

You're invited to South Salem's Celebration of Ross County's Bicentennial

SATURDAY, JULY 25 • 4:00 PM

SOUTH SALEM CEMETARY



When Fredrick Parrett's wife died in 1821, he purchased an acre of ground adjacent to the old Buckskin Presbyterian Church for her burial. This was the beginning of the present South Salem Cemetery.

Many of the first settlers to the area were buried here including the following who will be characterized by local actors during South Salem's celebration on July 25.

They include: Dudley Owens Diggs, a teacher, storekeeper and large land owner and farmer. Mary Morter, half sister of Queen Victoria. Her father was Edward Augustus, Duke of Kent. Elizabeth Parrett, wife of Fredrick, a French Huguenot. Hugh Stewart Fullerton, possessor of Buckskin Presbyterian Church, one of the founders of the Salem Academy.

The location of the South Salem Cemetery is near where the Old Westfall Trail crosses Buckskin Creek. The church was moved to this site in 1805. Later, the Salem Academy was built and in 1846 South Salem was platted out, each serving a need to the other.

4:00 - Opening Ceremony
4:30 - Refreshments By Krogers
5:30 - Tours of Academy, Cemetery, and Presbyterian Church
Adelphi Band
Free Balloons for the Children
Free Music and Square Dancing
Bring a Lawn Chair
Handicap Parking

View Ross County's Only Covered Bridge - 125 years old



Caldwell Crossing Covered Bridge

alley. (Now has 6 council members and a mayor)

The first home in South Salem was built in 1846-1847 by a Mr. Douglass. Soon a Mr. McGinnis and a Dr. Hamilton built homes in the new town. Dr. Hamilton practiced medicine and was instrumental in building up the villages. Other early residents were John H. Wilson and Dr. Samuel Cox.

Prior to 1846 Hugh McKensie opened a store in South Salem and obtained mail for the people of that vicinity as an accommodation to them. At an earlier date residents of the township received their mail from Greenfield, since a mail route had been established from Greenfield to Chillicothe to Zanesville. The carriers traveled on horseback and later led an extra horse loaded with mail.

Lumbeck's Mill was busy place in South Salem. It is doubtful if a home in this area has not had some association with the mill. Woodwork, staircases, flooring and ornate molding were among the many products of the mill. The old mill, all of wooden construction, was destroyed by fire about 1918. It was later replaced.

The first telephone in South Salem was installed in the McDougall home, now the home of Mr. Tim Richardson. The Hon. Thomas G. McDougall was an attorney in Cincinnati and also a RR executive. He had a private line built and a telephone system constructed so that one could talk from any room in the house.

Early doctors within the town were Dr. Hamilton and Dr. Cox. Later Dr. E.J. Tulley served the town and country side for many years.

The first electric system in South Salem was provided by Emil Neely. He contracted with the village to provide electric power for street lights and he also provided power for five (5) lights at the Presbyterian Church. He later sold the electric system to Mr. Dennewitz, however he had an early curfew at which time he would blink the lights just before the "black out."

In the early 1900's high schools were being established in most towns and villages and the South Salem Academy was closed in 1907. The one-room school houses throughout the townships were replaced by school centralization. Transportation by the yellow school bus was taking the place of "shanks ponies" and the horse-drawn buggies of former years.

Time has brought about many changes. During the years South Salem has had a barber shop, a beauty parlor, a meat shop. The General Telephone Company has replaced the South Salem telephone exchange and the American Electric Power Co. supplies the electric power.

BETS HOTEL



A popular rooming house of the 1850's still stands at the corner of Stuart and Main Streets. According to family records, Mr. Chris Betts had 4 apartments on the 2nd floor, reserved for Academy students and teachers.

Besides the hotel, he operated a livery stable in a barn behind the house. He also owned a "hackcabby" in which he met the train at Lyndon and brought the mail, commuting students and traveling salesmen back to Salem.

To these "drummers" he offered "bed and board" for the night, rented them a horse and buggy for visiting the small surrounding communities and then would take them back to Lyndon to catch the train out of town. Built in 1845.

ROOMING HOUSES: For those who could not go home each day, the Rooming Houses were popular. One such was an interesting old home owned by John Holliday, a veteran of the war of 1812.

According to his great, great grandfather, he operated a store on the first floor and rented dormitory rooms on the second floor to young ladies of the Academy who wished to do light housekeeping to save expenses. Built approximately in 1846.



Mary Morter Home
Half Sister Of Queen Victoria

A Brief History Of South Salem

It is not known at what time Ross County was divided into townships. At first there were nine in number, later two more were established; and in May 1803, the associate judges of Ross County met at the courthouse and established and regulated boundaries of townships and designated voting places in each township.

The first settlement in the Buckskin area was made in 1799 by James Wilson, who built a house along Buckskin Creek near what is now South Salem. He was followed in 1800 by Noble Crawford and Abram Dean.

In these early years there were two taverns within the South Salem area. They were places for food, drink, and lodging for both man and beast. Taverns were often the social center of a community. A traveler passing through brought news from the outside world.

South Salem, as a town was laid out in 1846 by John Sample. The opening of the Academy in 1842 had made necessary more housing facilities for the students. For a couple of years, the town grew steadily; then it reached a stationary stage. It was several years later that the town was incorporated with power to elect three directors of trustees for the purpose of improving streets and



This advertisement paid for by the
Ross/Chillicothe Convention and Visitors Bureau



ROSS-CHILICOTHE
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
P.O. Box 351, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
(614) 775-9200 or 1-800-311-1118

Clipped By:



mathew5554

Fri, Mar 22, 2019