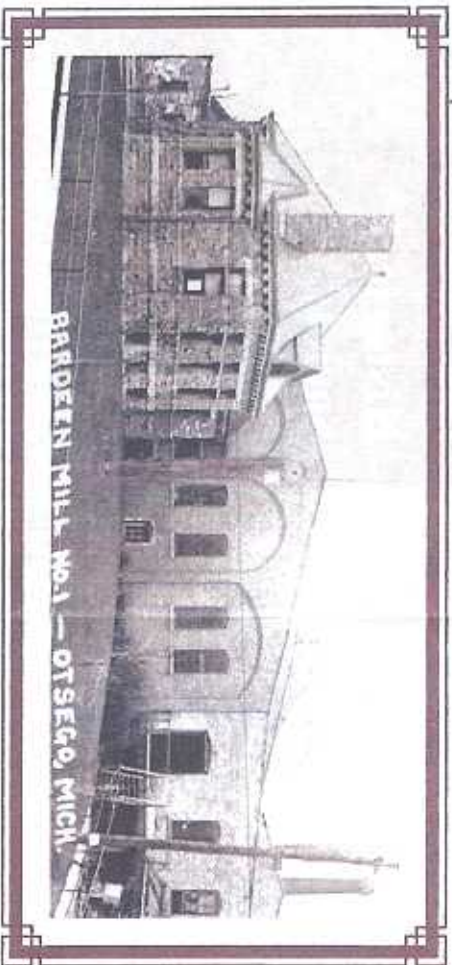


Our History, Our Heritage, Our Home



OTSEGO—A BRIEF HISTORY

Otsego is one of the earliest multi-family pioneer settlements in Allegan County. Dr. Samuel Foster and his family arrived from New England to this area in the fall of 1831, building his home on the south bank of the Kalamazoo River in today's downtown.

Much of the platted lands in this area were purchased for development by New Yorker Horace Comstock in 1832. Comstock was married to the niece of American author James Fenimore Cooper, and it was Horace who named our town after the Otsego region in upstate New York.

1887 was a landmark date for Otsego. The Bardeen Paper Mill established itself on the north banks of the river and quickly changed the complexion of the town. The commerce of paper production thrived here and by the early 1900s the small town of 3,000 had seven paper mills in operation.

This local history of Michigan's pioneers and

manufacturing remains a vital link to our heritage that needs to be remembered and preserved.

THE FUTURE:

OTSEGO AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Otsego Area Historical Society is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to promoting the history and heritage of the area of Otsego, Michigan. Through the generous support of Otsego's Downtown Development Authority, the historic 1907 Waterworks building was rehabilitated as the Otsego Area History Museum. The museum actively secures the history of Otsego through public exhibits, programs and a hands-on papermaking exhibit especially designed for children. In order to continue its mission, the OAHHS seeks your help with a sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP

Three annual levels of sponsorship exist: \$10 for individuals, \$15 for couples and \$25 for families. There is also an individual lifetime membership available for \$150. As a sponsor you will receive the quarterly historical society newsletter and the added benefit of knowing that your dollars will go directly toward supporting programming, exhibits and the museum's yearly operation.

Membership Level

- Individual \$10.00
- Couple \$15.00
- Family \$25.00
- INDIVIDUAL LIFETIME \$150.00

Total: _____

Name _____

Address _____

E-MAIL _____

Phone _____

Make your check payable to OAHHS

I am interested in helping in the following area(s):

- Acquisition of artifacts, collections
- Sponsorship and fundraising
- Volunteer Docent
- Other _____

MAIL TO:

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On the Web: www.otsegohistory.org