

LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION
BOX 3 FILE 031
FAYE HANSON PUBLIC LIBRARY
DEWITT, MICHIGAN 48820

Thank You

The 1972 DeWitt Memorial Association Board would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every individual who so unselfishly donated their time to work in the OX ROAST. Only a close-net community like ours, working together, could ever make an event like this a success year after year.

We would also like to thank the service clubs, VFW, American Legion, DeWitt Vets, Lions Club, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts. Other organizations such as St. Judes Ushers Club, DeWitt Merry Mixers square dancers, DeWitt City Police Department, DeWitt City Fire Department, Lake Geneva Association, DeWitt School P.T.A. and the Masonic Lodge for their active parts in making each and every annual OX ROAST a success.

We also would like to thank the merchants of DeWitt for their part in this day and in helping us produce this program, making this another great year for the OX ROAST!

Signed,

DeWitt Memorial Board

1972 MEMORIAL BOARD MEMBERS

Douglas B. Twiss, Pres.	Rev. David Franzmeier
William Drouin, V.P.	Charles DeYoe
Bruce Conradson, Sec.	Robert Klan
James Boyd, Treas.	Roy Beal
	Jack Speicher

Program:
Editors:

Douglas B. Twiss, Memorial Board
Charles Root, Spartan Printing

1972 PROGRAM



26th DeWitt Ox Roast

Saturday, August 19th, DEWITT, MICH.

-EVENTS & PARADE MAP-
EARLY HISTORY OF DEWITT



**SPARTAN PRINTING
AND
DUPLICATING INC.**

PH.489-4330

15551 N. EAST ST. LANSING, MICH.

AMERICAN BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

A FULL SERVICE BANK

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116 N. BRIDGE ST.

DEWITT, MICH.

DEWITT PHARMACY

KEITH B. BLIZZARD, R.PH.

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113 S.BRIDGE ST.

DEWITT, MICH.

KEN'S AUTO SUPPLY

HOURS-MON. THRU SAT. 9. A.M. TO 9.P.M.

SUN. NOON TO 6. P.M.

NEW AND REBUILT AUTO PARTS
FOR ALL MAKES AND MODELS

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117W.MAIN ST.

DEWITT, MICH.

PROGRAM

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>	<u>HOURLY PRIZES</u>
10:00 --	Parade	--
11:00		
12:00		\$ 25.00 Prize
1:00 --	Poney Pull	-- \$ 25.00 Prize
2:00 --	3 rd Prize	-- \$ 200.00 Prize
3:00 --	Auction	-- \$ 25.00 Prize
4:00		\$ 25.00 Prize
5:00		\$ 25.00 Prize
6:00 --	2 nd Prize	-- \$ 300.00 Prize
7:00		\$ 25.00 Prize
8:00 --	Square Dancing	-- \$ 25.00 Prize
9:00		\$ 25.00 Prize
10:00		\$ 25.00 Prize
11:00 --	GRAND PRIZE	-- \$1,000.00 Prize
	Good Food	- ALL DAY LONG - Good Beer
		Art Show
		H.O. Wilbur Rides
		Games and Pony Rides
		Strolling Barbershop Quartet



DALMAN HARDWARE

PLUMBING SUPPLIES
WHIRLPOOL APPL.

PAINTS FARM SUPPLIES
ZENITH RADIO & T.V.

DEWITT 669-6785

DEWITT BAR

DANCING FRI.- SAT.

BEER - WINE - FOOD - TAKEOUT

202 E. MAIN

DEWITT

SMITH WELDING

CUTTING, GAS WELDING, ARC & HELIARC
HOUSE BEAMS, ROD, BAR, ANGLE, CHANNEL
ALL TYPES REPAIR. AND FABRICATION
LOCATED ACROSS FROM DEWITT CAR WASH AT LUMBER CO.

PH. 669-7375 OR 669-9304

OWNER DUANE SMITH

FAMILY BARBER SHOP

BILL LONIER

8:00-6:00

TUE-FRI

124 W.MAIN



HARRY WILLIAMS

8:00-5:00

SATURDAY

DEWITT, MICH.

DEWITT MEMORIAL BUILDING

Early in the spring of 1946, club ladies and interested residents of DeWitt decided the village needed a building which could be a living memorial for all veterans of all wars. This building would be used by all civic organizations as well as the library.

Two city lots were donated by Mr. and Mrs. William Rogerson, these lots being where the present Memorial Building stands. To begin with, money for the building fund was raised by personal donations and from various organizations.

In April, 1946, delegates and leaders of clubs met to find a way to raise more money. They decided on a street carnival, which was a very successful three day event, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Most all prizes and articles for booths were donated with expenses being less than \$100.00. Later the event was cut to two days, Saturday and Sunday, and at present is a one day event, being held the second Saturday before Labor Day weekend of each year. From this street carnival the present 26th annual Ox Roast has grown.

OVER

TERRANOVA'S THRIFTWAY

PACKAGE LIQUOR

GROCERY - MEATS - BEER - WINE

669-6745 OPEN - 7 DAYS

129 S. BRIDGE DEWITT

THE UPHOLSTERY SHOP

HAROLD H. HOUGH, OWNER

CLASSES IN FALL UPHOLSTERY

MATERIAL FOR DO IT YOURSELVES

119 N. BRIDGE ST.

DEWITT



**THE HEN'S NEST
AND
THE MENS DEN**

DEWITT, MICH. PH. 669-3470

CHECK OUR SIDEWALK TABLES FOR
OX ROAST BARGAINS

YEOLD COUNTRY CATERERS

LEON & VI
TRIERWEILER



114 W. MAIN ST
DEWITT, MICH.

BUS. PH. 669-2211

RES. PH. 669-3285

R.E.S.

BOOKKEEPING AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

RICHARD E. STODDARD

218 N. BRIDGE ST. DEWITT, MICHIGAN

LLOYD BERKIMER

YOUR STANDARD OIL



AGENT
669-7841

206 W. MAIN ST.

DEWITT, MICH.

DEWITT MEMORIAL BUILDING (CONTINUED)

In September, 1965, an addition to the Memorial Building was started. This addition gave DeWitt the needed room for its Library and community events. This addition, which is still unfinished to date, calls for a lounge, snack bar, and two more restrooms, the dance floor, paneling and ceiling are completed.

The DeWitt Memorial Association, a non-profit organization sponsors the Ox Roast each year to help maintain the Memorial Building. Rent paid by the Library and weekend rentals from the two halls also help to defray costs.

Nine DeWitt residents, volunteering their time, make up the Memorial Association Board. Three members are replaced at each annual board meeting, which is held in January, giving each member a three year term to fill.

Public meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 8:00 P.M., in the Meeting Room, adjacent to the Library, in the Memorial Building.

END

WILLARD J. REED AGENCY

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11377 E. RIVER DRIVE

DEWITT, MICH.

DEWITT AUTO BODY

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DEWITT, MICH.

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BUILDING - LAND CONTRACT
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223 S. BRIDGE ST

DEWITT

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CARLETON F. SMITH

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U.S.27

E.DEWITT, MICH

GOOD YEAR

MOTOR HOMES, CAMPERS, CARS & TRUCKS
WHEEL & FRAME ALIGNMENT, TIRES & BRAKES

ELECT CULLIGAN FOR SOFT WATER



N.U.S.27

E.DEWITT MICH.

EVERT'S BAR

BEER AND LIQUOR

U.S.27

E. DEWITT MICH.

CLINTON NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST CO.

"YOUR WIDE-AWAKE BANK"

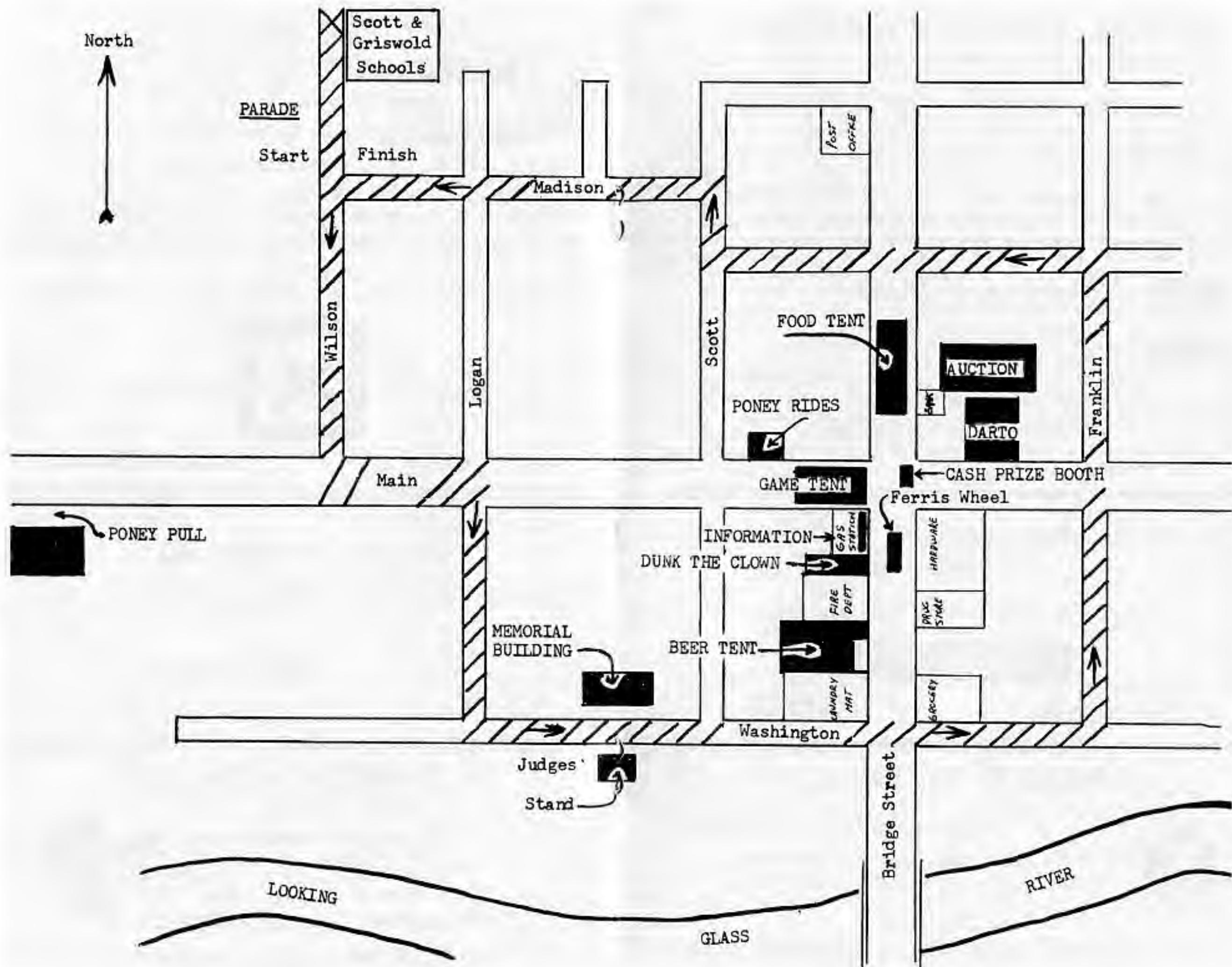
VALLEY FARMS OFFICE



HOURS

MON-FRI 7:00AM - 7:00PM

SAT 9:00AM - 6:00PM



HIGHLAND HILLS GOLF COURSE

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AUTOMATIC (HOT WAX) SELF SERVICE

50¢ - COIN - OPERATED - 25¢

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122 E. MAIN ST.

DEWITT, MICH.

DOUGLAS B. TWISS

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE

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202 N. BRIDGE ST.

DEWITT, MICH.

EARLY HISTORY OF DEWITT

BY FAYE HANSON

Captain David Scott, a veteran of the War of 1812, was one of those Daniel Boone types who didn't hanker to have neighbors "too close" that is within a dozen miles or so, which is how DeWitt came into existence.

Scott found New York state too confining after the War of 1812, so he moved on to Ann Arbor, a brand-new frontier town, in 1825. Ann Arbor, in turn became "too civilized," and in the spring of 1833, Scott picked his way up the Grand River Trail (parts of which still exist as Round Lake Road) until he came to a Chippewa Indian village named Wabwahnasupu on the Looking Glass River.

The high ground overlooking the Looking Glass was to be had at little cost from the federal government. Scott returned to Ann Arbor for his wife, Eunice, and children David and Charles. In September, they loaded oxen-drawn wagons with household goods and headed west and north, taking a horse and 17 head of cattle. They forded rivers and drove through swamps, axle-deep, pitched their tents wherever night overtook them.

On October 4, 1833, they arrived at their homesite, to establish the first permanent settlement in Clinton County, an event memorialized on a huge boulder in the old part of DeWitt Cemetery.

Three families of Indians welcomed the Scotts, loaning them on to their wigwams until the newcomers could build a log cabin on a site directly behind the present Municipal Building in Block 41, Section 8, DeWitt Township.

While the Scotts were dwelling in this primitive bark habitation, a party of English travelers sought shelter while enroute to the village of Grand River, later Portland. One of the members became ill and died. He was buried in a coffin made of bark taken from the wigwam. This was the first recorded death of a white person in Clinton County.

OVER

LIFE OF VIRGINIA ROY BEAL REP.

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RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL-FARM-INCOME-LOTS

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DEWITT MICH.

KECK'S

TELEVISION - APPLIANCES AND SERVICE

RCA



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DEWITT, MICH.

EARLY HISTORY OF DEWITT (CONTINUED)

Scott's acreage was considerable, even for that day. He had acquired 1,426 acres. However, like the early cattlemen of the plains, he had "open range." There wasn't a fence between his holdings and the Shiawassee River on the east and the Grand River on the south, with the result that his "pasture" comprised parts of what later became Eaton, Ingham, Clinton and Shiawassee counties.

Roundup time was just about any time for Captain Scott. He spent a few interesting days seeking out and rounding up cattle which had strayed south to a particularly dense section of forest in a big bend of the Grand River to the south of his homestead, where there was no evidence of habitation.

Less than a decade later, the place where he found his cattle would become the site of Michigan's capital.

During the early years in DeWitt, the Scotts had to return to Ann Arbor periodically for supplies. Then, in 1839, he erected a frame building for a storeroom and grocery and a "public house" or tavern. This landmark was known simply as "Scott's" but it led, in 1840, to the little community being singled out as the governmental seat of Clinton County. The first court session here was held October 2, 1840. This structure was on the southeast corner of Bridge and Washington Streets.

Sometime between 1840 and 1842, Scott built a large hotel, the "Clinton House" on the southeast corner of Bridge and Main Streets. It became the social center of the community and is remembered by many living residents, having burned in 1930.

OVER

CAN DEE'S VARIETY STORE

YARNS-SEWING GOODS-CHILDREN'S CLOTHES

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108 W. MAIN

DEWITT, MICH.

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ARCHIE MOORE & ADELLA MOORE

IT PAYS TO CALL A REALTOR

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DEWITT PH. 669-6645

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NORTH U.S. 27 DEWITT, MICH.

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GENERAL REPAIR

PARTS - ACCESSORIES - SERVICE

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DEWITT, MICH.

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DEWITT LUMBER COMPANY

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FUNERAL HOME

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111S. FRANKLIN

DEWITT, MICH.

ROGER A. OVERWAY

AGENT



OFF. PH. 669-9949

125 N. BRIDEG ST. DEWITT, MICH.

G. & L. SALES

Simplicity

WHERE SERVICE IS A HABIT



PH. 669-3107

EARLY HISTORY OF DEWITT (CONTINUED)

The boom in emigration up the Grand River Road from southeastern Michigan added up to boom times for the little village in the 1840's. The Grand River Road was a main-traveled highway between Detroit and Grand Rapids, leading through DeWitt and Ionia, where the federal land office was located. Money from the Ionia office, where settlers deposited cash for land, was carried to Detroit via DeWitt in a wagon drawn by horses and guarded by soldiers. At DeWitt, the money boxes were unloaded and stashed away in a barred room of the hotel, with the soldiers sleeping within easy range to prevent possible pilfering.

Like many other Michigan communities, DeWitt put in its bid for the state capital in 1847. But, unlike most, DeWitt missed out by only one vote.

Then, in 1857, the county seat was removed to the newer village of St. Johns, after heated controversy.

There are still traces of the pioneer village. At 102 Webb Street is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Klaver, a pioneer hostelry in the olden days, and the building that was the county jail still stands at 206 East Washington Street. It became a dwelling in 1862.

END

TOM CLAYTON ASSOCIATES INC.

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RES. 669-3721

SUPPORTING HOME COMMUNITY OF DEWITT

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LANSING, MICH.



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MINI GOLF - BASEBALL MACHINES - PIN BALL

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PHOTO ENGRAVING

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BEER - WINE - GOOD FOOD

DANCING FRI - SAT

113 W. MAIN ST.

DEWITT, MICH.

SHINGLE SHACK

"FINE FAMILY RESTAURANT"

TACOS - SPAGHETTI - RAVIOLI - PIZZAS
FOOD FOR ALL TASTES

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102 N. BRIDGE ST

DEWITT, MICH.

GENE'S TOTAL SERVICE

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EAST DEWITT, MICH.

WILLIS CRESSMAN

• BASEMENT DIGGING • SEEPAGE BEDS
• SEPTIC TANKS • CRUSHED LIME STONE

PH. 669-2845 DEWITT, MICH.

HOWE'S GREENHOUSE



PH. 669-9822

8160 U.S. 27

DEWITT, MICH

CENTENIAL FARM MARKET

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

PIES - COOKIES **BAKERY** DONUTS - BREAD

FRESH CIDER YEAR - A - ROUND

U.S. 27 AT DILL DEWITT, MICH

MEMORIAL BUILDING

WE ARE NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR

WEDDINGS - DANCES - PARTIES
BEAUTIFUL HARDWOOD DANCE FLOOR

669-9781 KITCHEN IS AVAILABLE P.O. BOX 269
CALL AFTER 5:00 P.M. MRS CHARLES ANDERSON
206 W. WASHINGTON ST. DEWITT, MICH.