

THE ORPHAN TRAIN IN MICHIGAN

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Internet:

The Children's Aid Society: <http://www.childrensaidsociety.org/about/history/orphan-trains>

The National Orphan Train Complex: <http://orphantraindepot.org/orphan-train-rider-stories/>

Program Source International: <http://www.program-source.com/history/orphan-train-in-michigan/>

Books & Articles (non-fiction):

“The Little Wanderers” by Al & Dave Eicher, Michigan History Magazine, Jan/Feb 2003

“Orphan Trains & Their Precious Cargo...The Life's Work of Rev. H.D. Clark” by Clark Kidder, 2001

“Emily's Story: The Brave Journey of an Orphan Train Rider” by Clark Kidder, 2007

“The Dangerous Classes of New York and 20 years work among them” by Charles Loring Brace, 1880

“Children's Aid Society Annual Reports 1-10 1854-1863” reprinted by Patterson Smith in 1967

“The Children's Migration” by Annette Riley Fry, American Heritage magazine, December 1974

“The Orphan Trains: Placing out in America” by Marilyn Irvin Holt, 1992

“It Took Trains to Put Street Kids on the Right Track Out of the slums” by Donald Dale Jackson, Smithsonian Magazine, August 1986

“Orphan Train Riders, Their Own Stories Vol. 1-5” by Mary Ellen Johnson & Kay B. Hall, 1992

“The Orphan trains” by Leslie Wheeler published in American History Illustrated, December 1983

“Mornings on Horseback: The Story of the Roosevelt Family” by David McCullough, 1982

Books (fiction):

“Orphan Train— a Novel” written by Christina Baker Kline, 2014

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Michigan Towns receiving Orphan Train Riders

Program Source International has compiled a list of locations where Orphan Train Riders were selected. Our research over the last year and a half identifies these towns, and in some cases the names of the Orphans placed. We think there are many more towns! The list of towns follow:

<i>Adrian</i>	<i>Ann Arbor</i>	<i>Bay City</i>	<i>Battle Creek</i>	<i>Bath</i>
<i>Chelsea</i>	<i>Clayton</i>	<i>Clinton County</i>	<i>Coldwater</i>	<i>Detroit</i>
<i>Dewitt</i>	<i>Dowagiac</i>	<i>Flint</i>	<i>Fenton</i>	<i>Fowler</i>
<i>Grass Lake</i>	<i>Grand Rapids</i>	<i>Hancock</i>	<i>Holly</i>	<i>Houghton</i>
<i>Hubbell</i>	<i>Hubbardstown</i>	<i>Hessell</i>	<i>Jackson</i>	<i>Jonesville</i>
<i>Kalamazoo</i>	<i>Lapeer</i>	<i>Linden</i>	<i>Lenawee County</i>	<i>Marengo</i>
<i>Marquette</i>	<i>Monroe</i>	<i>Marshall</i>	<i>Mikado</i>	<i>Menonimee</i>
<i>Midland</i>	<i>Munising</i>	<i>Newaygo</i>	<i>Oxford</i>	<i>Pontiac</i>
<i>Quincy</i>	<i>Rose Twp.</i>	<i>Rome</i>	<i>Romeo</i>	<i>Saranac</i>
<i>Tecumseh</i>	<i>Tyrone</i>	<i>Vandalia</i>	<i>Wayne County</i>	<i>Ypsilanti</i>

If you know of an Orphan Train Rider from your area, please let us know. We are trying to build a registry of Orphan Train Riders in Michigan. The period of placement started in 1854 and continued until 1927. We hope to find some survivors from the last placement in the 1920's. Please spread the word about our efforts. Also check out our website at www.program-source.com for other preservation videos from our library. We would highly recommend reading "The Orphan Trains" by Marilyn Irwin Holt, a fascinating book on "placing out" in America.

Sincerely,

Al Eicher

Dave Eicher

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WWW.PROGRAM-SOURCE.COM

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Orphanages offering Children to New York Children's Aid Society

1. The New York Infant Asylum - NYC
2. The Babies Mission – 442 West 23rd St NYC
3. Wartburg Orphanage - Mt. Vernon, N Y
4. Five Points House of Industry – NYC
5. The Children's Fold – NYC
6. The County House for Children – Albany, NY
7. The Boy's Lodging House – 44th St. NYC
8. The Orphan Asylum – Utica, NY
9. Albany State Asylum – NY
10. Rochester Orphanage – NY
11. Harmel Salvation Arm Group – Harmel, NY
12. Superintendent of the Poor – Binghamton, NY
13. The New York Orphan Asylum – Utica, NY
14. The New York Hospital – NYC
15. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children - NYC
16. The House of Refuge – Brooklyn, NY
17. The Covent of Protestants – NYC
18. Do-Ye-Next-Thing Society – NY
19. The Newark Custodial Asylum – New Jersey
20. The Home of the Friendless – NYC
21. The Elizabeth Home Reform School – NYC
22. Ogdensburgh, New York Home – Ogdensburg, NY
23. The House of Mercy – NYC
24. Chappauqua Sanitorium – NY
25. Sheltering Arms Nursery of Brooklyn – Brooklyn, NY
26. Staten Island Nursery & Hospital – Staten Island, NY
27. The Binghamton Orphan Home – Binghamton, NY
28. The House of Refuge – Randall's Island, NY

Note: As the New York Children's Aid Society grew in services they had 26 locations to care for orphaned and abandoned children. The Boston Home for Little Wanderers, The New York Foundling Hospital, Sister's of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Sister's of Our Lady of Charity and Refuge, The Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catholic Children, St. Mary's Male Orphan Asylum, Home for the Friendless and the Seamen's Home were only a few providing children for the westward bound Orphan Trains. They were independent from the NYCAS.

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