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For more information about the Ohio National Road Association, including
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Unveiling of the Ohio National Road Village of Hebron Interpretive Signs



934 West Main Street
Hebron Ohio 43025

Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at 2:00 pm



History of the Village of Hebron, Ohio

Hebron, the sixth town founded in Licking County, is located on Route 40, the “Old National Trail” which was constructed through Hebron in 1834. The trail originated at Cumberland, Maryland and ended at Vandalia, Illinois.

Hebron was founded on November 4, 1827, the plat being filed on this date by John W. Smith and recorded in the Licking County Records office in Book N, pgs 709 and 710.

The Ohio Erie Canal extended from Cleveland on Lake Erie to Portsmouth on the Ohio River, and was constructed through Hebron in 1828. Since the direction of these two major routes of transportation crossed directly in the center of Hebron, the village became known at that time as “The Crossroads of Ohio”. Later, after the demise of the Ohio Canal, the motto of Hebron has become “the Historic Crossroads of Ohio”.

Hebron was a very busy market place as it opened up the whole area for importing and exporting products. Soon, there were tanneries, sawmills, warehouses, distilleries, stage coach stops, and pioneer traffic traveling westward.

After the demise of the canal, business began to slow and on October 9th, 1901 a disastrous fire destroyed most of the business district bankrupting a number of businessmen. Shortly after this fire, the Ohio Electric Interurban Railroad was formed. Rail service was provided from Columbus to Hebron, Newark, and Zanesville, with a branch to Buckeye Lake. A huge power house was built in downtown Hebron which furnished electric for the railroad and the Village of Hebron. This brought prosperity to the village for 30 years.

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Speakers:

- **Cyndie Gerken**
President of the Ohio National Road Association
- **Clifford L. Mason**
Mayor of the Village of Hebron
- **Luke Baus**
Project Construction Company
- **Doug Smith**
Licking County Commissioner



A special thanks to the following:

Ohio National Road Association Board, Members, & Staff
Hebron Historical Society