

History of The Old School Museum

This building served as Dayton's school from 1900 through the spring semester of 1910. The two room school began with two teachers and 35 students for grades 1-7. Because of Dayton's growth, a larger school was constructed and The Old School building was sold to Dayton businessmen W. T. Jamison and Joe Entzminger who moved it to its present location.

For a few years, the building was used as rental property. In 1923, the structure became the residence of Walter and Ivey T. Jamison, they having bought it from Entzminger and Walter's brother, W.T. The Jamisons raised their only child, Terrell, in the house and lived there until their deaths in 1965 and 1974 respectively.

The last Jamison heir, Margaret Jamison, owned the Old School house until the Dayton Historical Society purchased it from her in 2001. It didn't sit idle between the two events however. She rented it to Norbet and Ann Westmoreland in 1983 for use as an antique shop known as Old School Antiques. When the Westmorelands left in 2000, the structure which was in bad shape when they initially rented it, was in a state of disrepair and was condemned for demolition by the City of Dayton.

In 2001, the Dayton Historical Society began a major undertaking to raise the money to purchase and restore the property to its original confirmation as a school house, and then to transform it into a museum. The Historical Society's dream was realized when Dayton's Old School Museum was dedicated Saturday, April 14, 2007.