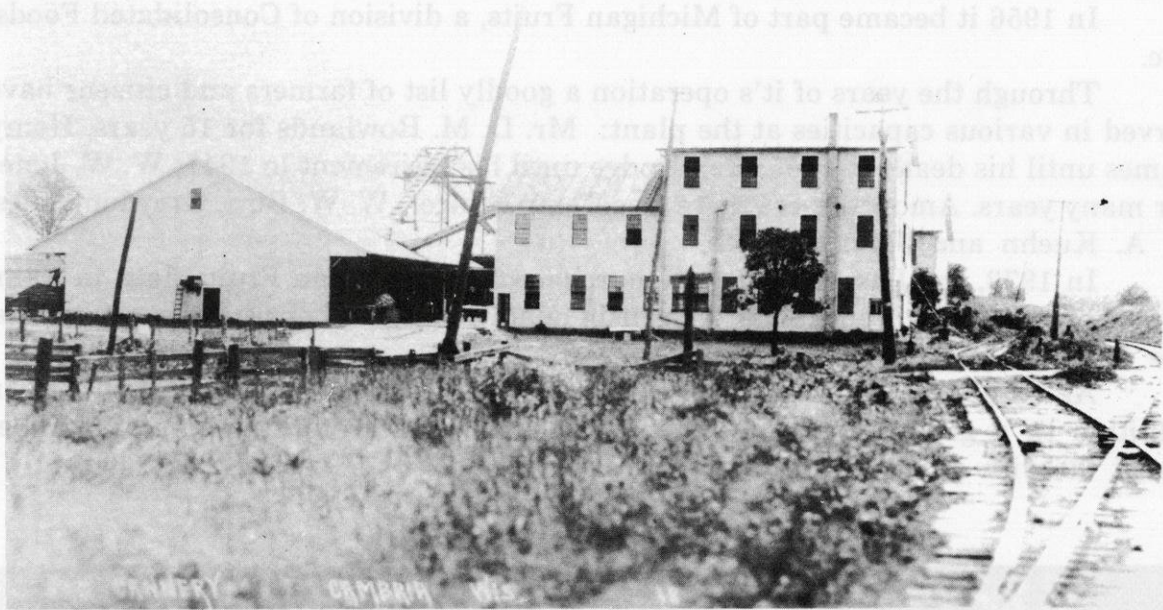
Relaxing in front of the first office of the Cambria Canning Factory are (l to r): Richard Owen, Henry Schemmel and Owen Williams (Glynn)

However, the earliest such venture in food processing began in 1912 with the Cambria Canning Company. The first officers were Henry F. Schemmel, president and sales manager; Frank C. Roberts, Richard C. Owens and William E. Williams.

In 1920 expansion and improvements were needed, so the erection of a three story brick and concrete building and a two story brick warehouse were instituted. Several farms were also acquired at that time.

In 1924 the complex was completely destroyed by fire, but rebuilt the next year.





Cambria Canning Co. - 1913

The company was acquired by the Midwest Canning Company of Rochelle, Illinois, in 1929, and ten years later by the Fall River Company who operated it under the Cambria Canning Corporation, Incorporated, Fall River.

Since 1966 green beans have been canned here. In 1968 a warehouse including office space was built. This was in addition to the new factory built in 1965 after the demolition of the previous structures. 1975 saw the establishment of Fall River's own can manufacturing plant. Now the canning facility comprises eight canning lines, using three can sizes - the gallon, one pound, and eight ounce. A variety of vegetables are canned: peas, carrots, green and wax beans, whole kernel corn and cream-style corn.

Fall River has a chain of six plants, Cambria being the largest. The bulk of its operation and quality control is based here. In 1976, it has been placed under Federal Food and Drug control by order of the State Department of Agriculture for the purpose of using experimental weights and labeling procedures. Also a bacterial laboratory has been established for all the Fall River plants.

Approximately seventy-five persons are given year-round employment. During the peak canning season there is a work force of about 350 working in two shifts. This group is drawn from the entire adjacent community with migrants working in the corn pack.



## Horse Farms

Completing the agricultural enterprises in the community is the registered Morgan horse farm.

HyLee Farm was established in 1946 - located 1 and one-half miles south of Cambria on the first and only Round Barn farm.

With the foundation mare Dolly Mae whose first colt Dr. W. C. Edwards named 'Cariad', the Behlings, Bob and Jane ventured into the highly competitive 'horse business'. From this one great mare eleven grand champion offspring graced the show rings from Minnesota to Kentucky.

The only living set of Morgan twin foals brought visitors to the farm from all the states and Puerto Rico.

The Behling children have continued showing and raising horses with great success. Jacquelyn, the daughter now lives with her husband Ed Millet at the same farm, newly named Country Manor. She has co-authored Volume 16 of 'Who's Who in Horsedom' and writes for 'Horse World Magazine', located in Lexington, Kentucky. She is a recognized horse show judge and has shown the HyLee Morgans to many National championships. She is also the World's Champion Three-Gaited amateur rider with American saddlebred horses. She exhibited for her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren A. Lee. Presently Jackie is training horses and teaching riding.

Robert Lee Behling, a Junior at U.W. La Crosse, is a most prominent exhibitor. His Road Pony mare, the Shady Lady, has been Champion at Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kentucky, and was All-American Pony Mare in 1974. Robert is also exhibiting a great-granddaughter of the HyLee foundation mare, Dolly Mae, a three year old filly, HyLee's Kilarney. (Contributed by Jane Behling Steffenhagen)

## Garages

In Cambria proper several people began the business that came with the invention of Henry Ford. Garages and oil stations have played their part in the business community of this community.

David R. Price was an early dealer in cars from about 1915 to 1920. He sold his business to Pearly and Leonard Dodge who continued the business for a number of years. Ray Leary, after finishing a course at a school of engineering in Milwaukee, came to Cambria to work for the Dodge Brothers, and in 1929 the business moved from the McCall block to a building at the present site of the Post Office.

When the Post Office was constructed, Mr. Leary moved the garage to the north side of East Edgewater Street where he sold Shell gasoline.

Robert Hughes bought the business in 1975.

Wilbur Tonn was another garage operator since 1938. He sells Mobile oil and took over from George Mohr, the previous owner.

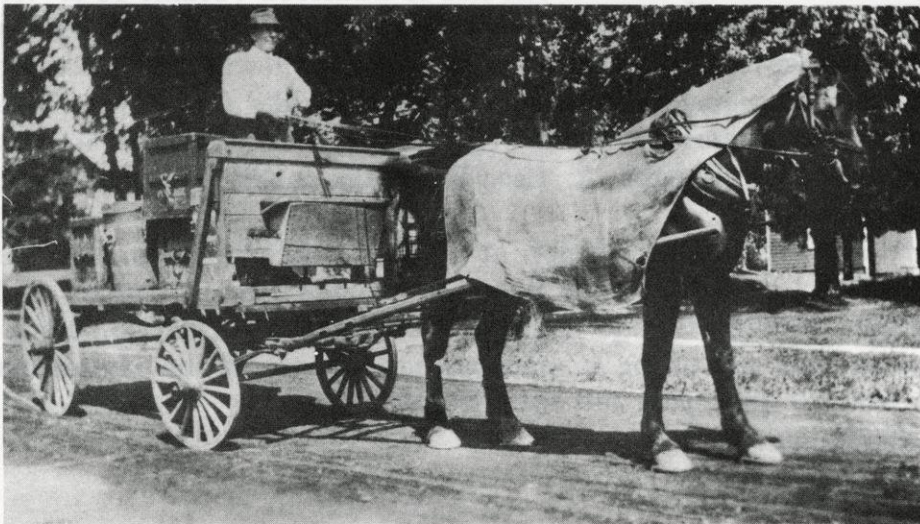


Hugh Williams who <sup>retired</sup> died in 1975 continued this growing legion of garage owners and operators. He ran the Pure oil station from 1936 to 1960 when he sold out to Merlin Klug. Now, James Agnew is the present owner.

Another station was started at the corner of Edgewater and Madison Streets with David G. Jones as its first owner. Later it was run by Harold Zieman for thirty years. Presently, a Mr. Vander Muellen is the operator.

Fred Buetschli operated the Standard Oil Station here in Cambria from 1932 until 1952 when his son took control. It is still in the family.

Finally, Rausch's Garage which began in 1930 with Mr. Ervin Rausch as the proprietor was one of the places people could buy Chevrolets in this area. Mr. Rausch's son, William, followed him in this enterprise, and in 1976 the concern was moved to a new location on North Madison Street.



The dray business in Cambria was outstanding in many respects. One of which was that Thomas Ap Owen's old dray horse was in the village for 30 years and 26 of it was on the dray, from 1886-1916

### Newest Business Additions

The following corporations bring the history of business in Cambria up to date.

The first of these was the Cambria Area Corporation. At the beginning of the year 1954 the Cambria Area Corporation was organized by a group of citizens for the purpose of encouraging and assisting the social, industrial and economic growth of the village of Cambria. The immediate need was to establish a place in which to care for the present and future medical needs.

The Corporation was authorized to issue and sell debenture and capital stock to finance the venture. The building committee named by the Board of Directors functioned well, and the construction of the Cambria Clinic was started in April, completed in July, for the occupancy of Dr. Joseph Brown.



The Clinic office was occupied by Dr. Brown from its opening on July, 1954 until 1962 when he left to enter another field of medicine. Dr. Toutant had a dental office there for a number of years. When Dr. Brown left, Dr. Robert Taake served the area in the medical offices on a part time basis until February, 1963; Dr. Pavelsek until April 1963; Dr. Willard Jacks from November 1963 until June 1964. The Clinic and the area were without a doctor until June, 1971 when Dr. A. Samadani opened his office in the Clinic building, and he has served the area since, the last few years on a part-time basis from the Beaver Dam Hillside Hospital and his office there.

The first Board of Directors was:

President.....W. A. Lee  
Vice President.....Graydon Jones  
Secretary.....Irvin E. Abendroth  
Treasurer.....E. A. Rowlands

Other members of the first Board of Directors were: R. W. Leary, Owen I. Jones, G. E. Jones.

On August 25, 1958 Graydon Jones resigned as Vice President, and Mr. Owen I. Jones was appointed in his place. He and the other members of the Board of Directors served on it as long as they lived.

The Corporation was dissolved in 1972 when the Clinic facility was sold to Dr. A. Samadani.

Next on the slate of new businesses was the Cambria Parkview Apartments, Inc.

A few years ago a group of citizens saw the need of rental housing for senior citizens. A corporation was erected of stockholders to establish seed money which with an F.H.A. loan could be used for the construction of a housing unit.

A ten-unit facility was erected in 1973 and opened in 1974. Two more units are in the planning.

The officers are:

President.....Maurice Colby  
Secretary-Treasurer.....Arthur Burbach

The Board of Directors: O. A. Evenson, Donald Mohr, Clayton Morgan, Orville Hendricson.

The final major addition to this area of village growth was begun in 1973 when a group of Cambria citizens formed a non-profit, non-stock, promotional organization - The Cambria Industrial Development Corporation. Its purpose was to promote an industrial area to the south and west of the village limits.

The incorporators are: Arthur Grams, Ole Evenson, Maurice Colby, Warren Williams, Arthur Burbach, T. W. Thomas, Donald Doering, Jay Williams and C. B. Sanderson.

The officers and directors are:

President.....Jay Williams  
Secretary.....Arthur Burbach  
Treasurer.....Maurice Colby  
Directors.....Art Grams, Ole Evenson, Warren Williams



With the Village Board they have been instrumental in acquiring an eighty acre Industrial Park that is being paid for by raising corn. The first three tenants of the Industrial Park are the Auto Strippers and Restorers Plant, Oscar Meyer and Bill Gorsuch Trucking Concern.



A focal point of every early community is the village pump. Cambria's had the good fortune to be graced by six lovely ladies.

In 1974 the State licensed their first Home Day Care Center in Columbia County. The chosen name was Hughes Family Care Center located at 203 First Street in Cambria, Wisconsin. The home of and operated by Linda Hughes assisted by family members David, Brian and Beth. The Center could care for all children from area families between the ages of 0-5 years of age, open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. six days per week (seven during the canning season) all year long.

During the day meals and snacks are provided. The children sing, play games, art activities are conducted, listen to stories and have free play, take a rest period during the day after being rocked.

They all share and play together as if they were the best of friends, the older children assisting the younger as well as helping to prepare some of the food for snacks or lunches, such as pudding, pizza, cookies or vegetables.

They also enjoy many field trips to nearby places of interest.

There are a few state regulations to follow: each child and members of the Hughes family must have a TB test and physical yearly, all poisons at the center must be kept out of reach, a fire extinguisher, smoke detector and fire drills are practiced.

The parents play an important role in their child's life even if they work by cooperating in every way and participating in activities held at the center. Without the parent's help, the care center couldn't be.

As of this date, 1976, the center has cared for over 100 children.



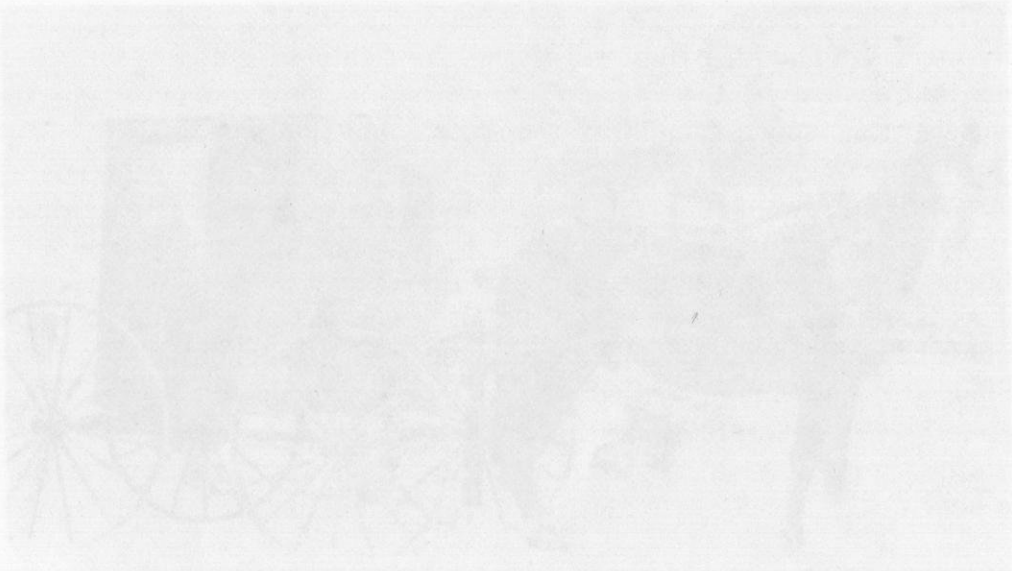
Child Development Center Nursery School, Inc.

This Nursery School began in the fall of 1974 with an enrollment of 20 children between the ages of 3 and 5 years old. It is state licensed and operates from September to May and is a joint school between Randolph and Cambria having two locations one being in Cambria Presbyterian and the other in Randolph Methodist.

The parents are all members of a board which runs the school. Five persons are chosen to serve on the board as officers for a one or two year period. Each session, which are two hours long and twice a week, a parent helper assists the teacher.

Money for nursery school is received from private donations, fund raising projects and fees paid by the parents of the child attending.

Home Day Care Center fees are paid by parents, depending on hours at the center, age of the children, number of children in the family.



First mail carrier Benjamin Roberts on Route 2 north of Cambria



## STAMPS, STEVENSON, "SCOOPS"

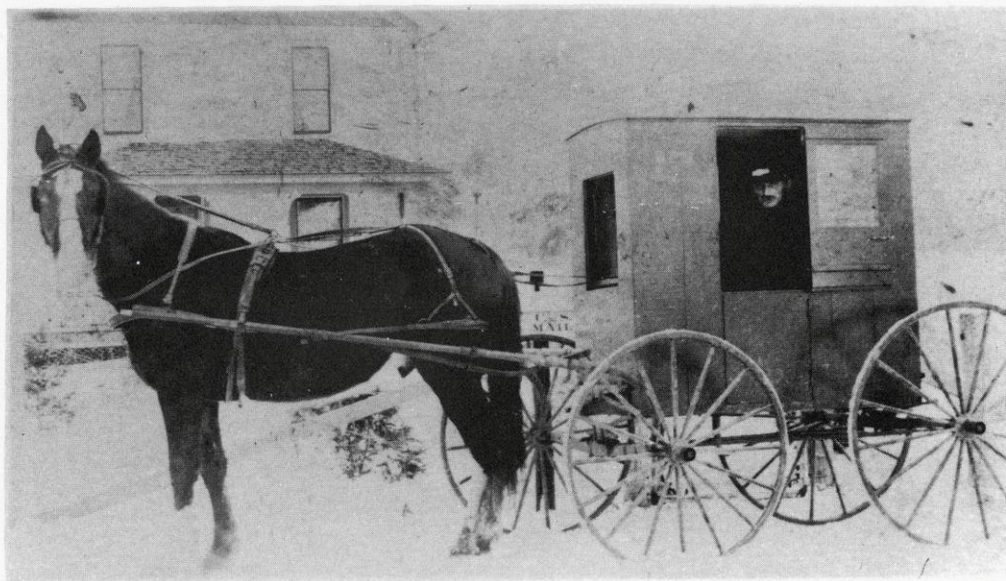
### THE POST OFFICE

"Mail call for Centerville". Centerville? Cambria was once Langdon's Mill, Belleville, and Florence, but never Centerville.

For four years before Cambria received her post office, Centerville three miles to the north of Cambria at what is now the intersection of Hwy 33 and Englehart Road, was the stage coach stop for the mail coaches traveling east and west, approximately along what is now Highway 33. As the stages for these coaches were at intervals of from five to seven miles, Centerville was the closest to the growing settlement along Duck Creek. Previous to the year 1850, the nearest post office was at Fox Lake.

After the arrival of a Mr. L. Richards in 1852, this gentleman, along with Lewis Lloyd and Peter Houston began to urge the government through petitions and letters to authorize an office in Cambria. It took two years before Mr. William Post was appointed the first postmaster at the Cambria Post Office. However it wasn't until 1857 and the advent of the railroad, that Cambria had direct mail service. Until that time, a man was sent to Centerville to collect the mail.

Sometime during the period of 1898 and 1919, the post office was located at the present site. In the same period, the first rural route was established with Benjamin Roberts as the first carrier on rural route one in 1900. In 1964, a new post office building was erected and dedicated.



First mail carrier, Benjamin Roberts, on Route 2 north of Cambria



The following is a list of postmasters who served at Cambria:

Postmaster	Date Appointed
William Post	1854
David Post	1855
James Kelly	1856
Horace Rust	1863
James Kelly	1869
Peter Williams	1878
Frank Ernspurger	1886
Evan O. Jones	1890
Henry Schemmel	1894
John R. Davies	1898
Fred Schliesman	1916
Thomas Morris	1925
Alex Mohr	1934
Marjorie Smith	1951
Wallace Sanderson	1954
Martin Ross	1955
Eldon Rode	1963



## THE LIBRARY

In 1895 the Cambria News advocated the opening of a reading room for the young people of the community. A few years later, Mr. Streeter, the editor, started one in his office. About fifty books were donated at that time and some were obtained from the traveling library in Portage. Within a few weeks it became so popular that he couldn't care for it along with his other work, so the books were moved to Mrs. Morgan's store and Miss Myfanwy became the first librarian at a rate of \$8.00 a month in 1904.

In 1916, a group of interested Cambria citizens met to form a Library Board for the village. This group consisted of Mr. E. O. Roberts, Mrs. A. G. Hopkins, Mrs. E. M. Cox, Mr. T. D. Morris, Miss Elinor Lloyd and Mrs. R. C. Owen. Mr. E. O. Roberts was elected president; Mrs. E. M. Cox, vice-president; Mrs. R. C. Owen, secretary; and Mrs. A. G. Hopkins, treasurer. They drew lots to see who should go out of office at the end of 1 year, 2 years and 3 years. At that time the library was located in the Lindenlaub Millinery Store.

During the formative years money was not plentiful, so through the Shakespeare Clubs, Mr. Streeter promoted the donation of books while the Library Board had teas, bake sales and tag days to provide funds. In 1917 the Village Board made an appropriation of \$200.00 and in 1919 this was raised to \$270.00.

In 1923 Mrs. Mary Cottam was elected as librarian; she served until 1940 when she resigned, and Mrs. Myfanwy Archer was elected to the post.

In 1943 Mr. Robert Tarrant bought and donated the building where the library is now housed after it had been renovated and equipped. The library was on the ground floor, the upstairs for meeting and club rooms and the basement for housing the offices of the village water and street commissioners. The Jane Morgan Memorial Library, in honor of Mrs. Tarrant's mother, was then complete.

After a beginning which consisted of 50 books, the library now owns 13,183 volumes, classified and catalogued by the present staff; the present circulation is 7,294. There is a clipping file catalogued and filed alphabetically in manila folders on a wide range of subjects.

The shelves have been much enriched with gifts of collections from Mrs. Tarrant, Mrs. Bernice Lloyd, Mrs. E. A. Rowlands and many fine individual gifts. Financial support, besides gifts of money, comes from annual appropriations from the Cambria Village Board and support gifts from the Townships of Randolph, Scott, Courtland, Springvale and the Village of Friesland.

Since 1966, the present staff has consisted of Mrs. David Daniel and Mrs. Mary Minnema.

The librarians who have served through the years are:

Mrs. Myfanwy Archer (before and after her marriage)	Mrs. Morris Williams
Laura and Elsie Lindenlaub	Mrs. Marion Nollen
Mrs. Mary Cottam	Mrs. John Westmas
Miss Marian Hughes	Mrs. Alma Terry
Mrs. Mabel Hughes	



## HT THE NEWSPAPER HT

In March, 1882 J. E. Shirk came to Cambria bringing with him a printing office, and on April 6, 1882 issued the first newspaper ever printed here. Called the CAMBRIA JOURNAL and based claim to that title solely on the fact that four and one-half columns of the five column paper was devoted exclusively to local advertising, the remaining space to extracts from other papers outside of the community.

The CAMBRIA JOURNAL continued through the March of 1883. Then in 1884 the first issue of the CAMBRIA NEWS appeared with P. F. McMahon not only as editor, but also principal of the two-room school. His financial backer and partner was G. H. Beyer. These two gentlemen maintained control for approximately two years after which they disposed of the property to George King. He was followed by Peter and Owen Williams who conducted the business from 1887 to 1890 until son Owen became the sole proprietor. In 1893, the offices were leased to Mr. J. F. Streeter who finally purchased the property in 1895. Mr. Streeter continued as publisher until 1912 when he sold it to O. G. Stiles, who after a year's time disposed of the business to E. F. Krueger. In June 1926, Byron Hughes became editor and continued in that capacity until he passed away in 1932. He was succeeded by his wife, Mrs. B. W. Hughes who became editor and was assisted by her daughter, Dorothy. In June 1945, the paper was sold to Peter Vander Meulen of Randolph, then to Sam Cupery who moved it into the J. Ap Edwards building. In 1950 the CAMBRIA NEWS having served the area for 66 years was absorbed by the Pardeeville paper and the entire combination was named the MID—COUNTY TIMES. (Note: In the early 1950's old copies of the CAMBRIA NEWS were collected and microfilmed by the State Historical Society. The films are on file there. They can be viewed in the Microfilm Rooms there or loaned out by dates or articles on request.)



Dorothy Hughes Evans



## THE RAILS OF GROWTH

"The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific" - not quite the same ring as Johnny Mercer gave to "the Atichson, Topeka and the Santa Fe", but for the towns along the line from Milwaukee it meant growth, prosperity and a direct line to world events.

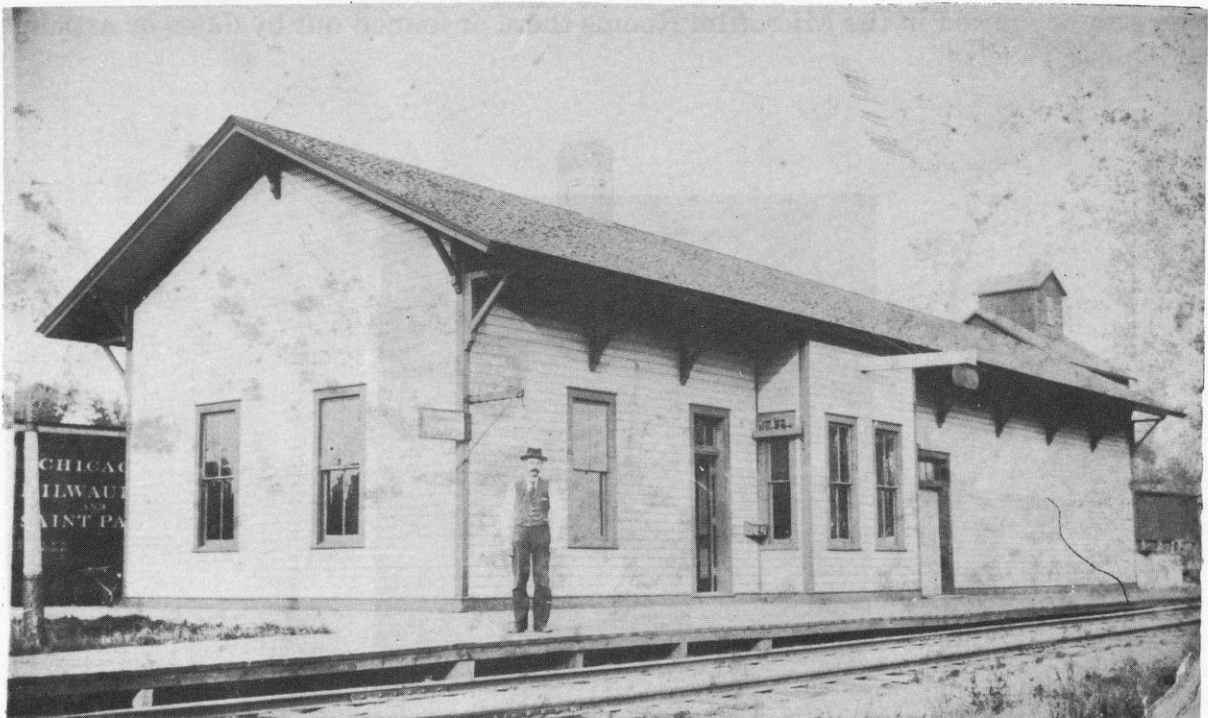
So in 1856, the section of track that had been built to Horicon the previous year, was extended through Cambria to Portage. Along this track were soon to roll two freights and 6 passenger trains daily.

To illustrate the prominence and vigor of the railroad in the early years, the depot agent's hours ran from 6-12 am, 1-6 pm and then from 7-9 pm or later depending on the amount of express freight to be handled.

One of the earliest buildings to comprise the station area was an 85 ft. x 24 ft. building which served as waiting room, warehouse and ticket office. In addition there was a water tower further along the track near what is now Sawyer Road. Eventually, 3 grain elevators, which handled 125,000 bushels annually in the years around 1895; and a sprawling stockyard completed the scene at the bustling turn-of-the-century railroad station.

Not only did the railroad help to bring parcels, but also the telegraph. Since it often took a week for news to be released in the press, the telegraph conveyed, within a few hours, the scores of baseball games, stock market prices and tragic events, such as the assassination of President McKinley.

For 63 years both the telegraph operator and depot agent were father and son, one succeeding the other. From 1863 until 1926, William Ap. Jones and W. G. Jones fulfilled both of those positions.



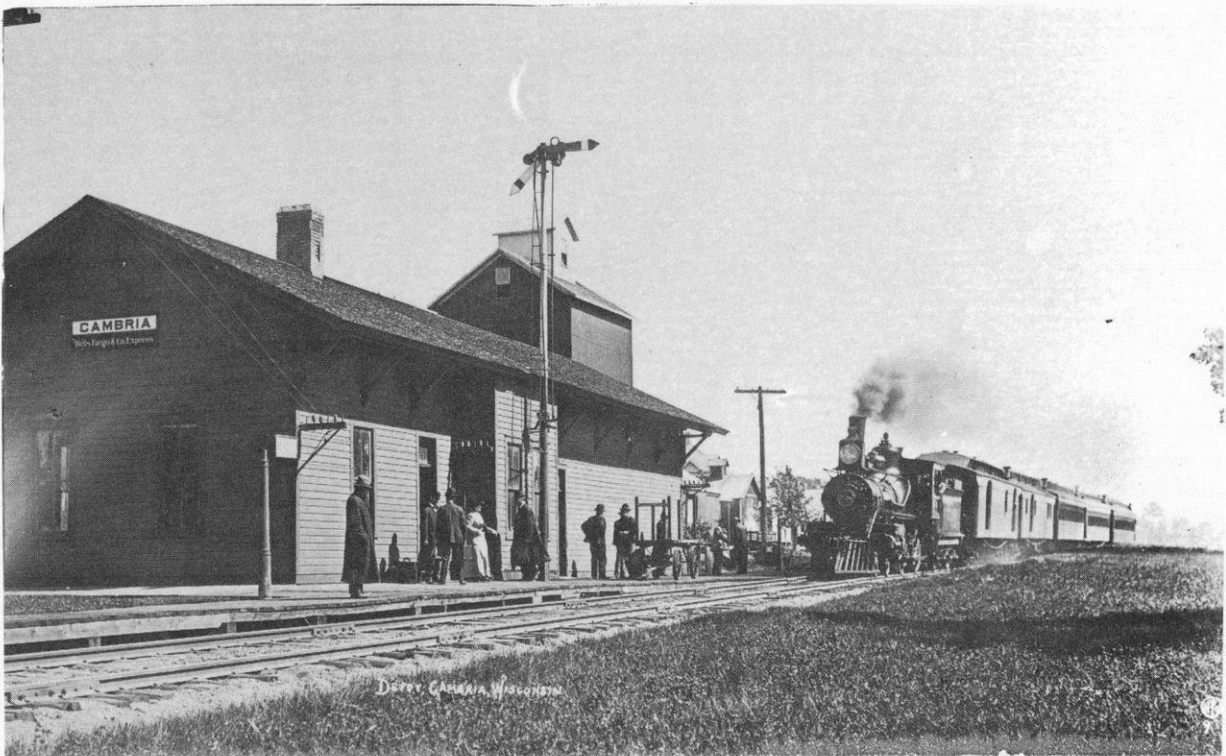
The Cambria Depot as it was in 1865 when it was supervised by Wm. Ap Jones



As society has a way of doing, priorities change, and in 1955 the depot was scaled down in a remodeling project. Then in the late 1950's, the Milwaukee Road closed the Cambria depot with it's illustrious history in the growth of an area and an era.



1912 Homecoming crowds at the depot



Cambria depot in 1920's





The depot in Cambria after remodeling in 1955

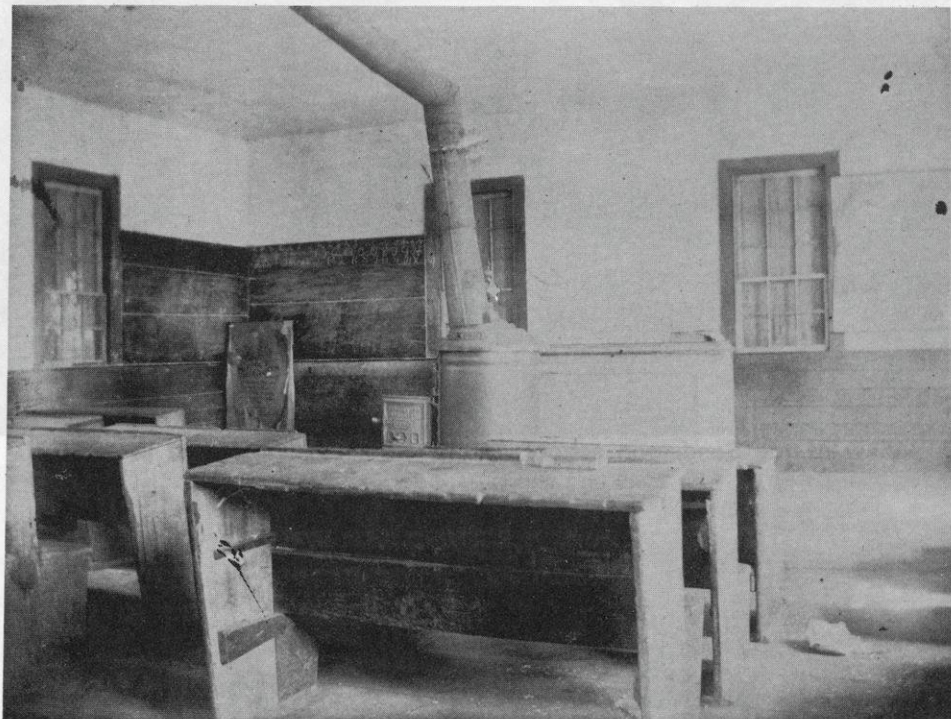




*“On cold windy winter days water froze on the floors of the old school....” (remarks of Mr. Temp Slinger)*

Buffeted by the sweeping winter winds and baked by the prairie sun, stood a log cabin three miles north of present day Cambria and 129 years in the past. This was one of the first buildings erected for formal education in what is now Columbia County.

Here during the winter of 1847-48, Dr. J. Ll. Williams taught night classes. However, plans were under way for the erection of a “proper” school in the growing village of “Florence” or “Langdon’s Mill” as it was then known.



Interior of the Sanderson school - desks hand hewn - stove for heating

Donating land and lumber, Mr. Samuel Langdon built a school house, 20 ft. by 24 ft. In this unpreposing building, a succession of teachers gave of their knowledge for a \$1.50 a week in addition to boarding with families of the students. Those teachers who taught in the winter term received a larger salary of \$20 to \$25 a month. The reason for the difference in pay was the fact that the “big boys” went to school in the winter term which extended from December to March, when the roads were made impassable by mud.

Originally schools met for only six months a year in two terms, the winter and the summer. Eventually this was extended to seven, then eight months as of 1914.

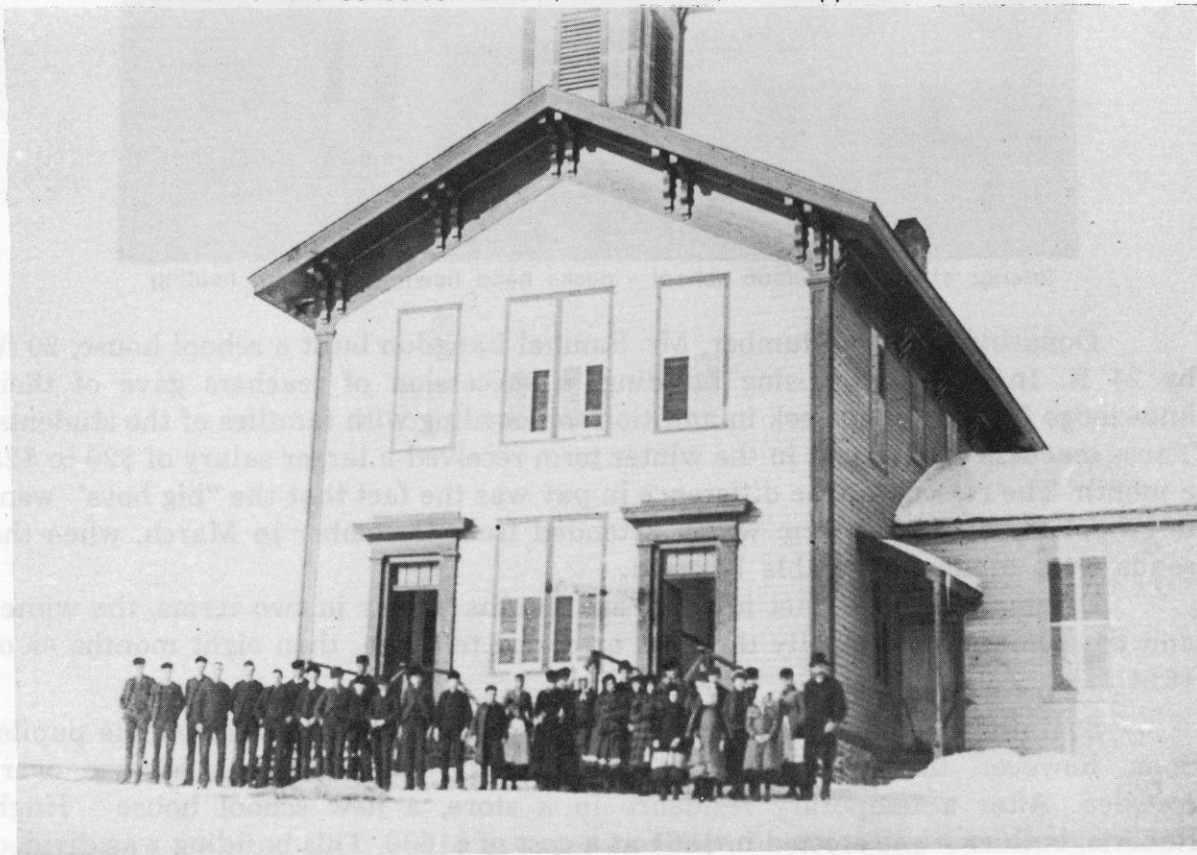
Still, during the first ten years there was one teacher for all of the pupils. Soon, however, there were seventy-five students and conditions became overcrowded. After a temporary residence in a store, a new school house - Hugh Roberts, builder - was erected in 1861 at a cost of \$1600. This building was divided



into three grades, and there were three teachers for the three hundred and thirteen students. In 1868, the building was moved to Towyn Street and a primary addition built.



View of the Sanderson school, 1860-1900, as it appeared in 1900.



Cambria's first photographed school building in 1865



In 1898, Cambria joined several of the surrounding school districts in advancing the cause of education when the district erected a new school, after much public debate, which included the first courses in high school instruction. This improvement changed the structure of education here. The school had previously been the primary department, the intermediate department and the upper form. Mr. Clinton Spicer, the first principal of the high school and a moving force in its addition, implemented the ninth and tenth grades. Later, he was instrumental in getting high school aid from the state.



The first building to house a high school in Cambria as it appeared upon completion in 1898

As of 1899, Cambria had a three year high school course, but in 1904 it had been increased to a four year school and appropriately enough, there were four graduates.



1912 Cambria School Faculty. Top row left to right: Daisy Chrislaw - grades, Nettie Hammond - high school, U. T. Cady - principle, Clarabell Hastings - high school. Bottom row: Lydia Hook - grades, Elva Cross - grades, unknown - grades.



Mr. Clinton E. Spicer, first high school principal





Early group of Cambria teachers in 1912 — Prin. Cady, N. Kessel, D. Chrislaw, L. Hook, M. Hammond, E. Cross, O. Humphrey

*— Priestland Junior — Cambria High School*

As a result of this increased activity, there were several additions made to the 1898 structure. In 1911 a north wing was added and in 1929 a new gymnasium was built.



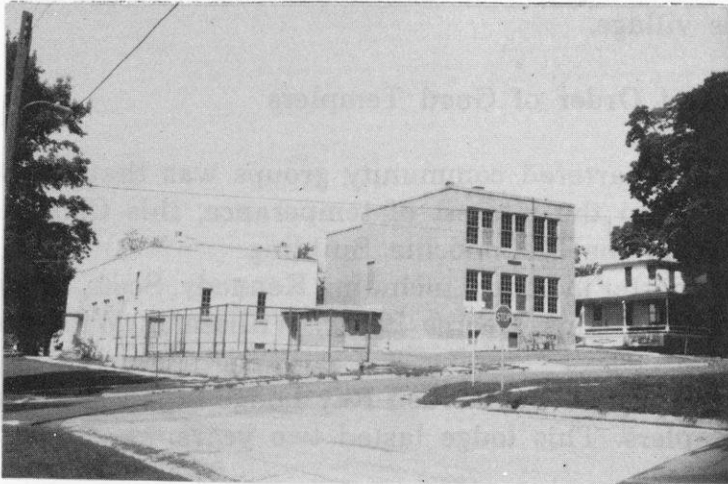
*Hillside University*

1911 addition to the then existing Cambria High School



These additions were merely baby steps of a rapidly expanding educational system. The 1930's and '40's saw the beginning of an athletic program, agriculture and home economics courses, a commercial and music class. In 1976, those programs have expanded to include both boys and girls interscholastic sports, an athletic banquet, vocal programs involving up to seventy-five students and six different band options.

In 1959, a new high school building was completed that housed the 160 students of that era. More changes were forthcoming as in 1963 the Cambria Union High School merged with the Friesland School District and the Cambria-Friesland School District came into existence.



Cambria — Friesland Intermediate Center



Cambria-Friesland Junior-Senior High School

History seemed to come full circle as in 1968, the 1898 school building whose construction and curriculum raised so many controversies was leveled. The additions and gymnasiums of that building now serve as an intermediate center with the junior high being in new facilities adjoining the high school. However, the school bell from that historic 1898 structure continues to serve the cause of education as it is now a part of a monument on the grounds of the Cambria-Friesland High School.



## FROM LODGES TO GARDEN CLUBS

Whenever people settle, congregate or colonize, the need soon arises for social activity, for a chance to relax or expand one's horizons. So, it was with the early Cambria settlers. They developed intellectual societies, service organizations, ecumenical religious groups and social clusters. Perhaps many of the earliest associations were tied to old-world ways and institutions. Soon, however, the American life style asserted itself, and these groups developed, changed, expanded and grew or else they dwindled and faded as their functions were assumed by other groups.

The following accounts reflect many of the organizations which are, or were, influential in the history of this village.

### The Independent Order of Good Templers

One of the earliest recorded chartered community groups was that of the Good Templers. Organized in 1864 in the interest of temperance, this Cambria organization met Friday evenings in the McConochie Building.

Originally there were forty charter members including Kennedy, Scott, Perrie Williams, Rev. Rees Evans, Peter Williams, George Beyer, William E. Williams, Jennie Williams.

A later group, begun in 1895, called the Golden Ray Lodge followed in the same purposes as the Good Templers. This lodge lasted two years.

### Cambria Lodge No. 152, F and AM

Another of the early groups was this lodge which held its first meeting on July 25, 1865, with the Fox Lake Lodge No. 67 as their sponsors. The independent charter was granted June 18, 1866.

Following are the officers of the sixty member 1976 lodge:

Worshipful Master	Frederick Lightner
Senior Warden	Ole Evenson
Junior Warden	Dana Albee
Treasurer	Fred Mohr
Secretary	Walter Kuehn
Senior Deacon	Robert Behling
Junior Deacon	Donald Mohr
Senior Steward	Robert B. Jones
Junior Steward	Frank Lightner
Tyler	Lester Kuehn
Trustee	Clayton Morgan
Trustee	Robert Slinger
Trustee	Robert B. Jones

Another lodge was mentioned in the History of Columbia County. This was the Cambria Lodge, No. 61, A. O. U. W. which was organized in April 24, 1879 by A. H. Casey and fourteen other charter members.



Modern Woodman, Fidelity Camp, No. 16

This insurance association originated in Cambria August 29, 1892. The six charter members were Wm. E. Williams, camp director; Owen C. Williams; J. Ap Edwards; John Slinger; D. R. Price; and Rudolph Rausch, and they met originally in the Good Templers Hall.

Eventually the number of insurance holders in the community dropped, and group meetings have not been held for many years.

Royal Neighbors Society of America, Juanita Camp, No. 2051

This women's insurance group was instituted on March 15, 1900, in Cambria. The charter members numbered twenty-five, and they met in the hall on the third floor of the Edwards Building.

The following are the names of those charter members:

Maggie J. Williams  
Mary M. Morris  
Margaret Williams  
Elmina Inglehart  
Annie T. Sawyer  
Bessie Roberts  
Jane Lloyd Jones  
Jane Thomas  
Mary Ann Hughs  
Louise M. Glenske  
Fannie Walker  
Jessie Deakin  
Mary Schemmel

Ella Marquardt  
Sarah O. Williams  
Louise M. Healey  
Nell Owen  
Cornelia Ford  
Mary Cross  
Maggie Ernsberger  
Jessie Dodge  
Laura Neilson  
Ellen Cross  
Rachael Gorsuch  
Fanny Healey

At present there are sixty holders of insurance, but there is small attendance at meetings necessitating home meetings.

The present officers are:

Oracle, Lita Nielson  
Vice Oracle, Janet Nielson  
Recorder, Marjorie Smith  
Receiver, Della Leary

Shakespeare Club

Organized in Cambria, 1898

Affiliated with State Federation of Clubs, 1901

Charter members and officers:

Sarah Lloyd  
Hermie Edwards  
Mary Williams  
Matilda Parry  
Vinnie Blanchard



The club was started when high school level educational opportunities for women were limited; Shakespeare was the popular subject studied to fill a need. After 1930 a variety of programs were given and studies continued. The group is civic minded and active in all village and community projects.

The current officers are:

President: Anna Mable Williams

Vice President: Arvon Sanderson

Secretary: Alice Mohr

Treasurer: Marjorie Smith

### The Woman's Club

When the Junior Woman's Club was organized in 1934 it was federated with the District and State General Federation of Woman's Clubs, under the leadership of Mary Allen Rowlands. Since 1941 the affiliation has been severed, and it has become an independent club with a study program and local social and civic projects. Some of the studies have been on Better Radio Listening, Home-School Relationships, Libraries, State Schools and Penal Institutions. They have sponsored the Summer Recreational Programs, made gifts to the library, assisted the County Nurse in hearing tests and on the Chest X-Ray Mobile Unit and other local concerns have had their help.

At the present time the membership is 14. The 1975-76 officers are:

President.....Mrs. Dana Albee

Vice President.....Mrs. Thomas W. Williams

Secretary.....Mrs. David Lloyd

Treasurer.....Mrs. Clifford Mays

### Ramona Chapter No. 141, Order of Eastern Star

Sponsored by the Randolph Chapter No. 134, the Eastern Star held their first meeting June 16, 1903 in Cambria.

Through support of the Estral Fund, this fulfilled one of its functions which is to provide help for young people going into the field of Christian Education.

A new temple for both the Eastern Star and the Lodge was constructed on W. Edgewater Street in 1949.

The present membership numbers about fifty with the following slate of officers:

Worthy Matron

Mrs. Thomas W. Thomas

Worthy Patron

Mrs. Walter Kuehn

Associate Matron

Mrs. Fredrick Lightner, Sr.

Associate Patron

Mr. Ole Evenson

Secretary

Miss Eleanor Davies

Treasurer

Mr. Fred Mohr

Conductress

Mrs. Walter Kuehn

Associate Conductress

Mrs. Dana Albee

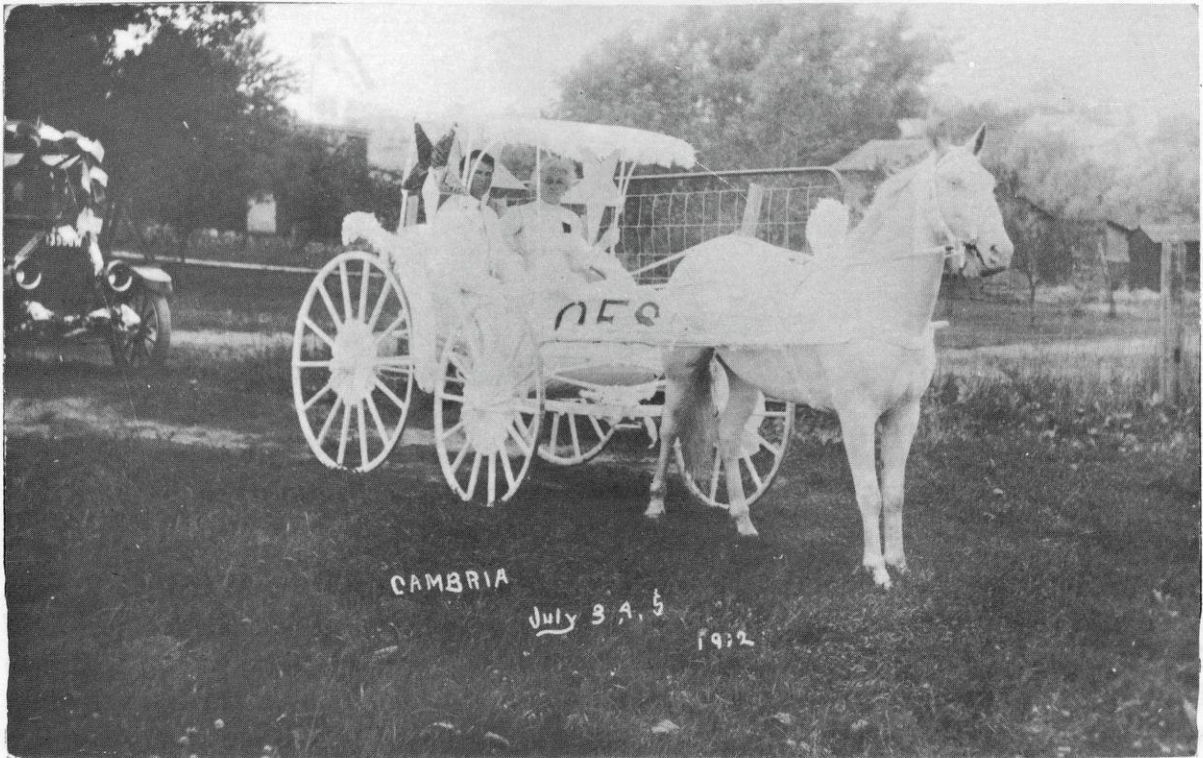
Chaplin

Mrs. Fred Mohr



Marshall  
 Organist  
 Adah  
 Ruth  
 Esther  
 Martha  
 Electa  
 Warder  
 Sentinel

Mrs. Gwen Achterberg  
 Mrs. Clifford Mays  
 Mrs. Lillian Pritchard  
 Mrs. Gilbert G. Jones  
 Mrs. Curtis B. Sanderson  
 Mrs. Ole Evenson  
 Mrs. Warren Lee  
 Mr. Fredrick Lightner, Sr.  
 Mrs. Harold Kittman



Will Thomas and Mrs. Sadie Dexter, first matron of the Eastern Star in the 4th of July parade in 1912

#### Cambria Fire Department

In 1907 the Cambria Volunteer Fire Department was organized, and the constitution and bylaws formulated. The officers were to consist of a foreman, assistant foreman, property man and secretary-treasurer, elected annually. The regular meeting was and still is the first Monday of the month with practice twice a month from May to October.

The original equipment was a hook and ladder company of from ten to fourteen men and a hose company of fourteen to twenty men, ages 18 to 50, who pulled their own carts to the fires.

The first floor of the old town hall south of the Music Hall on Scott Street was the Fire House; water was hand-pumped from cisterns or near-by bodies of water until the acquisition of a large soda-acid fire extinguisher mounted on a cart. This was then stored in the basement of the Lockhart Company Store to prevent freezing.



In the early days a few water mains were run to hydrants at the corner of 146 and Commerce Street, at the corner of 146 and County P and one near the Music Hall. To force the water into them, a pump was installed in the basement of the old mill, and when the fire bell on the Town Hall sounded, the miller placed the drive belt on the water main from the pond, using steam power or water power, which ever was being used at the moment.

In 1925 the Cambria water tower was erected, and all of Cambria was equipped with water mains and hydrants. The first fire truck, a 1929 G.M.C., was purchased and kept in Leary's Garage.



1927 fire truck, the first such vehicle purchased by the department

After the present fire house was erected in 1946, the 1949 Ward La France fire truck was the star equipment piece. Another advancement was the formation of the Cambria Community Association and the policies which were set up with the Townships of Springvale, Courtland, Randolph and Scott. Equipment from then on was shared, and fire costs were charged to the township or village where the fire took place.

A 1966 pumper, a 1973 International tanker and a 1975 Chevrolet 4-wheel drive pick-up with a 150 gallon tank for grass fires were bought. In 1974 a used Ford van that is utilized for emergencies was purchased and has two certified ambulance attendents, Lee Vaughn and Don White.

All equipment has new two-way FM radios installed. Retired fireman Hugh (Jeff) Williams mans the fire calls at the base station or Fire House.

Some of the early firemen in the community were:

Ben Price, Dan Glyn Williams, Evor Roberts, Lewis Lloyd, Dr. E. O. Roberts, Fred Pickrun, Fred Evans, B. W. Hughes, David Davies (Christmas).

The 1976 roster shows Monte Bradley and Temp Slinger as this year's fire wardens. Fire chief is William Gorsuch; first assistant fire chief, Emery Leary; second assistant fire chief, Jim Wright; Secretary-treasurer, William Slinger, Sr.; Property man, Dennis Gorsuch.

Five honorary retired firemen are Ray Leary, Hugh Williams, Charles Missal, Wilbert Tonn, Raymond Jones.



## Girl Scouts

At present there are four divisions of the Girl Scouts; Brownies, Junior Girl Scouts, Senior Girl Scouts and Cadettes. Their respective leaders at present are: Virginia Deakin, Karen Wiersma, Mrs. Marilyn Cutsworth, and Nancy Braaksma.

The original Troop at Cambria started on February 28, 1927. There were 25 members under the leadership of Mrs. Mary Allen Rowlands:

Geniveve Mair	Dorothy Hughes
Evelyn Fox	Margaret Jones
Ruth Fay	Jessie McDoanld
Sylvia Slinger	Molly Frank Jones
Minnie Reifsnider	Georgia Saunders
Margaret Slinger	Myrna Owen
Carrie Montgomery	Margaret Kuehn
Margaret Andrews	Geraldine Kasten
Janet Closs	Edith Vaughn
Nona Owen	Marion Kasten
Roberta Griffith	June Baillies
Florence Behnke	Elean Morris
Leona Bahr	

## Boy Scouts

Boy Scouts are divided into two sections: Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts. At the present time there are twenty boys, ages 8 to 11, in the Cub Scout packs. These packs, the Bears, Wolves, Webelos, are presided over by the leaders, Arline Oliver, and Mr. and Mrs. George Carpenter.

The Boy Scouts have Jim Sanderson and Warren Williams as their Scout Masters for 1975-76.

## Kiwanis

This service organization was formed in Cambria in 1957 with the motto, "We Build". There are four committees within this organization which illustrate its purposes: vocational guidance, public business affairs, agriculture and conservation.

Some of the present community services they provide are the annual athletic banquet; awards to outstanding senior athletes; various civic projects involving the park, ice-out contest, Christmas lighting prizes.

The first officers of the original group were:

President.....Dr. Joseph Brown  
1st Vice Pres.....Irvin Abendroth  
2nd Vice Pres.....Warren Williams  
Secy.-Treas.....John Gorsuch

The current officers are:

President.....Thomas Williams (Beeck Hill)  
1st Vice Pres.....Daniel Weber  
Secy.-Treas.....Freeman Stalker



## American Legion Post No. 401

This post was organized in 1961 with the following list of officers:

Commander Aage Schou

Adjutant Jay Williams

Treasurer Frank Graafsma

Chaplain Fred Leystra

Service Officer Pierce Lloyd

Officers of the Columbia County Council of the American Legion as of 1976 are:

Sergeant at Arms.....Russell Retaczak

Col. Co. Service Officer.....Frederick W. Lightner

Col. Co. Chaplain.....Evelyn Jones

Service Officer.....Wally Wiersma

Local Post No. 401 Officers:

Commander.....Russell Retaczak

Treasurer.....Elden Rode

Adjutant.....Pierce Lloyd

Chaplain.....Evelyn Jones

The Legion performs several services to the community. For example, a hundred dollar Americanism scholarship is presented to high school seniors, and the Legion sponsors, a Badger Boy's State delegate to Ripon. They also conduct military funerals and Memorial Day exercises at Cambria and Friesland. During the summer the group maintains the refreshment stand at the park, and they man the barbecue service on Park Day.

### Cambria Legion Auxiliary No. 401

The thirty-five senior members and eight junior members of the Legion Auxiliary meet the first Tuesday of every month.

This group works hand in hand with the Legion, but they also have several projects and functions of their own. In April, The Auxiliary sponsors a Bingo Party at Madison Veterans Hospital with prizes and treats. In June they send a girl to Badger Girls State in Madison, and they have also adopted a veteran at the residence in Tomah who they remember on special occasions such as his birthday and Christmas.

Community functions include a softball team, float entrees in the Park Day parade, and helping the community's veterans and their families.

Of course one of the most notable occupations is the poppy selling project held before Memorial Day.

The current officers are:

President - Evelyn Leary

Vice-President - Alice Lightner

Secretary - Harriet Evans

Treasurer - Sara Sommers

Sgt. at Arms - Veronica Neary

Historian - Darlene Behling



## Sunset Garden Club

The club was organized in July 3, 1962, with eleven members present. It meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the homes of the members.

Their projects consist of ways to beautify the village. Some of these projects are window boxes for the main street and planting of shrubs, bulbs and trees in the park.

The first Officers were:

President - Mrs. Eugene Hahn  
Vice-president - Mrs. Oscar Ruehl  
Treasurer - Mrs. Robert Closs  
Secretary - Mrs. Morris Williams

The present officers are:

President - Gwen Achterberg  
Vice-president - Inez Closs  
Secretary - Mrs. Elmer Erdman  
Treasurer - Mrs. Hubert Cottam

## Cambria Conservation Club, Inc.

The present Conservation Club was organized in 1948 with Griff (Pa) Jones elected president. Bylaws were adopted for Incorporation which called for lake improvement and Pheasant rearing and plantings.

Art Brossard was the next president and under 25 years of leadership many projects were completed, such as tree plantings, lake shore line clean ups, fish stocking assistance and rearing 500-1000 pheasants for stocking in the Cambria area. A club house has been built and also facilities for trap shooting.

Present officers of the club are: President Jim Fredricks, Vice-president Lester Kloostra, Secretary-treasurer Myron Brye. The club has 80 active members.

*Contributed by Edwin Hughes, Cambria*



## A Time Of Rest

There is a trite old saying that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". In the annals of Cambria history, there are many illustrations of the "play" that this village engaged in.



A favorite picnic spot before Cambria had a park was where the first sewerage building was eventually built. The area was called the Factory Woods for it was near the old woolen mill west of the village.

One of the more unique "games" indulged in by townspeople was located in a long narrow building which was built in 1894 on North Madison Street, on the site of the home of the late Mrs. Millie Witthun. It housed the sport of ice curling, popular with the men of Scotch lineage living in the community.

The earliest curlers were Joe Sanderson, Sr., Thomas Cottom, Sr., Robert McConochie, Asa McCall, John Baillies, Sr., and John Houston. The next generation of Cottams, Sandersons and Baillies were also featured in bonspiels along with Tom and Henry Jones, Henry Schemmel, Sam Dodge and later Perley Dodge, Bob and John Morris, Dave Price, D. M. Rowlands and Evor O. and John E. Roberts.

In 1895 the hall had been fitted to entertain the crowd assembled for the Welsh Jubilee, the semi-centennial celebration of the settlements of Cambria and Welsh Prairie. The seating capacity was between 1,000 and 1,200 and a stage sufficient in size to seat all the singers and those who took acting parts. Later, in 1908, heat was furnished for spectators and visitors.

The Cambria curlers entered bonspiels in neighboring towns as well as in Madison, Milwaukee and Minneapolis, and trophies decorated many Cambria homes. Some families also acquired prizes of chest of silver, jackets and other items which were some of the awards given.



Curling was once so popular in Cambria that Mr. E. O. Roberts was at one time the president of the Wisconsin Curlers Association.

The Depression in the 1930's and the increase of sport activities in the high school had their effect upon the lagging interest in the curling sport and sometime in the 1940's the building was razed.

However, area interest has not abated as Pardeeville High School will again offer curling as a part of their athletic program.

### Baseball

Another game originated as baseball fever swept the country in the 1880's and 1890's. Cambria joined the epidemic by sponsoring two local baseball teams, the Cambria Whites and the Smoothfaces. These two teams were athletic forces in the area and contributed several players to the then budding army of National League baseball.

One such was Davie Jones, Cambria born and reared. He was one of nine children of Mr. and Mrs. Evan B. Jones who lived 'half way up the hill and across the dam'.

Davie Jones continued his career in the sport to become one of baseball's outstanding outfielders and shortstops before World War I. In the 1907 World Series he batted .353 for the Chicago Cubs while Ty Cobb was hitting .200.

Upon retirement, Davie became a pharmacist, and it was on April 19, 1965 that he was inducted into the Wisconsin Hall of Fame in ceremonies at the Milwaukee Arena.



Geo. Williams      Dave Evans      Ed. Schliesman      Hugh Edwards      Tom Jones      Will Wolalegie  
 Davie Jones      Hubert      Will      Will      Will  
 McConochie      McConochie      Hall.  
 Arthur Jones - Mascot.

Turn of the century baseball team.

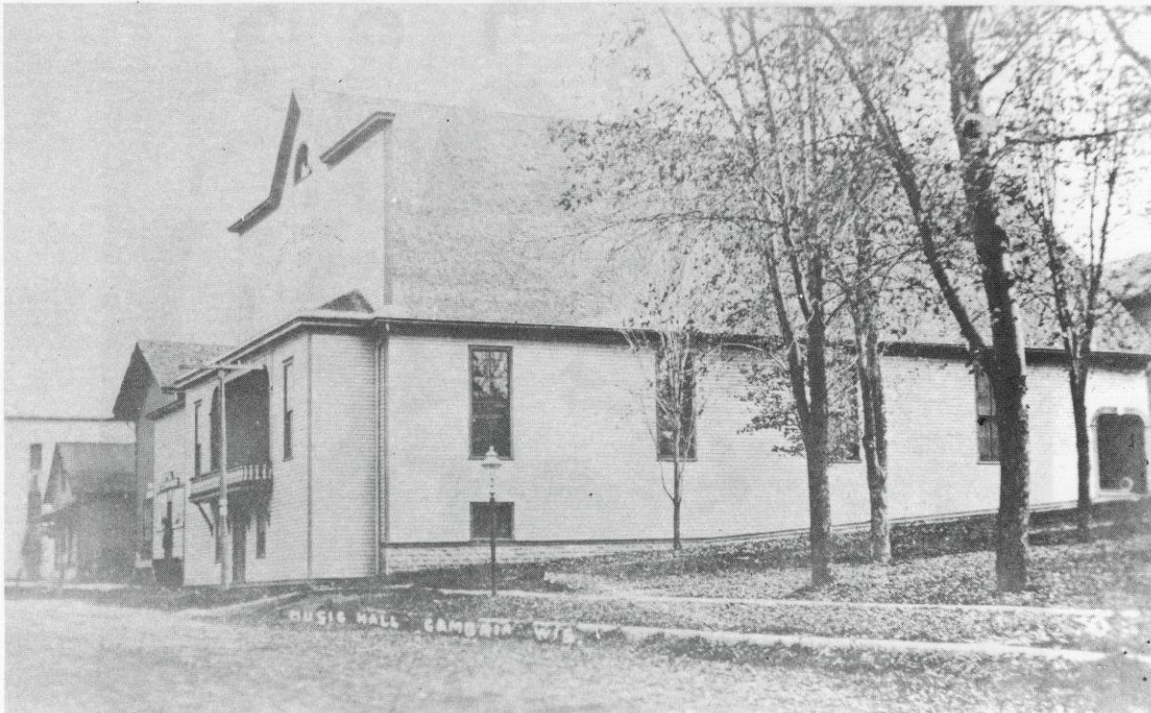


Two other contributions to the game of baseball were the Dodge brothers, Ben and Willard, in 1905 and 1906. After playing with the local teams, this duo joined the LaCrosse team of the Wisconsin State League. This battery was instrumental in helping to win the pennant for the club. Pitcher Willard won 20 games and was second in the league in strikeouts. In 1906 he was drafted by the Chicago Cubs of the National League and farmed out to Omaha of the Western League where he won fourteen games for their third place team.

Growing, expanding, diversifying, baseball continues to exert its entertaining capacity. Area high schools still compete as energetically as the Dodges and Davie ever did. However, a young offshoot of baseball, the game of softball, now holds the drawing card that once belonged to the Cambria Whites.

### Music Hall

Further entertainment was found at the largest hall between Milwaukee and Portage, which was known as the Cambria Music Hall. Built in 1899 and dedicated in 1900, this center offered a variety of entertainment. However, it was called a music hall since many townspeople considered theaters sinful places. In the early years there were Welsh Estiddfods, which were competitive programs; Welsh Male Choruses, such as the Royal Welsh Male Chorus from Wales of twenty voices; Robert M. LaFollette spoke there; road shows of Shakespearean plays and vaudeville, home talent plays, grade school programs, graduation exercises held there were for the Class of 1932, after that, the gymnasium built at the high school was used.



Music Hall from 1898 — 1899



In the early days of this century, Memorial Day programs were also held here on the afternoon of the 31st. Originally these programs had Civil War veterans as guests of honor with a program of songs, music, recitations and speakers. The 1920's saw World War I veterans occupying the center stage.

Funerals were also held here for two highly esteemed citizens, one being Mr. David G. Williams, the village miller and Civil War veteran. He had been with Sherman's army marching through Georgia. The other was Mr. Evor O. Roberts, well-known businessman and the cold storage operator and banker who died in 1918.

Movies were shown at the Hall in the 20's, Mrs. W. R. Williams accompanied at the piano which was purchased through the efforts of the ladies of the village.

The building was on the south-east corner of Scott and W. Edgewater Streets, facing north. The main floor had a seating capacity of 800. The seats had been purchased from the Davidson Theater Co. and were originally from the Pabst Theater in Milwaukee. There were two furnaces, purchased from O. J. Williams. Wood was the fuel used until 1908. Later, in 1909, coal was used. Lighting progressed from carbide to gas and finally electricity in 1918.

Looking at the drop curtain for the stage one saw a large picture of the Plano Harvester Plant, Plano, Illinois, painted on the canvas which could be rolled up by a man in the wings, out of sight of the audience. Half of the cost of the curtain was donated by the Plano Harvester Company, a total of about \$400.00. The interest of the company was due to the fact that it's President was William H. Jones, a boy raised on a farm in Portage Prairie, five miles north of Cambria.

However, the old Hall was never a money making institution and great care was required to keep it out of debt. The original investors, Evan O. Jones, John Slinger, John H. Houston, Thomas E. Williams, Morris J. Rowlands, D. R. Williams, George Beyer and Issac Parry, raised money for the enterprise, \$3,000.00 by issuing stock to sell at \$50.00 a share, each shareholder entitled to one vote. During the time of incorporation Evan O. Jones was the first president, and he set up the Articles of Incorporation. The other board members were: David M. Rowlands, treasurer, C. A. Scott, secretary through the life of the corporation. David R. Jones was the architect of the building, and Jasper Dexter was manager until his death in 1918. Lewis Peters then served in that capacity until the time of the closing of the Hall.

The advent of the television and radio brought new forms of entertainment, and interest in uses for the Hall had fallen off. At a meeting of the shareholders it was determined that the cost of extensive repairs needed to make the building safe again would far exceed any future remuneration. So, with appreciation for its past history, the board thought it best to tear down the Music Hall. In 1941, the building was sold to Mr. Russell Moore of Doylestown who made use of the lumber for building purposes. In 1946, the present fire house was erected on the site.



## The Park

Finally, the most recent addition to the entertainment facilities of the village was in the form of the Cambria Park.

First conceived in 1915 by the Village Board, they purchased the first piece of land along the south shore of the mill pond. This group proceeded to level it, set up a temporary bath house and appoint a Park Board which saw Mr. Dan Williams (Glyn) act as head of that body from 1919 to 1934. It was during his administration that the now annual Park Day originated in 1921.



First bath house built in 1923.

During the early years, several individuals and organizations made improvements possible. The North Star Nursery, the Wisconsin Power and Light Co. and local individuals were responsible for the first bath and shelter houses, tree and shrub planting, the circular driveway and the lay out for a tennis court.

In 1924, other contributions were made by the Howell brothers of Minneapolis (drilled a well), Dr. Curtis Evans and the Presbyterian K. D. Society (a big swing set), and local businessmen (the bandstand). The village trustees also had the shoreline embankment made of stone and concrete at this time.

The following year Mrs. George Beyer gave a donation for a group of evergreens, and Mr. Robert Tarrant made several sizable gifts for improvements among which were the pillars at the entrance gate, fencing, extra playground equipment and a large concrete swimming pool and wading pool. In the realm of beautification, an instrumental force was Mrs. Al Hopkins and recently the Garden Club. All of the above were cared for initially and for several years by Mr. Owen W. Jones in the role as caretaker.





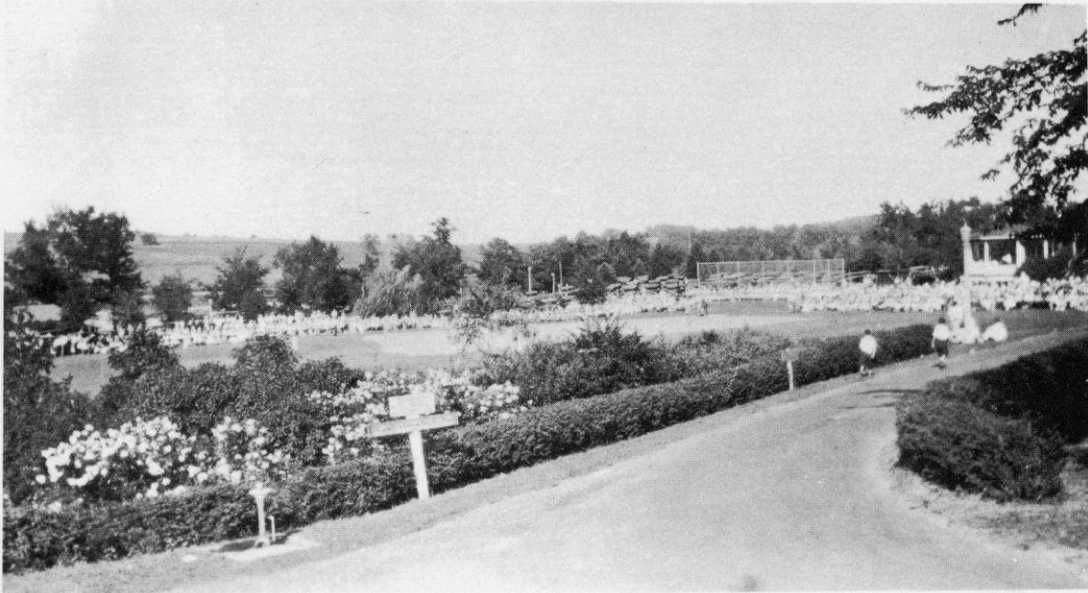
Planting trees in the Cambria Park, 1921. The trees were a gift from the North Star Nursery, Pardeeville

Back row from left to right: Geo. Marquardt, A. Hopkins, Edwin Davies(side of face) Richard O. Pugh, E. F. Kreuger, Kasten, Rowland Roberts, Thomas Morris, Thomas R. Jones and John O. Rowlands.

Front Row: Geo. Hughes, John Ap Edwards, C. A. Scott, Clifford Williams, Rowland H. Jones and Griff Thomas.

It was in 1937 that the Mill Pond was purchased by the Village Board to complete the physical grounds of the Cambria Park.

Down through the years, the Park Day project has been a unified village effort, all proceeds going for maintainance and upkeep of these grounds. Continued gifts and efforts of individuals and groups have also aided the park.



Park Day in 1933



It is because of those efforts, in part, that the most recent improvements have been made by the Park Board and Village Board. The refinements are a new filtering system in the swimming pool, re-routing and re-surfacing the road, improving the lighting, building shelter houses and outdoor grills, and constructing pedestrian steps at the entrance which were promoted by Mr. Lester Prochnow.

So the park continues to influence the "games" and entertainment pastimes of Cambria.



Park entrance as seen in 1940



Park Day in 1933



## The Cambria Coronet Band



1909 Cambria Band. The members shown here are: Professor C. T. Carroll, Claude Roberts, Henry Numerdor, Bruno Berger, Wm. C. Davies, Erv Williams, Geo. Mohr, Frank and Tom Cottam, Fred Schliesman, Jimmy Snare, Maldwin Morgan, ~~Newton Jones~~, Tom Roberts, ~~Dick Jones~~, Dave Williams, Robert Williams, Adam Brandt, *Harry Scharf, John Griffith.*

A warm summer's night, the park, band music - all ingredients of a pleasurable evening in Cambria during the early 1900's.

The band in this imaginary picture would have been the Cambria Coronet Band. This band was featured in the 1912 Cambria Homecoming celebration as 'accompanying the large crowd to the depot to meet the crowd of visitors expected' and the Pardeeville Band, with whom they gave a concert. The Cambria Band was featured elsewhere also on the three-day program.

Ervin Williams, of the Tan-Y-Blwch family, developed through his own efforts and interest in music into a fine musician and a driving force in this band as well as the band director. It was due to his endeavors the Cambria Band was strengthened, and he organized a band in Friesland in 1914 as well. These bands were playing concerts regularly in both villages, and they were popular features at County Fairs and other functions.

At its height in activity in 1937, the band numbered thirty-one members. It also benefited then by way of uniforms and instruments from the generosity of Mr. Robert Tarrant.

As the band was incorporated into the high school curriculum, the Cambria Coronet Band faded away, but the Friesland Band still continues to give regular concerts there during the summer.





1937 Cambria Band in uniforms furnished by Mr. Robert Tarrant.

Back row — Charles Berger, Portage; Alvin Bobholz; Wilbert Sommers; Wesley Sommers; Leroy Griffiths; Vincent Gorsuch, Drum Major; Charles Vesely, Portage; William Jones; Ed Woodward; Robert Closs; Tom R. Jones (Coed-Mawr).  
 Middle row — Flag-Bearer, Hubert Cottam; Viola Smith; David Williams (Tan Blwch); Clarence Tesch; Orlen Barden; Nona Owen; H. P. Thompson, Pardeeville; Russ Wing; Darvin Froelich; Robert Williams (Tan Blwch); Harry Geisler; Olive Smith; Jerome Benson, Flag-Bearer.

Front row — Maurice Jones; Tom W. Roberts; William J. Jones, (Bass); Paul Bobholz; Ervin Williams, Director; Eldon Barden; Carol Sommers; Gilman Neef; Curtis Sanderson; Harry Wing.

### The Gymanfa Ganu

The Gymanfa Ganu was first held on a Sunday evening, August 6th, 1944 in the Olivet Church, at the close of a three day celebration of Cambria's Centennial year.

John Williams (Llwyn-non) of Chicago was the director and Howard Williams of Minneapolis was the organist.

Large audiences continue to attend this yearly event to the present time. (1976)

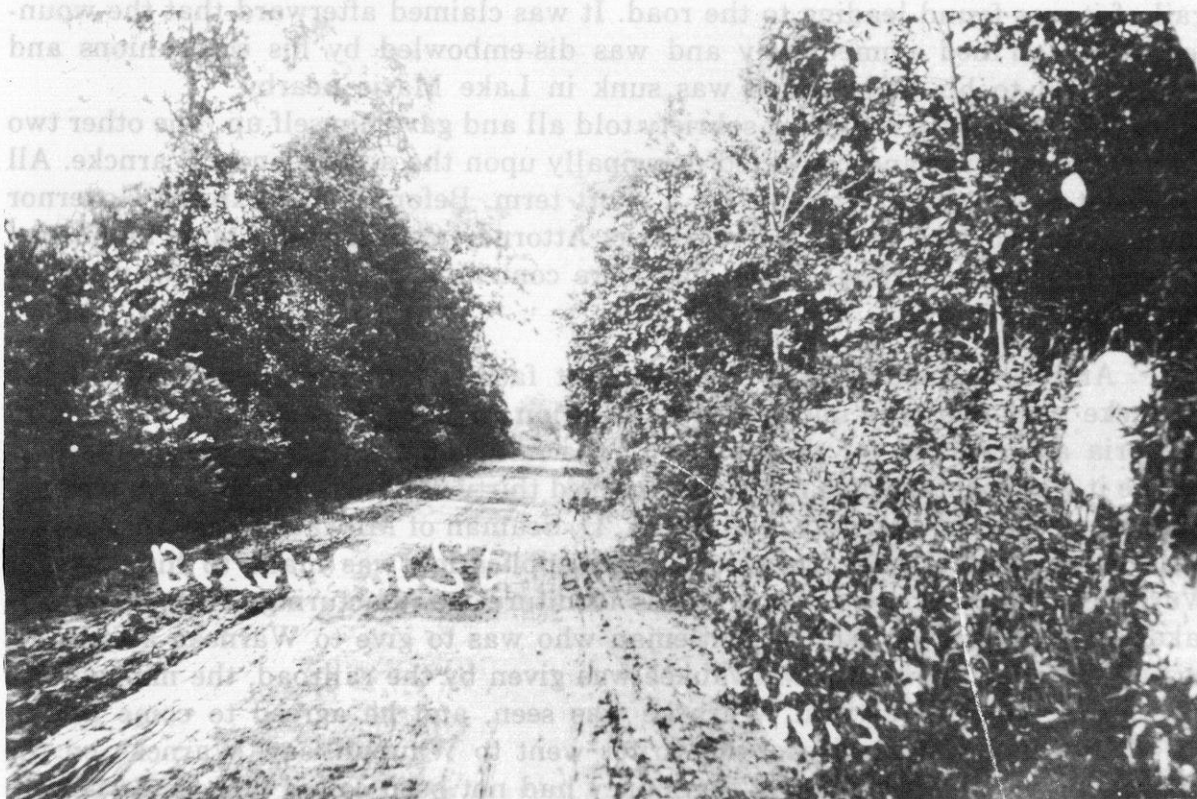
Cambria celebrated its Centennial year with a three day event on August 4, 5, and 6, 1944.



## THEREBY HANGS A TALE

In every historical accounting of material which deals with people, as in this history of Cambria, there are anecdotes, folklore, and interesting trivia that fit under no exact heading. Yet, these bits and pieces perhaps relate a more personal, human viewpoint which often gets glossed over and nearly trampled in the rush of facts and dates.

One of the earliest pieces of folklore is appropriately connected with the earliest inhabitants, the Winnebagoes. There once lived in the Indian village along Duck Creek, a lovely princess, Glory of the Morning. There also was a brave war chief, Yellow Thunder, whose grandson was Chief Yellow Thunder at Wisconsin Dells.



A typical country road of the 1800's and early 1900's as it was found winding its way south from the top of the hill near Hwg. 146 in 1905. The tracks in the foreground are of buggy wheels since no car had yet traveled here. The road was simple dirt because gravel wasn't common until 1920.

Another interesting early tale was connected with one of the craftsmen at Langdon's saw mill. The following is an excerpted version of "The Tale of Jonas Warncke" as printed in the Cambria News of 1901.

Of Jonas Warncke (Thereby Hangs A Tale). By trade he was a cabinet maker and an excellent workman.

Up to the time of the completion of the mill, Warncke had been one of the steadiest and most thoroughly industrious men there. An unfortunate marriage set him to drinking, he became dissipated, and while stopping at a tavern near Markesan, as was afterward shown, was stupidly drunk. He was inveigled into



assisting in the robbery of a German family, living near here, reputed to have a large amount of gold coin in the home. Warncke went with the tavernkeeper, his brother and another man and stayed in the wagon while the three went into the house to commit the robbery which created the wildest excitement at the time.

The parties went upstairs, and clutching the old people in their bed, demanded their money. The old German woman passed the robbers a stocking filled with old-fashioned buttons and they, at once, started to leave. One of the sons had heard the men enter and hid himself till they had got upstairs when he drew on his pantaloons and grabbing a loaded double-barreled shot gun, went outside and squatted in the bushes by the side of the road. As the robbers were leaving, he fired at them, first one and then the other barrel. Cries and groans were heard. The wounded man was dragged off by his companions. The bushes were sprinkled with blood and a trail of it was found leading to the road. It was claimed afterward that the wounded man had died immediately and was dis-embowled by his companions and weights tied to his body which was sunk in Lake Marie nearby.

Warncke, with returning sobriety told all and gave himself up. The other two were arrested, tried and convicted principally upon the admission of Warncke. All were sent to Waupun, Warncke for a short term. Before it had expired Governor Lewis pardoned him. Judge, Jury, District Attorney, Sheriff and a large number of citizens urged the pardon. Never was more contrition and sorrow shown than by Warncke.

And now comes one of the strangest facts. The writer hereof, who knew Warncke well and was under some obligation to him, helped make the dam at Cambria and worked for the owners of the mill, aided in procuring the pardon. Before it was granted some friends subscribed thirty dollars to purchase an outfit of suitable clothes for Warncke, and Mr. A. D. Seaman of Milwaukee not only gave a little money but at once promised, when application was made to him, to give Warncke a place at good wages in his furniture manufacturing. The money was taken to Waupun, left with a gentleman who was to give to Warncke as soon as possible. A pass for him to Milwaukee was given by the railroad, the moment the facts were laid before them. Warncke was seen, and he agreed to come in.

Learning of his release, the writer went to Waupun, saw Warncke on the street, who avoided him, found the money had not been called for, sent a note to Warncke at his boarding house, got no reply. The money was paid back to his subscribers. The next anything was heard of Warncke, he was suspected of aiding in the murder of a man named Williams who had been innocently convicted in Milwaukee. He was committed to Waupun and had \$300.00 which was paid him at the expiration of his term. He was murdered and robbed near Lake Emily, his body dressed in a suit of clothes stolen from a home near at hand, was dragged into a thicket near Schaumburg's by Lake Emily, where it was found after decomposition had set in.

Warncke was never caught. He was traced by the sheriff of Dodge County to near the southern lines. It was after the rebellion broke out. It was supposed he had joined the Confederates. He has never been heard from since.





The home of Jasper Dexter - built in 1901



One of the early elegant and still standing Cambria homes. This was originally R. E. O. Jones' home built in 1867 from handmade Watertown brick. It was purchased in 1952 by Ray Leary.





Cambria was the showplace for many fine Victorian homes. One of the stately homes remaining is shown here. This is the Rowlands home.

In the "Cambria Centennial, 1844-1944", there was compiled a set of interesting DO YOU REMEMBER? trivia. The following are a few excerpts from those pages.

"When it was necessary to keep the city water system from freezing by using lanterns?"

"When we paid 11 cents for a dozen eggs?"

"When the speed limit was 8 miles an hour?"

"How we like to follow the horse-drawn sprinkling wagon?"

"If you ever went to see the 'Four o'clock' come in on Sunday afternoon?"

"Hop picking time at the Houstons?"

"When the street lights were unlit for a period of months because the village did not want to spend the treasury surplus for oil and up-keep?"

"That Cambria once had two telephone exchanges?"

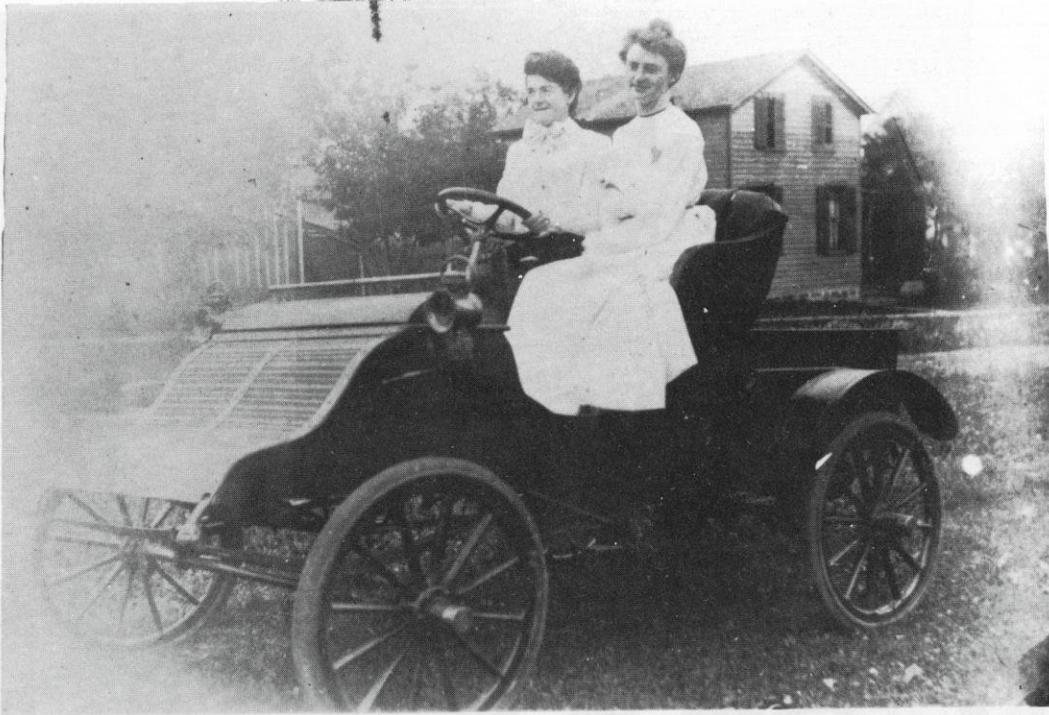
"When skating to music in the curling rink was as popular as pavement dances?"

"The watermelons which used to come to town by the wagon load and were sold for five cents a piece?"

"When you were punished for just peeking through the windows at the dances in the Chatwood Hotel?"

"When the old wooden sidewalks caused many a fall on dark nights?"





The coming of the automobile - one of the first cars shown off by Mrs. J. O. Parry and Mrs. O. I. Jones in 1904. The car was partially built by Rev. J. O. Parry.

There is perhaps one area that is often ignored, yet which certainly was a historical fact and reality. In the 19th century when infant mortality was high, when epidemics weren't unusual, and where life expectancy was shorter, funeral customs were important facts of life.

For the early settlers, burial rites were simple, the bodies were prepared in the home. Neighbors came to stay day and night to put cold wet cloths on the faces of the deceased until the time of burial.

It was also a neighborly custom to take the rough, unpainted outer boxes to the cemetery the day before burial. Originally, this process was conducted with a lumber wagon in summer and sleighs in the winter. However, in the 1890's glass-encased carriages drawn by black horses came into use - the first hearses. The 1920's saw the horse-drawn carriages become obsolete with the advent of the automobile.

A most interesting fact is brought to light when one researches the history of the Welsh village name of 'Cambria'. It seems that name is 2000 years old. It was used by the Romans to designate land the Welsh occupied which at that early date included Wales and all of England. The Welsh people always called their country and people 'Cymru'. But, 'Der Walsh' was a term applied to them by the Germanic invading tribes, meaning, "those strange ones". Camrae, as the Romans spelled it, may have been the Roman attempt to say 'Cymru'.

Another example of Welsh terms being used in Cambria is the name given to the 1940 year book at the High School. It was called the "Melin" which means 'mill' after the origins of the community.





A group of Welsh people, on a concert tour, paused before a stage stop in 1850. The oxen team was one mode of travel before the arrival of the train.

How exactly did the early settlers arrive in Cambria? There were no railroads, no paved roads and certainly no highway signs.

However, see article and follow from the beginning through its conclusion.

The second road in this state was built by soldiers at Fort Winnebago from Portage around the north shore of Fox Lake to Fond du Lac. Soon a branch led south from Fox Lake on County A through Oak Grove, Watertown and Waukesha to Milwaukee. All settlers coming to the Cambria area had only this road to follow. All commercial goods and passengers were carried over this road between Portage and Milwaukee until the railroad came in 1856. Taverns were built about 5 miles apart along this road. One of them, The Blue Tavern was built by John and Samuel McConochie, on the north side of the road now Hwy 33, about one half mile east of the Rosedale Church. A little settlement was started about 2 miles north of Cambria and named Centerville for the surveyor, A. J. Center. This was at the junction of present 33 and the Inglehart Road. There was a store, a blacksmith shop and a tavern there. In 1851 the stagecoach made the trip over this route three times a week, also bringing the mail. With the coming of the railroad all business ended there. Present Hwy 33 is the same route, especially the improvement between 146 and 73, that the Fort Winnebago soldiers built from Portage to Fox Lake.



## FIRES AND DISASTERS

### Fire Of 1874----North side of Water St.

On a Sunday afternoon in December, 1874 a fire destroyed nine buildings on the north side of what is now Edgewater St. in the central block of business buildings, from the west end to Madison St. Completely destroyed were the buildings occupied by:

B. W. Smith Store, a branch of his Fox Lake Store, run by David Williams, Tany Bwlch

large wooden building, warehouse and dwelling

Adam Schliesman shoe shop

D. D. Jones, dry goods

D. Roberts, tailor and dwelling

E. R. Williams, harness shop

George Buck, barber shop

Thomas Lewis, harness shop

The loss was estimated between \$18,000.00 and \$20,000.00 with little insurance coverage. Some goods were saved. All windows on the south side of the street were broken by the heat. It all was a hard blow to Cambria. Better buildings replaced the old ones, some of which are in use today - 1976.

### Fire Of 1879----South side of Water St.

Four buildings, including the Peterman Hotel burned on April 20, 1879, on the south side of what is now Edgewater St. The loss was estimated to be \$35,000.00. The Peterman Hotel was a large stone building.

### Cambria Canning Factory----November 2, 1924

The structure, remodeled in 1920, was completely destroyed by fire on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 2, 1924. The season's destruction of peas amounted to 175,000 cases; it was rebuilt in time for the next season's pack in 1925.

### Tornado Of 1951

On Sept. 26, 1951 a tornado swept through N.E. Columbia County leaving destruction in a path about 15 miles long and one fourth mile wide from Wyocena through the Randolph area. Two steel towers were demolished carrying high tension lines, the principal lines of the Wis. Power and Light Co. It put a 126 mile area and 30 farms out of service. Twelve farms suffered severe damage and one woman killed, several hospitalized. Livestock and chickens were killed, cars and machinery destroyed, and the area covered with debris. Among the farms suffering severe damage were those of John Lloyd, William Krueger, Robert Kellogg, Sidney Cupery and Harold Cupery.



“THE ICEMAN COMETH” and in the 1890’s that was surely the case. Mr. Bergum was an ice man. He lived in a part of the building that most recently bore his name.

That building was demolished in 1970, but not before it played a part in the history of the village and of an era. When the ice business was in its prime, an ice house was built to the north of the building next to the Mill Pond, with a long chute leading from the building down to the pond. In ice cutting time men cut the ice with long saws into 50 pound chunks; a few at a time were loaded onto the slide and horses pulled them into the building where the ice was packed in saw dust or hay and then stored for summer use.

You could go there and buy your own 25 or 50 pound chunk if you lived in the country, carry it home in blankets or a wash tub and have icecream for the Fourth of July; or maybe you needed a large section to keep a supply of fresh meat for the threshers or silo fillers.

If you lived in the village the ice man made his rounds and with a big tongs carried a 25 or 50 pound slab on his back and dropped it into your ice box. Meat markets had large walk-in ice rooms; the meat cutter got a side of meat that hung in there, put it on the chopping block and sawed or chopped off a piece to your order.



On a road north of the old Sanderson School looking south in 1908, Sarah Jones, Lillian Jones and Gladys Jones posed for a picture.

Returning to the subject of schools, education for pioneer children was of secondary importance to that of everyday survival. The early schools ran for six months starting in November because the older children were needed at home to help harvest the fall crops and plow until the ground froze. A man teacher was hired for the winter months to handle the big boys who were then in school. School closed for March because roads would become too muddy for pupils to travel...the spring term started the first of April with a lady teacher who could handle the younger children who were then available for instruction. This term lasted through April and May. In later years this was extended through June, and the entire school year then totaled seven months.



A section of land which certainly has historical as well as religious and personal worth is the Cambria Cemetery.

Records show that the first burial ground in the village was the south-west corner of the community, near the east corner of Mary and Commerce Streets. Still, when the railroad came through in 1856 the site was needed for the right-of-way, the depot and the expansion of the village. Consequently, a cemetery area was obtained in Courtland to the south of the village, and graves were moved there.

Interesting bits of history are connected with the old plot. The first grave was that of a young man, 25 years of age, buried July, 1847, son of a well digger and pump maker. The stories continue with the fact that not all graves and bodies were recovered and moved, as subsequent excavations for buildings can testify.

At its present location, the first person buried in this cemetery was David Owen (Gearwen) in 1863, a great-great-grandfather of the late Morris and Merwyn Rowlands. The oldest persons buried there were born in 1803 and 1809, ancestors of the Clayton Morgan family.

Here are the last resting places of many of our war dead, among seventeen from the Civil War and two from the Spanish-American conflict. The south-east corner of the oldest part of the grounds was formerly known as Potter's Field. It contains five nameless graves, three or four have name markers. This area was where unknown strangers or those who had no money for a lot were buried.

The lannon stone chapel here was dedicated on May 28, 1938. This chapel was made possible by many substantial money gifts and money-making projects of all kinds by the entire community.

Through the years three additions have been made to the cemetery area and another entrance driveway leading to the chapel and still another to the north of the last addition of land. In 1972 a well was dug and pipeline laid for watering, the cost raised by popular subscription. Most recently the roads were resurfaced with crushed lime. The interest of the Perpetual Care Fund, together with contributions from the Town of Courtland and the Village of Cambria maintain the upkeep and expenses of the Cemetery.

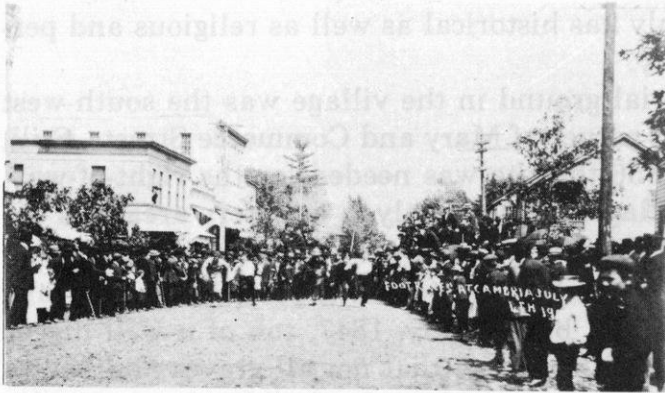
Early sextons were William and David Morgan, who kept the grass trimmed with scythes. Mr. Jeff Williams, father of Hugh Williams was the first to use a hand mower. He served as caretaker for thirty-four years.

Over the years several Cambria residents have distinguished themselves in the arenas of war. One of the earliest was Dr. John Ll. Williams who was a surgeon in the Medical Corps at Vicksburg Prison from 1864-1866. While there he saw the first use of chloroform.

World War I chaplain Rev. John F. Jones (Coety) served also as YMCA War Secretary from 1918-1919. In that same war William R. Davies was with the Army Medical Corps, YMCA at Camp Custer from 1917-1919.

During World II, Cambria contributed three chaplains to the war effort - Rev. Emerson Abendroth (1944-45), Rev. Marvin Kausler (1945-46) and Rev. D. Evor Roberts (1943-1946). Through the same conflict, Francis L. Abendroth served as ARC Program Director in Anchorage, Alaska (1944-1946).





In 1908 foot races were part of the holiday celebration which was held in the street since no other large facilities existed at that time.

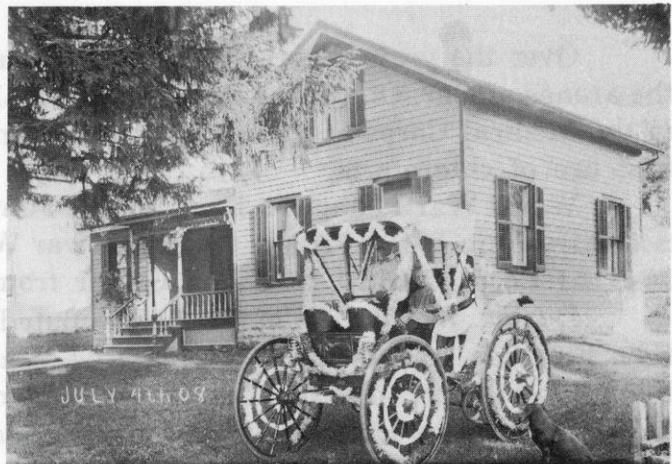


Further festivities of the 4th.



J. Ap Edwards' decorated 'horse' carriage.

The Fred Pickruhn's 'horseless carriage'



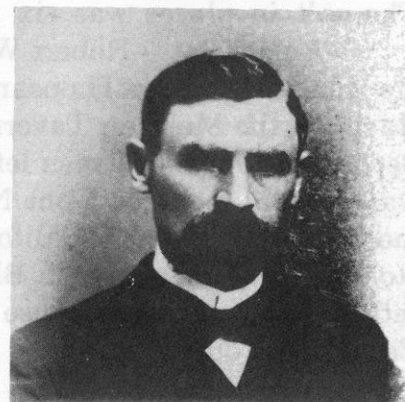


Concerning the creation of the village of Cambria from legal aspects, the Columbia County History of 1880 gives a detailed account of its inception:

“Since the original plat was recorded, several additions have been made to the village....Cambria was under town government until 1866, the Legislature of that year passing an act of incorporation, the government was to consist of a President and five Trustees, a Clerk, Treasurer, Police Chief and Constable, who should be an ex-officio and the Police Justice were to be elected annually, on the second Monday in April, the other officers to be appointed by the President and Trustees....The Police Justice was given all the rights and priviledges of a Justice of the Peace, and was entitled to the same fees as received by them. Power was given to the President and Trustees to grant licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors, for organizing fire companies, restraining drunkards, establishing pounds, and the licensing and controlling of other matters that might be necessary for good government.”



The beginning of the village water system during the term of Mr. Hopkins.



There have been several mayors who have served long and commendable terms in office. The first mayor - Mr. E. O. Jones - was one such individual.



Mr. Al Hopkins



Irvin Abendroth



Jay Williams



## A Great Event In 1852 (California Gold Rush)

Eight men from the community of Blaen-y-cae, 5 or 6 miles Northeast of Cambria in 1852 planned a trip to the California gold fields. They were all Welsh men. They started the last of March in two wagons and eight pairs of oxen. They reached Council Bluffs on the Missouri River by May 5th. John Jones became ill and died here. They had to wait two weeks for pastures to grow food for the animals. May 22nd they crossed the river.

The eight men were namely; John Jones, J. Roberts, Bont Newydd, D. Roberts, T. R. Roberts, T. D. Foulks, E. Parry, Robert Williams, William Jones.

On June 27th they reached Fort Laramie, 638 miles from Council Bluffs. Flour there was 20 dollars a barrel. Ten dollars was paid for shoeing on oxen. They followed the Platte River for 170 miles. They journeyed through the Great Desert for 100 miles without pasture for the animals, and about 60 miles without water. The salt in places was six inches deep.

August 1st -- Robert Williams became ill of cholera and died nine days later. He was buried near Thousand Springs. On the 20th two more men became ill and stayed at the Mormon Tavern. The four men left reached the California gold mines Sept. 24th. One of the men left behind dies. He had a coffin and a funeral. His name was John J. Roberts. Bont Newydd, the second man who had stayed at the Mormon Tavern reached California in November but died shortly. He was David Roberts, the first settler in Blaen-y-cae. He was the man who had helped the Welsh settlers find farms because he could speak English. This David Roberts was Catherine Foulk's son.

### First White Woman In Cambria

Mrs. Jabez Lloyd was the first woman in Cambria. She met Indians so often that she could speak their language. Her husband Jabez Lloyd was one of the nine men who came to Welsh Prairie, but being a carpenter he settled near the village, at the northwest of present day Cambria. After building his house he built a leanto on it for a family to live in while he built their home.

### The New Baby Story

A family living near the railroad track had a new baby. An older brother was sent the next morning to ask a neighbor to come and help take care of the baby. The lady asked him when the baby came. Said the boy "Last night when the seven o'clock train went thru".

### Keeping Time On The Prairie

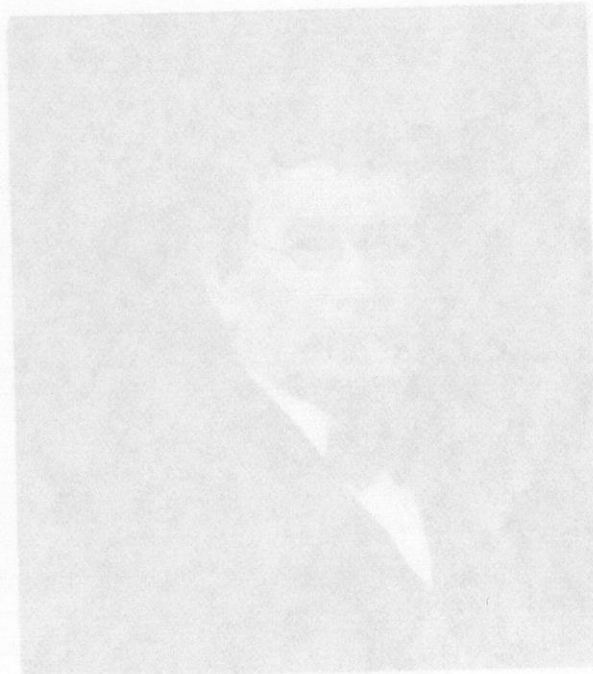
David Roberts had a clock which he bought in the east on his way here. He finished paying for it after reaching Wisconsin. It was Mrs. Roberts task to check the clock with a sun dial when they had sunshine in the yard. All the settlers then checked with Roberts.



# PROTECTORS, PROVIDERS AND PROMOTERS Jerusalem

In the 1900's young men came from Wales to attend Ripon College. They preached at the country churches to help pay their way through college. One young man was to preach at Jerusalem Church south of Cambria one Sunday and proceeded to the depot at Ripon asking for a ticket to Jerusalem. The agent said he could not do that in Ripon. Well said the young man I must have a ticket for I am due to preach there tomorrow morning. Then someone who knew the area said "It is a ticket to Cambria he wants, Jerusalem is the name of a church there".

The following articles reflect, in part some of the personalities that have influenced life-giving sustenance into the corner of the world they graced.



David Houston

One of five members in a Cambria family that came to Wisconsin from Scotland in 1850, David Houston was an inventor of varied talents. His most illustrious inventions were connected with photography. These ideas were formulated during the 1850's and 1860's. As the tale is revealed, when the Cambria photographer, Robert J. Lloyd, vacated his building, his equipment was left behind. This was sold at an auction and subsequently purchased by Peter Houston, older brother of David. While operating his equipment, Peter complained to his younger brother of the awkward weight connected with his photographic mechanisms.

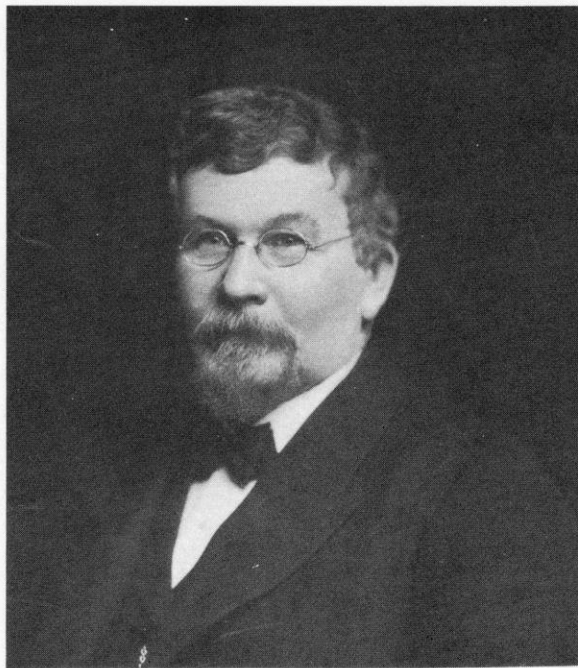


## PROTECTORS, PROVIDERS AND PROMOTERS

The "life blood" of a town is not made of corpuscles and cells, or facts and dates, but rather the stream of people that flow in and out of the community from it's birth down the years of it's existance.

Perhaps the smaller the community the more it is aware of the exceptional people instrumental in keeping the "life blood" coursing. Some such personalities will have risen to national and international awareness, while others are known statewide. Then there are the majority - those village patrons, church leaders, town benefactors, concerned citizens.

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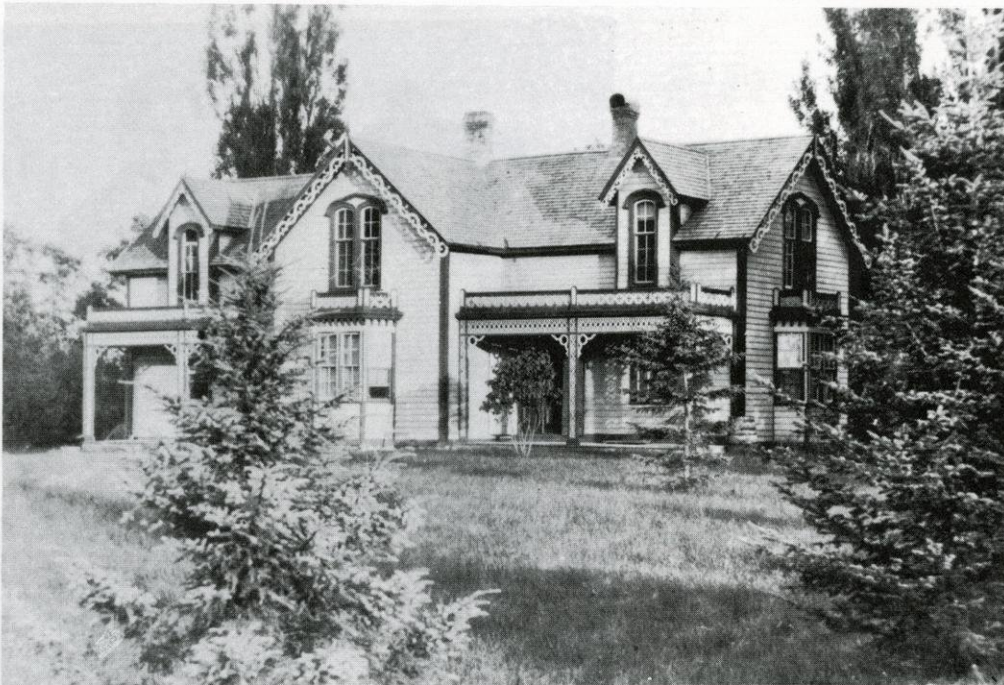
His most illustrious inventions were connected with photography. These ideas were formulated during the 1850's and 1860's. As the tale is revealed, when the Cambria photographer, Robert J. Lloyd, vacated his building, his equipment was left behind. This was sold at an auction and subsequently purchased by Peter Houston, older brother of David. While operating his equipment, Peter complained to his younger brother of the awkward weight connected with his photographic mechanisms.



Eventually, Mr. Houston developed twenty-two different parts for the camera, some here in Cambria and others in Hunter, North Dakota, where he moved at the turn of the century. One of the very influential inventions of Mr. Houston's was the roll film <sup>mechanism</sup> which became the basis for the modern movie industry.

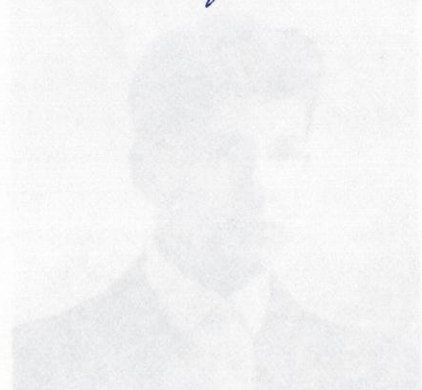
David sold his mechanisms to Mr. Eastman for \$5,000 and \$175 per month for his lifetime. However, even though Mr. Eastman commented that, "Mr. Houston was a genius", he never gave the inventor full credit, and hence the name Kodak - letters from the state Dakota - for the place of his last residence.

Finally, in 1906, Mr. David Houston, inventor and believer in a spirit world, passed away in Hunter, North Dakota.



The Houston farm at the intersection of Hwys. 146 and 33.

*Film for Kodaks were invented by other companies following the success of the Houston roll mechanism.*







Behnke, David — 1899-1953. Pioneer pilot. Learned to fly in San Diego at 15. In 1915 joined the Army Aviation Corps. WW1 test pilot, established the Checkerboard Field in Chicago. Taught flying and parachute jumping. Earned AP rating, highest award in Army flying. 1927 was one of first 3 pilots hired by Northwestern Airline. 1931 flew for United Airlines. Organized Air Lines Pilot Association and was it's President. Stressed flight safety.

Cottam, Ruby — 1888-1957. Graduated from Lawrence Conservatory of Music. Music teacher at Cambria schools for 16 years and choir director of the Olivet Ladies Choir. Gave much in terms of time and talent to those interested in music.



William R. Davies — President of University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire ~~at the turn of the century.~~ 1940-1959.  
 Evans, Dr. Silas — 1876-1959. Educator and President of Ripon College during the 1930's and 1940's.





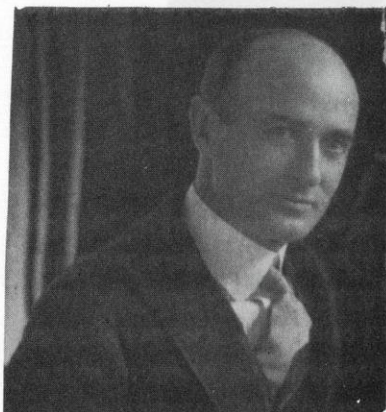
Baillies, John (Jack) — 1886-1965. Member of Fire Department 35 years.

Blankschein, William (Bill Blunk) — 1904-1962. Baseball player, coach, Big and Little League. Barber.

Cottam, Tom — Meat market over 30 years.

Davies, William C. — born 1876. His mother named the C. for Centennial, the year he was born. Band coronetist, with D. R. Williams in elevator.

Dexter, Jasper — 1856-1918. Beyer and Dexter Hardware Store, 16 years. Manager Music Hall. Civic enterprise worker in Temperance Movement.



Evans, Dr. Curtis — Pioneer in thyroid surgery. Chief of Staff at Milwaukee Luthern Hospital. Organized base hospitals at the front during WWI and was recognized by Gen. Pershing for exceptional behavior.



Evans, Dr. Silas — 1876-1959. Educator and President of Ripon College during the 1930's and 1940's.



Hook, Miss Lydia — Cambria Grade School teacher for many years.



Treptow, Mrs. Al Hopkins — 1882-1960. Special interests were the park and the W.C.T.U. which flourished in Cambria for many years.



Gilmore, Howard and May Donna — Mr. Gilmore prominent in area square dancing. Great Grandson of Catherine Foulks who began Blaen-y-cae chain of Welsh Churches.

Griffeth, Tom — 1890-1972. 40 years with Columbia Canning Company.

Jones, Anamary — 1898-1968. School Board member many years. Local reporter, writer. Leader in clubs, church, civic projects.



Hughes, Mrs. J. — Instructress of HB class and charter leader of that organization in 1909.



Hughes, Mrs. B. W. Mabel — 1881-1932. Publisher, writer, Editor Cambria News.

Hughes, Byron W. — Harness maker, Editor and Publisher Cambria News.

Jones, Raymond — Worked for Columbia Canning Co. for 35 years.

Koepp, D. H. — Served as Administrator of Cambria Schools for 20 years.



Jones, Montford — 1881-1954. Professor of Finance in the School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh where joined faculty in 1915. Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. During the summers, taught at Rutgers University.



Lewis — The first Cambria lamplighter, a small man who made the rounds with his kerosene can and stepladder before the gas light days.

Lloyd, Baldwin O. — Lamplighter for gas street lights when gas plant was built in 1903. They had to lit and put out every evening. A pipe was driven into the ground next to the lamp post and used as a step for tall Baldwin but shorter men carried a ladder.

Lloyd, Bernice — 1908-1973. Cambria High School English and Latin teacher, dramatics coach. Member and elder of the General Council of the Madison Presbytery and of the permanent nominating committee of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.

Lloyd, John H. — 1908-1972. 16 years on School Board, farmer. Active in many civic local and county projects.

Lockhart, Milton W. — 1899-1968. Village Clerk 20 years. Fire Chief for 45 years. In hardware business 45 years.

Marquardt, George W. — 1879-1976. Merchant. Generous in civic mindedness.



Morris, Harry G. — 1878-1954. Graduate of Cambria Grade Schools, Fox Lake High School and Wayland Academy. Operated confectionary store for twenty years. Civic organizer. Village band for 20 years.

Morris, Robert D. — 1868-1948. General Merchandise with Frank Scharf, Singer, Chair Director.

Owens, Owen — Carpenter. Casket maker. Evan O. Jones ordered one made to his liking and kept it stored until it was ready to be used.

Owen, Richard C. (Dick) — 1860-1911. Produce business many years, potatoes, cabbage etc. Cambria Canning Co. with Henry Schemmel and later, Temp Slinger.

Roberts, John P. — 1850-1932. Princeton University graduate, scholar. Lived in Cambria and Columbus area many years. Friend of President Wilson.





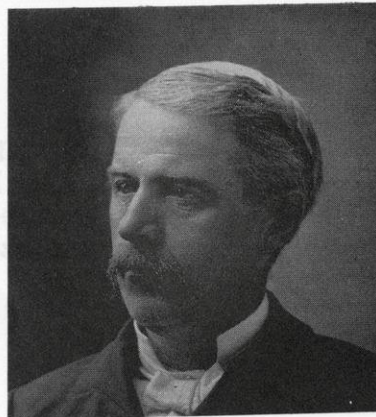
Parry, Rev. J. O. — Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Minister in Cambria for 35 years, beginning in 1899. Served as moderator and as stated clerk of the church. Was honorarily given Doctor of Divinity degree from Carroll College.



Rowlands, E. Merwyn — 1901-1961. Politician; State Assemblyman for Columbia Co.; State Senator for 27th Dist. 1934-1937 held various state and federal posts.



Rowlands, Gena  
Hollywood actress, shown here with her daughter Zoe.



Dr. Prees



Roberts, J. E. — Half-century as a druggist.

Roberts, Thomas W. — One of the early rural route mail carriers. Began career in 1906 and continued through 1931.

Rowlands, Catherine — Local Reporter, writer, leader in clubs, church, civic projects.

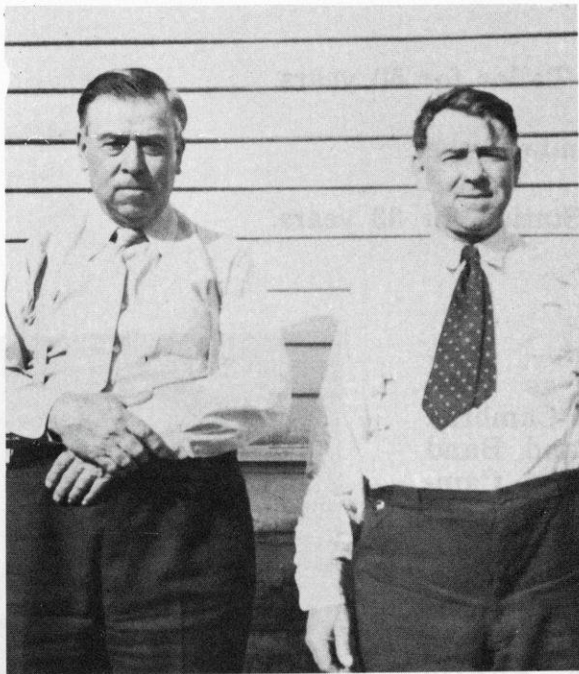
Rowlands, Clarice — 1915-1967. Nevada. Special events manager for Milwaukee Journal; writer especially about foods.



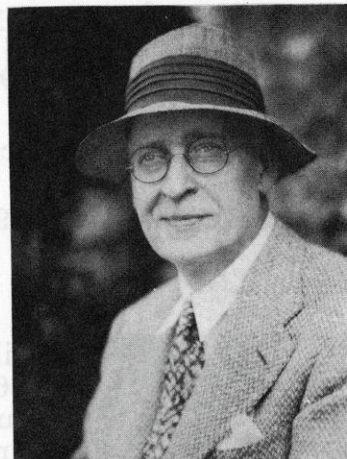
Rowlands, Evan A. (Eve) — 1886-1957. Managed Cambria Lumber Co. for 36 years.

Sanderson, Thomas H. — 1879-1964. Lawyer, Milwaukee, Portage. President and Director Peoples Telephone Co. President and trustee Col. Co. Teacher's College for 40 years. Civic leader.

Slinger, John Sr. — 1847-1928. Stock buyer for many years.



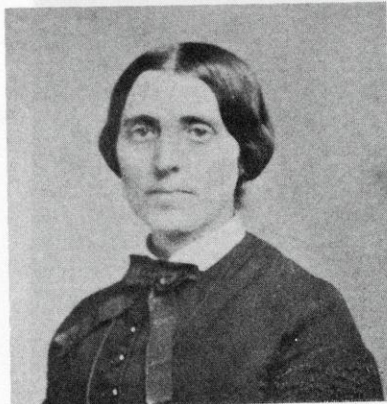
Thomas, Joe — Church and Masonic leader.  
Thomas, Will — Leading Undertaker.



Tarrant, Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Jane Morgan Tarrant) — Special interests: The Park, The Band, Library, Chapel at the Cemetery. Mrs. Tarrant instrumental in starting Gymanfa Ganu in Cambria in 1944.



Williams, Marie —  
Milliner for many years.



Williams, Perry — Welsh  
Sunday School teacher for  
forty years.



Williams, Mr. and Mrs.  
Bob D. — in 1885



Thomas, John Arthur (Jack Arthur) — 1882-1962. Substitute on Rural Routes of Postal Service for 45 years.

Williams, Clifford — 1888-1964. Sec.-Treas. Cambria Fire Dept. for 47 years. Civic project leader.

Williams, Daniel L. (Glyn) — Hardware. Known for his wit and humor. President Park Board for many years.

Williams, Hugh (Jeff) — On Fire Dept. for 52 years. Was sexton of the cemetery for many years.

Williams, Peter — 1831-1910. Lawyer, Tailor for 50 years.

Williams, Thomas E. (Buckhill) — Cambria poet.

Zieman, Harold — 1907-1971. Filling Station for 33 years.



Williams, Ervin — 1893-1962. Known as “Mr. Music Man” in Cambria. Directed Friesland Band in 1914-1921, and Cambria Band. Assistant director of Beaver Dam American Legion Band. Taught instrumental music in the Beaver Dam and Cambria Public Schools.



Williams, Dr. William E.



Williams, Owen J. (Owen Glynn) — 1857-1948. Williams Hardware with his brother Dan in about 1890. Still run by Dan's daughter Mary Enerson.

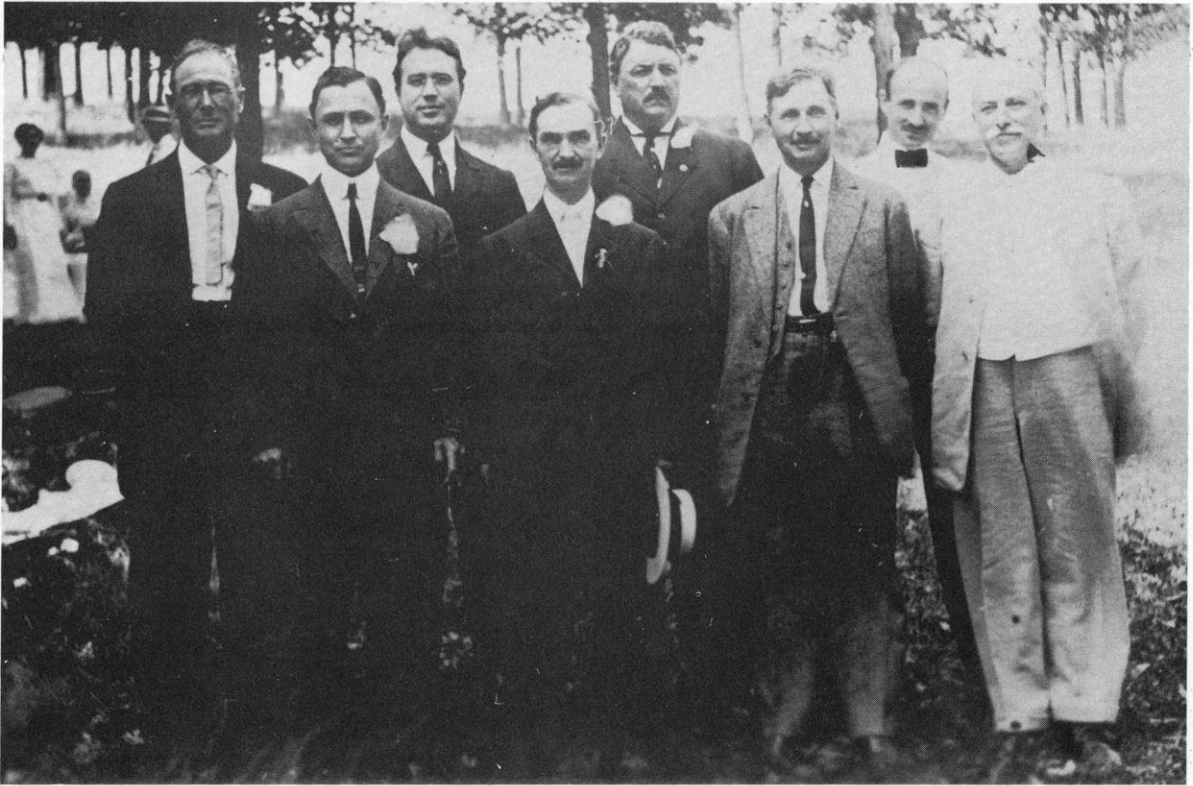


Schemmel, H. F. — Cambria banker and businessman.



Dr. Williams — The first doctor in Cambria, 1860-1880. Was a Civil War veteran. First doctor in Cambria village.





This 1912 composite picture is a visual record of the Cambria men who became doctors. Front row, left to right — Drs. David J. Evans, Griffith Jones, Wm. E. Williams, Wm. E. Owen. Back row, left to right — Drs. Richard Jones, Hugh Evans, Sanford McCall, Curtis Evans.



The John Slinger family. Mr. John Slinger was an early stock buyer (4th from the left). An interesting story relates now, before the advent of checks, this gentleman slept with \$1800.00 receipts and a pistol under his pillow.





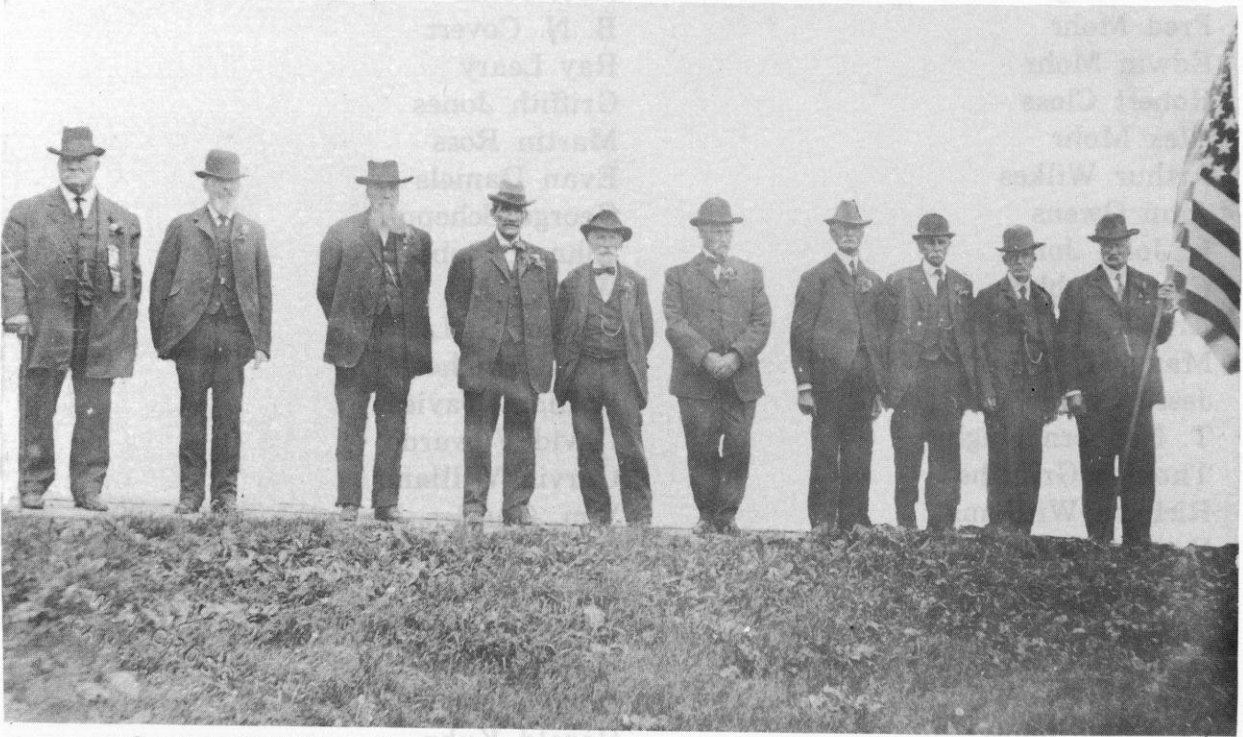
Men About Town in the Gay Ninties. Front row, left to right — Owen I. Jones, Richard C. Owen. Back row, left to right — Will Davies (Coxie), Ed. Schliesman (Kelly), Byron Hughes.



The Morgan Girls. Left to right — Charlotte, Myfanwy, Jane (Mrs. Robert Tarrant), Elizabeth, Marie, Blodwyn, Olwyn, Arvon, Gwendolyn.



# "I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE....."



Cambria Civil War veterans: left to right—Dunlap, Chris Sauer, Freeman Bentley, Dave Griffith, Hiram Willard, Wm. Saunders, James W. Roberts, Rowland Morris, John Hammond, Wm. Jones.

## CIVIL WAR VETERANS

David Griffith  
George Morgan  
William A. Sanders  
John Lloyd  
Rowland D. Morris  
James Roberts  
William Rhode  
Henry Rust  
J. L. Williams  
D. G. Williams  
Owen E. Lloyd

Charles Sauer  
Evan Hughes  
Daniel Morris  
John Shiply  
Christifer Krinkie  
George W. Jones  
William H. Jones  
Evor R. Jones  
John J. Jones  
John Hammon  
J. G. Griffith

## SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR VETERANS

H. Rohrbeck

William Lloyd

Fred Wruck

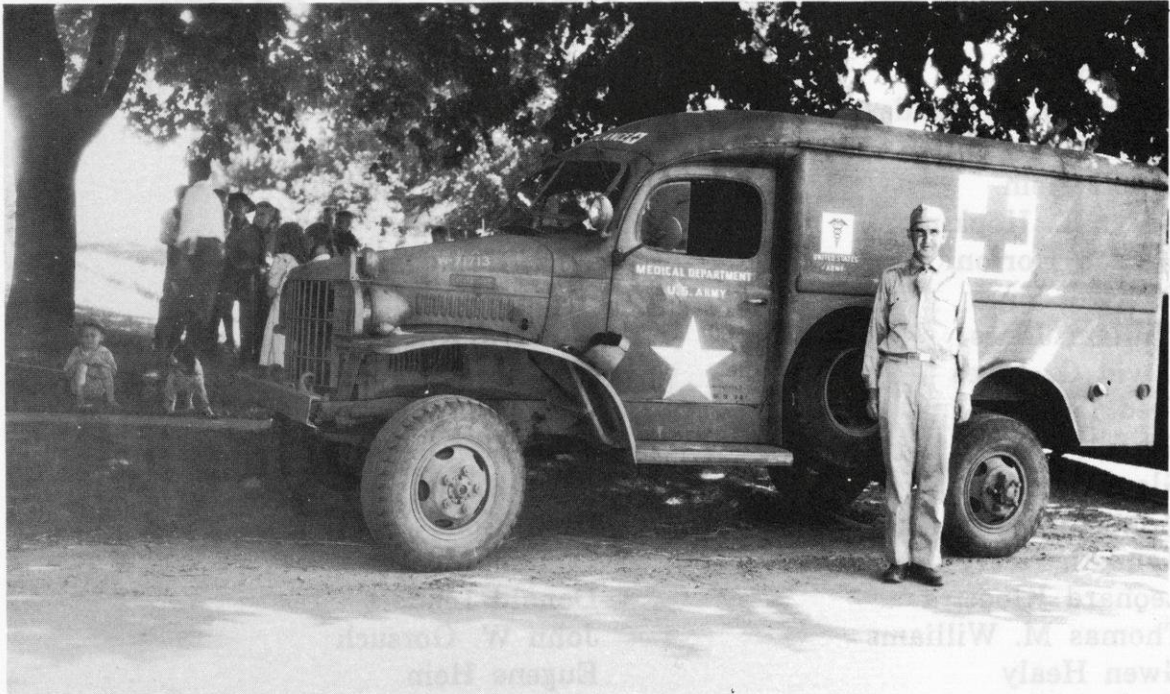


# WORLD WAR I VETERANS

John Riley  
Fred Mohr  
Edwin Mohr  
Robert Closs  
Alex Mohr  
Arthur Wilkes  
John Owens  
L. John Jones  
Elmer Bobholz  
Alv. K. Dallman  
Maxwell Milton  
Jesse Peters  
T. Neubern Hughes  
Thomas Griffiths  
Richard Williams  
David Behncke  
David Williams  
Carl Jones  
Gilbert Jones  
Wm. R. Davies  
Llewelyn Jones  
Robert Prees  
Walter McCloud  
Raymond Smith  
Carl Albrecht  
Maldwyn Morgan  
Morris R. Williams  
Morris D. Williams  
Ernest Ringgenberg  
Richard Vaughan  
Ervil Edwards  
Leonard Dodge  
Robert Steiner  
Hugh E. Jones  
Ray Bandsma  
Louis Beier  
Edgar Kuhn  
Edwin A. Davies  
George C. Smith  
Thomas R. Jones

Abel Jones  
B. N. Covert  
Ray Leary  
Griffith Jones  
Martin Ross  
Evan Daniels  
George Schepp  
John J. Roberts  
Warren Lee  
August G. Libke  
Floyd Hughes  
William Davies  
David Edwards  
Garvin Williams  
Wm. Charles Jones  
C. G. Abendroth  
Maurice Rowlands  
Ledro Keel  
Elmer Lee  
Fred Evans  
Harold Kuhn  
Hy. Numerdor  
Edwin Rohrbeck  
Ernest Schultz  
Robert F. Morris  
Edwin Wagner  
Harry Edwards  
Albert Schlaitzer  
Edward Rode  
Reinhold Rosenthal  
Hy. W. Smith  
John E. Jones  
William Price  
Harry Lytle  
Frank Lightner  
Arnold Andrew  
David C. Jones  
Raymond Lackas  
Raymond Ashley





The symbol of the prisoner of war camp in Cambria during World War II. 300 men were brought to Cambria for three summers to alleviate the lack of man power caused by the war.

## WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Lester Yonkee  
 Eugene Rummelt  
 Emerson Abendroth  
 Robert Mohr  
 Wallace Tonn  
 Robert Baker  
 David McDonald  
 Bernard Brenner  
 Harold Braaksma  
 Emery Dodge  
 Ward Graville  
 William Gray  
 Robert E. Hughes  
 John M. Davies  
 Norman Fox  
 Carl Hein  
 Ervin Healy  
 Howard Jones  
 Marvin Kausler  
 Baldwin Lloyd  
 Kenneth Lindert  
 Harris Marquardt

Robert Krinke  
 Edw. L. Lange  
 John Friday  
 Delburne Slinger  
 Donald Jones  
 Emma Williams  
 Elizabeth Morgan  
 Walter Braaksma  
 Howard E. Davies  
 Robert Gilmore  
 Irvin Steinich  
 Wilton Hopkins  
 Arnold Bergum  
 Louis DeBoer  
 William Gorsuch  
 Chester Harris  
 Byron Hughes  
 Merle Jones  
 John Emery Leary  
 Dodge Leary  
 John A. Morgan  
 D. Evor Roberts



## WORLD WAR II VETERANS CONTD.

William Rausch  
Sherwood Rowlands  
J. W. Swartz  
Ernest Hein  
Elwyn L. Hopkins  
Gordon Horton  
Richard Jones  
William Jones  
David G. Jones  
Fred Leystra  
Gordon Lindert  
Glen Marquart  
Ervin Moldenhauer  
Kenneth Healy  
Leonard Kloostra  
Thomas M. Williams  
Gwen Healy  
E. O. Ronneburger  
Richard Knoll  
Leonard Williams  
Lyle Raymond  
Fritz Buetschli  
Elvin Berger  
John Andreas  
Walter Hopp  
William Sommers  
David Agnew  
Edward Fenske  
Marvin Mohr  
Gerold Horton  
Alfred Sommers  
Walter Hansen  
Alfred Hein  
Alice Stark  
Evelyn Stark  
Shirley J. Rowlands  
Orville Hendrickson  
Earl Niht  
Willard Paul  
Arnold Preuss  
Marvin L. Roberts  
Oscar Semple  
Leo Swader  
Edw. H. Tonn  
Geo. B. Williams

William Slinger  
Morris Rowlands  
Arthur Haima  
Bruce Vaughan  
David Horton  
Edwin Hughes  
Merlin Klug  
Howard Kuehn  
Maurice M. Jones  
Leonard Linck  
John H. Lindert  
Lewis Lloyd  
Glen Mohr  
Donald Morgan  
Donald Lindert  
John W. Gorsuch  
Eugene Hein  
Ericka Pickhardt  
Robert Wiersma  
Arnold Herman  
Raymond Jones  
Arland Rogers  
Philip Jung  
Sylvester Agnew  
Ralph Deakin  
Alfred Stahr  
Gordon Patterson  
Earl Treptow  
Charles Oliver  
Leonard H. Froelich  
Ambrose Zunker  
Edward Murray  
Maurice J. Williams  
Sam Leystra  
Ruby Stark  
William Saunders  
Sarah Ann Jones  
Marvin Nehring  
Ralph Patterson  
Alfred Pickhardt  
Dennis Roberts  
Wayne Rogers  
Frank Slinger  
Thos. W. Thomas  
Bruce Deakin



## WORLD WAR II VETERANS CONTD.

LeRoy Williams  
Edw. Westra  
Erwin Rhode  
Emil Schroeder  
Warren Marquardt  
Loren Roberts  
Darvin Roberts  
L. M. Krueger  
Ray Tonn  
Thomas Mader  
Darwin Bengsch  
Francis Abendroth  
Frederick Lightner  
John O. Johnson  
Wallace L. McCloud  
Gordon Lindert

Wayne G. Williams  
Philip Lightner  
Arthur Yahnke  
Henry Schave  
Robert Jones  
Richard Hopp  
Ed. L. Tonn  
Peter Kloostra  
Alfred Bier  
Eldon Roy Rode  
Edwin Blauer  
Curtis Smith  
Earl Marshall  
Jack Lightner  
Stuart Pratt  
H. Peterson

## THOSE WHO DIED IN ACTION IN WORLD WAR II

Howard E. Davies  
Alfred Hein

Gerold Horton  
Philip Lightner

Leonard H. Froelich  
Irvin Steinich

### Killed in Action From the Cambria Area

Korea: Killed in Action, January, 1951  
Private 1st Class Kenneth Stark

Vietnam: Platoon Sgt. Ralph (Charley) Vogeli, January 6, 1969

Vietnam: ABM 3-C Dale Gorsuch, Killed in action, October 2, 1969.

The preceding listings are the men of Cambria who served the United States militarily in the Civil War, World War I and World War II. Many unsuccessful attempts were made to obtain a complete list of the Korean Conflict veterans and those who served in Vietnam.



WORLD WAR II VETERANS CONTD.

Wayne G. Williams  
 Philip Lightner  
 Arthur Yahnke  
 Henry Schave  
 Robert Jones  
 Richard Hopp  
 Ed. L. Tonn  
 Peter Kloostma  
 Alfred Bier  
 Eldon Roy Rode  
 Edwin Blauer  
 Curtis Smith  
 Earl Marshall  
 Jack Lightner  
 Stuart Pratt  
 H. Peterson

Larry Williams  
 Edw. Westra  
 Edwin Rode  
 Earl Schroeder  
 Warren Marquardt  
 Loren Roberts  
 Darwin Roberts  
 L. M. Krueger  
 Ray Tonn  
 Thomas Mader  
 Darwin Bensch  
 Francis Abendroth  
 Frederick Lightner  
 John G. Johnson  
 Wallace L. McCleod  
 Gordon Lindert

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 tempts were made to obtain a complete list of the Korean Conflict veterans and  
 those who served in Vietnam.



## Postscript

This is not a complete history of this village, but an attempt has been made to picture the era in which the founders came to make their homes, the epoch of growth and the present age.

Also, it is hoped this will be, in part, a legacy to succeeding generations - a legacy of history, a sense of place, and aura of purpose.

Sarah Jones  
Nancy Schreiber Nettlesheim







