



Oberlin's history remembered through pictures

As Oberlin's 125th Anniversary as a city approaches, people are getting ready for festivities and looking back.

Many pictures from years ago are on display or stored at the Last Indian Raid Museum in downtown Oberlin. While many are identified, some have little or no information with them.

An identified picture (above) is of a political convention in 1879. The wooden buildings with awnings stood west of present Decatur County courthouse, which was built in 1926. The brick building to its left is the former Hayes Hardware, now occupied by Golt's Home Planning Center. The picture shows men, young and old, gathered around a horse-drawn wagon for the rally. In the crowd was a clown standing beside a man playing a violin.

In 1895, a picture on Main Street (left) shows people who have come to town in their horses and bug-

gies. The buildings all had board sidewalks.

The picture (lower left) was taken on Aug. 12, 1910, after a rainstorm in Oberlin. The wheels of horse-drawn wagons are in three to four inches of standing water on Main Street. The picture was taken by Young Studio and shows the present R.J. Metcalf Real Estate office.

In 1933, the photograph, (lower right) shows a parade, featuring horses and riders going north on Penn Avenue, which shows on the back that it was provided by Lawrence Nelson. The new courthouse (far south) is shown above other buildings on the east side of Main Street.

Museum Director Sharleen Wurm said anyone who has early-day pictures of the city or county are encouraged to bring them to the museum so they can scan them to the computers there. They will then be returned to the owners.

