A Tour of the Easterday-Seymour Neighborhood
By Dee Stevens

(This is the second part of a story about the subdivisions platted by Rev. Thomas Easterday and lumberman Henry Seymour. The first part focused more on these men. This story will examine some of the businesses in this area.)

The neighborhood at Spruce and Johnston streets seems to have first been serviced by a two-and-a-half story building with a false front, a mansard roof and gable window, built for J.J. Veyet in about 1893. This building was on the north side of Spruce Street. It had a one-story extension in the rear, which also had a mansard roof and gable windows.

When Rev. Thomas R. Easterday laid out Easterday’s Addition No. 2 (Johnston Street from Spruce to Maple halfway down the block to Kimball) in 1887, the first lot west of Johnston from Spruce to Cedar streets was set off as the property of Miss E. Paul. The Spruce Street side of this lot had the store on it.

The 1850 Chippewa County census showed a Brazil Paul, who was a cooper and, in 1870, a farmer. He, his wife, Mary, and their children were born in Canada. One of the children was an Elizabeth Paul, who was 19 in 1870. The 1893 Sault Ste. Marie city directory showed a Josephine Paul, widow of Peter. Her daughter Emily was boarding with her. Their house was on the west side of Johnston one north of Spruce.

A July 20, 1895 Evening News story told of a “bold burglary” at the store. It occurred at 2 a.m. the previous day, which could be confirmed as Mrs. Paul and her daughter heard something but were afraid to go out and investigate. Someone had entered through the front door of the store, blown open its safe and then escaped. A search found the empty money drawer and iron box on the “extension of Dawson Street back of Easterday’s grove” (the Easterday home was at Kimball and Dawson). The burglars’ tools were also found in that location. It is unknown if the burglars were caught.

The next excitement at the store was an 1899 fire that did $3,000 of damage to the building and its contents. (EN, June 24, 1899).

After a long history of service under several owners, the store burned for good in 1953. Bagnall’s Cash and Carry was there at the time. Three families that lived in apartments upstairs -- Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Jorgenson; their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Marchetti, and their children; and Nellie Medill – were also made homeless by the fire. The age of the building and its false front were factors in the strength and speed of the fire.

Two firemen, Vern Cartwright and Jack Sharpe, were injured in the fire.

The Marchettis and the Jorgensons figured in two other important businesses
in the neighborhood, the Italian Bottling Works (Marchetti Distributing today), and Marchetti Grocery. These businesses were at 411 Johnston from 1917 to 1952. That building was later occupied by Atkinson Music from 1954 to 1973, and for many years by Emil Erving, barber. Before Marchetti, it housed Anne Lowe, tailor, from 1905 to 1915.

One of two Napoleon groceries was at 407 Johnston from 1939 to 1944. The other was, for many years, at 824 Ashmun, where the Checkered Flag Party Store is today. At 415 Ashmun was Eva Cumming, a baker, from 1905 to 1922, and Ashley Hiar, a barber, from 1937 to 1952. South of that was the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. from 1947 to 1977, then Zenzen Automotive, Forever Tan, and Menz Trendz, a hair dresser for men. Located on the corner, and gone today, was J’s Coffee House in 1952, and Gillotte Shoe Repair.

Today, where the high school used to be, on the west side of Johnston south of Spruce is Dr. Kristin Fairbanks’s office. On the east side of the intersection was Lock City Mercantile/Food Market from 1930 to 1970, with a fish market next door in the 1990s. The next store, 504 E. Spruce, was Pakka and Hokkinen’s Grocery after 1911, and much later Lock City Party Store.

On the north side of Spruce east of Johnston was Charles Jones Grocery at 515 E. Spruce after 1900. In what must have been the same location, George W. Stuart and his uncle Samuel, who had just moved to the Sault from Gardner, Mass., built a combined store and apartment complex. An article in the May 16, 1903 Evening News said it would have five stores on the first floor, flats upstairs with baths, plate glass windows on the stores, and a hardwood finish. The building was present until 2004, although it seems to have been occupied entirely by apartments.

In 1908, Stuart & Stuart was listed as a real estate firm, with Arthur Stuart as broker and Etta Stuart as bookkeeper. (These are possibly different Stuarts, though ironically they lived at 415 E. Spruce). They had already also built the Stuart Block at 802-806 Ashmun. This was the building that later housed Larkin Plumbing and Steffens Hardware, at the southwest corner of Ashmun and Leroy. It burned in 1956.

Not too far from the Johnston and Spruce corner today are Soo Builders’ Supply, Superflite Gasoline, and Shunk and Bachelder, dentists, to the south, and Johnson’s Body Shop to the north on Johnston Street.

For many years, education was at the heart of this neighborhood.
Garfield School, formerly the Brownstone School, on East Spruce at the power canal, was last used as a school in about 1980. Occasionally business proposals are launched for Garfield. It is for sale as of this writing. The old high school, then the junior high, was torn down in 1985, and St. Mary’s Catholic School continues to exist at East Portage Avenue and Kimball Street.

Garfield School was originally called the Brownstone School because it was built of native sandstone. It was one of the earliest schools in the Sault. This picture was taken in the 1950s.

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July General Meeting Speaker – Toni Atteridg, Family Genealogist/Historian

Join us Thursday, July 18 at Bayliss Public Library, starting at 7 p.m., as Toni Atteridg shares her journey researching her family’s Italian heritage.

Toni’s interest in genealogy first started in High School. As an adult, she learned more about genealogy from her ex-father-in-law. He wrote two books on Genealogy research, as well as completed his tree and wife’s tree, long before there was so much on the internet. He made many trips to Salt Lake City, UT, where the archives of the Genealogy Society of Utah (GSU) was kept within the Mormon Library. That website is now called, Family Search.

Toni’s family are deeply rooted in the heritage of the Sault’s Italian community, namely the Moffa and Ruggiero families, who arrived in the Sault as Italian immigrants. To “fit in” their new country and community, many immigrants changed their names. In Toni’s case, some of the Ruggiero’s, who settled in the Sault area, changed their last name to Rogers.

Toni’s desire to complete the family history came from her Mother’s death wish that she finish her research and write a book about the family. It took Toni two full years of compiling, researching, and scanning photos to complete her book, “Family History of Moffa & Ruggiero: Acri and Cardellino, 1700-2018.” She offered copies for sale amongst her extended family to help cover the cost of printing. A copy will be added to the Society’s growing genealogy collection.

Come join us as she recounts some of her stories about researching her family history and shares family stories.

Numerous Historical Societies

There are several historical societies in the Eastern Upper Peninsula. All have collections of farming or mining or logging activities in their particular areas. It’s a fun visit to these museums—you can spend a day at one or schedule a day to visit several in the area.

Bruce Township has a large collection of genealogy material starting...
with the first families that arrived in 1875 and later as settlement of the area increased. Families have shared their history in books, stories and photos. Contact Shirley Patrick 906-748-0952 if you are researching your BruceTownship roots or have something to share about your family’s time in the area.

Rudyard, Pickford, Cedarville, Detour, Drummond Island and several of the outlying village have produced histories of their area. We offer several of those publications in our Gift Shop.

**History Camp 2019**

The past week of June 17-21 had 15 young people learning about Sault Ste. Marie and its early history. Retired teachers Patty Olsen and Ginny Cymbalist led the youngsters on field trips, discussions and research, introducing them to the many aspects of Sault history. A full article will appear in the next newsletter for your appreciation of the wonderful opportunity these young people have experienced.

**New Mug**

The Gift Shop is featuring a new coffee or tea mug with the CCHS logo. They are the old café style iron mug just the right size for that first morning wake-up. Reasonably priced at $10.00, it’s a reminder that history R us. Oh, you get what I mean!

**CCHS Hours**

For research purposes, donations or any question the office is open Monday or Friday 10a-4p. Please use the back entrance accessed from the Portage parking area by Birds-eye Outfitters.

To visit the Gift Shop, view displays or talk with a knowledgeable history volunteer, we are open 11a-4p Monday thru Saturday. Enter through the front door on Ashmun St.

Remember we are all volunteers and our availability is sometimes limited.

I would like to thank all of our members for their support over the year. Your membership, donations, historical gifts and volunteer hours keep the mission of Chippewa County Historical Society vital and growing.

**Mrs. Angeline Moshese of Drummond Island Is Past 114 Years of Age**

*Ancient Squaw Nearing End of Earthly Life*

Now: Remembers First Passing of Str. Henry Clay: Saw British at Drummond

Drummond Island is watching the waning strength of Angeline Moshese, expecting before long to receive word that the oldest of the its settlers has gone to her death. Mrs. Moshese believes that she is 114 years old, and the stories she tells and the lines of her ancient face permit no doubt that she speaks the truth.

Drummond Island is a place of ancient people. Mrs. Oliver LaPoint, mother of Chief John LaPoint of the Chippewa tribe, died last June at the age of 109 years. She and Mrs. Moshese had been girlhood friends and through an entire century lived side by side, first in wigwams in the forests and in their old age, in houses surrounded by civilization.

*Married again at 88 years*

For three years now, Mrs. Moshese has been an invalid, her strength that carried her a half a beyond the allotted three score and ten, fast ebbing. Her first husband died years ago, and 26 years ago, at the age of 88, she married Nicholas Moshese and has lived with him in the little inlet north of the Drummond channel road at Moshese creek. Now her husband does the housework and she must be helped to a chair or to the log crude bed in a corner of the log hut.

Mrs. Moshese was the mother of 14 children, but she outlived them all, the last, a son, died 16 years ago, at the age of 68. There are several grandchildren, and one of them, Mrs. Margaret Boulley, lives nearby, tending to the wants of her grandmother.

*Born Near Rapids*

Mrs. Moshese was born in the Sault in a wigwam near the rapids. That was in the summer of 1813 she says. There were no whiter
settlers near.

Mrs. Moshese doesn’t remember as well as she once did. Only the outstanding incidents of her early life can she recall.

She was a girl living on Lime Island at an Indian settlement just before her marriage. One day there was a loud whistle. Looking down the river from the direction of the noise, the Indians saw a cloud of smoke rising from the water. Frightened by the uncanny sight the Indians grabbed their belongings and ran into the woods. It was the Steamer *Henry Clay*, the first steamboat to go through St. Mary’s [sic] River she said. According to history, the *Henry Clay* made its maiden voyage to the Sault in 1827. Mrs. Moshese was 14 years old then.

Again, she said, she remembered a canoe trip past old Fort Drummond and British soldiers paraded the shore. Fort Drummond was abandoned in 1828.

**Little Change for Her**
The outside world has been revolutionized in the past century but not for Mrs. Moshese. A log hut, a crude table, an ancient stove, a bed and a couple of chairs compose her world, and her table. With fish, wild meat, bread and vegetables has changed little since she was young.

Mrs. Moshese was sitting on the bed when the Evening News reporter entered. Her husband, active for 82 years, was washing dishes from the breakfast. He speaks a little English but ran for his grand daughter to interpret the interview.

Her mind and body feebler, Mrs. Moshese did not appear aware of the object of the visit. One eye is weak. She wears a band about her forehead which is deeply creased with wrinkles. A clay pipe lay on the bed near her hand.

“Does she smoke?”

“Oh yes. She used to smoke the inside bark of the red willow, but the doctor told her it was too strong and now she smokes real tobacco.”

**Kept Healthy in Wigwam**
“Ask her to what she attributed her long life?”

There was a buzz in the Chippewa tongue and then- “She says she kept healthy from living in a wigwam.”

“Is she afraid to die?”
There was talk again, more animated and prolonged.

“She doesn’t seem to realize what death is. She said her finger hurts with rheumatism.”

There has been a noticeable change in Mrs. Moshese since Mrs. LaPoint died last summer. The death of her century friend took her spirit and she had been failing rapidly.

*Publication date unknown at present*

*Evening News*

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**Rendezvous July 26-28, 2019**

**Historic Water Street Homes – Open for Season**

Starting Friday, June 28th (Engineers Day) the Historic Water Street Homes will reopen for the 2019 Summer season. Stop by and check out the many interesting displays telling the story of the Sault starting with the Fur Trade in the early 1800s, Henry Rowe Schoolcraft as Indian Agent, Bishop Baraga and his missionary work amongst the Ojibwa tribes of the Upper Peninsula, and the industries that brought people to the Sault for work in the early 1900s. The Kemp Industrial Museum has a new display on the Kemp Dock and Kemp Coal Dock featuring photos donated to CCHS by Steve Jorgensen and one photo from the Sault Historic Sites photo collection. Another big change this year are the new hours. The Historic Homes and Kemp Industrial Museum will now be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week, until Labor Day.

**CCHS Gift Shop and History Center**

The CCHS Gift Shop has opened for the season. The shop has a new look and includes some interesting handcrafted, locally made items. We also now have our very own CCHS mugs, which were inspired by mugs once used at the American Café, a former popular Ashmun Street restaurant.

As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary, one of the new displays features portraits of some of the Society’s founders, many of whom were also prominent business or government figures. The floor also offers a variety of other displays featuring items from the Society’s collections. We would love to have you stop by and see what is happening at our building at 115 Ashmun Street.
Second Wine Release and Sault Trivia at 1668 Winery

Everyone had a great time at the Society’s Second Wine Release at 1668 Winery and Lockside Brewery. Held Thursday evening, June 13 from 5-7 p.m., the event included a Sault History Trivia contest in which six teams competed. The teams remained tied for first and second places with the winners decided with a final special question. The Society also raffled a basket containing two CCHS mugs and tasty treats from Alpine Chocolate Haus.

The wine for this release, called “Sailor’s Delight” featured a freighter in the Soo Locks. Roger LeLeivre took the actual photo of the freighter in the 1970s. He is now the editor of “Know Your Ships.” Paul Ignatowski, who added the sunset behind the freighter, designed the label. This Wine Release is the second in a series of five releases, and is a fundraiser sponsored by 1668 Winery for the Chippewa County Historical Society. We really appreciate the fundraising opportunity 1668 Winery and Ray Bauer has offered the Society. Bottles from the wine release are available for purchase at 1668 Winery.

President’s Report

I thank the Board for their involvement in keeping the Society in the public eye and all their assistance with the many projects undertaken this past year.

2019 Board members are:

Bernie Arbic Dennis Hank Sharon Dorrity
Steve Gordon Ginny Cymbalist Bob Aldrich
Karan Sabitine Mary June Jim Dwyer
Janet Russell Kelly Freeman Patty Olsen
Paul Ignatowski Phil Hastings Ruth Neveu
Carolyn Person

Our weekly volunteers:

Dawn Aldrich Kathy Newcomb Sandy Robbins
Dee Stevens Shawn & Mindy Durham Mike Bennett
Cris Roll Marian MacLeod Kyle MacLeod
Chris Delridge Robin Savoie & grandsons Eileen Jokinen
Hank Jones

Volunteers who step in when needed:

Roger Blanchard Gil Cymbalist Paul Duesing
Chris Person Mens New Hope House Garryn Ordiway
Lecann Izzard Tom & Cherie Tocco Bill Robbins
Barb Lisiecki Shawna & Rowen Mauldin Connie Thompson

Over the past year, the Society has presented many activities, participated in city events and continued to expand our buildings potential. Our gift shop is run by volunteers and will be open 6 days a week from 11a-4p. We sponsor History Camp, our Christmas Train open house (over 800 children and Adults come to view the trains in December) and the Historic Homes on Water Street (displays featured are all part of our collection).

In celebration of our 100 year Anniversary we commissioned 5 wine releases each with a different historic photo label. (Thanks 1668
Collect all 5 wine historic wine releases.

Winery). We feature a History Trivia Game with each release. Rendezvous will return this summer and CCHS will be contributing to the event with volunteers and have the historic Homes open for viewing.

In the past year CCHS has re-published River of Destiny by Joseph and Estelle Bayliss, a great history of Sault Ste. Marie and Chippewa County.

Over the past 12 years our Society thru memberships, donations and grants has purchased the 130 year old building, restored the front façade and created a gift shop display area on the first floor front. We are excited about starting the next phase of building restoration with plans for an elevator so all 3 floors can be accessed. We are looking forward to activities promoting -ELEVATE HISTORY, give us a lift.

This coming year is going to be just as involved with our membership engaged in opportunities to promote history. Volunteer, donate, participate. We are all part of history.

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**Help Wanted**

- Family histories
- Family memorabilia relating to the Sault
- Old business photos, stories, receipts, anything with business name
- Sault Hi and Loretto yearbooks
- Person who likes to file. Must know A, B, Cs
- Volunteer to monitor gift shop sales. Opportunity to meet interesting people
- Volunteer to launder and iron fabric donations
- Volunteer to clean and polish furniture
- Volunteer who enjoys woodworking to repair furniture

*Big Volunteer Jobs, Little Volunteer Jobs. We have it all.*

Thank you to the following people and businesses. We greatly appreciate your support.

**Memberships:**

Joyce Mansfield  Frank Carlton  
BettyJo LaPlante  Patty and Wayne Olsen  
Ruth Johnston-Pike  Deidre Stevens  
Mary Ann and Joseph Podorsek  Gordon MacMaster  
Margo and Paul Sabourin  James Lindholm  
Steve Jorgensen  Don Wilson  
Judy and Rich Hill  Audrey LiLievre  
Roxanne and James Halvorsen  Barbara Larson  
Kay and James Makela  Jill Brunwell  
Roger Lelièvre  Pat and Paul Wilson  
Karen Sabatine  Jeanne and Larry Cooper  
Lawrence Rice  Parkers Hardware  
Meta Geyer

**New Members:**

Patricia and Lawrence Weinreis  Robin Savoie  
Kay and James Makela  Lee Ann Izzard  
Elizabeth Yelland

**Donations:**

Sault Lions Club  Patty Olsen  William Rutter  
Ruth Johnston-Pike  Peter Sherman  Gordon MacMaster  
Joseph Podorsek  James Lindholm  William Robinson  
Steve Jorgensen  Don Wilson  Stacy Edgington  
Soo Builders Co.  Ginny & Gil Cymbalist

**Business Memberships:**

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Central Savings Bank  Don Wilson Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Elizabeth Yelland  Lockview Restaurant  
Old Mission Bank  Parker Ace Hardware  
Pingatore Cleaners  Sault Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Sault Lions Club  Soo Co-op Credit Union  
The Palace Restaurant and Saloon

**Newsletter Contributors:**

Carolyn Person, Dee Stevens

**Newsletter Designer:**

Connie Thompson

Collect all 5 wine historic wine releases.
YES! I want to be a CCHS Member!

Membership Rates

- Individual $20
- Family $30
- Contributing $50
- Business/Corporate/Org. $50
- Lifetime $300
- New Millenium $1000+
- Additional Donation $______

Name ____________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________
City ______________________ State ______ Zip __________
Email ____________________________________________

Please keep me in mind for:  ☐ Volunteer Work  ☐ Board Member  ☐ Genealogy Research

Make checks payable to: Chippewa County Historical Society, P.O. Box 342, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783