

IROQUOIS TOWNSHIP

Iroquois Township, located in Newton County, was established in 1853. It was made up of what is now Iroquois, Grant, Jefferson and Washington Townships. Three trustees were elected as the laws required at that time. The following year the township was divided in the middle, north and south, the west township taking the name of Washington. Iroquois retained that organization until 1865, when it was again divided through the middle, east and west, and Grant Township was organized. A strip a mile wide on the west of Iroquois Township was transferred to Washington Twp.

"In 1853," says John Ade, "there was not a single public school building in the district forming the county of Newton. There were several buildings used for schools, but they were all built by private enterprise. In most of these, school was taught for a short term each year, persons in the neighborhood uniting to employ a teacher, he boarding among the pupils, in many cases as part pay for services rendered."

"These buildings did not have a nail or any other article of iron in their composition. The floors, benches and doors were made of puncheons; wooden hinges for the doors, and for a light, a log would be sawed out of the side of the building, and when they did not have glass, greased paper was used in the place of it. The roof was made by using clapboards about three feet long, split out of logs and held down in place by logs called 'weight poles'. When meetings were held at night, it was expected that each family would bring a candle or a saucer of grease with a rag in it to furnish light for the occasion."

For thirteen years after the organization of Newton County, the head of its school system was the county examiner. The first one was Nathaniel West, 1861-1864. Since 1873 it has been in charge of a county superintendent. The first superintendent was John H. Merchant who served from 1873-1875. The superintendent was elected by the county board of education comprised of the township trustees, the school boards, and the county superintendent. In 1916 there were 2616 pupils enrolled, and in 1882 there were 2248 enrolled.

In 1877 the average pay was \$1.72 for men per day and \$1.61 for women. In 1882 it was \$2.13 for men and \$1.77 for women.

The first school of which I have any account that was taught in Iroquois Township was opened in one end of a double log cabin belonging to John Lyons. This school was made of logs and was built on the Lyons' farm on the south side of the river. The year is not definitely known, but was about 1849 or 1850. I think Barnett Hawkins was the first teacher at a salary of \$18 per month

In 1853 contracts were let for the erection of two frame buildings, 18 x 24 feet in size. They were to have windows with panes 8 x 10 inches, to be lathed and plastered, and to be completed one year from the date of letting the contract. One of these houses was erected on the ground now occupied by the public library, the other was located on the south side of the river in the original first district. The following year another contract was let for a schoolhouse which afterward was known as the Salem School. In 1859 the Hickory Branch Schoolhouse was built on the land northeast of Brook known as the Henry Smith farm.

These four schoolhouses were all the township had until 1869 and 1870 when the Duffy and Griggs schoolhouses were built. The Duffey College was located on what is now the Burford Lyons' farm about two miles north of Brook. The Griggs School was located about two miles south of Brook and across where the George Shide family now lives.

Other school buildings were the Schuette School located just north of the Ormiston farm, and the Iroquois School located south of the Frank Morton farm. This school has since been moved to the Frank Morton farm. In 1873 the Foresman Schoolhouse was erected.

The first school to be built with public funds was erected on the site of the Brook Public Library in 1853. It was a small frame building 18 x 24 feet.

School began at 8:30 and lasted until 4:30. There were two terms, a winter one of six months and a summer one of two months. The room was very cold in the winter with a stove in the center of the room. Benches were placed around it in a circle. The smaller students sat in the inner circle, and the larger ones on the outer edge. The noon lunches were often frozen as they had been placed around the walls. At one time 87 pupils were enrolled in all the eight grades taught.

As the population of the town grew, it was necessary to have a larger building, so in 1865 a new building 24 x 36 feet was built in what is now McKinley Park. This was used both as a schoolroom and a church. Morris Lyons was trustee at that time, and the church people contributed a few hundred dollars to be used in the construction of the building.

When the railroad was built in 1881 the population of the town continued to increase, so in 1889 a second story was added to the school building that had been erected in 1865. There were now two rooms and an enrollment of 80 pupils. Mr. W.P. Griggs was the trustee.

A small entrance hall was built on the front of the old building with a stairway leading to the second story. In this hall the dinner pails and wraps were kept. When school began in September 1889, the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades went upstairs for school, and the first four grades remained downstairs.

The two rooms in this building became so crowded that the school board was forced to send some of the students to another building with another teacher. An outer stairway was constructed at the side of what was later known as the Gem Store.

With the continued growth of the town, it became necessary to have more schoolroom, so in 1895 a four-room brick building was erected on the site of the present building. The building in the park was purchased by Jacob Rick and moved to the rear of his residence and he remodeled it into a barn. It is still standing on what was the George Decker property.

In 1898 the township purchased a one-third interest in the new school building and grounds, thus forming a joint grade school. This building soon proved to be still not large enough to house the increasing number of pupils. There was a new building erected on the site of the former one in 1903-1904. It cost \$22,000. The building had a large assembly room, two recitation rooms, two grade rooms, the superintendent's office, a large hall on the upper hall. On the first floor there were four grade rooms and a place for wraps and dinner buckets. The basement had a room for the teaching of manual training, chemistry and domestic science. The building had electricity.

In 1920 the school building had proven to be too small. Therefore, to relieve this congestion in the grades, a modern brick building was erected in Foresman.

In 1925 the Brook building was enlarged to provide better lighted rooms for recitation, a commercial department, vocational home economics and vocational agriculture.

The building which had been used as a community building and a gymnasium was struck by lightning and burned in 1933. This necessitated a new gymnasium, so it was decided to erect a new addition to the north side of the present building. This was done in 1935 at a cost of \$28,486. Eleven thousand dollars of this was contributed by WPA and the rest was borne by local taxpayers.

In 1966 a new high school was build to provide better educational facilities for the Junior and Senior high school

in the south end of the county. There are currently 1319 students enrolled in the South Newton Corporation. Faculty members numbering well over numbers of the past impart vast knowledge to the students enrolled there.

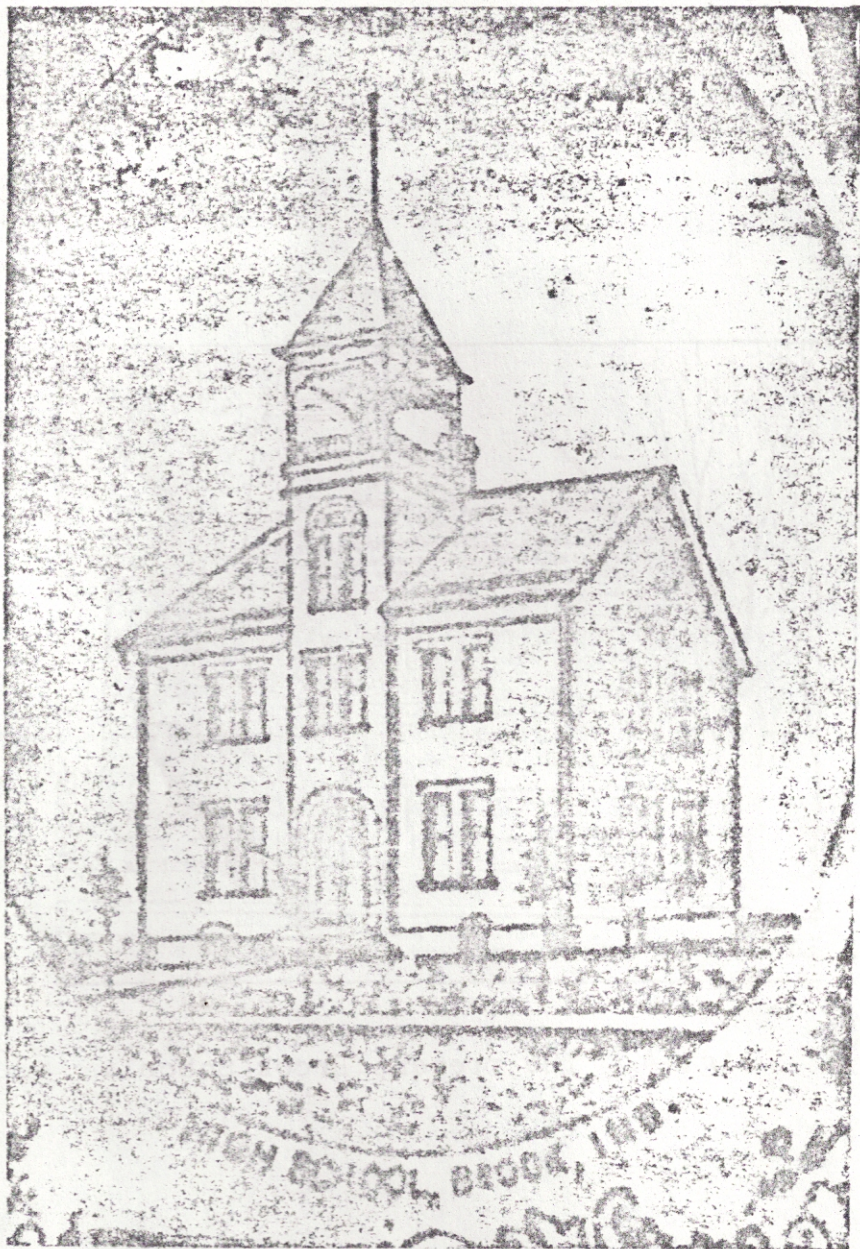


Fig. 3. First brick school building
in Brook.

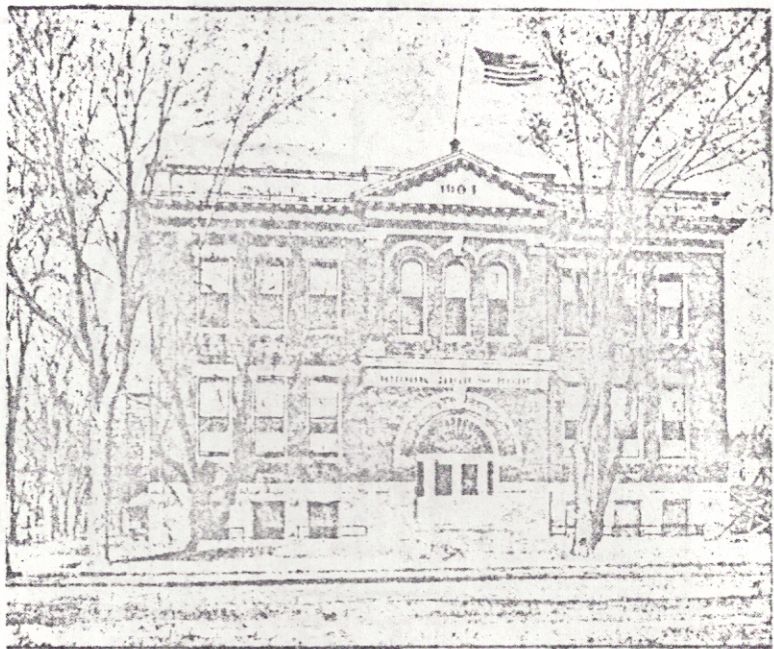


Fig. 4. The present Brook School.



Fig. 1. First school house in Newton County.

IROQUOIS TOWNSHIP'S TEACHERS

1908	1912 cont'd	1917 cont'd
District	5 Minnie Kemper	3 Mattie Geesa
1 Leo Pancoast	6 Miriam Merchant	4 Marie Conn
3 R. Conn	7 Florence Lowe	5 Laura Cooper
4 Ina Sunderland		6 D. Archibald
5 Della Hynds	1913	7 Hilda Sparks
6 Annette Cloutier	1 Bernice Clark	1918
7 Gertrude Weishaar	3 Jennie Harry	1 Laura Cooper
	4 Grace Reed	4 Mary Collier
	5 Mabel A. Bair	5 Amy Cooper
	6 Minnie Kemper	6 Hilda Sparks
1909		7 Fairy Deardurff
1 Leo Pancoast	1914	
3 Emma Park	1 Eunice Park	1919
4 Ina Sunderland	3 Bernice Clark	1 Elizabeth Lowe
4 R. Conn	4 Gertrude Deardurff	4 Laura Cooper
5 E. Lee	5 Miriam Merchant	5 Amy Cooper
6 Annette Cloutier	6 Orpha Collier	6 Hilda Sparks
7 Gertrude Weishaar	7 Beckman & Silvers	7 Emma Bell
1910		
1 R. Conn	1915	
3 Nina Shilts	1 Florence Cloutier	1920
4 Ina Sunderland	3 Orpha Collier	1 Hilda Sparks
5 E. Lee	4 Bernice Clark	4 Amy Cooper
6 Gertrude Weishaar	5 Frances Winters	5 Ruth Cooper
7 Rose Mayhew	6 Marie Conn	6 Elsie Perkins
	7 Margaret Silver	7 Emma Bell
1911		
1 Bernice Clark	1916	1921
3 Gertrude Weishaar	1 Mildred Graves	4 Amy Cooper
4 Annette Cloutier	3 Marie Conn	Hilda Sparks
5 Minnie Kemper	4 Bernice Clark	6 Elsie Perkins
6 R. Conn	5 Laura Cooper	7 Maydene Woodfill
7 Florence Lowe	6 Amy Cooper	
	7 Hilda Sparks	
1912		1922 & 1923
1 Bernice Clark	1917	4 Amy Cooper
3 Opal Light		Grace Foresman
4 Grace Reed	1 Opal Padgett	Hilda Sparks
		7 Clifford Sparks

Brook School

1908

E. Vance
 Guy Dickey
 Elizabeth Hayes
 Edith Parks
 N. Harris
 Celia Judy
 Mary Goetz
 Katherine Shields

1909

Mittie DeWeese
 Guy Dickey
 J. McIntosh
 N. Harris
 Elizabeth Hayes
 Celia Judy
 Mary Goetz
 Katherine Shields
 May Park
 Mary Fitzwater

1910

Elizabeth Hayes
 Jessie Haynes
 Cora Deardurff
 N. Harris
 J. McIntosh
 Mary Goetz
 Kathleen Shields

1911

Cora Deardurff
 Elizabeth Hayes
 Fred Longwell
 Katherine Shields
 Mary Goetz
 Celia Judy
 Nellie Harris
 May Park
 Jessie Haynes
 Harrison Frazier
 Fred Longwell

1912

Cora Deardurff
 Elizabeth Hayes
 Mary Goetz
 Katherine Shields
 Harrison Frazier
 Fred Longwell
 C. Robertson
 Nellie Harris
 Celia Judy

1913

C. Robertson
 Elizabeth Hayes
 Madeline Ramp
 Cora Deardurff
 Mary Goetz
 Kathryn Shields
 Fred Longwell
 W. Frazier
 Nellie Harris
 Celia Judy

1914

Minnie Kemper
 Madaline Ramp
 E. Hayes
 C. Robertson
 Jennie Harry
 Fred Longwell
 Gertrude Weishaar
 Cora Deardurff
 Ray Major
 Celia Judy

1915

Fred Longwell
 Celia Judy
 Ray Major
 C. Robertson
 E. Hayes
 C. Deardurff
 Minnie Kemper
 G. Weishaar

1915 cont'd

Grace Reed
 Madeline Ramp
 Cora Brown

1916

Edith Park
 Agnes Davis
 Mary Goetz
 C. Robertson
 G. Weishaar
 E. Hayes
 Opal Light
 M. Kemper
 C. Deardurff
 F. Longwell
 W. Light
 J. Hogg

1917

M. Goetz
 Edith Parks
 C. Robertson
 C. Deardurff
 J. Hogg
 G. Weishaar
 E. Hayes
 F. Longwell
 Mildred Graves

1918

C. Robertson
 J. Hogg
 Winona Welch
 Vivian Taylor
 E. Hayes
 Gertrude Miller
 C. Deardurff
 E. Park
 Merle Graves
 Frances Hoffman
 Jennie Wheeler
 J. Shadday

1919

E. Hayes
Ruth Haynes
J. Hogg
Earl Applegate
G. Weishaar
Lena Crays
Mabel Ellis
Madge Ellsworth
Ruth McCord
Vivian Taylor
Clifford Davis

1920

E. Hayes
R. Haynes
C. Davis
Earl Applegate
Lyle Courtney
Mrs. L. Courtney
Rhoda Vail
R. McCord
Madge Ellsworth
Amanda Davis
M. Ellis

1921-22

E. Hayes
Laura Cooper
Ruth Cooper
S. Davis
Lois Robinson
E. Applegate
R. Ringham
Vernon Sigler
Clifford Milton

1923

R. Haynes
E. Hayes
George Chambers
R. Ringham
L. Cooper
R. Cooper
Amanda Davis
Charlotte Harding
Relle Aldridge
George Leavitt

1923 cont'd

Ivan Booker
Helen Cartmall

1924

R. Ringham
R. Johnson
R. Haynes
Charlotte Harding
Audra Wills
Helen Cartmall
J. Taylor
Owen Tullis
E. Hayes
Eunice Brand
Amanda Davis
R. Cooper

1925

R. Ringham
W. Myer
Mrs. W. Myer
W. Hall
R. Haynes
A. Wills
Dorothy Martin
J. Taylor
William Holt
E. Hayes
Mrs. A. Harms
Ruth Cooper
A. Schonfeld

1926

Leonard Loos
A. Schonfeld
R. Haynes
A. Wills
Mary Steckley
Kathleen Vinsel
Fern McNeil
E. Hayes
Amanda Harms
R. Cooper
Kenneth Towell
Evelyn Watkins
Lawrence Radmacher

1927

Gale Smith
A. Schonfeld
R. Haynes
Gerald Strale
Ruth Bowles
Gladys Hartman
Janice Warr
Fern McNeil
Kenneth Towell
Thomas Radmacher
E. Hayes
Nina Sargison
Ruth Cooper

1928

A. Schonfeld
Alvin McCammon
Gerald Strale
K. Towell
Gertrude Peek
Freta Haffner
Janice Warr
Rowena Huddleston
Paris Crane
E. Hayes
Nina Sargison
Kathryn Boggs

1929

A. Schonfeld
E. Clark
W. Cummins
Norman Tanksley
Ruth Kelley
R. Haynes
Rowena Huddleston
Jennie Arklet
K. Towell
E. Hayes
N. Sargison
K. Boggs

1930

A. Schonfeld
Otto Clark
W. Cummins

E. Turley
Rowena Adamson
R. Haynes
Gertrude Cusick
Lawrence Bannon
Norman Tanksley
E. Hayes
N. Sargison
K. Boggs

1931

A. Schonfeld
E. Clark
Byron Bridges
Rowena Huddleston
W. Brant
Ruth Haynes
Gertrude Cusick
L. Bannon
Albert Harshbarger
E. Hayes
N. Sargison
Virgil Robbins

1932

A. Schonfeld
E. Clark
Virgil Robbins
Rowena Huddleston
W. Brant
R. Haynes
G. Cusick
N. Tanksley
E. Hayes
N. Sargison

1933

Harold Crater
V. Robbins
R. Huddleston
W. Brant
R. Haynes
G. Cusick
A. Schonfeld
N. Tanksley
E. Hayes
N. Sargison

1954 *

E. Loveless
N. Tanksley
Grace Norris
Philip Miller
Charles Lash
Shirley Rollings
Rowena Adamson
Paul Egli
Douglas Lowry
Kay Tanksley
Esther Sainte
Leona Kanne
Nellie Carter
A. Cooper
Ben Slinker

1955

E. Loveless
N. Tanksley
L. Bannon
R. Adamson
P. Miller
B. Slinker
Douglas Lowry
A. Cooper
P. Egli
C. Lash
N. Carter
Elna Purcell
L. Kanne
Atlee Lawhead
E. Sainte
Lucille Foster
K. Tanksley

1956

E. Loveless
Ola Morey
L. Bannon
C. Lash
N. Tanksley
A. Lawhead
Don Shondell
P. Egli
L. Foster
R. Adamson

1956 cont'd

P. Miller
N. Carter
B. Slenker
Edna Iliff
L. Kanne
A. Cooper
K. Tanksley

1957

N. Tanksley
Ronald Ham
D. Schondell
Elmer Jack
R. Adamson
Ruth Wagner
Dessia Herdson
Lois Hale
C. Lash
P. Miller
Charles James
B. Slenker
Kathleen Funk
N. Carter
K. Tanksley
A. Cooper
L. Kanne
E. Iliff

1958

N. Tanksley
K. Funk
D. Shondell
L. Hale
E. Jack
P. Miller
R. Ham
R. Wagner
Lillian Wiles
C. Lash
B. Slenker
C. James
N. Carter
R. Adamson
Margaret Brown
Choice Bartlet
A. Cooper

1958 cont'd

Winifred Curts
L. Kanne
K. Tanksley

1959

N. Tanksley
K. Funk
Gerald Bormoth
John Zickmund
Hilda Brackwinkle
B. Slenker
Paul Curtis
N. Carter
R. Ham
M. Brown
R. Miller
A. Cooper
C. James
L. Kanne
R. Wagner
K. Tanksley
C. Lash
W. Curts
R. Adamson
C. Bartlett

1960

N. Tanksley
C. James
K. Funk
C. Lash
R. Miller
Michael Mitchell
P. Curtis
H. Brackwinkle
Bruce Hoaglund
R. Wagner
R. Adamson
James Letsinger
W. Curts
C. Bartlett
L. Kanne
K. Tanksley
A. Cooper
N. Carter
M. Brown
J. Zickmund

1961

N. Tanksley
K. Funk
C. James
M. Mitchell
C. Lash
P. Curtis
H. Brackwinkle
Arthur Bosche
Regina Kraft
R. Wagner
C. Bartlett
R. Adamson
K. Tanksley
W. Curts
E. Sainte
A. Cooper
M. Brown
N. Carter
Stanley Watson

1962

N. Tanksley
K. Tanksley
W. Curts
E. Sainte
A. Cooper
Maxine Montgomery
N. Carter
M. Brown
S. Watson
Caroline Ade
R. Adamson
C. Lash
R. Wagner
Roger Park
Jack Ford
H. Brackwinkle
R. Kraft
K. Funk
A. Bosche
Phyllis Young
C. James

1963

N. Tanksley
E. Sainte

1963 cont'd

K. Tanksley
M. Brown
A. Cooper
N. Carter
S. Watson
R. Adamson
A. Bosche
C. Lash
R. Wagner
Larry Weiand
Kathryn Zimmer
R. Parks
J. Ford
H. Brackwinkle
K. Funk
R. Kraft
P. Young

1964

Robert Wainscott
K. Zimmer
W. Curts
E. Sainte
M. Montgomery
M. Brown
Delores Battleday
S. Watson
C. Lash
H. Brackwinkle
Merrill Van Cleave
K. Funk
P. Young
R. Adamson
R. Parks
William Harmeyer
R. Kraft
L. Weiand

1965

R. Wainscott
K. Zimmer
W. Curts
E. Sainte
D. Battleday
M. Brown
L. Weiand
S. Watson

1965 cont'd

Julia Thomas
R. Parks
LaVerne Weidler
Maxine Pearman
Stella Gillen
Joy Stowers
K. Funk
Gwen Potter
H. Brackwinkle
R. Adamson
W. Harmeyer
C. Lash

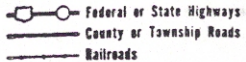
1966

R. Wainscott
K. Zimmer
Kathryn Carroll
W. Curts
E. Sainte
M. Brown
D. Battleday
John Putman
L. Weiand
David Nicholson
R. Parks
Linda Ravage
C. Lash
Carolyn Morrow
H. Brackwinkle
J. Stowers
S. Gillen
R. Adamson
K. Funk
G. Potter

* The gap between 1933-1954 is according to copy sent to printer.

- 1 Julian School
- 2 History Branch
- 3 Duffly College
- 4 Driggs
- 5 Snopceis
- 6 Schuette
- 7 Goussman

TOWNSHIP 28-N. RANGE 8-W.

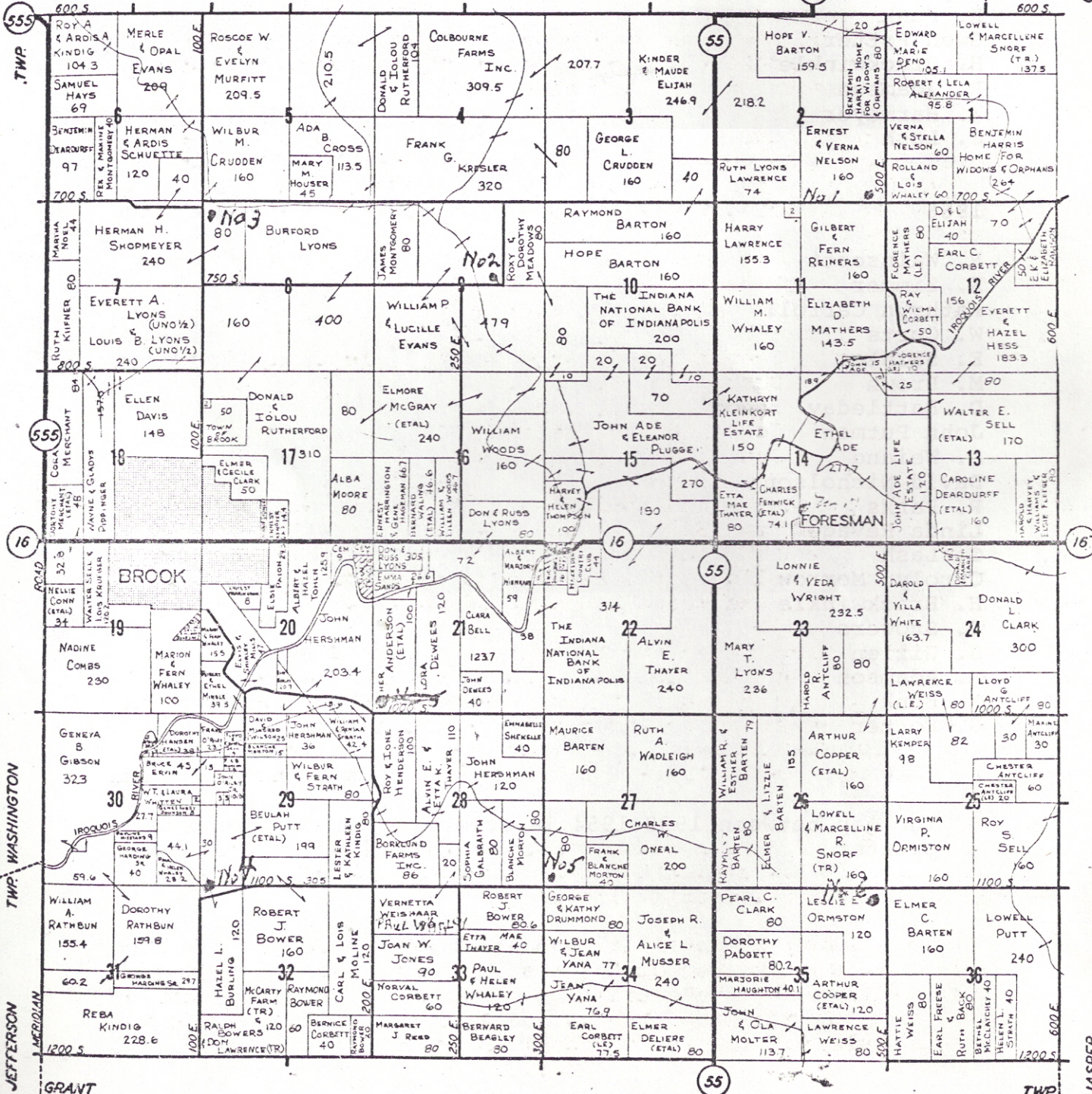


IROQUOIS

JACKSON

TWP

CTY.



JEFFERSON

GRANT

TWP

JASPER