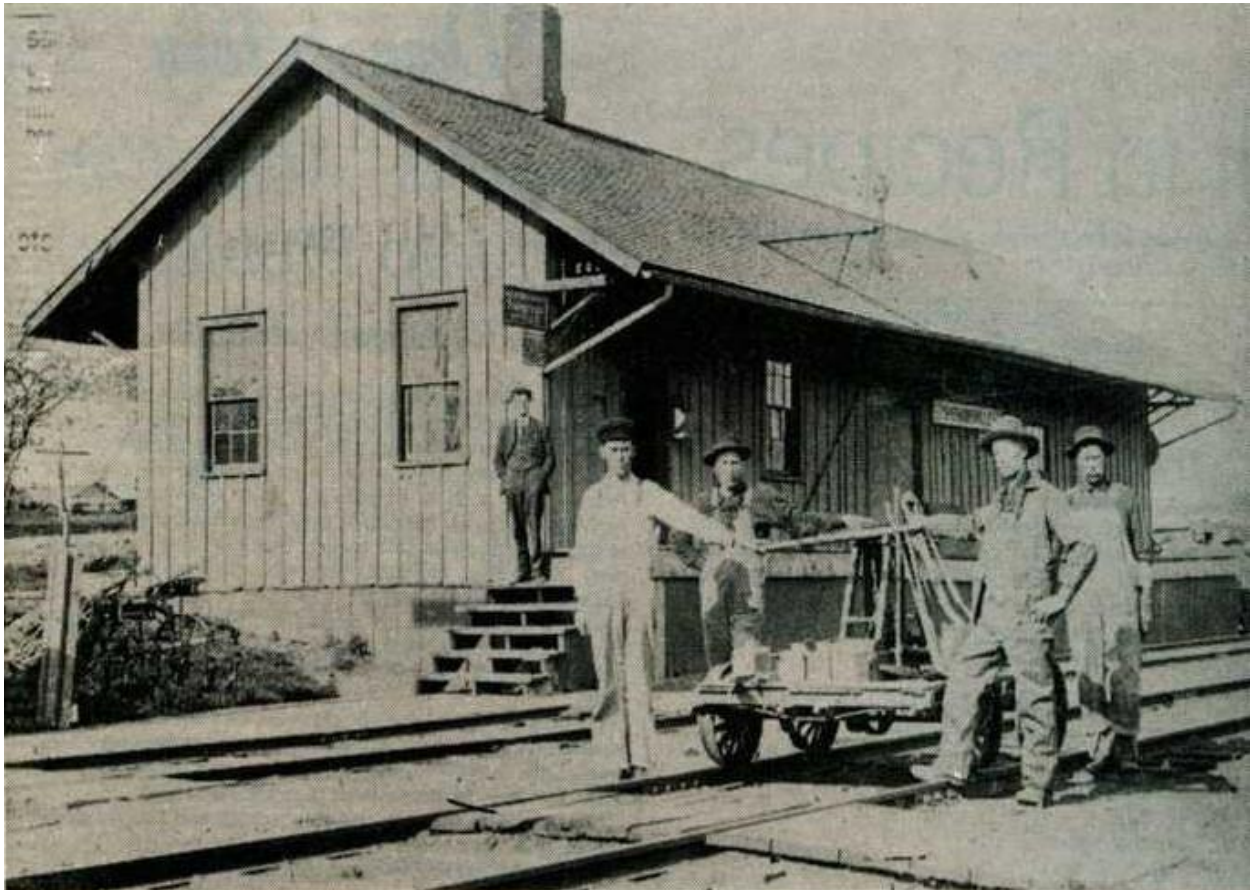


Shepardsville

Shepardsville was founded in 1858 as a railroad station. The town was named for William Shepard who constructed a general store and platted the town. By 1867 William Shepard had built a grist mill, saw mill, and stave factory.



DESTINATION SHEPARDVILLE — The Shepardsville Depot formed the backdrop for this photograph, taken around 1907, of a crew consisting of, from left, agent Bill Drum, Ramon Deitrick, Albert Longcor, section boss Alex

Olson and Bill Decker. The picture was supplied by Olson's son George of rural Ovid, now 93. George's wife Leonore, who marked her 90th birthday Thursday, was the subject of an article in *The Argus-Press* on Wednesday.

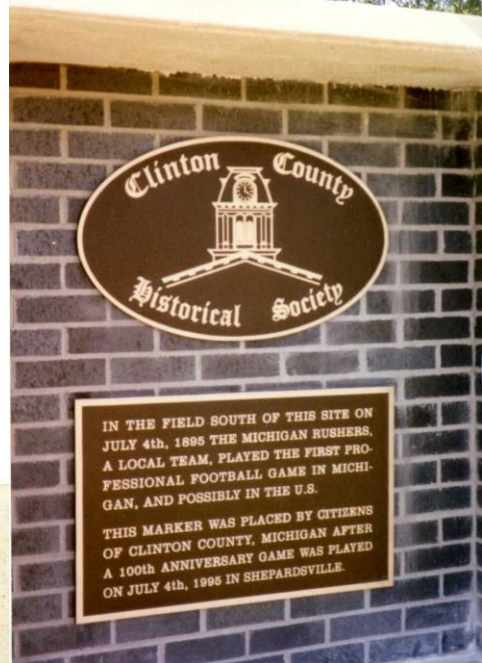
Source: *Owosso Argus Press* September 6, 1983 page 15

The village fell on hard times due to several disasters. In 1867 the grist mill boiler exploded killing a worker and injuring six others. Four years later the stave mill burned. This fire was followed by a series of fires in 1872, 1873, and 1878. The town was never able to recover.



Shepardsville's claim to fame is it was the site of the first professional football game played in Michigan, and possibly the United States. On July 4, 1885, the Michigan Rushers played on a field on the southeast corner of M-21 and Shepardsville Road. A Clinton County Historical Society monument marks the site.

The town once had Baptist and Methodist churches. Today only the Methodist church remains. Below are the original church buildings.



The first Shepardsville school began shortly after its founding. The first building was replaced by the one below in 1895. This one was used until the mid-1960's when it joined Ovid. The building has since been used as a Methodist youth center, Amish school, and event hall.



Shepardsville School Building 1991