

# The Vicksburg Historic Village



## Union Depot

It all began with Vicksburg's old train station, built in 1904.

In 1971 Vicksburg Historical Society began work to save the abandoned depot and preserve it as a museum celebrating the area's rich history.

Today, the restored Union Depot is part of the Vicksburg Historic Village, home to over 25,000 artifacts currently held by Vicksburg Historical Society and displayed in its various buildings.

## Newspaper Office and Print Shop

This building houses much of the original printing equipment once belonging to the *Vicksburg Commercial*. Established in 1879, it is one of the oldest continuously published weekly newspapers in the State of Michigan. The building serves both as an operating letterpress museum, and as a tribute to the role the newspaper and its publishers has played in recording area history. The newspaper, now called the *Commercial-Express*, still serves the community out of its offices in downtown Vicksburg.



## Strong School

The history of the one-room rural schoolhouse is preserved in this turn of the century building and its furnishings. Originally located on Silver Street south of the Village of Vicksburg, it was acquired in 1996. Before formation of the current Vicksburg Community Schools in 1947, there were 21 individual districts serving the rural area, each with its own school providing a K through 8 education for those children living in its neighborhood.



## Railway Express Office

This reproduction of the railroad's original freight shipping office was dedicated in 2000 to serve primarily as a storage building for those Historical Society artifacts not currently on display. A small portion of the buildings features exhibits open to the public.

### **The Farm**

A old fashioned farm house, barn and other outbuildings are nearing completion, and will be dedicated and open to the public in the spring of 2007. These buildings will be the backdrop for the presentation of early agricultural practices, as well as a glimpse into the everyday life of those living on the small family farms that once dominated the landscape of the greater Vicksburg area. Eventually, a history of both the local school FFA program and the area's agricultural heritage will be located in the barn.



### **Gazebo**

A gazebo, styled after the fashion of the early 1900's, provides a venue for concerts and other public occasions, and as a rental facility for weddings or other family events.

For information about history-based tours and programs available at the Historic Village, or for gazebo rental information, call the Vicksburg Museum at (269) 649-1733