

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]

## FELCH TOWNSHIP

Organized October 9, 1882, embracing T42N – T43N of R29W – R30W – R31W (set off from Ely township, Marquette County); boundary changes: (1) T44N of R28W – R29W – R30W attached May 21, 1891, to Dickinson County as organized; (2) T44N of R29W and T42N – T43N – T44N of R30W set off March 9, 1892, and organized as Sagola Township; (3) E ½ of T43N – T44N of R28W detached October 19, 1908, and included in West Branch Township as organized; named for Felch Mountain Range, a belt of iron ore named for Alpheus Felch (1806-1896), governor of Michigan (1845-1847).

**FELCH:** Settlement established in Felch Township in early 1880's; **See FELCH MOUNTAIN and METROPOLITAN;** name comes from Felch Mountain Range, a belt of iron ore named for Alpheus Felch, governor of Michigan (1845-1847); post office established March 13, 1906, with Andrew Rian, postmaster.



**A Drive to Felch from Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1909:** This real photo postcard view identified as "A Drive to Felch from Metropolitan Photo by E. Brukardt" is postmarked Bark River, Michigan, July 21, 1909 and was taken by E. Brukardt (Ernest Robert Brukardt, amateur photographer who worked as a railroad station agent) shows the road from Felch to Metropolitan with a few houses visible at the upper right. [William J. Cummings]

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

*[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]*



**View of Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1907:** This real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows numerous houses and fields on the right and Felch's business district at the upper left. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*



# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**Bird's Eye View of Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Bird's eye View Felch Mich. Photo by E. Brukart" is postmarked Felch, Michigan, September 1, 1910 and was and was taken by E. Brukart (Ernest Robert Brukart, amateur photographer who worked as a railroad station agent). This overview of Felch shows Dr. Whiteshield's office in the false-front building, formerly Rian's house, and Rian's Hotel left of center. The Metropolitan school house is in the lower right. [William J. Cummings]

[Ernest Robert Brukart, son of Henry and Augusta Brukart, was born February 15, 1884 in Michigan. The Henry Brukart family was living in Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, according to the U.S. Federal Census for 1900. Henry and Augusta Brukart, both born in Germany in about 1862, were the parents of Ernest, son, 15; Martha, daughter, 14; William, son, 13; Henry, son, 11; Herman, son, 9; Arthur, son, 5; Otto, son, 4; and Richard, son, 2. All of the children were born in Michigan. In the U.S. Federal Census for 1910 for Bark River, Delta County, Michigan, Ernest Burkardt [sic – Brukart], 26, was living with his brother, William Burkardt [sic – Brukart], 22. In the U.S. Federal Census for 1920 for Spalding, Menominee County, Michigan, Ernest R. Bruhart, 35, and his wife, Gertrude M. (Solberg) were listed with Charles H.E., son, 7; Hearold A., son, 4; and Gertrude E., daughter, 2. All three children were born in Michigan.]

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**Main Street, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1907:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Main Street, Felch, Mich. R.B." was taken by [E.] R.B. (Ernest Robert Bruhardt, amateur photographer who worked as a railroad station agent) and is postmarked Metropolitan, Michigan, May 9, 1907. The view shows Felch's Main Street looking north from Solberg's Hill with the road in foreground. Note the horse and wagon just across the railroad tracks going north. The larger two-story building with two gables on the east (right) side of the street is the Rian Hotel, owned by Andrew Rian. The large white building on the west (left) side of the street is Andrew Rian's original store. The Chicago & Northwestern Railway Depot is at the far right of the photograph on the other side of the train tracks. [William J. Cummings]

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1914:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Felch, Mich." is, postmarked Felch, Michigan, June 17, 1914, and shows Felch's Main Street. The large two-story white building on the west (left) side of the street is Andrew Rian's original store. The larger two-story building with two gables and a porch on the east (right) side of the street is the Rian Hotel, owned by Andrew Rian, and the two-story brick-fronted building to the right of the hotel is Andrew Rian's new store. [eBay]



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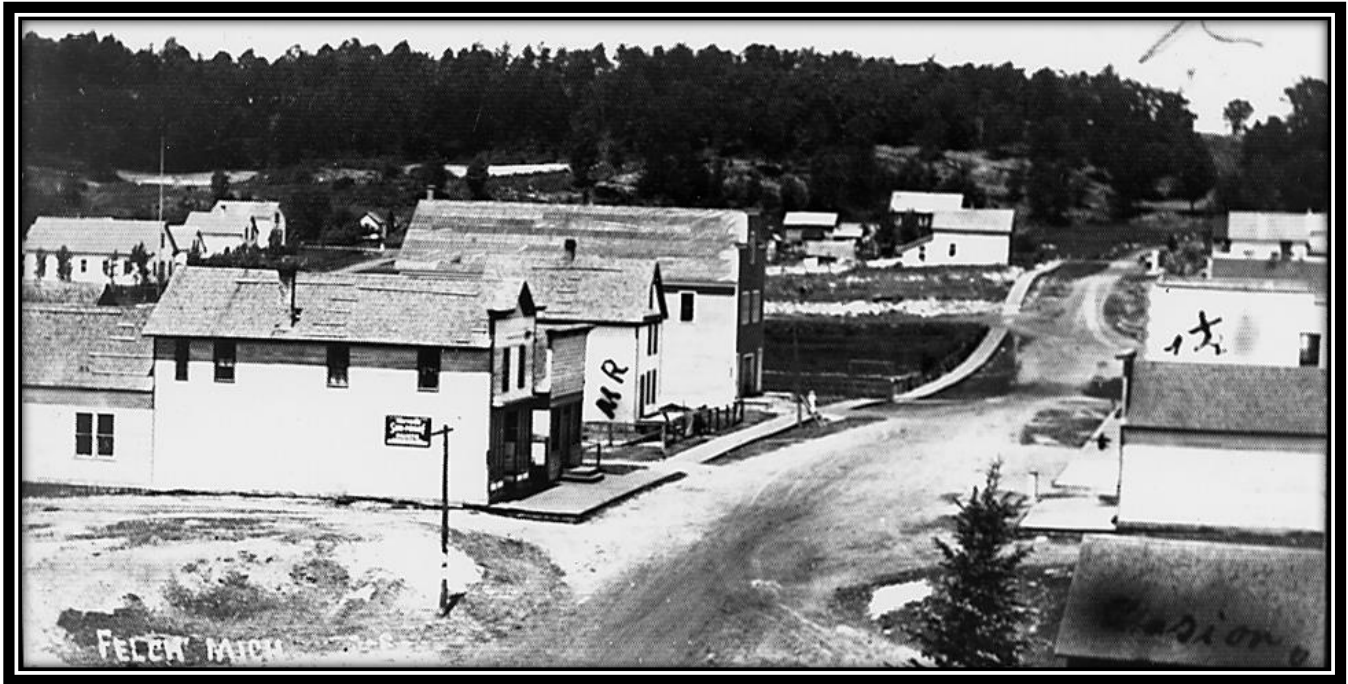
[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



**Main Street, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1915:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Main Street, Felch, Mich." shows Felch's Main Street looking north. J.B. Fry was running the Metropolitan Hotel in Metropolitan by 1889, when Felch Township was still a part of Marquette County. Fry continued as the hotel's proprietor until at least 1895. John J. Ovist acquired the building between 1903 and 1905, operating a general store. The store retained the name Metropolitan Store even after the settlement took the name Felch in the latter part of the first decade of the twentieth century when this photograph was taken. Ovist sold his business to Carl A. Carlson, John Blomquist and Iver Blomquist in late March or early April, 1916. They operated the business under the name of the Felch Supply Company. [eBay]

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**Main Street, From Solberg's Hill Looking North, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1912:** This detail of a real photo postcard view identified as "Felch, Mich." was taken after the summer of 1912 and looks north, showing the board sidewalk running along the west (left) side of the main street. Andrew Rian's original store is the first two-story white building on the west (left) side. Andrew Rian's new store, a stone and brick structure erected during the summer of 1912, is the second building on the east (right) side, marked with an "X" and the initials "A.R." [Beatrice Blomquist]

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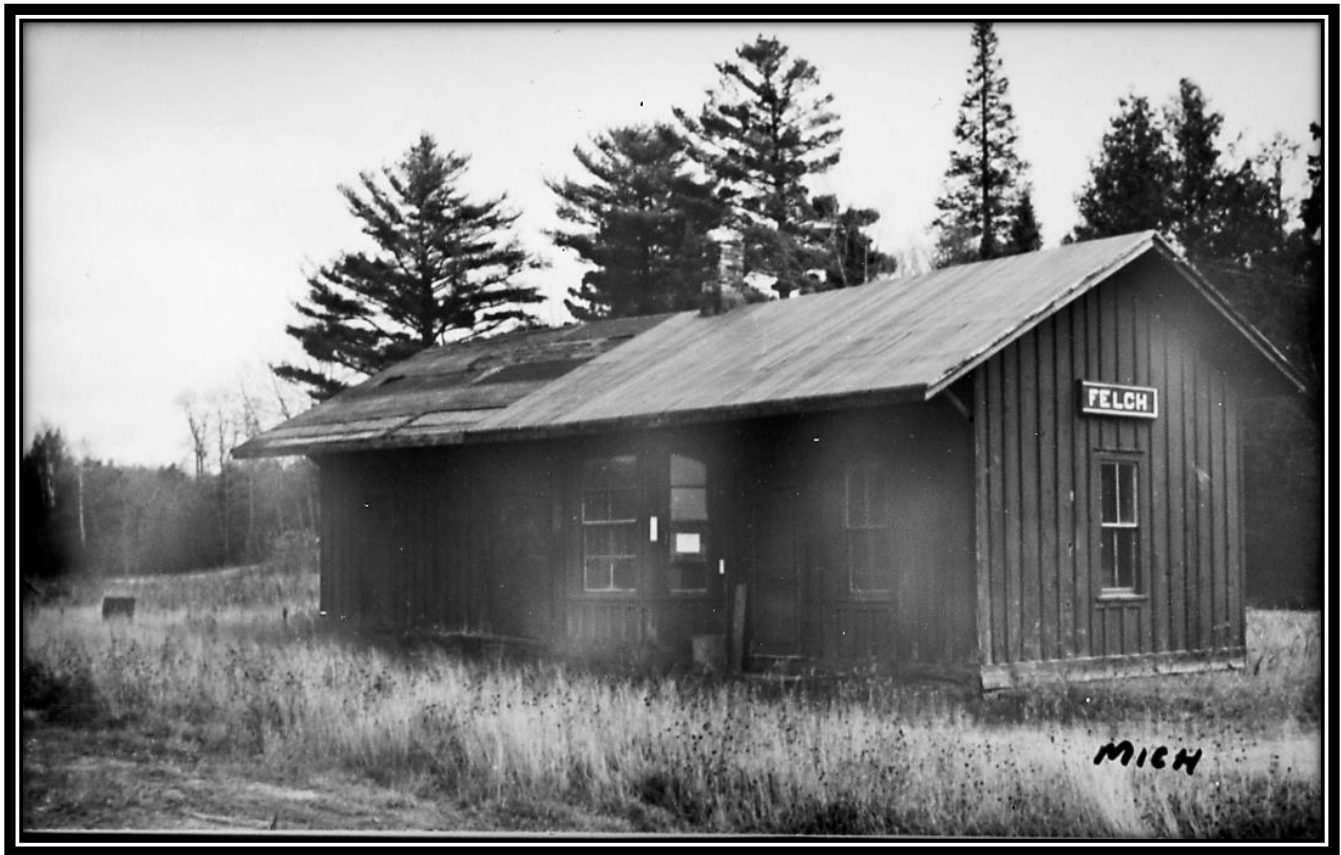


**Main Street, From Solberg's Hill Looking North, with Chicago & Northwestern Train, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1916:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Main St., Felch, Mich." was taken from Solberg's Hill looking north in about 1916. The Chicago & North-Western Railway Depot is visible in front of the passenger car at the east (right) side of the street. The residence of E.R. Burkardt, section foreman, can also be seen behind the passenger car. The second building beyond the Burkardt house was Andrew Rian's new store, a stone and brick structure erected during the summer of 1912. Rian's former store was located directly across the street on the west (right) side. Beyond Rian's new store is the Rian Hotel, and beyond the hotel is the Rian residence. Dr. Whiteshield, of Detroit, decided to open a practice in Felch in August, 1910, and leased the residence in which he practiced both medicine and dentistry, and also operated a drug store in the basement. Note the early automobiles along the street. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*



# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Depot, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1950-1960:** This unused real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Depot with the tracks going southward on the west side of the building. This image was printed on Kodak paper and was reproduced from an original photograph. [William J. Cummings]

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**A View of Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1950-1960:** This real photo postcard view identified as "A View of Felch, Mich. N1782" is postmarked Iron Mountain, Michigan, November 17, 1964. Looking north, this view shows the highway passing through Felch in about 1950-1960. The Metropolitan Store, later the Felch Supply Company, is the first building at the left. [William J. Cummings]

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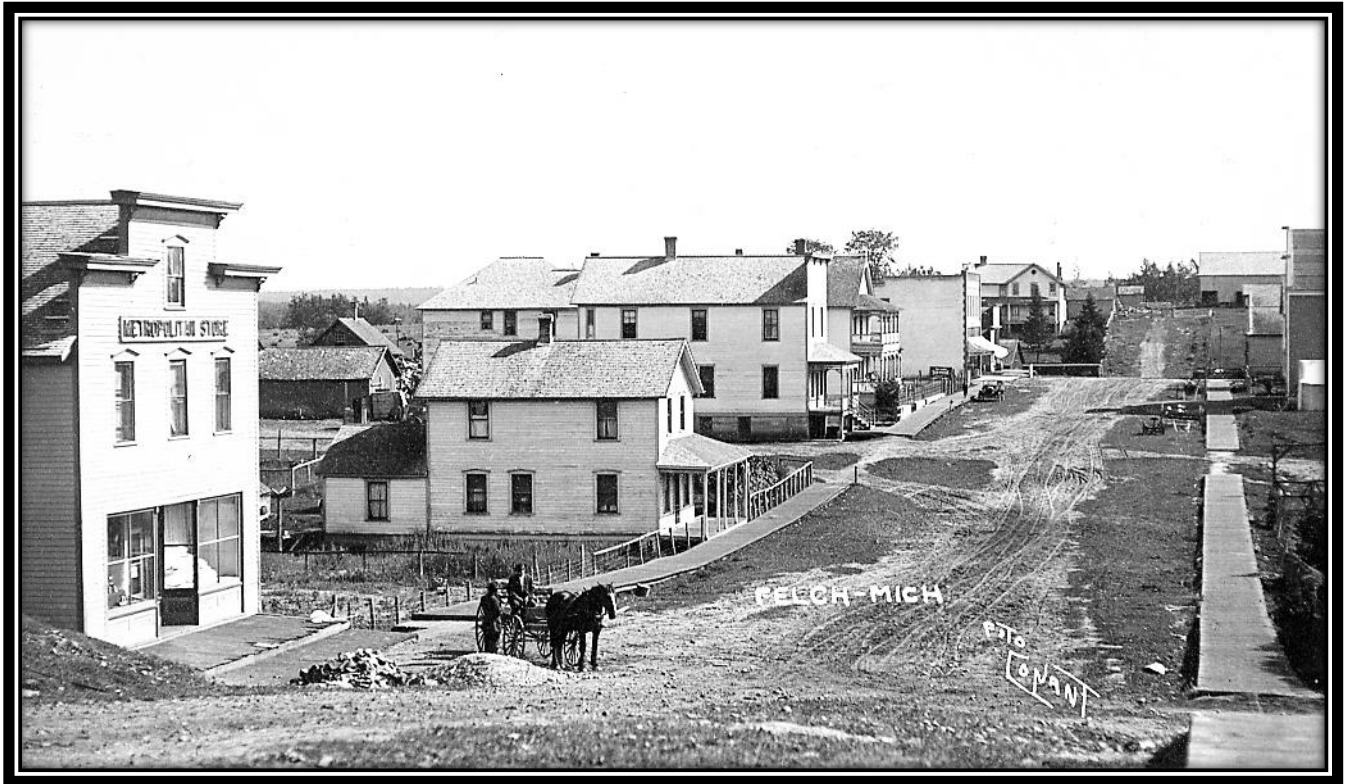


**Metropolitan Store, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1907-1910:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Felch, Mich. E.R.B." was taken by E.R.B. (Ernest Robert Brukart, amateur photographer who worked as a railroad station agent in Felch) in about 1907-1910. J.B. Fry was running the Metropolitan Hotel in Metropolitan by 1889, when Felch Township was still a part of Marquette County. Fry continued as the hotel's proprietor until at least 1895. John J. Ovist acquired the building between 1903 and 1905, operating a general store. The store retained the name Metropolitan Store even after the settlement took the name Felch in the latter part of the first decade of the twentieth century when this photograph was taken. Ovist sold his business to Carl A. Carlson, John Blomquist and Iver Blomquist in late March or early April, 1916. They operated the business under the name of the Felch Supply Company. In later years employees lived in apartments upstairs. Axel Branback was the last occupant. Note the horse tied to a post, patiently waiting while his owner purchased the supplies needed at home. [Leona Coppo]



# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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**Main Street, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1916:** This real photo postcard identified as “**Felch, Mich. Foto Conant**” is postmarked Felch, Michigan, August 10, 1916, and shows a view of the main street in Felch. Conant was a photographer in Escanaba, Michigan. The Rian Hotel is the building with the two-story porch. J.B. Fry was running the Metropolitan Hotel in Metropolitan by 1889, when Felch Township was still a part of Marquette County. Fry continued as the hotel’s proprietor until at least 1895. John J. Ovist acquired the building between 1903 and 1905, operating a general store. The store retained the name Metropolitan Store even after the settlement took the name Felch in the latter part of the first decade of the twentieth century when this photograph was taken. Ovist sold his business to Carl A. Carlson, John Blomquist and Iver Blomquist in late March or early April, 1916. They operated the business under the name of the Felch Supply Company. In later years employees lived in apartments upstairs. Axel Branback was the last occupant. [William J. Cummings]

[Arthur M. Conant, son of D.J. and Annie (Stury) Conant, was born in about 1883 in Michigan. D.J. Conant was born in New York and Annie Stury was born in Germany. Arthur M. Conant married Margaret J. Birmingham, daughter of William J. and Mary (Dennis) Birmingham, in Escanaba, Delta County, Michigan, on July 3, 1907. Margaret was born in about 1886 in Michigan. In the 1910 U.S. Federal Census Arthur and Margaret Conant were living in Menominee (Ward 2), Menominee County, Michigan. In the 1930 U.S. Federal Census Arthur M. Conant was living in Menominee, Menominee County, Michigan, and was divorced. Arthur M. Conant died February 4, 1960 in Menominee, Menominee County, Michigan and is buried in Riverside Cemetery.]

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**Andrew Rian Family in Wagon in Front of Rian Hotel, Metropolitan/Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1902:** The Andrew Rian family posed for the photographer in front of the Rian Hotel in Metropolitan (now Felch) in their three-seated wagon in about 1902. Olaf, Anna and Minnie Rian are seated in the front seat. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew (Anna Beseth) Rian are seated in the middle with Gilbert. Mr. and Mrs. Martin (Mary Beseth) Rian are seated in the back seat. Andrew Rian and Martin Rian were not related, although both came from Borsen, Trondheim, Norway. Andrew's first wife, Anna (Rosvold) Rian, died on October 29, 1899, before the construction of the new house which was also the hotel was completed. Note the turned posts and spindles used to form railings and decoration on the hotel's porch and balcony. Andrew Rian married Anna Beseth about a year later. She was also born in Borsen, Trondheim, Norway, and came to Felch with her sister Mary Beseth in May, 1900. In 1906 Andrew Rian had a blacksmith shop built and hired a blacksmith to work there. (Blacksmiths who worked in the Rian Blacksmith Shop included Olaf Pearson, Alfred Pearson, Joseph Louris, Louis Byers, Andrew Engelquist, and Alphonse LaLlonde.) In 1907 an addition was built onto the hotel. Teachers boarded there, as well as workmen. In July, 1912, a foundation was started for a new store which was finished in May, 1913. The Rians moved into the new store on May 19, 1913. Andrew Rian also built a creamery in 1913, and then built a larger one in 1928. (Buttermakers who worked at the creamery included Mr. Buck and Christian HJochumsen, who began work in February, 1925, coming from Bark River, Michigan.) Andrew Rian also had logging camps. Martin Rian was foreman for many years, but was not a relative, although he also came from Norway, Europe. [John Aune]



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**Main Street with Rian's Hotel and Rian's Store, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1916:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Felch, Mich. Foto Conant" is postmarked Felch, Michigan, January 21, 1916, shows Rian's Hotel and Rian's Store with two early automobiles. Conant was a photographer in Escanaba, Michigan. [William J. Cummings]



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**Main Street with Rian's Hotel and Rian's Store, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1927:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Rian's Store and Hotel, Felch, Mich." is postmarked Felch, Michigan, August 12, 1927. This postcard view shows the hotel and general store run by Andrew Rian and his wife Anna (Beseth) Rian. The Rian Hotel boasted ornate porches on two levels with lots of gingerbread woodwork. The Rian Store, identified on top as "19 A. RIAN 12," was a two-story stone and brick structure erected during the summer of 1912. Andrew Rian, born in Borsen, Trondheim, Norway, in 1859, immigrated to America in 1881 with his brother, Olaf Rian, when Andrew was 21 years old. They settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Andrew worked as a carpenter until the fall of 1881, when he went to Hermansville and worked in the sawmill. In the spring of 1882 he came to Felch (then known as Metropolitan), where he started a shoemaker shop and made boots and shoes, using the skills in that trade he had learned in Norway, Europe. Anna Rosvold, a native of Borsen, Trondheim, Norway, had also immigrated to America in 1881, settling in Metropolitan, where she worked for Captain and Mrs. Felch as a housemaid. She then went to Racine, Wisconsin, and worked for a Norwegian family there. Andrew had written to Anna Rosvold in Racine from time to time. In the spring of 1885, Andrew Rian went to Racine, telling the Felch Flyer train conductor, Mr. Gibbs, he was going "to buy a pair of shoes." When he returned a week later, he was married to Anna Rosvold, and Mr. Gibbs said, "Well, you bought a pretty good pair of shoes, Andrew." Andrew and Anna (Rosvold) Rian were the parents of eight children, four of whom – Olaf, Minnie, Anna and Gilbert – lived to adulthood. The Rians bought an old building for \$125 after a few years of marriage, and moved the shoemaker shop into it, and later added a small grocery store. As the store prospered and the children grew, they, too, helped in the store. A new home was under construction in the summer of 1899, but Anna (Rosvold) Rian died on October 29 before the house was finished. [William J. Cummings]

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**Helmer's General Store, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1950-1960:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Helmer's General Store, Felch, Mich. 178-H" is postmarked Felch, Michigan, November 17, 1960. Formerly Rian's Store, the foundation for this brick and stone structure was started in July, 1912, and the store was opened May 19, 1913. Andrew Rian died November 19, 1942. Exactly when it became Helmer's Store is not known at the time of this writing. Note that bread was 21 cents a loaf, 10 pounds of flour was 93 cents and ice cream was 69 cents. [William J. Cummings]



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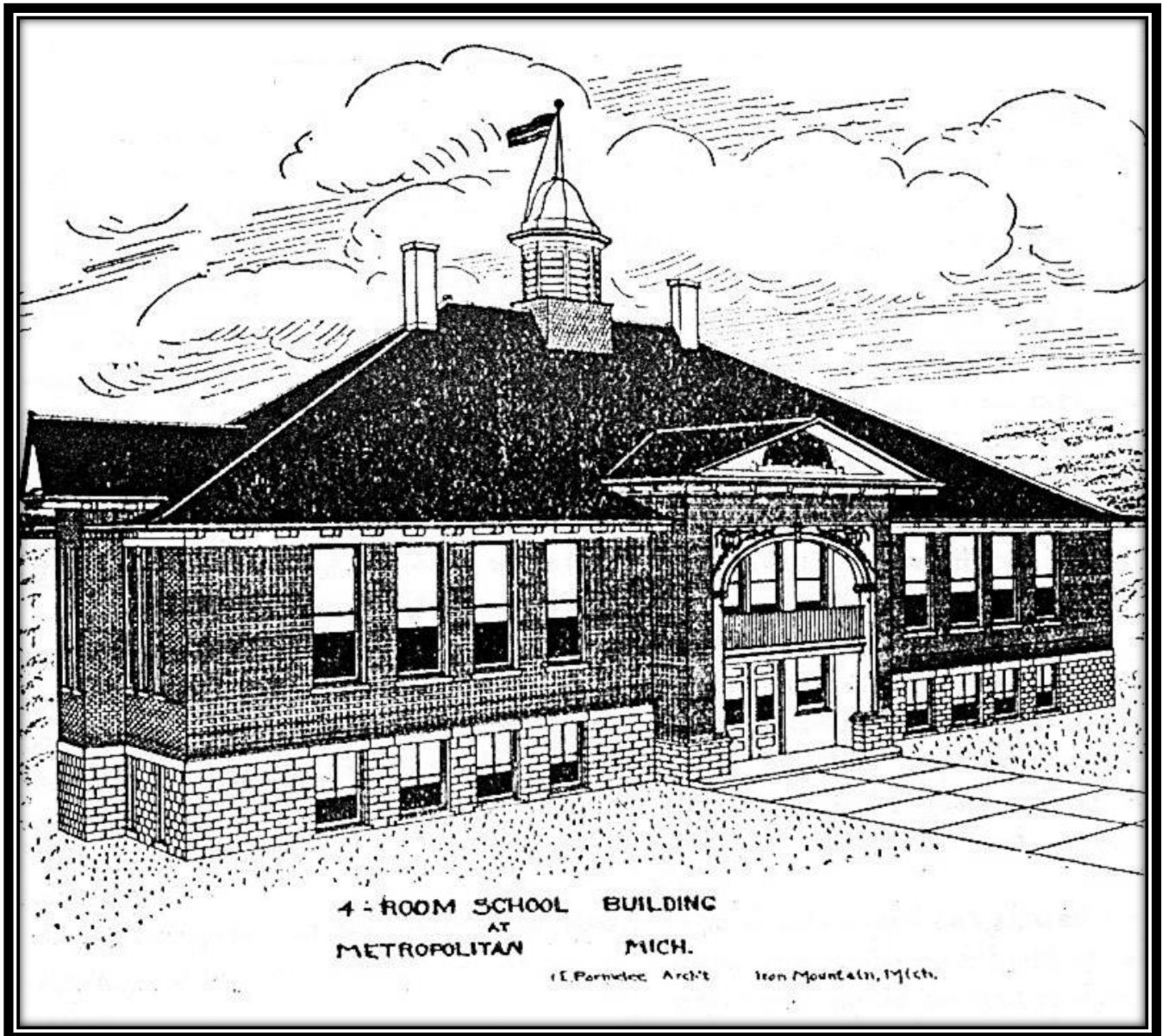


**John V. Sundstrom's Garage and Blacksmith Shop, Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1916-1920:** John V. Sundstrom came to Felch in about 1903, working at the Calumet Mine and later in a logging camp, perhaps as a blacksmith, along with other jobs. Anna Louisa Ovist came to Felch in about 1902-1903, and was cooking for a logging crew at that time. John V. Sundstrom and Anna Louisa Ovist were married in 1905. In 1913, John V. Sundstrom built his blacksmith shop, the darker building in this photograph, and a few years later went into the automobile garage business, building the garage at the left in 1916. He sold Ford automobiles until about 1927, when he took over the Chevrolet agency. He also sold and repaired a complete line of farm machinery. Eventually the garage and the blacksmith shop were joined. The original garage burned in January, 1941, and was rebuilt the next summer. John V. Sundstrom remained in the garage business until shortly before his death in 1962. His wife preceded him in death in 1957. John V. and Anna Louisa (Ovist) Sundstrom lived in the house at the far right. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*



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**Metropolitan (Felch) School, Metropolitan (Felch), Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, 1912:** This drawing by Iron Mountain architect F.E. Parmelee appeared in the *Iron Mountain Press* on January 4, 1912 with the following article: *The handsome new school building at Felch is now finished and the several rooms were informally occupied by the pupils for the first time when the winter term of school opened last Tuesday. The building, when complete, will be the finest school-house [sic – schoolhouse] of its kind in the upper peninsula. It is a four-room structure with concrete foundations, solid brick walls, and a nine-foot basement under the entire building. There are four school-rooms [sic – school rooms], a wide hall extending the entire length of the building with doors leading to each room separate from the entrance through the cloak-rooms [sic – cloakrooms]. Each school-room [sic – schoolroom] has separate cloak-rooms [sic – cloakrooms] for the girls and the boys and each room is provided with a teacher's cloak-room [sic – cloakroom] and closet for articles used in the rooms. A perfect system of ventilation has been installed, with the Smith system of*

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heating. Ample blackboards of natural slate, the latest improved seats for the pupils of each room, and, in fact, everything of the most modern type of school appurtenances has been provided. The basement is fitted up as a playroom for the children to be used on cold and stormy days, one part to be used as a manual work shop [sic – workshop]. The high, spacious attic will be divided and one part used for a gymnasium and the other for a laboratory for simple work in chemistry and other school work and experiments. The outside appearance of the building is very striking and pretty. The body is red pressed brick with white brick for trimmings, with white cornice and the shingles of the roof painted a deep green dipped in stain. There are two entrances to the building, the front one having a large roomy vestibule over which is a deep alcove setting off the entire structure to great advantage. [Dickinson County Library]



**School Picnic, Metropolitan/Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1912:** This real photo postcard view identified as “School Picnic, Metropolitan, Mich. ERB” is postmarked Felch, Michigan, October 14, 1912. The initials ERB stand for Ernest Robert Brukaradt, amateur photographer, who worked as a railroad station agent. Community members gathered at the Felch High School, constructed in 1911 and opened January 2, 1912, for a school picnic, probably in the spring or summer of 1912. [William J. Cummings]



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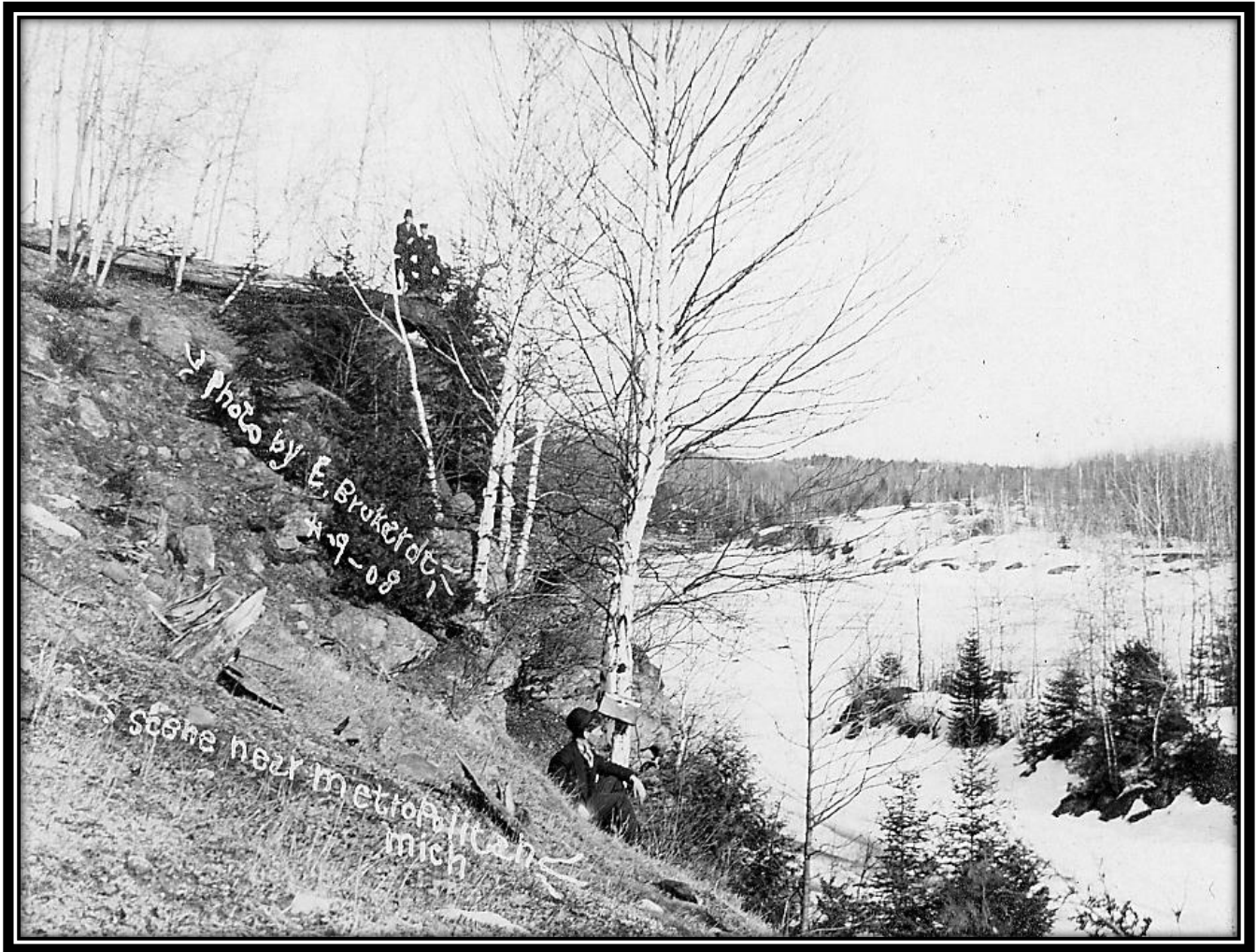


**Felch High School, Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1940-1950:** This unused postcard view identified as “Standard School, Felch, Mich.” probably dates between 1940 and 1950 and 1950 shows the Felch High School. The portion of the building on the right was the school designed by F.E. Parmelee and constructed in 1911, opening January 2, 1912. The portion of the building on the left was an addition built of local sandstone in about 1935-1936 as a W.P.A. project. The building was razed – burned on purpose – in 1969, and the Felch Township Hall now occupies this site. [William J. Cummings]



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**Scene Near Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, 1908:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Scene Near Metropolitan, Mich. Photo by E. Brukardt #9-08" is postmarked Felch, Michigan, July 3, 1908. Ernest Robert Brukardt, amateur photographer, worked as a railroad station agent. Note the steep incline from the river bank at the left with a man wearing a suit seated to the left of center in the foreground and what appear to be some logs in the river or pond below which seem to be snow-covered, although the slope at the left is free from snow. [William J. Cummings]

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**The Felch Flyer, Foster City, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, August 1910:** This real photo postcard view unidentified on the image caught “The Felch Flyer,” also called “The Lightning Express,” crossing the railroad bridge over the Sturgeon River at Foster City in August 1910. Note the two passenger cars behind the boxcar. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*



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**Gust Timmer Farm and John Blomquist Farm, Near Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1915:** This real photo postcard view identified as **"Farm Scene Near Felch, Mich. Foto Conant"** probably dates between 1910 and 1915. Gust Timmer's home appeared in front of John Blomquist's home with the large barn at the far right and a field of haycocks in the foreground. This postcard view was taken by Conant, an Escanaba photographer. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*



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**Pressing Hay at the Andrew Gustafson Farm, Near Metropolitan (Felch), Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, 1919:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Pressing Hay, Felch, Mich." shows workers pressing hay into bales in 1919 on the Andrew Gustafson farm at Metropolitan. The men working were Salem Kasen, Herman Gustafson, Andrew Gustafson, Iver Kasen, and William Gustafson. The children pictured were: (top row) Wilma Nieland, Robert and Myrtle Gustafson; (second row) Regina Gustafson and Dorothy Wickman; (climbing) Thora Gustafson; and (standing) Frieda Gustafson. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*

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**Rural Log Cabins, Near Felch, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1911:** These three log homes and outbuildings with post and wire fencing were typical of early settlers' houses. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*

**FELCH MOUNTAIN:** Platted June 10, 1881, by Jonathan Hickox, John A. Caughley and John A. Glidden on the SE ¼ of Section 29, T42N of R28W; named for Alpheus Felch, governor of Michigan (1845-1847); see **METROPOLITAN**.



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**GROVELAND:** Mining location east of Randville in southwestern corner of Felch Township named for the Groveland Mining Company.



**View of Groveland and Mines, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1907-1910:** This real photo postcard view identified as “View of Groveland and Mines By EBruskardt” (Ernest Robert Brukart, amateur photographer who worked as a railroad station agent in Felch), dates from about 1907-1910 and shows the Groveland Mine with a residence in the center. [Menominee Range Historical Museum]

**HENDERSON:** Established in northern Felch Township; believed to have been named for R.C. Henderson, former Dickinson County prosecuting attorney.

**JOHNSON SPUR:** See **HENDERSON**. Station on the Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad located in Felch Township west of Ralph.

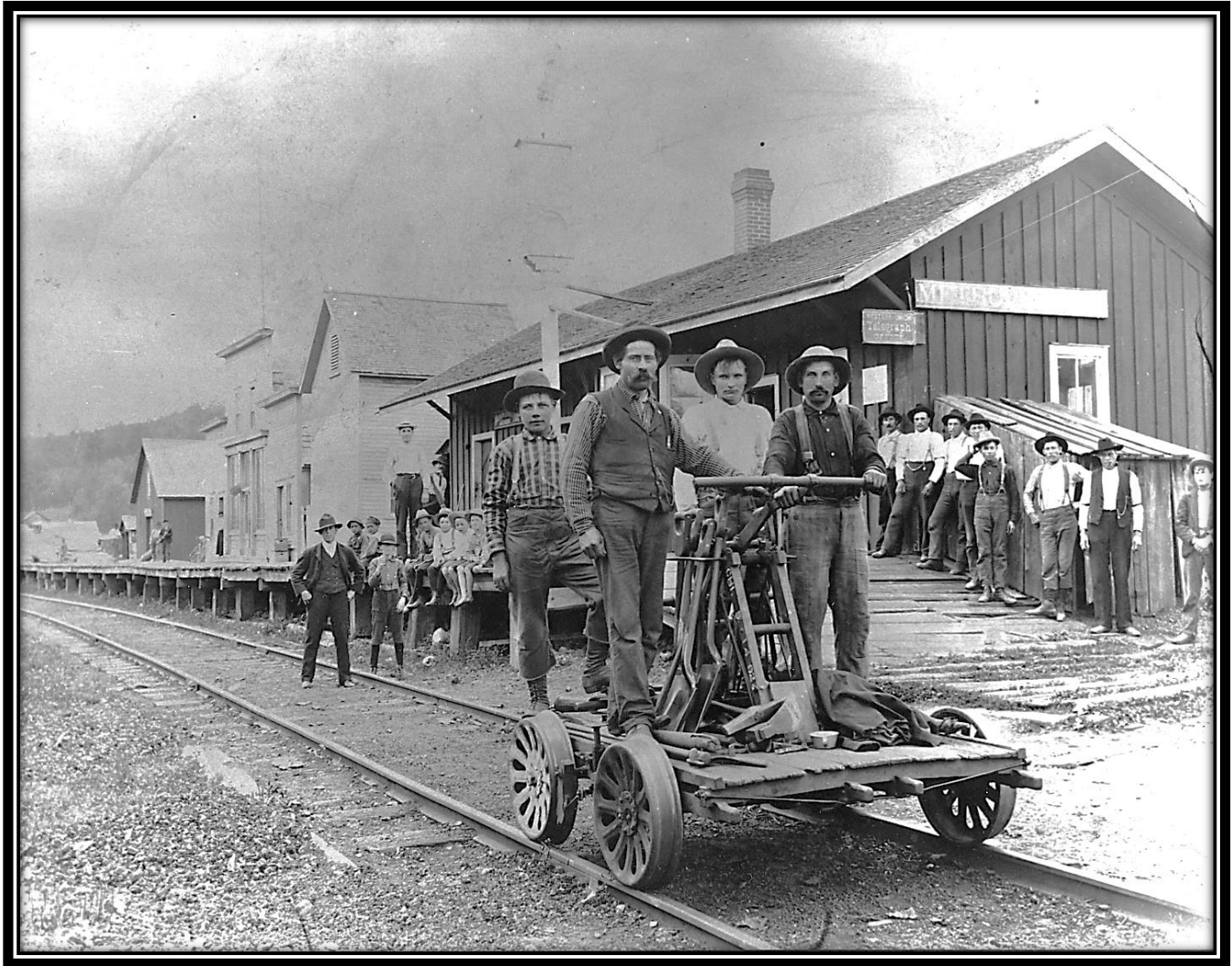
**LEHMAN’S:** Located in Felch Township.



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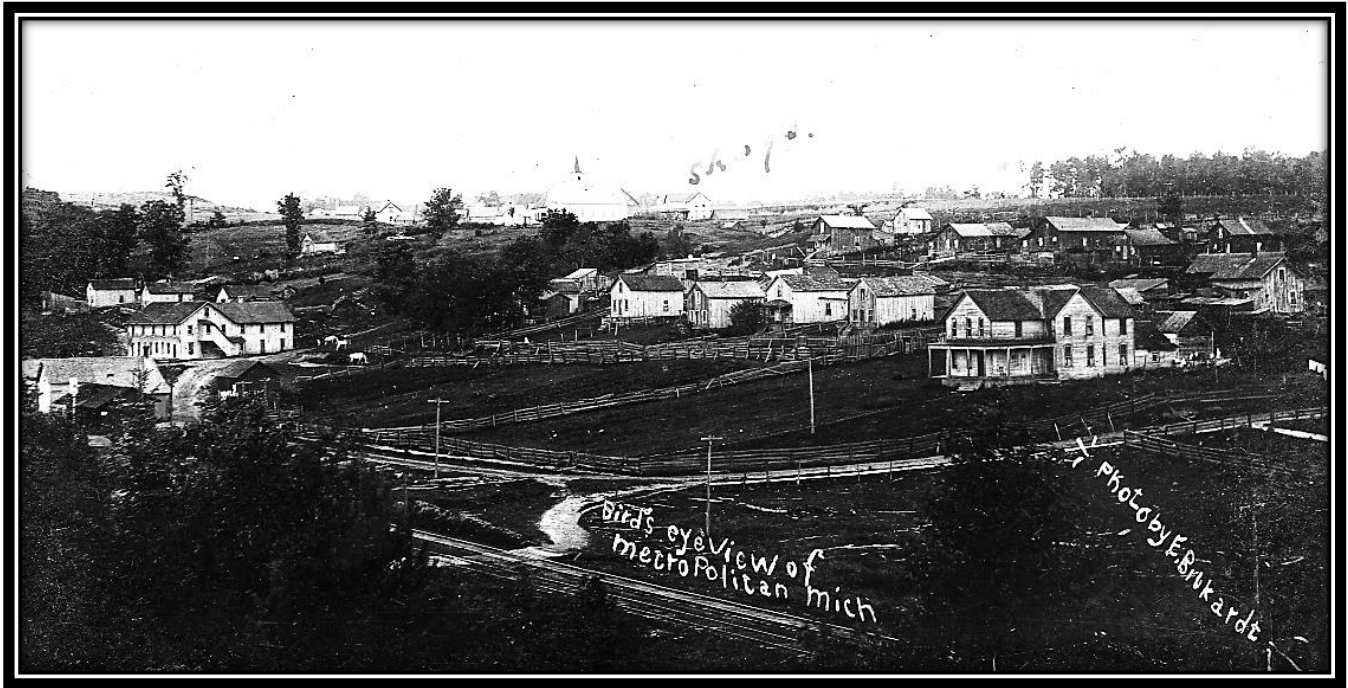
**METROPOLITAN:** Platted as Felch Mountain by the Metropolitan Mining Company in Ely Township, Marquette County; post office established August 31, 1881, with Louis A. Friederichs, postmaster; discontinued December 30, 1963. (Name changed to FELCH)



**Business District With Railroad Handcar, Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, 1902:** The portion of Metropolitan's business district in Felch Township visible in this 1902 photograph includes, from right to left, the Chicago & North-Western Railway Depot, the Western Union office, an ice house and a store building in which the post office was located. Polk's *Michigan State Gazetteer and Business Directory* for 1901 listed Charles Havens as the railroad express and telegraph agent and Mrs. K. Kandels as postmistress and proprietor of a general store. Note the elevated board sidewalk used to facilitate loading and unloading supplies from railroad cars and the early handcar in the foreground. [Susan Anderson]

# PHOTOGRAPHS OF FELCH TOWNSHIP, DICKINSON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

[Compiled and Captioned by William John Cummings – Updated July 2019]



**Bird's Eye View of Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1915:** This real photo postcard view identified as “Bird'seye View of Metropolitan, Mich. Photo by E. Brukardt” was probably taken between 1910 and 1915 by Ernest Robert Brukardt, amateur photographer, who worked as a railroad station agent in Felch. “West Metropolitan” is written at the top of this postcard view taken from the southeast looking to the northwest. The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church (upper center) was organized August 21, 1895, the first church building being constructed in 1900. Due to a growing congregation, the church was replaced by a new church in 1907, now the Zion Lutheran Church. The first building was pulled to the new site and became a “wing” of the new structure, sometimes referred to as the annex. Erik and Brita Skog, born in Jeppo Finland, were among the first people of Swedish descent to come from Finland and settle in Felch Township. Their home in Metropolitan, located across the road from the church, was often referred to as Skog's “big house”. The Skogs built this house in about 1888, and boarded sawmill workers. The main part of the structure had eleven rooms, seven of which were bedrooms, and an attached wing which served as a “summer kitchen,” a feature of many farm houses of the time. The summer kitchen was used to cook food, serve meals and can vegetables and fruit, eliminating the need to fire up the cook stove in the main part of the house, helping to keep it cool for sleeping and other uses. The large house on the right just across the railroad tracks was the home of Matt J. and Maria (Anderson) Johnson. Matt, born in Purmo, Finland, arrived in Metropolitan February 11, 1887. Maria, born in Jeppo, Finland, came to Metropolitan in 1889 and met Matt, a boarder at the Erik Skog boarding house, where she worked. They were married in Escanaba June 9, 1893. [William J. Cummings]



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**Chicago & Northwestern Railway Depot and Business District, Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910:** This real photo postcard view unidentified on the image shows the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Depot with the Western Union Telegraph Office. The buildings to the left of the depot include an ice house and a store building in which the post office was located. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*



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**View from Metropolitan Hill, Near Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910:** This real photo postcard view identified as "View form Metropoliltan Hill" was taken in about 1910 and shows rolling farmlands and forests looking east. In this view from Blomquist's hill, the spire of Zion Lutheran Church is clearly visible at right while Felch Mountain can be seen at the horizon to the left. [Beatrice Blomquist]

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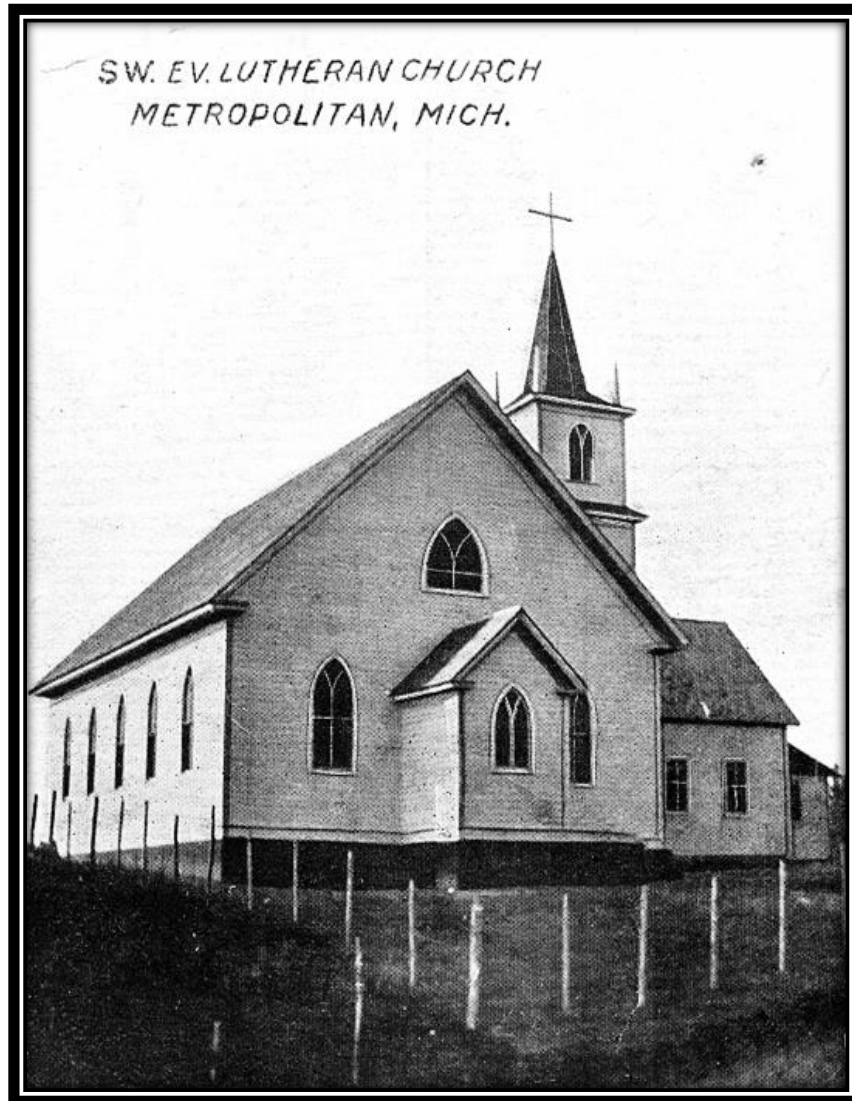


**Swedish Evangelical Lutheran (Zion Lutheran) Church and Parsonage, Near Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910:** This real photo postcard view identified as "Metropolitan, Mich." at the extreme bottom edge probably was taken in about 1910. On August 21, 1895, Pastor Carl Edblom, of Escanaba, a Swedish pastor of the Augustana Lutheran Synod, organized the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Metropolitan with 34 charter members. The congregation soon affiliated with the Augustana Lutheran Synod which was the synod of Swedish language Lutheran congregations in the United States. In 1901 the church was incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan. The first church built in 1900 by these pioneer Lutherans was a very simple structure which cost \$425 and soon became too small. It was replaced in 1907 by a new church on the present site of Zion. The first building was pulled up to the new site and became a wing of the new church – that wing now referred to as "The Annex." The cost of the new church, exclusive of donated labor, was \$3,578. Zion's beautiful altar and pulpit were purchased at this time by the "Willing Workers," a group of young ladies of the congregation. The "Willing Workers" also purchased the bell which still calls parishioners to worship. After the new church was completed, membership continued to grow. In 1909 the first parsonage, a large spacious house on the hill north of the church, just across the road, was built at a cost of \$2,610 to house the first resident pastor, the Rev. J.M. Holmberg. [Beatrice Blomquist]



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**Swedish Evangelical Lutheran (Zion Lutheran) Church, Near Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910:** This black-and-white halftone postcard view identified as "Sw. Ev. Lutheran Church, Metropolitan, Mich." was probably taken in about 1910. On August 21, 1895, Pastor Carl Edblom, of Escanaba, a Swedish pastor of the Augustana Lutheran Synod, organized the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Metropolitan with 34 charter members. The congregation soon affiliated with the Augustana Lutheran Synod which was the synod of Swedish language Lutheran congregations in the United States. In 1901 the church was incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan. The first church built in 1900 by these pioneer Lutherans was a very simple structure which cost \$425 and soon became too small. It was replaced in 1907 by a new church on the present site of Zion. The first building was pulled up to the new site and became a wing of the new church – that wing now referred to as "The Annex." The cost of the new church, exclusive of donated labor, was \$3,578. Zion's beautiful altar and pulpit were purchased at this time by the "Willing Workers," a group of young ladies of the congregation. The "Willing Workers" also purchased the bell which still calls parishioners to worship. After the new church was completed, membership continued to grow. [William J. Cummings]

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**Interior of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran (Zion Lutheran) Church, Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, September 19, 1909:** Pastor Carl Edblom, of Escanaba, organized the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Metropolitan on August 21, 1895, with 34 charter members. The congregation's first church, built in 1900, soon became too small. In 1907 the church pictured above was constructed at a cost of \$3,578. The altar, pulpit and church bell were purchased through funds raised by the Willing Workers, a group of young ladies of the congregation. In August, 1909, the first resident pastor, the Rev. K.M. Holmberg, who posed for the photographer in the sanctuary September 19, arrived. A large house was built for him on the hill north of the church and across the road. Note the ornate metal chandeliers, each containing six oil lamps with etched globes. The painting and design of the altarpiece and pulpit enhance the sanctuary. Hymns for Sunday's service are listed on the wooden wall plaque above the organ at the right near the large parlor stove with a long stovepipe which radiated heat during the colder months of the year. [Leona Coppo]



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**Metropolitan Band, Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910:** Members of the Metropolitan band, posing for the photographer in about 1910, included: standing, left to right, Gust Knutsen, Arthur Anderson, John Kintgen, Ingelbrect Swanson, Peter Peterson; seated, left to right, William Nashlund, Olaf Rian, Iver Eggen (drummer), Alex Johnson, Joe Lindstrom (leader), Fred Dixon, Charles Branstrom. [Beatrice Blomquist]

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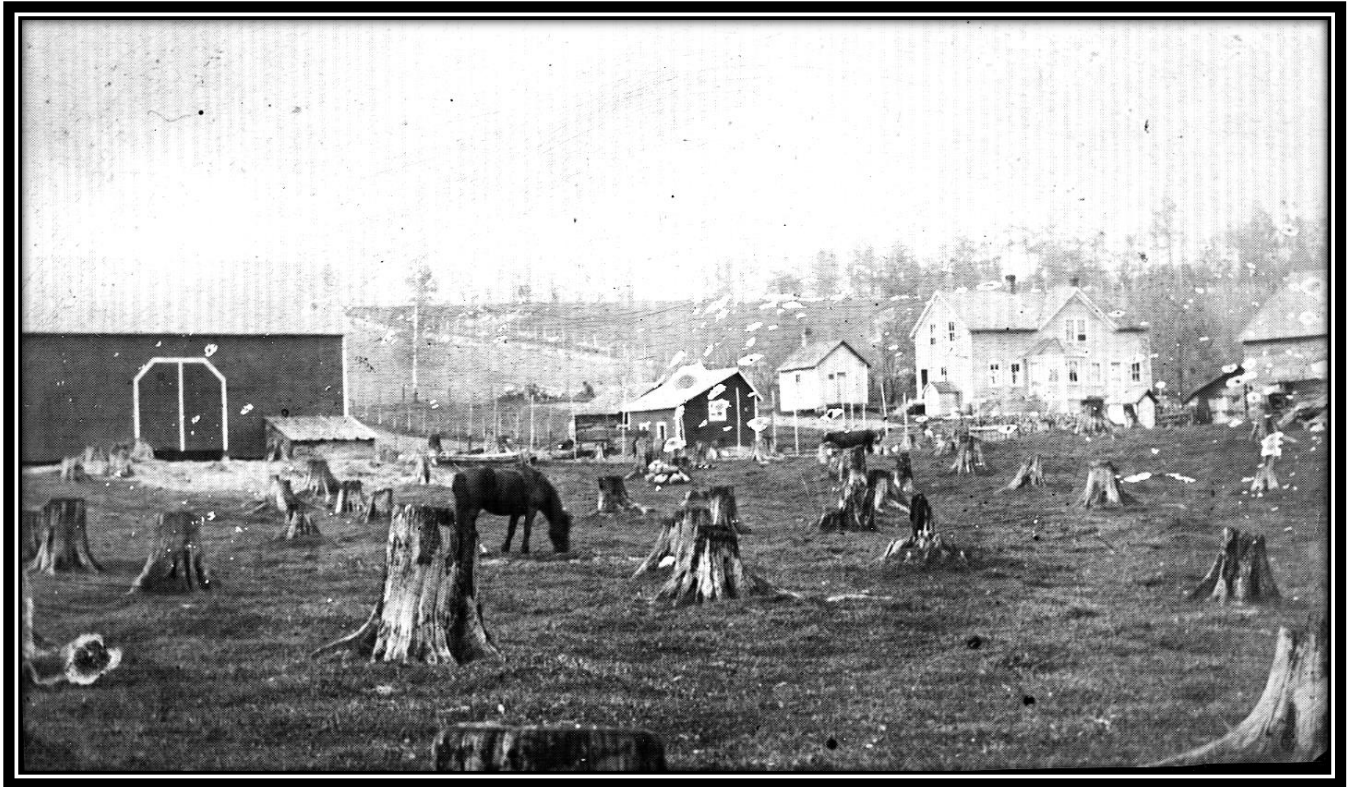
**Metropolitan Baseball Team, Metropolitan, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1900-1905:** Interest in sports goes way back to 1900 in Felch Township. This team was known as the Metros of Metropolitan. Pictured are: (top row, left to right) Julius Dixon, Pete Kelgren, Andrew Sundquist, Carl A. Carlson, unidentified; (second row, left to right) John Kintgen, Charles Forrell, unidentified, unidentified; (bottom row, left to right) unidentified, Andy Wickman (bat boy), unidentified. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*



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## PRINCETON:



**Erick Johnson Farm, Princeton, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, 1919:** Erick Johnson's farm in Princeton, Felch Township, consisted of cut-over lands which were sold cheaply to people who remained in the area after the Metropolitan Lumber Company sawmill closed. This photograph, taken in 1919, shows how land covered with stumps was used for pasture until the tedious and back-breaking job of clearing fields could be completed. *[Beatrice Blomquist]*

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**THEODORE:** Platted May 16, 1881, by the Lake Superior Ship Canal, Railway and Iron Company on the S ½ of SW ¼ of Section 29, T42N of R28W, in Felch Township, Marquette County; named for Theodore M. Davis, company president.



**William Wickman with Turkish Remedy Co. Wagon, Theodore, Felch Township, Dickinson County, Michigan, ca. 1910-1915:** This real photo postcard view unidentified on the image probably dates between 1910 and 1915. The sign on the side of William Wickman's wagon reads Turkish Remedy Co. Family Medicines and Extracts. Wickman, pictured here in front of his home in Theodore in the early teens, was a familiar sight as he peddled his wares from house to house throughout rural Dickinson County. *[Lola (Wickman) Hallenback]*

**TURNER:** Station on the Escanaba and Lake Superior Railway in Felch Township.