



Elgin History Museum News March 2019

President's Report

Al Walters, President



Educating students is one of the Museum's primary goals. It is the best fun to see students and teachers brighten as the proverbial light bulb turns on when they first understand a new historical concept or fact.

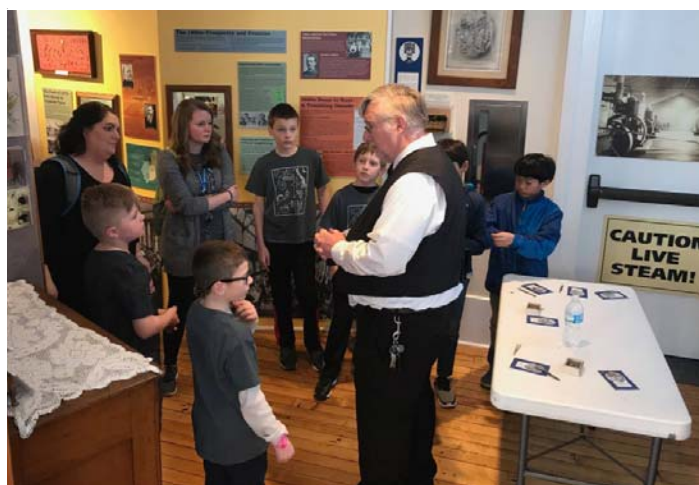
Museum volunteers assist Rebecca Miller, our new Museum Educator, in creating and presenting 19 different programs that involve and engage students.

Since the start of 2019, 388 students have toured the Museum and seen one of several programs. Some learned about frontier cooking from the Great Grandma's Kitchen program, while others studied 1835-era immigration through the Pioneer Program. Still others explored the Museum through an Artifact Scavenger Hunt and then participated in the Watch Your Pocket program, which acquaints students with the Elgin National Watch Company.

As President, I am having a great time helping deliver these special student moments at the Museum. To date, education programs have brought in almost \$2,500. Such presentations require help from six to eight Museum volunteers. A special thanks to our volunteers: their efforts made for a memorable day for the 3rd and 4th graders from Harriet Gifford Elementary School in Elgin and Prairieview School in Burlington, District 301

The Museum is also reaching high school students through Project 2-3-1: A Story of Elgin's African American Heritage. The exhibit is traveling through School District 300 at Dundee Crown, Jacobs (Algonquin), and Hampshire high schools. A team of 8-10 volunteers helps to transport, set up and take down the exhibit, so that hundreds of American History students can view and discuss the film and exhibit. The Museum has allowed the documentary to be uploaded on YouTube during Black History Month. The three

acts of the film were rolled out individually to highlight African American history during all of February. The third act dropped on Thursday, February 28. Providing free access on YouTube allows church, school, and other groups to view and discuss Project 2-3-1.



Leading an educational event

Cemetery Walk Committee Meeting

Laura Stroud, Board Secretary

Volunteers are needed to help plan the 32nd annual cemetery walk for Sunday, September 22, 2019. The first committee meeting will be held Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 6:30 pm at the Museum.

Come learn how you can help make this year's Walk a success by helping plan and perform tasks such as route planning, character selection, writing scripts for the actors, setup, guiding tour groups, take down and more. For more information call the Museum at 847.742.4248.

The Crackerbarrel

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The Crackerbarrel welcomes reader contributions.
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 Visit our website Elginhistory.org

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2019 Program Schedule

Betsy Armistead, Program Chair

Events are held at the Museum unless otherwise noted. Details will be added as they become available. Check website for the latest details. and tickets.

elginhistory.org/events.html

Sunday March 10, 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.:

Elgin High School's 150th Anniversary

Educator John Devine discusses Elgin High School, celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

Monday March 11, 7:00 P.M.:

Dairies to Prairies Documentary Viewing

View our documentary telling the nearly forgotten story about Elgin's dairy industry, and about how land use and agriculture are changing rapidly in Kane County. Discussion with the filmmaker will follow.

Thursday April 18, 12 Noon: Brown Bag Lunch

Mario Guertin presents the history of paint. Bring your lunch! Drinks and dessert provided.

Saturday April 27, 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.: Open Elgin

The Museum and the Nancy Kimball Cobblestone House will be open to the public as part of this community event.

Sunday April 28, 2:00 P.M.

Alice Paul: Winning Votes for Women

In this centennial year of women's right to vote, Leslie Goddard Ph.D portrays tireless suffragist Alice Paul, who arranged parades, organized the first picketing demonstrations outside the White House and endured imprisonment for women's suffrage.

Thursday May 16, 12:00 Noon: Brown Bag Lunch

Lords Park History. With land donated by George and Mary Lord in the 1890s, Lords Park has been the centerpiece of Elgin's outdoor recreation for more than 100 years. Marge Rowe developed this fascinating talk, which also highlights Lords Park Zoo, one of the few municipally owned zoos in the state. Bring your lunch! Drinks and dessert provided.

Thursday May 23, 6:30 P.M.: Walking tour of Holy Hill/Historic District with Jerry Turnquist

Learn about Elgin and its reputation as a "city of churches" during this leisurely paced 90-minute walking tour. Walk will begin outside First Congregational Church, 256 E. Chicago St.

Saturday June 1, 2:30 P.M. Location TBD

Golden Memories: Walton Island

Walton Island was built as a park by the WPA in the 1930s and dedicated to the City by the Izaak Walton League. Al Walters will talk about the development of the island as a park and the land surrounding the park.

Saturday July 14, 10:00 A.M.

Classic Car Show at the Museum

Music and refreshments from 11:00 to 3:30.

**Thursday July 18, 12:00 Noon: Brown Bag Lunch
Funerary Practices with Mike Murschel**

A fascinating look at how customs and practices related to funerals have changed over time. Bring your lunch; drinks and dessert provided.

**Thursday August 15, 12:00 Noon: Brown Bag Lunch
WWI Impact on Elgin with Jerry Turnquist**

Bring your lunch; drinks and dessert provided.

**Thursday Sept. 19, 12:00 Noon: Brown Bag Lunch
History of Women Educators in Elgin with Linda Rock**

Bring your lunch; drinks and dessert provided.

Sunday September 22, 11:00 A.M. to 3 P.M.:

Cemetery Walk, Bluff City Cemetery

Sunday October 13, 2:00 P.M.

Jane Addams, presented by Betsey Means

Saturday, November 2, 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

Museum Benefit and Silent Auction

Grand Victoria Casino

Carry Nation: The Original Barroom Smasher with Ellie Carlson. Tickets available from elginhistory.org

Saturday, December 7, 1:00 P.M.

Annual Holiday Tea at the Museum

Victorian Tea w with the Holiday Harmony Carolers

The Wilcox Family of Elgin – Part 2

by David Siegenthaler

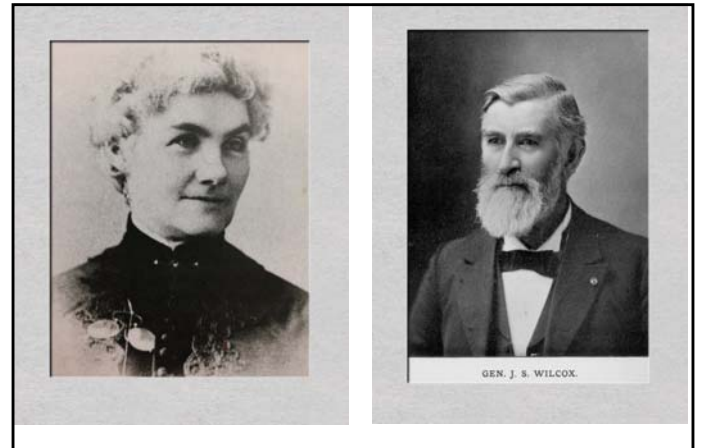
Edward Sanford Wilcox (“Santie”) was a man filled with wanderlust. Born in New York on February 25, 1828, and transplanted to Elgin at age 14, Edward trekked out to California in 1850 for the Gold Rush. He subsequently lived off and on in Elgin, as well as in many other places, including St. Charles and Winnetka, as well as Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. He was appointed postmaster in Elgin (1854-56) and was a furniture dealer. When the Civil War broke out he enlisted as a lieutenant in October 1861 and was promoted a year later to adjutant in the 52nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At some unknown date he was promoted to colonel. His battle action included Shiloh, Tennessee, where he was wounded in the shoulder. Edward outlived four wives. His first wife, Sarah Clark, whom he married in 1853, died in 1861. In 1862 he married Cordelia U. Alston, a widow and sister of George M. Peck. Cordelia died in 1891 and Edward married Hannah Morrison, a widow from Winnetka, in 1898. Hannah died in 1907 and Edward married another widow, Mary L. Stoutenburg, about 1908. Mary died in 1914. Edward died October 28, 1919 in El Reno, Oklahoma, at the home of his daughter, Bel Stinson. Bel, whose mother was Cordelia, and Edward H. Wilcox, whose mother was Sarah, are the only known children of Edward, though he and Cordelia had at least one more.

John Shuler Wilcox, probably the most prominent member of the Wilcox family, was born March 18, 1833, in New York, and came to Elgin with his family in 1842. In 1851 he was employed for a short time at a store in Union. In 1852 he moved to Galesburg, where he attended Lombard University for about a year and a half. Returning to Elgin, he began the study of law in the office of his brother Silvanus and was admitted to the bar in 1855.

On September 3, 1856, John married Lois Amelia Conger in Galesburg and in 1858 they built their home at 454 Douglas Ave. in Elgin. This home, a 1-room-wide, 2-story Italianate, was enlarged and remodeled in 1882. In 1900, the Wilcox’s traded this home for the Hazel Block, a 3-story brick apartment building at 423-29 E. Chicago St. The former Wilcox home on Douglas Ave. was enlarged and converted into a duplex about 1910. Much later it was converted into a boarding house but has since been converted back to a single-family home.

John and Lois had six children: Dwight Conger (1857-1922; wives: Helen Millie Jaeger; later, Cora Canuteson); John Hill (1859-92; wife: Louise Seacord); Hannah Gertrude (1863-64); Marie (1867-

1943; Mrs. Robert Fuller Fitz); Frank Conger (1872-73); and Marguerite (1883-1967; Mrs. Herbert Kidd). Dwight lived most of his adult life in Texas and Arkansas. John Hill partnered with his father in a coal and lumber business for the last several years of his life. John Hill died in 1892 in Colorado, where he moved in an effort to cure his tuberculosis. He was never able to live in his new home at 327 W. Chicago St., which was completed in 1891 and was awarded an Elgin landmark plaque in 2009.



Lois Amelia Conger Wilcox

In 1855, as president of the Young Men’s Association, John Shuler introduced Elgin audiences to an impressive series of lecturers, including Oliver Wendell Holmes. These brilliant orators must have inspired John as he became much in demand as Elgin’s most distinguished public speaker. His speeches were known for their moving, evocative imagery.

In the late 1850s John became an officer in the Elgin Continentals, an amateur militia company that was molded into a highly disciplined infantry unit under the tutelage of drillmaster Elmer E. Ellsworth, who would become the first Union officer killed in the Civil War. Thus, John was well-prepared for a leadership position when the Civil War broke out. In August 1861 he was chosen captain of Company K, 52nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry. John was successively promoted to lieutenant colonel, colonel and, at the close of the war, brevet brigadier general.

John’s regiment participated in many Civil War battles, including Shiloh and Corinth, where he suffered a head injury that diminished his hearing for the rest of his life. While at Corinth in late September 1862, John described the condition of the contrabands in a letter to his wife: “But these poor miserable beings – what is to be their present fate, how are they to live during the coming winter? I have this forenoon been to the Negro corral, and such a spectacle of poor wretched thoughtless semi-humanity I never dreamed of.” Less than three weeks later 110 contrabands arrived in Elgin by rail, including 77 children. His wife wrote back to him

that Silvanus, his brother, had taken in a family of six and that “nearly every one you can think of here has one or more.”

John was released from service in 1864 to campaign for President Lincoln’s re-election. He also used this time to command the camp of organization of the 141st Illinois Infantry, a 100-day regiment.

Following the war, John resumed his law practice. In 1865 he became one of the incorporators of the First National Bank and served 11 years on its board of directors. In 1867 John was elected mayor of Elgin and served a 1-year term. In 1869 he was one of the incorporators of the Elgin City Banking Co., which, unlike the national banks at that time, was able to make real estate loans. He was an officer for ten years there.

The railroad coming to Elgin in 1850 was momentous and essential to the city’s development. However, by 1870 the railroad was viewed as an oppressive monopoly. The Chicago & North Western was charging excessive rates for freight and passengers and the time was ripe for a competing railroad. The Chicago & Pacific’s seven directors included three Elginites. George Bowen, an ex-Chicago capitalist, had moved to Elgin after the Chicago fire and actively promoted the new railroad while running for mayor. The idea was so popular that Bowen was elected mayor unopposed in 1872 and 1873. John was the new railroad’s attorney, as well as a director, and invested heavily in the new enterprise. The railroad reached Elgin in 1873 and tracks were laid as far west as Byron by 1875 when financial trouble halted its progress. The railroad was foreclosed in 1877 and many investors, including John, lost fortunes. In the end, the defunct line was purchased by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railway (“Milwaukee Road”), and was reorganized and extended westward. By 1880 Elgin had a viable competing railroad and lower transportation rates.

John served several years as a director and president of the Elgin public library, as well as the Elgin Agricultural Society. In 1877 he was forced to give up his law practice due to his hearing loss. That same year he was appointed postmaster, serving four years. John was a longtime trustee of the Elgin Academy, 1872-circa 1909, and served as board president from 1890-94.

In 1883 John was one of the incorporators of the Elgin Loan & Homestead Association and was a director for five years. Also in 1883, John Shuler and his son John Hill bought out the R. Tuck & Son coal and lumber business. His son died in 1892 and John continued the business until about 1900.

John was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic since 1884. In 1892 he organized the Elgin Patriotic Memorial Association (incorporated 1896), which took over the Memorial Day observances from the GAR. Like the other members of his family, John

was a Universalist Church member and a Democrat, though he campaigned for Republican President Lincoln’s re-election.

John’s wife, Lois Amelia Conger Wilcox, was prominent and influential in her own right. Lois was born in February 1838 in New York to Uzziah and Hannah (West) Conger. Her family came west in 1839 and settled in Knox County, Illinois. She met John at Lombard University in Galesburg in 1852 and they married in Galesburg in 1856.

Lois was one of the organizers of the Every Wednesday Literary Club in 1879 and was elected its first president in 1880. This was the first Elgin woman’s club outside the church societies. In 1898 she helped organize the Elgin chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and became its first elected Regent in 1900. In 1887 Lois helped organize the Elgin Woman’s Club and was president for the first nine years of its existence. Under her leadership Sherman Hospital was established and opened in 1888 in a former residence. She was still at the helm in 1895 when Sherman Hospital moved into a modern new hospital building. Also during her tenure as Woman’s Club president, a substantial financial gift was made to Elgin Academy to help keep it afloat.

In 1909 John and Lois moved to Los Angeles, California, where they lived the remainder of their lives. Both married daughters, Marie Fitz and Marguerite Kidd, also moved to Los Angeles. Lois passed away at age 83 on December 6, 1921, after a paralytic stroke. John passed away at age 93 on April 30, 1926, from a cerebral apoplexy. Their ashes were interred at Bluff City Cemetery on July 11, 1929.

Wilcox Family Addendum

In the last issue, Elijah Wilcox’s “palatial” Greek Revival-style home on Big Timber Road was mentioned, but we had no photo. Elgin Area Historical Society member and retired architect Charles Burnidge generously provided the accompanying photo, from about 1950. The home looks exactly as it did when Charles, whose family built a home just to the west about that time, would visit the children of the tenant farmer who lived there. At that time it was known as the Jansen farm, though the Burnidge family had already bought the property. Charles also notes that this home has a “twin” still standing in Elgin, only three blocks from our Museum. The home at 118 Tennyson Court has been altered over the years but at one time looked exactly like this when viewed from Division St.

By the way, Charles Burnidge has lived in the former Wilson School house on West Highland Ave. since the 1960s, less than a mile west of Randall Road. If anyone has an early photo of the Wilson School, especially before the 1933 renovation, Charles would very much appreciate getting a copy. It closed as a school in 1953.



Jansen Wilcox Farm House

Acknowledgments: Mike Alft's books and newspaper articles; Kane County histories; "Autobiographies of Fox Valley Pioneers," (Elgin Genealogical Society, 1981); obituaries; newspaper articles; etc.

Educator Rebecca Miller

Elizabeth Marston, Museum Director



Rebecca Miller is the Museum's new part-time educator. She will be leading education programs, as she did last week for Burlington's Prairieview Elementary School. Rebecca has been a Museum volunteer for the last five years, assisting with everything from documenting to cataloging images in the collection and portraying Elgin characters in the Cemetery Walk.

Her background is in the insurance industry, training and accountability, and she has a bachelor's degree in history. She is also a quilter, making a lovely quilt which was raffled off at the Museum's Volunteer Lunch! Please welcome Rebecca in her new role.

Museum Education and Public Programming in 2018

Elizabeth Marston, Museum Director

School programs at the Museum delighted 1,302 students and adults in 2018. The Museum Educator, Sara Russell, built up the school attendance over her five years as Educator. Sara left in October and was replaced by Alexis Pearce.

The programs brought in \$5,197 in revenue, an important part of the Museum's operating budget.

Public programs bring in many of the Museum's visitors. In 2018 there were 18 public programs which included walking tours and lectures at a variety of sites, 11 special events including three *Dairies to Prairies* premieres, and dozens of Speaker's Bureau lectures by Jerry Turnquist, Linda Rock and Bill Briska, reaching an estimated 2,200 people.

The radio program *Elgin 100 Years Ago*, made possible by the research and volunteer time of Rich Renner, Larry Drafall, David Siegenthaler, and Jerry Turnquist, reaches hundreds of WRMN listeners, and records the information for reference on the Museum's website.

Museum board members participate in community events, such as Hay Day, Black History Family Festival, MLK Breakfast, and IFest, to represent the Museum and talk to event goers about the Museum's related activities, hand out brochures, and make connections. Programming of all types helps to bring the Museum's mission of pride in the community and understanding of local history to approximately 4,000 people annually.

Program	Presented	Kids	Adults
Prairie Pioneers	8	191	27
Water Ways	7	158	20
Watch Works	2	33	3
Tour w/ Scavenger Hunt	14	293	37
Watch Your Pocket	17	368	38
History Fair	3	81	7
Great Grandma's Kitchen	2	25	7
ENWC Letterbox	1	13	1

Education For All: Elgin High School 1869-2019

Author?

Elgin High School is celebrating 150 years in 2019. Started in 1869, Elgin High School's motto is "Education for All." In a world of constant change, the school continues to pursue this goal.

- Preparation of students for college
- Direct vocational training
- "Life adjustment skills"
- General education for citizenship

From academics to athletics, from arts to politics, from good citizens to good people, EHS graduates have spread across the globe to excel and to distinguish themselves in all walks of life.

Elgin reflects the national trend in the development of a strong system of public education by the 1860s. Elgin, Aurora and other Fox River Valley communities were setting up high schools in the 1860s and 1870s. The early school systems evolved with standardized instruction, teachers with Normal School training, and the need for an educated citizenry to read, write, and vote.

Elgin's population increased by more than 50% in the 1870s with the steady expansion of the watch factory. The Board of Education was hard-pressed to find enough classrooms, and existing facilities were barely adequate. By 1875 there were more than twice as many children of school age in the city than there were seats in schoolrooms. When the economic depression reached Elgin in the mid-1870s, rumblings arose about the need for a free public high school in the same community with a private academy. Elgin Academy opened as an upper school in 1856, but was a classical curriculum on a fee basis. Public school children were educated until 8th grade, after which they were expected to find employment or work on the farm to assist their families. Elgin High School was also a classical education until the 1890s when vocational classes were offered to meet the needs of a wider population. Many citizens could not understand why it was necessary for taxpayers to provide "aristocratic" and "classical" education when the Elgin Academy was available for those parents who could afford "collegiate" schooling for their children.

Early Elgin High School

The school started as the work of Elgin's first professional educator, Charles F. Kimball (1830-1907), known as the "Father of Elgin High School." Kimball came to Elgin in 1868 as principal of the "New Brick" school and the next year became superintendent of schools. It was "Professor" Kimball's task to find space for the growing number of students in a booming town. Enrollment jumped from 12 pupils in 1869 to about 50 in 1871-72. Kimball recruited and trained a constantly changing staff of teachers. Through it all, he steadily improved instruction and developed a considerable reputation as an educator. Kimball is a relation to Elgin's pioneer Kimball Families.



Brick School, Kimball and Center Streets. Elgin High School from 1857 through 1899.

Student Instruction

It was not until 1874 that the first boy received a diploma. Through the class of 1895 there were 203 girl graduates and only 66 boys. Measured by the occupational choices of its graduates, one of the main functions of Elgin High School was the education of future teachers. Possibly as many as half became teachers in the Elgin schools or in the many one-room district schools in the surrounding rural area. The high school gave no instruction about teaching methods or child development until 1892 when a training school was established. This was necessary because of the growing number of inexperienced teachers in an expanding school system. Experienced teachers could not be attracted from outside the community because most preferred to cut expenses by living at home and Elgin salaries were not sufficient to attract them here.

The educational requirements for positions in business and industry were rising. In 1903, for example, the superintendent of the watch factory wrote the superintendent of schools seeking high school graduates for the machine department "skilled in mathematics, physics, and chemistry." In the same year, the watch company president offered to equip a manual training room, and that fall two classes were formed in the Branch High. The girls were not forgotten as the school adjusted to a changing student body. In 1903 the Elgin Woman's Club furnished equipment for a domestic science room in rented quarters near the high school.



1918 Elgin basketball team competed in Springfield tournament but did not win.

Elgin High School Buildings

Elgin High School has been housed in four different buildings. The most iconic is the 1911 building on DuPage Street, now the administrative offices for School District U-46. From the first Maroon yearbook in 1911, "Beyond a shadow of a doubt the finest high school building in the state of Illinois for any city the size of Elgin." Elgin voters finally approved a new school in 1905 to solve school overcrowding. Designed in a classical style by local architect David Postle, the east wing opened in 1906. The school was completed in early 1911 with 50 rooms and an enrollment capacity of 1,050. The library was located on the second floor over the main entrance. There were rooms equipped for vocational training, domestic arts, and science labs. The auditorium could hold the whole student body with 1,100 seats, providing space for entertainments, debates, contests and graduation exercises. Above the auditorium was a gymnasium with a running track and showers.

World War I

During World War I a military training class was authorized. Boys enlisting in military service were able to graduate early. Boys working on farms as members of the Boys' Working Reserve were excused from school. The students bought thrift stamps and participated in Red Cross drives. The war hit many students personally, when word reached Elgin that Nellis Clark, President of the Class of 1917, had perished from a shrapnel wound in August 1918. Two faculty members and eight graduates died in war service. The patriotic fervor altered the curriculum. French was added, and German dropped in 1918, and not until 1928 was the language of the enemy restored as an elective.

Student Entertainment

Student life in the post-World War I years reflected the younger generation's growing interests in dancing, flapper styles, automobile driving, movies, cigarettes, and even the prohibited liquor. Dancing and movies

both arrived at EHS in 1919. Principal Goble was reluctant to accept these innovations. Students had been attending dances sponsored privately or by the classes for several years, but they had never been allowed in the high school building. The issue had split the clergy and townspeople since 1914, but the Class of 1919 successfully petitioned the Board. The first dance, under strict rules and supervision, took place at the senior class party in the gymnasium in May 1919. That spring the seniors gave a dance for the juniors and the juniors gave a dance for the seniors, and the prom tradition at year's end was under way.

Depression Impact

Elgin was devastated by the Depression. In the spring of 1930, to avoid the expenses of new suits and dresses, the graduating class voted to wear caps and gowns. That fall, 29 of its members returned to EHS as "post graduate" students, and the following year there were 73 alumni enrolled. The jammed high school building had to accommodate those who had nowhere else to go. The average daily attendance in 1931-32 reached 1,539 in a structure built to house a maximum of 1,050.

For the school year 1932-33, most teachers had their salaries reduced 10% and all automatic salary raises were suspended. Another 10% cut in salaries was made in 1933-34. EHS retrenched in other ways, too. The summer school was abandoned in 1932 after nine years of operation. The school was closed to post-graduates the same year. To pool resources, the separate junior and senior proms were combined in 1934.

Elgin/Larkin Split

Larkin High School opened on Elgin's west side with sophomores and juniors in the fall of 1962. The Fox River is the dividing line between the two schools within the City of Elgin. The high school had been a place where everyone went to school together but the new school created an east/west rivalry and illustrated Elgin's growth. The graduation of the EHS Class of 1963, the last to contain west side students, ended the overcrowding temporarily. South Elgin students went to Larkin, while Bartlett and Wayne students continued at EHS. Streamwood and Hanover Park students were split between the two high schools.

The Elgin High School Archives hold a wealth of information on the history of the school. Volunteer alums meet each week to catalog donated items and create exhibits to tell a story of Elgin High's development. The Wall of Fame documents biographies of successful and famous Elgin High School Alumni. See <https://www.u-46.org/domain/3280>

The Elgin History Museum has a new exhibit on Elgin High's 150 years. School sweaters, prom dresses, jackets, rings, and other high school memorabilia will be on display along with photographs, pennants, and high school publications. History teacher John Devine will present more information on Elgin High on Sunday, March 10 at 2 pm at the Museum.

ELGIN HISTORY MUSEUM
360 PARK STREET
ELGIN, IL 60120



Collections Corner: Sequel

Beth Nawara (excerpted from Kane County Connects.com and edited by Rebecca Marco)

In our last Collections Corner, the Museum asked for the public's help in locating a painting by Elgin landscape artist Albert Kenney, who had an art studio at 47 East Chicago Street in Elgin and gave painting instruction in Bloomington, Quincy and Kansas City.

Right away, Museum members Terry and Pat Dunning contacted the Museum to offer a Kenney landscape painting! Terry Dunning is a well-known art auctioneer in Elgin and obtained this painting 35 years ago. At one of his own Elgin estate sales on Division Street, a man bid on the painting and purchased it, but decided he did not want it. Terry bought it for \$25 to use as art for his office wall.

A friend of Terry's professionally cleaned the painting, which revealed a Native American encampment and artist signature of A W Kenney. For years, Terry researched the artist and found a few other examples of Kenney paintings, notably in the Dundee Township Historical Society.

Now that Terry is retired and no longer using his office, he and his wife, Pat, donated the painting to the Museum so visitors can see and appreciate the work of Albert Kenney. The ca. 1885 Kenney landscape painting is now on exhibit at Elgin History Museum.

The Museum wishes to thank the Dunnings for their kind donation of this beautiful painting.



Painting by Elgin artist Albert Kenney