

## Marion Then and Now: A Photographic History Presentation

Ever wonder what downtown Marion looked like 50 or 100 years ago? What buildings once stood where parking lots or gas stations are now located? What took the place of some of the beautiful houses or businesses that were once found on our streets?

On February 25, local historian Mike Perry will address these questions as part of his presentation on “Marion Then and Now: A Photographic History.” Perry, who is well known throughout the area for his vast collection of Marion photographs and ephemera, will use several images from his collection as the “then” component combined with a “now” view of the same sites as taken by local photographer Richard Obenour. Many of the historic images are ones that have not been seen for years and may provide a challenge for those in attendance to determine their location.

Mr. Perry’s collection of photographs numbers in the thousands including more than 1500 negative images which have recently been preserved and digitally scanned through the efforts of Mr. Obenour. Many of these were glass negatives dating to the early 1900s which required special processing due to their deteriorating condition. The negatives and scanned images have been donated by Mike and Linda Perry to the Marion County Historical Society where they will be preserved and made available for viewing and research.

The evening will begin at 7:00pm in the Guthery Room on the OSUM campus with a welcome from a reenactor portraying Adam Bauer who was a well-known photographer in the Marion area at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Historic photographs and other memorabilia will also be on display. Light refreshments will be served at the end of the presentation. The program is provided at no cost as a “thank you” for the community support of the Historical Society and its efforts to preserve and share the rich history of the Marion community.



Home of Dr. George T. Harding, now site of Burch Insurance – Warren G. Harding is standing at the left rear

For more information, contact Heritage Hall at 740-387-4255.