



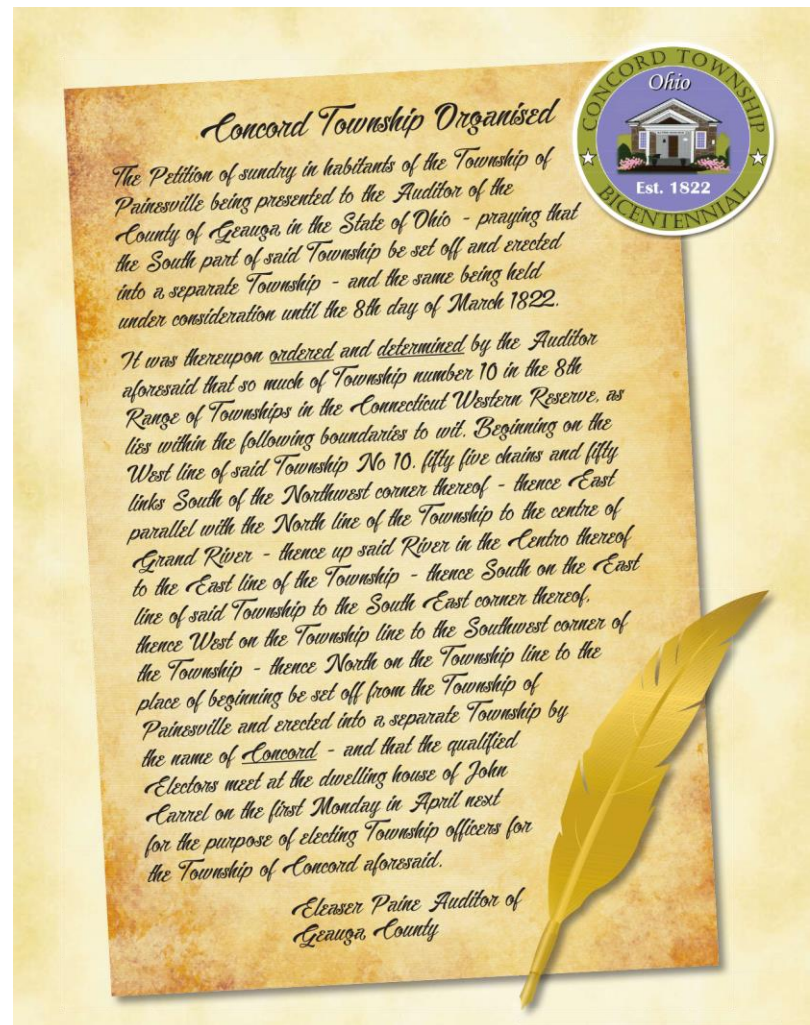
## 200 Years: In Search of Concord's Past

In 2017, Rob Morrison, a history teacher from Concord, Massachusetts, visited me and our township. His visit was for a very specific interest. Rob wanted to visit every Concord in America to learn its history and its relationship to the historic April 19, 1775, battle in Lexington and his hometown. Rob believed 75 Concords exist world-wide in total. These include city, township, village and hamlet designations. He shared the names of the seven in Ohio that he hoped to visit in that 2017 three-day trek. He had the list of 19 other states that had a Concord, including the 13 found in Texas. While many New England states honor the battle

with the name Concord, the moniker is found in many others including Kansas, Missouri, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Arkansas and California. World-wide, Rob shared the location of the northern-most Concord situated in Idaho while the southernmost was located in New South Wales, Australia. From that brief encounter, our township waited another five years to share this -- our story.

The formal beginnings of Lake County's Concord were part of a gamble on the future, based on the time-proven law of making money: buy low and sell high. With that purpose in mind, thirty-five men formed the Connecticut Land Company to purchase the lands of the Western Reserve, an area 120 miles long and 50 miles wide extending from the Pennsylvania border to what is now Sandusky.

As the land had not been surveyed, the first task for the Land Company was to have its holdings assessed and divided into townships, each five miles square. Moses Cleaveland, a graduate of Yale University, a lawyer, a Brigadier General and Representative to Legislature, was appointed General Agent to supervise the work. His surveying team consisted of Augustus Porter, Seth Pease and John Holley. About forty others accompanied them as axmen, chainmen, and rodmen. Among them were men whose names are still well known in this area today: Stow, Perry, Chapman, and then Charles Parker who became the first settler in Lake County.



Originally designated as Number 10 of the eight range, Concord became known as an equalizing township. Lands in Concord were added to a man's holdings when townships remaining in the drawing fell below the average quality rating. Daniel Coit was the original owner of Number 10 although he never traveled to this area to inspect his holding.

In 1805, Number 10 formally became part of Geauga County. **At the March 8, 1822, meeting ordered by the Geauga County Commissioners, a newly assigned town now to be known as Concord, named in honor of the Revolutionary War battle site, was separated from Painesville Township. Concord Township was officially established.** On August 22, 1831, Daniel and Elizabeth Coit of Norwich, Connecticut, deeded to the Trustees of Concord Township and their successors forever the Concord Township Public Grounds located on the corner of Old State Route 44 and State Route 608. The property that was referred to as the Commons was to be used for the benefit of the citizens of the township. For the sum of one dollar, the property now occupied by Concord Town Hall, Fire Station One, and the Gazebo, became the site of Concord's government.

In March of 1840, Lake County was separated from Geauga County so that the formal government organization of Concord Township, Lake County, Ohio, United States of America was completed.

On **March 8, 2022**, the story of Concord Township comes full circle from early pioneer residences and industries along its Big Creek, to its desirable location for modern family housing and economic growth. The current trustees and its residents invite everyone to witness and share in coming months the heritage and township pride that is Concord!

Visit [www.concordtwp.com](http://www.concordtwp.com) for a complete listing of all monthly bicentennial-related community programming and upcoming educational lectures. Expanded hours at the Stone School Museum allow community and county residents the opportunity to view the township's rich diversity, local lore and commemorative activities. A Concord history book was also released in August 2021. You can purchase a signed copy of the book at Concord Town Hall or the Community Center weekdays. It will be available at all 2022 public events.

Source- Concord Township, Its Heritage, Its Festivals and Its Horizons, 1976. Concord Township, Arcadia Press, 2021



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