

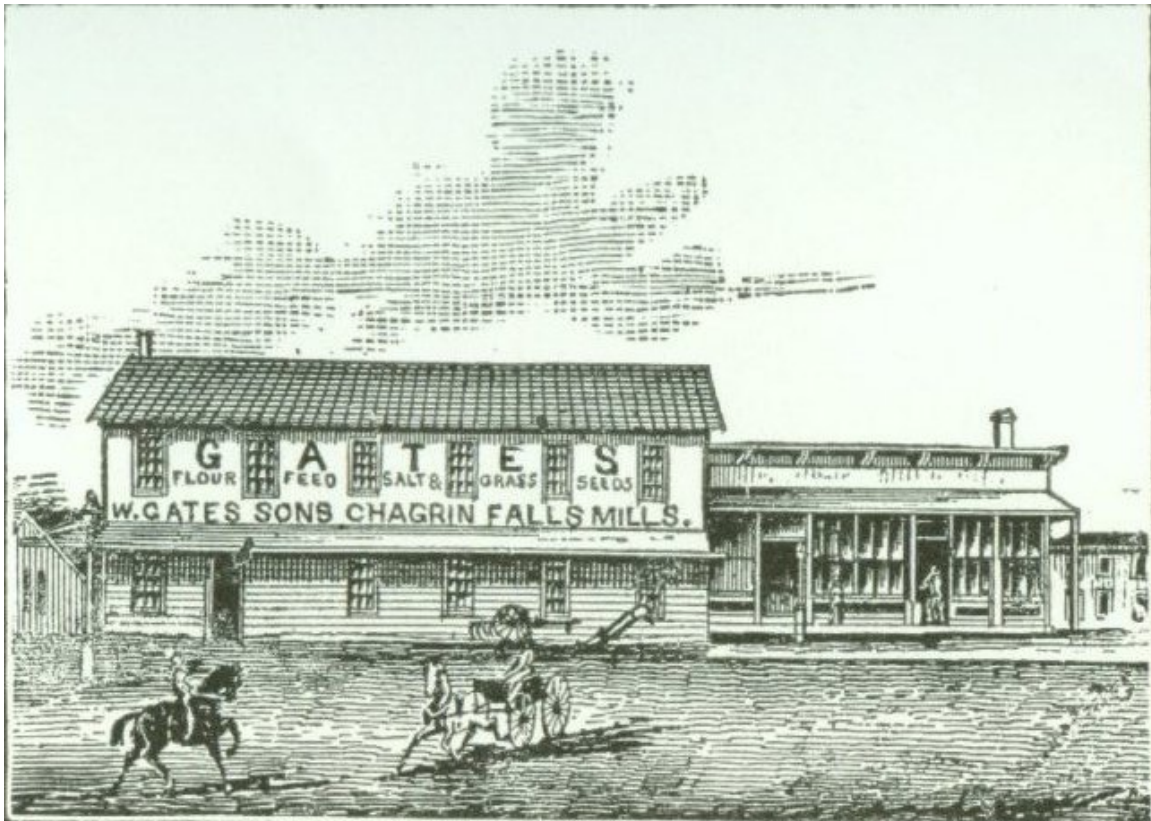
## Washington Gates

Washington Gates was born on August 4, 1828 in Gates Mills, Mayfield Township. He was the first white child born of that place. He died on August 12, 1897 of a severe illness of 5 days. He was just 8 days beyond his 69<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was known to be an incredibly hard worker, which some believed led to his failing health. His funeral was largely attended.



When Washington gates was in his youth he experienced many of the hardships of being a pioneer. He was born and lived in a log cabin as did most of that day. His education was of that the schools could afford. He was though a natural born mechanic and businessman. With that Washington gained much of his experience from commercial enterprise and working in his father's flour mill, which he later took on.

Washington Gates would purchase his mill from Albon Gardner in 1843 while in partnership with David Spears. Gates partnership lasted till Spear's death in 1884. After that Gates sold his business to his son W.S. Gates. The Mill's show room and office, that some say took away the beauty of the high falls, is now the location of the popcorn shop.



Washington Gates would marry Miss Caroline M. Handerson. Together they had three children. Nora Gates died December 29, 1881, yet their two sons W.S and Halsey Gates survive them. After 11 years of marriage Mrs. Gates died September 23, 1895.



The family's historic home is now the Chagrin Falls Village hall.

Washington Gates was a well honored man.