

The following article is from the 2002 Pfantz news-letter----

HOME

As new names are added to the list of Clem and Elizabeth (Eckhardt) Pfantz descendants, we think of the home where they raised their nine children. The following information is from the land abstract of Jean (Pfantz) Lueders, the present owner of the home.

"The first recorded entry of the original homestead was listed July 16, 1855 from the United States government to William K. Smith by means of a patent. In 1857, the property was deeded to John Smith in consideration of \$2800. The land passed through several family members and was finally deeded to William Cushman in 1864 in consideration of \$1920. By means of a quit claim deed in 1866, George W. Bassett acquired the land for \$3000. This parcel of land passed through several families until finally deeded to Americus Dakin in 1887 in consideration of \$4050. It was from Americus Dakin that Clemens Pfantz acquired the property in 1893 (approximately 105 acres) for \$6825. Records indicate that a two story wood frames dwelling (ten rooms?) with a three quarters basement was constructed on this property around 1900. A water line was established to the home in 1946 and considerable remodeling was completed in the early 1950's. The water line and improvements were done when the property was owned by Walter and Luella Pfantz. Walter and Luella moved to the homestead in 1927 and lived there till their deaths in 1982 and 1995 respectively. The farmstead has played host to many family reunions on both Walter's and Luella's sides of the family, two wedding receptions, many wedding anniversaries, as well as many smaller family gatherings. Perhaps this is another reason so many refer to it as "home."

Since the home was built around 1900, by then the three eldest sons were teenagers. It is known that Clem owned a farm south of State Center where they could have lived before building the "home."

Many of our first cousins (the 3rd generation) in their younger days will remember stopping by the "home" for a visit. Maybe you too, were impressed by the ever presence of a large bowl of popped corn on the shelf above the cookstove. We were told it was Uncle Walter's and we were always offered to help ourselves. It is great to have this parcel of land still owned by a member of Clem's and Elizabeth's family. Walter and Luella and their family have always graciously welcomed us into their home. A big THANK YOU to Jean and family.

Anyone having more information concerning this home or the one south of State Center, let us know, SOON!