



Willow House Times



Issue 42

Cuyahoga Heights Historical Committee

March 2016



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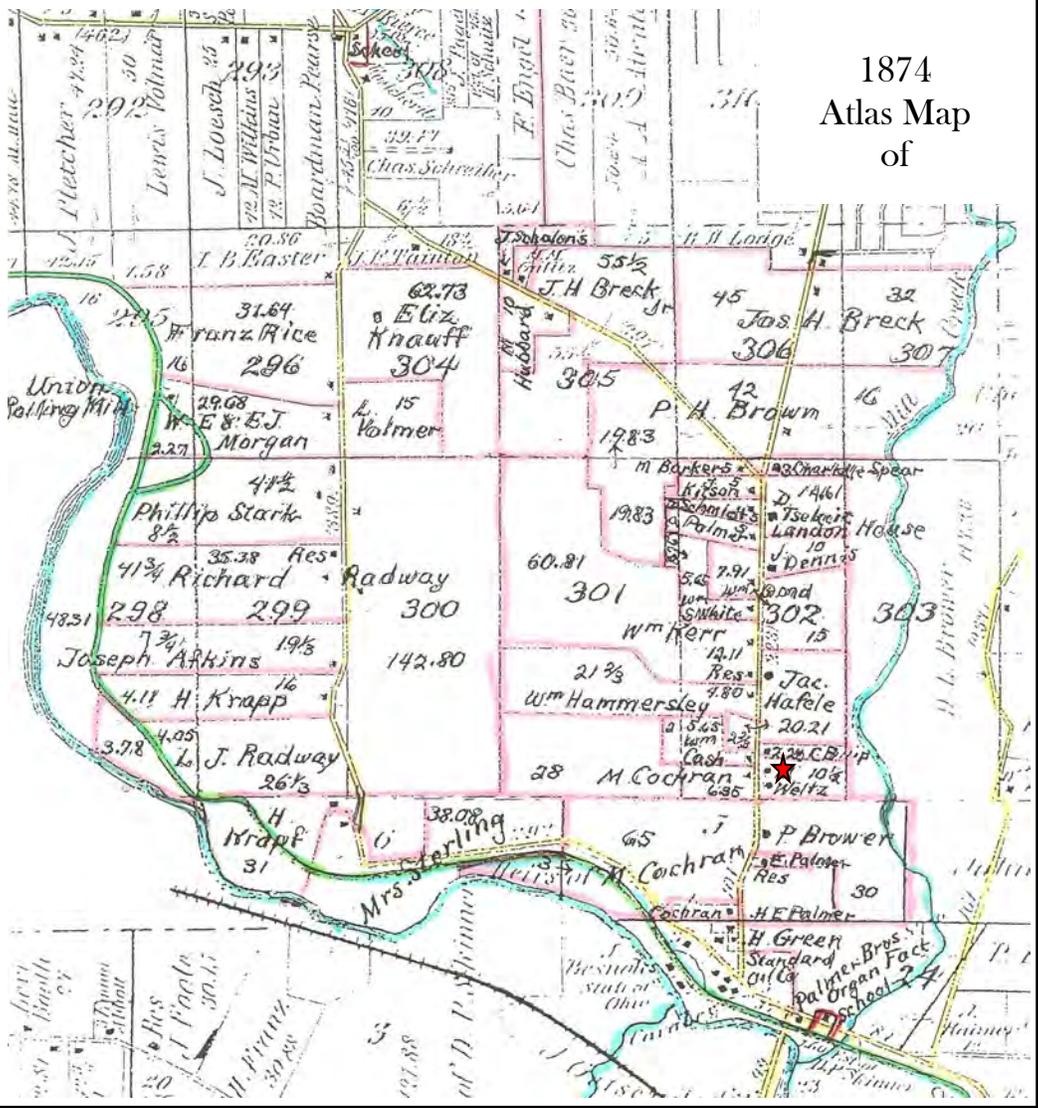
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Cuyahoga Heights Historical Archives

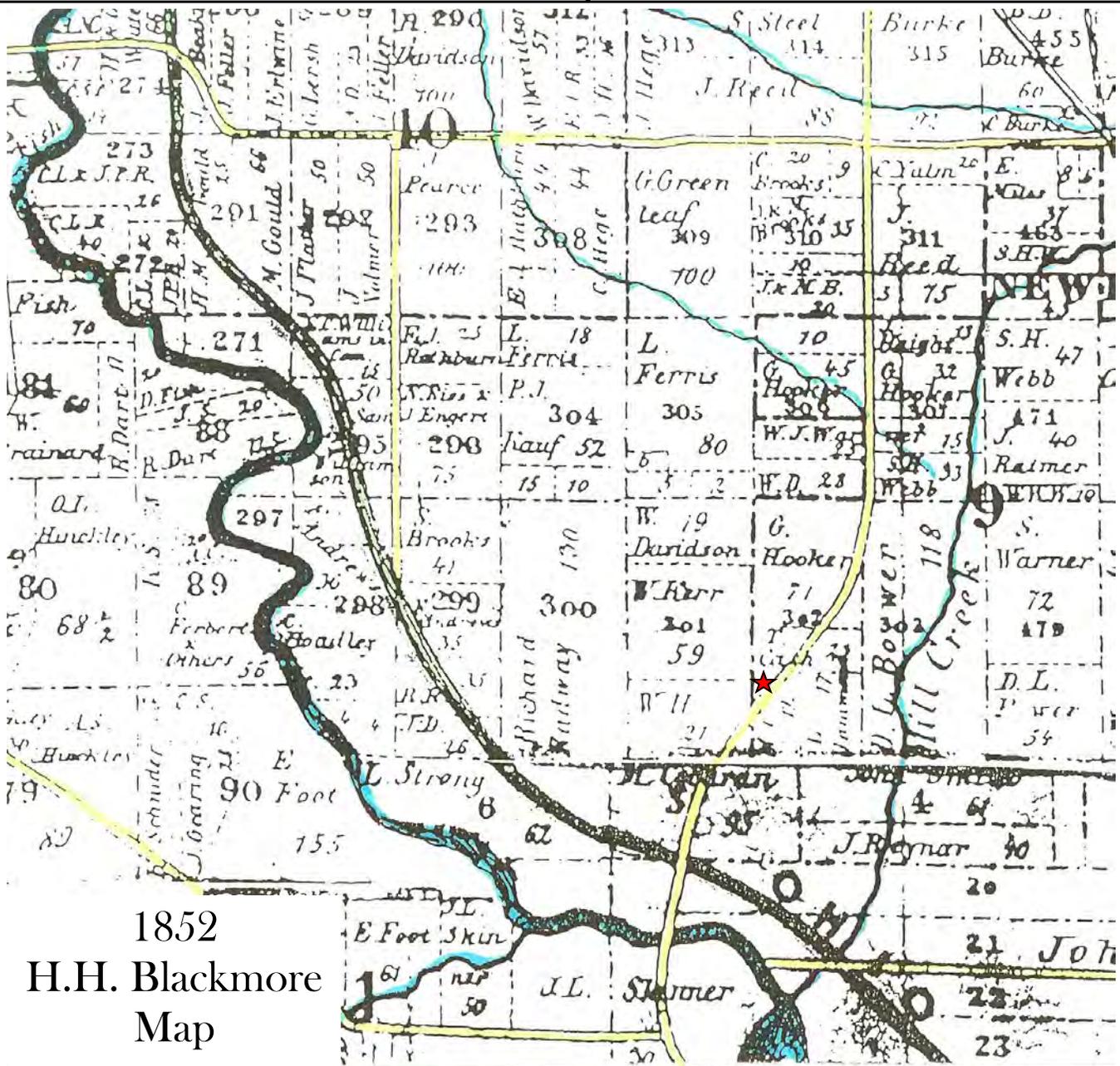
Kennedy House
 4651 E 71st Street
 Home of
 Historical Committee
 &
 Boy Scout Troop 28



This issue is about The Kingsbury Hall / Store & the Willow Post Office beside the Hall where John Kingsbury was the 1st postmaster in 1878. An article at the Main library downtown tells that Mr. Kingbury wanted to add a 2nd floor to the Hall but the building would not support one so he raised the 1st floor & built the store under it. Many dances were held in the 2nd floor & later it was used as a roller skating rink. We found no deeds that show John Kingsbury bought this land before his wife bought it. He must have leased the two properties from a number of owners This area of the village was sometimes known as South Newburgh & it was in Independence township.



Village



Kingsbury Hall & Willow Post Office Owners

1851 - George & Rachel Hooker & Joseph Hunt Breck of Northampton, MA. sold land to Lyman Hammond; 1853 - Lyman Hammond sold to Elliot Hammond; 1866 - Elliot sells to Thomas Cash; 1867 - Cash sells to Matthew Weitz; 1869 - Weitz sells to Constantine Bopp; 1877- Constantine Bopp dies his wife Margaret now owns the property; 1880 - Margaret Bopp sells to Michael & John Bertsch; 1885 - Michael & John sell to Frank Fosdick; 1889 - Eliza Fosdick sold to Albert Bletch; 1908 - Albert Bletch sold to Ethie Kingsbury 1920 - Ethie Kingsbury sold the old Post Office to Silvio & Annina Casavecchia. We found no records after this sale.; 1920 - Ethie Kingsbury sold the Store/Hall to Frank & Pia Fontana; 1945 - Frank died & Pia became the owner; 1947 - Pia died leaving it to her children James, Sisto, Irma, Josephine & Guido; 1959 -The Fontana children sold to Ottavio & Livia Pallini; 1971- Ottavio died, Livia received a deed to the property; 2005 after Livia's death her children Rita, Gilbert, Anna & Olivo got the property; 2007 - Olivo died & his children received his share.



1



2

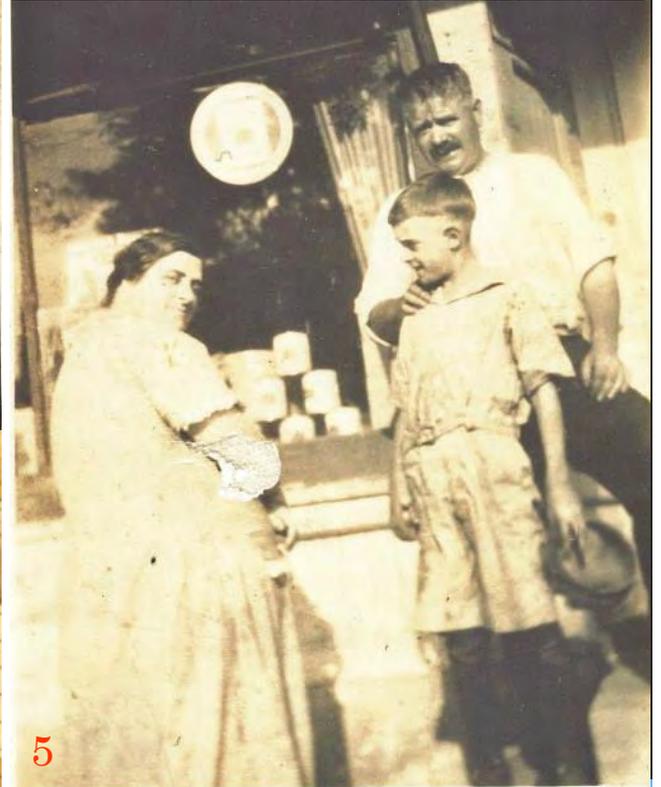
Picture #1 Irma Fontana Pallini holding Johnny. The house in the back ground is the old Post Office.

#2 is what the building looks like today.

#3 is the front of the Fontana Store. Left to right: Pia Fontana, Ft. row: Frank Fontana, Elia Contipelli, Bk. row: first 2 unknown, Ernesto Santini



3



5



4

Picture #4 shows Josephine Fontana Contipelli & her sister Irma Fontana Pallini at the south side of the store. #5 Shows Pia & Frank Fontana with their son Guido in front of the store. #6 is how the store looks today as an apartment building.



6

Sources:

Cuyahoga County Auditor's website; Cuyahoga County Public Library; Ancestry.com; Mark Chase; Sandy Waldemarson;

Cuyahoga Heights Historical Committee

Barb Bartczak

Mark Chase

Laura Hine

Irma Schab

Sandy Waldemarson

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2016 Meetings

10 AM - Noon

April 2nd

May 7th

May 30th Memorial Day

Open House 9 AM - 1PM

August 6th

October 1st

at

Kennedy House

4561 E. 71st Street

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Willow Times News

Editor - Kathy Swartout

kblkwoods@aol.com

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Website

sites.google.com/site/cuyahogahtshistorical

Webmaster-Laura Hine

Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/132447953512779/

Do You Know?



Old Easter Postcard

Committee News

The Historical Committee's next meeting will be April 2nd 2016 from 10 AM till 12 noon. All meeting dates for 2016 are listed to the left. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings, or look at the displays at the Kennedy House. You can also schedule a time to visit by contacting any committee member or the village hall.

Cuyahoga Heights Memories Page, the Historical Committee's Facebook page now has 357 members. It is a closed group page, meaning you have to go to the page & ask to join. Don't forget our web page. They are both listed to the left. The *Willow House Times* is posted the 1st week of the month on our Facebook & web site.

The committee is working on a tour to Calvary Cemetery. If we get enough interest the tour will be sometime during the week before Memorial Day. If you would like to go or know anyone that would. Please contact Mark Chase or the Village Hall

**HAPPY
EASTER**

