

Brimfield

Oral

History

Project



Jana (Miars) Minor

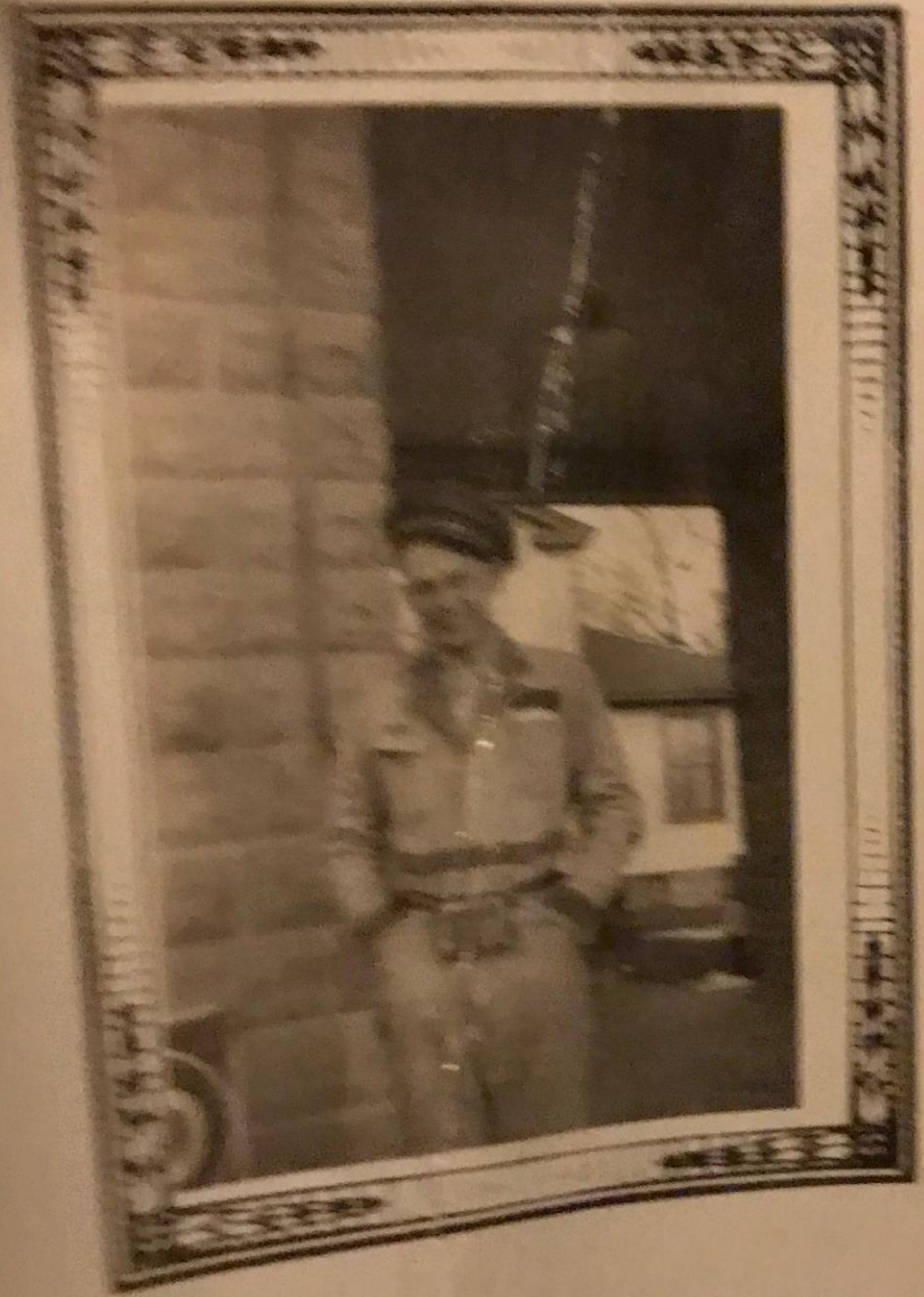
Interviewed 14 October 2021



Miars Standard Service – Proprietor: Robert T Miars



Miars Standard Service advertisement, *Brimfield News* (Illinois), 11 May 1961, p. 1, cols. 6–7; digital image, *Digital Archives of the Brimfield Public Library* (<http://brimfield.advantage-preservation.com/> : accessed 11 Oct 2021).





Brimfield Library Will Be A "People's Library" When Done

The Brimfield public library, when it is completed, will be a real "people's library" for a great deal of work by a number of people has gone in to the project already. A lot more will go in before the library is finished and ready for use.

It started off some time ago when a group of residents bought the library site. There had been an automobile sales agency there. Volunteer labor tore down the old building, salvaging the bricks. They kept 15,000 with which to build the library, and sold the rest. The bricks which were sold, together with other materials salvaged, gave them a fund of \$2500 to work with.

The estimated cost of the library is in the \$80-90,000 range, but this assumes that all of the expense in connection with the building would be paid for. Dean Doughty, president of the library board, said.

However, he believes that with the interest already shown by the Brimfield Area Men's club in tearing the old building down and salvaging materials, plus donations of labor, materials, and money in the future, it could very well end up that the library will cost the village of Brimfield nothing.

The club started the salvage work but it soon became more than just a village project as farmers lent trucks and tractors for the removal of materials and machinery dealers made other equipment available.

Now a citizens building and finance committee, headed by Bill Hensley and Larry Reents, is seeking donations which will approximate \$100,000. This will provide both for the building and its equipment. Donations of any sort will be accepted work, materials, money.

The library building, which will have a floor area of 2,800 feet in a T shape will be erected at the southeast corner of Route 150 and Galena street.

The present library is housed in a building that has served at various times as a filling station, post office, creamery. It has a collection of about 7,780 volumes and is a member of the Illinois Valley library system.

The library was started in 1924 by a group of women who were members of a reading circle and purchased books which they lent to each other. There is no record of the date when the books were housed in a central location and the operation of a library was begun.

New Brimfield Public Library Under Way *Brimfield News*, 8 Jan 1976

It started off some time ago when a group of residents bought the library site. There had been an automobile sales agency there. Volunteer labor tore down the old building, salvaging the bricks. They kept 15,000 with which to build the library, and sold the rest. The bricks which were sold, together with other materials salvaged, gave them a fund of \$2500 to work with.

The estimated cost of the library is in the \$80-90,000 range, but this assumes that all of the expense in connection with the building would be paid for. Dean Doughty, president of the library board, said.

However, he believes that with the interest already shown by the Brimfield Area Men's club in tearing the old building down and salvaging materials, plus donations of labor, materials, and money in the future, it could very well end up that the library will cost the village of Brimfield nothing.

The club started the salvage work but it soon became more than just a village project as farmers lent trucks and tractors for the removal of materials and machinery dealers made other equipment available.

Now a citizens building and finance committee, headed by Bill Hensley and Larry Reents, is seeking donations which will approximate \$100,000. This will provide both for the building and its equipment. Donations of any sort will be accepted work, materials, money.

Location of Previous Library



Prospector's Post (Galena Avenue, Brimfield, Illinois), photograph taken by Clint McKown, Oct 2021. Used with permission.

the brimfield news

Kathryn Miller, correspondent Ph. 446-3441

Birthdays

Nov. 20-Charlotte Powers, Tom Johnson, Diane Linnemann, Charles Notzke.
Nov. 21-Karen Miller, Susie Porter, Bertha Marks, Lucille McDonough.
Nov. 22-Betty Johnson, LeRoy Bruniga, Roberta Groeper.
Nov. 24-David and Diane Harmon, Tom Coyle, Phillip Hartley.
Nov. 26-Susie Clark, Paul Johnson.

Sick List

Mrs. Mildred Bostic is showing satisfactory improvement now, after surgery at St. Francis Hospital.
Mike Antonacci remains a patient in Proctor Hospital.
Doc Kelch is a patient in Proctor Hospital.
Lester Baysinger is a patient in Methodist Hospital.
Mrs. Bob Hale is a patient in Proctor Hospital.



Auxiliary party
The Brimfield Legion Auxiliary held their annual card party at the American Legion Hall Monday afternoon with six tables present. Many door prizes were given out and coffee and cookies were served for refreshments. Mrs. Erma Cheney won the beautiful homemade rug.

Local and personal
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Mercer, Todd and Stacey Marie, of Peoria, were Tuesday evening dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Miller and Fred, in celebration of Mary and Steve's wedding anniversary.

Laura

By Phyllis Hammerle, 446-3749

Birthdays

Nov. 19-Lori Beall.
Nov. 20-Russell Sherwood.
Nov. 22-Emil Paul, Bradley Nesbitt.
Nov. 24-Juliana Schierer.
Nov. 25-Barbara Whittaker.
Mrs. Ethel Emery and Mrs. Lois Kellogg accompanied Elmer Tolson, of Peoria, to Elmhurst, Ind. Friday, where Lois spent the weekend visiting her sisters, Esther and Lulu Zimmerman and brother Dr. William Zimmerman and family in that area. Mrs. Emery and Tolson were part of a team called together to share in a lay witness mission in the Epworth United Methodist Church of Buffon. Team members from Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana, under the direction of Coordinator Lee Tolson, of Lexington, Ky., spent the weekend in sharing through witness, music small groups and visiting shut-

evening.

Mrs. Nina Whittaker and her houseguests, Mrs. Mabel Shane and Mr. and Mrs. Leland Whittaker were Sunday supper guests at Cambridge Inn in Peoria Sunday evening. The group enjoyed visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Whittaker in their home in Dunlap later in the evening.

Mrs. Viola Jones, of Abingdon, called on Mrs. Villa Jones Sunday, and they enjoyed dinner together at Farmer's Table near Brimfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Whittaker and family entertained supper guests Saturday evening. Those present were Mrs. Mabel Shane, Mrs. Nina Whittaker and her houseguests, Mrs. Dale Stanhope, of Wisconsin, Lewis Feesser and Mrs. Earl Allen, of Iowa.

Mrs. Nina Whittaker and her houseguests visited in the Prince-

Library moves to new building

The Brimfield Public Library has moved into its new building, after two years and many long hours of volunteer work by the Men's Club, library board members and people of the community.

The library board is planning open house, Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This would be a good time to renew your Library cards or apply for one. If you are a nonresident, you may get a card for \$4 a year or \$10 a year for a family card. Since this is a village tax money, this is the reason for a non-resident fee. This card is good in Peoria, and all libraries associated with Illinois Valley Library System.

The library offers a microfilm, which was purchased by the bicentennial committee; art prints, words, puzzle exchange, magazines, paperbacks and more than 7,000 books. If we do not have

what you want, we will fill out a request for it from Peoria.

We have a nice Childrens area, with games and toys for the little ones, to keep them entertained while Mom and Dad look for books, and tables for them to sit and read.

National Library week was last week, celebrated with visits to the new Library by the morning and afternoon class of the Brimfield kindergarten, taught by Susan Streitmatter; first grade taught by Mrs. Jane Sauerwein; another 1st grade class taught by Mrs. Bernice Johnson, come and visit, over 160 students.

Library hours until further notice: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 3 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. Closed Thursday and Sunday.

The library offers a microfilm, which was purchased by the bicentennial committee; art prints, words, puzzle exchange, magazines, paperbacks and more than 7,000 books. If we do not have

what you want, we will fill out a request for it from Peoria.

We have a nice Childrens area, with games and toys for the little ones, to keep them entertained while Mom and Dad look for books, and tables for them to sit and read.

National Library week was last week, celebrated with visits to the new Library by the morning and afternoon class of the Brimfield kindergarten, taught by Susan Streitmatter; first grade taught by Mrs. Jane Sauerwein; another 1st grade class taught by Mrs. Bernice Johnson, come and visit, over 160 students.

Library hours until further notice: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 3 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. Closed Thursday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Miller and Mrs. Hannah King drove to Battle Creek, Mich. last weekend, where they visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Baldwin and Cindy. Mrs. Rose Baldwin, of Elmwood, returned home with them after a nice vacation with her son and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Tucker, of Lena, were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Viola Thurman in Brimfield. They visited Kathryn and Murray Miller in the morning.

In the afternoon they visited Mrs. Wreata Collins in Galeburg and Mrs. Nellie Tucker in Knoxville.

Mrs. Lillie Blundy, of Brimfield, moved last Monday to her new residence in Williamsfield. Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Stenger, of Brimfield, moved this past weekend, into the Blundy residence with they purchased.

Library moves to new building

The Brimfield Public Library has moved into its new building, after two years and many long hours of volunteer work by the Men's Club, library board members and people of the community.

The library board is planning open house, Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This would be a good time to renew your Library cards or apply for one. If you are a nonresident, you may get a card for \$4 a year or \$10 a year for a family card. Since this is a village tax money, this is the reason for a non-resident fee. This card is good in Peoria, and all libraries associated with Illinois Valley Library System.

The library offers a microfilm, which was purchased by the bicentennial committee; art prints, words, puzzle exchange, magazines, paperbacks and more than 7,000 books. If we do not have

what you want, we will fill out a request for it from Peoria.

We have a nice Childrens area, with games and toys for the little ones, to keep them entertained while Mom and Dad look for books, and tables for them to sit and read.

National Library week was last week, celebrated with visits to the new Library by the morning and afternoon class of the Brimfield kindergarten, taught by Susan Streitmatter; first grade taught by Mrs. Jane Sauerwein; another 1st grade class taught by Mrs. Bernice Johnson, come and visit, over 160 students.

Library hours until further notice: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 3 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. Closed Thursday and Sunday.

Bridal shower

On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 6, a

Prin

Brimfield Public Library - 2021



Brimfield Public Library (111 South Galena Avenue, Brimfield, Illinois), photograph taken by Clint McKown, Oct 2021. Used with permission.



Brimfield Public Library (111 South Galena Avenue, Brimfield, Illinois), photograph taken by Clint McKown, Oct 2021. Used with permission.





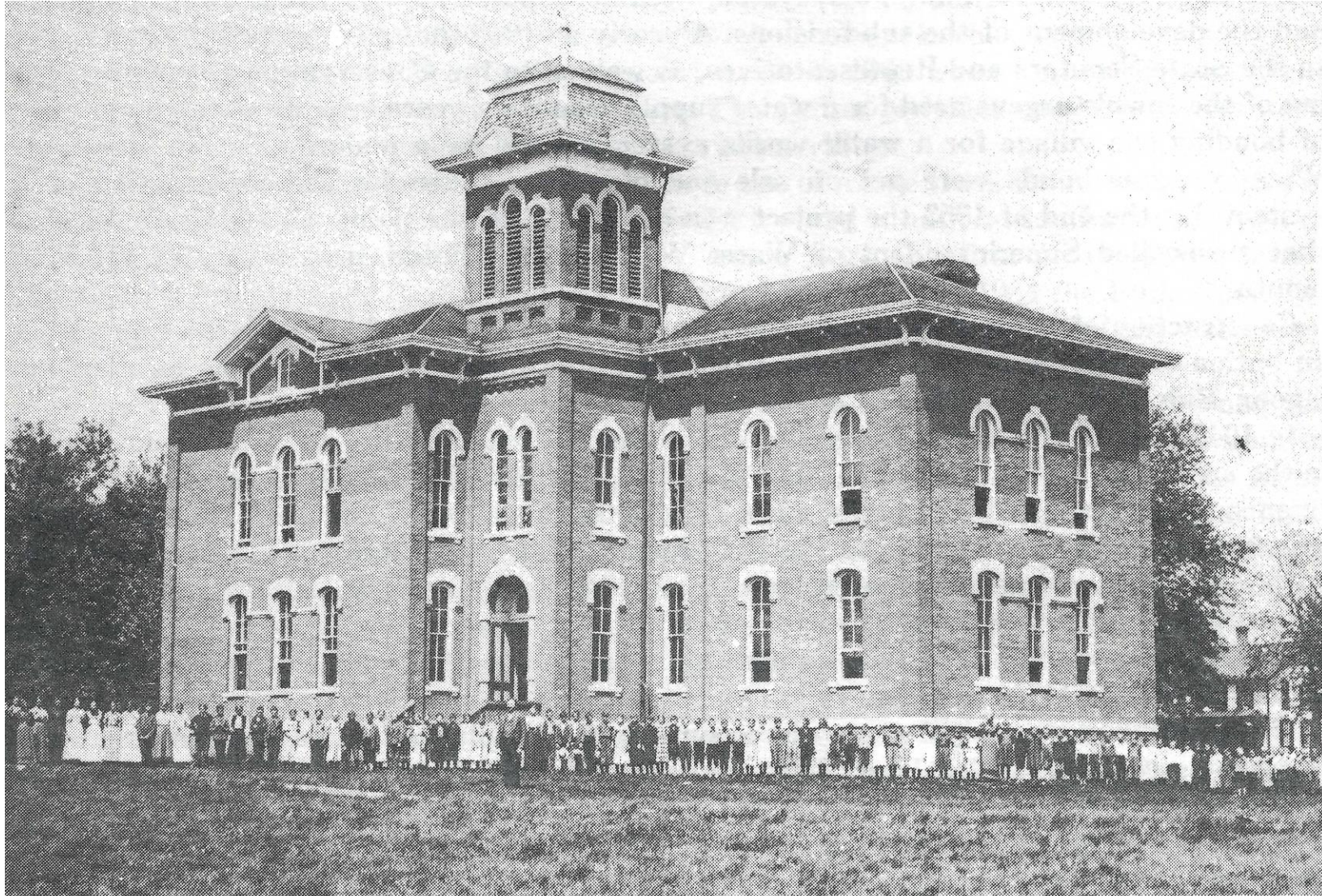
BRIMFIELD ILL.
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH-RECTORY. COPYRIGHT BY E. DUNHAM, 1906.



COMMUNITY BUILDING (1918-1977)



St. Joseph's Parish, Brimfield



OLD BRICK SCHOOL (1877-1959)

Interviewee: Jana (Miars) Minor
Interview Date: 14 October 2021
Interviewer: Diane Minor

©Brimfield Public Library District 2022

This interview and accompanying documents may be used for educational and non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Brimfield Public Library District. However, Fair Use criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without authorization from the Brimfield Public Library District Director.

Brimfield Public Library District
111 South Galena Avenue
Brimfield, IL 61517
309-446-9575