

**McDERMOTT BLACKSMITH SHOP**

**610 INGALLS AVENUE**

**PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN**

# Old Timers Recall Hey Day Of West Side Blacksmiths

Issue Oct. 7, 1954

## Blaze Led To New Fire Company

The old blacksmith shop on the West Side has stood idle for a good many years, but it once was a beehive of activity.

Old timers say it was so busy at one time that Bill Schofield, who opened the shop around 1895, once banged out 60 shoes and shod them the same day.

To modern mechanical minded people this doesn't sound like much, but old timers will tell you that doing that much by hand was a man-killing operation.

THE SHOP is located at 601 Ingalls-ave., and was operated by Bill McDermott (who died Dec. 6, 1943 at age of 66) from about 1906. Most Westsiders know it as "Bill McDermott's shop" and many who grew up on that end of town can recount pleasant days spent watching him shoe horses in the smoke-filled, smelly room.

William J. "Bill" Hosman, of Wachtel-ave., recalled that the present building was erected in part by a work-bee back around 1897 after it burned down.

"In fact that fire shook up the whole fire department," Bill recalled. "Charley McCarthy was fire chief at that time and he and one other fellow were the only ones to respond. The West Side then decided to organize a hose company and I was asked, with other fellows, to be in the group. We had a little cart we used to pull around, then later we got a wagon and sleigh outfit and rented a team of horses."

Charles Houts, of Monroe-st., was one of the owners of a team which was kept at the Ingalls-ave. horse house.

J. L. HENDERSON, of Jackson-st., a pioneer merchant who built a feed store at 601 Ingalls-ave. (on the corner by Jackson-st.) in 1900, recalled that there was quite a business section on Ingalls-ave. in those days.

Besides his feed store and grinding mill, Will Ingalls had a store where Ray Lewis now has his painting headquarters and a relative of Ingalls had a meat market across the street. (Bill Hosman ran this market for about eight months in the early days).

610

on Jackson St. east side of store

621 Ingalls

next to Jordan's used furniture articles

620 Ingalls

Cider mill 609 Ingalls.

The market was later turned into a cider mill which was operated by a man named Windsor, later by Louis W. Pagel. Next to it was a barbershop.

Pat Singer, a pre-1900 wagon maker here, once had a shop near the corner of Wachtel and W. Mitchell, and around 1895 he moved to a shop built for J. L. Henderson. Rent was \$2 a month, Henderson recalled. In 1900 the shop was absorbed by the store building which Henderson had erected.

Hosman recalled that Schofield charged 25 cents a shoe to pull it off, re-set and sharpen it and put it back on a horse. Henderson thought that it cost 50 or 60 cents to have a new shoe made.

Ingalls-ave. changed in appearance down through the years. Henderson's store became a general store, then he sold out and it was operated as a grocery store by others, then as a mattress factory and now is used for storage. The cider mill has been torn down.

The blacksmith shop has been closed for many years and probably will never be re-opened. Not only are the blacksmiths gone, but so are most of the horses.

The auto which shows in the photo of the old blacksmith shop is rather symbolic — it was the auto which replaced the horse. What the photo doesn't show is the old horse drinking fountain which used to be by the shop. It, too, has been gone for some time.

## **The People and History of 610 Ingalls Ave.** ( known as Bill McDermott's blacksmith shop)

James (Bill) William Schofield came to Petoskey, at the age of 15, in 1856 with his parents. On August 29, 1892 he married Ida Schivilbien in Petoskey, Michigan. Somewhere between 1892 and 1895 he opened his own blacksmith shop at 610 Ingalls Ave. and old timers say it was so busy at one time that he once banged out 60 shoes and shod them the same day. In 1897 the shop burned to the ground. This was the beginning of the Westside #2 Hose house at 620 Ingalls by the Fire Department. Mr. Schofield became a member of the Hose House. Also at this time a worker-bee of the neighborhood rebuilt the blacksmith shop.

Around 1902 he suffered severely from exposure to cold and wet during a fire and contracted lung trouble. On January 11, 1905 he died at his home, 608 Ingalls Avenue, next door to the blacksmith shop.

### **Death of Jas. Wm. Schofield**

Wednesday evening, at ten minutes past 6 o'clock, James William Schofield passed away at his home, aged thirty-three years, four months and seventeen days.

About three years ago the deceased, who was a member of the fire company, suffered severely from exposure to cold and wet during a fire and contracted lung trouble. At first the progress of the disease was so slow that no alarm was felt, but later, finding that he was failing, every effort was made to regain his health. A year ago he went to Arizona for the winter, but returned in the spring no better. During the summer and fall he gradually grew weaker. Wednesday afternoon he seemed stronger and brighter than usual, asking for something to eat at half-past 5 o'clock, and talking cheerfully with the friends present. Shortly after 6 he said he wanted to go to sleep, and closing his eyes, passed quietly away, those present hardly realizing that the end had come.

James William Schofield was born in Greenville, Mich., August 27, 1871. When he was fifteen years old, his parents moved to Petoskey, bringing with them their five children, of whom two the daughters, Mrs. Lottie Hyde of Pittsburg, and Mrs. Phoebe Nevetral, of Grand Rapids, are living, the deceased being the last of the three sons to join the mother on the other side.

This death is peculiarly sad from the fact that his brother Bruce dropped dead from heart failure just two weeks ago in Texas. The father, James Schofield, is at present in Fruitville, Cal., for his health. Besides the three members of his family, he leaves a wife, Mrs. Ida Schofield.

Mr. Schofield united with the Congregational church when a young boy. He was also a member of the I.O.O.F. and the K.O.T.M.M., and served his ward as supervisor.

The funeral was held at the home, 608 Ingalls avenue, at 2:30 o'clock Sunday, in charge of Rev. Arba Martin, with music by Messrs. Palmiter, ely, Nordrum, and Hernley. The I.O.O.F. officiated at the cemetery with their impressive funeral service.

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In 1903 William (Bill) McDermott went to work for J.W. Schofield blacksmith shop. By 1911 he owned the blacksmith shop at 610 Ingalls Avenue. He charged \$.25 a shoe to pull it off, re-set and sharpen it and put it back on the horse. Sam O'Donnell, of 425 Madison St., remembers the shop and old horse drinking fountain which used to be by the shop.

1903 Emmet County had fourteen blacksmith. In Petoskey proper, the C.E. Wells shop at 508 Howard St., F. M. Kurtz at 608 Howard, where Bill McDormott started his career in blacksmithing, J. W. Schofield at 610 Ingalls, Brotherton's at 311 State, J.E. Bacon at 205 Mitchell St., Ed Dean at 411 Michigan St., and George Beach on Michigan St.

Walter Bolden ran Bolden auto repair shop at the back of the blacksmith shop from 1935 to sometime before 1944, after which he moved his garage to 420 Monroe St. In 1944 the address at 610 Ingalls lies vacant.



Wm. R. McDermott

#### Death Takes Businessman

William R. McDermott, long time resident of Petoskey, died Monday. He suffered a stroke Monday Morning while at work in his shop on Liberty Street and was moved to Lockwood General Hospital for treatment. he failed to recover consciousness.

Mr. McDermott was much interested in civic affairs and served on the Emmet county board of supervisors for a for a number of terms, on the Petoskey city fire department, for the Emmet county agricultural department and on several committees of the fair. For years he operated a general blacksmithing business.

During the 1918 flu epidemic he headed relief and care efforts in the third ward.

He was born June 30, 1877, in Fordwick, Ontario, and came to Petoskey when 18 years of age. For some years he worked for his brother-in-law, Fred Kurtz, where he learned the blacksmith trade.

Mr. McDermott was for many years a member of the Odd Fellows, being a past noble grand of the Petoskey Lodge and a past chief patriarch of Wequetonsing Encampment. He was chief ranger of the Foresters and the finance-keeper for the Maccabees.

He married Alice E. Wright, who died in 1906. Then on December 11, 1911, he married Mrs. Ida B. Schofield.

Surviving beside the wife are a son, Leon McDermott of Midland; two brothers, Gilbert McDermott of Collingwood, Ontario, and Albert McDermott of Traverse City, and three sisters, Mrs. Harriet R. Kurtz of Sears, Mich., Miss Anna McDermott of Harriston, Ontario, and Mrs. Louise Coxen, of Harbor Springs; and a niece, Mrs. Fannie Kurtz, of Petoskey.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 o'clock Thursday from the Stone Funeral Home with the Rev. Ross W. Stoakes in charge. The Odd Fellows will conduct their service. Burial will be in Greenwood.

The body is at the family home at 608 Ingalls avenue.

Sources: 1901 Sanborn-Peris Insurance Map—Petoskey  
1903, 1909, 1911, 1930, 1935, 1938. Polk 's Petoskey City directorie  
1944 Petoskey City Directory published by C.E. Gavin Co of Peoskey  
Petoskey Evening News Dec. 7, 1943  
Petoskey Evening News Oct. 7, 1954  
Petoskey Evening News July 18, 1955  
Memories of Little Traverse Bay, 1989  
Conversion with Sam O'Donnell, Sept. 19, 2012  
Pictures and Stationary held by Donna Johnson, Oct. 12, 2012  
Greenwood Cemetery Records on line, Oct. 12, 2012  
Michigan, Births, 1867-1902 for James W. Schofield, 1871  
Michigan, County Marriages, 1820-1935 for James W. Schofield, 1892

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## "Michigan, Births, 1867-1902," James W. Schofield, 1871

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name:	<b>James W. Schofield</b>
birth date:	21 Aug 1871
birthplace:	Greenville, Montcalm, Michigan
gender:	Male
race:	
father's name:	James Schofield
father's birthplace:	Canada
father's age:	
mother's name:	Phoebee E. Schofield
mother's birthplace:	Canada
mother's age:	
christening date:	
christening place:	
additional relatives:	
death date:	
death age:	
film number:	2297929
digital folder number:	4206209
image number:	211
frame number:	
reference number:	item 2 p 12 rn 171

### Citing this Record

"Michigan, Births, 1867-1902," index and images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/NQVN-158> : accessed 19 Sep 2012), James W. Schofield, 21 Aug 1871.

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## "Michigan, County Marriages, 1820-1935," James W Schofield, 1892

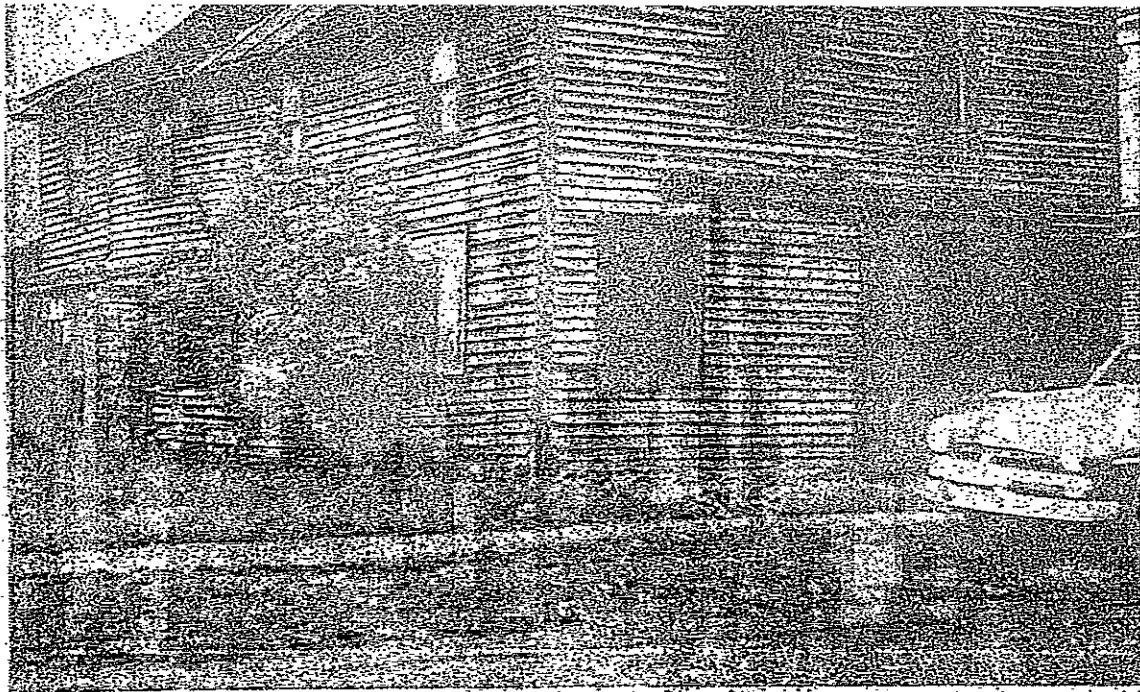
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name:	<b>James W Schofield</b>
titles & terms:	
event:	Marriage
event date:	29 Aug 1892
event place:	Emmet, Michigan
age:	21
estimated birth year:	1871
father:	J Schofield
father's titles & terms:	
mother:	Phebe Silverthorn
mother's titles & terms:	
spouse:	Ida Schivilbien
spouse's titles & terms:	
spouse's age:	19
spouse's estimated birth year:	1873
spouse's father:	H Schivelbien
spouse's father's titles & terms:	
spouse's mother:	
spouse's mother's titles & terms:	
reference number:	
film number:	966507
digital folder number:	4653748
image number:	00221

### Citing this Record

"Michigan, County Marriages, 1820-1935," index and images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VNKF-VNN> : accessed 19 Sep 2012), James W Schofield and Ida Schivilbien, 1892.



**THE VILLAGE SMITHY** once toiled here. This blacksmith shop, built around 1897 from the ashes of a fire, started a fire department controversy that led to the formation of the West Side Hose Company, old timers say. The shop was operated by Bill Schofield, later by Bill McDermott. It's located at 810 Ingalls-ave. (News-Review photo by Jim Doherty) *issue - Oct. 7, 1954*

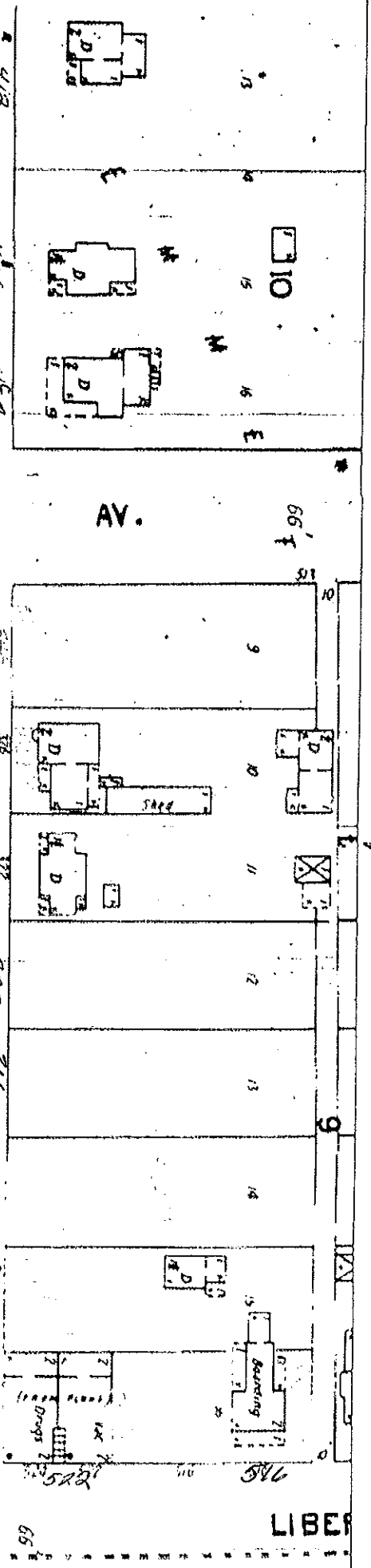
## Blacksmith Shop Disappearing



**HISTORIC** monument to Petoskey's early horse and buggy days is starting to disappear. The old McDermott blacksmith shop is now being torn down by two Petoskey workers to make way for more modern improvements. The building, erected before the turn of the century, was part of the old trading area for farmers who made regular visits to the village smithy for wagon repairs and new shoes for their teams. The property is owned by Mrs. Alma Barnes, last survivor of the McDermott-Schofield families. The rear of the building, a residence in the early days, will be saved for future use. (News-Review photo by Fred Lovelace)

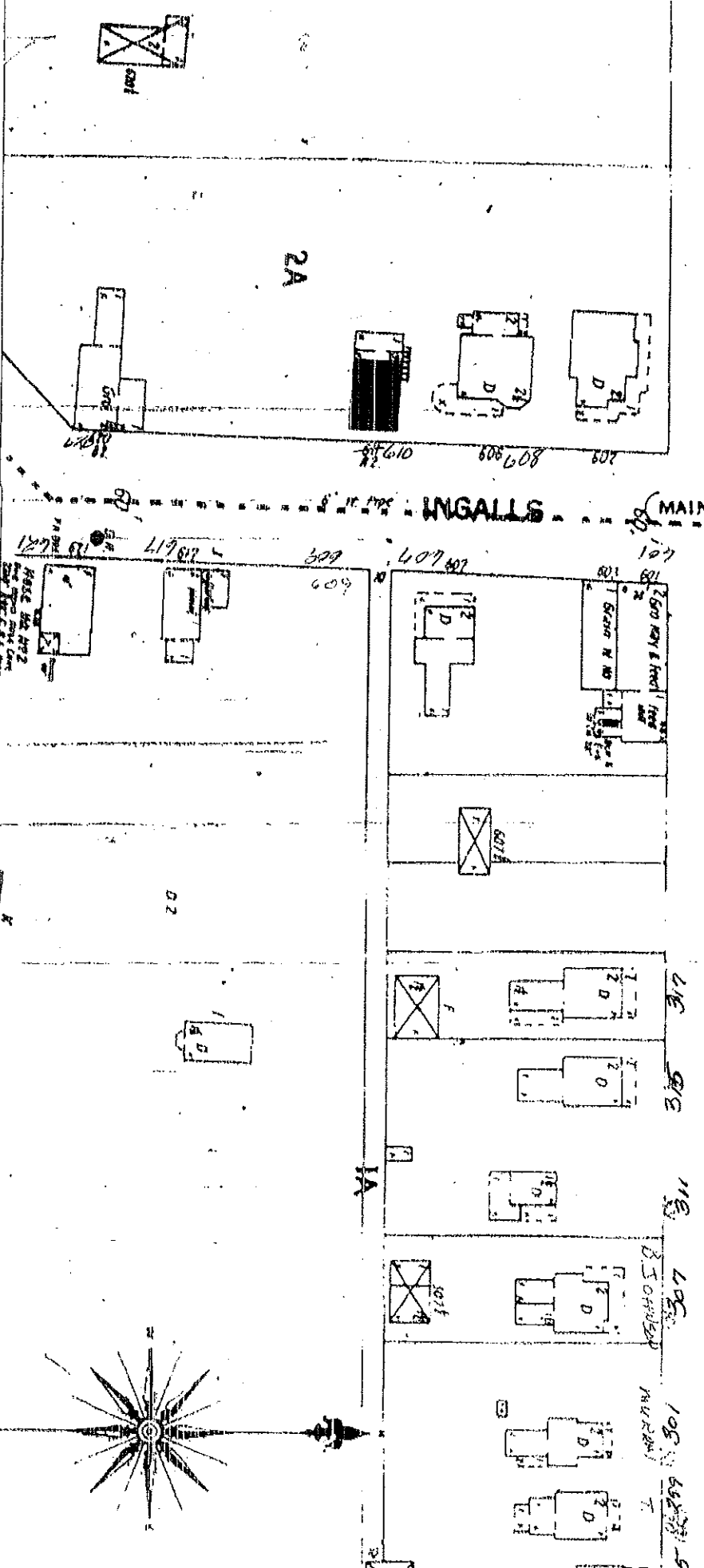
*Petoskey  
EVENING NEWS  
July 18, 1955*

1901 Bankers - Lewis Lawrence Map - Berkeley



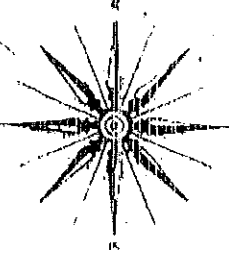
JACKSON

LIBERTY

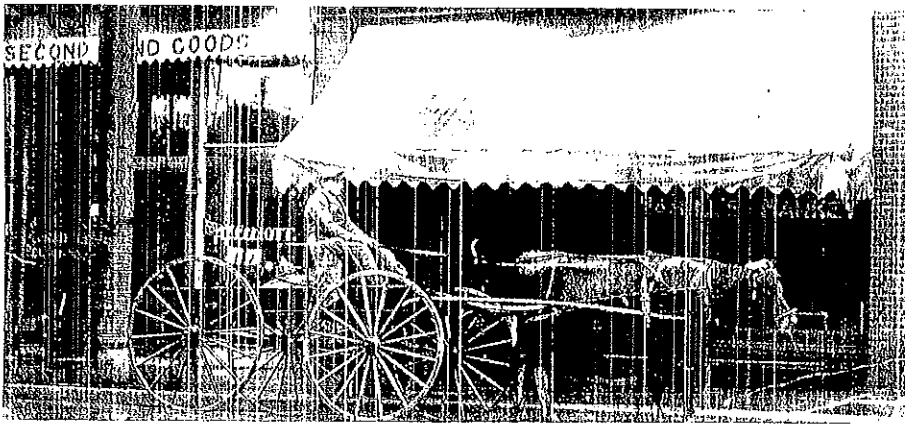


INGALLS MAIN

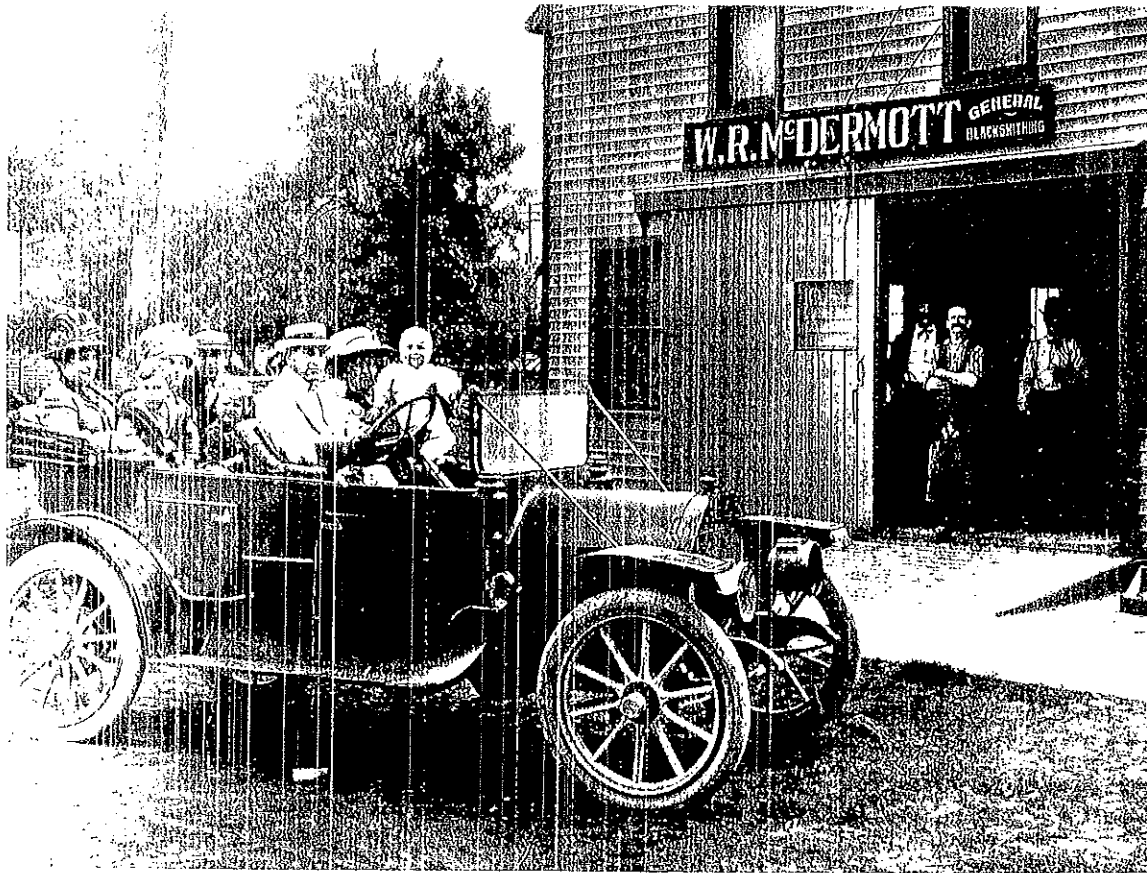
IA







Well, maybe not so quick.

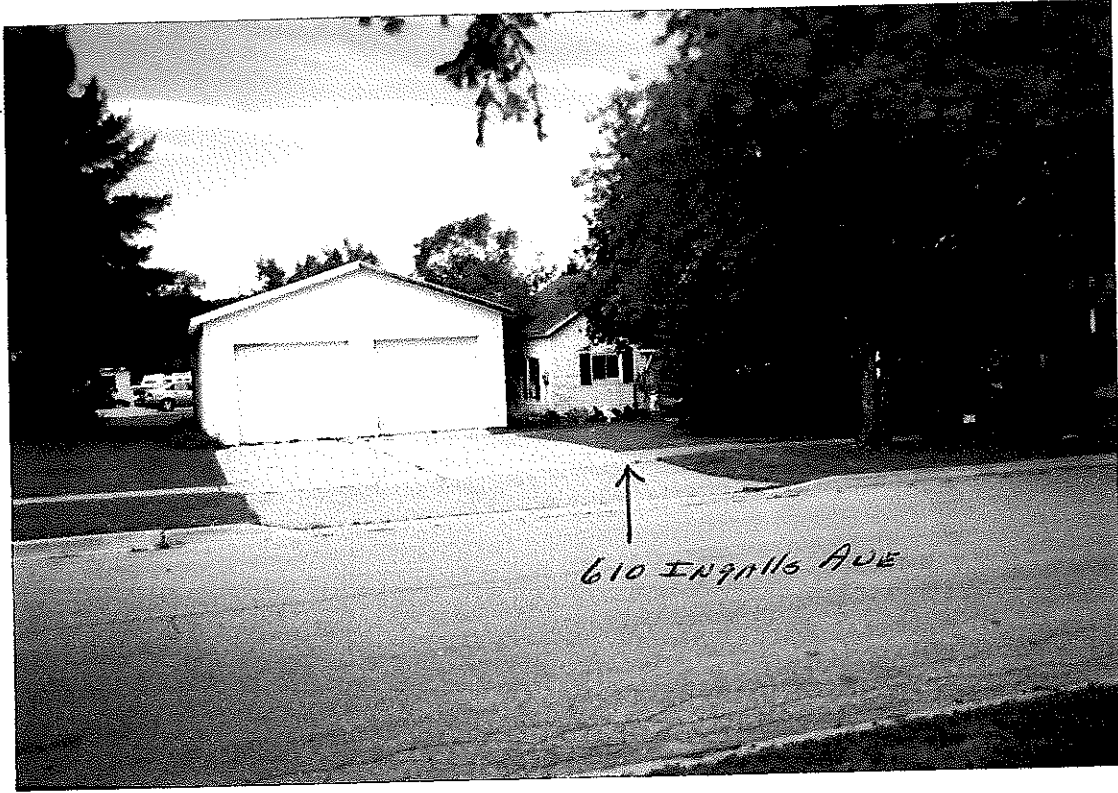


A proud family... and a suspicious blacksmith, W. R. McDermott.



610 INGALLS

608 INGALLS.



610 INGALLS AVE

9012

## Walter Raymond Bolden, 92

Former Petoskey resident Walter Raymond Bolden, 92, of Traverse City, died April 11, 1994, at Grand Traverse Medical Care Facility in Traverse City.

Funeral will be 11 a.m. Saturday, April 16, at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home in Traverse City. Burial will take place in Greenwood Cemetery, Petoskey.

Mr. Bolden was born Dec. 16, 1901, on a farm near Sandwich, Ill., the son of Frank and Jessie Bolden. He grew up on the farm and then worked in the Chicago area.

On June 15, 1933, he married Lena Marie Diem in Princeton, Ill. The couple moved to Petoskey in 1934, where Mr. Bolden estab-

lished an automobile repair business, which he operated until his retirement in 1956.

Mr. Bolden enjoyed all kinds of hunting and making wood furniture for his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lena, in 1963; four brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include two sons, Roger Bolden of Traverse City, and Grant Bolden of East Lansing; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one sister, Emma Bennett, of Stockton, Calif.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Grand Traverse Medical Care Facility, 410 S. Elmwood, Traverse City, Mich. 49684.

## Mrs. Walter Bolden Rites Tuesday

Services will be held Tuesday at 2 p.m. at the Stone Funeral Home for Mrs. Walter R. (Lena M.) Bolden, 61, of 420 Monroe st., who died Sunday at Little Traverse Hospital where she had been a patient for a month. She had been in failing health for several years. Rev. Lowell MacFarlane will officiate and interment will be in Greenwood cemetery.

She was born in Franc on August 31, 1901 and came to Seneca, Ill., with her parents as a small girl. She was married to Mr. Bolden in rites at Princeton, Ill., on June 15, 1933, and they came to Petoskey in 1934.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons, Roger of Traverse City and Grant of Negaunee; a brother, Hans Diem of Ottawa, Ill.; two grandchildren.

The body is at the Stone Funeral Home, where friends may call.

Petoskey EVE NEWS  
4-8-1993

## BOLDEN'S GARAGE

Auto Repairing

Phone

W. R. Bolden, Prop.

420 Monroe St.

# Dr. Leon McDermott, 72

Word has been received of the death of Leon Anson McDermott, 72, Petoskey native and retired chairman of the CMI Physics and Physical Science Department.

Dr. McDermott died Aug. 13 in Adrian. In accordance with his wishes, there was neither a public funeral nor a memorial service.

A memorial fund has been established and those wishing to honor his memory may contribute to the Leon A. McDermott Fund, Physics Department, Central Michigan University.

Dr. McDermott was born in March, 1906 in Petoskey, the son of W.R. McDermott, Petoskey blacksmith. He graduated as valedictorian of Petoskey High School in the class of 1924. While in school, he was editor of the school paper and was a member of the debate team.

He earned his baccalaureate degree from Eastern Michigan University; his master's from University of Michigan and his doctorate from Michigan State University.

Dr. McDermott was a science

teacher at Howell and a research chemist at Dow Chemical prior to joining the Central Michigan University faculty in 1947. He was appointed professor of physics in 1959 and was asked to chair the department at its formation in 1966. He led the department until his retirement in 1975.

In addition to contributing articles to professional journals, he was the holder of a patent for a unique type of electrolytic capacitor used in electric motors.

Dr. McDermott is listed in American Men of Science, Physical Sciences, Who's Who in the Midwest and Who's Who in Education. He was a member of Michigan Education Association of which he was local president in 1958; American Chemical Society, National Science Teachers Association, Michigan Science Teachers Association, National Association for Research in Science Teaching, Phi Delta Kappa and Delta Sigma Phi.

He is survived by his wife, Frances McClellan McDermott.

son of Blacksmith  
Leon R. McDermott

WED	8/23/1978	Date of Newspaper
	8/13	Date of Death
		Date of Funeral
		Date of Burial
	N	Database (Y/N)
	N	Greenwood (Y/N)

Cemetery Site Oct 20/78

PLACE OF DEATH  
 County of Emmet  
 Township of Sturgeon  
 Village of Sturgeon  
 City of Sturgeon

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
 Department of State - Division of Vital Statistics  
 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

FILE NAME James William Schilb

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

SEX	<u>Male</u>
RACE	<u>White</u>
AGE	<u>33</u> years, <u>11</u> months, <u>18</u> days
DATE OF BIRTH	<u>Aug 24</u> 1871
PLACE OF BIRTH	<u>Michigan</u>
FATHER'S NAME	<u>James Schilb</u>
MOTHER'S NAME	<u>Charlotte Silverthorn</u>
PLACE OF BIRTH OF FATHER	<u>Canada</u>
PLACE OF BIRTH OF MOTHER	<u>Canada</u>
OCCUPATION	<u>Electrician</u>

EDUCATION: High School

RELIGION: Methodist

DATE OF DEATH: Jan 14 1905

PLACE OF DEATH: Sturgeon

CAUSE OF DEATH: Phthisis

PHYSICIAN: Dr. L. R. ...

DEATH CERTIFICATE: 100

Schilb 61873 Family History  
 189-1892 Pchf Bides Mathewson  
 father # Schilb  
 mother J Schilb  
 mother Phebe Silverthorn

Greenwood Cemetery, N.Y.