

VILLAGE OF NEFFS (1840)



The village of **Neffs** or **Neffsville** as it was once called, is located to the north on Route 873. It was named in honor of Abraham Neff who laid out the village in 1840. He received a hotel license in 1855, became the first postmaster of the village, and was engaged in the coach making business for many years.

Neffs Store, Hotel and Post Office (1855). A general store was begun here in 1855. The Neffs Post Office was also located in this structure. The post office was removed in 1949 and was transferred to a private home. The new Neffs Post Office Building was constructed in 1966. The town was so concerned about the influx of additional mail and post office activity, that it applied for and won a federal grant to build an upgraded modern post office facility.

In those days, the Church sexton was also the schoolmaster, organist, cemetery caretaker, and farmer of the church's fields.

The School Room in the sexton's home later became the meeting room for the church council and church office. The Sunday School was organized in 1846. There were many small local Sunday Schools in one-room school houses that scattered the countryside. Gradually, as transportation improved, these small Sunday Schools dwindled with a large number of their members then turning their attention to their church-sponsored Sunday School at Neffs.

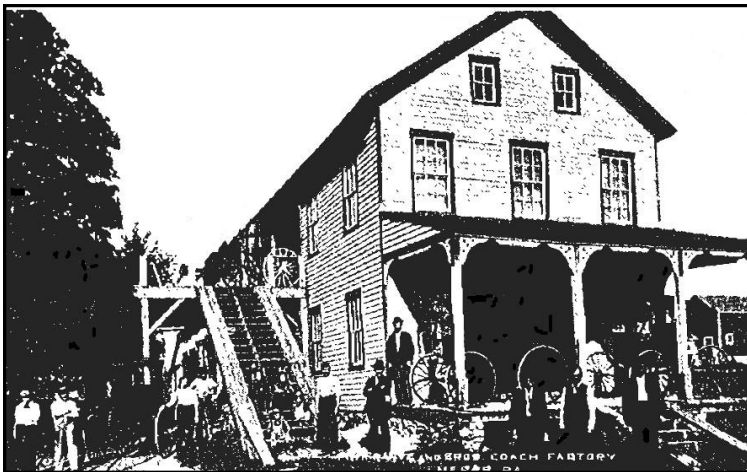
(Church History 1798-1846).

VILLAGE OF NEFFS COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

On February 23, 1923, a group of prominent, civic minded and courageous residents met and enacted The Articles of Association for the incorporation of **The Neffs National Bank**, providing for the start of urgently-needed banking services to the community.

The Neffs Store and Hotel building housed the Neffs National Bank until 1937, when the banking business was moved into the new bank building.

From its modest beginning in 1923, the growth of the bank has been influenced by the prosperity of the local communities. Individuals and business continues to contribute to promoting community-oriented, independently-operated banking.



Former P. W. Frantz and Bros. Coach Factory (1884)

In 1884, three brothers engaged in the business of producing sleighs, spring wagons, and carriages in the two-story frame building located at the crossroads in Neffs (corner of Route 873 and Park Valley Road). One brother was a carpenter, another a blacksmith, and the third brother was a painter, trimmer and upholsterer.

Next issue of *"what's going on"*, we will take a look at **Laurys Station** history.