

1900

Context:

The Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad was created in 1900.

"Country" music, Western" music and "Jazz" genres developed and became popular.

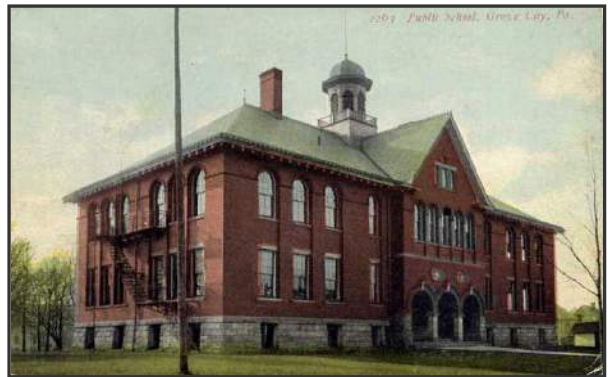
By 1900, the population of Grove City had reached 1,599. The population of Pine Township was 2,139. This represented a combined population increase of 669 over the 1890 census.

The Central School Building was built on the corner of Center Street and Main (then the center of town).

Note:

The Corner stone is dated 1900.

The brick building, designed to house a new four-year high school educational program, was designed by W. G. Eckles. It was considered to be completely state of the art and was the second largest high school the county.



The picture above was taken c1912

The building was closed in 1975 and razed in 1976.

The Peoples National Bank opened with a capital stock of \$300,000. (See 1903)

Joseph Howard Pew graduated from Grove City College.

Note:

J. Howard Pew was the son of J. Newton Pew (founder of the Sun Oil Company). From 1894 to 1971, J. Newton Pew and J. Howard Pew gave millions of dollars to Grove City and interested other industrialists in the college. He was the President of the Sun Oil Company from 1912 to 1947.

The Pew involvement was without question the single most important factor in the success and growth of Grove City College. Joseph Howard Pew once said that his two major philanthropic causes were Grove City College and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

J. Howard Pew served on the Board of Trustees from 1912 to 1971, and was president of that board for forty years.

On May 8 the Company F, Sixteenth Regiment Infantry, N. G. P became Company M, Sixteenth Regiment Infantry under Capt. Theodore J. Robinson.

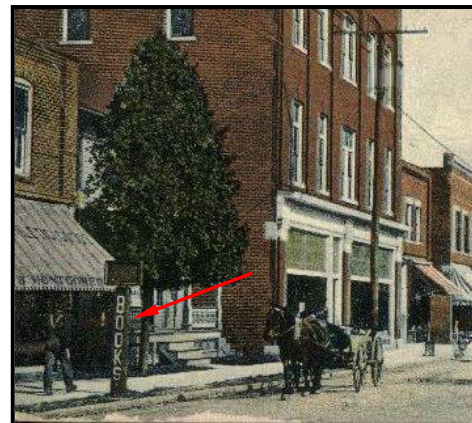
Leroy D. Shafer, D. D. S., a graduate of the Pennsylvania Dental College of Pennsylvania, located in Grove City and began a dental practice.

Benton B. Montgomery opened a bookstore.

Note:

Montgomery was born in Centertown on October 18, 1876. He was one of eight children in his family. Montgomery had been educated at the Mercer schools, Westminster College and the Pennsylvania State College.

Montgomery was a photographer. His photographs of the Grove City area were published on postcards. They are identified with the name "B. B. Montgomery" printed on them.



This detail from a post card is interesting in that the picture of Montgomery's Bookstore (seen in the lower left) was taken by B. B. Montgomery. The photograph was taken after 1906 when the Rhodes-Redmond building visible next the bookstore was built.

Other examples of Montgomery's work can be seen throughout this timeline. (See 1898)

Charles E. McConkey began practicing law.

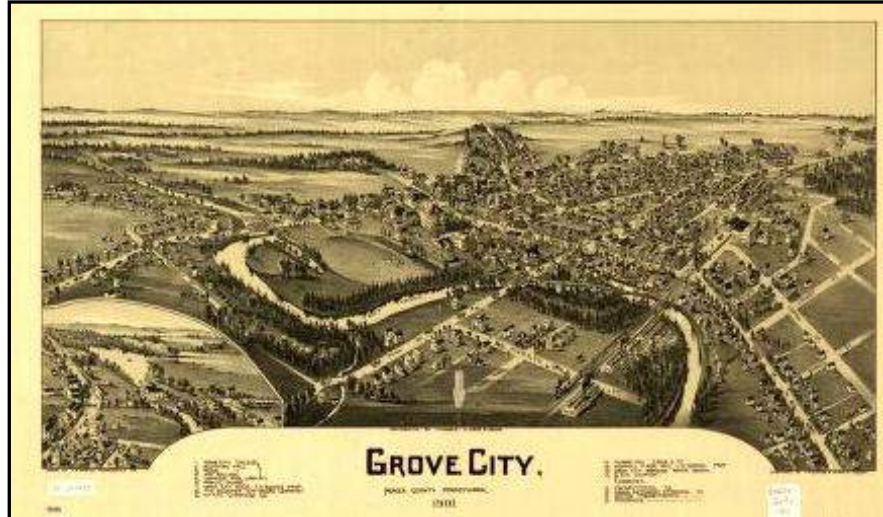
Leroy D. Shafer, D. D. S., a graduate of the Pennsylvania Dental College of Pennsylvania, located in Grove City and began a dental practice.

1901

Pictured is a detailed panoramic drawing of Grove City in 1901.

Note:

This view of Grove City was drawn by T. M. Fowler and James AB. Moyer.



The following details focus on areas of the drawing:

The Bessemer Gas Engine Company facilities

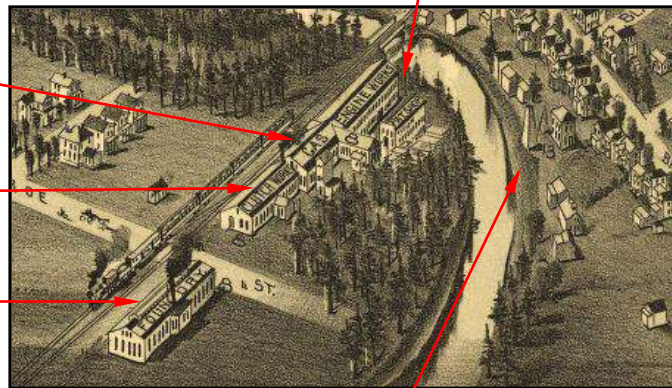
Pattern Shop

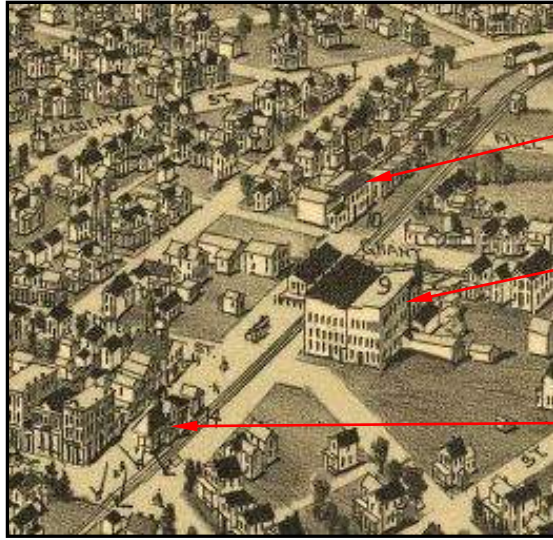
Gas Engine Works

Clutch Works

Foundry

Grove City Borough Water Works





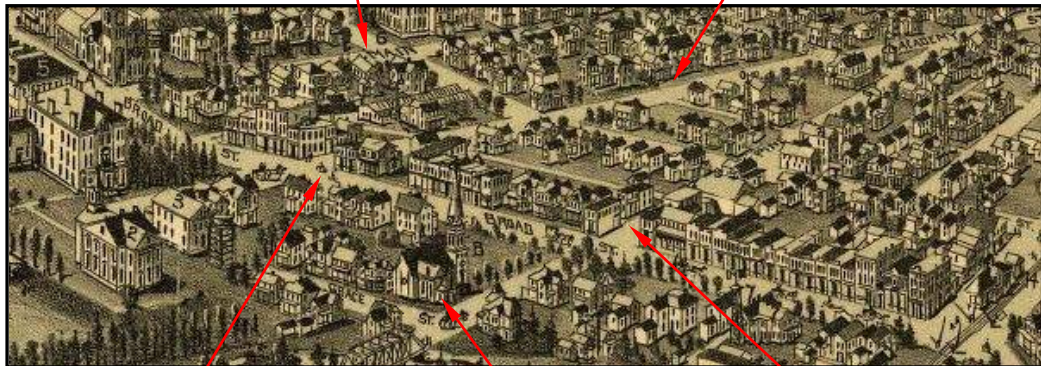
Craig and Company Planing Mill

The McKay Carriage Company

Bessemer Railroad Station

Main Street

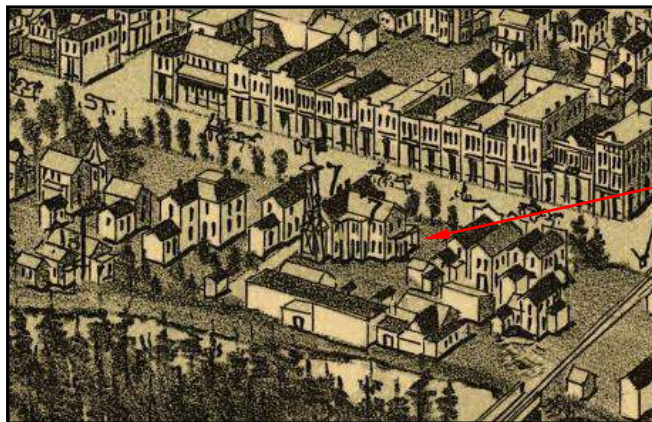
Academy Street



Broad Street

Grace Methodist
Episcopal Church

Pine Street

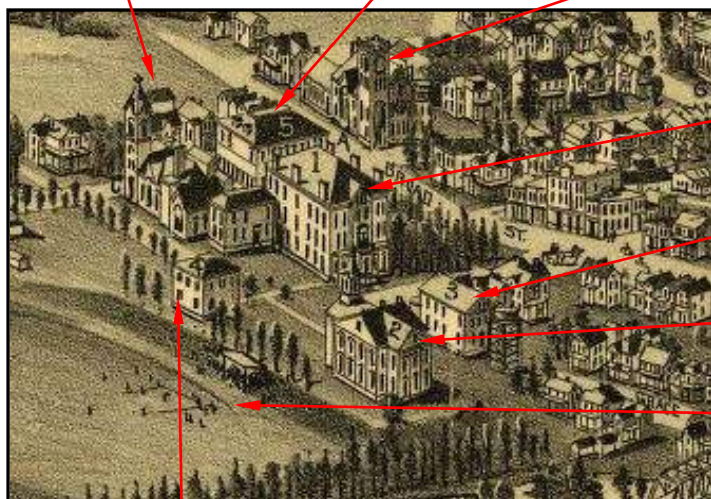


Grove City House
F. M. Squier, Prop.

United Presbyterian Church

Carnegie Free Library

Presbyterian Church



Grove City College

GCC Music Hall

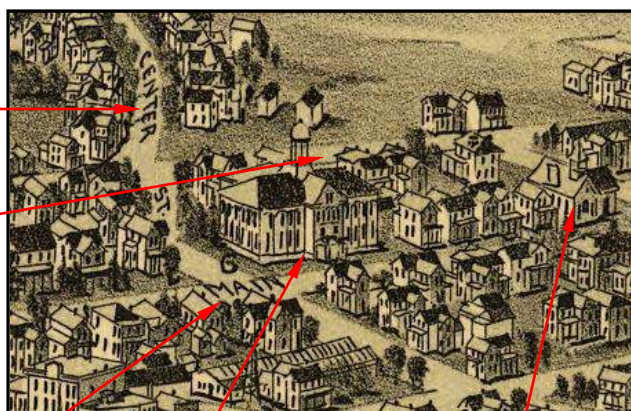
GCC Recitation Hall

Athletic Field

GCC Art Gallery

Center Street

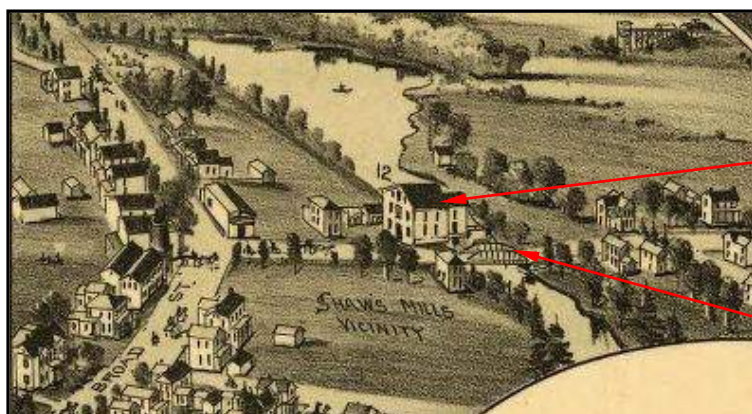
Poplar Street



Main Street

Public School

Reformed Church



Hummel's Flour Mill

Iron Arch Bridge

On November 13, The Carnegie Library (Carnegie Music Hall) on the Grove City College campus was completed.

Note:

Originally, the Carnegie Library was a gift of Andrew Carnegie and was to be a facility to be shared by the community and the college. Grove City was to furnish a site and guarantee \$3000 (another source \$1800) a year for the library's maintenance.

In 1900, the borough passed an ordinance to accept the gift.

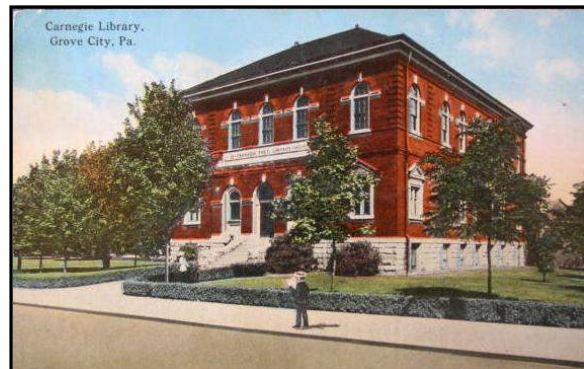
The council entered into a co-partnership agreement with Grove City College, giving the college control of the library. In exchange for controlling interest in the library, the college agreed to provide the site for the library. The land was purchased by J. N. Pew and donated for the project.

On April 11, 1901, a group of citizens filled a legal suit against the borough of Grove City and Grove City College challenging the legality of the contract and the debt. Results of this suit are unknown.

The building was completed in 1901. It was designed by Struthers and Hanna, Pittsburgh architects.

This picture was taken in 1906.

The library contained a library on the main floor. The library included a general reading room, a children's room, and a librarian's office. The library was equipped with stacks for 25,000 books. Five thousand books were in place on opening day



Downstairs was a gymnasium and lavatories.

Upstairs was an auditorium with a large stage and dressing room for the performing arts. The auditorium would seat 600.

Sara Gertrude McKinney, M.A. Grove City College, 1898, was placed in charge of the library.

Within a few years of operation of the library, the borough decided that it did not want the financial responsibility and its ownership was transferred to the College.

The Wayside Inn was built in Grove City by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Note:

The Wayside Inn was the forerunner of Orchard Manor, Inc. It was built by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for Brothers of the Fellowship and their widows.

The establishment of the home was recommended by the lodges of Western Pennsylvania on January 10, 1901. In the following May it was approved by the grand lodge, and the institution was incorporated July 18, 1901. The location of the home was selected from twenty-two possible sites in November.



This photograph shows Wayside Inn in 1901.



The name "Wayside" became the name of the local Rebekah Lodge, the "Wayside" Lodge. Rebekah Lodge No. 280.

Over the years there were several major construction projects enlarging the facilities. This photograph is dated September 7, 1925. It shows a large addition extending from the front of the original building under construction

This 1933 picture shows the completed project including the addition.

Later the facility was opened to the public.

On July 17, 1975, Orchard Manor, Inc. was incorporated.



In 1976, a completely new building, Orchard Manor, was completed and residents from Wayside Inn and Sisters from the Rebekah Home in Pittsburgh moved into the new home.

This representation shows the facilities in 2010.

The 121 bed facility as it appeared in 2011.



The Bessemer Foundry Co. was initiated.

Note:

Bessemer Foundry Co was incorporated to operate a general foundry business in the new foundry built by the Bessemer Gas Engine Co.

The new foundry was 90 (another source 100) x 100 feet and equipped with state of the art equipment, including a 50-foot three-motor electric traveling crane.

The incorporators of the new enterprise were:

Benjamin Spearman, of Sharpsville. Pa., President;

A. Seton, of Mercer, Pa., Vice-President;

W. H. Christy, of Mercer, Secretary,

J. M. Albin, of Mercer, Treasurer.

J. M. Albin, who had been in the foundry business in Mercer, was also general manager in charge of the foundry operations.

The Bessemer Foundry Company was incorporated on January 1, 1904.

1902

Cassius L. Offutt opened a bakery and confectionery business.

Note:

Cassius L. Offutt was born in Leesburg on October 7, 1877. He was a son of Winfield Scott Offutt's who moved to Grove City when he was four years old. He was raised and educated in Grove City.

In 1902, he became a baker and confectioner in Grove City.

W. J. Forker opened a drug store.

1903

Context:

On December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright made the first controlled, powered, and sustained heavier-than-air flight.

An editorial in the *Grove City Reporter* in December 1903 summarized the advantages of the community. It stated:

- The population of Grove City was less than three thousand.
- The whole town was sewered.
- There were miles and miles of flagstone sidewalk with practically no boardwalks.
- There was over a mile of street that was paved and more were in “contemplation”
- There was a public water plant that was the envy of other towns.
- The buildings in the town were all substantial with not a -single tumble-down building in the town.

Note:

The same article highlighted the “moral and religious” values of the community stating:

Not the least desirable feature of our growth has been the fact that in things moral and religious the town has kept pace with the increased population. All too often in a growing place the tendency is to retrograde morally as increased size and opportunities bring them a less refined class of citizens, but fortunately such has not been the case here. Years ago this place gained a reputation for itself in this part of the state for its morality, and it has been noticeable that since then the standard has never fallen.

This 1902 photograph of an oxen team at the John and Johnson Meat Market at the corner of Broad and Erie shows the paved street mentioned in the editorial. The brick pavers are clearly visible in the detail below.





The Grove City Savings and Trust Company was incorporated on January 1, 1903.

Note:

At the organizational meeting of The Grove City Saving and Trust Company, the Grove City Saving and Trust Company and the Peoples National Bank were merged.

In 1908, the Peoples National Bank was liquidated and the merged company was named the Grove City National Bank. E.T. Firth, W.J. Harshaw, T.B. DeArmit, A.E. Graham and Dr J.M. Martin applied for the trust company charter.

Edwin B. Harshaw, was named cashier of the newly established Grove City National Bank

Vita: Edwin B. Harshaw



Edwin was the son of W. J. Harshaw. Harshaw received his education in Grove City. He attended both the public schools and Grove City College. He had also worked in his father's business.

Harshaw had been assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Grove City. For two years, he was cashier of the Broadway National Bank at Scotdale, in Westmoreland County.

He became secretary of the Grove City Savings and Trust Company when it was formed in 1903. The Grove City Savings and Trust Company was converted into the Grove City National Bank on August 1, 1908.

He was also President of the Commercial Club and a member of the borough council.

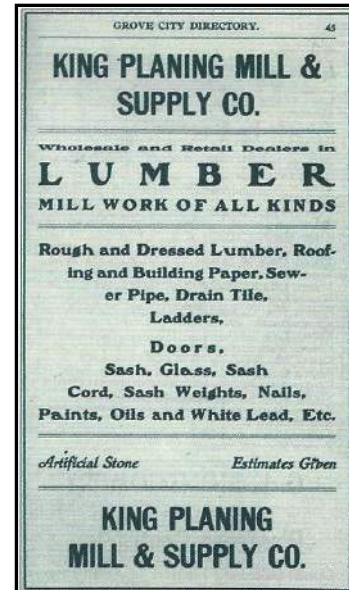
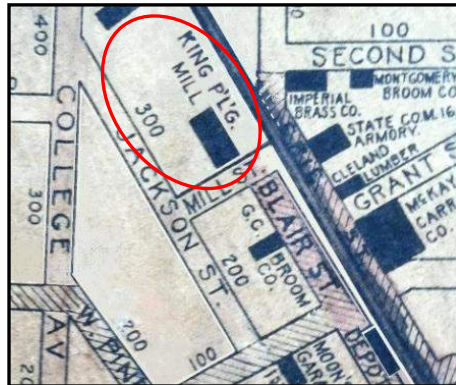
Edwin B. Harshaw remained with the bank until his death in 1945. Upon Harshaw's death, J. A. Armstrong was named Executive Vice President and Norman S. Crill Cashier.

On January 1, 1903, the King Planing Mill And Supply Company was incorporated.

Note:

The King Planing Mill And Supply Company was established by Joseph Robert King. King was raised and educated in Wolf Creek. He began to work at fifteen years of age when he was employed by David.G. Courtney who was making barrels for oil companies. (See 1881)

King bought land and began farming. As well as farming he began lumbering and operating a sawmill. These ventures led to the establishment of the King Planing Mill and Supply Company. The business operated a facility on Mill Street. (See Pine Grove Planing Mill 1870.



In c1930, the business was purchased by Charles H. Wilson Charles H. Wilson and his son, Carroll B. Wilson, (and stockholders). The business was renamed the Wilson Company.

On December 3, 1903, the Barmore Lake Association was formed

Note:

The Barmore Lake Association was formed for the preservation of fish and game as well as establishing a public park with facilities for skating, boating, trotting, and other sports.

The name "Barmore" came from Capt. John P. Barr, a trustee of the organization, and Elmer W. Moore, a Pittsburgh attorney. Barr was the owner of the Union Heat and Light Company, the natural gas company. (See 1886)

The association purchased sixty-six acres of land in Pine Township.





There were ongoing financial difficulties. The only source of income came from an icehouse on the property that was rented during the winter.

The ice business was operated by the Barmore Lake Ice Company and was the main ice supply for the area. This business was owned by T. F. Armour.

There were no cooling systems to store the ice. Blocks of ice were cut out of the lake in the winter, stored in special buildings, and sold year round. T. F. Armour was the father of Arthur Armour. (See 1933)

In 1917, the Barmore Lake Association sold the property to the Grove City Country Club. (See 1917)

The Mount Olive Baptist Church was organized.

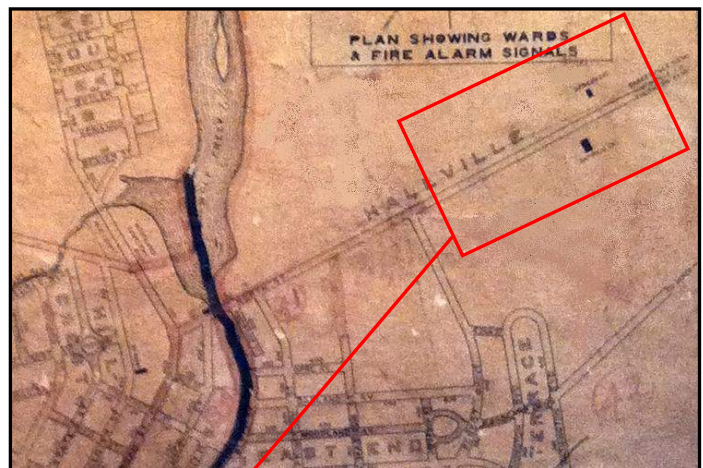
Note:

The congregation began meeting in the homes of its founders. Rev. Charles Purdure was the pastor.

Funds were raised to build a church on land that had been donated by J. C. Martin, heirs Mary Martin Barthalomew, Bertha Docherty, and Fred W. Daugherty,

In 1910, a church was built in Hallville. This map (1915) shows the location of the church in near the original Roman Catholic church. It is labeled the "African Church".

Rev. Frank C. Perry was the first Pastor.



In November 1957, the Mount Olive Baptist Church of Grove City was incorporated. In 1959 an addition was constructed and another addition was completed in 1984.

T. A. Critchton, of Grove City, was admitted to the Mercer County Bar Association on February 4.

1904

In 1904 the first countywide individual mail routes were instituted.

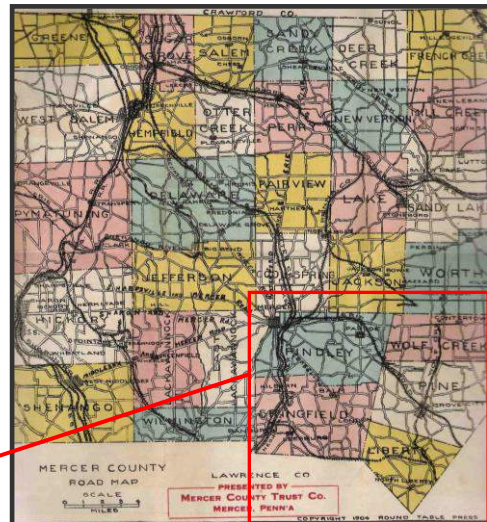
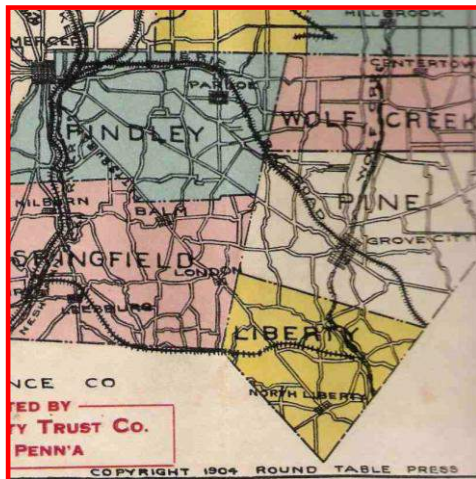
Note:

On February 15, Mercer County initiated countywide individual mail routes. Sixty-seven routes were laid out for the county.

Grove City can be seen as the hub of the roads in southeastern Mercer County Road Map of 1904.

Note:

In addition to Grove City, Centertown, Millbrook, London, Leesburg, Balm, Milburn, Pardoe, and North Liberty are all indicated.



Capt. Theodore J. Robinson moved to Grove City to open a dry goods store.

Note:

Robinson's parents had moved to Grove City in 1887. His father, James P. Robinson, was a traveling salesman for farm equipment.

Theodore Robinson worked his way through Grove City College and graduated in 1894. After graduation, he taught in Florida and Grove City.

He served in the Spanish-American war as a member of Company F, Fifteenth Pennsylvania National Guards. When he returned in 1899, Capt. Robinson accepted

the bookkeeper position at the People's National Bank of Grove City. Two years later, he accepted the position of cashier of the Broadway National Bank of Scottdale, Pa.

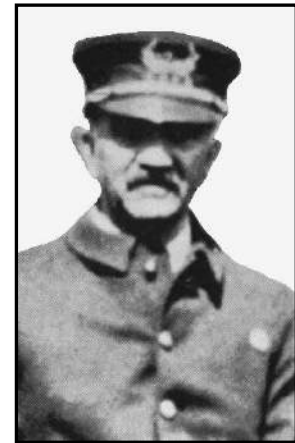
After three years, he returned to Grove City to open the dry goods store with his nephew, C. J. Robinson

In 1904, Grove City voters authorized the Borough Council issue bonds to fund additions to the municipal waterworks system. (See 1905)

On September 21, the Grove City Fire Department was organized.

Note:

J.W. Russell, Jr. became the President of the department and C. P. Ruffing became the first Chief. C. P. Ruffing served as Chief from 1904 to 1930. Ruffing is shown at the right.



During the organizational meeting a motion was passed that Council be asked to secure the necessary supplies for the company.

During the meeting of September 28, Chief Ruffing reported that the council had agreed to purchase another hose cart, a hook & ladder truck, new hose, axes, crowbars, etc. to supply the department. A committee of three was appointed to draft a constitution & by-laws.

In 1908, a newly formed department, the Bessemer Hose Company, merged with the Grove City Fire Department. They operated as Company Number One and Company Number Two.

In 1916, the fire department acquired their first motorized truck. It was built by the Bessemer Truck Co., located on East Pine Street, at a cost of \$2,000.

In 1904, George W. DeFrance opened the DeFrance Drug Store.

Note:

George Wilson DeFrance was born on January 21, 1879 in Jackson Center. He graduated from Grove City College in 1900. He was the son of Abram Moore and Eleanor Wilson DeFrance.

The DeFrance Drug Store was located on Broad Street two doors down from the Bank building, separated by the Guthrie Shoe Store. The sign to the right of the DeFrance Drug Store identifies the entrance to the W. A. Wright, Electrical Contractor's business.





Pictured is a 1913 telephone book advertisement for the DeFrance Drug Store.

DeFrance operated the store until his death in 1949.

In October, The Wayside Rebekah Lodge No. 280 was organized.

James Hunter established a dairy on his farm.

Note:

The Hunter homestead included nearly 300 acres on Water Street. (aka Greenleaf, Greenwood Drive). Hunters had farmed this land since 1858. (See 1858)



In 1878 James Hunter was, a member of the committee formed to finance the purchase land and pursue attaining a charter for Ketler's Select School of Pine Grove.

The Hunter Farm operated the dairy business for twenty years. The dairy business became a key issue in the establishment of the community sewage system. (See 1917)

The Colonial, the women's dorm, opened at Grove City College.

Note:

The building housed 60 students and was considered a modern facility. It had electric lighting and steam heat as well as a bathroom for each room.

This photograph (right) shows the Colonial building as it appeared in 1907.



This postcard (left) appears to have been made in the same time period.

On November 10, 1904, the Woman's Literacy Club of Grove City was established by a group of fifteen women.

Note:

The Woman's Literacy Club was established as a forum for women to meet, expand their knowledge, and to share their perspectives. At each meeting, topics were chosen to be researched and discussed by the members.

1905

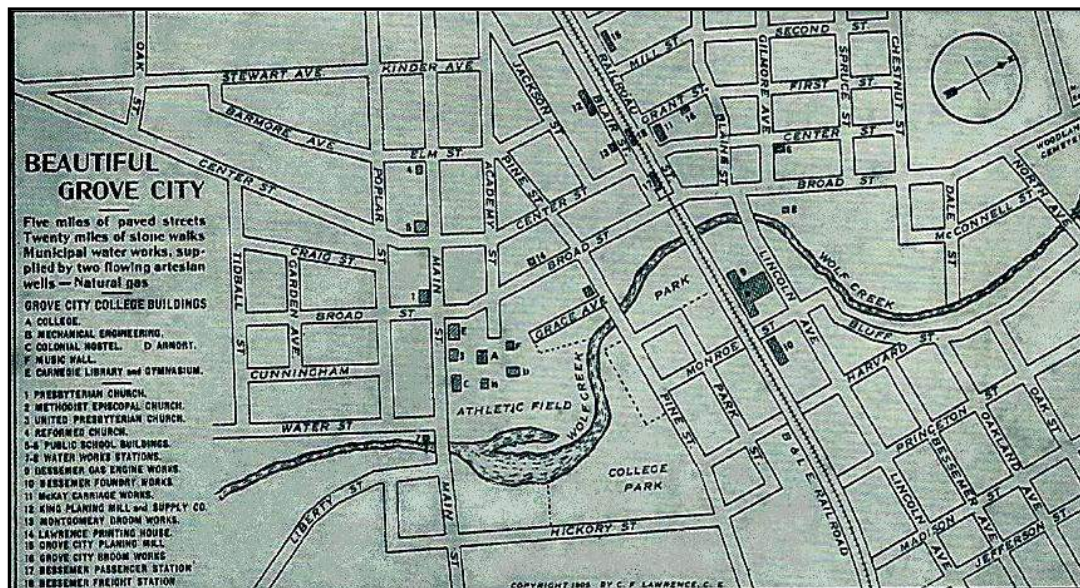
Context:

The Pennsylvania State Police was created as an executive department of state government in May 2, 1905

1905 Grove City Map.

Note:

This map was prepared and copyrighted by C. F. Lawrence, C. E.



1 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
2 METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
3 UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
4 REFORMED CHURCH.
5-6 PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS.
7-8 WATER WORKS STATIONS.
9 BESSEMER GAS ENGINE WORKS.

10 BESSEMER FOUNDRY WORKS
11 MCKAY CARRIAGE WORKS.
12 KING PLANING MILL and SUPPLY CO
13 MONTGOMERY DRUM WORKS.
14 LAWRENCE PRINTING HOUSE.
15 GROVE CITY PLANING MILL
16 GROVE CITY BROOM WORKS
17 BESSEMER PASSENGER STATION
18 BESSEMER FREIGHT STATION

In 1905, the borough purchased Lock's Mill an operating gristmill. (See 1908)

Note:

Lock's Mill was a historic structure. It had been established in 1881. (See 1881)

A concrete dam was installed and a modern water pumping station was established on the site. Two water turbines installed to handle the pumping.

A second well was drilled at this site in 1908; by 1908, ninety fire hydrants were in operation throughout Grove City.

The iron bridge remained in use after the construction of the new plant.



The Commercial Club was established in the spring.

Note:

The Commercial Club was to become a dynamic force fostering economic development within the community. On August 15, 1906, the Grove City Commercial Club was registered with the county.

On January 1, 1905, the Grove City Publishing Company was incorporated.

Note:

Three days later, on January 4, 1937, the name the Grove City Publishing Company was registered.

In c1905, Grove City College purchased the old United Presbyterian Church.

Note:

This building was located adjacent to the college campus.

The college purchased this building for \$7,000 and renamed it Ivy Chapel.

Built in 1893, Ivy Chapel was destined to play a singular role in the development of Grove City. It was built as a church by the First United Presbyterian Church. Grove City College used it for a number of uses including classrooms. It was used as a church by the Church of the Epiphany from 1912 until 1914. In 1958, the building was razed.





On November 10, 1959, during the seventy-fifth anniversary of the college, a memorial marker was installed recognizing the role of the building in the history of the college.

John McKain purchased the one hundred ten acre “Banks Farm” west of Grove City and began farming.

Note:

McKain had been successful in the pipeline industry. He was employed at the oil fields in Bradford, had been in charge of laying an oil pipeline from Hilliards to Cleveland, and worked as a driller and oil producer in Washington, Pa.

In 1909, KcKain sold this property to a group for the site of George Junior Republic.

The Bessemer Gas Engine Company issued an illustrated catalog.

Note:

The catalogue included complete descriptions with illustrations of products designed for oil field use. It included gas engines, gas cylinders, roller pumping powers, and other specialties adapted for oil field power plants.

Ernest Frank Nelson, a graduate of the Medio-Chirurgical College, began practicing medicine in Grove City.

Note:

Nelson was born and raised on a farm in Springfield.

He attended Grove City College for two years, after which he attended the Pennsylvania State Normal School at Slippery Rock. He read medicine under Dr. George K. McAdoo, of Slippery Rock, and graduated from Medico-Chirurgical College in 1899.

Before moving to Grove City, he practiced at Dempsytown and completed a post-graduate course at the Philadelphia Polyclinic.

1906

The Grove City Savings and Loan was established on October 29, 1906.

Note:

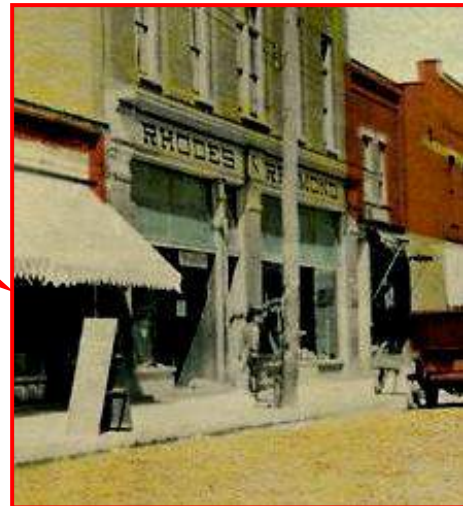
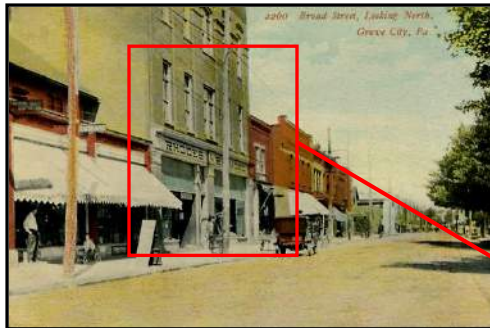
In 1963, it became the Grove City Building and Loan Association; then in 1973, it became the First Federal Savings and Loan of Sharon.

The three-story Rhodes and Redmond block was erected.

Note:

The Rhodes & Redmond block was constructed to house the hardware business. The building was three stories with basement.

By this time, the firm carried a full line of general hardware goods as well as and tinning services.



The electric lines visible in these pictures indicate the photographs were taken after 1908 when electric was installed in the community.

Lincoln Grade School was built at the corner of Gilmore Avenue and North Center Street in Grove City in 1906.

Note:

W. G. Eckles, designed the building and it was built by was built by Atwell and McCoy.

These photographs were taken c1909.





1907

Context:

Oklahoma became the 46th state on November 16, 1907.

A bank panic resulted in a major financial crash on Wall Street.

The Grove City Chamber of Commerce was established.

Note:

The Grove City Chamber of Commerce was listed as a non-profit corporation by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania but no date of listing is given. The name the Grove City Commercial Club was listed as a previous name for the entity.

Other reports indicate that the Commercial club continued past this date.

Dr. Orrin Osborne Bashline moved to Grove City to open a medical practice.

Note:

Dr. Orrin Osborne Bashline was born in 1879 in Lamartine, Clarion County.

Bashline married Fannie Bell Kapp. Fannie was an accomplished musician who played organ, piano, guitar, and clarinet. They had four children, Isabelle, Wayne, Harry Woodrow, and Don Leroy.

He graduated from the Clarion State Normal School in 1902. Before going to medical school, he taught school for five years and was a high school principal for three years.

He graduated from the Kirksville Osteopathic College in Missouri.



In 1916 Bashline, became associated with the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy. He was an Associate in the Department of Surgery and also demonstrated and taught in the Surgical and Orthopedic Clinics.

Until his return to Grove City, his associate, W. R. Rossman, continued to operate the medical practice in Grove City.

By the twenties, Bashline was well known. In 1920, the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association published *The Diagnosis of Abdominal Symptoms*, by Dr. O. O. Bashline, Philadelphia, Pa. In 1921, he was a presenter in surgery at the National Osteopathic Convention in Cleveland.

The Bashline medical practice grew into the Bashline-Rossman Osteopathic Hospital.

This hospital was a major medical facility and a major employer in the community for until 1978 when it Merger with the Grove City Hospital.

In 1938, Bashline was the President of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons. O. O. Bashline died in 1962.

The Family Theater opened at 225 South Broad Street.

Note:

This family theater was a silent film theater. Later it was known as The Stand and then the Nickelodeon.

The Empire Theatre was listed in the November issue of the *Moving Picture World* magazine in 1913. The Empire was a member of the American Motion Picture Supply League, the publishers of the magazine.

The Majestic Theater was also an early theater in Grove City, possibly as early as 1935.

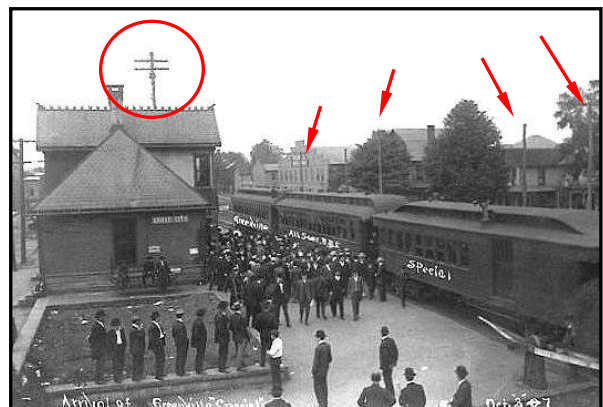
This photograph shows the railroad station in Grove City in 1907.

Note:

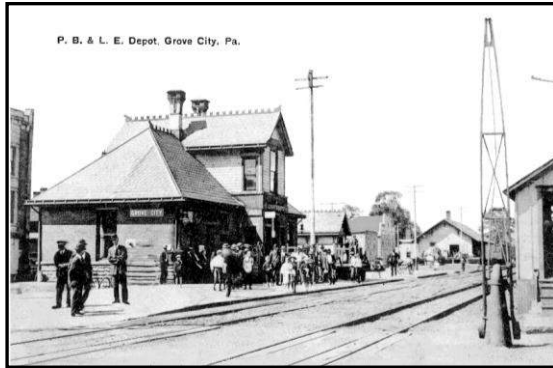
The photograph is entitled "The arrival of the Greenville Special" at the Station and is dated October 3, 1907. Both passenger and freight service were operating in Grove City at this time.

The station would have been operated by the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad at the time.

Electric power lines are visible. These lines predate the municipal electric plant that was established the next year in 1908. According to Henry T. Limberg, Jr., the borough had a generation plant on Lincoln Avenue. The McKay Carriage Company is visible in the background.



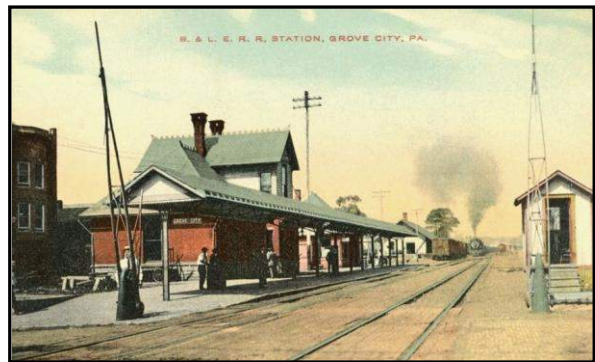
The Pittsburgh, Shenango and Lake Erie Railroad roadbed ran through Grove City (See 1889) The PS and LE operated a station in Grove City.



The railroad became a part of the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad, developed by Andrew Carnegie, in 1900.

This picture shows the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad Station in 1910. Although the picture is labeled the PB & LE (The Pittsburgh, Bessemer & Lake Erie) the PB & LE did not exist in 1910. It had become the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad in 1900.

This photograph c 1918 (right) shows the continued growth of Bessemer and Lake Erie Station in Grove City. A roof had been added to the loading docks. The railroad gates on Broad Street are visible in the front of the picture.

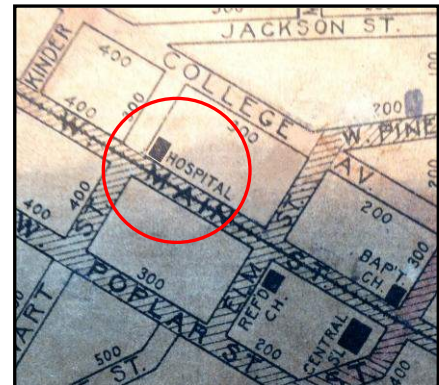
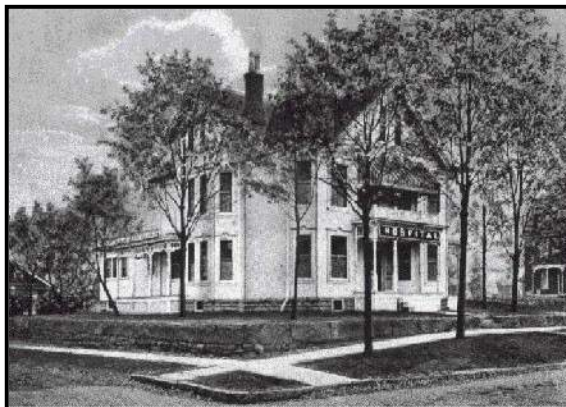


The Grove City Hospital was incorporated on April 4, 1907.

Note:

The incorporation association including I. C. Ketler, Henry Hamilton, S. P. Barr, C. G. Harshaw, John A. Turner, C. A. Atwell, C. F. Fithian, T. R. DeArmit, A. B. McKay, Fred F. Barr, Fred Daugherty, O. L. Gilmore, M. W. Graham and R. M. Montgomery.

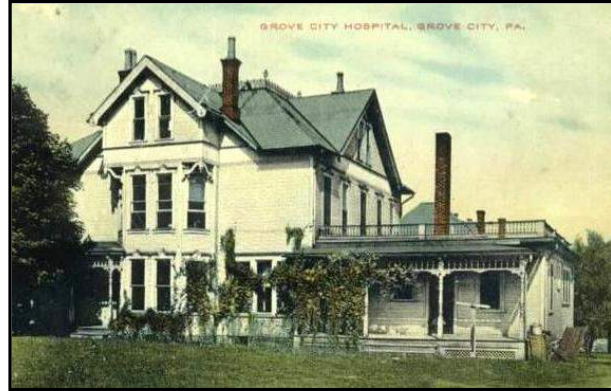
The original Grove City Hospital was opened in the Firth home at the corner of Main and Stewart streets in 1907. The home was originally built by the Pearsall family in late 1800s. In 1902, it was sold to the Firth family. The Firths sold house to hospital.



The hospital opened with seven beds. An addition was added to the rear of the house to include an operating room and a kitchen for the hospital.

physicians.

Initially, the hospital was open to both medical physicians and osteopathic



The Grace Methodist Church built a new facility on the southeast corner of Broad and East Pine.

Note:

The congregation issued stock and solicited contributions to finance the project. On August 1, 1908, ground was broken at the southeast corner of Broad and East Pine and construction of a buff brick building was begun. The building was dedicated by Bishop Berry in August, 1909.

This photograph shows the facility in 1911.

Over the years the facility was remodeled and enlarged. In 1926, an educational building was constructed. In 1979, the front entrance was rebuilt with stonewalls and glass doors.



This photograph is labeled M. E. Church indicating that it dates from before 1939.

In 1939 the church became the Grace Methodist Church and in 1968, the name was changed to the Grace United Methodist Church of Grove City.

Dr. J. P. Sproull, a graduate of the University of Cleveland, began practicing medicine in Grove City.

Note:

Sproull graduated from the medical department of the University of Cleveland in 1877. Before practicing in Grove City, he practiced in Plain Grove for thirty years.

1908

Context:

Ford introduced the Model T automobile.

Broad Street as it appeared in c1908.

Note:

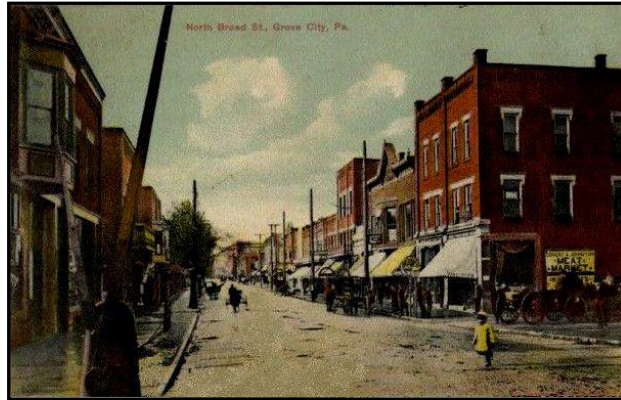
Both the electric lines and the gas light at the corner are visible in this photograph of the Fourth of July Parade in 1908. Visible are service wires on both sides of the street as well as a gas street light between the drug store and the Filer House. No electric lights are visible. The cable running under the cross tees of the utility poles on the left side of the street may well be telephone lines. Telephone lines often used the same poles as the electrical service lines. They were typically strung lower than the electrical service lines.



This photograph is taken from a postcard photograph taken by Reynolds. The narrative on the postcard states:

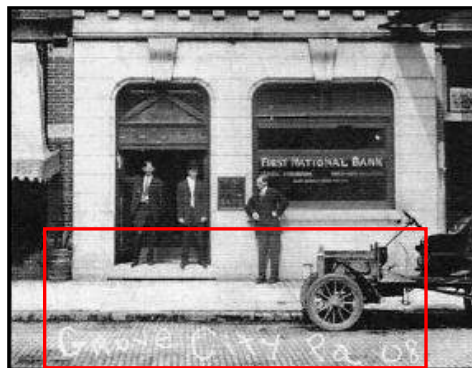
Fifty new dwellings were built here last summer and more than \$180,000 will be expended this year in improvements. Among the new buildings in the course of construction are the United Presbyterian Church costing \$40,000, the Pennsylvania State Armory, \$20,000, Methodist Episcopal Church, \$30,000, Montgomery Broom Manufacturing Co.'s Plant, \$15,000, Hercules Novelty Works, \$15,000, Filer's Livery Barn, \$7,000, and Craig's Business Block, \$7,000. Grove City has doubled in population in the past five years: our factories are all running full force.





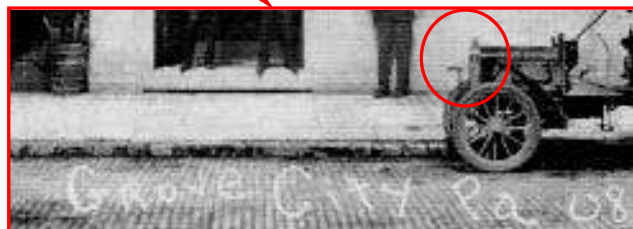
This photograph appears to have been taken about the same time.

Horses and buggies can be seen along the sidewalks. A Meat Market advertisement is seen on the building on the corner in the lower right. It reads "Covert & Johnson Meat Market." Although the street looks cluttered it was paved at this time.



This photograph detail of the First National Bank indicates that Broad Street was paved by 1908. The pavement material appears to be brick.

The Ford Motor Company introduced the Model T automobile in 1908. The vehicle in this photograph is likely a Model T.



The crank used to start the engine is visible in front of the radiator.

By 1908, ninety fire hydrants were in operation.

The first municipal electric plant was installed.

Note:

The borough council decided to construct and operate an electric plant utilizing any profit for borough revenue.

The plant was built in 1908 at the site of Lock's Mill. It provided power for 49 streetlights (suspended arc type) on Broad Street and thirteen customers. T. W. Wright was the plant Superintendent.

Service was available 12 hours a day until 1909 when 24-hour service was initiated.. The use of electric power spread rapidly within the borough and by 1909, there were 63 customers receiving electric service.





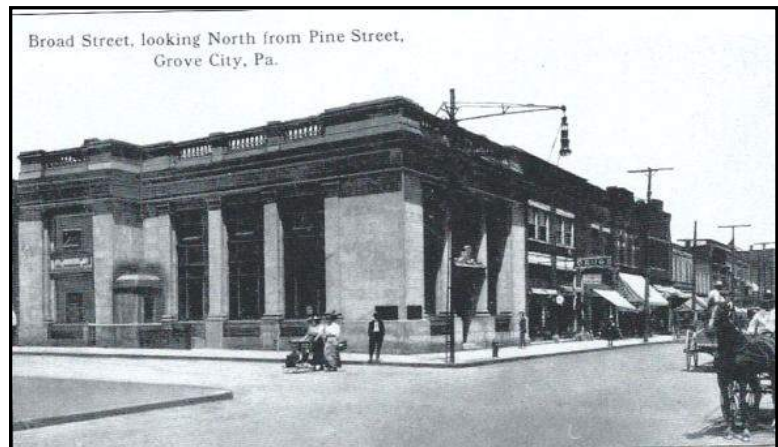
In 1919, plans were prepared for construction of additional units to provide for increased demand. The structure was estimated to cost \$50,000. Sidney B. Martin of Pittsburgh was the engineer.

Over the years, this building was utilized for a number of uses including the borough offices and the police department.

Grove City began to use electric streetlights.

Note:

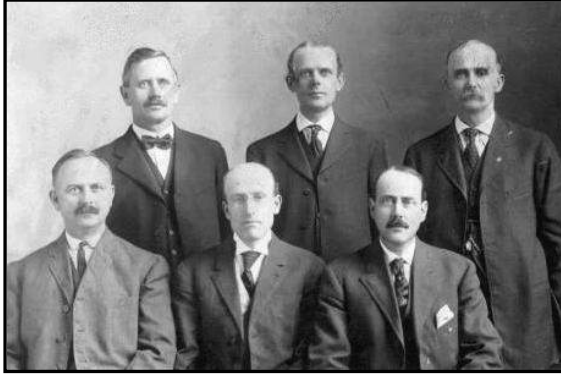
The borough's new electric plant provided the power to 49 streetlights (suspended arc type) on Broad Street. This photograph of Broad Street shows the electric street lighting. Broad Street was first lighted by gas pole lights (1889).



This detail photograph shows the style of street lighting in use at the time. The streetlights were pole hung arc type lighting fixtures. Two of the streetlights are visible in this photograph.



This a picture of some prominent Grove City businessmen in 1908.



Back Row Left-Right:

William Redmond, Ed H. Harshaw, Miff McCoy

Front Row Left-Right:

Ed Dale, William McKay, D.C. Porter

In 1908 a Sewerage Decree was issued to the Grove City borough by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania withholding approval of proposed sewer extensions.

Note:

In 1908, Grove City borough had filed an application for a permit to extend the sewers.

The state issued the decree in response to the applications calling the proposed extensions haphazard and pointing to the lack of detail in the plans. This decree included a danger warning because of the discharge of the town's sewage into Wolf Creek upstream from one of the borough's pumping stations used to pump well water.

Over time, the borough water system had been extended by drilling and using additional wells. These extensions had been undertaken without an application to the Commonwealth or the receipt of a written permit from the state as required by law. In addition, the work had been completed without a comprehensive plan or an engineer to oversee the work.

In 1909, Grove City resubmitted comprehensive plans to correct the situation, prepared in accordance with the state's recommendations, and the state issued a permit for the project. These plans included a main sewer to intercept all the sewage then being discharged at various points along the course of the creek and to discharge it at one point below the town, where later sewage treatment works might be erected. The state stipulated that all these up-stream sewers should be eliminated upon the construction of the interceptor.

However, because of lack of systematic supervision and inspection of the project by the borough a number of sewers above the waterworks pumping station were allowed to continue to discharge into the creek after the construction of the intercepting sewer was completed.

These faults lead directly to the epidemic of 1914.

The Pennsylvania State Guard Armory building was constructed was built on Erie Street.

Note:

On April 30, 1907, an 80x150 foot site for the Armory was selected. On May 27, the site was approved.

A. P. Mount, of Corry, was selected as the architect. Plans for the building were approved on September 5 and bids were opened on October 16. Three bids were received:

E. F. Atwell	Grove City, Pa.	\$18,650 00
The Constable Brothers'		
Co.	Erie, Pa.	23,967 00
Bohlender Brothers	Grove City, Pa	18,789 00



E. F. Atwell, was awarded the contract.

This photograph shows the laying of the corner stone.

The building was dedicated in 1908 (The photograph states dedicated March, 1908)



The photograph to the left shows the Military Armory Dedication Parade and is dated November 6, 1908. The parade is seen moving past the McKay Carriage works decorated with bunting.

Grove City National Bank was established on August 1.

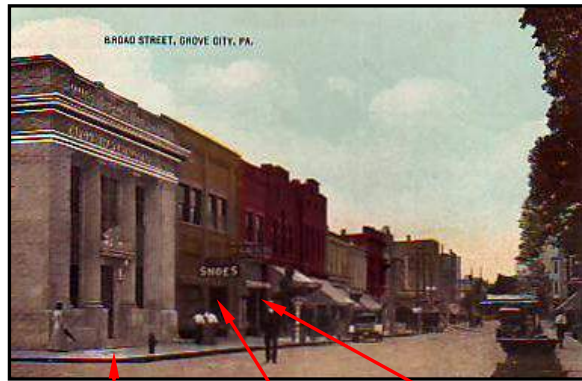
Note:

The Grove City National Bank was formed by the consolidation of the Peoples National Bank and the Grove City Savings & Trust Co.

This rendering shows the building the Grove City National Bank built in 1909. no clock is illustrated on the building. A



fire hydrant is illustrated on the corner.



Grove City
National
Bank

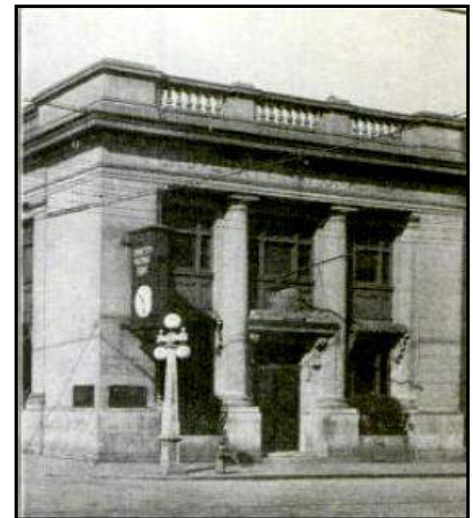
Guthrie's
Shoes

DeFrance
Drug
Store

The Grove City National Bank can be seen on the corner. Notice there is no clock on the building or streetlight shown. The clock and streetlight are shown in the photos below. The shoe store is Guthrie's Shoes. Next door was the DeFrance Drug Store.

The new building was located on the corner of Broad Street and Pine Streets where the Drug store and the Filer Hotel had been located. After Joseph Filer's widow died in 1907, the bank bought the property.

These photographs show the corner before and after the construction of the new bank building.



This photograph of the bank shows a horse at left of the structure, the clock on the corner of the building, and electric lighting at the corner. The electric streetlight is not the arc lamp seen in the 1908 photographs; it is a newer incandescent globe style. The dates of the photographs are unknown.



The interior of the building is shown in these photographs. Both photos show interior lighting fixtures.

Notice the tellers "cages". Each teller had a window through which business was conducted. Bars separated the customers from the business section of the bank and the teller's money drawers.



This picture appeared in the March 1927 *Rotarian Magazine*. It shows young people who were members of the Thrift Club waiting in line to deposit money in their saving accounts.

The sign behind the fern reads: "We Issue...Travelers Letters of Credit". Travelers Letters of

Credit were credit letters issued to a bank that could be drawn upon by identifying oneself.

This photograph shows a composite corner view showing the Grove City National Bank and surroundings. In 1923, the First National Bank constructed a building on the corner across Pine Street.



Harry and Clarence and Harry and Clarence Moon opened Moon Brothers Garage, the first garage for automobiles.

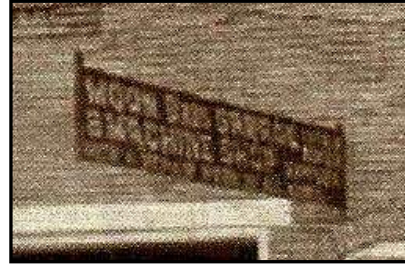
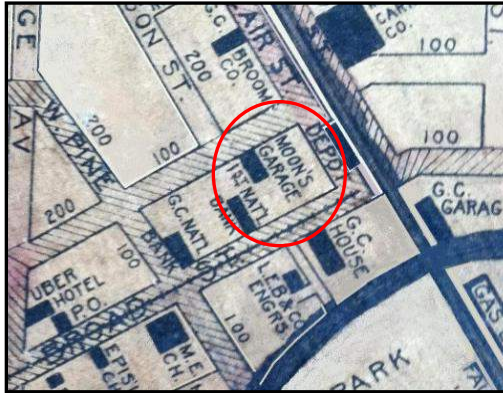
Note:

On October 1, 1908 Henry Ford had developed the first Ford Model T. It retailed at \$850. Other manufacturers including Buick, Packard, Oldsmobile, Studebaker, and Cadillac were also producing automobiles.

Pictured is the first Model T made.



It has been estimated that there were three automobiles in Grove City the time the Moons opened their business. They began the business concentrating on their general machinery repair business. Within a few years the business the automobile business grew and the Moons specialized in automotive repair.



The date of this picture is unknown.

The automobile repair business became a Chevrolet dealership on Main Street. The brothers operated the business for over sixty years.

Harry J. Moon and Clarence Moon were sons of Herman Moon of Wolfcreek Twp. Harry was the oldest, born in 1884; Clarence the younger born in 1887. Harry married Bertha B. Forrester. They lived at 505 Lincoln Avenue. Harry died in 1966. Clarence married Henrietta (?) and lived next door to Harry. Clarence died in 1971.



On October 24, 1908, The Slippery Rock & Grove City Railway applied to the Borough Council for a franchise to construct a "street railway" in Grove City.

Note:

The borough granted the franchise to the company for the operation of the railroad.

The history of the railroad is confusing. This endeavor lasted at least until 1918. A number of companies were involved before the project ended. Construction for the

Slippery Rock and Grove City Railway was begun, but never completed. At least five miles of track were laid. One source states that track was laid along Highland Avenue to Airport Road.

On July 2, 1908, The Pittsburgh, Harmony, Butler, and New Castle Railway (commonly known as the Harmony Line), began operating a daily trolley service. This railroad led to the conception of a broad gage electric railway that would connect Slippery Rock and Grove City.

A company was established to plan and construct the railroad. This company, The Slippery Rock & Grove City Railway, began the process of constructing an electric railway. The Officers were: J. P. Barr, Grove City, President; James A. Joliffe, Slippery Rock, Secretary; J. H. Pizor, Slippery Rock, Treasurer; S. L. McClure, Grove City, General Manager and Purchasing Agent. There is no record that this company was ever incorporated in Pennsylvania. References to the Slippery Rock & Grove City Railway can be found in the *Electric Railway Journal* from 1909 and 1912.

Plans for the railroad changed as the project progressed. At the time the Slippery Rock & Grove City Railway applied to the City Council, the proposed railway was to run from Slippery Rock, to Harrisville, and then to Grove City.

By 1909, the plans called for the railway servicing "Barmore Lake, an amusement resort, one and one-half miles from Grove City" for the construction of its electric railway between Slippery Rock and Grove City, a distance of about nine miles. An April 1909 release stated:

the Slippery Rock & Grove City Electric Railway Company will be prepared to let contracts about July 15 for the construction of its electric railway between Slippery Rock and Grove City, a distance of about nine miles. The power station will be located near Grove City. The company will furnish electricity for lamps to the State Normal School and also in Slippery Rock. J. L. Lovejoy is president.

The company authorized the sale of \$200,000 worth of bonds to finance the project. A railcar was displayed to encourage investment. (See below)

On December 4, 1909, the company announced that it would accept bids (on January 10) for the construction of a 9-mile street railway between Slippery Rock and Grove City. This announcement said its "gasoline motor cars" would be operated on the line.

It was announced that a contract had been awarded to A. De Mayo and Co., Ashtabula, Ohio, to build a railway from Slippery Rock, north via Armstrong and Redmond, to Grove City. There were to be two bridges on the route, one 90 feet long, the other 20 feet long. Contracts were also to be awarded for building an additional 20 miles of roadway between Slippery Rock and Butler, to connect to the Pittsburgh, Butler, and Harmony lines. These plans envisioned the railway running through West Liberty, Isle, Prospect, Mount Chestnut, and Butler. A link north of Grove City to Stoneboro, Sandy Lake, and Meadville, was included on the north end of the run.

In 1910, De Mayo & Co. announced that construction of the roadway was underway and expected to be completed by October.

In October 1912, the *Electric Railway Journal* reported under Recent Incorporations:

Pennsylvania Traction Company, Elwood City, Pa.— Application for a charter has been made by this company in Pennsylvania Elwood City, Pa.— Application for a charter has been made by this company in Pennsylvania to build an electric railway to connect Wolfcreek, Worth, Sandy Lake and Stoneboro. This line will be an extension of the Slippery Rock-Grove City Street Railway, Grove City, which is now under construction.

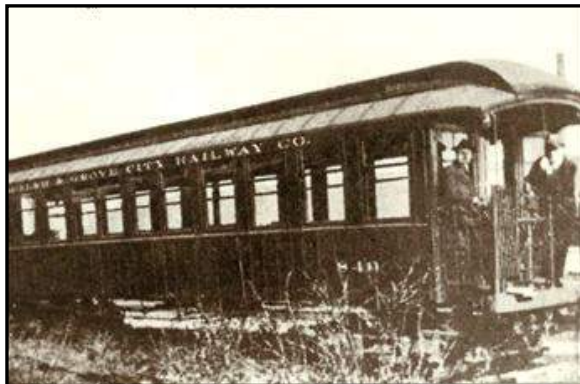
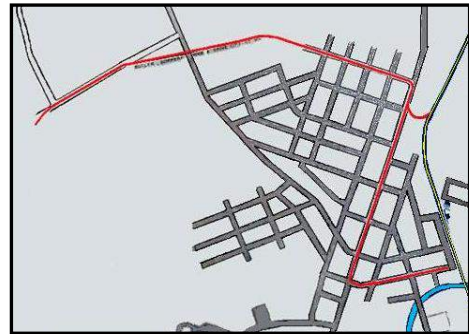
It also reported under the section, Track and Roadway:

Northwestern Railways Company, Meadville, Pa.—This company plans to build a line from Grove City to Sandy Lake.

Another company, The Pittsburg, Butler, Slippery Rock & Grove City Railway, was organized to construct a trolley line between Butler and Slippery Rock. The directors were Attorney W. C. Thompson, J. A. Smith, Dr. W. C. McCandless, Alf. M. Relber and John C. Kerr. There are no records of incorporation for this company in Pennsylvania.

In 1915, it was reported in the *Railway Journal* that the Butler and Grove City Railway had purchased all the material to construct its lines. The article stated that eleven carloads of track rails had been received and were in the process of being laid. The same issue contained an announcement that the railway planned to purchase two railroad cars “immediately”.

This drawing shows the route of the proposed railroad as shown on the 1915 Map of Grove City. The roadbed is highlighted in red.



These photographs show a railroad car with the names “Butler and Grove City Railway Co.” visible.

The car is labeled as a baggage and express car.



In 1918, the *McGraw Transit Directory* reported that the Butler and Grove City Railway Company reported that five miles of track had been laid and they planned to lay four more miles in 1918. It also noted that the railroad would reach Barmore Lake Park and Alameda Park near Butler. The President of this company is listed as S. A. Taylor of Pittsburgh; V. President as John Carruthers; M. W. Graham as Treasurer.

The Hercules Specialty Company of Erie relocated to Grove City.

Note:

The Hercules Specialty Company manufactured wooden products. The company is listed as having been incorporated in Pennsylvania but there is no date of incorporation given.

The following information was published in the January issue of *The Age of Steel*: the Hercules Specialty Company, Sharon; capital, 835,000. Incorporators and directors—J. H. Shaw, H. H. Long, Harry P. Parker, John Lee and E. T. Thomas.

This advertisement appeared in the July 1906 issue of the *House Furnishing Review*.

In 1908, the company built a new plant in Grove and moved its operations to the new plant. The building was located on a private railroad sidetrack off the Bessemer line. The building was a 60' by 200' and 60' by 140', tee shaped one story concrete block structure. The site also included a separate power plant (30' by 34'). All machines were operated by individual motors. The company claimed the plant was the largest most completely equipped plant in the United States that was dedicated to the manufacture of woodenware specialties.



In the January 6, 1910 issue of *Motor Age* it was announced:

Grove City, Pa.—The Hercules Specialty Co., which has been manufacturing woodenware for some time, has decided to turn its factory into a plant for the manufacture of light motor wagons. It will employ about 250 men.

In the same year, Hercules announced the employment of James McIntosh as superintendent of the operations.

Dr. Fithian served as "a member" of the Hercules Specialty Company.

Interestingly, in 1910 the annual report of the Pennsylvania Department of Factory Inspector listed The Hercules Specialty Company as being located in Sharon, manufacturing novelties and ladders.

Context:

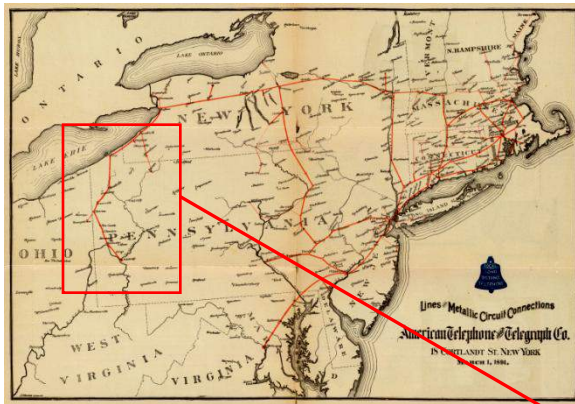
The Protestant religious movement of Fundamentalism began with the publication of *The Fundamentals: A Testimony to the Truth*.

By 1909, the Bell Telephone Company had reached Grove City.

Note:

Establishing when telephone service reached Grove City is difficult.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company had installed trunk lines in the county by 1891. The American Telephone and Telegraph Company was owned by the Bell Company, established in Boston, Massachusetts in 1877. American Telephone and Telegraph later became AT & T Corp.



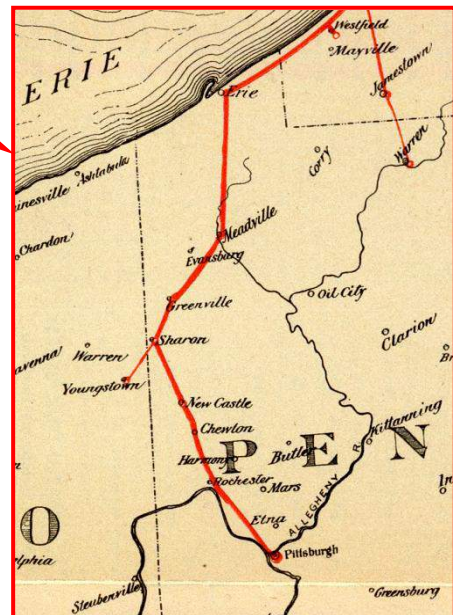
This American Telephone and Telegraph map of March 1891 shows their “lines and metallic circuit connections”.

The telephone access the area from the north.

This detail from Bell Telephone, map of March 1891 indicates their lines running through Greenville, Sharon and into New Castle; they do not reach Grove City at this time.

In 1893 and 1894, Bell Telephone’s patents expired allowing anyone to manufacture and install telephones. This led directly to the establishment of independent telephone companies throughout the country.

Mercer County was no exception. Many small, local companies vying to establish themselves were formed and quickly merged or dissolved.



Early telephone companies are listed in this chart.

Name of Company	Company known to exist
The Citizens' Telephone Co, of Newcastle	1895
The Mercer Telephone & Telegraph Co of Mercer	1896
Behringer Phone Company of Cochranston	c1902

Harrisville Telephone Co., Harrisville	1902
Plaingrove Telephone Company	1904
The New Wilmington Telephone Company	1904
Cochranton Telephone Company	1905
The American Union Telephone Company	1906
The American Union Telephone Co at Mercer	1909
The Sandy Road Telephone Co at Grove City	1911

The Mercer County Telephone & Telegraph Company was organized in 1896. In April 1896, the *Electrical World* reported:

A charter was issued to the Mercer Telephone & Telegraph Company to maintain a system of telegraph and telephone lines in the counties of Lawrence, Butler, Venango, and Crawford. Capital \$30,000; directors. George W. Wright, B. Magoffin, L. R. Heath, of Mercer, T. E. Crossen, Greenville; J. M. McCutcheon, Grove City, and F. K. Keiser, Sharon. (Interestingly, no record of a company by this name exists on the Pennsylvania Department of State corporation lists.)

Mercer County is not listed as a county of service. However, in 1897, the Mercer Telephone and Telegraph Company purchased the Telephone exchange in Greenville owned by T. E. Crosson.

By 1902, The Sharon Coal and Limestone Company operated about twenty-five miles of telephone line from Sharon to their coal and limestone works, near Grove City and Plain Grove.

In 1909, White's *20th Century History of Mercer County* (1909) stated:

...providing them with telephone communication with other points in the county. In 1902 he [James F. Moyer] with several of the business men of the place built a private telephone line between Sheakleyville and Hadley, the management afterward absorbing the Behringer Phone Company of Cochranton. All interests in the field were finally consolidated as the Cochranton Phone Company and northern Mercer county was bound together in telephonic communication.

On August 31, 1904, The Union Telephone Company of Erie was chartered to operate telephone and telegraph services in Mercer County (as well as many others).

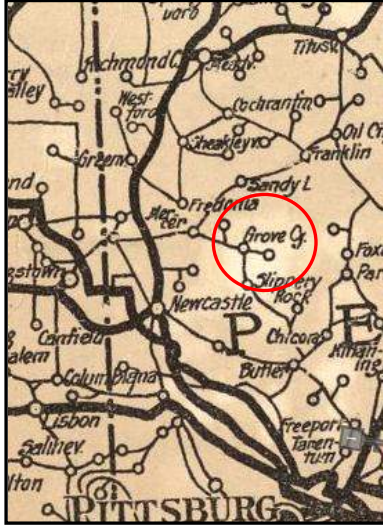
In 1904 all independent companies of Western Pennsylvania and Western New York, including the Mercer County Telephone Company, The Citizens' Telephone Company, of Newcastle, Pa. and the Union Telegraph & Telephone Company merged under the name of the Erie Telephone Company. August 31, 1904, The Union Telephone Company of Erie was chartered to operate telephone and telegraph services in Mercer County (as well as many others).

In December 1906 the *Sound Waves International Telephone Journal* reported:

The Plain Grove Telephone Co which operates in northwestern Lawrence County Pa and the southern part of Mercer County has recently completed a line from its exchange at Volant Pa to Indian Run. Several other extensions are contemplated. MD Maxwell is president and manager of the system

That same year The Mercer County Courthouse installed a toll phone in the corridor.

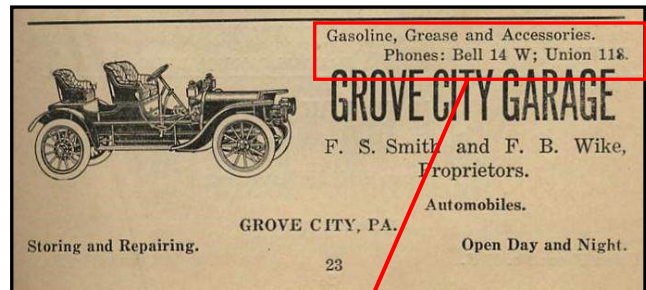
The Blacktown Telephone Company was incorporated on December 8, 1908. (It operated from 1908 until 1949. Little improvement was made in the system and the company was sold in 1950. The new company began improvements in 1951.)



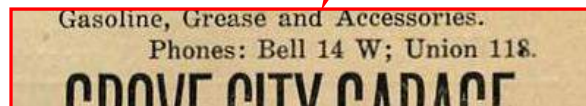
By 1909, the Bell Telephone Company had reached Grove City. This map of the lines of the Bell Telephone Companies, published July 1, 1909, shows their lines reaching Grove City.

In 1909 The American Union Telephone Company announced its intention of immediately beginning work on the rebuilding of the exchange in Mercer, equipping it throughout with the latest "type of Instruments. In 1910 and 1916, the Industrial Directories of Pennsylvania listed the Mercer Telephone and Telegraph Company. The General Manager was listed as W. H. Wilson, Erie, Pa.]

By 1913, both Bell and Union Telephone companies were serving Grove City. In 1913, the Union Telephone Company of Erie (Sharon office) published a telephone book that included Grove City. (See 1913)



Pictured is an advertisement from that publication (page 23) showing telephone numbers on both the Union and the Bell systems.



There were a number of styles of telephones in use in the early 1900s. Shown are two telephones in use in 1905. The larger wall model was commonplace in rural areas. The telephone box had a crank on the side. To make a call a person would turn the crank to "ring" the operator, notifying the operator that someone wanted to make a call. The operator would answer and place the call for the caller.



The desk model shown was called a "candlestick" model. These models were more common in urban areas.

George Junior Republic was established in Grove City.

Note:

George Junior Republic was founded as a private, nonprofit residential treatment community for wayward boys and girls.

George Junior Republic was founded on the sociological concepts William George who saw youthful self-government as a means of personal development. It operated as a self-governing republic, a small village where the residents were engaged in self-supporting enterprises and administered their own laws. The resident boys and girls were required to pay for all that they received through their labor.

John Baker "Morgan" Barnes from Grove City College and Pittsburgh attorneys Leonard S. Levin, Samuel Wylie Black, and R. T. M. McCreedy were instrumental in the establishment of George Junior Republic in Grove City.

This group decided that Grove City would be a good location for a school. They contacted William George to pursue forming a republic. In 1909, a group from William George's republic in Freeville, N.Y. visited the site in Grove City, Pennsylvania, to discuss establishing a George Junior Republic of Western Pennsylvania. As a result of this visit it was decided Grove City would be a good site.

The community raised \$6,000 for the project and purchased an 80-acre farm from John McKain for the Republic. The property also included three building as well as outbuildings. (Note the report below indicates the acreage as 110 acres included.)

A parade was held in 1909 and the opening of the Republic was announced at the Carnegie building on Broad Street.

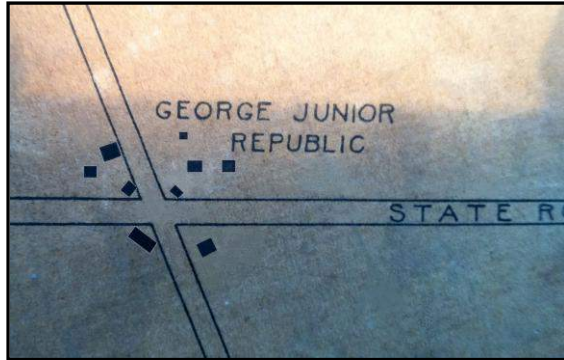
The Republic was established at Grove City, Pa., Dec. 1, 1909. Isaac Ketler became the first administrator and teacher at the school.



In 1912, the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities in Harrisburg, Pa published this report:

GEORGE JUNIOR REPUBLIC, OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA—

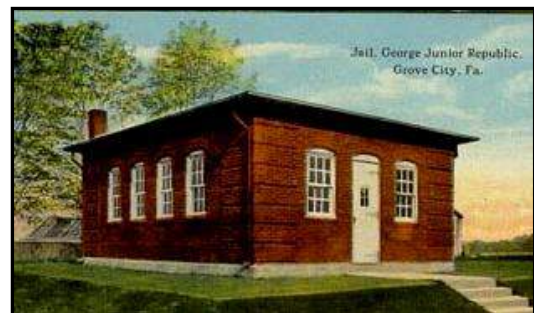
Grove City, Pa.—February 1, 1912. Capacity 50, inmates 49, 29 boys and 20 girls. Condition of buildings, fair. Condition of inmates, good. Farm of 110 acres. All work done by inmates. Self government institution. No fire protection.



George Junior Republic as it appeared on the map of 1915. Seven building are indicated on the north side of PA rt 58.

These photographs show early buildings at George Junior Republic

Shown to the right is the School; below is Apple Blossom Cottage, the girls building



In 1949, The Morgan Barnes Administration and Elementary School Building, was named after one of the original founders, Dr. John Baker "Morgan" Barnes.

Vita: William Reuben George



William Reuben George (1866-1936) was a social welfare leader who had founded several Junior Republics (modeling adult society) reflecting the principles of self-government by young people as a means of moving boys and girls from Schools in the slums of New York into a rural environment.

George began working with slum children in New York through his church. He started providing summer camping opportunities for these young people. From these experiences he developed his theory of working with youth.

Although George's theories and practices were controversial, he influenced social reformers and educators. George was an early advocate of the Progressive Education Movement, which provided experiences to "learn by doing" ...His maxim became "Nothing Without Labor."

Beginning in Freeville, New York in 1895, George developed a community consisting of a farm, blacksmith and carpentry shops, laundry, bakery, general store, jail, and other elements of the larger society. All had to work on the farm or in the community's industries. Schooling was provided.

By 1898, the first of several other institutions based on the Republic's principles was founded in Redington, Pa. In 1908-1910, new Republics were established at Chino, California, Grove City, Pennsylvania, and Flemington Junction, New Jersey.

In February 1908 George founded the National Association of Junior Republics. His goal was to establish a republic in each of the states. He even envisioned states in other countries. His plan was to model the government of these states after the government of the country.

George became the center of controversy at the Freeville Republic. Issues arose concerning his role in the management of the republic and his "theory of parentalism" which led to court action. The publicity over the charges led to financial difficulties at Freeville.

In 1910, George left Freeville and devoted his time as Director of the National Association of Junior Republics. He continued in this position until his death in 1936.

Vita: John Baker "Morgan" Barnes



Barnes was born on May 7, 1870 on a farm near Mercer. He was considered a precocious child. The nickname "Morgan" was given to him by his father.

Barnes had attended the preparatory program at Grove City College and returned home to teach at seventeen years of age.

He left teaching to attend Harvard where he studied modern and classical languages. Barnes graduated from Harvard with honors in 1891. He then studied at the University of Berlin in Germany.

From 1892 to 1896 he taught English and Latin at Grove City College. In 1892, Barnes organized and coached the first football team at Grove City College. He also organized cheerleading, and chose crimson as the school color.

Barnes left Grove City College to continue teaching at Westminster College (1896 – 1903) where he taught Greek. While at Westminster, he wrote the words to their alma mater.

In 1904, he married Jane Dale of Grove City.

In 1903, Barnes left Westminster to become Headmaster of Sherman Thacher's school for boys in Ojai, California (founded in 1889). The Thacher School began as a feeder school to Yale. During his tenure at Thacher, he taught, was headmaster of the school, and served as Secretary of the Thacher School Corporation. In 1905, he became the Officer-in-Charge of the Harvard University Entrance Examinations.

In March 1907, Barnes heard William George describe his beliefs and concepts.

From 1912 to 1914, Barnes was the Vice Principal of the Edinboro Normal School. In 1904, Barnes also taught English at Edinboro Normal School and served as Vice President there for three years. While at the college, Barnes began to pursue the idea of establishing a program for inner city students.

He returned to Grove City College to teach Latin.

At the same time, three attorneys from the Pittsburgh area: Leonard S. Levin, Samuel Wylie Black, and R. T. M. McCready were working toward establishing a similar program in the Pittsburgh area. In May 1908, Levin corresponded with William George. Through William George contact was made with Barnes.

Barnes was always involved in community affairs. He was a key person in the organization of the Mercer County Historical Society in 1946 and was an active Grove City Rotarian (1937).

In 1950 at 80 years old, Barnes returned to Grove City to teach English.

Lester J. Bollinger operated a photography studio at 104 College Avenue in Grove City, from about 1909 until the 1930s.

The Commercial Club of Grove City advertised a summary of the assets of the community to encourage development.

The list included:

- A municipal water plant, with water drawn from artesian wells
- A sewerage system
- Good fire protection
- Low insurance rates
- Five miles of paved streets
- 20 miles of stone walks
- Three banks with a million dollars' deposits
- Five churches
- Two public schools
- A college
- No saloons

The following factories were noted:

Bessemer Gas Engine Co., Bessemer Foundry Co., Caruthers-Fithian Clutch Co., McKay Carriage Co., Montgomery Broom Manufacturing Co., Grove City Broom Works, the Imperial Co., and Hercules Specialty Co.

The Bessemer Gas Engine Company was building a new facility.

Note:

The building was a steel fabricated 130 x 275 ft. structure erected by the Penn Bridge Company, Beaver Falls.

The building housed two 5-ton and one 25 ton Northern electric traveling cranes, lathes, planers, drill presses, and other machine tools.

Utilizing the new facility was expected to double Bessemer's production capacity.

This postcard shows the Main Street Bridge and the Shaw and Fisher Lumber Company.

Note:

On the right side of the picture is the Shaw and Fisher Lumber Company.

This picture is likely taken in c1909.

In 1911, the new Grove City College Gymnasium was built on this proper





This photograph of the same Main Street includes a number of interesting elements. The municipal power building, the King Iron Bridge, the Shaw and Fisher Lumber Company, Grove City College, electric utility poles and a gas light are also visible. The municipal electric plant and the electric poles lining the street are visible in the detail. The poles have double cross tees to support wires, likely indicating they are primary supply lines. The poles visible in some of the photographs of Broad Street show utility poles without cross tees. These may be secondary lines. The Presbyterian Church tower is visible in the background.



This detail shows the Shaw and Fisher Lumber Company with the college in the background. A gas light can be seen behind the walkers.

Interestingly, graffiti is visible on the fence at Shaw and Fisher. It reads:

“THE BIG SHO....”

In 1909, the First Baptist Church was organized.

Note

The church began with a congregation of seventeen charter members.

After meeting for a year at various locations, the congregation purchased an abandoned building from the Reformed Society of Amsterdam, Pa. The building was razed and the materials were used to construct a new church at the corner of West Main and Center Streets.



In 1959, 11 acres of land on Cranberry Road were purchased to build new church. A groundbreaking was held in 1962 and the new church was dedicated in 1963.

Since then, there have been four additional building programs; the latest in 200

