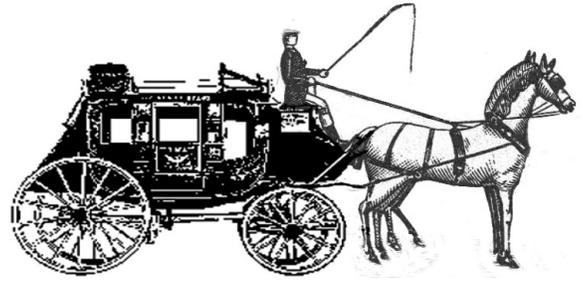


The French and British (who wanted to discourage settlers) and early land surveyors (who had gone out in wet weather) all spread rumors that the Warren area was an impassable swamp. In fact only small areas were. In 1817 the Territorial government deputized land surveyors. Joseph Wampler, surveyed the Warren area in 1817. He found forests, prairies, ponds and semi wet areas. He found a few squatters and Indians living near Warren Village. He marked off sections by measuring, cutting gashes in trees and putting in marking stakes. Joseph did good work. Turns out he was a Methodist Minister. You can see his 1817 map of the Warren Area on my Educational Archive DVD page 1235 and his notes on pages 1237-1273. So you can actually see what was here in 1817 before Macomb even became a county which happened in 1818.



Parkins states that from 1818 immigration steadily increased. By 1820 the population of Michigan was 8,765. Warren was still wilderness with zero official settlers. This is because there were other areas in Michigan that were more attractive and this area was still considered swamp for many years. Also there were no big rivers to attract settlers. A few squatters settled near the Red Run at where Mound Road is now. Settlers came from out East usually with just their baggage. There was no transportation to the Warren Area until a stage line tried to navigate a rough Indian path created in 1786 by Christian Moravian Indians which was now being called the State Road. By the middle 1830s it had been improved to the point that stages could navigate it in dry weather. In wet weather or snow or icy weather it was impassable. This led to a horse drawn rail car with wooden rail road being built next to the State Road that solved the mud and some of the winter travel problems. The Detroit Shelby rail line started about 1838. Why so late? Problems with this area being known as other than a swamp, other areas being more attractive, little transportation and diseases. In 1818 the first steamship began on the Great Lakes with the "Walk in the Water. Erie Canal in 1825 ushered in an active period of emigration. It was only four feet deep and 42 feet wide. It linked the Hudson River with Lake Erie. (363 miles). This made it easier and faster for immigrants to come here. And there were thousands of immigrants about to head west. From 1825-37 immigration from eastern States increased rapidly. By 1836 500-700 arrived on a single boat. There were long lines at the land office. War hero Rev Abel Warren settled just north of Warren in the summer of 1824. Charles Groesbeck settled in Section 33 in 1830. Then followed Charles Rivard in 1831 in Section 35. He made a homestead at the northwest corner of 12 Mile and Mound. James Beebe came to Warren about 1848.

The settlers also had to fight diseases with no medicine and so called doctors who did not have adequate medical knowledge. There were many serious diseases such as cholera, malaria, ague, erysipelas, scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles, mumps and smallpox,. TB took a heavy toll. Infant mortality was high. Pneumonia and Rheumatism was common. (Willis F Dunbar 260) There were no dentists and teeth just decayed and rotted in the mouth causing severe pain. If you have ever had a painful tooth you know how bad that is. Imagine having to live with it for years. Sometimes the folk cures for diseases and conditions were worse than the disease. In 1834 Seven percent of the population died in a month from cholera and other causes.(Silas Farmer p49) With epidemics often family members were laid side by side in common graves as several family members died within a short time. Many people died of conditions we have cures for now. Many children died young of diseases we have vaccines for now like measles, mumps, chicken pox, scarlet fever, small pox, inflammation, summer complaint (diarrhea caused by spoiled milk) and others. In 1918-1919 There was a terrible influenza epidemic that killed thousands of persons in Michigan and an estimated 25 million people world wide. There were so many orphans that an orphan asylum was active in Detroit. And there were no good medicines for relief or to cure them.

Macomb County now had a sheriff with many justices of the peace so law and order had arrived. Governor Cass started placing ads in eastern newspapers advertising Michigan's rich soils.. After the word got to farmers out east looking for new rich soil, they came by the boat loads.