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STREETS OF FORT WAYNE

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STREETS OF FORT WAYNE

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Allen
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FOREWORD

Fort Wayne streets keep before us the names of families and individuals who played a large part in the growth of this city, from the time the white men arrived, through its development into a thriving industrial center. Angus C. McCoy traced the historical significance of many streets in a speech before the Quest Club, November 30, 1945. Old plat records and maps, old city directories, Griswold's and Brice's histories of Fort Wayne, and interviews with descendants of old settlers were his sources. The following paper, with some additions which bring it up to date, is a condensation of Mr. McCoy's original speech.



~ ANGUS C. McCOY ~

ANGUS C. McCOY

Angus C. McCoy has long been known to Fort Wayne businessmen as the president of the Taxpayers' Research Association. The association, organized nearly twenty years ago, was the outgrowth of a five-year plan of budget study which Mr. McCoy submitted to a number of leading businessmen of the city in 1933.

Born June 11, 1886, in Adams Township near Fort Wayne, Mr. McCoy has been a lifelong resident of this area. As a youth he attended the Fort Wayne public schools and International Business College. He later held positions as an accountant with local firms, with the exception of one year spent with a firm of certified public accountants in Detroit.

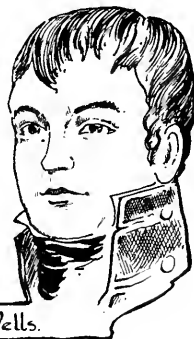
His election as auditor of Allen County for the period from 1919 to 1923 began his long career of service to the community and local government. Mayor William C. Geake appointed him city comptroller for the period from 1926 to 1929. In 1945-46, he was appointed a member of the Governor's Tax Study Commission, and in 1947-48, a member of the Indiana Tax Study Commission. He has been active at several sessions of the General Assembly as a registered lobbyist for the local taxpayers association, seeking better tax laws and better administration of state and local government.

He is vice-chairman of an organization which has encouraged such constructive legislation for many years, the Indiana Tax Study Committee. An independent organization of businessmen, the group represents all segments of the economy of the state.

Mr. McCoy has been president of the Kiwanis Club, secretary of the Quest Club, and director of the Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of Wayne Lodge and other Masonic orders.



general
Anthony Wayne



captain
William Wells.



colonel
John Allen.



chief
Jean Baptiste Richardville



Pontiac



Tecumseh

The names of Fort Wayne streets link themselves with explorers, Indian lore, frontier days, traders, pioneers, wars, soldiers, statesmen, politicians, lawyers, and bankers. The men who achieved distinction as workers and community leaders, who ran the spice and gristmills, the inns and taverns, boat and carriage works, tanneries, soap and shirtwaist factories, organ and piano plants--all are in the panorama.

Many street names are decidedly reminiscent of frontier days. Fort Wayne, the township, and several streets immortalize Major General Anthony Wayne. WAYNE TRACE marks his route to Fort Greenville after the completion of his fort; ANTHONY BOULEVARD also bears his name.

WELLS STREET and SPY RUN AVENUE are located in the section of land known as Wells Pre-emption. Captain William Wells had been granted the land by an act of Congress in 1808. He was said to have been captain of the mounted spies for Anthony Wayne, so the small brook which ran through his land became known as "Spy Run." LIMA ROAD, the continuation of Wells Street, was known as the Lima Plank Road because it led to Lima, Indiana (now known as Howe).

PIQUA AVENUE is a portion of the original Piqua Plank Road. Over this route in 1812, Captain Logan escorted twenty-five women and children of the fort to Piqua in safety.

PORTAGE BOULEVARD lies southwest, beyond Ardmore Avenue. Originally a carrying place over land between navigable waters, it was a well-traced road. Parts of Columbia and Main streets were formerly called Portage Road.

ALLEN AVENUE derives its name from Colonel John Allen, lawyer, statesman, and soldier, who lost his life in the Battle of River Raisin. He was considered a hero and admired greatly by those who laid out the county.



The Old Fort Place.

OLD MILL ROAD is a continuation of Broadway and was so named because it is substantially along the old trail which the pioneers used in coming from Decatur to the old mill, once located near the present Oakdale bridge.

OLD FORT PLACE is the name for that portion of Main Street from Lafayette to Clay streets and commemorates the location of the fort. LA FORT STREET, the first street in Lakeside proper, was formerly known as Old Fort Street. It was changed in 1929 so it would not be confused with Old Fort Place.

Jean Baptiste Richardville, Frenchman and civil chief of the Miamis during the declining days of the tribe, was given a large tract of land by the government, in accordance with the Treaty of 1818, because of the nation's recognition of his services. Through the years the word has acquired an "s," so that today it is RICHARDSVILLE AVENUE. PONTIAC, Ottawa chief, was referred to as the "Napoleon of the Western Indians"; TECUMSEH, celebrated Shawnee chief, possessed remarkable qualities for leadership. Both names have been given to Fort Wayne streets.

Beverly Randolph, for whom RANDOLPH STREET was named, was one of ten commissioners appointed by Washington to visit the West. PUTNAM STREET bears the name of Rufus Putnam, who concluded a treaty at Vincennes in 1792 with eight tribes of Wabash Indians. General Josiah Harmar's name is revered in the naming of HARMAR STREET. The street's northern terminus at the Maumee is at Harmar's Ford, the place where Harmar's army was ambushed by Little Turtle and his men. DEARBORN and PITT streets were named after two other early forts. BOONE STREET recalls to memory the pioneer explorer, Daniel Boone.

Northeastern Indiana is rich in the memories of the Indian, and MIAMI COURT and STREET, OSWEGO AVENUE, CHEROKEE ROAD, WABASH AVENUE, NIAGARA



1. "The Song of Hiawatha"

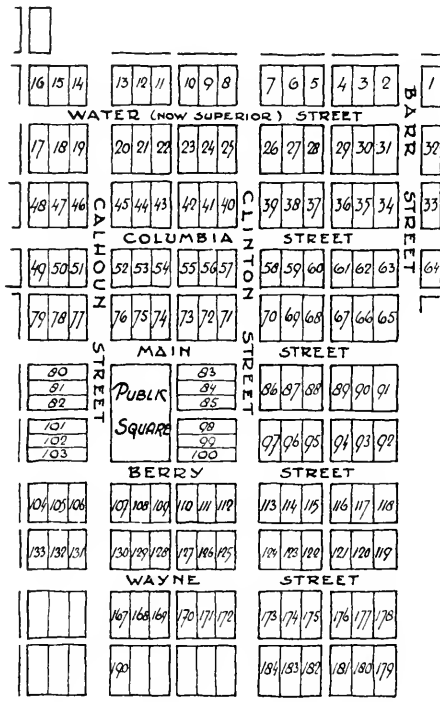
DRIVE, OSAGE STREET, ONTARIO STREET, SAGINAW DRIVE, SHAWNEE DRIVE, ILLINOIS STREET and ROAD, KENOSHA BOULEVARD, and ONEIDA STREET are living reminders of the days when red men stole quietly through the forests. It was not until June, 1927, in the platting of Indian Village, that Indian names came into their own. The following names were taken from Longfellow's epic, "Hiawatha": ALGONQUIN PASS (Ojibway, or Lake Superior Indians), HIAWATHA BOULEVARD (the wise man, teacher), OJIBWAY TRAIL, MONDAMIN PASS (Indian corn), MUSKODAY PASS (Mushkodasa, or grouse), NOKOMIS ROAD (grandmother), OWAISSA WAY (bluebird), OPE-CHEE WAY (robin), OSSEO LANE (son of evening star), WENDIGO LANE, MANITO BOULEVARD, and WAWONAISSA TRAIL.

Names connected with the molding of United States history--ARLINGTON AVENUE, LEXINGTON AVENUE and COURT, LIBERTY STREET, SENATE AVENUE, CONGRESS AVENUE, CAPITAL AVENUE, SHENANDOAH STREET, and SHERIDAN COURT--were chosen in more recent years.

French origins are apparent in MARQUETTE and CHAMPLAIN drives. LAFONTAINE STREET was named for an early Indian chief associated with Fort Wayne. LA SALLE STREET bears the name of a French family traceable to the days of the fort. Charles Lasselle was the first white man known to have been born at Kekionga, and although the spelling has been changed through the years, the street was named for him.

National figures whose names hold undiminished interest are recalled in the naming of many streets, such as CALHOUN STREET, HARRISON STREET, CLINTON STREET (named for De Witt Clinton, pioneer in the movement for the construction of the Erie Canal), and FRANKLIN AVENUE.

ROOSEVELT DRIVE in Kitch's Addition was named for "Teddy" Roosevelt. Some



THE ORIGINAL PLAT OF FORT WAYNE.

other streets named for presidents include WASHINGTON BOULEVARD, ADAMS STREET, JEFFERSON STREET, MADISON STREET, and MONROE STREET.

Of greater interest are the names of a small group of men, enterprising and distinguished, whose decisions within the first twenty or twenty-five years of Fort Wayne's history were to have their effect on the entire future of the city.

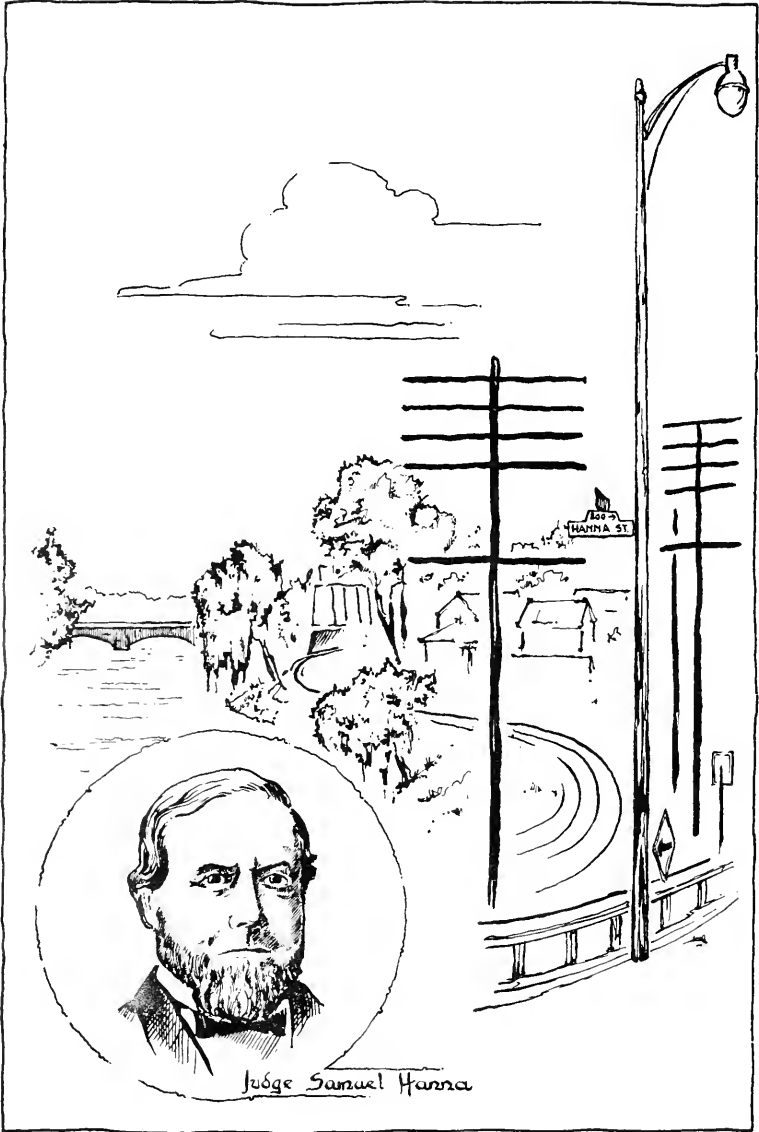
The first plat of the city of Fort Wayne was laid out in 1824 by John T. Barr and John McCorkle. It contained one hundred and eighteen lots, with three streets (Clinton, Calhoun, and Barr) running north and south and five (Wayne, Berry, Main, Columbia and Water, which was later renamed Superior) running east and west.

John T. Barr, whose name is perpetuated in BARR STREET, was a successful Baltimore merchant who had come West to embark on his first real estate venture; McCorkle, born at Piqua, owner of vast enterprises, and founder of St. Mary's, Ohio, became his associate. Although McCorkle donated to the town the site now known as Courthouse Square (for the erection of county buildings), he died at an early age without having a street named for him.

BERRY STREET was named for Benjamin Berry Kercheval, fur trader. A large tract of land northeast of Fort Wayne is known as "Kercheval Reserve." Although "Berry" Kercheval declined to lend his name to a street, his friends found a way to do so by calling it Berry.

The belief that MAIN STREET would become the busiest thoroughfare and that the city would some day extend east and west induced Barr and McCorkle to plat the downtown properties on Calhoun Street in a north and south direction. Years later, it was necessary to replat the lots so the buildings could front on Calhoun Street.

The name of Benjamin ARCHER, Jr., who bought the entire northeast quarter of the



Judge Samuel Hanna

square bounded by Calhoun, Harrison, Berry, and Wayne streets for \$31.50 in 1825, and the names of two sons, SHERMAN and PERRY, are retained in street-naming.

VANCE AVENUE recalls the name of Captain Samuel C. Vance, who was receiver of public moneys in 1823. John Wilt, for whom WILT STREET was named, entered the land office. DAVIS STREET was named for Anthony L. Davis, first clerk of the court, which opened August 9, 1824. BRACKENRIDGE STREET honors a family established here in the early 1830's, but the street is first mentioned in a plat recorded in 1866.

By far the most important figure in Fort Wayne's early history was Samuel Hanna, honored in the naming of HANNA STREET. He was connected at one time or another with every worthwhile enterprise; he pioneered in the movement for the Canal and railroad, served in the legislature, and donated the land for the site of the city hall and market place. The Hanna family consisted of twelve sons and one daughter, Eliza. The Hanna, Suttentfield, Nuttman, and Hayden families are interrelated, and their surnames or given names have been perpetuated in many of the city's streets. Some of the names which stem from the Hanna family are ELIZA and OLIVER streets. Eliza Hanna Hayden was the wife of Fred Hayden; the family name is associated with Hayden Park and HAYDEN STREET.

Francis Comparet, who founded the Fort Wayne branch of the American Fur Company and whose family traced its ownership of land in the United States to the year 1729, has his name perpetuated in two streets. FRANCIS STREET is recorded as early as 1839, although COMPARET STREET was not so named until later in Fort Wayne history.

According to a plat recorded in 1855, the first street south of Lewis Street was originally named Hamilton, in honor of Allen Hamilton, president of the Branch Bank of

Indiana. It later became Montgomery, for Allen Hamilton's son, and is now EAST DOUGLAS AVENUE. Later, a street in the southeast part of town was called HAMILTON AVENUE by a group of civic-minded men. MARGARET and JESSIE avenues are said to stem from the Hamilton name. Jessie L. Williams, who was Hamilton's partner in the City Mills and chief engineer for the Canal, married Miss Susan Creighton, honored in the naming of CREIGHTON AVENUE.

The Edsalls, Samuel and William, originated the Bluffton Road. Samuel was one of the builders of the first courthouse in 1831. He and his partner, William Rockhill, at one time owned and operated two sawmills. Samuel Edsall's home later became the Old Westminster property, which inspired the naming of Westminster Place (now a part of Thieme Drive) and COLLEGE STREET. UNION STREET was originally called Edsall; the present EDSALL AVENUE is in the eastern part of the city, in the addition once owned by Simon Edsall. JANE STREET also stems from the Edsall name.

In 1839 William Rockhill platted Rockhill's Addition. The original plat shows that an additional space of thirty-five feet on each side of Market Street (now known as BROADWAY), between Main and Berry streets, was "reserved for a market." The city of Fort Wayne still owns these two spaces. Broadway is 66 feet wide, of which 42 feet is paved, leaving 12 feet on each side for the sidewalk. The Rockhill name has been identified with Fort Wayne history since the 1820's, and William Rockhill was connected with the political, educational, and commercial life in this city until the Civil War. ROCKHILL STREET was among the first streets to be recorded. HOWELL STREET may have been named for Howell Rockhill, son of William and also an important figure in Fort Wayne history.

The first street south of Bass Street, from Fairfield Avenue east to Hoagland Ave-

nue, was once called Colerick Street, taking its name from David H. Colerick, attorney. The present COLERICK and ANTOINETTE (which also stems from the Colerick family) streets are in the southeast part of the city.

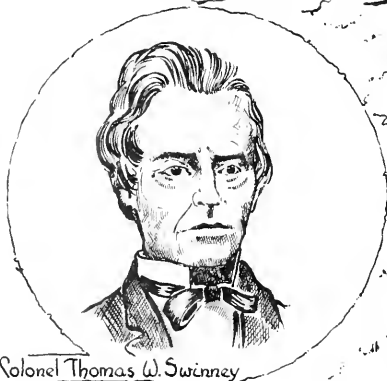
We can associate THOMPSON and SCOTT avenues with Dr. Lewis G. Thompson, one of the earliest practicing physicians, and Moses Hardpine Scott, Dr. Thompson's father-in-law.

The Fairfields, whose name is perpetuated in FAIRFIELD AVENUE, were first in a number of things--first to operate a canalboat, first to build a frame dwelling in South Wayne, and first to bring carriages to Fort Wayne in 1835. Asa Fairfield graded what is now Creighton Avenue, using earth to fill up the swampland, through which Fox Avenue was cut sometime later.

EWING STREET recalls W. G. (the first man to be admitted to the bar in Allen County) and his brother, G. W. Ewing. They were sons of Colonel Alexander Ewing, who came here in 1822 and is credited with having established a pioneer tavern--the one in which Allen County was organized. Ewing's Addition, laid out in 1840, included FULTON STREET, which terminated at the Canal. (Undoubtedly Robert Fulton, the man most interested in the improvement of canal and steam navigation, was its inspiration.)

DeGROFF and NELSON streets perpetuate the name of Isaac DeGross Nelson, who once owned the SENTINEL, served as state representative, authored the Nelson Railroad Bill, and was one of the organizers of the Wabash Railroad. MINER STREET recalls the name of Byron D. Miner, who was also active in bringing the railroad to Fort Wayne.

McCULLOCH STREET reveres the name of the "father of the national banking



Colonel Thomas W. Swinney



Jaenicke Gardens,
West Swinney Park

Jan 21

system" and Secretary of the Treasury under Lincoln, Johnson, and Arthur. Hugh McCulloch came to Fort Wayne in 1833, at the beginning of his long career.

It is through Colonel Thomas Swinney, who married Lucy Taber, daughter of Paul Taber, that this city now owns Swinney Park, originally a part of the Thomas Swinney farm. SWINNEY AVENUE, SWINNEY COURT, and SWINNEY PARK PLACE bear his name. Cyrus Taber (remembered in the naming of TABER STREET), Mrs. Swinney's brother, owned a very valuable parcel of land which was a part of the original military tract.

Henry Rudisill came here on Christmas Day, 1829, as the representative for John T. Barr. He is greatly revered as one of the founders of the Lutheran church here. RUDISILL BOULEVARD, running from Broadway beyond McMillen Park, now bears his name.

LEWIS and WALLACE streets have tie-ins. Major Samuel Lewis was the land commissioner appointed by John Quincy Adams in 1827. His wife, Mrs. Kathryn Lewis, was the daughter of Andrew Wallace, sister of Governor David Wallace, and aunt of General Lewis (Lew) Wallace.

SUTTENFIELD STREET is a name coupled with the first part of the 1800's. Mrs. Laura Suttentfield, wife of Colonel Suttentfield, who was born in Boston but lived in Fort Wayne seventy-two years, actually spent a number of years within the palisades of the fort. The Suttentfields were the first to erect, in 1814, a log house near the corner of the present Columbia and Barr streets.

Many street names tie in with our earliest mills and distilleries. A steam sawmill, built by William Coombs and Samuel Edsall on the north side of the Canal in 1848, was located near the site of the present COOMBS STREET bridge. Both street and bridge

gain their names from the mill. Wines's Mill was established by Marshall S. Wines, an associate circuit court judge, "at a dam thrown across the Maumee River near the foot of Hanover (Woodlawn Mill)." A plat recorded in 1867 designated a then unnamed street as "the road to the Wines's Mill." This became HANOVER STREET. On the same plat appeared College Street, in more recent years changed to SCHICK STREET for Professor George Schick of Concordia College. The present WINES STREET is described as "1 west of North Anthony Boulevard."

Samuel Lillie, pioneer tavern owner, married Emily, a sister of Hiram A. Philley, another pioneer, at whose farm Johnny Appleseed frequently stopped. PHILLEY AVENUE and EMILY and LILLIE streets are all present-day street names; the latter two are in sections of land once owned by Lillie. EVANS STREET bears the name of S. Cary Evans, active businessman and later head of the Merchant's National Bank. TRENTMAN AVENUE was named for John Trentman, owner of the Dayton House, then located at the corner of Wayne and Clay streets.

HUMPHREY STREET can be traced to the 1830's. James Humphrey's marbleworks was located at the present site of Fulton and Main streets. It was he who drew up the plans for the combined market house and town hall. Jered DARROW and his family came here in 1836, traveling by pirogue. The family name is retained in an "east and west" avenue from Clinton Street to Hoagland Avenue. FRY STREET and RUMSEY AVENUE are associated with the families of Jacob Fry, who came from Pennsylvania to start a tanning business, and Philo Rumsey, merchant and later landlord of the Rockhill House.

Other street names associated with that era are BURGESS STREET, for Eben Burgess (who had bought the large tract of land from Samuel Hanna which later became New Haven), and DeWALD STREET, in honor of the man who established a wholesale

dry goods company. DWENGER AVENUE was probably so named for Joseph Dwenger, one of Fort Wayne's early bishops. J. B. White, an ardent Scotchman, gave GLASGOW AVENUE its name.

Some names can be attributed to the opening of the Wabash-Erie Canal, July 4, 1843. CASS STREET, which was named for Governor Lewis Cass of Michigan, orator at the Canal celebration, was originally described as "south from river to Berry, between Ewing and Maiden Lane." The present Cass Street is the first east of Wells Street. CLAY STREET suggests the name of Henry Clay, who wrote that he would like very much to attend the Canal celebration but could not do so, as it was harvest time and his crops needed attention!

Franklin P. Randall, Civil War mayor, was author of the city charter, which became a law in 1840, and designer of the city seal. RANDALL STREET and RANDALIA DRIVE were named for him. RANDALL ROAD bears the name of Perry A. Randall, a cousin and founder of the Randall Hotel.

Persons associated with the '40's were reflected in street names also. BUETER AVENUE bears the name of a family which traces its advent here to B. H. Bueter in 1848. The Beavers, Augustus Caesar and D. S., together with their cousin Henry Leiter, walked all the way from Dayton, Ohio, to the Hiram A. Philley Inn on the original Philley farm. They entered the lumber business and acquired extensive ground on Broadway between Nuttman and Rudisill. BEAVER AVENUE retains their name.

George W. Wood was the first mayor of the incorporated city of Fort Wayne and lived in the approximate vicinity of the present WOOD AVENUE, just east of Wells Street, before the bridge. FRENCH AVENUE honors Charles G. French, who served as one of our city councilmen. HOAGLAND AVENUE takes its name from the Hoag-

land family. Pliny T. Hoagland came to Fort Wayne in 1845 and was influential in the building of the first railroad. He also served as a state representative and state senator.

The story of the '50's would not be complete without the following names: Alfred P. Edgerton (EDGERTON STREET), who, for ten years, served as general manager of the Canal; Charles Butler (BUTLER STREET), trustee of the Canal until 1875 when it went into receivership, who figured in the titles to all Canal lands; John H. Bass (BASS STREET and BASS ROAD), who became interested in the Fort Wayne Machine works and later founded the St. Louis Car Wheel Company; John Cochrane (COCHRANE STREET), president of the Caledonian Society; Schuyler Wheeler (WHEELER STREET), who served as state representative in 1850; Kerr Murray (MURRAY STREET), born in Scotland, later founder of the extensive gas manufacturing plant of Kerr Murray Manufacturing Company, Alfred D. Brandriff (BRANDRIFF STREET), stove manufacturer; J. D. Nuttman (NUTTMAN AVENUE), a prominent banker; Henry Baker (BAKER STREET), a mill owner who laid out Baker's Addition, and Maurice Cody (CODY AVENUE), a prominent Irishman engaged in the ice business.

McKINNIE and FLEMING avenues were given their names by Mrs. William McKinnie, daughter of William Fleming (who came here from Dublin at the beginning of the '50's, served as state treasurer, and at one time owned the SENTINEL). Her father-in-law, Captain Henry McKinnie, operated the "McKinnie House" in the '60's; William McKinnie was for many years landlord of the Wayne Hotel. The name McKinnie Avenue was once changed to Lexington; however, the citizens protested, and it regained the name of McKinnie Avenue; so we have Lexington Avenue west of Calhoun Street and McKinnie Avenue east of Calhoun Street.

STURGIS STREET represents the Dr. Charles E. Sturgis family name. Dr. Sturgis

owned property on Berry Street near the old Westminster Girls' Seminary. A sister of Mrs. Charles E. Sturgis (Lavina, who became Mrs. Walker) is remembered in the naming of LAVINA STREET.

The name of Townley Avenue has been changed, and the street is now the continuation of Rudisill Boulevard (east of Anthony). Jonas W. Townley was councilman in 1852, and Robert W. Townley, his brother, was also a lawyer. DUBOIS STREET was named for John B. DuBois, a justice of the peace, or one of his descendants.

Stephen B. Bond, along with Judge Taylor and Judge Ninde, induced a Mr. Packard, an organ builder, to come to Fort Wayne in the 1870's after the Chicago fire. Mr. Packard was the first superintendent of the Packard Company piano plant, and PACKARD AVENUE was named for him. Another street, Organ Avenue, which took its name from the plant, later became KINSMOOR AVENUE. BOND AVENUE is vacant at present, although at one time Charles D. Bond lived on the street. The Bond family established itself here as early as 1842.

John Orff owned considerable land near the present Lindenwood Cemetery. In addition to ORFF AVENUE, three other streets, MONTCLAIR AVENUE, EDWARD STREET and TYLER AVENUE, stem from the Orff name. The latter was a son-in-law, and the others were sons of the Orffs. DOSWELL AVENUE was named for H. J. Doswell, who landscaped Lindenwood Cemetery.

Barthold & Sons, for whom BARTHOLD STREET was named, owned the first boatyard located on the Feeder Canal in Bloomingdale. OAKLEY STREET takes its name from the Oakley family; both Mayor Chauncey B. Oakley and his father were identified with the civic life of the city.

Silas Tam and Oscar A. Simons owned the undivided half of Lillie's Out Lots 29

and 30 and called the street therein TAM STREET. SIMONS STREET is near Tam in the same section.

CAMP ALLEN DRIVE gets its name from Camp Allen, once the recruiting center and campground for soldiers of the Civil War. LAWTON PLACE, which honors the name of Major Henry W. Lawton, is a silent reminder that Major Lawton, who always considered Fort Wayne his home and rose to the heights in military fame, lost his life on Luzon. His grave is in Fort Wayne.

The inscription on the old iron bridge across the Maumee at ANTHONY BOULEVARD reminds us that it was once known as Walton Avenue. A number of business houses located along that street still retain the name Walton.

The first street north of Taylor Street was once designated as Cherry (the present CHERRY STREET is in Nebraska), and is now known as STOPHLET STREET. The Stophlet name is connected with the history of Fort Wayne as early as 1824, when Samuel Stophlet served as one of the collectors of taxes.

BALTES AVENUE was named for Michael Baltes, contractor and building supply dealer in the '70's. KINNAIRD AVENUE bears the name of Alexander Kinnaird, a Scotchman, who came here in the '60's and at one time owned approximately six hundred acres of land in the vicinity of Kinnaird Avenue. NUSSBAUM AVENUE is named for Peter Nussbaum, who was also prominent in that era.

ABBOTT STREET was named in 1879 by Rosetta B. Abbott. However, the name of William T. Abbot is linked with the history of the '50's. He came here from Maine and became a merchant, county auditor, and real estate dealer.

WINTER STREET was established by a city ordinance passed April 25, 1876, naming the streets in Hough's Out Lots. When Colonel H. B. Reed platted his area in

1878, he named the center drive REED STREET. ECKART STREET takes its name from Fred Eckart, founder of the Eckart Packing Plant.

WEISSER PARK AVENUE, which acquired its name from the park, was originally land owned by Manuel Weisser, who established a tanning business. At the time the city purchased the land for a park, the street already bore the name of Force Street; but, because of the confusion with the spelling of Fourth Street, it was changed from Force to Weisser Park Avenue. ILLSLEY DRIVE was once the long driveway which led to the Illsley family mansion.

Beginning with Samuel Hanna, and down through the years, men of the bar have been associated with Fort Wayne's history, and their names have been revered in the naming of city streets. ZOLLARS AVENUE was named for Judge Allan Zollars, who settled here in 1866. FAY DRIVE bears the name of Judge James A. Fay, whom Governor Baker appointed to be the first judge of the Allen County criminal court. WILDWOOD AVENUE designates the name of Judge Lindley Ninde's estate, which later became a part of the present Lutheran Hospital grounds. When the Ninde family moved there, it was practically a wilderness or "wildwood," which suggested the name.

FOSTER PARKWAY, west and east, the latter formerly known as Boerger Avenue, takes its name from Foster Park, which of course, was named for the Fosters, Samuel and David. FRANKE DRIVE is named for J. B. Franke, who donated land for the park to the city.

Plat book records dated 1889 indicate that the heirs of John H. Wefel platted Wefel's Heirs' Addition and included WEFEL STREET. JACOBS AVENUE retains the family name of John H. Jacobs whose home was situated on "Jacob's Hill," north of the street.

EDNA STREET was named for Edna Reuss, granddaughter of C. L. Centlivre, founder of the brewery established in Civil War days. Centlivre Avenue has since become a continuation of State Boulevard.

STATE BOULEVARD, or at least a section of it, was once called Griswold. It was an unnamed country road when a mail carrier named Griswold had the route. There was confusion over directing mail to the residents on the road, and Griswold appealed to C. F. Kettler, superintendent of letter carriers, who said, "Why don't you call it Griswold?" Later the name was changed to State Street, which takes its name from the State School. The present GRISWOLD DRIVE is named for Bert Griswold, Fort Wayne historian.

FENKER and ROUSSEAU avenues are named for Herman R. Fenker, former township trustee, and Ben Rousseau, who promoted an addition off the Miller Road.

William L. Huffman, for whom HUFFMAN STREET is named, made a plat of his property in Bloomingdale.

LANTERNIER STREET gains its name from August J. Lanternier, who, in 1895, owned the entire block (with the exception of six lots) bounded by Anthony Boulevard, Lanternier, Simons, and Winter streets. FOX AVENUE is named for August Fox, brother of Louis Fox, whose homestead was at the corner of Fox Avenue and Walnut Street.

PHENIE STREET was named for Phenie Michael (Mrs. Charles H. Bales), who was a daughter of Herman Michael, from whom MICHAELS AVENUE takes its name. A daughter of the pioneer Rudisill family married Henry Freeman, for whom FREEMAN STREET was named.

When Howell Rockhill laid out the addition where the Rolling Mills located, he named three streets for his good friends, Henry C. Berghoff (BERGHOFF STREET), Judge

John Morris (MORRIS STREET), and Henry Monning (MONNING STREET). Three other men, because of their connections with the Commercial Club (later the Chamber of Commerce) and the role each played in bringing the Rolling Mills to this city, were honored in having streets in the same addition named for them; they were Frank Culbertson (CULBERTSON STREET), Henry Beadell (BEADELL STREET), and W. F. Graeter (GRAETER STREET).

SIDNEY and LUMBARD streets carry on the name of Sidney Lumbard, realtor and insurance man, whose father established the agency in 1863. BOLTZ STREET acquired its name when Frederick C. Boltz laid out an addition south of the city. ROMY AVENUE was given its name by R. L. Romy, Sr., who also named IDA AVENUE for his daughter. BOWSER AVENUE perpetuates the name of the founder of one of Fort Wayne's major industries. GRIFFIN STREET was named for William M. Griffin, at one time president of the Wayne Pump Company.

Plats of Rockhill's Addition list Locust Alley (later called Eureka, and again changed to CLAIR AVENUE, its present name) and Water Street (later changed to SUPERIOR STREET).

PEARL STREET and MAIDEN LANE are probably derived from street names in New York City. Pearl Street in New York was considered second only to Wall Street in the early days, just as Columbia Street here was the business center for many years, and Pearl Street the next street "over." Maiden Lane is also located in the Wall Street district in New York City. Before the Nickel Plate Railroad was established, its present right-of-way was the old Canal. The street just north of Columbia faced the Canal, and since the docks for the packet boats were located there, it became known as DOCK STREET.

Approximately one hundred and fifty streets represent given names of men and women. Many undoubtedly were named for members of the early families and are indicated on the early plats. However, we know the history of only a few of them. We will probably have to remain "in the dark" over the naming of such streets as "Cornelle," "Henrietta," and "Juliette"; but we know that CONSTANCE, CATHERINE, and ELEANOR avenues were named by John Vesey for three nieces. VESEY AVENUE can be attributed to Judge W. J. Vesey.

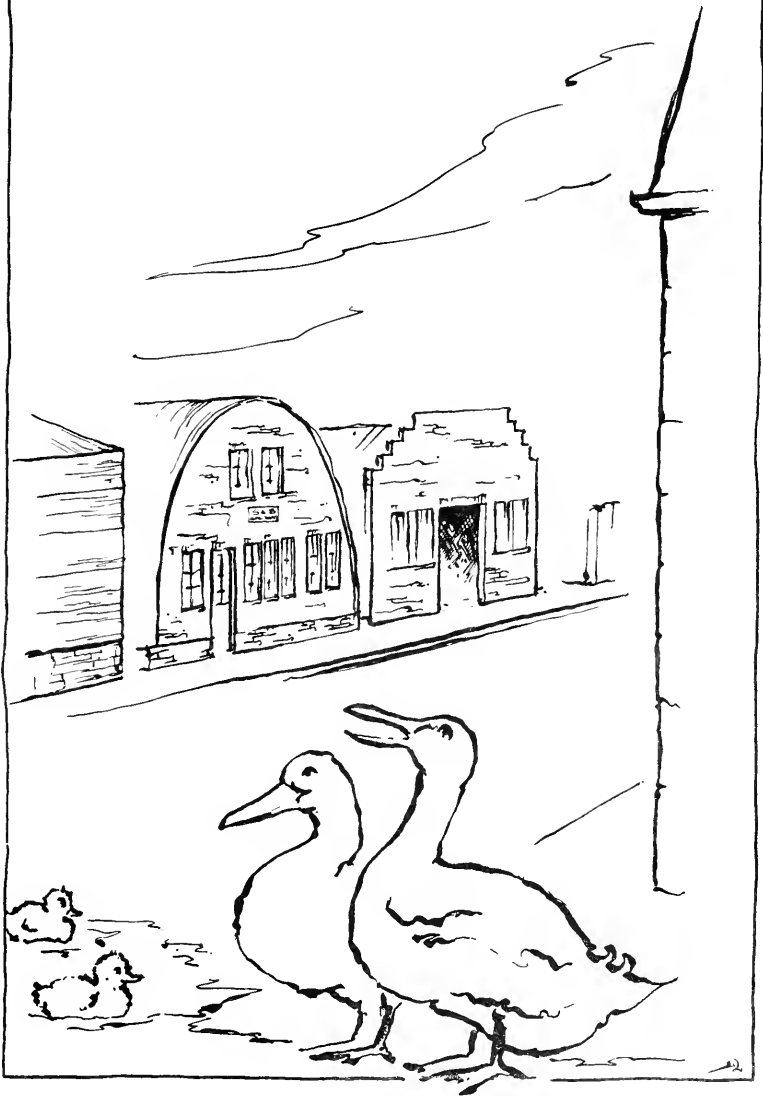
Two of the foremost flyers of their day were honored in the naming of BAER ROAD and LINDBERGH BOULEVARD. Famous poets, writers, and biographers are represented with GREELEY STREET (Horace Greeley), EMERSON AVENUE (Ralph Waldo Emerson), and LOWELL STREET (James Russell Lowell).

Eighteen streets bear state names; many others bear names similar to towns and cities elsewhere in the United States, such as BROOKLYN AVENUE, DALLAS AVENUE, and NORFOLK AVENUE. The origin and history of all of them would very likely be as interesting as that of only two, Euclid Avenue and Cleveland Street (now McKEE STREET), which adjoin each other. Euclid was a famous Greek mathematician, and his name was chosen for a city near Cleveland. These cities, in turn, were the inspiration for the naming of EUCLID AVENUE and Cleveland Street.

Albert H. Schaaf named CORNELL CIRCLE for his Alma Mater. Institutions of learning are also the inspiration for the naming of all the streets in Poinsette Park, as follows: PRINCETON AVENUE, YALE DRIVE, HARVARD DRIVE, WELLESLEY DRIVE, STANFORD AVENUE, TRINITY BOULEVARD, CAMBRIDGE BOULEVARD, and PURDUE DRIVE.

Not a few streets have taken on names reflecting their location, environment, or

Duck Street ~



the industrial life which built itself about the area, such as DIVISION STREET, UNIVERSITY STREET, STADIUM DRIVE, and CHURCH STREET.

LUTHER STREET was previously called Penn, but it was changed in 1922. SUMMIT STREET is suggestive of Summit City, a term which has long applied to Fort Wayne.

It has been suggested that DUCK STREET may have acquired its name from the fact that the ducks swam there whenever the water backed into the street due to the overflow of the river. WILT STREET very likely was named for I. M. Wilt, or possibly for one of his descendants. There is a legend attached to DEVIL'S HOLLOW ROAD--the farmers who drove through there in the spring of the year would find it very muddy and consequently would "swear like the very devil."

Several people were under the impression that HENSCH STREET was named for Judge Samuel M. Hensch, but although he was a venerable gentleman, the street was not named for him. Mr. William Link, a nephew of Judge Hensch, called attention to the difference in the spelling of the names and added that the Hensch name bears some connection with the Beck family, who laid out Beck's Addition in Bloomington.

Not many people know that SOUTH WAYNE AVENUE gained its name from the town of South Wayne, once a separate corporation with Creighton Avenue as its northern boundary and the town hall located at the corner of Lincoln and Indiana avenues.

RIEDEL PLACE gained its name from John M. C. Riedel, a local architect. COLEMAN AVENUE was so named by the realtors for Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Coleman, who were the first to build on a lot in "Crestholme" Addition in 1917. ELMHURST DRIVE was the name chosen by Mrs. Emma Adams Fitch. KIRKWOOD DRIVE, laid out by Frank Fisher for Will Jones, was given Mrs. Jones's maiden name.

Seventy-six streets were given new names or rechristened in 1929, the culmina-

tion of many months' tedious work on the part of the city council. Actually, during the proceedings, a proposal was made to change all street names to numbers to conform to the Salt Lake City Plan. This would have blotted out all knowledge and memory of the foremost families of their day and of the founding fathers who laid the civic, religious, and business foundations of this city. Not all the changes are recorded, but just to mention a few: WALLACE STREET, in order to become one continuous street, took Jones Street, Herndon Street, Hamilton Avenue, and Highland Drive; WILDWOOD AVENUE caused Lukens, Marshall, Lambert Drive, and Clifton Avenue to pass from the scene, so far as names were concerned.

A century ago, it was customary to name streets for families or personalities in the national limelight. However, in the 1900's, a realtor frequently sought names which had specific sales appeal. English names are reflected in several street names, especially when James Peddicord chose the names for KENSINGTON BOULEVARD and PEMBERTON DRIVE, and Albert H. Schaaf chose DRURY LANE and PEMBROKE LANE in Southwood Park. He also chose the names SEMINOLE CIRCLE (an old Indian name) for the "inside circle" and RADIAL LANE for "the connection." FLEETWOOD AVENUE is also an English name; a soldier under Cromwell (there is a CROMWELL COURT in Fort Wayne) bore that name, and a town in England is named Fleetwood.

Rivers and waterways influenced the naming of a group of streets: ST. JOE BOULEVARD, ST. MARY'S AVENUE, and MAUMEE AVENUE, from rivers of those names; RIVERMET AVENUE, which ends at St. Joe Boulevard; EDGEWATER AVENUE; LAKE AVENUE, because of the artificial lake near by; DELTA BOULEVARD, for Delta Lake in Lakeside; and EASTBROOK and WESTBROOK drives, because they border brooks.

Five streets, HURON STREET, ONTARIO STREET, Erie (later changed to Berry

Street), MICHIGAN AVENUE, and SUPERIOR STREET, were named for the Great Lakes.

FOREST PARK BOULEVARD was given its name by Louis Curdes, prominent realtor. The family name is also carried on in CURDES AVENUE. WHITEOAK DRIVE refers to the predominance of beautiful white oak trees once growing along its way.

PRANGE DRIVE and KORTE LANE are family names retained when the farms were taken over and platted. BRANNING AVENUE was a part of the Ernest H. Branning farm, later platted by Henry E. Branning, Sr. HOFER AVENUE retains the name of Theobald Hofer, father of A. K. Hofer, surveyor. BEGUE STREET, which lies between East Wayne Street and the New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad, retains the name of a prominent contractor named Begue. The old homestead was located at Wayne and Begue streets.

THIEME DRIVE was named in honor of Theodore F. Thieme, founder of the present Wayne Knitting Mills, who was born in Fort Wayne in 1857. About 1910, he improved a section of riverbank by removing the brush and rubble which littered the bank and had tons of dirt brought in to form a tiny park, to which he also added a concrete retaining wall. When this was accomplished, the city finished the stretch to Swinney Park.

While there is not authentic information on the naming of MORTON and HENDRICKS streets, it is a fact that Indiana governors bore these names. Oliver P. Morton was Indiana governor from 1866 to 1872 and was the honored guest at the State Fair here in 1865. It was William Hendricks, governor from 1822 to 1825, who appointed Allen Hamilton to the office of sheriff of Allen County in 1824.

C Street is all that remains of three little streets once called "A," "B," and "C." They were little jogs south of Wayne Trace in the vicinity of Seiling's "First and Last Place." "A" and "B" lost their existence to the encroachment of business.

The story is that the present Gay Street bridge once marked a train stop where fashionable and intellectual passengers, frequently from Washington or New York, would alight to be conveyed by carriages to the Hanna home. Because of the many "gay" groups which traveled back and forth, the street acquired the name GAY STREET, and the bridge became known as "the Gay Street bridge. "

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