



Penn and Madison Townships IN Images of America

By Debra C. Perkins

Arcadia Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 128 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.5in. x 0.5in. Nestled in the midst of St. Joseph County, the area that is now Penn and Madison Townships was once heavily wooded. In the 1830s, the earliest settlers traveled routes on foot and via horseback, road cart, ox-drawn wagons, and buckboards, following winding paths in an effort to avoid the swamps. Although hardships and inconveniences were endured, one gentleman described their advantages upon arrival: The soil of Madison and Penn Township is of inexhaustible fertility and the population is to great extent of vigorous Pennsylvania stock. As early settlers arrived, they cut trees for lumber for their homes and to clear ground for farming. This land became some of the best farmland in the region. As the Wabash Railroad, Lake Shore Railroad, and the Grand Trunk were erected in the towns of Wyatt and Osceola, businesses sprang up, along with schools, churches, grocery stores, sawmills, gristmills, blacksmith shops, post offices, and physicians offices. The railroads were used to ship lumber and crops, and lumbering continued as waves of settlers built new homes and barns at a rapid pace. As dairy farming spread, creameries were established where farmers...



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