Wayne Schools

The first schooling in Wayne was taught in 1833 by Miss Cornelia Hawley. She had just arrived in the area with her brothers, and taught in an open air blacksmith shop with no doors or windows, similar to this one.

In 1838 a one-room log building was constructed to serve as a school, church, town hall and meeting house. This building would remain the school until 1851.
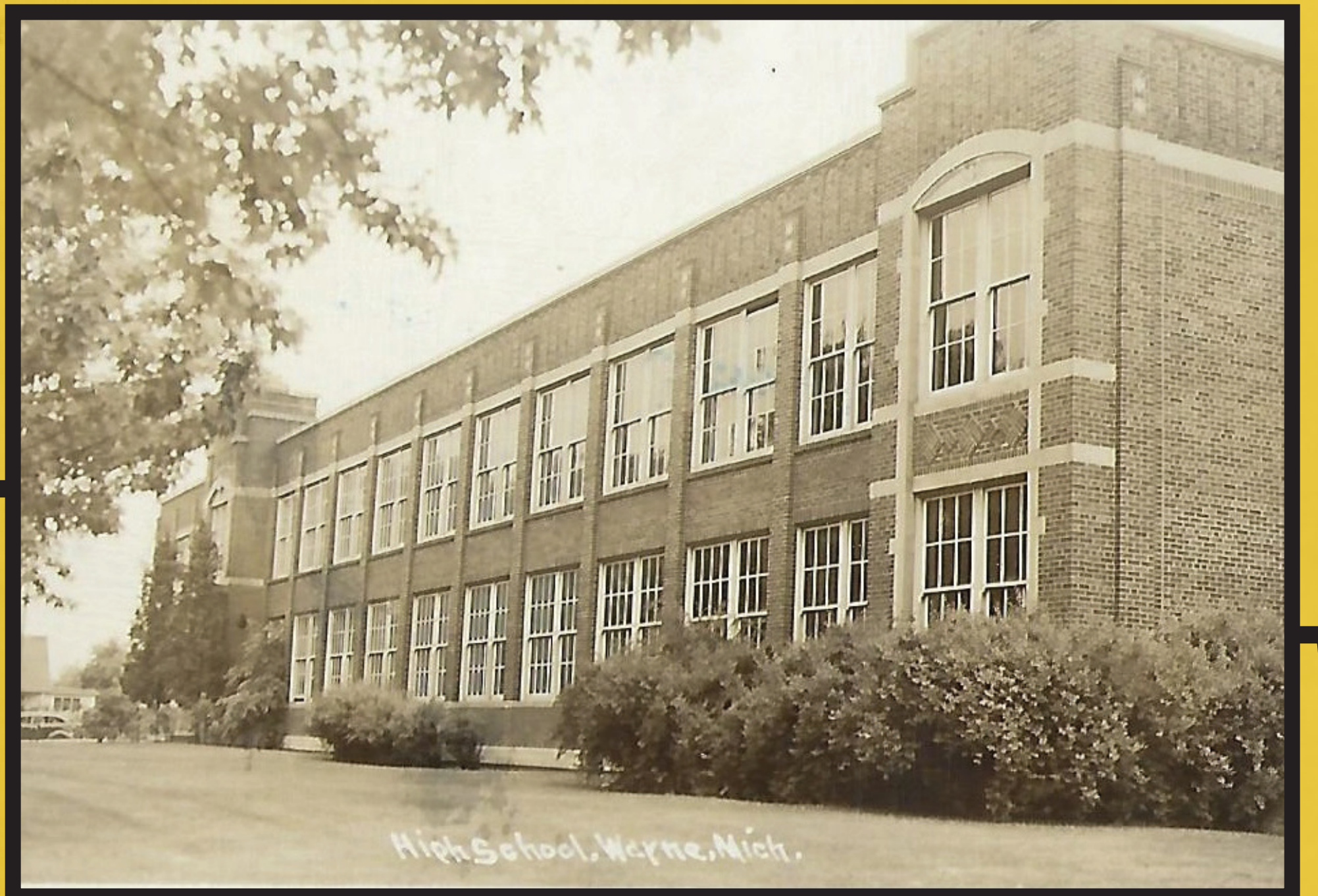

A two-room frame school building opened that year, across the street from the Congregational Church. Orson B. Curtis, seen here, was one of the teachers.

In 1870, $19,000 was spent to build a three-story brick school building named "Union School." It was regarded as one of the finest schools in the area.

By 1909 the Union School was getting old, so it was demolished and replaced with a new building, the Roosevelt School.

Growing population meant that for the first time all grades would not be in the same building. Wayne built its first separate high school in 1924 on Williams Street.

In 1952 Wayne Memorial High School opened, and has been added onto several times to grow with the community.

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