

- 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)

825 33	Wright, O'Flaherty	Patricia	daughter	M. W. 64	Wd	Ireland-English	Ireland-English	Ireland-English	English	bookkeeper	wholesale house	W
		Bessie	daughter	F. W. 35	S	Ohio	Ireland-English	Ireland-English	English	clerk	store	W
		Katie	daughter	F. W. 27	S	Ohio	Ireland-English	Ireland-English	English	stenographer	office	W
	Adams, Mary	boarder		F. W. 80	wd	North Carolina	North Carolina	North Carolina	English	none		
	Seibler, Eliza	boarder		M. W. 60	Wd	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	English	laborer	city	W
	Wright, Joseph	boarder		F. W. 75	S	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	English	none		
		Margaret	grand-child	M. W. 31	M	Ohio	Ohio	Ireland-English	English	trunk	carriage Co	W
		Emilie	grand-child	F. W. 29	M	Ohio	Ireland-English	Ireland-English	English	none		
		Joseph	grand-child	F. W. 6	S	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	English	none		
		Paul	grand-child	F. W. 5	S	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	English	none		
		Robert	grand-child	M. W. 4	S	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	English	none		
			grand-child	M. W. 1 1/2	S	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	English	none		
			grand-child	M. W. 2	S	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	English	none		

Gray, Samuel	711 77 34 7/11 14	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	English	Black man	Job work
Anna	717 77 35 7/11 14	Ohio	Ohio	Irish-English	English	None	
Charles	717 77 12 5	Georgia	Georgia	Ohio	English	House boy	Sunday paper



25,737 PEOPLE LIVED IN KENYON-BARR WHEN
THE CITY RAZED IT TO THE GROUND

Once a dense neighborhood in the heart of the city, Kenyon-Barr was wiped away without a trace.

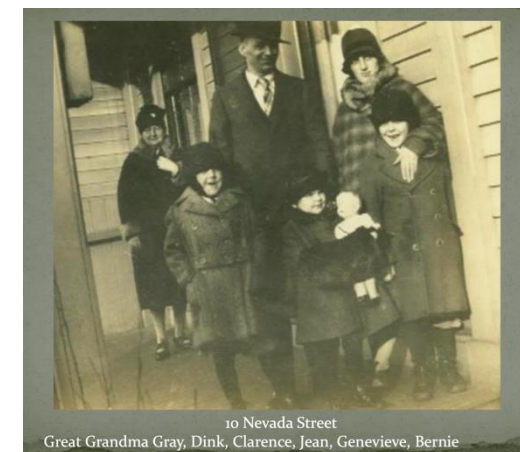
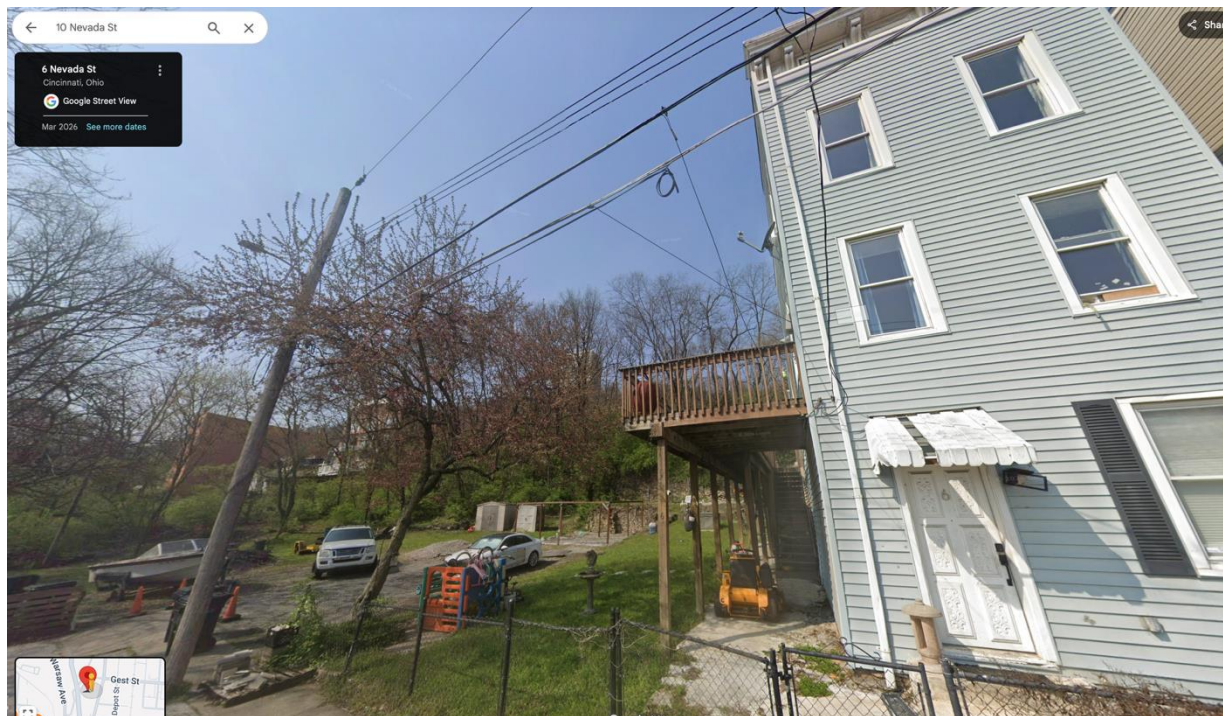
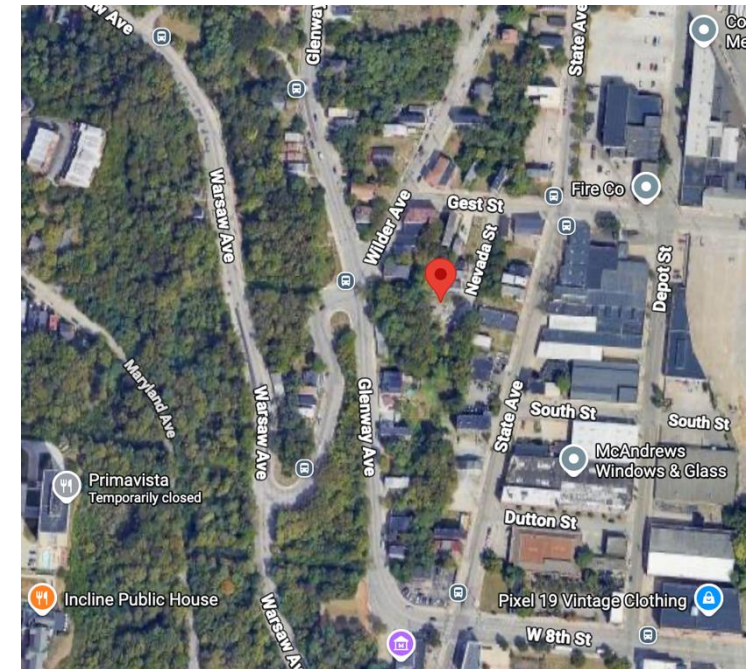
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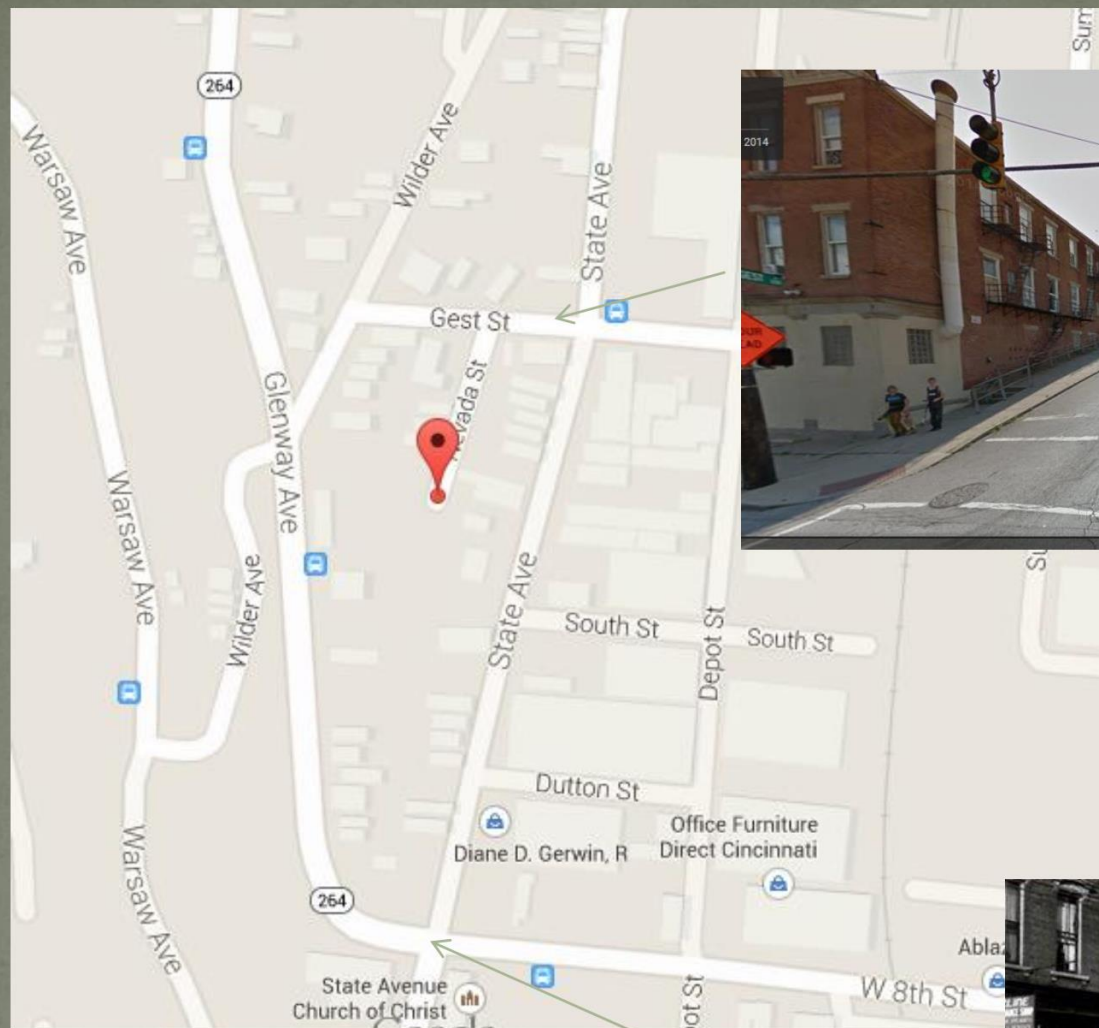
During the years of my parents marriage, they gave birth to 13 children. The first three children were born at the Nevada Street address, which was only one block long. It ran off of Gest Street, parallel, and between, State Avenue and Glenway, a short distance from Eighth Street. Bernard Arthur Gray, their first child was born on June 20, 1920. Almost two years later another son, Clarence Joseph, later nicknamed Dink, was born on January 25, 1922. They were great pals all through childhood, and even in the first few years of their marriages Bernie and Dink's families lived in a two family house together.

10 Nevada Street
Great Grandma Gray, Dink, Clarence, Jean, Genevieve, Bernie

When we lived on Nevada Street We had to go up a flight of steps leading to a porch along side of our flat to reach the front door. A lot of houses in those days did not have bathrooms. However, they had built a little room on the end of the porch which had a toilet, and the seat on it was slanted upward just a bit. When you sat on it, it slid down in place, and when you were finished, you stood up and the toilet flushed all by itself, but it flushed with such force and noise, that I was scared to death and would run into the house. That is the only memory that I have of that flat, except I do have a picture in my mind of a mantle with a Rookwood vase on it. Keep in mind that I was only two or three.



10 Nevada Street
Great Grandma Gray, Dink, Clarence, Jean, Genevieve, Bernie

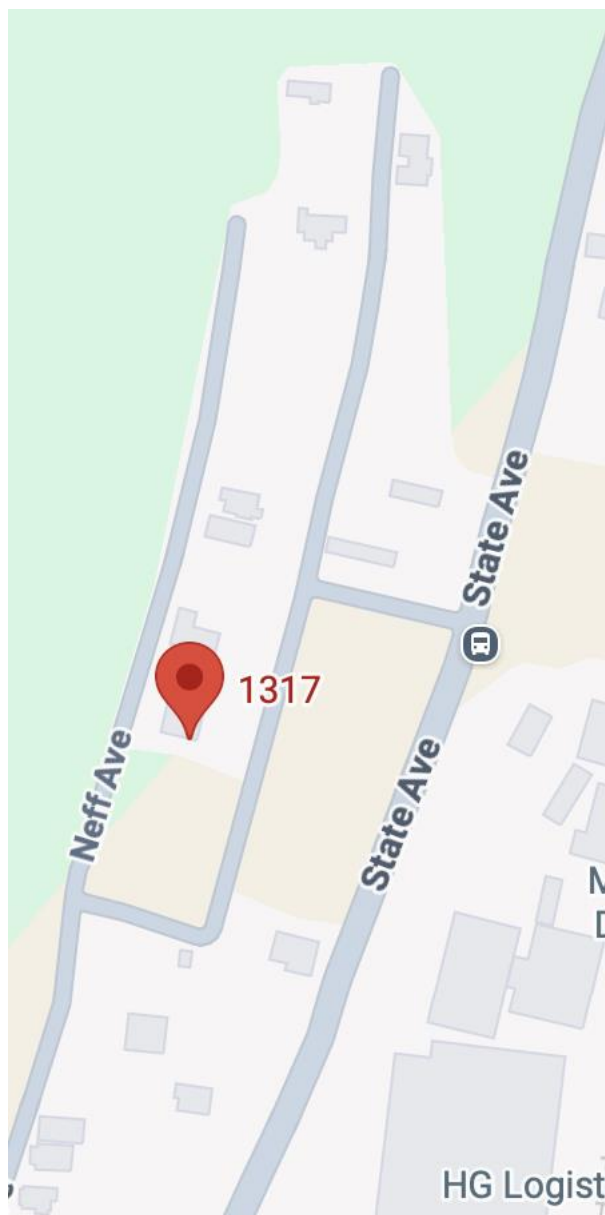




We then moved to a two family house at 1317 Bowman Avenue a couple of blocks away, but still running parallel to State Avenue. My Grandmother Gray (Ma), Aunt Mae and Aunt Kate took the upstairs flat on Bowman Avenue with us. That house was on two streets. It was reached by climbing two flights of stairs up a hillside on Bowman Avenue, but it could also be reached in the rear by going down just a few steps from Denver Avenue. We had two addresses at that house. After we lived there a short time, our landlord built a full bath - tub, sink, and toilet - in both flats. He also replaced the gas lights with electricity. We were real big time then!

Before that on Saturday night our parents would put a big tin tub in the kitchen, stoke up the stove to warm it up, and heat up lots of water to pour into the tub. Of course, it took a lot of time to do that, so we used the water for several children. Bernie reminds me while we younger children were getting bathed on the first floor, Ma would be giving first, Bernie a bath and then Dink one, in the same bath water upstairs in her flat. You might call that an assembly line.

1317 Bowman. 1926 pressman. a two family with Anna Gray, Aunt Mae and Aunt Kate in the upstairs flat



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My Father would wash my hair with Tag Soap, a Procter & Gamble product, that was used for many things, (mix it with brown sugar and it was good for poison ivy, among other things.) Then he would rinse my hair in vinegar, and finish by brushing my hair, when it was dry and it would shine beautifully, just as good, as if we had used all the products that we use today. Of Course, we probably



THE GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL, Cincinnati, to celebrate its Diamond Jubilee, today. In the 75 years of its history the institution has given service to more than 105,000 patients. It was founded in 1852 by the Sisters of Charity. The picture above shows the entrance to the hospital on Clifton avenue. A line of white-capped nurses is shown below.



Good Samaritan Hospital ** - Oct 23 1927

[Visit >](#)

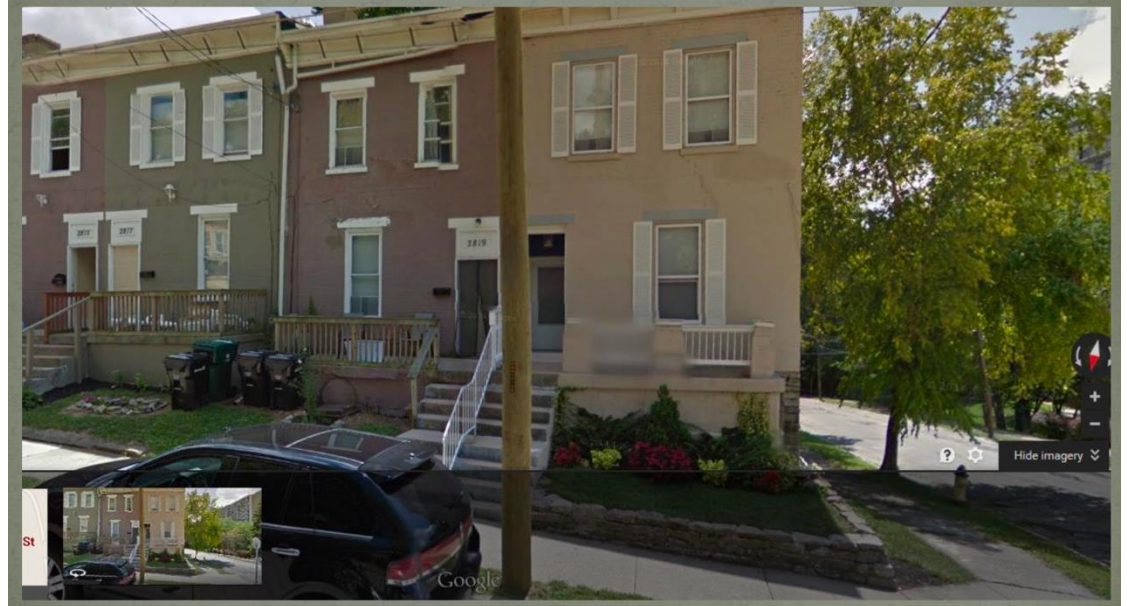
My brother, Donald Thomas was born on March 21, 1928, at this house, and he was the first of Genevieve's children to be born in the hospital - Good Samaritan, and all succeeding children were born in hospitals. I don't remember much about Don, then because he was the baby of the family while we lived there, and I was only four. Aunt Mae's mother, Kate, passed away during this time, but Mae continued to live with our Ma, and when we moved to 2821 West Eighth Street, they came along and took the second floor flat.

West 8th and Chateau



At Eighth and Chateau our next door neighbor who lived on the second floor was a minor bootlegger - not rich, but he certainly had more money than any of the other neighbors. He used to ride around in taxis, and whenever he wanted someone to run an errand for him, he would go outside on his porch and just whistle. Someone would always hear him and come running, because they knew he would give them at least a dime tip, sometimes even a quarter. Boy!

West 8th and Chateau



I remember when we were still living at the corner of Eighth and Chateau we had so much fun playing games in the street. There really weren't that many cars in those days, so it was not dangerous to play there. Since our house began a series of six row houses, we had a four foot wall at the end of our property, where

we played many games, such as telephone, Buffalo Bill, or just sat and talked.

We also played Red Ball, Green Ball, I Dare Someone to Come Over. We played that in the street, and when the "It" person called three of the same colors in succession everyone would try to run to the opposite side of the street without being tagged by the "It" person. We kept that up until everyone was caught. The Movie Star Game was one where we had two sides and we would line up on the side walk. First one team would walk up to the other team and give two or three initials. The guessing team would have to guess the name of the movie star, and the other team would run back to their home base. Then it would be the turn for the other team to give the initials of the movie star.

We played Go Sheepy Go, where the "It" person had to count up to 100 while he covered his eyes, while we would all hide. It was neat, because we had two woods on opposite corners, and we would hide in them. When the "It" person counted to 100, he would call "Go Sheepy, Go." then we, who had hidden, would try to run home free while the "It" person was looking for us. Whoever was beaten back to home would be "It" the next time. Kick the Can worked pretty much the same. Someone would kick the can as far away from home as possible, and everyone would run and hide from the "It" person. Sometimes it was fun to hang out in the woods and just talk. I remember we used to eat hawberries from the trees and

West 8th and Chateau



A while after Dottie was born we moved to 404 Crestline Avenue, which lead to the back entrance of Mt. Echo Park, and ran parallel to Elberon Avenue. Even though this house was a three family, it was larger than the flat where we had been living, because all of the rooms were so large. However, the house was a mile from Holy Family School. They had no cafeteria there, so that meant that we walked four miles altogether on a given day, but it was a fun place to live. It had a large yard with plenty of trees, and a large wrap around front porch, and a small back porch. When we moved there Aunt Mae and Ma moved to a two family house on Price Avenue across from Dempsey Park. It was the first time in my life that they did not live upstairs from us, but we still saw them a lot.

Crestline



Mt Hope



Another time we bought wall paper and Mother and Dad papered the whole flat themselves. When Dad showed it to her, she said it looks so good, I'm going to raise the rent, and meant it. We looked for another flat, and when we found it we moved to 765 Mount Hope Road, one house from the corner of West Eighth Street, which today is a block away from the Sovereign Restaurant overlooking downtown Cincinnati.

The Sovereign Restaurant was built on the site of the old Price Hill Incline, which in those days we rode down the side of the hill in about three minutes to get to Eighth and State, and then could board a street car for downtown. It would save so much time, because if we just wanted to take the trolley, we would have to walk all the way over to Grand and Warsaw. It only cost a nickel for an adult to ride the Incline, and three cents for children.

In 1937 one Sunday in January we had a great snow storm, which left many inches of snow on the ground, but the weather warmed up quickly, and it started to rain and it rained for days causing the Ohio River to start rising, and we ended up having the worse flood ever in the Southwestern Ohio, and Northern Kentucky area. It crested at 79.9 feet on Tuesday, January 26. Our major airport at the time, the Lunken, was unusable for seventeen days, before the waters receded. It has never reached that high again in our area, because of the flood walls, which we built after that.

The flood was so bad that for days we had no water to drink, or electricity. We had to find water to drink at the many springs and wells around the area. Where there were no springs or wells near, water trucks brought water around to the people. The huge gas tanks that were situated on the Ohio River Bank caught on fire, and I saw the biggest fire of my life. What a site - all that water and a fire right on it.

Since most things were closed down during the flood, Dad, Bernie, Dink, and I decided to go sightseeing to see the extent of the flood. We took the Price Hill Incline down to Eighth and State and walked to the end of the Eighth Street viaduct, which was blocked by the flood water. We then climbed the steps to the railroad/pedestrian bridge, which spanned the Ohio River to

18

Kentucky, and walked across it to Kentucky. We spent the afternoon touring the cities of Northern Kentucky on some street cars. Then we walked back to Cincinnati over the railroad/pedestrian bridge, and then on to home. We saw sites that we have never forgotten, and hoped to never see again, and haven't until we saw the news stories in 1993 of the Missouri; Mississippi flood, which lasted for more than two months.

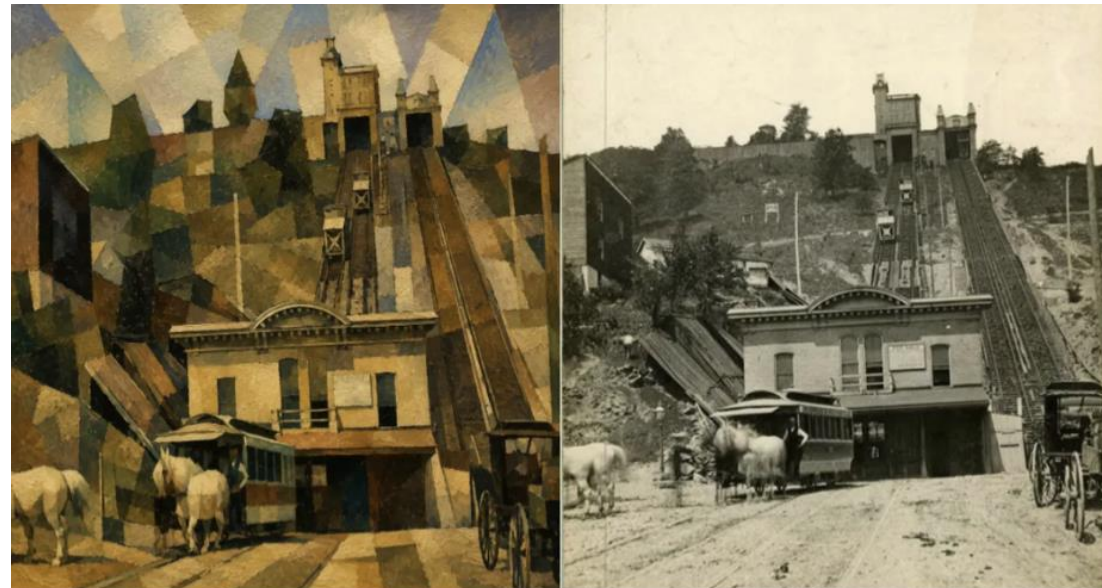


"Black Sunday" Gas tanks ruptured near Mill Creek that took firefighters over 12 hours to put out. Photo provided by Phil Lind

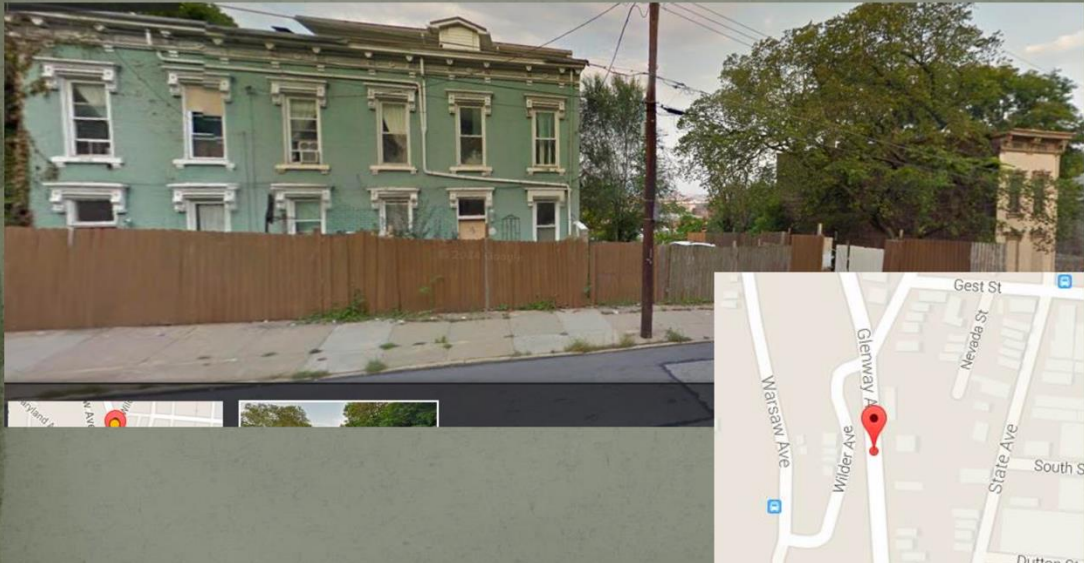


1940 census shows Gray Family rented 765 Mt Hope Ave. Dorothy Gray is 7 years old. Clarence Gray (her dad) is working 32 hours per week as a pressman at Gibson Art Company. Bernard and Clarence (her brothers) are working 40 hours per week as mailing clerks.

Her dad Clarence Gray dies at young age in 1949.



Glenway



When I was a sophomore in high school we moved to 2346 Glenway in Price Hill. This time we had a whole house to ourselves, even though it was in a row of three houses. It was a neat house, although, it was very old. It was built on a hill, and it had three floors, and we could see downtown Cincinnati from the balcony of my bedroom. Once again we were back in Blessed Sacrament Parish, where we started out. I never went to school there, but I did get married in that Church years later, but a few years ago they tore the church down, so I can never go back again.

Glenway Ave

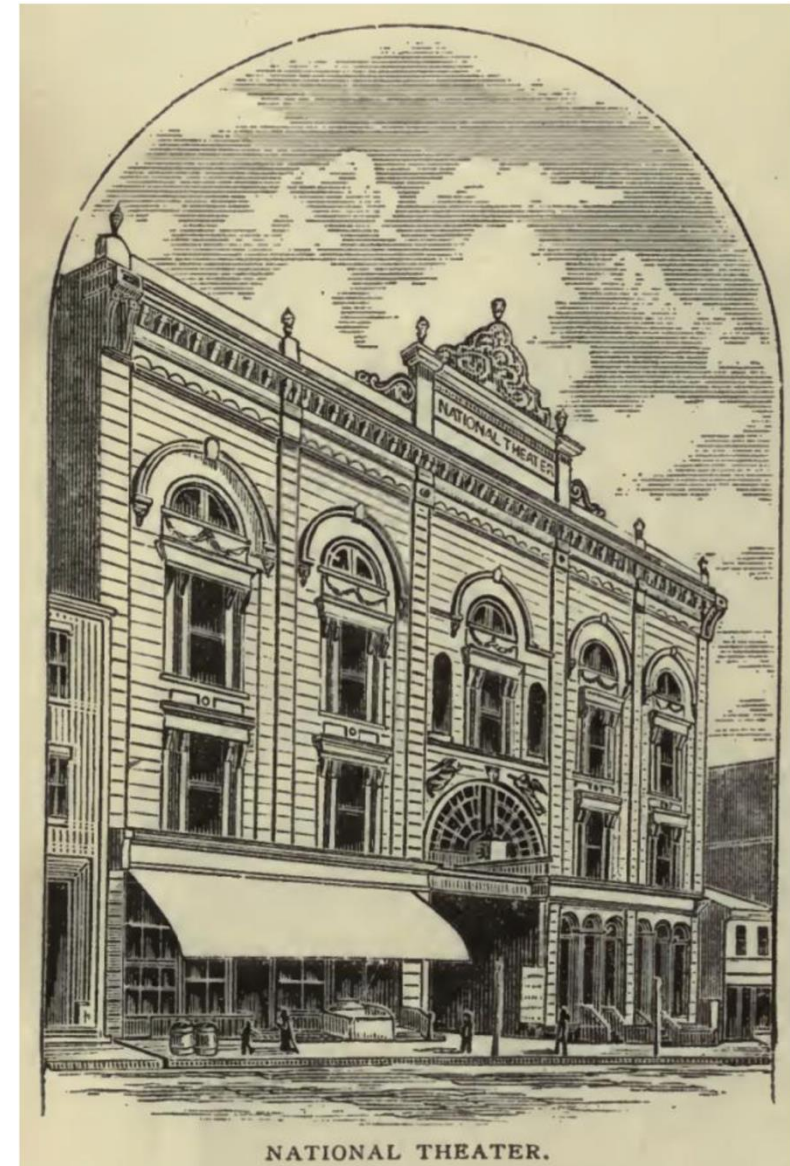


Oscar Mueller, Bob, Bernie, Great Grandma, Don, Tom, Aunt Mae, Dorothy

2346
Glenway



There was a movie house at Eighth and Depot Street called the National Theater. There was a movie house on Warsaw near St. Lawrence Corner called the Western Plaza, and then there was one on Glenway called The Glenway Theater. When I was older they opened a new theater at Sunset and Glenway called, what else but the Sunset.



Glenway Theater

3823 Glenway Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45205

Closed 1 screen

Overview

Photos

Comments

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During the 30s and 40 played double features, serials, comics, newsreels, and short features.

Western Plaza Theater

3655 Warsaw Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45205

Closed

Demolished

1 screen

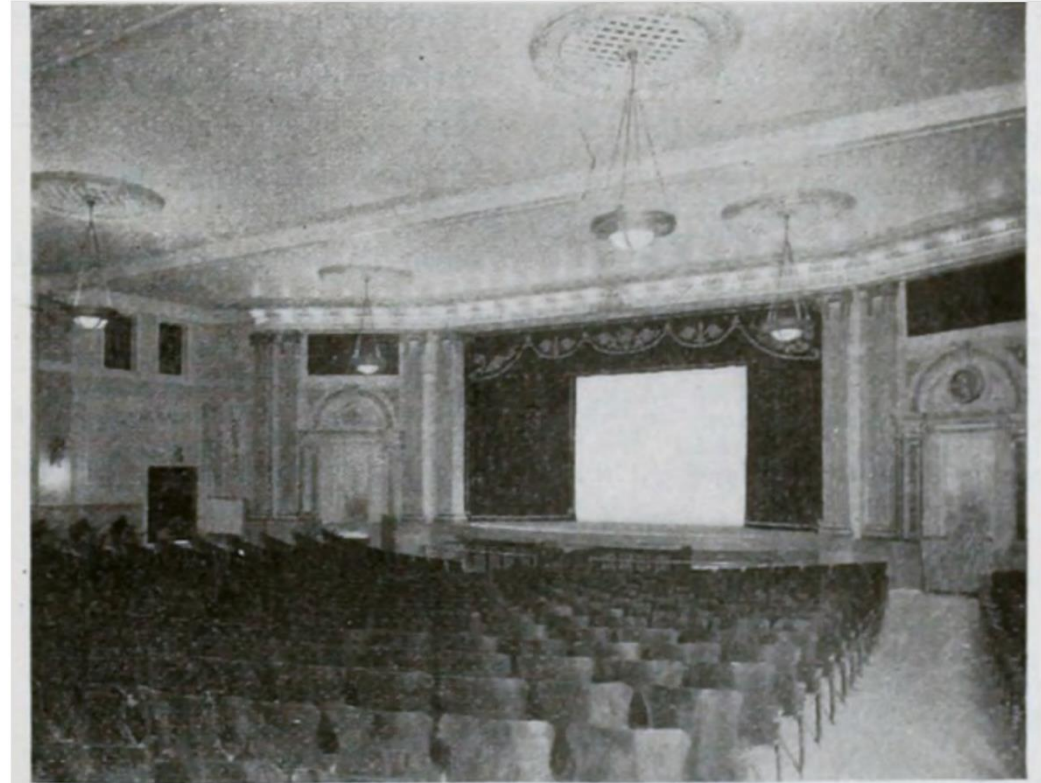
700 seats

Overview

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Interior of the Western Plaza Theater, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A neighborhood theater that was located in Price Hill, Cincinnati. The Western Plaza Theater was opened on July 31, 1915. It was designed by architectural firm Rapp, Zettle & Rapp.

It was still into the 1960's and was demolished in 1965.