Macomb County, Michigan

COUNTY, CITY, VILLAGE
and TOWNSHIP OFFICERS

Compiled and Arranged by

A. H. JIM HOFSTETTER
County Clerk

"Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them, and as governments are made and moved by men, so by them they are ruined also. Therefore, governments depend upon men rather than men upon governments."
COUNTY OF MACOMB

Officials of the
COUNTY, CITY, VILLAGE
and TOWNSHIPS

1949 - 1950

MOUNT CLEMENS, MICH.
County Seat

Compiled and arranged by

A. H. Jim Hofstetter
County Clerk
THE AMERICAN CREED

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a Sovereign Nation of many Sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon these principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

WILLIAM TYLER PAGE
Clerk of the House of Representatives—1917

THE PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands. One nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

STATE OFFICERS

GOVERNOR
G. Mennen Williams .................................. Lansing

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
John W. Connolly .................................. Lansing

SECRETARY OF STATE
Fred M. Alger, Jr. .................................. Lansing

ATTORNEY GENERAL
Stephen J. Roth .................................. Lansing

STATE TREASURER
D. Hale Brake .................................. Lansing

AUDITOR GENERAL
Murl K. Aten .................................. Lansing

SUPT. of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Lee M. Thurston .................................. Lansing

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
Charles M. Ziegler .................................. Lansing

UNITED STATES SENATORS
Arthur H. Vandenberg ...................... Grand Rapids
Homer Ferguson ...................... Detroit

REPRESENTATIVE, Seventh Dist.
Jesse P. Wolcott ...................... Port Huron

STATE SENATOR, Eleventh Dist.
Bruce Clothier ...................... Lapeer

REPRESENTATIVES IN STATE LEGISLATURE

First District
Howard R. Carroll ................. Mount Clemens

Second District
William Romano ................. Van Dyke
CIRCUIT COURT OFFICERS

16th Judicial Circuit

Alton H. Noe .................................. Circuit Judge
James E. Spier .................................. Circuit Judge
A. H. Jim Hofstetter ............................. Clerk of Circuit Court
Eunice L. Rose ................................. Chief Deputy County Clerk
Elmore E. Lester ............................... Assignment Clerk
Betty Cron ................................. Court Clerk
Fred Nicholson .................................. Prosecuting Attorney
Wendell Lichtenfelt ............................... Chief Asst Prosecutor
Charles H. Earl ................................. Asst Prosecuting Attorney
John Matthews ................................. Asst Prosecuting Attorney
Mildred Vlaich ................................. Asst Prosecuting Attorney
Paul S. Hirt .................................. Civil Council
Lorraine Nicholson ............................ County Stenographer
Bertha Daubendick ............................. Official Court Reporter
Harley Ensign ................................. Sheriff
Clarence Shirey ................................ Court Officer
Edward Schoenherr ............................ Court Officer
Guy L. Brown, Jr. .............................. Probation Officer
Marybelle Baker ............................... Friend of the Court
Wm. H. Nunneley ............................... Circuit Court Comm'r.
J. Russell LaBarge .............................. Circuit Court Comm'r.

TERMS OF CIRCUIT COURT

Second Monday in January, April, June, August and October.

COUNTY OFFICERS

Circuit Judge .................................. Alton H. Noe
Circuit Judge .................................. James E. Spier
Probate Judge .................................. Joseph V. Trombly
County Clerk .................................. A. H. Jim Hofstetter
Prosecuting Attorney .......................... Fred Nicholson
Sheriff ........................................ Harley Ensign
County Treasurer ................................ Lynn Whalen
Register of Deeds .............................. Aaron Burr
Drain Commissioner ............................. Frank Lohr
Coroner ........................................ Clifford H. Read
Coroner ......................................... Howard V. Groesbeck, Jr.
Circuit Court Comm'r .......................... Wm. H. Nunneley
Circuit Court Comm'r .......................... J. Russell LaBarge
County Controller ............................. Sherwood J. Bennett
Probation Officer ............................... Guy L. Brown, Jr.
County Health Director ........................ Oscar D. Stryker, M.D.
County Sanitary Engineer ........................ Marvin L. Smith
Co. Supervisor of Nursing ........................ Marie Presley, R.N.
County Agent ................................. Martin H. Walkenhorst
Co. Agriculture Agent .......................... Wm. Murphy
Commissioner of Schools ........................ Will L. Lee
County Dog Warden ............................ Forbes Duncan
Juvenile Register ............................... John H. Ahrens
County Librarian ............................... Dorothy Hiatt
Friend of the Court ............................. Marybelle Baker
MACOMB COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COMMITTEES FOR 1949-1950

CHAIRMAN—Floyd W. Rosso
VICE-CHAIRMAN—A. N. Brewer
CLERK—A. H. Jim Hofstetter
ATTORNEY—Paul Hirt


APPORTIONMENT—Kalahar, Powell, O. Henderson, Stepnitz, Rettmiller, Shorkey, Large, Visnaw, Bock.


CLASSIFICATION—Hill, Lemmon, Stepnitz.


EQUALIZATION—Lindsey, Powell, Hill, Beaubien, Biehl, Schoenherr, Lemmon, Visnaw, Miller, Leonard.


INDUSTRIAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS—Kalahar, Lemmon, Neale, Rettmiller, Shorkey, Hogue, Visnaw, Miller, Blair.

(Continued on next page)
(Continued from Page 7)

COMMITTEES FOR 1949-1950


REJECTED TAXES—Stepnitz, Priehs, Hill, O. Henderson, Miller, Hogue, Large, Leonard.


RADIO—Wagner, Beaubien, Lemmon, Biehl, Hill, Schoenherr, Miller, Visnaw.


TOWNSHIP TAX—LaGodna, Biehl, Powell, Priehs, Veryser, O. Henderson, Bock, Miller, Shorkey.

WELFARE—O. Henderson, Hill, LaGodna, Biehl, Lindsey, Beaubien, Kalahar, Wagner, Miller.


DEFENSE—Lindsey, Kalahar, Hill, Miller, Large, Visnaw.

REGISTER OF DEEDS—Powell, Wagner, Oehmke.

CO-ORDINATING ZONING—Wagner, Powell, Beaubien.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS—Wangelin.

NOTE—The first name on above committees is the respective chairman thereof, and in absence thereof the second name acts, and likewise in the absence of the first two, the third name acts.

<table>
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<th>COUNTY BUILDING GUIDE</th>
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<td>to Offices and Phone Numbers</td>
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| 1st Floor |
| Controller | Sherwood Bennett | 6381 |
| Addressograph | Arthur D. Roese | 5732 |
| Treasurer | Lynn Whalen | 2591 |

| 2nd Floor |
| County Clerk | A. H. Jim Hofstetter | 5791 |
| Register of Deeds | Aaron Burr | 6951 |

| 3rd Floor |
| Circuit Court | Hon. James E. Spier | 5622 |
| Probation Officer | Guy L. Brown, Jr. | 2462 |
| Friend of the Court | Marybelle Baker | 5801 |
| Drivers License | Marvin Miller |

| 4th Floor |
| County School Commissioner | Will L. Lee | 6921 |

| 5th Floor |
| Circuit Court | Hon. Alton H. Noe | 6821 |
| Assignment Clerk | Elmore E. Lester | 5841 |
| County Law Library |

| 6th Floor |
| City of Mount Clemens Offices |
| City Clerk | Joseph H. Matthews | 5681 |

| 7th Floor |
| Probate Court | Hon. Jos. V. Trombly | 2679 |
| Probate Register | Nelson Zott | 2579 |
MACOMB COUNTY BOARD
OF
COUNTY CANVASSERS

Harold Donaldson ........................................ Mt. Clemens
Louis Luchtmann .......................................... Washington
D. M. Kennedy ............................................. Roseville
A. H. Jim Hofstetter ..................................... Mt. Clemens

COUNTY TAX ALLOCATION BOARD
William H. Nunneley, Chairman ....................... Mt. Clemens
A. H. Jim Hofstetter, Secretary ....................... Mt. Clemens
Will L. Lee ................................................ Mt. Clemens
Lynn Whalen ............................................. Roseville
Sarah Moore ............................................. St. Clair Shores
Frank Biehl .............................................. Roseville
Frank Wiegand .......................................... Warren
Thos. H. Scott, Statistician ............................. Mt. Clemens

SOCIAL WELFARE COMMISSION
John E. Merrill ........................................... Chairman
Lyle E. Rosso ............................................ Vice-Chairman
Isaac A. Hartung ......................................... Vice-Secretary

ELECTION COMMISSIONERS
Joseph V. Trombly ...................................... Probate Judge
Lynn Whalen ............................................. County Treasurer
A. H. Jim Hofstetter ..................................... County Clerk

PLAT BOARD
Aaron Burr ............................................... Register of Deeds
Lynn Whalen ............................................. County Treasurer
A. H. Jim Hofstetter ..................................... County Clerk
JURY COMMISSIONERS
Hugh Stepnitz ........................................ Romeo
Christian M. Nill .................................. St. Clair Shores
Howard Fenton .................................... Mount Clemens
Elmer Stier ......................................... Richmond
Margaret C. McCarthy ............................ Mount Clemens
Grace Jones ........................................ St. Clair Shores

SECRETARY OF JURY COMMISSIONERS
A. H. Jim Hofstetter

NATURALIZATION
Final Hearings of Petitions on 4th Thursday of January, June and November.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Oscar D. Stryker, M.D. .......................... Director
Marvin L. Smith ................................. Sanitary Engineer
Marie Presley, R.N. ......................... Supervisor of Nursing
Emma Alexander ............................. Chief Clerk

CONCEALED WEAPONS LICENSING BOARD
Fred Nicholson .......................... Prosecuting Attorney
Harley Ensign ............................. Sheriff
Sgt. Paul Fredericks ................... Michigan State Police
A. H. Jim Hofstetter .................. County Clerk

MACOMB COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD
B. A. Kalahar, Chairman ................... Center Line
Paul Cousino .................................. Warren
A. N. Brewer ................................. Romeo
Marjorie Montgomery ..................... Armada
Will L. Lee .................................. Mt. Clemens

EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT COMMISSION
Eunice L. Rose, Chairman .................. Mt. Clemens
Clyde Denison, Vice-Chairman .......... Mt. Clemens
Arthur Engel ................................. Romeo
Floyd W. Rosso .............................. Mt. Clemens
Frank Biehl ................................ Roseville
A. N. Brewer ................................. Romeo

COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
Wm. Malow ................................. Commission Chairman
Karl O. Brink ............................. County Road Engineer
Roy Connor ................................ Road Commissioner
Alfred Foerster ............................. Road Commissioner
Arnold F. Ullrich ......................... Secretary

COUNTY VALUATION
The 1948 assessed valuation of Macomb County was $157,784,221.
OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
MOUNT CLEMENS

1949-1950

Commissioner of Public Affairs .......... Albert A. Wagner
Commissioner of Streets and
Public Property ................................ Ray Brandenburg
Commissioner of Finance .................... Paul G. Hogue
Commissioner of Public Safety .......... Lawrence Oehmke
Commissioner of Water Works
and Sewers .................................... DeForst N. Cooley
City Clerk .................................... Joseph H. Matthews
Deputy City Clerk ............................ Harold Lindsey
City Treasurer ................................. George A. Dankers
City Assessor and Welfare
Director ....................................... Harold Lindsey
City Attorney ................................. Hugh H. Neale
City Engineer ................................. E. L. Pettingill
Supt. of Water Works and
Sewers ...................................... Harry McEntee
Supt. of Water Works and
Sewers ...................................... Robert E. Hansen
Supt. of Filtration ............................ Robert E. Hansen
Chief of Police ............................... Harvey Hammond
Chief of Fire Department .................... Clayton Dubay
Health Officer ............................... Dr. W. J. Kane
Supt. of Streets and Parks ................. Henry Bruneel
Director of Recreation ....................... Howard Harrison
Electrical Inspector ........................ Clyde B. Gass
Plumbing Inspector ........................ Joseph H. Miller
Board of Review ............................. Guy H. Verkler
                      Byron Stuck
                      John Schelling
Municipal Judge .................. Donald J. Parent
Associate Municipal Judge .......... Frank E. Jeannette
Constable ...................... John Miller
Dog Warden .................. Thomas Martin

OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF
EAST DETROIT

1949-1950

Mayor ........................................... Mildred B. Stark
City Manager .................................. W. T. Williamson
City Clerk .................................... Chas. H. Beaubien
City Treasurer ............................... Esley J. Rausch
City Assessor ................................. Charles H. Beaubien
City Attorney ................................. Carl Weymouth
Police Chief ................................. Lyman Eckhardt
Supt. of Public Works ....................... Charles Paternoster
Electrical Inspector ........................ Robert J. Kern
Plumbing Inspector ........................ W. S. Cook
Building Inspector ........................ Paul F. Linenger
Health Officer ............................... Dr. D. W. McKinley
Fire Chief ..................................... August Zado
Constable ..................................... Henry C. Hauss
Constable ..................................... Frank Zolbe
Justice of the Peace ......................... John McPherson
Justice of the Peace ......................... Carl Hollinger
Supervisors ................................. Chas. H. Beaubien
                      Carl Weymouth
                      Thomas Large
                      Everett Blair
Councilmen ................................. Betty Hays
                      George S. Stone, Sr.
                      Walter Sullivan
                      Russell deBeauclair
OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF CENTER LINE

1949-1950

Mayor ................................................ James L. Eisele
City Clerk ........................................... Wm. Steinhaus
City Treasurer ..................................... Wm. Steinhaus
City Assessor ...................................... B. A. Kalahar
City Attorney ..................................... Chas. A. Retzlaff
Health Officer ..................................... Dr. John G. Barker
Councilmen ........................................ Alex M. Schoenherr
Joseph A. Henk
Robert F. Stout
Andrew J. Mehall
Justice of the Peace .............................. Irving D. Robinson
Fire Chief .......................................... Nelson Bruechert
Police Chief ....................................... Elmer G. Flechsig
Supt. of Water Dept. ............................. Wm. Steinhaus
Supt. of D. P. W. ................................. Wm. Steinhaus
Constable .......................................... Charles E. Hamden
Supervisors ........................................ Alex M. Schoenherr
B. A. Kalahar

NEW BALTIMORE (Cont.)

Justice of the Peace ............................ John Marsh
Councilmen ........................................ Cyril Hayman
Phillip Henderson
Leo Niebauer
Chas. S. Hubbard
Arthur Shorkey
Gilbert Matthews
Chief of Police ................................. John S. Dye
Health Officer ................................... Dr. J. F. Paul
Fire Chief ......................................... Floyd Strauch
City Attorney ..................................... Kenneth W. Hill
Supervisors ........................................ Kenneth W. Hill
Arthur Shorkey
Water Commissioner ............................ Wm. G. Baker
City Superintendent ............................ Andrew Meldrum

OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF CENTER LINE

1949-1950

Mayor ................................................ Alfred H. Ashley
Clerk ................................................ Grace C. Balfour
Treasurer .......................................... Irwin Fritz
Assessor ........................................... Frank J. Smith
Justice of the Peace ............................ Howard L. Clapp

(Continued on next page)

OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF UTICA

1949-1950

Mayor ................................................ Matthew J. Rettmiller
Clerk ................................................ E. W. Havel
Treasurer .......................................... Dora M. Hahn
Assessor ........................................... Luke E. Leonard
Justice of the Peace ............................ Chas. A. Merritt
Councilmen ........................................ Howard G. Crissman
Charles M. Foster
W. Frank Chapoton
Herbert E. Doebler
Floyd B. Thomann
William C. Aller
Chief of Police ................................. Hazen S. Anderson
Fire Chief ......................................... Edward Stadler
Attorney ........................................... Henry F. Gage
Health Officer ................................... Dr. D. B. Wiley
Constables ........................................ Walter Kiebusch
Lawrence Winkelman

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TOWNSHIP OFFICERS

ARMADA

Supervisor—W. A. Toles .......................... Rome
Clerk—Raymond O. Schnell ........................ Armada
Treasurer—Carl Plauman .......................... Armada

Justices of the Peace
Orvy Hulet, Sr. ........................................ Armada
Edmund Durst ......................................... Armada
Walter W. Schultz ................................. Armada
Eugene Kent .......................................... Armada

BRUCE

Supervisor—A. N. Brewer .......................... Rome
Clerk—Conrad Turrell ............................... Rome
Treasurer—Hazel Kohlhagen ........................ Rome

Justices of the Peace
James H. Reid .......................... Rome
Frank R. McIntosh .............................. Rome
John M. Bailey .................................. Rome
Francis A. Castellucci .................. Rome

CHESTERFIELD

Supervisor—Adolph Verryer ........................ R. 3, Mt. Clemens
Clerk—Leo Blakely ................................ R. 1, New Baltimore
Treasurer—Carl A. Brandenburg ................ R. 3, Mt. Clemens

Justices of the Peace
John Sikon .................................. R. 1, New Baltimore
Phil Green ...................................... R. 3, Mt. Clemens
Joseph Weisenberger ....................... R. 1, New Baltimore
Louis Thoel .................................. R. 3, Mt. Clemens

CLINTON

Supervisor—Paul Stepnitz ....................... R. 1, Mt. Clemens
Clerk—Elmore Lester ............................. R. 7, Mt. Clemens
Treasurer—Arthur C. Lietz .................... R. 1, Mt. Clemens

Justices of the Peace

CLINTON TOWNSHIP OFFICERS (Cont.)

Hugo Nieman .......................................... R. 1, Mt. Clemens
Earl Buss ........................................ R. 1, Mt. Clemens

ERIN

Supervisor—Frank Biehl .......................... Roseville
Clerk—Darius Kennedy ............................ Roseville
Treasurer—Joseph E. Riesterer ................ Roseville

Justices of the Peace
Roy F. Diesing ...................................... Roseville
Robert J. Nunn ..................................... Roseville
Woldemar H. Nikkel .............................. Roseville
John T. Bowman .................................. Roseville

HARRISON

Supervisor—Floyd W. Rosso, ........................ R. 6, Box 660, Mt. Clemens
Clerk—Ralph Beaufait ............................. R. 3, Mt. Clemens
Treasurer—William Tegeder ........................ R. 4, Mt. Clemens

Justices of the Peace
Louis J. Lozon ..................................... R. 4, Mt. Clemens
Carl H. Jobse ...................................... R. 3, Mt. Clemens
Emil Beuschlein ............................... R. 6, Mt. Clemens
Lew D. Ackerman .................................. R. 4, Mt. Clemens

LAKE

Supervisor—Roy E. Visnaw ............................. St. Clair Shores
Clerk—John Danta ............................... St. Clair Shores
Treasurer—Fred V. Willette ..................... St. Clair Shores

Justices of the Peace
Frederick Van Fleteren .......................... St. Clair Shores
Herman L. Brys .................................. St. Clair Shores
Hugh Robert Dodge .............................. St. Clair Shores
James W. Cork .................................. St. Clair Shores
LENOX
Supervisor—Frank Lemmon ...................... New Haven
Clerk—G. A. Schultz ................................ Lenox
Treasurer—Ed. F. Beier ............................. Lenox
Justices of the Peace
Elmer W. Hartsig .................................. New Haven
E. Buel Priestap ................................... Lenox
Chris Schulz ........................................ New Haven
Wm. J. Webb ........................................ Lenox

MACOMB
Supervisor—Paul Bock ............................. R. 2, Mt. Clemens
Clerk—Wm. Stier ................................. R. 2, Mt. Clemens
Treasurer—Theodore Leyer ...................... R. 1, Utica
Justices of the Peace
Julius Blank ........................................ R. 2, Mt. Clemens
Raymond Juelgel .................................. R. 1, Mt. Clemens
Clarence Stier ..................................... R. 1, Utica
Norman Marcath .................................. R. 2, Mt. Clemens

RAY
Supervisor—Ernest R. Wangelin ................. Washington
Clerk—J. Nellis Clark .............................. Romeo
Treasurer—G. R. Smith ............................. Romeo
Justices of the Peace
Orville Tewksbury ................................. R. 1, Washington
Fred Diener ........................................ R. 1, Washington
John Grader ........................................ Washington
George Whiting .................................... Washington

RICHMOND
Supervisor—Omar C. Henderson ................. Memphis
Clerk—Frank C. Puls .............................. Richmond
Treasurer—John T. Joseph ....................... Richmond

RICHMOND (Cont.)
Justices of the Peace
Erwin W. Fenton .................................. Richmond
Perry Spencer ..................................... Memphis
Paul Russ .......................................... Richmond
Vern B. McConnell ................................. Memphis

SHELBY
Supervisor—Fred LaGodna ....................... R. 3, Utica
Clerk—Chester A. Yenny ........................ R. 3, Utica
Treasurer—D. G. Helfrich ....................... Rochester
Justices of the Peace
J. Gordon Rankin ................................ R. 3, Utica
Julius C. Kirschbaum ............................ R. 3, Utica
Wm. Frase ......................................... R. 3, Utica
Harry Fuhrman .................................... R. 1, Washington

STERLING
Supervisor—Arthur Priehs ....................... Fraser
Clerk—John Wright ............................... Utica
Treasurer—Otto Maas .............................. Utica
Justices of the Peace
Henry Malburg .................................... R. 1, Utica
Wm. E. Malow ..................................... R. 1, Utica
Louis Schoenherr ................................. Fraser
Aelred Murphy ..................................... Fraser

WARREN
Supervisor—Arthur J. Miller ................... Baseline
Clerk—Hildegarde M. Lowe ....................... Van Dyke
Treasurer—William A. Shaw ..................... Van Dyke
Justices of the Peace
Ark W. Moss ....................................... Warren
Edward Gallagher ................................. Van Dyke
William Romano ................................. Van Dyke
Frank Zagaiski .................................. Van Dyke

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Supervisor—Grover J. Powell .................................. Washington
Clerk—R. Eugene Inwood ........................................ Romeo
Treasurer—Wm. M. Oming ........................................ Romeo

Justices of the Peace
Vernon J. Hosner .................................................. Romeo
Charles C. Tincknell .............................................. Romeo
Cassius W. Thorington .......................................... Romeo
Roy H. Bauer ..................................................... Romeo

VILLAGE OFFICERS

ARMADA
President ......................................................... W. J. Campbell
Clerk .......................................................... Raymond Schnell
Treasurer ..................................................... Carl Plauman

FRASER
President ......................................................... Walter A. Miller
Clerk .......................................................... Richard E. Nicolai
Treasurer ..................................................... G. Roland Stumpf

MEMPHIS
President ......................................................... Harry L. Ganger
Clerk .......................................................... A. J. Pearsall
Treasurer ..................................................... Harold Fries

NEW HAVEN
President ......................................................... Walter W. Willert
Clerk .......................................................... A. J. Bennett
Treasurer ..................................................... Helen Adelaide Bates

RICHMOND
President ......................................................... Ben H. Duengel
Clerk .......................................................... Karl N. Hirt
Treasurer ..................................................... Grace Ferguson

ROMEO
President ......................................................... Jewel E. West
Clerk .......................................................... Conrad Turrell
Treasurer ..................................................... Grace McKay
VILLAGE OFFICERS (Cont.)

ROSEVILLE
President ............................................. Frank Biehl
Clerk ..................................................... William E. Utt
Treasurer ............................................. August H. Peters

ST. CLAIR SHORES
President ............................................. Adrian A. Lingemann
Clerk ..................................................... Douglas Taylor
Treasurer ............................................. Laura L. Boye

WARREN
President ............................................. N. D. Eckstein
Clerk ..................................................... Merton A. Lyons
Treasurer ............................................. Raymond Lutz

History of Macomb County

By Desmond A. Arnsby

The grim visages of Indians, and the rugged features of hardy pioneers gazing down in stony calm from the pinnacles of a million dollar Macomb County Building, symbolize 170 years of recorded history in this rich rural and urban area.

Once the happy hunting and fishing grounds of the Pottowattamies, the Ottawas, the Wyandottes and the Chippewas—and often their skirmishing place with the earliest settlers—the County of Macomb now belongs to the titans and workers of industry, the chieftains and clerks of business and those who wrest nature's bounty from the soil.

Co-owners are the more than 150,000 people who call it home. Old and new Americans who enjoy Macomb County's living, culture, education, and recreation.

For the purpose of the record it might be well to summarize the evolution of Macomb County from territorial days to the present:

When Wayne County was established as a county in Michigan Territory in 1815, it included all that part of Michigan to which the Indian title had been extinguished, including our present Macomb County. Prior to that time (in 1805), the territorial government had been organized in Detroit under Gen. William Hull, the first governor, and it was he whose signature in 1807 voided Indian land titles.

By proclamation of Gov. Lewis Cass, on Jan. 15, 1818,
all land ceded to the United States by the several Indian tribes from Maumee to White Rock was formed into the County of Macomb (See Terr. Laws Vol. 2 Page 796).

William Brown, Henry J. Hunt and Conrad V. Ten Eyck were named commissioners to ascertain the most eligible site for the seat of justice. On March 11, 1818, they designated Mount Clemens, then on the Huron River, as the county seat. (Terr. Laws Vol. 3, Page 24)

On May 4, 1818, $400 was appropriated by the territorial legislature to aid in the erection of a courthouse and jail, which like other structures in the settlement, was a log building. (Terr. Laws Vol. 2, Page 129)

Macomb County was the third county organized in Michigan; Wayne being organized in 1796 and Monroe in 1817.

Contradicting nature's routines, Macomb County started life as a veritable giant.

In 1818, at the time of its organization, Macomb County occupied the space now taken by the whole of Livingston, Oakland, St. Clair and Lapeer Counties (and of course, the whole of Macomb) and most of Sanilac, Shiawassee, Genesee and Ingham Counties, and small part of Huron, Tuscola and Saginaw Counties, as we know them today.

By an executive proclamation made April 8, 1818, a month after the county seat was established, Gov. Cass divided this huge “county” into two townships. (Terr. Laws Vol. 2, Page 797).

All of Macomb County which lay north of a line drawn due west from the mouth of Swan Creek was called St. Clair Township, and the land south of this line was called Huron Township.

On Aug. 12, 1818, the Township of Harrison was formed from territory within the Township of Huron (Terr. Laws Vol. 2, Page 797), the new Harrison area being roughly the space, size and location of what we now call Macomb County. (It might be said that Macomb was first called Harrison).

It was on Jan. 12, 1819 that the tremendous area of Macomb County was first lessened by the laying out of Oakland County. This was proclaimed in 1819, but did not take effect until Jan. 1, 1823. (Terr. Laws Vol. 2, Page 798-9).

Perry Township was organized also on Jan. 12, 1819 (same reference) out of the Lapeer-Genesee area of Macomb. On March 28, 1820, St. Clair County was formed (Terr. Laws Vol. 2, Page 200) and with this subtraction from the once huge territory, Macomb County was reduced to the smallest extent in its history.

Two years later Sept. 10, 1822, Gov. Cass by proclamation re-established the boundaries of Macomb County, adding small amounts of territory at various points.

On July 17, 1824, the name of the Huron River was changed to the Clinton and in the same year, Huron Township, occupying extensively the district now often called “South Macomb” was changed to Clinton Township.

On April 12, 1827, a Legislative Act was passed dividing Macomb County into five townships: Harrison, Clinton, Shelby, Washington and Ray. (Terr. Laws Vol. 2, Pages 478-9).

In 1832 Ray Township was greatly enlarged to the east, embracing an area later to become Macomb, Richmond and Lenox Townships—the section covered by the latter three (prior to 1832) being part of St. Clair County.

On March 9, 1833, the northern half of Washington Township was formed into a new township named Bruce. (Terr. Laws Vol. 3, Page 983).

On April 22, 1833, the northern part of Ray Township was formed into Armada Township, or “Armadia” as most of the early map-makers and writers termed it.
On March 7, 1834, Macomb Township was organized out of part of Clinton and Harrison. Ray Township was enlarged from its base line eastward to lop off the entire upper part of Harrison Township (which took in all of what is now Lenox Township) (Terr. Laws Vol. 3, Page 1, 275).

On March 11, 1835, the lower part of Shelby Township was formed into a new Township called Jefferson, where Sterling Township lies today. (Terr. Laws Vol. 3, Page 1, 368).

By an act passed March 11, 1837, Hickory and Orange Townships were formed in the lower section of Clinton Township, which until Jefferson was formed was actually the original "South Macomb". (Laws of Michigan, 1837, Page 41).

The Township of Lenox was formed from the east part of Ray Township on March 20, 1837. (Laws of Michigan 1837, Page 140).

On March 13, 1837, the village of Mount Clemens was incorporated. (Laws of Michigan, 1837, Page 61).

On March 6, 1838 legislative acts created the Township of Richmond from the east portion of Armada Township, and also changed the name of Jefferson to Sterling Township. (Laws of Michigan, 1838, Pages 78 and 83).

An act of April 2, 1838, removed some territory from Orange (Erin & Lake) and added it to Hickory (Warren Township), and also changed the name of Hickory to Aba Township. (Laws of Michigan, 1837-8, Page 158).

In 1840, following the debates, that a new courthouse was voted for Mount Clemens to replace the log structure which formerly existed. (The county seat dispute continued intermittently up to 1879).

By an act approved March 26, 1839, the name Aba Township (only one year old) was changed to Warren. And on Feb. 26, 1842, Macomb Township was divided into two equal parts to form Macomb and Chesterfield Townships.

In 1842, Section 36 was taken from Warren Township and added to Orange Township. On March 9, 1843 (Laws of Michigan, 1843, Page 198), the name of Orange was changed to Erin--a defiant gesture demanded by South of Ireland settlers.

The last remaining straightening of township lines took place under authority of Act. 172, 1865, when Section 36 was detached from Erin and restored to Warren Township.

Thus—with the subsequent establishment of prosperous villages and cities—we attain the Macomb County of today: 15 townships, 7 villages, five cities and a dozen well-populated hamlets which are villages and cities in the making.

But mere history as recorded in legislative acts is actually far from the true picture of Macomb County's historic past.

Even though the termination of the revolutionary war in 1783 established the English-American boundary line on the lake channel, English control continued in this area until 1796.

At that time, under Jay's Treaty, Detroit and other outposts south and west of the lakes were formally surrendered to the American forces. So actually, it was 1796 before Macomb County became part of the United States.

It was about 1796 that there was projected into this
half-Indian, half-French settlement on the Huron River. The energy and civic-mindedness of a man, Christian Clemens—whose name is perpetuated in the county seat. A Detroiter, he undertook a surveying trip for Gov. Cass, and sizing up the slightly elevated townsite that is now a city, he later purchased large private claims and called the settlement Mount Clemens. He built the first house on the westerly side of what is today North Broadway.

From 1818 to 1826 Macomb County was governed by a board of commissioners. The Board of Supervisors did not come into existence until 1827. In 1837 the county returned to the commission system, but by 1842 it had again reverted to a supervisors government.

The amount of governmental and legislative transactions covered by supervisors in those days may be gauged from the fact that the entire county proceedings from 1827 to 1837 required a book of only 55 pages written in longhand. (The minutes of one average meeting today, if written in longhand, would require this space.)

Meetings of the county board since the beginning have always been at the county seat in Mount Clemens; from log cabin to million-dollar County Building.

By the middle 1830’s the success of the Erie Canal; plans for the ill-fated Clinton-Kalamazoo Canal starting on the Clinton River and heavy settlement from New York State, had given Mount Clemens a definite stimulus. The community was platted and developed and small businesses and industries were started on every corner.

It was an old decrepit horse, legend insists, that gave the community of Mount Clemens a big and lasting claim to fame; a boost that eventually was to produce untold millions of dollars in trade and patronage. The old horse was the first discoverer of the rich mineral waters underlying the city.

In the 1850’s attempts were made by local promoters to find oil in the black, ill-smelling waters that were often found by well-diggers. But the oil promotions failed. Frequently the flow was densely impregnated with salt, so promoters changed their plans and by evaporating the waters met with fair success in producing a low-grade salt.

The story has been told and re-told of an old, rheumatic horse, unfit for work, that wandered under one of the dripping, elevated salt tanks used in the process. The animal allowed the mineral water to saturate its hide, even rolled in the muddy puddles on the ground.

Within a short time, old settlers recall, the nag was galloping around with a new lease on life.

Health-seeking residents timidly tried bathing in the waters, with excellent results. In 1875 a small bathhouse was built, and the rest of the story is history—a million-dollar industry that attracts patrons from every state and country.

But no record should be closed without particular mention of the growing might of South Macomb as an industrial giant, particularly Warren Township, once known by the rustic name of “Hickory”. Warren Township’s industry now flourishing, reached its proudest height during World War II when it was termed “The Heart of the Arsenal of Democracy”.

Two fully-equipped war plants estimated in value at $100,000,000 each were the major establishments, surrounded by a diadem of lesser, but no less vigorous factories. They produced a tremendous share of the weapons of war, and today practically all are forging the plowshares of peace.

The establishment of Selfridge Field, Mount Clemens, as the home of the First Pursuit Group of the Army Air Corps in 1917 was the beginning of a modern-day U.S. Air Force establishment second to none in strategic
importance. It is now the nation's leading military center for jet-propelled fighter planes, and its widespread installations are valued in the tens of millions of dollars.

Today, thanks to a well-balanced combination of all factors in the urban-rural economy of Macomb County, there has developed a prosperous territory with an estimated 150,000 inhabitants; an area growing daily with great expectations.

Its valuation is approximately $160,000,000. Its total annual county budget is in excess of $1,000,000. Its governmental and administrative functions are largely centered in a pretentious Macomb County Building, fully paid for, which today would cost far in excess of a million dollars to construct.

Progress constantly has spurred on both governing bodies and the people of Macomb County, with improvement following improvement despite changing economic conditions. (The majestic County Building was conceived and completed in the throes of a major depression.)

Volumes could be written of the great wave of progress sweeping across the countryside where once the Wyandottes and the Chippewas camped, and to which came the French pioneers and the Eastern Settlers to carve homes from the wilderness.

Possibly this brief sketch, which scarcely raises the dust from history's rich records, will inspire further research by those to whom Macomb County is home.