

AN INTRODUCTION TO EXHIBITS AT THE NEW BERLIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM



Welcome to our History Museum, located at 19885 W National Avenue. Parking is convenient and the museum is handicap accessible. Murals on the former fire station overhead doors relate to New Berlin history.



The west bay of the museum houses displays presenting the history of New Berlin's Volunteer Fire Department, which was organized in 1955. The decommissioned fire truck is fully operational.



A museum visitor can peruse the extensive timeline of pertinent New Berlin history , with references to the two histories published by the society. Both of these books are available at the gift shop.



For more than 100 years after the first settlers arrived, New Berlin was a rural farming community. Artifacts, photos, and diary references from the Swartz family collection contribute to the appreciation of rural life.



A display of implements used on New Berlin farms in conjunction with descriptive labels and historical photos tell the story of New Berlin's agricultural past.



A prized artifact is this 1878 rake arm reaper. Ask museum staff to demonstrate its rake arm action. Watch a short video of this style reaper operating in the field. Videos enhancing the visitor experience are placed in many exhibits.



One of several stores at New Berlin crossroads, the Winton store at Prospect Hill also included a post office.



The store exhibit recreates the atmosphere and furnishings of a local store in the era before the super market.



The Military exhibit presents New Berlin resident's involvement in conflicts beginning with the civil war. The police exhibit covers law enforcement history prior to and after 1965 when the New Berlin police force was established.



The wedding dress exhibit is a popular display. Dresses were donated by New Berlin families.



A set of exhibits features household furnishings and activities over time. The living room scenes are set in the 1920s-30s (left), and 1960s-70s; the kitchen scene displays the 1940s-50s period.



Theodora Winton Youmans was a prominent suffrage activist. Her childhood home and the one room school she attended are now located in Historical Park. On exhibit is the communion service at the Freewill Baptist Church where she attended services. All three buildings are open during summer Open House events.

There is more to see. Docents are present to answer questions.