

From Hilliard Homefront

Expansion was slow in the beginning

By MRS. MARY MILLER

Families did not flock to this newly platted village of Hilliard's Station. Lots sold slowly. By 1860, according to the census, there were

forty-one males and thirty-six females living in the village. At first the houses were of log or frame construction but by the 1880's bricks were available, made as nearly as can be determined, at sites located both south and northeast of the town. The area was swampy and needed drainage. West of town in Brown Township was the Applegate Tile Factory, started in the 1860's. The owner, Solomon Jackson Wooley, found that the clay near Big Darby Creek was suitable for the making of tile. Although he had no formal education, he had a way with words and was soon able to convince the farmers of the area the value of tiling their lands to make it more productive. To meet the other needs of these families there were mills (flours and saw), merchants (groceries, dry goods and produce) smithies (iron and tin), shoemakers, dressmakers, wheelwrights, coopers, carpenters, plasterers, brick masons and pump makers.

On May 30 and 31, 1953 the Hilliard Centennial was celebrated. Little did the residents realize that this would mark the end of a small town concept. The suburban trend was starting. Between 1950 and 1960 the population increased from 600 to 10,000. The size of the town increased five fold as new subdivisions were being added to Old Hilliard. It is difficult to determine just when each section was added, but the major areas are named here. The Grant and Wayne Street areas was annexed in 1952 and 1954. Hamilton Road was extended in 1952, as was the section containing Linda Road, named for the daughter of Calvin McDavid, who was co-owner of the land at the time of annexation. Land on the west side of Avery Road was platted and annexed in 1956. Here the names of some of the streets honored per-

sons who had worked hard for the town: Winterringer, Alder, Sherwood and Gaymon (Wright). Fifty-eight acres on the east side of Avery was annexed in 1959. The area south and east of town on Hilliard-Rome Road (named changed to Main Street in 1965) was annexed 1955-57. One section of this, Conklin Addition, has names of furniture: Bigelow, Cavalier Conklin (who was in the furniture business), Heritage, Heywood, Kroehler, Mengel, Tudor and Wakefield. The Roman Hills area was annexed in 1957. The area on the west side of Hilliard-Rome Road (now Main Street) was annexed in 1960. Part of this section was called Colonial Heights. Here can be found such names as Bradford, Constitution, Revere, Rutledge and Standish. The Hilliard Heights area, located south of Cemetery Road and west of Leap Road, was annexed in 1959. Here the names designate location in the section: Hillcrest North, South, East and West, Midlane, and Outer Drive. The street east of the municipal area off Cemetery Road was called Westbrook for William Westbrook who was president of the Public Affairs Board. The area east of Leap Road and south of Cemetery Road was annexed about 1966. One street in this area is LaCon for Clarence Latham and William Connor who were co-owners of this land. The area north of Cemetery Road was annexed in the late 1960's and a street, Weaver Court is for the family whose farm was developed by Northwest Complex. Origin of other names in these various areas is not known, but it might be noted that Avery, Davidson, Grace, Lattimer and Leap are names of early settlers in the area of Norwich Township.

Excerpted from "The Quartoquecentennial of a Pride Community - 1978"

More homes expected in Brixton Estates area

By Stacey Seesholtz
SNP Staff Writer

Like many other Hilliard residents, John Syferd chose his Brixton Estates home largely because of the school system.

In addition to educational considerations, Syferd said the builder and the lot were another factor in his choice to relocate in Brixton when he chose to move from the other side of town.

With the average price range of a home in Brixton Estates running from \$85,000 to \$150,000, Syferd ranked his home in

the average-price category.

Built about a year ago, the Syferd family home is a two-story with cathedral ceilings and three bedrooms.

Added to the original building plan is a poured wall basement, a solid piece of concrete poured into an overall form, instead of using cement blocks.

An oversized garage was also added.

The Syferd home was one of 40 residences when Syferd moved to Brixton.

He estimated there are

about 85 now.

Syferd said he was not surprised by the growth.

"All these homes were started because of the new high school," he said.

"I anticipated the growth, since the development was planned out so we would know how about how many homes are going in," Syferd said.

The western most development in the city, Brixton runs from Edie Drive on the north to the intersection of Davidson Road and Lepert Road.

"When phase two of

(Continued on page 14)

• BRIXTON

(Continued from page 11)

Brixton goes in it will be an enlargement to the city and the limits will be moved," said Syferd.

"This should happen within the next five years."

Since moving into Brix-

ton, Syferd has headed a committee to establish a neighborhood civic group, Brixton Estates Civic Association.

The group has hosted block party events, made a fourth of July float and held Christmas and Halloween parties.