

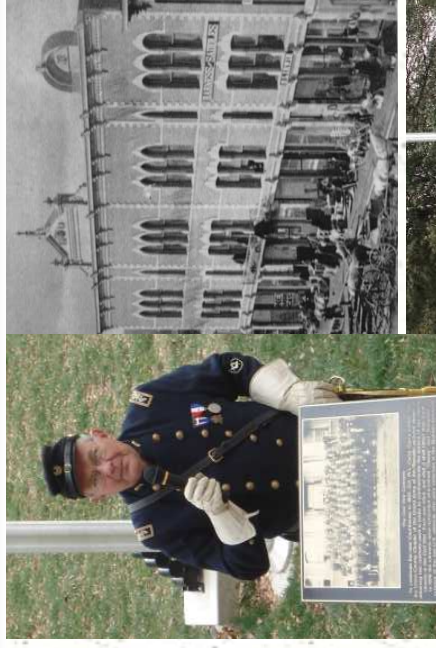


Union County  
 Convention & Visitors Bureau  
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**For Additional Information:**

- Plain City Historical Society
- Union County Historical Society
- Union County Chapter,  
Ohio Genealogical Society
- Marysville, Plain City and  
Richwood Public Libraries



## H I S T O R Y O F U N I O N C O U N T Y

Union County was formed on April 1, 1820 from portions of Delaware, Franklin, Madison and Logan Counties together with a part of the old Indian Territory. Union County is 277,760 acres (approximately 434 square miles). This area was once inhabited by tribes of Wyandot, Miami, Delaware and Shawnees. Portions of the Darby Plains were once Indian corn fields. The northern and eastern portions of Union County were originally covered with forests, however they were proved to be fertile so they were cleared for agriculture.

Although the first white settlers arrived in this area in 1798, it was not until 1820 that Union County was formally organized through the efforts of Colonel James Curry, then a member of the State legislature. An act was passed January 10, 1820, entitled "An act to erect the county of Union". The formation of townships and the selection of Marysville as the County Seat followed on May 15, 1821. Marysville took its name from the daughter of the founder of the county, Samual Culbertson.

Union County is drained by streams which flow in a southeasterly direction to empty into the Scioto River. Union County is home to four historic covered bridges and one historic steel truss bridge.

The soil types have excellent productive capability when well drained. The natural resources are strictly agriculture

which accounts for 87% of the land in Union County. Union County is home to over twelve Century Farms.

Union County is the fourth fastest growing county in the state of Ohio. The first population census taken in 1830 revealed 3,192 settlers. As of the 2007 census, Union County has a population of 47,234.

### F A M O U S   P E O P L E

**Joshua and James Ewing**  
 First permanent settlers

**Charles Fairbanks**  
 Vice President of the United States (1905-1909)

**Cornelius Hamilton**  
 First Representative from Union County in US Congress

**Otway Curry**  
 Poet and Journalist from Marysville. Wrote Log Cabin Song for Ohio Whig Convention

**Noah Orr**  
 Often referred to as the Giant. Toured with P.T. Barnum's Circus for many years performing together with Tom Thumb

**Judge James E. Robinson**  
 Only resident who served the State of Ohio as judge of the Supreme Court (1918) and Great Grandfather of President George W. Bush

**Reuben Partridge**  
 Covered Bridge Builder who revolutionized bridge building with an exclusive patent



- 1798** Joshua and James Ewing were the first settlers on land which became Union County
- 1812** The first main road was constructed—Post Road
- First post office in Union County was opened
- 1839** First newspaper in Union County was established—*Our Freedom and Union County Advertiser*
- 1844** First significant highway was constructed, Route 33.
- 1846** Oldest brick building in Marysville was built, the Cyprian Lee House at 118 W. Sixth Street
- 1847** Union County Agriculture Society was formed and the first County Fair was held
- 1854** A railway was constructed through Marysville which is still a major part of the transportation system today
- 1867** First public library in Union County was opened in Marysville
- 1868** The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company was founded
- 1879** The town of Magnetic Springs was formed when a spring of water was found in the park and said to have healing powers
- 1883** The current Union County Courthouse was dedicated in Marysville
- 1891** Marysville Water Company opened a waste water treatment plant and an electric generation plant
- 1892** Opera House in Richwood dedicated
- 1894** Regular telephone exchange was established
- 1902** Samuel Taylor donated the Seth Thomas Town Clock in Plain City
- 1914** Union County School System was established
- 1916** Ohio State Reformatory for women was dedicated
- 1930** Natural gas was supplied to the county by Columbia Gas
- 1949** The Union County Historical Society was formed and later inherited it's current location in 1954
- 1952** Memorial Hospital of Union County was opened with 36 beds
- 1967** Union County Airport dedicated
- 1979** Honda of America dedicated it's motorcycle production facility
- 1989** Peace Pole erected on Court-house Lawn. The verse "May Peace Prevail on Earth" is set out in seven languages on the pole. The languages are representative of some of the international companies located in Union County
- 2000** Bicentennial logo bestowed on Clady Family barn in honor of Ohio's 2003 Bicentennial
- 2006** Union County Historical Society moved and renovated historic log home belonging to the Weller family in the 1840s
- 2008** Rededication of 1862 Civil War cannons on loan from United States Government since 1883