

## Early History of Wakefield, Michigan

Written, compiled and/or extracted from various sources by **Bruce K. Cox**

Before the city of Wakefield was founded in late 1884 this area was known as the Sunday Lake district. When the first surveyors came through in 1847-48 they noted the lake and drew up a survey map on which it was called "Iron Lake." It was not known as Sunday Lake until sometime later, and is first mentioned as such on a map published in 1864.

George Fay, Frank Brotherton, Charles E. Wright, Cornelius Gillis, George M. Wakefield, and others were among the early mineral explorers in this district, as early as 1879-80. Their pioneering development work led to the establishment of the **BROTHERTON** and **SUNDAY LAKE** iron mines by the mid-1880s.

*These mines, for such they can now legitimately be called, are about one mile east of Sunday Lake, and were first explored by George Fay, for himself and others, in 1881. Finding nothing of positive value, he surrendered his option, and was succeeded by Neil Gillis, who did some work with like result the following year. In 1883, Moore & Vaughn took the option, and after finding the ore transferred all their right, title and interest to the Agogebic Iron Co., of which George M. Wakefield, Esq., of Oshkosh, is the moving spirit.—Alfred P. Swineford, Michigan Commissioner of Mineral Statistics, 1884.*

When the first explorers came to the area, Sunday Lake was completely surrounded by a dense virgin forest that grew right up to the shoreline. The few men employed at the first explorations built crude log cabins to live in. Supplies were carried in along a path that ran from the west shore of Lake Gogebic, about fifteen miles to the east.

*The Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western railroad company has its track laid to town 46, range 44 [near present Marenisco], and the right-of-way is cut out to Capt. Harrington's camp on Sec. 10, 47, 45, or to a point not far from Sunday Lake, which is in that town and range. The company has a force of over 1,500 men at work, and it is expected that the track will be laid to the Montreal river by August 1<sup>st</sup>.—Ashland Press, 5 July 1884.*

*"It is rumored that another hamlet will be platted at Wakefield station."—Ashland Press, 29 November 1884.*

The first settlement occurred in September 1884 near railroad Siding 339, about a mile west of the present townsite. It was called Wakefield station. A few railroad workers brought in their families and built temporary shacks to live in. The first settler was named Luke Sweet.

The Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western tracks reached Ashland, Wisconsin in June, 1885, "at which point the company is constructing very fine ore docks, where the

ore will be handled in the same manner as at Marquette and Escanaba. The topography of the country is very favorable for the construction of the road and there is a down-grade from the [Gogebic] range to Ashland. Great credit should be given to Mr. George M. Wakefield, of Oshkosh, and Mr. N. D. Moore, of Ashland, who, with characteristic enterprise and push, explored this country several years ago, when it was a wilderness, and who have been mainly instrumental in attracting capital to it and developing it.”—***Iron Trade Review, March 1885.***

*“The village of Wakefield (16, 47-45) will be platted this spring.”—Ashland Press, 6 June 1885.*

*The spur track to section 10 is all graded and ready for the rails, which will be laid this week. The side track now located at Wakefield station will be taken up and laid at the junction of the spur with the main line, about a mile east. Mr. Wakefield states that he is about to lay out a townsite [village of Fink] on section 10.”—Ontonagon Herald, 10 October 1885.*

*Albert E. Cowles and Edward W. Sparrow, on November 18, 1885, sold the eighty acre parcel of land [on which Wakefield was built] to Alfred L. Cary of Milwaukee. Cary was connected with the Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western Railway Company that had extended its line from Watersmeet to Wakefield in 1884.*

*E. H. Rummel of Sheboygan, Wisconsin was engaged by Cary to survey and plat the area as a village... The plat was approved July 8, 1886 by the then Auditor General of Michigan, H. R. Pratt.*

*Lots were sold for \$125 to \$175 but advanced quickly after original sale to from \$250 to \$1,000. First sale of a lot was made to A. L. Cool, being Lot No. 1, Block No. 1. [In 1957 the] lot was owned by Jacob Gouza who live[d] at 35 Aschermann street.*

*Wakefield’s first building was erected by Herman Nunnemacher of Milwaukee and occupied by Day Brothers as a saloon. The first store was built and occupied by Hayward, Wescott and Murray, dealers in general merchandise, camp and miners’ supplies. The first dwelling was built by R. A. Harris, jewelers and Justice of the Peace.*

*It may be of interest to note that within the present city limits of Wakefield is an incorporated village that is older than Wakefield itself. Now [in 1957] part of the Sunday Lake Iron Company property is the once thriving village of Fink. Incorporation papers for Fink, which was platted by George M. Wakefield, Edward Aschermann, Henry Fink, Lyman and Corliss, were approved December 11, 1885, seven months before the Village of Wakefield plat was approved.—Joseph Gill, in ***The Wakefield News, 10 May 1957.****

The post office was established in Wakefield on June 12, 1886. James W. Bedell served as postmaster. The late historian Joseph Gill wrote, “Early Wakefield seethed with activity. Every incoming train brought its quota of job seekers, mining engineers and

tradesmen. By August of 1886, there were nearly fifty buildings in use, but few of them were homes. Almost everybody lived in tents that year. The mines prospered.”

*The new town of Wakefield, near Sunday Lake, is just now having a general building boom and if it continues a few months will see there a large and populous village. About twenty-five or thirty business buildings are in course of erection, and several firms have already commenced to do business. If any considerable number of the explorations in the country surrounding Sunday lake should result in the opening up of new mines the town of Wakefield will naturally become the base of operations and consequently a town of no little business importance.—Gogebic Iron Tribune, 19 June 1886.*

*During the summer of 1886, Alfred L. Cary of Milwaukee, proprietor of the east half of section 16, T47N, R45W, had his holdings surveyed and platted and the lots offered for sale. The new town was named in honor of George M. Wakefield of Milwaukee, prominent land owner in the area. It was incorporated as a village in 1887 and as a city in 1920.—Joseph Gill, in The Wakefield News, 19 May 1960.*

Petition for the Formation of Wakefield Township.

To the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ontonagon:

We the undersigned freeholders of the township of Bessemer, in the county of Ontonagon hereby respectfully pray that the following described territory, to wit; Townships 47 N. R. 43 W; 47 N. R. 44 W; 47 N. R 45 W., excepting sections 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36; 48 N. R. 43 W; 48 N. R. 44 W. and 48 N. R. 45 W. may be detached from the said township of Bessemer and erected and organized into a new township to be called and known as the township of Wakefield in the county aforesaid. And your petitioners herewith present a map of all the townships to be affected by the division prayed for, showing the proposed alteration of said township.

Dated August ninth, A. D. 1886.

A. J. Hayward	M. Wescott
Mike Day	Pat Day
Pat Madden	C. F. Gay
James Raizon	Wm. Frank
Wm. McGrath	A. M. Tollefson
R. A. Harris	John McDonald
H. D. Miner	A. C. Smith
John Hom	John Tobin

On November 22, 1887, Wakefield petitioned for incorporation as a village and was granted the right to become such shortly after.



“The first school in what is now Wakefield Township was typical of pioneer days. It was established about 1885 in a railroad section-house at Siding 339, located on Little Black River, about a mile west of the Wakefield railroad station. It was during the time the Lake Shore Railway, later known as the Chicago & Northwestern, was being built and before the discovery of ore or the platting of the townsite of Wakefield. A trainman, William Burke, who had been a former teacher, was prevailed upon to teach the children.

“The next school was held in a tent on the shores of Sunday lake, and Mrs. James W. Bedell was the teacher. As the cold weather came on the school was moved to Leonard’s Hall, now owned by Andrew F. Olson [today owned by Mr. Oberg], and later to the Kluck Building, later known as the Schilka Building.

“The first schoolhouse to be built in Wakefield was a four room building erected in 1887 on Aschermann Street. About 1905 an addition was added and the building otherwise improved. It was used until about 1910 when the first high school was erected. This building was later remodeled and used as a teacherage and was known as the Halcyon Club. It was dismantled in 1933.

“The next schoolhouse to be built was the Pike School erected in about 1896. It was a large two story frame building located on the old road at the Pike location about 300 feet northeast of Sunday lake. This School was closed and sold on July 28, 1902 for \$160 to John Kuivinen. Mr. Kuivinen sold the building to the People’s Cooperative Store Company who wanted to use it as a warehouse. A contract to move it to a site back of the Peoples Cooperative Store was given to Mr. John Hill. As it was in the winter, Mr. Hill decided to move the building across the ice on Sunday Lake, as that was the shortest distance to its destination. The first day the building was moved to about the half way point on the lake. The next morning when Mr. Hill returned to resume moving operations, he found the building had sunk through the ice and was resting on the bottom of the lake. It was impossible to raise it onto the ice again and since he could not complete his contract he paid for the building. Sometime later he sold it to Thomas Ashlund. When the lake opened up in the spring Mr. Ashlund raised the building onto a raft of logs, floated it to the foot of Sunday Lake street, then moved it to the northwest corner lot at the intersection of Sunday Lake and Putnam streets where it was remodeled into a dwelling house. Several years later the first floor was remodeled, used as a blacksmith shop and later as a garage and storage room for automobiles.

“The first school in the Fink location was erected about 1897. It became overcrowded and in October 1900 a contract was let for the construction of a schoolhouse in Brotherton location. By the end of the school year 1902 a new building, the Central School, was completed, and both the Fink and Brotherton schools were closed. The buildings were advertised for sale and the Fink school was sold to the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church and moved to its present site on Bedell Avenue, where it was remodeled and used as a church. The Brotherton School was sold to Victor Ritnen and was remodeled into a dwelling house.”—**From “A Brief History of the Wakefield Schools,” by Eugene Maki.**













The first village officials of Wakefield, in 1887:

Duncan MacVichie, President  
R. A. Harris, Clerk  
F. W. Heath, Treasurer  
J. M. Sullivan, Marshal  
Walter Goodland, Attorney  
Louis M. Goldberg, Fire Warden

Wakefield Village officers as recorded in the old Village Record Book, 1890-1895:

1890: Julius H. Eddy, President  
Jerry Holland, Clerk  
George W. White, Treasurer  
Andrew Schindler, Marshal & Fire Warden  
J. C. Harris, Trustee  
Richard Bawden, Trustee  
Thomas McGregor, Trustee  
J. J. Anderson, Trustee  
John McLeod, Trustee

1891: Julius H. Eddy, President  
Jerry Holland, Clerk  
George W. White, Treasurer  
Thomas McGregor, Marshal  
E. S. Jones, Assessor  
Ted Hawley, Pound Master  
Ed Cantin, Street Commissioner  
R. D. Blackburn, Trustee  
John C. Harris, Trustee  
Charles Neidhold, Trustee  
Marion Wescott, Trustee  
John McLeod, Trustee

1892: John McLeod, President (elected March 1<sup>st</sup>)  
Marion Wescott, President (from July 12<sup>th</sup>)  
James W. Bedell, Clerk  
George W. White, Treasurer  
Charles Anderson, Marshal  
E. S. Jones, Assessor  
Ed Cantin, Street Commissioner  
James Semmens, Pound Master  
Julius H. Eddy, Trustee  
Richard Bawden, Trustee  
R. D. Blackburn, Trustee

- 1893: Marion Wescott, President  
 James W. Bedell, Clerk  
 Ed Cantin, Fire Warden  
 Julius H. Eddy, Health Officer  
 F. C. Chamberlin, Attorney  
 Richard Bawden, Trustee  
 J. C. Harris, Trustee  
 R. D. Blackburn, Trustee  
 James Trezona, Trustee  
 Alex S. Johns, Trustee
- 1894: Charles Trezona, President  
 Thomas Mellow, Clerk  
 Andrew Schindler, Treasurer  
 Charles Anderson, Marshal  
 Edward Cantin, Fire Warden  
 Matthew Riley, Attorney  
 James Trezona, Trustee  
 James Tobin, Trustee  
 John C. Harris, Trustee  
 Luke Sweet, Trustee (appointed after Harris moved away)
- 1895: Edward Neidhold, President  
 George Strough, Clerk  
 Anton Ringsmuth, Treasurer  
 Ed Cantin, Assessor  
 Thomas Desonia, Trustee  
 Pat Meers, Trustee  
 Luke Sweet, Trustee  
 Vincent Williams, Trustee  
 James Tobin, Trustee

Wakefield Township and Village Officers, elected every year in April, as recorded in old books once kept at the Gogebic County Courthouse:

- 1894: Township Officers:  
 Charles Trezona, Supervisor  
 Asa F. Stannard, Clerk  
 Louis M. Goldberg, Treasurer  
 John Wescott, School Inspector  
 Thomas Edwards, Justice of the Peace  
 Alexander Johns, Justice of the Peace  
 Edward Cantin, Highway Commissioner  
 John B. Thomas, Drain Commissioner  
 Andrew Swan, Constable

Charles Anderson, Constable  
Ralph Jones, Constable  
Jacob Holden, Constable  
Richard Bawden, Board of Review  
Andrew Schindler, Board of Review

1895: Township Officers:

James Trezona, Supervisor  
Asa F. Stannard, Clerk  
Anton Ringsmuth, Treasurer  
Thomas Edwards, School Inspector  
Thomas Ashlund, Highway Commissioner  
John B. Thomas, Drain Commissioner  
Thomas Desonia, Overseer of Highways

1896: Township Officers:

James Trezona, Supervisor  
Asa F. Stannard, Clerk  
Anton Ringsmuth, Treasurer  
Thomas Ashlund, Highway Commissioner

1897: Township Officers:

Thomas Ashlund, Supervisor  
A. F. Stannard, Clerk  
Charles Neidhold, Treasurer  
Thomas Edwards, School Inspector  
David Bullen, Justice of the Peace  
Alexander S. Johns, Highway Commissioner  
Charles Anderson, Constable  
Leander Peterson, Constable  
John R. Brown, Constable (Thomaston)  
Adam Selsemeyer, Constable  
Richard Bawden, Board of Review  
John B. Thomas, Overseer of Highways

Village Officers:

Edward Cantin, President  
Thomas Mellow, Clerk  
James Tobin, Treasurer  
Charles Anderson, Trustee  
Thomas Ashlund, Trustee  
John Hester, Trustee  
August Fritz, Trustee

1898: Township Officers:

Thomas Ashlund, Supervisor  
Joseph Mitchell, Clerk  
Charles C. Neidhold, Treasurer  
August M. Gondal, School Inspector  
Stephen A. Prince, Board of Education  
Thomas Mellow, Justice of the Peace  
Thomas Edwards, Justice of the Peace  
Alex S. Johns, Highway Commissioner  
Charles Anderson, Constable  
John Kuivinen, Constable  
Patrick Gorman, Constable (Thomaston)  
Wm. Apitz, Constable  
Julius H. Eddy, Board of Review  
Asa F. Stannard, Board of Review  
John Haapoja, Overseer of Highways

Village Officers:

Andrew Schindler, President  
James Tobin, Clerk  
Anton Ringsmuth, Treasurer  
John Connor, Assessor

1899: Township Officers:

Richard Martin, Supervisor  
James M. Bedell, Clerk  
Edward F. Neidhold, Treasurer  
William J. Lavers, School Inspector  
James Tobin, Justice of the Peace  
Thomas Ashlund, Highway Commissioner  
Moses Goldberg, Constable  
Charles Anderson, Constable  
John Kuivinen, Constable  
Richard Hagerty, Constable  
James Trezona, Board of Review  
Thomas Cavender, Board of Education

Village Officers:

Edward Cantin, President  
Thomas Mellow, Clerk  
Anton Ringsmuth, Treasurer  
John Connor, Assessor  
Andrew Schindler, Trustee  
John Hester, Trustee  
Charles Anderson, Trustee

1900: Township Officers:

Ed Neidhold, Supervisor  
Anton Ringsmuth, Clerk  
Thomas Desonia, Treasurer  
Richard Martin, School Inspector  
W. J. Lavers, Justice of the Peace  
John Hill, Highway Commissioner  
John Collins, Constable  
A. S. Johns, Board of Review  
A. M. Gondal, Board of Education

Village Officers:

James W. Bedell, President  
Thomas Mellow, Clerk  
Thomas Ashlund, Treasurer  
August Fritz, Trustee  
Charles Neidhold, Trustee  
Patrick Meers, Trustee  
William P. Smith, Assessor

1901: Township Officers:

Ned B. Roscorla, Supervisor  
Anton Ringsmuth, Clerk  
Ed Neidhold, Treasurer  
John A. Johnson, School Inspector  
Jerome Shaylor, School Inspector  
John Kuivinen, Board of Education  
Wm. J. Lavers, Justice of the Peace  
David Bullen, Justice of the Peace  
Alex S. Johns, Highway Commissioner  
Peter Carr, Constable  
Herman Musshaw, Constable  
John Collins, Constable  
Pat Gorman, Constable  
James Trezona, Board of Review  
Matt Lahti, Overseer of Highways

Village Officers:

James W. Bedell, President  
Thomas Mellow, Clerk  
Thomas Ashlund, Treasurer  
Charles Anderson, Trustee  
Martin Zawaski, Trustee  
Thomas Edwards, Trustee  
Edward F. Neidhold, Assessor

1902: Township Officers:

Ned B. Roscorla, Supervisor  
Anton Ringsmuth, Clerk  
Ernest Olson, Treasurer  
James W. Bedell, School Inspector  
Thomas Desonia, Board of Education  
Thomas Mellow, Justice of the Peace  
Jacob Setula, Highway Commissioner  
Dennis Roberts, Constable  
John Collins, Constable  
Joseph W. Webb, Board of Review  
William J. Truscott, Board of Review  
John Suomi, Overseer of Highways

Village Officers:

James W. Bedell, President  
Thomas Mellow, Clerk  
Charles Neidhold, Treasurer  
James Tobin, Trustee  
Mike Kowaleski, Trustee  
Thomas Mellow, Trustee  
Edward Neidhold, Assessor

Wakefield became a city in 1920, and the following is a list of Wakefield mayors since that time:

Alvin L. Rummel 1920-25  
Arthur M. Gilbert 1926-28  
Yarl H. Hanson 1929-31  
Joseph P. Cloon 1931-37  
Lee G. Wilson 1937-46  
Joseph P. Cloon 1946-49  
John H. Kent 1949-53  
James H. Trebilcock 1953-54  
Elmer Lusa 1954  
Andrew E. Lake 1954  
Joseph Patyk 1955  
John H. Kent 1955-57  
Adolph C. Bugni 1957-58  
Elmer Hill 1958-62  
Roy W. Johns 1962-63  
Emil Movrich 1963-64  
Walter R. Nunimaker 1964  
Robert J. Linn 1965-66  
Ward Zuidmulder 1966-67  
Eugene R. Maki 1967-68  
Roy W. Johns 1968-69





Thomas Cavender, born 10 June 1857, Boston, Massachusetts of Irish ancestry and died 17 November 1918 at Bessemer, probably of influenza. Mr. Cavender was married about 1880 to Ella O'Connor, born July 1863, County Cork, Ireland, and died in 1902. They settled in Wakefield on 4 October 1884. Mr. Cavender was employed as a mine captain by the Crown Point and other mines and mineral explorations, and worked as a fireman and stationary engineer. He was also involved in the Washburn gold mine in the late 1880s. The Cavenders are buried in the Catholic section of the Bessemer cemetery and raised a large family of eight children.

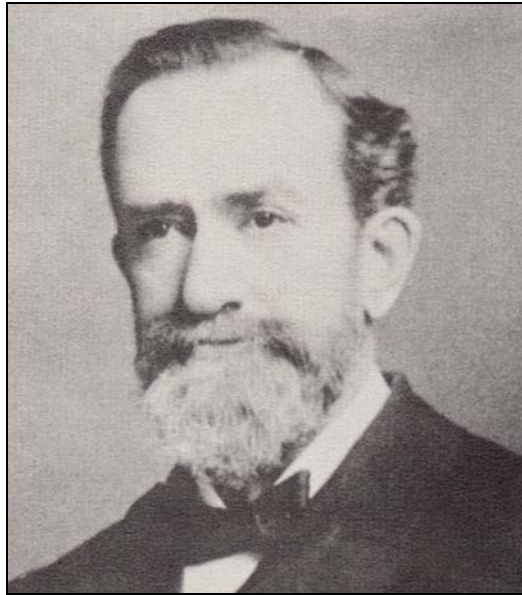
Thomas Hill, originally surnamed Maenpaa, was born in Finland 5 March 1859, a son of Thomas Maenpaa, and immigrated to America in 1882, settling in Canada for a few years before relocating to Michigan. Mr. Hill was a servant to Rev. O. M. Hohentall of Lapua Parish in Finland before emigrating from Kuortane. He was the first settler of Finnish origin to settle in what became Wakefield, on 5 October 1884. Mr. Hill was a charter member of the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church when it was established in Wakefield in 1890. He was on the church council and served as treasurer and Sunday school teacher. His wife came here in 1891 from Karstula, Finland. Mr. Hill worked in the mines and owned twenty shares in the Wakefield Store Company when it was formed in April 1899. He was married on 31 July 1892 to Matilda Johanna Mottonen, who was born 3 November 1863 in Finland and died 30 July 1959 in the Fairhaven Rest Home at Middleboro, Massachusetts. She came to Wakefield and settled here before her marriage. They moved to Kingston, Minnesota in 1902 and lived on a farm before returning to Wakefield a few years later. In later years she resided in Kuivinen Location. Mr. Hill died in Wakefield on 26 May 1911 of tuberculosis. The Hills had three children.

Other early settlers in Wakefield included the Kluck, Ashlund, Gondal, Olmstead, Ringsmuth, Schmier, Schupp, Schindler, Bruno, Ozzello, Running, Ahlquist, Hester, Regal, Selsemeyer, Strough, Anderson, Autio, Bawden, Bedell, Bergstrom, Bowler, Bullen, Byrne, Carr, Chamberlain, DeFavero, Fletcher, Fritz, Geroux, Goldberg, Goodland, Grigg, Haapoja, Hakola, Harju, Hood, Johnson, Kent, Lahti, Martinkowsky, Miller, Neidhold, Mitchell, Perucca, Pesola, Randall, Richards, Ronn, Rossman, Rummel, Schramm, Stannard, Thomas, Tobin, Trebilcock, Trudgeon, Ulvila, and Woodward families. Altogether over 1,100 families have been traced back who settled in Wakefield before 1901.

E. M. Boyer was a real estate dealer. He owned the property on the southwest corner of Sunday Lake and Pierce streets in 1886-87. He may be the Ernest Boyer who was married to Mary Casmer; Mr. and Mrs. Boyer were the parents of the first child born in Wakefield:

1. Wakefield Boyer, born 12 August 1886. "The first child born in Wakefield was a boy born to Mr. and Mrs. Boyer on Thursday morning. All doing well."--**Gogebic Iron Tribune**.
2. Eva Boyer, born about 1899, Wakefield, and married 15 August 1922, Wakefield, Hershel Ross, who was born about 1893.

George Mix Wakefield, born 6 February 1839, Henderson, Jefferson county, New York, a son of James Patterson Wakefield and Hannah B. Hall, had the townsite of Wakefield platted in May 1886; the general location was already being referred to as "Wakefield" as early as the fall of 1884. His parents moved their family to Waukesha county, Wisconsin in October 1844. Mr. Wakefield became interested in logging and real estate and acquired vast tracts of land in the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan in the 1870s and 1880s. In company with various other capitalists he built sawmills and logged the pine forests of the area, and later became involved in mineral exploration. He was one of the parties who held interests in the mineral rights to the Sunday Lake mine, as well as a few nearby properties.



George Mix Wakefield.

Mr. Wakefield moved to Milwaukee in 1879 and established a real estate business, dealing in timber and mineral lands in Michigan, Wisconsin, Texas, and Alaska. He was secretary-treasurer of the Ontonagon River Improvement and Boom Company, organized in 1880. They made it possible to float logs out to Lake Superior and built a sawmill on an island near the mouth of the Ontonagon River, in Ontonagon.

The G. M. Wakefield Mineral Land Company was formed in Milwaukee 18 September 1899 for the purpose of dealing in mineral lands, timber, agricultural lands, and real estate. George M. Wakefield, his wife and their son Vernon T. Wakefield were the stockholders, with a capital stock of \$50,000 divided into 500 shares. Most of the land held was in Township 47 North, between Wakefield and Lake Gogebic. Mr. Wakefield was also a major stockholder in the Beacon, Continental, Cosmos, International, and Summit mineral land companies.

The Wakefield ancestry is traced back to John Wakefield, who was born about 1614, probably in Gravesend, County Kent, England, and immigrated to Virginia aboard the "America" in June 1635, along with his brothers Richard Wakefield and Thomas Wakefield. John Wakefield eventually settled at Marthas Vineyard, Massachusetts.

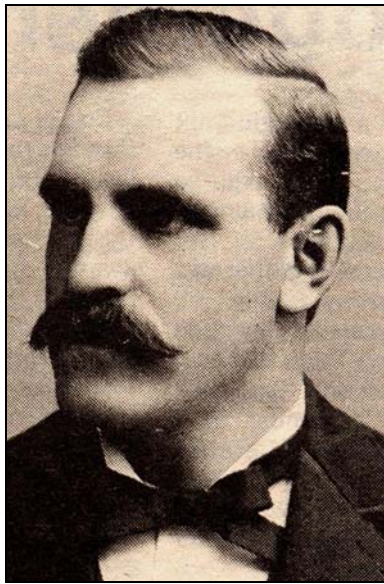
George Wakefield's ancestors resided in Massachusetts until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, when his great grandfather, Thomas Wakefield, moved to New Hampshire. George Mix Wakefield married, 27 January 1862, Eleanor F. Vedder. He died in 1903 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The Wakefields had children:

1. Vernon Townsend Wakefield, born 6 April 1863, Nepenskum, Winnebago county, Wisconsin and died in 1944. He married, 9 October 1886, Anna D. Harshaw of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Mr. Wakefield came to the Gogebic Range in the 1880s to supervise mineral explorations on his father's mineral lands. They had children: Vernon T. Wakefield, Jr. (1888-1892), Lois Wakefield, and Henry Dorr Wakefield (1894-1955).
2. James Patterson Wakefield, born 18 August 1864 and married, 31 December 1884, Jennie M. Roberts.
3. Arthur Albert Wakefield, born 2 April 1866 and married, 30 April 1881, Gertrude Russell.
4. Cyrus Hemenway Wakefield, born 27 February 1868 and died in 1901. He married, 3 January 1889, Gertrude Parker.
5. Eliza May Wakefield, born 17 May 1870 and died 21 April 1882.
6. George Mix Wakefield, Jr., born 2 April 1872.
7. Grace Wakefield, born 6 May 1874 and married 12 December 1894, Catesby W. Taylor.
8. Luella Wakefield, born 27 January 1879 and married Mr. King. She was still living in 1957.
9. Thomas Wakefield, born 21 November 1880 and died in 1931.

This history and genealogy of the Wakefield family may be found in the book, **Wakefield Memorial, Comprising an Historical, Genealogical and Biographical Register of the Name and Family of Wakefield, by Homer Wakefield, M.D., 1897.**

Henry M. Fink died 17 January 1925 in Milwaukee. He was a United States Marshal in Milwaukee and was connected with the Summit Exploring, Mining and Manufacturing Company and was one of the fee-owners in the Sunday Lake and Iron Chief mines. Mr. Fink paid a visit to the Gogebic Range in late May 1883, after which he told a reporter for the Milwaukee *Sentinel*, "I concluded to ignore the hardships incident to a journey on foot through a dense and unbroken forest for a distance of nearly 100 miles, and convince myself from personal observation of the truth or falsity of the reports which have recently been published respecting that district." At that time the journey was made by tug boat from Ashland to the mouth of the Montreal river, then into the forest along the Portage trail. A village was platted and laid out near the old Sunday Lake mine in 1886 and named after him. He was married to a woman named Rosa. Mr. Fink was called "one of the first residents of Wakefield" in his obituary, and he "made frequent visits to the city" until a few years before his death. He died a week after he was struck by a streetcar while crossing the street in front of his home.

Duncan MacVichie was an early resident of Wakefield. He was born 20 September 1857, in Lancaster, Glengarry Co., Ontario, Canada, a son of Peter MacVichie and Margaret MacGregor, natives of Scotland. He graduated from a college course in mining in Wisconsin in 1880 and worked for Moore, Benjamin & Co., directing the development of the Sunday Lake and Iron Chief mines. His first wife died on 16 February 1889 in Ironwood, while they were residents of Wakefield. He was married again, on 12 August 1891 in Ironwood to Belle T. Corning of Portage, Wisconsin, a sister-in-law of Luther L. Wright of Ironwood. She died 27 March 1900 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Mr. MacVichie served as the first village president of Wakefield in 1887. In July 1897 he moved to Utah where he worked for the Golden Gate mine at Mercur, the Bingham Consolidated Mines and Smelting Co., Bingham Copper Belt Railroad, Nevada Copper Belt Railroad, railroads of the Deep Creek district, and the Utah Coal and Coke Co., National Copper Bank, and Bankers Trust Co. He also had cattle ranching interests in Lewis and Clark counties. He married his third wife, Pearl Davenport, at Helena, Montana on 28 October 1903; she died 4 August 1941, Berkeley, California. Mr. MacVichie died 18 January 1941, Salt Lake City. **Much of this information provided courtesy of Andrew Lockhart, a Wright family relation.** Mr. MacVichie had two daughters.



Duncan MacVichie.



## **PILGRIM**

Explorations began on this location in the spring of 1886 under Captain Harry Letcher. Nothing was shipped until 1919-27, when the **PILGRIM** made shipments of twenty-two thousand tons. The **PILGRIM** was located just east of the **MIKADO**.

## **PLYMOUTH**

The **PLYMOUTH** open pit mine operated just to the west of the **WAKEFIELD**, but the **PLYMOUTH** was entirely an open pit operation, with the possible exception of a small amount of ore taken out of the No. 3 shaft as it was being sunk. It began shipping in 1916 and closed on 6 November 1952, having shipped almost seventeen million tons.

## **WAKEFIELD**

Drill exploration began on the **WAKEFIELD** property in July 1912, and two shafts were down by the following summer. The first ore shipment was made on 15 October 1913. The **WAKEFIELD** soon became an open pit mine, shipping a total of almost fourteen million gross tons from 1913 to 1954.

## **CITY OF CHICAGO**

Exploration began in the latter part of 1886 at this location on the north shore of Sunday lake. The **SPARTA** operated on the same location in 1888 and the **CITY OF CHICAGO** returned in 1896, eventually producing shipments of almost one hundred thousand tons of ore between 1896-1915. It was also called the **SOUTH CHICAGO** in 1915.

## **SPARTA**

The former **CITY OF CHICAGO** exploration became the **SPARTA** in 1888. It was developed and shipped almost ten thousand tons from 1891 to 1895.

## **ALPHA**

In the summer of 1886 the Alpha Iron Mining Company sank a shaft near the north shore of Sunday lake. By 1890 this location was taken over by the **PIKE** mine.

## **PIKE**

Captain Robinson D. Pike (1838-1906) of Bayfield, Wisconsin took over the former **ALPHA** option in 1889. Ten years later the **PIKE** made its first shipment, with total shipments of over one hundred five thousand tons from 1899 to 1910. In 1927 the **PIKE** became part of the **SUNDAY LAKE GROUP**.

## **BROTHERTON**

Frank H. Brotherton began mineral explorations near Sunday lake in the summer of 1883. The first iron ore was shipped from the mine in 1886, with total shipments amounting to two million six hundred ninety thousand tons by the time the mine closed in 1923.

## **SUNDAY LAKE**

This location was first explored in 1881 by George Fay. Development picked up by 1884, and the first iron shipment left port at Ashland on 19 November 1885. The **SUNDAY LAKE** mine later encompassed all of Section 10 and the former **BROTHERTON** mine. Over seventeen million gross tons of ore went out from 1885 to 1961. The mine closed on 16 February 1961.

## **IRON CHIEF**

Development of the **IRON CHIEF** mine began in 1884 under the Fink Mining Company. It was originally called the **ASCHERMANN** for Edward Aschermann (1834-1904) of Appleton, Wisconsin. The mine shipped about twelve thousand tons of iron ore in 1886 and 1887.

## **CASTILE**

Captain Pentecost Mitchell (1861-1933) discovered iron ore on this location in 1886. The **CASTILE** began producing in 1906 and shipped almost nine hundred thousand tons of ore by the time it closed in 1923.

## **METEOR**

The **METEOR** started as an exploration in 1890, called the **NORTON**. It was developed into a mine by 1900 and operated until 1904, shipping one hundred thirty-two thousand tons between 1899 and 1904. Over six million tons of stockpile ore went under the name **NORTH MIKADO**.

## **COMET**

Captain Pentecost Mitchell found ore here, and an exploration called the **ECLIPSE** was developed from 1886 to 1890. The **COMET** began in 1890, making its first ore shipment in August. The **COMET** was shut down in 1893, reopening in 1900 and operating until 1902 as part of the **METEOR** mine. It is credited with shipments of eighty-nine thousand tons in 1890-93.

