

Chronicle of Overbeck Pottery is available in the gift shop at the museum. First published in 1978 by the Indiana Historical Society, the book was reprinted 20 years later in 1998 by Western Wayne Heritage, Inc. of Cambridge City.

The museum is located in downtown Elkhart in a neo-classical bank building at 429 South Main Street. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 1 to 4 p.m. on weekends. Sundays admission is free. [www.MIDWESTMUSEUM.US](http://www.MIDWESTMUSEUM.US).

The Federal-style frame Overbeck house was built in the 1830s by Ira Lackey, one of the founders of Cambridge City. From 1844-49, the property was owned by the Whitewater Canal Company. Lot Bloomfield was president of the town board in 1845 and also is referred to as an owner elsewhere in the abstract. It was during this time that the big flood, which spelled disaster for the Whitewater Canal Company, occurred on January 1, 1847.

After John and Sarah Overbeck died, four of the six Overbeck sisters started the pottery studio. The pottery remained in the Overbeck family until 1965 when it was purchased by an industrialist. It was saved from the industrialist's wrecking crew shortly before it was to be destroyed.

In 1973 the property reverted to private ownership and a restoration of the house was begun. The portable Revelation kiln used by the sisters was repurchased and moved back into the small square kiln house near the southwest corner of the dwelling. The frame kiln house has a fish-scale-design stamped metal roof in pyramidal shape, topped by the smoke stack.

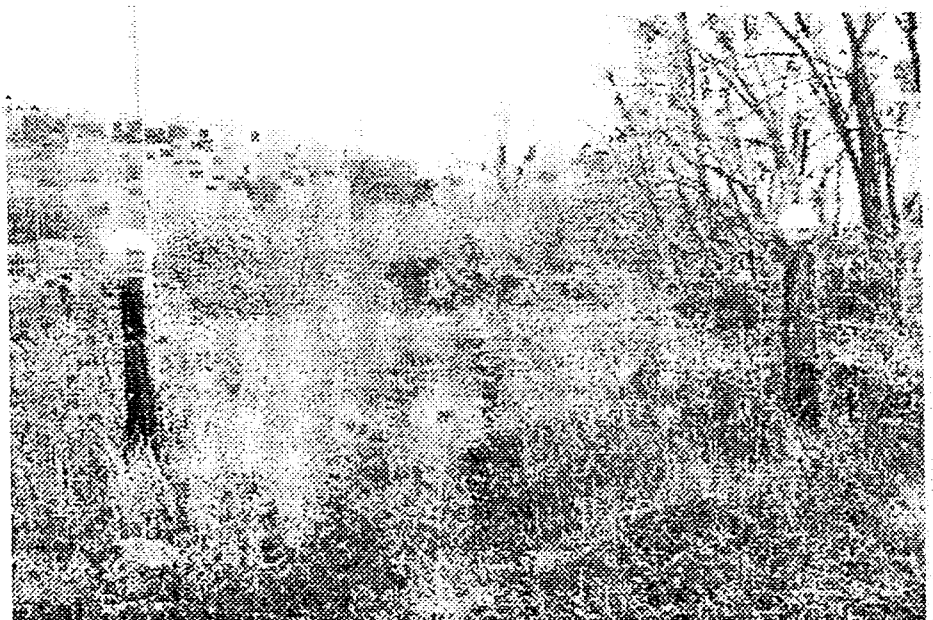
Careful restoration of the house and purchases of Overbeck Pottery and art works by the Mattheis's have the home furnished similar to the way it was while the

Overbeck sisters lived there. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.

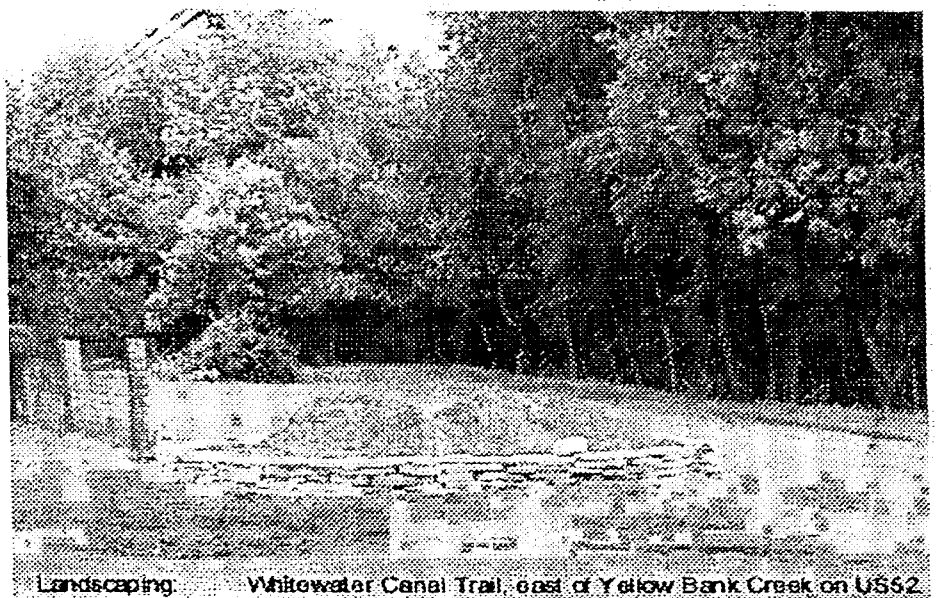
In 1972 Arthur and Kathleen Postle presented their Overbeck collection towards the establishment of the Overbeck Museum in the Cambridge City public library. In 1983 the basement received lighted glass cases to display the works of the Overbeck sisters, which range from oil paintings to fabrics, pottery to jewelry.



The Whitewater Canal Committee has spent several weekends constructing a trail along the canal near Metamora, IN. The photos below show Conner Campground before and after their landscaping efforts. Note the trail along the tree line in the lower photograph.



Conner Campground before landscaping.



Landscaping: Whitewater Canal Trail east of Yellow Bank Creek on US52