

Historical Mount Horeb Facts

- 1828** – Ebenezer Brigham became Dane County's first permanent white settler.
- 1832-1837** – The Military Ridge Road was built by the U.S. government for transportation of supplies from Fort Howard in Green Bay to Fort Winnebago in Portage and Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien. This same railway was abandoned in **1985** and transformed by the Dept of Natural Resources into a 39 mile trail for biking, hiking, snowmobiling & cross country skiing. It is now the Military Ridge Bike Trail.
- 1861** – Mount Horeb was given its official name by George Wright, postmaster. The name is derived from the Biblical Mt
- 1899** – President McKinley visited Mt Horeb.
- 1923** – Dr. C.S. Gonstead opened his chiropractic clinic on Main St.
- 1923** – The Mount Horeb Advancement Association was formed with C.O. Ruste as the first president- it is now the Mount Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce.
- 1932** – The Mount Horeb Bank failed. The Municipal Building now stands in it's place.
- 1933** – Mount Horeb barbershop prices: shaves 20¢, tonics 20¢, shampoo 25¢, haircuts for children 25¢.
- 1934** – Isak Dahle opened Little Norway.
- 1939** – Crown Prince Olav of Norway visited here
- 1939** – The Cave of the Mounds was discovered during quarry blasting on the Brigham Farm.
- 1942** – Gas rationing began in December.
- 1957** – Clarence Gonstead built an air strip south of town.
- 1964** – The new Gonstead Clinic of Chiropractic and the Karakahl Inn are opened by Clarence Gonstead
- 1966** – "Song of Norway" musical was incorporated. It was a fictional musical account of the life of Edvard Grieg. Production continued until the early 2000s.
- 2004** – The first roundabout was built. The posted speed limit in the roundabouts is 15 mph.
- 2002** – District #1 Schoolhouse was moved to its present location.
- 2005** – Mount Horeb was featured on the short-lived network television show, My Kind of Town.
- 1849** – James Morrison purchased land from the government in the area that is now the present site of Mount Horeb.
- 1960** – Presidential candidate John F. Kennedy visited Mount Horeb.
- 1935** – Stewart Park became Dane County's first park.
- 1984** – Mount Horeb Cooperative installed the first magnetic-card-operated gas station in the nation, built next to the fertilizer plant.
- 1980** – Pamela Lunder is the first woman to establish and operate a law office in Mount Horeb.
- 1897** – At 5:00 PM on New Year's Day, 1897, electric lights went on in Mount Horeb for the first time.
- 1893** – The very first street lamp in Mount Horeb was a kerosene oil lamp erected at the corner of N. Second St. and East Main St. The project was made possible by contributions of 75 cents each from a number of businessmen.
- 1899** – The first car in Mount Horeb was bought by William Kjellman. Called the Haynes-Apperson Surrey, it had a canopy top and was seven feet tall, with a two-cylinder engine in the rear, a chain drive, and hard rubber tires, with mud guards over the rear wheels. Maximum speed was 12 mph.
- 1891** – The first fire alarm was a steel triangle erected near the firehouse.
- 1893** – The Mount Horeb Lutheran Academy opened here and had 116 students by the following year. The tuition was \$29, or \$26 if paid in advance.
- 1902** – Three loads of immigrants in prairie schooners passed through town on their way to Kansas.
- 1920** – March 26. There is not one vacant house in Mount Horeb for sale or rent. Looks like Mount Horeb will have to start to build even if materials are high.
- 1962** – March 23. Mount Horeb's own leprechaun, Alice Sutter, shamrocked Norwegian traffic to a halt last Friday as she carried out her duties as crossing guard, an official wearer of the green.



MOUNT HOREB AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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More Mount Horeb Fun Facts

- The Grumpy Troll Brewery, Restaurant & Pizzeria building originally housed the Mount Horeb Creamery.
- The Prairie Bookshop building was originally an Opera House.
- Stewart Park is Dane County's oldest park.
- Rural mail carrier, Curtis Williams, notes: I had some surprises at some mailboxes, anywhere from snakes to dead fish to wasps, and at one mail box a full grown opossum leaped out when I opened the door.
- Fred H. Hanneman was labeled as "Mount Horeb's Music Man."
- Jule-bukking, (pronounced yula), a Norwegian custom, was popular. Between Christmas and New Year's, a group would dress in ragamuffin costumes and masks and make the rounds to homes of friends. With disguised voices, they would talk and laugh until the friends could identify them. A treat was in order and then the Jule-bukkers left to plow through the snow to another home.
- The Mount Horeb Frolic began in the 1960's.
- Mount Horeb began as a small settlement called the "Corners" which became "Horeb's Corners" and later Mount Horeb. It was located by our first roundabout.
- There are 20 trolls located along the trollway (Main St in Mount Horeb).
- Cub Scouts organized in Mount Horeb in 1960. Bob Gerber served as the 1st Cub Scout Master.
- The Springdale 4H Club was organized in 1940 and the 1st in the MH Area.
- Schubert's Café & Bakery started out as Olson's, then Fredrickson's, then Goble's, Schubert's, Blue Sky Café and is now Schubert's again. Celebrating 100 years!
- Mount Horeb's first chain restaurant was A&W Root Beer
- Norsk Golf Bowl is one of the oldest 9-hole golf courses in Wisconsin. The original bowling alley was located on Main St.
- Mid-70's-Open House Imports brought the first trolls to Mt Horeb.
- According to the book "Haunted Wisconsin", the house that stood at 300 E. Main (now the Welcome Center) was haunted by a poltergeist.
- Mount Horeb High School math teacher, Jeremy Kessenich designed the only vertical sun dial in the United States. It is mounted on the front of the Mount Horeb Middle School.



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