

# AMLIN, OHIO

Located less than 10 miles west of Columbus, Ohio, lies a small village astride some train tracks. It isn't much of a town as towns go, having a church, a general store, a postoffice, a mobile home and a few dozen homes and farms...but it is of interest to anyone named Amlin, for the village is named "Amlin".

Between 1870 and 1879 Zalaria and Hester Amlin, both Ohio natives, had settled in the area (Washington Township, Franklin County), were raising a family of two boys and three girls and farming the fertile flat soil of Central Ohio. They were members of the local Methodist Church organized in 1868 and served by a circuit rider which met in a wooden school building called "Churchman School."

In August of 1879 disaster struck the area in the form of a high wind, a wind strong enough to blow "Churchman School" flat, leaving the church members without a meeting place.

Zalaria was a leader in the church (in fact he was one of the church trustees) and he and Hester donated a small parcel of land to the church. The congregation built a one-room church with a native stone foundation and wood frame construction, topped by a bell tower and clanging bell.

That same building, minus the bellfry, is still standing and is in use today after at least two additions and remodelings.

Zalaria was born in 1847/48 in Ohio (the exact place is not recorded) and Hester A. was born in 1848, also in Ohio. According to the 1880 census Hester's father was born in New York.

Zalaria and Hester lived in the area until at least 1885 when their sixth child, Myrtle, was born, joining their other children, Chloe, 1868; Mary (Mamie), 1870; Effie, 1872; Harry, 1876; and John, 1878. Just when Zalaria and



Amlin, Ohio, is a small unincorporated town located a few miles west of Columbus, is named after Zalaria Amlin. Standing by the sign is Lyle Rolland Amlin (1984).



Even though it's small, Amlin has it's own postoffice and about 2,000 postoffice boxes of rural route boxes. (1984)



The only retail business in Amlin is the "Amlin Grocery". (1984)



Hester died isn't known, but the Amlin land had been sold by 1894 when the railroad was constructed through the village and a depot built on land donated by John and Margaret Frazell who had purchased the Amlin land.

The railroad needed a name for the depot and selected "Amlin"...even though the Amlins apparently were not still in the area. With regular train service a postoffice was established and the town's name was firmly established. The Methodist Church was also known as "Amlin Methodist" (today the "Amlin United Methodist Church".)

The original Amlin home, which still stands at the end of Rings Road on Cosgray Road, originally was two stories, but a fire damaged the upper story and it was remodeled into a one-story dwelling.

Chloe married and had two daughters, Mary and Hester. Mary married a Myers and it's reported that Hester married a "Hamlin". It's not known if Effie or Myrtle married, but Effie taught Sunday School around 1893 at the Church. What happened to Harry or John isn't known. The 1900 census of Ohio shows Effie, Harry, John, and Myrtle living with both parents.

Zaloria was not a descendent of John Amlin Sr., but apparently was a descendent of Baptiste Amlin/Amlong of New York. (See "Baptiste Amlin").



A line drawing of the Amlin Methodist Episcopal Church, showing how it originally looked. Published by "Key Four", Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46807. (1979)

# AMLIN METHODIST CHURCH

Article from Ohio State Journal  
Columbus, Ohio, Feb.2, 1880

It was announced long ago that our new church, the Amlin Chapel, would be dedicated to the service of Almighty God on the first day of February 1880.

Some two days prior to the time of dedication the high hand of death bore away the amiable daughter of John and Eliza Cramer (the young woman that was burned so badly on the 23rd of last November.)

It was full ten o'clock when the black plumes of Barlow's hearse were seen tossing in the cold winds of the morning and the procession wound slowly down over the frozen ground and stopped in front of the house of prayer. The beautiful casket, all adorned with flowers and evergreens was bourn by loving hands through the high doors that swung back for the first time to admit the dead.

Rev. Bright then arose, and with tender tones read: Sister Sarah J. Cramer was born October 8, 1859 and departed this life January 30, 1880, aged 20 years, 3 months and 22 days.

Sister Cramer was converted and joined the M.E. Church in March, 1879, and through an illness of untold suffering, which continued sixty-eight days, cheered her friends and classmates with these words: "The Lord Jesus is with me." Her last request was this: "Think of me."

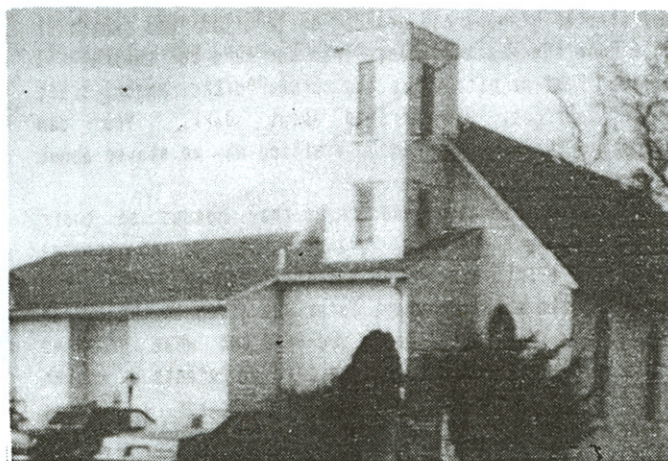
Then came the funeral and dedicatorial text: "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethern, concerning them

which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope" I Thessalonians, 4-13.

The sermon was great holding a wonderful chain of sound argument in behalf of the resurrection of the dead, and of recognition of friends in heaven.

The casket was again lifted to its place in the hearse, and with many weeping friends following, conveyed to its last resting place in a distant church yard.

Brother Bright concluded the dedication services in the evening with marked ability."



The Amlin United Methodist Church as it looks today. (1984)