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The Village of Shermerville, Illinois

In 1833 Joel Sterling Sherman and his family bought 159 acres of land in the northwest quarter of Section 10 for \$1.25 per acre; Northbrook's downtown is now located on this site.



Lorenz Hall - Shermerville Court House

Soon after Mr. Sherman bought that land the area was named Shermerville after Mr. Frederick Schermer who donated the land for the first railroad station (Schermer Station and later Shermer Station). By the 1870's the region was a farm town with well-established brick yards which prospered during the rebuilding that followed the Great Chicago Fire in October of 1871.

In 1901 following a close referendum, the town was incorporated as the Village of Shermerville with about 60 homes and 311 residents. The village had five saloons, a



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meat market, a coal and feed store, a general store, a harness store, a stonecutter, and a railroad station. Shermerville gained notoriety during its early years for boisterous gatherings at its inns and taverns. By 1921, residents felt that the Shermerville name had a bad reputation.



Shermer Road 1914. The first building on the left was built around 1885 and is the former Cypress Inn. The next two buildings were razed to make way for Meadow Road.

In 1923 the Citizens Club of Shermerville started a movement to change the name of the village and asked residents to submit new names for the village. A postcard listing several choices was then sent to residents for them to vote for their favorite.

Northbrook, the name submitted by Edward Landwehr, was the one chosen. A petition signed by one hundred twenty-six residents was presented to the Board of Trustee's asking them to change the name of the Village to Northbrook. At that time there were 500 residents.



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Main Street (Shermer Road) Looking Towards Church Street. The Lorenz Wagon Shop is on the right. (1912)



The building on the left is Jock's Blacksmith Shop. Jock McLachlan and Emil Mueller standing in the doorway. (1915)



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The Melzer and Landwehr Store. (1916)



*The train depot was located across the tracks from the present station.
The one on the left was replaced by the Landwehr Building. (1914)*



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Shermer Road. The fourth building on the right is the Cypress Inn.



Entering Shermerville 1912. The Village Green and Barrenscheen buildings are on the left.



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