

A Story of Ohio Told in 100 Buildings

HOW THE
BUCKEYE STATE
HAPPENED



CRUDEN BAY BOOKS

INTRODUCTION

If those walls could talk...this is what they would say. A story about Ohio.

Pre-historic mounds... octagon houses... rubber tires... iron horses... Utopian communities... fire towers... windmills... Swiss cheese... geodesic domes... S Bridges... vacuum cleaners... the CCC... Art Deco stunners... kit houses...the golden age of motoring... canals... bowling... aviation... Shakers... Buffalo soldiers... ceramics... World War II canteens... Frank Lloyd Wright... drive-in movies... football... Carnegie libraries... soap boxes... Underground Railroad... horse racing. This book will have you telling stories like a native in no time.

The photos and stories collected here are a fast and fun way to learn the explanations behind the quirks, the traditions and the secrets that make Ohio uniquely Ohio. What Akron company helped revolutionized the game of golf? Solved. Where was macadam road-building first used in America on a large scale? A mystery no more. Where is the world's largest man-made spirit animal? Identified. Where is the first temple constructed by the Church of Latter Day Saints? Revealed.

Imagine a group of settlers arriving in an undeveloped location. First come shelters in which to live and then structures in which to work and shop. There are buildings for worship and education. As the community grows government buildings are required. With prosperity comes places in which to spend leisure time. And each step along the way builds a story only Ohio can call its own. A story told in 100 buildings. Almost all of the selections within are open to the public, or at least visible from public spaces. So, if you haven't seen these landmarks in person, fire up your GPS and get out and see the story of the Buckeye State standing in plain sight on Ohio streets!

**A STORY OF OHIO TOLD IN 100 BUILDINGS
...HOW THE BUCKEYE STATE HAPPENED**

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Fort Ancient Earthworks

Lebanon

300s



Prehistoric Ohio was mostly the purview of peoples of the Hopewell culture but authorities are divided on whether the Fort Ancient Culture were direct descendants or a separate "sister culture." Sometimes the Fort Ancient people are credited with the beginnings of maize agriculture in the Ohio Valley. They certainly shared the engineering gene with the Hopewell Culture. Above the Little Miami River over the course of several centuries residents erected more than three miles of earthen walls, the largest hilltop enclosure in North America. Using nothing more sophisticated than baskets of soil, some of the walls soared over 20 feet in height. Early archaeologists surmised that the structure was a fortification but the 67 irregularly spaced gaps in the wall suggest a less militaristic purpose.

Hopeton Earthworks

Chillicothe

500s



The Hopewell culture was a network of early North American peoples who actively traded along the waterways of the eastern part of the continent from roughly 100 BCE to 500 CE. This tradition of widespread trade led to an active sharing of ideas and helped fuel a tradition of engineering among the Hopewell. The settlers on the Scioto River were particularly industrious, creating gargantuan geometric enclosures from the clay soil. Some of the circles are nearly one-quarter mile in diameter. The walls, once as high as 12 feet but eroded now to less than half that, trace the alignment of the sun at winter solstice. The purpose appears to be ceremonial as thousands of artifacts have been discovered at the site but mostly outside the walls. Now a part of a national historic park, the earthworks are open to the public.

Great Serpent Mound

Peebles
1000s



Mound building cultures that inhabited North America 2,500 years ago constructed mounds for religious, ceremonial, burial, and elite residential purposes. Often mounds that have been documented are in the shape of spirit animals, or effigies. Nowhere has an effigy been found larger than this one in southern Ohio. The sinuous earthen structure winds for a quarter-mile along the top of a rocky bulkhead on the edge of a crater believed to have been formed by an ancient meteorite. Researchers have debated the origins of the Great Serpent Mound since its days as the first privately funded archaeological preserve in the United States in the 1880s. Burial mound or spiritual icon? Is the head an elephantine eye or an egg being swallowed in the serpent's jaws? Was it constructed by the Fort Ancient Culture or the earlier Adena? Each new discovery seems to spawn a new theory. One thing known for certain is the mound has been designated a National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Department of Interior and a "Great Wonder of the Ancient World" by the National Geographic Society.

Ohio Company Land Office

Marietta
1788



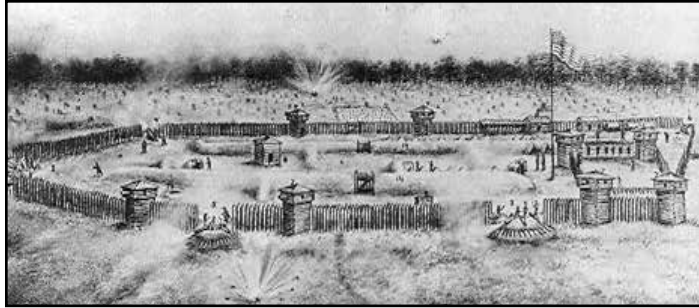
It was a long journey for Rufus Putnam from Sutton, Massachusetts to "Father of the Northwest Territory." He was fighting in the French and Indian War while still in his teens, seeing action as far away as the Great Lakes. When he returned home in 1760 Putnam was not content to live the life of a miller, his chosen trade. He taught himself mathematics and

surveying and in 1773 was sent to Florida to survey land the British crown intended to bestow on veterans of the war instead of having to dole out real cash money for their service. When the American Revolution broke out at the Battle of Lexington and Concord Putnam enlisted in the Continental Army the same day. He was instrumental in helping defend Boston and George Washington put him in charge of fortifications in New York. Leaving the war as a brigadier general, Putnam advocated for the dispersal of Western lands as compensation to veterans. He organized the Ohio Company of Associates to purchase and settle land in the Northwest Territory that the United States had won under the Treaty of Paris following the Revolution. On April 7, 1788 at the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum rivers, Putnam's group of Revolutionary veterans founded Marietta, the first permanent settlement in the Northwest Territory. Putnam was appointed by Washington as the first Surveyor General of the United States and he was a delegate to the Ohio Constitutional Convention in 1802 to lay the groundwork for the 17th state in the union. He then served for two decades as a Trustee of Ohio University until his death at the age of 86 in 1824. Putnam did all his work in the Land Office, the oldest building in the Buckeye State.

Fort Meigs

Perryville

1813



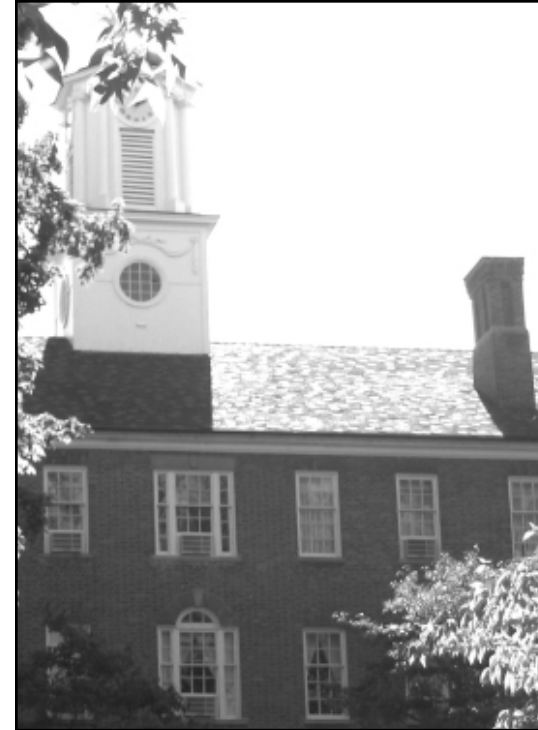
The War of 1812 is sometimes called the "Second War of Independence" but it has more in common with the conflicts centuries down the road than with the American

Revolution of a generation before. Instead of an obvious call to battle the causes of the war with England did not resonate with the average citizen. The United States stepped onto the world stage to declare war for the first time mostly because the government felt disrespected as a country by Great Britain - the English were impressing American sailors into their navy, interrupting trade with France and fomenting Indian interference with settlers on the frontier. The nearly three years of fighting cost 15,000 American lives but mostly the war is remembered for Francis Scott Key penning "the Star Spangled Banner" and the burning of the White House. The greatest American victory, Andrew Jackson's triumph at the Battle of New Orleans, took place after the war was technically over. Most of the action was on the water. General William Henry Harrison, whose battles against the Shawnee Chief Tecumseh earned him the nickname Old Tippecanoe and would propel him to the Presidency, directed the construction of a supply depot to stage actions against Canada in February 1813. Within months what was then the largest wooden-walled fort in North America was under siege by British guns in concert with Tecumseh, whose warriors attacked any parties from the fort sent out to forage firewood. The British abandoned to frontier siege after a week and a second attempt also failed. With the British abandonment of the area Harrison then ordered the position dismantled and replaced with a small supply depot. The Ohio Historical Society reconstructed the fort, named after the Ohio Governor who kept Harrison's mission supplied, in the 1960s.

Cutler Hall

Athens

1819



Manasseh Cutler was an 18th century polymath in the mold of his friend, Benjamin Franklin. He was trained in theology and medicine and could sometimes be found in courtrooms arguing the law. Cutler spent many nights mapping the heavens and led a geological party to the roof of the White Mountains, naming the highest peak in the Northeast Mount Washington. In the 1780s Cutler set his sights on Western lands as settlement for American Revolution veterans such as himself. He inserted himself in the drafting of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 that created America's first territory

encompassing the modern states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota east of the Mississippi River. In the process he wrangled a pledge from Congress that his Ohio Company of Associates could purchase 1.5 million acres for eight cents an acre. Cutler also made the chartering of Ohio University a provision in the Act, the first educational facility ever chartered by Congress. Cutler organized the first wagon train of pioneers into Ohio in 1787 and visited the settlement the following year. He never returned but worked for statehood and the university as a Congressman from 1801 to 1805. The first students matriculated in 1809 and carpenter Benjamin Corp oversaw construction of the Ohio University grounds, including College Edifice that was the first college building in the Northwest Territory. It was renamed for Manasseh Cutler in 1947.

Marblehead Light

Marblehead

1821



Ohio's first lighthouse has been on the job for over 200 years. The War of 1812 woke American legislators up to the need for safe navigation on the Great Lakes and in 1819 Congress appropriated \$5,000 to illuminate the entrance to Sandusky Bay; it would be the third the nation had built on Lake Erie after erecting one beacon in Buffalo, New York and another in Erie, Pennsylvania. Irishman William Kelly, the only stone mason in Sandusky, got the contract and using locally quarried limestone and two helpers completed the 50-foot tower in 11 weeks. The final bill was \$6,520 but the cost overrun has proved to be worth it as the only structural change required since then has been to build the light taller in the 1890s. Benajah Wolcott was the

first lighthouse keeper, earning \$1 a day for his services which included filling the 13 small whale oil lamps, taking notes on passing ships and organizing the occasional rescue on the lake. It also included burying bodies of cholera victims that washed ashore. In that capacity he contracted the disease and died in 1832. His wife Rachel took over the duties, one of two women among the 15 keepers that manned the 77-step tower until full automation arrived in 1958. Now a state park, tours are available of the longest operating lighthouse on the Great Lakes.

Hale Farm

Bath

1825



In 1662 King Charles of England granted the colony of Connecticut a charter for land stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the "Great South Sea," or as we know it, the Pacific Ocean. After the American Revolution Connecticut ceded its western lands but reserved a portion of territory in what was to become

northeastern Ohio. Known as the "Western Reserve of Connecticut," this land began to be settled early in the 19th century, primarily by New Englanders. One who traded the civility of Connecticut for the wilderness of Ohio was Jonathan Hale. He arrived at his land in 1810 and the first thing he found was a squatter who confessed to knowing nothing from deeds. Hale gave the squatter his horse and wagon in exchange for the work that had been done clearing land and building a log cabin. The Hale Farm would operate on the same 140 acres until 1956. A three-story brick farmhouse replaced the rudimentary cabin. Today the six original farm buildings have been supplemented by another 15 structures depicting life in a 19th century industrial village.

Gleason Tavern

Valley View

1825



The Cuyahoga River takes 90 miles of twists and turns bumping into resistant rock to cover 30 miles as the proverbial crow flies. The American Indians who lived in the valley as long as 12,000 years ago called it "Ka-ih-ogh-ha," the crooked river. One of the river's severe turns creates a peninsula from which the 19th century village took its name. When the Ohio & Erie Canal opened in 1827 Peninsula became a booming port town overnight. Fourteen bars and five hotels sprang up to service the flow of traffic on the canal. There is archeological evidence that Ma Parker was running a tavern even before the digging started. Moses Gleason bought the current building at the site in 1841 and his son Isaac expanded it into a provisions store at Lock 38. The canal era lasted a few scant decades before railroads drained away the customers. After the Gleason family left there were days as a blacksmith shop and time as a boarding house. When Cuyahoga became the first national park of the 21st century the National Park Service restored the property to serve as the Canal Exploration Center to interpret life on the hand-dug waterway.

Miami and Erie Canal

Spencerville

1825



Early American roads were atrocious and private visionaries realized water routes would be the key to unlocking the new country's interior. The trick would be bypassing waterfalls and rapids with navigable canals. George Washington was an early player, devoting much of the final 14 years of his life to the Patowmack Canal that would hopefully divert the Potomac River into the Ohio Valley. After the Erie Canal in New York was completed in 1825 and New York City almost instantly became the nation's trade center other states caught canal fever fast. That same year Ohio began implementing a state-wide canal system funded from the selling of land along the proposed routes. Lake Erie would be connected with the Ohio River in two places - between Toledo and Cincinnati by the Miami and Erie Canal and between Cleveland and Portsmouth by the Ohio and Erie Canal. The waterways would be 40 feet wide and hand-dug to a depth of four feet. At Spencerville the cut was more than 50 feet deep to avoid taking the canal over a ridge.

Shaker Meetinghouse

New Haven

1827



The Shakers, so named for their frenzied religious dancing, trace their beginnings to Manchester, England, in 1747. In 1758, 22-year old millworker Ann Lee joined the sect, which came to envelop her life. She reported visions that resulted in religious dogma and she was eventual-

ly jailed for two weeks for her beliefs. Free again, another vision told her to continue Christ's work in America. She convinced her husband, brother and six Shaker converts to follow her to New York City in 1774. After five years there was enough money to lease land outside Albany to preach a life of simplicity and pacifism in the woods. Mother Ann's followers considered her the embodiment of the Lord in female form. The Shaker village sustained itself with farming and light manufacturing and began to attract recruits. Mother Ann made several successful preaching trips to New England but also met angry crowds that inflicted injuries that helped contribute to her death in 1784. Three Shaker missionaries crossed the Appalachians to find converts in 1805. White Water Shaker Village in New Haven was the fourth agrarian community established in the new state; there would be no more. The community was small - just 18 people on 40 acres - when it began in 1825. The meetinghouse was the first brick building constructed by the Shakers whose economy was built on seed production and straw brooms. Ultimately the religious community was unable to attract enough converts to survive and there were virtually no Shakers in Ohio to greet the 20th century. O. P. and M. J. Van Sweringen bought much of the 1,000 acres of the North Union Shaker Village in 1889 to develop Cleveland's Shaker Heights which was to become one of the wealthiest communities in America after all the Shaker buildings were demolished.

Rankin House

Ripley

1828



Slavery was never legal in Ohio but the law of the land through the 1850s was that owners could always capture escaped slaves if they could find them, even if that meant hunting refugees living in free states. The only complete escape was beyond the

borders of the United States. The Society of Friends, better known as the Quakers, were assisting freedom seekers from the time the odious laws were written into the Constitution in 1787. For decades Quaker abolitionists recruited property owners to operate "safe" houses for escaped slaves traveling to the north, a system that became famous as the Underground Railroad. Presbyterian minister John Rankin's home, perched high on a 540-foot hill overlooking the Ohio River, was the first stop for many Black fugitives in Ohio. Rankin would raise a lantern on a flagpole as a signal for slaves in Kentucky that it was safe to cross the river. After enjoying shelter in Rankin's house some escapees continued to Lake Erie and crossed into Canada and others settled in Black communities in the Buckeye State. As a "conductor" Rankin helped hundreds of slaves to freedom and it is said that Harriet Beecher Stowe modeled an episode in her hugely influential novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin* after a woman who reached Rankin's refuge only after crossing a frozen Ohio River. After the Civil War the Rankins moved away and the property was acquired by the State of Ohio in 1938 to interpret as an historic site.

Blaine Hill S Bridge

Blaine
1828



The National Road was just that - the first monies Congress ever authorized for highway construction. Work crews started pushing west from Cumberland, Maryland in 1801 with teams of draft animals, axes and shovels. They did not reach the Ohio River until 1818 and then went no further for another seven years as

the country debated whether the federal government had any right to be in the road-building business at all. When money was finally made available the first shovel of Ohio dirt was turned on July 4, 1825. The going through the Buckeye State was much easier than it had been through the Allegheny Mountains, costing only \$3,400 per mile as opposed to \$9,745 up to that point. In the down time Scottish engineer John McAdam had revolutionized road construction in Great Britain, raising roadbeds above the adjacent grade to facilitate drainage and building up in layers of successively smaller rock. A cast-iron roller compacted the layers. Macadamization was utilized for a complete road for the first time in Ohio - and the second time in America - on the National Road. By 1837 builder had reached Springfield at which time Congress turned off the money spigot, leaving Ohio, Indiana and Illinois to finish the route as desired. Illinois declined, putting its future in the newly developing railroads, ending the dream of a nation-spanning road. To ford Ohio's many crooked streams graceful "S Bridges" were designed so the span would be as short as possible. Portions of the original National Road can still be seen today along U.S. 40 that appropriated the route in the 20th century and most of the sandstone bridges were destroyed. Four of the engineering treasures still survive.

Roberts Covered Bridge

Eaton
1829



Covered bridges are the favorites of romantics everywhere. Wooden bridges were, however, the apogee of practicality - the roof protected the structural elements from the weather. It is estimated that over 14,000 covered transportation bridges have been constructed in the United States and fewer than 1,000 remain. Ohio is a prime hunt-

ing ground for devotees of "kissing bridges" - there are 135 historic covered bridges documented in the Buckeye State, at least one in 44 different counties. John Diehl, an expert in covered bridges and longtime chairman of the Ohio Covered Bridge Committee, devised a three-number authentication system for these cherished relics. The first number identifies the state by its alphabetical position, the second number is the county alphabetically, and the third number represents the sequence of construction in the county as best as can be identified. This is the oldest covered bridge in Ohio. Connecticut native Orlistus Roberts scored a contract from the federal government to build the first bridge across the Seven Mile Creek. Roberts used a Burr Arch truss design, patented by Theodore Burr in 1804, and one of the most common configurations for covered bridges. Using three trusses constructed of oak and poplar the bridge spans 73 feet and supports a rare double roadway. Roberts, then 42 years old, died before the bridge could be finished. His apprentice, James Campbell, finished the job and also married the widow Roberts. But Orlistus got the landmark bridge name. After being torched by arsonists in 1986 the double-barreled bridge was restored and moved to a more secure spot on Seven Mile Creek.

Zoar Hotel

Zoar Village

1833



The America of the 19th century was a place of cheap and plentiful land, often far from the tentacles of government interference. It was ripe for adventures in social experimentation and the creation of utopian communities. Many, like the Shakers, were religious based. Others pursued

a more utilitarian vision of an ideal society. The Zoars, established in 1817 by Lutheran Separatists fleeing Germany, were both. The people of Zoar, named for the Biblical "town of refuge from evil," started pursuing the American Dream in orthodox fashion. There was a mortgage on 5,500 acres along the Tuscarawas River and each of the 300 residents was expected to mostly make their own way. When that didn't pan out the villagers began pooling their resources for the benefit of the collective. In 1825 the Ohio & Erie Canal came through Zoar land and the commune made enough money hand-digging the ditch that they were able to pay off the note on their property. Now debt free, Zoar turned to commerce, guaranteeing each resident economic security. There was a communal bakery, furniture shop, and several smiths and mills. Tourists began stopping on their trips down the canal and the hotel was constructed. The *Ohio Cultivator* gushed that "nary a chip or stick can be seen" in the immaculately tended Zoar fields. By the end of the century a mass-produced world was replacing Zoar's hand-crafted one and sacrifice for the whole was losing its luster. In 1898 the Society was dissolved and Ohio's first utopian society was carved into private lots like any town.

Delaware County Fairgrounds

Delaware

1834

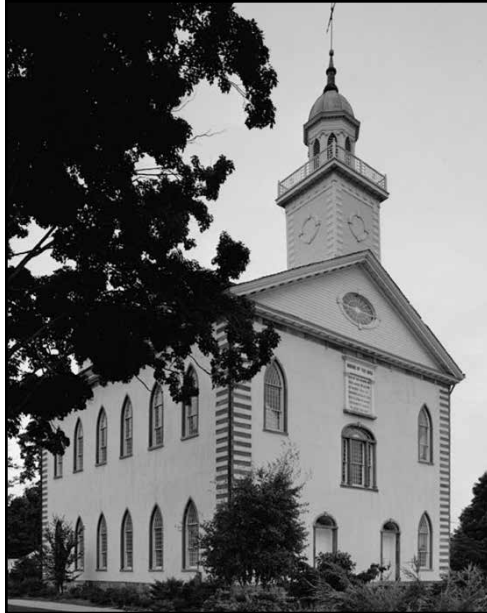


In 1788 Messenger, a British thoroughbred stallion, arrived in the United States. This unheralded horse soon began a breeding career that launched the sport of horse racing on these shores. Messenger stood at stud before dying in 1808 and being buried with full military honors. Trotting horses were America's first sports heroes with crowds of over 100,000 gathering to watch, first on country roads and later on race tracks at the county fair. In 1871 several courses banded together to form the Grand Circuit and top horses traveled together to race tracks around North America. The Grand Circuit continues today, contested in modern racetracks. A rare place to still see Grand Circuit racing in a country fair atmosphere is at the Delaware County Fairgrounds in September. In 1939 the Delaware County Agricultural Society engineered the construction of a lightning fast half-mile track designed to attract a Grand Circuit meeting. In 1946 the first Little Brown Jug was staged with Ensign Hanover flashing under the wire in 2:07 1/5 for the mile to win the championship heat. In 1956 the Jug became part of the Triple Crown of Pacing and today it is the most coveted prize in racing for standardbred pacers.

Kirtland Temple

Kirtland

1836



In 1830 in Western New York Joseph Smith published the *Book of Mormon* and organized the Church of Christ. The following year he gathered a band of followers and headed west to establish a New Jerusalem to be called Zion. First stop, Kirtland, Ohio. Here Smith disclosed a revelation that had been sent from God to construct a house of worship. Timber was gathered and the Stannard Quarry opened two miles to the south to provide Berea sandstone for the foundation. Smith served as quarry foreman until 1836 when the group's first temple was

dedicated. Shortly thereafter Smith was fined for running an "illegal bank" and a rift opened in the community among believers accusing the leader of using the institution for personal riches. Smith departed for Missouri and then Illinois, still struggling to establish his religious utopia. As conflict escalated in Illinois, Smith predicted the church would need to go West and be established in the tops of the Rocky Mountains. In 1844 Smith and his brother Hyrum were hauled from a jail by a mob in Carthage, Illinois, where they had surrendered on charges of treason in relation to the destruction of an unfriendly press, and murdered by multiple musket blasts. Back in Kirtland rival factions maneuvered for control of the handsome Greek Revival and Gothic meetinghouse. It was not until the late 1800s that the building was fully owned by the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The foundational Mormon temple stands in mostly its original condition, open for services and tours. The remains of the Stannard Quarry can be visited as well in the Chapin Forest Reservation.

Hoster Brewing Company

Columbus

1836



Englishman Davis Embree opened a commercial brewery in Cincinnati in 1812 but it wasn't until the stream of German immigrants arrived in the 1830s that Ohio's beer industry got truly frothy. The Germans came bearing recipes for lighter Bavarian-style lagers which found favor over English-style top-fermented stouts. By 1860 there were 11

breweries in operation in Cleveland and 35 in Cincinnati. Louis Hoster, 29 years old and three years in America, introduced Columbus to premium German beer when he opened his brewing plant on Front Street. In the early years Hoster brewed 100 barrels a year by himself, delivered the kegs and kept his own books. By the time of his death in 1902 the brewery was producing 300,000 barrels of its signature Gold Top beer. So many Ohioans were downing Gold Tops that some of their fellow citizens were at the forefront of the American Christian Temperance Union. A national Prohibition Party convention was held in Columbus in 1870. When the state legislature passed a law enabling the people to vote on taking their counties dry in 1906, 57 of the 88 elected to do so. The passage of the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1919 making it illegal to sell alcohol destroyed the industry in Ohio. When repeal came with the 20th Amendment in 1933 only a handful of breweries staggered back into business. The Hoster family chose not to re-open the largest brewery in Ohio. The complex of brick buildings managed to dodge the wrecking ball long enough to undergo a redevelopment into bars, restaurants and apartments.

Ohio Statehouse

Columbus

1839



The Ohio Statehouse is located on Capitol Square, a 10-acre plot of land donated by four prominent Columbus landowners, John Kerr, Lyne Starling, John Johnston and Alexander McLaughlin. The cornerstone was laid in 1839 and not fully completed until 1861. Limestone for the building was quarried on the west bank of the Scioto River and hauled to the site by convict and private labor on a railroad constructed just for that purpose. The Capitol is considered one of the country's outstanding examples of Greek Revival style with inspiration drawn from several ancient structures and contributions from many architects. The Statehouse garners raves for its simplicity - stately Doric columns, a low and unadorned central pediment and the windowed astylar drum, referred to as a "Cupola," which contains an oculus that lights the interior rotunda.

End of the Commons

Mesopotamia

1840



Nothing was more central to Ohio life in the 19th century than the general store. The stores started in the state's infancy to serve pioneers who pushed away from urban markets. Often the proprietor was an itinerant peddler who earned enough to get off the road and open a shop at a dusty crossroads or in a mining camp. Inventory

would come from buying trips to the "big city" that could last weeks. Some in these rural communities would be fortunate to come in and browse for "store-bought goods" but everyone was a regular at the general store. The post office was usually in the back of the store and it was the place to come for provisions, local news, a game of checkers, or just to warm up by the ubiquitous pot belly stove. The coming of Rural Free Delivery by the U.S. Postal Service in 1896 marked the beginning of the end for country stores. Not only was it not necessary to come in for the mail but catalogs from the likes of Sears & Roebuck and Burpees - the merchants called them "town killers" - began to become commonplace. The center of the Amish community of Mesopotamia is known as the "Commons." Most of the buildings were constructed pre-Civil War, including the two-story, pillar-fronted structure at the south end that has served as a general store its entire lifetime. The oldest general store in the Buckeye State still features the original planks on the floor. These days it is tour buses that pull up to unload shoppers at End of the Commons but you can still see a horse-drawn Amish buckboard parked out front as well. Go in to grab a piece of penny candy and maybe score a game of checkers.

Goodwin Baggott Potteryworks

East Liverpool

1844



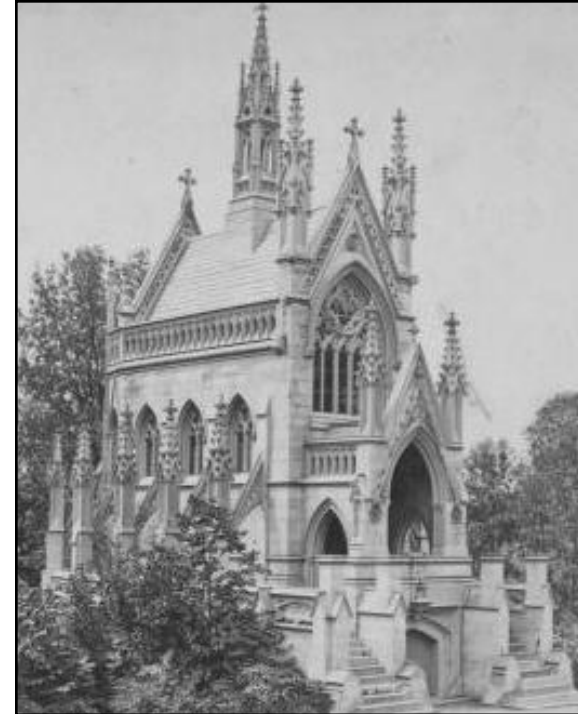
For generations the manufacture of ceramic ware was more important to East Liverpool than the production of steel to Pittsburgh or automobiles to Detroit. English-born James Bennett got things rolling in 1839. The newcomer to the Ohio River found little industry and

barely any families. He did find an abundance of buff-burning clays that could be fired into high-quality earthenware, stoneware, brick, and terra cotta. Bennett sent word back to his family in England which was gripped by a financial panic at the time. He was soon joined by his brothers and others who found eager buyers for their household wares from settlers heading west down the Ohio. By 1853 eleven pottery companies were running kilns in East Liverpool. An English potter noted in his journal that "hardly a week goes by that another potter does not come to town." East Liverpool was on its way to becoming a national industrial center and the famous potteries pervaded every aspect of the community. Nine of every ten workers in town toiled in the pottery plants or related industries. By the 1920s 7,000 workers in "America's Crockery Capital" were handling the output from 270 bottle kilns. The Homer Laughlin & Edwin Knowles Potteries, the world's largest pottery, was churning out three-quarters of all the nation's white-ware. The Great Depression doomed most of the ceramics businesses but the rich clay deposits still support pottery-making in East Liverpool, albeit with modern manufacturing techniques. Only four bottle kilns still survive in the Buckeye State, including this one maintained by the Ohio Historical Society.

Spring Grove Cemetery

Cincinnati

1845



In the early 1800s burials took place on private estates or in downtown graveyards that were anything but permanent. If new development came along cemeteries would be ripped out and moved to a less crowded part of the city. Jacob Bigelow, a Boston physician, saw congested city burial grounds as a health nuisance. It was his idea to build permanent resting places outside the city on landscaped grounds, a "rural" cemetery if you will. In 1829 the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the

first formally plant-based institution in the United States, put Bigelow's ideas into motion at Mount Auburn Cemetery. Plots sold briskly and families began adorning the plots with marble monuments and iron fences. The "rural cemetery" movement caught on in major cities across the country, most of which had never had public parks before. Folks of all classes could come to the cemeteries and enjoy nature and sculpture gardens for free. The blueprint reached the Cincinnati Horticultural Society in 1844 but after a decade of haphazard development Prussia-born landscape architect Adolph Strauch was called in to spruce up the grounds. Limits were placed on monument heights and private enclosures, ponds dug and trees and shrubs added. Strauch would go on to decorate the Queen City with many parks and Spring Grove Cemetery, the third largest cemetery in America, would earn status as a National Historic Landmark.

Cincinnati Observatory

Cincinnati
1845



Astronomy was a passion in Europe in the early 19th century but a young America had no time to gaze at the stars. A rare cheerleader for a study of the heavens was John Quincy Adams. As sixth President in 1825 he signed a bill authorizing the creation of a national observatory. But by 1842 there was still no building in place. So when Adams, then serving in Congress, heard about an observatory being built in Cincinnati to house a telescope that professor Orsmy MacKnight Mitchel had secured from Europe he agreed to deliver a speech at the groundbreaking. Adams was 76 when he began his arduous journey through the near-wilderness and well into his 77th year when he finally arrived with, as he noted in his diary, "head ache, feverish chills, hoarseness, and a sore throat and my tussis senilis (mucus) in full force." Nonetheless, he laid the cornerstone to enthusiastic applause. The hill for "The Birthplace of American Astronomy" would be renamed in honor of Adams. Mitchell had raised the \$7,500 for the observatory through personal solicitation but not just the stakeholders were permitted to look through the largest refractor in the country, the public was allowed as well. That is still the case in America's oldest professional observatory and the original 11-inch Merz and Mahler refractor is still pointed towards the stars.

Bear's Mill

Greenville
1849



Milling was the first important industry in a pioneer Ohio town, and during the 1800s most counties could be expected to support a hundred or more mills. Darke County was typical with mills of all stripes: sawmills, carding mills for weaving, fulling mills for cleaning cloth, sorghum mills for molasses, flax mills, oat mills, and others. Today only Bear's Mill remains. The mill first operated in the 1830s sawing logs and cracking corn on the Greenville Creek. In 1849 Gabriel Baer, a prominent Pennsylvania

mill, bought the property and undertook an ambitious expansion. A mill race 600 feet long, 25 feet wide and 10 feet deep was hand dug by school children for 50 cents a day. Baer spent two years in France obtaining three coveted Buhrstones to grind flour. These stones were much sought after for their abrasive and porous qualities, which provided a slow, cool grinding process. The stones were assiduously cared for and never allowed to become dull or go out of balance. It was not uncommon for millstone sharpeners to undertake a ten-year apprenticeship at the trade. Roller mills were eventually installed in the 1880s. Grinding grain goes on same as it ever was in the four-story wooden mill, crafted from hand-hewn 50-foot timbers.

Findlay Market

Cincinnati
1852



The 1840s were a time of economic hardship and political unrest in Germany that culminated in revolution in 1848. As a result more than one million Germans fled for America, which only had a population of 17 million at the time. Many found their way to Cincinnati, a town called "Porkopolis" where pigs roamed the street and more hogs were butchered than anywhere on earth. These new workers settled on the opposite side of the newly built Miami and Erie Canal that separated the neighborhood from the downtown processing plants. As the newcomers crossed the bridges to work each day they came to refer to the canal as "the Rhine" in reference to the great industrial waterway of their homeland. It wasn't long before the developing area north of the canal was commonly known as "Over the Rhine." By the 20th century nearly 60% of Cincinnati was German-born or had German parents; in the 21st century half of the city claims German ancestry. Today Over-the-Rhine is considered the largest, most intact urban historic district in the United States. And there has likely been few residents who never shopped in Findlay Market, Ohio's oldest surviving public market. Cincinnati once had an older, more famous market, the Pearl Street Market but it now resides under home plate of the Great American Ball Park. Before it was razed in 1934 its bell was switched into Findlay's tower. The current market was built on land once owned by mayor James Findlay using as innovative cast and wrought iron framing, a rare example of the technology that has landed the building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Hope Furnace

McArthur
1854



Daniel and James Eaton constructed the Hopewell Furnace in the Mahoning Valley in 1802. The next year it went into blast, the same year as Ohio achieved statehood. It was not only the first blast furnace in the Buckeye State but the first west of the Allegheny Mountains. By the time the Hope Furnace was fired in 1854 Ohio was one of America's leading iron producers. The charcoal-burning iron furnace was one of 46 constructed in the six-county Hanging Rock Iron Region of southern Ohio. Hanging Rock iron was valued for its corrosion-resistance and was used in everything from armaments to kettles to wagon wheels. At max capacity the Hope Furnace could produce up to 12 tons of pig iron each day. Wagons with as many as 50 yoke of oxen were required to transport the iron to the Ohio River for shipment to manufacturers in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. Boosters bragged that there was enough iron ore in southeast Ohio to last for the next 2,500 years but after the Civil War the seams were already running thin. The Hope Furnace went cold in 1874 as iron manufactories moved on to the rich iron fields in the upper Midwest.

Darrow Octagon House

Kinsman
1854

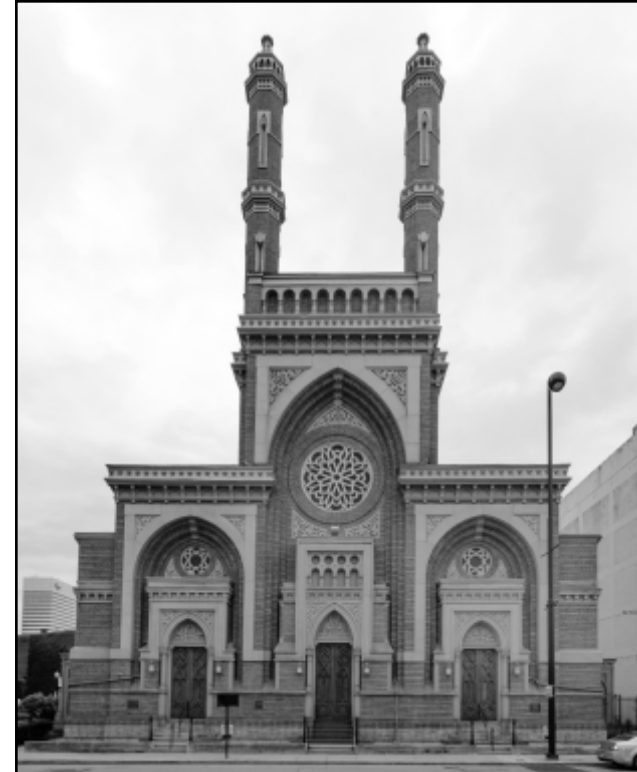


Orson Squire Fowler was responsible for two wildly different fads in the middle of the 19th century. One was phrenology, the belief that mental acuity could be determined by the bumps on one's head. The other was eight-sided houses that he championed in a book called *The Octagon House, A Home for All*. Neither are much in vogue these days but the octagon at least made sense - at least for barns.

They offered a greater space-to-surface ratio and thus were cheaper to construct than rectangular barns. Octagonal barns were more popular in the 19th century than houses, whose lack of square corners could play havoc with interior designers. Amirus Darrow, a cabinet-maker, moved his family into this seven-room octagon in 1864. His son Clarence was seven years old and 14 years from being admitted to the Ohio bar as a mostly self-taught lawyer. Darrow became the most famous defense attorney of his time after setting up a practice in the small farming town of Andover, ten miles from the octagon. His profile rose even as he was unsuccessful on behalf of such famous clients as socialist Presidential candidate Eugene Debs, thrill killers Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb, and John T. Scopes for teaching the theory of evolution in the Scopes "Monkey Trial" of 1925. By the end of his life in 1887, on a small farm on the New York-Connecticut border, Orson Fowler's theories were completely discredited. This house fared somewhat better, surviving to become one of seven Ohio octagons listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Plum Street Temple

Cincinnati
1865



Joseph Jonas, a watchmaker from England who arrived in 1817, is considered the first Jewish settler in Ohio. By 1824 enough relatives had joined him in Cincinnati to start the state's first congregation, Bene Israel. The town became a focal point for progressive American Judaism in 1854 when Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise accepted a lifetime appointment as head of the Bene Yeshurun congregation after a stormy tenure in Albany, New York. Wise had worked for years to

integrate women more fully into the synagogue and to unite the disparate Jewish factions behind a single voice. From his post in Cincinnati Wise continued to agitate for reform until finally organizing the Central Conference of American Rabbis in 1889. In celebrations of his work until his death in 1900 Wise was universally regarded as the most important Reform Jew in the United States. For the congregation's Plum Street house of worship architect James Wilson Keys tapped Byzantine and Moorish styles, hearkening back to the Golden Age of Jewish history in Spain. It is believed only one other similarly styled synagogue still stands in America.

Cherry Valley Coke Ovens

Leetonia

1866



For fifty years, America's steel industry depended to an amazing extent on a skinny strip of land, scarcely two or three miles wide and about 50 miles long, called the Connellsville Coalfield. Here, a seven-foot-thick seam of the finest metallurgical coal in the world lay exposed and ready to burn. Connellsville coal was 89% carbon, a major source of heat. Sulphur, an undesirable element, made up only one percent. Actual coking of the coal, a process whereby the raw material was baked into a valuable industrial fuel in a beehive oven, was first tried in the 1840s. America is used to "boomtowns" with such sexy discoveries as oil and gold and silver. But eastern Ohio lived the boomtown experience with coal after William Lee uncovered rich deposits near Leetonia in 1866. The population went from three scattered families to nearly 2,000 in five years. The Leetonia Iron and Coal Company built 100 beehive ovens in that time, each capable of processing 25 tons of coal a day for use making iron. When the Cherry Valley Iron and Coal Company assumed control in 1873 another 100 ovens came on-line. As demand for high-grade iron dissipated there were attempts to establish steel production but after several reorganizations the ovens went out of fire in 1930. As nature came to reclaim the ovens the area was converted into a park.

Roebling Suspension Bridge

Cincinnati

1866

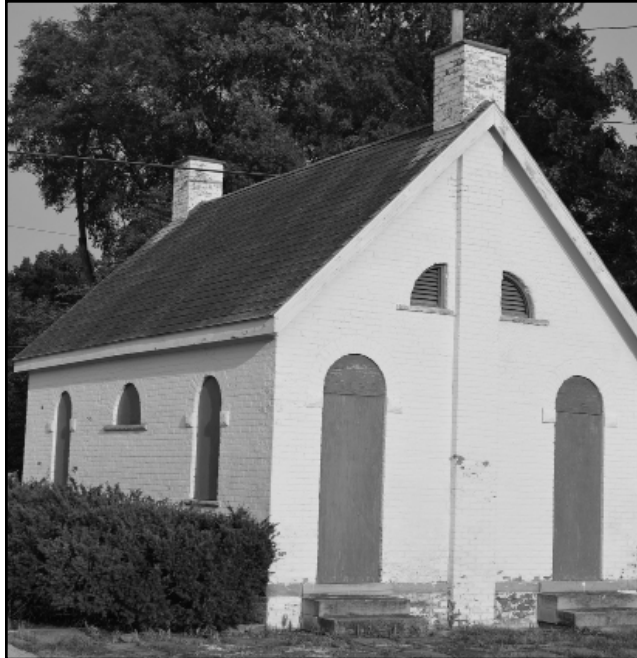


Suspension bridges are one of our oldest forms of bridge-building, dating back to the 1400s when Thangtong Gyalpo used iron chains to hang decks around Tibet and Bhutan. When the first wire-cable suspension bridge was erected in the United States - a temporary footbridge in Philadelphia - John Roebling was celebrating his 10th birthday

in Prussia. Trained in Germany as a bridge engineer, Roebling sailed for Pennsylvania in 1831 where he hoped to establish a utopian agrarian community called Saxonburg. After five years of tilling soil Roebling began seeking bridgebuilding work. He won the commission to construct four suspension aqueducts on the Delaware and Hudson Canal. With business booming Roebling shifted his wire-making cable operation to major bridges across the Niagara River, the Allegheny River and the Ohio River. The Covington & Cincinnati Suspension Bridge Company had been chartered in Kentucky as far back as 1846 but Ohioans weren't thrilled with their Bluegrass State neighbors having such easy access to Queen City jobs. When the Ohio legislature finally gave its approval in 1849 it was only to connect to a Cincinnati street that led nowhere. Nonetheless Roebling was hired in 1856 to get to work. A nationwide financial depression and a Civil War intervened but the world's longest suspension bridge to date - 1,057 feet at its main span - opened on December 1, 1866. To help defray the expense a toll of three cents was enforced for anyone who wanted to walk across the Ohio River. In the first three days 120,000 people did. John Roebling died in an accident while constructing the Brooklyn Bridge and his work on the Ohio River, renovated and strengthened through the years, was renamed in his honor.

Old School Privy

Genoa
1870



These days Starbucks is known as a place to go in times of need. In the 19th century it was usually a saloon that offered that kind of relief, a gesture of goodwill to customers if you will. It was not unheard of for early travelers across Ohio to find a public toilet at a busy crossroads. These were generally humble clapboard structures with a hole in a seat bench over top a pit. A fancy outhouse might include some old

rags or pages torn from a Sears and Roebuck or maybe even a stack of corn cobs. Hopefully they would be fresh since a dried-out cob was nobody's friend. Many of these frontier structures that have somehow survived have made it onto the National Register of Historic Places. But the Old School Privy is in a class by itself when it comes to comfort stations. When the village of Genoa built its first brick schoolhouse it was decided to give its accompanying "Little Building" a dose of architectural panache as well. Not only was the outhouse a commodious brick structure 12 feet by 24 feet but the Romanesque-style building also received arched brickwork around the windows. The outdoor toilet was used into the 1930s when it was finally conceded that indoor plumbing was not a passing fancy. The Boy Scouts used the space for awhile in the 1940s but most of the past 75 years the rare relic has been empty and boarded up.

Cedar Point

Sandusky
1870



The concept of leisure was not a part of most American lives until after the Civil War. Entrepreneurs were quick to jostle for that new spare time in the late 1800s. Among the most popular diversions were trolley parks - picnic groves and pavilions sited at the ends of urban trolley lines. In 1867 a railroad ran out onto Cedar Point, a peninsula in Lake Erie that had previously been only a purview of fishing boats. Bathhouses were constructed near the beach and soon picnic facilities and a dance hall came along. The first amusement ride was built in 1890 - a toboggan that deposited patrons into Lake Erie. The evolution away from a picnic park began in 1897 with new owners, the Lake Erie and Western Railroad. By this time there were an estimated 2,000 amusement parks in the United States and George Arthur Boeckling was determined Cedar Point would be in the first rank among them. In Boeckling's three decades at the helm the park became nationally known for shows, entertainment and amusements - his Hotel Breakers was one of the largest hotels in the Midwest. But Cedar Point was not known for its rides, although it did offer three roller coasters. In fact, during financial difficulties following World War II there were no coasters at all. After the park's centennial things began to change. The Corkscrew, the first coaster in the world with three inversions was introduced in 1976; The Gemini, billed as the steepest and fastest coaster anywhere, opened in 1978; and the Magnum XL-200 broke all records for tallest drops and speed. The die was cast as Cedar Point became a Mecca for coaster enthusiasts around the world, introducing new thrill rides every few years.

B.F. Goodrich Plant

Akron

1871



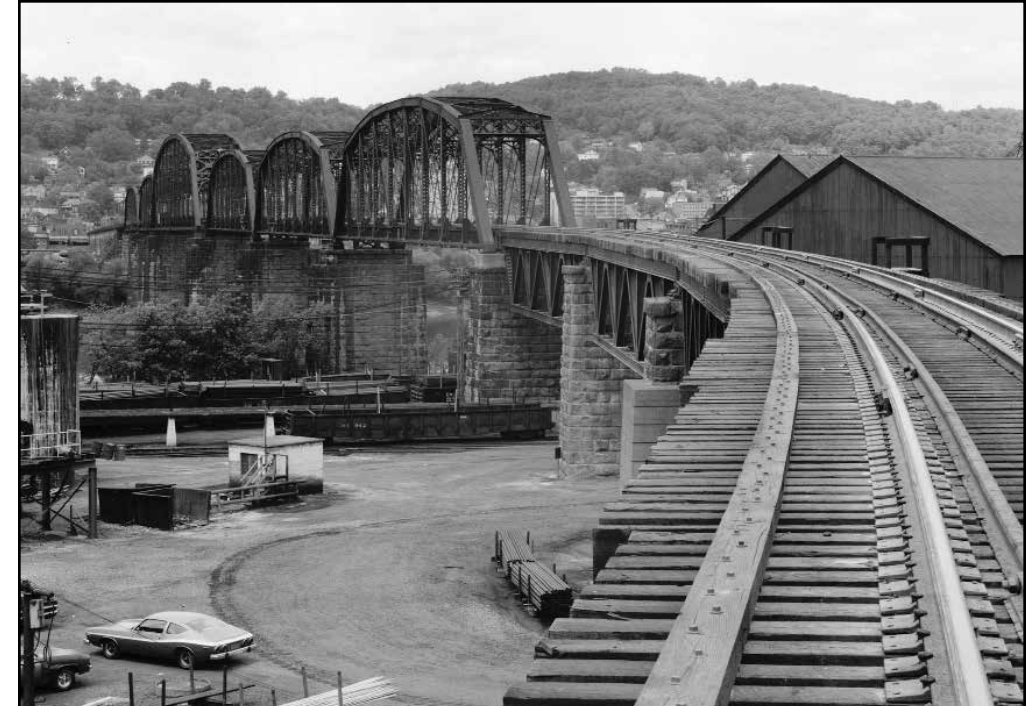
In 1870 Dr. Benjamin Goodrich was operating a small rubber plant in Melrose, New York when he decided to make the first rubber west of the Alleghenies, out where there was power, transportation, fresh labor and a fast developing country. He did not have an idea where to build such a plant, however, and on the train west for his

scouting mission Goodrich met a stranger who spoke so glowingly of a town called Akron that he decided to pay a visit. His new plant caused scarcely a ripple on the economic waters of Akron. There were few commercial uses for rubber so Dr. Goodrich contented himself with manufacturing cotton-covered rubber fire hoses and the like. Goodrich died prematurely in 1888 at the age of 47 four years before the racing trotter Nancy Hanks lowered the world speed record by four seconds. The six-year old mare had been fast before 1892 but that year she was hitched to a new bike sulky - one with pneumatic tires. Suddenly the demand for rubber tires for carriages and the new-fangled bicycle on America's streets exploded. And in 1896 the Goodrich Company made the first rubber tire for an even more revolutionary contraption - the automobile. Soon Frank Seiberling arrived with his Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company and then came Harvey Firestone, armed with a patent for attaching rubber tires to rims. With the three tire companies in place, no town in America grew like Akron. The population of 70,000 people in Rubber City in 1910 tripled to 210,000 in 1920. To keep up Akron swallowed rival communities and buildings were seemingly erected overnight. Goodrich stopped making tires in Akron in 1987 leaving behind its iconic smokestacks. Firestone sold operations to Japanese competition Bridgestone the following year and only Goodyear continued on into the 21st century.

Bellaire/Benwood Bridge

Bellaire

1871



The mighty Baltimore & Ohio Railroad first crossed the Ohio River in 1857 but they guessed wrong with their target. Within a decade Chicago was emerging as the primary target in the Midwest and the railroad men wanted a more direct route further north in Benwood, West Virginia crossing into Bellaire, Ohio. They wanted it so much that when a ferry company sued for an injunction to stop the project the B&O fought all the way to the United States Supreme Court where they finally prevailed. No expense was spared for the majestic crossing which exceeded \$1 million in 1870 money. Not only was the Ohio River conquered but 43 sandstone arches were constructed over 1.5 miles of Bellaire streets to reach the iron truss bridge. All the spans in the "Great Stone Viaduct" contained 37 stones that represented each of the existing states. The gracefully curving structure was the longest stone arch bridge in America at the time.

Quaker Oats Factory

Akron

1872



Before anyone in Akron ever heard of rubber tires Quaker Oats was the largest employer in town. Ferdinand Schumacher apprenticed as a grocer in Celle, Germany and when he arrived in Akron at the age of 28 in 1850 he went into the grocery trade. He discovered that all the oatmeal consumed in this country was imported from Canada and Europe, every attempt at making an oatmeal in America that someone would eat willingly having failed. Schumacher had seen the grain of the oat milled into human food in Germany so he began his German Mills American Oatmeal Company to develop a palatable oatmeal. The business was flourishing by the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 where oatmeal became a popular staple of Union Army camps. All of the "Oatmeal King's" burgeoning millswere destroyed by fire in 1886 and quickly rebuilt on the surviving foundations. A series of mergers among seven oat millers followed with Schumacher emerging as head of the American Cereal Company. By 1932 it was the Quaker Oats Company when 36 silos, each 120 feet tall and capable of holding 40,000 bushels of grain, were constructed. Quaker Oats moved on in 1970 and the silos were repurposed as a hotel with round rooms and are currently a University of Akron residence hall.

Dennison Depot

Dennison

1873



When the builders of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway pulled out a map they pinpointed the exact spot that was 100 miles from both Pittsburgh and Columbus - the village of Dennison. So they built their main railroad shops and freight yards on 40 acres

along the mainline. When passenger service picked up a handsome Victorian station was constructed trackside. In the First World War the Red Cross set up a canteen in a boxcar to feed troops being transported to the East Coast. When the Second World War started 25 years later Lucille Nussdorfer remembered the food given to the new soldiers when she was a little girl and organized a small group of friends to make sandwiches and cookies for the first military personnel to stop at Dennison. Little did they know America's mobilization for the war would be unlike any organizational effort the country had ever undertaken. By war's end 16,000,000 men and women would serve in the military and 1.3 million of those would pass through Dennison. The Dennison Depot Salvation Army Serviceman's Canteen was staffed 24/7 and required 4,000 volunteers to keep the coffee flowing. Records show that more than two million sandwiches were handed out along with 1.6 million pastries and a half-million copies of reading material. Dennison was known all along the line simply as "Dreamsville." Ohio boasted 12 WWII canteens - more than any other state - but none at the scale of Dennison. The spirit of community involvement never abated and after the last passengers rode through in the 1970s the century-old depot was refurbished as a museum.

Reptile House

Cincinnati

1875



In the 1800s a menagerie of some swans and squirrels and maybe an orphaned bear cub might qualify as a "zoo" so there is an ongoing debate fueled by civic pride as to America's "oldest zoo." But there is no such squabble over bragging rights for the first zoo building that continues to perform its original function. The Zoological Society of Cincinnati organized

in 1873 and two years later opened the second facility, after Philadelphia, in the country that we would recognize as a "zoo." The inventory was "eight monkeys, two grizzly bears, three deer, six raccoons, two elk, a buffalo, a hyena, a tiger, an alligator, a circus elephant, and over four hundred birds, including a talking crow." Admission was 25 cents, and 15 cents for children. To house the mischievous simians the zoo turned to none other than the organizer of the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, James McLaughlin. For Monkey Island McLaughlin delivered a round Moorish Revival domed structure. He also designed an Elephant House in the spirit of India's Taj Mahal and a skylit Aviary. The expansive Aviary was small solace to Martha, the world's last Passenger Pigeon, who passed away in her cage on September 1, 1914; only decades earlier she had been part of the most abundant bird species in North America before wanton hunting. McLaughlin's zoo buildings (the Monkey House is now home to 35 reptile species) are now National Historic Landmarks, recognized as "the earliest completed structures specifically for that purpose in the United States, that displayed his sense of humor and flexibility in housing specimens in buildings inspired by their geographical and ethnically associated origins."

Cincinnati Music Hall

Cincinnati

1878



The Cincinnati Music Hall is one of America's premier Victorian Gothic confections, built on plans drawn by Samuel Hannaford, the city's go-to architect of the final decades of the 19th century. The space got its start as an industrial exposition center and was Cincinnati's main convention space for nearly a century but it is most noted as home to the Cincinnati Opera (America's second-oldest opera company), the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (America's sixth), the May Festival (the longest-running choral festival in the Western hemisphere), and Cincinnati Ballet. Everyone from General Ulysses S. Grant to wrestler George Hackenschmidt, the Russian Lion, to Pink Floyd has appeared on the stage here. But for some it is the non-famous who have appeared here that hold more interest. The City built its first insane asylum on the these grounds, which included a "pauper's graveyard." The three-building complex was raised on top of the old cemetery and some spirits unhappy with that situation have landed the Music Hall on lists of the most haunted places in America.