

I doubt that if there has ever been another minister in Michigan **so universally respected and beloved by all classes, and people of all creeds, as was Abel Warren**, during the thirty-nine years of his life work in Michigan.” He was the first man licensed to preach in the State of Michigan. History of Macomb County Leeson 1882.



It is believed Abe Warren was instrumental in the formation of the first Methodist church of Warren in which his son was a temporary pastor and pastored other churches. This was the first church of any denomination formed in Warren. The circuit riding or walking pastor met with pioneers in their lonely cabins and not only brought guidance in manners and morals but also often news. Sometimes he may have brought books. Of course he performed marriages, spoke at funerals and baptized believers. It is no wonder he was held in very high esteem by the early pioneers. But the Warren City council mistakenly voted that Warren was probably named after a hero of Bunker Hill Joseph Warren who never set foot in our area and was not even known to our pioneers who lived here. **Joseph Warren** had died 64 years earlier. Joseph Warren was born in Roxbury, Mass. 11 June, 1741; died in Charlestown, Mass., 17 June, 1775 in the battle of The Battle of Bunker Hill in the United States Revolutionary War for Independence. **Both of these Warrens were war heroes and had honorable lives. Both deserve to be remembered.** Which one was actually the one they named the Township after is not important. Harold Stilwell favored Able. I have copies of newspaper articles to that effect. We know that the pioneers admired their local brother Abel Warren. None knew Joseph Warren. **So let’s honor both of them.** There is room to do this. **So let the Warren name honor two great men both named Warren. And let it honor our great pioneer family.** It is the right thing to do and it is what the pioneers themselves would have wanted.

James Fulton served as the first Macomb County sheriff from 1818-1822. **The first public building in Warren was a pound constructed of logs 30 feet square and eight feet high in 1839.** It had a strong gate which was kept padlocked. It was used to house stray animals. The pound was located on Gabrel Yates’ farm near what is now Sherwood and Eleven Mile Road. He held the position of Pound master until 1848.(Gerald Neil 8) He also points out that “Wolves, bears, and wandering live-stock were somewhat of a problem, and also crows. Bounties were offered for wolves, bears and crows and were paid regularly by the town Board.” The picture shows wolves preparing a Bison for dinner. Farmers cows and other farm animals were easier for wolves to get if they were outside.

