

The history of West Middleton School dates back to 1849 It was originally called the Yellow School and was located on Pioneer Road, ½ mile south of Mineral Point Road. The original school was built for \$225.



Village of Middleton High School built in 1903 for approximately \$5,000 at the corner of Franklin Street and Middleton Street in the current City of Middleton.

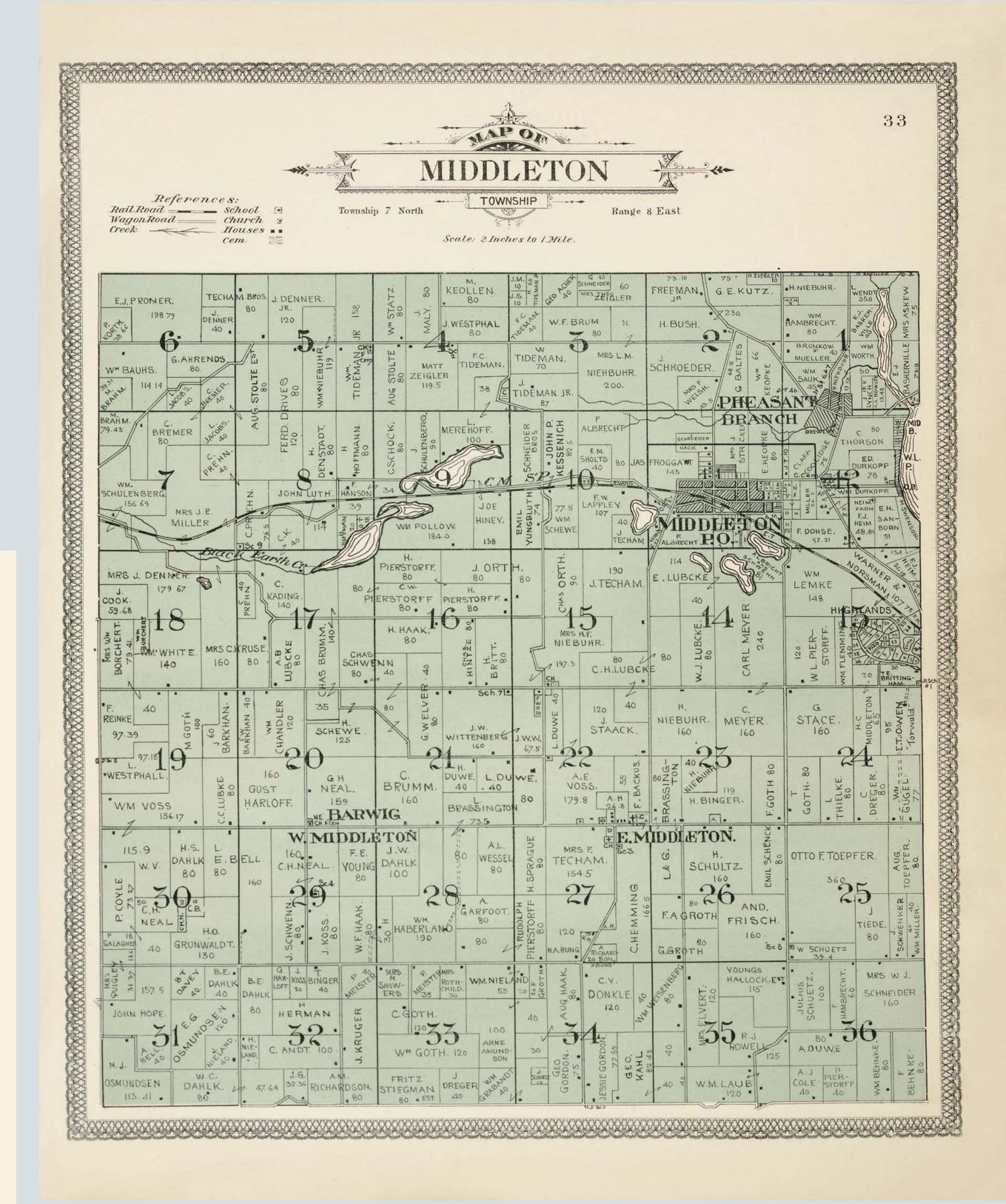
## The Town of Middleton

The Town of Middleton was organized on March 11, 1848. It was named by Harry Barnes after a settlement bearing the same name in the state of Vermont. The total area was six miles square. The approximate boundaries of the town ran from Schneider Road on the North to Midtown Road on the South and from Lake Mendota on the East to Cleveland Road (now Timber Lane) on the West. The original area included what is now the City of Middleton and portions of Madison. Eight years later, in 1856, the Village of Middleton was formed (currently the City of Middleton).

The primary business district for the Town in the mid-1800's was called Middleton Junction and was located near the intersection of Mineral Point Road and County Hwy M. It consisted of two hotels, two saloons, a general store, a post office, a blacksmith shop, and a tailor. The Town also had eight school districts, a high school and four churches. Pheasant Branch became the other business center, eventually developing into the Village of Middleton along the Sauk Road (currently Century Avenue) and the current site of the Stamm House.

Pope Farm Park is an excellent example of the gently rolling glaciated terrain characterized by rich soil suitable for a variety of profitable crops including wheat, hops, and corn. This rich land was cleared readily by the early settlers, making agriculture the main enterprise in the town.

Narrative credit: Jim Dahlk, Town Resident Photo and map credit: Dane County Historical Society



The first settlers were mostly of English descent. However, during the time of the Civil War in the 1860's, immigrants from Germany began arriving. The population of the town became predominantly German around 1880. Many of the descendants of these immigrants still remain in the Town as can be seen from many of the still-familiar names on plat maps from that era (the plat map above is dated 1911).