

GhostTOWN - RYANS CORNER.

JEREMIAH RYAN STARTED A STORE ON THE N.W. CORNER OF THE N.W. OF N.W. 1/4 OF SEC. 7, CROTON TWP AND THE LOCATION WAS NAMED RYANS CORNER. JOHN POWERS BUILT A TAVERN ACROSS THE ROAD IN SEC. 6. THEN A MAN BY THE NAME OF TRIPP STARTED A STORE ACROSS THE ROAD IN SEC. 1, BROOKS TWP. RYANS CORNERS BECAME A FAMOUS STOPPING PLACE FOR TEAMSTERS AND PASSENGERS ON THE LONG ROAD FROM GRAND RAPIDS TO BIG RAPIDS.

WALTER STERLING CAME TO NEWAYGO COUNTY IN 1854 AND SOON AFTER HIS ARRIVAL HE MOVED TO RYANS CORNERS AND FOLLOWED HIS TRADE AS A SHOEMAKER.

JOHN F. GAUWEILER BUILT THE WASHINGTON HOUSE ONE MILE SOUTH OF THE CORNERS. HE RAN IT FOR SEVERAL YEARS: THEN MOVED TO THE SETTLEMENT OF CROTON AND OPENED A STORE. IN 1859 LABAN SPENCER BUILT THE SPENCER HOUSE ACROSS THE ROAD FROM THE WASHINGTON HOUSE.

THE COMING OF THE R.R. CAUSED THE STAGE AND FREIGHT BUSINESS TO VANISH. ALL THAT REMAINS ARE DEEP HOLES IN THE GROUND WHERE BUILDINGS ONCE STOOD AND THE ROADS ARE MERE TRAILS AND GROWN UP TO BRUSH, MOSTLY WILD PLUM. RIT '75.