

Charles Feldheiser

Farmer and Painter

On Feldheiser's farm in the early 1930s, the remains of a 10,000-year-old mastodon were found. The discovery had been made by 10-year-old Donovan 'Don' Harper while running his trap line in a muck and clay bog on the farm. It was soon determined that it was a 10.5 lb mastodon tooth. Several weeks later a search was being made, which revealed to be the skull and tusk of a mastodon. The bones were shipped to the Buffalo museum and there it became known as the Richmond Mastodon, so named for a Buffalo millionaire who financed the museum's excavation expedition. According to the Cromwell Advance newspaper, Feldheiser was paid a 'tidy sum,' (reportedly \$2,500) for the land in which the bones were found.

Feldheiser's obituary listed various occupations such as farmer and painter and who had resided most of his life in this community. The Feldheiser's had no children. Feldheiser died 1950 from a cerebral hemorrhage.



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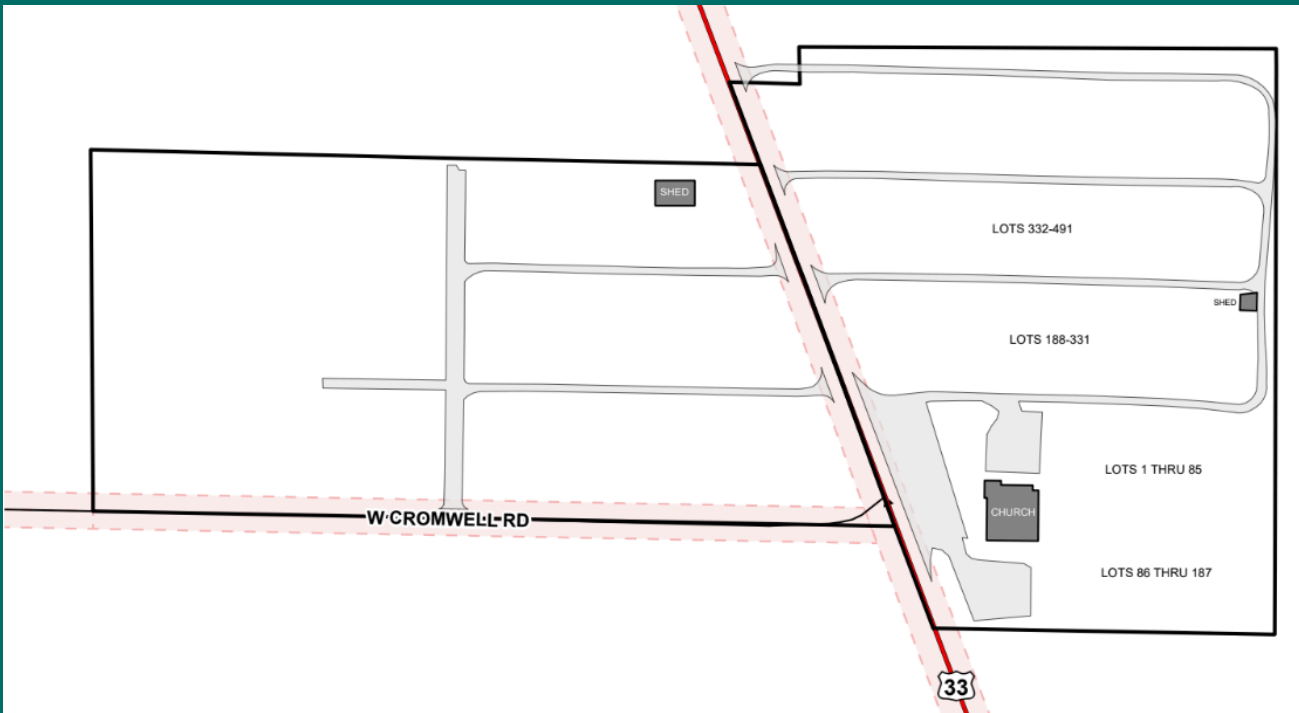


Sparta Christian
Church Cemetery
Kimmell, IN



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Cyrus Kimmell

Successful Farmer

He was a successful farmer for much of his life who was very active in the county's horticultural pursuits and the county fair association, specializing in vegetable growing and draught horses and serving on the board of directors. In the census of 1860 at the young age of 34, he owned 2,000 acres and had personal property of \$500.

The farm he purchased in 1872 and lived on for more than 30 years is now the home of the Stone's Trace Pioneer Festival, which gives thousands of people a glimpse of life as an early Noble County settler. Kimmell lived here until his death in 1903 and the home continued to be in the Kimmell family until 1947.

Orlando Kimmell

Prominent Community Member

Born in Ohio in 1830, Kimmell came to Noble County in 1851 at 21 years old. He took over his father's farm in 1863 and expanded it from 195 acres to 1,098. In 1856 he married Jane and eventually had 10 children. The Kimmells built their "retirement home" in 1876 on a hill overlooking their more than 1,000 acres of farmland. The home currently functions as the Kimmell House Inn B&B and has been painstakingly preserved, retaining many of its original furnishings, interior construction, and ambiance. This is one of the best ways to take a 'step back in time' to rural Noble County in the 1870s. Eventually, the town was named in his honor.

Samuel Ohlwine

Pioneer

Born one of 12 children to Charles and Elizabeth (Schrader) Ohlwine in Ohio in 1820, Samuel Ohlwine made his way to Noble County in the fall of 1845 in true pioneer form, in a wagon and on foot with his new bride Eliza (Hopping) Ohlwine. He purchased 80 acres in Sparta Township in what was then referred to as "Reserve Land," meaning it was land originally ceded to the Miami Indians. It encompassed 36 square miles in both Noble and Kosciusko Counties. He and his wife proceeded to clear the land during summer and fall and then he taught school in the winters. Throughout his life, Ohlwine completed 21 terms of teaching. No information could be found as to where he taught, but the one-room Broadway School was located across the street from his and his brother Daniel's land and has been referred to as "Ohlwine's School."

Like so many early pioneers, Ohlwine was as deeply concerned about the prosperity and future of the new county as he was about his family and homestead. In 1858 Ohlwine was elected to the first of three terms (12 years) as Noble County Commissioner. He said was gratified that during those 12 years a new courthouse was built (the courthouse before the present one) as well as the establishment of the first county infirmary. Ohlwine died in 1907 at age 87 and is buried next to his first wife.