

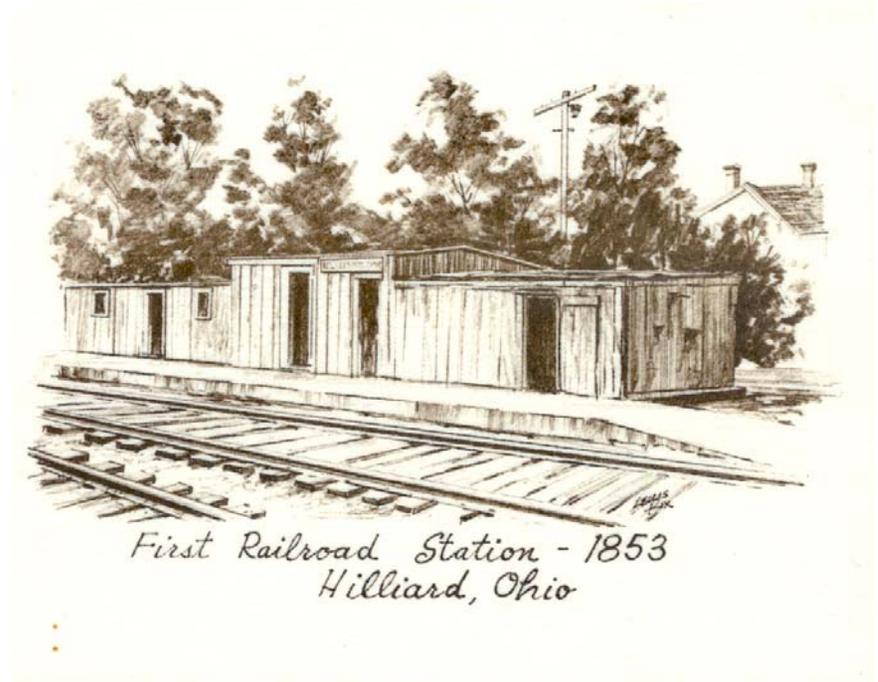
History of the Railroad in Hilliard, Ohio

In 1850, the first railroad tracks were laid in Hilliard, Ohio. These railroad tracks were completed in 1853 and the railroad opened in Hilliard. The railroad station was made up of three **boxcars** put together to form a building, and it was called Hilliard's Station. The trains took people from the village of Hilliard, which was founded by John R. Hilliard in 1853, to Pleasant Valley. The trip **fare** to Pleasant Valley, what we now call Plain City, was 28¢. The railroad also had a train that took people from Hilliard to Columbus for a fare of 10¢. This train left Hilliard early in the morning for workers and shoppers to travel to Columbus and then return back home to Hilliard in the evening.

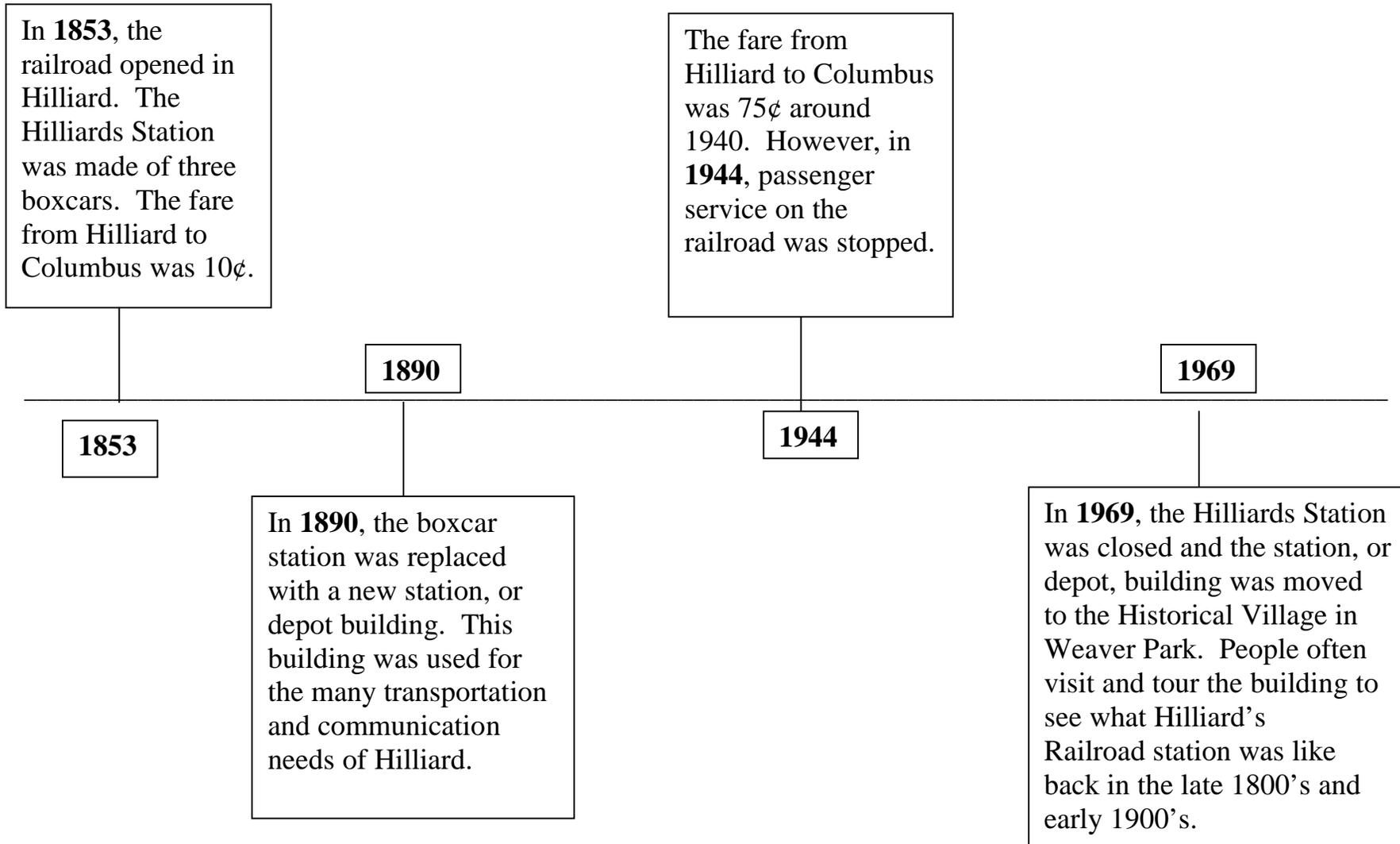
Around 1890, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company replaced Hilliard's Station with a new building. This new building was a combination **depot** where the town's transportation and communication needs were met.

Passengers, mail, and baggage were handled at the depot to be transported on the trains since automobiles were not introduced until 1910. Also, there was a **telegraph** service for people to communicate before the invention of the telephone around 1900.

In the 1940s, the fare from Hilliard to Columbus had increased to 75¢. In 1944, passenger service was stopped, and only **freight** was transported on the railroad to and from Hilliard. Around this time, Paul VanCulin was the Station Master who worked full time at the Hilliard's Station Railroad Depot. In 1962, the freight services were stopped. Finally, in 1969, Hilliard's Station was closed and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who owned it, gave it to the Historical Society. The Historical Society moved the station building to Weaver Park next to the Franklin County Fairgrounds. The Historical Society **renovated** the station and it became the first building in the Historical Village in Weaver Park.



Timeline of the Railroad in Hilliard, Ohio



Word Bank

boxcar - a roofed freight car usually with sliding doors in the sides

depot - a building for railroad or bus passengers or freight; a station

fare - the money a person pays to travel by public transportation (train, bus, subway, etc.)

freight - goods or cargo carried by ship, train, truck, or airplane

passenger - a person riding in or on a vehicle (train, car, bus, etc.)

renovate - to make like new again : put in good condition

telegraph - an electric device or system for sending messages by a code over wires