

Biographical Sketch of Hononegah

From the sign outside Hononegah & Stephen Mack Jr. home

Ho-no-ne-gah

Ho-no-ne-gah was the Potawatomi Indian Wife of Stephen Mack, the first white settler in the Rock River Valley. Mack met her in the 1820's while trading with Indians near the present village of Grand Detour. In 1929 Ho-no-ne-gah and her husband moved north to land near the mouth of the Pecatonica river (Present Macktown Forest Preserve) and there brought up a family of nine children. Ho-no-ne-gah never assimilated into the white culture, retaining her Indian dress and manners throughout her lifetime.