

Early Growth

The 1840's were growth years. The Baptists built a brick and the Methodists a sandstone church. By the mid 1840's there were six schools in the Township. General stores, hardware stores, and mills were built and more land was being tilled. By 1857, the railroad was completed through the Villages of Napoleon and Norvell. The depot, a grain elevator a beanery and a second hotel were built.

In 1859, there were major boundary changes. Brooklyn and Norvell were given up and Napoleon's west line was extended to include the Eldred Railway Station at the head of Clarklake Road as well as the Ackerson Lake area. The Boundaries were close to our present configuration. These changes left the Township with a population of approximately 700 in 1860.