Wacousta

     The town was at first called Waterloo and was formed by the Waterloo Joint Stock Company in 1837. Soon a sawmill, gristmill, general store, and boarding house was erected. The name was changed to Wacousta in 1848 for a fictious Indian maiden as there was already a Waterloo post office in Michigan.

Wacousta Mill

     A part of the Wacousta General Store was originally on the banks of the Looking Glass River and used as a trading post.
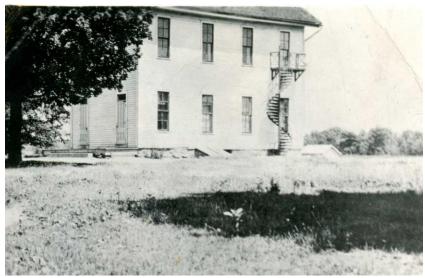
     The Wacousta-DeWitt Masonic Hall was built about 1860 as a hotel and tavern.

     By 1880 the town had two general stores, a grocery, a drug store, a sawmill, and a gristmill.
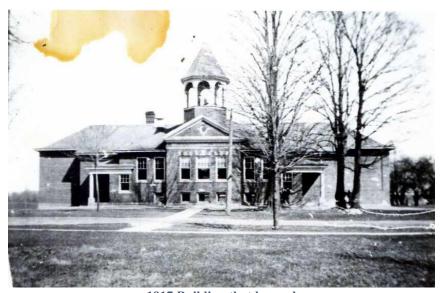

Wacousta-DeWitt Masonic Hall

The first school took place in 1839 in a town store. In 1844 a frame school house was built. This was replaced with a two-story building in 1870. That building was torn down and replaced in 1917 with a brick building. It burned in 1924 and a new brick building was opened in 1926. It is now a community center.

1870 School Building

1917 Building that burned

The district joined Grand Ledge in 1958. The school building was used as an elementary school until the new elementary was built in the 1970's.