



Olmsted 200

Two Centuries and More History of Olmsted Falls and Olmsted Township –
First Farmed in 1814 and Settled in 1815

Issue 116

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Olmsted's First Mayor Lasted Longer than Previously Told

When researching Olmsted's history, it's sometimes difficult to separate myths from facts. Certain stories repeated as fact over many years have turned out to be erroneous. The latest story to fall into that category is that of the first mayor of Olmsted Falls, Thomas Brown. It seems he lived a longer life than reported in history books, but he didn't live it in Olmsted Falls.

Brown was the first proprietor of the Grand Pacific Hotel. He gave that name to the former seminary building that was moved from the east side of Rocky River along what now is Lewis Road (then Seminary Road) to downtown Olmsted Falls on the west side of the river. It is believed the building was rolled across the river on the newly built railroad bridge, so it could become a hotel



No photo is known to exist of this building when it was a hotel for decades in the 1800s, let alone when it was a seminary on the other side of the river, but this photo of it as Peltz & Simmerer's store indicates what it was like earlier.

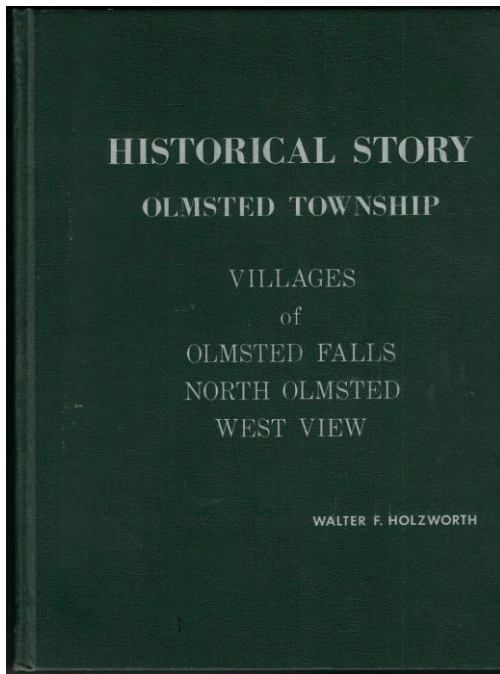
in the 1850s. Unfortunately, no local newspaper regularly reported Olmsted Falls news until more than a decade later, so details of how the building was moved were not recorded.

However, Sam Jaeger wrote in “A Word Picture of Olmsted Falls Village and Olmsted Township” in the *Olmsted Falls Homecoming 1939 Souvenir Program* that an old ticket from the hotel – then in the possession of Ella Hendrickson Sinclair – looked like this:

THANKSGIVING PARTY
at
T. BROWN’S HOTEL, OLMSTED FALLS, O.
On Thursday Eve. Nov. 25—‘58
Music by Stanton’s Harp Band
Tickets Two Dollars

In addition to being the proprietor of the Grand Pacific Hotel, Brown became the first mayor of Olmsted Falls when it was incorporated as a village on April 7, 1856. He served no more than a year in that role. W.S. Carpenter took over as mayor in 1857.

Bernice Offenbergl included a similar reproduction of the Thanksgiving party ticket in her 1964 book, *Over the Years in Olmsted*. She then added information about Brown that was not included in the history article in the 1939 souvenir program:



Walter Holzworth’s 1966 history was just one of a few that said Thomas Brown died in a robbery-murder.

Years later Thomas Brown the proprietor of this hotel drove to Cleveland with a large sum of money that belonged to this hotel to deposit in a Cleveland bank. He disappeared. Everyone thought that he had absconded with the money. A few years later a skeleton with a bullet in the skull was found in Devil’s Hole on Columbia Road. The Brown family moved away. Several years later, Orpha Brown visited Josephine (Kidney) Vaughan at her home in Kansas City, Kansas. Miss Brown told Mrs. Vaughan that her family had never heard from her father and they believed that he had been murdered and thrown over the bank into Devil’s Hole in Olmsted Falls.

Walter Holzworth, in his 1966 book on Olmsted history, included a slightly different representation of the Thanksgiving party ticket

and offered a similar version of how Brown met his demise. However, he referred to the place along Columbia Road (which had a different name in the 1800s) where the robbery and murder reportedly occurred as Devil's Gulch. Longtime Olmsted residents might recall that area as a section where the road dipped while making a sharp curve. It was bypassed a few decades ago when Ohio Route 252 was rerouted and now can be found only at the end of a cul-de-sac where the new highway cuts off the old Columbia Road. It is in North Olmsted, not Olmsted Falls, as Offenberger wrote.



On the left is the cul-de-sac where the old Columbia Road was cut off a few decades ago when the new Route 252 was built in North Olmsted. Before the road was bypassed, it made a sharp curve there next to a ravine called Devil's Hole or Devil's Gulch. On the right, a house among the trees in that ravine can be seen. It was there that Thomas Brown, first mayor of Olmsted Falls, was said to have lost his life while being robbed on his way to make a deposit at a Cleveland bank. Perhaps someone was robbed and murdered there, but it wasn't Brown.

Relying on Offenberger's and Holzworth's accounts, the 2010 book, *The Olmsted Story: A Brief History of Olmsted Falls & Olmsted Township*, also included a few sentences about the robbery-murder that apparently ended Brown's life.

That might have remained the story about what happened to Brown, but David Kennedy, who has conducted much research for *Olmsted 200*, started doubting it a few years ago when he began finding information to the contrary. Since then, he has steadily gathered more and more evidence that Thomas Brown did not die in a gulch along the road to Cleveland but instead lived a long life in Lorain County.

"When I first read about Tom Brown's death by homicide, I searched the internet, Find-a-Grave, *Cleveland Leader* newspaper, etc., and nothing was there," Kennedy wrote in August 2022. "Local cemeteries in OF, Berea, North Olmsted, Columbia Station were all searched for Thomas Brown. No results. I expanded my search to the rest of Lorain County and then I found a Thomas Brown at Ridgelawn Cemetery [in Elyria]. Records there had been destroyed by a fire, which complicated things."

Further research revealed that Thomas Brown showed up several times in U.S. Census records for Lorain County. He also had a daughter named Orpha and a wife

named Philena, as the Brown who once owned the Grand Pacific Hotel did. For Kennedy, that was enough to prove Brown did not die along the roadside.

“I knew this was a made-up story about his death immediately,” he wrote. “The people who found his skull and the other bones certainly would have had law enforcement return to the family what they found for burial and there was no mention of this.”

The more Kennedy researched, the more he found evidence to prove that Brown lived a long time, mostly in Lorain County. He was born in 1808 and died in 1896, so his life spanned every decade of the 19th century.

For example, if Brown had been killed and disappeared while taking money from the hotel to a Cleveland bank, ownership of the hotel would have had to pass from his estate to the next proprietor. That likely would have happened only after some time had passed and his family had him declared legally dead. However, the sale of the lot with the hotel on it is recorded in official records in 1859, titled “Thomas Brown & wife – To – Joel Ferrell.” Handwritten in the style of that time and lacking most punctuation, it reads this way:

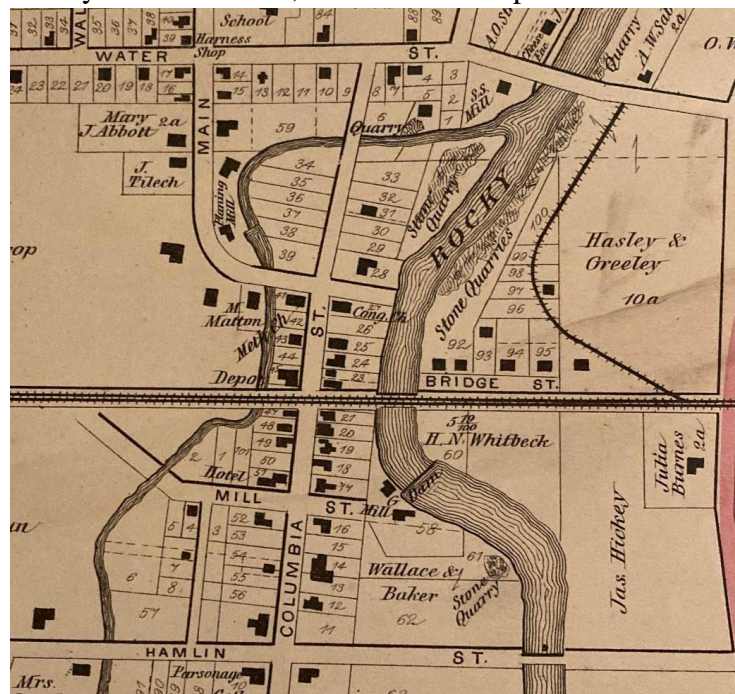
To all persons to whom these presents shall come Greeting Know ye that I Thomas Brown of Olmsted Cuyahoga County Ohio for the consideration of five hundred dollars received to my full satisfaction of Joel Ferrell of Elyria Ohio do give grant bargain sell and confirm unto the said Joel Ferrell the following described tract of land situate in the township of Olmsted in the County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio and is known as being lot number fifty one (51) in the village of Olmsted Falls in the township and county aforesaid as surveyed and platted by Isaac Henryir [or something like that] the same more or less but subject to all legal highways. To have and to hold the above granted and bargained premises with the appurtenances thereunto belonging unto him the said Joel Ferrell his heirs and assigns forever to his and their own proper use and behoof. And I the said Thomas Brown for myself my executors and administrators covenant with the said Joel Ferrell his heirs and assigns that at and until the unsealing of these presents I am well seized of the premises as a good and indefeasible estate in fee simple and have good right to bargain and sell the same in manner and form as above written and that the same is free from all encumbrances whatsoever. And furthermore I the said Thomas Brown do by these presents bind myself & any heirs forever to warrant and defend the above granted and bargained premises to him the said Joel Ferrell his heirs and assigns against all lawful claims and demands whatsoever....

The entry also includes language acknowledging that Brown’s wife, Philena, also agreed to the sale. The agreement was signed on September 15, 1859, and recorded on October 8, 1859.

That indicates that Brown quit running the hotel in 1859, and Ferrell took over. Until now, Ferrell was not listed as one of the proprietors of the hotel in history books. However, Holzworth's extensive history book does not mention any of the proprietors after Brown until March 1872, when Nicholas Moley took over.

It is not clear when Brown bought the property where the hotel was located, but he is listed on an 1853 tax list for two properties in Olmsted Falls. That's also the year the railroad first started operating through Olmsted Falls, and it is believed that the former seminary that was along Lewis Road (then Seminary Road) was hauled across Rocky River over the railroad bridge to Columbia Road (then Columbia Street) to be put to use as the hotel. The railroad also gave Brown an easy way to travel between Olmsted Falls and Elyria, as well as between Elyria and Oberlin, where he later operated a hotel.

Brown's 1859 sale of the hotel property is just one of a few of his Olmsted Falls real estate transactions in that period. Another record shows that two years earlier on November 13, 1857, he bought Lot 49 in Olmsted Falls from Newton F. and Amelia Marsh for \$200. (Marsh was listed on an 1858 map of Olmsted Falls as being a medical doctor.) That lot was a bit north of Lot 51, where the hotel was situated. Perhaps Brown and his family lived there for a while. It is the same lot where Joseph Peltz later built his home, which now houses Mary's Beauty Salon.



This section of an 1874 Olmsted Falls map shows the hotel was located on Lot 51. Two tracts north of that was Lot 49, which Thomas Brown bought in 1857.

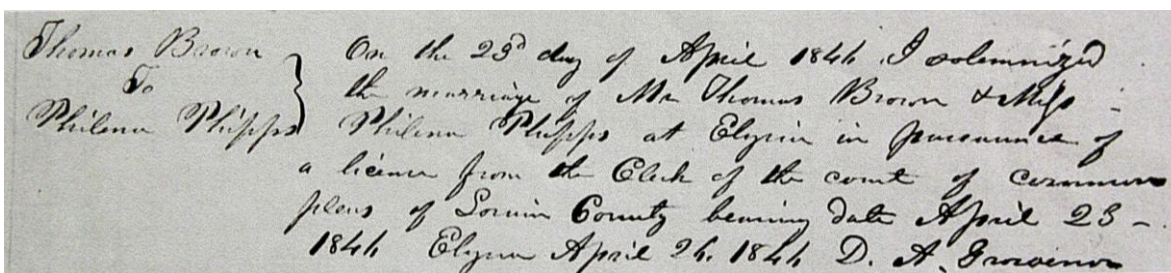
The 1859 transaction indicated that Brown was a resident of Olmsted, but by the time he engaged in another sale of Olmsted Falls land one year later, he was said to be a resident of Elyria. The sale was of Lot 1 and Lot 2 which were located farther west on Mill Street from the hotel and bordering Plum Creek – called “Plumb Creek” in the record of the sale. That's generally where the parking lot for Grand Pacific Junction now is located. The sale occurred on September 19, 1860.

An 1879 book, *History of Lorain County, Ohio*, included a paragraph mostly about Brown. Here are the pertinent parts:

Thomas Brown, who has been a resident of Lorain county nearly half a century, came to the mouth of Black river from Detroit in 1829, and opened a tailor shop there. He married Ann Smith, daughter of William and Elizabeth Smith...and continued his residence in Black River for twenty-two years. Mr. Brown subsequently engaged in the business of hotel keeping, and was the proprietor of the American House in Elyria for many years. He has now (1878) charge of the Park House in Oberlin.

Although that account stated that Brown had been a resident of Lorain County for almost 50 years, he apparently lived in Olmsted Falls during part of the 1850s – long enough to have run the hotel and served a year as mayor. Census records never showed Brown as a resident of Olmsted Falls because he apparently lived there only between the 1850 Census and that of 1860.

Census and other records show that Thomas Brown was born on May 7, 1808, in New Hampshire to parents who had come from New Jersey. By the time he was age 22 and married Ann Smith on August 5, 1830, he was a resident of Black River in Lorain County. Census records from 1840 and 1850 show he still was a resident of Black River. His occupation was listed as farmer in 1850. However, his first wife died in 1845. By then, she had given birth to five children, but only two daughters survived beyond childhood. One of them was Orpha, who was born in 1845, about five months before her mother died.



This is the public record that shows Thomas Brown married Philena Phipps in Elyria on April 18, 1846.

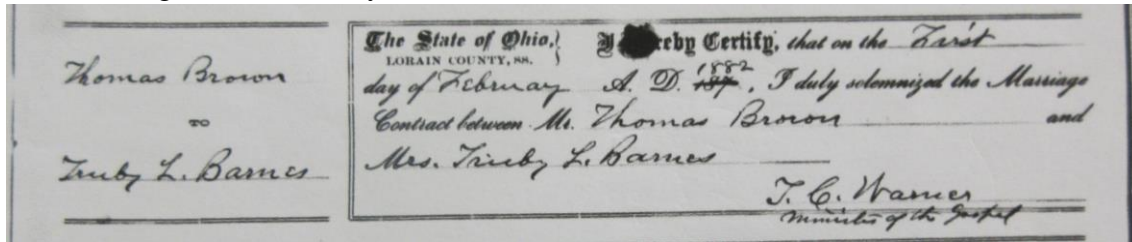
On April 18, 1846, Brown married Philena Phipps in Elyria. She gave birth to three children, but only one survived to adulthood. By the time of the Census of 1860 (the year after he sold the Grand Pacific Hotel), Brown was listed as a resident of Elyria. His occupation was given as “inn keeper.” The 1870 Census showed he still lived in Elyria. Under occupation, it said “keeps boarding house.” The 1880 Census listed him as a resident of Ridgeville (now North Ridgeville). His occupation was “landlord.” Other records show he also owned a Ridgeville farm.



This is Philena Brown's gravestone at Ridgelawn Cemetery in Elyria.

Philena died in 1881. Her body was buried at Ridgelawn Cemetery in Elyria. On February 1, 1882, at age 73, Brown married his third wife, Truba Emmons Barnes,

who was known as Truby. Thomas Brown died January 8, 1896, in Elyria and was buried there at Ridgelawn Cemetery.

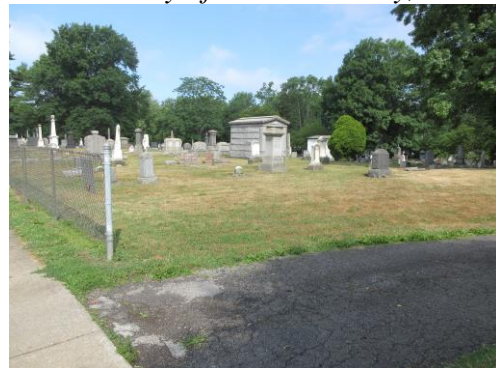


This record from Lorain County shows Thomas Brown married Truby Barnes on February 1, 1882.

Under the headline “Elyria Happenings,” the *Plain Dealer* for January 9, 1896, included this item:

Funeral services will be held tomorrow over the remains of Thomas Brown, one of the oldest residents of Ridgeville. Mr. Brown was a resident of Elyria a great many years and managed the hotel known as the Washington house in this city. He was eighty-eight years old at the time of his death.

Kennedy notes that the Washington House hotel mentioned in that obituary item was the same as the American House mentioned in the *History of Lorain County, Ohio*.



Instead of having his life cut short during a robbery north of Olmsted Falls, as some historical accounts told, Thomas Brown was laid to rest here at Ridgelawn Cemetery in Elyria after a long life.

Another newspaper, the *Cleveland Leader*, on January 11, 1896, reported: “Odd Fellows attended the funeral services over the remains of Thomas Brown in Ridgeville this afternoon. The deceased had been a member of the order for about forty years.”

This past summer, Jim Boddy, who spent most of his career working in Lorain County, helped Kennedy and *Olmsted 200* find the graves of Brown and some of his relatives in Ridgelawn Cemetery in Elyria.

Records for Brown's daughter, Orpha, show she married James Brannan in 1869, when she was age 24. They initially lived in Norwalk, Ohio, but by 1880, they had moved to Bloomington, Illinois. In 1896, when her father died, Orpha and her family lived in Creston, Iowa. When her husband died in 1899, they resided in Sioux City, Iowa. By 1900, she had moved to Galena, Kansas. One source says she lived there with her daughter, Alice, while another says she lived with her sister and brother-in-law, E.B. and Abigail Schermerhorn. She died in Galena on March 29, 1919.

Galena is in the southeastern corner of Kansas near the borders of Missouri and Oklahoma. Kansas City, Kansas, is about 150 miles due north of Galena, so it is possible that she visited Josephine (Kidney) Vaughan there at some time, as Offenberger wrote in her book. However, the story that she told her friend that her father, Thomas Brown, died in a robbery-murder north of Olmsted Falls in the mid-1800s – if she did tell her that – makes no sense. Records clearly show he didn't.



This is Thomas Brown's grave in Ridgelawn Cemetery in Elyria.

David Kennedy deserves most of the credit for this story because it would not exist without his tenacious research into uncovering the truth about Thomas Brown. Jim Boddy helped in locating Brown's grave in Elyria. Rhonda Miles, wife of Kennedy's high school friend Mike Miles, also helped by finding the Plain Dealer obituary for Brown.

Shady Chalet Wasn't the Only Home for Geists

Several people reacted to the story in last month's issue about the Shady Chalet. It was the large house at 7311 River Road that was built in the 1920s by an idealistic



The Shady Chalet was located about here on River Road.

woman before it became the home of Irving and Edna Geist and their family for a few decades. The first response came from Gwenn Geist. She is the daughter of Irving and Edna's only son, Garry, and his wife, Geraldine, who was known as Gerry.

Gwenn wrote that, after her father and his four sisters grew up in the Shady Chalet, her grandparents gave her parents property at 7305 River Road "to build their dream home." That's where she and her four brothers grew up, but the house was torn down sometime after 2005 and replaced by a larger house.

“The new owners used our same foundation, Geist Stone, to build their dream home,” Gwenn wrote. “So the views are still the same that I had from windows growing up. I was so BLESSED my grandfather used to own that company.” She added, “There is no other view in Olmsted Falls like that back yard of mine.”

Although her brothers – Grant, Gordon, Glenn and Garth – moved away, Gwenn remains nearby and misses her former home.



Lined up here, left to right, in order from oldest to youngest are Grant, Gordon, Glenn, Gwenn and Garth Geist. Photo courtesy of Gwenn Geist.

High School athletic complex. At Olmsted Community Church, she taught Sunday school, served as board treasurer and chaired the committee for celebration of the church’s centennial.

In recognition of her service, Gerry Geist was inducted into the OFHS Alumni Association Hall of Fame, named the Olmsted Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 2000 and given the Cox Cable Spotlight Award.

Garry Geist preceded his wife in death at age 79 on January 7, 2009. He spent his career working for NACA and the College Life Insurance Company, according to his obituary.

But Garry Geist wasn’t the only offspring of Irving and Edna Geist to receive property for a house from them. “He gave my parents their property first,” Carolyn Bustard Rutz told *Olmsted 200* in December. The house was located at 7339 River Road



When this photo was taken in November 1956, Garry and Gerry Geist’s home was still under construction. Photo courtesy of Carolyn Rutz.

“It was hurtful when our house came down, but the memories live on that molded each and every one of my brothers as well,” she wrote.

“My mother was our glue,” Gwenn said. “She gave so much to Olmsted Falls.”

Indeed, she did. The obituary published after her September 30, 2015, death at the age of 86 noted many of those activities. She served for 15 years under four mayors as Olmsted Falls clerk, finance director and clerk of council. She also served as head of Olmsted Heritage Days and as program coordinator for the Grand Pacific Junction Merchants Association. She spearheaded fundraising for the Olmsted Falls



Gerry Geist lived to age 86 in 2015.

near what she and her family called the “turnaround” where River Road and Nobottom Road meet.

(The other three daughters of Irving and Edna Geist did not stay in Olmsted Falls. Joanne married an Army man, and they lived in many places, including Japan, Germany and Virginia. Nanette married a railroad man, so they moved to Pennsylvania, New York and other places. Sally – whose proper name was Sara – was Garry’s twin. She stayed in the Cleveland area but not in Olmsted Falls.)

“My house was right by the turn-around,” Rutz said. “You can hardly recognize it now because it used to be brick – Geist stone, of course – but it is siding now. The front yard and all the stuff around it is very different. My parents built that house in 1948, and we moved into it just before I was born. I believe. The next people to get the land that was down by the river was Uncle Garry and Aunt Gerry.”

The Bustard house was pink until the siding put up by the subsequent owners turned it brown. “It wasn’t a hugely bright pink, but it was pink,” Rutz said.

Her family’s house was built in 1948, and Garry and Gerry Geist’s house was built in 1956 and 1957. Each was about the same distance from the Shady Chalet, but the Geists’ house was down the big hill behind the chalet and close to the river.

Rutz’s father, William Bustard, was born in Scotland. His family immigrated to the United States when he was nine years old and settled in Warren, Ohio. He served in World War II and received a bronze star for his service.



The Bustards’ house, built in 1948, was pink. Photo courtesy of Carolyn Rutz.

“Our house was always dedicated to Scottish things,” Rutz said. “The name of our house was Braeburn.” In Scottish, brae means “hill” and burn means “river,” so the name of the house, which was on a sign out front, referred to it being along both a hill and the river.

“When my dad came home from the war, he married my mother, and they started dreaming about our house and planning what they wanted,” Rutz said. “There was an attached garage at the one side of the house. Eventually, it was turned into an extra bedroom and another bathroom because there wasn’t enough room.”

In 1969, Rutz’s father was transferred by his company to New Jersey. He worked for Arthur G. McKee & Company, which was involved in chemical engineering and construction of such facilities as oil refineries. (In 1978, Britain’s Davy International Ltd. acquired McKee, and the combined company became known as Davy McKee.)

Rutz was the oldest of her parents' children. She graduated from Olmsted Falls High School in 1966, and in 1969, she got married, so she didn't follow the family to New Jersey. She stayed in Ohio and now lives in Berea.

Her brother, Bruce, was heading into his sophomore year in high school when the family moved in 1969. He was the tallest boy in the Class of 1972, and said his father joked that the OFHS basketball coach must have cried when they left town. Her sister, Laurie, was 11 years old at the time of the move.



Geist stone helped build the family's fortune, as well as houses. Photo courtesy of Gwenn Geist.

Rutz has fond memories of the times she spent with her siblings, such as when they used the path between their house and their grandparents' house, the Shady Chalet.

"We called it the Snake Path because we thought there was lots of snakes," she said. "We would get a running start and run as fast as we could down the path to get to the chalet and then back home again."

The Snake Path got its name for good reason. "We saw snakes," Rutz said. "There were lots of snake holes, but once in a while we saw one, and that's what scared us. I suppose we could have taken the road, but we didn't."

Another of her memories is of a hillside filled with violets. "In the springtime, the violets were everywhere, and they grew to very long stems because they had to grow up the hill," Rutz said. "My mother would send me out to start picking them."

That hill of violets was destroyed when another house was built there, she said.

"We used to play in those woods and down by the river and down behind Leslie's house," Rutz said. "We'd be gone most of the day, and no one really was worried about us. We would have somebody whistle or yell and come home for dinner. It was really a wonderful place to grow up. We thought they were really big woods, but they really weren't. You could get up to Columbia Road at the end there, so it wasn't that big."

The Leslies were the family of Glen Leslie, who served as mayor of Olmsted Falls from 1960 through 1963. Their house was across River Road from the Bustards' house. It was an earlier Chalet-type house built by Amber Hines, the woman who had the Shady Chalet built, according to Rutz. The Leslies had a big yard surrounded by an iron fence, which allowed their Great Dane to roam the yard, she recalled.

Glen Leslie operated a heating and cooling business. Behind the Leslies' house was a swimming pool where Rutz took synchronized swimming lessons. She was two years younger than the Leslies' only child, Lynn, who was a cheerleader in high school and graduated in 1964. Eventually, the Leslies moved to Florida, Rutz said.

“When you went past the Leslie’s house, there used to be two roads,” she said. “Of course, there is not anymore. They built all those houses [on the extension of River Road]. But to the left was the Leslie’s property. For a long time, it was like soybean fields. There were some houses that were way in the back, and some of those people had some horses. But the other part of the road went past my grandparents’ house. It went down around to the garage.”

In addition to Gwenn Geist and Carolyn Rutz, the Shady Chalet story sparked memories of other *Olmsted 200* readers who shared them on Facebook.

“I really enjoyed reading this story and never knew about its history and intent,” Jeff Redinger wrote. “I have one story to share about this Shady Chalet! Pat Hecker and I (in our young teens) set off some fireworks in front of it one night and some fella came storming out of the building yelling and shooting, yes shooting at us! Never ran so fast in my life and was too scared to tell our parents because we thought we’d get in trouble for fireworks! Too bad it had to be taken down, but the renters there were pretty rough!”

Katy Raita Kafantaris wrote, “Thank you for this! So interesting! That lot at 7311 River Road was for sale at one time years ago and my husband and I almost bought it. We sometimes wish that we did. Always wondered what used to be there (interesting old retaining wall on that lot) and now I know!”

Mike Lander wrote, “Thank you for sharing!!! My aunt and uncle lived in this chalet. I remember visiting and being amazed with the large house.”

And Jane Moore wrote, “Way before it was turned into apartments, I used to go to Pajama parties with friend Carolyn Bustard – granddaughter of the Geists who lived there. I have fond memories of the fun we had!”

In addition to Gwenn Geist and Carolyn Rutz, who shared their memories and photos, thanks go to Rutz’s daughter, Erin Smith, who helped her mother email photos to Olmsted 200.

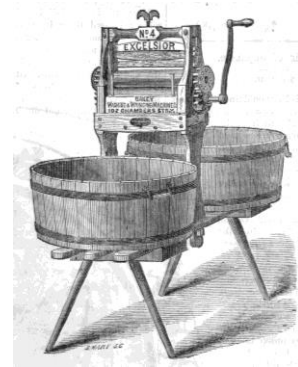
Newspaper Reported Progress in Olmsted in 1873

Residents of Olmsted Falls and West View (which now is part of Olmsted Falls) who read their local newspaper, Berea’s *Grindstone City Advertiser*, 150 years ago learned of two new developments in their communities. One affected a building that is still prominent today. The other affected people’s daily lives.

On January 24, 1873, the Olmsted column in the *Advertiser* included this item: “Our hotel has changed hands again. The present proprietor is Mr. Loren Fitch. Mr. Fitch is renovating the house from garret to cellar and intends to renovate the name also by keeping a hotel worthy of the patronage of the citizens and public generally.”

Of course, the hotel was the Grand Pacific Hotel that Thomas Brown had established in the 1850s. (See first story in this issue.) Whether it was still called that is not clear. Subsequent owners might have changed the name. The reference in the news item about renovating the name could have meant it was getting a new name or perhaps it meant Fitch intended to revive its reputation after a disreputable period.

The item in the West View column in the same edition of the *Advertiser* was about a traveling salesman: “A washing machine man has been in town this week with a very light, neat, cheap and effective little washing machine, which is much liked by those who have tried it. Mr. Cory (the ag’t) advances some strong assertions of its speed which he is prepared to prove by doing your washing free.”



Of course, washing machines in the 1870s were nothing like the washing machines of the 21st century or even those of the 20th century. Back then, washing machines were still powered by human muscles. The first washing machine powered by electricity was introduced in 1908. The first automatic washing machine came along in 1937. Nevertheless, anything that made the chore of washing clothes easier in 1873 was no doubt welcome in West View and many other communities. Progress is relative.

The news item did not mention the brand of the washing machine, but Bailey Washing and Wringing Machine Company advertised this one, the Excelsior, in 1872.

Still to Come

The next issue of *Olmsted 200* will include more stories about the history of Olmsted Falls and Olmsted Township.

If you know of other people who would like to receive *Olmsted 200* by email, please feel free to forward it to them. They can get on the distribution list by sending a request to: wallacestar@hotmail.com. *Olmsted 200* has readers in several states beyond Ohio, including Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin, and as well as overseas in the Netherlands, Germany and Japan.

Your questions and comments about *Olmsted 200* are welcome. Perhaps there is something about Olmsted’s history that you would like to have pulled out of *Olmsted 200*’s extensive archives. Or perhaps you have information or photos about the community’s history that you would like to share.

If you have missed any of the past issues of *Olmsted 200* or want to share them with someone else, all of them can be found on Olmsted Township’s website. Go to <http://olmstedtownship.org/newsletters/>. A list of *Olmsted 200* issues is on the right side.

Click on the number of the issue you want to read. All of the issues of *Olmsted 200* also are available on the website of the City of Olmsted Falls. Find them at: http://www.olmstedfalls.org/olmsted_falls_history/index.php. A link to *Olmsted 200* can be found on the left side of the page.

Except where otherwise noted, all articles in *Olmsted 200* are written by Jim Wallace. Thanks go to Mary Louise King for help in proofreading and editing many issues. Thanks also go to David Kennedy for frequently contributing research and insight for some stories. Written contributions and photos, as well as comments and questions about items in this newsletter, will be considered for publication. Send any correspondence by email to: wallacestar@hotmail.com.

Olmsted 200 is written, researched and edited by Jim Wallace, who is solely responsible for its content. He is co-author (with Bruce Banks) of ***The Olmsted Story: A Brief History of Olmsted Falls and Olmsted Township***, published in 2010 by The History Press of Charleston, S.C. ***The Olmsted Story*** is available at Angelina's Pizza in Olmsted Falls and the Berea Historical Society's Mahler Museum & History Center and through online booksellers.

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