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Roseville Legend

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Stokely Homestead: One of Roseville's Early Settlements



The Stokely Homestead is located at 7680 Rose Hill Road. It has been known for many years as the "Maddox Farm." The property was settled in 1805 by David Stokely. His brother-in-law Chauncey Ford, the first settler in Roseville, established his home nearby in 1804. In 1977 the Ohio Historical Society recognized the property as a Historic Ohio Homestead and there is a plaque on the front of the house with this designation. The house is currently owned by Howard Pellar. [Photo courtesy of Howard Pellar]

By Arthur Glover

There is an interesting historical continuity to this property and its previous occupants. Prior to 1981 it had been owned by the same family for nearly 200 years.

David Stokely was the first white settler to occupy the property.

As early as 1693 the Stokely family owned land in Sussex County, Delaware colony. **David Stokely** was born there in 1768, one of eight children of **Ann** and **Pretymann Stokely**. In his youth, Sto-

kely was a shoemaker. After his father's death in 1790 he migrated west. In 1795 he traveled to Marietta, on the Ohio River. Marietta, founded seven years earlier, was the first permanent settlement in the Northwest Territory.

In 1797 Stokely was deeded 100 acres of land in Newton Township in the Bear Creek Allotment, Eighth Range, and Lot 36 of the Third Township and Lot 31 in the Fourth Township. The smaller 6.8-acre property is part of the original 100 acres.

In the spring of 1799 Stokely came up the Muskingum River from

Marietta to Putnam, a part of present-day Zanesville. He built a cabin on "Congress Land" near the site of the Putnam foundry, and was employed in clearing land and in planting corn.

In the summer he returned to Marietta and on July 3, 1799, married **Abigail Hurlbut**. Six days later they returned to his cabin in Putnam as squatters, where he continued to clear land until it was sold. The genealogy notes that Abigail's first chore was to grub stumps from the dirt floor of their cabin.



Roseville Historical Society
91 N. Main Street
Roseville, OH 43777-1255
Phone: (740) 697-7127
Email: bgu@avolve.net

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(740) 697-7127

Vice President

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(740) 697-7768

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(740) 697-7682

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Visit the Roseville Historical Society web site at: <http://www.netpluscom.com/~pchs/rosevill.htm>.

POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to the Roseville Historical Society, 91 N. Main Street, Roseville, OH 43777-1255.

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The W.I. Tyler Pottery operated in Roseville from 1921-1958. The pottery contained more than 22,000 square feet on five acres. In 1959 the pottery was sold to the Melck Pottery Company. From 1973-1999, Friendship Pottery operated at this location. Friendship Pottery closed its doors in 1999. (Photo courtesy of the Zanesville Times Recorder.)

Roseville High School Students in 1902



Students at Roseville High School (Bluffdale Building) posed for this picture in the spring of 1902. The picture is owned by Mrs. Charles (Elsie) Gobel. Pictured are: Front row, left to right, Everett Baughman, William Dollison, Nelson McCoy; second row: Brent Baker, Ernest Duvall, Lloyd McCoy, Geo. Zehring, Delmar Harkness; third row; G.

E. Wright (teacher), Carl Sprung, Florence Sagle, Dwight Walker, Leah Baughman, Fred Cookson, Charles Gobel, Elmer Martin; fourth row: Nellie Williams, Ina Sprung, Hatlie Conaway, Fay Melck, Leah Pace, Mary Burton, Marguerite Thomas, Hazel Duvall, Grace Williams.

Do you have a copy of this photograph? In 1969 it was owned by Mrs. Charles Gobel. If you have a copy of this photograph, please consider loaning it to the historical society. (Photocopy reprinted from the Zanesville Times Recorder.)

Stokely Homestead (cont.)

In 1805 the Stokely's moved to their land in Newton Township, south of Jonathan Creek. Stokely built a log cabin that year and the family occupied it for the next ten years. The cabin was torn down in 1815. The back wing of the existing homestead was built on the site where the cabin once stood. The larger front portion of the house was added in 1840.

The construction date of the granary is not known, but the large barn was put up in 1830. Hand-hewn beams over 30 feet long reflect the solid craftsmanship.

Abigail and David died the same day—August 31, 1847. They are buried side-by-side in the small family cemetery, which is located a short distance northeast of the house, on the south side of a small pond.

The 1799 marriage of **Abigail Hurlbut** and **David Stokely** represented the joining of two colonial families of English origin.

Earliest family records in England for the Hurlbut family dates from before 1450. Some four generations later, one **Thomas Hurlbut, Sr.** (born in 1610) landed in Boston on November 28, 1635 aboard a 25-ton North Seabark, the *Bachelor*. He helped build Saybrook at the mouth of the Connecticut River. It was the first fort in the history of New England. Thomas was a blacksmith at Withersford, Connecticut.

In 1743, three generations later, one **Caleb Hurlbut** married **Mary Bartholomew** in Woodbury, Connecticut. They had six children; one of whom was named Benoni. As a youth, Benoni moved to upstate New York and later to Pennsylvania. He seems to have been accustomed to frontier life and served

as a hunter.

Early Washington County (Marietta) records say **Benoni Hurlbut** and family were among the first 16 families to come to the Marietta settlement in the fall of 1788 when it was founded. Benoni's wife was named Phebe and they had at least four children.

For some time the family lived on Blennerhassett Island, on the Ohio River, near today's Parkersburg, West Virginia.

In 1789 Benoni served as a hunter for a party of surveyors, probably *The Ohio Company*.

In 1791 his family was lodged at a fort called Farmers Castle, at Belpre, on the north side of the Ohio River, and Benoni was a hunter for the Garrison.

Family tradition says his widow, Phebe, then moved to Blennerhassett Island where she worked for 12 years as a seamstress for the **Harmon Blennerhassett** family. After the ruin of Blennerhassett for his participation in the **Aaron Burr** affair, Phebe went to live in Waterford Township. Then, in 1812 she moved to her daughter's home and lived with Abigail and David for the remainder of her life. She died in 1816 and is buried in the family cemetery.

Abigail's younger sister, **Mary Hurlbut**, married **Chauncey Ford** and they lived across the road from the Stokely's. This property was still owned by members of the Ford family as recently as 1995-96. Ford descendant **Franklin Ford** passed away well over the age of ninety.

The last direct descendant of **David Stokely** to own and live on the homestead was **Marguerite Stokely Maddox**. Born in 1890, she married **Herbert V. Maddox** in 1917. They had two sons. Marguerite lived on the property until 1980, when she went to live in a nursing home. She died in

1990 at the age of 100.

In 1977 the Ohio Historical Society awarded the property recognition as a *Historic Ohio Homestead*.

In the mid 1980's the entire 100 acres, with the house and outbuildings were sold to the **Ransbottom** family.

In June 1988 the Ransbottom's sold the house, outbuildings, and 6.8 acres to **Keith and Teresa Long**, who lived on the property for five years.

In December 1993 the Long's sold their holdings to the present owners.

In 1996 **David Stokely Maddox II** of Akron, a grandson of the late **Marguerite Stokely Maddox** visited the present owners. Part of the pleasant afternoon was spent reminiscing about his ancestors, what the property looked like in previous years, and what several rooms in the house were used for.

Before the white man came along to settle in the area, there were numerous Indians living here. They included the Shawnee, Delaware, Miami, Mingo, and Wyandot in the period of the 1700's.

The state was criss-crossed with Indian trails. One of them was the Muskingum Trail, which began at Marietta. It followed the west side of the Muskingum River northward and, according to local tradition, passed through the Stokely land. Tradition says it approached the property from the southwest...across the present-day Nazarene Church, north of Roseville...through the bottom just south of the location of the Stokely homestead and the large 1830 barn and thence north to Zanesville. From there it continued northward through four Shawnee villages of 1774 toward Coshocton.

SOURCES for this article:

A partial genealogy of the Hurlbut & Stokely families, by Allen Sheneman and Trella H. Romine.

Headstones in the Stokely family cemetery.

David Stokely Maddox II.

For the Indian sidelight—Reginald Folden, age 80 plus and a lifelong Roseville resident.



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<http://www.netpluscom.com/~pchs/rosevill.htm>

This site provided courtesy of the Perry County Historical Society

A Note from the Editor

The past year has been an exciting one for the Roseville Historical Society. We have obtained copies of *The Independent* and the *Roseville Leader*, two of the four newspapers that once informed the citizens of Roseville.

There is still much information to be found. So, we ask you to help us in this quest. We are looking for photographs, postcards, newspapers, land documents, advertising items, and most important, information. Please consider assisting us by volunteering to conduct research, to interview longtime residents of the community, and to search for historical memorabilia.

We welcome your thoughts and ideas!

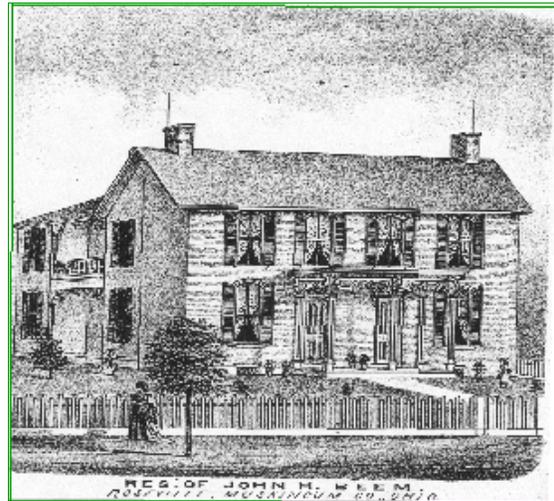
Calendar of Events

April 26, 1999, General Meeting, Roseville Historical Society, Municipal Bldg., Roseville, OH, 7:00 PM.

May 9-15, 1999, National Preservation Week.

June 5, 1999, First Annual Craft Show, Ohio Ceramic Center, Roseville, OH, 10:00 AM – 5 PM.

June 28, 1999, General Meeting, Roseville Historical Society, Municipal Bldg. Roseville, OH, 7:00 PM.



This lithograph of the John H. Beem residence can be found in the "*New Historical Atlas of Muskingum County, Ohio*" illustrated by L.H. Everts & Co., 1875. A copy of this atlas is available at the Muskingum County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogy Society (MCCOGS) in the McIntire Library in Zanesville, Ohio. [Photo courtesy of MCCOGS.]