

IMAGES

...THEN AND NOW

From the Indian Hill Historical Society



Buckingham Lodge-1861

Indian Hill Roads Commemorate Early Residents



Frederick Blome was born in Hanover, Germany in 1845. He served in the German Army during the Franco Prussian War (1870-1871). In 1872 he immigrated to the United States to seek his fortune in America. Upon his arrival, he went to Cincinnati, where there was an established community of German immigrants. First he was employed at a stone yard, then by a pork packing establishment for four years. When he married Georgina Oldewage, also a German native, he moved to the farm owned by his wife on the outskirts of Cincinnati. The couple lived in Ellendale (possibly Allendale – the neighborhood near the intersections of Blome, Camargo, and Drake Roads) and had four children. Blome was engaged in agriculture until 1880 when he went into the commission business downtown. From 1882- 1910, he, his son, and David Dreifus ran a brokerage firm that bought and sold agricultural products on commission. Known as Blome & Dreifus, it was located on West Court Street between Race and Elm. Many farmers in northern Indian Hill sold produce to the firm, which dealt in butter, eggs, poultry, and veal. Frederick Blome gave some of his property to create Blome Road and was active in its construction from Camargo Road to Montgomery.



Arriving in Cincinnati in 1828 from Maryland, James and Jane DeMar moved to Indian Hill in 1833, where they obtained property at the northeast corner of Graves and Miami Roads. They built a log cabin, basically two rooms with a loft. Their firstborn son, William DeMar, married Synthelia Hetzler and their home was on present day DeMar Road. They had seventeen children. They opened their house to their children's friends, and their table was set for 20-25 for every meal. William made a skating pond for local youths on his farm and played his violin while they skated. Three of James' and Jane's sons served in the Civil War, but only one survived. Their youngest offspring, Zachary DeMar was one of 13 men who founded the Indian Hill Horse Rangers in 1903 to "discourage horse thieves, chicken thieves, and other pilferers of farm and home property". Another famous DeMar was Clarence, who won the Boston Marathon seven times and was nicknamed "Mr. DeMarathon". He also represented the U.S. in the 1924 and 1928 Olympics. Many other talented DeMars lived in the Village and its environs for decades. This pioneer family had a significant impact on the rural community.



Named for Joseph and Marjorie Graydon, Graydonmeadow was once part of their property. In 1935 their estate, Cobble Court, was composed of 100 acres and had meadows, gardens, and vineyards. As time passed, some of their land was sold when subdivisions became popular. The Graydon's French Normandy style manor house was the scene of numerous social gatherings. They were devotees of classical music and were avid supporters of the May Festival. Joseph Graydon had an extensive library and collected rare books by Shakespeare, Chaucer, and other notable British authors. Educated at U.C. and Harvard, he was the senior member of the law firm of Graydon, Head, & Richey. He served on the Board of Trustees of the Fifth Third Union Trust Co., the Cincinnati Music Hall Association, the Cincinnati Music Festival Association, and many other community organizations. A well-educated and well-read scholar, Joseph Graydon was known to read aloud to guests from the Canterbury Tales in the lilting cadences of Old English. Mr. Graydon was a cultural leader in the city. Cobble Court has been restored and updated recently, and Graydonmeadow Lane currently has eight private residences.