

COMMUNITY PROFILE: RICHMOND, OHIO

The Village of Richmond, Ohio population (441 as of the 2000 US Census) hasn't changed much from the 1800s. When Joseph Talbott bought the land in 1799, he paid \$2.50 an acre and settled there in 1800. However, it wasn't until 1815 the he had the area laid out as a town with sixty-foot wide streets and lots of 60 x 106 feet. Once the work was completed, the town was named "Richmond."

The first building was a log house built by B. Hartman and located on the corner of Sugar and Main Streets. By 1817, there were five families living in the little town.

When Richmond was incorporated in 1835, there was a population of about 200. It was a local center with industries such as pottery, pork packing and wool dealing—and it had an established college. By 1850, the population had risen to 514.

Around 1830, the Rev. John C. Tidball determined Richmond would be a desirable location for his small academy. The basement of the old M.E. Church was leased for two years. In 1845, a committee was appointed to purchase a building site. Two lots located on the east side of Sugar Street (owned by Joseph Talbott) were purchased

for \$60.00, and a half-acre plot was donated by Thomas Hammond. A brick building was finished in June of that year.

The property was conveyed to Mr. L.W. Ong in 1872 with the understanding it would be used solely for educational purposes. Mr. Ong then donated an acre tract of his land and an additional eleven acres adjoining the property was purchased for a new school. A two-story brick college building and three-story frame boarding hall (large enough for 50 students) was erected on a knoll making it visible to those approaching from the east. The Sugar Street property was sold to the school district for public school purposes and used for approximately ten years before it was torn down.

The Village history is kept alive today by the Richmond Historical Society at the Crew House Museum located on Main Street (740-765-4834). There you can learn about the Quaker Days or Chief Logan and how an incident involving his family help spur Lord Dunmore's War in 1774.

Nearby is Jefferson State Lake with 18miles of trails—and where Chief Logan and the Mingo Indians once lived.

SCENES FROM THE PAST



COLLEGE, RICHMOND



LOG CABIN NEAR RICHMOND
(Residence of James Gray)



POST OFFICE, RICHMOND



MAIN STREET, RICHMOND