

History Lesson: What big mistake did St Clair make that cost hundreds of lives. Answer at bottom

Michigan became a State 1837

January 26, 1837. In Washington, DC, President Andrew Jackson signed the bill making Michigan the nation's **twenty-sixth state**. At this time Warren was just beginning to be settled. Soon saw mills were set up to cut logs into boards which were better for building.

Detroit. Eastern Market was founded in 1841. Out farmers sold produce there. The population of Warren Township was 249 in 1837, 337 in 1840, and 421 in 1845. The new immigrants were mostly farmers, from New England.

Mr Shubael Conant a Detroit merchant was a shrewd business man. The Government was selling swamp land for one half of the standard price of \$2.50 per acre. He bought a lot of land in SW Warren.

Transportation in our area for most of its history was by foot or show shoes and canoe. For thousands of years there were no cars, or vehicles. There were no roads at all. There were foot trails thru the woods.

A stage ran from Detroit to Utica. Beebe's was about half way. Mail in Warren Township was brought by stage to Groesbeck's farm and Beebe's corners in the late 1830s.

The State Road was located on present day Sherwood road. The little settlement located near what is now Ten mile road and Sherwood was later called Kunrod's corners. The horse drawn stage fare was about 75 cents to Detroit or Utica and double that to Romeo. By 1830 there was a stage line running from Detroit to

Romeo and another to Ft. Gratiot. The stage line followed the State Road which followed Sherwood.

Kunrod's Corners at ten mile road was a stop on this route. Beebe's corners was next. The so called road was so poor that it probably jostled passengers around and could be so muddy as to stop travel. This led to a rail road built along the State Road running from Detroit to Shelby and later to Utica. It was started about 1838. At first it had wooden rails, poles strapped to logs then later iron rails. **The single railroad car was pulled by horses.** Later iron straps were placed on top of the wood. But once in awhile they would get caught curl up and pass thru the floor of the train car injuring passengers. These protruding strips of metal were called snakeheads and could be dangerous. Later the train cars were armored so that the straps could not hurt passengers. The 10 Mile stop was Groesbeck's, The Warren stop was called Spinnings Junction. It was just south of 14 Mile Road. The wooden stringers later rotted on the line and the road was abandoned. After being repaired the Detroit Bay City Rail Road opened for regular traffic on Oct 7 1872.



Answer to History Lesson: He was not vigilant. He failed to post watchmen to be aware of what was going on around them. This led to almost 1000 casualties. We should learn from history. Be aware of what is happening.