

The Hinsdale Historical
Society Presents



HINSDALE

1873

In Lights

2023

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF
HINSDALE HISTORY



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Writers Alexis Braden, Katharine Korte Andrew, Matt Stockmal.

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EXHIBIT

Creative Director, Technical Producer, Show Runner, Magic Maker Matt Stockmal.

Staging, Design of the Physical Exhibit
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Curator Katharine Korte Andrew.

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Captions and Context

Katharine Korte Andrew, Justin Stauder.

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Special thanks to the following individuals, families, and organizations who have loaned items to the exhibit:

Katharine Korte Andrew

David J. Andrew

Caroline Paulison Andrew

The Bower Family

Hinsdale Community Preschool

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Hinsdale Historical Society

where history lives

For over 45 years, the Hinsdale Historical Society has worked tirelessly to meet its mission to bridge the past, present, and future by engaging the community with its history and architecture. Its Archives and collections contain a multitude of photos, oral histories, documents, and artifacts that share the story of Hinsdale. The Hinsdale Historical Society preserves and maintains three historic properties in the Village:

The Hinsdale History Museum, 15 S. Clay St.
Housed in an 1874 Italianate-style home.

Immanuel Hall, 302 S. Grant St.
Carpenter-Gothic style frame church built by local residents in 1900.

The R. Harold Zook Home and Studio
A unique cottage designed and built in 1924 by prominent local architect R. Harold Zook.

The Society also operates the **Roger and Ruth Anderson Architecture Center** which houses the Society's Archives and serves as an architectural resource for the Village and beyond.

The Hinsdale Historical Society is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that relies on private donations to meet its mission. Through the generous support of people like you, the Society can work to foster an awareness and appreciation of Hinsdale's history.

Thank you for joining with those who share the passion of
Hinsdale's distinctive history.

Visit our website at HinsdaleHistory.org.



HINSDALE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



HINSDALE
SESQUICENTENNIAL
1873 2023

Before 1873

Before European settlers—The old Indian (Black Hawk) trail is established. It becomes the Southwestern Plank road, which is now Ogden Avenue. The Pottawatomie establish a camp in an area around the Fullersburg forest preserve.

1835

Orente Grant and his brother, David, buy from the U.S. government the “untamed prairies” bordering Salt Creek, east of Fullersburg.

Robert Jones buys land from the U.S. government for \$1.26 an acre. This is the land that William Robbins will eventually buy from Jones in 1862 to create Hinsdale.

1834

Ben Fuller arrives in Chicago after traveling across the country from Broome County, New York on horseback.

1836

The Torode family builds a sawmill at what is now Graue Mill. Early settler Jean Torode tells of the good will between settlers and Pottawatomie Native Americans who live on both sides of Salt Creek near now Graue Mill called the creek “Wewanippissee” or “The Pretty Little River.”

1851

Ben Fuller acquires Brush Hill—a settlement along Salt Creek and present day Ogden Avenue—and renames it Fullersburg.

Brown Jug, c. 1850s.

96.4.7

This jug was found during the excavation in Village Place on the property that was once used as a blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop may have belonged to John Samuel Coe, an early settler of Fullersburg, who opened a blacksmith shop in 1844. John Samuel Coe married Harriett Fuller, the sister of Benjamin Fuller, and helped found the Brush Hill School (Fullersburg School), as well as allegedly ran a stop on the Underground Railroad. He later opened a general store.



Brush Hill May 29th 1852
 Meeting was pursuant to notice
 S. Parker was elected moderator of meeting.
 P.M. Prop Secretary Parker,
 Mr J. S. Coe and S. Gray were nominated
 and elected as directors to fill the vacancy
 of Henry Coburn and Elias Osterlander resigned.
 The meeting then adjourned sine die.

Formation papers of the Brush Hill School, 1852-1853.

Item 23.04.05

Original papers detailing the creation of a special tax to aid in erecting a building to house the school, and elections of school board officers. The officers of the school included John Samuel Coe. The Brush Hill School was built by Lieutenant Sherman King around 1853. The school was later known as Fullersburg School and was located on the hill between Fullersburg Cemetery and the plank road, where today's Fuller Road ends. By 1928, the school was left vacant, and a fire destroyed the building in 1938.

1858

Abraham Lincoln stops at one of the inns in Fullersburg for dinner when he travels west for the Lincoln-Douglas debates.

1861-1865

The Civil War.

Letters sent by the Foster brothers, 1862-1864.

Envelopes and letters sent by the Foster brothers during their service in the Civil War. In 1886, Thomas Foster was listed as a cigar seller in Hinsdale.



1862

William Robbins purchases more than 600 acres of what is now south Hinsdale and a few years later hires landscaper H. W. S. Cleveland to plat a village south of the tracks.

Famed Art Nouveau dancer Loie Fuller, a regular performer at the Folies Bergere and creator of the "Serpentine Dance" is born at Castle Inn in what would soon be Hinsdale.

1863

William Robbins builds his residence at 120 East 5th St.

1864

Chicago Burlington & Quincy railroad runs its first train on May 20, 1864. Train dispatching is done by telegraph.

1870

Fullersburg farmer Alfred Walker is one of Illinois' first cheese manufacturers. Walker's farm on Ayres and Garfield Ave. produces 100-pound cheeses and is recognized by the U.S. government as a 'model of agriculture.'

1871

8-10 Oct-The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 devastates the city.

A.22,12.105

THE CHICAGO EVENING POST.

VOL. VII.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1871.

NO. 31

BY TELEGRAPH.

FIRE AT WINDSOR, ONT.

The Town Burned Down. Detroit, Oct. 12.—An incendiary fire this morning in Windsor, Canada, opposite this City, destroyed the entire business portion of the town. The Great Western Depot was saved. The absence of wind was all that saved the remaining portion of the city.

The Wisconsin Fires.

Essex, Howard, Wis., Oct. 9.—Passengers by the Rockwell steamer report the village of Peshigo burned, with the loss of some sixty or seventy lives. The scene is described as terrible. Those who were saved rushed into the river up to their necks. The loss is \$400,000. The wind was blowing a tornado. All but one house was consumed. The extreme heat was blowing a tornado. All but one house was consumed. The extreme heat was blowing a tornado. All but one house was consumed.

Chicago loss of life at Men Kauroe is reported. Green flag is not considered in danger, but the houses are kept as wet as possible.

Five Year Record. Milwaukee, Oct. 9.—From 3 p. m.—The report of the destruction of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad station at Milwaukee without foundation. The

ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND PATRONS.

The disastrous fire of October 8th having destroyed our former premises, Nos. 53 and 55 Lake-st., we have removed that portion of our goods which were saved to, and will occupy the four-story and ground floor store

57 West Washington-st.
Near the Tunnel Entrance.

Our buyers are now in the New York markets, and in a very few days we shall be enabled, by aid of telegraph and express, to offer to the trade a full assortment of MILLINERY, LADIES'

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Resurgam!

VAN SCHAACK, STEVENSON & REID,

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS,
OFFICE, 957 Prairie-av.

Our warehouse will be completed in a few days, when we shall fill orders promptly, as we have large stocks in transit.

ELY,

TAILOR AND DRAPER

IS ALIVE!

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE

NORTHWESTERN MANUFACTURING

COMPANY.

President's Office, 10 South Jefferson-st.

Our property was spared by the terrible conflagration which has just swept our city, and we are therefore prepared (with increased facilities for manufacturing) to supply our friends with our

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DRY GOODS

AT
REGULAR PRICES!

THOS. PHELPS & CO.,

32 & 34 Randolph-st., corner Canal

SAFES!

DIEBOLD & KIENZLE

SAFES,

The Chicago Evening Post, 12 Oct 1871.

This newspaper, published just two days after the Chicago Fire, details the devastation. Some families and individuals escaped the flames in wagons and ended up in Hinsdale.

A22.12.105

1872

The first village newspaper, The Hinsdale Index, debuts as a monthly periodical. It is published by T. E. Lonergan and runs until 1896.

1873-1899

1873

The Japanese government sends Inoye Katsumsa to America. He spends one year at Alfred Walker's farm learning American agriculture.

2 Feb—Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Stough hold their inaugural masquerade ball and arrange for a special train to transport guests from Chicago to Hinsdale.

1 Apr—Hinsdale incorporates as a village and Judge Joel Tiffany becomes the first village President.



Wood gavel, c. 1873.

Likely the first gavel used by the first Hinsdale Board of Trustees in 1873.

1875

37 people sign a petition to the Illinois Diocese to form Grace Church.

1877

A police force begins and is headed by Constable Clark, with horse thievery a common occurrence.

1880

According to lore, Ben Fuller plants an Ohio Buckeye Tree around this time. 140 years later, it becomes the largest of its species registered in the United States.

1881

A two and a half story frame structure is built at 25 E. First St. "The Colored Baptist Church" uses the upper story of this building every Sunday evening for services.

\$2,200 REWARD

\$1,000 REWARD!

I will pay ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS for such information as shall lead to the arrest and conviction of the MURDERER or MURDERERS

OF THE LATE

Lake Ransom

of Hinsdale. The money will be paid immediately upon conviction, or so soon thereafter as it shall be legally determined to whom the money is due.

Provision has been made for payment of same at Union National Bank, in Chicago, Ill.

C. M. FITCH,

520 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

\$500 REWARD!

RESOLUTION PASSED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF HINSDALE, ILLINOIS, FEBRUARY 14th, 1882:

"Be it Resolved by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Hinsdale, That a reward of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) be offered by this Board for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderer or murderers of our late townsman, Lake Ransom, on the night of February 10th, 1882, in the said Village of Hinsdale."

C. C. WARREN, President.

FRED. WILD, Clerk.

\$500 REWARD!

RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF DU PAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, MARCH 7th, 1882.

"Resolved that this Board offer Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) Reward for the arrest and conviction of the murderer or murderers of Lake Ransom, in the Village of Hinsdale, in Du Page County, Illinois, on the night of February 10th, A. D., 1882.

S. P. SEDGWICK, Chairman.

M. S. ELLSWORTH, Clerk.

\$200 REWARD!

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME. GREETING:

Whereas, It is represented to me that on the night of February 10th, 1882, in the county of DuPage, in this State, Lake Ransom, a citizen of Illinois, was brutally murdered and robbed; and

Whereas, It is further represented that the whereabouts and identity of the person or persons who perpetrated said crime are to the authorities entirely unknown:

Therefore, I, **HILLBY M. CULLOM**, Governor of Illinois, do hereby proclaim and offer a reward of Two Hundred Dollars for each person who may be arrested and delivered into the custody of the Sheriff of Du Page county, and found guilty of said crime.

In Witness Whereof, I hereto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of State to be affixed

Done at the City of Springfield, this 8th day of March, 1882.

By the Governor:

HENRY D. DEMENT, Secretary of State.

S. M. CULLOM,

1882

11 Feb—Lake Ransom, resident of 428 S. Lincoln St., was found dead by the side of the street at the intersection of First and Lincoln Street.

Wanted Poster, 1882.

Donated by Patrick Regnery, 1994.

Poster with multiple rewards for any information that could lead to the arrest and conviction of the murderer or murderers of Lake Ransom. The death of Lake Ransom remains one of Hinsdale's only unsolved mysteries. Over 100 years later, opinions on the case differ: was Ransom murdered or did he die by his own hand?

A.94.3

1883

First high school class graduates with four students and Mrs. Blodgett's first grade class has nearly 30 students.

1886

The intersection of Third Street and Garfield Avenue in downtown Hinsdale becomes the first site of an all-boys school. Later, the site becomes Hinsdale High School in the 1920s, and Hinsdale Middle School starting in 1976.

Hinsdale buys a horse-drawn hook and ladder truck with hose, axes and accessories. Around this time the Hinsdale Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 is formed. They shared quarters, equipment and personnel with the Hose Company, and the two formally merge in 1893, under the name Hinsdale Volunteer Fire Department. An African American man serves on the department, possibly making it the first integrated unit in the Western Suburbs.

1887

O. P. Bassett, a rumored personal friend of President Lincoln, builds a dome shaped greenhouse—he later creates the American Beauty Rose. Two years later, he builds a Colonial Revival style house, which still sits on Sixth Street.

Incorporation papers of the Hinsdale Library Association, 1887.

The Hinsdale Library Association was incorporated on 14 April 1887. The Hinsdale Public Library was founded as the Hinsdale Library Association, a private subscription library, in 1887. As public interest grew and at the election in 1892, Hinsdale's citizens voted to establish it as a free public library. In April 1893, the first library board of directors was elected and in August, the library opened its doors to the public. Mrs. Flora Candee was the first librarian, serving for 12 years. Mrs. Ella Ruth was the librarian for 13 years. Mr. Deming H. Preston was the first president and served on the board for 26 years.





Wedding Dress, 1885.

Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barnes, 2004.

Wedding dress of Flora Elizabeth Dodge, born 28 January 1856 in Janesville, Wisconsin, married 9 June 1885 in Monroe, Wisconsin to Warren Hatgood Freeman who served in the 13th Massachusetts Infantry during the Civil War. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1879. The Freemans resided in Hinsdale from 1892 to 1944. The dress is made of ecru eyelet with lace trim at the bottom and includes 15 mother-of-pearl buttons down the front. The skirt has three tiers with lace trim on each tier and is self-lining.

04.05.01A,B,C



Dress, c. 1882.

Donated by Mr. Thomas Scott Jones and (Mrs.) Helen Bebb Jones née Hench, 1985.

Bronze silk taffeta dress with a maroon velvet collar and bodice inset, trim on long sleeves, and panels in skirt. The bodice laces have been replaced. The front of the skirt is open and the wearer would have had an underskirt beneath this dress. The dress originally belonged to Mrs. Jones' grandmother, Katherine Cable née Elting, as part of her trousseau. She married Fayette S. Cable,, who, along with his two brothers, founded the Cable-Nelson Pianos company, which was a leader in piano manufacturing at the turn of the century.

85.2.31

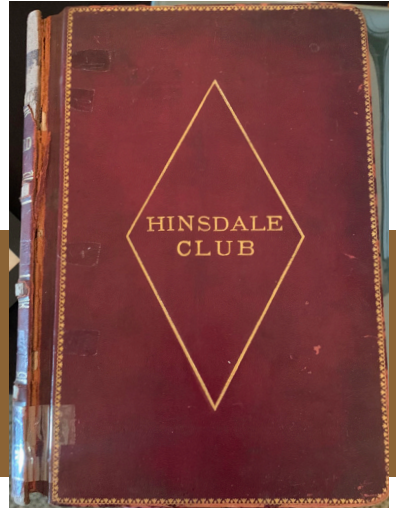
1889

The Hinsdale Beacon begins publication. Charles E. Cushing is the publisher.

The Hinsdale Club is incorporated. William Duncan presides over The Hinsdale Club when it receives its charter. Financial difficulties lead to its dissolution in 1941 and its clubhouse becomes The Community House.

Hinsdale Club Record of Officers and Members, 1890-1903.

The book is a record of membership of the officers and members of the Hinsdale Club from its creation in 1890 to 1903. The officers and members are recorded.



1890

The village hires its first attorney, Linus C. Ruth Sr.

1892

Wood and brick-paved roads are constructed.

The Fresh Air Home, 32 W. Ogden Ave., begins to give underprivileged Chicago women and their children a chance to enjoy the country. The Fresh Air Association was one of Hinsdale's most successful philanthropies. The association provided women and children from Chicago's poor neighborhoods "a vacation in the country."

1893

The Hinsdale Unitarian Church hosts Swami Vivekananda, who addresses the church on two Sundays. He is known to have introduced Hinduism to America and calls for religious tolerance.

1 Apr–30 Oct—Chicago hosts the World's Columbian Exposition, a world's fair. The exposition was an influential social and cultural event and had a profound effect on American architecture, the arts, American industrial optimism, and Chicagoland's image. E. M. Barton, owner of the world famous Sedgley Farm, exhibited his herd of Brown Swiss cattle at the fair.

Tickets, 1893.

Tickets for the 1893 World's Fair, "The World's Columbian Exposition" in Chicago.

A.93.5.8D



1894

Village officials approve of the installation of telephone “poles and wires.” The first telephone exchange is set up in McGee’s drugstore at 49 S. Washington St.

Fred C. Morris founds Morris Florists which continues through the 1960s.

William Day Gates, founder of the American Terra Cotta & Ceramic Company, one of the Midwest’s “big four” producers, begins building an 18-room mansion for his family to showcase terra cotta construction.

1895

Garfield School opens.

The Women’s Club of Hinsdale holds its first meeting.

Emmanuel Karlson opens his boot and shoe shop in the newly constructed Bucholz Building at 13-15 W. First St.

The Old Music Hall burns to the ground 32-26 E. First St.

The first issue of “The Doings” is published by a young Dan Merrill.



The Columbian Era and The Dolls’ Magazine, 1893-1894.

Volume 1, Number 1 of The Dolls’ Magazine, published by D. H. Merrill and W. H. Linsley as a supplement to The Columbian Era. Dolls’ Magazine was the predecessor to The Hinsdale Doings, which became the most popular local newspaper in Hinsdale and was published by Dan Merrill.

Supplement to Columbian Era.

THE DOLLS’ MAGAZINE.

VOL. I. NOVEMBER 1893. NO. 1.

INTRODUCTORY.

Having understood for a considerable time, that a publication devoted to the interests of dolls, has long been desired by the youthful mistress of Hinsdale, we present this—our first effort—to the doll public, with apologies for the incompleteness of this number.

We will appear regularly on the first of each month and each number will contain a good article, interesting notes and such items of interest as may come under our notice.

We will issue special numbers as the occasion demands. These will consist of from eight to ten pages, and we trust will be filled with interesting reading matter.

Review this number carefully; consider the difficulties with which we had to contend and, if you consider it worth the small price asked send in your subscription.

The December number will consist of eight pages and will be filled with a large amount of interesting reading matter. Among others will be an interesting article by “Polysyllable”

1896

Electric lights begin to illuminate the streets of Hinsdale.

1897

A deranged resident staying at the Park Hotel in Hinsdale threatens a female cook with a knife claiming that she was a fortune teller who had defrauded him in the past.

J. B. Campbell publishes his photographs in Hinsdale for his publication, Hinsdale the Beautiful.



1898

Spanish-American War (1898).

Hinsdale Golf Club is founded on the Ayres property in current day Clarendon Hills.

E. M. Barton, president of Western Electric Co. and Sedgley Farm at 5501 S. County Line Rd., becomes the owner of the first residence in Hinsdale to be connected to electricity.

1899

After commissioning Frank Lloyd Wright to build a home for her and her husband at 121 S. County Line Rd., Grace Hodges Bagley and other members of the Chicago Woman's Club, successfully lobby for the creation of the world's first Juvenile Justice System. Bagley continues to devote her life to social welfare, including starting a nursery for working mothers and helping to educate immigrants for U.S. citizenship.

The new Hinsdale train depot is completed at 21 Hinsdale Ave.

Hinsdale Club officially unveils its new building on the S. W. corner of Garfield and First St.

Hinsdale's post office relocates to the Heinemann building at 53 S. Washington St.

1900-1924

1900

In 1900, the population of Hinsdale is 2,578.

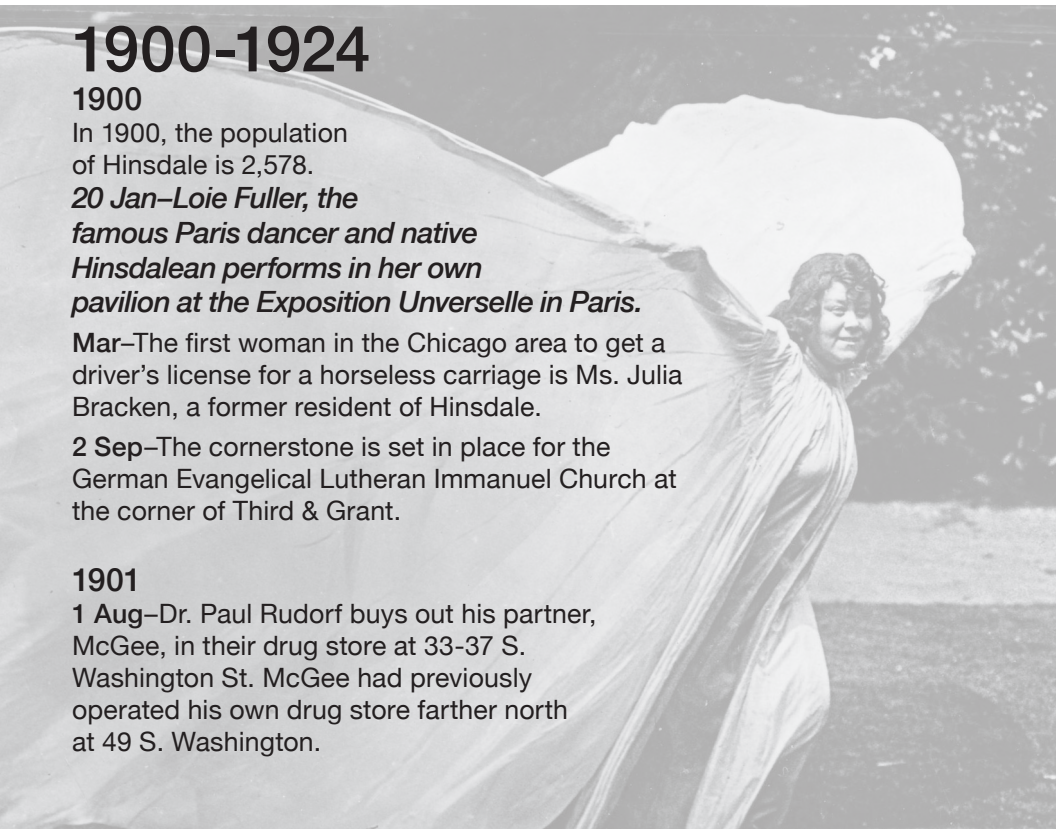
20 Jan—*Loie Fuller, the famous Paris dancer and native Hinsdalean performs in her own pavilion at the Exposition Unverselle in Paris.*

Mar—The first woman in the Chicago area to get a driver's license for a horseless carriage is Ms. Julia Bracken, a former resident of Hinsdale.

2 Sep—The cornerstone is set in place for the German Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel Church at the corner of Third & Grant.

1901

1 Aug—Dr. Paul Rudorf buys out his partner, McGee, in their drug store at 33-37 S. Washington St. McGee had previously operated his own drug store farther north at 49 S. Washington.





18 Oct—In the early morning, thieves drill into the Hinsdale Post Office safe and make off with \$800.

1902

25 Apr—The Chicago Art Institute exhibits works of Hinsdale artist Mrs. J. C. Mohor.

7 Nov—Hinsdalean Linus C. Ruth is elected DuPage County Judge.

White dress, c. 1900-1910.

Donated by Ruth Barnes, 2004.

White cotton with white embroidered flowers. The dress has a lace trim at the neck and 3/4 length sleeves. There are lace inserts in the skirt and a button-back closure. Originally owned by Isabel Robbins Knight, daughter of William Robbins and wife of William Hugh Knight who lived at 333 S. Park St. She was the second president of the Woman's Club from 1897-1901.

04.5.8

1903

6 Apr—Hinsdale President Deming H. Preston passes a permit allowing himself and other residents to buy a large quantity of squirrels to be set at liberty among the trees of the village.

8 May—Hinsdalean C. G. Dennison is found in the Niagara River under the Horseshoe Falls.

30 Dec—Fire breaks out at Chicago's Iroquois Theatre. Though 12 Hinsdaleans escape the blaze, 600 other individuals die when they become trapped inside.

1904

An old country estate is sold for \$16,000 and is transformed into the Hinsdale Sanitarium by Dr. David Paulson and his wife, Dr. Mary Paulson, assisted by Charles Kimbell. The first patient is admitted a year later. In 1908, a new, larger sanitarium is built and by 1920, the facility treats 1,295 patients a year—later becoming Hinsdale Hospital.

The Village Board of Trustees approves the installation of 20 miles of new sidewalks at the price of \$70,000.

The Doings reports that a Hinsdalean purchase 60 pairs of squirrels to help populate the furry species. Hinsdale later imports 24 grey squirrels from Colorado and 24 red fox squirrels from Texas after hot debates over whether the village would become a "Squirrel City" or a "Bird City."

Three guests had returned to the City, gifts had been rec'd from Cleverdon Hills, Hinsdale, Western Springs, La Grange, Riverside & Chicago. Mrs. Wagner donated five weeks House Com. reported slight repairs needed on the stove.

July 19th 1904

Rules for the Fresh Air Home

Hinsdale, Illinois.

All tired and needy women are welcome guests in this Home, provided they are willing to comply with the following rules.

All guests are expected to remain on the grounds unless given permission by the matron to go outside.

Minutes of the Fresh Air Association, 1898-1909.

The Fresh Air Association was one of Hinsdale's most successful philanthropies. The association provided women and children from Chicago's poor neighborhoods "a vacation in the country." The association was housed in the Marvin Fox home, which was at first loaned to the group and then became its permanent location. The home still stands at 32 W. Ogden Ave.

It was decided to send copies to the other towns, those selecting delegations and have them posted in the station. Mrs. Wagner reported gifts of vegetables also the need of more groceries. Girls over age had been returned but over guests had arrived to no vacancies. Mrs. Little of La Grange present. Meeting adj. W. M. H.

Eight women and twelve children constitute a delegation.

No person suffering with consumption or other contagious disease will be admitted.

Guests must come on the train leaving the Union Station, corner of Adams and Canal streets, at 10:15 a. m. or they will be obliged to walk a mile to the Home on arriving in Hinsdale.

1905

4 Feb—George B. Robbins, son of Hinsdale's founder William Robbins, appears before the Interstate Commerce Committee in his capacity as president of the Armour rail-car lines, to deny charges of monopolization.

1 Apr—Eight Western Suburbs form the Burlington Suburban baseball league with games to be played at sights along the tracks. Hinsdale's home team beats Downers Grove 5 to 1 at their first game.

13 May—Swedish Baptist Church, now known as Hinsdale Baptist Church, is founded. Services are not conducted in English until 29 years later.

1 Jun—To the relief of many, Sallie the Bear is sold to an Aurora man. Sallie had been kept in the back alley of Hinsdale's business district for the past year.

24 Jun—Construction of the Hinsdale Sanitarium is completed. The first guest, however, arrives a year before construction is finished. There are no stairs, so she arrives to her room via a dumbwaiter. Garden Club of Hinsdale member Mary Dynes designs the landscaping of the sanitarium. Plantings consist of hicks yew, cockspur hawthorn, wards yew, bigleaf wintercreeper, Japanese yew, cotoneaster, Alpine currant and many stands of floribunda roses.

1906

Sep—Hinsdale police make their first arrest using an automobile.

1907

9 Mar—Hinsdale Golf Club hosts the Western Open.

16 | Hinsdale in Lights: Celebrating 150 Years

1908

Jan—After a fire caused the Hinsdale Public Library to relocate from the second floor of 33-37 S. Washington to the bank building at 101 S. Washington, the library's holdings are insured for \$3,000.

16 May—The Hinsdale Electric Co. opens in the Froscher building at 6 E. Hinsdale Ave.

1 Jul—The sudden death of Judge Linus C. Ruth shocks Hinsdale. He was vice president of the Hinsdale State Bank and judge of the 16th Illinois Circuit Court.

1909

29 Jan—Ditzler & Linsley's general store at 34-36 S. Washington St. burns during a blizzard causing \$20,000 in damages and forcing the store to move across the street to 43 S. Washington St..

27 Mar—*Hinsdale High School beats Washington to become state basketball champions.*

Athletic Patch, 1908-1909.

Donated by Mrs. Joseph R. Feldott, 1988.

Athletic patch used on the basketball jersey of the State Championship Team of 1908-1909. The Hinsdale High School team won the State Championship, making it Hinsdale High School's first sports team to win a state title.
88.4.1

Hinsdale Central Basketball Uniform Shirt, c. 1908-1912.

Donated by Helen Schmidt Carlson, 1984.

Basketball uniform shirt worn by Elmer M. Schmidt for the Hinsdale team.
84.17.8



1 May—Hinsdale State Bank holds a groundbreaking ceremony just east of its old building at 101 S. Washington St. to add safety deposit bell on 29 Aug.

25 Jul—The Life Boat Rescue House, a refuge for wayward girls, holds its dedication ceremony. It offers refuge to unwed mothers and women from Chicago.

1910

Oak Street Bridge is built as a foot bridge. It was widened 30 years later for cars.

10 Jan—Hinsdale acquires ownership of Exchange St. (Hinsdale Ave. between Vine and Washington) from the CB&Q Railroad on the stipulation that the road be paved immediately. With this move Hinsdale finally had a direct route to the west side of town.

23 Apr—Early Hinsdale merchant John Bohlander Sr. officially retires. During his many year he had sold groceries hardware, coal, lumber & feed, and his last store was located at 42 S. Washington St.

21 Nov—The Hinsdale Trust & Savings Bank opens for business becoming the second bank in Hinsdale's history.

1911

Hinsdale Township High School officially becomes the school district of Hinsdale.

10 Mar—The Hinsdale Dry Goods Co. (34-36 S. Washington St.) opens in the Fox Building, which was recently remodeled.

11 Sep—An employee of the Suburban Ice Co. is arrested and fined after getting drunk "as a blind pig" and attacking his boss, Mr. Ruchty, with an ice pick.

15 Nov—Early in the morning ex-village president John C. Hess is struck and killed by an eastbound cattle train.

Park Hotel Register, 1905-1906.

Register from the Park Hotel, Hinsdale, from 1905 through 1906. The Park Hotel was built around 1868. Having several names and owners over its 42 years, it accommodated travelers and served as a temporary home to early settlers as they waited for their homes to be built. The hotel closed in 1911, after which it was cut into two sections and moved, both sections serving as single-family homes on 549 York Rd. and 46 S. Madison St.





**Hinsdale Central
Baseball Uniform, 1912.**

Donated by Helen Schmidt

Carlson, 1984.

*Baseball uniform worn
by Elmer Schmidt. Made
of gray wool with blue
pinstripes, burgundy
collar, and trim on shirt
and piping on pants. The
uniform has been mended
on the right knee.*

84.17.10 A-B

1915

30 Mar—Charlie Chaplin appears at the Hinsdale Theatre (8 E. First St.).

18 May—The Hinsdale Theatre presents “The Tramp” starring Charlie Chaplin

24 Jul—The Eastland Disaster results in the deaths of 835 Western Electric employees, including Mrs. W. L. Lunkens of Hinsdale, who drown when their boat capsized in the Chicago River during a company outing. Sedgley Farm owner E. M. Barton was President of Western Electric at the time.

7 Aug—Hinsdale’s Paul Butler (230 E. First St.) plays an early polo match against a team from Wheaton.

19 Dec—Robert A. Childs passes away. He was Civil War veteran who took part in over 33 engagements including the Battle of Shiloh & Sherman’s March to the Sea. Childs moved to Hinsdale in 1873. He worked as a school principal and attorney. Childs represented this district in the US Congress from 1893 to 1897.

1912

23 Mar—John F. Ruchty, the owner of an inn and icehouse in Fullersburg passes away.

17 Jun—Hinsdale’s first Boy Scout troop organizes.

1913

5 Dec—A fire at Sedgley Farm’s main dairy causes \$15,000 worth of damages (55th and County Line).

1914-1918

World War I (direct U.S. involvement in 1917–1918).

1914

12 Jul—The cornerstone ceremony is held for the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Congregational Church.

Sep—Hinsdale women, among them a daughter of C. A. Brown, remain in Switzerland to knit clothes for the Swiss Army and to help defend against a possible German invasion.

12 Dec—The world famous Sedgley Farm herd of 211 brown Swiss cattle (worth over \$60,000) is quarantined with hoof and mouth disease.

1916

23 Jan—Heavy rains destroy the Salt Creek dam, which would remain in a state of disrepair for many years.

24 Mar—A volunteer company of 100 men is formed in Hinsdale, and arrangements are made to get rifles from the War Department.

26 Jun—Mrs. R. O. Schmidt hosts the first meeting of the Hinsdale chapter of the Red Cross at her home near the northeast corner of Garfield & First. Hinsdale Red Cross Society is organized by Nellie Schmidt. During their first meeting, 38 members join and begin work on making gauze pads and bandages to send to the American Red Cross. They disband in 1919, having organized \$13,000 in aid for World War I soldiers. They reemerge in World War II.

6 Sep—Hinsdale puts up its first street signs, placing them both on electric light poles and on special iron poles installed throughout the village.

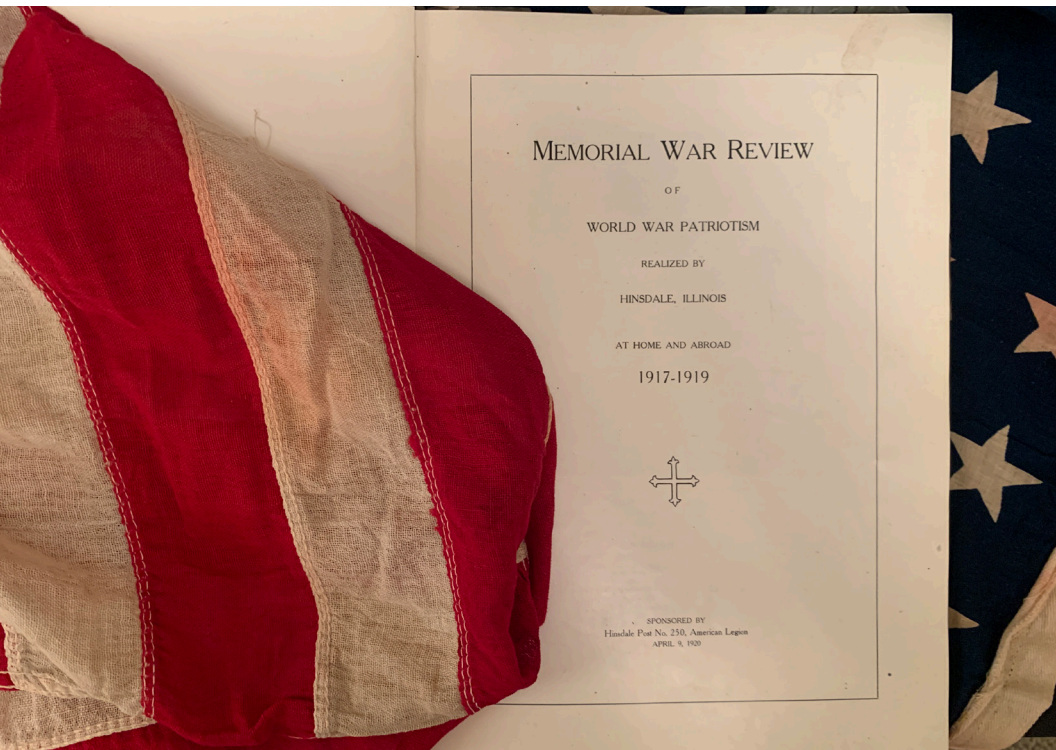
Memorial War Review of World War Patriotism Realized by Hinsdale, Illinois at Home and Abroad: 1917-1919.

Published and sponsored by Hinsdale Post No. 250, American Legion, April 9, 1920. Details the service records of Hinsdaleans who fought in World War I and the war effort at home.

Company G's American flag with 48 stars, 1917-1919.

48 star American flag from Company G from World War I. It was flown over Burns field in Hinsdale.

81.1.6



1917

Henry Buchholz and his brother open Hinsdale's first car dealership on the corner of Garfield and Hinsdale Avenues.

6 Jan—Workmen put the finishing touches on Hinsdale's new high school on Washington Street near the site of the present day Middle School.

7 Apr—Hinsdale members of Company D, 6th infantry division of the National Guard begin basic training at a secret location "somewhere in Illinois."

17 Apr—Hinsdale's Village Board approves annexation of the "Woodlands" (Between County Line Rd & Western Springs).

9 Nov—Henry Ford arrives in Hinsdale during an unannounced visit to Alexander Legge (8 E. Third St.), then manager of the International Harvester Co. After paying a surprise visit to a local Ford dealership (40 E. Hinsdale Ave.), Mr. Ford drove out to Legge's farm. Both Ford and Legge were working with the government to encourage the production of war materials.

1918

27 Apr—Hinsdale aviator Hugh Dugan is shot down and captured while flying missions as part of the British Royal Flying Corps. After a period of German captivity he would return home to write *Village on the County Line*.

12 Nov—At 3 a.m. news of the German surrender reaches Hinsdale and excited people wake their neighbors and celebrate in the streets.

21 Dec—The deadly Spanish Influenza epidemic reaches Hinsdale. All Christmas socials are canceled to stop the disease from spreading.

22 Dec—Hinsdale's Sgt. William Gliessmann (N. Vine St.) is assigned to the Honor Guard accompanying President Wilson to France for the signing of the peace treaty that will officially end World War I.



Photograph, 1919.

On loan from Hinsdale Post No. 250 of the American Legion.

Photograph of the founding members of the Hinsdale Post No. 250 of the American Legion during one of their first meetings in 1919.

1919

1 Feb—Madame Coryell, an Allied spy, talks about her work with members of the Hinsdale Womans' Club.

12 Apr—To honor the brave men who died during World War I, Hinsdale plants a memorial tree at the recreational park (Burns Field on the site of the flagpole in front of the fieldhouse).

19 Apr—Hinsdalean Robert S. McCormick passes away. As a diplomat under Teddy Roosevelt he had opened Russia to the Associated Press in 1903.

1920

10 Apr—DuPage County gives women the right to vote in the Apr 13th G.O.P. Primary. Although Illinois lawmakers granted the right to vote to women seven years earlier, the privilege is to be decided before each election by each county's clerk.

15 May—Undertaker George Ruchty buys a new Buick ambulance.

4 Jun—Evernden's popular drug store (40 S. Washington St.) is sold to Arthur Strawn of Lake forest. William Evernden originally opened this store on the site of 43 S. Washington St. before relocating it across the street.

31 Aug—Hinsdale's Frank Foss wins a gold medal in pole vaulting at the 1920 Summer Olympics, while also breaking his own unofficial world record.

1921

The Garden Club of Hinsdale is founded and includes a number of influential women. Mary Dynes is elected to serve on the statewide board and fellow resident Euclid Snow is editor of the club's national newsletter, Garden Glories, later, Glorious Gardens.

28 May—After a one and a half block chase, Hinsdalean Walter Schmidt helps capture notorious diamond thief Frank Nevels on the third floor of the Borland building on South La Salle Street in Chicago.

10 Sep—Ira Claxton becomes Hinsdale's first motorcycle patrolman.

Dress, 1920.

Donated by Mrs. Richard Pinto, 1986.

Off-white satin evening dress, heavily embroidered with hand blown glass beads and rhinestones. Includes a scalloped hem.
86.3.2 A





Class Photo, 1922.

Photograph of the Hinsdale Township High School 1922 graduating class. The photo was taken outside of the school in 1922, which consists of the students in the class.

1922

18 Feb—A group of young men from Hinsdale form Ruth Lake Country Club on the 160-acre Dixon farm in Southwest Hinsdale having used the lake on that property for skating, sailing, and hunting purposes for years. The Club is named after Sgt. Linus C. Ruth Jr., a prominent Hinsdale attorney who died in World War I.

25 Mar—The new Hinsdale Township High School gymnasium is dedicated.

22 Apr—Simon Heinemann passes away. A Southern merchant & Union blockade runner during the Civil War, Heinemann ran a store in Hinsdale from 1886-1892.

1923

Hinsdale celebrates its Golden Anniversary with a party in the high school gymnasium.

10 Apr—Hinsdaleans vote 247 to 16 to successfully annex Fullersburg.

1924

Alexander Legge, former President of International Harvester, establishes Katherine Legge Memorial Park & Lodge to be used as a retreat devoted to rest, recreation and welfare for women employed at International Harvester. A lodge, designed by R. Harold Zook, was built on the property in 1927. Today, now known as K.L.M. Park, the property is also home to the Zook Home and Studio, which was saved from demolition by the Hinsdale Historical Society.

1924

12 Jan—Bronswood Cemetery greenhouse attendant Joseph Clause is robbed at knife point by a thief who forces him to write out a check for \$200.

22 Jan—Clarendon Hills is incorporated as a village.

26 Jul—Golf pro Chick Evans, eight time winner of the Western Golf Tournament, is defeated by Jimmie Marion at the Hinsdale Golf Club.

31 Jul—Ground is broken for the construction of Madison Grammar School at 601 S. Madison St.

4 Oct—The owner of the Douglas Riding Academy, Julia Douglass, is shot and killed by a jilted suitor who is quickly apprehended.

20 Dec—William Soltwisch & Sons pour the foundation for the brick home and studio of architect R. Harold Zook on the northeast corner of Third and Oak Streets

Plaque.

Original R. H. Zook Architect plaque from Zook's home studio.



1925-1949

1925

17 Jan—Ground is broken for the new Hinsdale Theatre building at 27- 31 E. First St.

15 Aug—The Fresh Air home of Hinsdale closes its doors.

22 Aug—World famous dancer Loie Fuller, born in Fullersburg and living in Paris, stops in Hinsdale for a quick visit en route to San Francisco.

1926

Burns Field is dedicated. It was named in honor of Randall Burns who died during his term as Village President on 20 Dec 1925.

3 Jan—American poet and children's book author and illustrator Joan Walsh Anglund is born in Hinsdale. Over her career, she publishes more than 120 books and sells more than 45 million books worldwide.

23 Jan—The Hinsdale Theater holds a "Charleston" dance contest on its stage with cash prizes awarded to the winner. This Charleston contest was so popular that the theatre held similar contests on a weekly basis for a number of weeks.

10 Apr—Football legend Red Grange, "The Galloping Ghost," buys a Lincoln Phaeton from Ed Bucholz's car dealership.

9 Oct—Hinsdale's first school cafeteria (between Garfield School and the High School buildings) opens with enough room to serve 120 students.

30 Oct—Work begins on the new Hinsdale Post Office designed by R. Harold Zook.

18 Dec—The grand opening of the new Hinsdale State Bank building at 101 S. Washington St., designed by local architect William G. Barfield.

19 Dec—Red, green, and white electric lights and other Christmas decorations are put up for the first time in Hinsdale's business district thanks to a group of local merchants.

1927

18 Feb—Berkova Productions begins shooting the first motion picture filmed in Hinsdale on the stage of the Hinsdale Theater using audience members in various roles.

16 Apr—The plans of architect Edwin H. Clark for the new Hinsdale Memorial Building (19 E. Chicago Ave.) are accepted at a village meeting, and a drive begins to raise the \$150,000 needed to pay for the project. Ninety percent of this would be raised by the end of the first week.

11 Jun—The Hinsdale Kennel Club is formed with plans to hold annual dog shows with their first one scheduled for June 25.

11 Nov—An Armistice Day cornerstone ceremony for Hinsdale's new Memorial Building draws a large crowd of on-lookers. The copper box set inside the cornerstone contains full rosters of village organizations and lists of Hinsdale's many veterans.

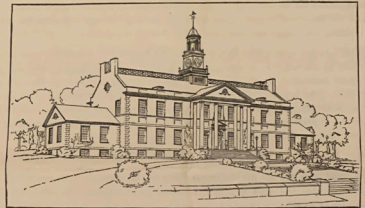
1928

12 Jan—Hinsdale commissions artist Oscar Hanson to create a marble sculpture for the central hall of the new Memorial Building.

5 May—Work begins on a new Texaco gas station (26 W. First St.).

4 Jul—A patriotic ceremony is held to dedicate the newly completed Hinsdale Memorial Building.

2 Sep—Hinsdale's post of the American Legion holds its first meeting in the Soldiers' Sailors' room of the Memorial Building.



HINSDALE MEMORIAL COMMUNITY BUILDING

For several years, there has been a persistent desire for a Memorial to honor the men from Hinsdale who have served in all wars—a tribute particularly to those who went out from the village and did not return. Practically all other enlightened communities have commemorated the valor of their sons in some way or other; Hinsdale has done nothing.

Four months ago, a small group of public-spirited citizens, who had undertaken the task of crystallizing public sentiment, prevailed upon Mr. Philip R. Clarke to assume the general chairmanship and the organizing of The Hinsdale Memorial Building Committee.

THE HINSDALE MEMORIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Clarke, appreciating that this project must be community-wide in order to truly express the gratitude and civic pride of the village, called for a representative from each of the following organizations to serve on the General Committee:

American Legion	Hinsdale Improvement Assn.
American Legion Auxiliary	Lions Club
Board of Education	Parent-Teacher's Assn.
Chamber of Commerce	Plan Commission
Hinsdale Club	Village Board
	Woman's Club

Seven of these various organizations are represented by their President; the balance by a duly accredited appointee. These individuals, plus several members-at-large, comprise The Hinsdale Memorial Building Committee. (Complete membership of the General and Associate Committees will be found on pages three and four of this folder.) A more representative body than this one has never before formed in Hinsdale. It is certainly qualified to reflect the true interests of the Community.

TYPE OF MEMORIAL

It was unanimously agreed that the Memorial should take the form of a utilitarian building, rather than an unserviceable monument. A building to serve—in honor of those who served—impressed the Committee as expressing the utmost tribute a grateful community could offer to the memory of their heroes.

SITE OF BUILDING

The entire block due north of the station, bounded by Garfield, Washington and Maple Streets and Chicago Avenue was obviously the ideal site.

1929

Monroe School opens.

The Garden Study Club of Hinsdale begins when the daughters of Garden Club of Hinsdale members start the Junior Garden Club. In 1933, they change their name to The Garden Study Club.

3 Jan—Following an operation on his right arm, Hinsdale Theater organist Fred Marriot continues to play the organ one-handed.

17 Jan—Theidel's Store (108 & 110 S. Washington St.) installs an electric sign with flickering green and white lights.

24 Jan—Kimbell's Dress Shop opens at 104-106 S. Washington St. where the Hinsdale Public Library was once located.

19 May—"Lucky Boy" starring George Jessel is the first "talkie" shown at the Hinsdale Theatre.

6 Jul—Fred Marriot's Kiddie Club at the Hinsdale Theatre gives away a Shetland Pony as a promotion during a showing of a western.

26 Sep—Hinsdalean Bill Veeck (640 S. Park Ave.), President of the Chicago Cubs, explains that all of his players drink between 1 and 4 individualized bottles of Chicago Guernsey Farm milk daily. The farm, located on Garfield just south of Hinsdale, has a standing to deliver 60 bottles of milk to Wrigley Field each day.

23 Nov—*Soukup's Hardware opens at 35 E. First St. guaranteeing "value with service."*

1930

The population of Hinsdale is 6,923.

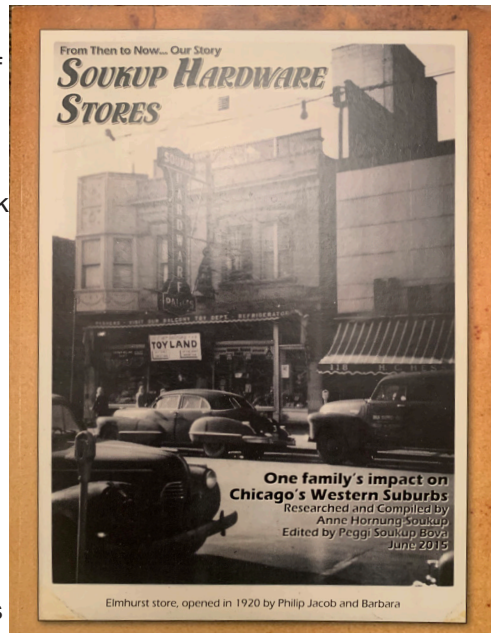
9 Feb—Union Church's new stained glass windows (137 S. Garfield St.) are officially dedicated.

22 May—Monroe School's first graduating class plants elm trees around the school at 210 N. Madison St.

29 Jun—St. Issac Jogues parish holds its first services in the Hinsdale Theatre. Father Thomas Tormey celebrates this mass with nearly 400 people in attendance, the largest number of people yet to organize a church in Hinsdale.

4 Dec—The vacant lot on the northwest corner of First & Garfield is leveled and trees are torn down in preparation to build the new Brewer Brothers Service Station designed by R. Harold Zook.

26 | Hinsdale in Lights: Celebrating 150 Years



1931

8 Jan—C. Herbert Mann buys the old Western United Gas and the Hinsdale Electric Co. buildings at 12-14 E. Hinsdale Ave. with plans to convert them into a funeral parlor.

12 Mar—Many of Hinsdale's unemployed residents are hired to help clean up after the big snowstorm. The Hinsdale Nursing & Relief Society keeps the employment office open late to sign up as many people as possible to help clear the streets of snow.

21 May—Plans are unveiled for Hinsdale High School's new \$11,500 Athletic Field to be built on the southeast corner of 55th and Madison. It would later be renamed Dickinson Field after the esteemed Harvey Dickinson.

20 Jul—Plans are unveiled for the Suzanne King Bruwaert Home for elderly, unmarried women. With an estimated price tag of over \$2,500,000 it would be built on 15 acres of land known as the Carrington farm just south of Katherine Legge Memorial Park.

31 Oct—The Godair Memorial Old People's Home, a non-profit organization, officially opens.

1932

7 Jan—Police catch nine Hinsdale boys tossing black powder bombs out of a moving car. The boys quickly confessed that they were doing it just to impress girls.

2 May—Hinsdale kicks off its "War Against Depression" campaign. Groups start canvassing the village to encourage residents to find odd jobs for the nearly 400 unemployed individuals living in the area.

4 Aug—Hinsdale avoids a bank failure as The First National Bank of Hinsdale merges with the Hinsdale State Bank to form The First Hinsdale National Bank, which opens in the former State Bank Building (101 S. Washington St.).



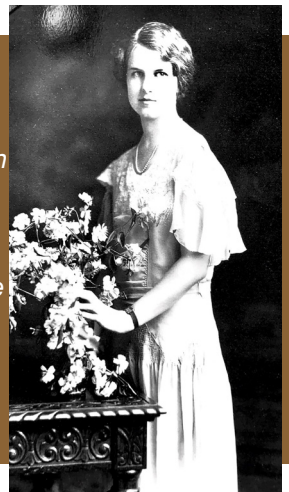
Dress, 1930.

Donated by the Estate of Alice Anderson, 1994.

Tea length peach organza with matching pink slip. Dress has a flared skirt and lace inset on the bodice and sleeves.

Donated by the Estate of Alice Anderson, 1994. Alice wore this dress for her graduation from Hinsdale Township High School in 1930.

94.3.2



1933

27 Apr—The Chicago World's Fair "A Century of Progress" opens. Garden Club of Hinsdale members Mrs. Snow and Mrs. Dynes address the topic of conservation and gardening during the Great Depression.

28 Sep—Former President Hoover and his wife, in town for the World's Fair, are weekend guests of Mr. Alexander Legge at 8 E. Third St. in Hinsdale.

19 Oct—The Forest Preserve Commission buys land from F. O. Butler at Fullersburg, and announces that the Civilian Conservation Corps will set up a camp nearby to improve and beautify Graue Mill, the Salt Creek Dam, and the surrounding area. Their barracks were located on the left fork of the road entering the preserve.



1934

Hinsdale adopts the caucus system of selecting candidates for village offices.

The Burlington Zephyr flies through Hinsdale as part of its 1,015 mile nonstop journey from Chicago to Denver for the Century of Progress. The trips only takes 13 hours and 5 minutes. Residents line the route to watch the train.

2 Feb—Village officials announce that Flagg Creek will be covered over in order to build a public park north of the tracks between Garfield and Washington Streets. At one time there was a tunnel leading under the tracks located in that area.

17 Apr—Hinsdale remains "dry" by a vote of 2 to 1 despite the repeal of prohibition in 1933.

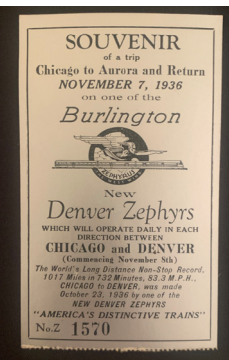
1935

Hinsdale's Jay Berwanger, a star halfback at the University of Chicago, is the first winner of the Downtown Athletic Club Trophy. The following year the award is renamed the Heisman Trophy. He becomes the first player drafted into the NFL in its inaugural draft, but did not play professionally due to a salary dispute.

24 Mar—Hinsdale's Police and Fire departments move into their new quarters at 25 E. First St.

29 Aug—The pet foxes owned by George McWade of 10 E. First St. escape sending members of the police and fire departments on an unanticipated fox hunt.

28 | Hinsdale in Lights: Celebrating 150 Years



21 Nov—An official of the railroad and Hinsdale resident, H. H. Holcomb, arranged a courtesy stop in Hinsdale of the Burlington Zephyr. The Zephyr was renowned for roaring straight through on an open track and that was the first time it ever had stopped in Hinsdale. It took three police officers to handle the crowd of hundreds who swarmed into town to see the sight.

Dec—Hinsdale buys its first automotive snowplow.



1936

29 Oct—A school known as *The Electric Institute* moves to Hinsdale, taking over the old First National Bank Building (8 E. Hinsdale Ave.). (Left) Publication from the Electric Institute, c. 1937.

1 Dec—The Hinsdale Police Department buys a new Ford squad car with an ambulance arrangement from the Bucholz Auto Co. of Hinsdale, located at 40 E. Hinsdale Ave.

1937

18 Feb—Harry Dietz wills his property on 7th Street to the village to be used as a children’s playground.

4 Mar—Hinsdale Township High School becomes the first school in the Midwest to start its own driver’s education training course. It is considered a test school.

20 May—Bill Luthin breaks ground on the southwest corner of Lincoln and Chicago Avenue. for a new Philips ‘66’ service station which would later become Fuller’s.

17 Jul—Vann’s Drug Store opens at 33 S. Washington St.

1938

21 Jan—Morris S. Frank, the first blind man in America to use a seeing eye dog, and his guide dog Buddy, speak to the Hinsdale Committee of the Seeing Eye.

13 Oct—The Hinsdale Bicycle & Repair Shop moves to 16 E. Hinsdale Ave.

30 Nov—Schoen’s Dry Goods opens at 48 S. Washington St.

1939

10 Aug—Dan Kerr, formerly the chef at the Hinsdale Sanitarium gains national fame for creating delicious meatless dishes. Today the San and many other Seventh Day Adventist health centers continue to feature meatless cuisine.

1 Sep—World War II begins.

1940

17 Apr—Robert Frost, a three time Pulitzer Prize winner, makes an appearance in Hinsdale sponsored by the junior class of the high school.

23 May—As part of a larger \$10 million European war relief campaign, the Hinsdale Red Cross starts its own \$1500 drive.

16 Oct—All men in DuPage County, ages 21 to 35, register for the draft. If drafted, Hinsdale's men will receive basic training at Fort Sheridan.

1941

17 Jul—Hinsdaleans start collecting and taking old pots and pans to the fire station at 25 E. First St. as part of an aluminum collection campaign aimed at contributing to the U.S. war effort. By July 31 Hinsdale had collected over 960 lbs of aluminum.

9 Aug—Churchill and Roosevelt begin their secret, four day Atlantic Charter meeting aimed at establishing the intentions and common principles of both countries for times of war and peace. Hinsdalean John Slade witnesses the secret meeting while serving as a gunnery officer aboard the US Oil Tanker *Sapelo*.

8 Dec—Japan attacks Pearl Harbor. Hinsdalean Rod Stewart arrives with his army flight squadron during the attack, but did not intervene due to heavy anti-aircraft fire.

8 Dec—Less than five hours after U.S. declares war on Japan, Hinsdale forms a Civilian Defense Committee.

1942

Hinsdale native Irving Clarke joins the U.S. Navy at 18 years of age. He is stationed in the Pacific on the *USS Bache DD-470*. He later participates in landings on Iwo Jima and Okinawa, where he sees the iconic American flag, which was placed a day before by five marines on top of a mountain in Iwo Jima.



War Ration Books and Leather Folder, 1944-1945.

These war ration books belonged to the Collins family. The booklets of war ration stamps include multiple pages of stamps, several of which are detached. Additionally, the portfolio includes rare fuel rations and sugar stamps. The Office of Price Administration (OPA) was a New Deal agency created in 1941 to: (1) stabilize prices and rents, (2) prevent profiteering and hoarding, (3) protect citizens with fixed incomes from lower living standards, and (4) encourage production.

Bruno, a German shepherd owned by the Groves family on County Line Road goes to war and serves as a guard at Camp Maxey in Texas. He is returned to his family in July 1945.



29 Jan—Hinsdalean J. S. Knowlson is named chairman of the division of industry operation of the National War Production Board.

Red Cross Uniform, c. 1940s.

Donated by Laura Walker, 2004.

White wrap-style dress with navy color. Worn by Red Cross workers during World War II.

04.04.12

19 Mar—The village board agrees to use the old Hinsdale Club building on Garfield and First Streets as the new Hinsdale Community House. The Community house opens on July 19 to the whole village and serves refreshments.

15 Apr—Hinsdale's air raid sirens are first tested.

12 Aug—A test blackout of northern Illinois and the Wisconsin coastal region blacks out Hinsdale from 10:00-10:30pm.

29 Dec—Hinsdale librarian Mary E. Griffith reports for duty as a member of the Womens Army Auxiliary Corps.

1943

Chicago actor and producer Taalkeus "Talky" Blank moves to Hinsdale to take the reins of The Community House.

Warren Sturgis McCulloch—a notable American neurophysiologist and cybernetician, known for his work on the foundation for certain brain theories—resides at 133 N. Washington St., the former residence of Judge Joel Tiffany turned boarding house.

20 May—In a practice air raid the O.C.D drops 1,225 mock one ounce bombs on Hinsdale with color-coded streamers attached to indicate the type, power, and point of impact of each bomb. This demonstration showed that if the bombs had been real the estimated damage to Hinsdale would have been close to \$1,938,000.

22 Jul—Sgt. Bob Frank of Hinsdale is awarded the Airman's Medal for transporting paratroopers during the U.S. invasion of Sicily. He flew his unescorted, unarmed troop carrier less than 500 ft. off the ground to complete the mission.

1944

25 May–Hinsdale’s Lieut. Col. John S. “Jack” Samuel makes the front page of the Chicago Tribune after flying a thrilling bombing mission with a Tribune man onboard.

1 Jun–The Hinsdale Canning Association, organized to help the war effort, opens its plant in the old village ice house at 2 N. Park Ave.

1945

30 Aug–Col. Richard E. Pfenning a.k.a the Mayor of Hinsdale, has met with the Sultan of Morocco, a keen admirer of aviation, and has given him a tour of the North African Air Transport Command Division. Richard Pfenning’s plane had “Mayor of Hinsdale” painted on the side.

1946

24 Mar–Alaskan explorer Earle Hammond and what is billed as the world’s largest Polar Bear appear at the Hinsdale Stables. The Stables owner Arnold Fryk had once worked for Hammond.

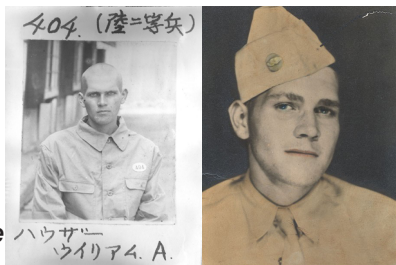
4 Apr–Walter Fleming, veteran Hinsdale firefighter, is fatally injured while trying to save furniture from a fire on 60th Street. Fire officials from 10 area towns saluted Fleming at funeral services held in Immanuel Evangelical Church. He was later honored with the formation of the Walter Fleming Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4946 of Hinsdale.

29 May–The cornerstone is laid for the Seventh Day Adventist Church on the southeast corner of Oak & Walnut at 125 N. Oak.

27 Jun–Former Hinsdaleans Bill Veeck and Philip R. Clarke are members of a group which acquires the Cleveland Indians baseball team. Clarke was involved in forming the Suburban Baseball league in 1908.

1 Oct–A helicopter flown by an army pilot lands just west of Monroe School where it delivers and picks up mail bags before taking off again. This is part of United Airlines experimentation with using helicopters to speed air mail to the suburbs including Hinsdale and Downers Grove.

22 Nov–*Hinsdale Ford dealer Charles J. Foster (dealership at 40 E. Hinsdale Ave.) presents the keys of the first 1946 Ford delivered to Hinsdale to returning serviceman Sgt. William Hauser on his return to Hinsdale after surviving the Bataan Death March and three years in Japanese captivity as a prisoner of war.*



1947

Hinsdale’s Bill Veeck, major league baseball franchise owner, signs Larry Doby to the Cleveland Indians, beginning the integration of the American League. A year later, the team wins the World Series title.

A group of men returning from the war start The Jolly Boys—a choral singing group. Founded by Scott Jones, they gather on Saturday nights at a member's home and soon begin performing throughout Hinsdale and the surrounding suburbs. In 2022, they celebrate their 75th anniversary.

24 Jul—Hinsdale residents hear of a UFO sighting by two York High School graduates who reported seeing five disk and cigar-shaped devices flying north over Elmhurst with similar sighting being made in Wheaton and LaGrange.



Suburban Collectors Club Poster, 1948.

Suburban Collectors Club Poster of Chicago poster that met every 2nd and 4th wednesday of each month in the Community House in Hinsdale. The Hinsdale Collectors Club is one of the oldest social clubs in the town.

1948

19 Mar—Flagg Creek overflows flooding streets and basements.

1949

Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club is founded.

Twenty-nine people in Hinsdale become the victims of Polio over the summer. Three of them die. Strict rules and quarantine go into effect in Hinsdale. On August 21, a whistle sounds throughout Hinsdale, twice, alerting the town of the end of quarantine restrictions.

15 Aug—The Hinsdale Sanitarium installs state-of-the-art equipment with which to treat polio.

1 Sep—Leo Washita returns home from a one man, 7000 mile, one year bike ride across America.

20 Oct—Hugh Dugan publishes his history of Hinsdale titled *Village on the County Line*. Hugh Gates Dugan was a longtime Hinsdale resident, author, and World War I hero. Dugan joined the Royal Flying Corps in 1917 and spent nine months in a prisoner of war camp in Germany after his plane was shot down. Dugan's involvement in Hinsdale and local history was not just in writing—as he also was one of the leaders in the restoration and preservation of Graue Mill, also serving on the advisory committee. He was also a past president of the DuPage County Historical Society.

1950-1974

1950-1953

Korean War.

1950

After being abandoned for nearly 40 years, Graue Mill is restored and features displays of an old country store and barn, several furnished rooms of the time, and demonstrations of spinning and weaving. It is the only operating waterwheel gristmill in Illinois.



19 Jan—To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Frank Baum's *The Wizard of Oz*, a Western Springs theater troupe performs the play. Hinsdale resident, and son of Frank Baum, Harry Baum is in attendance.

18 Apr—An open house is held to show off the new Hinsdale Township High School located at 55th and Grant Street.

1951

8 Apr—Ground is broken for the new colonial-styled St. Isaac Jogues' Church at 306 W. Fourth St.

7 May—The Hinsdale Armory at 422 E. Ogden Ave. is robbed, and the FBI is quickly notified of the crime.

26 Nov—Mrs. Philip R. Clarke christens a ship named in honor of her husband, an official of the U.S. Steel Corp. Shortly afterwards the ship is launched from Lorain, Ohio.

1952

25 May—The Hinsdale Little League's first game is played on a diamond set up on the corner of Fourth and Madison.

20 Jul—The new First Church of Christ. Scientist in Hinsdale at 405 E. First St. is officially dedicated.

Oct—Hinsdale's chapter of the Kiwanis Club receives its charter at the Spinning Wheel Tea Room.

1953

A new 200-bed hospital is built and the Hinsdale Sanitarium becomes Hinsdale Hospital.

23 Feb—Garfield Elementary School students load their books and school supplies into shopping bags and move to the newly constructed Oak School at 950 S. Oak St.



Hinsdale Summer Theater World Premier Poster, 1952.

The Hinsdale Summer Theater's showing of "The Man in the Dog Suit" was the world premier. The play was based on a novel by Edwin Corle, and was directed by Melvyn Douyglas. The Hinsdale Theater presented summer stock performances between 1951 and 1962. The plays were produced by Sidney Blackmer, a well-known actor who called upon actors including Charlton Heston, Debbie Reynolds, and Vincent Price to headline the shows.
A.22.11.25

7 Jun—Ground-breaking ceremony is held for the Hinsdale Baptist Church at 620 N. Oak St.

7 Jul—The Hinsdale Village Board approves a plan to turn the peat bog adjacent to Madison School into Robbins Park.

23 Jul—A rabies scare leads a group of concerned Hinsdale women to establish the Hinsdale Humane Society on an

emergency basis.

21 Sep—The Community House signs a contract with the Jewel Tea Co. to occupy a new commercial building at 26 E. First St. that will replace the old Hinsdale Club/Community House building slated for demolition.

1954

Construction of the Tri-State (294) finishes.

31 May—Actor Jack Palance comes to Hinsdale to begin a 14-week run, starring in "Dark of the Moon" at the Salt Creek Summer Theater.

13 Dec—Grant Square Shopping Center has its official ribbon cutting ceremony.

1956

8 Mar—Karl Hofmeister who operates a cleaning and tailoring shop at 2 W. First St. returned from a Central American expedition. He was in Guatemala searching for a lost Indian tribe.

7 Jun—Leonard "Chico" Marx, star of an upcoming production of the Hinsdale Summer Theater, looks forward to coming back to this area where his parents had a summer home and where he and his brothers got their big start in show business.

25 Jul—Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Camboni of Hinsdale survive the sinking of Italian Ocean liner *Andrea Doria* after colliding with Swedish liner *Stockholm* in the fog off the coast of Massachusetts. 52 people die.

10 Oct—Phones in Hinsdale and Clarendon Hills become dial operated at the stroke of midnight.

1957

Hinsdale High School won its second straight state championship in boys' tennis becoming the first school to ever win back-to-back state titles and the first to claim both the individual singles and double crowns. They again win state in 1958. Marty Riessen wins four consecutive state singles championships from 1957-1960. Riessen goes on to star at Northwestern University and goes pro, winning his first professional tennis tournament in 1965. In 1975 he wins the U.S. Pro Indoor Final against Vitas Gerulaitis and he coaches the U.S. Women's Olympic Team in Barcelona in 1992.

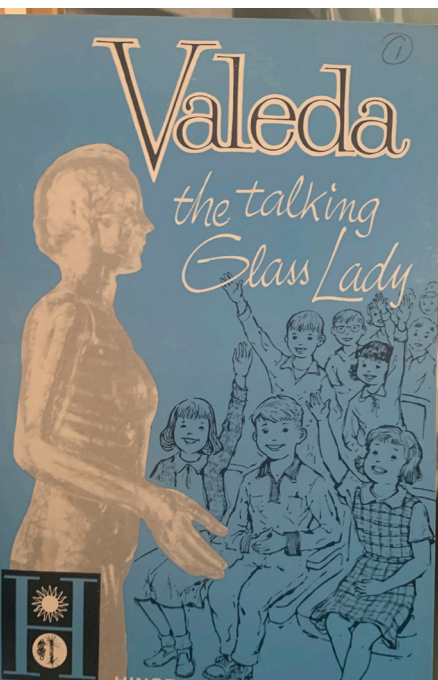
12 Jul—Flagg Creek overflows and Hinsdale residents form "bucket brigades" to try to keep their basements from filling with water.

3 Aug—The new Hinsdale Community House holds an open house at their new building at 415 W. Eighth St.

6 Nov—Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Conklin of 744 Cleveland Rd. report awakening at 5:45 a.m. to see Sputnik traveling at high speed across the sky heading northeast.

1958

27 Apr—The Redeemer Lutheran Church lays its cornerstone on the northwest corner of First and Park.



3 May—The Kettering Family Foundation's \$1.2 million Hinsdale Medical Center (Robert Crown Center) at 40 S. Clay St. opens.

The Hinsdale Health Museum was founded by the Kettering Family Foundation in 1958. At the health museum, "Valeda, the talking glass lady" was created to teach students the systems of the body. The glass lady is well recognized by the people of Hinsdale.

10 Jul—The Hinsdale Public Library expands in the Memorial Building

3 Sep—Elm School holds its first day of classes

4 Dec—Ground is broken for the Hinsdale Humane Society building at 22 N. Elm St.

1959

28 May–Hinsdale elementary schools, along with 60 other school districts, take part in an experimental use of television in the classroom to teach 5th grade geography.

23 Jul–The old Hinsdale town hall at 11 N. Lincoln (Stough Hall) built in 1872 is torn down.

17 Sep–A group of Hinsdale High School Students building an early digital computer in Clarendon Hills are visited by Russian computer scientists who show great interest in their project.

18 Sep–The Hinsdale Rotary Club is formed.

1960

4 Aug–16 year old William Christy of the 539 E. Third St. in Hinsdale gate crashes the Republican Convention in Chicago to meet Richard M. Nixon.

1961

A four-engine Trans World Airline plane, five minutes out of Midway Airport crashes into a field in Clarendon Hills, killing all 78 people aboard.

Mar–*The Castle Inn on Ogden Ave. just east of York Rd. is demolished when efforts to preserve the 127 year-old landmark fail. The Castle Inn was the county's first school, hotel, and post office. It also served as one of the first stops on the stagecoach route to and from Chicago. During the Civil War it served as an army induction center and was rumored to have been part of the Underground Railroad. On 15 Jan 1862, Loie Fuller was born in the bar, and it was said that both Lincoln and Douglas visited the Inn on their way to Chicago for their famous debates.*



1963

The Historical Committee of the Friends of the Library is organized.

1964

Veteran gardener and author Trudi Temple and her husband, Bill, a United Airlines pilot, purchase a house on nearly an acre of land. In the following years, flocks of gardeners, horticulturists and tourists pay homage to Trudi's gardens.



Dress, c. 1960s.

On loan from Katharine Korte Andrew.

Neon green mod dress by “A Sue Brett” fashion brand. Includes a belt with attached bow in the same fabric as the dress. “Mod” in fashion refers to a style that emerged in the mid-to-late 1960s in the United States at the same time as the “British Invasion.” The mod style was characterized by a minimalist aesthetic, with a focus on clean lines and geometric shapes. Mod fashion was influenced by the mod subculture, which was a youth subculture that originated in London in the late 1950s and was associated with a love of modern jazz, rock, and R&B music, an interest in fashion and style, and a preference for scooters as a mode of transportation.

1964-1975

Vietnam War.

1967

23 Dec—A 23 inch snowfall hits the area, it becomes known as “The Big Snow.”

Hinsdale Central’s boys swim team begins their run of 12 consecutive state titles. The victory of the 1967 team, led by Charlie Nieman, Doug Malin, and Rich Anderson begin a string of titles that ended in 1978—after which veteran coach Don Watson retires. The Hinsdale Central boys’ Swimming and Diving team is coached by Don Watson and produces 12 consecutive state team titles, 167 All-Americans, and four Olympic medalists from 1967-1978. At the 1972 Munich Olympics, Watson travels alongside pupils John Murphy and John Kinsella, where they both take home Olympic gold medals. The new Hinsdale Central aquatic center is named the Don Watson Aquatic Center in his honor.

1968

The original Morris the Cat, a resident of the Hinsdale Humane Society, is discovered by an animal handler working at an advertising company. The feline becomes “the world’s most finicky cat” eating only 9Lives cat food and is featured in 58 television commercials.

1969

The 1969-1970 boys gymnastics team of Hinsdale Central wins its first state championship beginning of a streak of four championship wins (1970-1973), a second place finish (1973-1974), and two more first place seasons (1974-1976).



1970

Hinsdale Central grad Howard Dean becomes president of Fortune 500 company Dean Foods Co., the company his grandfather started in 1925.



1971

Hinsdale Central's boys tennis team (1971-1972) take home the first of their nine straight state championships. The streak ends with their last first place finish in the 1979-1980 season.

Letterman Sweater, 1973.

Donated by Russ Nyquist, 2003.

Hinsdale Central letterman sweater that is white wool cardigan style. On the back of the sweater it has a Hinsdale Central patch, and Red Devil patch. Each sleeve has one round and one Illinois shaped patch for the tennis team for the years 1971 and 1973. On the front left side of the sweater, the year 1974 is indicated.

Two medals attached, 1972-2nd place and 1971-Runner up. The sweater belonged to Russ "Rex" "Rocky" Nyquist.

03.17.1

1973

Katherine Legge Memorial Lodge is donated to the Village.

Aug–Hinsdale celebrates its Centennial with a weeklong celebration.

1974

The Robert Crown Center for Health Education is established with the help of a substantial gift by Mr. Henry Crown, in memory of his son Robert.

Jean Ahern of Hinsdale becomes "Miss Illinois" and participates in the Miss America pageant.

1975-1999

1975

The Hinsdale Historical Society is granted a charter as a not-for-profit. The Society began in 1974, shortly after the village's centennial.

1976

The Hinsdale Junior Woman's Club publishes "Hinsdale Heritage Cookbook." Each section of the book begins with a sketch of an area building, which exemplifies Hinsdale traditions and recipes from years gone by are showcased.

1978

Judy Biggert is elected to the Hinsdale Township High School District 86 Board of Education. She serves as a board member until 1985, serving as president from 1983 to 1985. She also becomes chairwoman of the Hinsdale Plan Commission from 1989 to 1993 and later is elected to the U.S. Representative for Illinois' 13th congressional district, from 1999 to 2013.

1979

The Ben Fuller Association is formed and begins the restoration of the Fuller House, thought to be the oldest in the area.

1981

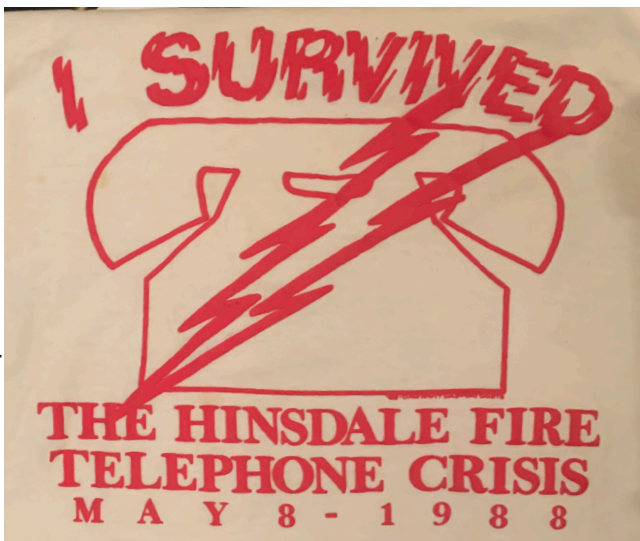
The Hinsdale Historical Society is offered a centennial home owned by Hinsdale Clarendon Hills School District 181. The Village Board make a one-quarter acre park site available under a long-term lease and the Society takes possession, relocating the house from 213 S. Lincoln St. to 15 S. Clay St.

1985

The Associated Press reports that Dr. Ryne, 33, of Hinsdale, makes house calls to the elderly, handicapped and others for whom a trip to the dentist is more than just an inconvenience.

1988

A single broken electrical power line comes in contact with a single telecommunications line causing overheating that leads to what experts believe is the "greatest telecommunications disaster ever" – a fire at Illinois Bell's Hinsdale switching station.



1989

The Hinsdale Village Board delays consideration of proposal to ask voters to give Hinsdale home rule status. It also bans the use of methoxychlor, a pesticide used to battle Dutch elm disease.

After representing the United States at the 1987 Admiral's Cup Regatta, Molex exec Fred Krehbiel's sailboat "Insatiable" wins the 1989 Chicago to Mackinac Race.

30 May—Hinsdale resident Barry Messer completes his goal of walking every street in Hinsdale by walking more than 103 miles between April 8 and May 30.

Hinsdale Central High School wins its gymnastics regional for the 22nd straight year.

1990-1991

Gulf War.

1990

Hinsdale officials award a curbside recycling contract to Rot's Disposal, that will add \$2.10 a month to Hinsdale residents' bills for the pickup of recyclable waste materials.

Some Hinsdale residents oppose plans by village officials to place two platform tennis courts in Burns Field.

The Wellness Community opens its first facility in the Midwest in Hinsdale. The national support group for people with cancer provides facilities for people to come together to learn to fight for control over their lives. Nearly 155 people have used its services since its opening in July.

Darren Arthur "Dizzy" Reed, a keyboardist, actor, and composer who was born in Hinsdale, joins the hard rock band Guns N' Roses.

1991

Hinsdale Hospital sends a morale-boosting 1,000-foot-long card to the troops fighting in Operation Desert Storm. Printed in bold, black block letters across the card made of white butcher paper is the message: "To the American Troops in the Persian Gulf-We Love You and We're Behind You All the Way!"

Students at Monroe Elementary School win first place in the nationwide Young Astronaut Council competition to design a system for living in space.

1992

Some Hinsdale residents are weary of commercial filming in their neighborhoods and are taking up their frustrations with the Zoning and Public Safety Committee, hoping for new regulations that would limit production days at each residence to ten per year.

Hinsdale Central High School's girls swimming team captures its third straight state title.

1993

Hinsdale's school district officials agree to hire an environmental quality firm to determine if the air in a local school is making some children sick.

Thomas Potter of Madison Elementary School is one of the very few male kindergarten teachers in the state. Of more than 4,000 such teachers, only 30 are men.

Three of the six winning interior design teams in Traditional Home magazine's 1993 national design awards hail from Hinsdale.

The proposal by the Institute of Basic Life Principles to expand its Hinsdale-Oak Brook campus is so "massive, complex and far-reaching" that Hinsdale Plan Commission members say they needed time to study it further before scheduling a public hearing.

Kirk Dillard officially becomes Illinois' senator from the 41st District when Chief Justice Benjamin Miller of the state Supreme Court administered the oath of office in the Hinsdale home of Dillard's parents.

Hinsdale elects its first woman president in its 120-year history, Joyce Skoog.

1994

Hinsdale residents ponder whether to change the village's longtime status as a dry community if a proposal to lift the liquor prohibition is put to a vote.

Hinsdale declares a temporary moratorium on teardowns, the practice in which smaller homes are demolished to make room for larger homes on the same lot.

World Cup soccer comes to Hinsdale in the form of practice sessions at Hinsdale Central by the German and Bolivian teams during the summer 1994.

May—After no help from the police and fire departments, about a dozen ducklings are rescued from a manhole in downtown Hinsdale by Soukup's Hardware employees Vic Martinka and Alan Maxwell. The ducks were relocated to Graue Mill.

1995

After Hinsdale Central High School student Jim McCarthy dies from injuries suffered while trying to cross the busiest intersection at 55th Street and Grant Street near Hinsdale Central, a grass-roots movement begins to make the crossing safer.

A handful of students at Hinsdale Middle School start an underground newspaper called "The Underground Press" since being turned down in their official request to create an official student publication.

1996

The Community House's Community Revue, an original musical spoof of the Hinsdale area is created by Gerry Sweeney. The first revue opens in 1997 and pokes good natured fun at the zoning board, Hinsdale residents and their foibles, as well as Hinsdale's teardown explosion.

2000-present

2000

Hinsdale's population is 17,349.

3 Apr—Hinsdale residents approve the repeal of the prohibition on the retail sale of alcoholic liquor by a vote of 2,892 to 1,446.

2001

Hinsdale Central's girls basketball team wins state for the first time during the 2001-2002 season, coached by Steve Gross.



Just prior to the Hinsdale Historical Society taking possession of Immanuel Hall, 302 S. Grant St., the former church was added to the National Register of Historic Landmarks. Built in 1900 by German craftsmen, this former church stands as a symbol of Hinsdale's spirit and sense of community. It has served not only as a church, but also as office space and a preschool. The building was saved from demolition through the efforts of the Hinsdale Historical Society, government officials, and residents. Now on the National Register of Historic Places, Immanuel Hall continues to serve the community as a place available for public use.

11 Sep—On the morning of September 11, four commercial airliners are hijacked and used in the deadliest terrorist attacks on American soil in U.S. history.

2001-2021

War in Afghanistan.



2005

Volunteers with the Hinsdale Historical Society put the R. Harold Zook Home and Studio on wheels, as it's moved from Oak Street to K.L.M Park to prevent the house from being torn down.

2006

Howard Thomas Markey, the former federal judge who helped organize the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, dies at 85.

Hinsdale Central's girls cross country team comes in first at the state championship.

2005-2006

Following Hurricane Katrina, residents, organizations, and businesses in Hinsdale rally efforts to support impacted communities through volunteer work and donations. Firefighters from around the area, including two from Hinsdale, arrived in Louisiana one week after the hurricane. After asking a television reporter to suggest a community that was not getting the media attention New Orleans had, Hinsdale Village President Michael Woerner proposed adopting Ocean Springs.

2007

Hinsdale Central becomes the only high school in the country to be nominated as a Character Counts school and is named Character Counts School of the Year.

Hinsdale Central's girls badminton team wins state for the first time during their 2007-2008 season.

2009

Hinsdale Swim Club turns 50 years old.

Reality TV personalities Bill and Guiliana Rancic take television viewers to Hinsdale as they begin rehabbing their federal-style mansion on their reality show "Guiliana and Bill."

Hinsdale Central is named National School of Character by the Character Counts! organization.

2010

Oct—The Village of Hinsdale pays tribute to Gunnar Hotchkin, who was killed in combat June 16 while serving with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan, by adding his name to the Fallen Soldier Service Plaque at Memorial Hall.

2012

The 2012-2013 Hinsdale Central boys golf team wins its first state championship, beginning a run of seven straight championship years.

2013

Chicago Blackhawks' winning coach Joel Quenneville and the Stanley Cup lead Hinsdale's 4th of Jul parade. Hundreds of residents line the streets to catch a glimpse of the iconic trophy and to cheer on Hinsdale's hockey coach as the parade's Grand Marshall.

The Hinsdale Assembly celebrates its 50th anniversary raising money for the Hinsdale Hospital. More than 130 former debutantes attend a luncheon at the Hinsdale Golf Club.

The Hinsdale Central boys cross country team wins its first state championship.

2014

Hinsdale Middle School closes for four days during the Polar Vortex after a sprinkler pipe bursts and

sends water streaming through the structure.

Hinsdale Central's boys soccer team wins the state championship during the 2014-2015 season.

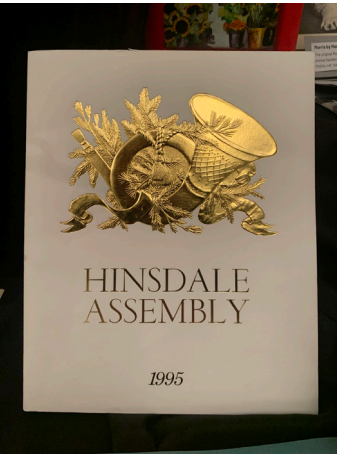
2015

Hinsdale Central sets a record, winning eight state athletic championships in a single season. The state championship teams included girls tennis, girls golf, boys wrestling, boys cross country, boys soccer, boys golf, boys swimming, and boys tennis.

In recognition of a \$4 million gift received from Kay and Mike Birck and the Tellabs Foundation, Wellness House announces that its 15,000 square foot building, a fixture in the Hinsdale community for almost 26 years, will be named The Kay and Mike Birck Home of Hope.

2016

The Woman's Club of Hinsdale celebrates its 120th anniversary and is



recognized for making significant contributions to The Community House as well as providing college scholarships to young women. In 1913, the “The Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois, Vol. 2” states that the club “is the largest social organization in the village and township and exercises a strong influence.” At one point, memberships reaches 800.

2018

Taylor Swift’s Reputation Tour features a segment dedicated to Loie Fuller. During her performance of “Dress” each night on the tour, several dancers recreate the “Serpentine Dance.”

Due to the generosity of the Rotary Club of Hinsdale, one hundred children ride out of the Community House with a new bike, in honor of Armed Forces Day. All the boys and girls are children of Illinois men and women serving in the military.

A fire erupts at the O. P. Bassett “American Beauty” house on Sixth Street. Roughly 100 firefighters fight the blaze, representing 20 local fire departments. Home owners Jennifer and Neal Reenan painstakingly restore the home to its original glory and receive a preservation award from the Hinsdale Historical Society in 2021 for their efforts.

Hinsdale Central’s girls lacrosse team place first in the state championship.

2019

Bestselling author and Hinsdale Central grad Tomi Adeyemi’s book “Children of Virtue and Vengeance” is selected as the “Good Morning America” December book club pick. The 26-year-old Nigerian American female writer’s debut book “Children of Blood and Bone” spends more than 80 weeks on “The New York Times” Bestseller list.

About 15 residents attend a Hinsdale Village Board meeting to urge the board to stop telecommunications companies from installing antennas they will need for 5G. A Facebook page called Stop 5G Hinsdale and Neighbors is also created and hundreds join nearly overnight.

Apr–The District 86 school district community approves \$140 million referendum.

2020

20 Mar–Gov. JB Pritzker issues a “Stay at Home” order throughout Illinois, directing all residents to stay home except to conduct essential business and all nonessential businesses to stop operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Garden Club of Hinsdale collects more than 550 pounds of canned food to stock HCS Family Services’ food pantry in honor of the club’s upcoming centennial.

Nearly 500 people turn out for a peaceful demonstration organized in part by Hinsdale Central students and alumni, in hopes of continuing the

conversation surrounding Black Lives Matter through the distribution of flyers in Hinsdale. The flyers ask: “How can WE, a predominantly white community, support the Black community?”

The new pool at Hinsdale Central High School is named The Don Watson Aquatics Center following a unanimous vote by the Hinsdale High School District 86 Board.

2021

Hinsdale Central senior Alexandra Collins wins the Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes award for co-founding Students Against Ethylene Oxide (SAEtO), with her sister, Katherine, shortly after learning of the harmful gas nearby Sterigenics was emitting into her community’s air.

Amidst fears that Hinsdale’s only Frank Lloyd Wright house will be demolished, the Hinsdale Historic Preservation Commission and the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy join forces to find a new owner to preserve the house.

For the second straight year, The Hinsdalean is named the best mid-size nondaily newspaper in the state. The paper holds both the Harold and Eva White Memorial trophy and the Sam Zito Award of Excellence.

Don Watson Aquatic Center replaces the old pool as the primary aquatics facilities at Hinsdale Central.

2022

Local author Andrea Thome, the wife of Hall of Fame baseball player Jim Thome, announces that her family would be canceling its Cleveland Browns season tickets after the team’s acquisition of Deshaun Watson, who is accused of sexual harassment. “Very sad after 40 years as a fan... I believe women. Especially when there are 22 of them.”

11-year-old Rio Lewis from Hinsdale is the model and inspiration for the new American Girl doll named Claudie Wells – a girl from 1920’s Harlem, NYC.

Longtime Oak School parent and dedicated “Lunch In” volunteer Denys Kang is the recipient of the Illinois State Board of Education “Those Who Excel” award.

2023

Hinsdale turns 150 years old.

18 Feb–Hinsdale Central Speech Team wins fourth place at Speech state championship.

Hinsdale Central’s boys swimming & diving team take home first at the state championship. The girls swimming & diving team take home second place.

...

What comes next?

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Penny Bohnen



*Our Kitchen Walk Co-Founder, advocate
for Immanuel Hall and champion for
Hinsdale's history and heritage*