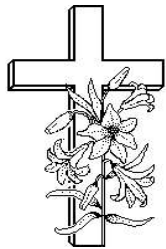


Official Publication of the Portage County Historical Society of Wisconsin



Anton Anday Passed Away Sept. 22, 2021



Field Notes Coddington Depot

Like most things in life, it came out of nowhere and it was a surprise. A phone call was received from Joyce Slack, asking if the Society was interested in a doll house, which was 43" long, 21" wide, 31 "high and now occupied the whole of the kitchen table of the farm house. Periodically over the years on chance meetings, we have discussed the doll collection, some of which may end up as a historical exhibit of the Society, and the opportunity of acquiring the dollhouse may indeed be a good starting point. I immediately agreed and the date was set to pick up the artifact.

On the appointed day Tim Siebert and I drove out on Hwy 54 to F and then South to the farm. As we arrived Joyce and her brother were working outside. After introductions, the question was asked if we were interested in the Coddington Depot. My first reaction was "Oh no, not another building!! Where would we put it and how can we afford it?" The recent acquisition of the G&BW-caboose 117 or 617, which ever way you wish, even with the generous in kind donations of Canadian National, the Village of Plover and most of all the Central Wisconsin Model Railroaders still cost us \$3,000, which was not budgeted. I kept my council to myself and asked "Where is it?" "Right there next to the barn," came the answer. Indeed, in an overgrown area between the trees and brush stood the building. The Coddington Depot was more of a way station or shelter house than a depot. We approached the building to see what shape it was in, since it must have stood at the current spot for at least forty years. It was unpainted, used as a storage shed and protected by vegetation. Surprisingly, the building was in good shape. It was

(Continued on page 4)



Society Events

None Scheduled.

Synagogue

Open Memorial Day to
Labor Day
Saturday & Sunday 1 - 4pm
By appointment 715-600-4930

Historic Fire House No. 2

Open Memorial Day to
Labor Day
Saturday 9:30 - 1:30pm
By appointment 715-600-4930

Heritage Park

Open Memorial Day to
Labor Day
Saturday & Sunday 1 - 4pm
By appointment 715-600-4930

Rising Star Mill

**Oct 1-2 and 3, 2021, Friday,
Saturday and Sunday,** The Annual Rising Star Mill Open House and Barns of Portage County Exhibit. 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.



President's Report

The summer of 2021 has been a hard one for the Society because of Covid. Our museum sites have either been shut down or we have had a hard time finding docents to oversee, especially, Heritage Park on weekends. The park has been open sporadically. However, on the up side Jim Abbrederis and Jason Jones have done a great deal of work on the Post Office/Doctor's Office and, although, it is behind our predicted schedule because of supply problems the work progresses. Milo Harpstead has engineered our saw mill display just outside the barn. We hope that we can have it on display next summer. This required a great deal of work trying to piece together what parts belonged to the saw and which were, somehow, just tossed into the mix of parts that were the saw mill.



The Board of Directors has also decided to try to hire a part time director. The need for someone to coordinate the public programs and do grant writing has become a priority for the Society if we are to continue to progress.

Thanks to efforts of a number of people including Jerry Rohlinger, Diane and Brad Casselberry and Sarah Scripps the Society is having its clothing collections put on computer instead of just paper organization.

The Morgan House project has become more clearly defined. The owners of the house and property have set the price of the two acres and 4 structures at \$400,000. A reasonable price for this amount of land and structures in the center of the village. The owners have stated that the Society can have until late 2022 to decide whether or not it can raise a major portion of the necessary funding. At that point or at some time before that date the Society must sign an agreement to purchase and have another year to raise the remaining amount. To date, the Society has raised \$40,000 toward this goal. If the Society is able to raise the necessary amount to purchase the property it will allow us to develop a much more varied presentation. The Morgan House itself, it is planned, will become both our main office and a place to house our archival collections. The rebuilt garage, directly across from the Franklin House can be used as our workshop and allow the Society to keep all our tools and materials in one place instead of spread all over the park where ever we can find a place to put them. In order to make this one-time chance to expand and develop a wider presentation of the county's heritage and history the Society we must raise a large amount of the total. The Society is asking for your help. Any amount helps. If someone has the financial ability to contribute a

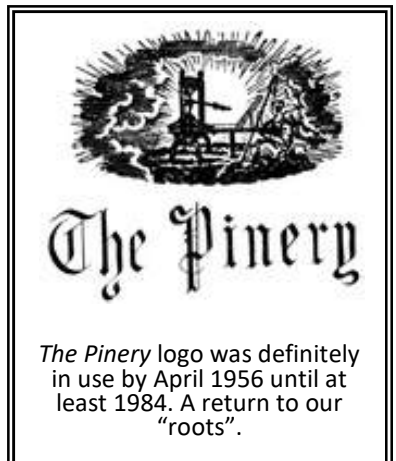
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Calendars

**We Have
2022 Calendars
Featuring Photos of
Portage County**

**All photos are taken
From the Historical
Society's Archives**

**On Sale
At \$10.00 per copy
Contact Society
To get your copy**



The Pinery logo was definitely in use by April 1956 until at least 1984. A return to our "roots".

President's Report Con't.

significant amount to the park addition we can add a name reflecting that person or organization.

As we have reported in the past the Society received the complete archival collection of Mr. Wendell Nelson. So, to date that has meant a transportation of his collections to the Society's ownership of over seven pick-up truck loads of materials. This includes some 40 bound volumes of the Stevens Point Journal, collections of other local newspapers, hundreds of 3-ring binders each dedicated to a specific topic, dozens of books on architecture, a military book collection, books on Wisconsin history, hundreds of photos of local structures and people and a number of artifacts left from local structures. The Society and Mr. Nelson's friend, Lora Hagen have set up a fund in the Community Foundation that will, eventually, be able to fund research grants to local students or individuals working on specific historical/architectural projects. The Society has available many of Mr. Nelson's books. The funds raised from the selling of the books goes into the foundation fund. This goes back to the Morgan House project. The Society, at this time, does not have space to make the Nelson collections available to the public. They are safely stored but can not be made usable to researchers. It is hoped that the Morgan House can be used to house this collection and the other, large collections of research materials the Society has.



This is the 'rebuilt' garage that Tim mentioned in his President's Report. To left is the front. Note 2 garage doors. We anticipate that 2 vehicles will be donated to the Society in the near future. Below is close-up view on back of garage. Below left is wider view of back. Note Engford House behind and to right across the street.

Also of note is the 2nd storey on this building.



Field Trip Con't

off the ground resting on creosoted railroad ties, so there was air movement under it, preventing rot. The chimney from the outside was removed for its journey from Coddington to its current location, where now bees nested in its north wall. The South window was covered with plywood, making it impossible to observe the inside of the building.

The ever-present tape measure told us that the structure was 10.5 ft. wide, 16 ft. long and with a false front. Then we were informed that this building also served as a Post Office for Coddington. Tim ventured inside for a look. He quickly exited, followed by a number of swarming bees at which he swatted furiously. This of course made the bees more active. One landed on me. I remained motionless so that it would not be bothered. The bee would have none of it. It stung my forehead and my left forearm. I had no more patience with this creature and sent it to a more rewarding than earthly life. Within minutes an ugly swelling appeared on my well chiseled, granite contenance. It was time to retreat and collect the dollhouse. While tying the dollhouse into the truck, we decided to return to the site in the fall, after the first frost, when foliage has disappeared and the inhabitants were dormant, for a closer examination of this artifact.

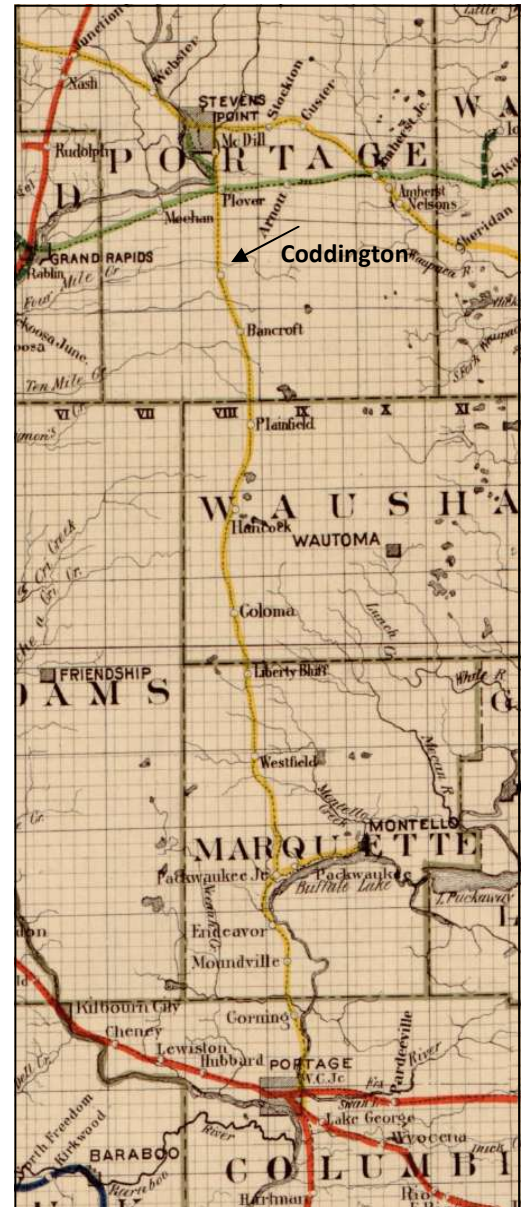
Where is Coddington? The next day Jerry Rohlinger took me for a trip to Coddington. From Hwy 54 to Lincoln Avenue to Taft Avenue. As we proceeded South on Taft, Jerry pointed out the old railroad bed of the P-line on the east side of the road. I had a hard time recognizing it since in different sections it is now covered with crops, used as pasture, and a healthy tree line as well as brush covers the land. Not until Marsh Drive crosses Taft Avenue just North of the old railroad bridge abutment does the rail bed become clearly visible and remained so past Buena Vista Drive all the way to Coddington.

How did the Depot get to its current location? Well, it seems that the owner of the farm decided that the building should be preserved, and it also could be used as a storage shed. So as the P-line was removed paralleling Taft Avenue to Coddington, he took his hay wagon, had the building put on it and moved it to the backyard of his house, where it now stands awaiting its fate. Wouldn't it be nice to see it thirty yards from the Bancroft Depot, which on its move to Heritage Park was parked for three days just south of Coddington, a sign reading "Coddington Depot and Post Office"?

Anton Anday
September, 2002

1900 Wisconsin RR Map Cropped to Show P-line Stevens Point to Portage

Coddington is just North of Bancroft.



Note: We have over 1,000 photos of RR Depots in Wisconsin. So far, no photo of Coddington RR Depot on its original site has turned up.

Anton Edward Anday - Background

This is a brief summary of Anton's background. In order to appreciate his life we must place him in historical and geographic context. His family is a product of a tumultuous time in European history.

The Austro-Hungarian Empire covered much of Central Europe. Then, in June 1919, the Treaty of Versailles officially ending World War I creating several 'new' countries out of the former Empire's territories. NO ATTEMPT will be made here to track how those borders have changed since 1918.

Anton's mother, Margit Anday, wrote a book "Flight to Freedom" that explains much of what was happening in Hungary after WW I, during WW II and the aftermath under Soviet control until 1957.

It is our hope that the family will allow the Society to reprint Margit's book along with Anton's addendums in the near future.

Relationship to Anton Edward Anday

Grand Father	Jakab Aufsatz	Nobility(?)
Uncle	Edward Richard Anday	Military
Uncle	Michael Jakob Aufsatz	Catholic Priest
Father	Antal Jakob Anday	Public Service
Mother	Margit Mohl	
Brother	Edward Michael Anday	
	Antal (Anton) Edward Anday	Teacher
Brother	Sandor (Alex) Michael Anday	Teacher
Sister	Gyorgyi (Georgina) Klara Anday	Teacher

The Treaty of Versailles, signed June 28, 1919, formally ending WWI carved up the Austro-Hungarian Empire forming several 'new' countries. March 12, 1938, Austria was 'annexed' into Nazi-Germany and shortly after that Hungary and territories to the south and east came under Nazi-Germany's control. The occupation of east and southeastern Europe by Soviet forces in 1945 continued the changes. Everything for those populations changed several times in 30 years.

Antal Jacob Anday marries Margit Molh, April 8, 1940 and over the next 17 years their lives changed dramatically several times. The Hungarian Revolt, 23 Oct. to 10 Nov., 1956, ruined their efforts to get to Austria as refugees. But in 1957, Margit and children were able to obtain permission to visit her parents, aged 75, for 2-weeks in Austria. It had been decided that they would not return leaving Antal Jacob in Hungary. They would never see each other or be able to communicate again.

In 1959 a Catholic Church charity in Austria had found sponsors in America. They left Austria and arrived in the U.S. Feb 10, 1959 eventually arriving Merrill, WI. a few days later. Sisters from the Holy Cross Convent in Merrill met them in Wausau. They would provide temporary care and other persons associated with the Convent provided additional help until they could establish themselves.

Anton Edward married Mary Beth Fulk, Aug. 7, 1976. They have two children.

Brief Summary of Anton Edward Anday's Life in America

Margit Anday in her "Flight to Freedom" writes in part: "Years afterward, we all sat with nine other aliens in the Circuit Court Room in the Wausau courthouse. We had passed the examinations for citizenship and now waited in the jury box to be sworn in as free citizens of the United States of America. All together we stood and repeated, "I pledge allegiance ..."

Becoming an U.S. Citizen, June 16, 1964, was a momentous event for Anton. Since that day he has carried a copy of the U.S. Constitution in his wallet.

Anton graduated from Merrill Senior High, earned his BA Degree from Mount Senario College and MA Degree from UWSP. His first teaching job at Stevens Point Area Public School System was at Ben Franklin Junior High School followed a few years later at Stevens Point Area Senior High School. During his employment at the School District he filled many positions in the Teacher's Union, ultimately negotiating their contracts. He retired after 33-years of teaching.

He became involved with the Sister City project in 1983 and would teach English in one of Rostov Veliky's (Russia) schools for several weeks each summer.

He has served several terms as a Village of Plover Trustee, 1999 to 2002, and then 4 more years in his later years. His other civic involvements are too numerous to recount here.

Anton has served on the Portage County Historical Society's Board of Directors since 1983. He became Curator of Heritage Park about 1992. During his time as Curator, the Park has seen the restoration of the Hie Corner School, Bancroft Depot, Yellowstone Cabin, GB&W Caboose, Engford House, Pierce Building Printing Shop, and erection of the Agricultural Barn. The Post Office will be completed next year. With the help of Don Kottke the Park had its electrical system updated. Anton was a backer of the Society's early development of a web site in the late 1990's. He also was a leading force in the Society's move to install a digital cataloging system. The current Capital Improvement drive to purchase the Morgan House Block was one of Anton's long term plans. The Society will hold a Dedication Ceremony in the Spring of 2022 renaming the Agricultural Barn in Anton's honor.

Throughout Anton's terms as a Village Trustee, many committees/commissions and the Society, his long term visions have proved essential to the success of many projects.

Ever the Instructor!

Home away from home: Hie Corner School



2007 Plover Portage Rendezvous instructing the Brownies



Heritage Park Report

At this point we are behind schedule for the completion of the Post Office and Doctor's Office. The major problem is the hold up of the offered trim boards. However, this has been addressed and should be alleviated soon. At present we are in need of physical help to preserve portions of the park and to keep it safe as well as presentable to the public



These are some of the areas where your help is greatly needed:

- Removal and replacement of exterior window frames in three buildings.
- Removal and replacement of areas of siding on four buildings. This requires removal and replacement of upwards of four rows of siding from the bottom up on four walls.
- Interior drywall taping, sanding, priming and final painting as well as window framing at least one window.
- Staining, varnishing and installing interior trim on doors and windows in the Post Office and Doctor's Office,
- Cleaning and moving equipment into the Doctor's Office.
- Sanding, cleaning and painting display cabinets for Doctor's Office.
- Dusting displays in the Agricultural Museum and Print Shop.
- Docents for the times we are open.
- General housekeeping and cleaning.

As you can see, there is a great need for volunteers to help make and keep our park pleasant, professional and a place we can be proud to show to the public. Thankfully Lorry Walters has stepped forward and offered to take care of the landscaping and flower gardens at the Pierce Building, Hie Corners School, and Engford House. Thank you very much, Lorry.

I ask anyone who is willing to support the Park improvement and maintenance to please contact me at: jabbred@gmail.com or call 715-340-4098

Jim Abbrederis

Fire House No. 2

After a year of being closed, it was great to be open to the public during the 'normal' operating day/times!

Curator Dave Simonis along with volunteers Lee Pliska and Jerry Rohlinger enjoyed our best year for visitors during regular open hours ever. Thanks to a newspaper article about our sites we had around 50 people our first day! Over the course of the season about 120 people stopped in. A few books were sold too.



Dave had made contact with the Fire Fighters Union regarding their fire truck parked in the Fire House. This started some contacts with the members with at least 3 separate visits from members. The last open Saturday a ladder truck and ambulance parked across the street and 4 firemen stopped. The 'veteran' was giving the 3 younger guys a tour of the Fire House giving them a sense of history regarding the Fire Department's development. Based on their comments they enjoyed seeing how things were done in the past and the older equipment that was in use. Later that morning another Fire Dept. visitor dropped off an older

radio to add to our growing collections.

Its difficult to single out how visitors will impact the Society going forward, but one, Gary Shaney, has donated an audio interview he recorded with World War II veteran Robert Schmitz. Another visitor, Jim, has helped with indentifying our gas pumps. Jim parked his Mustang out front which drew some attention. This generated an idea! Next summer we will try to have local car clubs display a car or 2 outside the museum during our open hours on Saturdays.

A number of visitors were intrigued with Wendell Nelson's collection. Because of lack of storage space, the day-room at the Fire House is being used for storage of Wendell's materials. We have not received all of his material yet.

Brick work has begun. Tuck pointing and brick replacement on the front should be completed before the snow flies.

Perhaps summing up this summer best: "we really connected with many visitors this year."

Dave Simonis

Rising Star Mill

The Rising Star Mill has had a very slow year. The mill has gotten used to having people come through and admiring its antiquity. Our biggest challenge has been to keep the grain dust and cobwebs under control. The local truck traffic causes the building to vibrate, and an endless supply of grain particles to be revealed.



Local farmer, retired teacher and RSM volunteer, Marge Krogwold, has continued to weave her magic on the 166-year-old handmade loom, which is in the Pinery Room at the mill. Over the years, Marge has created many throw rugs on this loom which she donates to the mill to sell. She is a prime example of the "behind the scenes" volunteers that often contribute their time and skills to a local community project or asset, without notice. The mill has benefited from such local volunteers who contribute to the maintenance of the mill.

While the RSM Committee has planned few events for 2021, local Stevens point artist photographer, Robert Rosen, planned a one-man show in September, displaying artistic images of the mill, seldom or never seen by the public. These beautiful images have been matted and framed and put on sale. A percentage of the sale of these images will be donated to the RSM. As a bonus, Robert has scanned and enhanced photos which were taken in 1985, showing the condition of the mill and the volunteers who cleaned it out of its many hazardous and unsavory contents after coming into possession of the Portage County Historical Society. These photos were also a part of the exhibit.

On October 1-2-3, 2021, the Mill planned the Annual Open House and Barns of Portage County photo exhibit. The first in two years. Next year we hope to engage a regular schedule, to be kicked off by the May 2022 Art Show and Sale.

Jim Walker



The Pinery

Is the official publication of the Portage County Historical Society, Inc. of Wisconsin published March 20th, May 20th, Sept. 20th and Dec. 20th of each year.

Officers

President: Tim Siebert
Vice-president: Dave Simonis
Secretary: Jerry Rohlinger
Treasurer: Janet Zblewski

Directors

Jim Abbrederis Anton Anday
Mary Egle Milo Harpstead
Dan Hoppe Diane Casselberry
Eric McFarland Mary Beth Anday
Sarah Scripps Beverly West
Jason Jones Brad Casselberry
CWMR, Ltd

A monthly business meeting is held the second Wednesday of each month, except for December, at the Synagogue Museum, 1475 Water St. Stevens Point, WI., unless otherwise announced.

An Annual Meeting is held the second Wednesday of April at a location to be announced. An annual report and election of Directors occur at this meeting

The membership and public are welcome to attend any meeting.

Visit our website at:
www.pchswi.org

Visit us on Facebook



"The purposes of this organization are exclusively educational and shall be to preserve, advance, and disseminate knowledge of the history of Portage County, Wisconsin."

Joining the Historical Society couldn't be easier! Just fill out the form and mail it today. Membership runs from January - December of the calendar year. Please circle the level at which you are joining or renewing.

Student (ages 17-21)	\$15/year	Senior (62 & older)	\$20/year
Individual	\$25/year	Family	\$40/year
Business	\$50/year	Pioneer	\$100/year
Patron	\$200/year	Sustaining	\$300/year
Benefactor	\$400/year	Life	\$500

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

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Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Sept.. 2021

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| General Funds | Heritage Park |
| Synagogue Museum | Historic Fire House No. 2 |
| Rising Star Mill | Other - specify |

No thanks, I don't want to become a member, but here is my tax deductible donation to the Society \$_____ Please circle your preference.

I'm interested in Volunteering, please call me at:

Online Payments

Now accepting online Dues Payments, Donations and Ticket Sales to Society Events.



Mail this form with check made out to:

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Photo to Remember

Picture of the Slough

