

RECOLLECTIONS

A Collection of Histories
&
Memories of Garfield Heights



The Tonsing Homestead
Circa 1850

Garfield Heights Historical Society 5405 Turney Road, Garfield Heights, Ohio

***This book is a collection of
Histories of Garfield Heights and surrounding areas
written by the members of
The Garfield Heights Historical Society***

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**The
Garfield Heights Historical Society
and its
Board of Trustees**

**Wish to express
their appreciation
to**

**Norm Braun
Kay Collingwood
Evelyn Hubert
Dan Ostrowski**

**For the
Research and writing
of the articles
in this booklet**

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THE TONSING HOMESTEAD AND FAMILY

by
Norman Braun



The Tonsing house as it looks today

One of the early German families that settled in the Garfield Heights area was the Tonsing (Toensing) family who built a home on Fisher Road, now called Turney Road, in the 1850's. Its present location is at the northeast corner of Tonsing Avenue and Turney Road at 5425. Check the above accompanying picture of the present building and compare it to this booklets cover. 1859 maps show that J. H. Tonsing owned 18.8 acres of land, one house, and one barn. Their neighbor on the north and east was Henry H. Bohning. The neighbor on the south was Abraham Pletscher. The property fronted on Turney Road and extended from the entrance to the Civic Center driveway of today south to a point at the center of the bridge over I 480. Run two lines parallel to Granger Road through these points directly east for the north and south borderlines. The back end of the Tonsing lot on a north south line was E. 122nd Street. Incidentally, the backyard lot line of the Bangor homes on the south side of the street is the Tonsing lot line.

Among the early residents of this home were Johann Freidrick Tonsing born in Brockhausen in N.W. Germany in 1825, Marie Elsabein Tonsing born in Brockhausen in 1831, and Johann Heinrick Tonsing born in Brackhausen in 1833.

In 1847 in the Zion Lutheran Church, Cleveland, Ohio Johann Friedrich Tonsing married Maria Eleonara Bohning. They were a prolific couple that had fifteen children. Their children were

- 1 – Maria Caroline Tonsing (born 1848 – died 1854)
- 2 – Heinrich Friedrich (born 1850 - died 1878)
- 3 – Johann Friedrich (born 1852)
- 4 – Johann Heinrich (1855)
- 5 – Anna Maria Elisabeth (1857)
- 6 – Mary E. (1858)
- 7 – Clamar Friedrich Louis (1859)

- 8 – Elinor (1860)
- 9 – Regina Marie (1861)
- 10 – Clara Catherine Augusta (1863)
- 11 – Ernst Heinrich (1865)
- 12 – Johann Wilhelm (1867)
- 13 – Emma Eleonore (1869)
- 14 – Sophia Maria Caroline (1871)
- 15 – Martin Emanuel (1874)

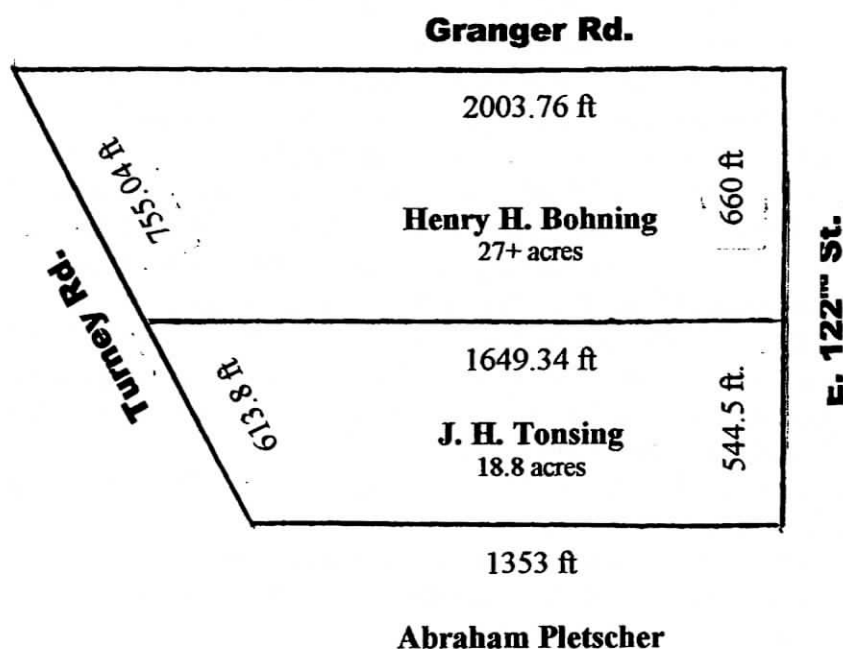
The grandfather of the above children was Johann Heindrick Tonsing born in Barkhausen, Germany in 1799. Oral history maintains that he is buried in Harvard Grove Cemetery although no printed record exists.

These Tonsings often married into members of local Garfield Heights families including Walker, Blase, Schreiber, Meilander, Manke, Ehler, Koenig, Hellman, Borges and Rahe.

The Johann Heinrich Tonsing married Marie Elinore Stoffer-Blase in 1858 at St. John Lutheran in Independence (now Garfield Heights) and had the following children:

- Heinrich Friedrich (1860-1927) married Margaretha Walker
- Maria Dorothea Louise (1863-1940) married Hermann Rahe
- Emma Clara Maria (1865-1953) Married August Koenig
- Sophia Maria (1868-1940) married Fred Borges and Ernst Hellman
- August Ernst Friedrich (1871- 1873)
- Caroline Marie (1874-1962) married Henry Rahe
- Pauline Marie Caroline (1877- 1954) married Henry Borges
- Hannah M. Louise (1879-1929)

Most of the above families are shown on a Tonsing Homestead photo taken in about 1887 and is available for viewing at the Garfield Heights Historical Museum.



The diagram above shows the 1859 size and location of the Tonsing family lot.

THE PREVIOUS PARKLAND OWNERS

By
Dan F. Ostrowski

Originally all of the area of Garfield Park was rolling undeveloped farm and pasture land. It was first known as Newburgh Park because it was one of the first parks in the original Newburgh Township and was a very popular and easily accessible picnic spot for all citizens. If you check the map I have included in this article it will orient you to those who previously owned the land that ultimately became Garfield Park and was named after our 20th President.

The first land acquisition by the city of Cleveland was on the original 100 acre lot No. 484. The Board of Education of the Newburgh Hamlet owned a 109x240 feet lot on which the original No.3 Broadway School known as the Bedford School had stood. This lot was put up for auction with official bids. Cleveland's bid was the highest, \$2,250. Title transfer was on November 4, 1889.

Gottfried Rittberger and his wife Magdelana, legal owners of 66.664 acres in the original 100 acre lot No. 483 (the second largest area acquired for Garfield Park), sold their land for \$15,000 on June 7, 1895 to Cleveland. The Rittbergers were parishioners of St. John Lutheran Church since 1854. Their tombstones in the church cemetery show Gottfried was born on Jun 20, 1812 and died on February 6, 1899. Magdelana was born in 1820 and died in 1892. John therefore was a widower in 1895 and died four years after selling his property at the age of 87.

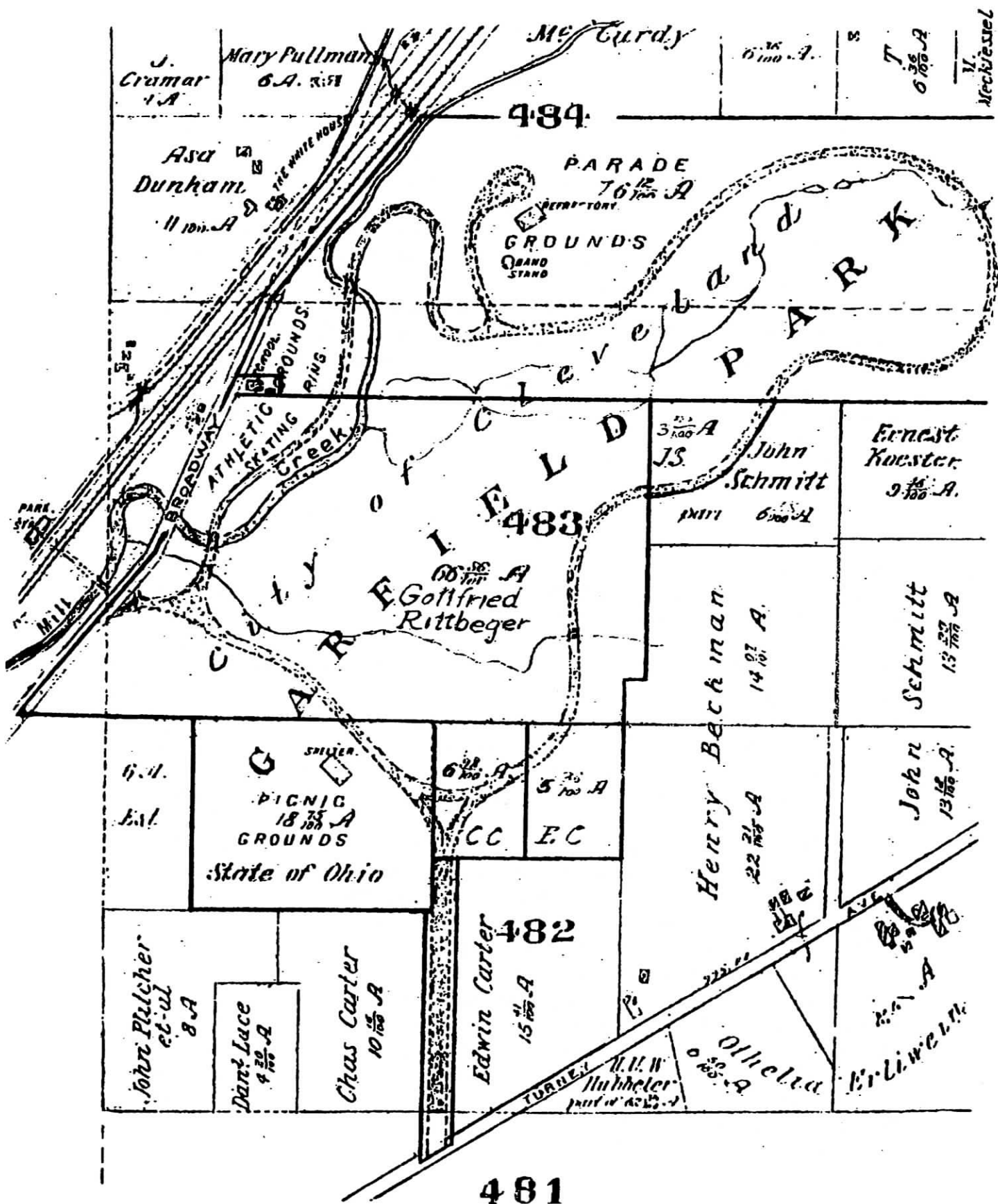
Lorenzo Carter the first permanent resident in the original settlement of Cleaveland (1795) married Rebecca Fuller. They had nine children. Their son Alonzo married Margaret Akins. They had eight children. Edwin the sixth born married Margaret Stewart. Charles the seventh born married Anna Rock. During their lifetime the Carter families invested in land all over the County. In the 1890's four lots considered for parkland acquisition in the original 100 acre lot No. 482 were owned by the Carters. The 6.929 acre lot owned by Charles and Anna was sold to Cleveland on June 7, 1895 for \$1,524. The 5.388 acre lot and a strip of land about 50 ft. wide by 1219 ft. long, of 1.4165 acres were sold for \$1,616 to Cleveland on June 7, 1895. A few years later on May 25, 1899 another strip of land about 50 ft. wide by 1219 ft. long, a total of 1.1295 acres owned by Edwin, a widower at the time, was sold to Cleveland for \$564. The strips of land make up the Turney Road entrance to the present day Park.

Asa Dunham was born July 14, 1819 in Independence. He was the sixth of ten children. As a young man he settled in Bedford and became known as one of the "best citizens of the community". In 1874 Asa and his wife Lucinda and brother Ambrose and his wife Susan owned parcels of land totaling 297 acres on the western border of the Bedford Township. A road ran north and south directly through the center of their land. The road today is called Dunham Road. In 1895 Asa was a widower and also owner of 76.115 acres in the original 100 acre lot No. 484. This was the largest land parcel of interest to the city of Cleveland. He sold them the land for \$13,788. The title transfer was on June 30 1895.

John Schmitt owner of a land parcel of 10.17 acres sold 3.596 acres of it on July 21, 1896 for \$1,228 which had a proposed park roadway running at the edge of this plot to the city of Cleveland to accommodate the road. This property was used as a pasture for John's milk cows. He was one of four sons of a Mathias Schmitt who had a shoe, boot and leather business on Pittsburgh Street in downtown Cleveland.

The last acquisition of land for the park was on May 23, 1912. This was 18.75 acres for \$18,000. It was owned by the State of Ohio and was part of the property for which the Ohio State Hospital (asylum) was responsible. Today this is the area where Garfield Heights Home Days and the fourth of July fireworks take place.

GARFIELD PARK LAND ACQUISITIONS



THE DARIUS WARNER HOMESTEAD

By
Dan Ostrowski

Checking the early tax duplicate records of Newburgh it shows in the year after Newburgh Township's incorporation in 1815 the owner of all and parts of the 100-acre lots 479 and 471 was William Stockwell. He was a non-resident and probably one of the first Connecticut Land Co. investors. He also was a delinquent taxpayer in the years 1815, 1816, and 1817. His accumulated tax with penalties and interest due for 1817 was \$15.687. More than likely during that period he was unable to sell his investment in the land and he just never paid his taxes.

Darius Warner Jr. came to the Newburgh area from New York with his wife Delilah Wells and five children, Spencer, Lydia, Sarah, Miriam, and Norman. In 1818 the new resident and owner of all the land above was Darius Warner. Tax records show that Darius Warner was to be responsible for all back taxes, however, in 1819 all taxes in the name of Stockwell were abated. Warner's tax for that year was only \$1.82. In 1820 Warner's tax included money for roads and jumped to \$3.185. It is believed the stone residence was built about this time.

What were lots 471 and 479? See the included maps.

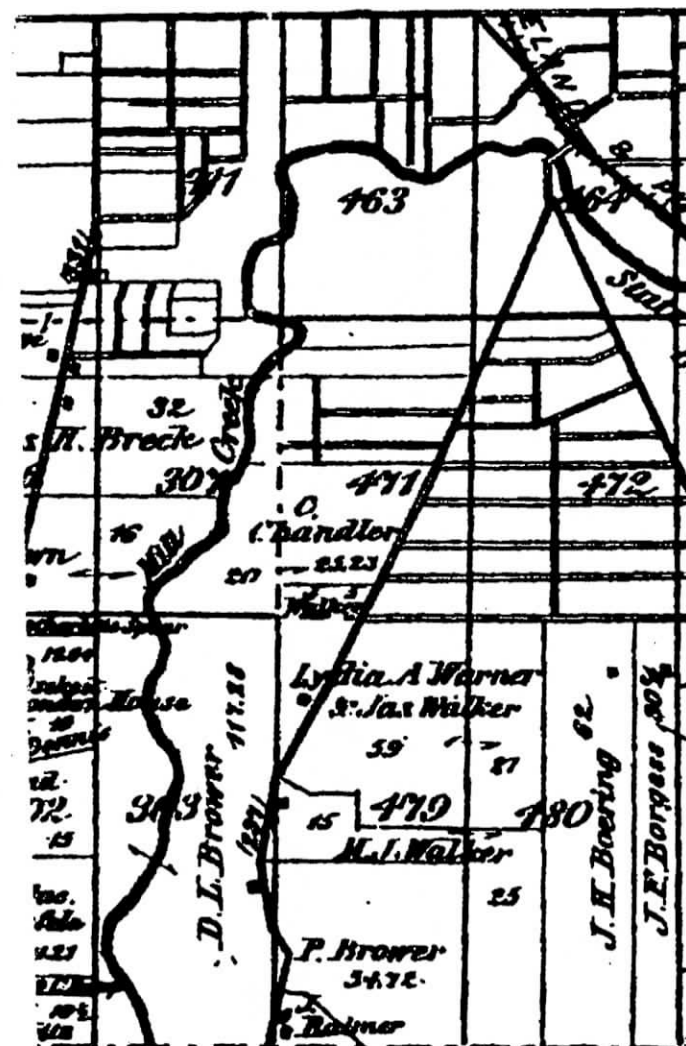
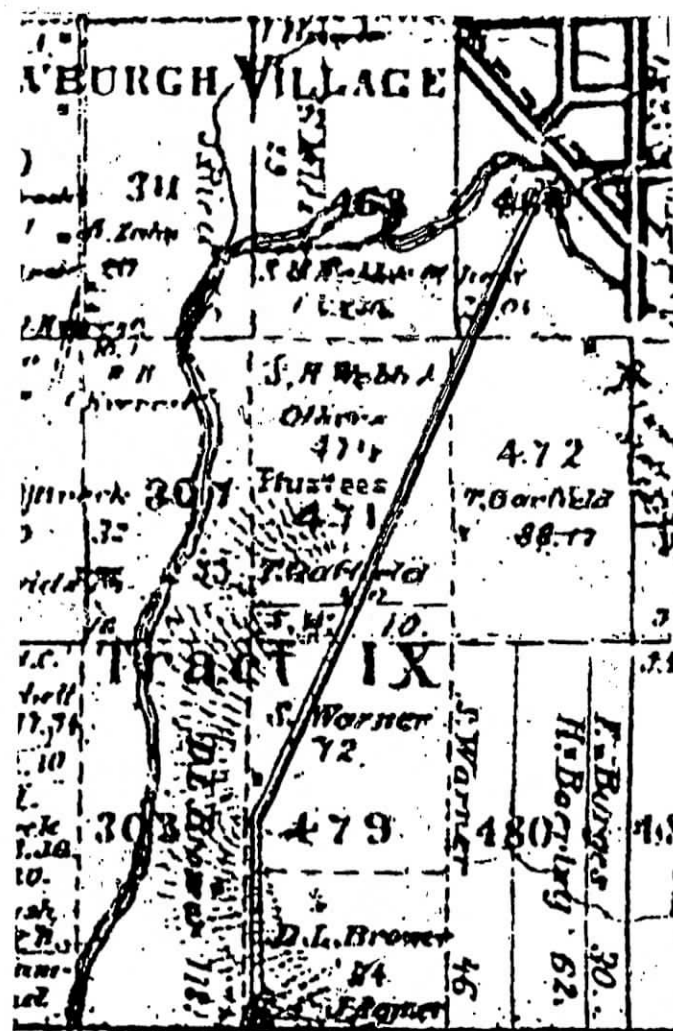
Moses Cleaveland's surveyors were required to measure and plot the Western Reserve lands into lots of 100 acres or less. A unique number designated each 100-acre lot. The two lots in Newburgh that we are discussing are just east of Mill Creek and run north and south stacked one on another starting at the southern line of the Newburgh township with the number 471 at the north and 479 at the south.

During this historic period there were very few pioneers. Most homes were log cabins with neighbors few and far between interspersed in the densely forested lands and connected only by trails. When a road was established from Newburgh center down to the Cuyahoga River past Warner's Homestead it was called Warner Road. Originally Darius Warner purchased all of lot 479 but only 10 acres at the south end of 471. Later Thomas Garfield, uncle of James A. Garfield our 20th President was Warner's northern neighbor, David Brower was on the south and west, and Spencer Warner, Darius's son, on the east.

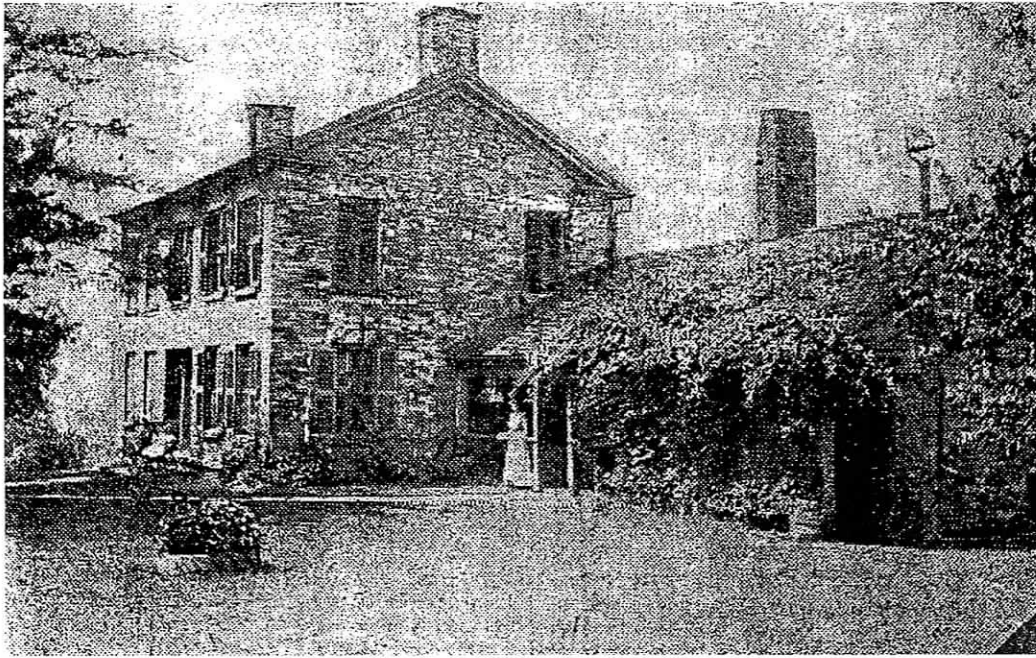
The 1859 assessment maps show that the only structures along Warner and Turney roads from Force Avenue on the north down to the Township's southern border were houses and barns. There were only eleven houses ranging from \$100 to \$700 in assessed value. The most expensive was that owned by Darius Warner.

The four highest land and structures total assessment for 1859 were: Warner \$6050, Garfield \$3867, Brainard \$3084, and Brower \$1185.

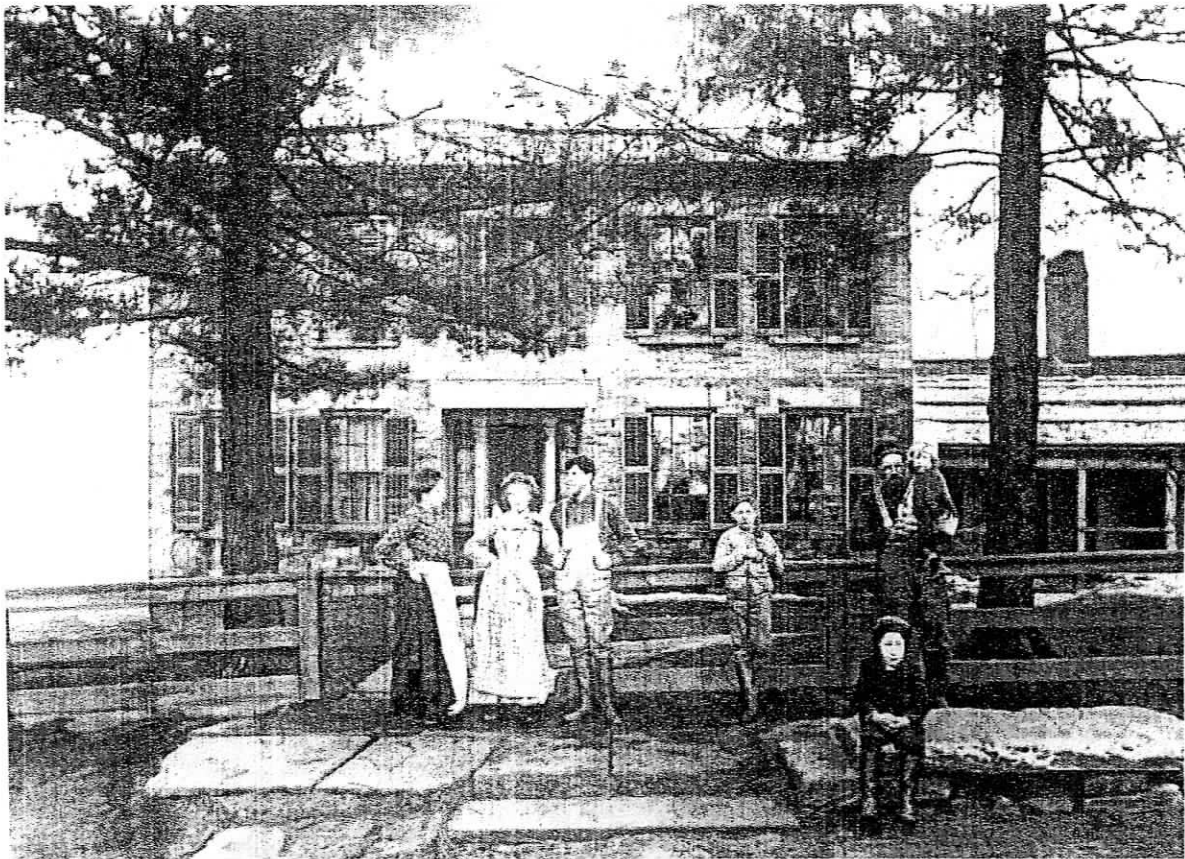
The Darius Warner home a structure made of locally quarried stone probably near the Cataract Falls on Mill Creek can be seen today at the intersection of Garfield Heights Boulevard and Warner Road. It is the southern part of Ceo's Tavern. Darius died in 1842. Spencer inherited most of the land. At his death in 1866 his sisters Lydia and Miriam inherited next. In the mid 1890's the Adam Reiber family was in residence. The last Warner to die was Lydia in 1906. Then in 1915 Antonio and Pasqua Ceo purchased the house and corner lot. The Ceo heirs are current owners of this historic building.



An 1859 map (left) and an 1874 map (right) showing the location of lots 471 and 479 in relation to Warner Road and Mill Creek



Pictured are visiting Lucy and Eleanor Hendrickson sitting on rocking chairs in front of the original Warner home, circa 1896.



The Warner homestead circa 1895. Adam Reiber is shown with child in hand

A REPLICA OF A WORLD FAMOUS ICON

By
Dan Ostrowski

In 1936 the Mother Superior M. Jolanta of the Sisters of St. Joseph Third Order of St. Francis approached the Cleveland Bishop the Most Rev. Joseph Schrembs LLD with a plan for a shrine to be built in Garfield Heights in honor of Our Lady of Czestochowa (che-oon-sto-hova). On May 14, 1939 a corner stone was laid and a blessing of the site was performed. In October of 1939 the finished shrine was dedicated in solemn ceremonies and the late Archbishop Schrembs bestowing a Papal Blessing on all.



Cardinal Karol Wojtyla the present Pope John Paul II
at the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa
in Garfield Heights

The Shrine is located at 12215 Granger Road on the Trinity High School campus just west of the school's practice football field. The shrine first had a hand painted wood carved icon, a gift of Msgr. Marian J. Orzechowski. Today the Shrine contains an exact replica of the original Icon of Our Lady Queen of Poland known as "The Black Madonna".

There is a fabulous history of the original Icon. According to tradition, the picture of the Blessed Mother and Christ Child, was painted on a wooden cypress panel by St. Luke the Evangelist. The original icon, reputed to have been the instrument of many miracles, was lost in 72 A.D. during the destruction of the Holy City by the Romans.

In 326, St. Helen, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the true Cross of Christ. She found in addition to the Cross many other precious relics one of which was the picture of the Blessed Virgin with

Christ.

St. Helen gave the picture to her son Constantine the Great who enshrined it in a famous church in Constantinople where it became very popular because of the many favors and miracles attributed to it. The picture remained at Constantinople for about 500 years.

Tradition also relates that the Byzantine Emperor gave the painting in 803 as a wedding present to a Greek princess who married a Ruthenian nobleman. They carried the picture to Kiev where it remained in the Royal Palace of Belz for about 580 years.

In the middle of the fourteenth century when the Tartars attacked Ruthenia, Prince Ladilaus Opole(nephew of Louis, King of Poland and Hungary) transferred the picture to the small town of Czestochowa in Poland in order to protect it from possible destruction

by the Tartars. This historic fact is recorded in the Annals of the Pauline Fathers to whom Prince Ladislaus entrusted the picture in 1384.

The new shrine of our Lady in Czestochowa was erected near the Pauline Monastery and Church in "Jasna Gora" (Bright Mount) Poland, a name derived from the lustrous white rock composition of the mount.

In 1430 the Hussites attacked the monastery and after plundering the church, they carried the picture away with them. They tried to destroy the picture by fire to no avail. In desperation one of the Hussite soldiers struck the painting with his sword making two scars on Our Lady's right cheek. As he raised his sword for the third time, he dropped dead before the picture. The other soldiers fled, abandoning the desecrated and mutilated painting which was subsequently restored to its shrine.

In the course of the next 200 years Poland was in constant danger of attacks from all sides, and therefore it was necessary in 1620 to fortify the church and monastery on Jasna Gora. In 1655 when Charles Gustavus with a vast number of Swedish troops besieged the city of Czestochowa, and its possible total collapse and destruction seemed inevitable, Augustine Kordecki, gathered a handful of soldiers around the picture of the Madonna, and in prayer begged the Mother of God for deliverance from the enemy. Immediately the enemy was forced to retreat. In gratitude King John Casimir in the name of the Polish nation proclaimed our Lady the "Queen of the crown of Poland." From that time on, Czestochowa has been considered the national sanctuary to which numerous Polish kings have journeyed to recommend their homeland to the Queen of Heaven.

It was at Jasna Gora that another devotee of our Lady, King John Sobieski, prayed for help against the Turks who were menacing the whole of Christian Europe. In 1683 on his way to Warsaw to relieve the besieged city of Vienna, he stopped with his army at Czestochowa to receive a blessing before the miraculous picture. Ultimately he defeated the Turks and brought their banners to Czestochowa where he laid them at Mary's feet. This victory was instrumental in eventually driving the Turks out of Europe and the Holy See established the Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary on September 12.

In 1920, as the Bolshevik Army was poised on the banks of the Vistula River, ready to strike at Warsaw, the city prepared for defense. Citizens and soldiers alike prayed for a miracle, and on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption, the enemy was routed in a series of battles called "The Miracle of the Vistula."

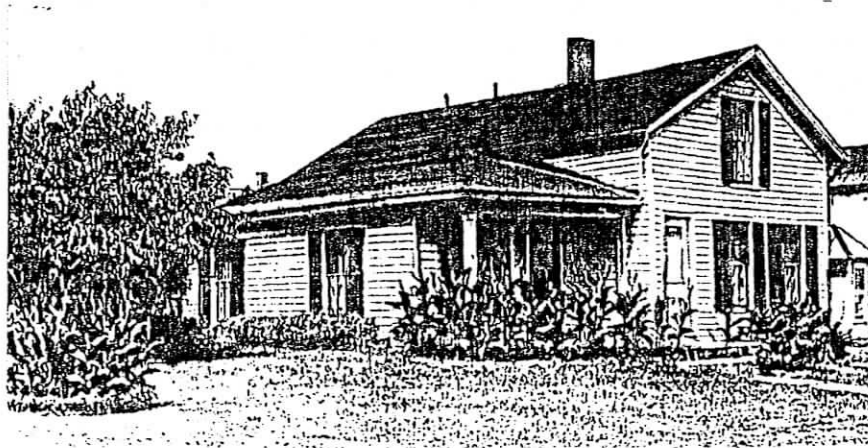
The Holy See has repeatedly approved and sanctioned the devotion to Our Lady of Czestochowa and in 1910 two golden crowns for the embellishment of the painting were sent to Czestochowa by Pope Saint Pius X. This enhancement is now seen on all exhibited Icons. Fifteen years later by permission of His Holiness Pope Pius XI the Polish nation proclaimed the Madonna of Jasna Gora, "Queen of the Kingdom of Poland."

In 1939, an exact replica portrait of Our Lady was painted by a Pauline Father in Jasna Gora Poland. It was blessed and was touched to the original miraculous Icon of the Polish Shrine at Czestochowa. There are documents proving its authenticity. This replica is the one we have in Garfield Heights. The painting which was to be exported by ship missed the boat by five minutes. That same ship was sunk on its way to the United States. The next ship carrying the icon was the last one before all ports were closed to shipping because of the beginning of World War II in September of that year.

A crowning event for the Garfield shrine was a personal visit in 1969 from Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, the present Pope John Paul II, a Pole and devotee of the Blessed Virgin.

THE ORIGINAL THOMAS GARFIELD RESIDENCE

by
Dan Ostrowski



Thomas Garfield, the uncle of James A. Garfield, 20th U.S. President, lived in this farmhouse with his family between 1850 and 1873. The original 100-acre lot No. 472 was surveyed by Moses Cleaveland's team in 1797. This lot was directly south of the 100-acre lot No. 464 which was the industrial center of Cuyahoga County and contained the 1st mill site on Mill Creek. 1859 maps show the owner of 472 as Thomas Garfield. The original home on that lot, shown above, still exists at 4400 Turney Road. James Garfield spent a great deal of time at his uncles home during his studies at Hiram and most likely during his one season job on the Ohio and Erie Canal. A current photo of the present home is shown below.



Lot 472, the house and portions of 471 and 473 were purchased and transferred to another famous Clevelander John D. Rockefeller and his partner Andrew on April 17, 1873. On 9-11-1890 a Jacob Schroeder purchased the house. Then in 1891 Mr. Henry Waltz and wife Anna became owners and in 1990 the property was sold to a Mr. Michael De Angelus. The current owner is believed to be a Mr. Saunders. Tom Garfield was a famous resident of old Newburg. He donated most of the land for the State Mental Asylum that was opened on March 5, 1855 directly across the street from the Garfield home.

Below is an excerpt from the land transfer of the Garfield to Rockefeller document. As described, it translates into streets of today as Grand Division Street on the South, Warner Road on the West, Turney Road on the East and Connecticut Avenue on the North. This is a total of 98 acres that is now eleven city blocks.

Thos Garfield. To John D Rockefeller.

Know all men by these presents that we Thomas Garfield and Sophia Garfield his wife of Newburgh Cuyahoga county Ohio. the grantors for the consideration of fifty eight thousand nine hundred forty and 7/10 dollars received to our full satisfaction of John D. Rockefeller of Cleveland Cuyahoga county Ohio. the grantees do give grant bargain sell and convey unto the said grantee his heirs and assigns the following described premises situated in the Township of Newburgh county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio known as part of original lots nos 471-472 & 473 and described as follows. Beginning in lot No 472 in the center of the Old State Road running on the west side of the Northern Ohio Quinatic Asylum and at a point therein where the center line of that road and the center line of the Cross Road running westerly between the land hereby conveyed and certain land heretofore conveyed by Thomas Garfield and wife to David Buchanan intersect. Thence South 23 degrees 2 1/2 minutes east along the center of Old State Road 1297 feet 4 1/2 inches to a stake Thence South 24 degrees 5 1/2 minutes East along the center of old State Road 963 feet 11 inches to a stake Thence north 59 degrees 30 1/2 minutes west along the center of the road running westerly 3236 feet and six inches to a stake Thence north 25 degrees 41 1/2 minutes East along the center of the road running northerly 1746 feet six inches to a stake Thence South 88 degrees 2 1/2 minutes East 659 feet 10 1/4 inches to a stake Thence north 1 degree 34 1/2 minutes East 162 feet 5 1/2 inches to a stake in the center of said Cross Road Thence north 71 degrees East along the center of said Cross Road 960 feet 7 inches to the place of beginning and containing 98 and 2/10 acres of land.

THE MAYFLOWER CONNECTION

by

Dan F. Ostrowski

Would you believe Garfield Heights has an historic connection to the "Mayflower"? Well it has.

In Longfellow's poem the "Courtship of Miles Standish" about the Pilgrims, Miles (Captain of the Mayflower) persuades his friend John Alden to intercede for him because of his lack of courage to ask Priscilla Mullens to marry him. Both John and Miles however were in love with Priscilla. Being a loyal friend John completes his mission. Priscilla knowing that John loves her asks, "Why don't you speak for yourself, John?". Standish goes off to fight the Indians and returns on the wedding day to wish the bride joy.

John Alden and Priscilla Mullens, true passengers on the Mayflower, actually were married in 1622 and one of their descendants Silence Alden married Zephaniah Hathaway in 1792. Hathaway Road is named after him. The genealogy is as follows: John and Priscilla had 10 children. Their son Joseph Alden born in 1627 married and had 6 children. His son John Alden born in 1674 married and had 13 children. His son David Alden born 1702 married and had 9 children. His son Silas Alden born in 1739 had two daughters. Silence born in 1765 married Zephaniah Hathaway.

In 1815 Zephaniah a resident of Vermont began selling his properties in the area of Dover, Wilmington and Wardboro. On June 8, 1816 Zephaniah and his neighbor Reuben Dean bought 550 acres in the Township No. 6 in the 12th range in tract 2 in the Connecticut Western Reserve in Ohio from Thomas Sheldon of Westfield, Massachusetts for \$3300. This purchase was at the time in the original township of Independence. The group started for Ohio in that year but were delayed because of illness. They most likely stayed with Zephaniah's brother Seth Hathaway in Bristol, near Canadagua, New York.

Jonathan Fisher and one of the Hathaway boys went to Ohio to locate their land. They found there was no road south of the settlement of Newburgh and they spent the winter cutting a rudimentary road through the frontier forest. That road today is called Turney Road but early on was called Fisher Road. The rest of the party came out the next spring. The land purchased was recorded by Zephaniah in the Cuyahoga County Court House on March 3, 1817. Zephaniah picked a spot for his log cabin on the brow of a high hill overlooking the Cuyahoga River Valley. The cabin faced Hathaway Road of today which ran downhill to the river but then was just a trail through the forest and led to Gleeson's Mill. It was the closest source for grinding grain.

The homestead gradually developed. Barns and sheds were built orchards and vineyards were planted. It was a frontier world where if the fire went out the easiest way to restart it was to borrow coals from a neighbor. In 1826 the log cabin was replaced with a clapboard farm house. The structure currently is located at 6055 Turney Road. Zephaniah made furniture for their home from trees cut on the farm and some of it is still scattered among the descendants. The homestead was lived in by the descendants until 1943. Although originally located in Independence Township after many annexations of the area it is now in Garfield Heights.

Silence Alden Hathaway lived only a year after the new house was finished. She died August 31, 1827. Zephaniah lived to be 93. He died February 9, 1860. Both are buried in the Old Pioneer Cemetery on the hilltop located north of Tinkers Creek and east of Canal Roads of today. Milo Hathaway, a grandson of Silence and Zephaniah, is responsible for marking Silence's grave stone with the following poem:

Remember me as you pass by
For as you are so once was I
And as I am so must you be
Therefore prepare to follow me

SLAVE ANCESTORS

By
Norman Braun



A prominent African-American family with Garfield Heights connections and with a very fascinating and remarkable background is that of John A. Fish and his wife, Juanita. She is of African-American Indian, Scotch, Irish ancestry. Although they were citizens of Warrensville Heights most of their time was spent in Garfield heights. John served as a church elder and was a member of the St. John Lutheran School Board. Mrs. Fish was a member of the choir and was involved in many other church activities. Their four children all attended St. John Lutheran School. Their children are Guy, Debbie, Carole and Tamara.

Mr. Fish's ancestors originated on the large island of Madagascar, now the Malagasy Republic. Mrs. Fish came from Mingo Junction near Stubenville, Ohio. John's ancestors were taken as slaves to Jamestown, Virginia and from there to New York and Crab Orchard, Kentucky. With the help of the "Shakers" in Kentucky they moved to free territory, West Elkton, Ohio near Middletown where his family records go back to 1832. During WWII John served in the Air Force (radar) in Manila, New Guinea, Efate, Solomons and New Zealand. In civilian life John developed a background in chemistry. He retired from the North East Regional Sewer District in April of 1991. Mrs. Fish a nurse at St. Luke's Hospital retired in December of 1990.

Their children have a spectacular record in various colleges and universities after graduation from Cleveland Lutheran High School East.

Guy Fish spent four years at Harvard University in the field of Biochemistry. He also graduated from Yale Medical School and interned at Metro General Hospital in Cleveland. He then moved to private practice.

Debbie Fish an undergraduate degree from Vassar, graduating cum Laude and later received a Doctorate in Linguistics from Harvard University. She spent five years in the fields of linguistics and psychology at Harvard.

Carole Fish attended Concordia Teachers College at River Forest Illinois for three years and graduated from Dekalb, Illinois College. She received a masters degree from the University of Detroit and later became involved in Educational Administration at Cleveland Metro General Hospital.

Tamara Fish the youngest is also a Harvard University graduate, graduating with high honors and continued with graduate work.

This is a family of which we can be proud.

MEET JOSEPH A. SCHMITT

by

Kathryn Schmitt Collingwood

Who would think that a little boy born August 17, 1888 on a farm on Turney Road would grow to feel the need to be of service to that area, and see it grow to a sizeable city?

That little boy was Joseph A. Schmitt, one of eight children, born to Mathias Cornelius and Mary Alten Schmitt. He began school at Park Knoll, where Marymount Hospital is located. In a few years they all went to Maple Leaf farther out Turney Road.

There was a special pride going there since his grandfather, Joseph Rose of Independence Township, made bricks and helped to build the school, which went from first through the sixth grade. Holy Name, where the family went to church, had extended its school to the tenth grade, all the children enrolled there. Transportation was easy; his father, Mathias, had a milk route in the Harvard and Broadway area so he carried any and all children in the neighborhood who wanted a ride daily. There they learned fine arts, bookkeeping, theories of science and physics, Latin, and how the atom would some day be split and made useful.

He attended Dyke and Spencerian Business College and became interested in real estate. Another grandfather, Nicholas Alten, in the 1867 City Directory was listed as a licensed real estate agent so there was family interest.

When a neighbor, a widow, told his mother she would have to sell one of her two farms, he found a buyer. He wouldn't take money from her, she was a neighbor of his mother after all, but she insisted he take a small spinning wheel she brought with her from Germany when she sailed here to be married. She told other people about young Joe and his reputation as an honest, good-hearted young man was made in the community.

He became Justice of the Peace for the Village of South Newburgh in an election in 1909. He and Alfred E. Hathaway were sworn into office on January 6, 1910 for a four-year term. He was JP for another term and then Garfield Heights came into being. The governmental makeup then called for a regular mayor's court. This was the beginning of the end of Justices of the Peace system.

Elected officials were to stay in their positions to keep the peace during wartime so he could not be enlisted in the military, sadly his younger brother Mathias P. Schmitt went and was killed in the battle of the Meuse-Argonne in November 1918. He was brought home in 1921 and interred with his father in Calvary Cemetery.

During JP time a law was passed that all German books had to be destroyed and the membership of St. John Lutheran was upset. Some of the men went to the front of their school with farm implements ready to defend their rights. The Justice was notified. He went alone to talk to them. As a result the Justice of the Peace, their minister and some of the elders went to the White House in Washington to appeal to the President to change the law. They got their audience. He told them not to burn their books. He thought it unfair too, and that he would ask Congress to rescind the law. He did and they did and peace prevailed.

Joe had begun subdividing farms into building lots with restrictions to protect the owner. He started with the family farm and platted McCracken Boulevard west from Turney Road and McCracken Road.

Joseph and Anna Frances Brennan had married on September 6, 1917. They built their first home on East 115th Street off Granger Road. They had three children, a son John Francis, daughters Kathryn and Rosemary.

He was a member and an officer of the Cleveland Real Estate Board and was a pioneer with

the Torrens Act to provide for a clear title without an extensive title search. The State Of Ohio began to license real estate brokers. His number was 48, and all salesmen had to work under a licensed broker. Two of his salesmen were George Basel and Ernest J. Snider. He had an office in the Williamson Building in Cleveland and one in Garfield Heights.

Recognizing that people needed transportation, not many had cars at this time, a Garfield Heights, man tried to start a bus company but didn't get it approved by the Public Utilities and had to halt the project. Several years later Joseph studied the requirements carefully, hired an attorney knowledgeable in PUCO law and applied. The letter of approval for the Garfield Heights Coach Lines is on film in the Ohio Historical Library. It spells out the rules and regulations for the company, the route, including the turn arounds and the location of the office. This was at the address of a concrete block garage adjacent to Koppers gas station on the corner of Granger and Turney. In order not to miss the minimum number of required trips due to bus breakdowns he bought a Pierce Arrow with jump seats for extra passengers and drove the runs himself.

It is interesting that the Brecksville Transit Company still uses the Garfield Heights Coach Lines PUCO license on all its busses.

Also, he saw the need for a bank that would care for the need of a neighborhood and opened a branch of the Dime Savings and Loan Bank at the corner of Turney and Penfield Avenues in a brick block building. Tellers were Madeline Donnell and Lottie Placek. Anna Schmitt was Vice President and Secretary and was often at the bank—her children didn't see that she was working "she was just helping the real tellers".

When the depression came the government closed all banks and the steam shovels in Oak Park Development and everywhere stopped and rusted there. Everywhere also people were out of work. While he was coping with all of this, he lost property and his businesses, but the most crushing blow was that he lost his youngest little "springtime in the Rockies girl" Rosemary.

When Roosevelt came in as President, the National Recovery Act with the Home Loan Association and later the Federal Housing Administration were activated.

The HOLC was formed to give people the opportunity to reclaim their houses. Interviews had already been held for jobs and he had missed a chance, or did he! He, with Ernest Snider went to Detroit for and came back with excellent positions because of their experience. Up to this time bank loans could be called annually; there were no twenty-year loans. This act would change that. Part of his job was to reassure people the government really wanted them to keep their houses.

After that came the Federal Housing Association. He was Senior Valuator for all of Northeast Ohio. FHA approved subdivisions guaranteed loans. The building boom came to Garfield Heights. The Mayor then appointed Joseph A. Schmitt Chairman of the Zoning and Planning Commission for the City, a post he held into his seventieth year. He looked to the needs of a community twenty years into the future.

His last public appearance was when he was chosen the eldest male Citizen of Garfield Heights for Home Days

He believed in two phrases he frequently used in advertising

"Garfield Heights High Healthful and Beautiful
and

If You Lived Here You'd Be Home"

(How true)

GARFIELD HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL MEMORIES

by
Evelyn Hubert

The Athletic Field of the Garfield Heights High School was dedicated on a very beautiful Saturday afternoon, September 23, 1939 at 1:15 p.m. It was the first time the High School football team played a game on their own Athletic Field. Up until that time football practice and home games were held in Garfield Park in the area where the Armory was later located, now part of Metroparks.

The dedication Program listed Tom Manning as Master of Ceremonies. Presentation of the Athletic Field was given by the Board of Education with Michael Jaffrin as President and Members were Elmer Koenig, Frank Kniola, Carl Guthrie and Carl Kuhn. Superintendent of Schools Harold Maurer and High School Principal Mary H. Kerr accepted the Field. Walter Williams was Chairman of the Athletic Council and the Student Representatives were Robert Chapple and Evelyn Lawry.

The highlight of the afternoon was the football game between the 1939 varsity and an Alumni team composed of fellows who had played for Garfield and still were still able to make a tackle and go for a first down. Jack Wilson was the Head Varsity Coach and Bill Harper and Richard Elliott were Managers. George Schmidt was the Alumni Coach. Mike Jaffrin served, as Captain of the Alumni Football Squad and Gus Corsi was the Honorary Captain. The Varsity Team held the vaulted Alumni Team to a scoreless tie in the opening day game, which dedicated the Bulldogs new home.

The Alumni Squad

Bevis, Lorne	Corsi, Fred	Kaputa, John	Mentowski, Chuck
Bondel, Ed	Corsi, Vince	Keller, Bill	Oliver, Gene
Bowden, Earl	Di Vincenzo, Mike	Kinzie, Arnold	Orihil, Larry
Bujak, Walter	Evans, Joe	Knuaff, Chuck	Richards, Tom
Byrne, Bud	Evert, Lawrence	Kobys, Walter	Ritter, George
Caputo, Andy	Focht, Herman	Kocarek, Jim	Sliwinski, Stan
Ceo, Emery	Glass, Bruce	Mancini, Louis	Taylor, Jim
Corsi, Ed	Guthrie, Laird	Mantel, Don	Twardy, Clem
Corsi, Emerick	Hodge, Jim	McCune, Joe	

The Varsity Squad

Ansink, Ted	Gapinski, George	Jones, Spurgent	Obert, Dick
Balasx. Alfonse	Gerak, Tom	Kalal, Jack	Radke, Bud
Bluso, Pat	Gossman, John	Kilroy, Ray	Sambor, Frank
Brooks, Russell	Gotthardt, Larry	Kotil, Elwood	Semprock, Henry
Burk, Don	Hasson, Jim	Krysinski, Harry	Smith, George
Caputa, Jake	Hodge, Jack	Mathieson, Pete	Soukoup, Bob
Chapple, Bob	Howell, Bill	Meitzke, Henry	Steiner, Myron
Cooke, Ed	Hubert, Don	Murphy, Ed	Tarnowski, Ed
Doherty, Allan	Humphrey, Pete	Myers, Bill	Vidinski, Louis
Estabrook	Johnston, Harold	Nash, Jim	Weber, Bob

Don Hubert on the Varsity Team still resides in Garfield Heights. Director James Tarr led the High School Band March in all its splendor.

Football rallies with huge bonfires were held in the open field adjacent to the High School prior to all home football games. Turneytown Shopping Center now occupies that open field space.

The Queen and her Court



The girls in the picture (left to right) Front row: Florence Dee, Marjorie Webb, Queen Janet Johnstone, Evelyn Lawry. Back row: Doris Dodd, Henrietta Kaminski, Sophie Bradulov, Virginia Benson

Another highlight of the eventful day was the crowning of the Football Homecoming Queen. Popular Cheerleader Janet Johnstone was elected as Queen and her Court consisted of Florence Dee, Marjorie Webb, Evelyn Lawry, Doris Dodd, Henrietta Kaminski, Sophie Bradulov and Virginia Benson, all members of the 1940 graduating class. Seven girls of the court celebrated their 80th birthday in 2002 and several are still in touch to share memories of Garfield Heights High School.

On September 6, 1963 the Garfield Heights High School Athletic Field was named The Blaugrund Field to honor the memory of Dr. Charles Blaugrund, the dedicated team physician.

THE BLAUGRUND ATHLETIC FIELD

by
Evelyn Hubert

Dr. Charles Blaugrund was born November 1, 1903, in Trenton, New Jersey. He did his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Louisville, in Louisville, Kentucky, receiving a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1928.

In 1929, after finishing an internship at Mercer General Hospital in Trenton, New Jersey, Dr. Blaugrund opened an office for the general practice of medicine at East 86th Street and Garfield Boulevard.

During the 1930's Dr. Blaugrund became involved with the athletic program at Garfield Height High School. He attended football games, home and away, and provided medical care for the Injured athletes of Garfield Heights High School and their opponents.

Without question, Dr. Blaugrund was a pioneer in establishing the role of a team physician for scholastic athletics.

With the onset of World War II, Dr. Blaugrund enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1942 and was commissioned a Captain. He was honorably discharged in 1945 with the rank Major and returned to Garfield Heights to resume his practice of medicine.

Dr. Blaugrund always had an intense interest in Garfield Heights as a community and exhibited equal concern for all its people. For most of his career, he served as the official physician for the Garfield Heights Police and Fire Departments.

Dr. Blaugrund touched the lives of many people in special ways; he was always available to encourage, support, and guide those who sought his wise counsel.

The Garfield Heights American Legion Post honored Dr. Blaugrund as Legion Man of the year for 1957 for his many years in practice of medicine and service to the community.

Dr. Blaugrund died unexpectedly on October 31, 1959. Shortly thereafter, the Dr. Blaugrund Scholarship Fund was established by his friends for the purpose of awarding scholarships to Garfield Heights High School students. Two scholarships have been awarded yearly since 1960.

The Blaugrund football field was named for and to honor this unique man.

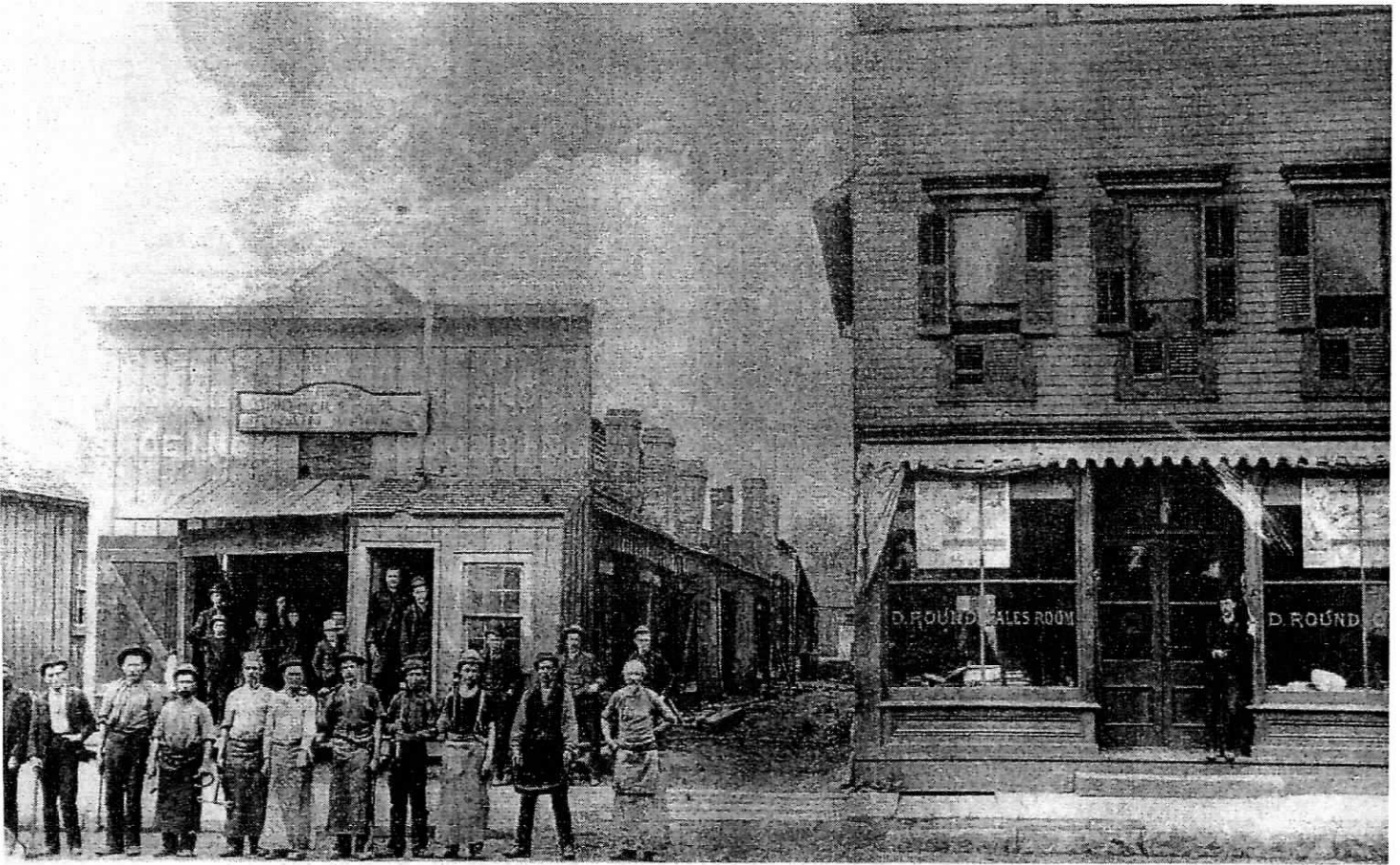
Dr. Blaugrund received, posthumously, the OHIO OUTSTANDING TEAM PHYSICIAN AWARD on July 13, 1995, from the Ohio State Medical Association and the Ohio High School Athletic association.

The award reads "for long and distinguished service to Ohio scholastic athletic programs and student athletes as team physician for Garfield Heights High School, Garfield Heights, Ohio.



THE EARLY ROUND CHAIN COMPANY

by
Dan F. Ostrowski



**ROUND CHAIN WORKS 1884
2287 BROADWAY AVE.**

Do you remember the huge mansion on the corner of Turney and Garfield Boulevard? The one where SS Peter and Paul church now stands. Well it was there and was probably the largest house in our area and owned by Louis D. Round one of the wealthiest families in Garfield Heights. The Round family estate included all of the lots and houses from Turney Rd. to E. 94th Street on the north side of the Boulevard as well as the south side east to E. 97th Street. Their prominence however was acquired because of the Round Chain Company.

Louis D. Round was born in Ponti Prio Whales in 1866. He was brought to the US by his parents David and Hanna of English ancestry to Trenton NJ later to Troy NY and finally to Cleveland OH in 1869. Sometime later David Round founded the Ohio Chain Company. As one of the first manufacturer of chain, chain hoists, trolleys, winches and cranes in the US (the first manufacturer in the City of Cleveland) David Round very early in his career gained an enviable reputation as "maker of high quality chain hoists". When Louis was 16 he was in the employ of his father. In 1887 at the age of 21 he was made partner of the David Round and Son Company. In 1906 David Round died and Louis then became the chief executive. The company ultimately had facilities from coast to coast.

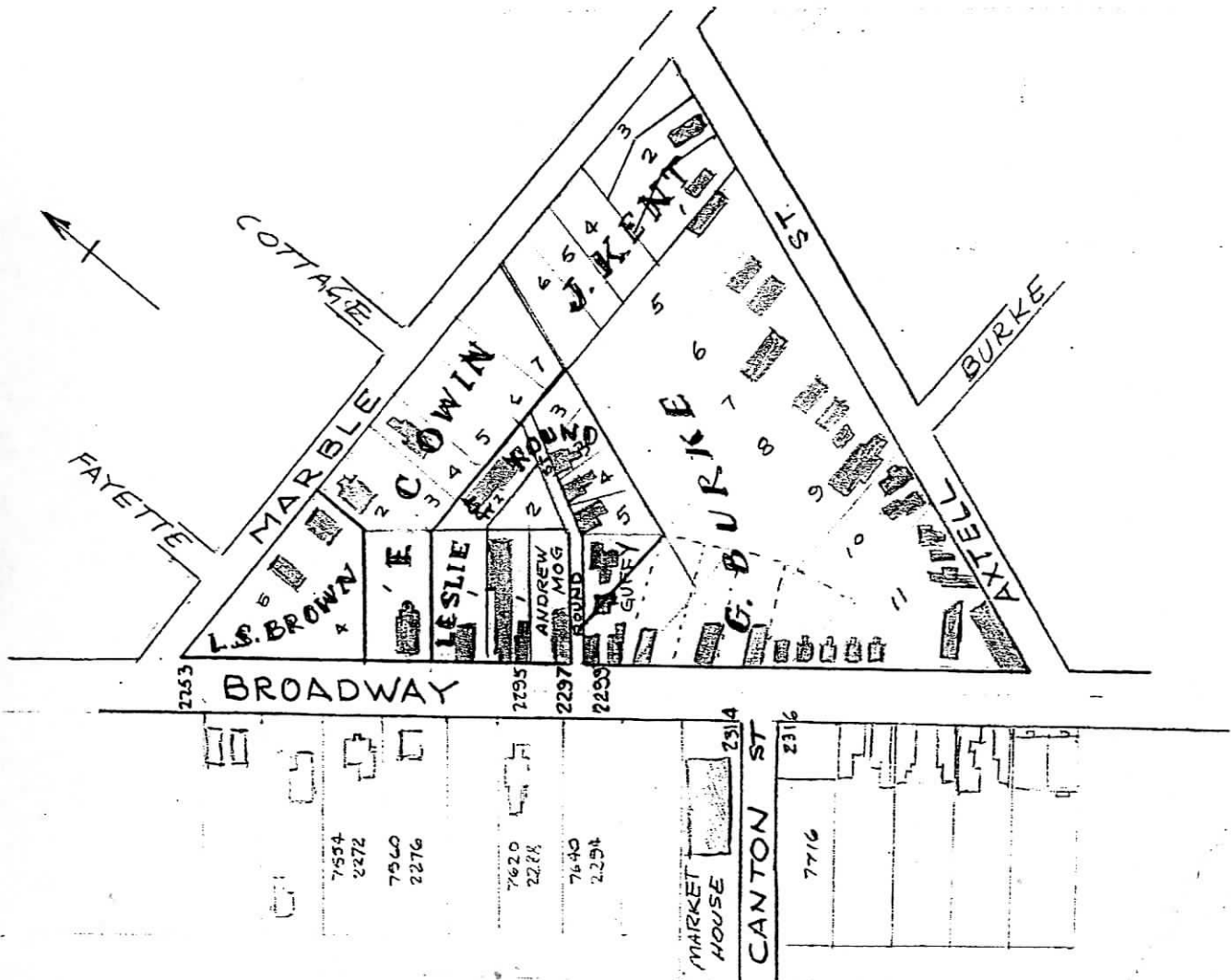


1880's

The earliest listing of the company occurred in the area of Broadway Ave. between Marble and Canton Avenue in Cleveland. A check of the City Directory records of Cleveland shows David Round in 1874 as the "Ohio Chain Co. in residence near Marble Ave. in Newburgh. Before Dec. 1873 that part of Cleveland today was not yet annexed and was still in Newburgh Township. The Newburgh Township directory records are lost to history.

I have included a listing of the Round family taken from the Cleveland directories for a series of dates through 1920. Using this information and copies of Sanborn Insurance maps which are also included you can determine the location of the factories and some of the family residences which were all nearby within walking distance. See all the maps and compare them to the directory listings.

In 1879 the directory indicates the Chain and Cable Works was first located at 2316 Broadway. This is the southwest corner of Canton Ave. And Broadway. The next factory location was at 2287 Broadway in 1884. See the two included vintage pictures. Today this is the corner of Round St., a short red brick dead end street, along side the Broadway Fire Station. The fire station is the site of that second factory. It is diagonally across the street from the old Newburgh Market that now is the Allegheny Child Care Center.



THE ROUND PROPERTY

ROUND FAMILY CITY DIRECTORY RECORDS

1874

Round David (Ohio Chain Co.), r. es.
Broadway, nr. Marble, Nbgh.
Round George, chain mkr. Ohio Chain Co.
r. Nbgh.

1875

Round David, chainmkr. r. 2318 Broad-
way

1876

Round George, chain mkr. r. 2320 Cen-
tre, 18th w.

1878

Round David, grocer. 2318 Broadway
Round George, chain mkr. r. 2320 Cor-
nell

CHAIN MANUFACTURERS.

Cleveland Chain Works, Euclid av. at
C. & P. R. R. crossing; Younglove,
Brew & Co. proprs.
Round David, 2316 Broadway

1879

Round David, chain and cable wks. 2816
Broadway, r. 2318 Broadway
Round George, chainmkr. David Round

1881

Round David, chain works, 2316 Broadway,
r. rr. 2318 Broadway
Round George, wks. D. Round

1882

Round David (D. Round & Co.), r. 1 Round
Round & Co. (David Round and A. J. Ham-
ton), chain works, 2316 Broadway
Round George, chainmkr. r. 2113 Phillips

1884

Round David, chain mfr. 2287 Broadway, r.
ss. Round, nr. Broadway
Round Eli, chainmkr. r. 2348 Stafford
Round George, chainmkr. r. 2066 Phillips

CHAIN MANUFACTURERS

Round David, 2287 Broadway
Woodhouse Samuel, es. Stafford, nr. Union

1886

Round David, chain mfr. 2287 Broadway, r.
ss. Round, 1st house n. of Broadway
Round Eli, chain maker, r. 2348 Stafford
Round George, chain maker, r. 2066 Phillips
Round Lewis D. clerk' r. Round, 1st house n.
of Broadway

1894

Round David (D. Round & Son), r. 12 Round
Round D. & Son (David and Louis D.), chain
mfrs. 2287 Broadway
Round Eli, chainmkr. r. 91 Rural
Round George, chainmkr. r. 98 Rural
Round Louis D. (D. Round & Son), r. 284 Hosmer

1900

Round Brazel M. polisher, r. 103 Second av.
— David (D. Round & Son), r. 2272 Broadway
— David D. chainmkr. r. 2113 Phillips

ROUND D. & SON

(David, and Louis D.), Chain, Chain,
Block and Crab Mfrs., 2287 to 2291
Broadway, Tels. Cuya. C 4362; Ed.
Main 1657
— Eli A. chainmkr. r. 1121 St. Clair
— George, chainmkr. r. 2113 Phillips
— Louis D. (D. Round & Son), r. 77 Marcellus
— William A. garbener, r. 149 Doad, Union

1908

Round Albre R r 7554 Broadway SE
— David D chainmkr r 3614 E 76th SE

ROUND D. & SON,

(Louis D. Round), Chain, Chain Holsts
and Crab Mfrs., 7625 Broadway, S.E.;
Both Phones

Round—Continued

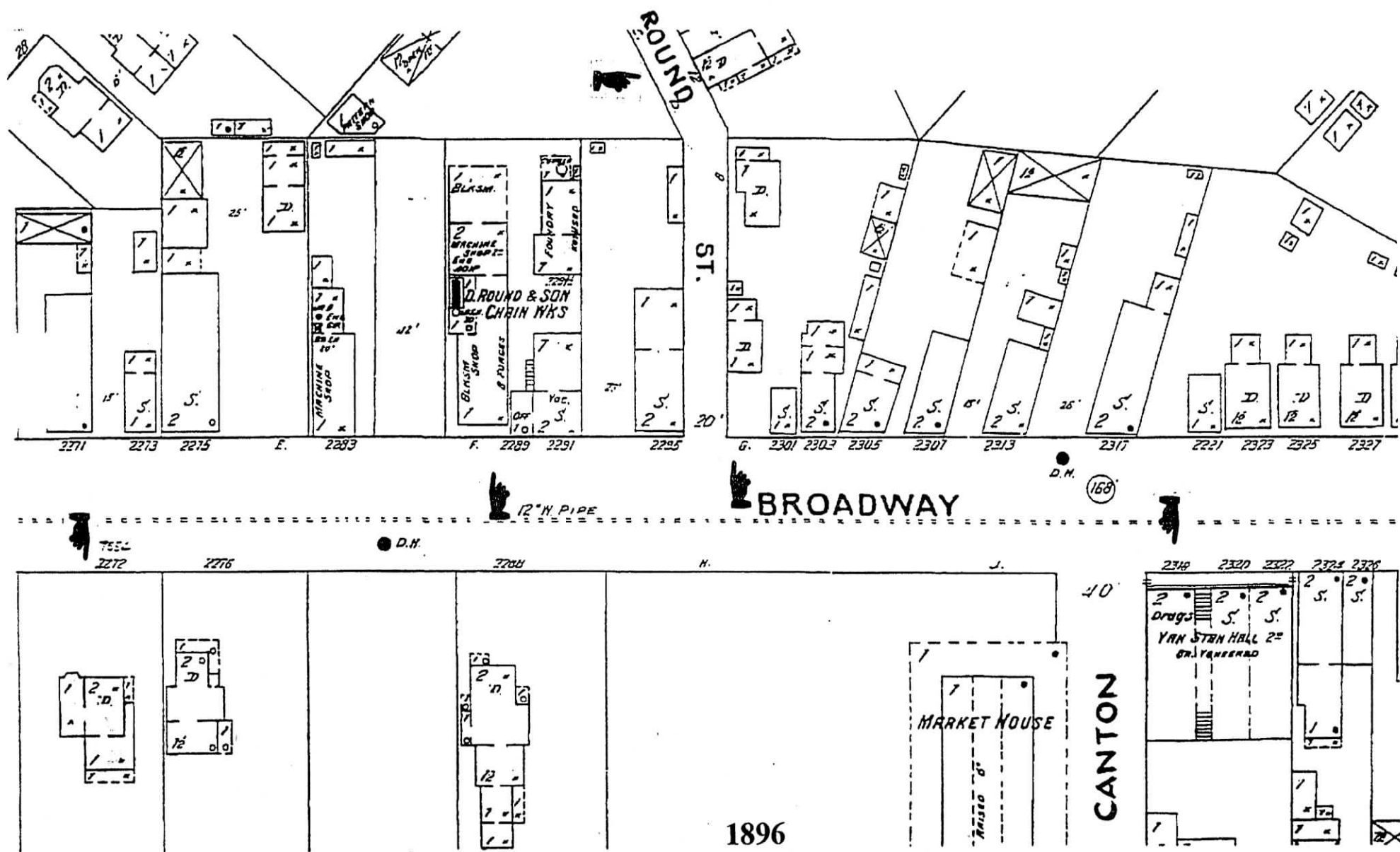
— George chainmkr r 6727 Chambers av SE
— George chainmkr r 3614 E 76th SE
— George mach r 5103 Superior av NE
— Hannah wld David r 7554 Broadway SE
— John mach r 3614 E 76th SE
— Louis D (D Round & Son) r Turney rd
nr Garfield Park
— Samuel M fire dept r 5103 Superior NE

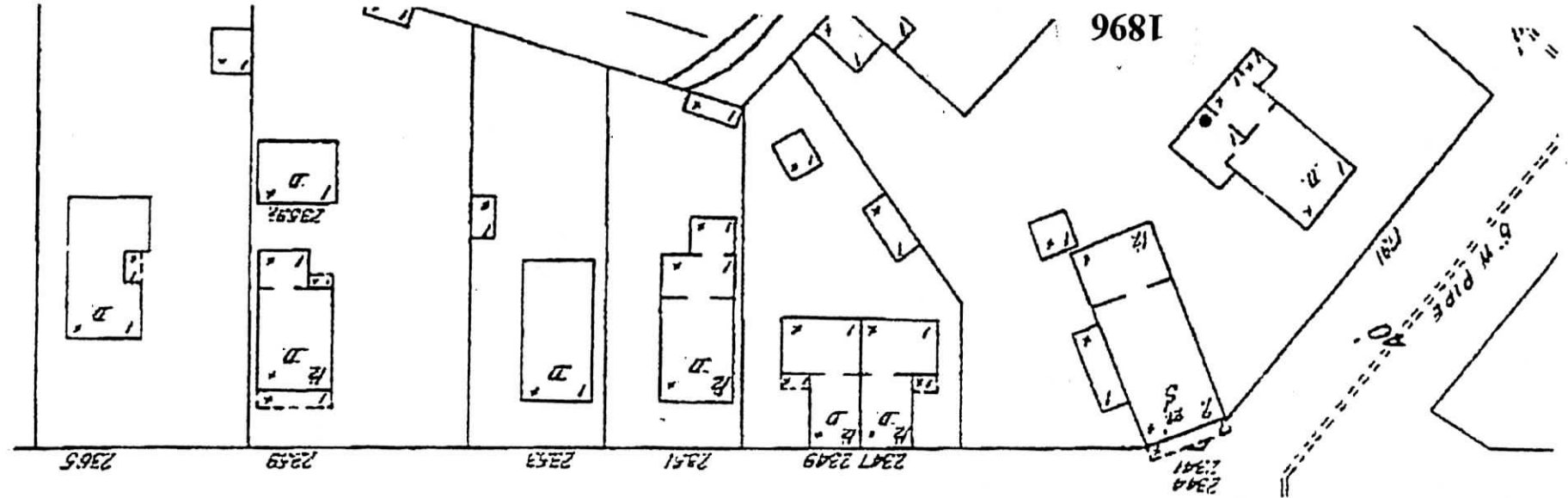
1920

Round Amy widow W A r 946 Lakeside rd
— Eli A foreman r 4177 E 94th
— Esle J stenographer r 946 Lakeside rd
— Geo chainmaker r 8023 Maryland av
— Geo D toolmaker r 768 Eddy rd

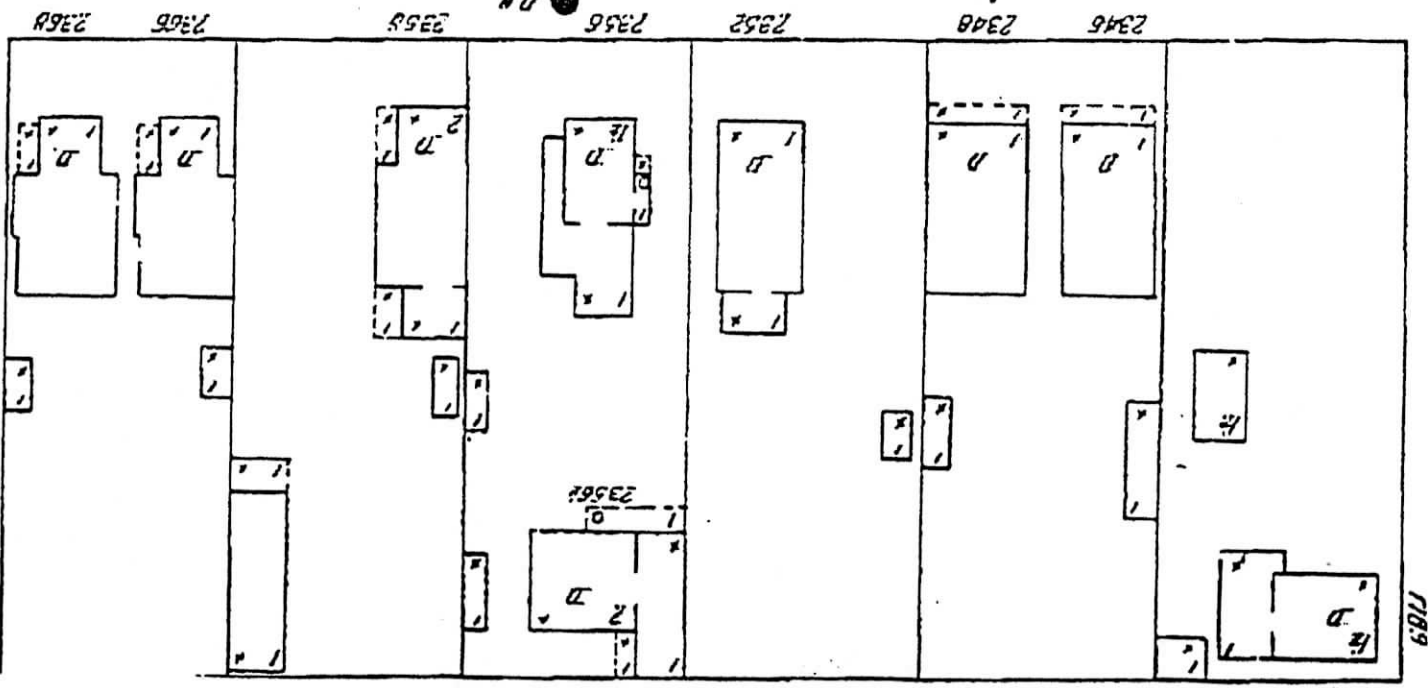
Round—Continued

— Hannah widow David r 7554 Broadway
— Harry chainmaker r 3010 Macomber av
— Howard Y electrician r 12620 Brickland av
— John B machlist r 1116 Chasen av
— Louis D sec Stern Furniture Co r Turney rd S
Nbgh
— Saml M fire dept r 467 E 120th





SPAFFORD



7189

7189

1896

6" W PIPE
A.O.
1201

2346 2348

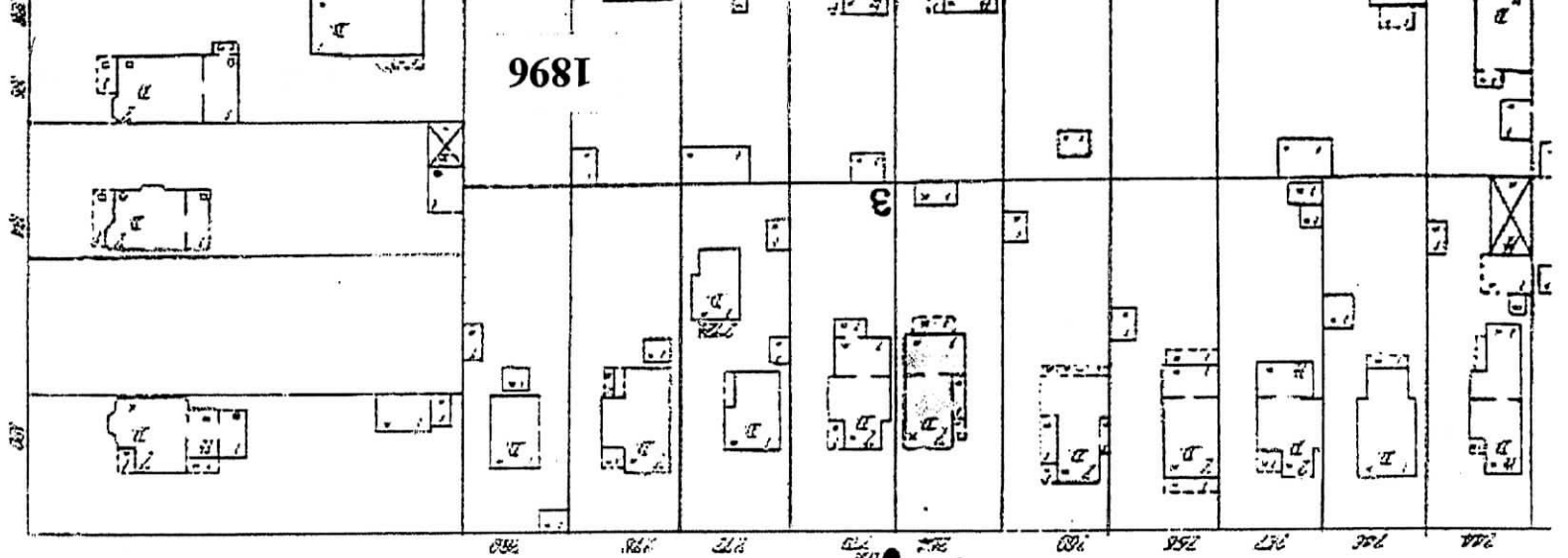
2352

2358

2366

2368

2356 D.M.

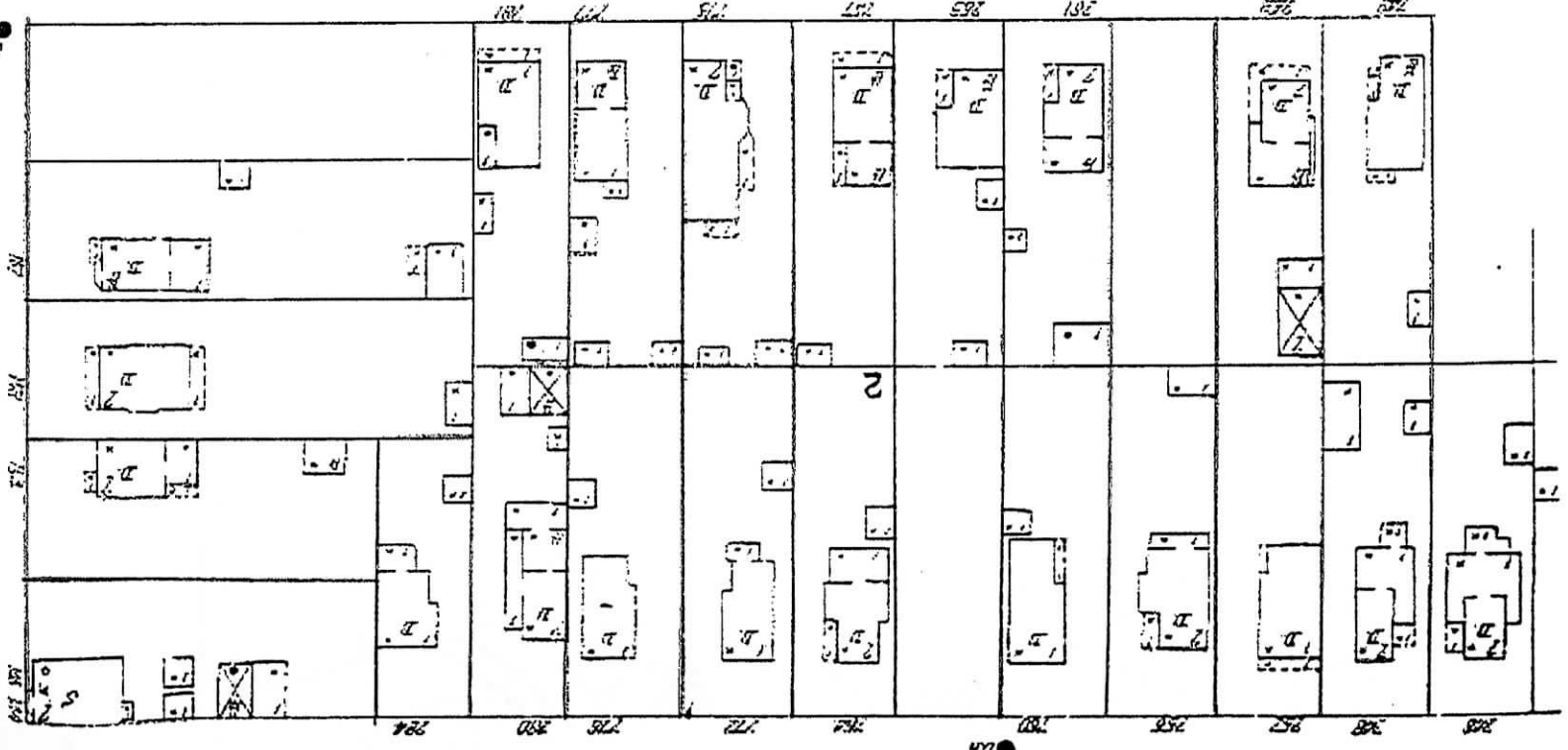


1896

3

HOSMER

6" W. PIPE



3RD

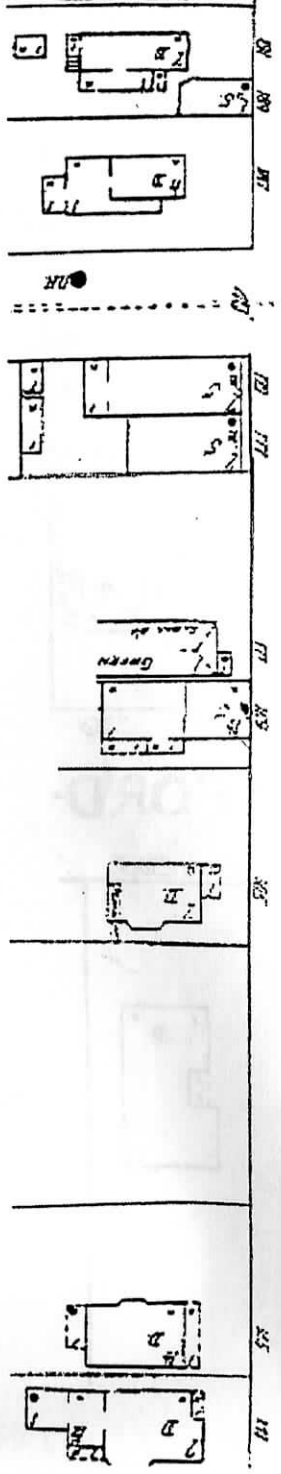
AV.

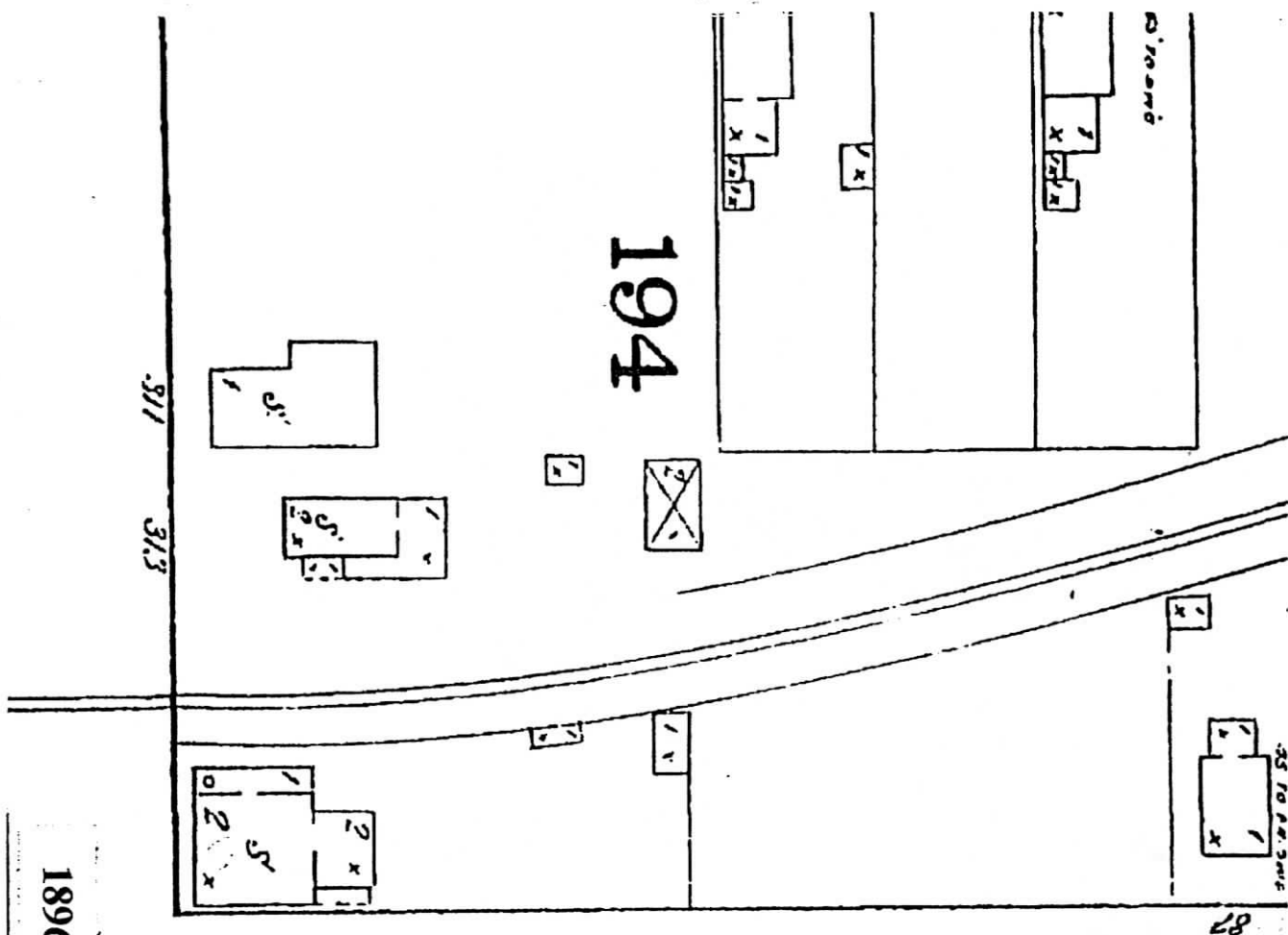
6" W. PIPE

MARCELLINE

AV.

6" W. PIPE

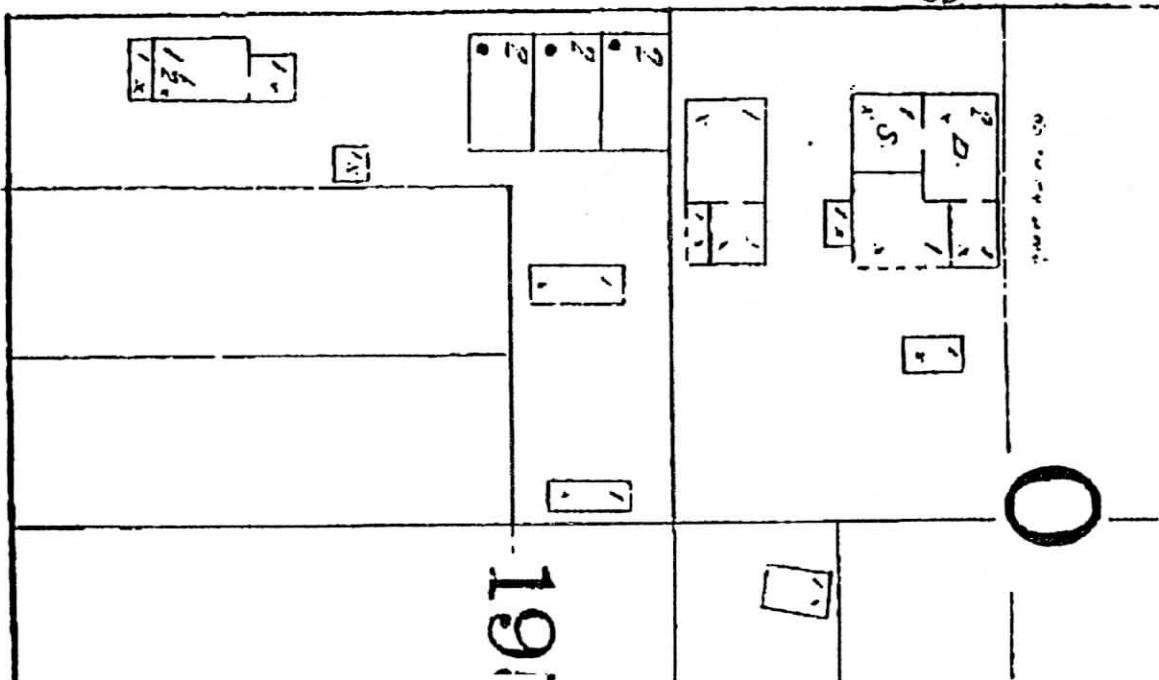




45' RURAL

ST.

06

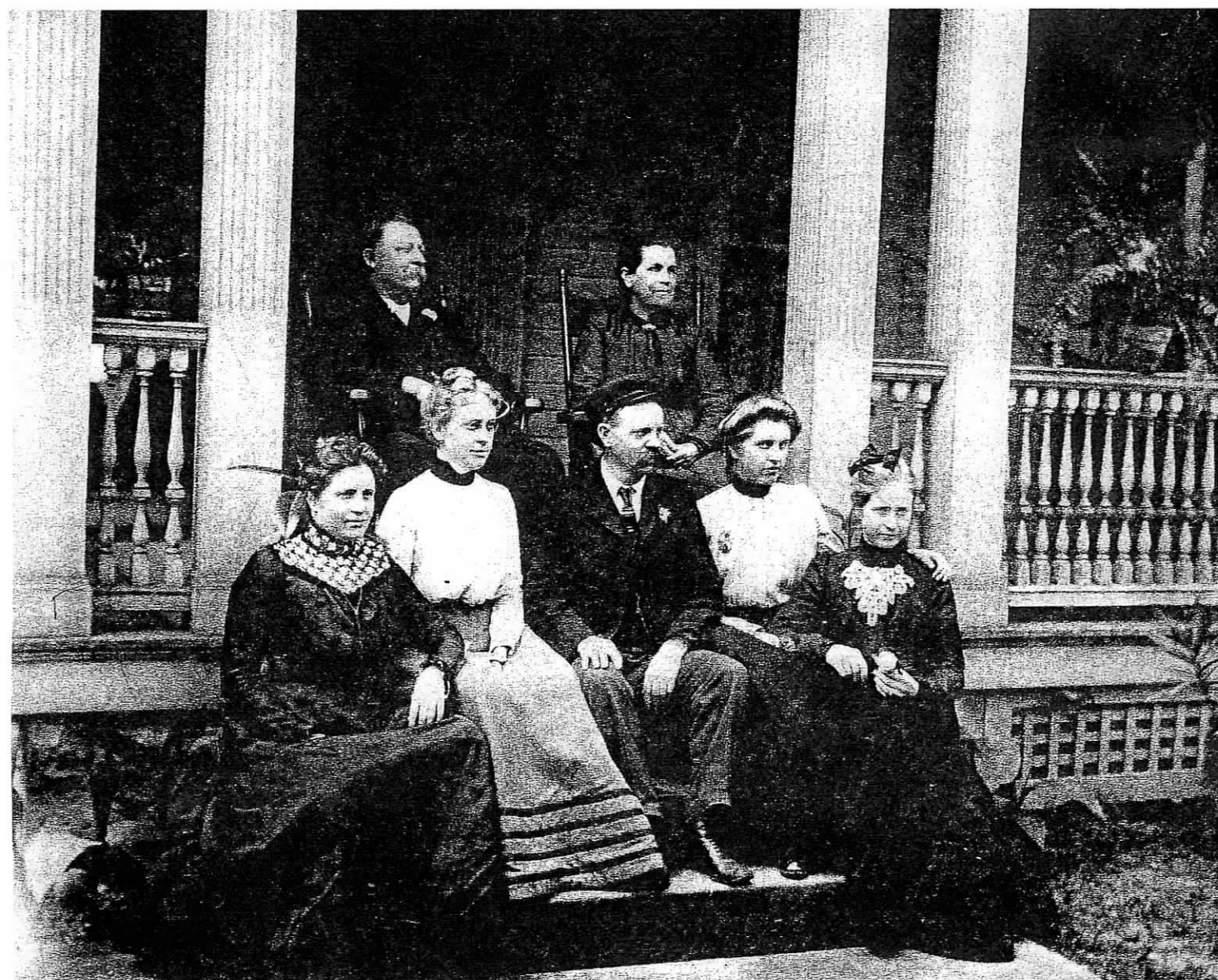


191

AETNA

1896

Before the Louis Round family lived in the Garfield Heights mansion in 1910 his home was with his parents on Broadway Avenue three lots northward of the factory but across the street. A family picture on the porch of that residence is also included.



Pictured: The David Round Family

Top: David Round, Hanna Bridgewater Round,

1885

Bottom: Elizabeth Round Cull, Phoebe May Round Bowen, Louis David Round, Jeannie Round Jewett, and Beatrice Round Forbes.

In 1915 the rounds also became involved in real estate, purchasing 500 acres in Garfield Hts. and developed and built several million dollars worth of homes. During WW-I the company was very busily engaged turning out war material for the US government. The next factory move was to Garfield Heights.

A CHAINMAKER'S MEMORY

By
Dan Ostrowski

It was a few years ago during the annual "Harvest Festival" on Fleet Avenue when a Mary and Stewart Smith and her father Walter F. Czerpa stopped at the Slavic Village Historical Society booth. They were looking at the display of old neighborhood and historic site photos when Walter asked if we knew of the Round Chain Co. in Garfield Heights. I was just doing a search of the early Round Co., which was originally established in 1874 in the area of Canton and Broadway Avenues. Walter worked for them in the 1930's when the company moved to Garfield Heights in its later years. His recollections follow:

I started work at the Chain Co. in August of 1936 at the age of 17 and left the company the last week of February 1944. The factory was located in the Broadway and Henry Street area. I lived at 3828 E. 54th Street in Cleveland. My first job was assembling the chain. Most of the time the hours were 7 am to 4 pm. Sometimes in the summer they would change the hours to 4 pm to midnight. It was a temporary thing. I got to work by sharing a car ride with my cousin, walking to work, biking and /or taking a streetcar. I was bored with that job and asked to be moved to different work. They moved me to the inspection department that consisted of testing and storage of the chains. I next worked in the chain-welding department that had lines of crudely made machines. Electric lines came from overhead to power the machines. The welding machine had two heavy copper jaws into which the first chain link would be positioned. When you pulled a wooden lever in front of the machine the jaws would close on the link and move it in position where the first link would be welded. The jaws opened and then the chain is moved forward. The second link is welded. You repeat the same steps for about 12 links. Then the links that have been welded are moved by the machine to the shear press that cuts off any excess metal. This continues until every link in the chain is done. The chain polishing department had tumbling equipment and was very noisy. In general the plant was relatively comfortable and not too hot. It had wood block floors and a basement.

The product I first dealt with was chain for automotive tires. Then there were chains for chandelier lamps. There also were very fine chains made from extremely thin wire made on automatic machines. I don't know for what they were used. There were chain links that were made from 7/8-inch diameter steel. They may have been used with anchors or for whatever. There also were chains that were galvanized and others plated with copper, brass, or cadmium. Lockweave was the name of a link chain used with the pulleys. Each link was wrapped around itself and was not welded together. Generally the chains were made from wire. Spools of the wire were mounted alongside a chain-making machine. The wire was fed into the machine. It would form each link and connect them in to a chain, which later had to have each end of each link welded together. They also made rings that were assembled to chain ends of various length and sizes. Punch presses were used to form the rings and remove excess flashing.

The picture on the next page is a Round Chain Company employee group photo taken in the 1930's. Walter P. Czerpa is in the top row second from the right.



A Round Chain Co. employees' picture of the 1930's taken next to the factory located near Henry Street and Broadway Avenue in Garfield Heights.

THE OLD CORNING HOUSE

by
Dan Ostrowski



Do you know this famous Building? It is located at 4482-6 on E. 131st Street and Christine Ave. Well, assuming you don't know let me tell you about it.

Going back in time, in 1795 an Abigail Williams most likely an early investor in the Connecticut Land Company sold the virgin land on which the building stands to a Justus Hamilton. The famous Hamilton family name of early Newburgh Township was the namesake for Hamilton Avenue that later was called Harvard Avenue.

An 1852 map shows that the original 100-acre lot 477 and 478 had two owners. The northern half of 477 by A. Ames and 478 by J. Harper. The lower half of both was owned by J. Hamilton. An 1874 map shows 477 owned totally by Joshua Adams and all of 478 by A. J. Hamilton.

The next owner as shown on an 1892 map was Warren Corning. He owned all of the 100-acre lots 477 and 478 plus 30 acres of lot 486. Corning built the house, ultimately a racetrack clubhouse, on lot 477 on the West side of, but facing East, on a street then called Windfall. Later the name was changed to E. 131st Street. Directly east across that street he built a ½ mile Trotting Race Track. This track occupied the land between streets now called South Park and Alvin just north of Broadway Avenue. Corning was also responsible for naming the track "Cranwood Park". This name is said to have come from the fact that Cranberry patches and woods covered the area. The combination and contraction of the two words give us "Cranwood".

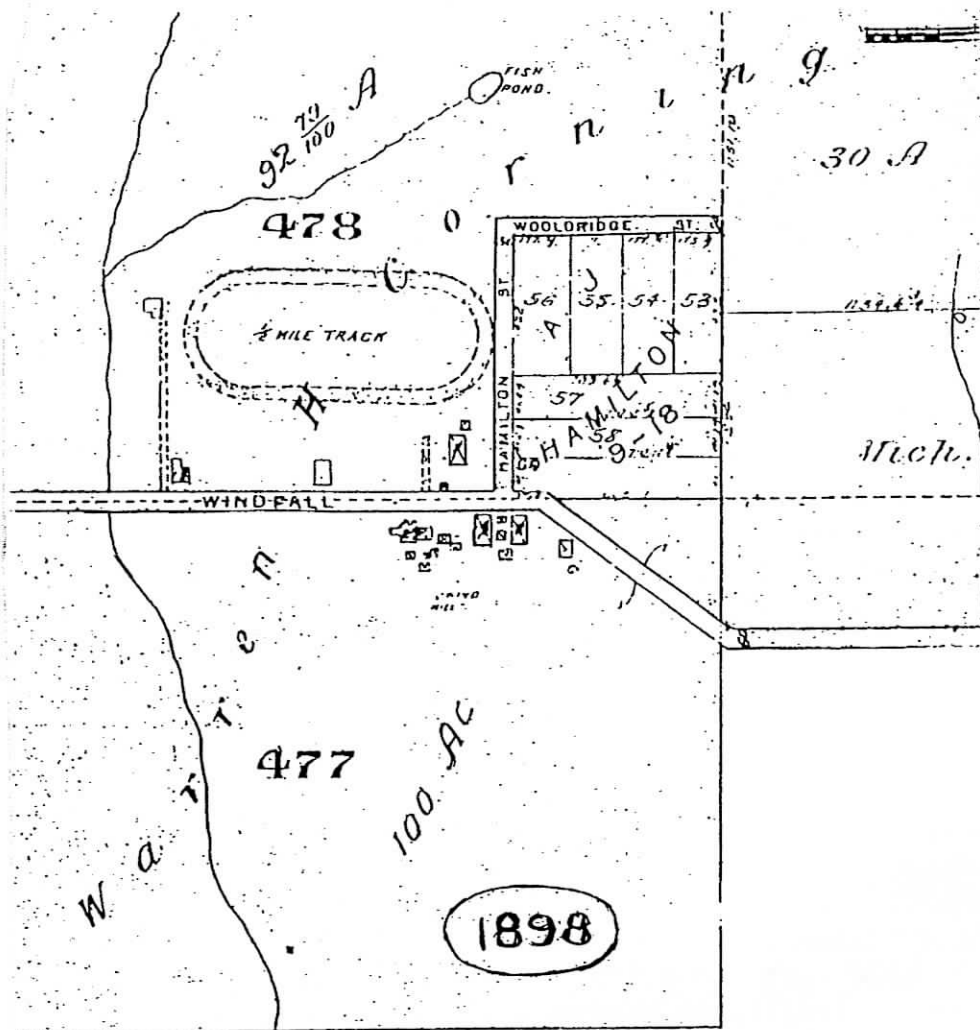
In 1914 the house was gutted by fire on the evening of the opening meet of the Lake Erie Racing Circuit. A charred and blackened frame was all that remained of the clubhouse after the

fire was extinguished, and only the work of the local Boy Scouts, track attendants who formed an actual bucket brigade, saved the grandstand, stables and barns. The clubhouse was not insured and the estimated loss was \$40,000. The fire was believed to have originated in the attic and due to a defective chimney. Even though the loss of the clubhouse was a great inconvenience to the operation of the business the racing season continued as usual.

Al G. Pennock, a local horseman who participated in the saving of the track during the fire had a fifteen year lease on the farm and track and later rebuilt the track making it similar to the famous St. Petersburg track in Russia. The Cranwood Park track was at one time known as one of the best 1/2 mile track in America.

Pennock bought the Corning house in 1915 and converted it into an Inn and Hotel. He later sublet the clubhouse building after it was rebuilt to a Mrs. Kelley who used it as a rooming house for about twenty residents. At that time, E. 131st Street was not yet paved and looked like a typical country road. After the demise of the racetrack the building reverted to an apartment building. The Cranwood area was sold to development companies, which built and sold moderately priced homes, which exist today.

I'll bet the current tenants may not know, but now you know, for what the house of today is most famous. See the 1898 map shown below.



ANCIENT INDIAN FORTS AND MOUNDS

by

Dan F. Ostrowski

The earliest survey of the Cuyahoga River Indian mounds and forts was performed by Col. Charles Whittlesey. He was a West Point graduate, Civil War Colonel, geologist and the first president of the Western Reserve Historical Society. As a geologist he was hired by the local mining companies to do surveys of their land around the Great Lakes. In his travels he made, along with his geological surveys, many observations of the remains of local Indian forts and mounds. His book "Early History of Cleveland" of 1867 is a famous and earliest definitive historical work of the Cleveland area. In another of his works "Ancient Earth Forts of the Cuyahoga Valley" of 1871 he included a general map depicting locations of ancient earthworks (See fig. 1). Forts of course were places of communal safety and defensive fortifications. Mounds were for either burial or ceremonies. Whittlesey in the map mentioned above shows four earth mounds in Cleveland. The uppermost shown was close to Public Square located a little south of the first Cleveland cemetery which was at a midpoint between Euclid Ave. and Prospect. Ave. on the east side of Ontario Street.

The second mound shown was located at Euclid and the southeast corner of E. 9th Street, then known as Erie Street. Dr. T. Garlick removed relics from this mound in 1820. They were made of a fine-grained greenish striped metamorphic slate found near Lake Superior. One was a bodkin five inches long. The other a flat thin polished stone, six inches long, three inches wide and three-eighths inches thick in the middle, handsomely thinning toward the ends. There were two holes through it in the center, made flat wise, one and a half inches apart, which taper towards the middle. This is a common relic of the mounds, and appears to have been used in spinning the coarse netting or cloth made by the people.

The next mound was located at 2762 E. 53rd near Woodland Ave. In 1909 boys digging in the loose earth brought to light a skull and several smaller bones. These were believed to be a part of a skeleton of a chief among the mound builders. William Greenfield, a Central High student, discovered the well-preserved leg bones of the skeleton and also dug up on the premises four fine arrowheads. The mound was situated on property owned by a J. H. Hobble who was president of the Central Institute Co. It was five feet high, forty feet long and twenty-five wide. The mound was the last of its kind in Cleveland. It was explored by Charles Whittlesey with Judge Baldwin by tunneling to its center much earlier in 1870 when 53rd street was called Sawtell Avenue. Copper beads and a stone pipe (see fig. 2) unlike anything previously found were discovered at that time and placed in the Western Reserve Historical Society Museum. The skull, which was found by the boys, was undoubtedly many hundred years old and from its shape it was believed to belong to one of the broad headed primitives. The teeth were worn down, indicating that the man was old. This mound was no doubt built for burial purposes. Its age was uncertain but was probably close to three hundred years prior to its discovery as was evidenced by a stump of an oak tree which once stood on top of the mound and had a measured 223 growth rings. Fig. 3 shows in the upper map the streets of 1904. Notice there were no numbered streets. Sawtell Avenue ran north and ended at Woodland Avenue. Comparing this with the lower map shows that today old Sawtell Avenue would be at E. 51st Street. The actual mound was near E. 53rd Street.

The fourth mound shown on Whittlesey's general map was reported by William Ganson Rose as being a preserved visible Indian mound and landmark 60 ft high when the 60 acres purchased

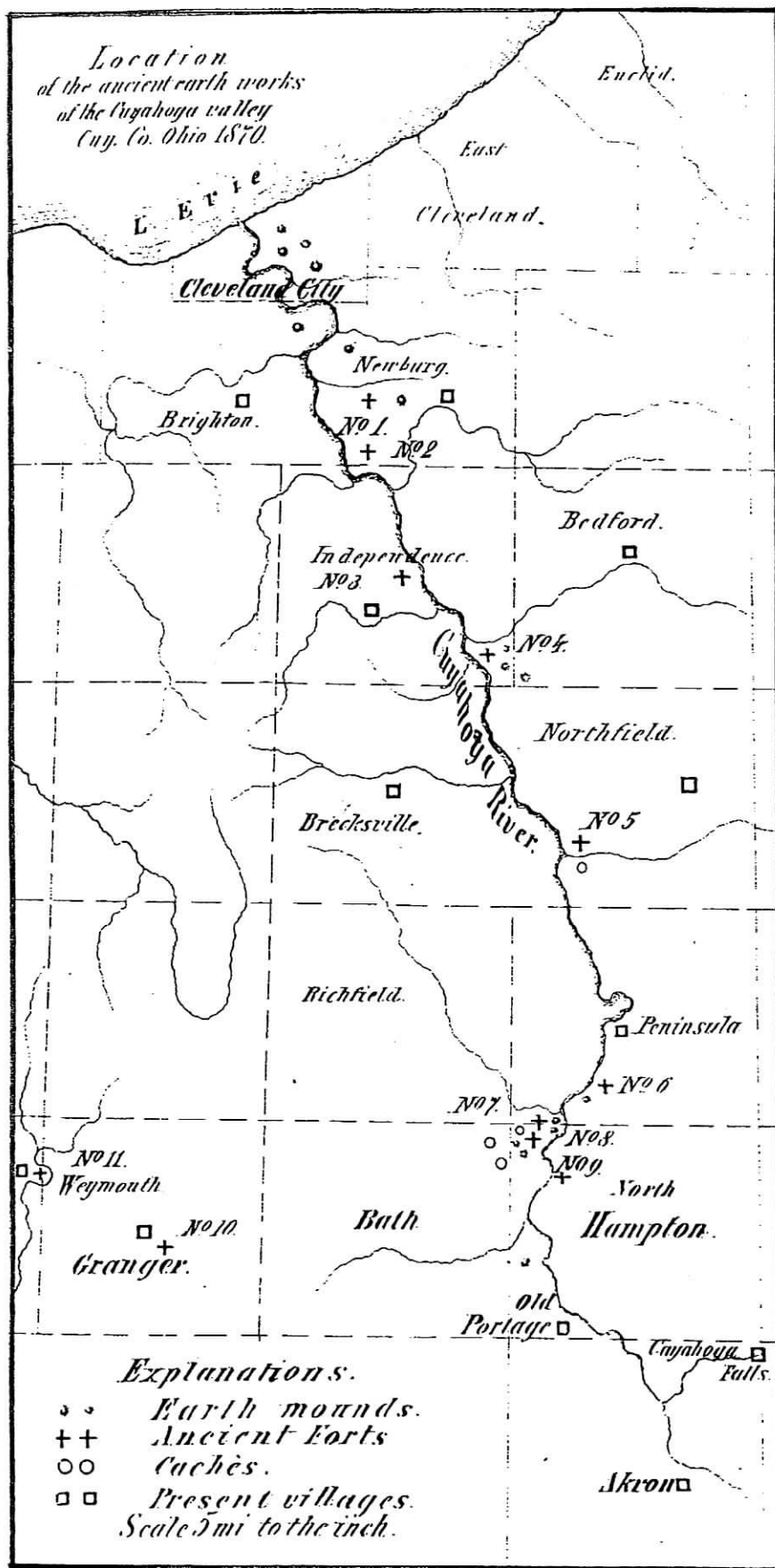
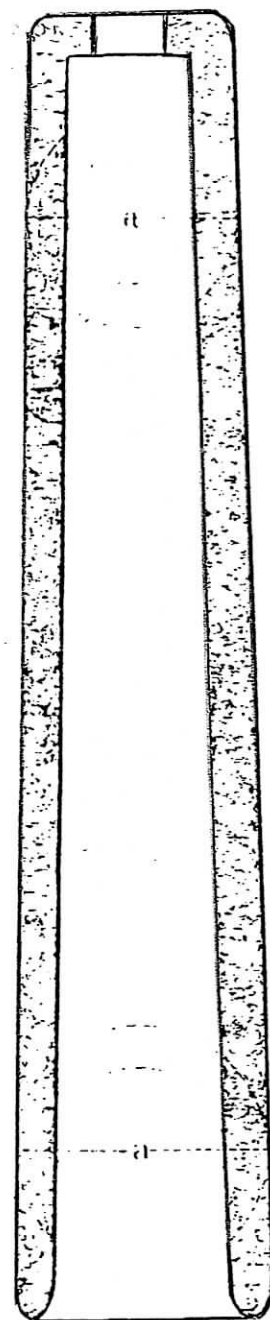


Fig. 1 Whittlesey's general map
of Indian Forts and Mounds



Cross-section of a stone whistle
from a mound on Sawtell Avenue
in Cleveland made of fire clay rock
Fig. 2

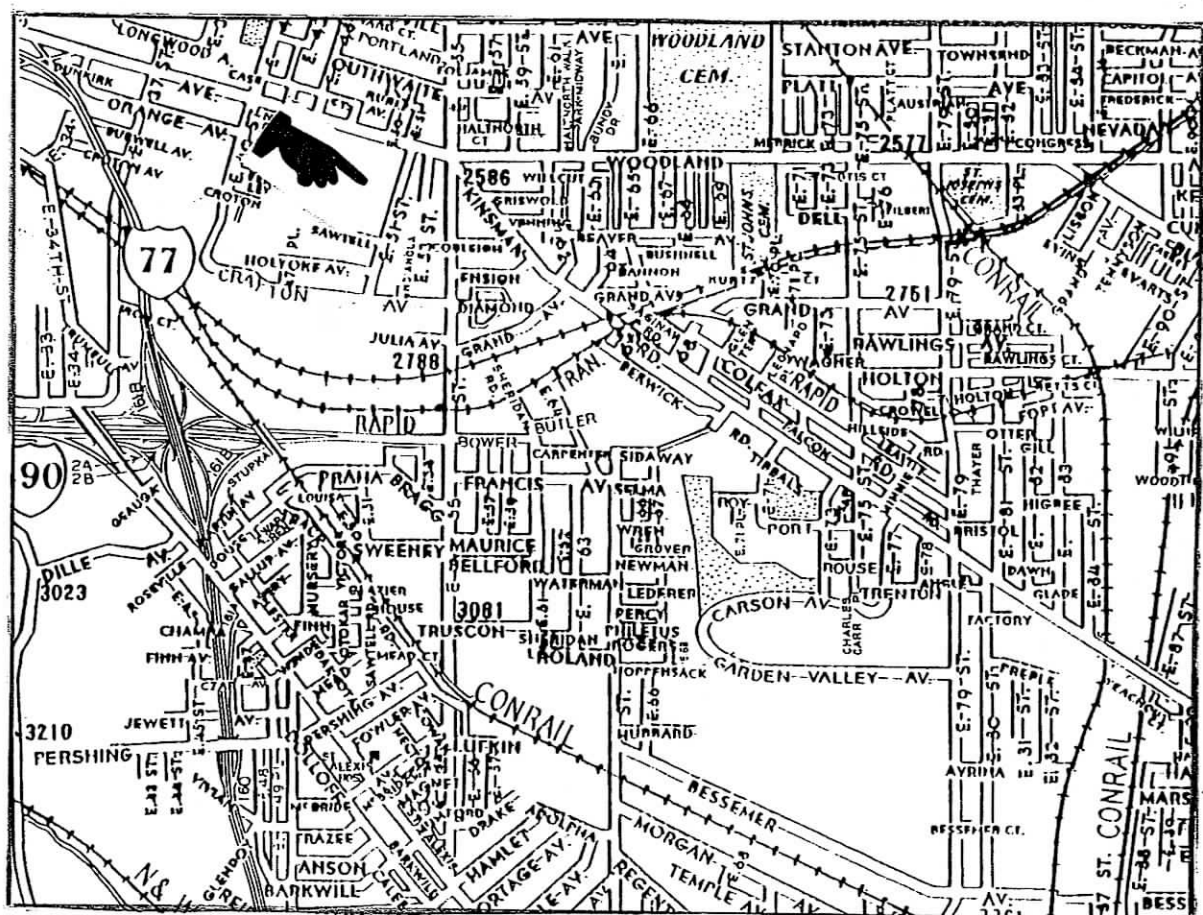
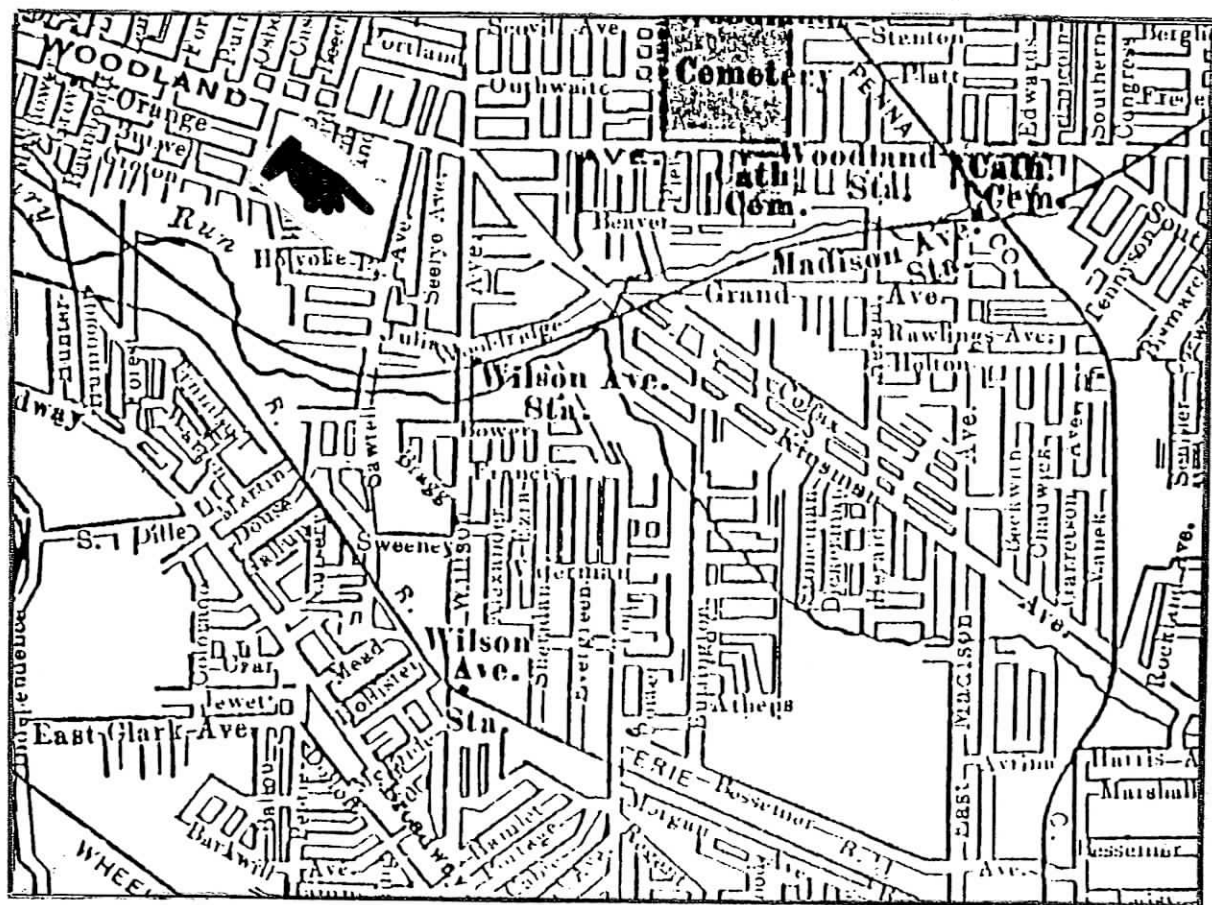


Fig. 3 Two street maps are shown to enable one to compare Sawtelle Avenue of 1904 (upper) and 1999 (lower).

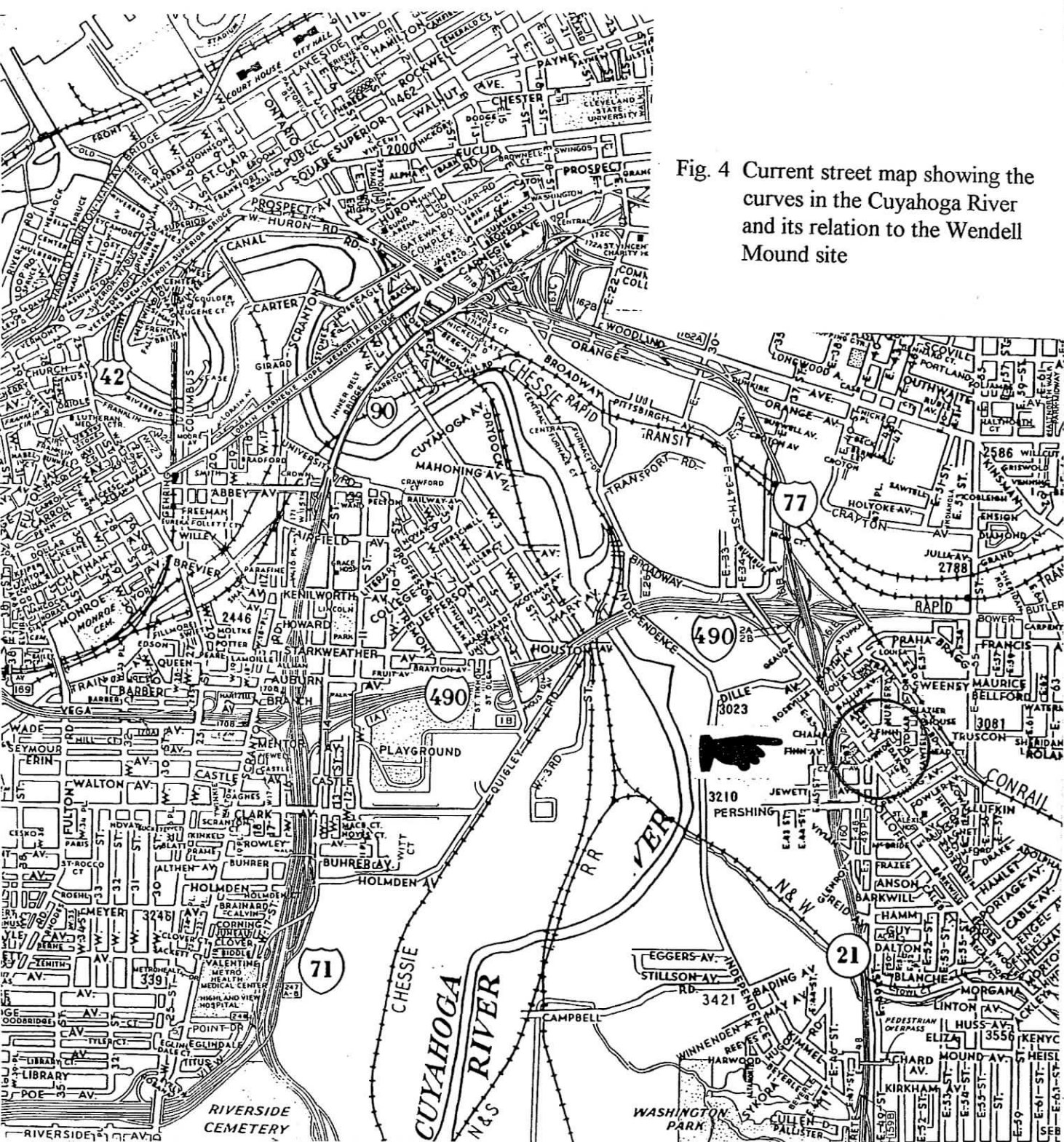


Fig. 4 Current street map showing the curves in the Cuyahoga River and its relation to the Wendell Mound site

from Benjamin F. Butler was dedicated as the Woodland Cemetery on June 14, 1853.

The first mound shown in old Newburgh Township might have been located at Wendell Ave. in Cleveland of today. Very little is known of the actual mound. Today the area shows no evidence of a mound. It is positively urban and most local residents have been unaware of the Indian history of their neighborhood. It was said that the grassy field alongside the parking lot of the Apostolic Oneness Church at the end of Wendell Ave was a burial site of an Indian chief and other early Christian Clevelanders. No headstones remain. This site is one street away from the Whittlesey site on old Sawtell Avenue.

In early June of 1999 construction of two new home basement foundations were begun. A protest by local Indian groups was initiated because of the desecration of their burial ground. The history of this site has been secretly known to them only. Legally there was little they could do. However, on June 19, 1999 a private Indian religious ceremony was begun at the Wendell Indian graveyard. Several Indian chiefs and shaman came to the site calling for two weeks of prayers and fasting to placate the spirits due to the Indian graves destructive displacement and removal. Various rituals were performed and gifts presented for the journey of the Indian spirits were performed. It is unfortunate that this historic site has been tragically ravaged and obliterated and probably will be forgotten forever.

Observing the river as seen on Whittlesey's map in fig. 1 and checking its curves in relation to the 1st Newburgh mound depicted it appears to correlate fairly well with the current street maps showing the river today and Wendell Ave. See fig. 4.

Whittlesey conducted a survey of the Cuyahoga Valley antiquities in the mid-1800. He found that the high land along the valley edge was once dotted with early Indian fortifications, lookout posts and signal stations. The majority of the forts were of moderate size, rarely enclosing more than five acres. Usually the Indians took advantage of the terrain, choosing a nearly inaccessible place, which could be fortified with a minimum of effort. Often, sites were chosen which had been used by prior cultures. In many cases an isthmus was fortified to enable the natives to hold a prominent high point or land peninsula nearly surrounded by ravines. They erected one or possibly a series of two or three parallel earthen walls across the neck of the peninsula perhaps ten feet high. Sometimes ditches were dug outside the earthworks and the dirt removed was used to make the embankment. It is believed some of the sites had been occupied by prehistoric or the late Woodland people. This archeological era is 1000 A. D. to 1650 A D.

The next site moving up the Cuyahoga River on Whittlesey's general map is Fort No 1 in old Newburgh. Whittlesey records in his "Early History of Cleveland" the following:

"Ancient Fort, Newburgh

This consists of a double line of breast works with ditches across the narrow pail of a peninsula, between two gullies, situated about three mile southeasterly from the city, on the right of the road to Newburgh, on land heretofore owned by the late Dr H A. Ackley The position thus Protected against an assault, is a very strong one, where the attacking party should not have projectiles of long range. On three sides of this promontory, the land is abrupt and slippery. It is very difficult of ascent, even without artificial obstructions. Across the ravine, on all sides, the land is upon a level with the enclosed space. The depth of the gully is from fifty to seventy feet. About eighty rods to the east, upon the level plain, is a mound ten feet high and sixty feet in diameter. At the west end of the inner wall is a place for a passage, to the interior. The height of the embankment across the neck is two feet, and the enclosed area contains about five acres. Perpetual springs of water issue from the sides of the ravine, at the surface of the blue clay, as they do at Cleveland"

In Whittlesey's "Ancient Earth Forts" he writes:

"The topographical surroundings of this fort are seen at once on the engraving, It occupies one of

the numerous headlands that project from a gravelly plain towards the rivulets which have in the progress of ages, excavated these deep and nearly impassable ravines. The sides of the adjacent gullies are as steep as the earth will be, and are wet and slippery from springs. Probably there was some defense of pickets or brush in the form of abatis, around the crest of the space within the double wall through the outer one, no gateway or open passage was left. This is not uncommon in the old earth forts. There must have been some mode of entering them, over the walls by stairs or ladder that could be removed.

Like most of those on the Cuyahoga and on the waters of Lake Erie, this was evidently a fortified village. The banks are now from one and a half to two feet above the natural surface, and the ditches two feet below. About one-fourth of a mile southeast, on the same level plain, is a mound which was ten feet high in 1847, but has since been much reduced by the plow."

Whittlesey mentioned Dr. Ackley above. There is of course an Ackley Street where Broadway and Union intersect. The Doctor owned land near the mound location. Mound Avenue was named after the Indian mound. When Whittlesey published the location of Fort No. 1 and its mound it was in the township of Newburgh, therefore the name Fort Newburgh.

Long before Mound Avenue was surveyed, lots assigned as part of the 100 acre lots No.(s) 287, 316 and 317 of Moses Cleaveland's original surveys and even before the street was named, the contours of the original land area were of great significance. As described by Whittlesey there were natural peninsula-like prominences which were formed by the stream named Morgan Run after A. W. Morgan, the primary land owner along the run. One of the prominences was adapted by the early Indian inhabitants as a fortification.

References to topographic maps will be made throughout this booklet. Topographic maps are produced by State or Federal registered Surveyors and as a major function display all bodies of water i.e. lakes, rivers, creeks and show the contours of the surveyed land usually at indicated and 100 ft. increments with subdivisions between at 20 ft increments. This explanation I hope will be of some help.

If you compare a copy of a 1903 topographic map published by the State of Ohio represented by the Governor C. E. Sherman Inspector of Morgan Run (see fig. 5 which has the topographical lines superimposed) with Whittlesey's descriptions many questions arise regarding the Fort's and or Mound's actual locations. Two possible locations seem to fit Whittlesey's information. We will call the location at E. 44th, 46th, and Sykora Streets "A" and we will call the location at Linton, Huss, Ackley and Mound Avenues "B" (a current street map can be used for comparison).

Looking at some of Whittlesey's statements more closely seems to show the following:

1) Whittlesey says the Fort is "situated about three miles southwesterly from the city". A radius drawn from the center of Cleveland Public Square to site A shows that E. 46th St. is 3 miles away. A radius to the site B at Linton St. is 3.3 miles away. This difference may be insignificant but site A, as the Fort location seems to be favored.

2) Whittlesey says "on the right side of the road to Newburgh". The road to Newburgh today is Broadway Ave. Site A is three quarters of a mile away from Broadway whereas site B is one quarter of a mile away from Broadway. This seems to favor site B for the real location.

3) Whittlesey says the Fort was on land "heretofore" owned by Dr. Ackley. The dictionary definition for heretofore is "up to this time". That means before his book was published in 1867. Maps dated 1858 show H. A. Ackley owned 99 acres of lot No. 317. How much more land Dr. Ackley owned is not known. These statements favor site B as the Fort's location.

4) Whittlesey states "about 80 rods (1/4 mile) to the east upon the level plain a mound 10 ft. high

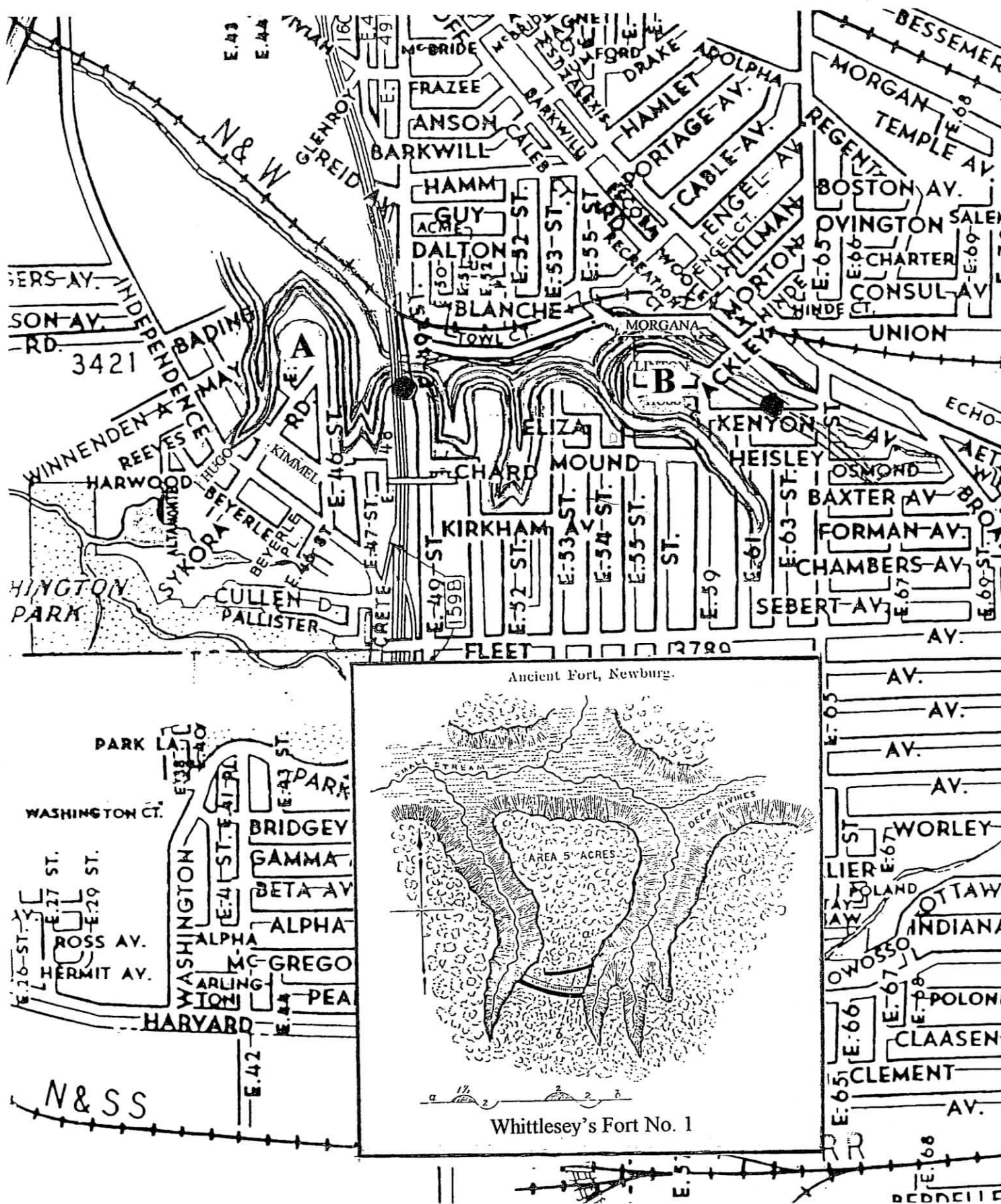


Fig. 5 Mound Avenue area with topography superimposed with (2) possible Fort and Mound locations A and B (black dot indicating a mound) and Whittlesey's Fort No. 1 sketch

and 60 ft. in diameter". He is talking about an Indian mound not a Fort. This means across a gully because the Fort was on a peninsula type prominence and it was on the same level or plain as the Fort. The mound is shown as a small black spot to the east on the topographic portion of the map for both location A and B. Note, for location A the mound is on solid ground, but for location B it is on the side of a seventy foot drop-off. This condition favors site A.

5) Whittlesey's map shows an arrow indicating the north-south orientation of the Fort. If you match his sketch with both sites it appears that site A is a much better fit. Site B seem to lean to the left almost at 90 degrees to the north-south line. Whittlesey being a trained geologist would never make a mistake in the direction of the north-south line.

6) If you compare the shape of the ravine at the west side of the Fort on Whittlesey's map with site A on the topographic map you can see that this is a very good match. If you make a comparison with site B there really is no match. If you compare the ravine at the east side of the Fort on Whittlesey's map which had a three pronged fork at its high point with the ravine on the east side of site A which has a two pronged fork at its high point you can see there is a good match but if you make a comparison with site B there doesn't seem to be a match.

Another possible site location has been suggested by some as being the topographic prominence just north of Chard Avenue between sites A and B but if we scale and calculate the area of the three possible Fort locations site A measures 5.6 acres, site B is 6.2 acres, while the middle site measures 2.4 acres. Whittlesey's maps indicate the Fort occupied 5 acres. This I believe favors site A.

It is my opinion considering all of the above that site A is a much better fit and is the real location of the Indian Fort No 1 in old Newburgh.

Mound School of today was opened in 1904 but its planned location was shown on an early 1898 map and it is likely the street was named after the Indian mound which was located near the street.

The next Fort up river in old Newburgh on Whittlesey's general map is marked No. 2. A more detailed map of this site taken from Whittlesey's "Ancient Forts" book is shown in fig 6. He has also written regarding Fort No 2 in Newburgh that "this is a smaller size than any of those which stud the river bluffs. It is simply a projecting point, rendered more defensible by a bank of earth and a moat. The view from it is quite commanding and picturesque. Its position is about midway between Nos. 1 and 3, about one and a half miles below Lock No. 8, on the right bank of the river. At the middle the ditch was never excavated, but there is no opening in the wall at this point. There is a narrow passage around the south end of the embankment along the edge of the ravine by which the work may be entered. The soil is dry and sandy. In 1850 it had not been long in cultivation and the elevation of the wall above the bottom of the ditch varied from four to six feet."

Lock No. 8 refers to 8-mile Ohio Erie Canal lock or actual lock No. 40 located at E. 71st Street and Canal Road under the 1-77 bridge in the area. One and a half miles below the lock means down river toward Lake Erie.

On Whittlesey's diagram of Fort No.2 in old Newburgh please note the 100 ft bluffs. Notice the two plateau formations. Also notice the stream between them. Shown in fig 7 is a superimposed 1903 topographical map of the area with a 1-1/2 mile radius from the 8 mile lock. Notice the two plateaus or bluffs and the contours showing a height of 80 feet.

There is a Canalway Visitor Center of the Cleveland Metroparks system in the vicinity of the site. Metroparks believes that the bluffs identified by Whittlesey on the maps no longer exist as seen by Whittlesey. The southern bluff appears to have been radically altered in 1907 during the construction of the Short Line Railroad bridge which spans the Cuyahoga River. Further destruction of the bluff occurred during construction of Big Creek interceptor sewer and the Fowles-Harding 345 KV CR1 transmission line. Recent work by Conrail on the railroad bridge has further disturbed the site. The northern bluff was graded many times throughout the 1950's.

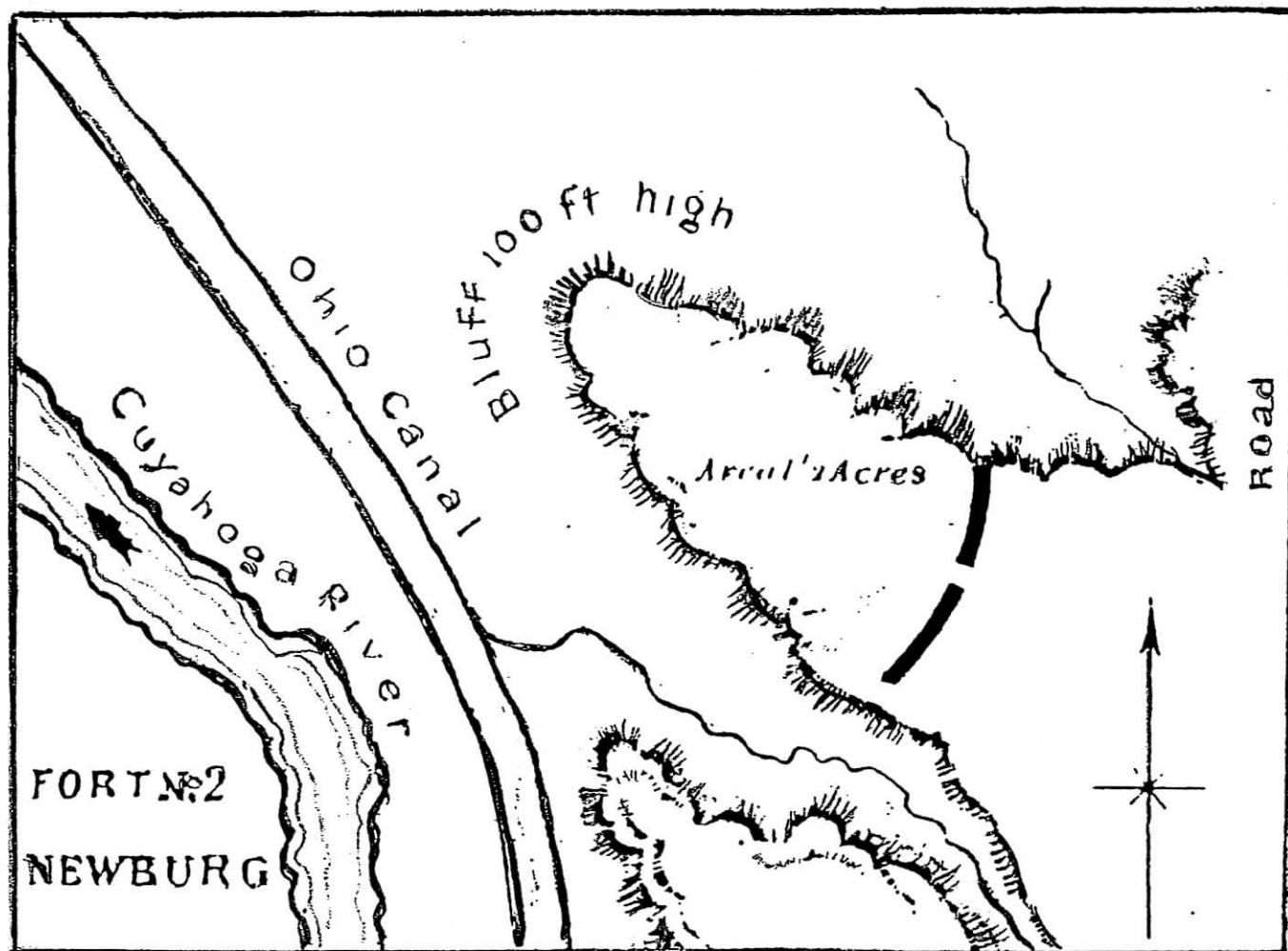
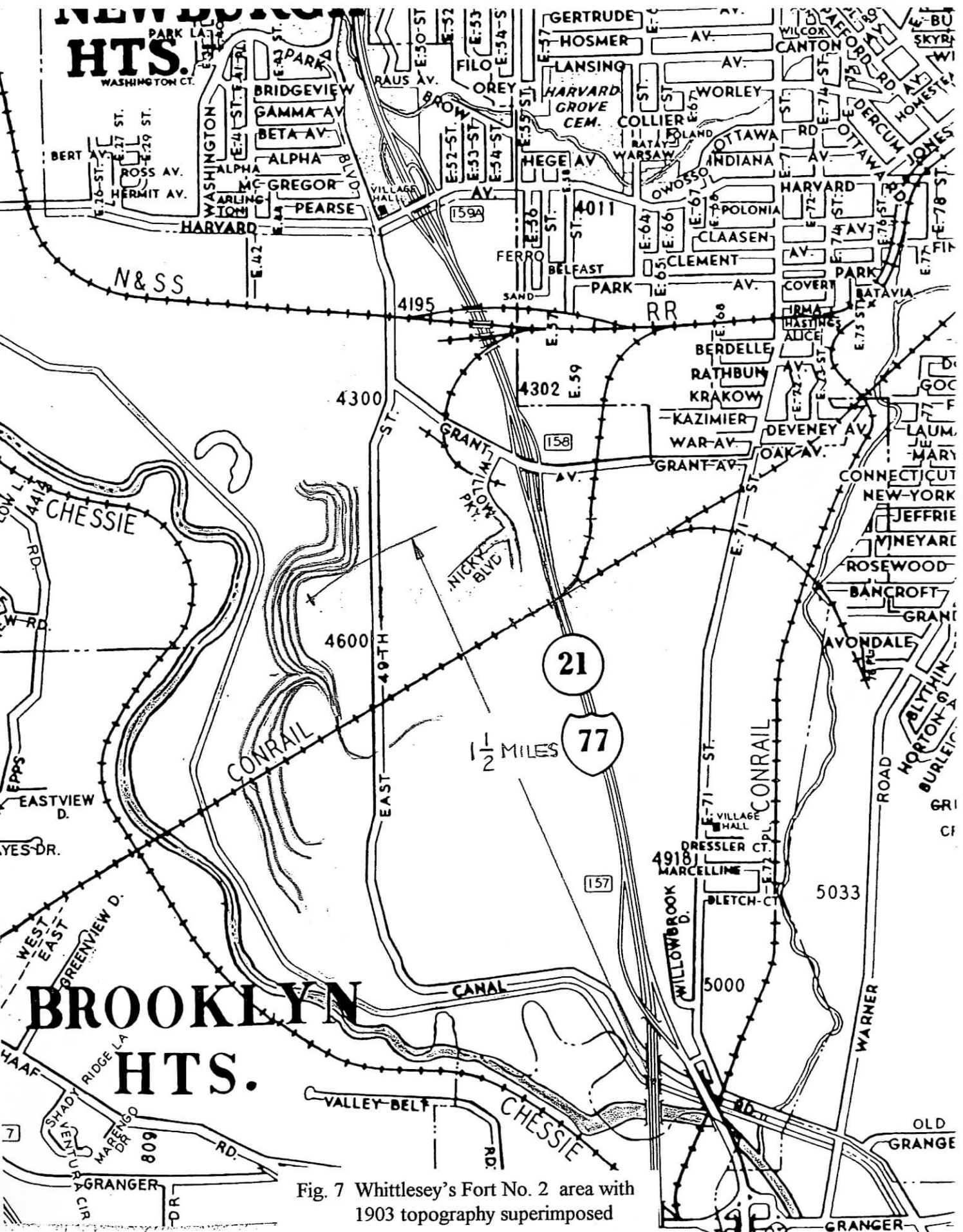


Fig. 6 Whittlesey's map of Fort No. 2 in Newburgh



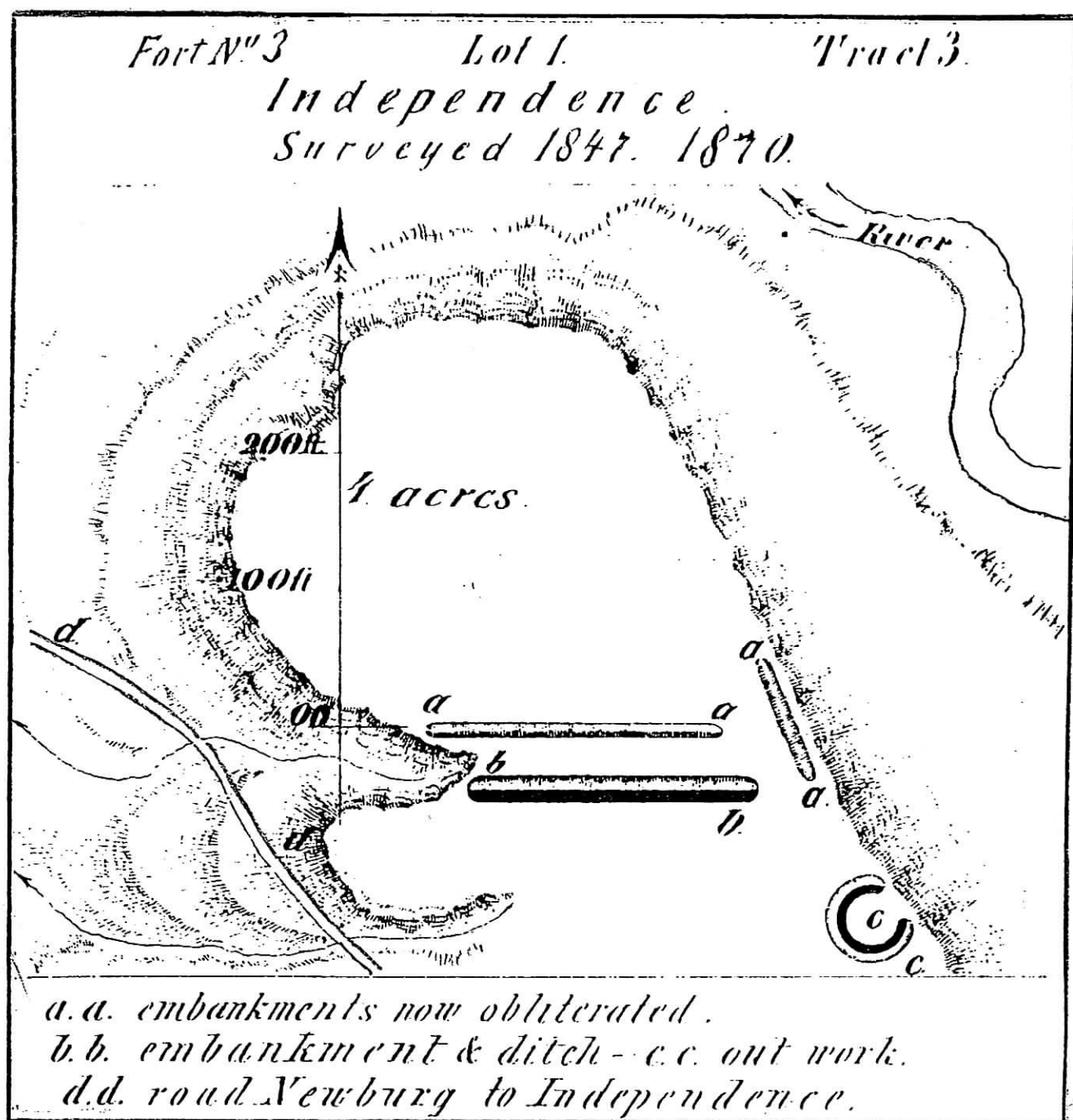


Fig. 8 Whittlesey's Fort No. 3 the first shown in
Independence Township

and 1960's by the Canfor Co., which was mining sand and gravel from the hillside on the west up to E. 49th St. After mining stopped, a solid waste landfill was created and massive grading again took place. By the late 1970's Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co acquired the site from Canfor and had graded it again to create the Harding Substation and an adjacent parking area.

Aerial photographs and topographic maps of this area confirm, unfortunately, that little if any of the land forms seen by Whittlesey exist today. Despite the loss of historic and prehistoric context that has occurred, Cleveland Metroparks interprets these bluffs as remnants of the Whittlesey Fort No.2.

Metroparks has recognized Charles Whittlesey's contributions to our understanding of cultural prehistory by naming the Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation park entrance Road "Whittlesey Way". Unfortunately they feel there are not many visual remainders of this site to work with.

The next Fort on Whittlesey's general map of Ancient Earth Works is designated No 3. He also made a detailed map of this site and it is shown in fig 8. Whittlesey also writes "that there is little difference between this and No 1, except in size The interior wall is now wholly obliterated and the outer one with its ditch nearly so. A resurvey in 1870 disclosed a slight hank at *aa*, parallel with the bluff, for which there is no apparent object, nor for the horseshoe outwork, *cc*. As the soil within the lines is very rich it has been mercilessly cropped during one generation, and is still not exhausted. A rank growth of corn was waving over the entire enclosure in August last. About one-fourth of a mile southerly along the bluff, Mr. Henry Tuttle, owner of the land, has found numerous relics and bones of the Indian race indicating the site of a village."

Whittlesey mentions above a growth of corn in August last. This is obviously August of 1870. The year of his resurvey he also states "about one-fourth of a mile southerly along the bluff, Mr. Henry Tuttle, the owner of the land, has found numerous relics". What he really says is that one-fourth mile south of Tuttle's property many relics were found.

In order to show the most likely fort site I have superimposed in fig. 9 the 1-480 interstate of today on the 1903 topographic map of the area of Fort No. 3 I have also shown the southern border of Tuttle's property which can be seen on the map of 1892 shown in fig. 10 Now if you compare the outline contours of the detailed Whittlesey's map fig. 8 which looks like a flat area skewed left with the topographic shaped like a peninsula seen just north of I-480 both appear to lean or to be skewed left. Incidentally the topographic map, constructed by trained surveyors, was made just 33 years after Whittlesey's resurvey which is a relatively short time. Whittlesey's detailed map indicate the area to be 4 acres. My calculated area of the projection north of I-480 is 4.4 acres. The original road to Independence is west of the Fort and today it is still west of the Fort's probable location. Today in this area are located a small hotel, a Chinese restaurant, a bowling alley and two small companies The land has been terraced excessively The 1903 topographic map shows an original 80 ft. drop surrounding the prominence. Most written information always refers to the "Goodyear" sign on RT. 21 as near the Fort site. The Fort, it appears, would be just north of the RT. 21 bridge over I-480. However, Tuttle above says he found relics one forth of mile south. This seems to indicate that there was a village complex south of I-480.

Like all Forts along the Cuyahoga the view is spectacular, especially looking north. The idea of visual signals from fort to fort is quite feasible and most likely did occur.

The next mound in old Independence is known as the Gleeson Mound. Whittlesey does not mention it. Its location is east of current Canal Road in a cornfield between Hathaway Road and near the end of Gleeson Drive. The mound is approximately 30 ft. high and 150 ft in an irregular shape (see fig. 11) It is believed by some historians to be Hopewellian in origin. The Gleason (Gleeson) family was the original owner of a 170-acre homestead, which spanned the entire local area. Charles Drive and Frances Drive are named after their children.

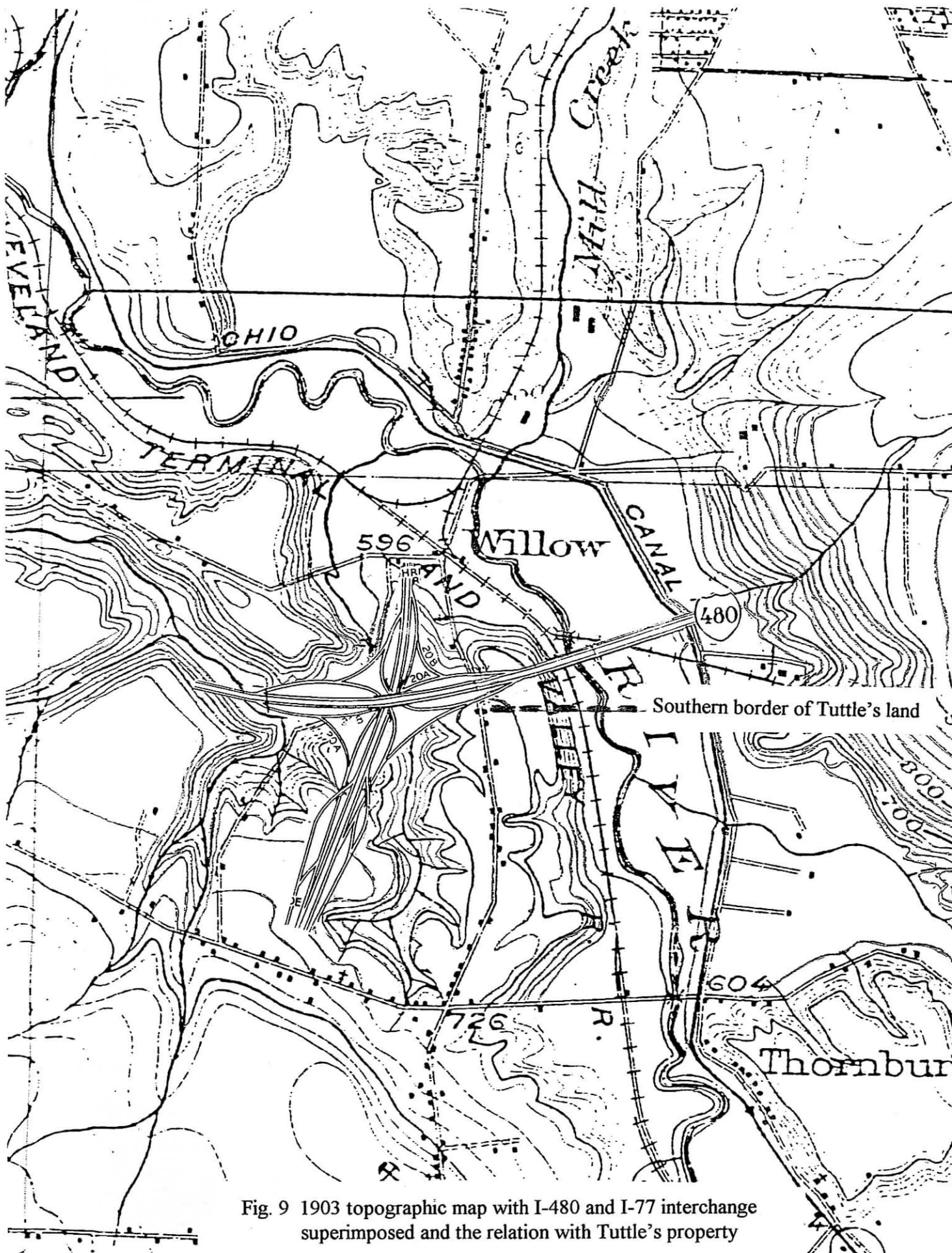


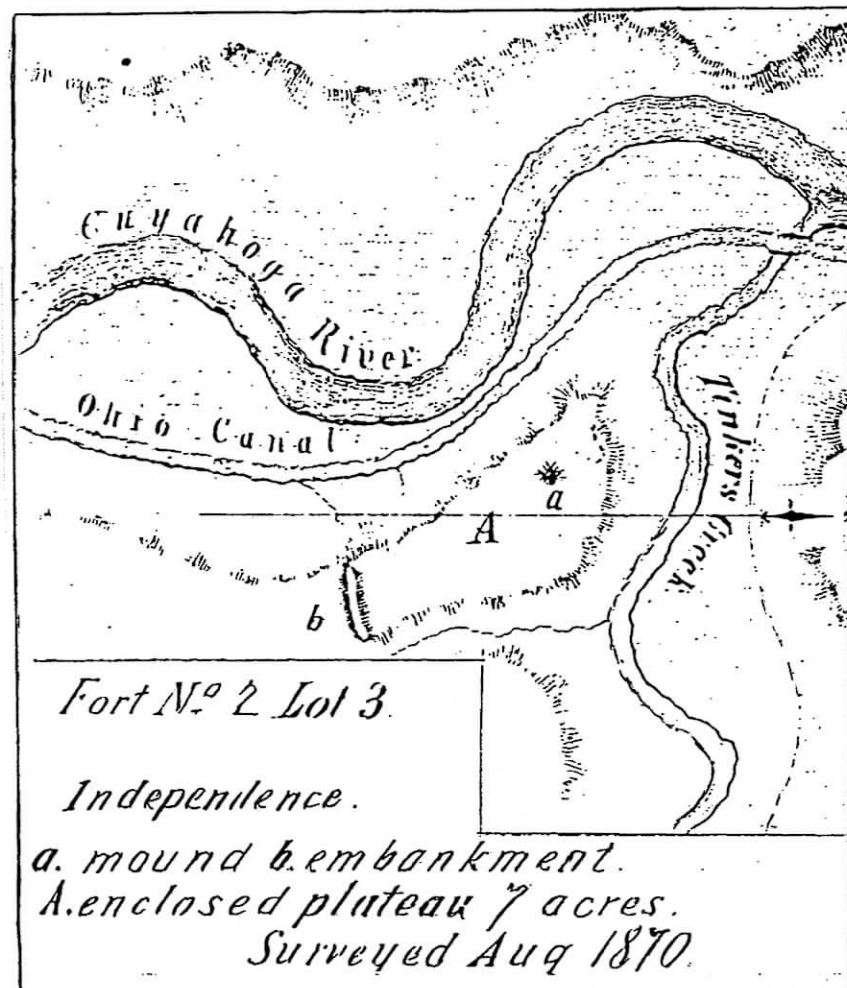
Fig. 9 1903 topographic map with I-480 and I-77 interchange superimposed and the relation with Tuttle's property



Fig. 10 An 1892 map showing the location of the southern border of Tuttle's property



Fig. 11 A winter view of the Gleason Mound



Whittlesey's map of the Indian Fort and Mound near Tinkers Creek

Fig. 12

The final Fort to be discussed in this article is described by Whittlesey as "Fort No. 4 southeast part of Independence" He also designates it as Fort No 2 lot 3 Independence (meaning the 2nd Fort in Independence) See fig 12. The Fort No. 4 designation is shown on the general map fig. 1

Whittlesey's description of the site in his "Ancient Forts" follows:

"Mr. Dickson, whose daughter, Mrs. Roreback, still resides on the premises, cleared the enclosed space A, in the year 1810. The embankment, b, was then three or four feet high. A house and barn were built on it, which are there now, and little can be seen of its primitive condition. It is not certain there was a ditch. There are springs of perpetual flow in the river bluff and in the adjacent ravines. Within space A, near the mound, great numbers of human bones have been plowed up, so many that they were collected and reburied The position is beautiful and commanding. On the same farm now owned by Messrs. David L and N. A. Phillips, about half a mile east there are four small mounds, nearly leveled by long cultivation. Near the township corners, about one-third of a mile south of these, is another mound, which was five feet high when the early settlers first saw it."

As stated above Mrs. Roreback resided on the land in 1871. The embankment, which closed off the neck of the Fort, was still visible at that time as well a house and barn. Today, however, none of the latter exists. A Check of maps made in 1874 and 1892 show D. I. and N. A. Philips still owning the land.

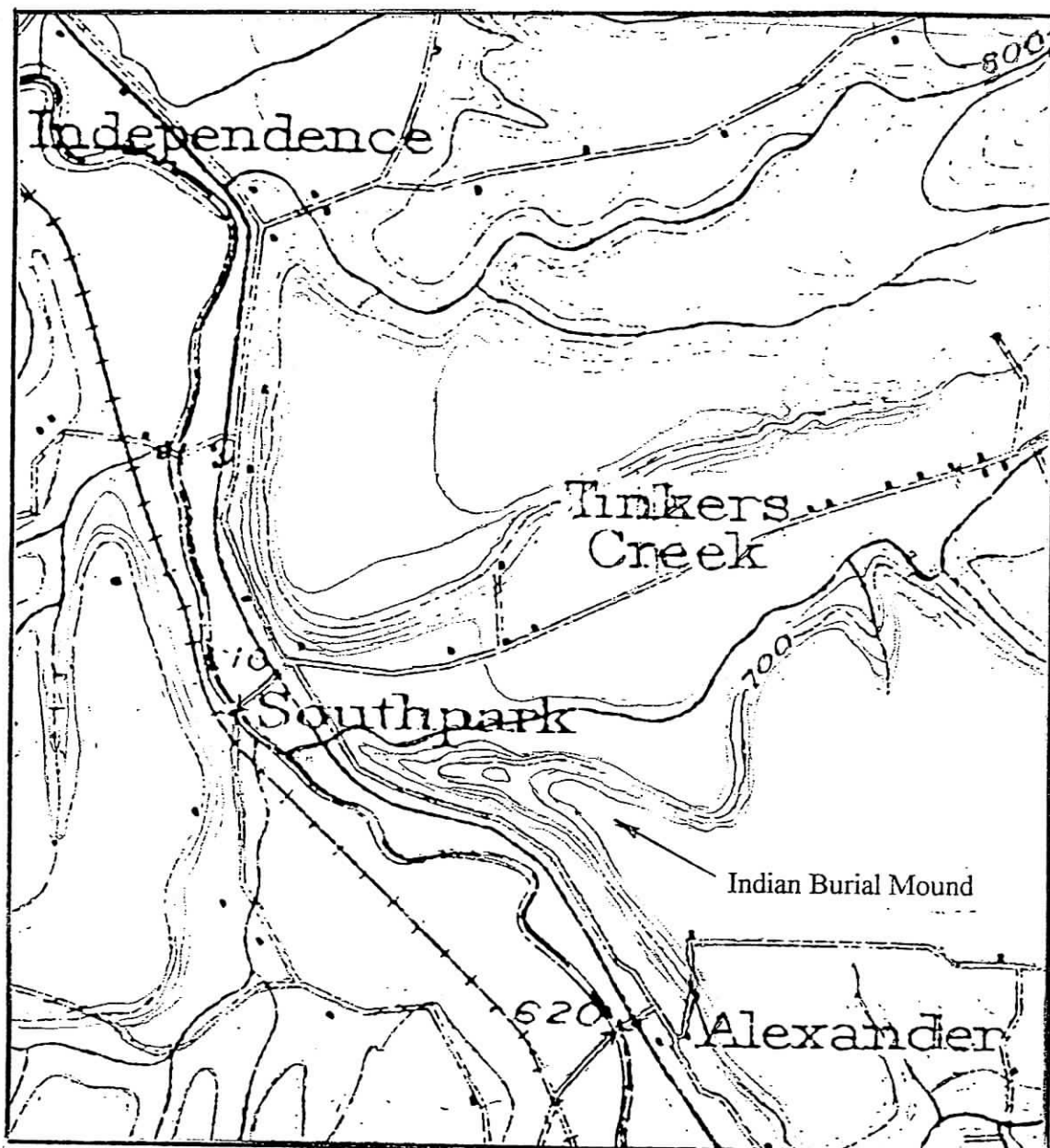
Today the site is known as the Soldat Indian Mound. It is named after the Soldat family, the current owners of much of the land near the mound. The actual mound is on the Ohio and Erie National Heritage Corridor. In a meeting with Mrs. Ruth Soldat a tour of her property was given. I estimated the mound is about 100 ft in diameter and 10 ft high at the edge of a high bluff about 100 ft. above the Tinkers Creek plain. The mound is completely covered with small trees ranging in size from one inch to a few 12 inches in diameter. There appeared to be a shallow depression around the eastern edge of the mound from which the material to construct the mound was dug. The mound is believed to be for ceremonial functions. Mrs. Soldat indicated that the remains of the Mahoning Indian trail was about 50 yards southwest of the mound. We walked to it. The original Mahoning Trail started at Fort Pitt moved past Youngstown directly west across Ohio to the Cuyahoga River then northwest to Detroit. Later investigation indicates the trail we were on is an extension of the original trail and has also been known as the Mahoning Path or Sagamore Path. The markedly visible trail was about 8 ft. wide running in a northwest direction, and approximately parallel to Canal Rd. It was on a kind of a hogback going up hill and then it started to drop down toward Tinkers Creek. We walked the trail for about 400 ft. which was cluttered by small trees and sprigs. There were several huge oak trees along the trail at least 5 ft. or more in diameter and more than 100 ft. high. One of the large trees, now fallen, was lying on its side. Ruth said it was an Indian Trail marker tree, which she remembered from her earlier days. It had a chopped-out blemish mark in its bark. Ruth was very informative and I was very appreciative for all her information.

Later a check of a 1903 topographical map of the Tinkers Creek, Alexander Rd. area and the trail definitely follows the contours shown. See fig. 13. I also checked the Heckewelder map, which he sent to Moses Cleaveland, which showed the Mahoning trail in the Tinkers Creek area, and again there was correlation. See fig. 14. It showed the trail running in a northwest direction. We also checked the Whittlesey map of the fort near Tinkers Creek and again the earth contours agreed with the actual trail and the clincher was the location of an actual mound shown on his map. See fig. 13.

Previously in the above Whittlesey mentions four small mounds about half of a mile east of the

Soldat mound. Today, this is in the area of Hub Parkway. The mounds no longer exist as well as the last mound he mentioned which was 1/3 mile south.

This concludes my review of the early Forts and Mounds of the Townships of Independence and Newburgh and the early Cleveland river corridor.

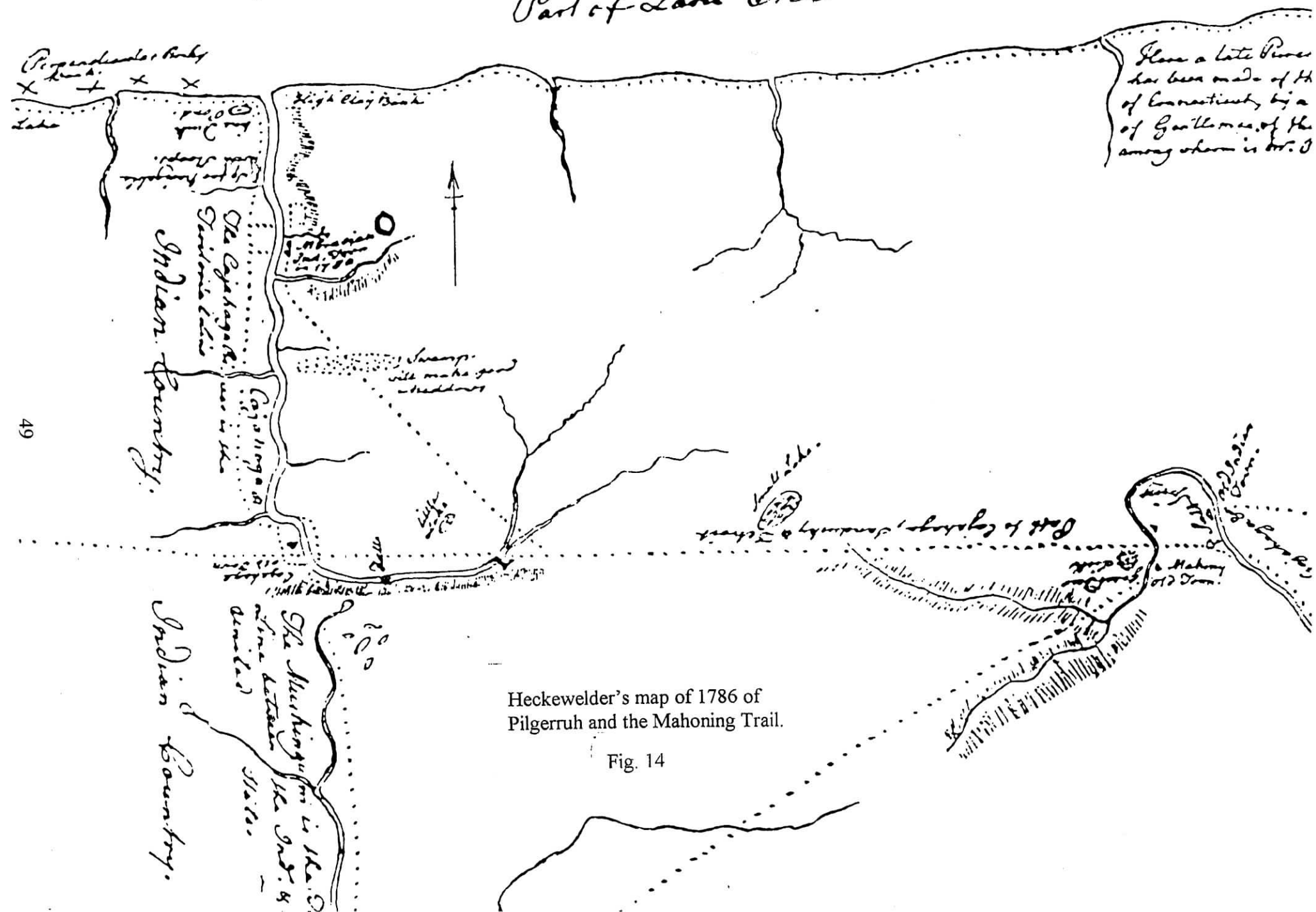


1903 topographic map of Tinkers Creek showing the narrow promontory of the Mound and the Mahoning trail area.

Fig. 13

North

Part of Lake Erie



Heckewelder's map of 1786 of
Pilgrimage Trail and the Mahoning Trail.

Fig. 14

