

INDIAN HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Keeping Indian Hill's
Past and Present Alive
for Tomorrow*

E-Newsletter

July, 2022

Vol. 15

What's Going On?

In 1973, a group of fifteen foresighted Indian Hill residents joined together to preserve a beloved building at the heart of the Village -- the Little Red Schoolhouse. With the help of over 100 families as Founders, the deteriorating Schoolhouse was repaired and restored. You may have noticed the names of the Founders which appear in calligraphy on the blackboard in the vestibule of the Schoolhouse. Then known as the Indian Hill Historical Museum Association, the goal of the fledgling organization was "to collect and contain here the history of Indian Hill and its region and to be an educational center."

Over time, the Historical Society's focus has shifted from being a museum to working "to chronicle and preserve the history of this Village through photographs and research" and preserving historic buildings such as Buckingham Lodge, the Elliott House, and other landmark properties. The Historical Society's monthly meetings and programs featuring speakers on the history of Indian Hill and unique aspects of life in the Village help to promote its educational mission.

Next year, 2023, marks the Historical Society's 50th anniversary, and we are gearing up to celebrate our success in "Keeping Indian Hill's Past and Present Alive for Tomorrow." What will the next fifty years bring? To guide our path into the future, the Society is embarking on a Strategic Plan that will help us make the best use of our resources to carry out our mission. You are an important part of the planning process. As a member, you have received either an electronic link to Survey Monkey or a letter inviting you to visit our web site and complete a brief survey. A link to the survey also appears below. Please take the time to respond! We want to know what programs are most appealing to you, what types of events you prefer, and what new projects you would like the Historical Society to initiate. High on our agenda will be digitizing the archives and historical documents currently housed in the Hauck Library. We welcome your ideas.



As we commence the second half of our first 100 years, we are grateful for your support.

Rosemary Welsh, President

**Take the
MEMBER
SURVEY**

We need and value your input on the Member Survey.

<- Please click on the blue circle to follow the link and start the survey.

It will take about 4 minutes to complete. Thank you!

Program News for 2022-2023

The Historical Society is pleased to announce the program line up which will start in September, 2022:

Answering the Call of the Wild: The Remarkable Life of Cathryn Hilker



Cathryn Hilker is a legend in her own time for her passion and determination as a champion for cheetahs. Her life story spans two continents on a mission to save this endangered cat species.

The Cincinnati Zoo will bring a “special” guest to the program!

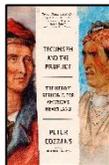
September 18, 2022, Little Red Schoolhouse

Tecumseh & The Prophet, with Author Peter Cozzens

The famous Shawnee Indian leader, Tecumseh, and his brother, Tenskwatawa, the Shawnee prophet, worked to unite the tribes of the Northwest Territory to protect their way of life and to stop the loss of land to the expanding settlers.

Peter Cozzens has written over 17 books and won several awards for historical writing.

October 27, 2022, Indian Hill High School Auditorium



Treasures Uncovered



Wiebold Studio and Riverfront Art Auctions will host an “antiques roadshow” style appraisal & preservation consultation event followed by dinner and a presentation about preserving objects.

November 20, 2022, Little Red Schoolhouse

Village Christmas Party

Bring your family and join your neighbors for a delightful afternoon at the Historical Society’s 39th Annual Village Christmas Party. Make merry with the music, juggler, magician, and of course, *Santa!*

December 4, 2022, The Little Red Schoolhouse



Little-Known Facts about Indian Hill!



Why is it called Shawnee Run Rd? Given Rd? etc.? Where was the sanatorium? Why are there old railroad bridges and beds

throughout the Village? What happened to the Rangers’ jail? Was there an airport in Indian Hill? What’s “Radio Range” Park?

Join us for a fun, informative, and entertaining event!

March 19, 2023, The Little Red Schoolhouse

The Story of Jay Trump

From humble beginnings to world acclaim, Jay Trump, a beautiful bay horse, took his owner, Indian Hill resident, Mary C. Stephenson (later LeBlond) and his manager / rider, Crompton “Tommy” Smith on the ride of a lifetime!

Jay Trump’s celebrated story tells how he became the first American bred, owned, and ridden horse to win the prestigious and harrowing English Grand National Steeplechase at Aintree.

April 23, 2023, The Little Red Schoolhouse



Trails & Trees: A History of IH’s Green Areas and Bridle Trails

In the early 1900s, Indian Hill was a checkerboard of small farms. When the population shifted as city dwellers searched for fresh air and green areas, Indian Hill land began to transition. Trees were planted, horse trails were created, and the roots were sown for today’s Green Areas. Today, with the generosity of Indian Hill residents, over 3,500 acres have become a rich and diverse nature preserve that is unique in the Midwest.

Learn about this incredible resource and the bridle trails which traverse it.

May 21, 2023, The Little Red Schoolhouse



Member News: 2nd Quarter, 2022 Updates

Thank you to all the renewing members this past quarter

New Members this quarter:

Nancy Blum

Sue & Larry Blum

Jed Hartings

Leah & Tim Miller

Lois Sedacca

Monica Walmsley

Renewals this quarter:

Gail & Nicholas Bagnoli

Helene & John Bentley

Jane Birchhead

Jill L. Boldt

Aggie & Luke Boswell

Sandra & David Bowen

Nancy Tehan & Hugh Brandt

William Bristol

Barbara & Robert Bucciere

Kathy Ciafardini

Lucy Davis

Jean Davison

Carol & Troy DeBord

Kathy & Bill DeWitt

Christine Elfers & Dave

Hendren

Kathy & Stephen Fish

Blair Fleischmann

Dani & Greg Frappier

Jennifer & Chris Frutkin

Bob Gill

Don Harrison

Julia & Robert Heidt

Sandy Heimann

D.J. Hildebrandt

Sue & Bill Hill

Susan & Chip Hunter

Marilyn & Gerrard Hyland

Ed Jacobs

Kym & Mark Kuenning

Marsha & Brad Lindner

Patricia Linnemann

Ruth Ann & Kent Little

Kym McBride

Jill & Larry McGruder

Barbara Messinger

Deb Bradley & John Mitchell

Hien & Ronald Mueller

Michael Muth

Natalie & Patrick Nesbitt

Cora Ogle

Emily & Gregg Pancero

Greg Schmidt

Jane & Paul Stewart

Lori Sommer

Mary Uhlenbrock

Nick Watts

Bill Weyand

Donna & Don Wymore

New Business Members:

Central Bark Doggie Day Care

Jeff Michael Excavating

Renewals this quarter:

Daley Design & Build

English Rose Designs

Focused Capitol Solutions

Michael F. Gehrig, Attorney at Law

Holzappel Law LLC

InPrint Madeira

Mariemont Inn – Best Wester Premier

Serene Suites Premier Memory Care

Sibcy Cline

Turner Farm

Julia Wesselkamper Group – Coldwell Banker

Interested in becoming a member? [Click here](#)

Thanks to Our Business Members

 <p>exp REALTY <i>Dia Billiter</i></p>	 <p>Central Bark Doggie Day Care <i>Madeira</i></p>	 <p>DALEY DESIGN + BUILD</p>
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 <p>exp REALTY GINA DUBELL-SMITH'S Design2Sell TEAM OH EQUINE PROPERTIES.COM</p>	 <p><i>ERD</i> ENGLISH ROSE DESIGNS</p>	<p>MICHAEL F. GEHRIG Attorney At Law</p>
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<p>ERIC HOLZAPFEL Attorney At Law</p>	 <p>INPRINT <i>madeira</i></p>	 <p>Mariemont Inn Best Western Premier</p>
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<p>Jeff Michael Excavating</p>	 <p>MHA MORTGAGE HOUSE Of America</p>	 <p>SERENE SUITES PREMIER MEMORY CARE</p>
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 <p>SIBCY CLINE REALTORS</p>	<p>Taft FOCUSED CAPITOL SOLUTIONS LLC</p>	 <p>TOTAL WEALTH PLANNING</p>
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 <p><i>Turner Farm</i> Indian Hill, Ohio</p>	 <p>THE V COLLECTIVE DESIGN & CRAFTSMANSHIP</p>	 <p><i>Julia Wesselkamper</i> GLOBAL LUXURY SPECIALIST COLDWELL BANKER REALTY</p>
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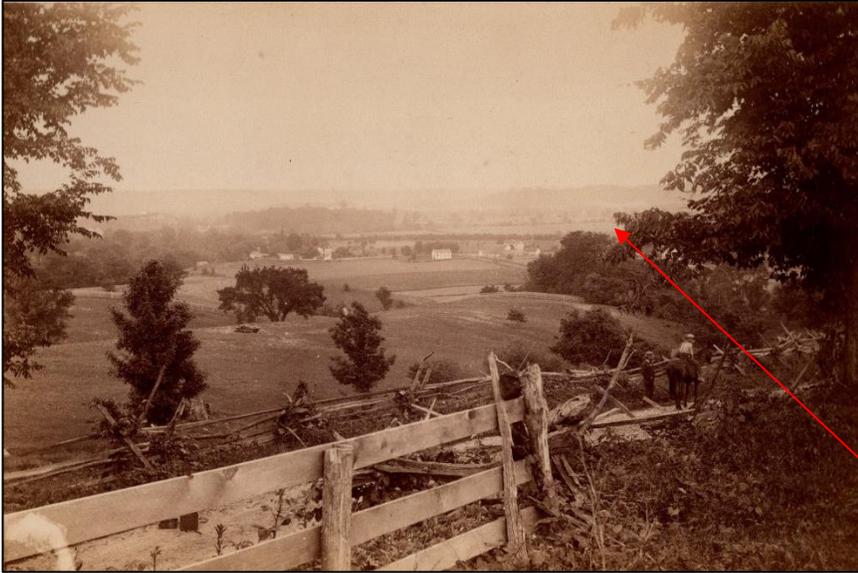
Featured History Topic:

A Picture is Worth 1,000 Words!

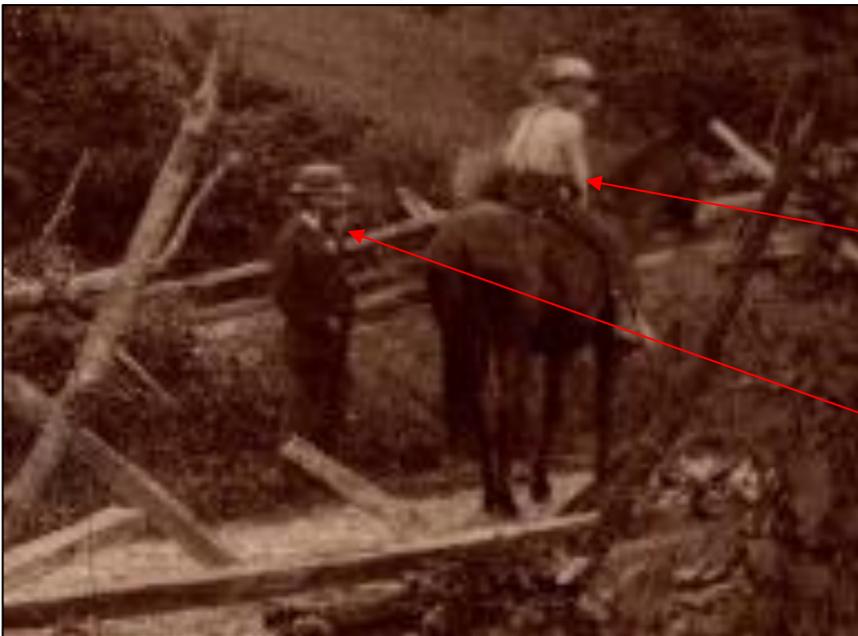
By Lawre Finn-Bonekemper

The unexpected treasure is often found in the archives of the Historical Society as the digitization process moves through the files. One recent find sparked our curiosity in the office.

The photo “treasure” is shown below:



Enlargement of the figures in the photo show:



There were handwritten notes on the photograph border:

“View SE from East Indian Hill”

“Prof Putnam”

“John Turner boy”

The picture and notes raised many questions including:

Is this picture taken from Turner Farm property on Given Rd. looking toward the Little Miami River & Camp Dennison?

If so, the Little Miami River can be seen in the photo.

Is the road possibly an early path of Kugler Mill Road or another pathway in the area that went from Given Rd. to the Little Miami?

We haven’t found an answer to this yet.

Who was John Turner?

Born 1876 and died in 1948, he lived at Turner Farm, 7400 Given Rd. More details about him later in this article.

Who was Professor Putnam?

Professor Putnam was a noted archaeologist who studied the Little Miami River Valley extensively in the late 1800s. More details about him later in this article.

Needless to say, we were intrigued and excited to find this picture, and that’s where the proverbial “rabbit hole” began.

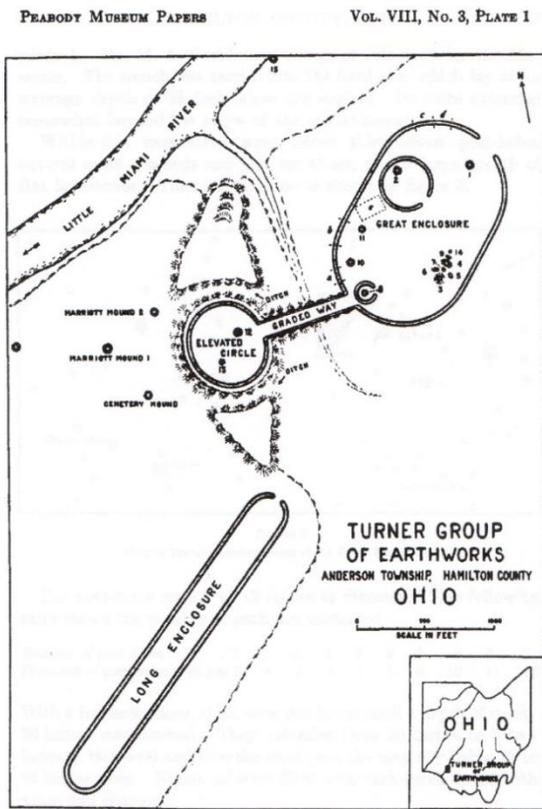
John Shirley Turner’s lineage stems from the early settlers in Indian Hill, Miamiville, and Camp Dennison (as they are known today). His great-grandfather, Enoch Buckingham, settled near Miamiville in the early 1790s and ran Miamiville Mills which provided flour, a distillery, and a sawmill in the 1810s. Enoch and his wife, Mary Jeffries, had 11 children. One of their sons was John Symmes Buckingham (JSB) who purchased land from John Given in

the early 1840s around Kugler Mill and Given roads. JSB owned 640 acres and lived at 9150 Kugler Mill Rd. With his second wife, Mary Epp Ferguson, they had two children. Their daughter Margaret married Richard Bard Turner, and they lived at 7400 Given Rd, a.k.a., Turner Farm. Margaret and Richard had six children, one of whom is the John Turner sitting on a mule in the above picture. John and 3 sisters (Viola, Alice, and Mary) continued to live at Turner Farm after their parents' deaths. Viola taught at the Jefferson School (corner of Indian Hill & Drake roads), and Alice taught at the Washington Heights School (a.k.a., the Little Red Schoolhouse – Given & Camargo roads). John died in 1948 and the three sisters eventually moved and sold the property to their neighbor, Mrs. Mary Cunningham Stephenson (later LeBlond) in 1966.

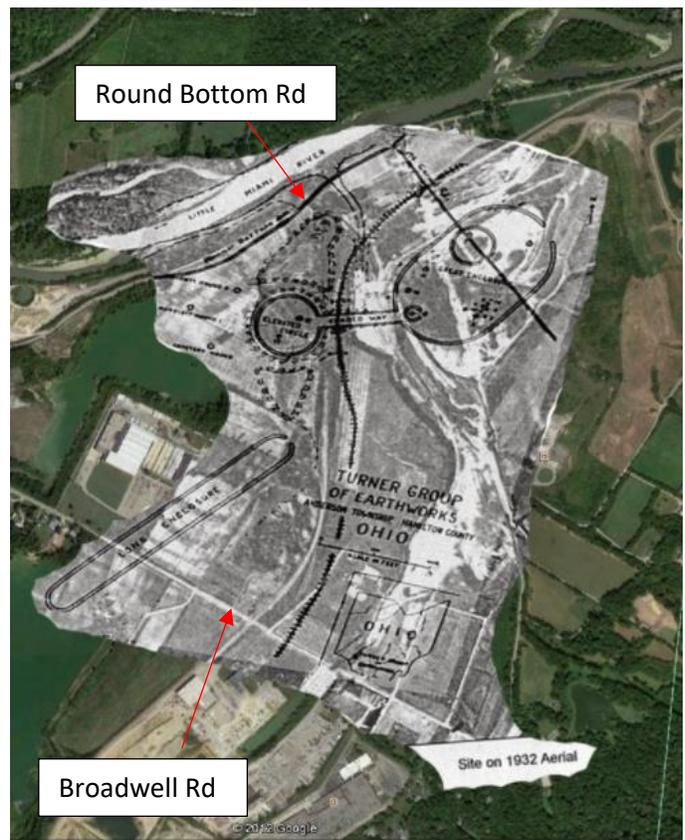
Professor Frederick Ward Putnam hailed from Massachusetts and was the curator of the Peabody Museum at Harvard University. He spent quite a bit of time in the area exploring the Native American burial grounds throughout the Little Miami River Valley in the late 1800s. He was widely known as the “Father of American Archaeology”. He teamed up with Dr. Charles Metz, a local archaeologist in Madisonville, who did much of the actual excavations from 1882 to 1891. One of the mounds of particular interest was “Turner Mounds” in Newtown, OH, on the south side of the Little Miami River. At that time, this land was owned by Michael Turner. We have yet to find a link between Michael and Richard Turner, but they may have been related. The Peabody Museum has many of the artifacts found at this site.

A map of the site is pictured below:

Pictures of the mounds in terms of current day land were found at: www.hopewellmound.blogspot.com/2014/04



Plan of the Turner Group of Earthworks from the survey by D. S. and J. A. Hosbrook, made for the Peabody Museum in 1887.



A book, The Turner Group of Earthworks provides in-depth detail of the prehistoric remnants of these mound builders. There is a dedication page to Frederick Ward Putnam “Pioneer of systematic mound exploration in Ohio, under whose directions the work described in this paper was conducted.” This book is in the Historical Society’s library.

While I haven’t written 1,000 words here, I could have written more as there is so much more information! One simple picture led to a fascinating trail of discovery through our region’s past. Please call or visit the office if you’d like to learn more about this topic.

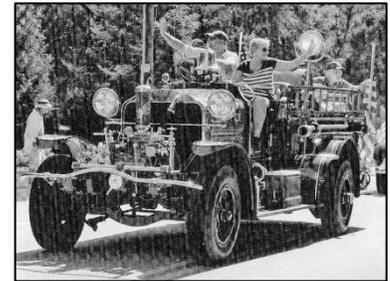


From the President:

The Fourth of July Parade in Indian Hill

Americans have always celebrated the Fourth of July to commemorate the formation of the nation in 1776. Independence Day is associated with family reunions, barbecues, games, picnics, fairs, fireworks, and parades. The holiday has special significance for me, since it is also my birthday. As a child, I was allowed to shoot an antique cap gun only once a year -- July 4th was my big chance!

The first annual Indian Hill Fourth of July Parade was organized in 1987 by Marsha Haberer and a dedicated committee. *Bulletin* articles promoting participation stated, "We are a community of inspired and inspiring, fun and fun-loving people – LET'S GET TOGETHER." That first parade included antique cars, Village leaders, Brownies, Scouts, horses, neighborhood groups, garden clubs, patriotic pets, and a boom box marching band. The latter group consisted of Village residents doing marching drills while carrying boom boxes broadcasting music compliments of WAIF-FM. Participants assembled at Cincinnati Country Day School and paraded to the Indian Hill High School football field on Drake Road for refreshments and games.



Over the decades, the parade got bigger and better. Volunteers stepped up to organize the logistics. The variety of entrants expanded. Besides antique cars, antique boats, buses, and even a firetruck joined the procession. At least once a Lawn Mower Precision Drill Team performed en route. For a few years, local artist Leslie Shiels and friends marched as wild hares, cicadas, and other creatures. The Turner Farm wagon with Bonnie Mitsui commanding two massive draft horses was a memorable sight. The Indian Hill Mothers' Group fielded a squirt gun brigade. The Indian Hill Historical Society, the Indian Hill Swim Club Wahoos, the Miami Valley Pony Club, the Indian Hill Recreation Committee, and the School Board also joined in the pageantry.



The parade started promptly at 10:00 a.m. heralded by blaring sirens. First in the procession was the Rangers' color guard, marching in their award-winning uniforms. The Grand Marshall was next. This tradition began in 1991 with the selection of an individual who had made a special contribution to the Village as the parade's Grand Marshall. Vehicles carrying members of the Madeira Indian Hill Joint Fire Department, the Indian Hill Public Works Department, the Indian Hill Water Works, and the Village Council were followed by other community groups and participants on bikes, scooters, and rollerblades. The grand finale was members of the Camargo Hunt astride their hunting horses and surrounded by a lively pack of hounds.

The parade now terminates at Stephan Field where both participants and spectators gather for food, beverages, and family activities. Over the years the festivities have featured portrait artists, sunflowers for sale, a pie-eating contest, face painting, balloon artists, superheroes, an inflatable slide, and a bouncy moon walk. The band *Most Wanted*, comprised of police officers, has entertained huge crowds.

The Fourth of July parade has been part of our community for 35 years. This spectacular tradition reflects both the spirit of Indian Hill and the independence of the glorious USA. Happy Fourth of July!

Rosemary Welsh
President

Office News:

In April, we welcomed three new Board members and said goodbye to two retiring Trustees:

- The new Board members include Dani Frappier, Michael Muth, and Rita Stolper. We are excited to work with the new Trustees.
- The retiring members are Cynthia King and Molly Lucien who will be greatly missed.



Buckingham Lodge

Your continued support and membership are truly appreciated and critical for keeping this organization a vital part of our community.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. You may contact us through email: history@indianhill.org or phone: 513-891-1873.

Happy Summer!

The Indian Hill Historical Society

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