

Doorway to Historic Fairfield County

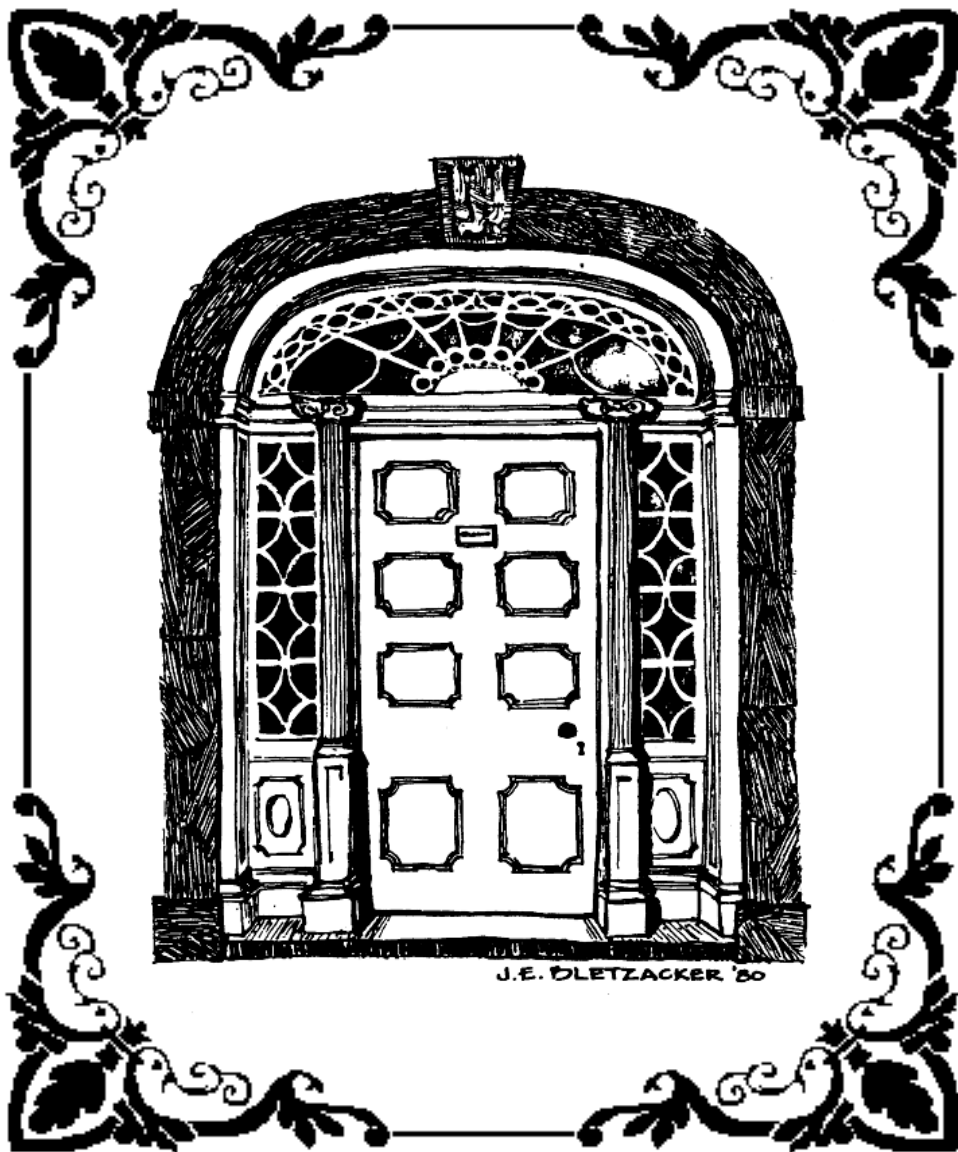
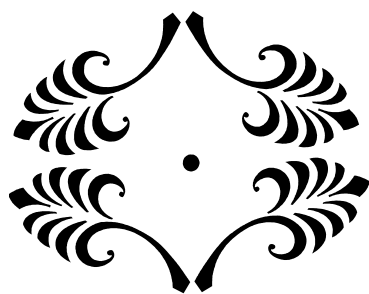


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The Fairfield Heritage Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the wealth of history in Fairfield County, Ohio, through educational programs, exhibits, tours, events and publications.

For more information,
please call 740-654-9923 or contact/visit us at:

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Additional information about membership benefits,
as well as a membership application,
may be found at the back of this book.



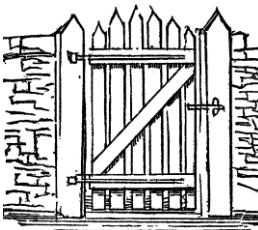
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We welcome you through the
DOORWAY TO HISTORIC
FAIRFIELD COUNTY
COME ON IN!



Fairfield County, Ohio, of which Lancaster is the seat, boasts an impressive number of historic “firsts.” The first public road through the Northwest Territory crossed the county in 1797. In 1799, the first post office in the Northwest Territory was opened here. Fairfield County was the home of the first Medical Society in Ohio. The first Secretary of the Interior came from Lancaster, as well as the first Attorney General of the State of Ohio. Jacob Parrot, the first man ever to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, came from Fairfield County, as did Richard Outcault, America’s first cartoonist and creator of “Buster Brown.” Even the county fairgrounds can claim a first. In 1889, the Fair had the proud distinction of being the first place in the world where both harness and running horse races could be held at night. This was possible after a gas well was drilled on the grounds and standpipe flares of gas lighted a race track for the first time in history.

With its picturesque Hocking Hills, Fairfield County can also boast some of the most beautiful scenery in Ohio. An outstanding landmark, and one which appears on the official seal of the City of Lancaster, is impressive Mt. Pleasant, called “Standing Stone” by the early Indians. No other city in Ohio can claim such a magnificent rock formation within its corporation limits.



The “Pyne Fruit,” or pineapple, was first mentioned in the sixteenth century when seafaring colonists brought it back from the Caribbean as a possible cash crop to be farmed in Virginia. Later it evolved as the colonial symbol of hospitality when sea captains, upon their return, would spear a precious pineapple on the gate announcing to friends that the captain was home and all were welcome.