

# St. Matthews, Kentucky Area History



# Places You Will Remember In More Detail F to L, 1st. Edition

This is one of many sections that contain information, photos, newspaper articles, internet items, etc. of the St. Matthews area. Many of the items came from Al Ring's personal collections but many people have helped and I have tried to give credit where I can.

The purpose of this "collection" was to create the history of St. Matthews, Kentucky. Being retired I now have time to do many of the things I have always wanted, this project is just one of them.

All graphics have been improved to make the resolution as good as possible, but the reader should remember that many came from copies of old newspaper articles and photos. Credit to the source of the photos, etc. is provided whenever it was available. We realize that many items are not identified and regret that we weren't able to provide this information. As far as the newspaper articles that are not identified, 99% of them would have to be from one of three possible sources. The Courier-Journal, The Louisville Times or one of the Voice publications. Books that we have used for some information include, Randy, Cactus, Uncle, Ed and the Golden age of Louisville Television, Waggener High School Alumni Directory 1996, Waggener Traditional High School Alumni Directory 2007, Memories of Fontaine Ferry Park, St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass by Samuel W. Thomas, St. Matthews, 25 Years a City Two Centuries a Community, St. Matthews 1960-1995, Waggener Lair's 1958 to 1962, The Holy Warrior, Muhammad Ali, Louisville's Own (An Illustrated Encyclopedia Of Louisville Area Recorded Pop Music From 1953 to 1983).

Please use this information as a reference tool only. If the reader uses any of the information for any purpose other than a reference tool, they should get permission from the source.



# **Explanation of the following pages, (Please Read)**

This section consists of may places and things that those that spent time in the St. Matthews area during the 1950s and 1960s will recognize and may have spent considerable time at them. I have tried to include a photograph of the place as well as a brief history of it.

#### **Section A—E:**

**American Legion Zachary Taylor Post 180** 

Anchorage

Ashbury-Berman

Bacons Department Store Bauer's-La Paloma-Azalea Beech Bend Raceway Park

**Belle of Louisville** 

**Bernheim Forest—Arboretum** Big Springs Country Club Bowman Field

Byck's

Camp Piomingo (YMCA)

**Captains Quarters** 

Carl Casper Custom Car Shows Cedar Creek Drag Strip/Bullitt Dragway

**Central State Hospital Cherokee Park Churchill Downs** 

**Claudia Sanders Dinner House** 

**Colonial Design** Cox's Lake **Crescent Hill** 

**Crescent Hill Pool & Park** 

**Crescent Reservoir Dutch's Tavern** East Drive-In

#### **Section F—L:**

**Fairgrounds Motor Speedway** 

Fort Knox Fountain Park Fontaine Ferry Park Frisch's Big Boy

**Fun Fair** 

**General Electric Appliance Park** 

Gerstle's Place Haller's Pet Shop **Harrods Creek Howard Johnson's** Hytken's

**Interurban & Trains Jewish Community Center** 

Keeneland

Kentucky Military Institute Kentucky Model Shop Kentucky State Fairgrounds KingFish Restaurant **King-Putt Miniature Golf** 

Kt's Restaurant—Old Kentucky Tavern

Lake Louisvilla **Landohr Bowling Alley Levy Brothers Locust Grove Louisville Boat Club Louisville Country Club** Louisville Water Ťower

Lyndon

#### **Section M—R:**

Mall St. Matthews (The Mall)

**Mammoth Cave** Mario's Pizza

**Masonic Widows and Orphans Home** 

Middletown

My Old Kentucky Home **Nally Barber Shop** Nanz & Kraft Florists

**Old Stone Inn** 

**One Hundredth Division Otter Creek Park Parkway Field Pearson Funeral Home Plantation Swim Club** 

Plehn's Bakery **Pookman Drugs Prospect Ranch House** 

**Ratterman Funeral Home River Road Country Club** 

#### **Section S—Z:**

St. Matthews Armory

St. Matthews Eagles

St. Matthews Feed & Seed

St. Matthews Fire Department

(Everything you ever wanted to know about the department can be found at http://ringbrothershistory.com/alsprojects/

stmfd.htm

Cut and paste, let the site fully open and

old fire siren will sound. St. Matthews Hardware St. Matthews Potato Festival St. Matthews Woman's Club

Sears Seneca Park

**Shelbyville Road Plaza** 

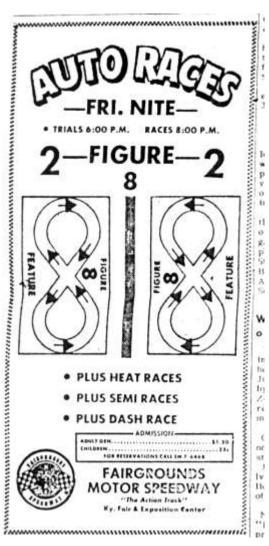
**Showers Sportsdrome** 

Standiford Field—Louisville International

**Ten Pen Lanes** The Hat Box The Turntable Thornbury's Toys **Vogue Theater** Watterson Expressway

White Castle

**World War Two Monument Zachary Taylor National Cemetery** 



July 18, 1963, The Voice Of St. Matthews

# Bobby Watson still leads at speedway

Before Saturday night's late model and modified mid-season championship 100-lap race, the big question at the Fairgrounds Motor Speedway was "Who Can Stop Bobby Watson"

After the race, it was still the same old question, Only it was perhaps a little bigger. Watson was the night's fastest qualifier, won a heat race and then'led every step of the way to win the 100-lap midseason feature by two laps. No one even remotely threatened him.

However, a threat does from on the horizon in the persons of Bill Kimmel and one of the Speedway's top drivers of past years, Andy Hampton, Kimmel is building a car for Hampton to drive and it's pointed specifically toward stopping Watson, or at least giving him some competition.

It's a modified 1955 Ford, with a \$27 cubic-inch Chevrolet engine in it. It will be considerably less than Watson's 427 Ford engine, but it also will beclose to a thousand pounds lighter and there is where Kimmel hopes to corral the flying Watson.

In gaining almost a 1,000 pounds in weight on Watson. Kimmel feels that Watson will use more than 100 cubic inches, which is the difference in the engines, to pull the 1,000 pounds. And on top of it, he has one of the best drivers of all in Hampton.

Watson, naturally, added a lot more to his modified division lead, while late model floy Wathen saw John Sommerville creep closer to him after Wathen went out of the 100-lapper with ignition trouble. There was no change in the Figure-8 standings, with Billy Vincent still leading Jim Taylor, after it was rained out Friday.

The Figure-8 cars race Friday, with the late models and modifieds slated Saturday.

# International 500 scheduled

The International 500, a grueling 125 mile grind and the nation's riches race on a small track, is scheduled for Saturday night at the Fairgrounds Motor Speedway.

Some 30 drivers already have entered the race and will compete for the 24 starting spots and a chance for the \$2,000 first prize from the record purse of \$8,275.

They include practically all the top drivers from the Automobile Racing Club of America and the tops from among the Speedway drivers. The race is limited only to new cars of the last three years.

The 500, as usual, will be a battle between the invading ARCA forces and the local drivers. An ARCA driver, Harold Smith, won the first 500, then the next three were captured by Speedwaydrivers, Jesse Baird, Bobby Watson, and Roy Wathen, and last year ARCA hotshot Les Snow cased in.

August 3, 1967, The Voice—Jeffersonian

July 13, 1967, The Voice—Jeffersonian

# **Fairgrounds Motor Speedway**

 $Courtesy\ http://www.davidallio.com/speed/gallery/1978/lfms-061778/lfms-061778-0069.htm\ Cannot\ find\ any\ history\ on\ this\ track???????$ 



1978 Motorsports Photographic Proof Sheet

Louisville Fairgrounds Motor Speedway | Louisville Kentucky June 17, 1978 | Bluegrass 300 | ASA - American Speed Association

Photography by David Allio



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# **Fairgrounds Motor Speedway**

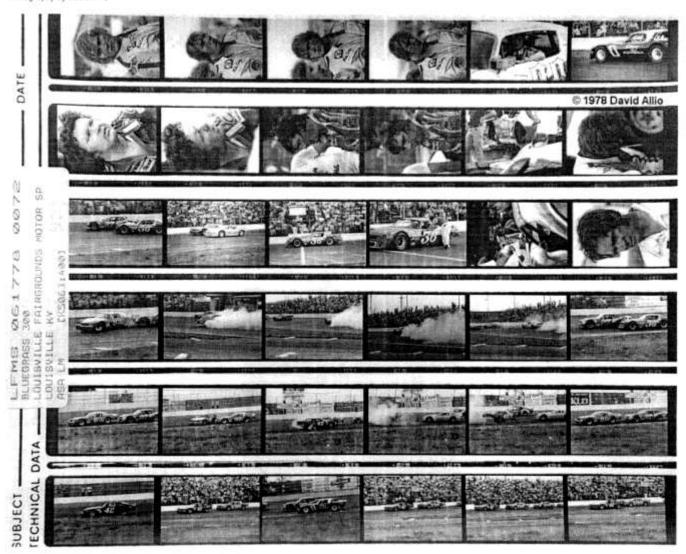
 $Courtesy\ http://www.davidallio.com/speed/gallery/1978/lfms-061778/lfms-061778-0069.htm\ Cannot\ find\ any\ history\ on\ this\ track???????$ 

# www.DavidAttio.com

1978 Motorsports Photographic Proof Sheet

Louisville Fairgrounds Motor Speedway | Louisville Kentucky June 17, 1978 | Bluegrass 300 | ASA - American Speed Association

Photography by David Allio



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Courtesy http://www.79waky.com/photos3.htm



#### **Fairgrounds Motor Speedway**

Mason Lee Dixon sent us this one and said: "I am enclosing a picture from a 1966 promotional figure eight race at the Fairgrounds Motor Speedway. Many of the Louisville radio personalities of the day participated. See if the folks can recognize which Louisville DJ is which. I was the News Guy for WTMT at the time, but became a WAKY Jock in March of 1969. Tommy Downs, country singing star and WTMT morning jock is seated on the far right with a trophy in his hand. He won the race. Ken Douglas (WKLO's British jock) is over my right shoulder. Kenny Holiday of WTMT is over my left shoulder. Jerry Tucker of WLOU is next to Weird. That's all I can recall and I am not 100% sure that's Jerry." Okay, we see Mason holding the cup over Jim Brand's head and pointing. We also see Al Risen, Tim Tyler and Weird Beard. Can you help us with the rest of the names?

Courtesy United States Army Training Center Armor, Fort Knox, Kentucky, 1960's

# History of United States Army Training Center, Armor

The history of the United States Army Training Center, Armor, dates back to 1940, when Europe was overrun by Naziism and the United States initiated its first peacetime draft in history. The Training Center had three names in that first year. It was entitled the Armored Force School and Replacement Center on 1 October, 1940, and changed to the Armored Force Replacement Center 25 years later. In April, 1941, the title became the Armored Force Replacement Training Center.

The Armored Force Replacement Training Center grew considerably in size and function during World War II, with the title being changed again in 1943 to the Armor Replacement Training Center. After the war, when the United States demobilized portions of its huge wartime forces, the Armor Replacement Training Center was placed on an inactive status. This occurred in July of 1947 when the Third Armored Division was reactivated at Fort Knox and assumed the training mission of the Armor Replacement Training Center.

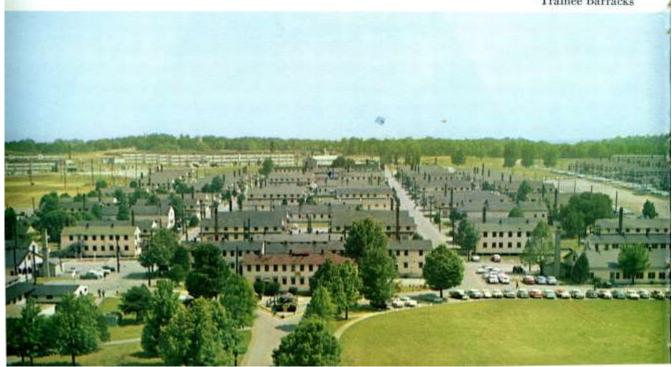
In 1955, the Third Armored Division was ordered to "combat ready" status for eventual shipment to Europe. This brought the Armor Replacement Training Center back to active status in March of that year to carry on the training functions. The name of the Training Center was changed to its present title in March of 1956.

As of 31 December, 1963, more than 550,-000 trainees had completed training programs in the Training Center since its inception.

There are four training brigades in the United States Army Training Center, Armor. The First Brigade is responsible for Advanced Individual Training in Armor and Reconnaissance and Basic Unit Training in Armor and Reconnaissance. The Second Brigade trains men to be specialists in fields such as cooking, radio operation and clerical work. The Third and Fourth Brigades give Basic Combat Training.

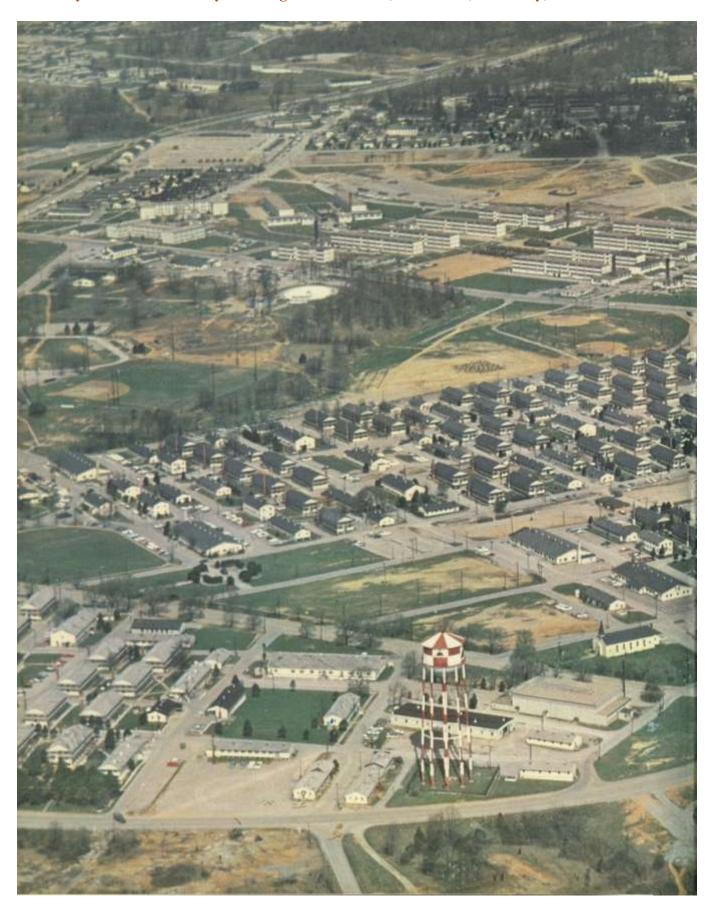
The Training Center also maintains two separate companies—Headquarters Company and Service Company—and two attached units, the Noncommissioned Officers Academy and the 113th Band. USATCA has the capability of conducting training for about 18,000 men at one time. Its training and administrative personnel, both officers and enlisted men, number about 4,300. The total strength of the Training Center is approximately 22,000. Over 85,000 trainees graduate from various programs in USATCA each year.

Trainee Barracks



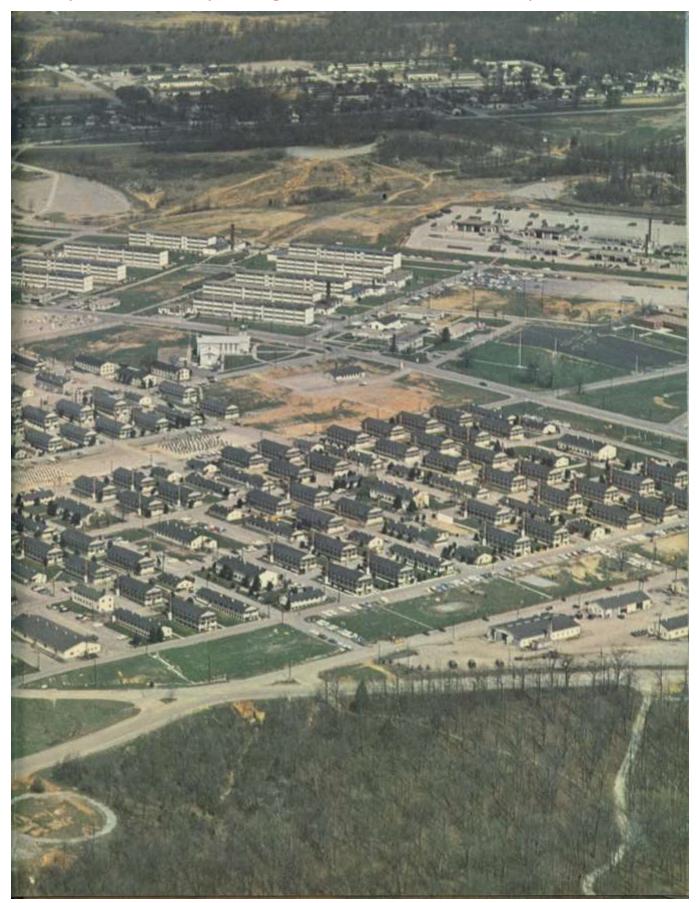
Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Fort Knox

**Courtesy United States Army Training Center Armor, Fort Knox, Kentucky, 1960's** 



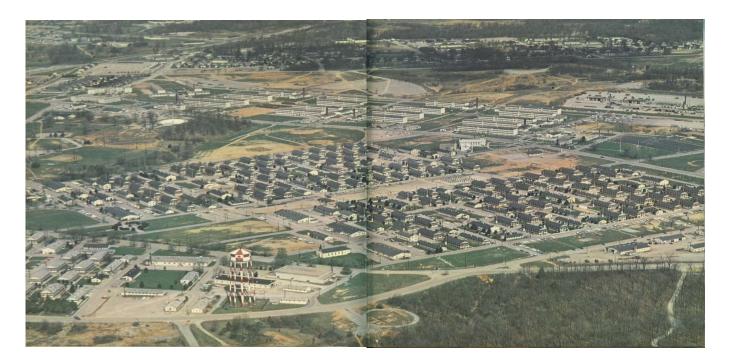
Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Fort Knox

Courtesy United States Army Training Center Armor, Fort Knox, Kentucky, 1960's



# Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Fort Knox

**Courtesy United States Army Training Center Armor, Fort Knox, Kentucky, 1960's** 



#### Fountain Park

# Fountain Point Park edges toward reality

Although more money is needed to complete the project, the officers of the St. Matthews Business Associatton were authorized Tuesday morning by the board of dirertors to sign a contract for construction of Fountain Point Park at the intersection of Frankfort Avenue and Lexingtun Road.

Clearance has been obtained from the State Highway Department, owner of the land, but two or three other details must be worked out before actual letting of the contract, Those details are expected to be cleared this week.

A contract will be awarded to Noah Pullem, general contractor, for the construction, Miller, Wirhs, and Brooks, architects, have designed the project, which will have a 24 - foot base pool and an elevated 12--foot overflowing pool with a center fountain.

The fountain will be in the center of the triangular area, and the memorial monument now on the site will be moved back, raised on a dias, and have a flag pole on each side.

Costs have risen as the project has developed, and although the Fountain Point Park fund raising committee has almost reached its original goal, the committee was asked to continue its work to be sure that exist could be covered.

The project is expected to be completed in 69 to 90 days.

March 9, 1967 The Voice-Jeffersonian



The St. Matthews Jaycees Saturday proved their good intentions and value to the community when they cleaned up the War Memorial triaugle at Frankfort Ave. and Lexington Road. They bought the shrubs they planted along both streets, and in this picture they show what they're going to sell to make money to spend on such community work, Left to right are flow Rickert, Mayor Bernard Bowling, Bill Merkley, Police Chief E. N. Kelley, and Patroliman H. L. Mullins. The Jaycees started their sale of First Aid Kits by giving a kit to Mayer Bowling, to the Police Department, and to the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, Officer Mullin "stood in" for Fire Chief John Monohan, who couldn't be present.

#### Jaycees beautify war memorial

Last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 17 mambers of the S. Matthews Jayness planted 22 shrubs to complete the first plante of a project to resorate the grounds of the Dr. Matthews New Memorate at Frankford Ave. and Leakington Hoad.

Frankford the project will be really be the All Safety Mila. The sale is to start Friday, July 24, in this area and will run for 30 days.

In addition to planting the shubbery the Jaycees plan in construct a gravel wall way to the momentum, plant aversal treas in the flag pole, and of the flag pole, Last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 17 members of the

thans a flag for the flag pole, seed the grounds, and set up two stone benches.



Once beautifully landscaped and fenced, the War Memorial point at Frankfort Ave, and Lexington Road looked like this last week before the St. Matthews Jaycees went to work on it, doing a major overhaul, Men in the neighborhood had been keeping the grass cut and had raised and lowered the flag each day,

July 23, 1964 The Voice-Jeffersonian

# Fountain Point Park in St. M. to be completed in two months

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conterned on the plot will be messed back on the list and floated with two flar poles. A 23-foot wide base pool will have also also be sufficient with the poles. A 23-foot wide base pool to 12-foot center bashs about from feet of the ground. As eight-foot high beavy collars of waller will rise from the center of the oppur basin, which will overfitte but the which will overfitte but the which will overfitte but the best of wall rise from the center of the oppur basin, which will be intended to the column of waller.

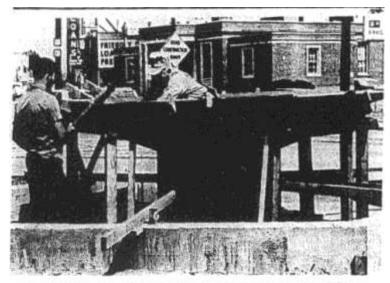
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The entire plus will be intended and the column of waller.

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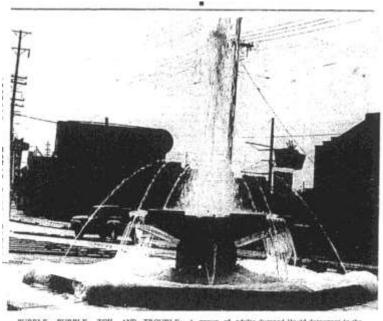
**April 13, 1967** The Voice-Jeffersonian **NOTE: See World War II Monument** in this series.

Fountain is gone now, (2009).



CARPENTERS are shown erecting the framework for the fountain in Fountain Point Park at Lexington Road and Frankfort Ave. The project is due to be completed in about three weeks. The fountain will be near the park's castern edge. Behind it will be located a war memorial, flanked by flags. The entire area will be landscaped,

#### May 18, 1967 The Voice-Jeffersonian



BUBBLE, BUBBLE, TOIL AND TROUBLE: A group of adults dumped liquid detergent in the are fountain in Fountain Point Park about 2 am Saturday. The fountain which had been turned on Friday, was still building and sudsing when this photo was taken about \$15 am. A service attended and the the adults "footooring" the water but failed to get a full description at December number of the car they were in. Monday night the fountain was healeged again with de-

June 22, 1967 The Voice-Jeffersonian

#### Fountain Park

# Fountain's dedication scheduled for July 19

Fountain Point Park may have its problems with prank-stors or vandals dumping destors or vendals dumping de-tergoat into it, but that won't deter the dedication of it. The dedication date was set this week, with Governor Edward T. Breathitt consenting to do the honors at 11 am on Wed-

nesday, July 19.
The public is invited, and invitations are being seat by the board of directors of the St. Matthews Business As-sociation to a list of officials.

A brief ceremony is being planned with a band, fing rata-ing of both Kentucky and U.S. flags, and the dedication. Raising of funds for the besu-

tiffcation got a quick boost last October when Governor Breathitt volunteered \$1,000. from his contingency fund. More than \$9,500 was raised to finance the project.

Happiness is reading your own name in The Volce-Jeffersonian.

June 22, 1967 The Voice-Jeffersonian

# Governor to dedicate fountain

Governor Edward T. Breathlit will dedicate Foodbain Paids.

Park, burning on the water officially and raining the Commonwealth and U. S. Hags Wednesday, July 15, at 11 am,
This information was presented by David Harper,
chairman of the event, to the
B. Matchews Bustness Association officers and directors.

Tuesday murning at the Conary Cottage.

The association authorized the purchase of chemicals to 
keep the Fountain From sudsing from delergent dumped 
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at 9. Matthews City Hall win follow.

Fund raising for the project started in September Last year, When Governor Breath-in addressed the annual meeting of the association of colorber he gave the project a contribution of -04-000 from his contingues; fund, saying that he could pastify the beautification project stars it lies between two state information of a Jonatry 1 about the en-

difficulties proper same it uses between two state informacy. By January i abound the entire amount needed to construct the foundationer raised, mostly in contributions from \$100 to \$1000. The \$5. Mainteen Upon Clab instelled the Convenier's gift with \$1.000. The total cost was approximately \$9,000, most of which was contributed. The Association per in the difference. Construction of the foundation was completed in June, and the first night that the water as turned on, fure 19, \$000 vanishes through the property of the p

#### Fountain Park

# Breathitt dedicates fountain

To the music of "Hey, Look Me Over" Fountain Point Park at Frankfort Ave. and Lexington Road was dedicated Wednesday by Governor Edward T. Breathitt, with the assistance of state, county, and city of-ficials, and the help of other lenders and the public in general.

Other officials introduced were Mayors Bernard F. Bowling, of St. Matthews, Kenneth Schmied of Louisville, and County Judge Marlow Cook.

A.J. "Bud" Eline, president of the St. Matthews Business Association, which sponsored Fountsin Point Park, gave a brief address of welcome. Sara D. Gidden, secretary of the association, expressed hopes for togetherness as the water and lights were turned

Prayers were given by the Rev. C.A. Relde, of Holy Trin-ity, and the Rev. Charles Reckard of Harvey Browne. The governor's campaign theme song, and other music came from a 14 piece band assembled by Mrs. Rarold Wick, musical director of Harvey Browne church. A color guard unit of Zachary Taylor Post, American Legion, officiated at the flag rais-

A reception for officials was held at St. Matthews City Hall after the dedication. Three business men picked up the tab for the food and refresh-

> July 20, 1967 The Voice-Jeffersonian

# Governor dedicates Fountain Point Park



DEDECATING Framula Point Park Wednesday, July 19, Gov. 7. Brauthitt takes a minute to autograph Scott Hoffman's dast. 3013 Souther Way, has a broken arkin, Scott and some 300 other monded the dedication corresponder.



WITH GUSTO Harold Wick directs the Harvey Brown Nemucial Preshpiorian Church hard which performed at the Fountain Point Park per-



MEMBERS of the St. Macthewa Chapter of the American Wer Methers gather in frees of the Fountain to Fountain Poler Park after its dedication No. Colv., Executilit, From Inft, they are Mrs. Agen Collector, Mrs. Anna Bland, Mrs., Arriver Gootig, and Mrs. Virgista Scholer. The chapter cares for the Flowers at the weterand "memorical to the park.



OFFICIALS line up for pictures in front of the founts in Founts in Point Park is St. Matthews after its designatus, From Melt, Lawrellie Mayer Consent Schmided, St. Matthews Mayor Bernard Rossing, Governor Breash, In., Contry Judge Marlow Cont., St. Matthews Maddans Association, To., 2 Line and Sairs D., Odden, secretary of the association,

July 27, 1967 The Voice-Jeffersonian

# 200 attend event in St. Matthews

Business and Special State of the Special Spec Some were one stans, expensers. Since an article of the park with an A.1 wampin of the remin of community liests work. — In cash and help had sodies and been purely and many and many

Approximately 200 persons attended the decliration Wednasday, July 15, of Foundation Point Fark at Lewington State and Lewing

now is being accommanded by the beautification efforts such as we see here today."

Other appalars were 30, Mel-thews Mayer Bernard School-fe, Loudsville Mayer Research Schoolet-County Judge Marbov Cock and Saru D. Globbs, secretary of the business, secretary of the business, secretary of the business, secretary of the business, the prevent of the secretary of Zackary Taylor Foot of the American Legine and maste

July 27, 1967 The Voice-Jeffersonian

# Bowling says area blessed

"Our community has been blessed to that the vast majority of our citizens are law abiding," Mayor Bernard F Bowling said Thursday in a Memorial Day speech,

He said good citizens need to follow only two simple commandments; To love God and to love their neighbors.

"There would be peace in the world if these two commandments were followed," he commented.

Mayor Bowling was the main speaker at Memorial Day services in Fountain Point Park, where the St. Matthews chapter of American War Mothers honored area service boys killed in action The ceremony included the laying of a wreath at the monument to those who died in World War IL.

The program, held at 10 am, included: introduction of guests by Mrs. John E. Baldwin, president of the St. Matthews War Mothers; invocation, Dr. Walter E. Lawrenson of Beargrass Christian Church; pledge to the flag; color guard from Zachary Taylor Post 150 of the American Legion; laying of wreath by Mrs. Elsie Hemmer, benediction by the Rt. Rev. Charles C. Boldrick, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, and the playing of taps by Stuart Williams and Dennis Brown,

The program was arranged by Mrs. Henry Schuler.

The flag used in the ceremony be-longed to the late Joseph Ruffra, Sr., of 106 Sherrin Ave., a veteran of World War 1.



#### Unfurled

Members of the color guard of Zachary Tay-lor Post of the American Legion run up the flag for Memorial Day Services at Fountain Point Park in St. Matthows.

June 6, 1968 The Voice-Jeffersonian

#### Fountain Park



So we might be free

WREATH was placed at the A WREATH was placed at the boat of the monument to the war dead in fountain park by Mrs. Elste Hommer has Friday during a memorial day service spensored by the St. Matthewa chapter of War Mothurs.

# Tribute to war dead held at local park

Rewling roof this letter as quest speaker at a Memorial Day service Day the war dead of 3s. Limitares of Foundair Park has friday.

The letter was from a termed 3s, Xevier states now wanning a guilloucher somewhere in the memorials of South Victoria.

h confident the personal plan of the young liestenant for students and cittleme to back the afforts of America in Victoum and the cause of freedom that is at stake

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war dead. Tapa were played by Stuart Williams and

Task very and the Mancack Named.
The Severality was given by the New,
Clay Bayer, of the Heargrass Christian
Cherch, and the M. Hev. A. C. Gerid,
of Chr. Lady of Leardes Church, rem-

The St. Matthews chapter of the American War Midhers spensored the ser-

June 5, 1969 The Voice-Jeffersonian

## **Fontaine Ferry Park**

#### Courtesy of Memories of Fontaine Ferry Park, 1990:

#### FONTAINE FERRY PARK

A short history of the site will help develop an understanding of how Fontaine Ferry Park came to be one of the nation's most famous amusement parks. Captain Aaron Fontaine, a Virginia militiaman, settled in west Louisville in 1798. He built a boat landing on the shore of his 44-acre plantation. During the Civil War, Captain Fontaine housed prisoners fleeing slavery. After the abolition of slavery, the landing site provided a fertile ground for the Fontaine Hotel and beer garden. Over the years, other famous performers came to the area such as Perry Como, Frank Sinatra, and the Dorsey Brothers.

John Willard, the designer of Palisades Park in New York, conceived the idea of Fontaine Ferry Park. The owners, The Park Circuit and Realty Company, began construction of the amusement park in 1903. At that time, there were several methods of transportation to Fontaine Ferry Park, the most common being steamboats. Fontaine Ferry's landing predated the first Ohio River bridge by 70 years.

During the park's first years, its success was so overwhelming that at least seven other amusement parks sprung up over the "Kentuckiana" area. Some of these were Sennings Park Zoo, White City, Ninaweb Park, Liberty Grove, Hammers Park, Glenwood Park, Rose Island, and Kiddieland Amusement Park. Fontaine Ferry's competition didn't last long. All of these parks closed within three years after their opening.

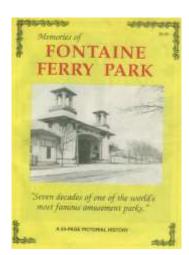
Over the years there were four major roller coasters in the park, all on the same site. They were: The Scenic Railway, The Racing Derby, The Velvet Racer, and The Comet. In 1937 the flood wiped out The Velvet Racer, but did virtually no damage to the rest of the park. This was because the roller coaster was built in the flood plain, whereas the rest of the park was not.

Problems with Fontaine Ferry Park began in 1941. On November 7 of that year, allegations of the rides being too rough began. People were cited for standing up on the roller coasters. The Comet roller coaster tossed a rider while two others were killed on the Racing Derby. Another child was thrown from one of the smaller rides inside a building. Roller skaters were even hurt along with a swimmer. An aerialist fell 25 feet, missed the net, but was not hurt. Also during this time accusations were made that the waters of the Tunnel of Love were infested with snakes. The story was believed by the public and Fontaine Ferry was forced to replace the tunnel with the Turnpike. Later, the snake story was proven false.

Fontaine Ferry Park was faced with problems far greater than rough rides during its 64 year existence. In 1964 a man named William Dady was prohibited from entering the pool because of his race. Many of the other park visitors were afraid of being in the pool with a "Negro." Dady and his friends wanted to come to Fontaine Ferry and swim but were told that the pool was a private club and that city laws of integration did not apply. By forcing his way in, Dady and his friends entered the pool a second time. After being removed again, they decided to obey the court order. This all took place near the end of July 1964. By August 9, the court order was extended to keep Dady out for a longer period of time. The season of pool operation ended before an "anti-discrimination" law or court order could be issued.

On opening day, May 4, 1969, many youths attacked workers and looted Fontaine Ferry Park. Many items were destroyed, especially the portable food stands and some buildings. The damage cost the park \$18,000 and took 25 policemen to handle. The park closed that day, never to reopen as Fontaine Ferry Park. The buildings and rides sat idle for some time, only to reopen as another amusement park. Opened in 1972, the aptly named "Ghost Town on the River" lasted only three years. The area was also later renamed River Glen Park, but its duration was even shorter: one year.

On May 25, 1976 the gate and penny arcade burned down. The sparks set off other fires around the park. After the fire, the auctioned-off rides ended up in various locations across the country. The carousel, presently located at Six Flags Great America, near Chicago, is shown on the left. It is worth \$1,500,000. Since the acquisition of Kentucky Kingdom into the Six Flags chain, the city of Louisville has been working on getting the carousel returned to its original home. Pictured on the right is the Hrubetz Paratrooper, which was relocated to Knoebels Amusement Park in 1970. Although these are the only two visual images of Fontaine Ferry Park remaining, the countless mental images and souvenirs will live on forever.





June 18, 1942, The Jeffersonian.



Courtesy of Memories of Fontaine Ferry Park, 1990:

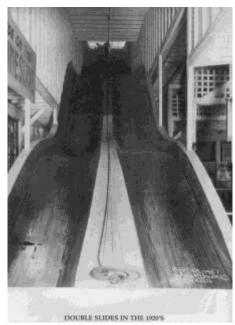
# **Fontaine Ferry Park**

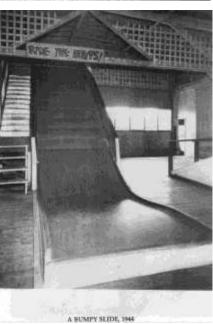
FONTAINE FERRY PARK















Courtesy of Memories of Fontaine Ferry Park, 1990:

# **Fontaine Ferry Park**

FONTAINE FERRY PARK





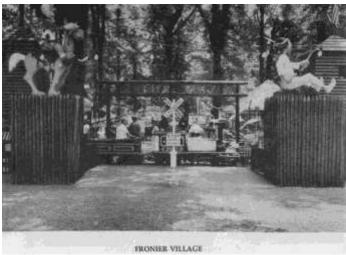










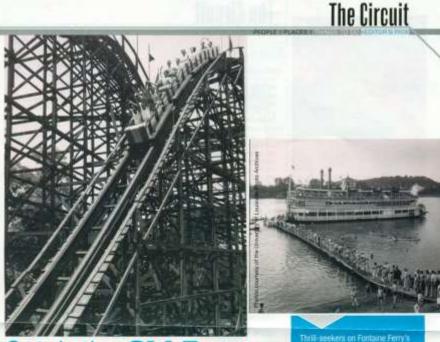


## **Fontaine Ferry Park**

Courtesy The Voice—Jeffersonian, May 2, 1968:

Courtesy Elizabeth "Betsy" St. Clair Skiles:





Catch the **Old Ferry** 

and before Six Flags Kentucky Kingdom, there was Fortiairs Ferry, Opened in May 1905, the 64-acre amusement park, knoen to locals as "Fountain Ferry," was located on the bank of the Chio River at the site of a former flatbour ferry service landing, Adjacent to the West End's Shawnee Park, the popular summertime hangout had a perry arcacle, is furl house known as Hainty. HAI, a swimming pool and a weoder roller coaster named the Comat, which had is 90-Scal drop and namy 4,000 leet of track. Frank Shatra was among the crists who performed on the park's stage.

Trouble was, not everyone was invited because, until 1964, Fontaine Ferry was

From May 16 through Sopt. 8, the Frazier international History Museum will examine the park's past through artifacts, photographs and recently taped interviews. "It closed 40 years ago, so there are still people alive and well who have very skild memorates of Fountain Ferry," asys Krista McHone, who does PR and marketing for the Frazier. Everything was not happy and positive. At the time, Fountain Ferry was a symbol of segregation, For the bulk of the park's exitance furtil 1964, if you had the wrong color of skin you weren't getting in. "The African-American tokia who Eved in

"The African-American folia who lived in the area in particular, they could see that roller coaster going throughout the summer and linear) the kide screaming and having a good time. And they couldn't get in," sine says, "If you talk to some of the people who had that experience, Fountain Ferry became a symbol of what they were fighting against in the Civil Rights inovernect."

By the late 1980s, racial friction and a couple of fine resulted in Formation Ferry's closing. By 1972, a renovation and a name change to Ghost York on the Fever had taken place, but the venture was ultimately impaccessful.

The maseum began working on the exhibition two years ago and has since conducted 49 interviews with people who can recall the park's highs and lows. Joe Ley, who owns the Market Street articuse store.

Thrill-seekers on Fontaine Ferry's Comet (left) and boarding the ferry for a trip upriver (above).

provided many of the more than 100 items that will be on display. Others heard about the exhibit through word-of-mouth. One woman, for instance, is lending the roller skales and skirl size wore as a member of a skeling club. The Frazier has also constructed a scaled-down replica of Fortaine Ferryll original entrance. Plus, Sam and Size, the corecy clowns at the front of Hlarity Hall, will also be in attendance.

"There are things." McHone says, "that are really going to generate a sense of nestalga in people, because there are so many folia etho green up in Louisville or whose parents were around during that time. Really, good or bad, people have very strong memories."

The Frazier International History Museum, 829 W. Malin St., Is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturchay and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Prices vary. Call 753-5683 or wet www.fraziermuseum.ting for more information.

- Josh Moss

LOUISVILLE MAGAZINE 12

Courtesy http://sheilabarrett.wordpress.com/2007/12/12/fontaine-ferry-amusement-park/

# **MAYOR GARNETT INMAN'S DAY**

Tuesday, June 11, 1968
FONTAINE FERRY PARK
Louisville, Kentucky

Buses will leave Scribner Jr. High School, 910 Old Vincennes Road, 10:30 a.m. — Return From Park 6:00 p.m.

ADMIT ONE FREE - PARK GATE

ADMIT ONE

MIRROR MAZE

JUNE 11, 1968 UNTIL 5:30 P.M.

THIS TICKET
AND 5 CENTS
GOOD FOR RIDE ON

FERRIS WHEEL

JUNE 11, 1968 UNTIL 5:30 P.M.

THIS TICKET
AND 5 CENTS
GOOD FOR RIDE ON

ROCK-O-PLANE

JUNE 11, 1968 UNTIL 5:30 P.M.

THIS TICKET GOOD FOR TRIP ON

BUS

NEW ALBANY TO FONTAINE FERRY PARK JUNE 11, 1968 10:30 A.M. ADMIT ONE

ROCKET

JUNE 11, 1968 UNTIL 5:30 P.M.

THIS TICKET
AND 5 CENTS
GOOD FOR RIDE ON

MERRY-GO-ROUND

JUNE 11, 1968 UNTIL 5:30 P.M. Exchange This For Ticket

THIS TICKET
AND 5 CENTS
GOOD FOR RIDE ON

TILT-A-WHIRL

JUNE 11, 1968 UNTIL 5:30 P.M.

THIS TICKET GOOD FOR TRIP ON

BUS

FONTAINE FERRY PARK TO NEW ALBANY JUNE 11, 1968 6:00 P.M.

# **Fontaine Ferry Park**

Courtesy http://www.fromyourmemory.com/gallery? Frazier Museum Fontaine Ferry Park site.



#### **Fontaine Ferry Park**

# Courtesy The Courier-Journal, July 26, 2009, by Sheldon S. Shafer: Drive planned to reinstate Fountaine Ferry name

A Portland neighborhood activist plans a petition drive to urge the Louisville Metro Council to reinstate the name Fontaine Ferry for a 64-acre portion of Shawnee Park.

That's the area where the Fontaine Ferry amusement park operated from 1905 to 1969.

"People all over the county went to that facility. It's a part of the city's history," said John Owen, who is leading the effort to restore the name.

But Metro Council member Cheri Bryant Hamilton, D-5th District, who represents the Portland and Shawnee neighborhoods, said reinstating the name "doesn't make any sense. It would be confusing to people. And (the amusement park) holds a lot of bad memories for many African Americans" because it wasn't desegregated until 1965.

Said Owen: "You can't change the past. There is rich history there. It was more than an amusement park."

He noted that the site functioned as a ferry landing called Fontaine's Landing for many decades, dating to before the Civil War

Owen declined to say who he has lined up in support of the name-restoration. But he said that by early August the group will set up a Web site promoting the proposal.

He said petitions seeking signatures of supporters will be posted on the Internet and circulated in commercial outlets "from the East End to Valley Station."

Owen recently went on record against Hamilton's proposal to rename 34th Street through the Shawnee neighborhood in honor of the late civil-rights activist Louis Coleman. He said others, such as former heavyweight boxing champion and Louis-ville native Jimmy Ellis, were more deserving of such an honor.

Hamilton said Friday that she was upset with Owen for opposing the street-name change while at the same time trying to resurrect the Fontaine (widely pronounced "fountain") Ferry name.

She said she doesn't think the name Fontaine Ferry "holds any significance for the people who live" near Shawnee Park. And she defended renaming 34th Street for Coleman on grounds that an overwhelming majority of its residents support the honor. Coleman died a year ago at age 64.

The amusement park was not desegregated until after Louisville adopted open-housing legislation. After the park closed, it operated through the mid-1970s, first as Ghost Town on the River and briefly as River Glen Park.

After several fires destroyed remnants of the park, the city bought and cleared the property and made it part of Shawnee Park.

Owen said the proposal to reinstate the name Fontaine Ferry is topical in light of the current exhibit on the amusement park at the Frazier International History Museum on Main Street.

The Fontaine Ferry exhibit opened in mid-May and runs through Sept. 8. Museum attendance, long stagnant, has soared since it opened. Attendance in June was 6,268, compared with 2,603 in June 2008, said museum spokeswoman Krista McHone.

The exhibit "has created a buzz," she said. "It is generating conversation about Fontaine Ferry, both the good stuff and the bad stuff."

The exhibit includes a focus on the park's years of segregation. It features recorded oral histories of several African Americans about their memories of the park. They include, for instance, one by Raoul Cunningham, president of the Louisville chapter of the NAACP, who demonstrated at the entrance to the park in the early 1960s and was arrested there a time or two.

Cunningham said Friday that the Frazier exhibit "is wonderful and has caused some people to think about Fontaine Ferry who have probably not thought about it for a long time. It was an important part of our history. But to rename (part of Shawnee Park) would be a step backwards."

He said that the Shawnee neighborhood has become increasingly African American since the amusement park closed and that reinstating the name Fontaine Ferry would "fly in the face of the residents."

Louisville Metro Parks spokesman Jason Cissell said changing the name "is something we would not be in favor of." The site contains three of the four fields in the Shawnee youth baseball complex, and the name change would split the complex into two areas with different names, Cissell said. "It would be confusing. We try to avoid that."

Metro Council President David Tandy, D-4th District, said he would need to review a Fontaine Ferry proposal "and go from there. We would need to make sure we are doing the right thing for the community."

Council member Glen Stuckel, R-17th, chairman of the council's parks committee, said he believes it would be confusing to rename a portion of the park. It might be better, he said, to erect a plaque or marker recognizing Fontaine Ferry.

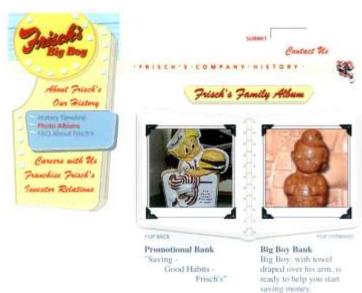
If a measure to change the name is introduced, it probably would go to the Louisville Metro Planning Commission for a public hearing and a recommendation to the council, which would have the final say.

# Frisch's Big Boy

#### **Courtesy http://www.frischs.com/:**







# Frisch's Big Boy

**Courtesy Waggener Lair & Al Ring:** 









## Frisch's Big Boy

#### **Courtesy Al Ring:**

**September 25, 1968:** Local restaurant gutted by fire. A fire that apparently started in the basement gutted the Frisch's Big Boy Restaurant at 4800 Shelbyville Road early Wednesday morning.

Samuel Borders, manager of the St. Matthews restaurant, said damage totaled at least \$75,000.

More than 30 members of the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department, using all their equipment, battled the blaze.

Firemen were called to the scene at 2:55 am after the fire had been reported by county police.

Because the fire plug in front of the restaurant property could note turned on, the volunteers had to hook up equipment across Shelbyville Road, some three hundred feet from the restaurant.

They had the main fire under control in minutes, but the mop-up operation lasted more than two hours. No injuries were reported.

Borders said that when the restaurant closed at 1 a.m. everything seemed in order. Two units of the St. Matthews Police Department were on the scene to direct traffic.

The McMahan Volunteer Fire Department stood on duty to handle any other calls while St. Matthews firemen fought the restaurant fire.

Frisch's had another working fire in the basement February 10, 1971, but it was not near as bad.

# Courtesy of Karen F. Maier, Vice President, Marketing, Frisch's Restaurants, Inc.:

Al - During the 50's, 60's, even the 70's, Frisch's Big Boys in the Louisville market were franchised. There were several different owners whose names I remember - Bob Stark and Bob Arns, Stanley Barron, and a German fellow named Garrick or Garrett, but for the life of me, I can't remember his last name. I know there was one other franchisee, but I can't recall that name either.

Our first Big Boy restaurant located at 4800 Shelbyville Road opened on October 26, 1976. That building was replaced with a newer building on April 16th, 1987.





Fun Fair

Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews:

**Barry Munz father (60)** 



For the adults—a camera kit given away . . . and a camera for some lucky child. FREE gifts for all the kiddos. Come in and register. You do not have to be present to win. No purchase necessary . . . Just come in!



Cilif Muns, owner, will try to serve your year round recreations

Complete Stock

HOBBY CRAFT
MODELS
TOYS
SPORTING GOODS
ART SUPPLIES

Photo Department
CAMERAS — ACCESSORIES
Featuring One-Day Service on Developing!

# FREE! SANTA'S TREASURE CHEST TOY BOOK

SEE OUR STOCK OF QUALITY TOYS! USE OUR LAYAWAY PLAN
—OUR STOCKS ARE COMPLETE!

# FUN FAIR

EVERYTHING FOR FUN-AT A FAIR PRICE"

SHELBYVILLE ROAD PLAZA

CHARGE

LAY AWAY

BE, 6324

# FUNFAIR

PAPER CAPERS . . . "Bulk pulp" is the news from FUN FAIR this week, where we've been casing the ART DE. PARTMENT for ort papers and cardboards. And did we ever find them . . . by the ream! We found CONSTRUCTION PA-PERS IN 4 SIZES .... WATER COLOR. PAPERS ... CHAR-COAL PAPERS ... VELCOUR PAPERS . . PARCHMENT PAPERS ... and TAG STOCK in every color, including gold and silver. BRISTOL BOARD ... COQUILLE BRISTOL . . . CHARCOAL BOARD ... MAT BOARD . . . ILLUSTRATION BOARD ... CRESCENT POSTER-BOARD ... and POS-TER BOARD in 11 colors and whitel Now supposin' you want to make a poster, frame a picture, make a "collage" or a charcaal sketch. Where are you going to go? Why, te ... FUN FAIR, SHELBYVILLE PLAZA, TW 5-6324.

**January 18, 1962** 

November 17, 1955

Fun Fair

Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews:

**Barry Munz father (60)** 

Thursday, December 1, 1955 -The VOICE OF ST. MATTHEWS and The VOICE OF THE HIGHLANDS- Page Five



Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Munz decorate the window of their Fun Fair store in the Shelhyville Plaza, with educational toys such as a geology set with rock samples and tools to get more, and an op-

# ir Solves Christmas Shopping

By REEDA V. BIVINS

Toys and hobby materials have become the "buy" words: of Christmas shoppers. These items are perfect gifts for both children and adults.

**December 1, 1955** 

new FUN FAIR in the Shelbyville Road Plaza Shopping Center, is doing everything in his power to provide you with all stems for fun at a fair price!

To spotlight his farsightedness, his talented wife, Edna, will be on hand to demonstrate and conduct classes in all sorts of hobby erafts. Space has been provided in the store for classes, day or aight sessions, where groups can take advantage of Mrs. Munz's know-how."

With the Christmas season almost upon us, you will be interested in knowing that there is a sted in knowing that there is a complete toy stock. Any gun-loving little boy would be delighted to own the ack-ack gun that actually shoots wooden bullets, while sister would adore anyone of the many dolls, all in the moderate price range. There is a TV-Hep Cat Drum Set guaranteed to provide an outlet for young enerprovide an outlet for young ener-

Mr. Munz is especially proud of his educational hobby kits. You can find one suitable for your child's interests. They cover such fields as electronics, rock detec-tion, medical training and weath-

Nevertheless, the slock is not confined to toys and crafts. There is a complete photographic de-

Clifford J. Munz, owner of the partinent supplying cameras and accessories, featuring one-day service on developing. Art supplies, selected personally by Mrs. Munz, are among the many ex-clusive items.

Among the many sporting goods items, you will find bows and arrows from rmall toy sizes to pro-

fessional weights.

When the first snow sticks and the small fry are demanding a sled, FUN FAIR can settle your delemma in a moment with one of the conventional sleds or the modern saucer type.

Lifelong residents of Louisville, Mr. and Mrs. Munz moved to St. Matthews from the Highlands in 1942. They have resided on Whipps Mill Road for the past

three years.

Mr. Munz is a member of the Matthews Optimist Club, and 11's. Munz belongs to the Lyndon Wemen's Club and the Ramblers Garden Club.

They have two children, a boy, Barry Munz, 13, and a girl, Phyl-is Munz, age 11. The entire fam-Iv are members of the Beargrass Christian Church.

#### **Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: General Electric Appliance Park**

**Courtesy BUSINESS/80515019**  http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080515/

I cover General Electric Appliance Park here because it had such an impact on the growth of the St. Matthews area and its schools.

#### **GE Time Line**

1951 — Ground broken for \$200 million plant in Louisville.

1953 — First appliance is shipped from Appliance Park, a clothes dryer.

1954 — On Oct. 25 the first refrigerator is made at Appliance Park. The facility is the nation's first business to install a computer.

1963 — GE makes its first self-cleaning oven at Appliance Park.

1969 — The first GE refrigerator with through-the-door ice and water dispenser is shipped.

1973 — Employment reaches its peak of about 23,000, including about 17,000 hourly workers.

1982 — A series of layoffs brings employment to 11,800.

1999 — A series of cutbacks to production at Appliance Park leaves hourly employment at about 4,200.

2003 — GE merges its appliance and lighting businesses and bases the division in Louisville. The combination leads to a string of profit improvements.

2008 — GE Appliance Park up for sale.





G. E. Appliance Park today

# **General Electric Appliance Park**

Courtesy of BUSINESS/80515019

http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080515/



Office workers in building #2 as seen in the 1950s.



Appliance Park employees gathered in 1953 with the first carload of ranges.



The entrance to the Home Bureau of the Marketing Department of the Appliance Division at GE in 1952.



Job applicants lined up at the front gate to enter and be interviewed for 2000 new jobs being offered by GE in 1956.



The parking lot scene at GE was back to normal after a two-week strike in 1958.



The 6-millionth refrigerator produced at Appliance Park was presented to the Louisville Fund in 1954.

# **General Electric Appliance Park**

Courtesy of http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080515/BUSINESS/80515019



1997 Aerial View



In this 1956 file photo, GE prepared to build a 410,000 -square-foot structure at Appliance Park in which to build room air conditioners.

(Courier-Journal file photo)



A view from above



Clark Hayes operated Univac, Appliance Park's "electric brain," in a 1954 demonstration for the plant's financial staff. Appliance Park was the first U.S. business to install a computer. (Courier-Journal file)



Appliance Park under construction in 1951. (Courier-Journal file)



Appliance Park is a 1,000-acre complex (big enough to hold 15 football fields) with about 6,000 workers and 27 miles of railroad track. Its annual economic impact on the Louisville area is estimated at \$500 million. (Courier-Journal file photo)

# **General Electric Appliance Park**

Courtesy of BUSINESS/80515019

http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080515/



The 1951 ground-breaking for the then \$200 million plant in Louisville.



2003 aerial photo of Appliance Park.



Kim Freeman, director of public relations at GE appliance park, approached one of the then newly installed gates and fence. Date of this photo is unknown. (Courier-Journal file)



Oct. 25, 1954. Word comes more than 50 years later that GE is considering auctioning off the Louisville-based appliance unit. (Courier-Journal file photo)



GE employee Barbara Lucian was shown with this computer in 1963.



The Remington Rand's UNIVAC worked to calculate payrolls, sales, statistics, etc., in 1954. It was the first industrial installation of an electronic computer. This photo was shot in 1978.

(Courier-Journal file photos)

#### Gerstle's Place

#### Courtesy http://wave3.zipscene.com/venues/view/4146:

Gerstle's is the oldest neighborhood bar in St. Matthew's, founded in 1924. It's the home of the Derby City Norsemen, fan club of the Minnesota Vikings. Known for its unique bartenders and servers, it is famous for Gerstle's cheese dip and spicy wings. Gerstle's promotes and celebrates live music performed by local and regional bands during the weekdays and rocks on the weekends. In October, 2000 Gerstle's expanded to just under a 200 person capacity and installed a state-of-theart performing stage and sound system for live recordings.



#### **Courtesy Erik White, Gerstle's, after recent remodel:**









# **Gerstle's Place**

**Courtesy Erik White, Gerstle's, after recent remodel:** 











# Haller's Pet Shop

# **Courtesy**

# Pet shop proprietors say pets run in cycles

Pels run in cycles, say two people who should know. They are than Gray and Miss Wanda Berson, object and manager, respectively, of Halloc's Pel Shop at 2826 Westpart flood.

"Cate have really been page - cate, remediate our suiter her far the last two years," and its.

Voice, 2/27/1958



MISS WANDA BENNOT

So many boofered will allow people to have them in agentcounts," and Mice Berson, But there came tracherts would se-

Greg. The a relate assuments are years proposed to the the serious at a serious are related. Although who was the serious dependent farmines are related to the serious and serious areas.

"Bure people up for trepted the and outling the," said Str. Grey, who recover bought not bell

His view will have them all puppers, historic guitam sigh, franciers, roboth, favories, mineries, paraderis, parrole, crapical fish, gaid flut, rorbes sliggaton, chaesekoons, and trapical plants. The paper will also have reserved and free first flow petit.

thes and food for all them pets.
"And if they wond any advice on sich antends, they can see Wands," said Mr. Grap.

Him Cruz lives in the West End of 2046 Algoropsis Phony, at It's a long but rode to work overy day. But the dogse't solad, "It's the calls plant I get to road," about

She's been working at the denoutron Haller's stare for Eve to prace. A receive of Lessicolite and a graduate of Shaweter High, the trouber Sarchey Selved of Buildian Hewselal Mithodist Charish in

Ill years. His force is at 201 Tislacy. One of the charlot stambers of the St. Matthews Commorely Corner, he was president they years. He is also pad president of the St. Elgiforms Kiwan

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Many feet gifts will be given away at the firenal operate

Aquariness fully austimed will be given ever as well as a manher at culmable pets, pet find



Haller's Pet Shop before move.



The end of the road—training fire in June 1985, the businesses of Colony Way are destroyed.



Haller's Pet Shop today, (No longer.)

#### Courtesy Dan Gray, III (61)

The Voice-Tribune, December 7, 2006

#### Haller's Pet Shop may close after nearly 100 years—Jacob Glassner, News Editor

"A trip to Haller's Pet shop is like a trip to the zoo" - so reads a yellowed newspaper advertisement from the 1950s hanging on the wail of the St. Matthews pet shop.

These days, a trip to Haller's is more like a trip back to the 1950s, a time before pet superstores. But this is 2006, and Haller's, which was founded in 1907, is struggling to survive.

Owner Dan Gray III, 64, plans to retire at the end of the year, and unless he finds a buyer for the store, he will close it, putting an end to Louisville's oldest pet store.

"We've got lots of loyal customers ... who have stuck with us over the years, but it gets tougher and tougher each day," Gray said.

Gray said competition from larger pet stores and discount stores, which have more products and lower prices, has taken its toll. He's also tired and ready for a break from his 12-hour work-days.

"I joke with my friend Pete Hammer at St. Matthews Hardware about how he doesn't have to come in and feed his nails, but my little critters are hungry on Sunday," he said.

About half the shop is lined with bubbling aquariums full of fish; the caged canaries in the back fill the store with singing.

A German immigrant named A. W. Haller opened Haller's in 1907 on Market Street in downtown Louisville. Gray's father, Dan T. Gray Jr., bought the shop in 1953 from Orin Taylor and opened a second location in St. Matthews in 1955 after purchasing Bell's Pet Shop in the old Colony Way shopping center off Chenoweth Lane.

Haller's moved to its current location at 4167 Westport Road in 1985. The downtown store closed in 1977.

Gray said that the knowledge he and his one full-time employee, Jim Kehl, have is what has kept the store in business.

"People value our knowledge, and they tell us that but the register doesn't chaching," Gray said.

Gray, who has lived in St. Matthews his whole life, grew up working in the store and came on full time in 1968 when his father's health declined. He has a degree in biology from Georgetown College.

Besides free advice, the store's most popular item is live feeder crickets, but selling 4,000 crickets a week at 85 cents a dozen is by no means a money tree. Haller's bird seed mixtures, made using a secret special for-mula, also remain popular.

In the old days, Gray said the store sold hundreds of chickens and turkeys, which people raised and then eventually ate.

Haller's also used to sell fish food and bird seed in the old Taylor Drugs stores, and Gray has a collection of old boxes with the Haller's name. Among his memorabilia is a 1913 guarantee from A. W. Haller assuring a customer that a parrot he sold would talk.

Some old friends from Haller's past also hang around the store.

Sam, the irritable parrot who often bit people and died in 1968, hangs stuffed on the wall near a collection of hornet nests hanging from the ceiling. Clyde the giant gourami fish that lived almost 30 years - most of the time in the aquarium by the store's front door - hangs near the foot-long piranha that bit off part of Gray's father's finger many years ago. The finger was saved by a young team of hand surgeons, Harold Kleinert and Joseph Kutz.

Gray said he has received several inquiries from people interested in purchasing the business, but he's not sure how things will pan out. He's ready to get out of the pet shop business.

"I'm trying to maintain a positive attitude to convince myself that there is something else out there that I'm meant to do," he said.

Dan Gray, Waggener class of (61).

# Haller's Pet Shop

**Courtesy Dan Gray, III (61)** 

The Voice-Tribune, December 7, 2006

Haller's Pet Shop may close after nearly 100 years—Jacob Glassner, News Editor



JACOB GLASSNER | Voice-Tribune

Haller's Pet Shop owner Dan Gray III, posing with longtime shop resident Clyde, plans to retire after the first of the year.



DAN GRAY III I courtesy photo

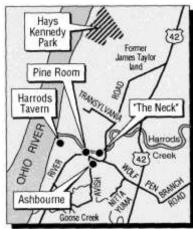
The father of current Haller's Pet Shop owner Dan Gray III, Dan Gray Jr., left, posed in the old downtown store at 214 W. Market St. in this 1954 picture.

## **Harrods Creek**

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Harrods Creek Settlers took a turn at mills; verdant hills and lowlands were home to diverse groups By Grace Schneider







Rosewell, a two-story brick mansion on an original 4,000 acre estate in Harrods Creek, was built in the 1950s. It was the home of Charles G. Middleton family when this photo was taken in 1940. It is still used as a private residence.

# CORN

Harrods Creek where River Road and Wolf Pen Branch come together looks about the same today as it did in a 1964 photograph.



FIELDS, lush woodlands and meandering creeks dotted Harrods Creek in the 1940s. Farmhouses, barns and a few small summer cabins were scattered beside River Road.

A grocery store, post office and garage sat near Wolf Pen Branch and River roads.

A classic farm community?

Hardly. Harrods Creek has always been more than that. Its unusual geography — an area bordered by the Ohio River, bisected by two large creeks and surrounded by a collar of high hills — has drawn a diverse mix of people since the late 1800s.

In the waning days of the last century, the pretty hillsides were home to wealthy Louisville families; the creek and the river, to working-class whites. And through a twist of opportunity, a group of blacks carved a niche there, too.

All three groups still have a place in the community, which is bounded roughly by the river on the west; U.S. 42 on the east; Lime Kiln Lane to the south; and the area near Hays Kennedy Park on the north.

Harrods Creek's story began in the late 1700s. The Ohio's current made the waterway's mouth a logical stop for flatboats.

### **Harrods Creek**

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Harrods Creek Settlers took a turn at mills; verdant hills and lowlands were home to diverse groups By Grace Schneider

Some accounts say that the creek was named for James Harrod, who came to Kentucky in 1773 and founded Fort Harrod, the site of present-day Harrodsburg. Other records point to Capt. William Harrod, whom George Rogers Clark tapped to command the first fort at Louisville in 1779.

A settlement started sometime before 1775 near the present-day River Creek Inn on River Road and Guthrie Beach Road. A popular spot for flatboat men was the old Harrods Tavern.

Its remains are the thick stone walls and fireplace inside the Captain's Quarters bar and restaurant.

The Transylvania Co., a frontier firm that also established Transylvania Seminary (now Transylvania University) in Lexington, laid out a city upriver from the creek. Lots were sold, but the town never developed, according to records at the Jefferson County Office of Historic Preservation and Archives.

Transylvania Avenue, which branches west off River Road, is located on what became known as "the seminary land."

In the waning days of the 18th century, Harrods Creek was a hot spot. Cargo was unloaded at wharf and sent south on Louisville Westport Pike (now River Road) or over another roadway to Middle town and Jeffersontown. The stop let travelers avoid Louisville which was known as a disease-infested swamp.

Louisville, however, had been cleaned up by the early 1800s. After about 1810, most of the traffic bypassed Harrods Creek for the growing town downstream. But the former was still popular for its ferry to Utica, Ind.

Farmers and millers, attracted by the rich bottomland and abundant water, sank roots along the creek and the Ohio River. At least four mills served the area, including an early version of Wolf Pen Mill, which some accounts say burned down twice. A sturdy stone mill dating to 1870 still stands off Wolf Pen Lane on Sallie Bingham's estate, Wolfpen Farm. A stone wall thought to be a remnant of another mill sits beside a beautiful stairstep waterfall on the farm.

Local legend holds that a flax mill was operated there during the early 1800s by a man named Bash. An enemy caught up with Bash and torched the mill to cinders one night — with the miller and his wife inside. People still call the creek Bash's Branch, said Martin Sweets, 75, of Prospect.

Another settler, Thomas Barbour, built a grist mill on Harrods Creek in 1808, and an 1878 map shows a Barbour family farmed 92 acres beside Harrods Creek.

Barbour Lane — also the former name for Wolf Pen Branch Road before it veers off Barbour Lane east of U. S. 42 — bears the family's name.

Since those days, the community's evolution has mirrored that of other Jefferson County suburbs, such as Anchorage and Glenview, according to county records. Once covered with farms, the area became dotted with summer estates for Louisville's wealthy. The interurban railroad built in the early 1900s helped foster these suburbs.

Other sections of Harrods Creek became fulltime residences for people such as John Lang, 84, a mechanic and son of an estate overseer who owned land that now houses Mooser's Garage at 6337 River Road.

"I always called this a hand-me-down neighborhood," said Mary Lang, John Lang's wife, whose family has lived in Harrods Creek since the late 1800s. "Land was passed from generation to generation."

Mary Lang once operated the Chick Inn restaurant, at 6325 River Road. She leases it now to another business owner.

In Lang's day, say area residents, the Chick Inn's fried chicken and other dishes went unmatched.

"They had the best fried oysters you ever put in your mouth," Sweets offered.

Sweets until recently lived in Nitta Yuma, an unusual housing development up the hill from River Road at Wolf Pen Branch Road.

In 1890, Brown-Forman distillery founder George Garvin Brown and two business partners purchased 100 acres of hilly farmland off Wolf Pen Branch.

They built three spacious homes and formed the Nitta Yuma Co. (an Indian term meaning "high land"), outlining an arrangement in which each owner paid a prorated share for upkeep and other community expenses. Their descendants still live there. Other homes were added to the enclave, but much of its exclusive ambiance remains.

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### **Harrods Creek**

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Harrods Creek Settlers took a turn at mills; verdant hills and lowlands were home to diverse groups By Grace Schneider

Another blue-chip enclave, Ashbourne, is an estate directly across River Road from the Chick Inn and the Lang home. Sally Brown, the wife of deceased distillery magnate W. L. Lyons Brown, lives there.

Some of the blacks who moved to the area worked for people in the "big houses." But not all black roots can be traced to Nitta Yuma and Ashbourne.

Harry Merriwether and his son Isaac bought two acres in two separate tracts on Harrods Creek in about 1890 and their family members have lived in the area since.

So have the descendants of James Taylor, a black man who bought a farm near what is now Bass Avenue and subdivided it, selling to blacks only.

Harrods Creek's "diversity" makes it interesting, said Meme Sweets Runyon, of Nitta Yuma.

Although the mix already was present in Harrods Creek by 1890, it became more pronounced as the farms bordering the Ohio gradually gave way to summer cottages and later to full-time riverside homes after World War II.

In those days, all worlds met at Helen Robertson's general store and post office at the middle of the fork at River Road and Wolf Pen Branch, recalled the late Robertson's daughter, Alice McDonald, of the St. Matthews area.

"You didn't need a newspaper," said Mary Lang. "All you had to do was go to Robertson's."

The river and creek, recalls Glenview resident George McBride, was plied by lots of rowboats and small craft. Later, the area began to attract a following of weekend water worshipers that has burgeoned today, with enormous sailboats and cabin cruisers skim-ming the currents.

"At night along the creek and along River Road, the bug-repellent lights flicker on. Jukebox songs stir the air; laughter comes from taverns," said a 1965 article in the *Louisville Times*.

Certainly one of those laughter-filled taverns was the Pine Room, a popular nightclub and restaurant that burned down in 1977 after 35 years in business. "I got a lump when the Pine Room burned," McDonald said.

The Pine Room is now a real estate office — an appropriate business considering the building boom under way today.

"Everyone wants to live by the river anymore," said McBride, who operates a towing firm from his 1,400-foot Ohio River frontage just south of Captain's Quarters.

Large lots are being subdivided to accommodate big-ticket homes, many displacing summer cabins, mobile homes and other modest remnants of a bygone era.

Amelia Guthrie Habich, whose family has owned the Captain's Quarters land and adjoining tracts on Guthrie Beach Road since 1933, is selling 47 of her 52 acres.

Despite strong opposition from many residents, developer Fourth Avenue Corp. is proceeding with plans to fill banks near the creek and river to build 32 homes and a 198-slip marina.

The Langs and others worry that development in the area and up the creek in Oldham County is pol-luting their stream and wiping out the small-town feeling they enjoy.

"In the spring, sometimes it [Harrods Creek] really stinks," said Mary Lang. But she admits, pollution or not, there's no place like Harrods Creek.

"It's still the most beautiful place to us."



## DID YOU KNOW:

■ For a week in 1934, the kidnapping of a Harrods Creek resident grabbed the national spotlight. A "filling-station employee nabbed Alice Stoll, 26, the daughter-in-law of Stoll Oil Refining Co. president Charles C. Stoll. The kidnapper demanded a \$50,000 ransom. Sightseers and reporters converged on the community Many reportedly waited for news at the Harrods Creek post office and grocery store.

After about six days, the ransom was paid and Stoll was released in Indianapolis. Thomas H. Robinson Jr., of Nashville, Tenn., was captured 18 months later in California, convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

- The one-room Harrods Creek School once stood just north of the River Road bridge over Harrods Creek. A white Masonic Lodge building is there now.
- A tavern once stood on the site of Ashbourne, the W. L. Lyons Brown estate on River Road at Wolf Pen Branch Road.
  County records show the house, parts of which date to the early 1800s, was also a home for Confederate veterans of the Civil War.

The Merriwether house near Harrods Creek has been in that family since 1890, when Harry Merriwether moved there.

## **Howard Johnsons**

Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews, November 12, 1959:



The new Howard Johnson Restaurant and Motel on Shelbyville Road east of Beechwood Village is open for business. The 48-unit motel opened Oct. 30 and the restaurant last Thursday. General manager is Norman Lathrop.



Courtesy of St. Matthews, The Crossroads of Beargrass by Samuel W. Thomas:

Ca. 1965, Billy Davis collection, University of Louisville Photographic Archives.

## **Howard Johnsons**

## Courtesy http://www.highwayhost.org/Stategateways/kentucky.html



Louisville-St. Matthews, Kentucky

Albert Entwistle, Sr. was the owner and proprietor of this location from its inception in 1959—he actually chose the site because it was to have "high visibility from the (then) future Watterson Expressway overpass."

The Motor Lodge was demolished December, 2001 and replaced with a Babies R Us. While it lost its HJ status in 1991 to become a Days Inn, the restaurant building was converted into an Outback Steakhouse and it still stands in remodeled form.

The wonderful sign seen above, was acquired by antiques dealer Joe Ley when the property was converted in 1991—I wonder what has become of it?



Postcard circa 1950

Even at the end of its extelence, those who gazed upon the Motor Lodge grounds remarked on how beautiful the property was and bemoaned that what people call progress entails "learing everything slown and starting over again."

The location was originally constructed in 1959 at a cost of \$750,000 by Dahlem Construction Company. The entire site encompassed 4 1/2 landscaped scres with a pool and playground. It's land owner Mr. Entwistle, Jr.

remarked that people didn't know how pleasant and quiet it was. His tather, Entrestle, Sc., who died in 1992 at 89 was a founder of the Loujeville Convection and Visitors Bureau, and opened hat first Inclor Restaurant in 1992 at Eastern Parkway and Preston Street. He and his tambly also ran several other Howard Johnson's in Louisville as well as Lexington—the one here at St. Mothhwei was the last to be a Hour's in the Louisville area.



Postcard circe 1960s

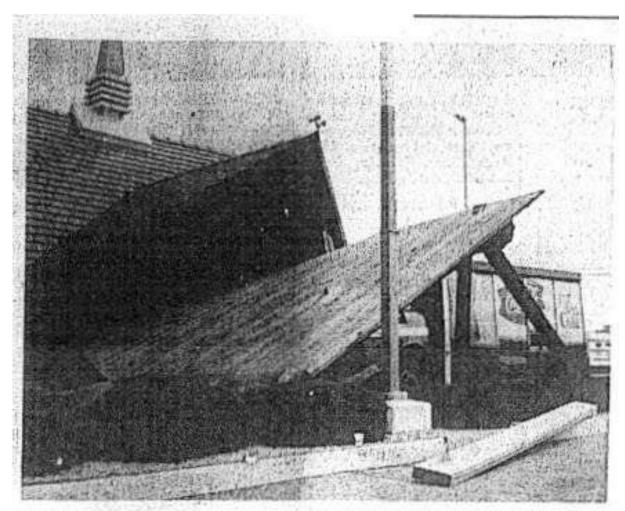




June 15, 1967 The Voice—Jeffersonian

## **Howard Johnsons**

Courtesy http://www.highwayhost.org/Stategateways/kentucky.html



A COSTLY MISTAKE was made by Coca-Cola truck driver Monday morning when he attempted unsuccessfully to pass under Howard Johnson Motor Lodge's entrance canopy. The driver didn't make it, and the canopy came tumbling down on the top of the truck. John Hull, general manager of the motel at 4621 Shelbyville Rd. said that over \$12,000 damage was done to the canopy and the west end of the lobby. Carl Gott, shop foreman for Coca-Cola, said the truck, costing \$12,000, was probably irrepairable.

> September 26, 1968 The Voice—Jeffersonian

## Courtesy http://www.highwayhost.org/Stategateways/kentucky.html

**TODAY** 



Photographs courtesy of Health Gross 2003

Louisville-St. Matthews, Kentucky

4621 Shelbyville Rd

While no trace of the Motor Lodge remains, the Nims style restaurant was converted into an Outback. It is somewhat remarkable that the building was not demolished, for the chains of today usually have their own plain boxy buildings.



Photographs couriesy of Phil Edwards 2003

Louisville-St. Matthews, Kentucky
4621 Shelbyste Rd

Seen in background in the photo above and below the Baby's are Us sign is a sign that was used by the former Motor Lodge while it was a Days Inn (in the photo it looks blacked out). That sign that Phil discovered is the only reminder at the site that something else once existed there...









## Hytken's

Courtesy http://pastperfectvintage.com/louisvillestores.htm *All photos copyright Holly Jenkins-Evans 2007, edited May, 2008* 

**Hytken's** - St. Matthew's, Ky. 1952 - 1998. Hytken's was a exclusive boutique ladies apparel shop with a devoted clientele. Hytken's advertised in Vogue and Harpers Bazaar and presented a full season of trunk shows including Bill Blass Couture, Albert Capraro, St. John Knits, Geoffrey Beene, Count Romi, Halston, Hanae Mori, Alper Schwartz, Albert Nipon, Adele Simpson, Albert Nipon, Helga, Michael Novarese, William Pearson, Rodier of Paris, Adele Simpson, St. John, Mary McFadden, Michael Volbracht and Louis Feraud



From a 1950s Hat, courtesy Elizabeth's Timeless Attire



From a 1960s Coat, courtesy Elizabeth's Timeless Attire



1960 Hytken's ad courtesy of As Time Goes By



1983 Fall Showings, courtesy Shelia Hytken Bialkin



The Voice Of St. Matthews, August 21, 1952

## **Interurban & Trains**

## Courtesy http://hometown.aol.com/chirailfan/louhist.html

## **Louisville Transit History**

1901 - Electrification of streetcar lines completed. Louisville & Eastern Railroad opens first interurban railway in area, extending northeast to Crestwood.

1904 - Louisville & Interurban Railroad opens its first interurban line, east to Jeffersontown. Louisville & Interurban Railroad was owned by Louisville Traction Co., a holding company which also owned Louisville Railway Co. Line also opened northeast to Prospect, by electrifying a Louisville & Nashville steam railroad branch. This would be the only standard gauge interurban line in the Louisville area, with broad gauge on all other electric railways in area.

1905 - Louisville & Interurban Railroad opens interurban line southeast to Okolona.

1907 - Louisville & Eastern Railroad completes interurban line beyond Crestwood to La Grange. Louisville & Interurban Railroad opens interurban line southwest to Orell.

1908 - Louisville & Interurban Railroad opens interurban line southeast to Fern Creek.

1910 - Louisville & Eastern Railroad opens interurban line east to Shelbyville.

1911 - Louisville & Interurban Railroad acquires Louisville & Eastern Railroad.

1928 - Kentucky Carriers bus routes transferred to Louisville Railway Co., with Kentucky Carriers subsidiary remaining only as a charter bus operator.

1931 - Interurban line to Okolona abandoned, with Virgil Pierce bus route remaining to provide local service.

1932 - Interurban line to Jeffersontown abandoned. Blue Motor Coach Co. formed, providing replacement bus service.

1933 - Interurban line to Fern Creek abandoned, replaced with bus service operated by Blue Motor Coach Co. Bus service operated into downtown Louisville, not carrying local passengers within city.

1934 - Interurban line to Shelbyville abandoned, with no direct bus replacement. Southeastern Greyhound Lines already provided service along this route, on its route between Louisville and Lexington.

1935 - Interurban line to La Grange abandoned, replacement bus service operated by Chaudoin Bus Lines. Interurban line to Prospect abandoned, replaced with Paxton Bus Line route. After World War II, Paxton Bus Line would be succeeded by Goebel's Bus Line, and later Prospect Bus Line. Interurban line to Orell also abandoned, replaced with Louisville Railway Co. bus route. Virgil Pierce bus line sold to Blue Motor Coach Co.

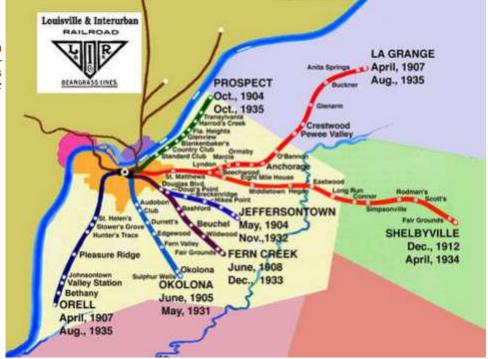
1948 - Last streetcars replaced with buses. Blue Motor Coach Co. introduces service between Louisville and Middletown, over objections of Southeastern Greyhound Lines, already serving Middletown along its route between Louisville and Lexington.

1951 - Trolleybuses discontinued in Louisville. Louisville Railway Co. sold to Louisville Transit Co. Blue Motor Coach Co. discontinues Middletown bus route after a court battle, leaving Southeastern Greyhound Lines as the only provider of service along this route.

1953 - Louisville Transit Co. assumes Middletown service from Southeastern Greyhound Lines, after service proved to be inadequate and unprofitable for Greyhound. The Middletown route was formed by extending its St. Matthews Express bus

route.

Map of Interurban routs by Jim Herron, who developed Streetcars or River City, Louisville's Streetcars & Suburban Electric Railways.



## **Interurban & Trains**

## Courtesy John Dobbins, Waggener Class (60) & Jim Herron, Waggener Class (60):

I like the railroads too-it would be great to see a comeback. I can remember when steam engines came through St. Matthews (when I'm wearing my "older and wiser" hat, I enjoy telling younger people that). I also remember electric street cars downtown. I seem to remember that some were on rails and others were on tires. They used overhead trolleys for their electrical power. The one's on rails didn't have to worry about leaving the trolley. Occasionally the one's on tires would venture too far for the trolley to reach and would have to be moved back into position. They made a lot of sparks.

### John Dobbins '60

Actually, Louisville was first served by street railways in the 1830's but that was short lived. The real expansion of street railways in Louisville began just after the Civil War when a series of lines sprang up going from downtown in every direction. These lines were served by little cars pulled by mules (mules were better than horses for this and cheaper to feed because they ate less). In the late 1800's, electricity began to replace the mules with the conversion of the cars to electric motor drive and the erection of overhead wire. The various car lines were merged into one operator, Louisville Railway Company. LRC became the biggest taxpayer in Jefferson County. The electric cars are called "streetcars" and/or trolley cars because they used the overhead trolley wire for power.

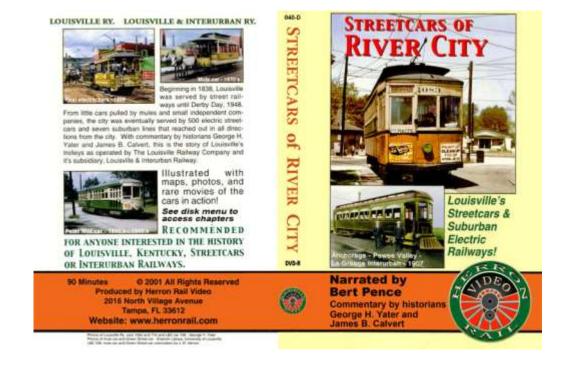
Interurbans were similar but generally larger than streetcars, many of them capable of high speeds. There were several interurban lines built which eventually all came under the ownership and operation of the "Louisville & Interurban Railway" which was owned by Louisville Railways. The interurban station was on Liberty Street and the various lines ran to Prospect, La Grange, Shelbyville, Jeffersontown, Fern Creek, Okolona and the Shively area. They became victims of the automobile and the great depression and, one by one, they were abandoned. The last one went in 1935. There are remnants of these lines around today. Perhaps one of the nicest is the Glenview post office which was originally the Glenview station on the Louisville, Harrods Creek & Western Ky. (the Prospect line).

The streetcars ran well beyond the interurbans but busses began to replace them in the late 1930's, first going on the feeder routes. Some lines, such as the Market Street line, received electric trolley coaches which were rubber tired electric buses. The last line to use real streetcars was the 4th Street line that ran from downtown out to Iroquois Park. The last day of streetcar service was Derby Day, 1948 when people rode out to Churchill Downs on the streetcars but by the time the Derby was over, buses had been lined up and the streetcars were gone.

Like most of you, I rode the buses as a kid and during my pre-driving years. I still recall my grandmother taking me on a streetcar to Iroquois Park one day. But don't confuse streetcars with buses, not even trolley buses 'cause they aren't the same thing. Streetcars ran on rails, not pavement. They offered an experience no bus could ever duplicate.

In 2001, I produced a documentary called "Streetcars of River City" which tells the story of Louisville's street railways. Bert Pence narrated it and we've just put it on DVD. I hate to spam so I won't say any more on here. If you'd like more info, contact me off the list.

#### -Jim Herron

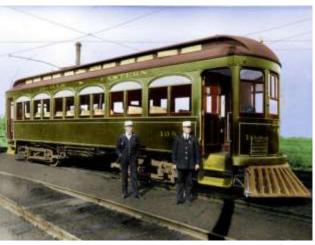


## **Interurban & Trains**

**Courtesy Jim Herron, Waggener Class (60):** 



St. Matthews Interurban tracks



L & E Interurban Car



St. Matthews Interurban tracks



**Green Street Car** 

## **Interurban & Trains**

Courtesy Jim Herron, Waggener Class (60):



L&N RR once ran a nice

local passenger service from Louisville to Lexington via La Grange, Christiansburg, Frankfort and a bunch of other towns along the way. Counting flag stops, there were 26 stations served in the 98 mile run. The trains were number 20 eastbound and number 15 westbound. The consist was usually an RPO Baggage combine and two coaches but sometimes an extra car or two was added. Number 20 left Louisville at 7:35 AM and arrived at Lexington at 11:05 AM. Returning on train 15, it departed Lexington at 4:45 PM and arrived at Louisville at 8:30 PM (in the March, 1946 timetable). Power was usually at Pacific but toward the end of steam even an occasional L1 class 4-8-2 pulled the train.

This painting shows train 20 arriving at St. Matthews, a Louisville suburb just 9 miles out from Louisville Union Station. This was a flag stop where the train arrived at 7:59 AM. My parents lived in a house across an open field to the right of this scene and we had an open view of trains passing the little station there. It was enough to make me a lifetime railfan. The track on the left was a team track used by local businesses. The tower was used to control crossing gates in the local area. The engine is Pacific 232, a K4 class built at L&N's South Louisville Shops around 1914-1918 and retired in December, 1950. The painting was inspired by a photo by the late Jack Fravert.

-Jim Herron

## **Jewish Community Center**

Courtesy Jewish community Center web site: Contact with them produced no additional information.

## **About the Jewish Community Center**

3600 Dutchmans Lane Louisville, KY 40205

The Jewish Community Center is Jewish in purpose, community-wide in scope and a center of cultural, educational, recreational and social activities, The JCC is committed to:

\* Enhance personal, social and physical development;

\* Maintain and enrich Jewish identity;

\* Develop democratic values and leadership ability; and

\* Develop participation in and contribution to the welfare of the total community.

Membership, program and event information is available at <u>wwwjccotlouisyiile.org</u> or by calling (502) 459-0660.

The Sports and Wellness Department contains a 10,000-square-foot fitness area, featuring cardio, strength training, group exercise, cycling room, IMX Pilates studio, locker room and spas. Personal training is available from qualified and certified instructors. Year-round swimming in indoor and outdoor pools is available with lap lanes, family swim time and American Red Cross Safety and swimming classes. Sports programming includes leagues for children and adults in a variety of competitive sports, and family gym time is offered weekly. For more information, contact the Sports and Wellness Desk, 238-2727.

Jewish Life and Learning Programs provide cultural and religious enrichment opportunities to the entire community. The Center hosts the annual Louisville Jewish Film Festival, Jewish Festival of the Book, Goldstein-Leibson Scholar-in-Residence lecture, and the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School for adult Jewish education. Jewish festival celebrations for Chanukah, Sukkot, Purim and other holidays are held annually. B'nai B'rith Youth Organization offers leadership development and social programs for Jewish teens, and Opportunities to visit the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and Ellis Island. The JCC houses the Naamani Library and the Jewish Resource Center to provide books and resources, videos and DVDs on various aspects of Jewish life. Educational outreach services are available.

Cultural and Performing Arts are alive at the Center. CenterStage presents spectacular musicals and dramatic pertormances. The 2008-2009 season features The Full Monty, Angels in America, Children of Eden, A Chorus Line and You're a Good Man Charlie Brown. The community theatre also hosts an annual fund-raiser. Light-Up CenterStage. CenterStage Academy is a youth performing arts program that offers classes in acting, singing, auditioning and more. The JCC Orchestra is one of the oldest continuous community orchestras in the country. The season features both classical and pops concerts performed by an extraordinary group of volunteer musicians. Private music lessons are available through the Performance Music Academy. Studio Art classes - beginning drawing, open life, pastels, watercolors, real life and portraits - are designed to nurture talents and widen horizons. The Patio Gallery features the innovative artwork of locally, nationally and internationally recognized artists. The JCC Dance Academy offers tap, ballet, jazz and other types of dance that let children and adults express creativity through movement.

The Senior Adult Department has been chosen as Kentucky's Best Senior Center numerous times. As the only kosher meal site in Kentucky, the Center provides a congregate hot lunch program to older adults and delivers meals to home-bound seniors year-round. Senior activities range from lectures and fitness classes to chorus and social groups. High Time is an active group that travels together to explore regional arts and attractions.

Café J provides kosher catering and facilities for special events, business meetings, birthday parties, bar mitzvahs and company team-builders. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are offered for groups of eight or more, with selections from traditional Jewish deli food to specialty baked goods and gourmet cuisine Approved by the Vaad HaKashrut, the Café J offers a variety of delicious frozen kosher ready-to-heat meals, shiva meals, and Jewish holiday specialties. Walk up service is available in our dairy restaurant, Café J, located in the lower level of the Center. The café is open Sunday-Thursday.

JCC Early Childhood, Youth and Camping Departments serve children from ages 6 weeks to 12th grade. Summer, winter and spring camps offer exciting activities including sports, arts, fitness, education and more When Jefferson County Public Schools are closed, JCC School's Out Days are open for field trips and activities There are a variety of events for families to participate in throughout the year. The Early Childhood Department offers infant care and preschool programming though J- Care and J-Play offers drop-off babysitting services for members.

**Courtesy of Al Ring, June 2008:** 



## Keeneland

## Courtesy http://ww2.keeneland.com/Lists/copy/timeline.aspx:

#### **Historical Timeline**

#### 1935

April 17: Articles of incorporation were filed for Keeneland Association.

Hal Price Headley was elected president of Keeneland Association, Jack Young first vice president, A.B. Gay second vice president, Brownell Combs secretary and W.H. Courtney treasurer. Headley served as Keeneland Association president from 1935-1951.



**Aug. 29:** Keeneland Association purchased 147 1/2 acres of Fayette County sportsman J.O. "Jack" Keene's property on the Versailles Pike for \$130,000 in cash and \$10,000 in preferred stock at par value.

#### 1936

**Oct. 11:** More than 15,000 people attended an open house at the racetrack, held primarily to introduce the public to the new totalizator, the first to be installed in Kentucky.





**Dec. 31:** Financial statement for the year revealed a net loss of \$3.47.

#### 1937

**April 20:** Keeneland staged a showing of seven outstanding geldings, retired from racing - Sarazen, Mike Hall, Osmand, Clyde Van Dusen, Jolly Roger, Cherry Pie and Merrick.

#### 1938

**April 25:** The first auction of Thoroughbreds was held in the Keeneland paddock. A total of 31 lots brought \$24,885, an average of \$802.74. High price of \$3,500 was paid for Marmitina, a 9-year-old mare with a suckling colt at her side.

#### 1939

Keeneland opens its library, anchored by the donation of book and memorabilia from William Arnold Hanger.

#### 1940

Louis Lee Haggin II was elected Keeneland Race Course president, a postion held to 1956.

#### 1943-1945

Keeneland, rated a "suburban" plant, was requested not to operate during World War II due to the shortage of rubber. Keeneland Association leased the facilities at Churchill Downs, where streetcars ran, and conducted spring meetings there during 1943-1945.

The first yearling sale at Keeneland was conducted by Fasig-Tipton under a tent in the paddock. The auction ran for three days (Aug. 9-11).

#### 1946

Keeneland used the photo-finish camera for the first time.

#### 1949

Keeneland installed an inside aluminum rail for its spring meeting, replacing the conventional wooden one. The new rail, at a cost of approximately \$5,000, was the first of its kind to be used at an American racetrack.

#### 1950

Spring meeting - The box seat area was rebuilt, with the wooden construction being replaced by steel, aluminum and concrete.

#### 1951

Guy A. Huguelet was elected Keeneland Association president, a position he held through 1955.

#### 1953

Fall meeting - Keeneland enlarged and extended its grandstand, added 1,542 seats and increased the structure's capacity, including boxes to 3,849. A new feature of the grandstand was a dining room with a capacity of 384. Also, the finish line was moved 184 feet closer to the first turn. Moving the finish line meant that the stretch run was lengthened from 990 to 1,174 feet and that the Headley Course, formerly 40 feet shorter than a half-mile, was increased to four furlongs and 152 feet. In addition, the finish line made possible the Beard Course of seven furlongs and 184 feet.

#### 1054

May 14: Work first began on a five-furlong training track.

## Keeneland

## Courtesy http://ww2.keeneland.com/Lists/copy/timeline.aspx:

#### **Historical Timeline**

#### 1955

In September, the training track was opened.

#### 1956

Louis Lee Haggin II was elected Keeneland Association president, a position he held to 1970. Duval A. Headley was elected Keeneland Race Course president.

Between the spring and fall meetings, the main track was completely overhauled at a cost of \$150,000. This project was designed to improve surface and sub-surface drainage.

Oct. 18: Nashua, the 1955 Horse of the Year, galloped at Keeneland in his final public appearance prior to going to stud at Spendthrift Farm.

Oct. 19: Keeneland held the inaugural running of the Spinster Stakes.

#### 1961

The spring meeting brought the introduction of the alpha-numeric message board located at ground level in front of the infield tote board.

During the fall meeting, Keeneland became the first thoroughbred track in America to use the Visumatic Timer (which posted the various fractions and final clocking on the tote board).

#### 1962

The Breeders' Sales Co. was dissolved, and Keeneland Association took over the business of selling horses.

March 22: Hal Price Headley, one of Keeneland's founders, died of a heart attack.

#### 1963

The spring meeting marked the return of 1 1/16-mile races, which hadn't been run at Keeneland since the finish line was relocated in the fall of 1953. An alternate finish line was installed at the sixteenth pole.

Soon after the spring meeting ended, work began to link the clubhouse and grandstand.

#### 1965

Kelso, five-time Horse of the Year (1960-1964), appeared at Keeneland the day before the Blue Grass Stakes as part of his tour of American tracks. Proceeds from his appearances went for equine research.

Foreign purchases at all of Keeneland's sales in 1965 went over the million-dollar mark (\$1,019,725) for the first time in history.

#### 1968

Jan. 1: James E. "Ted" Bassett III joined the Keeneland family as an assistant to president Louis Lee Haggin.

#### 1970

James E. "Ted" Bassett III was elected Keeneland Association president, and Louis Lee Haggin II became chairman of the board.

#### 1971

The Blue Grass Stakes marked the first million-dollar day of wagering in Keeneland's history - \$1,052,866. Four 40-stall barns were completed.

### 1975

May 10: Longtime Keeneland auctioneer George Swinebroad died.

Keeneland ran its first \$100,000 race - the \$130,725 Breeders' Futurity, won by Harbor Springs.

#### 1976

The Blue Grass Stakes purse was doubled, making it a \$100,000-added race.

Heavily favored Honest Pleasure captured the Blue Grass and created a remarkable minus win pool of \$41,876.20.

For the fall meeting, a new section of concrete and steel had replaced the historic wooden grandstand that had stood since the track's inaugural meeting.

#### 1979

Two new "Keeneland" hedges were planted, flanking the infield tote board.





## Keeneland

## Courtesy http://ww2.keeneland.com/Lists/copy/timeline.aspx:

#### **Historical Timeline**

In the spring, Keeneland became the first track in Kentucky - and only the fourth in the country - to use the AmTote 300 Series Totalisator System, known as ABC (All Betting and Cashing) Mutuels. This system allowed bettors to buy and cash tickets in any amount and type at any window throughout the plant.

The terrace overlooking Keeneland's walking ring was enclosed and ready for the opening of the fall meeting.

Five 32-stall barns were finished.

#### 1980

April 18: Keeneland board chairman Louis Lee Haggin II died.

In early 1980, work began at the rear of the pavilion on an enclosed walking ring where buyers could inspect horses just before they entered the auction ring. The 6,400-square-foot addition was octagonal in shape with a stone facade and floorlength windows.

Dec. 1: William S. Evans retired as Keeneland's director of sales.

#### 1981

Construction began on three 40-stall training barns on recently purchased property west of the main racetrack.

#### 1982

For the summer yearling sale, the Keeneland sales pavilion had a 4,000-square-foot addition on its east side. Constructed of local stone with an exposed wood ceiling, the addition contained a large bar, hot and cold food service counter, a lounge area separated from the room by planters and 18 additional telephones.

A new clubhouse dining room (seating 170 people) was built overlooking the walking ring. W. B. Rogers Beasley was appointed director of sales.

#### 1983

January 12: Longtime Keeneland track superintendent Hobert Burton died.

A second Versailles Road entrance was constructed, providing an additional access lane to Keeneland.

Following the spring meeting, Keeneland's training track was renovated and the Fontana Safety Rail was erected, replacing the inside, aluminum rail installed prior to the 1949 spring meeting.

Improvements for the fall meeting included two new clubhouse ticket booths, a new food service stand and bar on the ground floor of the clubhouse and additional hard-surface parking.

#### 1984

The first phase of a \$3-million construction project was completed before the spring meeting. Sixteen new saddling stalls were built in the paddock during the winter, and preliminary work was started on a 40,000-square-foot addition to the rear of the grandstand. Half of the old saddling stalls were demolished following the 1983 fall meeting, and new stalls (with a stone exterior and copper roof) were constructed in a semi-circle at the west end of the paddock. The balance of the old stalls and adjoining concession stand were torn down after the spring meeting.

Completed for the fall meeting, the grandstand addition provided a fine view of the paddock from three levels. Two elevators, located at each end of the addition, connected all floors, and the second and third levels were both enclosed.

Oct. 11: Queen Elizabeth II attended the races at Keeneland.

#### 1985

A new grandstand entrance adjacent to the paddock and walking ring was ready for the spring meeting.

At its fall meeting, Keeneland became the first organized track in Kentucky to hold grass racing, and it installed exacta wagering for the first time in its history.

Keeneland began a \$2.7-million construction project that would be completed in early 1986, the year the track celebrated its 50th anniversary. The project called for a 12,000-square-foot addition to Keeneland's administration building. Aside from featuring a new jockeys' quarters and grandstand entrance, the addition provided more space for racing and sales personnel and allowed for the expansion of the library and clubhouse dining facilities. The jockeys' room and grandstand entrance occupied most of the 50-foot extension of the administration building. The new jockeys' quarters were 1,500 square feet larger than the former quarters for riders and included separate facilities for female jockeys. A second-floor addition provided more office space.

## Keeneland

## Courtesy http://ww2.keeneland.com/Lists/copy/timeline.aspx:

#### **Historical Timeline**

#### 1986

March: James E. "Ted" Bassett III was elevated from president to chairman of the board. Bill Greely was promoted from vice president to president.

Keeneland is designated a National Historic Landmark.

An addition the Lexington Room increased its capacity from 250 to almost 500.

#### 1989

The date for the Blue Grass Stakes was changed, moving it to three weeks before the Kentucky Derby, and a stakes race was run each day during the spring meeting.

#### 1990

April 21: Keeneland's first simulcasting of a race on live card (the Arkansas Derby).

#### 1991

**April 2**: Keeneland opened a new gift shop called The Keeneland Shop, located on the ground floor adjacent to the walking ring.

Called the biggest construction project in Keeneland history, a fourth-floor expansion, including 22 corporate boxes and the Phoenix Room, was completed for the spring meeting. The Phoenix Room, with space for 500 people, provided a 220-foot dining area overlooking the walking ring. Keeneland also added the Lafayette Room (seating for 65) on the fourth floor.

Spring meeting featured Sunday racing for the first time in Keeneland history.

#### 1992

The Blue Grass' purse was increased from \$350,000 to \$500,000.

At the fall meeting, Keeneland conducted quinella betting for the first time.

#### 1993

Keeneland held its inaugural April Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale. A total of 108 horses sold for \$6,817,500, averaging \$63,215, the highest average of any 2-year-old sale in North America in 1993.

For the first time in its history, Keeneland proved to be an across-the-board springboard to success in both the Kentucky Derby and Preakness. The in-the-money finishers in the Derby (Sea Hero, Prairie Bayou and Wild Gale) and Preakness (Prairie Bayou, Cherokee Run and El Bakan) all raced at Keeneland's spring meeting. In addition, Kissin Kris (who was stabled at Keeneland for much of the spring meeting but didn't race there) and Wild Gale (who ran in the Lexington Stakes) finished second and third, respectively, in the Belmont Stakes.

#### 1994

August 20: Keeneland began full card simulcasting for the first time in the grandstand.

#### 1995

For the fall meeting, a new entrance was constructed at the intersection of Versailles Road and Man o' War Boulevard.

#### 1996

Toyota became the sponsor of the Blue Grass, which had its purse increased to \$700,000. The Ashland purse was increased to \$500,000-added.

#### 1997

Ending a longtime tradition of no public-address system, Keeneland uses an announcer to call the races for the first time during the spring meeting.

Construction of the Keeneland Entertainment Center was completed on the Keene Farm.

The 1997 November Breeding Stock Sale set an industry record for gross sales--\$213 million.

Former President George Bush attended the races as the guest of W.S. Farish, the owner of Lane's End Farm, and presented the trophy to the owners of Favorite Trick after the undefeated colt romped to victory in the Lane's End Breeders' Futurity. It marked the first time that a former President of the United States had made a trophy presentation at Keeneland.

Total wagering topped \$100 million for the first time during the 16-day spring meeting.

For the first time in history, Keeneland offered drive-through wagering on the Derby simulcast.

As soon as the fall race meeting was completed, Keeneland construction crews embarked on the largest project in the the exterior of the west end and new patios offer patrons a view of the newly landscaped area below.

#### October

16

Keeneland hosted the first running of the Vinery First Lady Stakes. The race for fillies and mares was contested at 1 3/16 miles on the Keeneland turf course. The race was sponsored by Vinery, a Central Kentucky Thoroughbred operation, stallion farm and leading consignor to the Keeneland sales, located in Midway, Kentucky.

## Keeneland

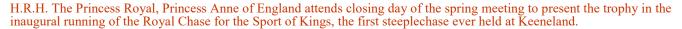
## Courtesy http://ww2.keeneland.com/Lists/copy/timeline.aspx:

## **Historical Timeline**

track's history. The multi-million dollar, multi-year project will improve racing, sales and simulcast facilities. The first phase is total renovation of the grandstand's northwest section. A new state-of-the-art sales pavilion will be constructed. Then, the existing sales pavilion will be converted into a modern simulcast center.

#### 1998

Coolmore Stud, the world famous Irish stallion operation, became the sponsor of the Lexington Stakes and the purse was increased to \$325,000.



A \$5.8 million renovation of the west end of the grandstand is completed in time for the fall meeting. On the inside, the first and second floor were enclosed, creating an additional 15,200 square feet of space that is climate controlled. Storage areas on the second floor were converted to a public area with mutuel windows, a concession area, and rest rooms-all accessible via a new escalator. The Sports Bar doubled in size and the Paddock Shop opened a satellite location. Outside, a facade of Kentucky river stone graces the exterior of the west end and new patios offer patrons a view of the newly landscaped area below.

**October 16**: Keeneland hosted the first running of the Vinery First Lady Stakes. The race for fillies and mares was contested at 1 3/16 miles on the Keeneland turf course. The race was sponsored by Vinery, a Central Kentucky Thoroughbred operation, stallion farm and leading consignor to the Keeneland sales, located in Midway, Kentucky.

#### 2000

On Feb. 29, Keeneland President and CEO William C. Greely officially retires. On March 1, Nick Nicholson becomes the sixth President of Keeneland.

On April 20, the Daily Racing Form donates its entire archival library—containing more than 4,000 volumes and featuring newspapers from as far back as 1880—to the Keeneland Library.

Also in April, Keeneland finalizes the purchase of the Kentucky Horse Center from Churchill Downs. In October, the Horse Center is re-named the Thoroughbred Center.

Two July 1998 Keeneland sales graduates win two of the three jewels in the Triple Crown when Fusaichi Pegasus wins the Kentucky Derby and Commendable wins the Belmont Stakes.

Keeneland completes several construction projects, including the completion of a new outdoor walking ring, adjacent to the sales pavilion; an enclosure of the first floor of the clubhouse, and the completion of an on-site biofermentation plant.

WinStar Farm becomes the official sponsor of the WinStar Galaxy Stakes, formerly known as the First Lady Stakes. Following the fall race meeting, the race is upgraded to Grade II.

Keeneland sales set numerous records. In January, Mackie sells for \$5 million, bringing a record price for a horse at that auction; the July Selected Yearling Sale averages a record \$621,015; the September Yearling Sale grosses a record \$291,827,100 and \$88,085 per head; the November sale catalogs a record 5,111 horses.

#### 2001

Millennium Wind Captures the 2001 Toyota Blue Grass Stakes.

James E. "Ted" Bassett III, chairman of the board since March of 1986 announced his retirement in October. He remains a Keeneland trustee.

Two Keeneland stakes were upgraded for 2002--the Shadwell Keeneland Turf Mile, from Grade II to Grade I, and the Raven Run, from ungraded to Grade III. Keeneland now has five Grade I stakes races.

Keeneland's July Selected Yearling Sale averages a world-record \$710,247 per horse.

During the inaugural October yearling sale, 338 horses brought \$5,092,900, for an average of \$15,068. Top price was \$400,000 for a Pleasant Colony colt.

During the second session of the Keeneland September Yearling Sale (postponed for one day due to the terrorist bombings in New York City and Washington, D.C.), a Storm Cat colt was sold for \$6.4 million, second-highest price in the history of the sale.

#### 2002

Howard Battle, Keeneland's long-time racing secretary, died on July 14. Battle stepped down as racing secretary earlier in



## Keeneland

## Courtesy http://ww2.keeneland.com/Lists/copy/timeline.aspx:

#### **Historical Timeline**

the year and assumed the role of stakes coordinator. Ben Huffman was named as his replacement.

Keeneland's new 10,000-square foot library opened to the public on July 15.

Seabiscuit, a full-length feature movie produced by universal studios and based on the wildly successful book by Laura Hillenbrand, begins filming at Keeneland. Parts of Keeneland, including the infield, track, grandstand, clubhouse and lawn are retrofitted to look like Pimlico circa 1938. On Sunday, November 17, more than 4,000 unpaid extras brave the cold to be a part of the pivotal match race between Seabiscuit and War Admiral.

George "Bucky" Sallee, Keeneland's long-time hornblower, marks his 10,000th call to the post on Wednesday, October 9.

#### 2003

Citing the effects of Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome, Keeneland officials placed the July Selected Yearling Sales on a one- year hiatus.

Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies winner Cash Run, in foal to Storm Cat, tied a world-record price for a broodmare sold at public auction when Coolmore's John Magnier paid \$7.1 million for her at the November Breeding Stock Sale.

The Lane's End Breeders' Futurity, a 1 1/16-mile race for 2-year-olds, was elevated to Grade 1 and the Raven Run, a seven -furlong sprint for 3-year-old fillies, was upgraded to Grade 2.

The 17-day October race meeting established an on-track attendance record of 232,499.

Claiborne Farm became the first owner to win the gold bowl when Yell won the Raven Run Stakes (G2).

Keeneland's longtime racing secretary Howard Battle received a posthumous Eclipse Award of Merit. The Keeneland Library received a Special Eclipse Award.

#### 2004

Construction on the expansion and renovation of Keeneland's sales pavilion began and was scheduled for completion in August 2005. The expansion included a 5,000 square-foot space for the relocation of the repository, more and larger conference rooms and a kitchen to service the dining areas. Enhancements included hi-speed wireless Internet access throughout the facility, a new business center, an upgraded sound system and a larger press box.

Installation of a Polytrack surface was completed in September on the five-eighths-mile training track. It is the first of its type at a public racing or training facility in North America. Evidence indicates that Polytrack is safer for horses and riders and requires less maintenance.

Sale records for highest-priced horses were set during the September Yearling and April Two-Year-Old sales. A Storm Cat colt sold for \$8 million in September as the sale set records for number of horses sold (3,370), average (\$96,411), median (\$37,000) and gross (\$324,904,300) on its way to becoming the biggest sale in history. During the April sale, a Pulpit colt sold for \$3.3 million and records were set for gross revenues (\$22,012,000), average price (\$217,941)and median (\$135,000). At the November sale, a record average was established (\$97,348) and the record for median was equaled (\$32,000).

#### 2005

Keeneland's two signature sales posted impressive figures. The September Yearling Sale concluded as the largest-grossing Thoroughbred auction in the world, with record gains in gross (\$384,349,900 for 3,545 horses), average (\$108,420) and median (\$40,000) prices. Additionally the number of horses commanding \$1 million or more, 40, set an industry record. At \$9.7 million, a record for highest price was established when John Ferguson, on behalf of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, purchased a colt by Storm Cat out of Tranquility Lake. During the November Breeding Stock Sale, champion female and broodmare prospect Ashado attracted a world record bid of \$9 million, the highest price ever paid for a broodmare or broodmare prospect. Records for average price (\$102,842) and median price (\$35,000) also were established.

On September 2, longtime Keeneland trustee and board member Charles Nuckols, Jr. died. Later that month, William T. "Buddy" Bishop, a prominent Lexington attorney and longtime board member and secretary of Keeneland, was named a trustee.

Keeneland's spring meeting posted a record total attendance and the second highest on-track mutuel handle in history. Attendance for the 16-day meeting totaled 235,220, topping the previous record of 232,826 for 15 days of racing in 2004. Included in the total were two of the three largest crowds in track history—a record 33,621 on Toyota Blue Grass Day, Saturday, April 16, and 30,110 on Ashland Stakes Day, Saturday, April 9.

At the September Sale, Keeneland unveiled its newly renovated sales pavilion. The renovation, which began in November 2004 and was scheduled around Keeneland's various racing and sales events, featured a 5,000 square-foot expansion for

## Keeneland

## Courtesy http://ww2.keeneland.com/Lists/copy/timeline.aspx:

#### **Historical Timeline**

the relocation of the repository, more and larger conference rooms and a kitchen to service more dining areas. Other enhancements included hi-speed wireless access throughout the facility, a new business center and lounge/bar area, renovated press area, sales counter, and restrooms and an updated sound, message and bid board systems.

#### 2006

Keeneland unveiled the completion of a five-month track renovation during the fall race meeting. Keeneland became only the third racetrack in North America, joining Turfway Park in Florence, Ky., and Woodbine Racetrack in Toronto, to install a Polytrack racing surface on its main track, which also was reconfigured to widen the turns and lengthen the stretch. Other significant renovations included the installation of a state-of-the-art LED tote board; enlargement of the trackside apron along the grandstand and clubhouse lawn to create additional space for patrons; a larger winner's circle; and construction of a stone and wrought iron trackside rail along the grandstand and clubhouse aprons.

In the fall, Keeneland became the first racetrack in the United States to offer Trakus video race technology to its patrons. Trakus provides the ability – via sensor chips carried in saddlecloths and antennae positioned around the racetrack – to track each horse in a race electronically and digitally in real time. Information on individual horses is collected and displayed in various viewer-friendly animated forms.

The Equestrian Room, located on the first floor grandstand adjacent to the finish line, underwent an extensive renovation prior to the opening of the spring race meeting.

Keeneland's fall meeting, the first to be conducted over the new Polytrack main track, proved popular with patrons and horsemen alike, producing record handle and attendance, and average field size of 10.02 starters per race. Fans wagered a fall meet record total of \$140,408,982, surpassing the previous fall meet high of \$126,036,538 in 2003. Keeneland also set a single-day fall meet handle record of \$12,733,860 on opening Saturday, October 7. Total wagering during the fall meet averaged a record \$8,259,352 per day, breaking the previous record of \$7,413,914 established in the fall of 2003. Interstate commingled wagering rose 16.9 percent to a record \$108,712,680, breaking last fall's high of \$93,029,846. Average daily interstate handle of \$6,394,864 also topped 2005's record level of \$5,472,344. On-track attendance totaled a record 233,218, topping the record of 232,499 set in 2003. A single-day fall meet attendance record of 28,880 was set on Saturday, October 7, eclipsing the previous record of 28,788 set on October 14, 1989.

Keeneland enjoyed a record-setting sales year in 2006. The September Yearling Sale – the highest-grossing Thoroughbred auction in the world – realized records for gross sales (\$399,791,800), average (\$112,427) and median (\$108,420) and an industry record for number of horses sold (3,556). Thirty-two yearlings sold for \$1 million or more, including a colt by Kingmambo which brought a final bid of \$11.7 million, the second-highest price for a yearling sold at public auction, from John Ferguson, on behalf of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum. The November Breeding Stock Sale grossed a near-record \$313,843,800, and was highlighted by the sale record prices of \$6.1 million for a horse in training and \$2.4 million for a weanling filly, and a North American record price of \$2.7 million for a weanling colt sold at public auction. Record gross sales of \$72,329,100 were also established for the January Horses of All Ages Sale.

Keeneland's spring race meeting posted all-time record wagering and attendance figures. Total wagering of \$143,459,422 was an all-time meet record, besting the previous record of \$142,450,673 set in 2004. Total wagering averaged a record \$9,563,961 per day, again breaking the previous high of \$9,496,712 established in the spring of 2004. Attendance for the 15-day meet totaled a record 244,145, including a single-day attendance record for a Friday of 23,882, set on Good Friday, April 14, which was also Maker's Mark Mile Day at the track. The previous record attendance for a Friday was 21,737 on April 9, 2004, which also fell on Good Friday. Daily attendance during the meet averaged a record 16,276. Interstate commingled wagering on Keeneland rose to a record \$110,401,486, while average daily interstate handle also reached record levels of \$7,360,099.



# Keeneland

**Courtesy various internet sites:** 









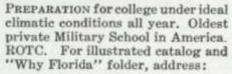
## **Kentucky Military Institute**

**Courtesy of Bill Wetherton (61):** 





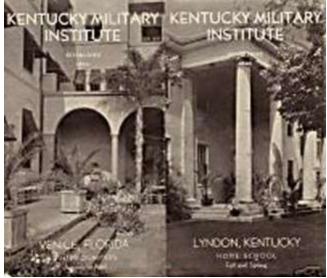




Col. C. B. Richmond, Pres. Box N Lyndon, Ky.







Courtesy of http://www.kmialumni.org/

# "LYNDON, KENTUCKY - VENICE, FLORIDA" 1845-1971

The oldest private military preparatory school in the United States. Founded in 1845 by General Robert T. P. Allen Chartered in 1847 by the State of Kentucky.



During its 126-year history, through the administrations of 13 superintendents, the Kentucky Military Institute enrolled and educated approximately 12,000 young men and boy cadets. About 200 of this number were from foreign countries, the United States possessions and territories. Most of their voices have been long-silenced. Those who confronted and upheld in conscious pursuit or suffered the causes of freedom and honor at the risk of life; those who were determined to defend or to fight for some national purpose in peace or war, and those who persevered to hold steadfast the tenets of faith, loyalty and truth, with no mental reservation or purpose of evasion have left their scars on a misty epitaph for the ages. With the passage of time, present generations witnessed not their deeds, their accomplishments, their flaws and weaknesses. But should the echoes of their past become muted without reflection, all memorable contributions and personal benefactions are ash... and only their spirit remains.

James D. Stephens KMI class of 1933

























Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews:



May 22, 1952

# There'll be witches on the windows . . .

# YOUNG ARTISTS VIE FOR PRIZES I HALLOWE'<del>en</del> mural contes

Young artists from six grade Our Lady of Lourdes, Great-schools in Greater St. Matthews house, Stivers, and Lyndon, will paint Hallowe'en murals on The trophy will be inscribed a store window and compete for eash prizes and a trophy this

of the artistic efforts of six teams of two each. The shop's windows will get the paint and brush treatment from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 25, with the judging to be done at 12:15 by a panel of three.

The judges will be William Jenny, of Stone Studio; and artists Frank G. Robbins and R. Hugh Gaunt, all of St. Matthews. The schools that have selected their teams of artists from students up to and including the

with the name of the winning school. As the annual contests eash prizes and a trophy this school. As the annual contests week-end,
The Kentucky Model Shop in of the trophy will be eared by Wallace Center will be the scene of the artistic efforts of six times. After that, a new trophy windows will get the paint and brush treatment from 10 a.m. to Kentucky Model Shop, pointed out.

Cash prizes in addition to the trophy will be awarded as fol-lows: First, \$8; second, \$6; third,

The judges will be William lows: First, \$8; second, \$6; third, Jenny, of Stone Studio; and ar- \$4; fifth, \$2; and sixth, \$1.

Hugh Gaunt, all of St. Matthews. The schools that have selected their teams of artists from students up to and including the six grade are: Holy Trinity, which won first pessession of the windows for one week, through which won first possession of the windows for one week, through trophy last year; Holy Spirit, Hallowe'en, Mr. Look added.

October 23, 1952



Young Holy Trinity school artists captured top prize money of \$8.00 and "second leg" on trophy presented by the Kentucky Model Shop for the best Hallowe'en mural on the store's display windows. From left, the winning team was Judy Tirsway, Dorothey Skoluda, Patsy Pollack, and Suzanne Schuster with H. Hunter Look, manager of the store. The judging was done Saturday noon by William Jenny, Basil Willis, and Hugh Gaunt, Other school teams participating received awards as follows: 2nd, Greathouse, \$6; 3rd, Our Lady of Lourdes, \$4; 4th, Lyndon, \$3; 5th, Holy Spirit, \$2. The murals will remain on the store windows until Saturday.



Be sure to see them! You'll be delighted with the talent shows by the youngeters of sloth grade and under, who painted them in competition for task and troubly prizes.

And while you're down this way, he sure to stop in fer a per-view of our Christmas stack.

By lay-away these, you know, ... and anything you select now can be placed in lay-away for you. Frait way, you make sure that you get exactly the right item for each person on your gift list.

For Instance:

TRU-ACTION FOOTBALL GAME
CHEMISTRY SETS
LINCOLN LOGS
MODEL BOATS (ready to run) \$3.95 to \$17.50
ALL METAL TRUCKS
MODEL PLANES (ready to fly)\$7.50-\$11.95
LIONEL TRAINS
AMERICAN FLYER CARS AND ACCESSORIES
ERECTOR SETS
MICROSCOPE SETS\$4.25-\$18.95
SUPER-CERCUS
ARMY TRAINING CENTER \$2.08
ARMY TRAINING CENTER
DESK TELEPHONE SETS\$7.50
The same and the s

Have You Received Your FREE COPY of the 1852 LIONEL CATALOG?

It's easy to stop of the Model Shop



OPEN FRIDAY NIGHTS UNTIL 9:00

**Kentucky Model Shop** 

Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews:

Kentucky Model Shop before move to Wallace strip stores, August, 1946 **Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society:** 



June 7, 1946, The Jeffersonian:





**December 11, 1952** 

## Kentucky Model Will Feature Free Hobby Show

A big free hobby show wil' come to town July 30. Callecthe biggest hobby show or wheels in the world, it will appear at the Kentucky Mode Shop in Wallace Center for a consider a show

one-day show,
The show is free. It will run

from 2 to 9 p.m.

from 2 to 9 p.m.

The hobby bandwagon, as the show is known, is 45 feet long and eight feet wide, according to Hunter Look, owner of Kentucky Model Shop. It contains working displays of every type of hobby. One display is the smallest jet engine in the world, and actually works. It fits into the palm of your hand.

A complete model railroad system with chugging locome tives operates in a space no arger than your kitchen table. There are models of ships from the historic Constitution to the slighty Missouri, on which World War II came to an end-

For the sport car enthusiasts. here are muncls of all the latest, sot to mention hot-rods for the top-up tans. And for people in-crested in old time automobiles, here is a complete collection of intiques, starting with Jack Benny's Maxwell through the arst Ford ever built, the Stutz Searcat and all other old time

For Mom and Sis there are raft iteras ranging from instrucile painting lessons.

July 29, 1954

## **Kentucky Model Shop**

Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews:



**September 27, 1956** 



Courtesy Hunt Look, (1960) son of Hunter and Vera Look owners of the Kentucky Model Shop. The store was purchased in September, 1946 and sold around 1967. It was originally on the main drag across the parking lot from the Wallace Center which is where the store moved when Wallace Center opened.



## **Kentucky State Fairgrounds**

Courtesy of http://www.kystatefair.org/general info/history/

History

1948

Before Kentucky had its first commercial television station, TV broadcasting was demonstrated at the fair. Television programming would influence fair attractions for years to come.

Ground was broken for a new fairgrounds and multi-purpose sports and entertainment center near new airport and highway facilities.

1956

Following years of plan changes and construction delays due to the Korean War, the Kentucky Exposition Center was opened for the 1956 Kentucky State Fair.

1974

An April tornado caused widespread damage to the Kentucky Exposition Center.

1986

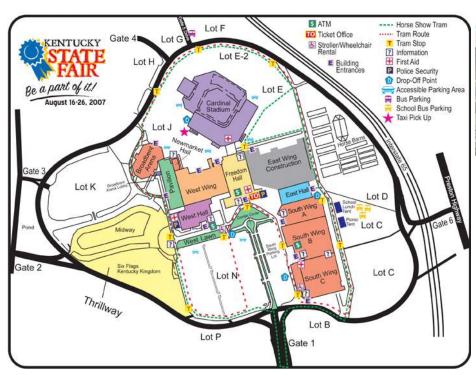
Preview attractions in Kentucky Kingdom, the new permanent amusement park at the Kentucky Exposition Center, were opened in time for the fair.

2004

The 100th Kentucky State Fair was commemorated with nostalgic programs and a Kentucky State Fair history exhibition.

The eighth largest public facility of its kind in the United States, the Kentucky Exposition Center hosts over 3 million visitors each year. Featuring large facilities with diverse capabilities, the 400-acre property offers more than one million square feet of indoor space including Freedom Hall, an indoor arena which seats over 19,000 people. The expocenter accommodates an amazing spectrum of events year round and remains the permanent home for the Kentucky State Fair, the National Farm Machinery Show, and the North American International Livestock Exposition.

## **Today**





## **Kentucky State Fairgrounds**

 $Courtesy of http://cgi.ebay.com/1950-60-AERIAL-KENTUCKY-FAIR-LOUISVILLE-KY-PCARD\_W0QQitemZ150246848961QQihZ005QQcategoryZ20211QQssPageNameZWDVWQQrdZ1QQcmdZViewItem#ebayphotohosting 1950s/1960s$ 





Cardinal Stadium, opened 1956





Photos taken in 2000 by Brian Merzbach



# **Kentucky State Fairgrounds**

**Courtesy of The Courier-Journal:** 



## Kingfish

Courtesy http://www.kingfishrestaurants.com/







Henry Burns on the right.

## Welcome Aboard

## **KingFish Restaurants!**

KingFish is extremely proud to be locally owned and operated for 60 years now! Come join us in celebrating at one of our stores! We will have 60th anniversary merchandise for a limited time.

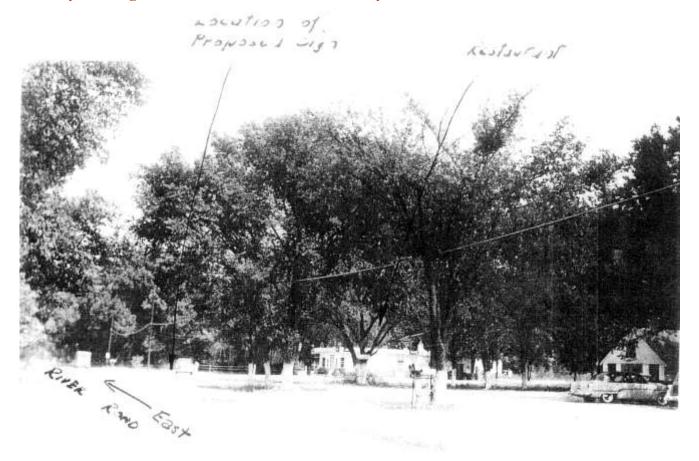
Since 1948, great seafood and KingFish Restaurants have become synonymous in the Kentuckiana area. We've built a proud reputation for excellence by offering abundant variety, friendly service, and especially reasonable prices in our dining rooms and carryout depots, a reputation the KingFish family works hard to maintain with each and every item we serve, 7 days a week, to hungry folks like you who appreciate the finest seafood anywhere.

#### **Our Story**

The first KingFish Restaurant was opened on Derby Day, 1948, by Russell Austin and Henry Burns. The restaurant was named after the very popular radio program call Amos and Andy. One of the characters on the show was head of that Great Fraternity, The Mystic Knights of the Sea, he was known as KingFish. A refrigerator of fish, two fryers and a cooler of beer was housed in a building that Mr. Austin and Mr. Burns built with their own hands and was located at the foot of Fourth Street and River Road in downtown Louisville. A similar style building was opened on Upper River Road in 1955. The first Paddlewheel Boat design restaurant opened on Bardstown Road in 1962. Another full service KingFish was opened downtown in 1971 on Sixth Street and River Road. The original unit on Fourth Street was then closed. In 1976, the restaurant now known as Zorn Avenue (Upper River Road) was opened, followed by Poplar Level in 1981. Austin and Burns did venture into franchise business with their concept in the early '70s, but quickly discontinued the idea. In 1989, Mr. Austin and Mr. Burns sold their Company to two Louisville based land developers, Charles A. Brown, Jr. and Norman V. Noltemeyer. Brown and Noltemeyer opened a new KingFish on Dixie Highway in February 1991 and the first Company owned restaurant outside the state of Kentucky was opened in Jeffersonville, Indiana in March of 1998. In recent years we have streamlined our operations to focus on making our two locations on the Ohio River destination spots by adding miniature golf, entertainment and outside dining for Kentuckiana locals as well as visitors to the area along with promoting the neighborhood feel of our newest location at I-64 and Blankenbaker Parkway. KingFish operates high volume seafood restaurants that offer abundant variety, a fun atmosphere, friendly service and reasonable prices.

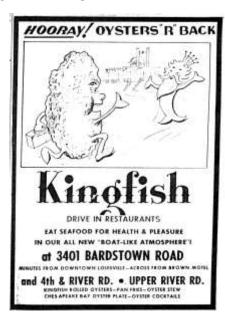
## Kingfish

**Courtesy of Bluegrass-St. Matthews Historical Society:** 



Kingfish Drive-In, September 1955

**Note:** Henry Burns family lived on Kinglan Road off of Rudy Lane in the neighborhood I grew up in. I lived 4 doors up from him. When I would sleep over with the Porters or be at their house real late we would see him come in with bags of money from the restaurant and fantasized grabbing the money and being rich. He was tough but a good man. One year there was a bottle cap contest with Coke and he brought us home shopping bags full of bottle tops for us to check out. It was great until we spread them all over the streets and he got upset. AR



The Voice Of St. Matthews, September 3, 1964

Courtesy of The Voice Of St. Matthews:



## **King-Putt Miniature Golf**

Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews:



May 1, 1958



May 31, 1962



May 29, 1958

## Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: KT's Restaurant (Old Kentucky Tav-

## Courtesy http://wave3.zipscene.com/restaurants/view/4473

The Old Kentucky Tavern (known to all as K.T.'S) was a local hot spot of the 1950's. During the hot summer days K.T.'S was a favorite due to its outside beer garden. Our K.T.'S was built on a section of the original site. Our doors opened October 10th 1985, giving the Cherokee Triangle neighborhood a new landmark. Since our opening K.T.'S has become one of Louisville's favorite restaurants, maintaining the consistency, quality and service to generations of Louisvillians. K.T.'S is locally owned and operated serving the highest quality food prepared with the greatest degree of care.



This photo is on the entry way of the new KT's, which is located behindwhere the original was. The photo was sent to me by manager Michelle Skutchan.



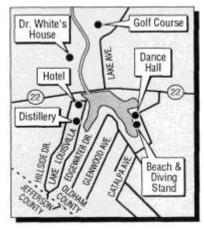


## Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Lake Louisvilla

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

Lake Louisvilla
1920s promotion, hotel recreation attracted people to resort; Depression altered its course
By Grace Schneider







TO LOOK AT Lake Louisvilla today, you'd never recognize the resort community of 65 years ago.

Old tires, mufflers, tricycle skeletons and a sea of old brown bottles crouch in the broad, teardrop-shaped mud field south of KY 22.

While many of the subdivision's homes are neat and well-kept, more noticeable are the rundown, one-story former summer cottages whose yards are strewn with car carcasses and rusted refrigerators.

In October, state officials drained the lake because of safety concerns about the dam. This recent chapter in Lake Louisvilla's history could be split between The Depressing and The Hopeful.

On one hand, what's left is an eyesore that many residents believe will only drive down the area's lowest property values.

But a ray of hope shines on the 60-home community that straddles the Oldham-Jefferson county line. Scattered through the winding streets are a few neat, new homes.

"You've got some rebirth going on there right now," said Joe Schoenbaechler, Oldham's planning and zoning administrator, noting that four home permits were issued there in the last two years.

Decades ago, before the Depression, Lake Louisvilla was a spanking new resort, with a hotel, clubhouse, pavilion, bathhouse, dock and two-story diving platform.

Swimmers splashed on the beach. Romance cruised on the lake, as couples rowed around on the placid waters. People like Virginia Baker remember riding out from Louisville in the late 1920s with her church group for a day-long picnic and hayride.

"It was really a nice place," recalled the Okolona resident.

Like the neighboring cities of Orchard Grass Hills and Coldstream, Lake Louisvilla had been rolling woods and farmland.

Farms owned by the Norwoods, Caspers and Barnetts formed what is now the subdivision and lake, where several small creeks and springs converge. At one time, a brandy distillery stood nearby, south of the present lake, said KY 146 resident Chilton Barnett, whose family sold 40 acres for the forma-tion of Lake Louisvilla.

Then, in the early 1920s, New York developer and speculator Warren Smadbeck teamed with two now-defunct Louisville newspapers, the *Post* and the *Herald*, in a scheme to win subscribers and promote the development.

For \$58.50, people could buy a 20-by-100-foot lot if they also purchased a six-month subscription to one of the papers.

The area, gushed advertise-ments, "is bound soon to become known as one of the best and most pleasant resorts of its kind in the United States."

#### Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Lake Louisvilla

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Lake Louisvilla 1920s promotion, hotel recreation attracted people to resort; Depression altered its course By Grace Schneider

That probably overstated the case, but it was a nice place, Barnett said.

An old poster at Barnett's Pewee Valley antique shop advertising the Lake Louisvilla Hotel proclaims it "the ideal place to spend your va-cation or week end."

A person could tee off on a golf course in the "Lakeside section" north of KY 22, go dancing, play tennis, swim, take a boat out and use the bathhouse showers.

A package included a Saturday-night stay, with dinner, Sunday breakfast, another dinner and chicken supper all for \$5 per person — about \$31.50 in today's prices.

The hotel burned down sometime in the late 1920s, after about three years in operation, Barnett said. That didn't seem to matter to many Louisville patrons coming out to summer cottages for an afternoon.

Then the Depression struck. Newspaper clippings say that fewer and fewer people came out. Many cottages fell into disrepair.

Some properties reverted to the county for unpaid taxes.

Smadbeck, who retained several hundred unsold lots of the 1,720 originally platted, didn't pay his taxes either. In 1950, the lots were sold to paint-company executive Herman Marcus, now deceased, who at the time owned a farm in what is now Orchard Grass Hills.

Still, the lake and surrounding countryside retained its charm for some people. Dr. George White, a general practitioner and father of five, bought 13 lots on the hillside north of KY 22 in about 1934 and eventually built a large stone house that still stands near the South Fork of Harrods Creek.

Working around a staggering schedule of house calls, White and his family would drive out from their Shawnee Park home on Sun-day, recalled his wife, Claribel White, 85, of Old Louisville.

The children splashed in the creek below the spillway. Her husband cut weeds and she whipped up a picnic lunch. "The children loved it. They had a grand time," she said.

During the 1937 flood, the Whites moved to the stone house for three weeks until the waters subsided in western Louisville. After the children grew up they stopped going to the house, and Claribel White conveiled it to apartments in the 1960s.

She sold it around 1970 and it is still occupied.

Larry Allgeier's family didn't own its summer cottage as long, but the 50-year-old pharmacist shares the Whites' fond memories of the lake.

His father bought a cottage and 10 lots in 1947, and the Audubon Park residents would pack up and move there each summer.

Allgeier's father commuted to Louisville to work while the family relaxed. "The first few summers, I would put on a bathing suit in June and not come out of it till August," recalled Allgeier.

Upkeep was a problem. Although an association levied fees based on the number of lots owned and an additional annual fee per cabin, many people didn't bother to pay.

Though most lakeside properties were well-kept, some other areas away from the lake became home to people living in sheds and other substandard dwellings.

"I just remember there were people who lived in the woods year round," said Allgeier, whose father sold in 1950 when he saw his in. vestment dwindling.

The mid-1950s probably marked the end of Lake Louisvilla's life as a retreat and its emergence as a year-round residential community, said E. M. "Mac" McElroy, 54, of Geneva Road.

"People who bought were people like me, people in their 20s and 30s with kids."

#### Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Lake Louisvilla

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Lake Louisvilla 1920s promotion, hotel recreation attracted people to resort; Depression altered its course By Grace Schneider

The haven for young, working-class families experienced the same problems the association had. Residents formed a city in the late 1950s in an effort to clean up the area, said McElroy, a former coun-cil member. But it was dissolved in 1972 when people complained they weren't getting enough in return for their taxes.

A cleanup effort, many residents believe, is still needed.

Attempts to trace the source of pollution in the lake — believed to be caused by leaking septic sys-tems — have come up short. So did the recently completed five-year legal battle waged by a group called Save Lake Louisvilla.

Eleven past and present residents had filed suit to prevent the state from draining the lake. Now, unless someone comes up with \$250,000 for dam repairs — an ex-pense the state won't pay — the lake is gone forever.

To 26-year resident Jesse Law, the action kills hope of a revival. "I've fixed up the tour houses I own out here, but now I've got a big mudhole in my back yard."

Property values plunged like water headed down the South Fork, he said. "I don't think you could sell your place if you tried. It's a shame."



Lake Louisvilla, Oldham County, Kentucky, 1933—Aerial view of u-shaped section of the lake. The lake is edged by trees avove and flat land with only a few trees below. Narrow roads are visible above and below. Lake Louisvilla opened as a summer resort in the early 1920s with swimming, boating, a hotel, and clubhouse. Courtesy University of Louisville Photographic Archives.

## Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Lake Louisvilla

**Courtesy Google Maps.** 



## **Landohr Bowling Alley**

Courtesy Beargrass-St. Matthews Historical Society: Early 1940's Hubbards Lane & Shelbyville Road





#### **Landohr Bowling Alley**

Courtesy Beargrass-St. Matthews Historical Society: Hubbards Lane & Shelbyville Road

**Early 1940's** 

WM. DOHRMAN

June 13, 1945.

Mr. Carl Berg, Secty. Planning and Zoning Commission, Louisville, Ky.

Dear Mr. Herg:

We would like to get permission to add four [4] more Bowling Alleys to our plant, which is located on the south side of Shelbyville Road and just west of Bubbard's Lane. We now have eight (8) alleys, of which we are enclosing a picture of the front elevation and one of the interior.

This building was started the last of May 1941 and was completed about the first week of October of the same year.

The addition for the new alleys would require adding 27 feet to the east side of the present building and would have to be 120 feet deep - the same depth as the present building. The structure would be built on our original 80 feet and not on the new ground we bought later.

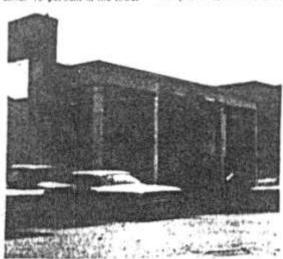
We wish to call your attention to the fact that we were in our present location before 70 or 30 percent of the hodses were built in our immediate vicinity. We are surrounded on the west and south side by an 13 acre field of potatoes and on the east side a field of Timothy hay and a good size Victory Garden. On the north side, we have Shelbyville Road, which is a two-lane Highway and then a large grass spot, which is between the back yards of the houses in Richlawn Subdivision. The rear of these houses are to the Shelbyville Road and are at least 366 to 400 feet away.

Your early attention to this request will be appreciated.

Yours truly,

Landohr Recreations

By 2000 Dobruss



Landohr Lanes whose white front and columns have been familiar to motorists for 24 years will close soon, and the front may be radically changed.

# Landohr Lanes to close

The changing face of St. Matthews is taking one of the oldest firms in the area, Landohr Lanes the first bowling establishment in this eastend area, will close at the end of the winter league season which will be about six weeks.

hill Dolarman, owner, said the 24-year old building will either be leased as is or remodeled according to the needs of an occupant, he said the building is not for sale.

The building contains 9,000 square feet of floor space. The first floor measures 120 feet by 75 feet, with additional space on the upper floor, now being used for locker rooms.

It is on a lot 110 feet by 215 feet. Presently there are about 40 parking spaces.

Mr. Dohrman recalls that when he built the building at 4160 Shellsyville Road in the fall of 1941 it was almost aurrounded by potato patches,

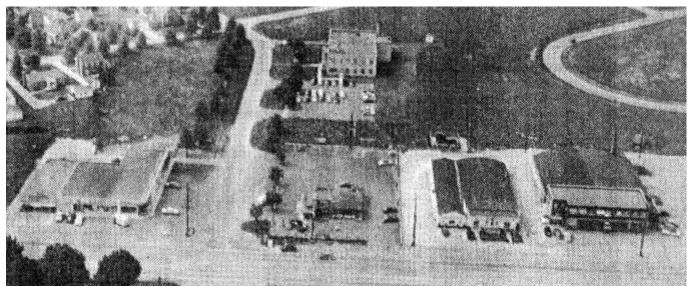
He said potations were on the atte of what is now Pryors Restaurant, where Hooker Chevrolet is located and to the rear, which includes the Farm Bureau Building.

Mr. Dohrman, abuilder, said there were only two houses in the Hichlawn subdivision when the structure went up.

April 1, 1965
The Voice Of St. Matthews

### **Landohr Bowling Alley**

Courtesy of The Voice-Jeffersonian, April 9, 1970:





Courtesy of *St. Matthews, The Crossroads of Beargrass*, by Samuel W. Thomas, 1tion-1953 On Shelbyville Road. St. Matthews School of Music operated by Mrs. Madge Terry Lewis occupied the second floor of building at right in the 1950s, while Pendergrass Chevrolet sold cars below. 94.17.012, University of Louisville Photographic Archives.

#### **Levy Brothers**

Courtesy http://pastperfectvintage.com/louisvillestores.htm *All photos copyright Holly Jenkins-Evans 2007, edited May, 2008* 

Levy Bros. - A well loved department carrying a full line of men's and women's wear including hats, caps, shoes, furnishings, and even a men's and children's barber shop. Henry and Moses Levy started as immigrant German peddlers. The brothers opened their store in 1861 at NE corner of 3rd St. and Market. The landmark Levy Bros. Bldg., completed in 1893, was well known for the ca. 1908 electric lights outlining the exterior, leading to a local phrase "Lit up like Levy's". A 1910 letter to a customer indicated they carried a full line of men's golf and tennis wear including shoes. The same letterhead lists men's, ladies and children's shoes, mens and boys clothing and hats. By the late 1920s, the company was run by Fred, Arnold, Stuart H., James H. and Frederick Levy with S. L. Greenebaum. In 1955 they opened a store in the Shelbyville Rd Plaza. The Levy family closed the Third and Market store on Oct. 10,1980. The Shelbyville Road Plaza, Bashford Manor Mall and Dixie Manor stores were sold in September 1979. The last store closed 1987. The last family president was Henry Levy.

The downtown building, now on the National Register, still stands, housing a restaurant and loft apts. They carried Hart Schaffner Marx, Manhattan Shirts, Fashion Park Clothes, and Military Uniforms.







From a 1940s - 1950s gift box, courtesy of As Time Goes By

#### **Locust Grove**

#### Courtesy http://www.locustgrove.org/

Locust Grove is a National Historic Landmark on 55 acres of the original 694 acre farm established by William and Lucy Clark Croghan in 1790. William Croghan was the brother-in-law and surveying partner of George Rogers Clark, founder of Louisville and Revolutionary War hero. George Rogers Clark spent the last nine years of his life at Locust Grove, from 1809 until his death in 1818.

Locust Grove also hosted three U.S. Presidents, Monroe, Jackson and Taylor, and was a stopping point for famed explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark upon their return from their expedition to the Pacific. In addition, Locust Grove was home to numerous enslaved African-Americans who lived and worked on the farm and contributed to its success. Locust Grove tells the story of George Rogers Clark, early Kentucky history, western expansion and everyday life on the frontier.

The ca. 1790 Georgian mansion, restored and furnished to its original appearance and situated on 55 rolling acres just six miles up river from downtown Louisville, tells the story of its builders, William and Lucy Clark Croghan. William Croghan (pronounced "Crawn"), an Irish immigrant, came to the Kentucky territory as a surveying partner with his future brother-in-law, Geroge Rogers Clark. Lucy Clark and William Croghan were married in 1789 at her parents' home, Mulberry Hill. Construction at Locust Grove began the following year. Here, as early settlers, the Croghans reared their family and farmed their land with the assistance of some 30 enslaved Africans and several indentured servants. In 1809, they made welcome General George Rogers Clark, founder of Louisville and conqueror of the Northwest Territory, who lived at Locust Grove the last nine years of his life.

Major Croghan's standing in the community and General Clark's presence made Locust Grove a gathering place for political and social figures of the period. A neighboring farm, Springfield, was the boyhood home of future President, Zachary Taylor. President James Monroe and General Andrew Jackson were guests of the Croghans in 1819, and Jackson returned for a visit in 1825 with his wife, Rachel.

In an attempt to gain support for the establishment of a separate colony west of the Mississippi, Vice-President Aaron Burr traveled throughout the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys. Among other places, he stopped at Louisville, meeting with General George Rogers Clark at Locust Grove. General Clark, however, did not become involved in the plan. Artist John James Audubon was acquainted with Major Croghan and became friends with his sons. In 1841, Locust Grove was the sight of a duel between the fiery Kentucky statesman Cassius Marcellus Clay and Robert Wickliffe. William Clark, younger brother to Lucy and George Rogers Clark, concluded his famous expedition through the Louisiana Territory with fellow explorer Meriwether Lewis in Louisville in 1806.

Of the houses built in Jefferson County in the late eighteenth century, Locust Grove was one of the finest. The Croghan family sold the property in 1878 to river boat captain James Paul. In 1883 Richard Waters, of Hermitage Farm, bought Locust Grove and it remained in the Waters family until 1961 when the site was purchased by Jefferson County and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Following extensive restoration the historic house was opened to the public in 1964. Today the site includes the circa 1790 Georgian house, the original smoke house and eight other stone and log supporting farm buildings, formal quadrant gardens, herb, perennial and annual beds, woods and meadows. The house is furnished with some of the finest examples of Kentucky-crafted furniture, portraits, prints, textiles, domestic objects and select artifacts originally belonging to the Clark and Croghan families. Locust Grove, a National Historic Landmark, is a unique example of early Kentucky architecture, craftsmanship and history.







#### **Locust Grove**

#### Courtesy The Courier-Journal, July 2, 2008, by Martha Elson:

#### Exhibit honoring legendary general will be unveiled at Locust Grove

Historic Locust Grove in the Indian Hills area will celebrate the Fourth of July by unveiling a permanent exhibit that portrays Gen. George Rogers Clark as a dashing young man.

The exhibit tells the story of the 18th-century farm estate and is in a new \$900,000 addition to the visitors center that's also opening for the first time.

"It's quite a change," said Bonny Wise, marketing director for Locust Grove, 561 Blankenbaker Lane. Admission is free on Friday.

Titled "A Country Worth Defending: Land & Family in Early Kentucky," the exhibit uses wall illustrations, text and interactive features to tell about the settlement and development of the Louisville region. It replaces a much smaller exhibit at the visitors center.

Clark was a Revolutionary War general who was known as the founder of Louisville. He was the brother of explorer William Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

He's portrayed in a new light as "a tall, rugged, redheaded youth who was a natural leader." He's quoted as saying: "If a Cuntrey was not worth protecting, it was not worth Claiming."

"Red hair ran in the family," Wise said.

Clark also is described as "a keen observer of the natural world" who corresponded for 30 years with Thomas Jefferson, who had been a neighbor in Virginia.

Clark's image has been shaped by portraits done later in life and the effects of later personal troubles.

But he was best known as a military hero, and July 4 also marks the anniversary of his Illinois Regiment's defeat of the British at Kaskaskia, Ill., in 1778 during the campaign to secure the Northwest Territory.

Wise is making a child's dress that can be tried on as part of the exhibit. Other items that can be handled -- including a military uniform and textiles from Clark's day -- will be displayed on small, wooden wall racks. Re-enactors will portray Clark's military company as part of the gallery opening events Friday.

Clark spent his last years until his death in 1818 living at Locust Grove with his sister and brother-in-law, Lucy and William Croghan.

George Roger Clark also was a land surveyor who worked with William Croghan. A re-created surveyors' office in an 1810 log building also is part of the new exhibit, which was created by the local Solid Light company. JRA Architects of Louisville designed the new center wing.

Locust Grove -- a National Historic Landmark -- originally was a 694-acre farm with a house built in 1790 by the Croghans.

The remaining 55-acre site is now owned by Louisville Metro Government and operated by the private, nonprofit Historic Locust Grove Inc., which raised the money for the new visitors center and gallery.

By Martha Elson, *The Courier-Journal* 

A permanent exhibit about Gen. George Rogers Clark will soon be on display at Historic Locust Grove.



Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews: March 12, 1964

# Locust Grove to be ready soon--workers hope

By Glee Durand Crutcher 896-6091

Soon Locust Grove out on Blankenbaker Ln, will be a hive of activity with volunteers pre-paring for opening to the gublic. They hope to be ready by the end of May.

ready by the end of May.

The old house, now part of Historic Homes Poundation, is full of the history of Jefferson County. It was built around 1795 by William Croghan, hrother-in-law of Gen, George Rogers Clark, who apent his last days there.

Already a group of young women has been formed to guide visitors through the house and explain the history of it. They've been thoroughly hriefed by Jim Thomas, the on-the-job representative of famed architect Walter M. Macom-

sentative of famed architect Walter M. Macom-Washington, who is in charge of the restoration.

Mary (Mrs. W. Bruce) the furniture arrives the Baird, 4002 Druid Hills girls will have some more Rd., 1s in charge of the briefing sessions, Auth-guides, or docents. When enic pieces of the per-tod are being collected

by a committee headed by Mrs. John V. Collis, River Rd.

Assisting Mary will be volunteers Mrs. Harry R. King, 451 Country Ln., Mrs. William W. Hancock, Jr., 2105 Glencove Way, Mrs. Joseph M. Rodes, 109 Travols Rd., Mrs. Collie Abbott, 515 Mrs. Collis Abbott, 515 Club Ln., Mrs. Stuart P. Jay, 3906 Elfin Ave., Mrs. Samuel G., Miller, 430 Twinbrook Dr., Anne Clowes, 5703 Apache Rd., and Mrs. Stuart Smythe, 349 Ridgeway,



dedicated amateur detactives has been delving into Croghan and Clark family records, checking every Item of the history of Locust Grove and dig-ging up descendants who may have toherited some may have towerlied some of the original furnish-ings. So far, they've turn-ed up 230, including a chief of police, of whom 72 live in Jefferson

County.
Sam Thomas, Jim's brother and a U, of L. graduate student, acts as head sleuth uf the committee.

A most recent exciting A most recent exciting discovery is a family member living in the south of lingland. She's Mrs. Leavett-Schenley, a descendant of the daughter of the Jr. William Crogbans who eloped from Locust Grove, Mrs. Leavett-Schenley,

Mrs. Leavett-Schenley, who's been corresponding



Mrs. Lyndon Everbach (left) and Mrs. Harry King stand in front of Locus Grove discussing the renovation and progress of refurnishing it.

with the committee this is housed," winter, seals her letters with the Croghan cost of arms of 1933, though her arms of 1833, though her family has lived in Eng-land for several gener-ations. She not only has miniatures of the Crog-han family and of Gen-eral Clark but owns a silver tea set once used at Locuist Grove. These family helrlooms will come back to their orig-ful home, as she is leavinal home, as she is leav-ing them to the house in her will.

in her will.

Working with fiam are The Interior will be Mra. Cornellus D. Dook-completed by May, even er, 317 Mockingtird Hill down to the authentic Rd., who has spent two waltpaper used. Sam and years delving into re-jum Thomas, who've been cords, papers, and old prime workers on the reletters at the Fileon Club, storation, found some in James, who will be the property when the property with the property when the property with the propert In January she did re-search for a week in the Library of Congress.

er, now an expertatread, 1786 by an artist named ing microfilm, "We get Cleft, The New York firm one clue, then pursue it, of Extrenhach and Warren Our search has turned identified the wallpaper up information from all and is reproducing it now over the country, includ- in its original A colors ing records at the Huntington Library in Pasa-dena and the Wisconsin Historial Society in Madison, where the James C. Draper collection of Clark and Croghan papers

is housed."

Others helping to piece together the picture of Members of the Henry Locust Grove as it was Fitzhugh, Jr., family will loo years ago are hire, be crossing paths this Lymion Everbach, River waskend, going to and Malph G. Strot- from their winter home Himini. Rd., and Mrs. Hubbard G. Buckner, 191 New Ln.

#### De-Victorianize d

The house is now back daughter, Louise, The house is non-to its original architect-Victorianized,"
The interior will be

storation, found some pieces of it still cling-ing to a wall on the se-Library of Congress. cond floor. With more "One thing leads to another," says Mrs. Dosk- od It was designed about

The parents are return-ing to their home on Alta Vista Rd., after a vacat-ion in the south and turn-ing the house over to

Louise, who's been working in New York, will fly down from there with a large houseparty offri-ends, including several who are coming over from England,

Courtesy The Voice Of St. Matthews: October 1, 1964

# Nearly as Clark knew it, restored Locust Grove to open Sunday

Locust Grove ham't seen the activity going on there this week since the days George Rogers Clark spent there, if

The old house, where the General spent his boyhood and last days on Blankenbaker Lane, has been virtually a bee-hive of activity, as work-men were trying to best the lith hour deadline is completing restoration of the touse for the official opening Sunday.

Gardners were trying to get the grounds to shape, paint-ers were rushing through with the last of their jobs, electric-tans were on the job and refinishers were completing restoration of the welmut woodwork.

Meanwhile women from the Historic Homes Foundations, which owns the house, were also trying to plan returnish-ing the old home with furniture of Clark's period,

The restoration has been in process for nearly a year, and work to determine the type of furnishings used by Clark and the job finding them

has been even longer. Each of the 20 rooms will have some furniture of the Clark period but the house will not be completely fur-

Jim Thomas, who has been on the job representing the famed architect Walter M. Grove but disappeared over McComber, Washington, 8884 "the years will be back, Many



Lyndon Everbach and Mrs. Harry King stand in front of Locust Grove which will open Sunday. The white area on the side of the building shows where a kitchen once was. This is yet to be restored,

the cost of furnishing the house completely is almost prohib-ilive, even if the furnishings could be found,

However, there will be some hetriouns once deed at L&cust

of the hetrlooms (one a silver tes set) have been returned from England, wherethey have been with descendants of the Groghan family which occupted Locust Grove early in the

But otherwise, the recover-ion and restoration will be negative to as complete as possible the very minutest detail" that existed during Clark's time;

Thomas said.
Thomas noted that a great deal of study and research was done before attempting the job, and much of there-vealed previous conceptions of the building as Clark knew

it were wrong.

One was the story that the major entrance to the oull-teig was to the rear or a belief that the present rear of the house was once the

front, But Thomas noted that the front today has always been the front and the driveway is much the same as that for the original bouse, He said the Imposing rooms in what is now the front shows this to be true and the stairway approach to further proof,

Continued on page 13

Crusade gets over \$23,000 from firemen

# Nearly as Clark knew

The approach to the stairway was always to the rear to the houses pull at the time Locast Grove was (1783) with the exception of very large expensive homes, Thomas said.

A rock wall sround the front grounds is the same one there during Clark's time, and Thomas adds that the grounds are much the same, with the

are much the same, with the exception of trees.
Since Clark occupied the house, it has had some structural changes which gave it a Victorian spearance. But this has been eliminated in the restoration. For instance, the front door was changed. the front door was changed from the Victorian style back to that of Clark's time.

With one of the original locks on the door, Thomas was able to duplicate 11 others to complete the locks throughout, and a wallpaper used on the se-cond-story ballroom has been duplicated from a piece un-

covared there.

The walaut woodwork, which is used extensively throughout the house, particularly over the fire places, has been reastered to its original finish. Even marks left by candlelight have been left.

There is no operationable.

There is one questionable feature in the resteration, however. That is a perch on the rear of the building which has been added, it is known that the original house didn't have a porch but cometime later a porch was added. It isn't specifically known whether there was a porch

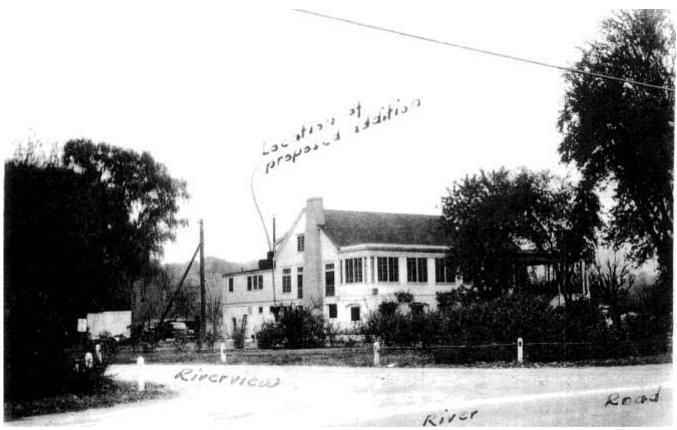
whether there was a porch during Clark's days. Whan the public aces the house for the first time in its restored state, they will not be able to see the original kitches, but only the foundati-ion where it was. But a kitch-set will "Set till best firefect

scheduled on the restoration.
The home is scheduled to be open from 1 to 4:50 p.m. Sunday, though some of the women working on refernishing It are dubious. Thomas, however, unequivocally says the house will open on schedule,

### **Louisville Boat Club**

**Courtesy Beargrass-St. Matthews Historical Society:** 

November, 1949



Courtesy http://www.louisvilleboatclub.com/:

Today



#### **Louisville Boat Club**

Courtesy Al Ring, St. Matthews Fire Department History, *The Courier-Journal/Louisville Times*:

NOTE: the history of the Louisville Boat Club was very hard to find. These article on the fire tell part of its history.

March 1, 1969: \$500,000 Fire Destroys Louisville Boat Club Home. The rambling old clubhouse of the historic Louisville Boat Club was razed by fire early today.

A spectacular blaze swept through the upper portion of the two-story frame structure before dawn.

The clubhouse was across Upper River Road from the Ohio River, just east of Indian Hills Trail. The site is about five miles from the foot of Fourth Street.

First estimates of damages exceeded \$500,000. No boats were reported damaged, and there were no injuries.

For years it has sponsored junior tennis tournaments, namely the Southern Junior and one the National Junior, both drawing the top-rated players in the country. Early in the 1950s its courts were the scene of a preliminary Davis Cup round between the United states and Japan.

**Building Was 40 Years Old:** The present building is said to be about 40 years old. It is the oldest social club of its type in Louisville, on of the oldest in the country, and gained a reputation for its parties as early as the Gay Nineties. Only the chimney and crumpled wall remained today.

About 60 firemen from the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews volunteer departments responded to the 5:20 a.m. alarm, but said the roof was engulfed in flames when they arrived. They theorized the fire had started in the attic.

Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd who lives nearby on River Bluff Road, said he saw flames shooting high in the night sky as he left home to answer the alarm.

Fire Plugs Lacking: On top of that, he said there was only one plug close enough for the available hose to reach the blaze, and it was to small to supply adequate pressure.

The St. Matthews department rigged up a relay from the river, and also pumped water for the swimming pool. Heavy black smoke continued to curl from the rubble for hours after the fire.

A night watchman, William Parker, was on duty and reported the fire. Firemen speculated he did no discover it immediately since it started in the upper part of the building probably the attic.

Club Manager A. J. (Tony) Janidlo said there had been a fire in a second floor fireplace last night but said it was out by the time the club closed at about midnight.

The building was a long, white structure, frame for the most part, and contained the usual locker rooms, dining rooms, clubrooms, bars and lounges.

A tunnel under River Road connected the clubhouse with the boat docks. A lot of water has gone under the bridge and over the clubhouse during numberless floods since the Boat Club began modestly in 1879 in an oversized houseboat at the foot of Sixth Street.

Ten rousing, river-minded men banded together 80 years ago to from a social club, featuring river activities. Huge war canoes and outriggers were the main facilities and rugged races the sport, according to a history of the club. Once for men only, the club was moved around to various location from 1879 until 1911.

After the club almost went under financially, finances were reorganized in 1911 and an old farmhouse was bought at the club's present location of the river front.

March 1, 1969: Charred Rubble Remains After Fire Guts Home Of Louisville Boat Club. The gay often swinging clubhouse of the Louisville Boat Club became a burned out hulk full of blackened debris after a fire raged though the 40-year –old structure early yesterday morning.

Early estimates of damage were in excess of \$500,000. There were no injuries and no boats were reported damaged.

The inside of the two-story clubhouse was gutted. The chimney, twisted steel girders and crumbling brick walls were the only things standing.

The clubhouse site is a few hundred feet south of the Ohio River along Upper River Road, just east of Indian Hills Trail. It is about five miles northeast of the foot of Fourth Street.

About 60 firemen from the Harrods Creek and St. Matthews volunteer department answered the 5:30 a.m. alarm and fount the roof already a sea of flames. They believe the fire began in the attic.

#### **Louisville Boat Club**

#### Courtesy Al Ring, St. Matthews Fire Department History, The Courier-Journal/Louisville Times:

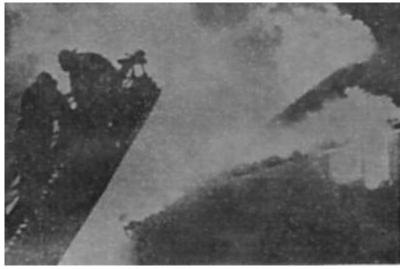
Harrods Creek Fire Chief James Ross Todd said only one fire hydrant was close enough for the available hose to reach and it was too small to supply adequate pressure.

The St. Matthews department pumped water from the Ohio River and from a swimming pool in front of the clubhouse to fight the blaze.

Heavy black smoke belched from the rubble for several hours after the fire. As late as yesterday evening, firemen were still poking around the debris for possible sparks, but only patches of smoke could be seen.

A night watchman on duty, William Parker, reported the fire. Club manager Tony Janidlo said a fire in a second floor fire-place was extinguished by the time the club closed about midnight.









#### Louisville Boat Club

Courtesy Al Ring, St. Matthews Fire Department History, The Courier-Journal/Louisville Times:





April 10, 1969 The Voice-Jeffersonian



St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department 117 St. Matthews Avenue Louisville, Kentucky .

The Executive Board of the Louisville Boat Club wishes to ex-press our deepest appreciation to you for your fine efforts of Saturday, March 1, 1969.

Your professionalism and conduct were of the highest caliber. Further, your interest and compassion were beyond any measure.

Our warmest thanks and best wishes for the future,

Very truly yours,

LOUISVILLE BOAT CLUB Virgil G. Kinnaird, Jr. Vice President

# **Boat club members map** plans for new clubhouse

By Glee Crutcher Staff Writer

"Whal's going to happen to the Louis-ville Boat Club now that the clubbonse has been destroyed by fire" every-one is asking.

In no way fazed by the flames, the members are just as busy as ever and plans already are popping for the dedication of a new clubbonse next spring. Mountime, no activities have coased. Two large trailers have been pulled onto the property on Upper River Head and have been converted into a bar, a dietisgroum, and an office. The river root slips are being put into condition and the tennie courts already are crowded. The awtenning pool will open Decoration Day.

crowded. The awtimming pool with open becoming the property of the control of th

finished. "All privileges have been ex-Inished. "All privileges have been ex-tended to our deembers by Hunting Creek, Audubon, Big Spring, Owl Creek, the Pendennis Club, and others. Planned wedding receptions and various social functions have been moved to one or another. Our nemi-annual meeting and dinner in May will be at Audubon Coun-try Club."

A committee is at work on plans for the new rishbonse. Members hope to have the building completed by eart April or May. In order to have a bang-up dedication, Doc Kelsall nays, other committees are mapping out a cele-bration of the event. The club, one of the addest in town, will be 91 years old this Suptember. old this September.

Old pictures are being collected from many sources and saveral members are writing a history, delving back in-to records of beginning events in the 19th century when a group of young men, who were among Losiaville's first "River Rais", formed their boat cluft.

#### **Louisville Boat Club**

Courtesy The Voice-Tribune, April 2, 2009, by Mary Alan Woodward:

A River Runs Through It

Louisville Boat Club marks 130 years of sports, socializing—and yes, even boating

You wouldn't guess it from its name, but the Louisville Boat Club, which is celebrating its 130th anniversary this year, played host to the first National Junior Clay Court tennis champion-ship in 1952. World-famous tennis players such as Billie Jean King and Bobby Riggs have played on its courts.

Mary Bateman, who has been a regular at the club since the 1940s, remembers the intercollegiate softball games that once were played on the grounds, including a match between Washington & Lee University and its arch rival, The University of Virginia.

"There are a lot of us who are members of the boat club even though we don't have anything to do with boating," Bateman said. "My children had their swimming lessons here and sunbathed down on the docks, right by the river. I was in a tennis clinic with the club pro, Gus Palafox, for years; and sometimes we opened our house to young players who came to town for the club's tennis tournaments.

"The LBC has always been a nice place to have current clubhouse was built in 1969. luncheons, cocktail parties and even children's birthday parties," she added. "It's been a very attractive place to spend time with old friends or invite new people. I've always thought of it as an unpretentious club, and



Courtesy of the Louisville Boat Club, The Louisville Boat club's

very welcoming.

Rugged beginnings: The LBC certainly looked modest during its formative years. In September 1879, 10 local men established it as an outlet for their interest in river races and other manly activities – forget those kiddle parties and ladies' luncheons, landlubbers!

The clubhouse, a two-story houseboat, was moored at various locations alongside the muddy riverbank, including as far west as Sixth Street. The current brick clubhouse at 4200 River Road was built after a fire destroyed the previous one in

In recent years, the club has added improvements such as an award-winning 25-meter pool, a baby pool, a squash complex, a tennis viewing porch and a restyled dining deck and cocktail deck.

LBC is among the oldest country-club-type social clubs in the country. The State in Schuylkill, Pa., established in 1732, usually claims top honors, and Standard County Club opened in Louisville in 1873.

LBC is unique in its combination of racquet sports, swimming, social activities and walking access – through a short tunnel under River Road – to the Ohio River.

Ladies allowed: LBC President Roy Mattingly, a member since 1972, noted that "until the early 1920s, girls were a rarity at the boat club. It was strictly a man's club, and ruggedness was the outstanding qualification of members. A few hardy members who called themselves the Polar Bears plunged into the icy waters of the Ohio each New Year's Day, regardless of the weather.

The few early social activities – events at which ladies were allowed – were not held at the club itself. Huge war canoes housed on the premises were occasionally used to ferry wives and sweethearts to picnic spots, and an annual ball was held at the Galt House, considered one of the South's leading hotels.

"The Boat Club Ball was one of Louisville's outstanding social events of the year," he added. "We intend to resurrect the ball this year in honor of our 130th anniversary.

Membership changes: Other changes are on the horizon for the venerable institution. In honor of the anniversary, Mattingly said, the club is initiating a new Invitational Membership Category. It still requires each applicant to be nominated by a current member, but "there are special provisions that make it attractive in the current economic environment."

LBC memberships are typically decades-long – in fact, there are at least three dozen men and women on the rolls today who have belonged for 50 years or more.

#### **Louisville Boat Club**

Courtesy *The Voice-Tribune*, April 2, 2009, by Mary Alan Woodward: A River Runs Through It

Louisville Boat Club marks 130 years of sports, socializing—and yes, even boating

"The LBC also has a Past Presidents Council that is reorganizing under the leadership of Bob Adams, Ed Rhawn, Tom Campbell and others to craft a strategic plan and consider several opportunities for future growth and club development," Mattingly said. "The Metro Louisville bike path will very likely be completed this year, and will involve some route-crossing on LBC property. The Past Presidents Council is represented on the Metro Parks bike path committee, and will have some input on this project."

Club officers will also consider adding more river frontage, including docks, to the existing grounds; as well as expanding the uses and development of existing property.

As the officers, staff and members of the LBC face tomorrow's challenges and opportunities, they are rallied by the sentiments expressed in the official Boat Club Toast, penned by C. Kenneth Meeker:

"Oh, hail to the men of the boat club crew,
And hail to their ladies fair,
We'll drink a toast and pledge anew
A kinship warm, a friendship rare.
So raise a glass to the river life,
To LBC and all we share.
It's bottoms up and away.
To care-free ways, to sun-filled days,
To a life lived the boat club way.
Yes, raise a glass to a celebration of our days,
It's bottoms up and away!"

#### Courtesy The Courier—Journal, May 6, 2009, by Martha Elson

#### Boat club survives floods, fire to mark 130th anniversary

Jessica Spears of St. Matthews arrived at the Louisville Boat Club's Great Steamboat Race Party on River Road last week with three children — two of her own and a "borrowed" friend.

They were there to eat, play and socialize, she said, and the club was ready with a huge white tent, food and drinks, a blue-grass band and a colorful game area filled with giant inflatable bounce structures.

Spears, who plays on a tennis team at the club, said her daughters, Leighton, 2, and Mary Mason, 5, "get excited " about visiting the club "because half of their friends are here."

The club is celebrating its 130 anniversary, and its current family-oriented environment is a sharp change from its past as strictly a men's club. It was founded in 1879 by "about 10 rousing, river-minded men" who mostly engaged in "rugged races" on the river, according to a club history by the late Dale Linch.

At that time the boat club was literally on a boat — an oversized houseboat moored on the river at the foot of Sixth Street. It moved to various other spots on the river before club members bought an old farmhouse in 1911 at the club's present site, 4200 River Road.

The farmhouse was remodeled and expanded over the years before it burned to the ground in 1969. The present clubhouse opened in 1971.

An anniversary gala is tentatively scheduled for September. As the club celebrates its anniversary, it has a new manager, Terry Bascher, a former private club consultant in Dallas who's originally from Louisville, and a new executive chef, Kelley Flynn, who came from a private club in North Palm Beach, Fla. He was attending to smoked pork and ribs at the boat race party and said he intends to "be true to the tradition" of the food at the club.

Club member Elizabeth Fenley of Glenview said the biggest attraction is being able to dine at the club and look out at the river. "It's fantastic," she said.

The nonprofit club bills itself as "Louisville's oldest premier river, racquets and private social club." A "regular membership" with family privileges costs \$315 monthly, after a \$10,000 initiation fee. The club has about 510 memberships and doesn't expect to go beyond 600, Bascher said.

It has a complex of 12 outdoor and four indoor tennis courts and has played host to major tennis competitions, including two Davis Cup Tie events. Billie Jean King and Bobby Riggs have played there.

Today's attractions at the club also include squash, swimming, sailing, a Mother's Day brunch, Friday night entertainment and fried chicken night on Tuesdays.

#### **Louisville Boat Club**

#### Courtesy The Courier—Journal, May 6, 2009, by Martha Elson

#### Boat club survives floods, fire to mark 130th anniversary

Old photos show the clubhouse surrounded by water during periodic flooding over the years. The current clubhouse has concrete walls, but the inside was flooded after this year's ice storm, when four sprinklers burst. Work was going on before the boat race party to lay new hard wood floors and replace carpeting.

A male bridge foursome playing at a table in the "Crow's Nest" bar recently reflected on earlier times. Club member Henry Harris, 88, of St. Matthews said when he joined in 1947, there were more boats at the club and lots of parties on boats. "I used to like to come out here and eat lunch and watch the bathing beauties," he said.

Gar Davis, 57, of Glenview, a former Glenview mayor, said he's been coming to the club since he was 6 years old. His father, Arch Davis, was the president of the club at the time of the club fire.

Davis said he and his wife could go elsewhere to eat. "But you feel so comfortable here," he said. "You feel at home, surrounded by friends."

#### Courtesy Google Maps:



### **Louisville Boat Club**

### **Courtesy E. Gar Davis:**



**Original Louisville Boat Club** 



1915, Original Louisville Boat Club at present location



January 29, 1948, Louisville Boat Club



1948, Louisville Boat Club Men's Singles



**Need Caption** 

#### **Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Louisville Country Club**

Courtesy Al Ring, St. Matthews Fire Department History, The Courier-Journal/Louisville Times:

**Edited article on fire at Louisville Country Club:** 

March 5, 1969: The Courier-Journal: \$300,000 Loss -- Worker Burned Critically in Fire, Fire that erupted near a barrel of wood-finishing fluid at the Marshall Planing Mill, Inc., in St. Matthews destroyed one building, extensively damaged another and critically burned an employee yesterday afternoon.

The fire alarm came at 2:26 p.m., just 11 minutes after the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department had answered another alarm at the Louisville Country Club on Upper River Road.

The country club fire, of undetermined origin, resulted in a damage loss estimated at \$4,000, mostly from water seepage, Edward L. Valentine, manager of the club, said. He said the fire, which was confined to a third floor locker room, would not interrupt the club's activities. The club fire was discovered at 2:15 p.m.

The water damage to the club was caused when the fire activated the sprinkler system.

Meanwhile in St. Matthews, fire departments from Lyndon, McMahan an Middletown and a ladder truck from Louisville fought the planing mill blaze. The fire was still smoldering last night.

Yesterday's fire at the Louisville Country Club was the second in three days at a clubhouse on Upper River Road. Gutted last Saturday was the Louisville Boat Club. Both fires apparently started in locker rooms. Investigations are continuing into the cause of both fires.

> BOARD OF GOVERNORS LOUISVILLE COUNTRY CLUB LOUISVILLE, RENTUCKY

> > March 7, 1969

Chief John Monohan St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department 117 St. Matthews Avenue Louisville, Kentucky 40207

Dear Chief Monohan:

Just a short note to thank you and the men in your department for your tremendous help in extinguishing the fire at the Louisville Country Club on Tuesday, March 4th. As your men are all volunteers, we are particularly grateful for their time and skills.

Please extend our thanks to each of your volunteers. With best regards,

Yours truly,

LOUISVILLE COUNTRY CLUB

S. Gordon Dabney

President

## Places You Will Remember-In More Detail: Louisville Country Club



Louisville Country Club, August 8, 1930, Herald-Post Collection, University of Louisville Photographic Archives.



Today

#### **Louisville Water Tower**

#### Courtesy http://www.louisvillevisualart.org/rental.html

#### **Louisville Visual Art Association**

The Water Tower is a 19th century historic landmark on the bank of the Ohio River. It is also the home of Louisville's leading contemporary art center, the Louisville Visual Art Association. A major monument of the Greek Revival style, the building with its 169-foot standpipe tower was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1971. The spacious facility provides an elegant setting for parties, wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, business meetings or an event of your own design.

The Facility Percy Brown Hall

The 2000 square-foot hall has elaborate architectural features including a ceiling rising to 46 feet above the floor with large windows and a dramatic view overlooking the Ohio River.

#### Charlotte Price Gallery

The 1000 square-foot gallery, is available in conjunction with the adjacent Brown Hall, presents exhibitions of contemporary art, which ads color and beauty to your special event. The gallery contains a projection screen as well as adequate electrical supply for any event.

#### On the Green

The grounds immediately surrounding the Historic Water Tower are included with your rental. Tents and outside activities are allowed for events. Ample parking is available at no extra charge.

The L.V.A.A. has a total of 20-5ft round tables, assorted banquet tables and 170 white wooden folding chairs with padded seating. In addition there are approximately 25 black plastic chairs. These tables and chairs are for indoor use only. For use outside, it will be necessary to rent from a rental company.









#### **Louisville Water Tower**

#### Courtesy http://www.louisvillewater.com/about us/towerhist.htm

The Water Tower is one of the most recognized symbols in Louisville.

The white ornamental casing houses a standpipe (a pressure regulator) used in the early days of Louisville Water Company. It's the oldest and most ornamental structure of its kind still surviving. It pre-dates the famous Chicago example by several years.

When Louisville Water Company first pumped water in 1860, water was pumped into the standpipe at about the same elevation as the reservoir. (The original reservoir for Louisville Water Company was where Veteran's Hospital sits today.)

The standpipe helped to equalize water pressure within the mains and protected the pump house from the surges between the strokes of the huge steam engine pumps. (The original pump house is the white building behind the Water Tower.)

The original Water Tower contained a wood paneled shaft that protected the iron pipe inside. In 1890 a tornado (or a cyclone as some legends have it) snapped the Water Tower at its base. The company reconstructed the Water Tower with cast iron to ensure protection from further natural disaster. Even with the reconstruction, the useful life of the Water Tower had come to an end. The company built new pump stations and a new reservoir in Crescent Hill, ending the need for the Water Tower.







140 years.

In 1850's, the idea of a water company was a hard sell. Back then, many laughed at the thought of paying for water since they got it for free from underground wells and corner pumps. But the ground water was polluted and Louisville became known as the "graveyard of the west" since so many people died from typhoid and cholera. Finally in 1854, the Kentucky Legislature granted a charter, incorporating Louisville Water Company. Water was first pumped from the location at Zorn Avenue and River Road in October 1860.

The founders of Louisville Water Company wanted the water works to be visually pleasing. The Water Tower at Zorn Avenue is a monument to Greek Architecture. The gatehouse at the reservoir is modeled after the castles along the Rhine Riv-

er. The founders believed if the facilities looked beautiful, people might be more accepting of the water company. The original pumping station and the water tower at Zorn Avenue are no longer used, but are landmarks in this community. Both are listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Research has always played a significant role at Louisville Water Company. Research into chlorine helped to virtually wipe out cases of typhoid and cholera from drinking water. Two of the company's first engineers also pioneered work on the filtration systems used at water plants throughout the country. Today we operate an EPA certified lab and conduct 300 tests on drinking water every day.



#### Courtesy *The Courier-Journal*, October 16, 2008:

#### Water tower in midst of \$1.7 million facelift 'It's part of our history,' official says

By Sheldon S. Shafer sshafer@courier-journal.com

The historic water tower at Zorn Avenue and the riverfront is shrouded with scaffolding as crews continue to work on renovating the landmark.

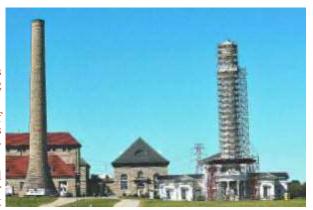
The work, which has been done in two phases, carries a price tag of \$1.7 million -- an expense the Louisville Water Co. board considers justified given the tower's place in the community, said Greg Heitzman, president of the agency.

"It's part of our history, it's an integral part of the community" and it's the water company's symbol, he said, noting that both the tower and companion pumping station were granted federal landmark status in 1971.

The pumping station and water tower began operation in 1860 at a Work on the 183-foot tower, a Doric column reflecting cost of \$800,000 and were among the Louisville Water Co.'s first a Greek design, began in August 2007. The first phase facilities. Both were retired in 1909, officials said.

The current work on the 183-foot tower, a Doric column reflecting and may be completed in January. a Greek design done primarily by Theodore Scowden, once the company's chief engineer, began in August 2007.

#### **Louisville Water Tower**



By Bill Luster, The Courier-Journal was completed in June. Phase two is well under way

The first phase, completed in June and costing \$830,000, included repair of exterior masonry and wood, renovation of the roof and repair of 10 statues, mostly Greek and Roman mythological figures.

Each of the statues has been restored and will be reinstalled after the rest of the project is completed, probably in January.

The budget for phase two is \$878,000. That work is well under way and includes restoration of the upper metal tower sections, repair of the main door and a dozen windows, new lighting and exterior painting.

The general contractor on the project is Martin Construction of Louisville. The tower was last renovated in 1993 at a cost of about \$800,000.

Julian Donahue, the water company's project manager, said, "The river weather is rough. We hope to get another 15 to 20 vears" out of the current tower renovation.

The ornate pumping station, highly stylized with large white columns in front and standing immediately behind the tower, was last renovated in 1997 for \$1.1 million.

Heitzman said it again has begun to show its age, and in two to three years will need another renovation, probably costing around \$1.7 million.

The Louisville Visual Art Association has rented the pumping station since 1981 for its headquarters and galleries and subleases its space for a variety of private functions.

Just to the west of the tower and pumping station are three other buildings still in use and operated from the Crescent Hill plant -- two pumping stations and a former boiler house now used largely for storage and maintenance. Those three buildings date to the late 1800s.

> The water tower and pumping station began operating in 1860 and were granted federal landmark status in 1971.

(By Bill Luster, The Courier-Journal)



#### Lyndon

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Lyndon Train tracks wee the ties that bound a community of commuters in early 1900s By Kay Stewart



Children played on the Ormsby Village grounds in 1927. The country closed the home for needy and troubled youths in 1979.





LONG the railroad tracks on his own land,

Alvin Wood built a depot in 1871 so he and his neighbors wouldn't have to go to St. Matthews to catch a train.

Wood called his depot Lyndon, apparently after Lynn's Station, a fort built in the 18th century on a nearby fork of Beargrass Creek.

Trains began making Lyndon a regular stop and the station also became the post office, with Wood in charge as postmaster.

Nearly 120 years later, its founder's train stop near Vinecrest Avenue is gone, but Lyndon is booming.

The fourth-class city — incorporated in 1965 to avoid annexation by St. Matthews — is roughly bounded by the Watterson Expressway on the west, Westport Road on the north, Whipps Mill Road on the east and Shelbyville Road on the south.

It contains subdivisions, apartment complexes, shopping districts, traffic congestion — but little evidence that Lyndon began as a train stop surrounded by woods and potato fields.

By the early 1900s, with the interurban electric train making regular stops in Lyndon on its route linking Louisville with La Grange, the town grew into a commuter community and residents settled in bungalows in the woods.

Today, not far from a maze of apartment complexes and subdivisions, some fine Lyndon heirlooms are hiding on shady roads and at the end of long, tree-lined drives.

Each tells a part of Lyndon's history.

Virginia Wood Hodge, the great-granddaughter of Alvin Wood, lives on Wood Road in the farmhouse where she was born in 1920. The street bears the family name, she said, because the road was built on land once owned by her great-grandfather.

He bought 200 acres in the area in 1865, she said, and built the train station there.

Wood's brick home, built by his slaves near Wood Road, was destroyed by fire in 1952, Hodge said the land at one time included slave quarters.

More than 20 years after the railroad station was built, Wood's son, George Wood, built a station for the Interurban commuter train that ran to La Grange near Lyndon Lane and La Grange Road, Hodge said.

Residents got prescriptions and milk delivered by the electric train, and children rode it to school.

Decades before the interurban train came through, members of the Ormsby family, wealthy early settlers, had built two elegant man-sions on Lyndon's outskirts.

#### Lyndon

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Lyndon Train tracks wee the ties that bound a community of commuters in early 1900s By Kay Stewart

One of the homes, hidden at the end of a long drive off La Grange Road, was the centerpiece in the mid-1800s of Col. Stephen Ormsby's estate. Ormsby gained fame as a colonel in the Louisville Legion, which fought in the Mexican War in 1846.

His father, Judge Stephen Ormsby, came to Louisville about 1791, when he was appointed judge of Jefferson District Court. He was also a Jefferson circuit judge and a member of the U.S. Congress before he became president of the Bank of Louisville.

The judge bought about 1,000 acres along Goose Creek in 1803, and a year later his only son was born there, according to records of the Jefferson County Department of Historic Preservation and Archives.

According to oral tradition, Judge Ormsby heard a superstition that a man over 50 who builds a new home would never live to enjoy it, so he deeded the 800-acre estate in 1830 to his son, charging him with building the house.

The son and his wife, Martha Sherley, had 11 children, all born at the estate — called Maghera Glass, a gaelic phrase meaning "green grass." The judge died there in 1844, as did his son 25 years later.

In 1896, the house and part of the estate were sold to the Kentucky Military Institute, which built numerous other buildings on the property and had both a preparatory school and a college division there at one time.

The school was attended by five Union and two Confederate generals, including John Morgan, and quit holding classes during the Civil War because its cadets and most of its faculty were on the battlefields.

The school closed in 1973 and the old mansion and grounds are now Ten Broeck Hospital, which specializes in drug and alcohol treatment.

East of that site, just outside Lyndon's boundaries at the southeast corner of Whipps Mill and La Grange roads, one of Judge Ormsby's grandsons built a stately mansion with an elaborate iron porch and balcony. The home sits on a small hill, which is why Hamilton Ormsby may have called it Bellevoir, "beautiful view."

In the late 1800s, the estate was known for its dairy cattle and trotting horses. It even had its own railroad terminal, Ormsby Station.

Ormsby descendants sold the property in 1912 for use as a children's home. The county closed the Ormsby Village complex for needy and troubled juveniles in 1979 but restored the mansion two years ago.

The county is now developing the estate — with the mansion as its centerpiece — into a commercial office park called Hurstbourne Green.

South of Bellevoir on Whipps Mill Road in Lyndon, Grace Perry, the descendant of German settlers, lives at Mill Stream, a 100-year-old estate built by her late father, E. L. Rothenburger.

Rothenburger grew up on nearby Oxmoor Farm, where his parents worked. Perry said German immi-grants in the late 1800s rented parcels of the farm, owned by the Bul-litt family, to grow potatoes. Some of them later bought land for farming.

Decorating Perry's yard is a mill-stone from the old Whipps Mill, which operated along the Sinking Fork of Beargrass Creek more than 175 years ago. Her father found the stone years ago in the creek while he was fishing, she said.

Near the heart of Lyndon, Progress School, a oneroom, wood-frame building at Whipps Mill and Wood roads, opened in 1891 for grades one through eight.

Sisters Linnie and Lizzie Bach, piano-playing descendants of composer Johann Sebastian Bach, taught there as a team from 1912 to 1918, according to "Lyndon Lore," a history of the area published in 1972 by The Lyndon Homemaker's Club.

Mary Emily Hawkins, of La Grange Road, was a pupil there from 1919 to 1925, when the school had two rooms and a potbellied stove.

But it lacked running water and children had to carry their own water from home, she said. Hawkins carried hers in an "elegant" per-fume bottle.

The school, which closed in 1936, was expanded and remodeled and is now a private residence.

#### Lyndon

Courtesy A place in time, The story of Louisville's neighborhoods, 1989, by *The Courier Journal* and *Louisville Times Company*, David Hawpe, Nina Walfoort.

# Lyndon Train tracks wee the ties that bound a community of commuters in early 1900s By Kay Stewart

Before the turn of the century, with the train stop linking Lyndon to Louisville, George R. Washburn tried to develop his 50 acres near the railroad tracks into Warwick Villa — "the beautiful little suburb on the high tide of prosperity." But the panic of 1893 caused financial problems and few houses were built.

Washburn sold the original lots just west of Lyndon in 1928 to Henry Holzheimer Sr. for Warwick Villa.

The property had been in the Washburn family since 1815, according to county historic records. The two-story framed Washburn House, built in the 1830s, is still on Fountain Avenue, surrounded by newer homes.

Although the original subdivision failed, Louisville residents around the turn of the century were riding the train to the Warwick Villa Hotel, which fronted the railroad tracks near Washburn Avenue.

The hotel had "social prominence" as a summer gathering spot because of the "fresh country air and delicious meals for which the hotel was famous," according to "Lyndon Lore." The hotel, however, was destroyed by fire and was not rebuilt.

Hotel guests probably drank water from the nearby Indian Mineral Wells, which operated into the '0s.

The Interurban Co. also attempted to draw Louisville residents Lyndon. The train company owned and promoted a park on the south side of La Grange Road near Benjamin Road. But, according "Lyndon Lore," attempts to boost ridership by luring people there "enjoy a day in the woods and fresh air" were not successful and the park was sold.

The interurban train discontinued service in 1934. Its path was later covered when LaGrange Road was widened from two four lanes.

The apartment complexes lining La Grange Road now are a stark contrast to Hodge's 100-year-old home and the bungalows just a few blocks away on Wood Road.

"This used to be the country Hodge said. "It's all so different now."



The mansion Bellevoir, built for Hamilton Ormsby, was part of an estate known for its dairy cattle and trotting horses in the late 1900s. It also had a train depot.



Cadets were in line for their final formation before summer vacation, above at the Kentucky Military Institute in 1945. The school closed in 1973, and Ten Breock Hospital now occupies the grounds.



The interurban train station in Lyndon around the turn of the century was a stop for a train running between Louisville and la Grange. It operated until 1934.