

**1880**

**The population of Pine Township was 1,652, an increase of 417 over the 1870 census.**

**Isaac N. Fithian moved to Pine Grove with his son Edwin J. Fithian.**

Note:

Isaac N. Fithian had a varied background. He was reared on a farm; learned the cabinetmaking trade; spent ten years in Portersville in business; and operated a furniture business in the Bruin and the Karns City area.

In 1880, he moved to Grove City and began a successful drug store.

Isaac Fithian's son, Edwin J. Fithian, was born on July 1, 1863, in Portersville. Edwin was to become a central figure in the development of Grove City. (See 1898)

**Alexander K. McCandless opened a general store.**

Note:

McCandless operated this store and other businesses in Grove City.

He was one of the organizers of the National Bank of Grove City and at one time served as President of the bank.

**The Burnett and Slope coal veins were discovered to extend to Pine Grove. (See 1882)**

Note:

In 1865, the coal mining industry had begun in the Pardoe area. At the time, it was believed that a four-foot layer of coal in the area, known as the Harrisville Vein, was the principal coal vein in the area capable of being mined profitably. This coal vein led to the development of Pardoe and the mining operations there.

However, a second major vein of good mining coal, five and one-half to six feet thick, was also discovered lying underneath the limestone in the Pardoe area. This vein was known as the Burnett Vein. In 1880, it was discovered the Burnett Vein also ran through the Pine Grove area, and by 1883, the vein was known to extend to within two miles of Harrisville.

Later, a third vein, known as the Slope Vein, was found forty feet below the Burnett Vein. The Slope Vein proved to be the best coal-mining vein of the three.

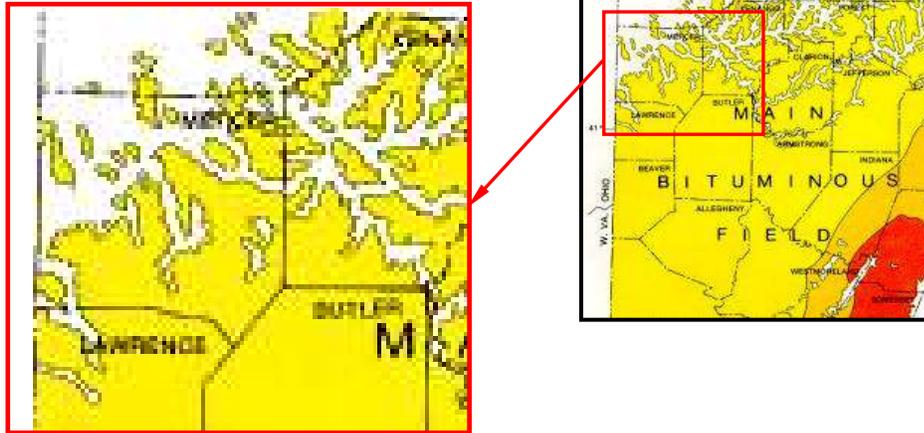
With the discovery of large quantities of quality coal, mining was to become a major industry and a major employer throughout the area.

**Coal mining was continuing to expand in the Pine Grove area. (See 1910)**

Note:

The coal industry was driven by the Industrial Revolution. It has been said the Industrial Revolution could not have occurred without coal. Iron and steel production needed coal for the blast furnaces; railroad locomotives were coal-fired steam engines; coal fired boilers and furnaces heated industrial plants and office buildings as well as homes. Coal supplied large amounts of energy for the newly developing machine age.

The coal mining industry in the area was the result of the existence of a high grade of bituminous coal that broke into large lumps or cubical blocks known as "block coal". Grove City is located within the high volatile bituminous coal region of Pennsylvania.



These bituminous coal deposits led to the development of the coal industry in the area. Coal mining was to become a central social and economic force in the growing Pine Grove (Grove City) area.

Mining was hard, dangerous work. By today's standards, working conditions were not acceptable. Miners often lived from paycheck to paycheck. Many lived in houses rented to them by the company who employed them. They usually purchased their food and most household items from a local store also owned by the company, known as the "company store".

This photograph shows Number 5 Mine; The sign above the door reads "Positively No Admittance."



In the 1930s, the miners became unionized and the United Mine Workers (UMW) became the dominant union the miners. The union led the way to improved working conditions and wages.

Slope mines, deep mines, and strip mines were used throughout the area. Slope mining was used when the coal bed was located parallel to the ground. They were called a slope mines because the shafts were slanted. This kind of mining was done when there were problems drilling shafts straight down. Slope mines were not usually deep. Mines were usually dug as efficiently as possible, meaning that the mine height was no higher

than the vein of coal. Coal veins were usually four to six feet in height. Standing in these mines was usually impossible.

In c1913, the Tasa Coal Company, Pittsburgh, operated the first strip mine in northwestern Pennsylvania. It was located on the Weber farm, now Memorial Park. Strip mining uses heavy equipment to remove the earth that covers the coal vein, exposing the vein and allowing access to the coal from the surface.

The history of early mining activities is problematic. Some mines operated for a short period and early coalmines were operated by different companies over the years; various references list different owner/operators. The dates mines were opened are difficult to ascertain. In addition, not all mining activities were accurately documented.

Mining activity in the Pine Grove area predated the coming of the railroad in 1872. In 1869, the Chestnut Ridge Mine and the Pinchalong Mine opened. The Pinchalong Mine was operated by the Pine Grove Coal Company.

The 1882 *Manufacturing and Mercantile Resources of Mercer County* lists four coal companies as operating in Pine Grove: the Black Diamond Coal Co., the Pine Grove Coal Co., the Chestnut Ridge Colliery, and the Sharon Coal Company.

The same year David D. Morris opened the Hallville Mine. In 1900, the Hallville Mine was owned by the Greer Coal Company. The mine remained operational until 1902.

In February 1884, the *Engineering and Mining Journal* reported on the mining activities in Grove City stating there were six new mines within two miles of Grove City in operation or almost ready to begin operation.

The Chestnut Ridge Mine was operated by Westerman Filer & Co of Sharon. It was a deep shaft mine 90 feet deep and accessed a coal seam about four feet in thickness. The company built twenty-seven houses. About 60 men were employed.

The Wheeler shaft was operated by the Sharon Coal Company. This shaft was 44 feet deep and accessed coal averaging about 8 feet. They also erected company houses. They employed about fifty men.

The Pine Grove Coal Company had a mine in operation about a half mile east of town. It operated an 80-foot shaft into a four-to-five foot coal vein. It was employing about twenty-five men.

The Trout Coal Company was operating a shaft 90 feet shaft mine and employed about twenty men. In 1903, the Trout Mine was being operated by the Westerman-Filer Company (incorporated in January of 1905).

The Black Diamond shaft was being opened by Filler & Sutliff of Sharon. It was a 90 feet in depth. At the time, about 25 men were employed driving entries and preparing the mine for the spring. By 1900, Diamond #1 and Diamond #2 were in operation.

The Mercer Mining and Manufacturing Company was operating the Kildoo Mine. It was a slope mine.

The Mercer Mining and Manufacturing Company was also operating a large, well developed mine at Harrisville five miles east of Grove City. The mine was reached by a "drift opening", a near-horizontal passageway in a mine that follows the coal vein.

In 1892, David D. Morris became Superintendent of the Grove Coal Company, which operated the Enterprise Mines. In 1900, the Enterprise Mines was operated by the Greer Coal Company.

In 1898, Robert Coyer opened his first mine on his property. The Coyer Mines continued to operate until 1963. (See 1898)

1881

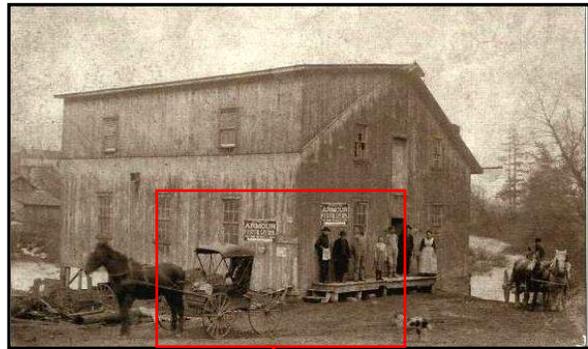
**Richard A. Lock purchased and began operating a mill in 1881.**

Note:

This mill was owned by the Lock family until c1906. James and Richard Locke were the owners of the mill at the time this picture was taken.

There are two signs on the building that state "Armour Fertilizers". These signs refer to Armour and Company founded in 1867. Armour produced consumer products made from animals: including fertilizer, glue, oil, and meats, as well as hairbrushes, buttons, and drugs made from slaughterhouse byproducts.

A black and white version of this picture (below) appeared in *A twentieth Century History of Mercer County, Pennsylvania* by J. R. White, published in 1909. The caption reads: "An old mill on Wolf Creek at Grove City now owned by Mr. Locke."



The King Iron Bridge is seen to the right of the mill.

**Samuel R. Allen opened a medical practice in Pine Grove.**

Note:

Allen had been educated at Grove City College and Westminster College, and read medicine under Dr. James Mehard of Mercer. He graduated from the medical department of the Western Reserve University of Cleveland.

**In February 1881, William A. Young opened W. A. Young and Son Leather and Harness, a harness and saddlery manufacturing business.**

Note:

William Adams Young continued to operate his tannery as well as the business with his son, W. V. Young. The business was located on the corner of Broad and Pine Streets. The store carried a complete of items related to equestrian needs.



This photograph below shows the Harness Shop and the W. A. Young home to the left of the store.

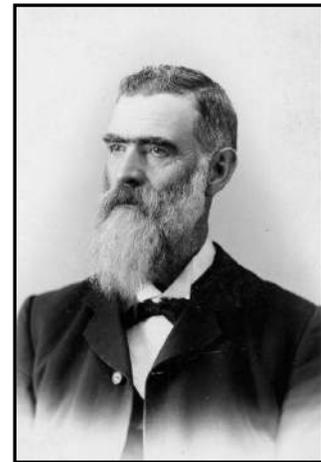
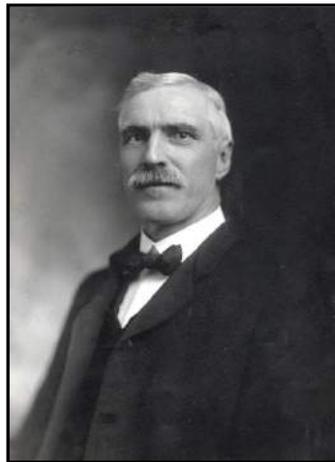
This photograph (right) shows the interior of the Harness Shop interior with W.V. Young on the left front and W. A. Young at the right front.





Hanna's Barber Shop was located on the second floor of the Harness Shop.

Shown are portraits of W.V. Young (left) and W. A. Young (right).



The business continued to operate until 1920 when the building was replaced by the First National Bank building.

**In 1881, an act was passed requiring the registration of all physicians.**

Note:

Prior to 1881, there was no public record of physicians kept in the county.

The first Mercer County Medical Society was established in 1843. This organization predated the "The Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania", was founded in 1848. On June 14, 1848, the second Mercer County Medical Society was organized.

After the registration law went into effect, a record of all medical practitioners was kept in the prothonotary's office at the courthouse in Mercer.

The following table lists early physicians in Pine Grove (Grove City) who were registered to practice medicine in Mercer County. The table lists the name, the medical school, and the date of graduation, the date of registration as a practitioner in Mercer County, and the place of residence at the time of registration.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Medical School Graduation</i>	<i>Date of Graduation</i>	<i>Date of Registration</i>	<i>Residence</i>
Vaneman, N.W.	Ohio Medical College	Mar., 1873	Aug. 6, 1881	Pine Grove

Martin, John Mills	Bellevue Hospital Medical College, NY	Mar. 1, 1874	Aug. 9, 1881	Pine Grove
Allen, Samuel R.	Western Reserve College, Hudson, OH	Mar. 4, 1881	April 3, 1882	Pine Grove
Palm, Milton	Western Reserve University, Cleveland	Mar. 15, 1882	Oct. 4, 1882	Pine Grove
Bedmond, B. E.,	Miami Medical College of Cincinnati	Mar. 9, 1882	Nov. 22, 1882	Pine Grove
Pelton, Sidney B.	Unlisted		June 24, 1887	Grove City
Cheeseman, John Coulter	Miami Medical College, of Cincinnati		May 10, 1889	Grove City
Montgomery, B. A.	University of Pennsylvania	June 15, 1899	Sept. 18, 1899	Grove City.
McConnell, Edwin M.	Western Reserve Medical College	Mar. 7, 1888	Nov. 21, 1889	Grove City
Bleakney, Frank	Grove City College	June, 1897	Feb. 12, 1908	Grove City

## 1882

### The following 23 businesses were operating in Pine Grove.

Note:

These businesses were listed in the "Manufacturing and Mercantile Resources of Mercer County published in 1882 as being located in Pine Grove (Wolf Creek P. O.)

J. N. Emery & Sons
Pine Grove Bank
Filer House
Pine Grove Carriage and Wagon Works
T. W. Dale
Black Diamond Coal Co.
W. H. Monroe
H. N. Infield & Co.
Black & Offut
Pine Grove Carriage Works
Maxwell & Offut
W. A. Young & Son
Pine Grove Coal Co.
R. G. Black
Campbell's Mills
W. H. Heberling

Chestnut Ridge Colliery
J. H. G. Opre
Sharon Coal Company
W. M. Frew
J. H. Black
Wolf Creek Mills
C. H. Welch

**The Pine Grove Bank, the first bank in Pine Grove, was established with A. W. Gealy as president.** (Another source 1881).

Note:

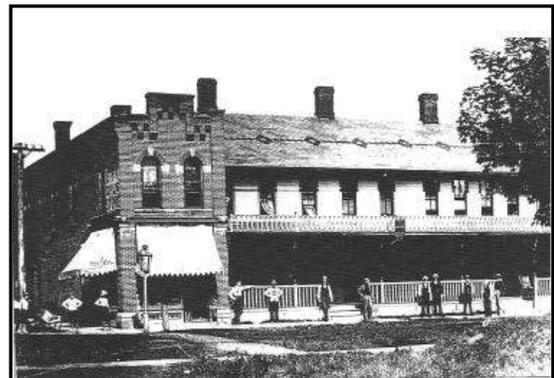
This bank remained in business until 1884. (See 1884)

**In 1882, Joseph Filer opened the Filer House.**

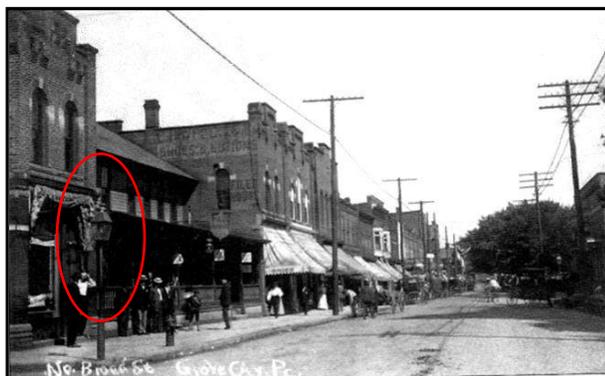
Note:

Joseph H. Filer was a coal operator and miner in the Greenville area (another source says Indiana and Ohio) before moving to Grove City to operate a hotel. Joseph and his son, William, moved to Gove City in 1882.

Filer and his wife Rachael Oakes Filer bought the Washabaugh Hotel that had been built by George Washabaugh and renamed it the Filer House.



The Filer Hotel was located next to the Grove City Drug Store on the corner of Pine and Broad Streets. Young's Harness Shop was located across Pine Street from the Drug Store and the Filer House. The front and the Pine Street side of the drug store and the front of the Filer House are shown. The drug store was owned by Dr. Charles C. Campbell, and later by Guy Emery.



Notice the gas street light on the corner. Gas lighting was not installed until 1889. The electric service poles in the photograph indicate it was likely taken c1908.

This detail of a photograph from 1908 shows the advertisement for the Filer House on the adjacent building wall. Again the gas light and the electric pole and lines are visible.



Filer operated the hotel for about 15 years. In 1907, after Filer and his wife's death, Grove City National Bank acquired the property, razed the building, and constructed a new bank building on the property. (See 1907)

**The first issue of the “Pine Grove Telephone,” Grove City’s first regularly published newspaper, was published on July 22.**

Note:

In 1879, by Dr. John Borland started a newspaper, the Telephone, in Karns City, Butler County.

Karns City's economy was dependent upon oil. As the economy declined, Borland decided to move the newspaper to the developing Pine Grove. The paper was renamed the *Pine Grove Telephone*. In November, the name was changed to *The Grove City Telephone*. D. John Borland remained the publisher.

In 1887, the Telephone was being published every Friday. It was four pages using a 26x40 format and a subscription was \$1q.50. W. H. McElwaine was the editor. The newspaper was printed on a hand press until 1888.

In 1893, the *Grove City Telephone* became the *Grove City Reporter*.

**John Floyd established a contracting, lumber, and general supply business.**

Note:

Floyd was born in Devonshire, England. He learned the carpenter's trade in England serving seven years under his father. At twenty-one years of age, he came to America spending time in New York, East Brady, Pa., and Bruin working as a carpenter and contractor before coming to Pine Grove.

John Floyd moved to Pine Grove and established a contracting, lumber, and general supply business. Floyd built both commercial buildings and private residences.

Floyd's business thrived and he became involved in numerous local businesses. He became one of the directors of the First National Bank, and was a stockholder in other Grove City enterprises.

He operated his business for over twenty years.

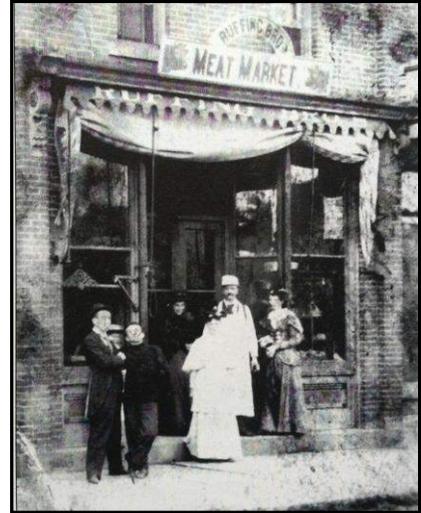
**Christopher P. Ruffing and his brother Charles H. moved to Grove City and opened the Ruffing Brothers Meat Market.**

Note:

Christopher Ruffing was born November 1, 1860, the son of John and Maggie (Meyers) Ruffing. He was one of nine children raised on a farm in Pymatuning Township.

In the fall of 1882, he and his brother moved to Grove City and began a small meat market. The market was located where College Towers was built. The business grew and Christopher became involved in community affairs.

In 1904, C. P. Ruffing became the first Fire Chief.



**William J. Harshaw moved his business, Harshaw and Wilson, to Pine Grove.**

Note:

In 1882, Harshaw moved this business from Brady's Bend to Pine Grove. Two years later, he became the sole owner. He operated the firm with his son, Edwin, until 1898.

In 1899, Harshaw established W. J. Harshaw and Son, a real estate and insurance firm that he operated until his death on August 11, 1908.

Vita: William J. Harshaw

William J. Harshaw was born on a farm near Greenville, on March 7, 1841. He attended public schools and the Jamestown (Pa) Academy.

At twenty-one years of age he enlisted in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, Company F, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. While serving as a corporal he was wounded at the Battle of Malvern Hill, Virginia on July 1, 1862 and was subsequently discharged on Surgeon's certificate.

By the time Harshaw came to Pine Grove in 1882, he was an experienced businessman. He had taught school, worked as a clerk in Meadville and Greenville, and established a general merchandising firm in East Brady, Harshaw & Templeton, general merchants. He operated the firm for about 17 years, first with Templeton and later with Wilson (as Harshaw and Wilson).

In 1882, Harshaw moved this business to Pine Grove and two years later, he became the sole owner. He operated the firm with his son, Edwin, until 1898.

In 1899, Harshaw established W. J. Harshaw and Son, a real estate and insurance firm that he operated until his death on August 11, 1908. Upon his death, his son, Clifford Gordon Harshaw, assumed the business. Clifford had been raised in Grove City,

attended Grove City schools, and graduated from a two-year program at Grove City College.

William Harshaw was one of the first directors of the First National Bank of Grove City. He had also supported the Grove City Savings & Trust Co. taking over The Peoples National Bank.

He was involved politically, was a justice of the peace, a school board member, and served two terms in the state legislature (1891-92 and 1895-96).

**William H. Filer established a contracting and building business.**

Note:

William H. Filer was a son of Joseph Filer.

Filer had left home and learned the stationary engineer's trade. After the Civil War, as the industrial revolution spread through industry maintaining a power plant became a necessity for most factories, office buildings, stores, hotels, etc. These early power plants failed frequently and required constant repair. The persons responsible for the operation of these power plants were known as "Stationary Engineers". Stationary engineers were trained to operate heat, light and power equipment.

Filer operated a contracting business until 1898 when he expanded into a number of areas related to construction. He sold heating equipment, and cement blocks, as well as installing roofing, slating, and tiling.

**1883**

Context

United States and Canadian railroads developed the Standard Time System of four time zones. On November 18, 1883, the U.S. Naval Observatory adopted the system. The system was adopted by most states almost immediately, but it wasn't until 1918 that Congress adopted the time system.

In 1883, the Civil Service System was established.

**On January 24, Pine Grove was incorporated as the Borough of Grove City.**

Note:

At the suggestion of J. T. Blair, General Manager of the Pittsburgh, Shenango & Lake Erie Railroad, the citizens voted to change the name of Pine Grove to Grove City to enable the post office and borough to have the same name. Another Pinegrove (now called Pine Grove), located in the southwest corner of Schuylkill County, had been incorporated in 1832. Interestingly, Dr. Isaac Ketler opposed the name change.

A petition of 91 Pine Grove citizens was presented to Mercer County Court in October 1882. On January 4, 1883, the court declared the area to be incorporated as Grove City. The population was estimated at 800.

**In February, the first election was held and Bascom Rayen Welch was elected the first burgess of Grove City.**

**On February 26, the first council meeting was held on in the Morrow carriage shop.**

The first council members were:

R. S. Coulter,

C. L. Fithian,

J. W. McMillin,

D. W. Morrow,

A. B. McKay.

R. C. Craig, Secretary of Council

**On March 3, a seal with a pine tree in the center was approved during the second council meeting.**

**On March 23, council levied a six-mill tax and directed the installation of wooden sidewalks along properties in the borough.**

Note:

These sidewalks were the object of college student mischief. As a practical joke, they would "roll up" the sidewalks. It is reported that on at least one occasion they were caught in the act by the college President Isaac Ketler, who supervised their relaying of the sidewalks.

**In 1883, William H. Egle in his *The History of Pennsylvania* still referred to Grove City as Pinegrove:**

Starting from Shenango, on the line of the Shenango and Allegheny Road, eight miles hence, we have first the village of Fredonia, now seeking incorporation; then five miles further on, Oakland, near Mercer; then, five more miles, Pardoe's station, a mining town; then four miles and we reach Pinegrove - all thriving and prosperous villages.

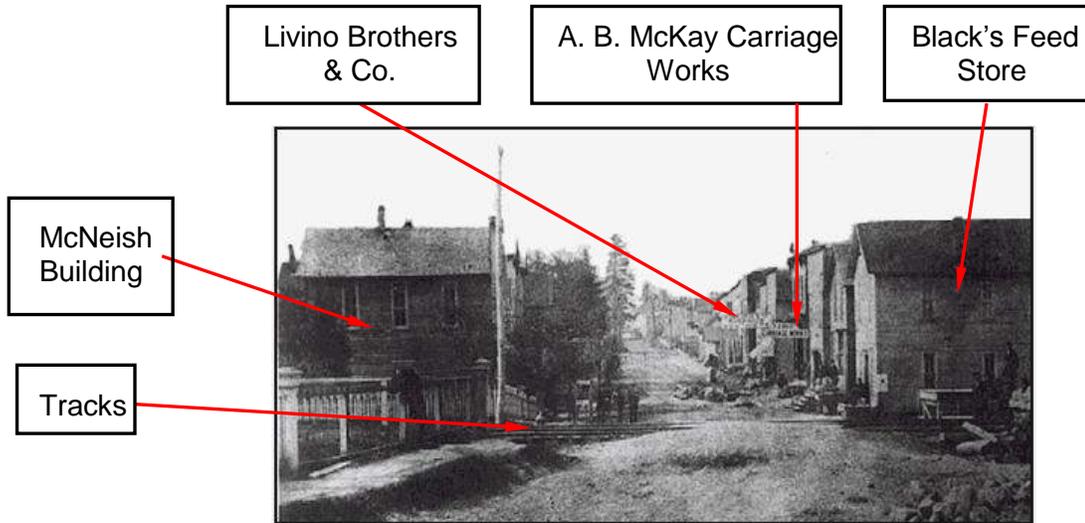
**In 1883 Broad Street was an unpaved street.**

Note:

This photograph shows Broad Street in 1883 looking south from the railroad tracks.

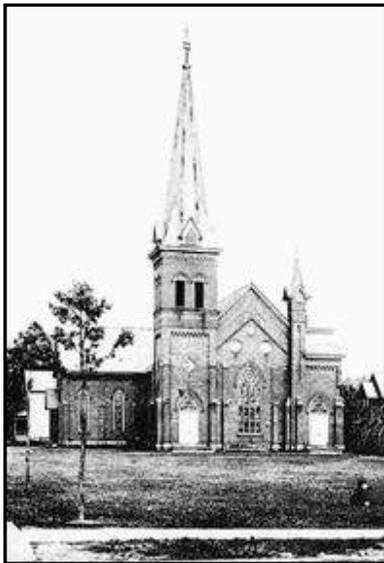
The Black Feed Store was the first building on the right. A sign is in front of A. B. McKay Carriage Works. Next was Livino Brothers & Co. clothing store. Their sign states "One Price Clothiers". Beyond that was the planing mill (about 151-153 South Broad Street). Beyond that was the Filer House.

The first building on the left is the McNeish Building, which was razed in 1928 and replaced with a brick building. Beyond that was Fithian's Drug Store.



**In 1883 - 1884, the Pine Grove Methodist Episcopal Church built a new facility.**

Note:



This new facility, a red brick building located at the corner of Grace Street and East Pine Street, had a seating capacity of 500. It was dedicated in February 1885.

Upon completion of this facility the name of the Pine Grove Methodist Episcopal Church congregation was changed to the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Grove City.

The congregation completed building its first parsonage at 124 East Pine Street was in 1884

**Thomas J. Atwell located in Grove City and began a contracting and carpentry business.**

Note:

Upon his retirement, this son, Edwin F. Atwell, continued the family contracting business as well as working in the oil business.

**Civil War Brigadier General Norman J. Maxwell (See 1866) organized the National Guard, Craig Post, G. A. R. No. 325, on April 16, 1883.**

Note:

Francis Marion Craig for whom the post was named was the first Soldier from Mercer County to die in the Civil War.

Civil War veterans who were charter members were

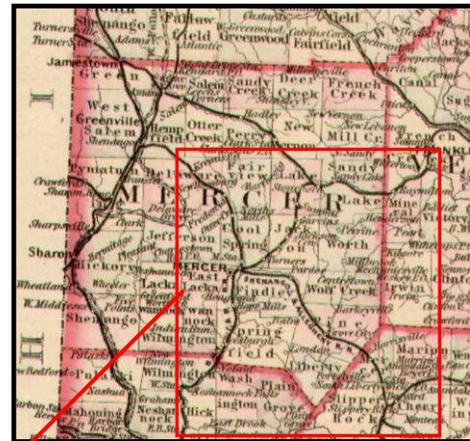
Jacob Allbaugh	S. A. Emery	D. C. Johnston	D. W. Styers
J. W. Anderson	W. P. C. Emery	B. F. Junkin	W. P. Sutherland
George Atkinson	W. S. Emery	A. E. Lawrence	J. C. Weak-ley
A. T. Black	C. L. Fithian	D. M. Madan	B. R. Welch
J. A. Bolander	W. M. Frew,	N. J. Maxwell	George S. Westlake
L. D. Bumpus	Archie Glenn	A. B. McKay	Isaac N. White
J. C. Campbell	J. A. Gilmer	W. J. McKay	J. M. Wingard
J. W. Campbell	W. J. Harshaw	J. P. McCoy	J. S. Yard,
J. M. Coulter	Isaac Hil Kirk	James W. Ramsey	
R. C. Craig	Milton Hines	W. C. Robb	

The Post was disbanded c1929 because of decline in membership and the aging of the remaining members.

**This 1883 map of Mercer County indicates the newly incorporated Grove City.**

Note:

The development of the railroads can clearly be seen to be concentrated in the western part of the county. One rail line reaches Grove City.



**In the spring of 1883, James P. McCoy, moved to Grove City and began farming and contracting as a carpenter.**

**The McKay & McChesney Company was in operation on Broad Street in c1883.**

Note:  
The sign on the top of the building reads:

McKay McChesney "Roofing, Spouting, Wagons, Farming Implements, Buggies, Harness, Engines, Pumps, and Repairs".



1884

**A. E. Graham established the Grove City Banking Company.** (See 1882)

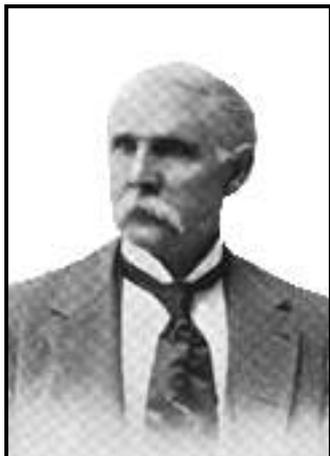
Note:  
Alexander E. Graham moved to Grove City and began a private banking business, the Grove City Banking Company, in the facilities of the old Pine Grove Bank.

Upon opening the bank, Graham made plans for the construction of a new fireproof building. In 1888 in the new facility opened on Broad Street.

William S. McKay joined the firm in 1890. He was educated in the Grove City public schools and Grove City College.

Graham then became active in the development of the First National Bank. The First National Bank was chartered in 1896. (See 1896) Graham's private banking company was disbanded and A. E. Graham became President of the First National Bank.

Vita: Alexander E. Graham



Alexander E. Graham was raised on a farm near Mercer and educated in the public schools. He graduated from Duff's Commercial College at Pittsburgh.

After graduation, he worked in the offices at John J. Spearman furnace at Wheatland and in Greenville.

He was then hired by John Murdock, President of the Savings Bank of Sharon, as a bank bookkeeper. He remained there from 1873 to 1878 when the bank failed. He was appointed to close the business. He then returned to industry working at a rolling mill in West Middlesex. In c1882, he began working as bookkeeper for the McDowell Bank of Sharon. Graham worked for

McDowell until 1884 when moved to Grove City and opened the Grove City Banking Company.

In 1896, he established the First National Bank of Grove City. (See 1896)

Graham retired in 1903 due to ill health. He lived on the corner of Pine Street and College Avenue. This photograph was taken in 1907.



Graham died in 1909.

**On July 12, Grove City Lodge No. 35 Knights of Pythias was organized.**

**In 1894, J. Marcus Reynolds purchased an art gallery and operated an art gallery.**

Note:

Reynolds was an artist and a photographer. He attended New Castle High School and Grove City College before studying art in Philadelphia.

Reynolds left the gallery in 1900 and became a newspaper illustrator traveling throughout the east for a year.

In 1901, he returned to America and worked as a salesman for the Eastman Kodak Company based in New York City. Reynolds was in charge of the Eastman Kodak exhibit at the St. Louis World's Fair Exposition.

In 1906, he returned to Grove City and again opened an art gallery.

**1885**

**The Company F, Sixteenth Regiment Infantry, N. G. P. transferred to Grove City.**

Note:

William J. Neyman was the Captain. Company F was originally organized in 1871 as the North Liberty Guards Company M. On March 21, 1899, the company was reorganized as Company F, Fifteenth Regiment Infantry, National Guard of Pennsylvania.

**Robert Dickson Young established Young's Printing.**

Note:

Before establishing the printing business, Robert (known as Dick) had published a newspaper called *The Occasional*. From 1905 to 1917, he published *The Outlook*.

In addition to printing, the business sold stationery items, cigars, and books. Young's Printing remained in business until 2001.

**1886**

**Capt. John P. Barr established the Union Heat and Light Co.**

Note:

John Pryer Barr was born in Rockland Twp., Venango County on May 30, 1841.



Barr was a Civil War veteran. During the Civil War (Oct. 9, 1861), he enlisted in the 4th Pa. Cavalry. He was Captain of Company L, 64th Reg., 4th Cavalry. He was wounded twice.

After the war, he returned to Venango County where he worked in the mercantile business. In 1870 he became involved in politics and served three term as the Registrar and Recorder. He then moved to Clarion County and was involved in the mercantile and banking businesses.

In 1886, he came to Grove City and established, a natural gas company, the Union Heat and Light Co. Barr organized, built, and supervised the plant. The plant distributed natural gas for light and heat.

The business was incorporated as the Union Heat and Light Company on December 11, 1886. Barr managed the company until 1908 when he sold it and retired.

In 1916 the Industrial Directory of Pennsylvania listed T. B. Gregory as President.

When gas lighting fixtures were installed on South Broad Street in 1889, Union supplied the gas for the lighting.

Barr was also involved in the establishment of George Junior Republic.

There is no gas company listed as being located in Grove City in the in the Industrial Directory of Pennsylvania published in 1914. However, in the Industrial Directory of 1916 the Union Heat and Light Company is listed with T. B. Gregory as President. There is no listing for the company in Grove City in 1919, but it is listed as operating in Emlenton.

**1887**

**The name of Pine Grove Normal Academy was amended to Grove City College on December 7, 1887.**

Note:

Pine Grove Normal Academy had been incorporated in 1879. Wikipedia states, "The trustees of Pine Grove Normal Academy amended the academy charter to change its name to Grove City College on November 21, 1884".

Records from the Pennsylvania Department of State indicate the name of was amended to Grove City College on December 7, 1887.



Shown are advertisements for Grove City College published in the Minutes of the Fifty-Third Session of the Erie Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held at Greenville September 19-24, 1888.

**GROVE # CITY # COLLEGE,**  
GROVE CITY, PA.

**AN UNDENOMINATIONAL BUT CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.**

FOUR COURSES OF STUDY.  
College Preparatory, Scientific, Classical and Musical.

Tuition, \$30 a Year in all Literary Studies.  
Boarding at very moderate rates. \$150 will pay all necessary expenses for one college year.

**CALENDAR FOR 1887-8.**  
Winter Term will begin November 29, 1887.  
Spring Term will begin April 3, 1888.  
Fall Term will begin August 14, 1888.

ISAAC C. KETLER, Ph. D., President, Grove City, Pa.

The college calendar is for the 1887-1888 school year.

*Grove City College,*  
GROVE CITY, PA.

A Thorough, Christian, Cheap College.

**\$150**

Will pay the necessary expenses of a student for a year.

Send for Catalogue to the President,  
ISAAC C. KETLER,  
GROVE CITY, PA.

**1888**

**In 1888, William L. Kennedy began a painting business.**

Note:

Kennedy moved to Grove City from Middlesex where he had been a constable.

In 1906, Kennedy became Burgess of Grove City.

**In 1888, C. W. Forrest, came to Grove City to accept a position in Smith's mercantile business.**

Note:

C. W. Forrest, had worked in the store of his uncle, G. K. Smith, in Mercer since he was twelve years old.

Forrest became a partner and in 1893, he purchased his partner's interest in the business and operated the business, until he sold the business. In 1904, he re-purchased the business, which he subsequently developed into a major community business.

Forrest was an organizer of the People's National Bank of Grove City and served as its first president.

He also served as borough council member and was in office at the time the water works system of Grove City was constructed.

### **William W. Van Eman began a livery business.**

Note:

William W. Van Eman was the fourth of the ten children born to Dr. Nicholas W. and Elizabeth Van Eman,

In 1895, he was appointed by President Cleveland as the postmaster of Grove City. He served in this position until he retired in 1889.

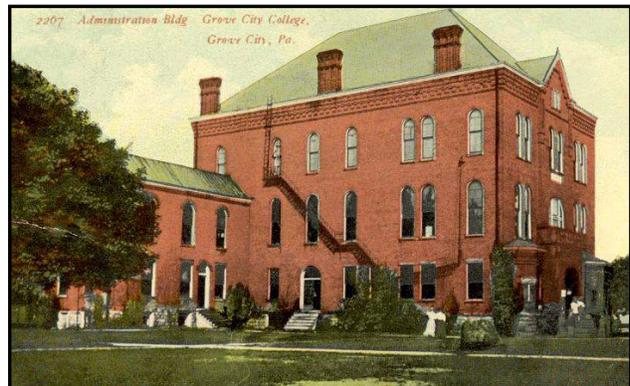
After retiring, he entered the insurance business.

### **Founders Hall was built at Grove City College.**

Note:

The building contained classrooms, laboratories, and two gymnasiums. It also housed a museum, an office and a chapel that would seat the student body.

Shown is a photograph of the building as it appeared in 1908.



**1889**

Context:

On May 31, 1889, a neglected dam failed during a record setting storm flooding Johnstown killing 2,209.

On November 2, North Dakota and South Dakota became the 39th and 40th states.

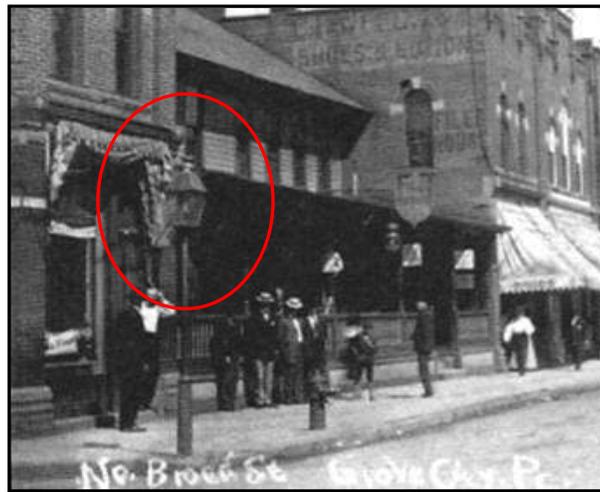
On November 8, Montana and (Nov. 11) Washington became the 41st and 42nd states

**In 1889, South Broad Street was lit by newly installed gas lighting fixtures.**

Note:

This photograph, taken in the 1890s, shows a gas lighting fixture near the corner of North Broad and Pine Streets. The lights were pole lantern style fixtures. (Shown in the background is the Filer House.)

The natural gas was supplied by the he Union Heat and Light Co. plant.



**In 1889, Homer A. Rhodes came to Grove City and established a business as a tinner.**

Note:

In 1890, Homer Rhodes purchased Meyers and Monroe's (est. 1876) hardware stock and formed a business with a partner, Mr. Rendall. Homer's father Alber B. Rhodes moved to Grove City in 1890, to work with his son in the tinner's department of the store.

In c1893, J. B. Pearsall purchased Mr. Rendall's interest in the firm and the name was changed to Pearsall and Rhodes.

In 1896 (1897), Mr. Rhodes bought his partner out and established a hardware business with William A. Redmond. Redmond had attended Grove City College and had been the bookkeeper at the D. G. Courtney lumber business. The firm became Rhodes & Redmond.

In 1906 (7), the Rhodes & Redmond block was constructed to house the business.

On December 30, 1908, William A. Redmond and Homer A. Rhodes purchased the Uber House for \$3,000 and 1911 William Redmond took sole ownership of the house.

William Redmond is shown at the right.

Rhodes sold his interest in the business to a group of investors and the business name was changed to the W. A. Redmond Company. Redmond Company also operated a hardware line.

The firm remained in business into the 1930s.



**Pictured is a storage receipt from the Pittsburgh, Shenango and Lake Erie Railroad Company Freight Office Grove City Station, dated January 28, 1889.**

Note:  
The agreement states:

Storage will be charged on all Merchandise not taken away after five days' notice at the following rates, viz: 3 cents per 100 lbs. for five days and not to exceed ten days. Five cents per pound for ten days and not to exceed thirty days. Additional storage may be charged after thirty days.

Demurrage at the rate of \$10.00 per day will be charged on all cars not unloaded by consignee twelve hours after arrival.

5 88-1m Form 1.  
The Pittsburgh, Shenango & Lake Erie R.R. Co  
FREIGHT OFFICE.  
Grove City Station,  
Jan 28 1889  
There is in store for your risk at this station, subject to the conditions stated below, the following, viz:  
yours of 22 to land will attend to enclosed load as possible  
Charges on the same at this date are.....  
Storage and interest.....  
Demurrage \$10.00 per day  
Storage will be charged on all Merchandise not taken away after five days' notice at the following rates, viz: 3 cents per 100 lbs., for five days and not to exceed ten days; 5 cents per 100 lbs., for ten days and not to exceed thirty days. Additional storage will be charged after thirty days.  
Interest will be charged on all goods for the time they remain in the freight house of the Company over and above thirty days.  
Demurrage at the rate of \$10 per day will be charged on all Cars not unloaded by consignee twelve hours after arrival.

5 88-1m Form 1.  
The Pittsburgh, Shenango & Lake Erie R.R. Co  
FREIGHT OFFICE.  
Grove City Station,  
Jan 28 1889  
There is in store for your risk at this station, subject to the conditions stated below, the following, viz:  
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