



# Parkman Historical Society Presents Route 422 – Elm Road (Main Market Road)

Did you know that Rt. 422 in Parkman (also known as Main Market Road) used to be called Elm Street. If you look at old maps from Parkman (even up to 1985), the street was labeled Elm Street for many years due to the many elms that used to be along this road. The elm trees disappeared during the Dutch

Elm disaster in the 1930s, but the road kept its name until US Rt 422 used the name Main Market Road from the Troy / Welshfield section of the same road. Elm was removed from the maps and Main Market is the current mailing address street name since.



To the left are photos from the mid-1800s of the original construction of Elm Street going through the Parkman Ohio. It was a very significant upgrade to the community and became one of the major east / west roads.

Business's in Parkman began to center around the cross roads of what is now Rt 422 and Rt 528 / Rt 88, deemed as our town center. At the end of the 1800's, the town center was vibrant with many various merchants and business's.



The town center hosted a post office, hotel, several stores, a municipal building that hosted a judge and sheriff's office and jail, an indoor theater stage, and a band stand / gazebo. Near that intersection were a telephone service company, black smith, doctors and a pharmacy, churches,

a mechanic / garage / gas stations, and our current Parkman Community House that was originally a cheese factory. One could pick up a regular bus service to travel to Cleveland or Warren.



The current U.S. Route 422 was officially established in 1926. It is a spur of U.S. Route 22 that connects Cleveland, Ohio, to the Pennsylvania state line. Rt 422 is part of the original U.S. Highway system, the route was designated in 1926. Prior to 1926, the route was mostly designated as State Route 16, which existed from 1923 to 1926.

Today, US 422 has been modernized with the most up to date ODOT standards. Double lane and paved, the road continues to support the traffic needs of our time. Many changes of our town center occurred in the past 100 years, including a Veteran Tribute Park, Gas Stations, buildings removed and added. Our town center might not look the same as it did 200 years ago, but there are still remaining bits of history that can be found from that era. As you pass

through the intersection, imagine what it was like 200 years ago with a Buckeye Marching Band parading down the street and a bustling town center with a strong community of merchants and supporting patrons.

