

The Gray Family Homes: A Cincinnati Family Journey

The Gray Family's Cincinnati Journey

The story of the Gray family is a journey through the working-class neighborhoods of Cincinnati during the first half of the twentieth century. Their history reflects immigration, resilience, faith, family bonds, and the determination to build a better life for future generations.

825 Barr Street: The Family's Early Center

By 1910, Margaret (Margo) O'Flaherty Wright, her husband Joseph Wright, their children, and Patrick O'Flaherty were living together at 825 Barr Street. Joseph worked as a carriage trimmer, and the household also took in boarders to help make ends meet.

Nevada Street: The Beginning of the Gray Family

One of the earliest Gray family homes was on Nevada Street in Lower Price Hill. Clarence and Anna Gray raised their growing family here. Bernie and Dink were born on Nevada Street, and family photographs preserve memories of several generations gathered together.

Bowman Street: Moving Up

By the mid-1920s the family moved to 1317 Bowman Street. Family recollections remember a full bathroom, conversion from gas lighting to electricity, and the presence of extended family members living upstairs.

West 8th and Chateau: The Depression Years

During the early 1930s the family lived at 2821 West 8th Street. These were difficult Depression years, but family stories recall marbles, sledding, neighborhood characters, movies, and a strong sense of community.

Crestline Avenue: Raising a Growing Family

Around 1936 the family moved to 404 Crestline Avenue. Dorothy and Bob grew up here, children walked to school, and family memories centered around daily life and neighborhood friendships.

Mount Hope: The Pre-War Years

In 1940 the family relocated to 765 Mount Hope Avenue. Radios, telephones, automobiles, and changing times marked this period, while the family continued to work hard and stay close-knit.

Glenway Avenue: World War II Era

By 1942 the family lived at 2346 Glenway Avenue. World War II shaped family life. Bernie was drafted, Dink entered the Air Force, and Jean worked at Gibson Art Company while finishing high school at night.

A Family of Workers and Survivors

The Gray family's homes mirror Cincinnati's industrial history. Samuel Gray worked as a pressman, Clarence became a printer and pressman, and Anna worked at Rookwood Pottery while also teaching music. Through economic hardship, flood, and war, the family persevered.

Legacy

The sequence of homes—Barr Street, Nevada Street, Bowman Street, West 8th and Chateau, Crestline Avenue, Mount Hope Avenue, and Glenway Avenue—forms a timeline of one family's journey through Cincinnati history. Their story is one of faith, hard work, perseverance, and love passed from generation to generation.

Timeline of Homes

- West 15th Street area (Samuel Gray family, 1910)
- 825 Barr Street (Wright/O'Flaherty family, 1910)
- Nevada Street
- 1317 Bowman Street
- 2821 West 8th Street & Chateau Avenue (1933–1935)
- 404 Crestline Avenue (1936)
- 765 Mount Hope Avenue (1940)
- 2346 Glenway Avenue (1942–1949)