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HISTORY OF
REEDSVILLE
TO 1976



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With grateful appreciation to all the citizens in Reedsville who were most helpful especially:

F. J. Bergmann
Florence Dvorachek
Laurena Hoge
Carol Krueger
Elvira Krueger
Ethel Krueger
Verona Rusch
Jim Winter

Dorothy Zarnoth, Editor

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The coming of the railroad helped Reedsville to grow. This depot was located a short distance from Reinemann's Elevator.

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BEGINNINGS —

This land upon which Reedsville is located was originally owned by and occupied by the Indians. In 1673, Marquette and Joliet were sent to map the shoreline from Green Bay. They may have camped and been the first white people in the county. As a result of the French and Indian War, this land passed to Great Britain from the French in 1763.

In 1783, at the close of the Revolutionary War, it became part of the United States. In 1787, it was named Northwest Territory, 1800 it was the Indiana territory, and in 1809 it was Illinois territory. From 1818 to 1836, it was Michigan territory. It then became Wisconsin territory until we became a state in 1848. We were a part of Brown County for a time. The township of Maple Grove had its start in 1850 and the Town of Rockland was so designated in 1856.

The French traveled just west of Reedsville. In 1887, R. Krolhnirg plowed up an interesting tablet of slate 16 inches square and one inch thick upon which were eight lines of script in French with a crucifix underneath.

Mud Creek began in 1854. Judge Reed had it surveyed and platted at that time.

C. F. Hagenow, clerk of the town of Rockland and proprietor of the Rockland House at Reedsville, opened a small tavern a short distance west in 1857. He had come here in 1856. In 1858, Mr. Hagenow graded the railroad from Grimms to a point a little west of Reedsville. This was on the proposed road between Manitowoc and Appleton, which was shortly abandoned.

Reedsville is named after Judge George Reed of Manitowoc who lost his life in the burning of the Newhall House in Milwaukee in 1883. Judge Reed and Jacob Lueps purchased the south half of section 35 of the present town of Maple Grove and had it surveyed and platted by George Wimpf in 1854, 56 blocks in all. For years afterward it was known as Mud Creek, from the small stream of that name flowing through the town.

The pioneer settlers and land holders of Reedsville were Indians. However all sold out in time to the more hardy tillers of the soil, German, Bohemians, and Irish. The American people moved farther west.

One of the first settlers in the village was James Dumass, a French Canadian and his Menominee Indian wife, who came from Green Bay and located where the Busse residence now stands on the west end of Manitowoc Street. They were a worthy and respected couple, both playing an important part of the development of their new home.

Peter Boettcher, the first German settler of the village bought his land from Jones in 1852. Part of this is property belonging to Donald Bubolz.

In the same year or earlier a number of German families located in the immediate neighborhood of the town. Among these were Jacob Grimm who came from Ohio and after whom the town of Grimms is named. Louis Faulhaber and Michael and Daniel Jantz, brothers, also came.

In 1854, the vicinity enjoyed a special boom. Settlers were coming thick and fast. Among the prominent arrivals were Joachim Krueger and his stalwart sons, Fred, Otto, Gottfried and Karl; John Pape, the Haese family, Fred Lorenz, C. F. Hagenow and his wife from Indiana, who built the first tavern and boarding house; Fred Guse, Louis Rusch, and the two brothers John and Fred Maertz. The Maertz brothers and their families first settled near Milwaukee. In 1854 with their household goods, they traveled along the Green Bay road in ox carts to their homesteads just north of Reedsville. The journey took one week.

Louis, or Ludwig Rusch as he was better known, was very helpful to the early pioneers. His homestead adjoined Reedsville to the east. Prospective farmers with their families would make their way laboriously at sunrise from Manitowoc. At dusk, accompanied by the monotonous sound of the whippoorwill and howling of wolves, they would reach the

hospitable roof of Ludwig Rusch to whom they had been recommended. Here, after a good night's rest, under the guidance of the host, the newly purchased land was found and the construction of a log hut commenced. The first term of horses was brought here by Ludwig Rusch all the way from Ohio.

Traveling in Reedsville in the 1850's was accompanied by unusual difficulties, the road to Manitowoc being merely a widened Indian trail, just wide enough for the crude ox carts in use at that time. Often when returning homeward at dusk, through forest and swamp, the farmer was compelled to abandon his cart and later return with neighbors to help free the cart from deep ruts. The nearest markets were Manitowoc, De Pere, Green Bay, Menasha and Gravesville. A sack of flour and other necessities of life frequently had to be carried on a man's back from one or the other of these places.

The early Germans hereabouts were all from Pomerania and West Prussia and of the Lutheran and Evangelical faith. The first church of the old Lutheran faith was a log structure, built somewhat south of the present Methodist church, adjoining the cemetery. In this church, services were held until 1868. The land was purchased from Fred Guse, in 1855. The first pastor of the name Fox was installed March 15, 1856. In 1868, some members seceded, forming the nucleus of the present Evangelical Lutheran St. John St. James congregation now presided over by Rev. Harlyn Kuschel. The remnant found the Evangelical congregation, whose church was then located in Rockland, one mile to the south. The unused old church was sold on condition that no liquor be dispensed therein. The proprietor ignored his promise, started a tavern, but by queer coincidence it burned to the ground on opening night.

James Dumass erected the first sawmill for Judge Reed. It was begun in 1854 but not finished until 1857. It was located where the more recent Rusch Lumber Company stood. It was operated by Charles Klingholz, Herman, and Stupecky. It burned in 1862, was rebuilt by Chloupek, Prochazka and Dubecky as a saw and shingle mill. Mrs. Dubecky, in a fit of temporary insanity, drowned herself soon after and the owners sold out to Ludwig Rusch, by whom it was operated until his death and then by his two sons. Rusch enlarged the mill so that it had an increased capacity for the manufacture of lumber, lath and shingles. Timber 42 feet long could be sawed, while from 1,500 to 2,000 feet of lumber could be turned out in a single day.

About 1885, Joseph Dumass, the son of the builder of the mill, purchased it and the mill remained in his possession until his death in 1898 when it was bought by A. H. Rusch, making it the main industry of the town.

In early times lumbering was always considered vital to the interests of the community, for which reason the early history of sawmills and factories is always interesting. The most important business of the village and for many miles around was the old Hubbard and Noble mill, built in 1871, just before the railroad was completed to Reedsville. It was at first a general sawmill and manufacturer of hubs, spokes, and general wagon stock, situated on the block just north of the depot. Later Hubbard and Noble became interested in the formation of the Manitowoc Seating Company. After the fire and failure of that concern, W. H. Noble continued the business at Reedsville, making in addition syrup and nail kegs and general cooperage as well as turning Indian clubs, dumbbells, etc. and employed at times one hundred men. After Mr. Noble's death in 1894, a joint stock company of citizens continued its operation until 1896, when one night the plant was completely destroyed by fire. It went into the hands of receivers and out of business. However, the creditors received 86%. Later it was rebuilt on a smaller scale by John Duggan, but discontinued in 1909. The County Shop is now on that site.



Before the automobile came to Reedsville, Menasha Street was lined with horses at hitching posts.



Logging was a part of the main industry, lumbering, in early Reedsville.

At the spring town meeting in 1891, at Maple Grove, a petition was read, asking for the sum of \$100 for the sidewalks within village limits. It was defeated. Therefore a self organized committee worked for incorporation.

December 17, 1891, Noble, Falge, Meany, Maertz, Kabat and Stelling signed a notice to proceed with incorporation for Reedsville containing in all 655.40 acres. This notice was posted on the walls of the Reedsville post office, the Rockland House and T. H. Meany's store from December 17, 1891 to January 28, 1892. Louis Falge had taken a census and counted 510 persons.

January 29, 1892, Circuit Judge W. S. Gilson declared that Reedsville be a corporate village. A vote was taken in Behnke Brothers' store February 26, 1892 at which time 104 people voted; 80 for incorporation and 24 against.

Because of the unwillingness of the people in the towns of Rockland and Maple Grove to vote funds for street and sidewalk improvements as well as other benefits, the people voted to incorporate. There were thirteen taverns in Reedsville and the license fees from these would go a long way to support village needs.

At the first election held March 19, 1892, the following officers were elected: President W. H. Noble; Treasurer, August Schmelter; Trustees, Albert Mueller, A. C. Maertz, Fred Kabat, August Draheim, Louis Falge, F. C. Gisch; Supervisor; F. F. Stelling, Assessor: J. E. Schultz; Constable, Rudolph Mueller; Justice of the Peace, Charles Etzler and J. P. Nolan; and Marshall, Fred March.

At first village council meetings were held in the office of W. H. Noble. Later Schultz's hall was rented for that purpose. A lot was purchased from Tom Meany and the village hall completed in 1893.

Now a little more about the first village fathers. President of the board was W. H. Noble. He was a veteran of the Civil War and had been an honor guard at President Lincoln's funeral. His office is now part of Reinemann's building. He and Jim Noble had a barrel factory in the area of Reinemann's elevator.

Trustee Albert Mueller resided across from the present high school. He was an uncle of the late Elsie Mueller.

Dr. Falge was a family doctor in Reedsville, living where the Wilhelm home is on Menasha Street. That house is actually part of the Shimon building located diagonally across on Fifth Street and Menasha Street. This street was called Sawdust street in the early 1900's.

Trustee Maertz lived on Madison Street and trustee Draheim resided east of the cheese factory. August Maertz had a flour mill.

Frank Gisch, grandfather of William Link, owned a hardware store west of the present sheet metal building. Rudolph and Albert Mueller were brothers. Stelling and Etzler never became United States citizens.

The Fred March property which was used as a shoemaker shop would now be the first jail in Reedsville. The rent paid by the village was \$2.00 per month and it cost 25 cents for each meal furnished to a prisoner.

The village fathers established a poor fund to help those in need. Persons received \$3.00 or \$4.00 per month for food, rent, and fuel. When the recipient was able, he would pay this money back to the village.

One concern of the early village board was graveling streets and providing sidewalks. A saloon keeper, Mr. Kabat, requested that dirt and mud be cleared away from his saloon so that men can tie their horses especially on fair days.

In 1892, the police justice tried a case and found a man guilty of profane language and fined him \$5.00.

Also in that first year, the railroad company was requested to station a flagman in Reedsville. One death and one fracture needing amputation had occurred at an

intersection. Fritz Tetzlaff was appointed to be flagman because of public sentiment. He had been a faithful employee of the railroad company as a station hand until April 1889 when he suffered an injury causing amputation of his leg. From that time until he was rehired by the railroad, Mr. Tetzlaff needed to be on the village welfare roll.

Posting was a common practice in early Reedsville. If one had a drinking problem, he or his family might have his name posted in all saloons. This forbade anyone selling intoxicating beverages to the one whose name was posted.

A copy of the 1913 Reedsville Reporter, a newspaper published here was located. It reports that the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad passes through this prosperous little village with 6 passenger and two freight trains daily. Mail is received and dispatched five times daily at 7:30 and 10:05 A. M. and at 12:28, 4:45 and 5:15 P.M. The railroad was completed in 1872, adding new life to the village.

In 1913, Reedsville had four churches, four general merchandise stores, three blacksmith shops, one lumber and coal dealer, two milliners, two hardware stores, a furniture store, a harness shop, two meat markets, a saw mill, grain elevator, cheese factory, State Bank, depot, post office, electric light plant, three school buildings, livery and sale stable, canning factory, two garages, farm machinery dealers, two hotels, ten saloons, and a local newspaper "The Reporter".

The Reporter also states representatives of the professions number two physicians, a lawyer, dentist, eight teachers, three ministers, and one priest. The population of the village of 550 is increasing. Business is thriving. The people are wide awake thrifty settlers and imbued with necessary vim and enterprise for successful careers. The peaceful surroundings attract many retired farmers to locate here, but they do not come with the purpose of antagonizing business interests but on the contrary, labor for the advancement of the village. During 1912, the Wisconsin Pea Canning establishment paid out to the residents of the village and nearby farmers more than \$7,000 for peas not including money paid for peas purchased at Wayside and canned here. The company plans to can corn and beans in addition to peas next year in 1913. Contracts for 530 acres of peas and 150 acres of corn and beans will be handled. During the busy season of 1912 about 200 employees found work at the factory.

In 1921, the businessmen of Reedsville published a pocket directory. Village officials were: L. A. Busse, Charles Meissner, Gust Prochnow, William Link, Ed Reinemann, A. F. Rusch, L. H. Krueger, August Ottelien, Emil Wenzlaff, Fred Bergman, John Mahnke.

The directory boasted of Reedsville in this manner:

Reedsville Today; in the land of cow and clover

Population 600, Manitowoc County. A thriving and industrial little city on the Ashland division of the C. & N. W. railway and state trunk highway No. 18 and 18 miles west of Manitowoc, its judicial seat. Has four churches of different denominations, a well organized bank, a saw and planing mill, bee supply manufacturing company, pea canning factory, creamery and cheese factory, cheese storage, produce company and grain elevator. Otherwise, Reedsville has a splendid representative list of all other business houses whose motto is to keep down the high prices and invite exclusive home trade. The city also has an opera house, American Legion hall, a town hall, a well equipped fire department, which derives its water supply from a pipe line and hydrant system, a municipal light and power plant furnishes the town with a 24 hour light and power service. Reedsville enjoys direct market facilities for all its products with Milwaukee and Chicago, the world market and has excellent passenger train service — six trains arrive and leave daily.

Situated in one of the finest dairy and agricultural regions of the state, the soil is of a high grade clay loam variety and especially well adapted to dairying, livestock raising, and diversified farming. Dairying, livestock raising, clover seed growing and honey are

the chief industries which are very extensively practiced. Other products such as small grains, corn, sugar beets, vegetables, forage and grasses of all kinds grow in abundance. A great deal of thoroughbred livestock is also raised. Improved farm land ranges in prices from \$250 to \$300 per acre and is rapidly increasing in value.

The businessmen of Reedsville are wide awake, energetic and of wide business acumen, who are ready at all times to lend assistance and can be depended upon for their cooperation. At all times the people have been ambitious for the future; they have appreciated the great wealth of natural resources and the inexhaustible opportunities for the investment of capital and have a firm and abiding faith in the future of their town.

All branches of trade are well represented and the history and growth of farm products in the township shows it to have been very healthy.

In educational advantages the town surpasses those of several times its size having a full course accredited state high school where the children are given the benefits of a high school education combining domestic science, manual training, agriculture and a commercial course.

The directory also listed railway fares. It cost a passenger 22 cents to travel by train to Brillion, 64 cents to Manitowoc and \$3.65 to Milwaukee.



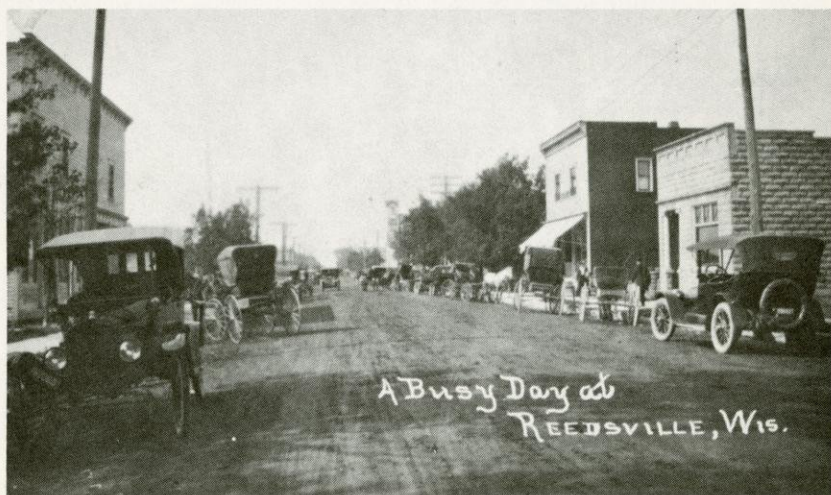
WISCONSIN PEA CANNING CO.
REEDSVILLE WIS.



The Wisconsin pea canning company was located in the eastern part of Reedsville.



The employees are sorting and cleaning peas at Wisconsin Pea Canning Company.



Shoppers traveled into Reedsville in both cars and buggies.



Scene looking east on Manitowoc Street: Building on left was a tavern now moved and the home of Charles C. Vondrachek. Next building now Kabats Tavern. Building on right now Savages Tavern.



Scene overlooking Reedsville, before streets were paved.



The village hall.

One important feature in the history of Reedsville was the monthly cattle fair, held on the last Wednesday of each month. This was a day of bustle and business — a gala day. Crowds by the thousands came from far and near, all roads leading to town for miles were lined with pedestrians, vehicles of all descriptions and livestock. Booths lined the main streets which were rented to transient merchants who offered for sale clothing, boots and shoes, pots and kettles, wagon loads of melons and fruits. Patent medicine peddlers, gamblers and loose fingered gentry were there; horse jockeys, gypsies also.

The gypsies' favorite trick was to invite gullible ones to "put money in hand. I tell your fortune." Fortune telling was only a ruse to get the person to reveal where he had the money. Being also expert in pick pocketing, the fortune teller or accomplices relieved people of the money they had with them.

The local merchants protested in vain but the saloons did a thriving business and the schoolboy played truant. After a while the people in the village organized a "cop patrol" and through superior numbers, they drove the gypsies out of the village.

This characteristic and interesting institution dwindled after becoming the largest cattle fair in the country.

Incidentally, Dr. F. W. Hammond of Manitowoc, in his "Memoirs" remarked about the Reedsville Cattle Fairs thus "In the early years the men who had assembled at these fairs were recent immigrants from Germany, Bohemia, Ireland and other countries of Europe. They brought with them the contempt and ill feeling toward people who came from other European countries. After freely imbibing of intoxicating beverages on days of the cattle fairs, many disputes arose between individuals which sometimes ended in fist fights. Occasionally a general melee arose especially between the Germans and the Irish. The



Reedsville Fair Days early 1900.

Irish had their shillelagh but these had to be discarded when the German started throwing stones. The railroad was the dividing line. When a person of either group stepped over the line, he had better be ready to defend himself. There were eleven taverns in the town then, which helped to incite the heat needed for brawls to begin."

Dr. Hammond remarked also about an experience that he had when he was ten years old. A man named John Meany asked Henry Hargrave and Hammond to help drive cows to the Reedsville fair, a distance of about six miles. "Those pesky cows had to be restrained from turning into every barnyard and crossroad all the way to Reedsville. This required a lot of running by Henry and me. However, we finally succeeded in driving them into an enclosure at the fair. Mr. Meany did not give us any help in driving the cows. He followed behind with his team and wagon. When we finished our job, he took us into a saloon where we were given pay for our services; a shot of whiskey for each of us."

The village of Reedsville bonded itself for a municipal electric light plant in connection with efficient waterworks for fire protection. This was completed in 1906 at a cost of \$16,000.

In 1927, the village purchased a new fire truck. The fire department is composed of 28 members in 1976 including a chief and three assistants.

In 1928, it was voted to pave the main street (Manitowoc Street.)

In 1936, the village voted to bond the village for sewers and waterworks. In 1938, at a cost of \$125,000 of which \$45,000 was a W.P.A. grant the waterworks were installed.

On January 26, 1940, after a hot basketball game with Brillion, the American Legion Hall burned. This was the only recreation center, so at the annual meeting in July, it was voted to build a gymnasium. This was built on the school grounds at a cost of \$22,000.

In 1946, the Reedsville High School with only 83 students won the state basketball championship at Madison. The players were Bernard Kubale, Carl Maertz, Henry

Behnke, Roman Kugle and Edward Shimon. Others on the team were Rueben Rusch, Leroy Eichhorst, Carlos Prochnow, Jim Ottelien and Harvey Waack. The cheerleaders were Marion O'Connor, Madis Kabat, Grace O'Connor and Regina Kugle. The principal was John Gable.

In 1953, the village purchased a new fire truck. The old truck was unable to travel more than 45 miles per hour.

In September 1954, work was done on the dial telephone service for Reedsville, at a cost of \$47,000. On December 15, at 7:00 A.M. the new service went into operation. Mrs. Carl Goldbeck had served the office for 38 years, taking charge on September 1, 1916.

Since the assessed valuation was 48% of true value, in 1955 it was voted by the village to reassess the village and bring the value up to 100%. This was accomplished in May of 1955.

In 1954, the last passenger train went through Reedsville. Only freight trains pass through the village.

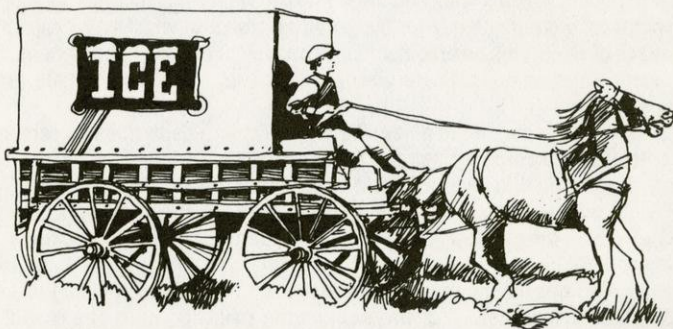
A special meeting was called by the village board on February 8, 1965. Proceedings began on a new village hall, fire station, and village shop. It was decided a building 154 feet long by 50 feet wide would be large enough to house a large meeting room, a kitchen, a village office, a fire station, and a village garage and shop combination. Bids were let to the lowest bidders. This was Parsons Brothers of Stockbridge, Wisconsin. Construction began about May 15, 1965 and the building was finished and complete on October 15, 1965. The village was bonded for \$65,000.

In 1965 street lights on Manitowoc Street and at all churches, and Highway 32 to Highway 10 were changed to new and brighter lights.

A new telephone station was built allowing Reedsville people to have toll free service to Manitowoc beginning July 20, 1965 at 7:00 A.M.

The Municipal Building was dedicated on Sunday, November 28, 1965. The cost was \$100,000 and is a single floor brick and concrete building. Attorney Edward Shimon was master of ceremonies presenting the platform guests for the occasion. They were the Reedsville Village Board, past presidents, fire chief and assistant fire chief.

The remainder of the History of Reedsville is devoted to individuals and individual businesses which have played an important part in this history. We thank all the people who gave information to us.



Barnard's Bar

Barnard's Hotel and Bar, well known to the people of this area over a long period of time was originally operated under this name by Mr. and Mrs. George A. Barnard. They purchased the business, The Columbia House, from August Goldbeck in 1911 and engaged the late Charles Hintz, Sr. to construct the present building after tearing the old building down. The old structure housed two taverns, one where the present bar room is and another three steps down, which is the living room of the present Barnards.

George A. Barnard operated a meat market and livery stable in addition to the tavern and hotel. Salesmen stayed overnight and rented horses from Mr. Barnard thus enabling them to travel through the neighboring countryside conducting their business. Meals were served to the guests. It was a headquarters for telephone crews and public service men.

The Barnards had three sons, Oliver, William, George E. and one daughter, Priscilla, married to Atty. Howard J. Leppla and resides in Brillion.

Unknown to the Barnards, eight racketeers stayed at their hotel in 1932. They were running a still in the neighboring area and were arrested the day that F. D. Roosevelt was campaigning in Green Bay.

When Reedsville was hit with a severe sleet storm in 1922, the hotel housed about 25 to 30 people, many of them telephone men who were in this vicinity doing line repair work. In 1923, when a tremendous snow storm stalled the trains at the Grimms cut, 48 people spent the night.

1936 was still another snow storm this area will long remember, 26 individuals being stranded at the hotel, two of them being Mr. Milton Detjen and Seymour Althen. The former is well known for his musical talent, especially as an organist; the latter was a newspaper man that still is proficient in that field. Also included among the snowbound travelers were two orchestras. The American Legion hall was specially heated for the night; the orchestra members and many residents of Reedsville trudged through almost unsurmountable banks to attend the unscheduled dance that lasted until the wee hours of the morning.

"Grandpa" Barnard died November, 1949. His son, George E. ran the hotel and bar until he and his wife, the former Theresa Brick of Askeaton, purchased the business in 1952. "Grandma" Barnard died on May 26, 1952, so "Tess" and "Dolly" and their two children, twins Donna and Donald, were the remaining Barnards to occupy the living quarters attached to the business establishment.

The Reedsville Lions Club was chartered at the hotel in 1938; "Dolly" is a charter member of that organization. The Lions continued to meet there, being served a noon dinner until 1951. The building also housed a beauty shop in 1937 and 1938; the salon being operated by Miss Mildred Denk.

The Barnards do not rent out rooms any longer at the hotel. The bar is presently doing business as usual.

Barnard Oil Co.

The Barnard Oil Company was started in 1927 by George A. and Charles R. Barnard. Charles who lived in Brillion and George, who also owned the hotel at that time, were brothers. They were among the first Texaco distributors in Wisconsin.

An underground pipeline was laid from the bulk plant to the railroad track to unload tankcars in which their products were received. Trucks were used to carry the fuel to consumers where their storage tanks were filled with five gallon buckets. This was a slow and tedious process compared to today's method. Because oil was not yet a popular

heating fuel in those years, winter business was slow. Then in the late 30's and early 40's, fuel oil came to the front as a heating fuel and necessitated the use of pumping equipment on one of the delivery trucks.

In 1941, Charles retired from the business to enter politics. His share of the business was then purchased by William Barnard, a son of George A. Barnard. William "Bill" and George, Jr. (Dolly) had been truck drivers since it had started. "Bill" and his father continued their partnership until the latter's death in 1949, at which time William became sole owner and operator.

In 1956, Bill was appointed postmaster of the Reedsville office and although he retained ownership, he turned over the duties of managing to his son Dale (Bud) who had been working at the station since 1947.

In 1962, Bud and his wife Pearl purchased the business they operate today. Donald Barnard, cousin of Dale, has been with the company since 1954. He takes care of fuel oil deliveries.

The area serviced by Barnard Oil Company is bounded approximately by St. Nazianz on the south, Morrison on the north, Brillion and Whitelaw to the east and west.

Bergmann Barber Shop

Another well-known business establishment in this community is the F. J. Bergmann Barber Shop. "Tip" as he has been tagged since a boy of seven years of age, has spent most of his lifetime in Reedsville.

After graduating from Brillion High School and from the Oshkosh Normal School, he taught for three years at Hustiford High School, which was a two-year school. He then entered the military service and was in the army in World War I. Being discharged in July of 1919, he found that teaching positions were filled and so made the decision to start his own barbering business.

This was not a new trade for "Tip" as he was an apprentice barber with Rawley Maertz when he was a freshman in high school in 1909.

In 1919, he began his business career in the old Maertz building located north of Kabats Country Gardens. This building is now living quarters for Jerome Maertz family.

In those years, the barbering trade demanded long hours, six days a week. Just prior to the opening of the Bergmann Barber Shop, the shops used to be open on Sundays until noon. When "Tip" first started, shaves were ten cents, hair cuts were 25 cents, massages were 25 cents and hair singes were 20 cents. The hair singe, a thing of the past, was very popular at that time. The barber would run the lit wax paper, which resembled the old fashioned women's hat pin, only about ¼ inch in diameter through the hair of the customer thus singeing the ends. It was thought that this remedied the problem of split ends. This treatment was used only by the men customers of the shop. Waxing moustaches and grooming beards were all part of a day's work.

Saturdays, his shop was always open after midnight. That evening was usually devoted to shaves, apparently the men wanted to be clean shaven for Sunday. Each customer had his personal shaving mug and they were marked by name and an emblem or design symbolic of their occupation. "Tip" doesn't have any of the mugs in his possession at present, for they were picked up by "collectors" a long time ago.

Victor Kabat was the helper in the first shop. In 1924, Bergmann build the new, red brick building on Manitowoc Street. It was an impressive addition to the community with its large windows, ceramic tile floor and modern fixtures.

In 1925, "Tip" married Edna Hein. She worked as a dental assistant to the late Dr. Morrissey and later on was telephone operator at the local exchange. She died in January 1946.

An upstairs was added to the building in 1936 and was occupied by Dr. N. Wilson, who later on was affiliated with the service during World War II. Tips's brother, Dr. Clarence Bergmann, also had his dental offices in half of the new rooms. He eventually left Reedsville to practice in Madison.

During the years of barbering, Bergmann had several young men working with him. He taught the trade to Eugene Behnke in 1926 and Clarence Wattawa was taught by "Tip" in 1929. During the forties and early fifties Herbert Hoge worked at the Bergmann Barber Shop.

One of the memories closely associated with the barber shop is June, a German Shepherd dog. She was a joy to the youngsters who went to the shop for a haircut. Those years, there probably were as many little girls as boys patronizing Bergmann's shop, for it wasn't customary to take a small lass to the beauty shop. June was a very gentle dog and was a true pal to "Tip" and Edna during the years 1931 to 1944. She was the mail carrier for them, walking down to the post office with a little wicker basket in her mouth, and bringing back the letters, magazines and paper that the postmaster would give her. She would faithfully hurry down to the meat market, pick up the order and bring it home with everything intact.

Bergmann is a charter member of the American Legion, a charter member of the Reedsville Lions Club, member of the Reed-way Sportsman Club, member of the Reedsville Athletic Association. He belonged to the Reedsville baseball team from 1914 to 1934 and played as catcher, later he played center field. "Tip" managed the team from 1934 to 1940.

He also served as clerk of the Reedsville High School Board in the late twenties and was a member of the village board for 20 years serving as Village President for 12 years.

His shop is no longer open on Sundays and Mondays, but Tuesday mornings will find him unlocking the door getting ready for the week's customers.



L. G. Bruss Store (Watchmaker & Jeweler)

L. C. Bruss Store

Mr. L. C. Bruss came to Reedsville in 1902. He had a shop at home (now Bergmann Barber Shop) in which he repaired bicycles and watches. The next shop was in the Lau house in 1904.

In 1906, Mr. Bruss built his store. He and his wife operated the establishment as an ice cream parlor. Some members of the family would walk to the John Jonas farm west of Reedsville to pick up the pure cream that was used in the making of the ice cream that was a treat to the people of the village and surrounding area.

Other items featured in their business place were candy, which was displayed in wood or heavy paper pails; bananas hanging on stalks, tobacco, package or plug style and cigars; and post cards.

The ice cream parlor was the only such place from here to Manitowoc, from here to Appleton or from Reedsville to Green Bay. Saturday evenings and Sunday evenings found the street in front of the parlor lined with horse and buggies. Many couples had come to town for a ride and stopped at Brusses to have a sundae or soda. Salted crackers were always served free with a dish of ice cream.

At the time, Mr. Bruss had the building constructed, the cost was \$1700.00. There was no basement and the upstairs was not finished.

Mr. Bruss also maintained a jewelry store and did watch repairing. He stocked radios, far different than the models of today. Programs had to be listened to with ear phones. He also tested eyes and fitted glasses.

When the electrical appliances were able to be used in this area, the Brusses also stocked those items. When electricity came to Reedsville, the Brusses had a crew of four and they wired most all places in the village and the surrounding farms.

Everyone in the Bruss family was kept busy. The parents were assisted by their two daughters, Minnie (Mrs. John Kuehne) and Leonetta (Mrs. Carl Goldbeck).

The family also maintained the telephone office from 1915 to 1936. The board was taken care of 24 hours a day and gave out all information such as time, fires, and deaths.

The wiring crew for the Bruss store was made up of John Kuehne, Wm. Link, Joseph Stueber of Whitelaw and Earl Bergmann, now living in Brillion.

In 1936, the Bruss daughter, Minnie and her husband, Jack Kuehne took over the business. They operated the jewelry store.

Mr. John Kuehne married Minnie Bruss in 1925. He had received an education to be a jeweler and passed the Wisconsin Board of Licensed Watchmakers. He operated as a jeweler until retiring in 1962.

In 1945, the building was purchased by Ervin Rodrian who once again converted it to an electric store. He sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Huiting in 1946 and they continued to operate the electrical business until Mr. Huiting's death. For several years, the building was empty until 1962 when the Orths started a television sales and service operation.

Now Del Orth has remodeled the building into a residence and no longer runs the television business.

Dr. E. C. Cary

Dr. Cary was born in Michigan, son of Charles E. and Elizabeth Cavanaugh Cary. The family came to Manitowoc County and located in Reedsville where Dr. Cary finished high school. After graduation, he taught school in Manitowoc County for five years. Then he entered Marquette University School of Medicine in 1906. He graduated as a General Practice Family Doctor in 1910.

He married Eleanor Scherlitz at St. Wendel Church at Cleveland. For two years he practiced medicine at Bear Creek in Outagamie County before coming to Reedsville and opening an office in the Link Building, now the building of Ron Urban. Dr. Festerling and Dr. Ott also practiced in this same building.

When they first came to Reedsville, the Cary's and their infant had difficulty finding a place to live. They were ready to return to Bear Creek when Mr. and Mrs. Charles Luedtke offered them three rooms in their upper flat.

Electric lights had been installed previously, but Reedsville had no water system, however Dr.'s practice flourished as the village progressed.

He serviced as a volunteer in World War I. Upon returning to Reedsville, he moved his office to his residence on Manitowoc Street where he practiced for fifty years.

Their residence was the Julius Krueger home which they bought with a hundred dollars down payment.

A daughter Elizabeth came to brighten their home for thirteen short years. After her sudden death, Mrs. Cary devoted her time to making a home for many of the teachers who came here friendless and welcomed her motherly advice and guidance.

In the years to follow, Dr. Cary served as President of the Academy of General Practice in Wisconsin. He was speaker of the House of State Medical Society, president and secretary of the staff at Holy Family Hospital at Manitowoc, commander of the local American Legion and Vice Commander of the state. He served as medical examiner for Boys' State for many years. Illness forced him to retire in 1957 at the age of 73. He passed away on April 23, 1960.

Mrs. Cary left Reedsville in October, 1965 to make her home in Milwaukee close to her son, Dr. John and family. She was just 90 years old and still resides in her own apartment.

Dr. Cary's home and office is now the Fredric Radtke home.

Otto Dahlke, Blacksmith

Otto Dahlke came to Reedsville in 1914. He bought the blacksmith shop from Herman Boettcher. That same year he married Alma Karnopp. The location of his shop was on Manitowoc Street next to the old public school where the new school building now stands.

He learned the trade as a young boy in Ellisville, Wisconsin, shoeing horses at \$1.00 per week. He also worked in Milwaukee shoeing horses for the brewing company. When Mr. Dahlke started to shoe horses, the price was twenty cents for an old shoe and forty cents for a new one. His revenue was about eighty cents an hour. The business later expanded to sharpening plow shears and building heavy sleighs.

After 41 years of hard labor, Mr. Dahlke retired in 1955, selling the land to the Reedsville Public School.

Mr. Dahlke also served as a village trustee for six years when Dr. Morrissey was the village president. He was on the board when the water works was installed in 1938.

Equity

In the memory of older area citizens, the northwest corner at the intersection of Hi-Way 10 and 6th Street was the site of the Baseball Park, scene of many pleasantly remembered ball games. Beyond it to the north, lay only wide open fields and it was thus to remain till the summer of 1958 when the deep roar of earth moving machinery and the clatter of gravel trucks flowed by the tapping of carpenters' hammers was heard through the vicinity. When quiet returned, a new building at 513 6th St. stood proudly gleaming ready to open its doors to a spanking new venture. Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Assn. was ready for business. The opening of the auction was part of a new livestock selling

system being developed throughout the state by Equity.

It was planned most carefully by its Manager, Mr. C. F. Claflin and Mr. Peter May plus several others. Reedsville was chosen to serve this area and Bonduel to the north was built at the same time.

Open house and a tour of the new facility was held on Sept. 26, 1958 and was a very well attended event.

The first auction sale was held on Tuesday, September 30 at 9 a.m. Auctioneer Roy Jones of Watertown, assisted by Jim Esch of Bonduel and Ray Stiedl of Milwaukee raised the gavel, tapped it sharply and the sale method was underway.

Through the late winter and spring of 1958, a fund raising drive, the selling of stocks in Equity, was conducted by area residents.

A tract of land was purchased from the Elroy Spatchek farm and a building was begun. The barn at the time was 75 feet wide and 144 feet long, and could accommodate a large number of livestock. However, as time went on the need for more space became ever more demanding and the present additional wing to the south was added in 1970.

At the time of opening, Mr. Roger Robson was in charge of management, assisted by Mr. Charles "Chuck" Isley. A few weeks later, Mr. Isley was appointed manager at Reedsville and the late Mr. Robson continued at Bonduel.

Managers following Mr. Isley were in order, Mr. William Daley, Mr. Armin Wegener, the late Mr. John Zutz, Mr. Lyle Schwahn, Mr. Kenneth Cole, and at present Mr. Richard Zuelke and Mr. Donald Pearson, assistant manager in charge of barn operation.

A luncheonette is part of all of Equity's sales facilities. At Reedsville this was to prove a most popular feature. In 1958, the late Mrs. Tillie Enders was in charge of feeding Equity's hungry. Mrs. Enders was followed by Mrs. Anton Stueber, and at present, Mrs. Ray Kostchka is in charge.

The selling by auction of calves, hogs, cattle, sheep and occasional nanny or billy goat and penning all purchased stock for each buyer constitutes a barn employees day. At opening time a staff of about 24 men was a must. However, as years have gone by, the building was remodeled several times for greatly increased handling and efficiency, speed and safety and today half that number can do the job as well.

At the time of opening, Mrs. Henry (Doris) Behnke was appointed office manager and continues in this capacity with an office staff of about seven on auction days. Weekly auctions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Also, Herd Dispersal Sales are held.

In summary, the auction sales began with a question mark in the minds of some. Today, the Auction Market has become positive and serves a territory of all the Door County area, south to Sheboygan, west to Fond du Lac, north to Appleton and Green Bay.

Feile's Repair Shop

In the early 1900's, Hugo C. Feile had a repair shop in what is now the Lawrence Peik property on Fourth Street. He was able to fix just about anything.

Mrs. Feile kept a greenhouse so that plants and flowers were available to her customers.

Friedens United Church of Christ

In the late fall of 1895, the need for an Evangelical Church was felt in Reedsville. The first service was conducted at the local school house by Rev. P. Albert of Appleton, Wisconsin. On January 30, 1896, a meeting was held for the purpose of organizing a congregation. At this meeting it was decided to call the newly organized church the German-English Evangelical Friedens Church.

The first board of trustees chosen from the charter members was composed of: President Alexander Mahnke; Secretary Gustave Olm; Treasurer Frank Gisch, Trustee Ernest Deffke, Trustee Otto Ehnert, and Trustee William Hagenow.

At the time of its organization, the church had a membership of 25. During the first few months of its existence, the church was served by neighboring pastors. Among those who supplied were Rev. P. Albert, Appleton; and Rev. A. Jung, Marblehead; Rev. Ernst Grauer, Black Creek; and Rev. John Heinrich, Manitowoc. These services were held in the public school.

On March 1, 1896, Rev. E. J. Fleeer of St. Cloud, Minnesota, was installed as pastor of the Brillion-Reedsville charges, with each congregation paying one-half of his salary. The pastor was to reside at Brillion.

April 6, 1896, plans were completed to have the church affiliate with the Evangelical Synod of North America. One week later two lots were purchased from Mr. Kiehl at a cost of \$250.00. These lots were to be the site of a new church building. By May 14, plans were completed to erect a structure 34' x 64' in size.

The new church was formally dedicated on November 15, 1896. The guest speakers for the three services of the day were: Rev. F. Moeckle, Rev. P. Albert, Rev. August Fleeer, and Rev. E. C. Grauer. A Sunday School was also organized during this year as well as a Ladies Aid. After completion seven years of service in April, 1903, the Rev. Mr. Fleeer resigned as pastor of the church. The pastor to follow was Rev. Robert Grunewald. Next was Rev. Carl Nagel. He in turn was succeeded by Rev. C. H. Wittbracht, who organized a new church at Collins. This church was named St. Paul's Church. It was then decided to have the churches at Reedsville and Collins served by the same pastor and to sever connections with the Brillion church. In June 1909, Rev. C. Oberdoerster was installed to serve these two churches. He was later succeeded by Rev. J. J. Merdorf and Rev. L. G. Berlepp.

In 1915, the Reedsville Church was again served by the pastor of the Brillion church. There was Rev. Hugo Weichelt, followed by John Biger and the Rev. Mr. Foesch.

On July 9, 1925, during the pastorate of Rev. Wm. Leonhardt, the church was destroyed by fire, having been struck by lightning during a severe electrical storm. It was decided to begin the erection of a new church building as soon as possible. In the meantime, services were held in the Village Hall. On October 10, 1926, the dedication of the new church was held, with a remaining debt of only \$300.00.

After Rev. William Leonhardt came Rev. G. Hahn, Rev. Paul Kasper, Rev. K. Kielhorn, and Rev. John G. Siegle.

During the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Siegle, the members of the Collins church expressed their desire to become members of the Reedsville church. The Collins church was then closed, and the Reedsville church now represented the union of the two churches. The Rev. Mr. Siegle was succeeded by Rev. E. D. Rodel who resigned in 1946. He was succeeded by Rev. Marvin P. Lehmann, during whose pastorate the church celebrated its 50th anniversary in September 1947.

The next pastors were Rev. Ralph W. Kluge, seminary student Ralph J. Ratzlaff, Rev. Lloyd Freid, Rev. Karl Koehler and Rev. T. R. Hilgeman. The present pastor is the Rev. Helmuth Kehle.

Friedens Church is proud of the fact that it has two sons in the Christian Ministry, namely Rev. Zane Pautz, at Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin, who was ordained in February 1947 and Rev. Calton Krueger, pastor of First United Church at Toledo, Ohio, who was ordained in June 1952.

Our members of longest standing are Mrs. Clara Deffke Klann, who was confirmed in 1903, Mr. August Schaefer who joined the church in 1914, and Dr. and Mrs. A. H. Junge who joined in 1915. It is through the generosity of the Klann family that we have our

present fine organ.

The years of Friedens Church have been richly blessed. We are everlastingly thankful to God our Heavenly Father and to Jesus Christ His Son.

Gisch Tin Shop

The Gisch tin shop was on the site of the empty lot west of Reedsville Sheet Metal. Later Fred Maertz enlarged it. It then comprised a barber shop, photograph gallery and dry goods store. It was destroyed by fire.

George and Richard's Service Station

George and Richard's Service Station is located on Highway 10 and Mill Street.

The business place and living quarters were first owned by W.C. Maertz who sold the two lots to H.C. M. Krueger in 1894. In the early 1900's, the lots were bought by W. C. Maertz. The lots were sold to August Kienbaum; upon his death and the land ownership passed to his widow and daughters, Bertha Krueger and Lena Bruss. Mr. John Shimek, the girls' guardian, maintained a tailor shop in his home near to the present service station property. Later Mr. Shimek had his shop in the old bank building on Manitowoc Street.

Acting in the interest of the two girls, Mr. Shimek sold the lots to Herman Frederick with the understanding that the old barn had to be moved. The land was known as the "swamp block".

Fred O. Kiehl purchased the property from Frederick in 1932. At this Highway 10 was being laid out and Mr. Kiehl sold to his son Fred W. Kiehl. After selling portions of the land to the government for the new road, the young Kiehl built a station in 1933. The old home in which the Kiehls lived was torn down to make way for the new business place. Upon completion of the station, he moved his home from Sixth and Mill Streets and enclosed the portion between the station and home which served as the first paint and body shop in Reedsville. Kiehl was a mechanic working on Model A cars.

While Kiehl was owner of the service station, Joseph Shimek worked for him. It was during this time that it seemed Reedsville would become a gold mining town. During the process of pumping water from the 40 foot deep partially dug and partially drilled well, Kiehl discovered gold chips. In the hours after school and Saturday that Joe worked at the station, he was kept busy at the pump in his spare time. He did pump out quite a bit of gold dust into the bag that fastened to the pump. Apparently it came to an end, for Reedsville didn't strike it rich in that respect. The well is still there and the water is still good although it is not used for drinking since waterworks were put in.

In 1946, the Kiehls sold their station to Edward Zachek who operated it until May of 1949. That is the time Tony and Bernice Denk took over after purchasing the business.

Prior to living in Reedsville and running the service station, Tony and Bernice lived on a farm near St. Nazianz. When Tony was a young man, he worked for Ray Frosch in Grimms where he started learning the mechanic trade. He later attended a mechanic school in Milwaukee. At the time of his marriage to Bernice Walt, he worked at the Reinemann Elevator.

In 1966, the business was sold to George Schisel. He and his grandson Richard Wlex operate the service station at the present time.

H. K. Molding Co. Inc.

H. K. Molding Company was started out in business on October 1, 1973 at the corner of fifth and Mill streets in Reedsville. Formerly known as the old site of Rusch's Lumber Company, H. K. Molding started as a division of Manitowoc Plumbing Supply, Inc. primarily in the production of Creative Lustre vanity tops. Since then, it has expanded to the production of shower enclosures, bar tops and table tops.

The site of the business was a warehouse for the Manitowoc Plumbing Supply for several years. In the fall of 1973 it was remodeled for the division. After about 14 months of business, the company's business increased and another room in the building was remodeled for expansion.

In October 1975, the company incorporated and therefore separated from the Manitowoc Plumbing Supply, Inc. At that time Hilary Koch and Hilary Koch, Jr. became the owners.

H. K. Molding Co., Inc. makes a product known to the public as Creative-Lustre. This is a polyester resin molded to the shape and size desired with white quartz stone and colored shells. Each piece or product is designed to the individual's requirements.

Hale Sheet Metal

In March of 1916, John Hale, accompanied by his wife Lynda and son John W. moved to Reedsville. He was employed by the Maertz and Bloedorn Company which was doing business in what is now 308 Manitowoc Street.

In 1919 Mr. Hale started his own sheet metal and roofing business and operated from a portion of the Maertz and Bloedorn building.

In 1920 Mr. Hale purchased the Gottfried Boettcher property, consisting of 2½ lots on the corner of Third and Mill Street. At that time there was only a two story residence, a "summer kitchen", a combined barn and chicken coop and the required "two holer" on the property. A board fence bordered the property on the north and east sides. The family enjoyed the pies and applesauce made from the fruit of the numerous "Duchess" apple trees growing on the property. The easterly half lot was used as a garden. John W. still remembers having to hill the corn and pick potato bugs in that area.

In 1923 a shop was built on the south one-third of the remaining two lots. The barn was then to become a definite asset because during the winter months when highway traffic by automobile was definitely impossible, Mr. Hale was able to obtain the use of a horse from an area farmer and continue to serve farm people in the Reedsville area. With the advent of better snow removal from the country roads, the horse and sleigh was no longer needed during the winter months so the barn was converted to a warehouse for the storage of various materials.

Because of increasing shortages of metals needed to operate a sheet metal business, Mr. Hale discontinued business on November 30, 1941 and was employed by Manitowoc Shipbuilding Corporation on December 2, one week before "Pearl Harbor".

Early in 1946 the easterly half lot was sold to John Kubale. That portion of the property occupied by the shop and barn was separated from the portion occupied by the house and garage and sold separately. The shop became a residence now known as 114 Third Street. The home is now known as 118 Third Street.

In March of 1946, 30 years after their arrival in Reedsville, Mr. and Mrs. Hale returned to Manitowoc where Mr. Hale remained an employee of the "Yards" until his retirement in 1967. He and Mrs. Hale now reside at 1522 South Ninth Street in Manitowoc.

Heberlein Dairy

Albert Prochnow started the first home milk delivery in Reedsville in 1922. He had a farm two miles west of Reedsville. The following townspeople: George Barnard, William Link, Charles Mueller, Fred Hoge, Carl Luedtke and Gustav Olm agreed to sell their cows to Prochnow if he would start the home delivery.

As could be expected, competition came when Albert Krueger and John Treichel started milk routes.

Arthur Heberlein came to Reedsville from Chicago and married the former Viola Prochnow in 1927. On June 7, 1927, he began to work for his father-in-law, Albert Prochnow on the farm and milk route.

Once again competition, from Fischl's of Manitowoc and still later Lake to Lake Dairy.

In 1928, Grimms was added to the route and in 1932 the Maple Grove area. The raw milk was bottled in the basement of the home on a hand operated unit that filled and capped two quarts at a time. The old piece of equipment can be seen on the Heberlein

lawn. Bottles were round with long necks.

In November 1941, Albert Prochnow sold his farm to C. Dahlmann and he to the present owner, C. Haelfrisch.

Starting in January 1942, Heberlein's supply of milk came from Wolfmeyer's Dairy, Brillion. Percy Lindner took over from Wolfmeyer.

When state laws became more stringent, Art got his products from Brillion Dairy and paper cartons of milk were purchased from Morning Glory Dairy.

First deliveries were by horse, Model T., Model A., Chevrolet, Dodge, and finally Chevrolet panel truck. Art made about 40 miles per day, rain or shine, cold or hot weather. He has served several generations of some families.

Arthur Heberlein retired at the end of 1975. Golden Guernsey Dairy took over delivering of milk.

The Honeycomb Beauty Salon

In November of 1962, Mrs. Adolph Svatek opened a beauty shop in the building now owned by Milton Schultz on Manitowoc Street. She operated the Rose Beauty Salon there for four years and then purchased land from Tom McDonough to build a new building at this present site.

In May of 1972, Rose Svatek sold the Rose Beauty Salon to Norman Kubsch. The name was changed to the Honeycomb Beauty Salon. At the present time, Carol Haelfrisch is the manager.

Reedsville Jaycees

The Reedsville Jaycees were chartered in May of 1963. The Manitowoc Jaycees extended the Reedsville Jaycees with twenty young men needed to receive a charter from the United States Jaycees. The men had to be between the ages of 21 and 35.

The first president was Wally Piepenburg from 1963-1964, then Jerry Liebergen 1964-65, Jerome Vondrachek 1965-1966, Cletus Rataichek 1966-1967, Dr. A. Buchner 1967-1968, Robert Wenzel 1968-1969, Edward Reinemann 1969-1970, Gene Wagner 1970-1971, Preston Jones 1971-1972, Melvin Loppnow 1972-1973, Cletus Rataichek 1973-1974, William Moede 1974-1975, Terry Meulemanns 1975-1976, and Gene Wagner 1976-1977.

The Jaycee age limit was changed around 1970 to the ages of 18 and 35. After they reach the age of 35 they cannot hold office or vote but instead become associate members.

In 1976, the name Reedsville Jaycees was changed to Reedsville Area Jaycees because now they include members from the surrounding area.

The functions of the Jaycees is to help young men develop themselves and improve their community. At the present time, they have approximately twenty-one different projects.

Jim's Shoe Repair

One of the oldest established businesses is still in operation and is owned and operated by Jim Winter. The business was started by the Kabat Brothers, the location then was at the place now known as Kabat's Country Gardens.

The next location was the former Maertz store in 1972 owned and operated by Harold Kabat.

Jim Winter bought the machines from his brother-in-law in 1975. June 1, 1975, he moved the business to its present location 407 Menasha Street. The machines which Ig Kabat used are still being used by his son-in-law Jim Winter. Some of these are 75 years old.

Jim is married to the former Margaret Kabat. They have one son Larry.

A. H. Junge, Veterinarian

Dr. A. H. Junge, our first veterinarian came to Reedsville from Random Lake in 1914. That same year he married Mable Klug. He wrote his exams and passed the State Boards after he located here. Dr. Junge had a lot of competition because people were accustomed to calling in the older men in the community to doctor their horses and would have no part of a "young feller". Dr. Junge bought his first horse and buggy in 1914 but when the train came through town, the horse became frightened and broke buggy, harness and all.

In 1931, Dr. Junge bought his first snowmobile. He had it only a short time when they started to plow the roads and it was of no use.

Dr. Junge practiced in our community for 50 years. Like so many of our successful businessmen, he served on the Board of Education for 12 years and as a village trustee for six years.

Kabat's Country Gardens

The abstract dates back to July 15, 1852, when the land was deeded to George Reed from the State of Wisconsin. The plat of Reedsville dates back to December 10, 1856 when the owners of the land were George Reed, Charles Klingholz and John Hermann. Lots 11 and 12 were sold to Fredrick King on February 10, 1858.

December 1, 1862, Barbara Kings bought the land from the County of Manitowoc for tax title. She turned the land over to Gottlieb Gruett on April 15, 1864. This same land was sold by the State of Wisconsin and the County of Manitowoc to Charles Klingholz.

Bridget Gruett, widow of Gottlieb Gruett sold to Thomas Meany, April 18, 1890. The business changed hands in 1905 when it was sold to Charles Nenahlo. In January 1909, Simon Steffes purchased the property from Nenahlo and April 7, 1912, Steffes sold to Julius Jantz. Mr. Jantz leased the store building to Dave Zimmerman in September 1913. In 1914, Jantz sold to John J. Ott.

May 1, 1915, Carl Luedtke purchased the building. He kept the business until July 1, 1927, when Ignatius (Ig) and William Kabat bought the building.

In July, 1927, partners Ig and William began to operate the establishment under the name of Kabat Brothers. Ig was the tavernkeeper, William was the harnessmaker and their brother Joseph was the shoe repairman.

The William Kabat family resided in the living quarters above the tavern.

May 28, 1933, Ig was held up and shot through the leg. The bandit escaped and his identity never became known.

June 25, 1937 Kabats installed 408 food lockers which became an asset to the community.

"Ig" and "Bill" continued as partners until October 27, 1958. They had been partners in business for 31 years. At this time, Ig took over the business alone on January 1, 1959.

Mrs. William Kabat had passed away in 1955, so Bill lived in his home until his death in 1964. Joseph continued to work for Ig for about a year but lived in retirement for several years until his death in 1961. His wife, Mary passed away in 1973.

June 26, 1959 was a big day for Ig and his wife Anna, children Virginia, Harold and Margaret Ann as they broke ground for a 16 x 52 addition. The establishment known as Kabat's Bar and Diner made the first step toward broasted chicken and charbroiled steaks and was to be known as "The House Of Broasted Foods."

Expansion was again begun and an addition of 50 x 58 was added, making the present size of the building 124 x 60.

Harold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ignatius Kabat operated the bar until July 1, 1964 when he and his wife Bernice purchased it. Their brother-in-law, James Winter was hired as chef to operate the kitchen.

Bernice Kabat, the former Bernice Herrmann passed away in July, 1971. The business was then sold to Donald Theroux in 1972. The name was changed to Pair-A-Tees.

Harold then purchased the Maertz Grocery Store and started shoe repair and shoe store. His father, Ig helped him for about a year until he died in 1973. Harold then built a

laundry and dry cleaner which is being operated at the present time.

On May 17, 1975, Harold and his wife, Laverne who he married June 8, 1974, once again took over management of the tavern. It now goes under the name Kabat's Country Gardens.

Harold and Laverne reside with their children, David, Kay Lynn, Michelle, Bonnie and Debbie at 353 Madison Street, Brillion.

Harold enjoys watching baseball and enjoys bowling. He has many fond memories of this community. One is bowling a 714 on the Reedsville Lanes in 1948. His wife enjoys bridge, racketball and golf.

Kadow Market

The land on the northwest corner of Fifth and Manitowoc Streets in the village of Reedsville was purchased by Fred Young in 1926. Shortly afterward, he built the building that stands on this corner. Mr. Young and his sons operated a meat market.

In 1933, Carl Krieg of Manitowoc rented the building. He operated the meat market as Krieg's Meat Market, No. 5. Arthur Kadow was hired to manage the meat market, as the other four markets were in Manitowoc and Two Rivers. Besides carrying on the retail meat business, the Reedsville market bought calves and poultry from the surrounding area to provide veal and poultry for the city markets.

In 1941, Arthur Kadow and his wife Marie bought the business from Mr. Krieg. In 1942, they bought the property from Fred Young. Mr. Kadow built the slaughterhouse and did custom slaughtering for the farmers. He and his wife operated the business until his death in 1953.

It was then rented for a short time.

In 1955, Kenneth Kuether, a son-in-law of Arthur Kadow, took over the business. It was known as the Kuether-Kadow Market. He operated it until 1965.

The building is presently owned by Mrs. Marie Kadow. It is rented by the Knights of Columbus Council No. 5798 as their clubhouse.

Kochan's Service Garage

Kochan's Garage was built by John Schaarbach in 1922. A carload and a half of cement went into its construction. Mr. Schaarbach operated a garage until 1935 when the Kochans decided to become Reedsville residents. They rented the building until 1938 when they purchased it from Schaarbach.

A fire in 1937 caused extensive damage to the building. Myron and Olive Kochan and their family were unable to live in the living quarters for five weeks due to the time spent repairing the establishment.

"Shorty", as he is known to many people, was tagged with the nickname by the late Otto Humburg, who operated the tavern now known as Keune's Welcome Inn. Prior to moving to Reedsville, "Shorty" worked as a mechanic in Green Bay, then served four years in the Navy. After his discharge, he went back to the same trade and worked for St. Clair Chevrolet Company and later at Lowe Brothers Chevrolet Company in Manitowoc.

For some years "Shorty" had the Nash and Plymouth-DeSoto car agency. In the fifties and sixties he specialized in repairing cars and tractors and took care of the needs of many of the farmers. He also added a sideline of repairing small electric appliances. He took a course and graduated from National Radio Institute of Washington, D. C.

Shorty's first customer was William Maertz, Sr. One of the first wreckers in the village was constructed by Charles Hintz, Robert Feile and Shorty Kochan on a 1926 Chevrolet that had been owned by "Butch" Wagner to haul ice. The fellows put in much time on the project and Mr. Feile put a crane on the unit. Mr. Kochan used the wrecker for years to come. In fact, he wore out three such units.

He was the representative of the American Automobile Association, which meant taking care of calls at all hours of the night.

Many changes have been made to the interior as well as the exterior and grounds of the property which insured the family a more comfortable living. Mr. and Mrs. Kochan are the parents of three daughters, Mrs. Harold Geiger (Lorraine), Mrs. Ralph Elliott (Janet) of Minneapolis, and Mrs. Wally Oplatek (Mary) of Reedsville. They also have seven grandchildren.

The Kochan Service Garage was in business until 1973. Now Mary Oplatek, her husband and sons live in the residential quarters of the building. Mr. and Mrs. Kochan have moved a little west on Manitowoc Street to their home next to Sentry store.

Kugle's Garage

Frank Kugle bought his garage from Haelfrisch. Later his brothers, Charles and Ed joined him. They also sold Buick, Olds, and Chevrolet cars. The Kugles also repaired automobiles and other machines.

In 1938 Frank Kugle passed away.

Kugles were the first to handle battery operated radios. Charles Kugle died leaving only Ed to run the business. He was well known for his ability to fix almost anything mechanical, so customers came from miles around.

Ed Kugle was first to service and sell television. He handled Philco brand.

The Kugle business disbanded in 1960 when Ed also died. Later the building was sold to Sheahan and it is presently owned by Willems.



Kugle Brothers & Hagenow in 1919. Ed Kugle—Frank Kugle—?—?—Charley Kugle—Fred Hagenow.

Legion Hall

The Old Schultz hall, measuring forty by sixty feet was bought by the American legion in the year 1921. The old hall was part of the tavern now owned by Donald Svacina. It was moved by C. Hintz, Sr. in 1922, to the location of Miller Machine Shop. After rebuilding the hall, it measured forty by one hundred and two feet. It burned down January 26, 1940, after a basketball game.



American Legion Building located on Manitowoc Street burned down in 1940.

Lionettes

The Reedsville Lionettes were organized and chartered in June 1975. The Lionettes are a community service organization stemming from the sponsors of the Reedsville Lions Club. The Lionette members are related to members of the Lions Club. A dinner meeting is held on the fourth Monday of the months September through June at 7 P.M.

Kubale Tavern

Joseph Kubale owned this tavern and operated the business from about 1900 to 1951. Then Joseph Benzschawel purchased it. During his ownership, it was rented to John Wagner and Julius for short periods of time. Otherwise Joseph Benzschawel and his wife Dorothy ran the business.

The building was sold to William Bredesen and was made into an apartment building.

Mack Marbleworks

At one time, there was a marbleworks in Reedsville owned by Mack which made tombstones. It was located next to the old village hall on the site of the Lau home on Manitowoc Street.

August Maertz Mills

August Maertz's first mill was a sawmill on the south side of Manitowoc Street in the six hundred block.

Later he had a grist and flour mill on Sixth Street. This building is now owned by Reinemann. The grist mill was in operation in the early 1900's. A tragedy occurred there when a Jonas boy was fatally injured in a fall.

Maertz Store

William Lemke had a harness shop in early years. Albert Jonas bought the property and began the hardware business. In 1912, William W. Maertz purchased the building. He too sold hardware until 1932.

At that time, Maertz began the grocery store. It was affiliated with Clover Farm. In 1941, his son, William C. Maertz went into the grocery business doing so until the 60's.

W. W. Maertz made this building his home for 62 years.

Harold Kabat purchased the property turning it into a shoe shop and shoe repair. The building is unoccupied in 1976.



W. W. Maertz Hardware Store 1912.

Novak Tavern

At 640 Manitowoc Street there originally stood a tavern and dance hall. John Novak, Sr. bought the building from Wencil Shimon (father of Ed Shimon, funeral home director) in 1910.

There was also an ice house on the premises. Ice was brought from Long Lake and stored for summer use by the business places. There were a few ice boxes in the homes.

Anton Novak, son of John Novak managed the business. He married Barbara Jerabek. They moved to Grimms and Mr. Novak tore down the dancehall. In 1922, they moved back to Reedsville. This building has been remodeled into a residence.

Ottelien Shoes

August Ottelien was born in Hanover, Germany in 1862. He came to the United States in 1880 and settled in Manitowoc. He came to Reedsville about 1890 and began the shoe business in the building next to the present shoe store. The present building was purchased in 1902.

All shoes were handmade in the early years of this century. Even after the retirement of August Ottelien in 1928, many customers came to have shoes "handmade" and Grandpa Ottelien had to come down to the store to make them.

Art Ottelien bought the business in 1928 and operated it under the name of "Art's Shoes." After Art died in 1968, his wife Marie took over the business until 1971. Now the proprietor is Marie's sister Helen Wachal. The name remain's Art's Shoes.



1915 Pautz Hardware (now Phillips home). Left: William Pautz, Harry Krueger, Earl Pautz, Adolph Haelfrisch, and E. W. Pautz.

Pautz Hardware

E. W. Pautz came from Waupaca in 1899. He and his wife opened a hardware store in the Shimon building. They bought a home on the site of James Phillips residence. The home was moved back and on this location Pautz built his store in 1903. At first it was just a sheet metal business. Later they were in the hardware and plumbing lines, too. Some of the early employees were Fred Reinert and August F. Rusch.

This business made milk cans by hand for cheese factories both locally and in northern Wisconsin, to which they were sent by express.

Much of the work was in putting on tin roofs.

E. W. Pautz died in 1926. Then the store was operated by Earl Pautz and Harry Krueger.

January 31, 1939 Mrs. E. W. Pautz sold the business to Earl H. and Hilda Pautz. They in turn sold it to Matthias L. and Edna G. VanLannen in 1944. The next owners were Clarence J. and Margaret VanLannen.

James and Helen Phillips bought the hardware store November 23, 1949 and operated it as such. In October 1961, they remodeled it into an apartment building.

Piepenburg and Reichardt Garage

Reinhold Piepenburg and Art Reichardt operated a garage on Manitowoc Street. The first shop was used for machinery. They built the building which is now Reedsville Sheet Metal.

The large windows are reminders that this once was a showroom for new cars. They also repaired cars.

Piepenburg and Reichardt had the Ford dealership. They hired a few young men to make the trip to Michigan and then return to Reedsville via Chicago driving the new cars. This took place around the year 1917 when Fords sold for \$400 to \$500 a car.



Piepenburg & Reichart in 1908. Located on Manitowoc Street between 6th and 7th.

Pritzl Station

The service station building owned by Barney Pritzl is located on the corner of Fourth Street and Highway 10.

Elmer Hein built it after Highway 10 was rebuilt, then sold it to Richard Neuser. Pritzl purchased it in 1949 and operated it for five years.

Since that time the following persons have rented it and operated the service station: Claude Meyer, Vernon Kabat, Allan and Donald Eichhorst, Don Schuh, Charles Kuene, Ronald Reis, Barnard Oil, Vernon Bauknecht, and Dave Corbeil. At the present time it is unoccupied.



Reedsville has always had a Memorial Day parade. Notice the fashions of the time.



Rahn Store

Hugo Rahn bought his store from Maertz. This general store was located on the site of St. John St. James parking lot. Among its employees was Elsie Mueller. It was damaged by fire.



Dave Zimmermann Store (Stelling Bldg.) now Rataichek True Value Hardware about 1920. Employees — Marvin Mueller, Leonora Olm, Clara Berkholtz, Laurena Olm. Customers — Left, Mrs. Strak. Right — Mrs. Chas. Wagner.

Rataichek's

In February 1937, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Rataichek moved from Casco to Reedsville. Their plans were to open the first Gamble store in Reedsville. They wanted to start business March 1, 1937. They had their choice of three locations, Valders, Wayside, and Reedsville. Ted and Margaret decided on Reedsville.

They rented the former Fredrick and Charles Maertz building which was located on Highway 32. The highway was later relocated and is now the corner of Sixth and Menasha Street.

Ted took a two-week training course at the Gamble Store in Manitowoc and due to the delay in shipment of the counters and table, the business wasn't open until May 15, 1937. The business consisted of auto supplies and hardware.

They remained in this building for four years and then were forced to move because the building was condemned. It was razed later. The concrete steps that led into the building still remain on the empty lot on the corner of Menasha and Sixth Street.

In April 1941, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Rataichek rented the Stelling Building located on the corner of Manitowoc and Fifth Street. At that time it was owned by the Manitowoc Savings Bank. This building was rented for several years by the Rataicheks and later purchased.

After a lot of cleaning and remodeling, Ted and Margaret moved their stock and household furniture to this building in May 1941. This building was owned by F. F. Stelling. It was first located on the lot on which the home of Mrs. John Treichek is now situated.

One winter, this store building was moved by way of the present ball diamond and through the former Boettcher fields to the spot it is now located on Manitowoc and Fifth Streets. Dave Zimmerman operated the store for some time. Then Chris Maresh and the late Mrs. Maresh operated a grocery and dry goods business for quite a few years. After

their move, Mr. Stelling had the place again for a short time.

Then the Manitowoc Savings Bank bought the building followed by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Swerloff in the grocery and dry goods business.

Next the Rataicheks rented it and added notions, dry goods, school supplies, ready-to-wear and toys to their present auto supplies and hardware stock.

They were associated with the Gamble Company for 28 years. In May of 1966, they joined the Our Own Hardware Company of Minneapolis and have been affiliated with it ever since.

Dr. Clarence Bergmann had his dental offices in Rataichek's building for a time. There also was a beauty shop there.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Rataichek operated this business in Reedsville for 38 years until January 1, 1975 when they retired.

The business is now operated by their son Cletus and his wife Emily.

Reedsville Brillion Insurance Agency, Inc.

The Reedsville Brillion Insurance Agency, Inc. really had its birth about 23 years ago. It was organized by the late Robert Rolland and was then known as Bob Rolland Insurance. Prior to entry into the insurance business Bob was employed at Brillion Iron Works, as an assistant foreman and group leader.

Bob was born and raised in Menchalville and was the son of Mrs. Bessie Rolland and the late William Rolland. He married the former Jane Pollack on September 6, 1947, and they resided in the Pollack homestead.

From 1953 until 1958, Bob worked on a part-time basis selling life insurance only for Modern Woodmen of America. In July of 1958, Bob left the Brillion Iron Works and purchased a portion of the James P. Daley insurance business which required his full-time assistance and that of his wife, Jane, who did all the secretarial work. He later purchased the Otto Schley Agency of Forest Junction, The Brillion Insurance Agency, John Pinger Agency, Art Ottelien Agency, Paul D. Mangin Agency and a portion of the Harry Haese Agency.

Due to a lack of office space, the Rollands purchased the Fred Wells residence in August of 1960. Business progressed to such an extent that Bob needed to hire another agent. In May 1965, Ronald Schultz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Schultz, joined Bob as a part-time representative. Rolland then purchased a portion of the Gilbert Wolfmeyer Agency of Brillion. Since Ron decided to make his home in Brillion, the business was changed to the Reedsville Brillion Insurance Agency, with its main office located at 430 Manitowoc Street in Reedsville.

In June of 1966, Ron Schultz left his job as production controller at Tecumseh, New Holstein, to go into the insurance field on a full-time basis, having his office in Brillion. Shortly thereafter, the men purchased the balance of the Gilbert Wolfmeyer agency. At that time the agency represented nineteen companies from town mutuals to stock companies carrying a complete line of insurance.

The business continued under these conditions until January 1973, when due to ill health and by order of his doctors, Bob was forced to retire. Bob's son, Mark Rolland, then a senior at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, was hired to take over his father's share of the work.

Unfortunately, on January 6, 1973, Bob passed away, leaving his wife Jane, three sons, Michael, Mark and Rodger and one daughter Roxanne. Shortly thereafter, Mark purchased his father's portion of the agency and began working out of his mother's house in Reedsville.

On April 22, 1976, the agency purchased a portion of the Ronald Dhein Agency at Chilton. Now the agency is an independent agency representing twenty-two companies and carries a complete line of insurance.

Another agent, William Miller has joined the firm to handle the Chilton area.

Due to the great area covered, the Reedsville Brillion Agency has changed its name to Hometown Insurance, Inc. On June 1, 1976, the office in the Rolland home in Reedsville and the Brillion office in the Schultz home were combined in a new office at 111 South Main Street in Brillion. They now have a staff of five full-time employees able to serve all insurance needs.

Reedsville City Band

The Reedsville City Band was organized in 1938 under the direction of Carl Wolf. It was at first made up of about 34 members — all male. Later women musicians performed with the group. They played in concerts in front of Reedsville High School and later across the street in the Fireman's Park. Churches alternated working at ice cream socials in conjunction with the concerts. The band also played at picnics. It disbanded in 1962 due to a shortage of band members.

Reedsville Cooperative

The Reedsville Cooperative was organized originally under the name Reedsville Equity in 1920, when a group of 25 farmers joined together for the purpose of marketing livestock. Orders were taken once a month and the livestock were placed directly into the railroad cars.

In April 1923, it was reorganized under the name of Reedsville Cooperative Association. John Mahnke was elected president, William Rusch vice president, and Herbert Krueger secretary-treasurer. Directors were William Dahlman, Reinhard Grimm, Joseph A. Vondrachek, Charles Burich, Otto Mahnke and Steve Foreyt. Henry Rusch was hired as manager. Coal and feed business was added and sold directly out of railroad cars.

Their first warehouse was built in 1924, which was also used to hold the annual meetings. In 1931 their first bulk gas plant was built. An interesting note was that gasoline sold for 11 cents a gallon, kerosene for eight cents a gallon and labor hired for thirty cents an hour.

Elvin Schultz who had been their livestock trucker purchased his own portable feed grinder and was grinding feed for Co-op members on his farm. In 1934 the Co-op purchased it from Schultz and installed it in their warehouse.

Arthur Berkholtz was hired as manager in 1932. The present cement elevator was built in 1935 and they then started to buy barley and oats.

Henry G. Behnke was elected president in 1939 having already served several years as a director.

The present brick store building on the corner was built in 1939 with the second floor being used as a funeral parlor. Joseph Will was hired as the first undertaker.

Steve Dvorachek was hired as manager in July 1943.

The E. J. Shimon funeral home and furniture store was purchased in 1944. Mr. Shimon was then hired as undertaker.

December 1947 Robert Hemaer was hired as manager followed by Clifford Behnke. Steve Dvorachek was rehired as general manager in 1950.

The present funeral home was built in 1958, the fertilizer plant in 1967, followed by the new furniture store in 1969.

Walter Zimmermann was elected president in 1972 also having served several years prior as a director.

On the retirement of Steve Dvorachek, the board hired Clifton Gipp as general manager as of January 1, 1975, and who is presently serving in that position.

John Olson was hired as undertaker in 1975, on the death of E. J. Shimon.

At the present time a new bulk plant and service station are in the process of being built.

Each department has their own department head as follows: Furniture - Roman Kugle, Hardware and appliances - Gene Wagner, feed - Marvin Olp, fertilizer - Ken Schwanke, automotive - Wilbert Denor. Bookkeepers are Joy Hillmann and Jennifer Janke.

There have been and still are many long time faithful employees in all these past years.

Others who have served or still are as members of the board of directors are: Arthur Wendland, John Schmidt, Adolph Haelfrisch, Joseph Kostechka, James Cahill, Roy Fischer, Albert Riemer, Goerge Thompson, Milford Schulz, Leslie Moede, Hubert Kiekhaefer, Elton Bruhn, Harry Haese, Norbert Fenlon, Victor Haese, Edmund Welch, Adolph Wunsch, Ray Bubolz, Gerhardt Kiefhaefer, Norman Labitzky, Harvey Waack, Leland Krepline, Elmer Fenlon, George Phillip and Eldor Wunsch.

Reedsville Medical Center

The Village of Reedsville and the surrounding area were without the services of a doctor for many years. The last physician to practice in the Reedsville area was Dr. E. C. Cary who died in 1957.

The Reedsville Industrial Development under the direction of Dale Barnard, president, discussed the possibilities of constructing a clinic in the village and tried to procure a doctor at a meeting held September 14, 1961.

On September 26, 1961, Norman H. Davis, director of the Medical Program of the Sears Roebuck Foundation spoke to a number of concerned citizens. He told them of the services provided by the Sears Foundation and the manner in which to conduct a campaign to raise funds.

Appointed to a Fund Raising Committee were Mrs. Norma Jones, Mrs. Evelyn Moede and Robert J. Rolland. A Kick-Off Dinner was held on November 5, 1961, and the official Kick-Off was November 6, 1961. The goal was set at \$50,000.00.

It had been decided previously to raise the necessary funds by selling stock at \$10.00 a share and debentures at \$25.00 each, limiting the sale of one share of stock for every \$25.00 debenture.

Other fund raising activities were a basketball game between the 1946 State Champs and the High School Faculty and a Song Fest with the Schmitt Brothers, the Kool City Aires, and the Manitoes.

On December 11, 1961, directors and officers were elected for the new corporation — Reedsville Medical Center Inc. They were Dale Barnard, Dr. R. J. Bauerfeind, Steve Dvorachek, Carlos Prochnow and Edward J. Shimon Jr. Prochnow was elected the first president and Audrey C. Rameker the first secretary.

The Shimon property located on the corner of 7th and Mill Streets was purchased and ground was broken in April 1962. Carl Angoli, Inc. was awarded the general contract.

Dedication of the new facility was held on November 11, 1962. Dr. R. F. Bauerfeind, a dentist who had been practicing in the Clarence Wattawa building since August 1961 moved into the new building. Dr. Hendrik Leering, M.D. who earned his medical degree at the University of Utrecht of Utrecht, Netherlands and was at the Hamilton County Tuberculosis Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, started his practice November 1, 1962.

Dr. R. F. Bauerfeind and his family moved to California in November 1964. Dr. Wm. O. Schoshinski who had been practicing in Berlin began his practice in Reedsville on November 16, 1964.

Dr. H. Leering left Reedsville in December 1967 to practice in the Lake Mills Clinic and unfortunately a doctor has not come to Reedsville to practice since that time.

People who have served as a director are — Dale Barnard, Dr. R. F. Bauerfeind, Steve Dvorachek, Carlos Prochnow, Edward J. Shimon, Jr., Robert Rolland, Walter Zimmerman, Harvey O. Reinke, Leslie Moede, Wm. Ebert, Jr., Arvid Kraemer, John E. Worachek, Milford N. Schulz, Edward C. Reinemann, Monica Maertz, Verona Rusch, William Rusch, Gerald Mack and Charles Kopecky. Serving as presidents were Carlos Prochnow, Dale Barnard, Robert Rolland, Leslie Moede, and the present president is William Rusch.

Audrey C. Rameker served as secretary from 1961 until her resignation in January 1974 and then Martha Schmid was appointed by the Board.

Numerous people have worked diligently on the doctor procurement committee during the past year. The committee heads were John Worachek, Leslie Moede and now William H. Rusch.

Reedsville Fire Department

A site was chosen for the Village Hall and Fire Department in 1892.

In 1893 the fire department purchased the first fire bell for \$18.00.

Reedsville's first fire department was organized in 1894. C. J. Hagenow was appointed the first fire chief. A new bell was acquired in 1896 for \$74.00.

In 1927 when Herman Boettcher was chief, the Reo Speed Wagon fire truck was purchased; this was Reedsville's first motor driven truck.

A siren was procured in 1935 for \$19.30.

On January 26, 1940, all firemen responded to a fire call at 11:00 p.m. The loss of the American Legion Hall, estimated at \$6,000, resulted.

More purchases were made in the years 1951-1952 when the I H fire truck and the Chevrolet water tank and truck were bought under the leadership of Chief Art Boettcher (1953-1965).

In 1965, which was a year of planning and study, the Reedsville firemen, under the direction of Chief Ig Kabat and the Village, purchased a 1,000 gallon pumper which was yellow rather than the traditional red at a cost of \$40,000.

After the death of Chief Kabat in 1973, Harland Prochnow was appointed to fill the position. In 1974 installation of a base station, two mobile units and 28 monitors showed continuing progress for the fire department.

After the resignation of Chief Prochnow in June of '75 the Village Board appointed Donald Svacina Chief. A van was obtained in November of '75 which is used to carry all small equipment used at fires.

From the year 1925 to the present, July 1976, there have been 106 active firemen. Since 1895 eight chiefs and twelve assistant chiefs served the Reedsville Fire Department.

Twice a year every effort is put forth by the department to raise additional funds to improve their park and buy additional equipment. In June they have their parade and picnic and in October they sponsor a pork chop dinner.





Post Office located where the Shack is. Postmaster — John Nolan. Postal Clerk — Clara Maertz Lemke. Mail Carriers — Arnold Marsch, Art Reichardt, and Rusch.

Reedsville Post Office

J. E. Schulz was the first postmaster of Reedsville. His daughter Laura Schulz Lemke clerked there for many years.

Mr. Busse was the next postmaster. The post office was located in Busse's drug store.

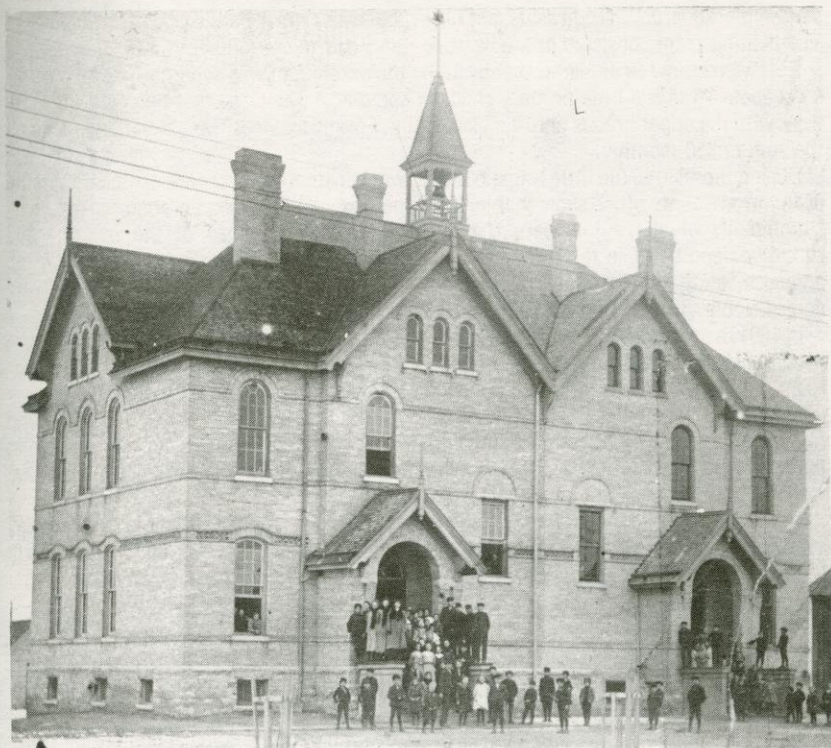
About 1919, John A. Nolan, who was also Village President, became postmaster. The office was located in what is now the "Shack" restaurant.

After Mr. Nolan died, Charles Meissner became postmaster of Reedsville.

Mr. Busse once again was appointed postmaster. He built an addition to his building after it was moved from the site because Fourth Street was built to run north from Manitowoc Street.

He was followed by Frank Kugle who passed away in 1934. Then followed Byron Delaney, William Barnard and Joseph Shimek. Reedsville in 1976 has its first postmistress, Dorothy Kubale Reinke.

An employee of the post office with one of the longest working records is Elvira Pautz Krueger who clerked from 1919 to 1923. She resumed her employment in 1945 and retired in 1969.



The Reedsville Graded School

This brick building was begun in 1891 with the west half being built. The east part was built about 1903.

Reedsville Public School

The Reedsville School District has a rich and interesting history, with great support for education through the years. The first grade schools in Reedsville were Lutheran and Catholic grade schools.

The original school district was formed in 1861 by order of John Cannon, town superintendent of schools of the town of Maple Grove. The new school district included areas in Maple Grove and Rockland. It was called Joint District 10 until 1892 when Reedsville became an incorporated village. Then it became Reedsville Jt. 1. In 1931, the areas outside of the Reedsville village withdrew due to above average taxes and formed the new school districts of Rockland 1 and Maple Grove 5. The Reedsville village school was then designated the Reedsville school district.

Evidently, the first school site was leased to the school district for it was not until July 5, 1889, that the land east of Mud Creek was purchased. More land was bought from J. E. Schultz in 1891 and from Herman Boettcher in 1946.

The first public grade school was built in 1877 where the present post office and drug store are housed. It was a frame building, long rectangular with the usual windows on three sides. The only teacher was Goff Morrissey. The school was furnished with the

usual "blackboards", crude seats and desks, benches, water pail, dipper and wood box. The heating plant consisted of a box stove. Boys had to saw and split the firewood.

Goff Morrissey remembered that by 1891, the enrollment was so large that he used to send about 45 of the little primary children home at 2 o'clock so that he could do some work with the upper grades until 4 o'clock daily. For his services, Mr. Morrissey received the sum of \$50 monthly.

During the 1880's, the little frame building was constantly overcrowded. Records in the Manitowoc County office show that in 1884, there were 128 pupils enrolled for the year. Enrollments of above 100 were common up to 1890. Because of the overcrowded conditions and because the first school was badly in need of repairs, the voters at the annual meeting in 1890 appointed a committee to look into a new building. They were James Noble, Joseph Dumass, and Louis Falge.

In 1891, a new two-room brick building was erected at the cost of about \$4,400. The part built at that time was the west half of the building. About 1903, the east half of this four room building was built for about \$6,000 by Emil and August Berkholtz.

After establishment of the high school in 1916, the school was continually being remodeled in order that the increasing enrollments might be properly housed. A room in the attic was fitted up for a classroom while the basement was partitioned off so that indoor lavatories could be installed.

The first annual Commencement of the Reedsville Graded School was held on Thursday evening, June 28, 1900. Eight persons graduated. They were Fred Hagenow, Will Mueller, Fred Ottelien, Lydia Reichert, Alfred Reineman, Olga Saeger, Ida Schasse and Laura Schulz. Population of the village at this time was 555.

After the erection of the brick building, two teachers were employed. The first principal was Goff Morrissey while Clara Salomon was the first primary teacher. They taught the first eight grades. About 1904, ninth and tenth grades were added to the course. The three teachers then employed were Principal O. H. Falge, Zeralda Buerstatte, and Winifred Meany. Four teachers for the ten grades were employed by 1906. The eleventh grade was added in 1915 and the 12th grade in 1916. The first high school class graduated in 1918 with B. A. Delaney as principal. In 1948, the faculty consisted of a principal, five high school teachers and one elementary teacher.

There is no record of the enrollment in the first school before 1871, but by that year 78 pupils were enrolled for the summer and winter sessions. By 1894 there were 128 pupils attending but then the enrollment decreased so that by 1890 only 95 pupils were enrolled.

Reedsville must have had an influx of settlers for in 1893 the village clerk's report to the county superintendent listed 145 pupils in school. Thereafter the enrollment fluctuated between 100 and 140 yearly until 1906 when 4 teachers were employed.

The families of Noble Brothers, Zahn, Hagenow, Schultz, Reinemann, Stelling, Rusch, Krueger, Barnard and Novak were early residents of Reedsville. Early school board members from 1871 to 1906 were Fred Buboltz, John Jantz, William Bornefeldt, Hugh Mulholland, Peter Reinemann, Herman Schmidt, William Zahn, Fred Lawrence, Henry Noble, John Hickey, F. Maertz, Joseph Dumass, J. Schultz, Christ Hagenow, Anton Fritsch, Robert Luedtke, Emil Schultz, Louis Falge, and W. C. Otto.

The list of teachers from 1872 to 1906 is as follows: John E. Garry, Jere Lemkuhl, John Martin, Aurelia Lawrence, J. P. Martin, Annie Lawrence, Emma Schneider, Alice Kennedy, G. M. Morrissey, Clara Salomon, Principal M. H. Hewitt, Ida Eberhardt, Principal William O'Hara, Principal M. M. Guhin, Winifred Meany, Principal F. H. Seidl, Principal O. J. Falge, and Zeralda Buerstatte.

Former teachers who became prominent were M. J. Gehun, Superintendent of schools in South Dakota, J. E. Meany, a physician in Manitowoc, Frank Seidl, a prominent businessman in St. Paul, Minnesota, O. J. Falge, attorney at Ladysmith, and G. M.

Goggins, County Judge of Calumet County.

High school education for every eighth grade graduate was becoming a common policy after 1935. To make high school education possible, a program of expansion and service was inaugurated by the district after 1943. Bus service was offered to eighth grade graduates living outside the Reedsville area.

By 1953 the district was an integrated common school district operating a school for the education of children from grades 1 through 12. The district served an area of approximately 8 miles square for high school purposes on a tuition basis. At this time many of the surrounding small districts did not operate high schools.

By 1953 the public school children were housed in three units, the first of which was erected in 1877. It was an old building of brick, three stories high, the third story housing the commercial facilities. This area was never meant for classroom purposes and was poorly lighted and ventilated. The hot lunch facilities were in the basement of the building which was cold and damp. Teachers ate in the furnace room right around the furnace.

The first gym was built in 1940 and for years provided adequate housing for physical education, athletics and assembly purposes. It was used by the community for many of its activities. It was built at a cost of \$28,000. John Nesor was the janitor for many years and he guarded the beautiful wood floor very carefully.

Agriculture was added to the curriculum in 1946, and after the war many veterans took farm training under a veterans farm training program. Leslie Moede was the veteran farm training teacher. A building unit was added onto the gymnasium and provided a home economics room and agriculture classroom and shop at a cost of \$60,000.

The Reedsville basketball team won the State Basketball championship in 1946 by beating Eau Claire by a score of 48-39. The trophy is still in the trophy case along with a picture of the players, and the banner is still in the gymnasium holding a place of honor. High school enrollment was 87 pupils.

In 1956 it was estimated that the high school facilities could accommodate 140 boys and girls. At that time there were 181 in high school and 41 in elementary school with a probable enrollment in 1955 of 250 students. Only 32 high school students were residents of the district. The rest were tuition students.

An annual budget of \$90,000 is voted annually with a tax levy of \$25,000. District indebtedness is to the full extent of the law, 5% of the assessed valuation. At this time the approximately 380 electors of the district have shown excellent local effort in the support of education. They have taxed themselves to the limit of the law consistently during the ten years preceding reorganization.

In 1955 reorganization of the school district took place and the area formerly served by tuition became part of the Reedsville District. Many rural schools ceased to operate, but where enrollment warranted, the schools were maintained.

The electors in 1955 voted to build a 4-room addition to the old building because of an influx of high school students. This structure was completed at a cost of \$85,000 including equipment.

With the enrollment still increasing, the people of the district saw a need for additional facilities, and again voted for the construction of an addition in 1958. This addition was built and equipped at a cost of \$380,000. The valuation of the district jumped from under \$1 million to \$13,000,000.

Final construction on this site was approved by the electors of the school district in 1962 at a cost of \$650,000 completely equipped. The cornerstone ceremony took place on October 13, 1962, with dedication on April 21, 1963. To make space for this building, the old building was demolished along with the 1940 gym and 1947 Agriculture and Home Economics area. Much nostalgia accompanied the razing of these buildings.

Construction at this site took place in three stages, the oldest part of the building

having been completed in 1955. Total cost of the entire high school complex including all equipment is \$1,115,000. Valuation of the district in 1962 is \$17,700,000.

Football was introduced into the curriculum in 1951, and had been played for many years in the outfield of the village baseball diamond. Track also became a well-accepted sport along with Cross Country. A need for an athletic field became obvious to the residents of the school district, and in 1972, approval was given by the electors for the construction of a standard football field surrounded by an eight lane bituminous tract. The field was subsequently completed in 1973 on a five acre plot of land to the south and east of the village park at an approximate cost of \$35,000. The Reedsville Athletic Association assisted with some of the costs and planning. The Reedsville State Bank provided the lighted scoreboard and the American Legion donated the flagpole.

Enrollment was still increasing in the Reedsville District, and all elementary and high school students were crowded into the same building. On February 1, 1975, a new Kindergarten through Sixth elementary school was completed on a 40-acre plot of ground at the south end of the village next to a new subdivision of homes. It was built at a cost of \$840,846 and contains 39,707 square feet of teaching space. The building has 17 teaching stations with a capacity of 425 students.

This handsome one-story brick building contains 13 classrooms, an Instructional Materials Center, a multi-purpose room with a seating capacity of 585, boys and girls showers and lockers, a health room, a faculty work room, a special education office and two general offices.

The need for a new school was created by growing elementary enrollments. In 1953 the Reedsville district had 41 elementary school children. This enrollment increased to 95 in 1960 and 193 in 1965. Present enrollment is 400 children. Mrs. Evelyn Moede is principal of the new school. Members of the Board of Education are: William J. Ebert, president; Vernon Marsicek, clerk; Herman Sprang, treasurer; Lester Cherney and Dale Barnard, directors. John E. Worachek has been Superintendent of Schools since August 1952.

Mr. Ronald Zenke is principal of the junior high and high school.

Some interesting high school enrollment figures are as follows:

1947 —	87 students
1951 —	123 students
1954 —	181 students
1955 —	214 students
1958 —	275 students
1960 —	300 students
1962 —	320 students
1975 —	400 students

The history of the Reedsville School District is rich and varied. Much more could be written about the reorganization, the elementary rural schools which have now been all closed, curriculum development, prominent names of principals and superintendents, and names of school board members who gave much of their lives to make education in Reedsville what it is today. These are some of the events that have influenced the Education System at Reedsville.

Reedsville Sheet Metal and Roofing Co., Inc.

Reedsville Sheet Metal and Roofing Company was formed in 1949 by James O'Connor, Leonard Taddy and Preston F. Jones.

In the first years of operation, property was rented from Mr. and Mrs. James Phillips. Mr. O'Connor moved out of the village in 1951 and shortly after the business site of "The Shack" restaurant. This property was purchased from the late Ig Kabat, and previously housed the post office, and for a short time, a bakery operated from this site. An addition was built and a building was purchased from John Burkardt and moved for warehouse facilities.

Jones became sole owner until his death in January 1965. The business continued operation under Mrs. Norma M. Jones, and in 1966 it was incorporated.

In February 1967 Paul P. Thelen of Saukville, Wisconsin, purchased half of the business and later that year Mrs. Jones and Mr. Thelen purchased the land and building at the present site, 604 Manitowoc Street. The building was the former site of the R. A. Piepenburg and Arthur B. Reichert garage, and was constructed about 1917. The property exchanged hands several times and had been owned by the Concord Cheese Company before the sale to Jones and Thelen.

In July 1973 Mrs. Jones sold her portion of the business to Paul P. Thelen, the present owner, and Mrs. Jones continued her employment with the firm.

Reedsville Sheet Metal and Roofing Company, Incorporated specializes in air conditioning, heating and ventilating solar heating, sheet metal, blow pipe and anti-pollution and welding of all kinds.



Scene looking west on Manitowoc Street: Old Reedsville Bank, Shimek Taylor Shop, and old Pautz Hardware (now Phillips home).



Scene on Menasha Street. Olm's Motorcycle garage — Shimek tailor shop.

Reedsville State Bank

On October 25, 1906, a request was made to the State of Wisconsin to form a banking corporation in the Village of Reedsville. Original stockholders were: G. A. Zuehlke, E. C. O'Rourke, C. A. Gielow, F. J. Bleick, T. S. Cahill, Louis Falge, A. Zuehlke, N. A. O'Rourke, M. Sullivan, Irv. Zuehlke, C. J. Nenahlo, A. H. Rusch and F. Frosch. On November 7, 1906, a meeting was held and three directors were elected, G. A. Zuehlke, E. C. O'Rourke and C. A. Gielow. The Reedsville State Bank opened for business December 1, 1906, with Gustave A. Zuehlke the first president and Edward C. O'Rourke the first cashier. The temporary quarters were in a small frame building just west of the old village hall. The capital stock was \$10,000.00.

During the summer of 1907, a new cement block building was erected just west of the old bank building. On October 22, 1909, a team of high spirited horses were stolen from the Gustave Olm barn. Tracks were traced to the bank in the morning and it was discovered that it was burglarized. An ax had been used to break a side window. The safe door was blown open which was located near a front window and \$6,600.00 was taken. Several days later the horses were found near Lake Winnebago but the bandits were never apprehended.

In 1919 the capital stock was increased to \$25,000.00. In April of 1924 the bank officials purchased land from Bertha L. and John Boortz and a new brick building was erected for less than \$20,000.00. The old building was sold to the late John Shimek who operated a tailor shop.

July 1923, A. F. Zuehlke was elected the second president of the bank.

In 1934 E. C. O'Rourke left the bank and his son, J. G. O'Rourke, was elected cashier. J. G. O'Rourke had previously worked at Newton State Bank and also for the State Banking Department.

The bank went through depressions without a loss of a dollar to any depositor and assessments have never been made to its stockholders.

The bank building was remodeled considerably in the early 1950's. G. A. Zuehlke became the third president in July 1953.

In February 1965 the stockholders voted to exchange their stock for stock in Valley Bancorporation of Appleton, the fourth bank to become a member. B. W. Vanden Avond became the fourth president in January 1968.

J. G. O'Rourk (Glen) was employed at the bank from 1933 until he retired in 1966 serving as cashier, vice president, and a director. Upon retirement he moved to Manitowoc with his wife and died in Florida in April 1969.

Ann Kolerus started at the bank in July 1924 as a bookkeeper-teller and retired in December 1970 as assistant cashier. She presently resides in the village.

July 1970 ground was broken for a new modern banking facility to be constructed at 427 Manitowoc Street and opened on February 15, 1971. The old brick bank building was deeded to the Reedsville School District as a gift and was converted to a classroom.

Directors serving the bank during the past years were: G. A. Zuehlke, Sr., E. E. O'Rourk, C. A. Gielow, N. A. O'Rourk, A. F. Zuehlke, B. J. Zuehlke, R. A. Piepenburg, Edward J. Reinemann, J. G. O'Rourk, Charles Wenzel, Clifford Reinemann, Gus A. Zuehlke, and B. W. Vanden Avond. Directors at the present time are: Charles J. Hintz elected April 16, 1958, Edward C. Reinemann May 12, 1965, Alvin R. Golz January 10, 1969, Audrey C. Rameker January 14, 1970, Vernon Marsicek January 9, 1974 and Dr. A. C. Buchner January 8, 1975.

Records show the following people were employed at the bank: E. C. O'Rourk, Viola Cavanaugh, Elvira Pautz Krueger, Leona Link Andrews, Ann Kolerus, Mary Ellen O'Rourk, Olivia Fischer Hintz, J. G. O'Rourk, Joseph S. Shimek, June Dahlke Waack, Gus A. Zuehlke, Pearl Prochnow Barnard, Maxine Kabat Hauser, Frances Kugle Glasow, Phillip Mullins (now president of Valley Bank of Black Creek), Richard R. Benzschawel, B. W. Vanden Avond, Bonnie Schultz Pautz, Kay Kupsh Preston and Nancy Dickert.

On September 1, 1975, the name Reedsville State Bank was changed to Valley Bank of Reedsville. There are now fourteen banks who are members of Valley Bancorporation.

A statement of 1933 showed assets of \$217,478.00, loans of \$125,617.00, deposits of \$27,336.00, certificates of deposits of \$85,520.00, savings of \$65,856.00 and capital stock of \$25,000.00. As of January 31, 1976, assets were \$7,176,350.00, loans \$3,243,108.00, deposits \$1,366,552.00, certificates of deposits \$2,473,785.00, savings \$2,626,618.00 and capital stock \$120,000.00.

Officers and staff members at the present time are: Audrey C. Rameker, president Edward C. Reinemann, vice president; Joan C. Popp, cashier; Jerome Storzer, loan officer; Darlene Schmieder, Martha Schmid, Nancy Dickert, and Kay Preston, bookkeepers and tellers.

Reedsville Telephone Exchange

Reedsville phones had their beginning in 1905 when the first switchboard was installed in the Ig Kabat home and operated by J. H. Meany. In 1913, it was moved to the Jonas Hardware store located at the east end of Reedsville. This now is the location of the laundromat. Here the telephone operator was Mrs. Alb Jonas.

In 1914 the switchboard was moved to the L. C. Bruss Store. It was moved again in 1936 to the Carl Goldbeck residence (now the Robert Rutherford home in 1976).

Some of the first telephone operators were Leola Cary, Charles Tikalsky, Ralph Fuerstenberg, Murial Fuerstenberg, Bessie Engels, Alma Ottelein Krueger, Minnie Bruss Kuehne, Leonetta Bruss Goldbeck, Rose Shimek, Caroline Hlavachek Bacik, Johanna Tegge Wiegert, Fern Rusch Radue, Viola Prochnow Heberlein, Edna Hein

Bergmann, Carl Goldbeck and others.

From 1905 to 1926 the exchange was owned by the Manitowoc and Western Telephone Company. Its officers were president, William Link of Reedsville; vice president, Joseph Schaefer of Branch; secretary, F. W. Meisnest of Branch; treasurer, Walter Killen of Cato; and manager, George Wittmann of Whitelaw.

The sleet storm of February 22, 1922, took all telephone poles and wires down. This resulted in no service from February 22 to June 12, 1922.

A succession of owners followed: 1927 — State Telephone Company, 1928 — Consolidated Telephone Company, 1930 — Commonwealth Telephone Company, 1952 — General Telephone Company of Wisconsin.

Reedsville's phone service was converted to the dial system on January 1, 1955.

Reinemann's Elevator

The land on which the Edward Reinemann and Son Elevator in Reedsville is located was first purchased in 1872 by Mr. Peter Reinemann from Mr. George Reed. Mr. Reinemann was a pioneer grain dealer and buyer and his work in this field was spread over thirty-five years. Mr. Reinemann and Mr. Peter Hermann went into partnership at this time. They built an elevator which then consisted of one main building and a grain warehouse across the street. These are located in generally the same location as the present buildings.

In 1877, Peter Reinemann took over the business and continued by himself. Business progressed with a helping hand from the Northern Grain Company until 1895 when a fire destroyed the elevator. In an attempt to begin again, Peter Reinemann sold his general merchandise store. Unable to get started alone, the Northern Grain Company again offered help and started Mr. Reinemann on a commission basis. After six years of hard work, Peter-Reinemann again owned his own elevator.

Business was encouraging until again in 1901 another fire burned the warehouse, situated across from the elevator. An employee at the elevator was in the upper story of the warehouse and the theory is that he was smoking and some ashes fell on the dry hay. Tragically, in his fear, he ran to a secluded corner and died in the flames. The results of this fire were not as disastrous as the first one and the warehouse was rebuilt.

Peter Reinemann soon took his son, Edward Reinemann, into the business with him and the elevator was called Reinemann and Son. They worked side by side until 1908 when Peter Reinemann was killed by a piece of iron hitting him in the chest while spotting railroad cars.

Edward Reinemann was intent upon continuing the business and on September 3, 1919, a plot of land was bought in Reedsville to build a mill on the west end of Reedsville, also on the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad.

As the business began to enlarge, an elevator was bought in Grimms, Wisconsin, on November 7, 1933, from Charles Freeher who lived in Cato. This was managed by Ernie Zahorik. By this time, Edward Reinemann had his son helping him in the business.

During the mid-thirties, Edward Reinemann was called the "Barley King" throughout most of Wisconsin. A newspaper that wrote about him said that farmers came hundreds of miles with their grain.

In 1938 it was planned to tear down the Grimms elevator and rebuild it, but in this year an elevator was purchased in Cato by Edward Reinemann from Thomas H. Hayden. It was assumed that the Grimms elevator would become unnecessary with the operation of the Cato elevator so it was removed completely. Mr. Edward Zahorik became the manager at Cato.

Also in 1938 Edward Reinemann took his son, Clifford, officially into the business and

the name of the business changed from Reinemann and Son to Edward Reinemann and Son. They didn't work together for very long, however, for in the latter part of 1938 Edward Reinemann passed away.

Clifford Reinemann was now operating the business and in 1951, the business again enlarged with the purchase of an elevator in Manitowoc. Ironically, at that time the Reinemann business bought out the same Northern Grain Company that had helped them so many years before. This is now the Northern Elevator and is managed by Mr. Walter Smith, who was formerly the agriculture teacher in the Reedsville High School.

Clifford Reinemann also had a son, Edward, and when Mr. Reinemann died in early 1965, the fourth generation took over. Improvements have been made since the beginning of the business and will continue to be made as the needs are there. Many pieces of modern equipment have been added to make a more efficient operation.

The business from its three locations serves both rural and city people in all of Manitowoc and portions of surrounding counties.

Rusch Lumber Co.

Mr. A. H. Rusch purchased the lumber mill in 1893 from Joe Dumas. The building was built by the Ludwig Rusch family in 1860. All hand hewn frame lumber constituted the building. It was originally a sawmill and additions were added in later years. The mill was Reedsville's main source of employment. At one time thirty-three men were employed logging during the winter and sawing shingles in the summer.

The last lumber was sawed in 1922. That year they began to manufacture Bee Keeper Supplies. Annual catalogues and price lists were sent to approximately 9,000 beekeepers and shipping their product as far as China.

Rusch Lumber Company was operated by A. H. Rusch and later his oldest son Arnold joined in the business. In 1930 Reuben Rusch bought a half interest in the business and in 1952 Arnold Rusch retired and Reuben Rusch bought the entire business.

After forty-three years in the lumber business, Reuben Rusch retired and the business was terminated. The office on Fifth and Menasha was sold to Atty. Thuermer. The one warehouse on Fifth and Mill was purchased by H. K. Molding Company. Four warehouses have been razed as well as portions of the original mill.

St. John, St. James Lutheran Church

The families present at the first service of St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church, Maple Grove (now Reedsville) came largely from the provinces of Pomerania and West Prussia, Germany. Several arrived in this region about the year 1852. Among these were Jacob Grimm, who came from Ohio, and Louis Faulhaber. The latter was elected first chairman of the town of Rockland after its organization. A number came in 1854. Among these were Gottfried Krueger, John and Fred Maertz. The Maertz brothers first settled near Milwaukee. When they decided to move here they loaded their families and goods on ox carts. The trip took one week.

The first service was held December 8, 1857, by Pastor C. F. Goldammer of First German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Manitowoc at the home of John Martin Bratz. Two children were baptized: Therese Bratz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bratz, and Heinrich Krueger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gottfried Krueger.

The group organized as St. James Evangelical Church. Services were held in the homes. Pastor Goldammer continued to serve as best he could. It was difficult for him to come from Manitowoc as the road was nothing but a widened Indian trail through the woods.

The second pastor was Philip Koehler who served from 1858 to 1859. About 1859, it was decided to build the first church. The land was donated by Jacob Grimm.

The first resident pastor was Pastor C. Gausewitz, Sr., who had immigrated to America in 1859. He and his wife stayed with Louis Rusch and Jacob Grimm families for long periods of time.

In the year 1860-61 the members of the St. John on the west side of Reedsville decided to dissolve. The majority joined our congregation. October 7, 1861, we decided to incorporate under the name — St. John and St. James Evangelical Lutheran congregation.

Plans were made for a parsonage. In 1865 it was complete. Pastor Marcus Braun who came in 1864 was the first to enjoy the new home.

He was succeeded by Pastor Albert Kluge in 1866, who remained until 1880. The membership had outgrown our little church. There were more than 70 members.

The present church building was erected in 1870. Everyone helped as much as he could to keep the cost down. They hauled bricks with their wagons.

In 1880 Adolph Toepel became the pastor and served until 1887. During his time the first resident teacher was called. On January 29, 1881, it was decided to build a teacherage.

Pastor G. Philip Brenner came to be the pastor in 1887. A new parsonage was built in 1888 for \$1950 by F. Stelling. This is the present parsonage.

On January 6, 1896, we decided to buy the west side cemetery.

In 1898 it was necessary to purchase a new heating system. So much excavating needed to be done. Also in that year, redecorating was done.

November 27, 1904, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the new church.

In 1907 Pastor Henry Koch began the longest ministry which lasted until 1934. September 30, 1907, it was decided to have an English service once a month with German services on other Sundays.

In 1908 colored church windows were installed and electric lights came into use.

In 1919 the parsonage and teacherage were modernized with electricity.

In 1930 we observed the 50th anniversary of the church. It was redecorated, new linoleum was installed and the lighting was improved.

In 1934 Pastor H. H. Eckert came to minister to the spiritual needs. In 1949 Pastor Elwood Habermann was installed. Pastor Wendland was here from 1954 to 1962. He was followed by Pastor Harvey Heckendorf from 1962 to 1967 and Pastor J. S. Hering from 1968 to 1970. The present pastor is Harlyn J. Kuschel.

In 1962 both the teacherage and parsonage were remodeled. The steeple was redone in 1971 and a new heating system installed in 1972. Then in 1975 the complete interior of the church was redecorated and rewired.

German language services were gradually reduced and finally dropped in January 1971. The evening worship services were added in the summer of 1973.

St. John, St. James Lutheran School

At the time of the founding of the congregation, there was no Christian day school. With the enlarging of the parish due to the closing of the St. John Church on the west side, a full time facility for the Christian training of the children was needed.

In May of 1867 the congregation decided to create a school fund. Each member was requested to contribute 25c for the acquiring of school equipment. In 1874 Pastor Albert Kluge began to teach about 30 students. A small frame building which stood on the site of the present parsonage served as both church and school. Slates were used instead of

blackboards. Long benches with six inch boards extending out from the back on top served well as both church pews and school desks. All subjects were taught in German. Many of the early Lutheran schools were in fact called "German Schools."

It was not until 1887 that our congregation decided that both English and German were to be taught in school. Until 1889 our pastors also served St. Peter's of Collins. During those early years, many of the children from Collins walked the distance to our church and school. When the present church building was completed in 1879, the school was moved to approximately its present location, south of the church.

Pastoral duties often called Pastor Adolph Toepel from the classroom during the school day. When this happened, the school was left in charge of honor students. These students would list the names of those who misbehaved on a slate and pastor would mete out punishment to the offenders when he returned. Needless to say, this system was not a happy one. Some days the names listed on the slate included every student in school.

The members of the congregation agreed that the pastor should be freed from his full time teaching duties. Mr. Henry Pautz of Hika, Wisconsin, became the first resident teacher. Members moved him and his belongings in express wagons. Teacher Pautz served from 1881 to 1887.

Mr. Arnold Luethy served from 1887-1907 and was to teach the first English courses in our school.

On January 5, 1903, our voters approved plans for a new school. Work progressed rapidly and the new school was dedicated on November 22, 1903. This is the two-story brick building that today constitutes the oldest section of our school. Total cost of the building was a little over \$4,000.

Soon after the new school was built, enrollment reached the 90 mark and a second teacher was added to the staff.

By the late 1940's the enrollment had outgrown our two-room school. In 1949 committees began to work on laying plans for an addition to our school. On May 7, 1950, the congregation voted to accept the plans of Edgar A. Stubenrauch, Sheboygan, and voted to build immediately. On August 13, 1950, the cornerstone was laid. In July 1951 the building was completed. It was dedicated on August 16, 1951. Total cost was \$72,000. Pastor of the congregation at the time of this major building project was Rev. Elwood Habermann, the school principal was Mr. Earl Roloff.

In 1957, when the congregation celebrated its centennial, enrollment had risen to 129, taught by four teachers. By 1960 there were 154 children in grades 1 to 8 and an additional 20 in spring kindergarten. Again the congregation had to plan for expansion of its school, this time under the direction of Pastor J. J. Wendland and Principal Arvid Kramer.

At the annual meeting in 1961 the church council was authorized to select a building planning committee. The architectural firm of Sauter and Seaborne of Appleton was engaged. Since it was found not to be structurally feasible to add a second story to the 1951 addition, two rooms were added to the south of the school at a cost of about \$443,000. A fifth teacher also was hired. On September 24, 1961, the new addition was dedicated and by October the rooms were ready for occupancy.

For five years in the early 1950's, the congregation was served by two male teachers. This arrangement was made permanent in 1960. After Mr. and Mrs. Ray Behmer had accepted calls to Crete, Illinois, the voters resolved to call two male teachers because of increasing administrative duties. This led to the calling of Arvid Kramer as principal and Earl Brassow as the second male teacher. Following Mr. Kramer's departure in 1966, Mr. Brassow was called to serve as principal, a position he still occupies today.

St. Mary Catholic Church

The Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Reedsville was built by a settlement of Catholic Bohemians. In 1862 the parishioners purchased the land where the Reedsville High School now stands, intending to erect a church there, but they abandoned the idea because the place was so swampy that they did not wish to bury their dead there. These people, consisting of twenty-five families were earnest and zealous Catholics. They bought the property on Menasha Street in 1863 and in 1865 they built a small log church 24 feet by 36 feet, where the present cemetery is located. The townspeople laughed when they saw the church under construction for they said, "It looks like a saloon."

The first records were kept at St. Patrick's Parish in Maple Grove. The first baptism recorded is that of John Tikalsky, son of Elizabeth and John Tikalsky, January 1, 1872, by the Rev. Gideon Mazanek. The first Mass was recorded when Frank Kocourek and Barbara Foreyt were married January 4, 1871, by the Rev. Joseph Maly. The first officers of the congregation were John Tikalsky, Matt Voboril, and Joseph Tikalsky.

After its organization, this congregation was attended by the Rev. Joseph Maly who, while resident pastor at Francis Creek, visited the mission. Then for one year, the Rev. G. Mazanek of Cooperstown attended to the spiritual wants, but at the end of that time Father Maly again assumed the charge, maintaining the same until 1876.

The first resident pastor at Reedsville was a Pole, who also spoke the Bohemian language, the Rev. Julius Stroelke. He built the first parsonage at this place, a small and unpretentious house, which served its purpose for some considerable time. When he left Reedsville in 1877, Father Maly, then pastor at Kellnersville, again attended the mission.

On October 6, 1878, the Rev. T. Spunar was appointed pastor of the congregation and all its out-missions. During his administration, St. Anne's Altar Society was founded with a membership of forty ladies. A new bell was also bought and blessed by the Right Rev. Bishop F. X. Krautbauer on November 12, 1878. By this time the congregation had assumed such proportions that it was deemed advisable to erect a new church. The feelings of the congregation being unanimous in regard to that matter, work was begun on the building at once. On June 9, 1881, the cornerstone of the new brick church was blessed by the bishop. Emperor Franz Josef of Austria gave a cash donation of \$150 toward the construction.

The handsome main altar in this church was presented to the congregation by the St. Anne's Society. In February 1882 a new St. Anne's statue and a new pulpit were installed in the building.

Father Spunar left Reedsville March 21, 1882, and was succeeded as pastor by the Rev. John Videnka. While he was here, a St. Joseph Benevolent Society was founded, vestments, an organ, and side altar were purchased. The pastor died here on May 29, 1885, while still in charge and is buried in the church cemetery.

For two months St. Mary's was again without a pastor. Then on July 16, 1885, Rev. William Kramer was sent by the Right Rev. Bishop of the Diocese to take charge of the pastorate. He was a newly ordained priest who could speak the Czech language. He also took care of two German mission churches at Brillion and Kasson. One Sunday Reedsville had two Masses, the next Sunday Brillion had one Mass and Kasson had one Mass.

Among other improvements made by this pastor to the property in general was the erection of a Sisters' dwelling, and changing the old church into a school. The latter undertaking completed, school was opened on September 30, 1886, being placed at that time in charge of the Sisters from Silver Lake Convent.

During this same year a branch of the Catholic Knights of Wisconsin was established in the congregation. On April 10, 1889, a branch of the third order of St. Francis was also organized with forty members. Thus from time to time an increased interest was made

manifest in the church, as well as numerous improvements and additions which were occasionally put upon the property.

Four years later, the school house was torn down and replaced by a large and well arranged building. The parish was now in a satisfactory condition and although a considerable amount of money had been spent in the erection of buildings, and constant improvements made upon them for a number of years, all of this had been effected without the necessity of incurring any debt whatsoever.

At about this time, the Rev. William Kramer resigned the charge to accept the pastorate at Ahnapée (now Algoma) and he was succeeded on October 1, 1896, by the Rev. Adalbert Cipin. At this time the congregation consisted of 24 Bohemian families. Rev. Cipin was born in Bohemia, where he was ordained to the priesthood in 1873.

In 1907 the present church was built. Father Kolar left the parish in 1920 and Rev. John Landowski was the priest for one year.

In 1921 Rev. J. W. Decker came to serve the parish and was here until 1928. Then Rev. J. C. Kalishek came. The convent was replaced in 1928 and is now the present convent. In 1932, Rev. Joseph Vondrachek came and was the pastor for two years.

Rev. William Koutnik became the pastor in 1934. While he was here, the present St. Mary's School was built. In 1951 a tornado damaged the church, but it was repaired immediately. Rev. Koutnik passed away in 1965.

Father Norman Krutzik came and remained for about a year.

Then the bishop sent Rev. Adolph Dolezel to be the pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church. While he was here, the parish hall and kitchen were completed in the school basement. Father Dolezel was here until 1971.

Rev. John Neuser came to serve the parish in 1971. The renovation program began with Father Neuser's wish to have a side entrance since there was only one exit in the church. Possibilities of other improvements were submitted to the parish at a parish meeting on January 30, 1972. The parish members voted to proceed with the whole program at once rather than do a little at a time. Work began on February 28. The entire church was cleared including altars and pews. Walls were painted a soft gold with a darker gold ceiling. Retained in the ceiling are hand-painted oils depicting events in the life of Christ.

The entire church floor and new entrances are carpeted in a dark brown and gold tweed carpeting. Simplicity is the keynote of the sanctuary. The large ornate altars having had eighteen statues have now been reduced to two statues, that of the Sacred Heart of Jesus over the Altar of the Blessed Sacrament, which is at the side and that of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, patroness of the parish. The Altar of Sacrifice is the table part of the former main altar cut down and remodeled. The sanctuary with the altar is the focal point of the church having deep red carpeting and white walls with accents of gold. A ten foot crucifix dominates the front wall. Where the former main altar stood is a reredos covered with gold vinyl and end pieces of oak. On the platform are the celebrant's and servers' chairs of distressed pecan and gold velvet.

The building was rewired and the new pews have been set at a slight angle to focus attention upon the altar. The heating plant was renovated, providing baseboard heating.

The confessional has been replaced by a confessional room which had been the altar boys' sacristy.

The front entrance encloses the steps which were previously outside. The doors are at sidewalk level.

The basement of the church has been named by the youth of the parish. "The Crypt" was painted and decorated. It is also used for coffee and rolls after Masses on Sunday in winter.

Open House for the public was held on Sunday, August 6, 1972. A Festival also was held that day.

Father Neuser left in 1974 and Rev. Karl Buresh came September 18, 1974. He is our present pastor.

In 1975 roads were made in our cemetery on Highway 32 and the statues refurbished. The parish consists of 325 units. There are 134 children in our school with two nuns from Silver Lake Convent and 3 lay teachers teaching students.

Savages Panther Villa

Joseph Kirch bought the land from Pabst Brewing Company in 1904 and built a tavern. At the time he operated the tavern, picnics were held in the vacant lot, south of the building, which was quite wooded. An elevated bandstand was erected and families gathered together to dance and have some drinks at the outside bar that was set up for the occasion.

It was sold to Ann Kirch in 1932, then to John J. Kirch and Joseph Pollack and Caroline, his wife, then back again to Mrs. Anna Kirch. In 1939 Anna Kirch sold it to Oliver Mott and his wife Elizabeth. In 1940 Mott sold to John B. Schmidt and his wife Sophia. Schmidt sold to Frank Glysch and his wife Viola in 1945. While there, he remodeled the tavern and made it a modern bar. He operated the business until his death in July 1947.

His widow, Viola, ran the tavern business for a short time. She married a man by the name of Tamm. In the meantime, Frank Remiker took over the mortgage. Viola Tamm, Harry Roefer, Stanley Wilson, Dave Sadoff and I. Fishelson joined as co-partners in managing the business. In 1954 Viola Tamm leased it to Stanley Wilson.

Then in 1955 Stanley Wilson leased it to George Hrabik which then reverted back to Frank Remiker estate.

It was purchased by Frank Thiel. During his ownership, it was rented by Gene Behnke and Olsen.

They were followed by Vern and Angie Hall in May 1962.

The night of July 22, 1963, the fire department was called to the Hall tavern. Extensive damage resulted to the tavern and living quarters although the structure remained standing. The Halls set up business in a tent on the vacant lot just east of the building. The Bar was completely remodeled and Angie and Vern Hall moved back into the building September 1, 1963.

Then on November 14, 1973, Jim and Judi Savage bought the property from Lester Thiel and it became known as Savage's Panther Villa.

Sentry Store

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Prochnow purchased the first property that housed their meat market on December 7, 1927. It is the building just east of the present store and was built by William Boettcher in 1903. Mr. Boettcher operated a tavern and meat market in the structure. In 1921 Arno Ehnert and Thomas Mumpy purchased the property but only operated a meat market.

Then after six years of operation by Ehnert and Mumpy, Elmer Prochnow started in business for himself. His own business place was operated merely as a meat market until 1940, when he put in the IGA line of groceries.

In 1949 it was necessary for the Prochnows to expand. A new 36 x 80 foot store was built. The original building was renovated and the former store quarters were turned into living quarters.

In 1959 Elmer and his sons, Harland and Carlos, formed a partnership. By 1960 they enlarged the grocery store; an addition was built, now making the entire store building 71

x 101.

It was in July of 1963 that the partnership purchased the Brillion IGA store. Harland then managed the Reedsville store and Carlos the Brillion store. In July of 1965 the Prochnows changed from IGA to Sentry, and have been handling that line of food products ever since.

On April 1, 1969 Elmer Prochnow sold his share of the business to Harland and Carlos, and the corporation of Prochnow's Foods, Inc. was formed. In June of 1973 the Brillion store moved into the new Sentry Food Store building on North Main Street. The Brillion Automotive Company purchased the old store building.

Sell-Even Company

The new industry in Reedsville is the Sell-Even Company which was built in June 1974. It employs six persons. It manufactures aluminum soffit, fascia, S. channels and J. channels. It also makes aluminum awnings and shutters. It is managed by Frank Foytik.

R. C. Smith Store

The R. C. Smith Store, presently the John Kabat home, was built by Michael Hogan in February 1921. The owners, Mick and Ellen Hogan, operated an ice cream store. Some people remember that moonshine was sold there in great abundance.

The Hogans sold to Arno and Pena Bartel in December 1926. In June 1927 the property was sold to Louis Fischer and his wife Augusta. He had the buildings moved about 50 feet east. It was then rebuilt by Charles Hintz and made into a store.

Tony Grall bought it from Augusta Fischer April 20, 1950, because Louis Fischer had died December 6, 1949. The store included a stock of groceries and confectionery.

R. C. Smith was the next store manager. The building was sold to John Kabat in 1958, who rebuilt it into a home. It remains the Kabat home in 1976.



Inside Reedsville House.

Swatzie's Bar

The abstract dates back to 1840. Six hundred acres of land was included with the property on which the first tavern was built. This was owned by Florian and Rosena Link, coming here from Germany. When they came to this area, there weren't any roads. After the first tavern burned, a second one was built. Emma Link was born here in this building in 1873. She died in 1975 at the age of 102.

Through the years the property went from Florian Link, who died in 1880 to his wife, Rosena Link, then Rosena Link Schultz to J. Emil Schulz in 1890. J. Emil Schulz and Rosena Schulz sold to William Link in 1904. William and Ella Link sold it back to Rosena Schulz in 1904. The license was issued to Jonas in 1905. Then in 1920, Mary Link and Emma Link, who were sisters, bought the property from Rosena Schulz.

In 1921 a hall that was attached to the building on the east side was moved to the lot next to the Kuether meat market. The hall was 60' x 34'. It took many hands to help in the moving, including "Tip" Bergmann.

After Memorial Day parades or special occasions, the children would go to the hall for lemonade and sandwiches and a movie.

In the early days, 1905 to 1906, two trees were in front of the tavern. There were also long steps leading down in front. Across the street was a shed which was used on fair day.

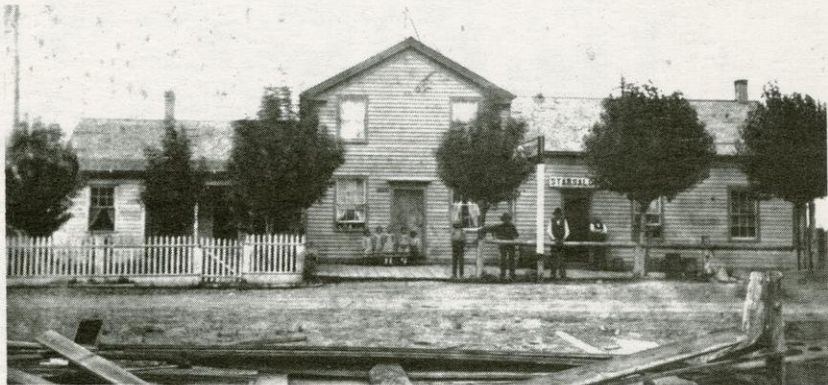
Wooden seats were attached around the trees for the customer to sit on and enjoy their nickel beers out in the fresh air. In the early morning hours, some of the little boys from town would come and scratch in the grass under the seats to find any change that would have fallen out of the pockets through the seats.

In 1937 Mary Link and Emma Link, both unmarried, sold the property to William and Mary Fritsch.

Through the years, tavern licenses were issued to Puls, Buth, James Keisner, Behnke, and Lavachek.

In 1960 Donald Svacina rented the tavern from his grandmother, Mary Fritsch. He and Diane Benington were married in 1961 and they left the tavern in May 1963. It was then rented by Wilmer and Dorothy Rahn until 1965.

Then followed a succession of renters: Simpson, Gene Schmidt, and See and Ski Western Bar. In 1967 it was closed after the death of one of the Western Bar renters.



Star Saloon which burned down.
Located where Swatzies Bar is.

In June 1969 the property was purchased from William and Mary Fritsch by Donald and Diane Svacina. The tavern was reopened on August 6, 1969.

In 1972 extensive remodeling and siding was done to the entire building. As of today in 1976, Donald and Diane reside there with their family, Cindy, Lynn, Brian, and Julie. The upstairs apartment is occupied by the Elroy and Carole Siebert family.



Reedsville House — the part on the right was later moved and was the American Legion Hall.

Attorney Thuermer

Attorney Richard J. Thuermer, a graduate of Marquette University and Marquette Law School, located in Reedsville in 1964 when he and Attorney Edward Shimon formed a partnership and practiced law in an office of the Sheahan Building located on Menasha Street. The barristers later purchased the office building of A. H. Rusch Co. and continued until 1966, when the partnership was dissolved.

Attorney Thuermer also has a law office in the Village of Mishicot, where he conducts his practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays; three days a week, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, he is in his Reedsville office located at 104 North Fifth Street.

Mr. Thuermer resides at Mishicot with his wife, two sons and two daughters.

United Methodist Church History

The nucleus of the United Methodist Church, originally Zion Evangelical Congregation in Reedsville, dates back to 1911. Our forefathers felt a great need for a church building in Reedsville. Meetings were held in various homes to formulate plans to erect a church. Under the supervision of the Rev. W. A. Detert, an organizational meeting was held on May 8, 1912. Nineteen families pledged themselves to the amount of \$2125 to build the church. In the spring of 1912, the Wisconsin Conference assemblage approved the building of a church in Reedsville. On July 23, 1912, articles of incorporation were drawn up.

The contract for building the church was awarded to A. H. Rusch for the sum of \$3737. The church was to be located on the southwest corner of block 56 with the building to be completed before November 20, 1912. In October the cornerstone was laid. Dedication services were held in December with Bishop Samuel Sprany officiating. The Reedsville circuit included Rockland, Eaton, Rantoul, and Stockbridge.

The first officers elected were A. H. Rusch, President; Arnold Rusch, secretary; and W. O. Otto, trustee.

A Sunday School was established immediately to further the cause of Christian education. Mr. Herman Krueger was the first Sunday School Superintendent. Other church organizations were "Frauen Verein." When the German language was dropped, it was known as the Woman's Missionary Society, later Woman's Society of World Service and at the present time it is named United Methodist Women.

The young people of the congregation were not neglected. A "Yugenbuud" was organized. When English became the prevailing language, this organization was called the Young People's Alliance, later Christian Endeavor, presently Youth Fellowship.

In 1946, the Evangelical Church merged with the United Brethren Church. The merger services were held in Johnston, Pennsylvania.

In 1970, another merger took place with the Methodist Church and is now known as the United Methodist Church.

Pastors serving the congregation were W. A. Detert, Rev. Schueller, Rev. J. C. Sippel (1915), Rev. Eilert, G. W. Reichardt, C. W. Schleuter, Rev. O. C. Hillmann, Rev. E. D. Pauline, Rev. G. W. Nickell, Rev. Merlin Hoeft, Rev. Hubert Dieckvoss, Rev. Roy Headley and Pastor Merlin Goehring until 1976.

Many memorials have been given the congregation in the form of equipment, church furniture, etc. A number of improvements have been made in the building with some of these the result of substantial sums received in the form of memorials. The latest project was new lights installed in 1974.



William Link Barberer. William Link Barbershop (Ron Urbans Shop)

Ron Urban property

The large white building on the corner of Manitowoc and Fourth Street is owned by Ron Urban. This property belonged to George Reed in 1852 and was recorded in 1854. It was sold to Joseph Schultz and wife who sold it to William Link and his wife in 1899. It was known as Link's Tonsorial Parlor.

On February 24, 1928, William link sold the property to Carl Behnke and his wife. They sold it to Clarence Wattawa and his wife on October 26, 1939. Louise Wattawa sold to Ron Urban September 20, 1966.

It was used as a dwelling and barbershop. The barbers who served the people were William Link, Eugene Behnke, Clarence Wattawa, Ron Urban and the present barber is Wayne Neuser.

The second floor was used as a dental office by Dr. Morrissey, Dr. Frederick Bruss who is now head of the Dental Clinic at Macon, Georgia, Dr. Just, Dr. Linjer, Dr. W. W. Reinke and Dr. Bauerfeind.

Now there is no longer a dentist practice in the building. The second floor had been converted to living quarters.

Wayne Neuser came to Reedsville in September 1964 and started barbering in the Sheahan building. He is now working in his shop which is in this building, having quite a history of barbers.

Wayne and his family reside at Route 1, Whitelaw, Wisconsin.

Vern's Service Store

Back in the late 1800's, this building was standing in the middle of what is now Fourth Street in Reedsville.

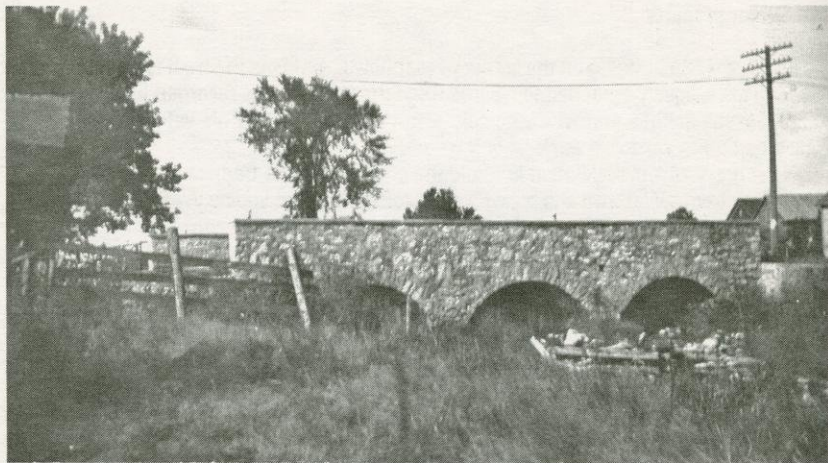
Louis A. Busse was the owner. He was a pharmacist and he also sold a lot of horse medicine. In April of 1905 he bought the lot, 66 x 132 for the price of \$240, on which the building is standing at present. The building was moved sometime in the early 1900's to the present location. It was known as Busse's Rexall Drug.

Some time in the 1920's, Mr. Busse was made postmaster and he built the postoffice on the east side of the store.

Mr. Louis Busse died April 12, 1948. According to his will, this building had to be sold to a registered pharmacist.

In November 1948, Paul Zechel, who owned the North End Drug in Manitowoc, purchased the building. He sold the store to Howard Zabel in August 1949. Mr. Zabel operated the store as a Rural Drug Permit Store. In November 1955 Zabel sold to George Kabat. In December 1961 George Kabat sold to Rufus F. Weidner.

The present owner, Vernon Kabat bought it from Mr. Weidner in August 1964. The post office and store were remodeled in June 1965.



This picture of the old bridge on Manitowoc Street was printed by L. A. Busse, druggist in Reedsville.



Gust Olm home — Tavern — Meat Market 1915 (now Wagners Tavern)

Wagner's Bar

Wagner's Stumble Inn had its beginnings as Olm's in 1890. Gustav Olm and his brother-in-law, Joe Wills, owned this property in partnership. It consisted of one bowling alley and tavern. In 1892, Gustav Olm bought out Wills, thus becoming the sole owner. In 1898, Mr. Olm tore down the building and rebuilt the present building. The large structure housed living quarters, a tavern, meat market, and boarding house. There were as many as fifty people rooming and boarding there at one time.

The land extended from Menasha Street through to Mill Street and although the business places faced Menasha Street, there was a slaughter house, smoke house and large barn in back. Later on, the land on Mill Street was sold to A. H. Rusch and Son.

Mr. Olm had horses of his own and some of the roomers kept their horses in the barn, too. The building which originally housed the Kugle garage and has since been torn down was also owned by the Olms. It was then a machine shop and Mr. Olm had intended to turn it into a garage by adding on, but he passed away before those plans were completed.

It was necessary to have a huge ice block for cooling meat. The ice house was located upstairs. They used a horse, rope and pulleys to pull big blocks of ice up through a door and pile it up to keep the meat below cool. A butcher shop and small store was off the tavern.

The house located just east of the Stumble In Bar was at one time a shoe and millinery store. Mrs. Olm had it remodeled after her husband died. Then she and her children lived there after she no longer operated the tavern.

In October of 1909, when the Reedsville State Bank was robbed, the two horses used for getting away were taken from the Olms.

In 1915 Mr. Olm died. Mrs. Olm and her family ran the business until she retired. She then rented it to Charles Ryan. Following Ryan there were Kurt Huebner, Peter Zarnoth, Stenger, Charles Meissner, and Sylvan Torrison. The Olm family then decided to sell the building and it was purchased by Charles Gillis who operated the business for about two years. The building again changed hands and it was bought by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Reiser in 1947. Ted and Tekela Reiser operated it until July 1, 1952 when they rented it to Sylvan Torrison. Gene Behnke rented it from 1954 to 1956.

Mr. and Mrs. Reiser again operated it and rented out apartments until 1965 when they rented it to Elroy Seibert. Elroy and Carole Seibert operated the tavern until 1968. Ralph Kocourek managed the business for the next two years.

In 1970 John and Dorothy Wagner bought "Stumble Inn" from Ted and Tekela Reiser. They are operating it at the present time in 1976.

Wenzlaff Cigar Shop

Charles Kocourek started his cigar shop about 1900. The factory adjoined Kabats Bar. Emil Wenzlaff took over in 1905. Around the year 1920, Wenzlaff employed three or four cigar makers and two leaf strippers. They made as many as 300 cigars per day. Wenzlaff acted as salesman and sold the cigars. John Luscher and John Vander Louis assisted in the manufacturing. Later John Vander Louis practiced the trade at his home. The brand was known as Shoe-Peg Cigars. The original building has since been torn down.

Wilhelm's Resale

Wilhelm's Resale Shope, formerly Miller's Service Station, dates back to 1925 when the late William Miller established the first station in the Village of Reedsville. He had a small cement block building erected and that original station was the nucleus of the present building. It later housed the oil tanks and air compressor.

Prior to this time "Bill" Miller and his family, wife, five daughters and one son, lived on a farm in the Clark Mills area and just before coming to Reedsville had resided on a farm near Bonduel. When they moved here, the Millers bought the home of Henry Wordell, which is now being occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Miller. Bill handled the products of Valders Oil Company with which the filling was still affiliated until the time of Leonard's closing upon his retirement. It has always been a privately owned station, with the Standard Oil Company leasing the station from the Millers.

In 1932 Leonard Miller entered the station picture. Leonard had ideas of expanding the business and in 1934, he and his father started selling farm implements. They were

associated with Minneapolis-Moline and in 1935, they added the Massey-Harris line, which was almost unknown of in this area. For a few years they kept both lines of equipment, but dropped the Minneapolis-Moline and retained only the Massey-Harris.

As the business continued to expand the Millers added buildings; the larger office area was added in which stock was displayed, a shop was added to the east and later the shop with the hoist was added to the back. They later took on the Fox Tractor line, and also kept this line until discontinuing business.

The large machine warehouse that stands on the adjoining lots east of the station was erected by Leonard in 1942 after purchasing the property from the American Legion following the fire that destroyed their hall in January 1940.

In 1943 Bill and his wife retired from the business and Leonard became sole owner. They exchanged homes and the senior Millers moved into the former Wattawa home, where they resided until they moved to Manitowoc. Bill died in 1944 and his wife passed away in 1965.

Leonard Miller's daughter, Betty, was married to Francis A. Dolezal. Tony joined his father-in-law in the business and Betty became the bookkeeper, secretary and general assistant.

Elmer Radtke worked for the Millers for many years. Upon his 25 years of devoted service, he was presented with a gold watch by Leonard Miller. Walter Brandt was also with Millers Service Station for many years.

Leonard retired in 1973 and the business was operated by Betty and Tony Dolezal until December 31, 1974, when they also discontinued it. In 1975, the station was purchased by Robert Wilhelm of Reedsville. It is now known as Wilhelm's Resale, dealing in used furniture, appliances and antiques.

R H. Willems Equipment Company

The John Miller Equipment Company, a farm equipment retail outlet started business in Reedsville in the summer of 1949 in a small garage owned by Mr. Milton Schultz on Second Street. The company was owned by the three Miller Brothers, Victor, C. J. and Ray from St. Nazianz, Wisconsin. They also operated a farm equipment retail store in St. Nazianz selling International Harvester tractors and equipment.

Ray Miller operated the Reedsville store with some of the first employees being Herman Klann, Ben Wilbershide, and John Burkart. After the business grew for two years, the three brothers saw fit to buy the Begalke farm located in the center of town and remodel the barn into a repair shop and retail store. At this point besides International Harvester contract, the Gehl line and New Holland line of farm machinery were taken on. Also at this time a complete line of appliances and hardware were added. The John Miller Equipment also sold new International Harvester trucks and Pontiac cars.

R. H. Willems joined the company as a retail salesman in 1951. The company continued to grow and in 1959 Miller and Willems Auction and real estate was formed along with the farm equipment business.

In 1963 Ray Miller dissolved partnership with his brothers, Victor and C. J. Miller and the company changed its name to Reedsville Oliver Sales. The officers of the new corporation were Fay Miller, Ray Miller, and R. H. Willems. The International Harvester contract was dropped and a new contract was signed with the Oliver company and also the Ford Tractor Company.

On October 12, 1965, disaster struck the business with fire destroying the complete building. Instead of rebuilding, the Oliver and Ford lines were discontinued and the Gehl line of machinery was retained. For temporary quarters the old village hall was purchased and business continued there until July of 1967 when Miller and Willems purchased the

garage from Roger Olm along with land on the south side of Highway 10 for a used equipment lot.

In April of 1968 the partnership of Miller and Willems was dissolved with R. H. Willems staying in the farm equipment business and the new business as it is today called R. H. Willems Equipment Company.

When Ray Miller left the partnership, he returned with his brothers Vic and C. J. at the John Miller Supply Company in St. Nazianz to start a dealer organization for the distribution of Leyland Tractors in the states of Wisconsin and Michigan.

R. H. Willems has remained in the farm equipment business and the auction business. In 1971 the former Sheahan building was purchased for a service shop and also for assembly of new equipment. In 1972 4½ acres of land were purchased for display of new and used equipment on Highway 10.

The two major suppliers for the R. H. Willems Equipment Company are the John Miller Supply company, who supply the Leyland Tractors and the Gehl Company, who supply all the forage harvesting equipment.

R. H. Willems Equipment Company has the recognition of being the largest volume Gehl dealer in the world in the past two years.

Present employees of R. H. Willems Equipment Company are Donna McDonough who has been with the company for 25 years, Vernon (Marty) Marsichek, Wilfred Schulz, Myron (Shorty) Kochan, John (Grand Pa) Willems, Larry Vallesky, Tom Haelfrisch, Jim Savage, Dale (Beaver) Barnard, Greg Willems, and Jack Willems, with R. H. (Bob) directing the sales of the company. Donna McDonough assumes the responsibilities of the office and accounts. Vernon Marsichek is in charge of all shop, delivery service and parts for the company.

Wojta Store

W. I. Wojta bought the general merchandise store in 1909. He sold it to George Pappé who changed to groceries in 1940. Later the business changed hands again when Andy Schmitt bought it. The business was discontinued and it was changed to a residence.

Ye Olde Inn

The United States of America sold the land to the State of Wisconsin October 14, 1848. George Reed bought all of Reedsville July 29, 1852. In 1857 Ludwig and Wilhelmina Rusch bought the land. In 1876 Ludwig Rusch built the building that is known as Ye Olde Inn.

A huge dance hall is now the tavern and side room. Where the bowling lanes are located, there once stood a blacksmith shop operated by Frank Koudelka. At that time Tom and Mary Koudelka tapped the beer.

In 1916 Michael Benzschawel rented the tavern from the Koudelkas. Michael had two sons, George and Paul.

In 1923 George Benzschawel and Christine Cherney were married. They made their home with Mike Benzschawel to help with the tavern operation. In the winter of 1923 Benzschawel sold to Feigal and Mutschinsky.

In 1936 the building once again reverted to the Benzschawels, George and his wife Christine, and Paul and his wife Alvina. Christine and George had a daughter, Marion.

In 1939 and 1940 the four bowling lanes were added. In 1945 Christine Benzschawel and Jerry and Marion Mulhaney bought the tavern and bowling alleys from Paul Benzschawel. It was then that the place was to become known as "Ye Olde Inn".

Paul Benzschawel passed away May 5, 1956. Jerome Mulhaney moved to Manitowoc in

1958.

The year 1966 brought a remodeling change. Marion and her husband, Charles Winfrey, took over the task of rejuvenating the tavern. They were helped by Mr. Hilmer Grams. Over a four-month period they tore down the outside shell of the barn on the Paulina Krueger farm, pulled nails and ran the boards through a planer. They looked for the wood with the most character and knot holes and gallantly nailed them to the walls. With the aid of fine weathered barn boards, porch posts, wainscoting, wallpaper and many times working through the night, it was finally finished. The adventure certainly didn't end on a note of elegance, but it created an atmosphere of warmth and hospitality that the owners could be rightly proud of.

In 1971 Carl and Kay Handrick bought Ye Olde Inn. They installed automatic pin setters in 1974 to the delight of all the bowlers. Since that time the number of leagues has increased. In 1975 air conditioning and air cleaners were added. The alleys were redecorated.

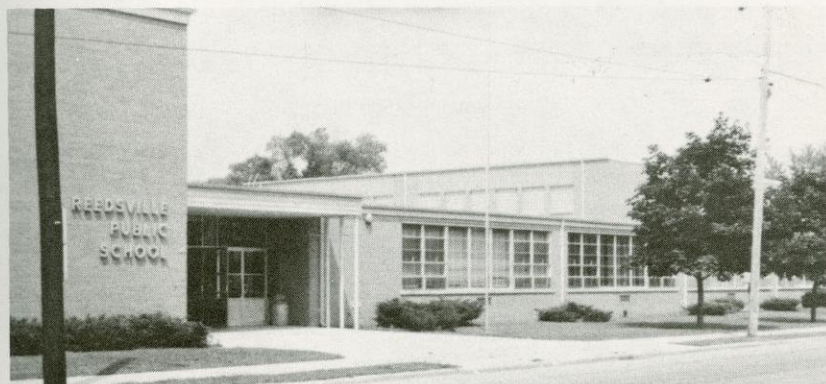
Carl and Kay have three children: Sheila, 3; Christopher, 2; and Todd, 1. Carl also works part-time for the Reedsville Water Department. He is president of the Reedsville Athletic Association and on the board of the Manitowoc County Tavern League. Both are active members in St. Mary Parish. This hard working couple is an asset to our fair village.

Active organizations in Reedsville in 1976 are:

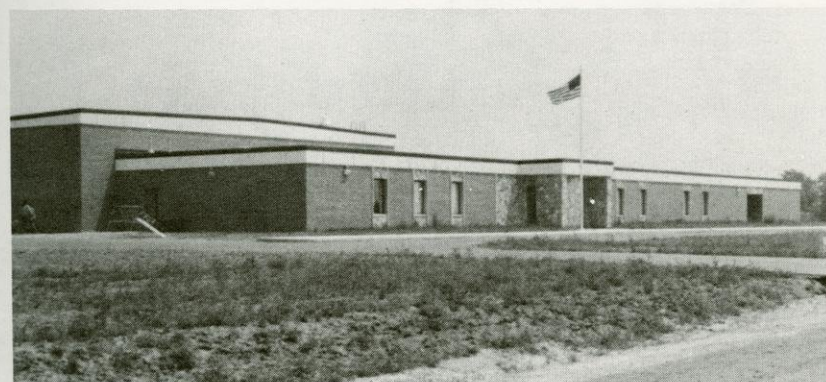
American Field Service
American Legion Auxiliary
American Legion
Amvets
Athletic Association
Boy Scouts
Cub Scouts
Firemen
Girl Scouts
Homemakers
4-H Club
Housing Authority
Industrial Development Corporation
Jaycees
Knights of Columbus
Lions
Lionettes
Reedsville Education Association
Senior Citizens Group
Sportsmen's Club
Reedsville Board of Education



Reedsville Municipal Building



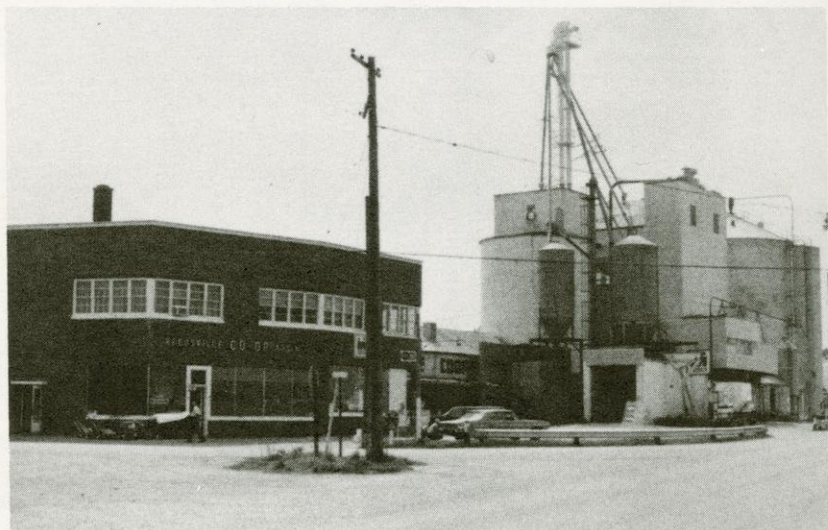
Reedsville High School



Reedsville Elementary School



Reinemann & Son Elevator



Reedsville Co-op



Valley Bank of Reedsville



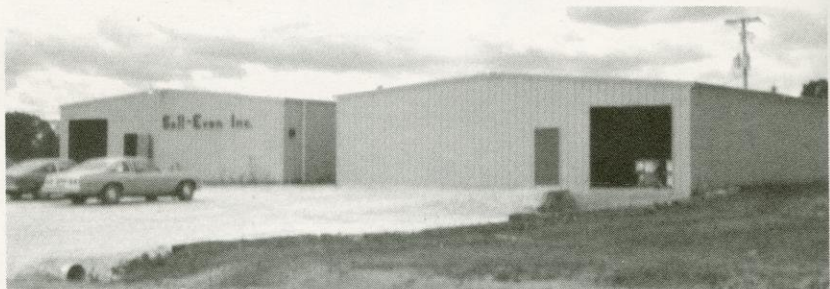
Post Office & Vern's Service Store



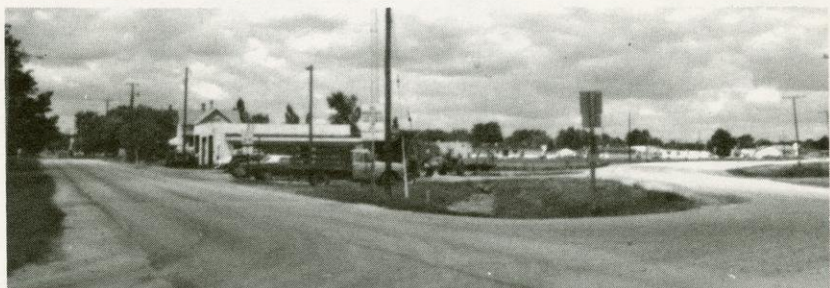
Equity Auction Market



Reedsville Medical Center & Furniture Store



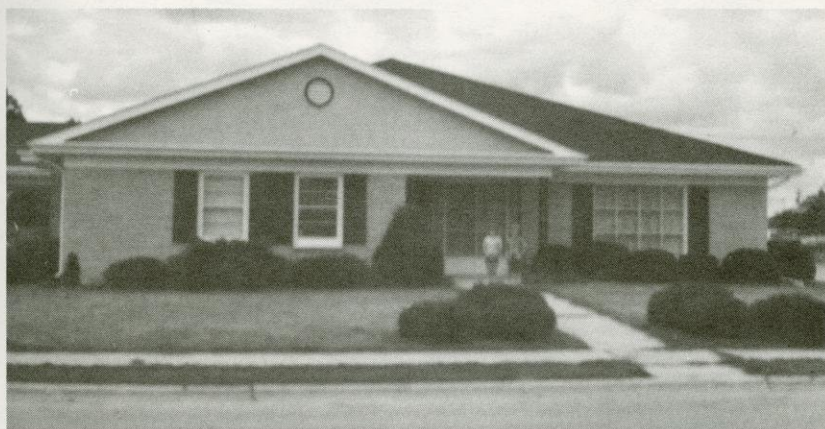
Sell-Even Inc.



Entrance to Reedsville - Willems Equipment



American Legion Park



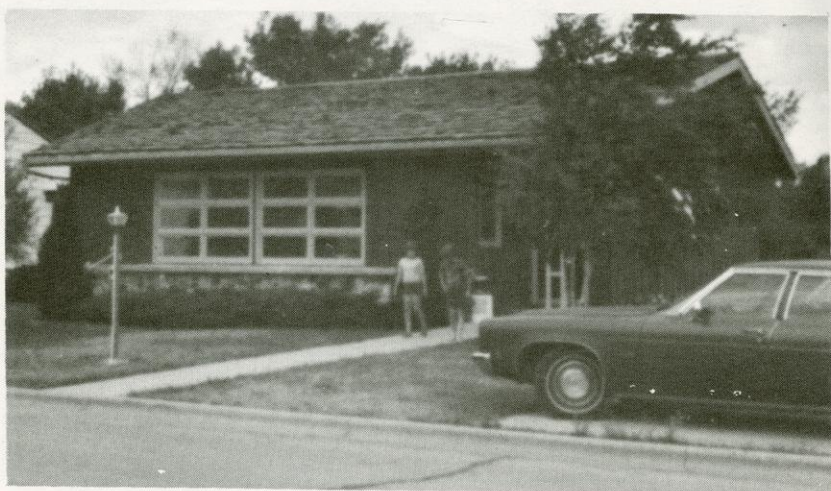
Reedsville Funeral Home



George & Richard's Service Station



Ye Olde Inn & Lanes - Tip Bergmann Barbershop



Honeycomb Beauty Shop



Savage: Panther Villa (left) - Kabat Country Gardens (1st right)
Thelen: Sheet Metal (upper right)



The Shack Restaurant



Sentry Store (left) - Rataichek Our Own Hardware (right)



Art's Shoes



Wagner's Bar - Richard Thuermer, Attorney



Keune's Bar (left) - Barnard Bar (right)



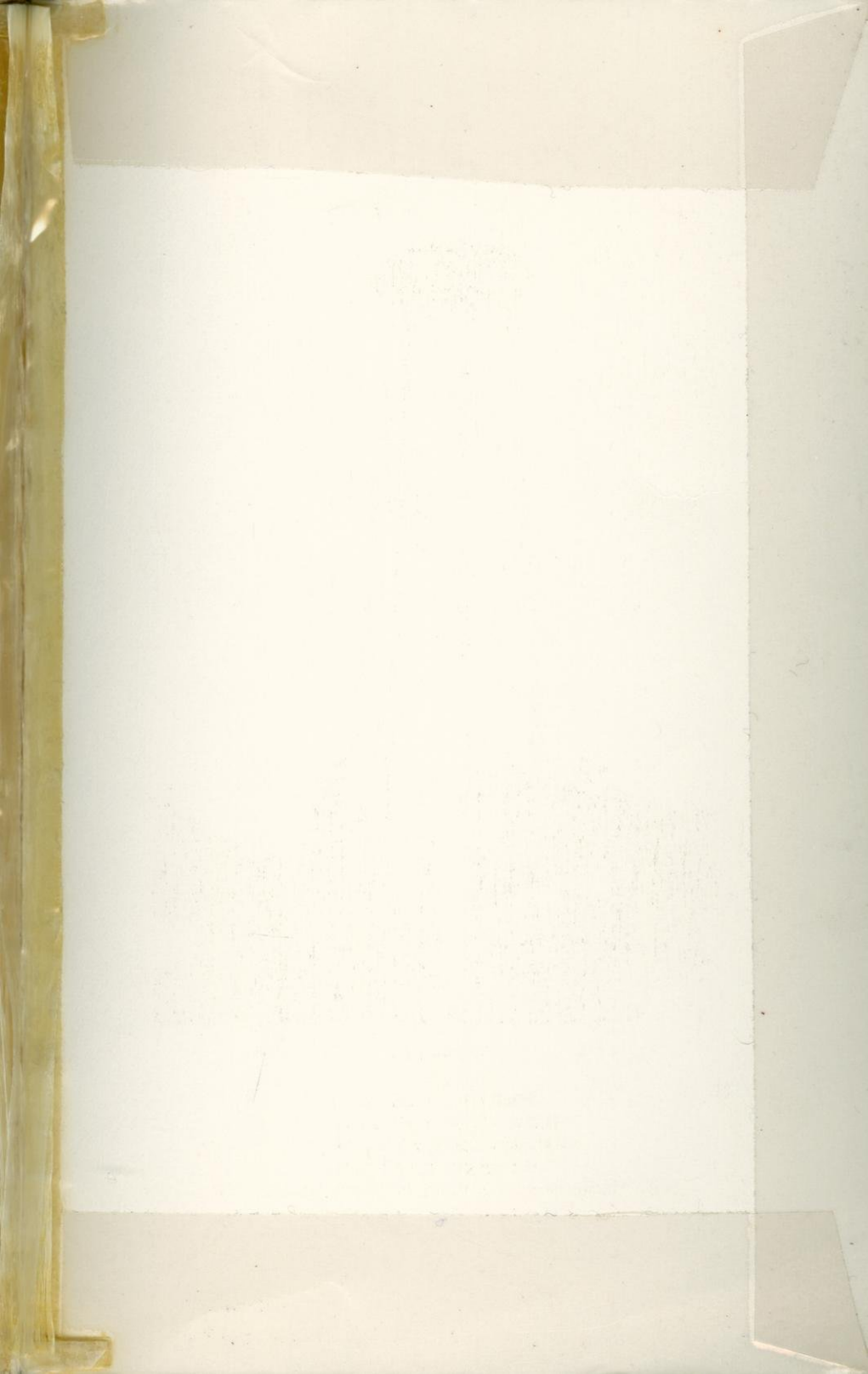
Svacina Bar



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Wisconsin State Historical Society information

ZANDER PRESS - BRILLION



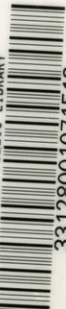
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Zarnoth, Dorothy.

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