

THE HISTORICAL RECORD

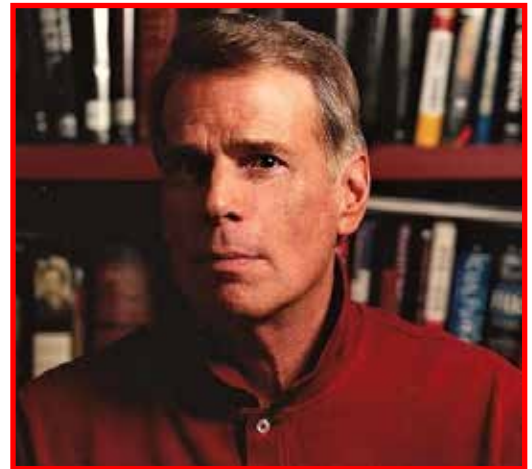
September 2024

A Publication of the Wyoming Historical Society and the Wyoming History Museum

WYOMING VILLAGE GOTHIC

Within our beautiful, idyllic enclave of Wyoming lurk a few dark & notorious chapters.

Join *Queen City Gothic* and *Summer's Almost Gone* author J.T. Townsend for his first-time investigation into Wyoming's most infamous murders and other Cincinnati crimes with a local connection....



Thursday, September 26th

**PROGRAMS ARE AT
7 PM
Wyoming Civic Center**

FREE - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REFRESHMENTS

FALL FESTIVAL

**Saturday, October 5th
10 AM - 5 PM**

Wyoming Historical Society
800 Oak Avenue
Wyoming OH 45215
513.842.1383

History@Wyomingohio.gov

Open Tuesday 10:30-3:00
or by appointment.



Wyoming History Museum
A Unique and rewarding
place to visit.

Member of:
Ohio Local History Alliance
American Association for State
and Local History,
Ohio History Connection

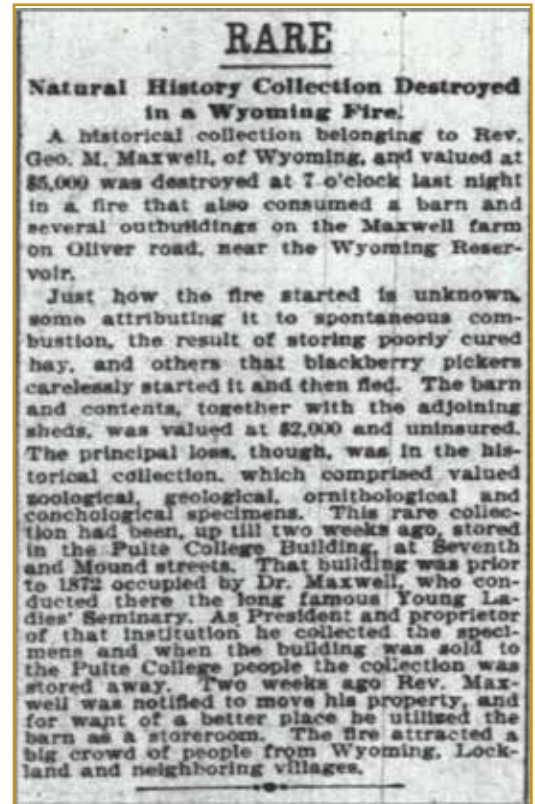
Wyoming Historical Society
is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit
corporation.

RARE...

Natural History Collection Destroyed in a Wyoming Fire

A historical collection belonging to Rev. Geo. M. Maxwell, of Wyoming, valued at \$5,000 was destroyed at 7 o'clock last night in a fire that also consumed a barn and several outbuildings on the Maxwell farm on Oliver road, near the Wyoming Reservoir.

Just how the fire started is unknown, some attributing it to spontaneous combustion, the result of storing poorly cured hay, and others that blackberry pickers carelessly started it and then fled. The barn and contents, together with the adjoining sheds, was valued at \$2,000 and uninsured. The principal loss, though, was in the historical collection, which comprised valued zoological, geological, ornithological and conchological specimens. This rare collection had been, up till two weeks ago, stored in the Pulte College Building, at Seventh and Mound streets. That building was prior to 1872 occupied by Dr. Maxwell, who conducted there the long famous Young Ladies' Seminary. As President and proprietor of that institution he collected the specimens and when the building was sold to the Pulte College people the collection was stored away. Two weeks ago Rev. Maxwell was notified to move his property, and for want of a better place he utilized the barn as a storeroom. The fire attracted a big crowd of people from Wyoming, Lockland and neighboring villages.



The July 24, 1897 Cincinnati Enquirer article retyped on the left.

NOTE: According to researcher, Amy Pursley, the Maxwell Farm would be approximately where the houses 385-403 sit now on Oliver Road.

HAPPY 150TH WYOMING!!!!

MEMBERSHIP...

Our membership year is January-December with our membership drive happening late each fall. However, we gladly welcome new members at anytime of the year. For a year dues are: Individual \$25, Family \$50, Business \$75, Lifetime \$500. High school and college students are free. New members joining after August will be credited through December of the following year. New members please send your check, name, address, phone and email to us and we will handle the rest. 800 Oak Avenue, Wyoming, OH 45215. Thank you.

BUSINESS MEMBERS

SUE LEWIS, SIBCY-CLINE



In the industry, Sue is known for her commitment to clients and their specific needs. In fact, the majority of her business derives from referrals or the return of past clientele. Sue, a real estate professional, focuses her services on analyzing marketing strategies for maximum exposure and negotiating sales to achieve the best possible price.



2024 Wyoming Historical Society

OFFICERS:

Jim Walton, President
David Savage, Vice-President
Tom Bond, Treasurer
Kevin Grace, Secretary

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Anne Black
Beth Brigger
Sheri Callaghan
Mary Killen
Mike Murray
Brian Pitman
Amy Pursley
Graydon Sikes

Sherry Sheffield
Newsletter Editor &
Office Manager



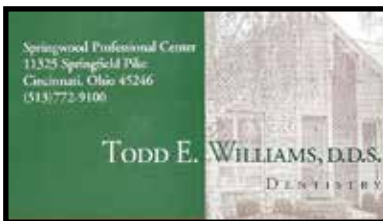
LIFETIME MEMBERS

Access Audio
Betsy Bazell
Tom Bond
Sheri & Bryant Callaghan
Old School Craftsman
John Sears
Kitty & Todd Williams
Megan Wasson

Deborah Allsop
Anne Black
Jim Briggs
Tom & Susan Handley
Ethan & Susan Pagliaro
Sherry Sheffield
Michael & Marcia Wasson



SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS....



The April 2, 1889 edition of the Commercial Gazette carried the following story: "Early yesterday morning burglars forced the door of the CH&D Railroad Station at Wyoming and gained entrance. They then started on the safe, and after boring a hole near the combination knocked it off. The safe contained \$400 in cash and some valuable papers. Two suspicious characters were noticed lucking about Wyoming on Friday, and they are suspected of doing the work."



BUSINESS MEMBERS

SIBCY & CLINE
REALTORS

Jenni McCauley
EXECUTIVE SALES VICE PRESIDENT
2015 Ohio Realtor, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
513-543-6969
3630 One Ave
CINCINNATI, OH 45228
CARR Circle of Excellence, 1999-2022
jmcCauley@sibcyandcline.com
Agent: sibcyandcline.com/sibcyandcline

oldschoolcraftsman.me
513.615.1492

WYOMING
Pastry
SHOP
SINCE 1938

505 WYOMING AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45218
Phone: 513.821.9742

PHILLIP HESCHKE, CMT
KIMBERLY REICHERT

513-761-3826 Office
513-761-3858 Fax
Terry's@terrysmontessori.com

Terry's
MONTESSORI
SCHOOL
A.M.S. Affiliated School

Terry Delgado
Courtney Delgado
Directors

206 Wyoming Ave
Cincinnati, Ohio 45218

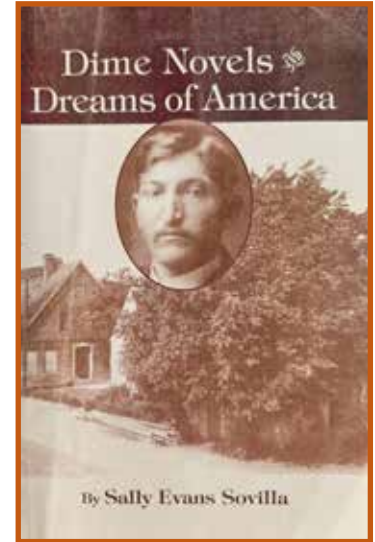
425 Crescent Ave
Cincinnati, Ohio 45218

425 Crescent Ave
Cincinnati, Ohio 45218

John Pinkston
Hot Dog Purveyor
Cincinnati, Ohio
513-388-6013
popadoghotdogs@gmail.com

DIME NOVELS AND DREAMS OF AMERICA

Twenty years ago, the society had Sally Evans Sovilla speak about her book *Dime Novels & Dreams of America*. Sally grew up on Sherry Road and Wyoming Avenue. And, she wrote about those days in her book about her grandfather in the late 19th and early 20th century. Woven into her grandfather's story, Sally reminisces about corn fields on West Mills, sled riding at the golf club and watching the double feature at the Vogue Theater. Sally's grandfather, Frederick Roeben, left Germany in 1894 and worked his way to America, a house on West Mills and a job with Procter & Gamble.



FALL FESTIVAL

HISTORICAL MARKER UPDATES.....



(l-r) Sarah, Allison, Ellie, and David LeBuhn

Due to the generosity of the LeBuhn family, on June 24th we added another Historical Marker to our city. The family, now Colordao residents, sponsored the Springfield Pike marker that can be found at Centennial Park.



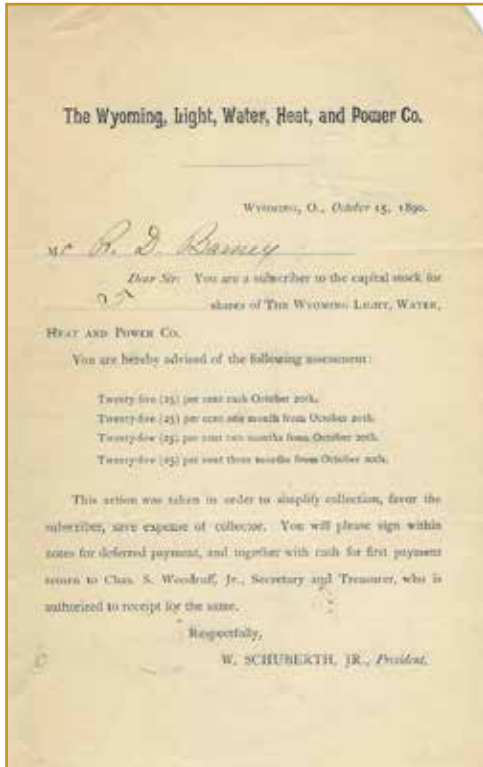
on the recently relandscaped Library front yard. Thank you.

A shout-out to Public Works for cleaning the Robert Reilly State Historical Marker found

AVAILABLE...

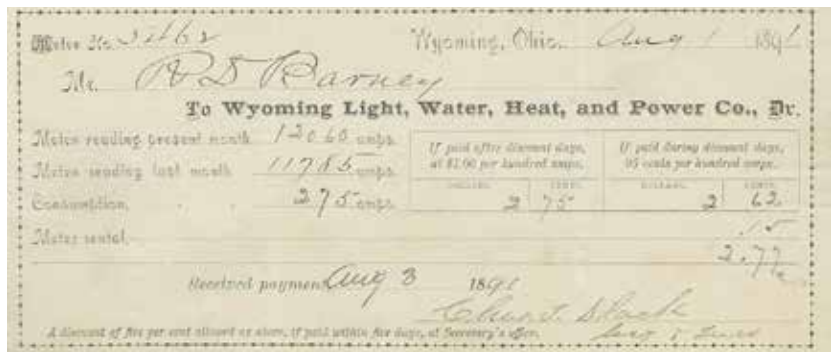
There are a number of Historical Marker opportunities available. If you are interested in sponsoring one, please give us a call.

THE POWER OF IT ALL.....



We all cringe when our gas and electric bills arrive! It's painful. Back in 1891, they probably thought the same. Here is a bill and a receipt from the Wyoming Light, Water, Heat, and Power Co. in 1891. What do you think? These items were from R. D. Barney, Mayor 1886-1896.

Your Wyoming Historical Society has a pile of receipts from the Barney estate that help us understand life in the late 1800s.



-- MARK YOUR CALENDAR -- PROGRAMS FOR THE 2024-2025 YEAR

November 14, 2024 Wyoming historian and author, Rebecca Johnson, discusses the Ohio Indian Wars (1787-1815) and their impact on the nascent Wyoming community.

January 23, 2025 Wyoming resident and professor of history at Miami University's Hamilton campus, Matthew Smith explores the religious landscape of Cincinnati from its frontier beginnings to the wake of the Civil War and explains how the Queen City led the nation in the assimilation of religious minorities, driving growth in the economy, print culture, education and more.

February 20, 2025 WHS board member Amy Pursley examines the people and places behind Wyoming's street names and the changes to those names over the years.

March 27, 2025 Internationally known for his dedication to wildlife preservation, research and education, host of "the 90 Second Naturalist" and former Wyoming resident, Thane Maynard takes us on a journey through the history of the Cincinnati Zoo from its beginnings to the present day.

May TBA

WYOMING BY THE YEAR

1874-1898

1874-1898

In these early years, the population is rapidly increasing and school buildings, churches, and public buildings are added to accommodate the needs of the residents. Beautiful Victorian homes were beginning to line the as yet unpaved streets.

- 1874 Wyoming incorporates as a Village.
- 1875 Judson Harmon is sworn in as the 3rd Mayor of Wyoming and later serves as the Governor of Ohio and the U.S. Attorney General.
- 1876 Council appoints Charles Costello as the first Night Watchman in Wyoming.
- 1877 Council settled on the location of 12 street lamps and pays the lamp lighter one dollar per lamp per month to have them lit each evening from “dark to morn”.
- 1878 Wyoming builds its first jail cell and buys spittoons for the Council Room.
- 1879 The Street Committee was directed to confer with the Lockland Town Council about placing a flagman at the crossing on Wyoming Avenue.
- 1880 Molly Wilson and her friends start the first Wyoming Library.
- 1881 George Kinsey lays out Wyoming’s first tennis court in his yard on Burns Avenue.
- 1882 Wyoming’s first mayor, Henry Benton Teetor, writes *The Past and Present of the Mill Creek Valley* where Wyoming’s early history is detailed.
- 1883 Wyoming Baptist Church is incorporated and the building completed.
- 1884 Construction starts on Wyoming’s first Civic Center called The Amusement Hall at the corner of Springfield Pike and Worthington Avenue.
- 1885 Wyoming High School’s first graduating class is made up of four girls and one boy.
- 1886 Roderick D. Barney begins his ten years as the 7th Mayor. During his tenure, he started the Water Works, Fire Department, and the tree planting program.
- 1887 St. James builds its first church building on Crescent Avenue. A few years later a school building is added.
- 1888 Wyoming lays almost 6,000 lineal feet of concrete sidewalks making it a leader in installing concrete sidewalks in the State of Ohio.
- 1889 With population growing fast, construction begins on the Tower High School on Wyoming Avenue. It opened in 1890.
- 1890 The Presbyterian Church of Wyoming dedicates its new stone building designed by Samuel Hannaford.
- 1891 Council passes Ordinance 332 creating the position of Solicitor for the Village of Wyoming.
- 1892 Gala celebration at the opening of the Wyoming Water Works. And, local magazine names Wyoming “Queen of the Suburbs.”
- 1893 Wyoming Volunteer Fire Department is established by Ordinance.
- 1894 Augustus Killian is sworn in as Wyoming’s Sealer of Weights and Measures.
- 1895 The Wyoming Library becomes part of the Public Library System of Cincinnati and Hamilton County.
- 1896 Company #2 of the Wyoming Fire Department is formed.
- 1897 The links of the original 6-hole Wyoming Golf Club are laid out between Springfield Pike, Wentworth, Pendery, and Burns with some holes crossing streets.
- 1898 Clifford Sears starts Sears Plumbing in Wyoming. It lasted three generations, 111 years.

WYOMING BY THE YEAR

1899-1923

1899-1923

The Town Council spends much of their meeting talking about the quality of the dirt and gravel streets and sidewalks. Especially in summer, the streets produce lots of dust from wagons and livestock. To control this problem, they pay to have the streets “sprinkled” with water and oil. Homes were often built far back off the roads so the dust would not be as much of a problem for the owners.

- 1899 The Millcreek Valley Trolley comes to Wyoming.
- 1900 First telephone in Wyoming is at Dehmel’s Drug Store in the Woodruff Building.
- 1901 The Cincinnati, Glendale and Hamilton Railway is incorporated and runs its first car through Wyoming.
- 1902 Addison A. “A.A.” Taylor becomes the 11th Mayor of Wyoming. He also served as Wyoming Treasurer and Councilman.
- 1903 Fred Bracker and George Disstler were appointed Night Police for one year terms.
- 1904 The Wyoming Study Club was formed for “the improvement of the intellectual and artistic tastes of its members.”
- 1905 The boulevard between Wyoming Avenue and Wentworth Avenue, which had been requested by residents in 1903, was completed.
- 1906 Carnival & Circus was performed for over 900 adults and children at the Amusement Hall.
- 1907 The Amusement Hall succumbs to fire.
- 1908 The Wyoming Club becomes the 2nd Civic Center in Wyoming replacing the fire ravaged Amusement Hall at the same location.
- 1909 Ordinance fixed the salary of the Mayor at \$4 per annum payable at \$1 per quarter.
- 1910 George Kloster becomes Wyoming’s first motorcycle (mounted) Police Officer.
- 1911 The Oak Avenue Colony School is dedicated.
- 1912 Village Marshall George Kloster is the first Wyoming Police Officer to be killed in the line of duty.
- 1913 A special election was held regarding the ‘sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage’. There were 76 votes for and 333 votes against!
- 1914 Reuben Tyler, who served at Wyoming’s 2nd, 4th and 10th Mayor, passes away.
- 1915 Mother’s Club, forerunner of the PTA & PSA, forms.
- 1916 Wyoming Woman’s Club holds its first meeting.
- 1917 City Council votes to replace its horse-drawn fire truck with an engine powered truck.
- 1918 City donated use of the Clerk’s and Mayor’s offices for the WWI draft registration.
- 1919 With a grand reception, Wyoming welcomes back over 150 residents who served in World War I.
- 1920 Wyoming High School produced its first yearbook.
- 1921 Dr. Charles Sherman “Daddy” Fay, who served the schools for 47 years, retires as Superintendent.
- 1922 The Valentine Fete, forerunner of the May Fete, makes \$101.
- 1923 Wyoming School Orchestra is formed as an “Enrichment Activity.”

HAPPY 150TH WYOMING!!!!

The Wyoming Historical Society
800 Oak Avenue
Wyoming OH 45215

Look forward to seeing you at our
next program September 26th!



Join us at the Village Green. Our booth will be near the corner of Wyoming and Oak Avenues.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER...Jim Walton

Dear Members,

As summer comes to a close, we are excited to resume our Programs at the Civic Center in September and November. As always, we will be at our booth for the Wyoming Fall Festival in October.



This is my favorite City event, where we see so many friendly and familiar faces. We will bring the store to you and have many items for sale including Wyoming-Opoly and all the Wyoming related books. Pick up a Self-Guided Walking Map of the Historic District and enjoy a fall stroll in Wyoming. And you might just be able to find some holiday gifts.

Please stop by and say hello.