



The 1811 Historic Shupe Homestead
Drawing courtesy of Neal Jenne

The New Indian Ridge Museum --Quarterly

...Preserving, Interpreting, and Teaching the Past...

...to Prepare and Build for the Future...

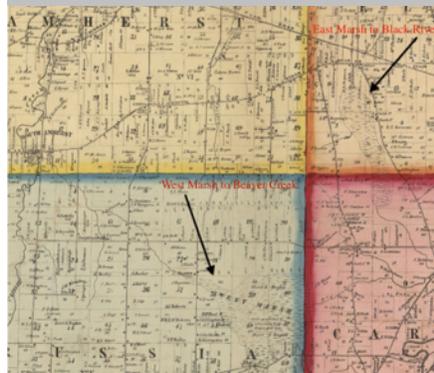
Board of Trustees

- Col. Matthew W. Nahorn
*Director/Curator/
 Founder/Board President*
 - William Nahorn
Building Maintenance
 - Diane Nahorn
*Refreshments, Generally
 Keeping Things Straight*
 - Jean Rounds
Official Photographer
 - Jay Rounds
Tour Guide Overseer
 - Ann Dolyk
Museum Special Advisor
 - Zack Sweebe
*Marketing, Security, &
 Website Design/Management*
 - Andy Milluzzi
*Telecommunications,
 Institutional Advancement,
 & Security*
 - Deb Filbert
*Human Resources, Chief
 Organizer of Displays*
 - Mike Filbert
Technological Advancement
 - W. Zack Dolyk
Legal Advisor
 - Wendy Dolyk
Admission Donations
 - Andrew Robinson
*Wildlife Control, Management,
 and Preservation Consultant &
 Kayak Specialist*
 - Vito Cammarata
*Kayak Specialist, General
 Advisor*
 - Jason Shaffer
*Museum Photography &
 Documentation Advisor*
- Upcoming Events:**
**Col. Nahorn continues to
 present programs and talks to
 area groups.**
Please refer to
www.newindianridgemuseum.org
**for the most up-to-date
 information - click on "News"**
for upcoming events & such.
-

Local History

East Marsh Study Completed, Document Posted

“Numerous wet and marshy lands were encountered by the early settlers of Northern Ohio upon their arrival to this area.” This is how the “East Marsh Report – A Geographic, Prehistoric, & Early Historic Review” study begins.



Having studied the area around the site of the original Indian Ridge Museum and Vietzen Homestead, Col. Nahorn understood the need to report on and document this area for our local history.

A goal of the Museum research department has been to produce one such study or document, yearly. Last year, the inaugural research document was, “Vermilion River Watershed - A Watershed Profile & Historical Review.” All studies and research documents we produce are available on our website and may be found here: <http://newindianridgemuseum.org/about/research-documents-studies/>

These are in-depth projects that take a good year to research, compile, and ultimately publish. We hope they will be of use to not only researchers of local history and such, but also to the scientific and historic research community. These reports were written with individuals from a wide-ranging field, in mind.

Another research document, “The Founding of Early Amherst” is posted on that same webpage. It is what one may categorize as an edited historically accurate account of the first days of what would

become the area of Amherst, Ohio, focusing on the Shupe Family and the homestead they built here.



The map, left, shows both the East and West Marsh complexes located in the Black River and Beaver Creek Watersheds, respectively.

“The East Marsh, located on the lowlands between the two beach ridges (West and Murray), is a remnant of a former temporary glacial lake fragment or lagoon.”

Above, an aerial view of the area under study provides a better opportunity to orient oneself of the East Marsh’s location overlain with a present-day view. Note current Ohio State Route 113 (South Ridge Road) being the general shoreline of ancient Lake Whittlesey; the East Marsh in blue; and the location of a Paleo-style projectile point found by Col. Vietzen on his property. We preserve this important artifact at the New Indian Ridge Museum.

The Marsh was an important area for hunting and gathering by the local prehistoric people.

A new report, and the next to be completed is entitled, “Burrell Homestead Study – A Comprehensive Study of the Burrell Homestead.” The Burrell Homestead, the oldest brick house in Lorain County (c.1820) is one of the most historic sites in Northern Ohio and was only inhabited by members of the Burrell Family for over 180 years. Look for updates on this forthcoming report one year from now.

Local History Update**Old Spring Maintenance Continues**

Amherst's Old Spring is one of our area's most historic early sites.

Col. Nahorn is proud to state that he has actively maintained it for about 4 years. When he encountered the site, the area was literally "trashed" and in total disrepair. We've reported in past "NIRM Quarterly" newsletters of the progress in restoration that has been made, and the project continues.

Justice of the Peace Josiah Harris founded the downtown area of what became Amherst when he arrived here from Massachusetts in 1818. He chose this area because of the natural seep spring that was later



"developed" into literally a local "watering hole" — an area where people from all over came to collect the fine spring water.

Today it is unadvised to drink water from this Spring because of possible contaminants that could have seeped into the area around which the spring water collects.

The area around the Spring site boasts an enormous amount of history, including the site of the Braun Brewery building (cellars still present); site of a spring house used for early refrigeration; site of the Baptist Church (now a duplex); the Beesing Homestead (moved up Cleveland Ave.); and others. Much history surrounds this site — too much to completely recount here.

Maintenance of this historic site, located behind the Amherst Town Hall and Braun Homestead (blue house on Beaver Court), includes "Spring cleaning" to cut back and trim vines, ivy, grass, and such and then in the the Fall, performing similar duties at the Site. During the

spring, summer, and fall, it is necessary to visit the site weekly to ensure no vandalism is occurring, trash collection is performed, and to check the status of drainage in the basin.

Photography Project

A project that Col. Nahorn has embarked upon began in late March 2016, and it will conclude this March, taking one year exactly to accomplish. It entails making one photograph per day, developing a unique title for it, and then posting a short description of the image captured, posting all of this on an album on Facebook.



The ultimate plan is to create a small coffee table book or magazine to display and present these images with accompanying titles and slightly expanded descriptions.



A sample, being two of the photos from the collection, are included above:

First: Hibiscus flower at Historic Shupe Homestead, in black and white.

Last: A unique view looking down into Blue Hole #2, a natural cenote (sinkhole, because of the collapse of eroded limestone bedrock), in Castalia, Ohio.

Contributors

- Jami Anderson
Chair, Amherst History Watch Program
- Michael Shaulis
Lake Ridge Academy Archives Manager
- Brian Kohart
Wildlife Preserve Observer and Reporter & Displays Engineer
- Brad Dicken, Adam Wright
Chronicle-Telegram Correspondents
- Larry Fuhrman
Museum History Consultant
- William & Bonnie Cutcher
Museum History Consultants
- Drew Severs, Richard Lothrop
Lake Ridge Archives Consultant
- Jack B. Scaife
Museum History Consultant
- Dr. Lorna Middendorf
Amherst History Consultant
- Dr. C. Herdendorf, Jim Doyle
Museum Advisory Council
- Dan Gouch
Beaver Creek Env't'l Consultant
- T. Jack Smith
Museum History Consultant
- William Bird, Jeff Sigsworth
Museum Advisors/Lorain County History Consultants
- Col. Ron Sauer
Museum Curatorial Advisor
- Gene Edwards, Tim Edwards
Museum Archaeologists/Advisors
- Andrew Wright, Jennifer Wasilk
Environmental Consultants
- Brian Scanlan
Archaeological Advisor
- Lisa Underwood
Museum Travel Consultant
- Andy McDowell, Pete McDonald, Kate Pilacky
Land Conservation Advisors
- Robert Nordstrand
Shupe Family Historian/Authority
- Diane Chesnut
Vermilion Area Historian
- Bob Sasala
Area Watershed Advisor
- Ed & Marilyn Brill
Local History Advisors
- Charlie Marty, Fay Van Nuys Ott, Joan Rosenbusch, Jim Wilhelm, Ralph Zilch
Amherst History Advisors
- Robb Koscho & Stephanie Moore-Koscho, Chris Nechols
Kayak Consultants

Shupe Homestead Update Table Constructed

A fine table designed and built by Col. Nahorn and Bill Nahorn has been finished and has found its home in the main formal parlor room of the Shupe House.

The components of the table include: **table top** — made of American Chestnut (and one pine) floorboards salvaged from Amherst's first Town Hall building and first Union School House built c. 1830, which started off as a two-story house; **legs** — of American elm we milled into boards from a tree that died on the Shupe Homestead property; and **skirting boards** (immediately under the top) — of sycamore from a tree we milled that was growing in the original Frederick Onstine front yard (tree was cut down, now the site of a Dollar General Store across from Amherst IGA on the North Ridge just west of Town).



After securing the wood together, we then covered the top with a thick coating of clear finish and are very pleased with the outcome. It is a fine addition of historic significance and a useful object, now in the Shupe House. (Photo above shows the table drying before installing it in the Shupe House.)

Salvaged wood, especially of historic significance, is most exciting with which to work and craft items. It not only documents and preserves important stories but emits its own history.

Excursions Around Northern Ohio Col. Nahorn Continues Programs, Outreach

As Part of the Museum's continuous educational outreach programming, we have agreed to provide more talks and presentations that are upcoming, including for the Amherst Rotary and the Johnny Appleseed Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Ohio.

Outings Around Northern Ohio Continue

Even though we have found ourselves in the winter season here in Northern Ohio, it is still a fine time to explore the area. These outings will also include photography opportunities.

Acquisitions: Elk Lick Cache

One of the most interesting collections of flint blades that Col. Vietzen discovered was near Elk Lick, Logan County, Kentucky, in the southwestern portion of the State.

Seventy blades were found in a pit, carefully buried, beneath the surface of the Earth, in layers and levels with red sand in between. The pit was 33" deep and 17" wide. The blades were made of blue-grey nodular flint, which naturally occurs in the limestone cave and cliff walls from the southern tip of Indiana and Illinois down through Kentucky and Tennessee. Once the blades were buried, an altar of two pieces of limestone, one upright and one horizontal, was created, and a burned offering of animal remains was found on top of the stone slab. Once the ceremony was complete, a small mound of dirt was erected over the entire area.

Col. Vietzen, along with his excavating party, uncovered this group of blades on May 3, 1964 on the Dr. Brake Farm. After studying the flaking style on the blades, Col. Vietzen concluded that the blades were likely made by one person along with a group of his apprentices because of the similarity of the chipping technique exhibited.

When the collections of the Indian Ridge Museum were sold and

dispersed, the Elk Lick Cache was broken up as well. We currently possess six of the blades from the collection and continue to track down



pieces from that important collection. The manner in which they were discovered as ceremonially buried, their size, and the number of blades makes this discovery a most unique one indeed.

Nahorn & Museum Featured

Col. Nahorn has been featured, among numerous other individuals in the field of prehistoric Native American Indian artifacts and study, in the latest edition of "Who's Who in Indian Relics" (Volume 11). Steven R. Cooper did a fine job of compiling, designing, editing, and producing this 11th volume of the series, which is "an historic record of prominent collectors and their collections."

Col. Vietzen and his Museum were featured in past editions. Col. Nahorn was asked to be included in this latest edition (2016), among the 600 pages of color plates and informative documentation recording those in this field.

A special thank you to Daryl Smith for his aid in photography that appears in the two-page spread where Col. Nahorn and his New Indian Ridge Museum are featured.

Contact Mr. Cooper for a copy.