

- Hamlet of Beaver Falls
- Hamlet of Belfort
- Hamlet of Indian River
- Hamlet of Naumburg
- Village of Croghan
- Beartown
- Forest City
- French Settlement
- Gooville
- Jerden (Jordon) Falls
- Long Pond
- Prussian Settlement
- Sisterfield

# Highlighting the Town of Croghan History

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July-December 2013

## GEORGE CROGHAN

Before the Town of Croghan was formed, its namesake was making his mark in history and was recorded in history books of that time frame. Captain Croghan served in the War of 1812 in Ohio. While Captain Croghan served at Fort Stephenson, the fort was besieged by 3,000 British and Indians led by General Proctor. The garrison numbered only 160 under the command of Major George Croghan who was only twenty years of age (in another history book, it lists him as twenty-two years of age). When Proctor ordered the youth to surrender he threatened that, in case of resistance, every prisoner would be tomahawked. Major Croghan replied that when the surrender took place there would not be a single man left to tomahawk. Although Croghan had but a single cannon, he made so gallant a defense that this assailants were repulsed, and Proctor, fearing the approach of Harrison, withdrew from the neighborhood.

In the CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES by James D. McCabe, it states “On the 2d of August Proctor made a determined assault upon the fort, and his regulars gained the ditch into which they crowded preparatory to attempting to scale the parapet. At this moment the only cannon in the fort, which had been doubly charged with musket-balls opened upon them from a masked port-hole..”

The 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Stephenson will be observed on August 2-4, 2012 at Fremont, Ohio. For further information on this event visit

<http://www.fortstephensonbicentennial.com/>

**Inside this issue:**

- George Croghan, cont. 2
- Beaver Falls Grange 2
- Croghan Meat Market 3
- Belfort—St. Vincent DePaul Church 4
- From the Farmhouse Kitchen 5
- Tidbit from News-Paper Archives 5
- Pictures of Past Highway Equipment 6
- From the Town of Croghan Historian’s Desk 8

## George Croghan (continued)

Today the Birchard Library in Fremont, Ohio is located on the site of Fort Stephenson. Plaques, monuments and “Old Betsy” a cannon used in the defense of Fort Stephenson, are on the grounds.

Every August, the local citizens of Fremont, Ohio hold Croghan Day at the library.

In the next newsletter, we will try and answer the question, “What did Colonel Croghan do after he served in the War of 1812?”

(to be continued)

(Source: THE GREAT REPUBLIC, A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES by Charles Morris, LL.D. )

### BEAVER FALLS GRANGE—125 YEARS

The Beaver Falls Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, No. 554 is still an active organization in this area. A group of people met on June 28, 1888 at the home of Ed Tyner with Mr. Samson and Mr. George Kinsey of Natural Bridge giving guidance on what was needed to organize the Grange.

The first meeting was held on July 7, 1888 at the home of George Tyner. The Charter Members were: George Tyner, Peter Ver Schneider, Jacob Scheer, Edward Tyner, Rebecca Tyner, Fred Sauer, Henry Ritchner, Jacob Weyeneth, Fred Widmeyer, John Sauer. Thomas Tyner, Mary Smith, Jennie Nuffer, Amelia Tyner, Jacob Nuffer, Amos Petzoldt, and Philander Smith.

Meetings were held in rented over Hirschey’s to purchase land from John cheese factory. The Grange the Hall was wired for elec-



homes and then a room was Cheese Factory. It was decided Klett, which was next to the Hall was built in 1892. In 1912 tricity. In 1914 Grover Clev-

land (Cleve) Fredenburg moved his grocery store into the first floor and in 1923 a meat market was opened in the basement.

The Grange no longer uses the building but meets in homes. The grange is open to young and old. Throughout the years, the Grange participates at the Lewis County Fair and is active in community service throughout the county.

The Grange may not be as large in membership as it was but has and is playing a vital roll in the community for 125 years.

## CROGHAN MEAT MARKET—125 YEARS

One of the products that makes Croghan famous is **Croghan bologna** made at the Croghan Meat Market, Main Street, Croghan.

The first owner of Croghan Meat Market was Fred Hunziker. Mr. Hunziker was born April 4, 1847 in Canton, Bern Switzerland and came to Croghan, New York in 1871. He operated a meat market for 40 years where he sold meat as well as a smoked beef recipe in a ring shape known as Croghan bologna. In 1919 he sold the meat market business including “the recipe” and building to Elmer “Buddy” Campany. In 1951 he retired and the meat market was sold to Carl Nuspliger, Fred Hunziker’s nephew, and Elmer’s sons, Anthony and John G. Campany. In 1995 the business was purchased by John Michael Campany from his father, John G. Campany. Blaine E. Campany, fourth generation Campany family member is purchasing the business from her parents, John M. and Charmaine V. Campany.

In the April 2013 Volume 3, No. 5 issue of **NNY Business** it states that the market produces 3,000 one-pound rings of bologna in a typical week with doubling the output before Thanksgiving through New Year’s Day.

May the tradition of Croghan bologna continue as it is one of the trademarks of Croghan.

(For further information on Croghan Meat Market go to its web site: [www.croghanbologna.com](http://www.croghanbologna.com))



Croghan Meat Market as it appears today in the Village of Croghan. Picture taken June 2, 2013.

## BELFORT—ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

As we attempt to write a historical pen sketch of all the churches that were and are in the Town of Croghan, we will begin with the Catholic Church in the hamlet of Belfort. The land was deeded by Count LeRay de Chaumont to the church in hopes of attracting settlers to the area. This picturesque church is the oldest Catholic church between Utica and Canada, the Mohawk Valley and the St. Lawrence River. Belfort was settled by French immigrants until the advent of a tannery which attracted Irish. Before 1876 St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church was periodically and irregularly attended by priests visiting or stationed at Croghan. During the absence of the priest, the settlers assembled in the church for prayer. Not until 1876 when the Franciscan Fathers came to Croghan, did the Catholic church have a regular priest.

The present church was built about the year 1843, although there was a form of parish organization that existed in the Belfort area since 1832 (at that time this area would have been in the Town of Diana as the Town of Croghan was not formed until 1841).

The bell in the bell tower at St. Vincent de Paul was donated by the members of a bark peeling camp in 1885. The names on the bell are Pat. Corcoran, Principal, Jos. Ardison, Mrs. J. Ardison; Mos. Conway, Mrs. M. Conway. Sponsors: Ch. Violet, N. Streif, J. Patterson, D. O'Callaghan, E. Conway, N. Brown, N. Hoch, A. Hoch, L. Kleck, Wm. Scanlon, J. Versnyder, T. O'Callaghan, F. Ardison, P. Ardison, J. Elear, F. Kruckamire; Th. Mitchell, R. Hines, Th. Bono, H.Kuhl. Wm. Flood, P. Flood, A. Flood, F. Hoch, P. Peters, J. Putman, Th. Kelly, R. Kelly, J. Radington, H. Radington, and J. McGarry. (Source—Souvenir of the 125th Anniversary of St. Vincent de Paul's Church, July 19, 1970.)

The church closed in June 1989 but in December a candlelight service is held there. St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church still stands on the banks of the Beaver River in this small hamlet with a cemetery surrounding it.



## FROM THE FARMHOUSE KITCHEN

As I was looking through recipes, I came upon some 4-H recipes from the middle 1950's. One year the food lesson was on "Time for Lunch". Here are two recipes from that lesson:

### Cheese Barbecue

Yield: 6 sandwiches

3 tablespoons chopped green pepper	3 tablespoons catsup
1/2 cup chopped onion	1 Tablespoon melted butter or substitute
2 hard-cooked eggs, chopped	1 1/2 cups grated cheese
3 tablespoons chopped stuffed olives	6 hamburg buns

1. Combine the ingredients.
2. Cut buns and put 1/4 cup cheese mixture on each bun.
3. Place on a cookie sheet under a preheated broiler, and toast about 5 minutes.
4. Serve at once.

### Cooked Bean Salad

Yield: 6 servings

2 cups cooked beans (kidney, snap, or lima)	1 cup diced celery
2 hard-cooked eggs, diced	1 cup diced American cheese
1 tablespoon minced onion	Salt and pepper to taste
1/3 cup diced sweet pickle	1/2 cup mayonnaise
	Salad greens

1. Drain beans and add chopped eggs, onion, sweet pickle, celery, cheese, seasonings, and Mayonnaise
2. Serve on individual plates on crisp salad greens or from a salad bowl.

## TIDBIT FROM NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES

October 24, 1946— "Croghan—The town clerk of Croghan reports that previous to the opening of the deer season the office had issued 380 deer licenses of which 168 were issued on Saturday, the largest number ever to be issued in one day. The most received for one day on former occasions was 125."

(The Town Clerk in 1946 was Coletta Henry and her office was located in a store on Main Street, Croghan, where the Fabric Hutch was located. The licenses would have been handwritten. Today the licenses are computer generated and there is a main data base for all licenses issued through the Department of Environmental Conservation Automated Licensing System (DECALS.) Coletta Henry was Town Clerk from 1933 to 1967)

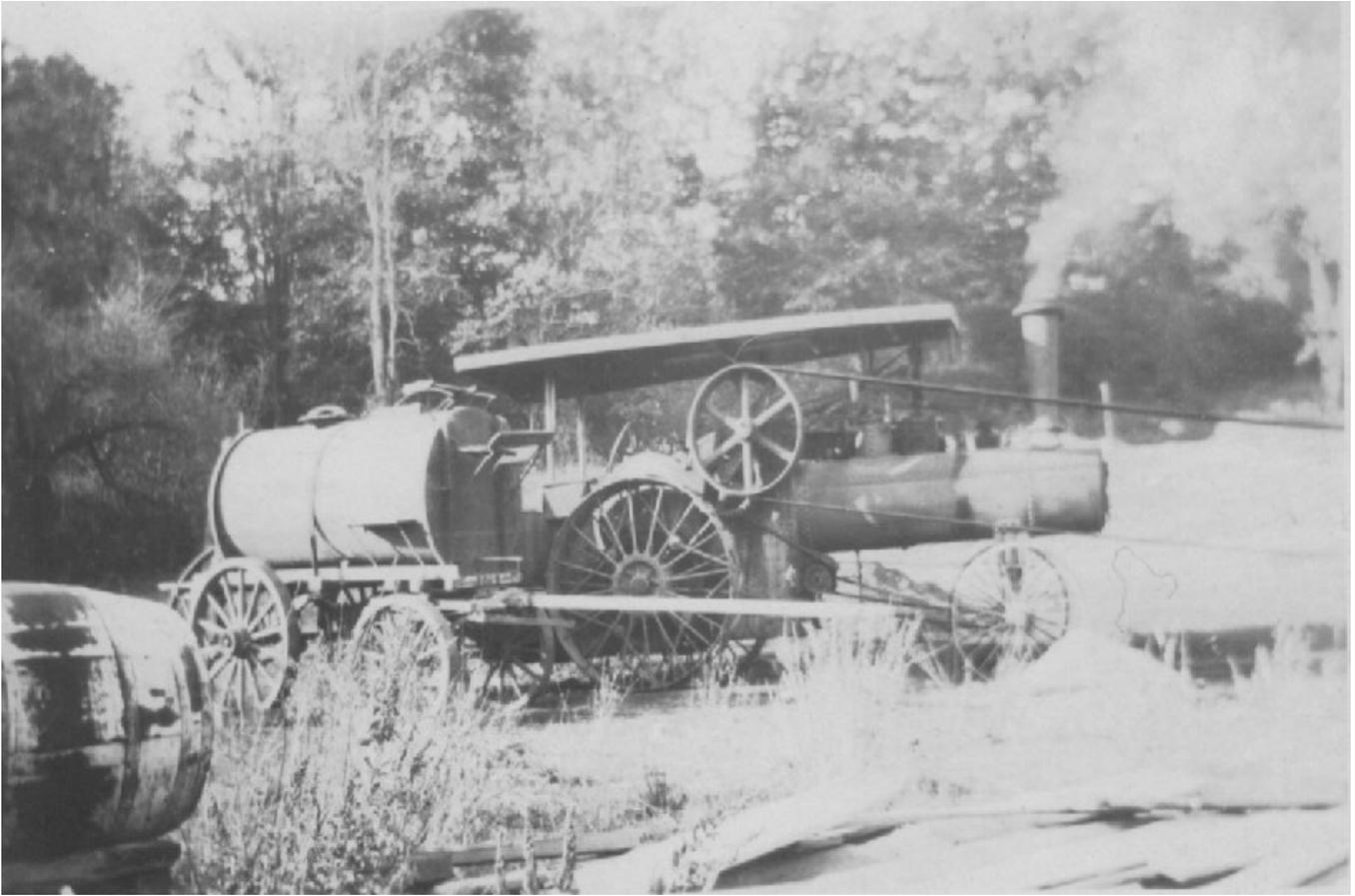
## PICTURES OF PAST HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT



Town of Croghan Steam Roller with unidentified man.



Croghan Crusher showing ramp to drive wagon to unload stone into the crusher (hidden), elevator where the crushed stone went into the screened bins, than sorted according to the size of the crushed stone.



Town of Croghan Case running Crusher. It was sold around 1955-56



Another view of the Croghan Crusher. Mabel Hall is standing on the ramp.

**Town of Croghan  
Historian's Office**

If America forgets where she came from, if the people lose sight of what brought them along, if she listens to the deniers and mockers, then will begin the rot and dissolution." — Carl Sandburg, American writer (1878-1967)

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The Town of Croghan Historian's Office is located at the Town of Croghan Municipal Office, 9882 State Route 126, outside Beaver Falls, New York. If you have any questions or additions to the articles in this newsletter, please feel free to contact us at our home phone:

(315) 346-6201

This and previous newsletters can also be downloaded from Town of Croghan web site:

[www.townofcroghan.com](http://www.townofcroghan.com)

If there is a special topic you would like to see in a newsletter or if we have made an error, please let us know.

Thank you.

*Mary and Jack Sweeney*

## From the Town of Croghan Historian's Desk

This issue of **HIGHLIGHTING THE TOWN OF CROGHAN HISTORY** tells about three anniversary's happening. The first is in Ohio where they will be observing 200 years of George Croghan's maintaining control of Fort Stephenson during the War of 1812. The second is the operation of the Croghan Meat Market for 125 years. The third is the Beaver Falls Grange which has been in existence for 125 years. At one time there were three other granges located in the township-Belfort, Indian River and Riverbank. For the Croghan Meat Market and Beaver Falls Grange to have existed for 125 years in quite a feat. Congratulations on this milestone. It is not our intent to leave out any business or organization that has celebrated a special anniversary this year. If we have, please let us know. Thank you.

The Historian's Office has not given up on documenting the cemeteries in the Town of Croghan by taking a picture of each headstone. If anyone is interested in helping with this project, please let us know.

We would like to thank all who attended our open house in February 2013.

We do not have office hours but if you would like to visit the Historian's Office, please let us know and we will set up a time.

Enjoy today for you are living tomorrow's history.

*Mary and Jack Sweeney*