

# "FROM THE HISTORIAN'S FILE"

## "The Main Street of Greece" Ridge Road in photos: 1909 -1960

Every few years, if not sooner, a news article about the Ridge being expanded or improved pops up in newsprint or other media. From what was once the eastern edge at Lake Avenue to the western edge of Greece at Manitou Road, Ridge Road has always been in a state of fluctuation.

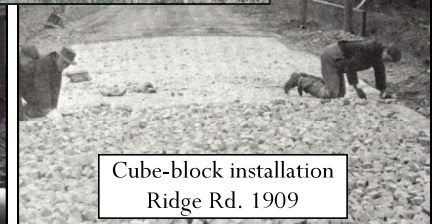
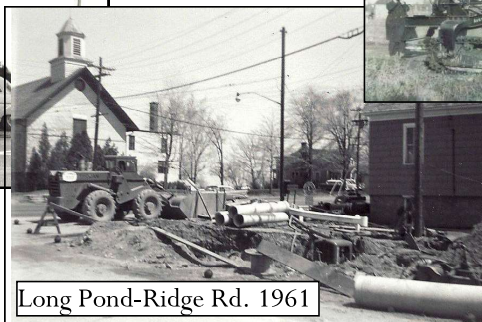
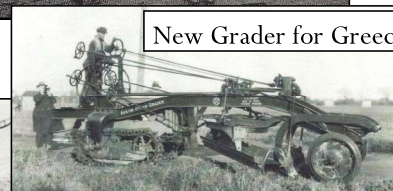
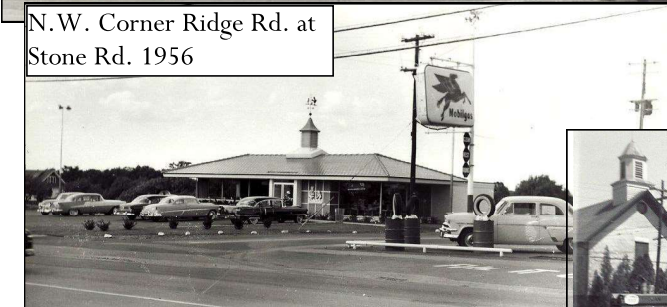
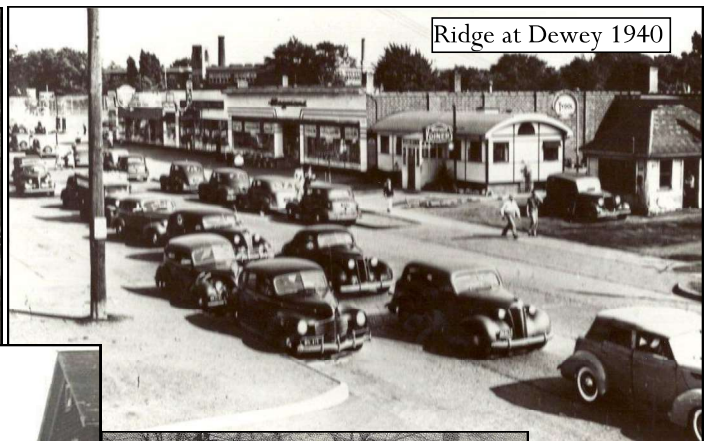
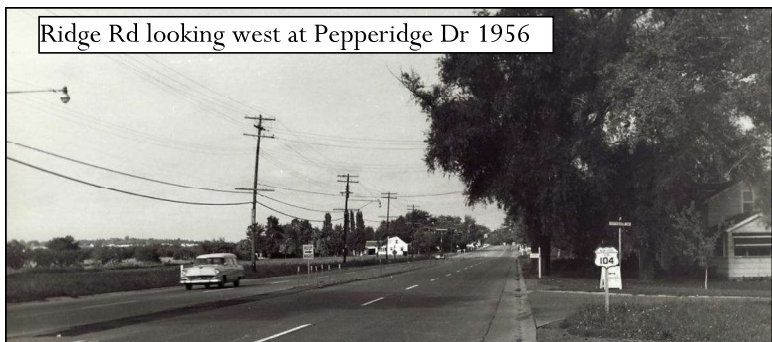
The early 1800s saw what had been a narrow Native American trail turn into a muddy dirt or occasional wood plank stretch of road by the mid 1860's. The fifty year span from the early 1900s saw the fastest transformation of the Ridge in the 20th century.

Eastman Kodak, introducing folding and box cameras near the turn of the century, made outdoor photography simpler and cheaper to take satisfactory photos. Hence, we began to have photos similar to the circa 1909 view of Richard and Katherine Emrich standing in muddy Ridge Road (east of Dewey Ave.) with their home behind them. The other photos from the early 20th century speak for themselves. How many of the shops and stores do you recall? If you are younger than a certain age.....all would be foreign to your eyes....

Alteration, transition, variety and diversity would apply to "The Lewiston Road", one of several variations given to Ridge Road as it traversed our town. For further information and history about the Ridge, check out our ever popular publication, Eight Miles Along the Shore, available in several formats at our museum shop.

"Things changed, people changed, and the world went rolling along right outside our windows."

- Nicholas Sparks, Message in a Bottle



Photos, data supplied by **Alan Mueller**, Greece Historian's Office. If you have any information on our photos, call Alan at 663-1706.