

# BARABOO WISCONSIN

1850-2018

A CONTINUATION OF

*"BARABOO WISCONSIN...1850-2010"*

VOLUMES I, II, III, IV, V

AND

*"BARABOO WISCONSIN...1850-2015"*

VOLUME VI

CHRONOLOGY OF THE GROWTH OF BARABOO  
INCLUDING THE  
COMMERCIAL & RETAIL DISTRICTS

## **VOLUME VII**

# BARABOO

## 1850-2018

To turn back the pages of local history is indeed an interesting feat. It takes us to a small village, a country town of plank sidewalks, or no walks, muddy or dusty streets, no public lighting, water drawn from the town pump and carried home in a wooden bucket, a family cow and the family pig pastured on the town commons, precious letters and papers brought in for weary miles by slow horse or slower ox teams, often in lumber wagons and other like primitive living conditions with which our ancestors were familiar. Not alone were these conditions common to the times, but they were so universal that our good people seldom complained or rebelled at the old fashion life these external circumstances imposed.

Author Unknown

*by Joseph Wayne Ward - 2018*

*edited by Lou Ann Ward*

September 16, 2017

Today...is the day, after much thought...I have decided that Volume VII of the Baraboo History series may be my last writing of this series and may be printed about 3/4 the size of the previous six editions. After a rest, who knows, I may be back at it.

The city of Baraboo and West Baraboo, are both growing rapidly with the introduction of new businesses as well as many small start-ups, all of which is great, but time consuming at a time when I have other issues pending.

Having spent the last 20 years (more or less) writing...with no experience (as every reader can tell) or education regarding writing, (which shows) and at the near age of 85...I feel I need more time for my personal life which of course means with my wife, Lou Ann. She has been very understanding over the years.

My first book was about my favorite manufacturing company and titled... "*NORTH BROTHER'S Manufacturing Company Product Guide*"...it is a wonderful book, still sold world-wide, about the tools and products that the company manufactured and is the bible of today's tool collectors, re: YANKEE products. (you may familiar with the Yankee screwdriver)

My second book was "*NORTH FREEDOM...The First 100 Years*". My early years were spent in that village and my memory is still clear of my Tom Sawyer type of life, which can best experienced in a small village.

Will I miss writing...no doubt yes...but, I will have some time to expand on certain subjects by request, which will be of interest, but probably only to certain people.

Who knows...one of you may like to take over this effort...it is a wonderful hobby and one would be surprised at the number of people I have met by email, snail-mail, telephone, etc...from all over the united states, with questions about the growth of Baraboo.

And...thanks to all of you for your support over the years...

Warm Regards...Joe Ward

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*From Mayor Palm*

*Joe...the work you have done is outstanding and will be used by many future generations. I personally am amazed at this body of work as well as the timelines you have prepared. Take pride in what you have accomplished and we will forever be enriched by it.*

*THANK YOU!!!*

*Dear Joe,*

*Your work is referenced on a weekly basis here at the history center. Your volumes have earned their place on the shelf next to Canfield and Cole and are just as important. Thank you so much for your efforts these past 20 years! While you may not be able to be replaced, please feel free to send requests you don't want to deal with to us here at the historical society. We will take care of them.*

*With the modern newspapers now in digital format it will be easier for researchers of the recent past to use word searches in the modern papers. This hopefully will help with recent past. Your synthesis of the newspapers and sources from 1850 until today is invaluable and will be used forever (just like Canfield and Cole).*

*Looking forward to seeing Volume 7!*

*Paul Wolter*

*Executive Director*

*Sauk County Historical Society*

*Joe: Your contributions to our community history have been immense and so useful. I look forward to continuing to work with you on various projects in the future. Thank you very much for your books and for sharing the knowledge.*

*Edward A. Geick*

*City Administrator*

# BARABOO

1850-2018

## Please Read the Following

This Volume VII contains an "**Index**" of over 1000 Baraboo and West Baraboo "businesses, business people, local events and articles of interest" and in most cases will refer you to a specific address or section in this Volume.

In some cases this Volume VII index may refer you to "BARABOO Wisconsin, Volumes I, II, III, IV, V...1850-2010, also VI...1850-2015," or this Vol. VII...1850-2018,".

Be sure to also check Volume I through Volume VI for additional information regarding your search.

Any possible future volumes, such as "**Volume VIII**", will also contain their own individual index.

This Volume VII may be posted on line at some point. At this time (2018) the publication of Volumes I through Vol VI) may be accessed at the following link.

**<http://www.baraboopubliclibrary.org/explore>**

*Enjoy....*

*Joseph W. ward*

# INTRODUCTION

5 So much has been written regarding the history of Baraboo that to find certain information on any given subject might take longer than it took to write this book. It is my wish that this writing shall bring together most of these historical data.

The object of my research and writings is to put into print the history of the original business and commercial districts of Baraboo.

The goal of this narrative is to venture back into the early 1800's before settlers made the "Baraboo Rapids" their home, to identify and track businesses and their owners and those that followed in their footsteps. There has been a lot written over the years about those early times, but to sort through it all and to pick what I considered to be historically correct was a task.

I will confess, and you will no doubt agree as you read on, that I am not schooled in writing. My work life was spent as an engineer designing molds for molding plastic products as well as designing special tooling for secondary operations on manufactured products.

I have not produced a written bibliography of my sources but let it suffice to say, that my research required the scouring of more than 6,000 Baraboo weekly newspapers, which were printed between 1850 and 1967, many scrapbooks, city directories, phone books, etc.

This required time equivalent to 3 to 5 hours a day, 5 to 6 days a week for 10 years; also, many people have contacted me from near and far

with family histories and pictures. My major book sources were and continue to be the twenty-volume *Wisconsin Historical Collections*,

published from 1855 to 1915. I also have a large library of other historical books including many volumes of *"The Proceedings of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin"*.

**This volume VI** has its own index consisting of over 8000 names and businesses that have occupied this area since the 1840's. There may be duplications but I feel that is better than an omitted entity.

Historical writings are full of mistakes and the writings herein will prove no different. It is my hope that people will come forward and in a constructive manner suggest corrections and/or additions. So please make a good case, with documents and pictures if possible.

It is also my hopes that someone will step forward and volunteer to make additions and corrections to this live chronology and take some of the load off of the now author.

It has been an impossible job to give credit to the source for each and every photo due to the fact that many people donated the same image. I have however, endeavored to credit

everyone that provided data and pictures. If you were missed, please do not feel offended. Make it known to the author and the next printing will correct the matter.

Thank you and enjoy!

Joseph W. Ward

The five sections in this Volume VII represents a continuation of Volumes I through VI of **BARABOO...Wisconsin, 1850 to 2015**

- Section I:** (Continuation of Vol. I) Includes indexes of Baraboo & West Baraboo followed by the "About Section".
- Section II:** (Continuation of Vol. II) Includes a continuation of the "About Section", followed by the "Trivia Sections I, II, III & IV" and Ash Street and Broadway.
- Section III:** (Continuation of Vol. III) Includes "Fifth Ave. & Street, First Ave. & Street, Fourth Ave. & Street, Lynn Ave. & Street and Oak Street (terminating at 508 Oak Street).
- Section IV:** (Continuation of Vol. IV) Includes Oak Street (beginning at 510 Oak Street), Second Ave. & Street, South Boulevard (north and south of the viaduct), Third Ave. and Street (terminating at 123 Third Street).
- Section V:** (Continuation of Vol. V) Includes Third Street (beginning at 125-127 Third Street), Vine Street, Walnut Street, Water Street, West Baraboo (formerly Lyons), Highway 12 (aka BD) south of the Baraboo River, West Pine Street (Highway 12 aka BD, north of the Baraboo River) and a 93-page intensive study of Baraboo dated 1989.

**Study the following "Contents Pages" to become familiar with the layout of these five sections.**