

Dundee and the Goat

By Jerry Long
c.2025



“The Goat Church,” Goat on steeple of the former Methodist Church, Dundee, KY

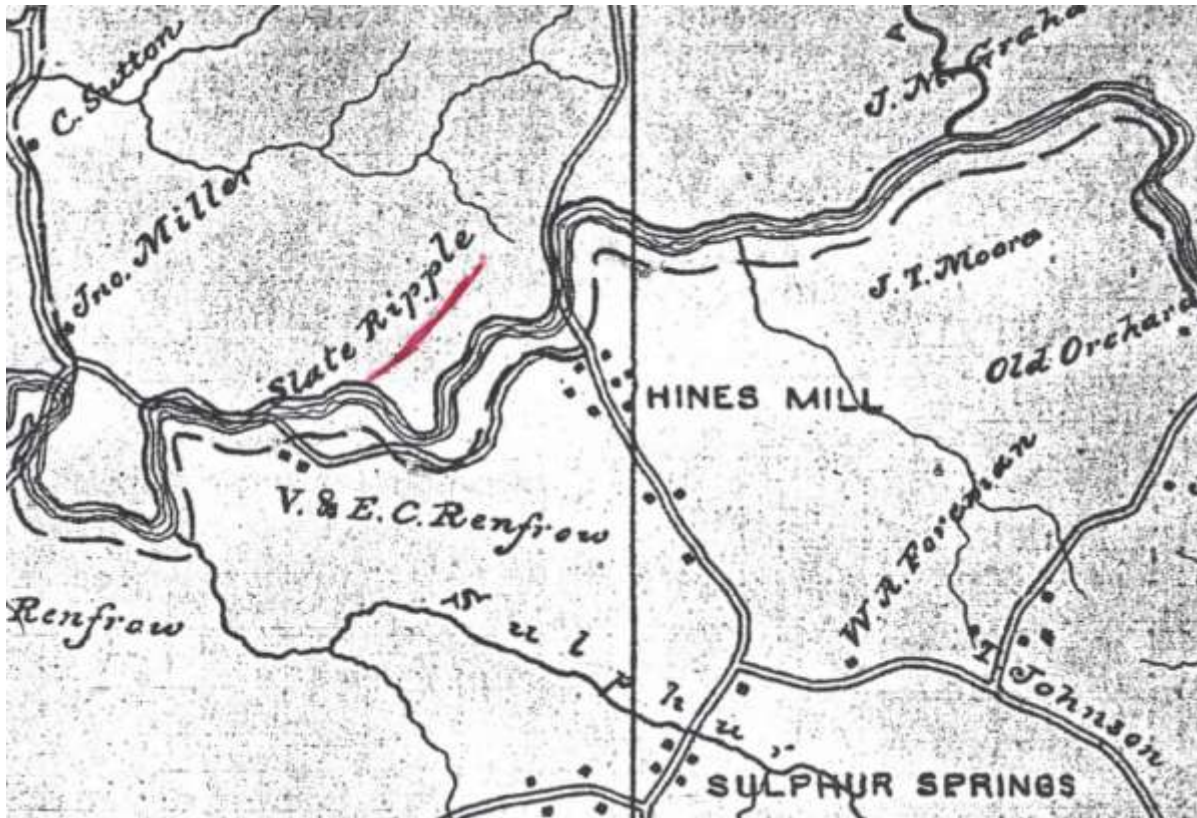


**Kentucky Place Names, Robert M. Rennick (Lexington,
KY: University of Kentucky Press, 1984), p.86:**

Dundee (Ohio): This hamlet on KY 69, just south of the Rough River, and 9 ½ miles northeast of Hartford, was an early mill town. The community was settled sometime before 1846 and first called Hines Mill for the water-powered mill believed to have been built there by William R. Lowry and Warren W. Hines. On May 28, 1846, the local post office was established as Hines Mills with Hines as postmaster. In 1872 the post office was moved 1 ½ miles south to Sulphur Springs. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1892 but 2 years later was rebuilt by the Renfrows, a local family. In 1898 Andrew R. Renfrow re-established the local postoffice as Dundee, a name said to have been suggested, for reasons now unknown, by J. S. Fitzhugh.

[Sources: “Dundee Named,” *Ohio County News*, Centennial edition, Dec. 26, 1974, section 2, p.17; “History of Dundee.” *Ohio County Messenger*, Mar. 13, 1936; “Hines Mill Burns.”, *Ohio County News*, Centennial edition, Dec. 26, 1974, section 2, p.13; *Ohio County News*, Sept. 29, 1966, p.3; *Ohio County News*, Centennial edition, Dec. 26, 1974, section 2, p.15; and Harry D. Tinsley, No Creek, Ky., Aug. 25, 1978.]





Hines Mill (now Dundee) is plotted on the "Map of Ohio County, Kentucky", published in 1886 by Jno. J. McHenry, Hartford, KY.



1937 map of Ohio County, KY



Appointments of U. S. Postmasters at Dundee, 1832-1926, National Archives:

Hines' Mills post office established 28 May 1846

Postmaster:	appointed:
Warren W. Hines	28 May 1846
Alfred T. Hines	19 December 1855
John E. Ragsdale	19 July 1862
Julius C. Bean	9 January 1864
William A. Forman	20 July 1865
Robert P. Aull	11 October 1866
William G. Wallace	12 August 1867
Jeremiah Cannon	25 May 1870

Mail changed from Hines' Mills to
Sulphur Springs 26 March 1872

Dundee post office established 24 January 1898

Andrew R. Renfrow	24 January 1898
Clarence R. Armendt	15 April 1903
Albert B. Wedding	5 October 1904
Stonewall J. Weller	7 May 1914
Edgar F. Duke	5 May 1916
Chester Roach	3 June 1926



Louisville Evening Bulletin, Louisville, KY, 3 August 1852, p.1:

CHOLERA – The following is an extract a of letter to the editors, from Hines' Mills, Ohio county, Ky. The extract would convey the idea that Mr. Twedell contracted the disease here. He may have done so by exposure and imprudent living, but the cholera has at no time prevailed here to any extent, nor does it now. We have not heard of a case for weeks, and we are confident that throughout the season the entire number of cholera deaths has not been thirty:

The cholera is in this vicinity and has been quite fatal in the family of James Twedell. He went to your city some ten days ago with his tobacco, returned suffering with cholera, and died. His wife, two of his children, and his mother have since died of the same disease, and two or three more of his children and his brother, I understand, will die in a few hours. No other case in the neighborhood.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 16 April 1879, p.3:

From Hines' Mill, April 13

Editor Herald: This place is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of Rough creek, twelve miles north of Hartford, and contains about seventy-five inhabitants. We have one store, blacksmith shop, distillery and mill.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 15 October 1879, p.3:

WHERE TO BUY!

The undersigned takes pleasure in announcing to the public that he has recently purchased a large assortment of

Notions, Groceries, Hardware, Tinware, **DRY GOODS** Queensware, Stoneware, Clocks, Mirrors,

Dress Goods, Notions, Ladies' Underwear, BOOTS AND SHOES, Ladies' Hats, Hats and Caps, School Books, DRUGS AND MEDICINES, Saddles, Bridles, and Wagon and Buggy Harness, Ammunition, Pure Whisky, &c. &c.

Which will be sold cheap for cash or exchanged for Country Produce. A complete assortment of these goods kept constantly on hand for country custom. Give me your patronage.

A. T. HINES, Hines' Mills.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 27 October 1880, p.3:

We had occasion to visit Hine's mills last Thursday, and were surprised to find the amount of work in progress there. Mr. A. T. Hines is building his mills anew from the dam up, and will soon have a first-class corn mill, wheat mill, saw mill and shingle machine in active operation. He has about twenty hands at work, who are under the management of that excellent workman, Henry Armendt, Sr. The frame of the mill was being raised while we were there, and the corn mill will be grinding this week. Four or five flat boats are being built there to be loaded with staves, hoop

poles, de. Mr. Hines has a large stock of general merchandise and is selling a considerable amount of goods. The place looks lively and business-like.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 20 August 1884, p.3:

Master Commissioner's Sales

A. T. Hines, et al., Defendants.

The tract of land in Ohio county, Ky., known as the Hines' Mill tract, containing about 200 acres; the same upon which A. T. Hines now lives, and upon which Hines' Mills are situated, and the same conveyed to said A. T. Hines by W. W. Hines. The following lots of land are excepted out and not included in the sale, viz: One-fourth of an acre conveyed to Joseph Lively, including the ground on which his house stood at date of deed from W. W. Hines to A. T. Hines; 14 acres in all sold by A. T. Hines to W. R. and Matilda Bean, Wm. Wallace and Mrs. Moseley; 1 acre sold to W. R. and Matilda Bean; 23 acres sold to T. J. Stevens, one-fourth of an acre sold to Beswick by W. W. Hines; the Distillery lot No. 72, containing 3 ½ acres; one which is enclosed and on which Oscar Hines has a house and lives. The purchaser will be required to execute bonds with approved security, bearing interest from date and payable to John P. Barrett, Receiver Ohio Circuit Court. A lien will be retained on the property to secure payment of the bonds.

JOHN P. BARRETT,
Master Commissioner.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, Wednesday, 5 October 1892, p.3:

An Old Landmark Gone.

Soon after dark Monday night, Hines' Mill, situated on Rough Creek, in the northern part of the county, was totally destroyed by fire. When discovered it was wrapped in flames and it was impossible to do anything toward saving the mill or its contents. The fire removes an old landmark from Ohio county, the mill having been for many years a well-known institution of the county and giving name to the place where a village has grown up. It was the property of Mrs. Alfred Hines and was not insured.



Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, 27 October 1893, p.3:

Messrs. Virgil Renfrow and W. H. Moore are building a large flouring mill at Hines Mill.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 3 January 1894 p.2:

HINES MILL, KY

Moore and Renfrow are progressing nicely with their new mill. They have just received their water-wheels from Ohio which are as fine as the present date can afford. The old Hines Mill will be replaced with ono of the finest mills in the county.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 9 March 1898, p.3:

They have a new postoffice at Hines Mill name Dundee, which is quite convenient to the people of that community.

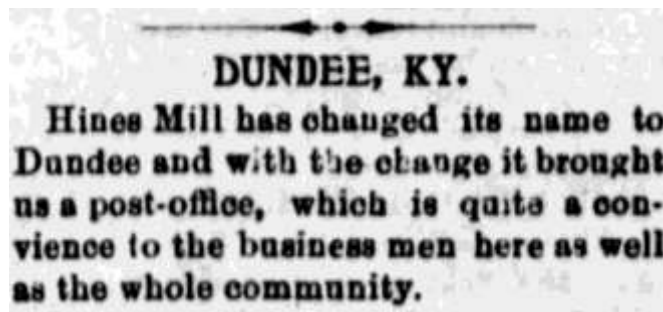


Owensboro Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 13 March 1898, p.1:

A new postoffice has been established at Hines Mill, in Ohio county, called Dundee.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 20 April 1898, p.3:



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 27 May 1908, p.3:

Church Dedication.

Dundee Baptist Church will be dedicated the fifth Sunday in May sermon by Rev. O. M. Shultz, preaching morning and afternoon. Everybody invited to come and bring a well filled basket.

F. D. BAUGHN Pastor.



Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, 22 September 1911, p.7:

DUNDEE, KENTUCKY
HAS A BRIGHT FUTURE.

One of the busiest little cities in Ohio county is Dundee, located about eleven miles from Hartford on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. It is surrounded by one of the finest agricultural sections in the State, has a large flour mill a handsome mercantile store, a bank, stores of various kinds and good postoffice facilities. Its people are hospitable and progressive and it is bound before many years to show a substantial growth, and become an important commercial center of the county.

DUNDEE DEPOSIT BANK
A PROGRESSIVE INSTITUTION.

Dundee is particularly fortunate in having one of the best conducted and safest banking institutions in Ohio county. It means much to any community when the residents and farmers of the locality have a bank right at home which is carefully and conservatively conducted while at the same time according its patrons all accommodations which are consistent with safety and sound banking methods, and the Dundee Deposit Bank is certainly entitled to the fullest confidence of the residents of Dundee and vicinity.

The Dundee Deposit Bank was organized and incorporated in 1905, under the State banking laws of Kentucky, and is therefore under State examination. In 1907 the present bank building was erected, it being of pressed brick, modern and fire proof. The bank is equipped with all modern fixtures, including good safe and vault, is a member of the State Bankers Association, is insured against loss by burglary and day-light hold-ups, and is surrounded with every possible safe guard for the protection of its depositors. From the opening of its doors the bank has shown a healthy increase in business from year to year, and is in a most excellent condition in every way.

A general banking business is conducted; viz., caring for deposits, issuing drafts, making collections, etc. The capital is \$15,000.00, and the surplus and undivided profits, \$1,000.00.

The officers of the Dundee Deposit Bank are S. P. McDowell, President, J. H. Wilson, Vice President, S. J. Weller, Cashier, and the board of directors are the officers and J. D. Duke, C. C. Moseley, F. N. Landrum, W. F. Acton.

DUNDEE MERCANTILE CO.
AN IMPORTANT INDUSTRY.

The Dundee Mercantile Company was organized and incorporated in 1903, the present officers being W. V. Sproule, President, S. J. Weller, Vice President, S. P. McDowell, Secretary-Treasurer. The Company are the successors of Sproule Brothers, who were in business for seven years previous to the present organization.

The Dundee Mercantile Company is one of the largest and most important industries of Ohio county. It occupies a store 42x56 feet of two stories, and in addition three large warehouses which dimensions are as follows: 40x80 feet, two stories, 30x50 feet, and 20x30 feet, in all the total floor space occupied by this company is over thirteen thousand square feet, which is more

floor space than any store in Ohio county has for business purposes. The Dundee Mercantile Company carries an immense assortment of dry goods, dress goods, clothing, boots, shoes, hats, caps, queensware, tinware, staple and fancy groceries, millinery, wagons, buggies, plows, cultivators, disc harrows, field seeds, fertilizers, shelf hardware, hoes, rakes, shovels, chains, rope, undertaker supplies, and in fact about everything you can mention or think about, and their aim is to carry only the best in everything.

An establishment of this magnitude means much to a place like Dundee, for it brings to the place numbers of purchasers and everybody obtains some benefit from them. The business methods of the company are of the kind that inspires confidence, and this in connection with the quality of goods handled is the reason in a great measure for the large patronage enjoyed by the Dundee Mercantile Company.

THE DUNDEE MILLS RENFROW & DEAN. PROPRIETORS

This large and handsome flouring mill at Dundee was, built, and the business established June 11, 1896, and it has had a uninterrupted career of success ever since. Four years ago the plant was entirely remodeled, new machinery installed etc., until now it is a modern, up-to-date mill in every detail. It is of full roller process, operated by water from Rough river, and has a capacity of sixty barrels of flour and two hundred and fifty bushels of meal daily. The brands of flour are "Snow Ball," "Kentucky Home," and "Economy," brands that are known all through this section of the State for their purity and unexcelled baking properties. This flour is sold locally and shipped to other points, and is in general demand where good flour is used. The firm is always in the market for wheat and grain for which they pay the highest market price. There is an elevator in connection with the mill with storage capacity for six thousand bushels of grain. Virgil Renfrow and W. S. Dean, the proprietors of the Dundee Mills, are also dealers in bran, wheat, corn, shipstuf and rough and dressed lumber.

W. S. Dean is one of the most popular men in Ohio county and served as County Magistrate for four years, and at the present time is a member of the State Legislature, representing Ohio county. He has always been a consistent Republican and a worker in the councils of the party in this State.

H. C. ACTON GENERAL MERCHANT AND DRUGGIST.

H. C. Acton, of Dundee, is one of the best known merchants in this section. He has been in business in Dundee for nineteen years, and for ten years has been in business for himself, for seven years has occupied the store he is now in.

He carries a very complete line of dry goods, dress goods, shoes, furnishings, hats, ladies garments, hardware, harness, a full line of groceries, meats, etc. An important feature of the business is the drug department. H. C. Acton is a registered druggist and has a stock of drugs, medicines, drug sundries, toilet articles, rubber goods, etc., and gives particular attention to the accurate compounding of physicians prescriptions.

He is also a dealer in horses, mules and live stock, and is acknowledged one of the best judges in the county. So large and important has this part of his business, become that he contemplates disposing of his general store business and devoting his entire time to horses and live stock. In the event of his doing so this will be a splendid opportunity for some man of push and

enterprise to acquire an established paying business in a hustling little city. H. C. Acton is interested in many enterprises and is a director of the Dundee Deposit Bank.

A. B. WEDDING
GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

A. B. Wedding, of Dundee, was born at Fordsville, Ohio county, Kentucky, and obtained his education at Rosine, Kentucky. He came to Dundee in 1897, and has resided there since.

He has been in business for eight years, and for the past three years has conducted his business alone. In 1907, the present store building was erected. It is 42x50 feet, two stories, and within it is carried a nice stock of dry goods, clothing, shoes, notions, corsets, a full line of staple and fancy groceries, canned goods, teas, coffee, confectionery, ladies and gentlemens furnishings, shelf hardware, cigars, tobacco, ammunition, stationery, tinware, enamel ware, in fact about everything to be found in a general store. The business has shown a very handsome increase each year and is now well known among the progressive business enterprises of Ohio county.

On October 10, 1904, A. B. Wedding was appointed Postmaster at Dundee, and a portion of his store is devoted to the Postoffice department. Six mails are received and dispatched each day, and the office is conducted in a thoroughly business like manner.

[Also on page 7 are pictures of: Dundee Deposit Bank, Store of H. C. Acton, Store of A. B. Wedding, Dr J. A. Duff, M.D., Dundee Mercantile Co., The Dundee Mills and a "Birdseye view of Dundee."]



Ohio County Kentucky School Records, 1909-1913,

Ohio County Genealogical Society (Utica, KY: McDowell Publications, 2004) pp.253-255:

Dundee school: 1911-1912 school year

parent / guardian	student	born
Stonewall J. Weller	Hattie E. Weller	Nov. 2, 1894
	Ruth F. Weller	Dec. 15, 1896
	Edgan G. Weller	Dec. 13, 1899
	Jean B. Weller	Aug. 10, 1901
Robt.. M. Kuykendoll	Cecil D. Kuykendoll	July 11, 1895
	Jesse F. Kuykendoll	Sept. 29, 1896
	Dimple E. Kuykendoll	Apr. 20, 1900
Geo. B. Brown	Felix E. Brown	Aug. 18, 1892
	Carl Brown	Dec. 2, 1894
	Shelby Brown	June 8, 1897
Claud Renfrow	Virgil Renfrow	July 14, 1902
	Frank A. Flener	Sept. 26, 1895
	Nellie M. Flener	Dec. 12, 1897
	Edith M. Flener	Sept. 30, 1900

	Carl J. Flener	Sept. 30, 1900
	Bessie B. Flener	Jan. 12, 1903
Tandy Quisenberry	Pearlie May Quisenberry	Mar. 9, 1900
	Ernest Quisenberry	Apr. 18, 1903
Henry F. Critzer	Frank P. Critzer	Jan. 7, 1901
	Noman B. Critzer	Aug. 8, 1903
Jas. W. Thomas	Martha M. Thomas	Nov. 5, 1892
Ferdinand Taylor	Gladys N. Taylor	Nov. 15, 1904
Atie C. Acton	Isabelle Acton	May 13, 1904
Albert Westerfield	Lucille Westerfield	Feb. 1, 1904
Wm. V. Spranle	Dudley P. Spranle	Aug. 12, 1900
	Henry B. Spranle	July 31, 1904
Thomas D. Renfrow	Herman Renfrow	Dec. 31, 1898
Wm. A. Murphy	Mona Murphy	July 10, 1893
Alex Harrison	Valeria Harrison	May 23, 1894
	Deslie Harrison	Aug. 18, 1896
	Cullie R. Harrison	Aug. 6, 1900
James T. Moore	Elizabeth Moore	Aug. 26, 1894
	Beulah M. Moore	Mar. 9, 1896
Augustus St. Clair	Roy St. Clair	July 5, 1894
	Joy St. Clair	July 5, 1894
Martin S. Wyrich	Nannie Wyrich	Feb. 14, 1904
Jas. R. Tilford	Vicy M. Tilford	Apr. 8, 1894
	Myrtle Tilford	Feb. 28, 1897
	Elsie Tilford	June 14, 1900
John Foreman	Ollie T. Foreman	Apr. 20, 1903
Josephine A. Duke	Martin Powers	Aug. 30, 1894
Arthur E. Wilson	Arnold Wilson	Feb. 17, 1898
Wm. S. Dean	John Dean	May 5, 1903
Milton T. McDowell	Henry Boswell	Dec. 7, 1903
Wm. O. Cole	Raymond Cole	Mar. 13, 1900
J. W. Stevens	Otis Stevens	Feb. 1, 1892
	Pearl Stevens	Sept. 25, 1893
J. E. Mitchell	Griffith Mitchell	June , 1905
Edger F. Duke	Mary E. Duke	May 1, 1905
Maud Graves	Dena Z. Graves	May 10, 1894
Sarah M. King	Eunice D. King	Sept. 22, 1893
	Willie C. King	Feb. 25, 1894
	Lilly F. King	Jan. 7, 1903
G. W. Powers	Flossie E. Powers	Aug. 18, 1893
	Ottie A. Powers	Nov. 2, 1898
J. S. Neighbors	Bertram Neighbors	Dec. 4, 1903
Geo. W. Wilkey	Wade H. Wilkey	June 20, 1901
	Charlie H. Wilkey	Aug. 31, 1899
R. F. Coppage	Clyde Coppage	June 19, 1893
	Ethel Coppage	Feb. 19, 1896

Geo. B. Foreman	Bethel Coppage	Feb. 19, 1896
H. T. Crowe	Mable Brown	Nov. 23, 1898
	Owen B. Crowe	June 25, 1892
W. S. Pate	John A. Crowe	Sept. 25, 1895
	Lawrence Pate	Feb. 7, 1893
	Prudie Pate	Aug. 6, 1899
	Delbert Pate	June 25, 1903
	Beulah Pate	June 3, 1904
John O. Foreman	Ruth Foreman	Dec. 29, 1896
	Eva Foreman	Dec. 5, 1899
A. B. Wedding	Harry G. Wedding	Nov. 12, 1898
	Nora E. Wedding	Aug. 8, 1904
W. H. Renfrow	Edward J. Renfrow	July 5, 1897
Ed T. Stone	Henry T Stone	Dec. 8, 1891
	G. Hadin Stone	Jan. 11, 1892
	Jodie B. Stone	June 8, 1898
	Cordelia E. Stone	Aug. 11, 1900
	Eddiee A. Stone	May 8, 1903
E. D. Murphy	Pearl Murphy	Dec. 17, 1891
O. O. Petty	Myrtle M. Petty	Nov. 1, 1903
Louis St. Clair	Enna St. Clair	July 1893
James F. Magan	John G. Magan	May 31, 1903
	Pauline Magan	June 10, 1904
Payton Patterson	Jay Patterson	Aug. 13, 1901
	Climmy Patterson	May 29, 1903
Charles W .Wilkey	Daisy Wilkey	May 1904



Ohio County News, Beaver Dam, KY, 9 October 1931, p.1:



Dundee high school will open Monday morniug, October 19, according to an announcement from the office of the county school superintendent. This is the county's newest consolidated school and the grades have been taught in the buildings formerly used in the various districts since early in July, while the new structure has been under coustruction.

Beginning with the opening of the school department the grades will also be taught in the new structure. The pupils will be transported in four special school conveyances. R. C. Fuqua has been given the contract to convey those living in the former Basham district; James Berry those living in the former Sunnydale district; E. L. Toms those living in the former Sulphur Springs and McGrady districts. and J. T. Taylor those living in the portion of New Baymus district now included in the new district.

The faculty for the school is to be composed of Miss Abby Whittinghill, principal; William Lytle and William R. Mason, high school teachers; Mrs. Grace Butler, Miss Corinne St. Clair. Miss Myrtle Kelly and Miss Lucille Daniel grade teachers.

The building is located in the outskirts of Dundee on the left side of the state highway as it enters from this end of town and is a two-story brick structure 132 feet long by 80 2-3 feet wide. There are three class rooms on the first floor and three class rooms and study hall on the second floor. Corridors run the full length of each floor. The gymnasium which will be on the first floor will not be built this year. The building is fireproof and will be electrically lighted and will have deep well water furnished by an electric pump.

Flener and Hunt, of Carrier Mills, Illinois, are the contractors and W. J. Bean, of Hartford, has the plumbing and heating contract. The contractors have promised that the building will be sufficiently near completion by the opening date to permit its use.



Ohio County Messenger, Beaver Dam, KY, 13 March 1936, p.3:

Brief History of Dundee

Dundee is on Rough River on the M. H. & E. R. R., twelve miles east of Hartford. The town was formerly called Hines' Mill and the first inhabitant was Alfred T. Hines. Mr. Hines was born November 5, 1816 in Millidgeville, Ga. In 1856, he located at the site now known as Dundee in Ohio County, Kentucky.

He built the mill after which the town was named and he also operated a ferry on Rough River, operated a distillery, owned a mercantile store and 160 acres of very productive land.

In 1859 Edward C. Renfrow and Virgil Renfrow settled at Hines' Mill. Virgil Renfrow was born October 22, 1837 in Butler County, Ky. He was a successful farmer owning 600 acres of well-improved and productive land. He was a merchant at Hines' Mill and at the death of Mr. Hines he bought the mill.

Edward C. Renfrow was also a successful farmer and merchant. His daughter, Mrs. W. Wedding of Hartford owns the land where her father settled.

The next inhabitant was Henry Fredrick Armendt. He was born in Lawrence County, Ky., February 5, 1853. He moved to Hine's Mill when a child and lived on a farm until the age of 18 years. He then worked as a carpenter for three years and as a gauger in the United States revenue service for two years.

Mr. Armendt was the first merchant in Hines' Mill. In 1881 he opened the first store in the settlement and conducted a successful business for several years.

After Mr. A. T. Hines' slaves had been set free by the Civil War he served for 6 years as magistrate and was for many years the postmaster. In 1880, Mr. Hines with Mr. Armendt for his

deputy, was United States census enumerator. He was a member of the Methodist Church and in politics a Democrat.

The settlement grew rapidly and soon became large enough to install a post office. In 1886 a bridge was built across Rough River at the site of the old ferry and in 1895 J. S. Fitzhugh changed the name of the town from Hines' Mill to Dundee.

Dundee now has 10 business houses and a population of about 250 people.

In 1923, Garfield Browne and S. P. McDowell with the aid of the people of Dundee established the Bank of Dundee, which has become an outstanding organization in this County.

Another outstanding feature in Dundee is the Dundee School. It was built in 1931 and has an enrollment of 236 with 7 teachers. The principal of the high school is Mr. Pearl Sandefur, formerly of No Creek.

The Alvin White who recently received acclaim as an artist in Knoxville, Tenn.. is the son C. W. White of Dundee.

H. C. Acton, who owns the drug store at Dundee is the oldest business man in the town. He has been in business in Dundee for 44 years.



Ohio County Messenger, Beaver Dam, KY, 13 March 1936, p.3:

Bank Of Dundee

The Bank of Dundee was established in 1923 by Garfield Brown and S. P. McDowell. Mr. McDowell was made president of the bank and held that position until his death April 4, 1930. He was born in Tennessee but moved to Ohio County when he was a boy. He became a citizen of Dundee in 1907 and spent the rest of his life here.

The Bank of Dundee due to the efforts of Mr. McDowell and Mr. J. E. Mitchell, who became cashier in August 1923, prospered and became the prop upon which the community rests.

Dr. J. A. Duff succeeded Mr. McDowell as president of the bank. He served the people of this community in that capacity for a few years and was succeeded by C. C. King the druggist at Hartford.

Mr. Mitchell has faithfully served the people of this community for 12 ½ years. He has also served as treasurer of the Ohio County Board of Education for 10 years and was reelected at the meeting of the board, on the second day of March 1936, for a term of two years. The Bank of Dundee has its depository.

The Treasurer takes special interest in serving the teachers and will be glad to consult with all teachers regarding their financial problems.

The savings service is a great convenience to the people of this community as this is a perfectly safe place to keep money and then it draws interest right along. This Bank is also a member of the Federal Insurance Corporation and each depositor's funds up to the amount of 5,000 dollars is insured by the said Corporation.

A specialty is made of all the small accounts and the very best attention is given. Many people from the surrounding district have found this is a very desirable place to accumulate quite a fund for the proverbial rainy day.

Those in charge have broad and liberal views in the matter of caring for their patron's needs and have carefully guarded the best interests of the depositors by demanding the fullest security

and adhering to the cardinal laws of finance. This invariable policy has gained for the bank the confidence of the people and among its customers you will find some of the community's most prominent men and firms. You cannot do better than bank with the Bank of Dundee, the bank that gives personal service.

[Note: The name of the bank was changed in 1990 to the Bank of Ohio County.]



Ohio County Messenger, Beaver Dam, KY, 13 March 1936, p.3:

**E. F. Duke's Undertaking
& Mercantile Company**

Mr. E. F. Duke has been in the mercantile business in Dundee since nineteen-hundred and three. When the company store was built nineteen-hundred and six he was one of the stockholders in the company and he later bought the store. He has been in business in the building which was formerly the company store since nineteen-hundred and twenty eight.

Mr. Duke as well as being a merchant is also a registered undertaker in which capacity he has given this community much and efficient service.

Mr. Duke has been a prominent figure in the mercantile history of this district, being one of the oldest merchants in the county and giving the splendid service for which he is noted.

His mercantile establishment has taken its place in the hearts of the people. They have learned the lesson of commercial economy by trading with this reliable and trustworthy merchant.

The reputation and business of this establishment was built upon the solid foundation of furnishing the highest in quality at a reasonable margin of profit. He has always had a reputation of offering his goods at one price and thus treating all of his customers fairly.

He established his business upon the principle of good quality and one price to all. The influence of this store in the mercantile history of the county has been a boon to the public and his splendid store of today is the reward of honest endeavor and an example of the truth of Franklin's maxim: "Honesty is the best policy."

Mr. Duke has supplied his store with a most complete stock of merchandise which enables him to supply the needs of the public and to give the "quality service" which he is famous for.

His management is most progressive and prominent in the business world of the community and we wish to compliment him.



Ohio County Messenger, Beaver Dam, KY, 18 March 1955, p.3:

DUNDEE REVIEW: Scheafer's Mill, Then Hines' Mill,
Were Early Names For Dundee Section

By Ruby Jean Bozarth and Mary Cottrell, Dundee, Ky.

Scheafer's Mill was the original name of Hines Mill, was changed to Dundee when the post office was established, Dundee is located in the North and South Central part of Ohio County

on Highway 69. Rough River runs along the outskirts of Dundee and should the river ever be regulated we would have some very prosperous farm land. The approximate population is 160.

An old mill once stood on the banks of Rough River, owned by Renfrow and Dean. This mill was built around 1890. It was torn down in recent years.

One of the older buildings of Dundee, now owned by E. F. Dukes, in the past has been a drug store, bank, store. When Mr. Dukes established his business in 1916, it was under the name of Dundee Mercantile. This building was established in 1905 and H. C. Acton owned a drug store from early 1901-'48, which Mr. Dukes and son have converted into a fine funeral home. To the right side of this huge frame building is the funeral home and on the left side, a general merchandise store. To the extreme right is a huge old warehouse.

Another one of the older buildings of Dundee is the well known Masonic Hall. This hall is famous for its extraordinary weather vane. From all reports there are only two weather vanes in America like it .One in Virginia and this one in Dundee. It is a silver-coated metal goat. very distinguished looking, atop the spire. The Masonic hall was built in 1901. In the year of 1905 the Masons sold the first floor to the Methodist people for their church. 1954 the Masons re-purchased the lower floor and the Methodist Church built a beautiful new church.

This new church is located in the heart of Dundee, directly in front of the Masonic Hall. It is a lovely building of brick structure. The approximate cost to this date is \$25,000.00.

The Methodist parsonage is the old home place of the Hines family, the founders of Hine's Mill.

The new Baptist Church was built in 1947, also a building of beauty. Concrete structure approximate cost was \$12,700.00 The original Baptist Church was built in 1905 but has been razed since the new church has been established.

The Louisville and Nashville train used to be a regular passenger and freight train through Dundee. The railroad was first built in July, 1908. It was a great improvement to the business of Dundee. The tracks were taken up in 1942 after the discontinued use of them.

Before the Dundee School was consolidated in 1931, the girls and boys of Dundee, who went to high school had to ride the train to and from the Hartford College.

The consolidation of Dundee High School was a great help to the community. Up until 1931 there was only a one-room school house. You obtained your first eight grades of training of life. This school was located in the center of Dundee, Sunnysdale, Sulphur Springs.

The first bank of Dundee was established in Dundee in the year 1905. A Mr. S. J. Weller was the first to build a bank. This bank went out of operation 1916. In the year 1922, Garfield Brown established another bank which today is still standing and is a very successful bank Mr. S. P. McDowell was president when this bank was first organized. The late Mr. Ellis Mitchell then became president in 1923 and remained as president until 1927. Dr. Duff then became president and remained president until 1934 when C. C. King, the present president, took over.

Doctor J. A. Duff was one of the most prominent doctors of Dundee. Mr. Duff was born and reared in Dundee and started his practice in the year 1904. He continued until year 1943 shortly before he passed away. There was always at least two to three doctors and two drug stores in the former years in the thriving small town of Dundee,

The first highway was built through the business section of Dundee in 1926, crossing Rough River near Hine's Mill. When the railroad was discontinued the road was changed to its present location on the railroad.

The present post office is located in the General Merchandise Store of Mr. C. W. White, who has been in business in Dundee for twenty-eight years. Mr. C. L. Roach, the present postmaster, has been in that position for 30 years.

The community is served by the Farmers Mutual Telephone Co. The original telephone exchange was burned in the early twenties. It was then located in the home of Mrs. Kelly. A new building was constructed in 1949 where the exchange is presently located.

In the present history of Dundee there has been by Byron Dean, a shoeshop, C. M. Cole owned a blacksmith shop and Palmers owned a restaurant, besides other numerous businesses. All in all, the citizens of Dundee are very proud of their small community.



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 4 September 1987, pp.1A & 8A:

Dundee school closes after 56 years

By Steve Thomas, Messenger-Inquirer

DUNDEE – It survived for 56 years – through the Great Depression, three wars and 10 presidents, but the one thing it couldn't withstand was declining enrollment.

Four school buses loaded with many teary-eyed children pulled away from Dundee Elementary School Friday for the last time, bringing an end to an era for this small community.

The Ohio County school board voted Monday to close the school and send its 87 students to Fordsville School. The students are in first through eighth grades.

Dundee's enrollment had dipped steadily the past few years, and this year two of the school's four teachers were forced to teach three different grades.

The board had seen enough.

"I hate to see it close, but we just couldn't keep on teaching three grades," teacher Beth Allen said.

The scene Friday almost seemed like the last day of a school year on a warm spring day, with the children carrying their belongings in paper bags and everyone hugging each other. But this was September and the school year was only three weeks old.

The Dundee students and teachers gathered in front of the school early in the day to take a farewell picture. Then they went to their classrooms to take care of some final school work before settling in for pizza at lunch and to watch movies on their TVs.

Parents and residents stopped by throughout the day to help the teachers and students pack their things and take a final look at the school many of them had gone to.

One of those to come back was Lucy Magan, who taught at the school 21 years before retiring in 1981.

"It's sad," she said. "Dundee is going down. The store has already closed, and now the school is closing. I keep wondering what will close after this, but then I don't know much that's left to close."

Besides the grocery store and school, the community in recent years has lost a funeral home and a radio shop, Mrs. Magan said. About all that remains now are the people, a branch bank, a combination convenience store and service station, a beauty shop, two churches and a fire station.

Mrs. Magan said her two sons went to school at Dundee – her oldest graduating from high school there before it was turned into an elementary school in the mid-1950s.

Another visitor was Dean Burton, who graduated from Dundee in 1951 and has been driving a school bus there for eight years. Her children and grandchildren attended the school, she said.

"All good things come to an end," she said. "Some of the world's best children have come from here."

Eighth-grader Michelle Mason said Friday was the day she had dreaded for a long time.

"I really wanted to graduate from here since I've been here all eight years," she said. "I didn't want it to close."

"I think it (going to Fordsville School) will be scary," she said. "I've never been to a new school before."

Beth Boling, 7, a second grader, said, "I wish it wasn't going to close. I don't mind going to Fordsville, but I'd rather stay here."

Vicki Hawes, who taught first and second grades and doubled as the school's principal, said the students seemed to take the news of the school closing well.

"This week we've been giving extra hugs," she said.

Miss Hawes taught at the school 15 years and has been reassigned as third-grade teacher at Fordsville.

For the final two hours of the school day, the children sat on the floor in circles, as workers removed their desks to take them to Fordsville, where most of them will start school Tuesday.

Then around 3 p.m., the final school bell rang and the students ran outside to board their buses.

The students lingered for a minute to talk to their friends and hug their teachers, but then the last student stepped on the bus and it was over.

Inside, everything was quiet. The rooms were empty except for stacks of books and equipment marked "For Fordsville" or "*Central Office."

[Article was also published in the Courier-Journal, Louisville, KY, 6 September 1987, p.4B.]



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 7 February 1988, pp.1C & 7C:

Dundee rebounds from losses

By Steve Thomas, Messenger-Inquirer

DUNDEE – In May 1987 this small community lost its grocery store, and in September of the same year its 56-year-old school was closed.

The pessimists predicted death for this community of about 150 people, but the optimists may have won a stay of execution.

"The gloom and doom was seen by some, but I've never felt that way," said Jon Lawson, president of Bank of Dundee. "Losing the school was something we didn't like, but there are a lot of things we don't like."

Lawson and the bank have led the way in recent developments for the community by beginning construction on a 3,200-square-foot bank building in the heart of Dundee next to the old 1,600-square-foot bank.

After the new bank is completed at a cost of about \$350,000, the store, known as the Dundee Mall, will be renovated and reopened, Lawson said.

Several people are interested in reopening the store the bank owns. The store's owner filed for bankruptcy last year.

The only reason the store already hasn't been reopened is because the bank needs its lot for parking until the new bank is completed, Lawson said.

And while the closed Dundee Elementary School won't likely be filled with the sounds of screaming youngsters again, it may soon be filled with the humming sounds of industrial machines.

Lawson has been working with the county's industrial foundation to get a light industry to locate in the old school building, which will be bought from the school board. The board closed the school because of declining enrollment.

Several small industrial prospects have looked at the building, Lawson said. Hopes are for a plant that would employ 50 to 100 people, he said. Another positive development has been the announcement of the new North Ohio County High School to be built near Dundee at the intersection of Kentucky 878 and Kentucky 919. Although controversy surrounds the location of the school, Lawson said its closeness to Dundee should help the community.

But the bank decided to build a new building long before the high school site was announced, Lawson said, and the closing of the elementary school did not put a damper on the bank's plans.

"The community has deep and strong roots in Ohio County and it's not going to vanish," Lawson said.

In addition to a bank, grocery store building and the old school building, Dundee also has a post office, volunteer fire department building, a Masonic lodge with the famous Dundee goat sitting atop it, two churches, a beauty shop, a combination service station and convenience station and a TV repair shop.

"The nucleus is here," Lawson said. Dundee is hooked up to county water service and gets law protection by the sheriff's department, he said.

"We have a unique system without having to have a formalized government," Lawson said.

Janie Murphy, who was born and raised in Dundee, said everything is looking positive for Dundee.

"To me this is the garden spot of the world," she said. "It's peaceful and quiet."

Ms. Murphy said she is glad things are going well in Dundee, but like most people in Dundee doesn't want to see it grow too much.

"I'm all for progress," she said, "but I like it the way things are."



Early Schools of Ohio County, Kentucky, Anna Laura Duncan
(Utica, KY: McDowell Publications, 2003, pp.269, 274-275:

Dundee School

Marie Mitchel said, "I went to Dundee School one year when it was a one-room school. This building was on the big hill in back of my father's store. The next year a partition was put in the building and four grades were taught in one side and four grades in the other side. We had a good time at Dundee School. The year before the partition was put in the boys sat on one side of the room and the girls sat on the other side. Some of the teachers that I remember were Miss Abbie Whittinghil, Eula Bean, Alfred Baughn, and Miss Irene Duff, Betsy Casebier's mother."

Barney Mitchell remembered, "Moe Gentry was a teacher at Dundee. He was Clifton Gentry's father. I remember Miss Abbie asked me to make her a paddle. I worked and worked on that paddle and even made a hole in the middle so it would hurt more. I was so proud that she had chosen me to make that paddle, but the day I took that paddle to school was a very bad day for me. I did something wrong and she used that nice new paddle that I had made on me. Now isn't that something! That was the only paddling that I ever got at school and for it to have to happen with the new paddle that I had just made. I'll sure never forget that."

The boys always played ball and it was forever rolling down that big hill."

Barney thought a minute and then he said, "In 1931-32 when the new Dundee School was built I was a good buddy of Max Hunt. His father was the contractor so I got a job helping to build that new school. I worked hard carrying -mortar to the brick layers but I had a new sporty car and it took money to run it."

Marie said, "When you graduated from the 8th grade old school the students who went on to high school had to ride the train to Hartford, but when the new school was built it was a High School, too. Miss Abbie was the principal at the new school and I was in the first graduating class there. We were so proud of our new school. There were 12 senior graduates that first year. I remember that the kids got to school any way that they could. Some were brought by their parents, some walked, some rode horses, and I remember they had something like a horse drawn bus when the roads were so bad. I even remember that Wyman Bean put cattle racks on the back of his truck and hauled school children in it."

B said, "The boys kept their horses in my father's stable. I had a pony and when I went to feed him I would slip hay to the other horses, too."

The old one room school was on a high hill in fact it was the highest hill in Dundee. It was located on the right side of the road coming from Hartford. Pupils walked up the steep hill between the bank and what is now Duke's store.

Hugh Duke, who is 85 now at this interview said, "I spent half of my time going down that hill after a ball and then climbing back up again. I sure got enough exercise in those days."

The drinking water was carried uphill, too. This came from a public well downtown Dundee. It was a treat to get to go for water. The teacher always sent two boys and the water would sometimes be filled with grass seeds but it was cool and we would drink it anyway, usually using the same dipper. Sometimes when it was very hot that bucket of water would not be enough to go around and we would have to make another trip. I remember one time when a boy was not doing what he should be doing back by the water cooler, that someone later brought us. The teacher went back to see what was going on and they got into a scuffle. Water flew everywhere. The teacher got wet and the pupil did, too. That stopped the scuffle, quickly.

I remember another time when the old pot-bellied stove was not doing its job. It was back by the water cooler so the cooler was moved but it still was not putting out the heat. Some of the boys convinced the woman teacher that it needed some black powder in it to clean it out. She sent someone to the store, they bought the black powder and threw it in. Well, you know what

happened. Boom! Boom! This got rid of the problem alright. School was dismissed and a new stove was bought."

Hugh would not tell me who the boys were, or what happened to them.

"Another time on a snowy day the pupils were playing outside at recess. One big boy threw a snowball through the school window. The teacher was standing there watching the children play. Up raised the window, out jumped the teacher, who grabbed the boy before he knew what was going on. The teacher made him eat snow until he couldn't eat any more. That broke the throwing snowballs through the window up. No one tried that again."

Mr. Duke said, "I worked as janitor at that school for 5c a day. I remember that Miss Abbie Whittinghill made a rule. Every time that she met a boy student on the street, he was supposed to tip his hat to her. Of course she was trying to teach good manners and it worked. If the boy followed the rule and tipped his hat or cap she would give him 5c. I made several nickels that way. That taught me the lesson that she intended to teach. She was a good teacher."

There was no high school there at that time and pupils had to go to Hartford to take the 8th grade test. There were 11 subjects and a student had to average 75 in order to pass. Only 1 student passed that year and she would not go until the rest of her class passed the test.

"I sure remember a most embarrassing moment. I had made notes while studying for the test at home and I had stuffed them into my pocket and had forgotten about them. Henry Leach, who gave the test, was always picking at me and sure enough he picked me up by the back of my neck and you know what happened. All of those notes fell out of my pocket! I thought that would be the end of me. Henry Leach gave me a hard look, sat me down, and said: 'Pick up that mess in a hurry!' I did, but I sure was relieved. I went ahead, took the test, and wonders of wonders, I passed that test but I sure did not look at any notes."

When I asked him if he thought Mr. Leach knew about the notes before he picked him up he replied, "I'm not sure. Most teachers know much more than the student thinks that they do."

Mrs. Ruth Baughn remembered, "I climbed that hill to school many times. I think the thing that affected me the most at school was the death of my sister."

"About 1915 two girls walked happily to school together, never realizing that there was sadness ahead. This was my sister, Mary Mosely and myself, Ruth Mosely. My sister took sick at school and she got worse after we went home. Mom and dad called Dr. Duff and he thought Mary had appendicitis. Doctors Godsey and Stewart were also called in. Finally Dr. Hoover said that he would operate on Monday morning. We only had coal oil lamps then and he had to wait for daylight. Mary's appendix ruptured and about 8:00, the time for school to start, she died. That was my most trying time at Dundee School and it affected other students, too. You see, Mary took sick at school and then she died just as school should begin. That was so strange and sudden! One morning we were happy school girls going to school, running and playing along the way and then suddenly she was no longer there."

Ruth said, "I remember another time at Dundee School that I could never forget. I told you that we always went to school between the bank and the store. Well, one day someone found our banker, Mr. Weller, hanging in an out building there. That sure affected the whole student body because we had to pass there every day to get to school. We sometimes had this eerie feeling that his eyes were watching us."

Hugh Duke remembered, "We rode the train to Hartford. There were blue tickets and yellow tickets. If you were under 18 your book cost \$5.15 for a month. If you were over 18 your book cost \$7.25."

Ruth said that her senior year she got to stay in Hartford and room with Mildred Coppage, who later became a teacher in the Ohio County System.

Much damage was done to Dundee School in 1945 when a severe windstorm tore half of the roof away and scattered many of the windows.



Dundee Photo Album



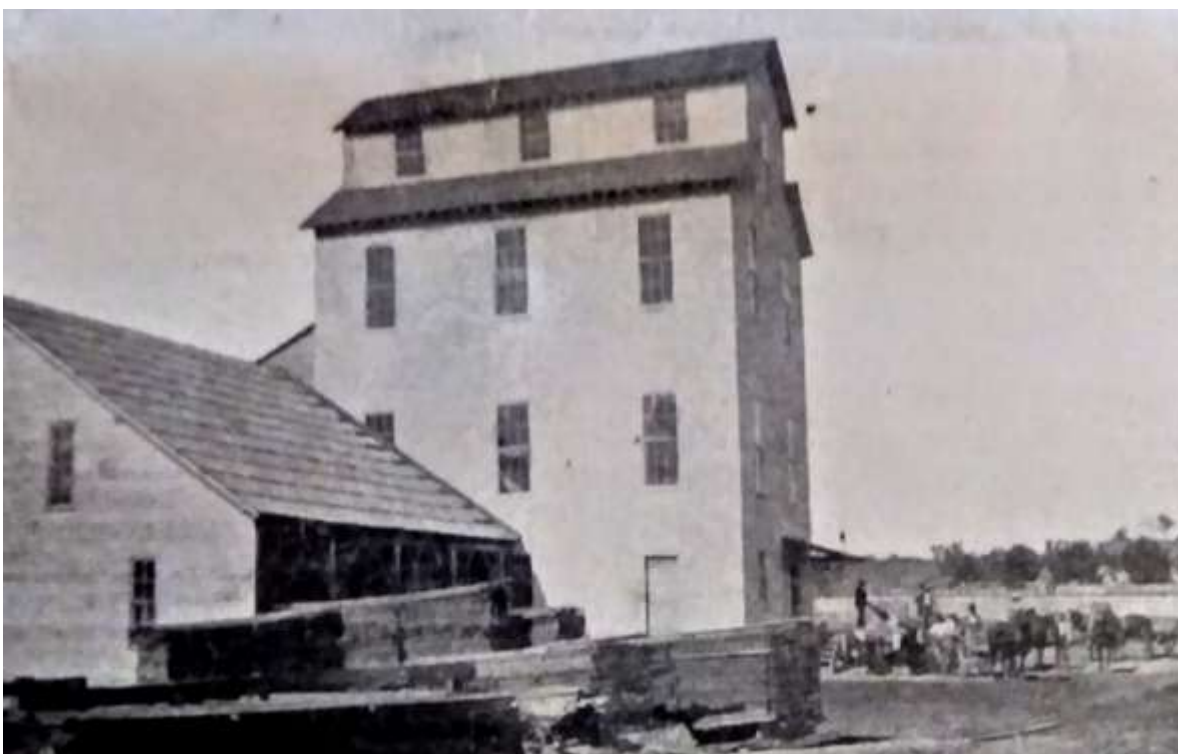
Dundee, about 1900 ([Hartford Republican](#), Hartford, KY, 22 September 1911, p.9; [Ohio County, Kentucky Pictorial History](#), Paducah, KY: Turner Publishing Company, 1998, p.35 and Facebook: [Ohio County, KY History & Ohio County Times-News](#), Hartford, KY, 3 August 2000)



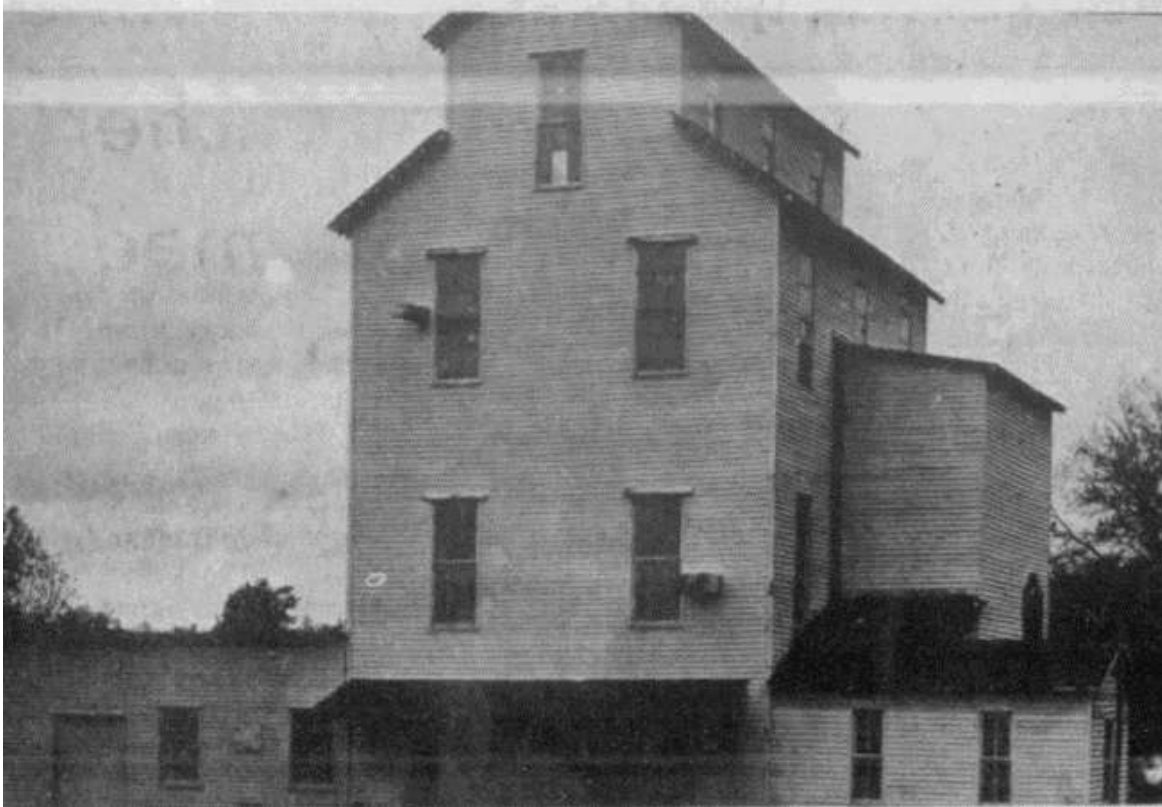
Store of A. B. Wedding ([Hartford Republican](#), Hartford, KY, 22 September 1911, p.9)



Dundee Mercantile Company (Ohio County, Kentucky Pictorial History, Paducah, KY: Turner Publishing Company, 1998, p.65)



Dundee flouring mill, established June 11, 1896, operated by water from Rough River. Proprietors were Virgil Renfrow, and W.S. Dean. Renfrow and Dean were also dealers in bran, wheat, corn and rough and cut lumber (Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, 22 September 1911, p.9: and Facebook: Ohio County, KY History)



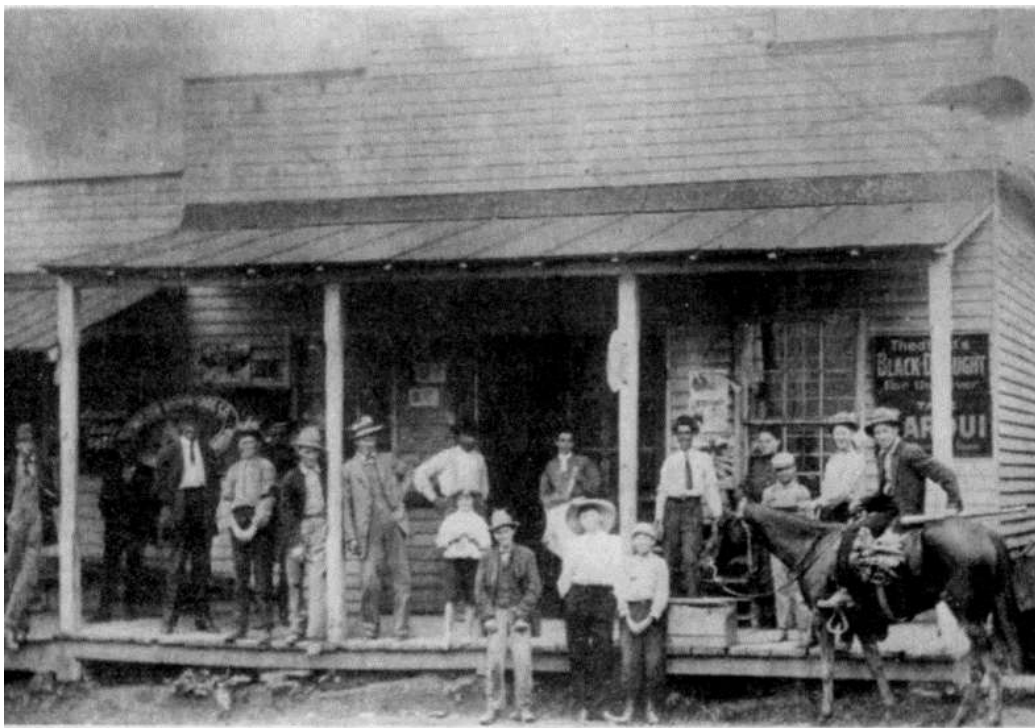
Hine's Mill on Rough River. Ohio County News, Hartford, KY, 13 July 1978. p.18)



The boy is Herbert Ralph standing by his father, J. D. Ralph, in front of the Dundee Mercantile Company about 1907 (Ohio County Times-News, Hartford, KY, 29 July 1999)



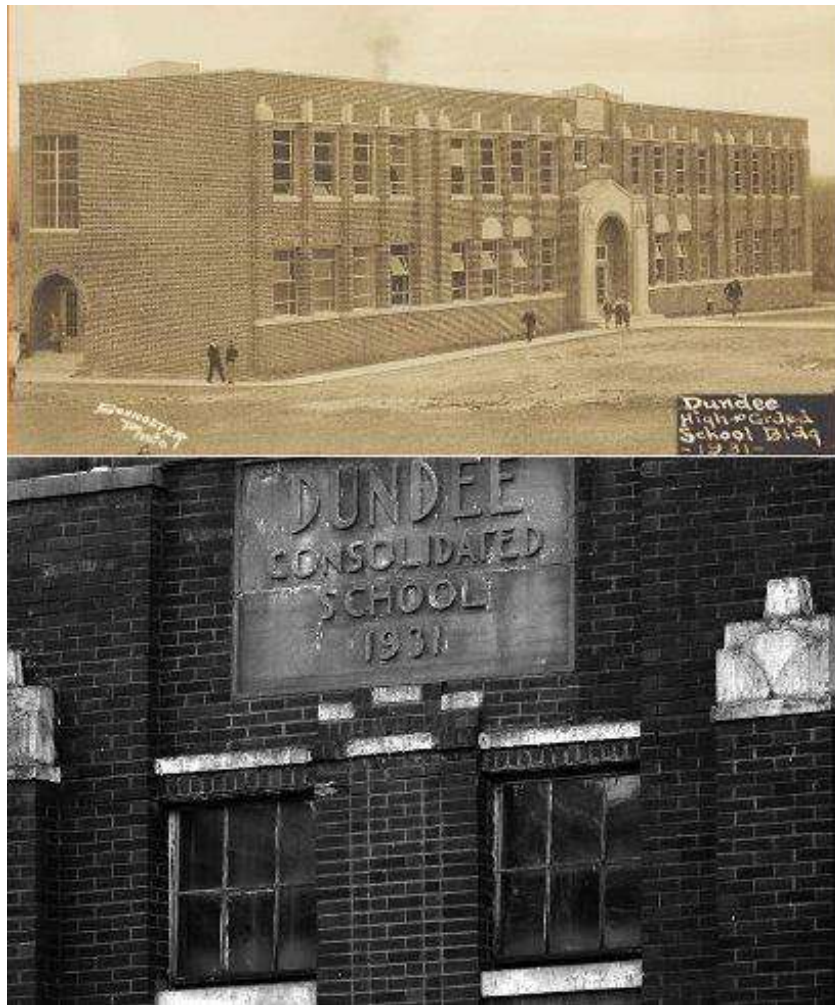
Dundee residents in bygone days meet at the general store. This store in Dundee's heyday was located on Main Street (- not where 62 goes through the town today. (Ohio County News, Hartford, KY, 13 July 1978. p.18)



Dundee Mercantile Co. (Ohio County News, Hartford, KY, 13 July 1978. p.18)



Original Bank of Dundee. Pictured are Mrs. Marie Duke Mitchell, assistant cashier; J. J. Turner, executive vice-president; & Miss Mary McDowell, assistant cashier. Building was razed in 1960 for a more spacious building. (Facebook: [Ohio County, KY History](#) & [Ohio County Times-News](#), Hartford, KY, 15 October 2014)



Preceding two pictures: Dundee School, 1931-1987 – Dundee High School, grades 1-12 during 1931-1956 and Dundee Elementary School grades 218 during 1931-1987 (Facebook: [Ohio County, KY History](#); & [Ohio County Times-News](#), Hartford, KY, 18 May 2016)



Former Dundee School (Facebook: [Ohio County, KY History](#)). The school opened in 1931 and closed in 1987. Ohio County artist, Mary Jo White, has done a painting of the school.



Dundee General Store Since 1902 (Facebook: [Ohio County, KY History](#))



Dundee General Store



Dundee Baptist Church



Dundee's Goat Weathervane

By Jerry Long
c.2025

With the passage of time the majority of history is forgotten and lost. The historical background has been lost of why in 1898 did the town of Hines Mill change its name to Dundee; why in 1901 did the town decide to place a goat weathervane atop its town community center; and what was the origin of the weathervane.

The following item appeared in a Dundee community column published in the newspaper, Hartford Herald (Hartford, KY, 1 January 1902, p.2):

DUNDEE, KY.

The new church and hall here is one of the ornaments of the county. It is a first-class building in every respect. The goat that now stands on the cupola, about 80 feet high, is looked up to by every one that passes by. The goat was made by W. H. Mullins & Co., of Salem, Ohio, and it is a fine piece of work.

Dundee's goat weathervane 123 years later still stands atop the former Dundee Methodist Church and Masonic Hall. The previous newspaper item establishes partly the true origin of Dundee's weathervane. It was manufactured by a company that among other items specialized in the manufacture of weathervanes. W. H. Mullins Company, of Salem, Ohio, was the most well-known American zinc ornament producer in the late nineteenth century. The foundry was in Salem, Ohio and was one of many American companies that through their catalogs sold ornaments nationwide, such as "urns, eagles, civic ornaments, architectural details, weathervanes, etc. In an article about the legacy of the W. H. Mullins Company, of Salem, Ohio published on the "Found In Ohio" internet site – the W. H. Mullins Company was founded as Kitterage, Clark, and Company in 1872, the business was purchased by William H. Mullins in 1882. He expanded the product line to include weathervanes, metal outdoor statuary, monuments, grave markers, steel car parts, metal boats, and various other materials.



The curiosity about the Dundee's goat has generated a lot of attention. Numerous articles about the curiosity have been published in the area newspapers and printed material. As is evident by the following sampling of articles about Dundee's goat, facts about the history of the goat and of Dundee have been totally distorted. All material either report that the goat was made and imported from England; or it was purchased from a company in Dundee, Scotland in 1902 at the time it was decided to name the town Dundee. It is also falsely claimed that it is the only survivor of three goat weathervanes that were made.



In America's rural heritage goat weathervanes were popular due to their rustic charm and connection to rural life. They are frequently used as decorative elements on barns, sheds, and other structures, adding in addition to their utility a touch of whimsy and personality to outdoor spaces. The goat's image is also associated with qualities like hardiness and independence, which resonated with many. Goat weathervanes evoke a sense of rural life and the countryside, fitting well with the aesthetic of barns, farms, and country homes. Goats are often associated with qualities like hardiness, independence, and a connection to nature, which can be appealing. Besides their decorative value, weathervanes serve the practical purpose of indicating wind direction, adding a functional element to their aesthetic appeal. The popularity of goat weathervanes can be visualized by an internet Google search. This popularity has no apparent link to Dundee, Scotland.

The mystery remains why Ohio County's Dundee received its name in 1898. It was claimed that James S. Fitzhugh (1848-1923), a prominent native of the Hines Mill community, suggested the name of Dundee when the post office there was established just previous to 9 March 1898 (Kentucky Place Names, Robert M. Rennick, Lexington, KY: University of Kentucky Press, 1984, p.86 and Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 9 March 1898, p.3).



Former Dundee Methodist Church with goat weathervane, (Facebook: Ohio County, KY History)



“The Goat Church,” Methodist Church, Dundee. Goat on steeple. Picture on left from “Ohio County: the People, the Land, the Past, the Present.” Back Home In Kentucky, Vol. 5, No. 5, September/October 1982, Bowling Green, KY, pp. 20 & 29 (“In Dundee, a cast zinc goat, larger than lifesize, stands on top of a weathervane on the spire of the lodge hall. The goat was created in England and is reputed to be the only one of three such goats still ‘alive,’ and he has stood there, always facing the wind, since 1902.”) Picture on right from Ohio County, Kentucky Pictorial History (Paducah, KY: Turner Publishing Company, 1998) p.136.



**Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 1 January 1973, p.1C and
Ohio County Messenger, Beaver Dam, KY, 5 January 1973, p.11:**

**Only the goat knows
how the wind blows**

By Leslie Hannah, Messenger and Inquirer

DUNDEE, Ky. – Ernest Cole, 76, is the only person in Dundee who remembers the day the Masons put a metal goat atop the spire of the Dundee Methodist Church. As he relaxed before a television set in a corner of Dundee General Store, Cole recalled that in 1900 or 1901, his father and other members of the Dundee Masonic Lodge hoisted the life-size goat, a weather vane, to the top of the church spire.

Long a topic for comment by incredulous passers-by on Ky. 69 in Dundee, the goat stands there still, some 80 feet above the ground.

Until ten years ago the Masons met on the church's upper floor. The organization now occupies the whole building; a new church has been built across the road, Cole said.

The goat is made of thin metal and was imported from England, according to Cole. "It's the only one in the United States now as far as I know," he said.

But apparently no one knows why the Masons decided to import a weathervane from England or why they chose a goat. Cole knows of no special religious, mythological or Masonic significance.

"There's nothing in the Masonic rites or ritual that mentions a goat," Cole said. Although some say 'riding a goat' is part of Masonic initiation ceremonies, Cole dismissed the legend with a shrug. "There's nothing to it," he said.

Cole was only five years old when the Masons put the goat on the spire. He says he barely remembers the event, but his father, a charter member of the Masons, helped set the goat on the spire.

Only once has the goat descended from its privileged spot above Dundee. Several years ago when its metal base rusted through and the goat tottered precariously in the wind, the Masons took it down, painted and repaired it.

The Methodist Church, the Masonic lodge upstairs and the goat comprise a large part of Cole's childhood memories of Dundee.

"I went to my first church and Sunday school there," he says reminiscently. "The church used to have oyster suppers quite a lot."

Cole was four years old when the goat was put up. The day it is taken down would be "awfully sad," he said.

"I'd hate to see it come down," Cole said. "It's sort of a souvenir."



Ohio County Times-News, Hartford, KY, 24 September 1987, p.15B:



A lot of people know about the Dundee Masonic Lodge with the goat perched high atop its steeple. What a lot of people probably don't know is that a move currently is underway to completely restore the structure. Members of the Masonic Lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter 112, recently decided that a major facelift would be necessary in order to save the historic

landmark. Aluminum siding was placed on the building with money raised through dinners, selling prints, and donations. More work is planned. The goat reportedly was purchased from a company in Dundee, Scotland, in the late 1890's and placed on the building in June, 1902.



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 21 November 1988, pp.1C & 6C:



By Steve Thomas, Messenger-Inquirer

If you're ever traveling in Ohio County and stop in the small community of Dundee, don't talk about getting someone's goat.

The people there might get riled, thinking you've stolen their goat.

The 5-foot Dundee goat stands constant vigil over the community from the top of the Masonic lodge hall on Kentucky 69. For 87 years, the life-size goat, a weather vane, has stood on the 80-foot steeple and is responsible for the village's name.

"The goat was bought from a company in Dundee, Scotland, in the late 1890s, and it was brought in on rail to the F. Renfrow Co. general store at Narrows," said Dundee Bank President Jon Lawson. "It set on the store porch until brought to its present location in June 1902."

That's the year the Masonic lodge was built.

Other groups, including the Woodmen of the World, also used the hall, and legend has it the Woodmen bought the goat because it was a symbol of their order.

Hugh Duke, 79, was born and raised in Dundee and said the community wasn't called that until after the goat arrived. Originally known as Hines Mill, the area became known as Dundee in honor of its famous inhabitant sometime after the turn of the century.

"It's a symbol of everything around there," said Duke, who lived there until moving to Hartford nine years ago. "Old people at Dundee can tell you three days ahead what the weather will do from the vane."



Atop the steeple of the Masonic lodge, the 5-foot Dundee goat

overlooks the community of
Dundee The zinc figure is a
weather vane.

The goat is made of a lightweight zinc material and weighs only about 10 pounds. Only three of the goats were known to be brought to the United States. But the other two in Kansas and Mississippi were destroyed when the buildings they sat on burned.

In a way, the surviving goat is symbolic of Dundee's survival.

When Duke grew up after the beginning of the 20th century, the community's 200 people had four general stores, two doctors, two drugstores, a barber shop and saddle shop, a livery stable, a blacksmith shop, a hotel, a five-story mill with three water wheels, a high school, two churches and four train stops each day.

But in 1941, the railroad took up the tracks running through Dundee, and many of the stores began to follow, Duke said.

Today, the community has about 80 people. But it isn't dying.

A new high school is being built near Dundee and the old school is becoming a sewing factory. The town's existing structures include a new bank, a post office, the volunteer fire department's building, two churches, a beauty shop, a combination service station and convenience store, a TV repair shop, and, last but not least, the lodge hall with its goat.

"Dundee is known for its goat all over the state," Lawson said. "I know of no other place that has a goat for a weather vane.

"We find people often stopping and taking pictures of the goat," he said. "It perches very proudly on top of that building."

Duke said the goat was taken down about eight years ago after some boys shot it full of holes with .22-caliber rifles. The holes were welded and a fiberglass coat was put on it.

To people in Dundee, the goat is priceless.

"One fellow once offered about \$7,000, but we wouldn't take anything for it," Duke said. "If we were to sell that goat people would shoot us."



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 27 October 1992, p.6C:

Goat not the butt of jokes

By Berry Craig, Associated Press



DUNDEE – Hugh Duke said the Dundee Goat butted Hines Mill off the map.

"People like the goat so much that they renamed the place Dundee," Duke said. "That's the truth."

The goat arrived from Scotland in the late 1890s. In 1902, he was hoisted to a place of honor atop the 80-foot Masonic Lodge steeple in this Ohio County village.

"He's been up there ever since," said Duke, Dundee's unofficial historian. "That's except for about six months 12 or 15 years ago when they took him down to patch up the bullet holes."

Duke, 83, isn't kidding or trying to get anybody's goat. Born in a factory, not a barnyard,, the Dundee Goat is a weather vane.

"There were three of them that were shipped to the United States from Dundee, Scotland," Duke said.

"This is the only one like it left. The other two went to Mississippi and Kansas where they were put on buildings that burned up in fires."

Duke grew up in Dundee before he moved to Hartford, the county seat. His son, Tommy, sells blue and red "Dundee Goat" baseball caps at the Duke family grocery store on Ky. 69, a two-lane blacktop that doubles as Dundee's main street.

"People still stop by and take pictures of the goat," he said. "It was in Ripley's Believe It Or Not. They ask me about the goat, but I tell them that dad is the expert."

The goat is a larger-than-life billy with curved horns and goatee.

"He's made of zinc, hollow inside and only weighs about 10 pounds," Duke said. "Otherwise, he'd be too heavy for a weather vane."

Supposedly, the goat spent several years perched on the porch of the F. Renfrow General Store in the nearby community of Narrows. According to the story, Hines Mill Woodmen of the World, who also met in the Masonic Hall, bought the goat because it was a symbol of their organization.

In any event, the goat and lodge, painted a matching pale gray, are hard to miss from the land or sky, Duke said.

"I've heard that if you're flying in an airplane taking off from the Owensboro airport and fly this way you can see the goat from 1,000 feet up," Duke said.

The five-foot-long goat has been pounded by snow, sleet, hail and rain. It has survived lightning and has kept its footing in howling windstorms. The goat's only scars have come from local lads armed with .22-caliber rifles.

Dundee residents feared the wounds would be fatal.

"About 12 or 15 years ago, they decided to take him down and fix him," Duke said. "A fellow put him in the back of a Volkswagen and took him to Bowling Green. They patched him up with fiberglass and gave him a new coat of paint."

A paint store clerk inquired about the paint.

"The fellow said he wanted to paint a goat," Duke said. "The clerk didn't believe him so he showed him the goat in the back of the Volkswagen."

Duke said the goat never fails to point its nose in the direction of the wind.

"People say you can tell the weather three days in advance by that goat," he said. "They say he's that good."



Ohio County Times-News, Hartford, KY, 24 August 1995, p.5A:



About two years ago, Byron Crawford wrote a story for *The Courier Journal* about Dundee and sent a copy to the "Foremost" or Mayor of Dundee, Scotland, and in turn, the Foremost sent a package of brochures about the city on the sea.

One statement noted: "Dundee is renowned for its warmth of welcome, and well over 800 years of history, the city itself is hardly short of tradition."

The logo for Dundee, Scotland, is "City of Discovery" and could also be applicable to Ohio County's Dundee.

The 15-pound zinc life-sized animal has braved the elements since it arrived from Dundee, Scotland, was erected in 1902 and changed the name of the community known as Hines Mill.

Dundee's goat is the surviving one of three sent from Dundee, Scotland, in 1902. The other two were sent to Missouri and Kansas, but were lost in fires according to Hugh Duke, of Hartford.

The famous weather vane had withstood gusty winds, torrential rains, and the mischievous target practice of area youth and the body of the goat was riddled with bullet holes. The iron pedestal had deteriorated from rust after years until 1968 when it was lowered from its steeple to the ground.

Amos L. Bean, who died on July 30 at Bowling Green, will be remembered among many things, as the one who refinished and repaired the old namesake, from Scotland.

Mr. Bean had lived next door to the Masonic Hall building and his brother-in-law, Bobby Midkiff, helped in filling in the rifle shot holes and restoring it. It had not been removed until that year in 1968 and was in a poor state of condition.

Out-of-town repairmen had promised to restore the goat after it was taken down, and in the course of time one of the goat's horns was broken.

Weeks went by and finally Mr. Bean decided he would get the job done. To him, and the community it was a treasure going to waste. He began restoring the goat, reattached the horn, filled in the bullet holes and coated the zinc body with fiberglass and paint.

And the symbol of the community of Dundee was returned to the 80-foot spire above the former Methodist Church and Masonic Hall building.

The Masonic Hall building was constructed about 1901 by Joe Hunter, grandfather of the later Mrs. Willis James of Hartford.

The lower floor was used for many years as a Methodist Church, but other organizations such as the Oddfellows, Order of the Eastern Star, Rebeccas and Woodmen of the World organizations held meetings in the building.

Through the years, the old goat has been struck by lightning, riddled with bullets and served as a nesting place for bees and wasps, but the annual Dundee Goat Festival in recent years has made a come-back to the legends and history of the community.

In 1993 the first Dundee Goat Festival was held with a flea market, music and competitive events and the goat's picture appeared on all types of promotions.

Liz Davis, the doll maker, designed a goat doll for last year's event and for the recent festival, she manufactured a five-foot wooden Dundee Goat holding a "Welcome" door sign and

chewing a quilt piece. She also has Goat post cards and note cards with pictures of the legendary animal.

Business is thriving with a modern, spacious Dundee Food Mart, Dundee Area Volunteer Fire Department, Dundee Post Office, enlarged and modern Bank of Ohio County, DAMES industry at the former Dundee High School with an employment of 105, and two churches --a community oriented settlement that sprang from a water mill on the Rough River called Hines Mill, named for Dundee, Scotland, because of a goat.

[Note: Article, "Gruffly said: Dundee's is high on rooftop billy Goat", by Byron Crawford, was published in the Courier-Journal, Louisville, KY, 18 June 1893, p.1B.]



Ohio County Times-News, Hartford, KY, 8 August 2002:



Historic Goat Marks 100th Year

One of the most historic landmarks in Ohio County is the old Goat Weathervane atop the spire of the old former Masonic Lodge Hall building at Dundee, and this year marks the 100th birthday of the goat.

The zinc goat, with his chin held high, came from Dundee, Scotland and has been hoisted atop the tall pedestal in that position since June, 1902.

Built originally for a Lodge Hall, the building was also used by the Methodist Church for more than 50 years until a separate nice brick church building was constructed.

The goat represents the Modern Woodmen of the World and is used in Masonic initiation. As a weathervane, his body shifts pendulum-like on its axis to aim into the wind.

The goat, a horned, bearded mammal, belongs to a distinguished family, albeit a family without genealogy or progeny--no ancestry, no descendants!

There were originally only three of the goat weathervanes and the only one of the original goat weathervanes "alive" today is Dundee, right here in Ohio County.



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 22 April 2008, p.3B:

Dundee Masonic Lodge No. 733 honored Building with famed goat weather vane now on historic register

The building that holds the famed Dundee goat has climbed historic heights: The Masonic Lodge No. 733 in Dundee is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The 115-year-old building with the 105-year-old goat weather vane atop it joined the list March 25, Philip Embry, chairman of the Dundee Community Day Inc. committee, said Friday.

Embry received a notification letter April 12 from Donna Neary, executive director and state historic preservation officer with the state Commerce Cabinet's Kentucky Heritage Council.

"Listing in the National Register of Historic Places gives recognition that the site has historic, architectural or archaeological significance within the context of the community, state or nation," the letter said.

The listing includes limited protection against actions by federal agencies, eligibility for federal tax benefits for depreciable historic structures and eligibility for state tax benefits.

Proceeds from the Dundee Day in mid-August help pay for the building's upkeep, including recent ceiling replacement, Embry said.

The lodge needs work to replace loose roof overhangs and repair the front concrete steps, he said.

The kitchen floor needs work, and new vinyl siding might be added, he said.

