

BLENDON'S LANDING

"Official" name on maps - Blendon Landing

1850 is inaccurate between 1858 and 1864

In 1850, Blendon's Landing was a fast-paced community near Grandville on the Grand River. It had about 45 to 50 wooden buildings, which included a hotel, a blacksmith shop, grocery store, planer mill, general store, saw mill and about 300 feet of dock and piling in the Grand River and approximately 30 houses. During its hey-day, there was quite a ship-building business going on also. The ships built here were 50 to 80 feet long with 15 to 25 foot beams and drawing about 10 feet of water when loaded.

When the oak forests in Ottawa County were depleted, the mill stopped operation and the railway spur was cut off the main line. The town wasn't on the new main road so the unemployed mill hands and the sawyers began to move out. The town fell into disrepair, some houses were moved, some burned and others were tore down and the lumber used for houses elsewhere.

never connected to any "main line"

Brick kilns were started here but they were never completed and now only a few remnants of the kilns remain.

The forests are quiet and the areas are grown over and only once in a while do remnants of the bustling town turn up, and this is why an archaeological survey has to be done. Only by doing a survey of the area can we begin to see the grandeur of this old town. By our excavation we can better understand and appreciate, through the artifacts found, the founders of this beautiful area that we call the "Valley of the Grand".

MARY BRADLEY

Comments by Prof Bayema 12 Dec 95

date of this mss? 70