

*Sidney Historical Association*  
*Presents:*  
*Sidney's 250<sup>th</sup>*  
*Semiquincentennial*

***Featuring some highlights of Sidney history through the years.***

***The Sidney Historical Association was founded in 1945.***



*In 1787, Revolutionary War veteran David Bates, built a home on the north side of the Susquehanna River. The building later served as an Inn until 1860. Still standing, the 18<sup>th</sup> century Andrew Mann s now listed on the National Register of Historic Places and serves as a reminder of the early pioneers. Like Reverend Willam Johnston, who first laid the foundations of this community more than two centuries ago.*



**Andrew Mann  
Inn  
1950**



Main Street, Sidney, N. Y.

**Johnston  
Settlement,  
Susquehanna Flats,  
and Sidney Plains  
were names for  
the Village before  
it was changed to  
Sidney in 1886.**





Lunch hour outside the Bendix-Scintilla plant in Sidney, New York. The factory makes fifty varieties of ignition, for everything from lawn mowers and outboard motors to the largest aircraft engines.



Master Craftsmen Bernard Wyss and John Beyen are, like many employees, of Swiss extraction.

© 1951, The Curtis Publishing Company

The Saturday Evening POST, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1951  
The Village We Can't Do Without

*This idyllic little town in upstate New York dairy country went broke trying to buck Detroit with an auto plant. Then it turned to pouring out high-powered ignition systems for our warplanes & torpedo boats – and became “The Village We Can’t Do Without”*

- **The Saturday Evening POST,  
March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1951  
The Village We Can't Do  
Without**

Pioneers of the Scintilla Magneto Company: Chief Engineer Walter Spengler, General Manager George E. Steiner and Advertising Manager Thomas Fagan.



Pioneers of the Scintilla Magneto Company: Chief Engineer Walter Spengler, General Manager George E. Steiner & Advertising Manger Thomas Fagan



*Arthur Aymar & William Soroka work the night shift and can spend daylight hours raking leaves in front of their cozy houses on Pleasant Street.*

At eighty Swiss or persons of Swiss descent live in Sidney and inevitably have a Swiss Club, with accordion music to go with their picnics.



*Approximately eight Swiss or persons of Swiss descent live in Sidney and inevitably have a Swiss Club, with an accordion music to go with their picnics.*

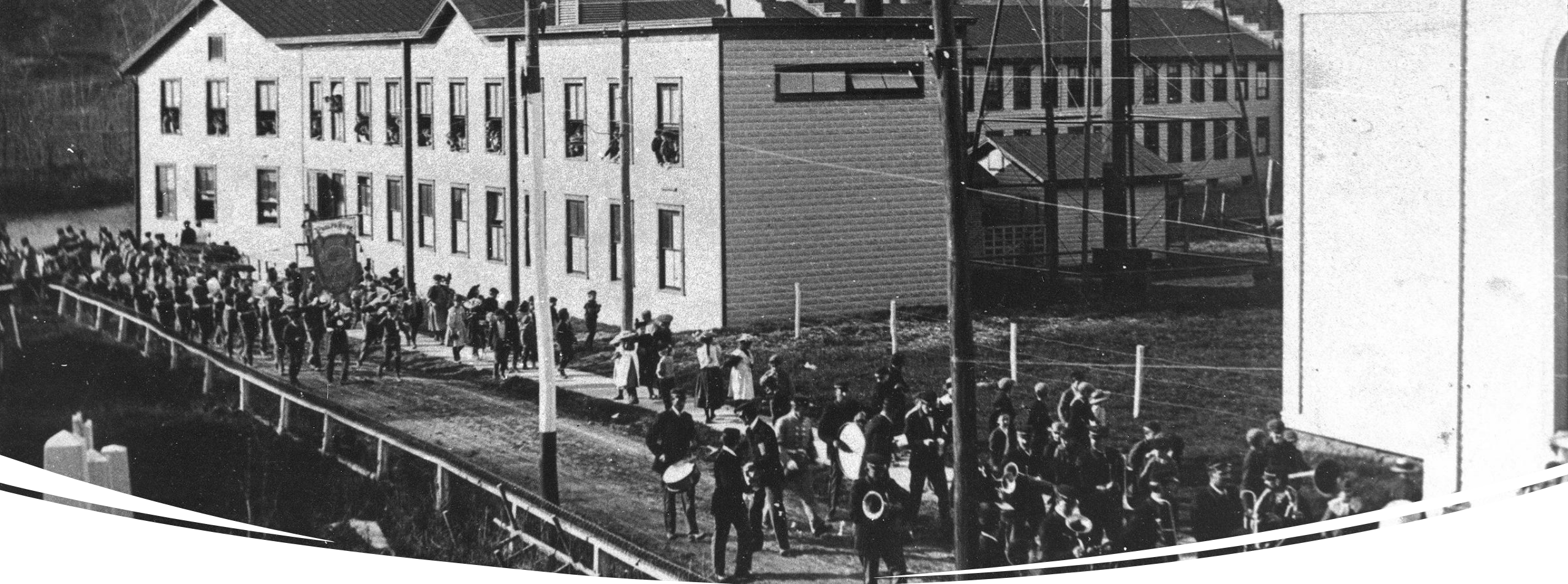
*Sidney Novelty Works*  
Although there were other small businesses, it is generally agreed that Sidney's first industry was the Sidney Novelty Works. It started in the Spring of 1890, and at one time employed as many as 160 people. The items produced were a variety of things including swings, wheelbarrows, window screens, folding chairs & more. Unfortunately, in 1918, the business was destroyed by fire.





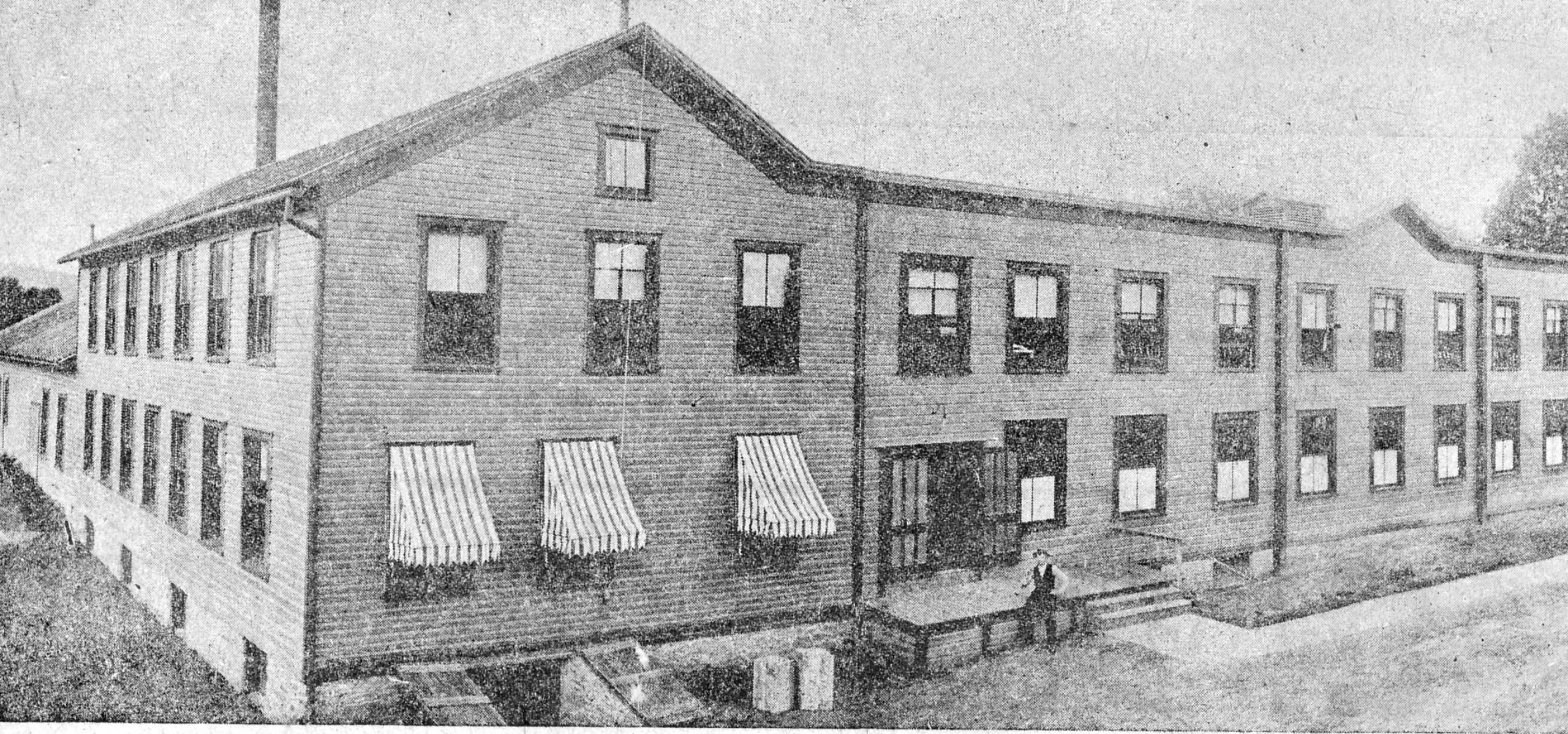
*Built in 1893 by Martin Siver, a 3-story building with 30,000 square feet. It boasted the most modern innovations of the time, including water sprinklers, serviced by the village waterworks, backed up by a 10,000 gallon water tower.*

***Sidney Sash, Blind & Furniture***



## *Silk Mills*

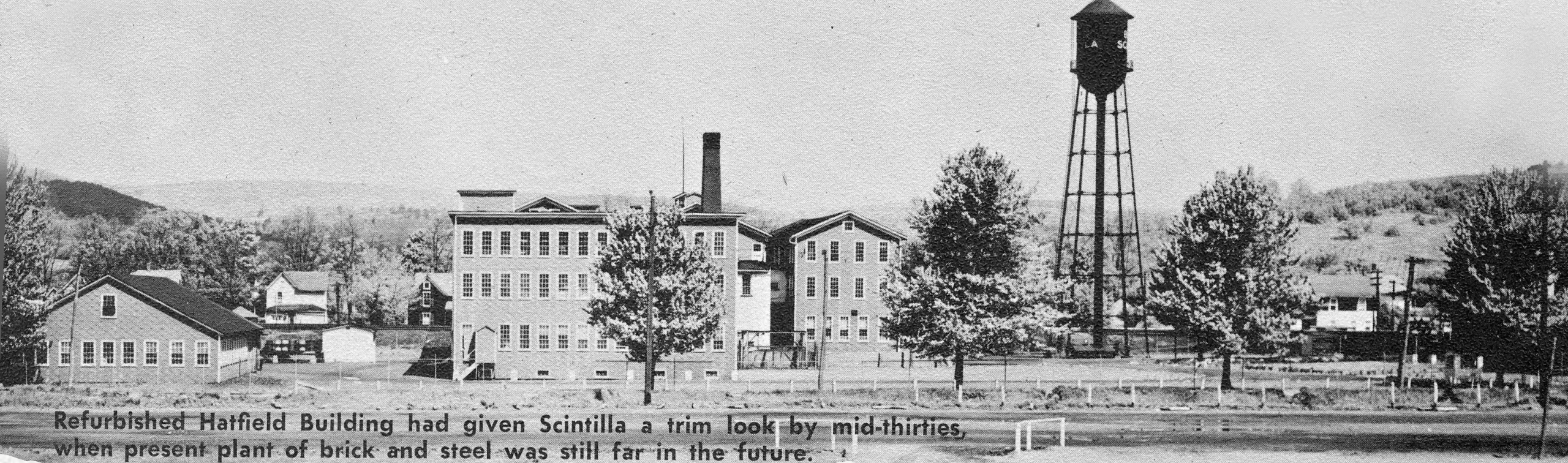
*There were several silk mills in Sidney, starting with the Clark Silk Mill. Mr. Clark ran the business from 1892 to 1907 when Julius Kayser of Brooklyn purchased the building for \$25,000. After a year long strike in 1919, followed by an earthquake in Japan that decimated the silkworm industry, the Sidney Silk Mill closed in 1927. Other silk mills were the Kayser Silk Co., Butterfly Silk, Rivolier Silk, Jersey Silk, Hartley Silk, Schoharie Silk, Susquehanna Silk & Sidney Silk company.*



**SILK MILL**—One of Sidney's Pioneer Industries.







Refurbished Hatfield Building had given Scintilla a trim look by mid-thirties, when present plant of brick and steel was still far in the future.

### Cortland Cart & Carriage

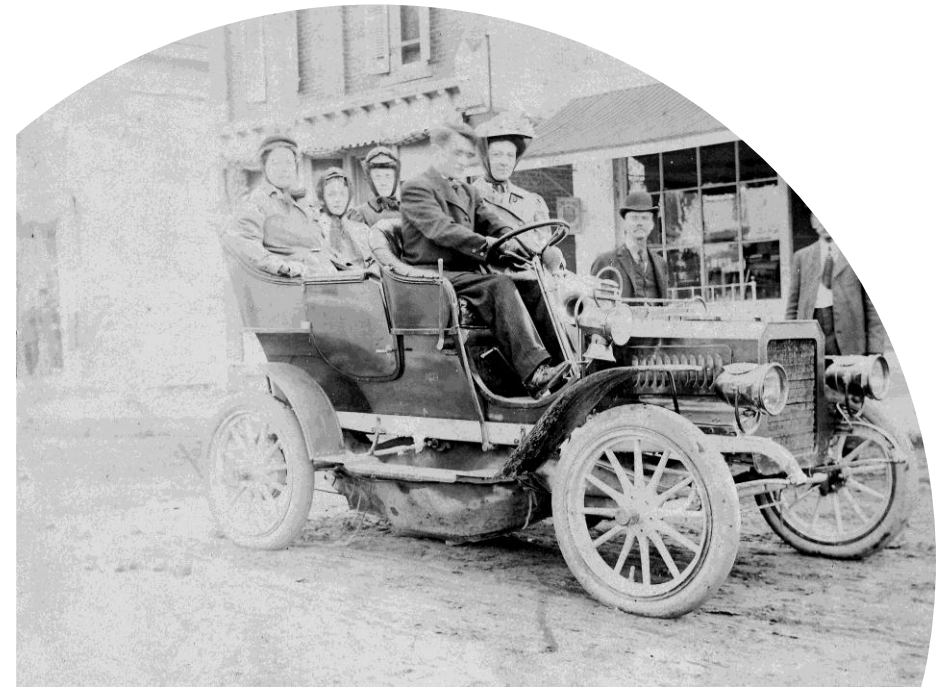
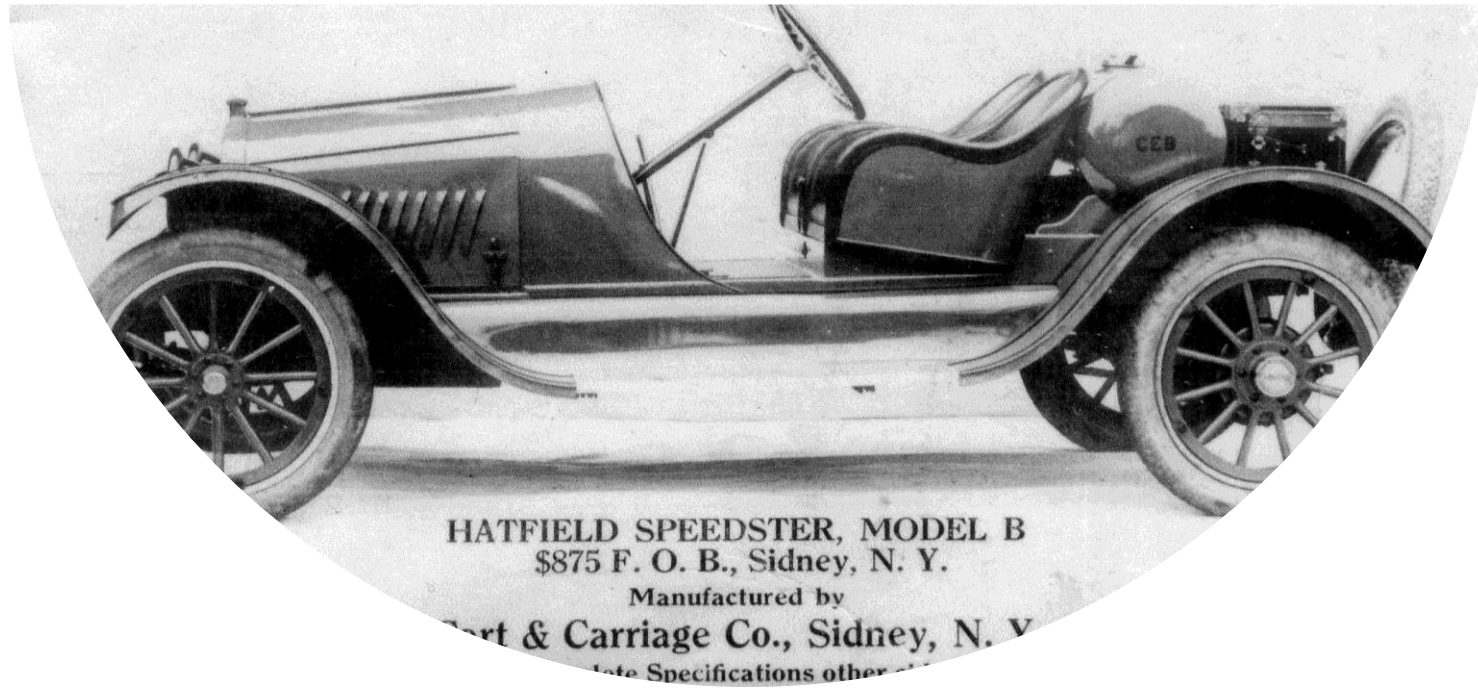
*Mr. Hatfield built several models of cars that were produced in wooden buildings bordering Union & Delaware Streets. Even though the Hatfield cars were of the highest quality, they could not compete with the larger companies in the Detroit, Michigan area.*

## Cortland Cart & Carriage



#### Cortland Cart & Carriage

Mr. Hatfield built several models of Hatfield cars that were produced in wooden buildings bordering Union Street & Delaware Avenue. Even though the Hatfield cars were of high quality, Hatfield could not compete with the larger car companies from the Detroit, MI area.



# Scintilla/Bendix/ Amphenol

*Swiss pioneers of Scintilla Magneto Company who developed a wartime vital product as in the aircraft magneto that was instrumental during WWII. The magneto was used in 90% of the aircraft that won WWII. This eventually became the current Amphenol Aerospace Division. Wartime Employees (By 1945 over 8,900 employees at it's peak) After 1945 it went to workforce of 1,200. Scintilla Engineers developed almost (50) different varieties of ignition systems for everything from lawnmowers & outboard motors to the largest aircraft engines. More importantly, the beginning of the 1950's saw the first sales of electrical connectors. The decision to branch out into designing & developing electrical connectors slowly began transforming Scintilla in Sidney. By the mid 60's Bendix was contributing products for the 1st American in orbit & the 1st lunar landing the name changed once again to the Bendix Electrical Components Division.*





## THEN AND NOW PHOTOS SHOW DISTANCE WE'VE TRAVELED ON ROAD OF PROGRESS

Photo above, taken in the early thirties, shows sharp contrast between the old and the new. Earliest phase of Scintilla's expansion into modern, one-story, brick buildings began in 1928. Later phases, accomplished in several steps, extended plant south to Campground Street, eliminating completely — during the early days of World War II — the old, wooden buildings. Foreground area in the above picture is a far cry from today's landscaped grounds and circular drive (see photo below).

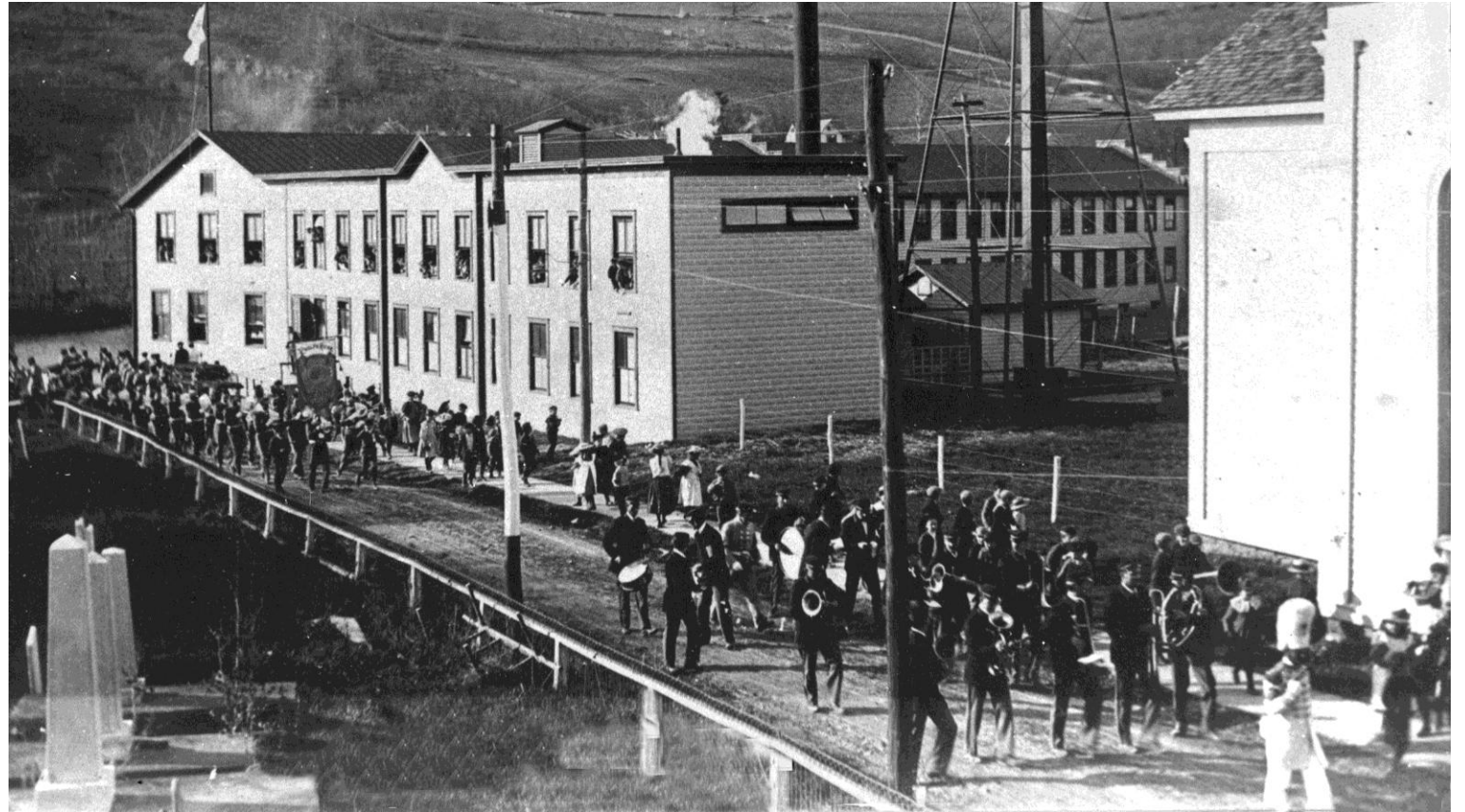
Both photos, the old and the new, were taken from approximately the same location. Architect's drawing (see inset on above photo) shows how plant expansion was routed around old buildings. These, the last vestiges of the old Scintilla factory, later gave way to further modernization, another brick unit being erected in their place.





## The Clark Silk Mill

*The Clark Silk Mill ran from 1892 to 1907 when Julius Kayser of Brooklyn purchased the building for \$25,000. After a year long strike in 1919, followed by an earthquake in Japan that decimated the silkworm industry, the Sidney Silk Mill closed in 1927.*



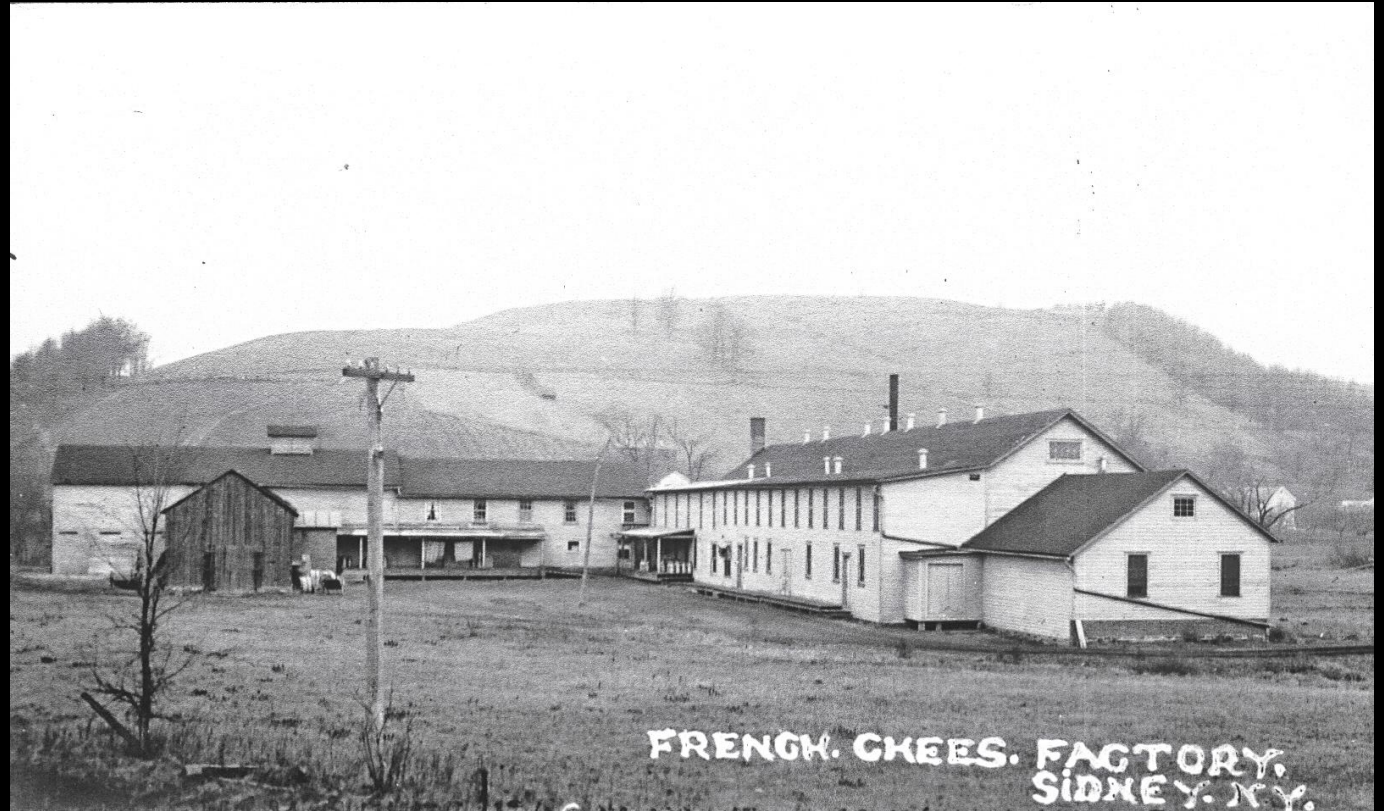




## French Cheese Factory

*In 1901, Bessard du Paro & George H. Garstin established the French Cheese Factory in Sidney. This was located behind the current River Street fire house. The factory produced the best French cheeses in the country, including Camembert, Bries & Petit Suis*

## French Cheese Factory





## Whitaker & Son, Inc.

Whitaker & Son, Inc., was started in 1912 by George Whitaker and his son Glen S. Whitaker. George operated a livery stable in Unadilla, so the transition from horse & buggy to automobile was natural. Glen's son, Glen E Whitaker joined the team in 1946, and the 4th generation of Whitakers was completed with the addition of 'Whit' in 1984. It was unique for a family automobile agency to have remained in business for so many years. Whitaker's showroom was located at 20 Main St..... Whitakers purchased the former silk mill by the Susquehanna River in 1946 to house their service & parts departments. A massive fire destroyed this building in 2007. The fire, combined with the flood of 2006 & Whit's being close to retirement, contributed to the final decision to close the business in 2007. They were open for (97) Years.

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## Whitaker & Sons







WHITAKER & SON



*Philip Brady, a cigar maker, came to Sidney in 1895 & opened a factory in a block at the corner of River & Grand Streets. He offered a prize of 100 choice cigars for the best brand names for his product line. From submitted suggestions, he chose the names "White Cloud & "Tickle". In six years, Brady's Cigar Factory manufactured over 2.5 million cigars in Sidney.*

**Cigar Factory**



*James Mirabito, an Italian immigrant, in 1926 starts a coal business known as James Mirabito Coal Dealer. In 1941, James eldest son opens the Sidney branch by purchasing H.M. Boxham Coal & Feed on Clinton St. In 1950, the company purchases a bulk oil terminal on Cartwright Ave., greatly increasing storage capacity. Ownership of the company from James Mirabito to his four sons, including Thomas, Rosario, Angelo & Anthony, known as James Mirabito & Sons. The company in the '60's, '70's & 80's & beyond purchase several local businesses, including a 500 acre farm in Unadilla. In 1986, the second generation sold the company to six members of the third generation, dubbed the "Pepsi Generation": Thomas Mirabito, Sr.'s sons Thomas, Jr. and Joseph; Rosario Mirabito's sons Vincent and Ross; Angelo Mirabito's son, Michael. Currently, Mirabito Energy Products is a family-owned energy business based in Binghamton.*

**James Mirabito & Sons**

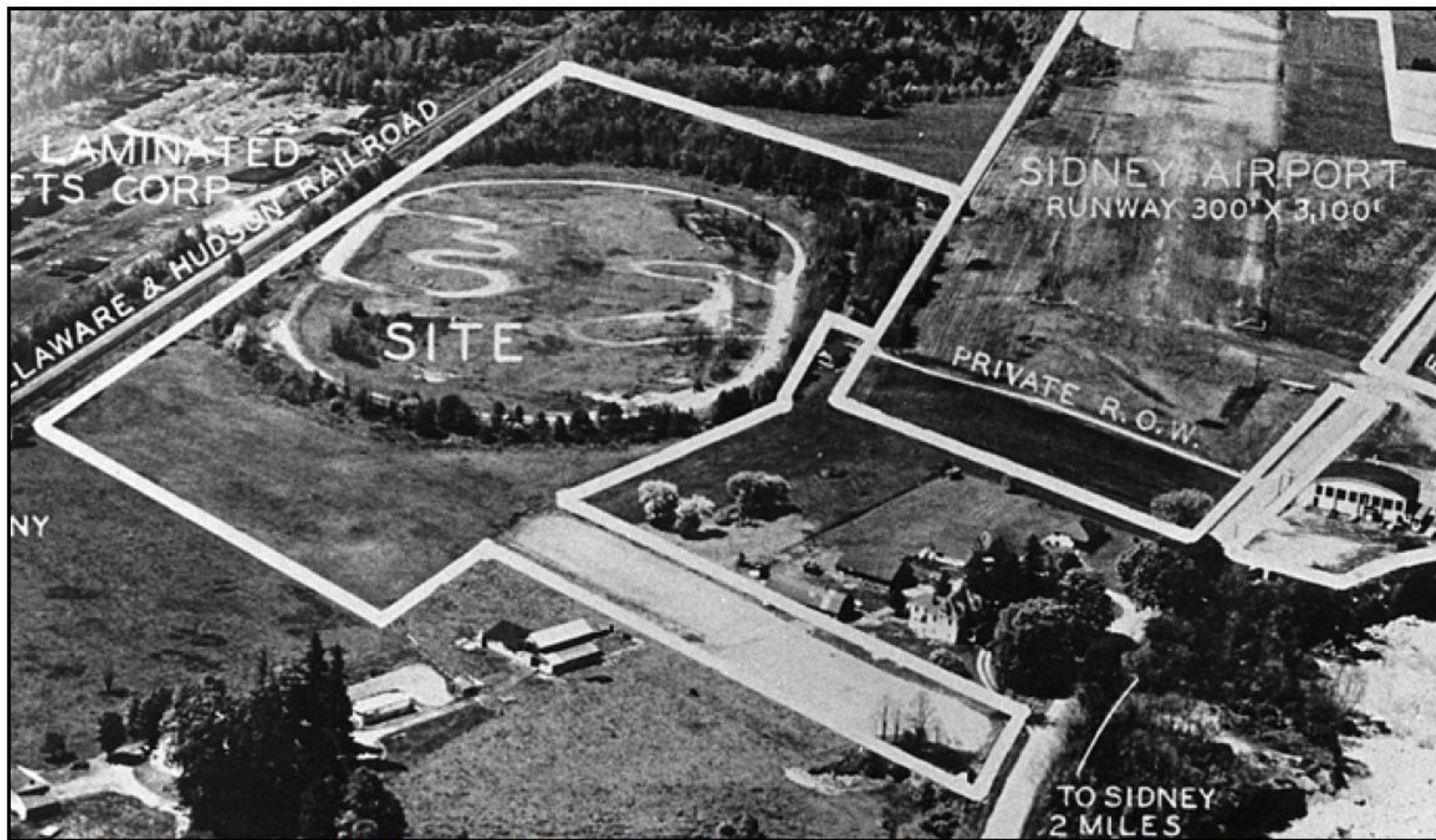


**Keith Clark/ACCO Brands**

*Keith Clark's Sidney location at the corner of Union & Division Streets was originally occupied by the Sidney Novelty Works which was Sidney's first industry and employed as many as 160 people before it was destroyed in 1918. In 1946, property at the corner of Union and Division Streets was purchased from the Magneto Division of the Bendix Corporation by the Keith Clark Company, which left New York City that year for its new home in Sidney. By 1970, the Company expanded to a larger piece of property by the Sidney airport. In the mid 1980's Lewis Cullman purchased Keith Clark, turning it into the largest company of its kind in the nation, employing as many as 1,200 employees at it's peak.*

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**HEADLINE READ: KEITH CLARK BUYS LAND NEAR AIRPORT** - Photo shows where Keith Clark (now ACCO Brands) built their facilities in 1969. This site plan was from an aerial photo taken by Ed Roelle for the Tri-Town News for the January 8, 1969 issue. The photo shows the stock car track that was on the site previously with a white line around the 30 acres purchased by Keith Clark from Paul Hotaling. According documents provided by the Sidney Historical Association, the Airport and D&H later bought a portion of the land, but the majority of the acreage became the Keith Clark manufacturing and warehouse facilities. (TTN Photo by Ed Roelle)



Keith Clark, Inc.



**Sidney Standard Light Heat & Power Company**  
*The town's electric light system began fully operating in 1899. The power plant was on the Susquehanna River upstream from the village on the site of the old paper mill. In town, electric light poles stood 125 feet apart, with lights suspended from iron arms projecting 16 feet over the center of the streets.*

Electric Light Power House



50—Electric Light Power House, Sidney, N. Y.



*Sidney Printed News  
Sidney Record (1882-1948); Sidney Record Enterprise  
(1948-1959); The Sidney Record And Bainbridge  
News (1959-1967); The TRI-Town News (1968-1971);  
TRI-Town News (1972-2010); Tri-Town News was a  
weekly newspaper in Sidney, NY with a long history  
of providing local news to the communities of &  
around Sidney.*

### *Sidney News*

**This is the old Reporter building, which used to stand where the brick Reporter building now does. This building was burned in the great fire of 1897, and the new Reporter building was built on the same lot. In this old rambling house,**

**the printing was done downstairs and the Brandays lived upstairs. The small boy on the upstairs porch is probably editor Frank, and the man in front his father, Mark.**

*In 1962, Unadilla Silo constructed a new manufacturing building on West Road near the D&H railroad tracks producing laminated rafters, arches & other building items for churches, schools & industrial buildings.*

**Unalam**





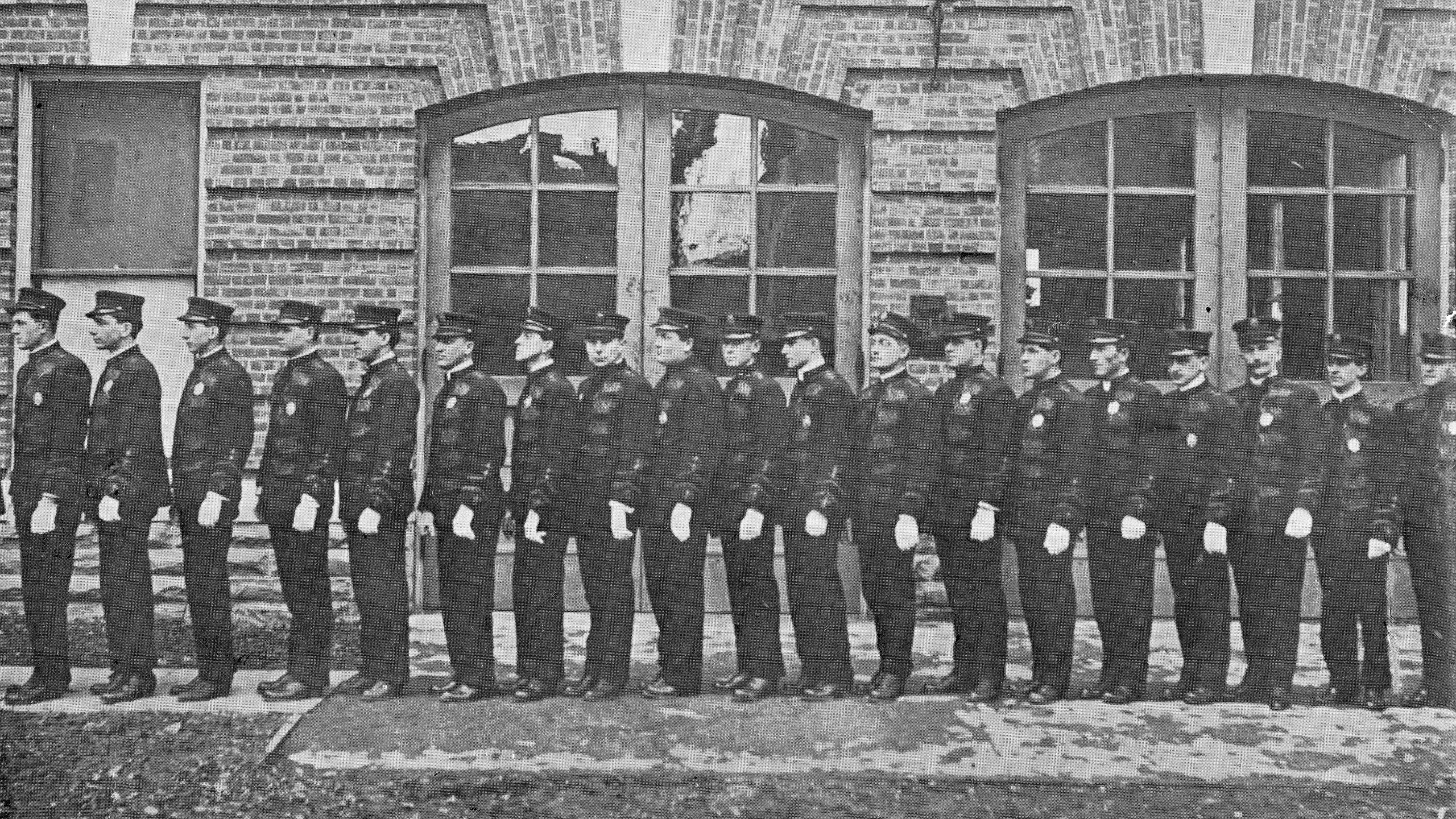


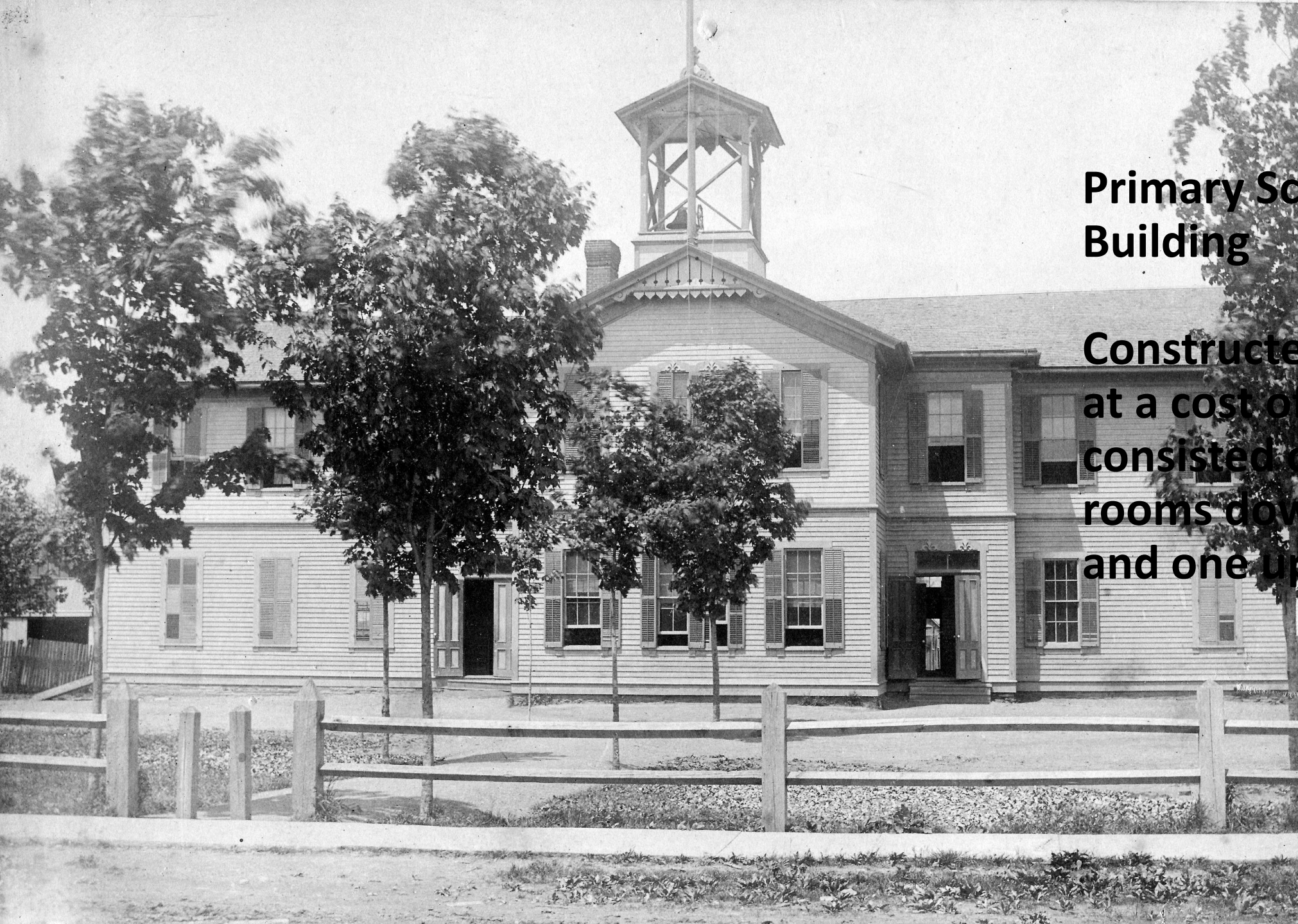
Spencer Milk Co., has been in business in Sidney since 1912. It was in 1912 that H.J. Spencer came to Sidney & took over a grocery store that sold milk from Pine Hill Farm. Mr. Spencer developed the business by shipping butter & eggs to New York. Archie then purchased an existing milk route to concentrate on the milk business. Lights would go on at 64 Main Street at 4:30AM to load the trucks. By 9AM, milk deliveries were completed to homes, businesses, stores and the schools. In the mean time milk to be processed for the next day has been received from surrounding farms. In the business there would be a special room to mix the chocolate milk. The chocolate would come from our good old friend Hershey. Many other products were eventually offered, as in cottage cheese, varieties of cream, buttermilk & yogurt. It was stated: One reason Sidney is a good place to live is we have caring people that worked at Spencer's who serve you well. Spencer Milk Co. closed 1971.

## Spencer Milk Co.

The H.G. Phelps Hose Company No. 1 was formed in 1889. Their first fire was in 1890 on Pleasant Street. Being there was no fire alarm, they could not reach the fire fast enough. To solve the problem, the Methodist Church agreed to let them use their church bell. The first piece of equipment purchased was a two-wheeled pumper for carrier hoses. Other fire houses were established throughout the village.







## **Primary School Building**

**Constructed in 1872  
at a cost of \$3000. It  
consisted of two  
rooms downstairs  
and one upstairs.**





An aerial photograph of Sidney High School. The main building is a long, single-story structure with a brick facade and a central section with large glass windows. To the left is a smaller brick building. In the foreground, there is a large, paved parking lot with several rows of empty spaces. A paved walkway or road curves through the middle of the school grounds. The background shows a dense line of green trees and a clear blue sky.

*The current Sidney High School was dedicated in 1959.*

## **Bridges**

*The Main Street bridge opened in 1936, built to connect Riverside with the main commerce area. To connect Main Street with the bridge, a portion of Pioneer Cemetery had to be moved. Graves were either relocated within the cemetery or moved to Prospect Hill Cemetery. With only minor modifications this bridge is still functioning today.*

*The Main Street bridge opened in 1936*



Susquehanna River at Sidnev, N. Y.



50.00 FINE FOR DRIVING  
FASTER THAN A WALK ON THE BRIDGE.





**Troop C (Captain Daniel Fox)**  
*Troop C of the NY State Police began in 1921. The immediate need of room & board for almost (60) men and their horses was unanticipated. Arrangements were made for rooms and use of the barn at the Central Hotel. The new barracks was dedicated and celebrated on the 4th of July in 1922.*

**Troop C of the NY State Police**





NEW YORK STATE TROOPERS.

T. STATE POLICE



Barracks, Troop C, State Police, Sidney, N. Y.

**Congregational Church**  
*In 1808, the Congregational Church, (formerly known as the "meeting house"), was constructed 36 years after the first settlement of Sidney Plains. In 1839, it was turned from fronting on the Pioneer Cemetery to fronting on the street. The steeple was added and a bell was installed. This was the very first bell heard here in Sidney.*

## **Congregational Church**

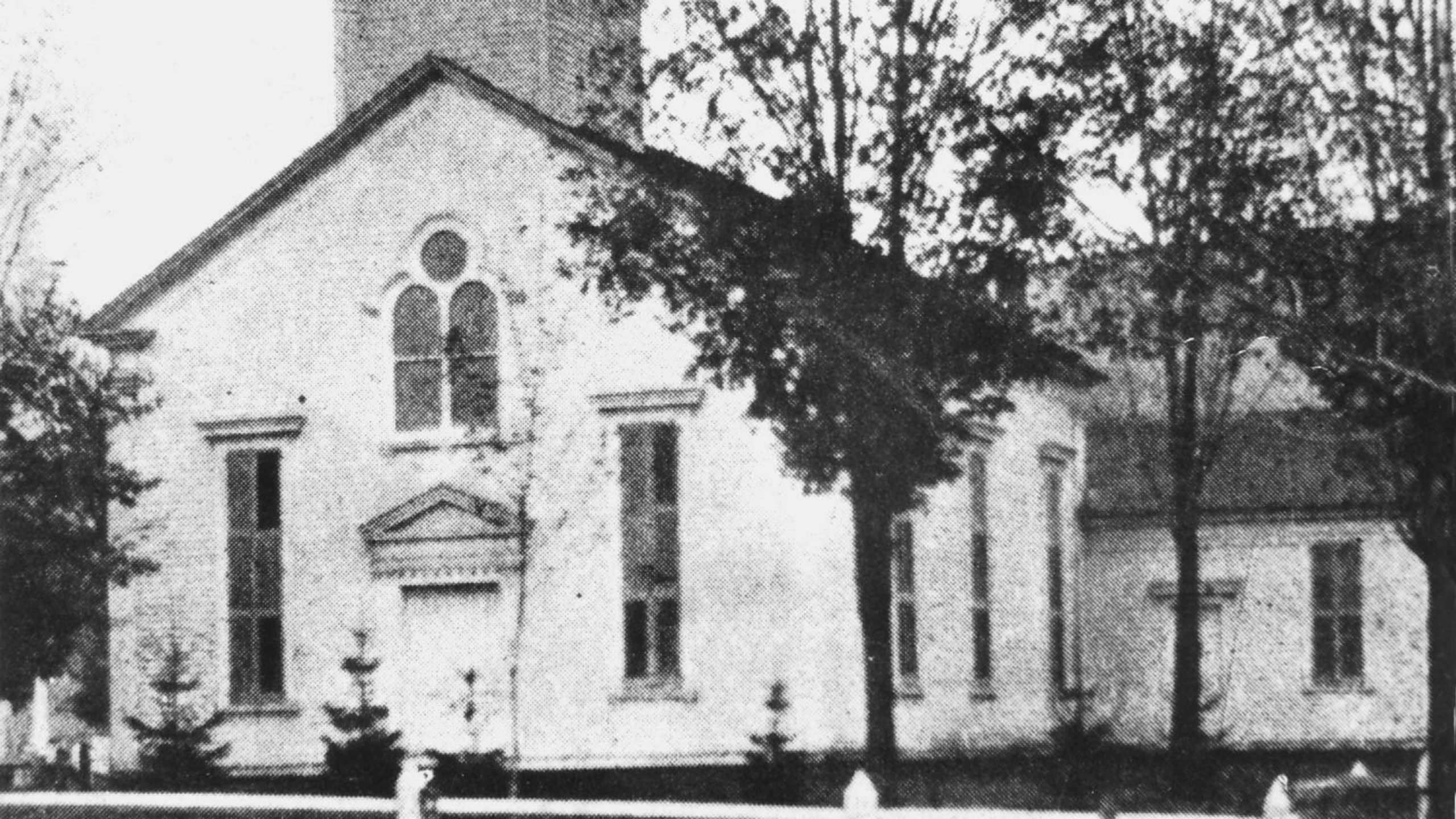


2—Congregational Church, Sidney, N. Y.

Photo by Phe



*Congregational  
Church Pipe  
Organ*





- Congregational Church

In 1808, thirty-six years after the first settlement at the "Plains," the frame of this "meeting-house" was raised. It was completed and dedicated in 1814. It has been remodeled three times. First in 1839, when the square pews were taken out and the high pulpit and sounding board were taken down. Again in 1870-71 more than \$7,500, was expended and made to appear as seen in the above photograph.



22—Catholic Church, Sidney, N. Y.



CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART. SIDNEY, N. Y.



SIDNEY, N. Y.

Episcopal Church and Rectory.





FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SIDNEY, OH.

# *St. Paul's Episcopal Church*



# Post Office

- In January, 1930, free mail delivery commenced in Sidney for six days a week, with in-town routes as well as rural areas.





The GREEN GARDEN

PQS

STREET

U.S. AIR FORCE



U.S. AIR FORCE  
OFFICE  
12345



STAR LUNCH

BAN

POST OFFICE

ONE  
D-MUSIC  
LOCK

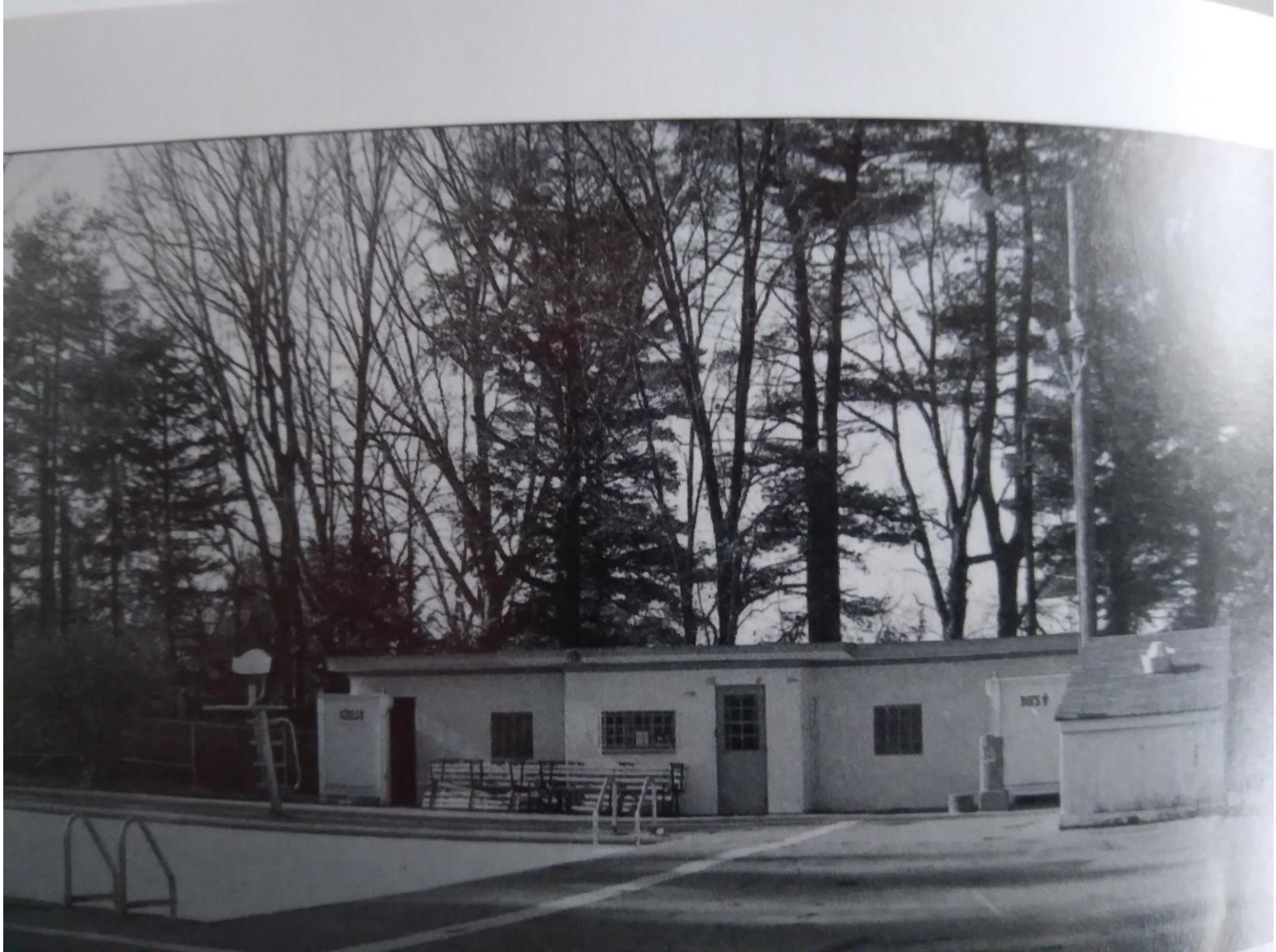




*The Sidney pool was dedicated in 1954. The first annual water carnival was held on Labor Day 1954 with close to (100) entries in various competitive events. The pool opened for an entire season in 1955. Over (700) people were signed up to use it. In 1957, Taffy Jones directed the first & very successful "Aquacade". This drew over 1,000 participants. The Sidney pool has been an extremely popular place for many kids through the years.*

## **Sidney Municipal Pool**





Sidney Baseball Cardinals (Semi Pro Team)

Sidney Historical does not have a lot of information on the Sidney Cardinal's baseball team. Please share any memories or information that you may have passed down from other generations. These teams were a very successful semi-pro baseball team. Some even drafted by the pros.

We are sure some of you can spot of these players. Please let us know who you recognize and where they are located.

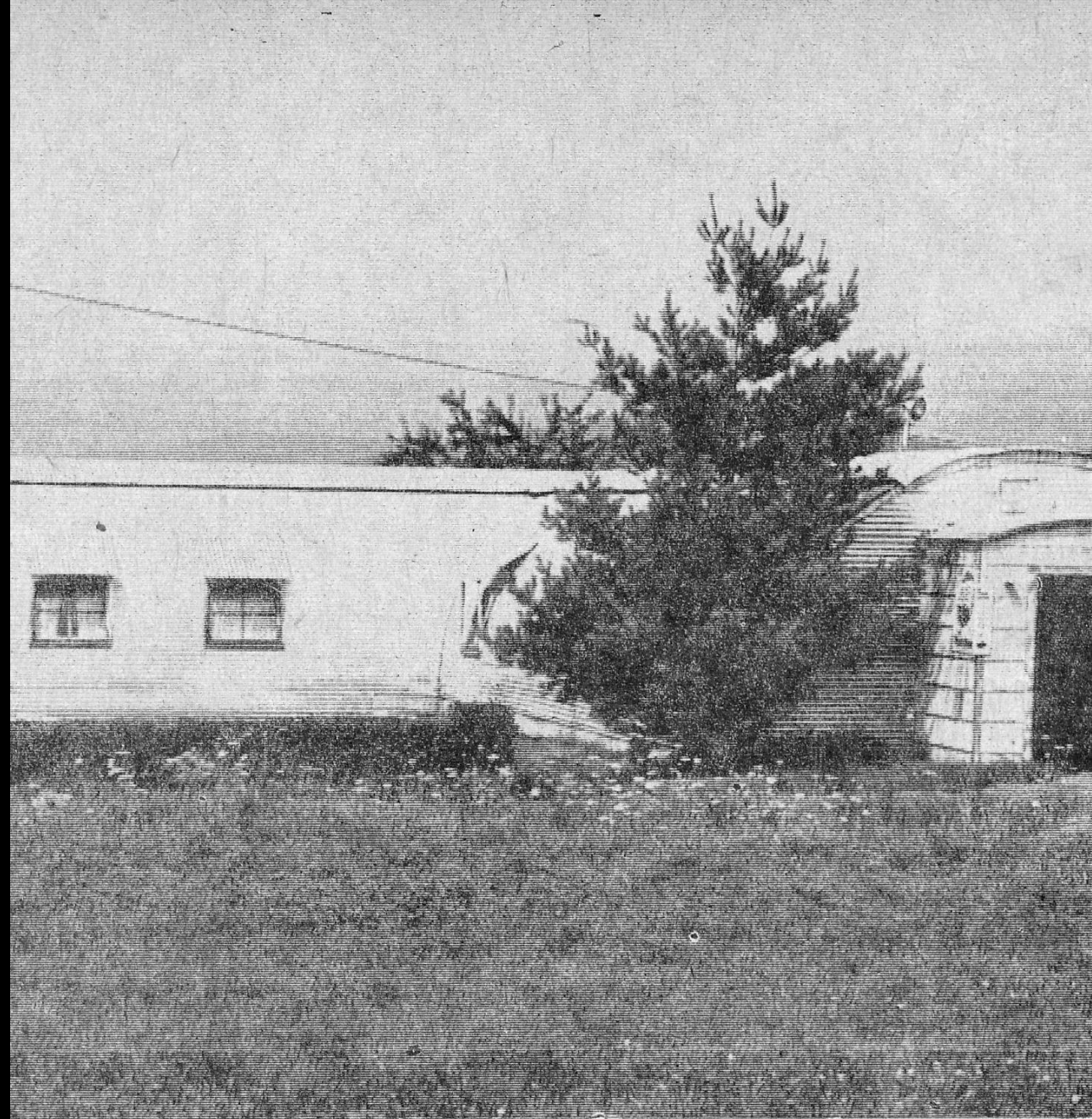
The coach, Truair S. Halbert (Top Left), Truair E Halbert (killed in WWII), bottom right sitting. Tommy Mirabito (Middle 3<sup>rd</sup> from Left), Red Payne (Middle 4th from Left)

Please share any knowledge you may have of this great team.



## Veterans Clubs

*The Ralph Arrandale Post No. 7914 of the VFW was chartered in 1946 with the hard work of Otto Ray & Kendall Hoke. The post is on 133 West Main Street in 1948 with an addition in 1963. Other building updates through the years.*



Post Ralph Arrandale Post Home No. 7914.

***The Sidney American Legion Post No. 183 was named after Charles L. Jacobi, a casualty of WWI. In 1919, a temporary post was organized, it's first regular meeting held at the municipal hall on Main Street. In 1949 their home post was built on Division Street. The most current building is now at 22 Union Street.***

***Current Sidney American Legion Post No. 183 (2022)***

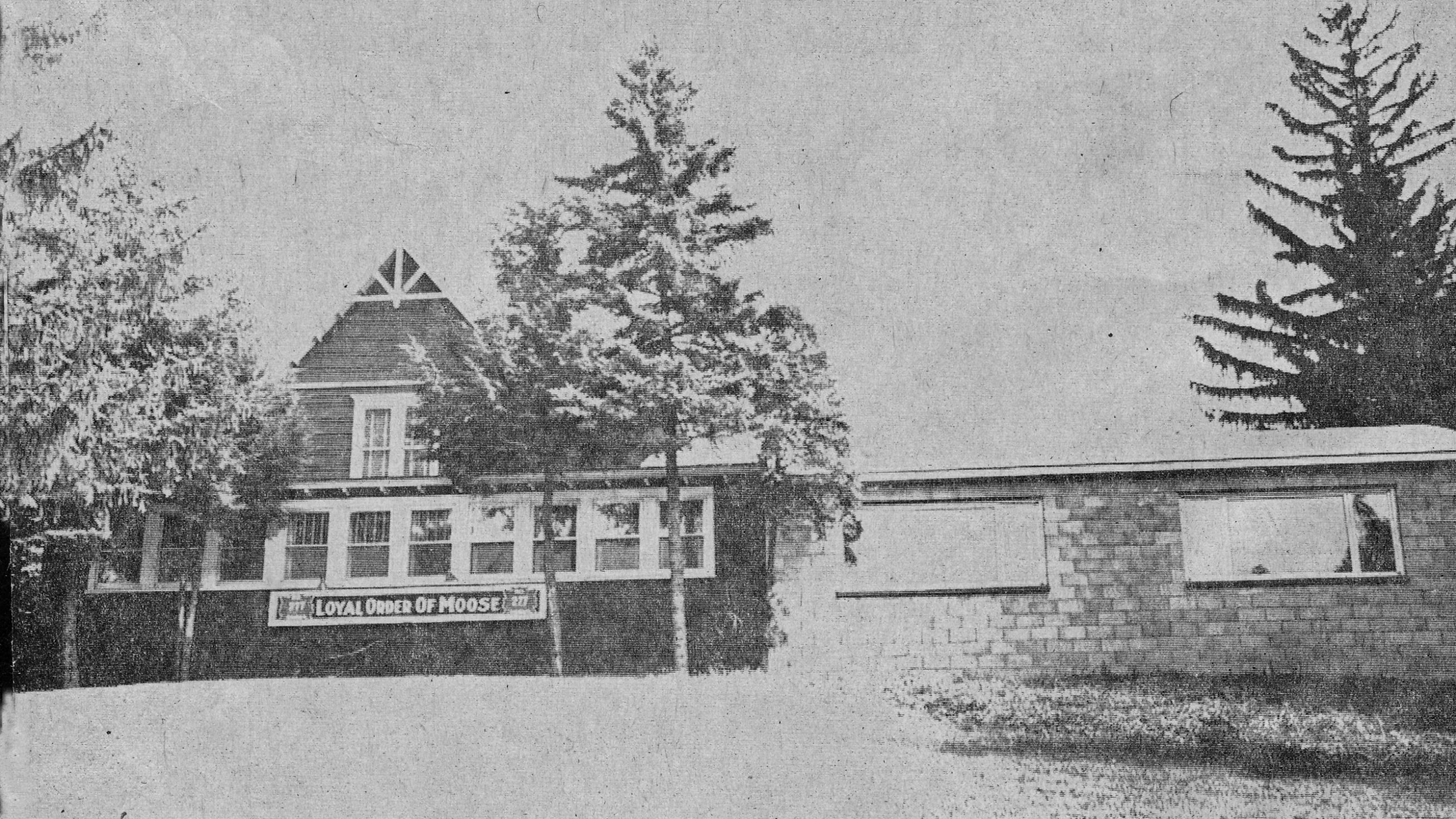




*Sidney  
American  
Legion  
(1980's)*



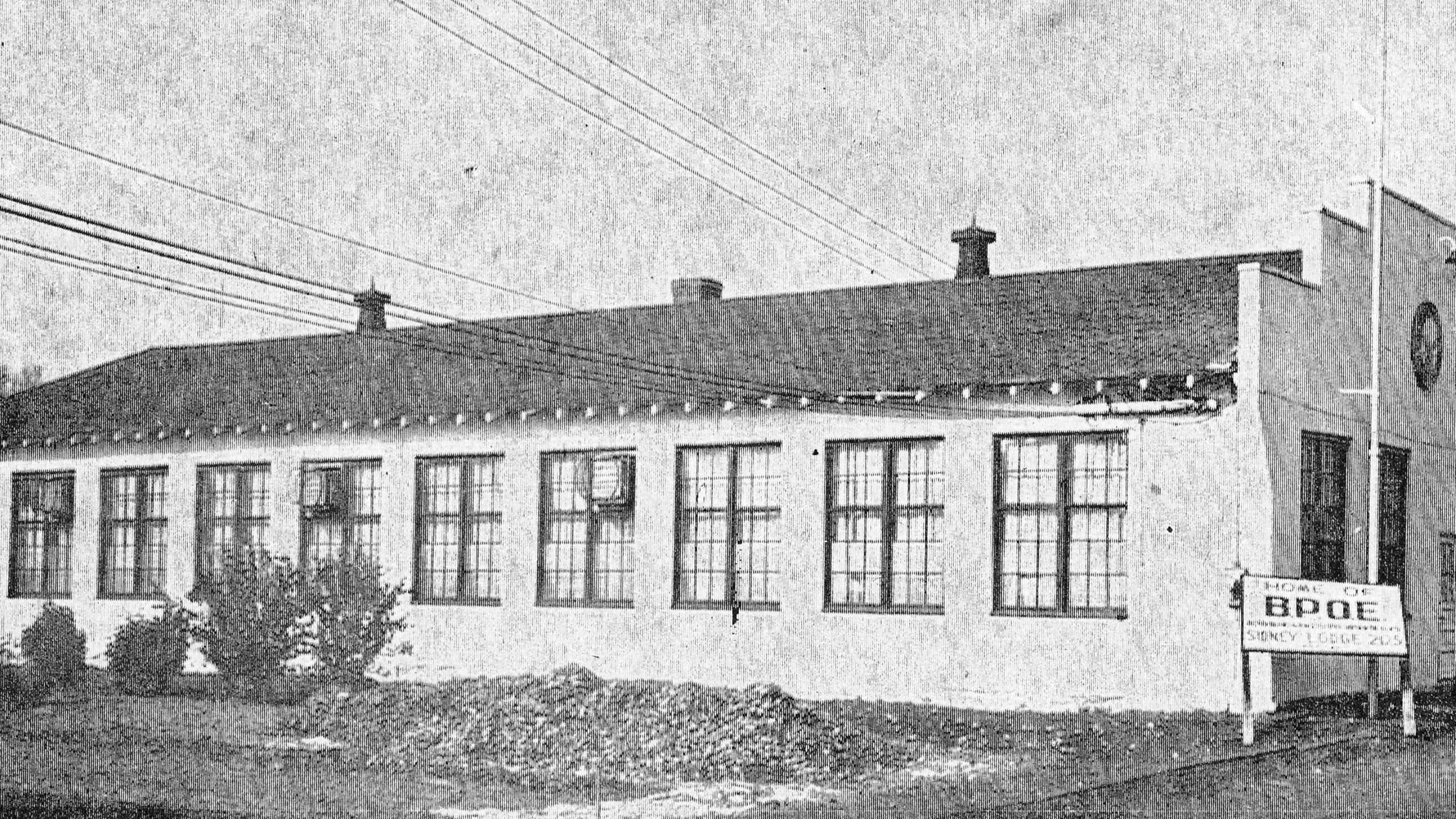
*1922, The Loyal Order of Moose purchased the Richmond block at the corner of Main & Liberty Streets. Many fundraisers enabled them to purchase a piano and various other articles for the lodge. In 1926, the Loyal Order of Moose sold the Richmond block and purchased the Bailey home at 20 E. Main St., which is the present Moose home.*



LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE

*Sidney Elks Lodge  
The Scintilla Gun Club held  
it's first meeting in 1935,  
purchasing a building on  
River Street, which was  
originally a silk mill. The  
club's rifle & pistol teams  
distinguished themselves by  
winning top honors in  
competitive shooting in  
several Southern Tier  
leagues. Eventually the club  
dis-banded and the building  
was sold to the Elk's Lodge.*





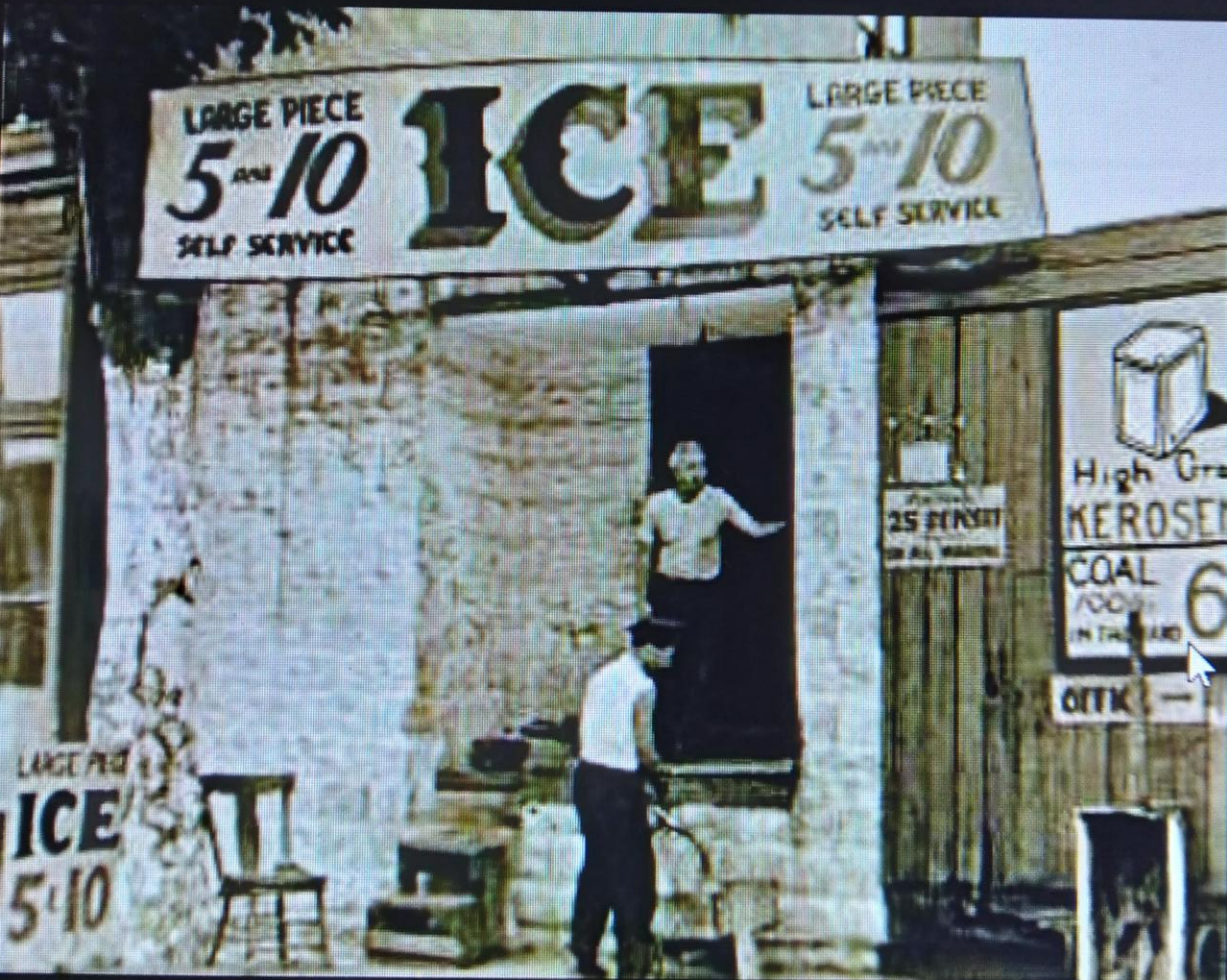
HOME OF  
**BPOE**  
SIDNEY LODGE 2035

## **Sidney Recreation Center**

*In 1939 Jess Howes built a 108' by 50' skating rink on the 1st floor, naming it the Sidney Roller Palace with Hammond Electric Organ music. Then in 1942, the local USO & Sidney Defense Welfare Recreation in conjunction with the YMCA purchased the old Kayser Silk Mill plant. This building eventually was renovated into the Sidney Recreation Center for area youth with bands/dances, weightlifting, pool, ping pong, Home Shows, model train exhibits, boxing, archery, wrestling and many more activities.*

## **Sidney Recreation Center**





# Ice House

# *Roller Skating Rink*

Circa 1940



***Charles H Landers started his funeral business in 1934. This was in the 3-story Carr & Landers building on Main Street. In 1964 Mr. Landers built a new brick chapel building between the original building and Fairbanks Pharmacy. The new chapel could accommodate approximately (100) people with ample parking in the rear lot.***

***CH Landers***



### **Sidney Public Library**

Sidney's first library was housed in a classroom of the school and opened to the public in 1887. This classroom library housed over 1,000 volumes. The Sidney Public Library was founded in 1895 and moved into the basement of the municipal building on the corner of River & Grand Streets in 1910, where it remained for several years. In 1954, the original building in today's complex was erected. It was expanded to the current structure in 1991. Many renovations have followed.

### **Sidney Public Library**

# **SIDNEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**MAIN CORNER RIVER**

**SIDNEY, N. Y.**

**Tel. 563-8021**





MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Memorial Public Library  
1000 N. Main St.  
Dover, NH 03820  
(603) 863-1234

Red car

## Music Hall

*Constructed in 1866 on the site of the current library (Corner of River & Main Street). The Hodgson Building or Music Hall Block, at the time considered the largest wooden structure between Binghamton & Albany. Over the years the 3rd floor was used for regent's exams, graduations, dances & concerts. The lower two floors housed various businesses including a furniture/funeral service, dentist, musical instrument dealer & restaurant. Demolished around 1934, when Main St. was extended to the current bridge.*

## Music Hall



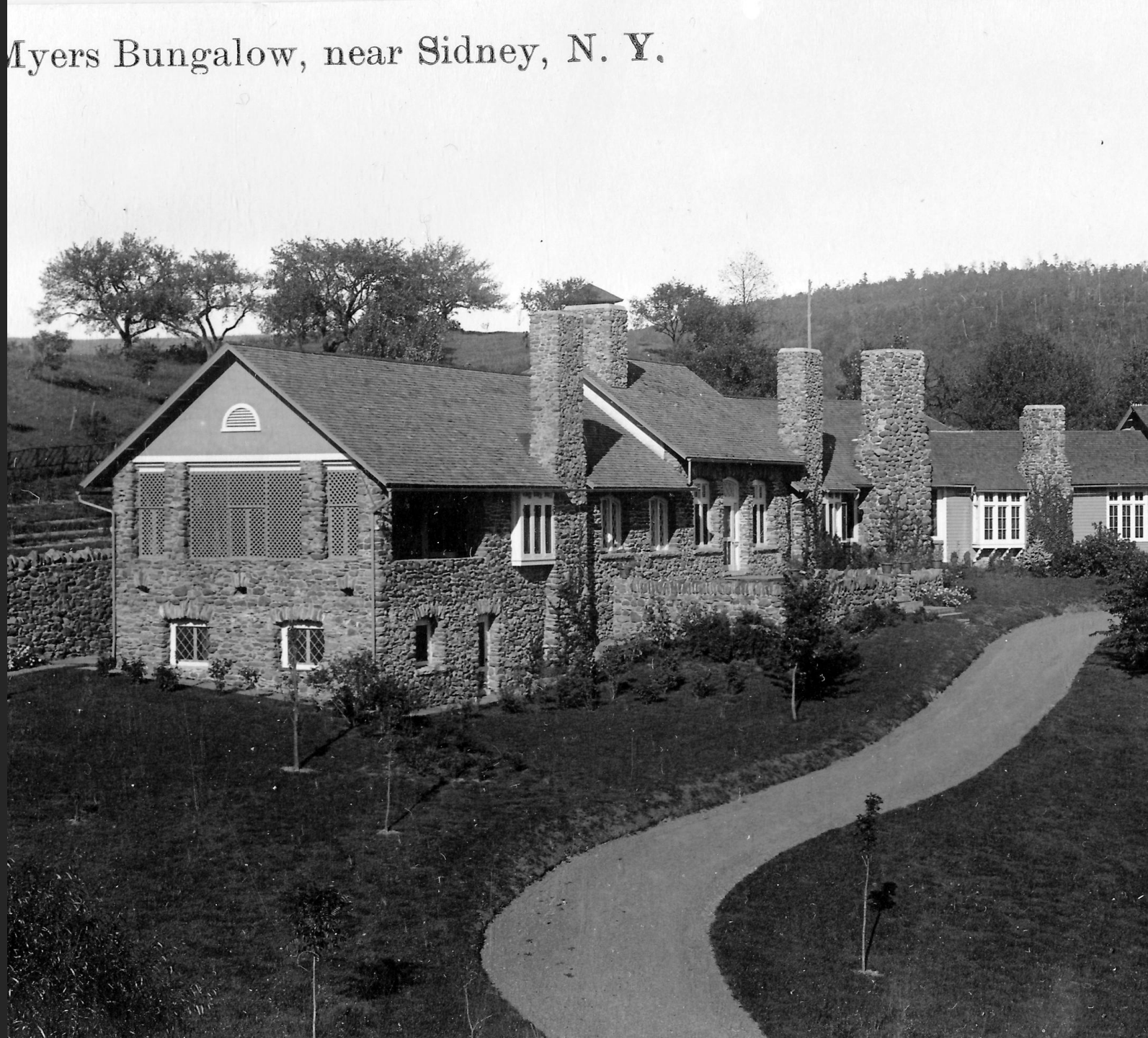
*Charles H Landers started his funeral business in 1934 at the (3)-story Carr & Landers building on Main Street. In 1964 he built a new brick chapel between his old building & Fairbanks Pharmacy. The new chapel could accommodate approximately (200) people comfortably with ample parking in the rear lot.*

***CH Lander's Funeral Parlor***



Myers Bungalow, near Sidney, N. Y.

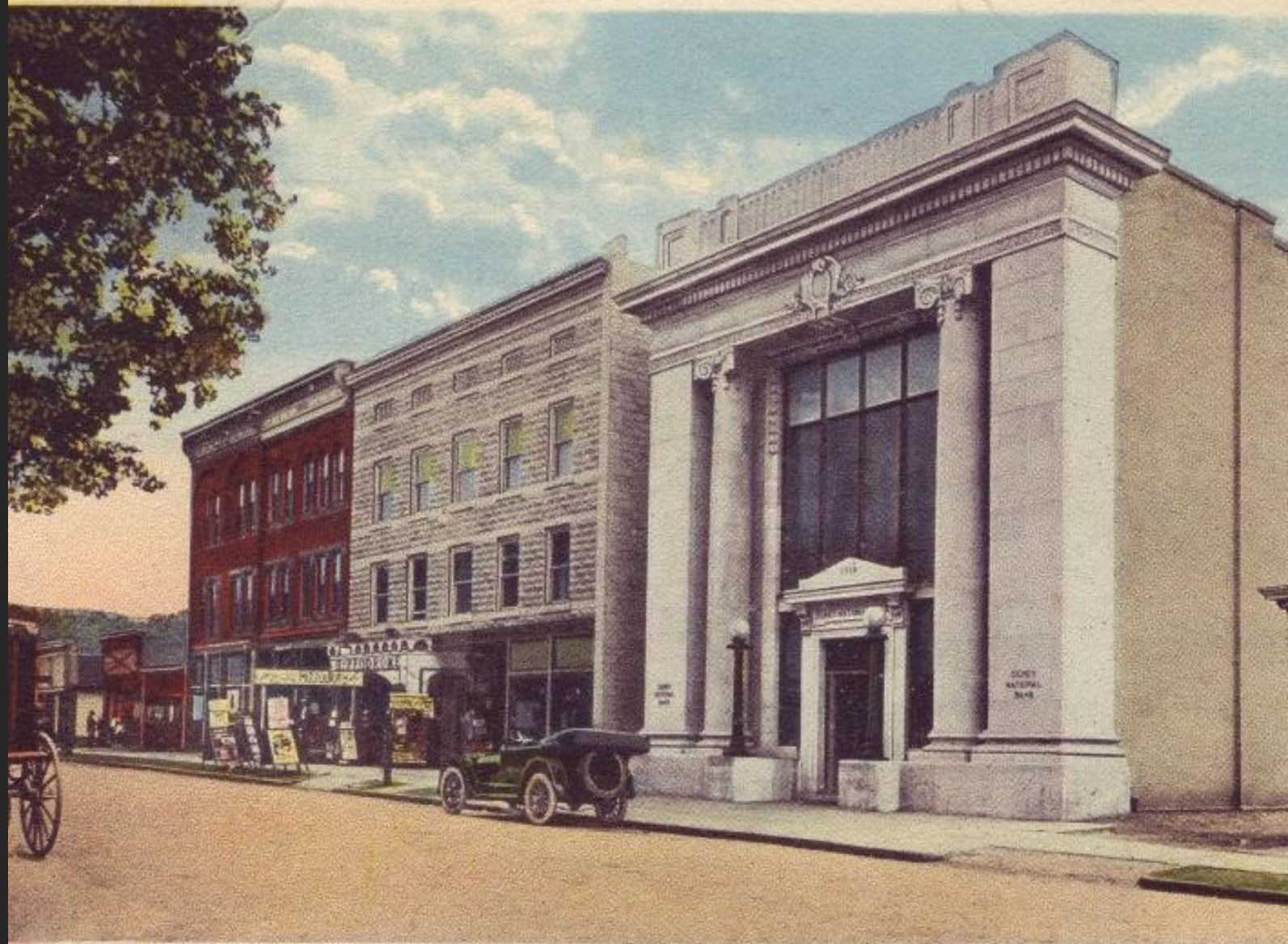
**StoneHenge Motel**  
*After some remodeling, Stonehenge Motel opened its doors to guests in the mid 1950's into the '60's. Catering to mostly businessmen visiting Scintilla & other local businesses. Previously known as Meyers Bungalow, this fieldstone house was planned by Dr. William S. Myers in 1902. He built it as an extension to the wooden frame farmhouse that belonged to his grandparents.*





**National Bank of Sidney**  
*Sidney's first bank, the Sidney National Bank, opened in 1887. in the Hotel Sidney block and can be seen here. A second bank, the People's National Bank of Sidney, began 20 years later. The two merged, purchased a lot on Main St., and constructed a fireproof building opening in 1914, as the First National Bank of Sidney.*

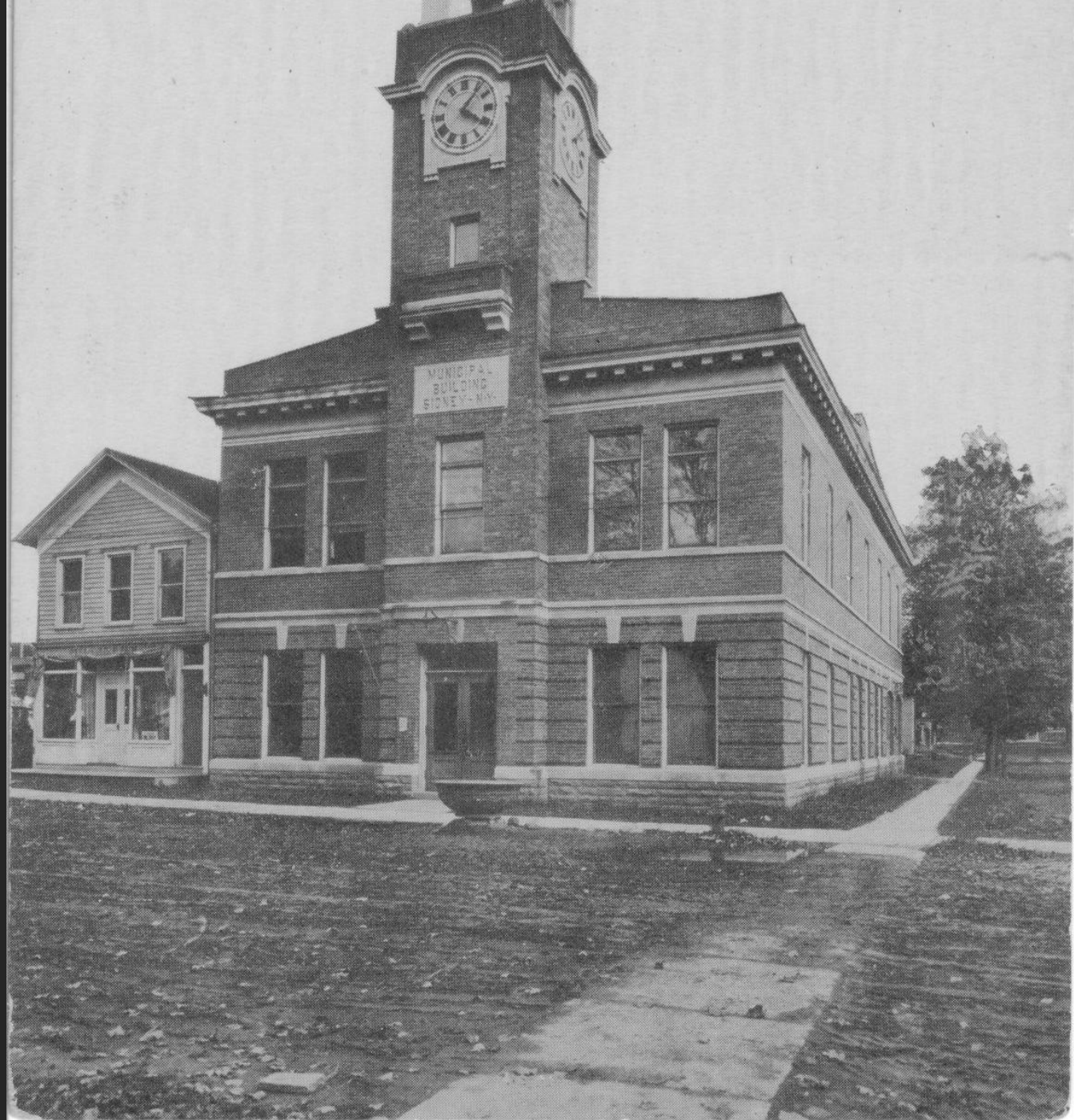
**National Bank of Sidney**



SIDNEY NATIONAL BANK, SIDNEY, N. Y.

## **Municipal Building**

*In 1893, voters approved the purchase of a site on the corner of River & Grand Streets for a municipal building. They did not, however approve construction until 1909. Special features of the red brick, two story structure included a wooden belfry, a 70-foot tower containing a heavy metal bell used for a fire alarm & a clock that struck each hour.*



*The Sidney Private Hospital was located at 53 River Street. Mrs. Elizabeth Turk of Binghamton leased and was under the supervision of nurse Nita Hanes & Grace Newton. In 1926, they purchased Dr. C.G. Bassett's property on Liberty Street with seven bedrooms. In 1942, the town purchased seven acres on Pearl Street for construction of a new hospital. The Hospital opened in 1943 and is still in limited operation today, 2022.*

## **The Hospital – Pearl Street**



17—The Hospital, Sidney, N. Y.



## Stores in Sidney

*Hales Stationery on 34 Main Street began operating in January of 1963. The business had moved from the corner of Main & River Street. Ray & Dot Hale purchased the former Pardee's Stationery Store owned by Henry Pardee. The back part of Hale's served as an office area for Ray's Town Clerk services.*

*Hales Stationery*



# Kipps

Myron Kipp began his successful grocery business in 1904 and operated from the same location at 11 Main Street for over (50) years. He dedicated time serving on the Sidney Chamber of Commerce, school board and at one point postmaster. Myron published his own free one page advertising paper, featuring food items. In 1955 Don D'Imperio purchased the property, establishing Don's Super Market. *(LtoR), George McCarty; Joe Charles; Beatrice Johnson Bates; Myron Kipp; Leon Robinson Cunningham*



## *Don's Supermarket*

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- Don's Supermarket, 11 Main Street, Opened Thursday, April 22nd in 1954 a very successful family business, so typified life in small town Sidney. They had a very loyal & large clientele of Sidney & surrounding area residents. Serving a large variety of items, including donuts, sub sandwiches & pressure-cooked fried chicken, to name a few.*
- 





OPEN ALL DAY Sunday

EVERY DAY TILL 9

FRESH FRUIT  
PANCAKE GOODNESS

KRAFT

LOOK!

LOOK!

KRAFT

SOUPS

KRAFT

KRAFT

SOUPS

PREMIUM  
PREMIUM  
PREMIUM  
PREMIUM



*Kent's 5&10 cent store opened in 1932 originally located on Cartwright Ave. Three Kent brothers, Ralph, David & William in partnership purchased the Bennett building on Main St. in 1937. In 1947, William became the sole owner assisted by his son William Jr. and family. The business passed to William Jr, Louise his wife and son Gary who operated this until it's closing.*

## Kents



*Fairbanks Rexall  
Pharmacy*

*Fairbanks Pharmacy  
Drug Business was purchased by B.C. Fairbanks in 1911  
and then sold to Elwin "Van" VanValkenburg in 1955.*



Brewing herbs  
for  
Rexall Remedies  
No secret in  
their making.  
We will tell you  
every ingredient.

LESS MONEY  
AT THE  
DRUGS

VINDI  
VINDI

Druggell's  
Chocolates





*The Family Bargain Center open it's door September of 1963. The store was located in the Sidney Plaza Shopping complex on Steiner Road. The building stood 420 feet long & 100 feet wide containing approximately 40,000 square feet. Debbie Reynolds made a surprise visit via helicopter for the ribbon cutting ceremony.*

*Murray & Delphine Logan started the Arrowhead Grocery in 1935, located on W. Main St. adjacent to Panaro's Restaurant. The Logan's soon purchased the restaurant to make room for an apartment and later to expand the store. Family-run for (67) years. Logan's was known for it's warm, friendly customer service, homeade salads and much more. Many kids would walk the path from the Sidney Municipal pool down to Logan's for snacks, soda, etc. This closed in 2002.*

## Logan's Grocery Store







The Sidney Paint Center opened on Main Street in 1950 by owners Harry Lewis & Jack Hanes. In 1965 Newt Avery & wife Julie purchased the business on location until 1980, when the entire store moved to the Sidney Plaza. Many will remember the craft models & kits.

*Sidney Paint Center*

## ***Western Auto***

***1937*** was the year Charles McCauley established the Western Auto Association Store on Main Street. Western Auto, at the time, was the largest chain of stores for auto parts in the nation. This store changed its location to Cartwright Avenue. He then added sporting goods supplies.

*Grocery Store,  
Brooklyn  
Section of  
Sidney*



*At one time on Main Street there were two A&P stores directly across from each other. In 1941 the Great Atlantic & Pacific Company decided to relocate to a larger super-market to Cartwright Avenue. This was updated in 1965 and later sold to Schuster's Food Stores.*

A&P



### Wade's Pharmacy

*Sterling Wade purchased interest in the McLaury & McGregor Drug emporium in November of 1945 after his discharge as Pharmacist's Mate 1<sup>st</sup> Class. Mr. Wade was a graduate of Albany College of Pharmacy, class of 1934. He was then employed by the Douglas Aircraft Co., in Africa as a pharmacist the Army Maritime Division. He also worked for worked for Eli Lilly Pharmaceutical prior to WWII.*

## Wades's Pharmacy





*The oldest existing jewelry store in the entire nation, George W. Cooley & Son, & optical business in NY State. Moved from Morris in 1888 after GW Cooley's father established it in Cooperstown. Six Cooley generations have owned & operated this business.*

Cooley's Jewelry Store



COOLEY'S WATCHES

WADSWORTH & SONS INC.

HOTEL  
DUNCUMBER

RESTAURANT

VICTOR



**Green Gardens/Community Lounge**

*In 1937, there was a bowling league in the Lennox Bowling Alley located in the Green Garden building on Main Street. In a 1947 advertisement, Green Garden Restaurant & Grill had the finest of foods, legal beverages and dancing during the weekend. In 1961, Horton Harvey was the owner and changed the name to the Community Lounge & Restaurant. The current owner is Joe Ermetti, 2022.*



- Inside look at Community Lounge



*Restaurants  
Panaros*





*Victory  
Restaurant*

# Hotel DeCumber Menu

JANUARY 9, 1953

-----  
A LA CARTE SPECIALS

Shrimp Cocktail		.50
Assorted Chilled Juices		.10
Home Made Clam Chowder	Cup .15 Bowl	.25
Grilled Cheese Sandwich		.40
Hamburg Deluxe, French Fries, Vegetable		.50
Turkey Salad Sandwich, French Fries		.50
Closed Steak Sandwich on Toast, French Fries		.60
Hot Beef Sandwich, Potato, Vegetable		.85
Open Steak Sandwich, French Fries, Salad		.95

9

-----  
Salad; Beets and Onion .25

On the Following Items the Price Includes, Potato, Vegetable, Hot Rolls, Muffins or Bread and Butter.

Creamed Tuna Fish on Toast	.75	*
Grilled Pork Chop	.75	
Hamburg and Macaroni with Tomatoes	.85	*
Fried Fillet of Parch	.85	
Fried Deep Sea Scallops	1.00	
Breaded Veal Cutlet	1.00	
Broiled Halibut Steak	1.00	
Grilled Ham Steak, Pineapple Ring	1.00	
Roast Sirloin of Beef	1.25	
Broiled Lobster Tail, Drawn Butter	1.50	
Large Porterhouse Steak	3.50	

11

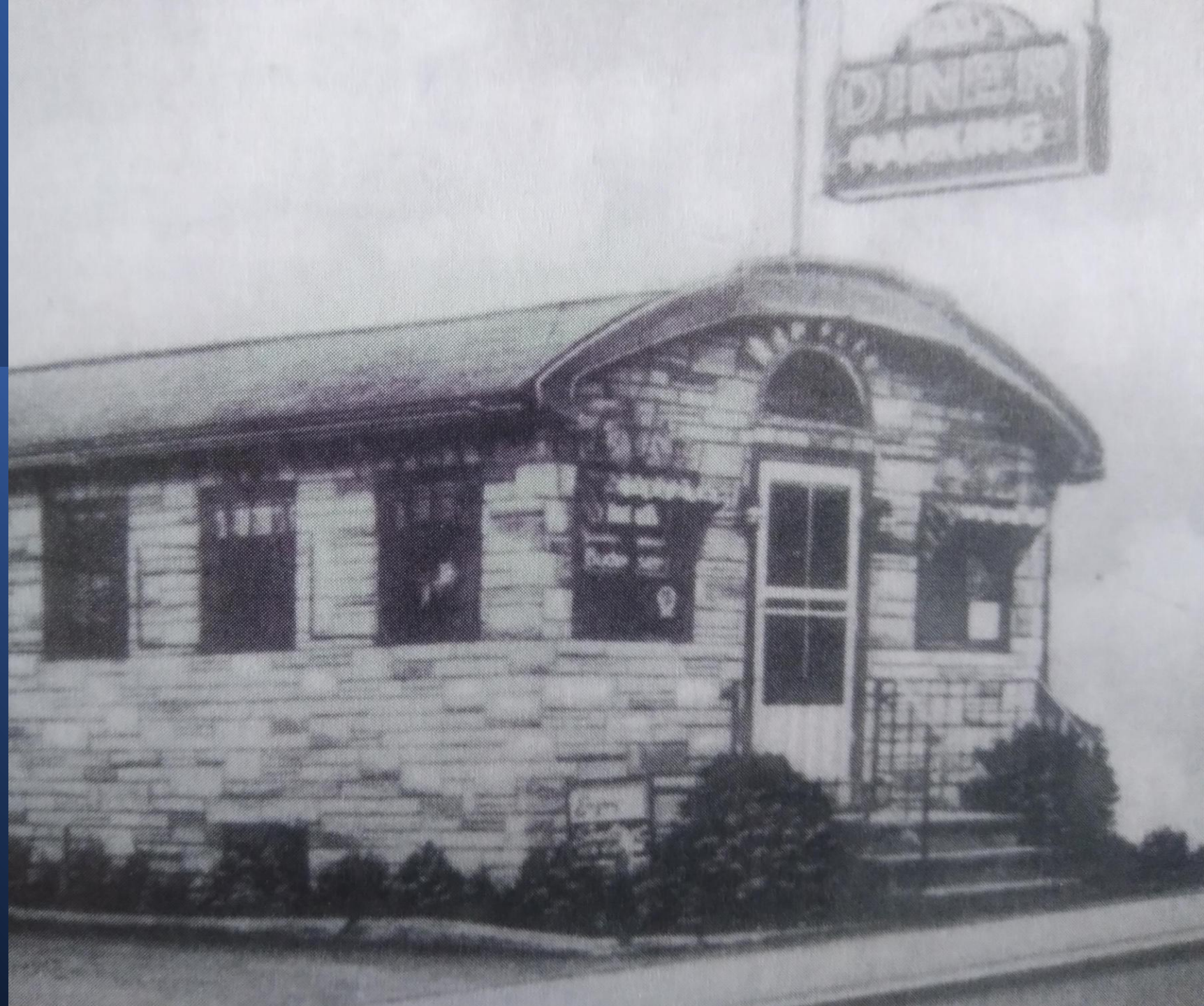
CHOICE OF TWO:

Mashed, Home Fried or French Fried Potatoes,  
Green Beans, Stewed Tomatoes, Cottage Cheese.

*Star Lunch  
(Circa 1910)*



*This small diner was first opened July, 1939, NY Miss Lindberg under the business name of Lindy's Diner. This was located near the railroad tracks on the east side of Main Street. Under the ownership of Howard Reed, the establishment became Reed's Diner. This moved across Main Street in 1959, to the site of the old Star Lunch and Curly's Barbershop.*





# *The Victory Restaurant and Lunch Room*



## Silver Moon Restaurant

**Master Market**  
*The Master Market located on Route (7), Riverside was Harry's Inn, a restaurant with music, dining & dancing. The building then became Joe's Master Market. Ferraro's purchased the Master Market in 1959, sold it to Bernie & Shirley Ford in 1970*



# GRAND UNION

TRIPLE'S  
BLUE  
STAMPS  
666

SHOULDER STEAK & DRINKS 99¢ 29¢  
POWDER FLOUR 8.29  
CORNED BEEF 59¢ 89¢  
CORNED BEEF STEAK 49¢ 95¢  
SALE





DELCO  
HEATING  
AIR CONDITIONING  
ELECTRICAL  
PLUMBING

Esso

Esso

WADSWORTH & SONS, INC.  
HEATING SMALL APPLIANCE SERVICE PLUMBING





**HERSHEY'S**  
*Ice Cream*

**PLUM'S STORE**

**HERSHEY'S**  
*Ice Cream*

**PEPSI-COLA**  
*Buy Pepsi-Cola*

**7UP**

EAST MAIN LANES & LOUNGE LLC

SIDNEY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
BUSINESS  
OF THE YEARS



ATERIA  
ARE



## Victory Foods Chain Inc.



**DeCumber Hotel**  
*Samuel Cumber built the DeCumber in 1894 on Main St. between Smith St. & Cartwright Avenue. The original structure was added to over the years. This closed as a hotel in the 1960's, serving as a bar & restaurant.*

**DeCumber Hotel**



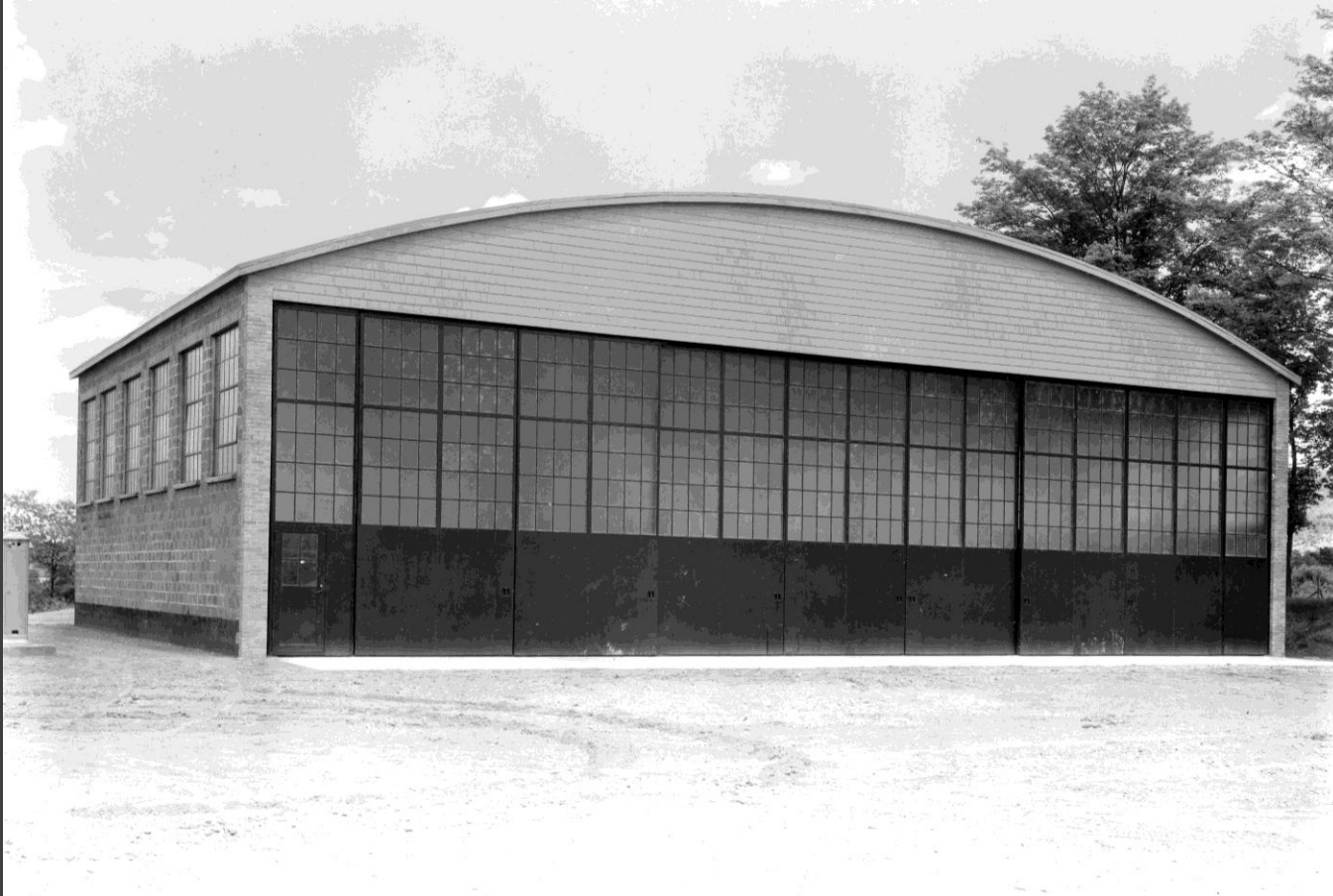


**Hotel Sidney**  
*The Sidney House,*  
*later known as Hotel*  
*Sidney (1885 to 1918)*  
*was constructed to*  
*guarantee the*  
*travelling public the*  
*maximum of ease,*  
*comfort & luxury.*



### **Central House**

*Judge Rexford built the house that became the Central House near the corner of Main & River Streets in the 1830's. Samuel Cumber purchased it in 1883, adding a three-story brick structure in 1891. By 1917, it was a boarding house and site of Whitaker's automobile showroom. Later it was the temporary headquarters of Troop C state troopers. The building was demolished in 1937.*



Sidney Airport  
*Sidney has the unique distinction of having one of the oldest continuously operated airports in the country. A landing field was established in 1928 on the M.C. Johnston plateau. The Scintilla-Bendix Corporation hangar served until the present facility across the road was completed in the mid 70's. It now is currently affiliated with Lifenet of NY, flight paramedics.*

Eighteen airplanes used the Sidney Airport in April 1942. Planes owned locally were those of P. P. Dower, Ralph Barnard, Larry Nelson, Scintilla Magneto, Cala Flying Club, and Clifford Pratt. Pictured here is the airplane belonging to the Scintilla Magneto Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation, with pilot Ralph Barnard.







SIDNEY  
N.Y.



Service Stations  
Tydol



| Texaco



Texaco  
(Riverside)



*Restoration by  
Christopher V. Smith SFA*

Sunoco |

Texaco – Brown's  
Garage  
*Notice the kid at  
the Pepsi Cola  
cooler & the  
Havoline Oil  
display*





Esso – Main Street



SHELL

SHELL

ELECTRIC SERVICE

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## Railroads

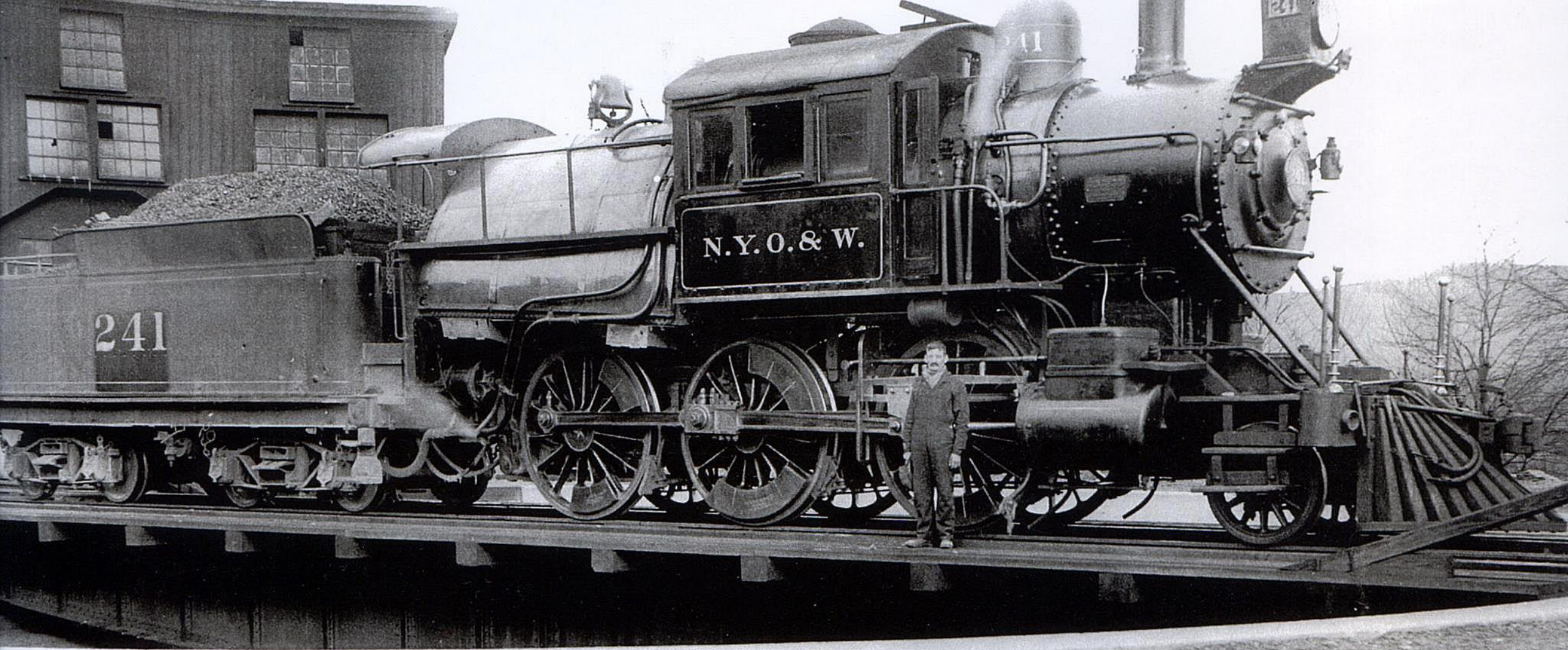
*At one time, Sidney's Main Street crossed more than (13) railroad tracks. Each railroad had a crossing guard to protect the public from the passing trains. In the Brooklyn section of Sidney, the NY Ontario & Western railroad (O&W), had a small four-stall roundhouse for maintaining steam engines. Unfortunately it was destroyed by fire.*



Railroad  
Bridge



# O&W Gas Electric Car



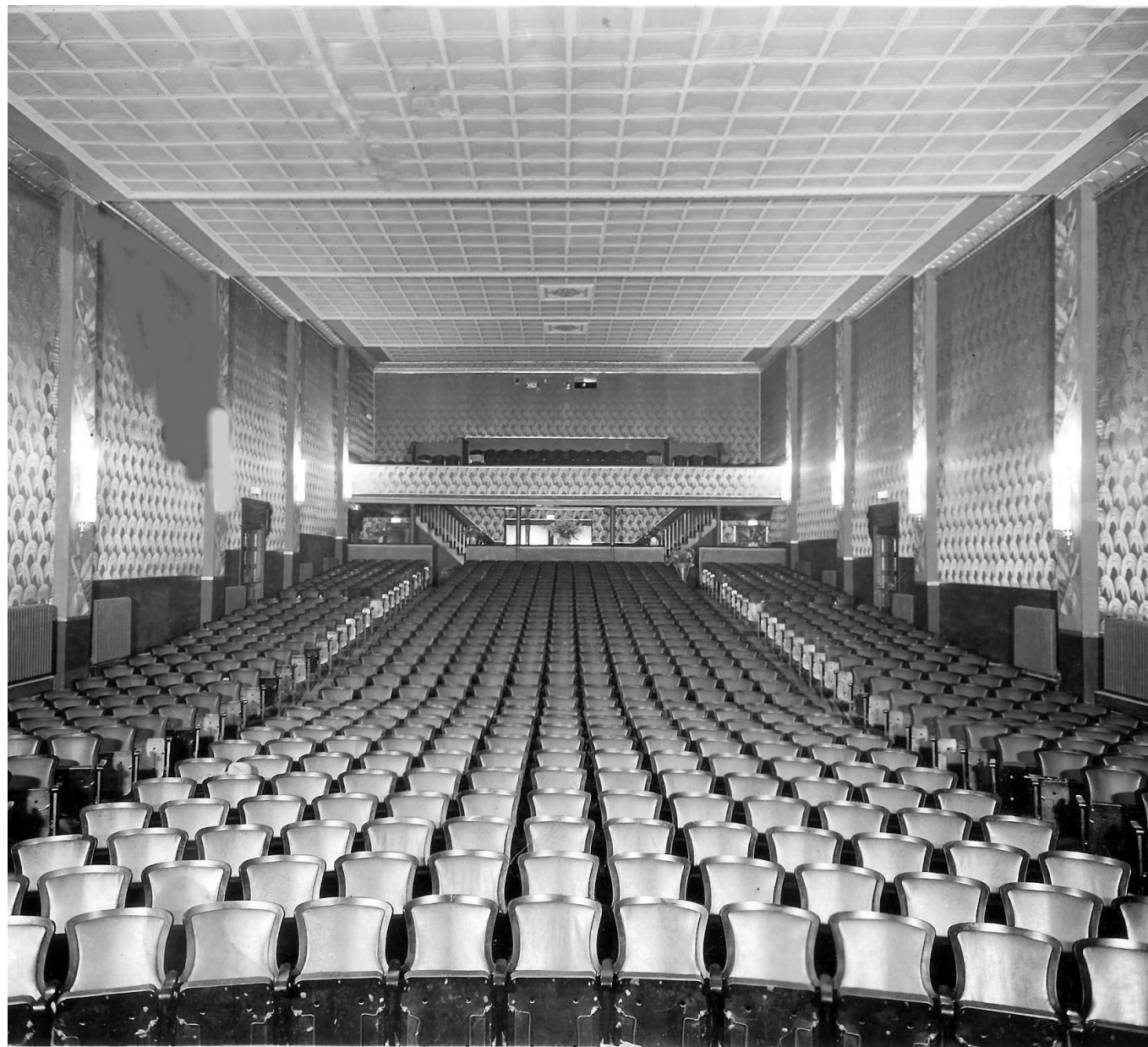
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N.Y.O. & W.



Hippodrome Theater  
*The Hippodrome moving picture theatre opened in 1914, there were two programs as well as a citizens orchestra for entertainment. This theatre was equipped with every modern device, including (8) electric fans, quality screens and lighting. Seating capacity was at (300).*

Smalley's Theatre  
*Smalley's Theatre had (880) seats, including a balcony. It opened in 1922 with sound equipment installed in 1929. Performances included silent movies accompanied by live music, vaudeville acts and talkies (which are soundtracks). Personal appearances by Roy Rogers, Tom Mix and Gene Autry to promote their westerns at Saturday matinees for 3,000 people. In 1957, Smalley's was sold, but the building remained a theatre until 1997.*



Sidney Theatre  
*Mr. Richards took over management of the theater in 1960 after rotating between the Palace Theater in Oneonta and the Sidney theater. Both were owned by Harold DeGraw of Oneonta. Jim Richards purchased Sidney Theater from Mr DeGraw in the mid sixties until when he sold out and moved back to Baltimore in the late 70s.*



1972 Bicentennial  
*Bicentennial activities were scheduled each day from July 1st to July 8th, in 1972. Most of the town participated in some capacity. On the last day, a gigantic parade featuring floats, bands, drum & bugle corps, fire departments, antique cars & horses. "Bicentennial Belles" dressed in colonial gowns while "Brothers of the Brush" grew facial hair for the celebration. An estimated 15,000 people attended the festivities.*



*Bicentennial  
Parade  
1972*





RUBY'S DEPT. STORE

APPLIANCES  
BESDIN'S FURNITURE

LIQUOR STORE

BESDIN'S FURNITURE

TOWN OF BOVINA  
FIRE DEPARTMENT





***Photos of Past Parades  
(75th Troop C, 1992)***



*The Pioneer Cemetery is the resting place for many of Sidney's founding families. The first recorded burial in 1787 is of Lois Johnston, wife of Revolutionary War Colonel Witter Johnston. There are (9) Revolutionary war veterans buried here, including Israel Smith and his wife, Abigail Chandler Smith, the great-great grandparents of Rutherford B. Hayes. There are approximately 241 markers in the cemetery, many currently being repaired & restored by Dale & Tine Utter. Many are broken or unreadable, ranging from hand-cut slabs of fieldstone to crumbling sugar marble, dating from before 1787. In 1806, William Dovener gave the land to be used as a formal burial ground and site for the Congregational Church. A number of graves were relocated to Prospect Hill in 1935-1936 when the new road and bridge were built. The Pioneer Cemetery was accepted into the National Register of Historic Places in 2007.*



The Pioneer Burying Ground



SIDNEY PLAINS

PIONEER CEMETERY

1787 - 1890

N.Y. STATE & NATIONAL

REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

2007

SIDNEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION