

THE OLD HOME TOWN 1796-1957

My husband passed away before he was able to complete this edition of The Old Home Town. It was a work very dear tohis heart, and the material for it required many long hours of research. There were the many contacts and interviews, the countless books and documents to be sifted for historical data; the quantities of pictures and photographs to be examined and the burning of midnight oil in his darkroom reproducing many of them for the pictorial matter for his beloved book.

That his efforts might not be in vain, I have endeavored to complete as many issues as possible from the material he had on hand, and to make this edition as nearly like what he had planned as I could. This often proved an uneasy task, as his abbreviated notes sometimes were undecipherable to me. I therefore beg the forebearance of his readers for any discrepancies which have crept into this posthumous edition of the work of William Hiram Gray.

mabel M. Gray.

HISTORIC NEW BEDFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

Views of New Bedford in the Old Days From 1796 to 1957 - 161 Years

In June, 1818, the year Illinois became a state, the town site was laid out by Daniel Inbody and surveyed by James McCready. On April 23, 1852 it was incorporated as a burough, but in Jan. 1, 1861, this was discontinued. It is now under the township supervisors.

In 1802 the Youngstown-Mercer (Pa.) road was laid out. It connects with McGuffey road at the state line, passes through Pulaski and to Mercer via route 468. About 1805, the year Pike led his expedition toward the head-waters of the Mississippi, the road from Youngstown, Ohio to New Castle, through New Bedford, was laid out. For many years, this was U.S. 422, but recently a new road was built by-passing New Bedford.

In 1808 the Sharon-New Bedford road was laid out, this is part of state route 932. The road from New Bedford to Pulaski was formerly part of route 932 passing the Deer Creek Church and Cemetery and the Sealy farm where "Josh" Shields lived many years.

The town was named for Dr. Nathaniel Bedford, an early settler who owned a large tract of land where the town now stands, and also from some mineral springs whose water is similar to the famous Bedford springs in Bedford County Penna. Dr. Bedford was born in Birmingham, England about 1745 and died in Pittsburgh, Pa. March 21, 1818.



























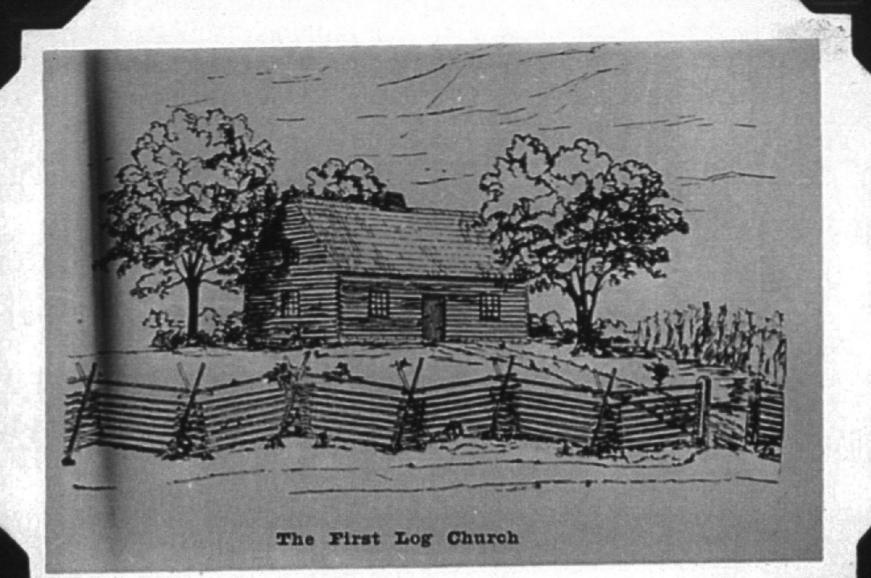












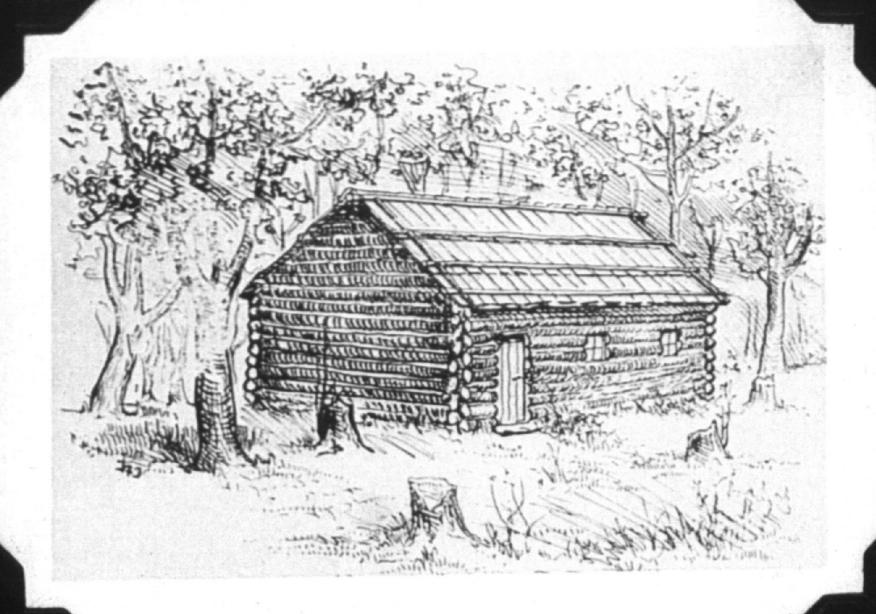


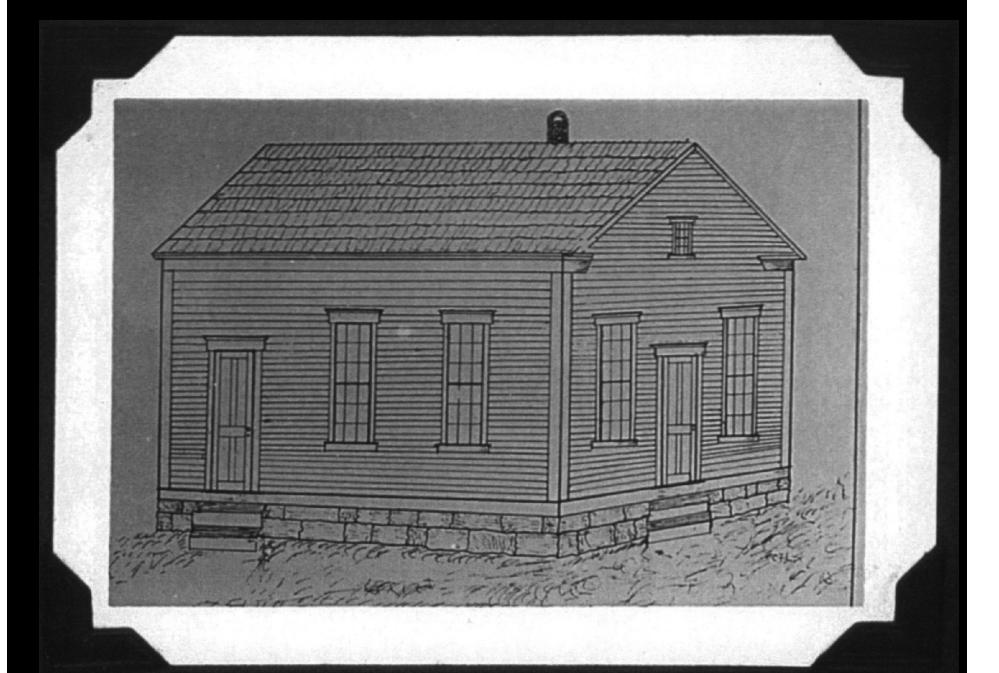
The Second Log Church 1804-1848

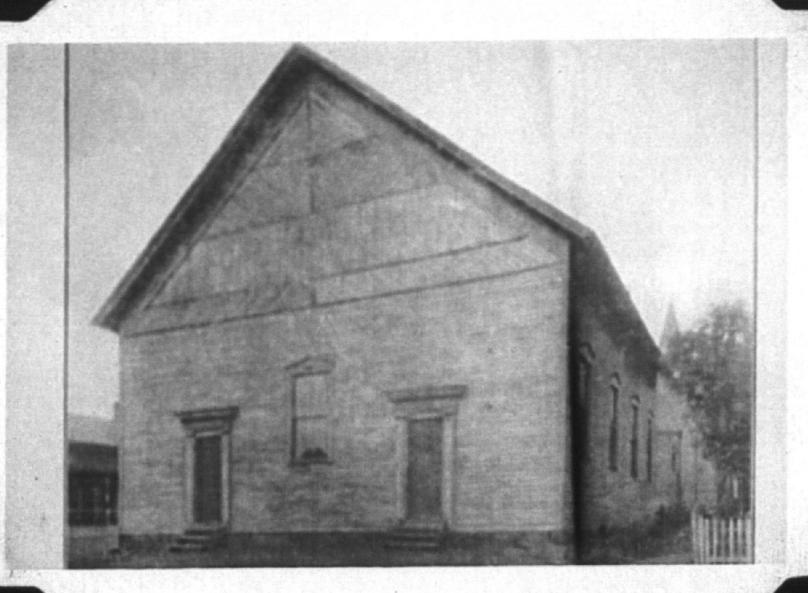












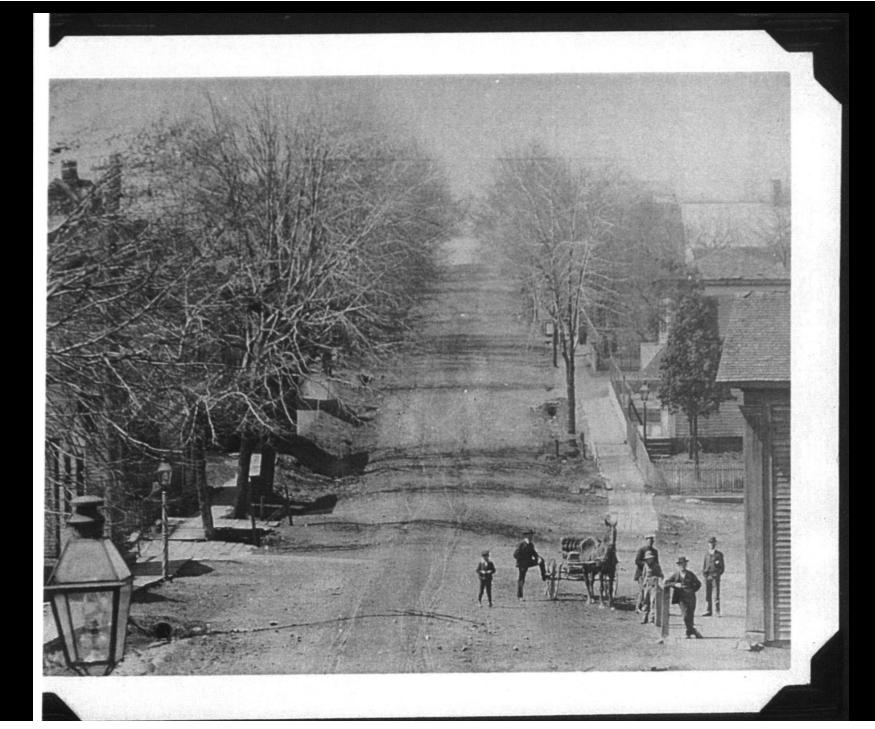








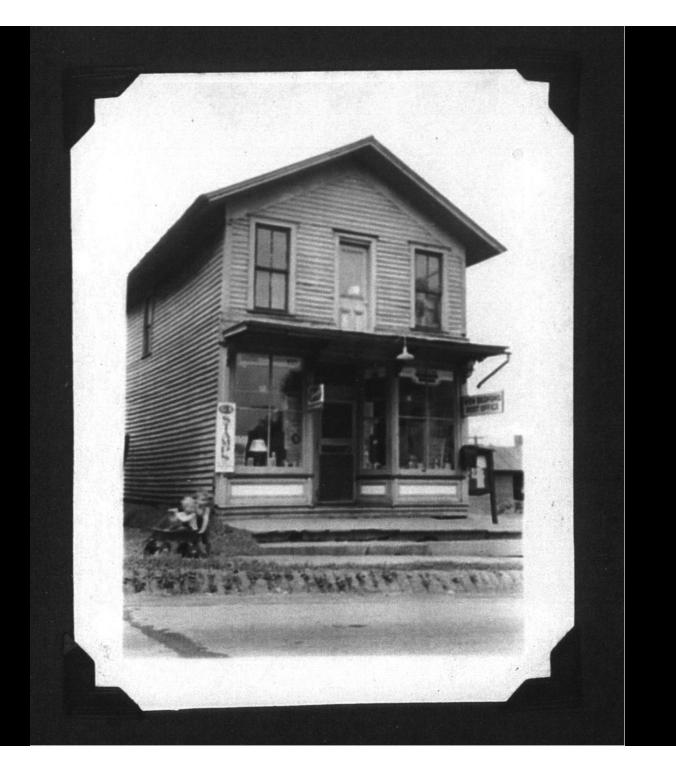






















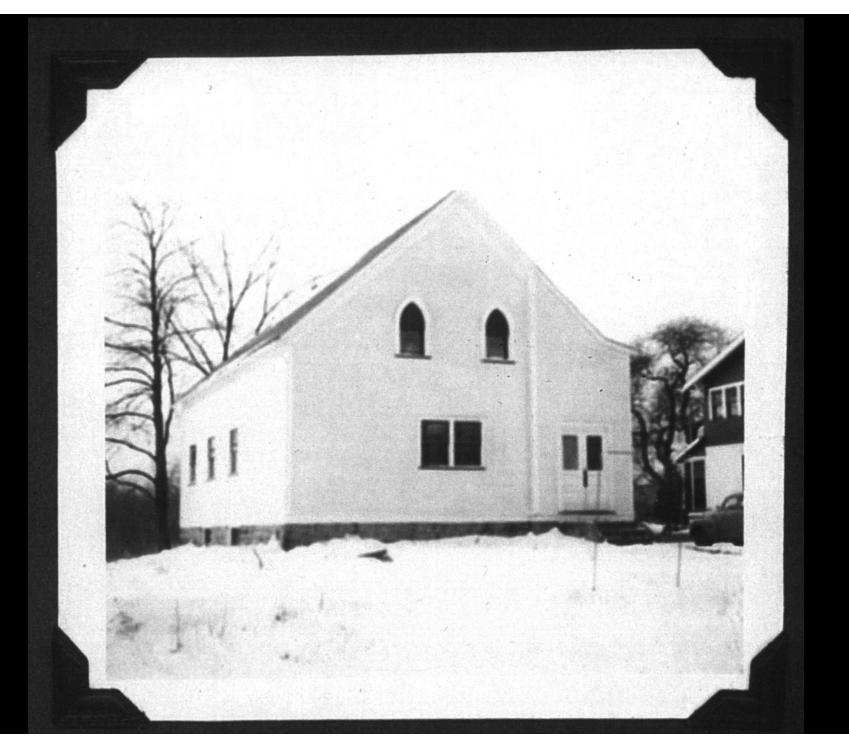


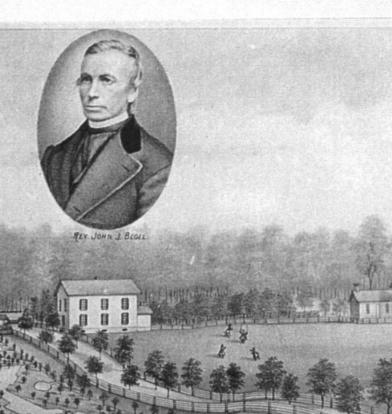












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