

Though the days of lumbering have long ago faded, Vanderbilt has remained a progressive community. The village was incorporated in 1901. Frank Calkins put in a telephone exchange in 1902 with 47 subscribers.

In 1907, Vanderbilt had its first electrical service. This was set up in a shingle mill south on U. S. 27. A franchise was granted and the town was wired. The engine to generate the power ran by use of slab wood from the saw mill and coal from the railroad. Fred King and John Hixson were in charge of the operation.

Two more grades were added to the school system in 1913. A new school of fourteen rooms was built in 1952

and a new gymnasium and additional classrooms are under construction at the present time. A new Township Hall was completed in 1970, and athletic field finished in 1974, a memorial park is in progress, as is an addition to the Community Church.

Although primarily an agricultural area, Vanderbilt has several small industries: Higgins Industries manufacture copper tubing, Van Products manufacture dip sticks, Grant Air Mass manufacture air mattresses for hospitals. Other companies in Vanderbilt are Unipro and O. W. Rowley and sons.



French Brothers of Vanderbilt prior to 1890.