

Main and Water Streets by James Tamplin. Tamplin's Piqua Hotel advertised rates in 1821 of \$1.50 a room per week, 37-1/2 cents per night for a horse, 18-3/4 cents for a meal and 6-1/4 cents for a half pint of whiskey. From 1820 until 1961, Tamplin's original structure was remodeled three times, owned or managed by over thirty different people, and operated under ten different names.

The next major hotel was Union Hall built in 1820 by James Bennett as a house of entertainment, a tavern and a business location on the southwest corner of Main and Ash Streets. In 1849, the original structure was replaced by a seventy-room hotel on the same site. The newly erected hotel was named the City Hotel and run by Loring R. Brownell with seven employees. The hotel was remodeled in 1877 with outdoor bathrooms connected to the building. Eighteen different proprietors followed Brownell from 1849 until the hotel closed in 1895.

Perry Tuttle opened the last of the major early hotels in 1840. Tuttle's Miami House was located on the northwest corner of Main and North Streets. The hotel was known for its ballroom which featured a blue ceiling decorated with stars. The Miami House became a gathering place for the contractors, engineers, and commissioners who were pushing the Miami Extension Canal northward. The hotel went through at least eight owners after Tuttle before closing down in 1908-9. The last major hotel to be built was the **Plaza Hotel** in 1890-91.

Other pre-Civil War Piqua hotels include: Cold Springs Hotel (1830's), Leavell's Inn (1831), Columbian Inn (1830's), Abby Tavern (1830's), Hale Tavern (1836), Exchange Hotel (1837-1881), Wither's Hotel (1839), Swartz's Tavern (1840's), Eagle Hotel (1850-1853), Naterman Tavern (1850), William Tell House (1859), Farmer's Hotel (1860), Washington House (1860).

With the increase in automobiles after World War II, hotels in the cities began to give way to rural motels. The first motel in the Piqua area was located north of Piqua at 8468 North County Road 25-A. It was known as the Motel Piqua.

HOUSE NUMBERS

In May of 1887, a city ordinance was passed providing for the re-numbering of houses within the city limits. Even numbers would be placed on the north side of east-west streets and the west side of north-south streets. For the city's main north-south streets, a division was made at the railroad tracks. Prior to this ordinance, only structures on the main streets were given numbers. This old system started at the Miami River and numbered each structure beginning with number one on the west side of the street. The city was forced into renumbering the city by **post office** regulations which required cities wanting free home delivery to have complete street numbering systems.

HOUSES

Piqua's first **brick** house was built by Dr. Daniel Ashton in 1819 on the northwest corner of Main and Greene. The first **steel house** in Piqua was built in 1936 at 518 Vine Street. The first prefabricated houses manufactured in Piqua were built by **Inland Homes** in 1952. SEE ALSO: Architecture; Housing Developments; Log Cabins

HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

After the **Second World War**, the restrictions on building supplies were lifted and housing developments began to grow in Piqua. The west end of town saw the creation of subdivisions such as **Landon Park** off of Covington Avenue in 1955, **Traylor's** **Marvont** development off of Park

Avenue in 1953-54, and Sidney Philbrook's **Flo-Gene Company's** **Highland Acres** in 1953-54. The early 1960's saw the creation of the **Meadowlawn Subdivision**, **Margene Manor**, **Bellaire Park**, **Sunset Gardens** and **Mar-Wood Estates**. One of the community's biggest developments on the far west end of town off of South Street was **Candlewood** which was begun in 1965 and continued through the early 1970's. Another major development in the late sixties and early seventies was **Park Ridge** off of Sunset. This subdivision picked up steam again 1980's and early 1990's. The late 1980's saw the creation of **Eagles Nest** on the northeast corner of Piqua off of Sunset. On the far west edge of town off of High Street, the **Deerfield Subdivision** was created by **Craycon Homes** in the early 1990's. SEE ALSO: Inland Homes; Mid-Continent Properties; Patron p. 227

HUNTERSVILLE, OHIO

This village was located in Springcreek Township directly east of the Great Miami River and the city of Piqua. The village was laid out in January of 1838 for **David Hunter**. It was incorporated in 1848 and annexed by Piqua in 1893. **L. C. Cron** served as Mayor of the village from 1875 until 1891. The village fire department was organized in 1879 and a fire station built on East Main Street. **Huntersville School** on Staunton Street was built in 1889 with **Lafayette Westfall** as its first principal. The village's two biggest industries were the **L. C. & W. L. Cron Furniture Company** and the **Cron, Kills Furniture Company**. Before any white settlers had come to Miami County, the location of Huntersville had been the site of the **Shawnee** village of Chillicothe (or Lower Piqua) from 1780 until 1782. It was from this brief Indian occupation that the village acquired the nickname of Shawnee. After its absorption by Piqua, the village was known as East Piqua (often confused with the East Piqua east of Spring Street). SEE ALSO: Bottlers; Hilliard Family.

HYDRAULIC CANAL

One of the major undertakings of the last half of the nineteenth century in Piqua was the building of the hydraulic canal. In 1865, the first meetings were held to discuss the concept. The first supporters of this plan were **Godwin V. Dorsey**, **A. G. Conover**, and **John ●Farrell**. In December of 1865, a charter was granted to these men who had formed a joint stock company known as the Piqua Hydraulic Company. Dorsey was elected the company's first president on February 26, 1866. But the project was more costly than the originators had anticipated. In 1872, the City of Piqua bought out the stock company and continued the work to bring both a source of power and a reliable supply of water to the community. A city waterworks board was set up to control this new project. The formal opening of the hydraulic canal took place on June 16, 1876. The hydraulic canal ran from the Miami and Erie Canal at Lockington to Piqua following a route from Swift Run back to the cemetery and Fountain Park to Water Street, then to College Street and finally east to South Main Street and the canal. The canal today is only open from High Street north to Swift Run off State Route 66. As a source of hydraulic power, the canal was only a limited success with only four or five firms taking advantage of this power source. But as a water supply, it provided Piqua with its first public water system under pressure. SEE ALSO: Johnston, Stephen.

ICE PRODUCTION

During the nineteenth century, large blocks of ice were cut from the Miami River and area lakes and ponds. The ice was packed in sawdust and stored in specially constructed and insulated sheds.