Lucy Depp Park



Presentation created by Gary Stetler, primary researcher

with Lucy Depp Civic Association

and friends of community

Selection of historical Pictures courtesy of Mike Hamilton

Dedicated to Lucy Depp Civic Association and Forever Friends of the Community

Theresa Dearing, President
Zelda McDaniel, Vice President
Gwyn Stetler, Community Chaplain
Co-Historians, Michael Hamilton and Gary Stetler







Historical Background of Depp family – Powhatan County, Virginia *from The Genealogist (volume 17 No. 1, Spring 2003), Cameron Allen

In 1801, a deed of emancipation was filed by John Depp (a white tobacco plantation owner) in Powhatan County, Virginia which granted freedom to the children of Lucinda (Lucy) Depp (black) upon the death of John and his wife Elizabeth. His will stated that "as he had long had the benefit of their labor, justice and good conscience require that I make provision for them." The children named in the deed (and birthdates) were Lucinda (1788), Abraham (1791), Salsbury (1793), Stephen (1795), Esther (1797) and Delila (1800).

John Depp's will gave specific tracts of his land in Powhatan County to Abram, Salsbury, Stephen, and Miles (Esther was his wife) totalling over 540 acres.

John Depp died and his will was proved in 1831. A provision in his will freed Abram immediately. The children Lucinda and Delila were evidently deceased by this time. The rest of the family would not receive their freedom until the death of widow Elizabeth in 1835.

As a free man, Abram Depp travelled to the Ohio lands in 1834 and worked as a blacksmith (his trade) in Columbus. It was during this time that he located land for sale north of Columbus in Delaware County. Upon the death of widow Elizabeth in 1835, he returned to Powhatan County to settle the family affairs and bring his family to Ohio. He set out with his wife Mary (Goode) and children Evelina, Matilda, and Aurelius. Mary died during the trip. Other members of the Depp family arrived in 1836.

Establishment of the Depp Settlement in Ohio

*from The Genealogist (volume 17 No. 1, Spring 2003)

Abram Depp purchased 300 acres of land from Joseph Sullivant on June 3, 1835 and 90 acres from Abram Smith on July 1, 1835. This land was in southern Delaware County (Concord Township) west of the Scioto River. In 1844 he added 50 acres more secured from Augustus Case.

Ohio county records show other land purchases by the Depp family mother (old) Lucy, brother Stephen, sister Esther and her husband Miles Depp, and children of Esther (Lavinia, Lucy Ann, Pocahantas, Walker, Mike, and Simon Depp).

These land purchases were adjacent to each other in Delaware County (Concord Township), Union County (Jerome Township), and Franklin County (Washington Township) and totaled almost 1500 acres.

In 1838, Abram married his second wife China (Ellis) and they had six children together: John (1839), Parthena (1841), Susan (1842), Lucy (1844), Rachel (1845), and Keziah (1848).

Lucinda Depp and Her Descendents: A Freed Black Family of Virginia and Ohio, Cameron Allen - Volume 17, No.1

Further documentation cited .

Some history of the how the Depp family came to Ohio from Virginia

Written by genealogist Harold Henderson (Midwestroots.net)

http://midwesternmicrohistory.blogspot.com/2010/02/bookends-friday-genealogist-and-empire.html

I really should just pony up for a subscription to <u>The Genealogist</u>, possibly the most obscure of the top-echelon genealogy magazines. The other day I came across a free library duplicate of the Spring 2003 issue containing an excellent and lengthy article by Cameron Allen, "Lucinda Depp and Her Descendants: A Freed Black Family of Virginia and Ohio," a companion to an earlier article tracing the white Depp family from Powhatan County, Virginia, to central Ohio.

The black Depps were freed under an 1801 deed of emancipation (effective on the death of the grantor and wife), and John Depp's 1829 will, probated in 1831. Allen writes:

The most startling fact in the settlement of Depp's estate was the extreme expedition with which it was accomplished on the heels of the death of his widow, Elizabeth. Her will, made on 7 January 1835, was proved on 2 February 1835 in Powhatan County. In just two weeks from the probate of her will, all the land left to the freed slave family was sold and all the slaves not freed by the will of John Depp were sold on 16 and 17 February 1835. That has to be a record! ... Quite obviously the four projected grantees under the will had decided [ahead of time] ... that they would not take title, but, rather, sell their interest through the executor of the will and take the cash to start a new life elsewhere.

About the time I read this I had just finished Gordon S. Wood's magisterial (and to me very informative) *Empire of Liberty: A History of the Early Republic, 1789-1815*. One of his major themes is how the high-minded cosmopolitan visions of the Founders generation morphed into the bumptious, militantly provincial, and rather raw democratic enthusiasm of the next generation. (Just compare the characters of George Washington and Andrew Jackson.)

A tragic part of that story is that in the 1790s there were some good reasons to think that slavery was on the way out, in part because it grossly contradicted the ideals of liberty that had animated the American Revolution. Virginia slaveholders were less willing to break up families; Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and other southerners deplored the institution's injustice; new evangelical Baptist and Methodist denominations stood against slavery; the College of William and Mary conferred an honorary degree on the British abolitionist Granville Sharp.

It was a false dawn. A combination of technological changes, fear that the black revolution in Haiti might spread, and a few actual slave conspiracies turned things ugly. The evangelicals backed off; in 1806 a new Virginia law required freed slaves to leave the state; and the ideology of racism was reborn to justify the repression.

In this context it comes as no surprise that the white Depps' estate was probated in record time and that the black Depps had already planned to leave their home for free soil. Virginia's loss was Ohio's gain. History can illuminate genealogy.

*Excerpt from article "In Bondage and Freedom – Antebellum Life In Richmond, Virginia"

Powhatan County bondsman Abraham Depp managed his owner's blacksmith shop. He served customers, arranged for payments, advanced credit, and traveled to Richmond to purchase iron, steel, leather, and other supplies. Diligent, hardworking, and astute, "whenever it happened that the day did not allow sufficient time to accomplish the work before him," the wife of his owner observed of Depp, "the night supplied the deficiency." After a number of years (and following his master's death), Depp gained his freedom and secured legal title to the enterprise he had managed so successfully as a slave.

In 1795, Lucas Sullivant was sent by the Commonwealth of Virginia to survey the territory in the Ohio wilderness set aside as the Virginia Military Lands. The land was to be used as payment to veterans of the Revolutionary War. He acquired a total of about 6000 acres of this land (part of which would become Columbus). Lucas Sullivant died in 1823 and eventually his son Joseph sold a tract in southern Delaware County west of the Scioto River to Abram Depp in 1835.



THE VIRGINIA MILITARY TRACT

100

MONROE, JAMES,
President of
The United States,
To
SULLIVANT, LUCAS

Patent, Deed Records Delaware County, Ohio Vol. 151, page 393 Executed: 3: 5: 1817 Filed: 1: 31: 1919 .Con: Military Services Sur. No. 2547: 888 2/3 A.

"unto Lucas Sullivant as assignee of Robert Cooper, heir at law of the said Appolis Cooper, deceased"
"a certain tract of land containing Eight hundred & eighty eight & two thirds acres, situate between the Little
Miami and Scioto rivers, north-west of the river Ohio, as by survey bearing dates the first day of November in the
year 1796 and bounded and described as follows, To Wit: Survey of Eight hundred & eighty eight and two thirds
arces on part of a Military Warrant No. 4338, (the whole thereof being for two thousand six hundred and sixty six
and two thirds acres in favor of the said Robert Cooper, on the west side of the west fork of the Scioto, beginning at
a hickory two buckeyes & two white oaks, upper corner on the river to said Coopers Survey No. 2546; thence running up the river N. 10° W. 100, N. 28° W. 78 poles to a walnut andtwo ironwoods; thence S. 80° W. 445 poles to a
walnut & elm; thence S. 10° E. 320 poles crossing a branchat 50 poles to five lynns; thence N. 80° E. 445 poles, with
the line of said Coopers Survey No. 2546 to the beginning."

"To have and to hold * * * unto the said Lucas Sullivant and his heirs and assigns forever"

Signature: By the President
(S) James Monroe
J. Meigs, Commissioner of
the General Land Office.

SULLIVANT, WILLIAM S. do, Michael L. and do, Sarah L., his wife, To SULLIVANT, JOSEPH

Gen. Warranty Deed, Records Franklin County, Ohio, Vol. 13, page 254 Executed: 2: 23: 1832 Filed: 3: 2: 1835 Con: \$10,000.00 Witnesses: 2 Sur. No. 2546: 889 Acres

Sur. No. 2897: 309 Acres

"unto the said Grantee and unto his heirs and assigns forever" "all the several following described tracts or parcels of land situate and being in the State of Ohio, to-wit: One tract containing 889 acres lying and being in the County of Delaware and State of Ohio, entered and patented in the name of Robert Cooper, No. of Entry 2546, valued at \$2.00 per acre."

Also other land.

Signatures: William S. Sullivant

Michael L. Sullivant Sarah L. Sullivant

Ack. before: "Jacob Grubb

Justice of the Peace."

Venue: Franklin County, Ohio, Wife Separately examined.

> SULLIVANT, JOSEPH do, Mary Eliza, his wife. To DEPP, ABRAM

Gen. Warranty Deed, Records Delaware County, Ohio. Vol. 13, page 262 Executed 6, 3, 1835 Filed 10, 12, 1835 Con. \$1100.00 Witnesses, 2 Sur. No. 2546, 300 A.

"unto the said Depp and his heirs and assigns forever."

"lying and being in the County of Delaware in the State of Ohio to-wit: part of Survey No. Two Thousand five hundred and forty-six (2546) in the Virginia Military District in said County in the name of Robert Cooper.

Bounded and described as follows:

Beginning on the Scioto River at a red oak and ironwood north-easterly corner to land sold Adam Rider in same Survey; thence South 71° 30' W. three hundred and sixteen poles to two sugars and a beech southeasterly corner to Marsh's tract on the west side of the original survey; thence N. 10° W. along Marsh's line one hundred and seventy-nine poles to two sugars and an hickory northeasterly corner of land sold Marsh in said survey; thence N. 80° E. along the south line of land sold Abraham Smith in said survey, Three Hundred and thirty-five poles to a lynn, burr oak and red bud on the river corner to said Smith; thence down the river with the meanders thereof and binding thereon at low water mark to the beginning, containing three hundred acres to be the same more or

Signatures: J. Sullivant Mary E. Sullivant

Ack. before: "Thomas Wood

Justice Peace, Franklin Co."

Venue: Franklin County, Ohio.

Wife joins in premises, covenants of seizin, free and clear and is separately examined.

(excerpt from History of Delaware County, 1880)

Abram Depp, another colored man, came to the township in 1834, and bought 400 acres of land. He is dead, and his wife, a very old woman, lives still upon the land where her husband first settled. John Day came long before Depp, but did not identify himself with the township as did Depp, who was a man exerting a large influence in his neighborhood. Upon his land was built the old colored Baptist Church, which is said by some to be the oldest church in Concord Township. 'Depp's church,' as it was called, was built of logs, and the cracks stopped with clay-mortar. However, the congregation growing smaller year by year, left the church nearly empty, and it was finally abandoned and torn down.

(excerpt from heritagepursuit.com, 1998)

Abraham Depp came from Virginia in 1835 and bought 400 acres in what is now Shawnee Hills. It was the first African-American owned farm in the county. He also started a Baptist Church here, and in addition to farming, was a blacksmith. He provided safe haven as a stop on the Underground Railroad. The Depp property stayed in the family, more land was acquired and the community grew to be known as Lucy Depp Park. Eventually in the 1920s, the area became a summer resort for black families from Columbus. It has been noted that boxer Joe Louis even stayed here. Depp's son, Aurelius, attended Oberlin College and returned to Concord Township as a farmer and stock raiser. He also served in the Civil War and was at Camp Chase in Delaware. In the *History of* Medicine & Physicians of Delaware County, Ohio, Silas Fowler says that the Rev. Depp invited Dr. Samuel Whyte, Jr. to come to Concord Township to provide medical care to the community.

Some Ohio Negro Pioneers

In 1835 some of the earnest free colored people of Virginia were interested in reports of the great opportunities for colored folk in the State of Ohio, so often called the Buckeye State. At that time there were no railroads from the slave State Virginia to Ohio, a free State. But the determined freemen and their families undeterred by this drawback went forth in covered wagon trains.

One of the earlier groups of pioneers consisted of several families from and near Richmond Virginia; namely, Abraham Depp and his wife Mary Goode-Depp, Elias Litchford, James Poindexter, and Archer Goode, with their families, and Samuel Willis Whyte accompanied by his son bearing the same name, all of whom settled in central Ohio, not far from Columbus. Abraham Depp purchased five or six hundred acres, south of Delaware; Litchford about the same number of acres nearer Columbus; the elder Whyte, being a mechanic, purchased only about two hundred arces. Samuel W. Whyte Jr. later left his trade for the profession of medicine and became noted as a specialist of chronic diseases. Dr. Samuel Whyte married Miss Louisa Goode, daughter of Archer Goode. She was of a peculiar sweet disposition, a model companion, and a loving earnest mother. She as often called Saint Louisa by those who knew her best. She died in 1905.

^{*}Excerpt from the Journal of Negro History (p. 484) 1916

Neighbors - The Whyte family

Dr. Samuel Whyte Jr. settled half a mile south of Home Road in the mid-1830s. Although he was born a slave in Virginia, Whyte's master wanted him to have an education and sent him to school. His father, Samuel Whyte, Sr., bought him and his mother Amy for \$800 from their master, then bought his own freedom for \$1220. Whyte later continued his education and became a respected physician and surgeon. Fowler writes, "He was well informed and an extensive reader, and many came from long distances to consult him." In 1880, he was one of only three African-American doctors in Ohio.

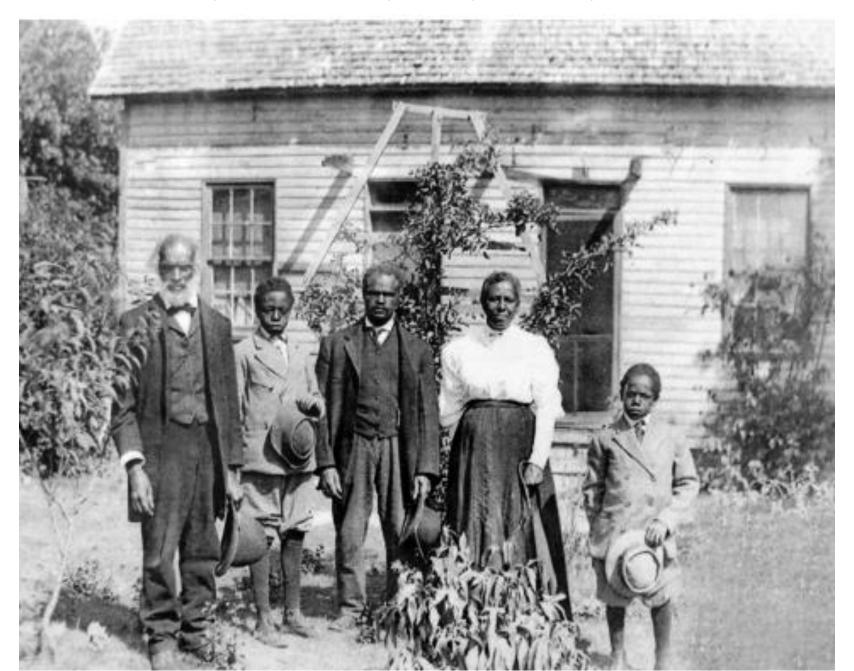
(excerpt from heritagepursuit.com, 1998)

Neighbors - The Whyte family

THOMAS A. WHYTE, farmer and black smith; P. O. Jerome, Union Co.; is a son of Dr. Samuel W. Whyte Jr., and was born April 19, 1845 in Concord Township, where he remained with his father, working at blacksmithing and attending school until 22 years of age. After leaving home, he attended school in Delaware two terms, and from that time until in the year 1873, he traveled and worked at his trade in the following places: Columbus, Grove City, Indianapolis and Richmond, Ind.; Springfield and Bates, Ill.; Marys-ville, Springfield, Xenia and Flint Station, Ohio. June 5, 1873, he was married to Miss Lucinda Depp, daughter of Abraham Depp, who, at his death, was the wealthiest colored man in the county. They have three children — John Q. A., Erena K., Rilla L. After his marriage, Mr. Whyte located in Jerome, Union Co., and opened a blacksmith shop, where he has a good business; in addition to this, he owns a good farm in Concord Township of 112 acres.

(excerpt from History of Delaware County, 1880)

Dr. Samuel Whyte, Thomas Whyte, Lucy Depp Whyte (and their sons)



WILL of ABRAM DEPP. Probate Court
Delaware County, Ohio.
Will Records
Vol. 3, page 387
Executed 3—30—1858
Probated 5—19—1858
/Witnesses: 3.

"In the name # # #
"I, Abram Depp # # # do make and publish this my last Will and testament.

Item 1st. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife in lieu of her dower part of the farm on which we now reside situate in Concord Township, Del. County, containing about four hundred, more or less, acres during her natural life, and all the stock, household goods # # # and chattels which may be thereon at the time of my decease during her natural life # # # At the death of my said wife the real estate aforesaid and such part of the said property or proceeds thereof as may then remain unconsumed # # # I give and devise to my eight children, viz: Aurelius, Matilda, John, Parthena, Susannah, Lucinda, Rachel and Keziah and their heirs. If my said wife China should not survive me, then I give and bequeath the property aforesaid to my eight children above named and their heirs # #.

Item 2nd. I devise and bequeath unto my said eight children above named the balance of the farm which we now reside to be divided as equal and equitable as it can be possibly done.

Item 3rd. I do hereby nominate and appoint my wife Chi na guardian of all my children under age, until they arrive at the age of twenty-one years or intermarried, but in case my wife should marry her guardianship of said children shall cease and determine upon her intermarriage and in her place I do hereby nominate my esteemed friend Aurelius Depp my son to have the guardianship of them still under age at the date of the intermarriage of my wire and if the said guardian should die the children shall determine and choose their own guardian # # # Item 4th. I do hereby appoint and nominate my two sons "welius and John executors of this my last will and testament. (John to assume the duty of executor with Aurelius at the time when he, John arrives at the age of twenty-one years of age) hereby authorizing and empowering them to compromise, adjust, release and discharge in such manner as they deem proper the debts and claims due to me. I do also authorize and empower them if it shall become necessary to pay my debts or to divide among my eight children, Aurelius, John, Matilda, Parthena, Susannah, Lucinda, Rachel and Keziah equally the money so obtained and they may sell private or such manner upon such terms of credit or otherwise as they may think proper and deeds to purchasers to execute acknowledge and deliver in fee simple my farm on Indian Run commonly called my lower place.

Item 5th. John is to live with his mother # # #

Item 6th. I also want it particularly understood that there is to be no division in the land until after the death of my beloved wife China # # #.

Item 7th. Recites all the children unmarried or not living with their husbands or wives to have a home with their mother.

No. 8. Wife is authorized to rent the farm on Indian Run and have the use of the money for her and children living with her.

No. 9 The children may rent the farm, but (China may rent to others) # # #.

No. 10. All moneys out belonging to me must be collected, etc.

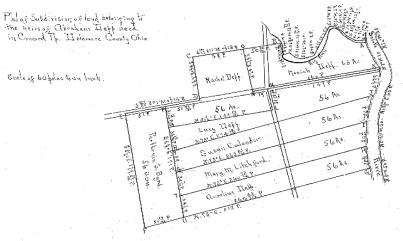
No. 11. Wife is to use money made on farm to educate children in common school, etc.

I do hereby revoke all former wills by me made.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of March in the year of the Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.

ABRAM X. DEPP (S)

The 1870
Delaware County
survey plat map of
the subdivision of
Abram Depp's
property among
his heirs.



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(excerpt from History of Delaware County, 1880)

AURELIUS DEPP, farmer and stock-raiser; P. O. Jerome, Union Co. His father, Abraham Depp, was a native of Virginia, and a blacksmith by trade, having worked for forty years in one shop, commencing when 9 years old; inn 1834, he came to Ohio, stopped in Columbus, where he worked some at his trade, being the second smith to work in that place. In that year, he purchased the present homestead, at that time containing 400 acres. Having returned to Virginia for his family, he started with them for Ohio, in 1835; before reaching their destination his wife died. About three years after settling here, he married Chaney Ellis. At his death, his property was valued at \$30,000; this, excepting 100 acres of land on which his widow lives and holds during her natural life, was divided among his children. Aurelius Depp was born near Richmond, Va., Oct. 20, 1831; his boyhood days were divided between work on the farm and attending school; at the age of 22 years, he entered Oberlin College, which he attended for two years; his father being in ill health, he was compelled to return home and take charge of affairs.

(excerpt from History of Delaware County, 1880)

Sept. 9, 1858, he was married to Catharine Letchford, daughter of **Pleasant Letchford,** an early settler of Columbus, who was the owner of 226 acres of land within a mile of the city, and was a prominent colored man of the county of Franklin; at his death his property was valued at about \$25,000. After Mr. Depp's marriage, he moved on to his present place, which contains, he moved on to his present place, which contains sixty-acres; he also owns seventy-seven acres within a mile of the city of Columbus; nine children are the fruit of their marriage. Ardemian, Mary E., Abraham L., Freeman W., Catherine and Queen Victoria are still living; Martha E., Aurelius and Victor Emanuel are dead; the latter and Queen Victoria were twins. In September, 1864, Mr. Depp enlisted in the 12th U. S. C. I.; he was in the two days' battle of Nashville, also at Franklin, Tenn., and Decatur, Ala.; since the war, he has been a successful farmer and stock-raiser; he has filled some of the township offices, and is an active man in his neighborhood.

TWENTY-SEVENTH U. S. COLORED TROOPS.

THREE YEARS' SERVICE.

This Regiment was organized at Camp Delaware, Ohio, from January 16 to August 6, 1864, to serve three years. Shortly after being mustered into the service of the United States, the Regiment was ordered to Camp Casey, Washington, D. C., where it was stationed awhile, doing garrison duty. Thence the Regiment went to City Point and Petersburg, Va., it being at the latter place that it distinguished itself for unsurpassed gallantry and good conduct upon the battlefield. The bravery of this Regiment was also displayed at Chapin's Farm and at Weldon Railroad.

The Regiment was sent down into North Carolina, where it was engaged a part of the time in doing garrison duty, and the other part of the time in taking part in the operations, including the skirmishes in and around Fort Fisher, Wilmington, Goldsboro and Raleigh. It did heroic service, won the confidence and approval of its superior officers, and after as honorable service as any of the regiments, it was mustered out of the service of the United States September 21, 1865, at Smithville, N. C. The Roll of Honor of this Regiment will show eighteen killed in action, and one hundred and forty-nine died in hospital of disease or wounds received in battle.

The official list of battles in which this Regiment bore an honorable part has not yet been published by the War Department, but the following list has been compiled during the preparation of this roster:

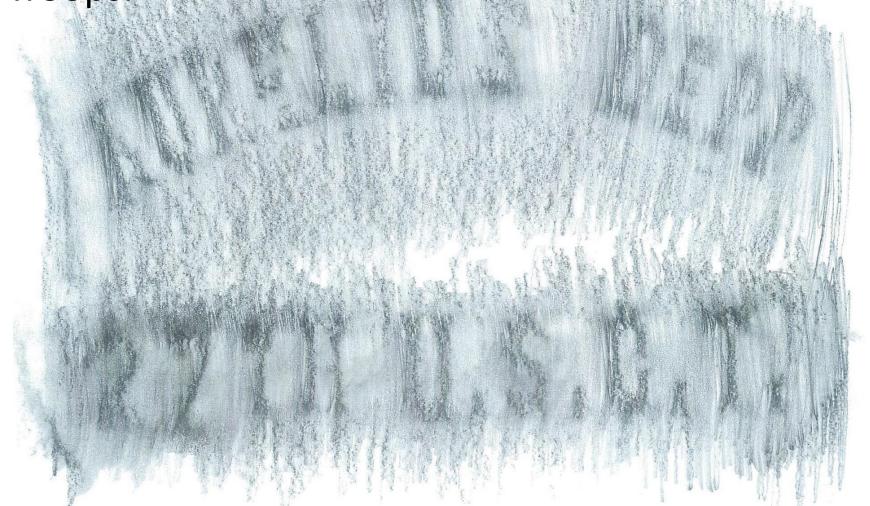
(625)

Roster of 27th USCT showing enlistment of Aurelius and John Depp in 1864.

856	ROSTER OF OHIO TROOPS.				
Names.	Rank.	Ve.	Date of Entering the Service.	Period of Service.	Remarks.
Callinder, Edward S	Private	29 20	Sept. 5, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found. No further record found.
Callwell, Henry Campton, William H	do	18	Aug. 11, 1864 Mch. 8, 1865 Sept. 19, 1864	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	No further record found.
Castell, George	do	33	Sent. 19, 1864	3 yrs.	No further record found.
Chamberlain, Anderson	do	42	Sept. 30, 1864	1 yr.	Drafted: discharged June 29, 1865, by order of War Department.
Chambers, William	do	42	Sept. 26, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Chandler, William	do	20	Aug. 19, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Clay, Thomas	do	18	Sept. 6, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Clay, Thomas Clinton, John Coleman, Davis	00	22 35	Aug. 19, 1864	1 yr. 1 yr. 1 yr.	No further record found.
	Bernald States		Oct. 15, 1864		Discharged May 17, 1865, at Columbus, Ohio, by order of War Department.
Colwell, Mark Cowney, Isaiah	do	18 25	Aug. 22, 1864 Meh. 18, 1865	1 yr.	Substitute: no further record found.
Cowney, Isaian		20	Men. 16, 1600	1 yr.	Discharged May 17, 1865, at Columbus, Ohia, by order of War Department.
Cummings, Edward	do	35	Sept. 3, 1864	3 yrs.	Substitute; no further record found.
Dandridge, Alfred	do	18	Sept. 20, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Deboe, Robert	do	18	Aug. 22, 1864 Sept. 3, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Depp. Aurelius	do	35	Sept. 3, 1864	l yr.	No further record found. No further record found.
Depp. John T		25	Sept. 3, 1864		No further record found.
Dinswiddie, Samuel	00	28	Sept. 5, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Dixon, Nelson R	00	20	Feb. 23, 1864 Sept. 14, 1864	3 yrs.	No further record found.
Dockson John W	do	18	Sept. 5, 1864	l yr.	No further record found. No further record found.
Docile, Daniel Dockson, John W Early, David	do	18	Aug. 23, 1864	1 yr.	Substitute; no further record found.
Karly, George	00	ŭ	Sept. 3, 1854	i yr.	No further record found.
Eaves, Jacob	do	36	Aug. 13, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Eaves, Jacob Edwards, Irwin	do	38	Oct. 4, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Findley, Hoskins	do	24	Aug. 9, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
Fleman, Edmon	00	20	Mch. 29, 1864	3 yrs.	No further record found.
Flouen, Henry Floyd, Daniel	do	18	Sept. 12, 1864 Sept. 3, 1864	1 yr.	No further record found.
For William	do I	22 27	Sept. 3, 1864	3 yrs.	Si record found.
Galloway, Rockfield Gaylor, Charles Gleason, John Gorines, William	do	-		3 710.	N Jeona Ioana.
Gaylor, Charles	do	43	'April 6, 1864	3 yrs.	
Bleason, John	do	20	Aug. 24, 1864	l yr.	N
Gorines, William	do	26	Sept. 5, 1864	1 yr. 3 yrs.	N N N Si record found.
Jork, David		23	Mch. 6, 1865	3 yrs.	N
Grant, Watly	00	19	Aug. 30, 1864	3 yrs.	
Gregory. Joseph	do	91	Sept. 6, 1864 Aug. 6, 1864	1 yr.	Si record found.
Grey, John P		10	Aug. 6, 1864	1 yr.	N.

http://www.civilwarindex.com/armyoh/rosters/27th_us_colored_troops_roster.pdf

Etching of Aurelius Depp tombstone, found in the Depp Cemetery located near Twin Lakes. Aurelius served in the Civil War with the Ohio 27th Colored Troops.



The Depp Station on the Underground Railroad

Upon settling on his land, Abram Depp established an Underground Railroad Station, using limestone caves along the nearby Scioto River (since flooded by the waters of the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir) to house the runaways. Mr. Etheldred (Dred) Weaver and others operated between the Freedom Street Station in Columbus and the Depp Station. It was said that no slave having reached the Depp Station was ever returned to bondage.

"The cave which housed the fugitive slaves is sealed and obscured from view by the waters of the O'Shaughnessy Dam and Reservoir in the new order of things. The crumbled walls of the once beautiful stone house and residence of Abram Depp with a cottonwood tree standing in the front yard for more than eighty years spreads its branches majestically over the ruins today. Around the house to the east, down the hill slope at the roots of a tree is a spring, hidden by the growth of calomel and grass. It was here they quaffed the sparkling water from a cup or gourd to quench their thirst. These things are but mute reminders of the past."

*excerpted from **Lucy Depp Park** promotional brochure (circa 1940)

The Depp Station was a waypoint on a major route of slaves seeking freedom in Canada. Although Ohio was a free state, the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 allowed pursuers to capture and return runaways to the South and had strict penalties for persons harboring the runaways.



Ad appearing in a Columbus, Ohio newspaper seeking return of a runaway from Kentucky

100 DOLLARS REWARD! Ranaway from the subscriber on the 27th of July, my Black Woman, named ENILLY,

Seventeen years of age, well grown, black color, has a whining voice. She took with her one dark calico and one blue and white dress, a red corded gingham bonnet; a white striped shawl and slippers. I will pay the above reward if taken near the Ohio river on the Kentucky side, or THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS, if taken in the State of Ohio, and delivered to me near Lewisburg, Mason County, Ky.

THO'S. H. WILLIAMS.

August 4, 1853.



Note: According to The Genealogist (Spring 2003), a WPA map indicates 14 graves on the 0.12 acre site.

Depp Cemetery is located on **private property** outside Shawnee Hills, Ohio (Concord Township, Delaware County).

Depp Cemetery is very small, and it is no longer active. It was an early African American cemetery that was started in the 1800's. In the 1930's, most of the gravestones were removed by the township for repair and cleaning. They were never placed back in the cemetery though, and now they are lost. Only one gravestone is still standing; the gravestone of Aurilus Depp, who was a Civil War veteran.





*Grave marker of Arelius Depp is visible in picture on the right





*Grave marker of Arelius Depp is visible in picture on the right



*Gravestone base on the left; possible fragment of gravestone on the right



*Gravestone base on the left; another possible fragment of gravestone on the right

On December 8-9, 2015 soil scientists from the USDA used groundpenetrating radar to map the Depp Cemetery site. A 3-dimensional computer analysis revealed the locations of many of the graves present, including Aurelius Depp.



Wes Tuttle, soil scientist from the United States Department of Agriculture explains the gravesite mapping process using ground-penetrating radar.



A blessing of the Depp Cemetery prior to the USDA mapping of gravesites.



The Lucy Depp bell (circa 1850's)



The bell at Lucy Depp Park was cast at the Fredericktown Bell Company in Fredericktown, Ohio around 1850. It is said that the bell was used as an all-clear signal to runaway slaves making their way along the Scioto River from Columbus to the Depp Station on the underground railroad. In later years, it was used to call guests to meals at community gatherings.

Photo of cast iron bells outside Fredericktown Bell Company (1850's)



In the early 1920's, the property remaining in the family was owned by Lucinda (Lucy) Depp and Robert Goode. Mr. Goode dreamed of establishing a subdivision for black citizens of Columbus who wished build homes and cottages in order to enjoy the peace and tranquility of the area. The name Lucy Depp Park was given to the development in order to finalize Goode's buyout of Lucinda's acreage. In 1928, Lucy Depp Park was plotted; 102 acres divided into 720 lots. Some lots were offered for as little as fifty dollars.

On Labor Day (September 7, 2015) an **Ohio Historical Marker** recognizing the Depp Settlement and Lucy Depp Park was dedicated at the corner of Harriott Road and Frabell Drive.



Lucy Depp Civic Association **President Theresa** Dearing and Winford Dearing read the Proclamation from the Ohio History Connection designating the Depp Settlement and Lucy Depp Park as a historical site.



Larry
Seward
speaking
at the
marker
dedication
ceremony.



Arnett Howard leads a procession to Depp Cemetary after the marker dedication.



Community
Chaplain Gwyn
Stetler and CoHistorian Gary
Stetler served as
hosts.



WSYX (Channel 6) news coverage of marker dedication at Lucy Depp Park.



By Robert Deal Broadus Publisher, The Challenger

Once during our youth we read of traditions, "Were there no traditions there would be little of historical value in the world, for men would be without roots and as shifting sands upon a beach."

Noble words indeed and as real as the light of day. But traditions aren't easily established constructive traditions, that is; whether a project designed for profit, or social organization. to become traditional, it must withstand the rigors of time and struggle.

We bore witness to a closing chapter on a struggle for tradition last week when a gracious ailing champion of her race bid farewell to that struggle.

Pointing to a marker, recently erected in honor of the memory of her late husband, Mrs. Callie B. Goode said simply, "This is it. The zenith of individual effort, first my husband, and then myself; but to become all of what we have dreamed it might, collective effort must carry Lucy Depp Park the rest of the way."

In 1924 the members of two sides of a family, the Depps and the Goodes, fell heirs to a strip of land bordering Twin Lakes and the Scioto, divided by scenic Dublin Road, and in Delaware

mained of that side of the family ested. He also encountered oppoand Robert Goode, with dreams sition from county commissionof a sub-division sought to buy ers and whiteneighbors. Even the ly plotted; 102 acres, divided in- of homes and Negroes have nev- They (the officials) have spoken her out. He succeeded only after Ku Klux Klan made occasional to 720 lots, many of which were er shown any great love for pion. to me about this, Our record of name. Thus Lucy Depp Park was born. Then too the struggle own people. After all, the pro- ons were many.

of maintenance at Central Mar- his hopes. ket and lived with his mother in the century-old house pictured a plot and Mrs. Anna B. Jones teen miles was too distant from IN THE MEANTIME. Robert



The Home Of The Late Robert Goode and Mrs. Callie B. Goode.

By 1926 only Lucy Depp re- of his plan but no bank was inter- overlooking Twin Lakes.

ject would benefit them. But this

He needed money for execution party house atop a wooded knoll than by auto.

offered for sums as low as 50 eering or engaging in collective closing of wells has been very Undaunted, he turned to his dollars. Takers were few, Reas- enterprises,

Robert Goode was supervisor resulted only in a slight tonic for age, and a fourth of the project started to build, only to quit when was wooded groves which would the going became too rough. K.R. Baskerville Sr. purchased have to be cleared; the seven-

erceded all others: there was no a long delayed health survey will FINALLY THE LAND was ful-source for financing the building be made in the very near future.

Lack of roads, power, drain- threw up unsightly shacks or areas.

with this story and draped in last and daughter Cecilia, established Columbus and there was no Goode's mother had passed and HAIL TO Lucy Depp Park, a

bility for continuance of the project fell on her shoulders.

Callie B. Goode certainly, befitted her newly acquired name minus the "e". She was good!

She fought for roads and culverts, and won; for traffic signs and school bus pickups for children, and won; she searched for sources of credit for those wishing to build, and won; she then imposed restrictions and engaged the shack owners in battle, and

THE SHACKS HAVE disappeared and new homes dot the landscape, which would cheer the heart of vigorous, far-seeing Robert Goode from whom life ebbed in the twilight of his dream.

But viewers of the marker dedicated to his memory will know of his works, and may the fruits of his works be enjoyed, appreciated and cultivated by succeeding generations.

A fond farewell to Mrs. Callie B. Goode, who has retired to Galifornia. Before leaving, she wrote a letter to all Lucy Depp property owners, excerpts of

which follow:

Powell, Ohio May 14, 1965

Friends and Neighbors:

As you know, I am leaving Lucy Depp to you with my wishes and hopes that you will always remember how dedicated Robert "Bob" Goode was in wanting to leave a beautiful place for you to

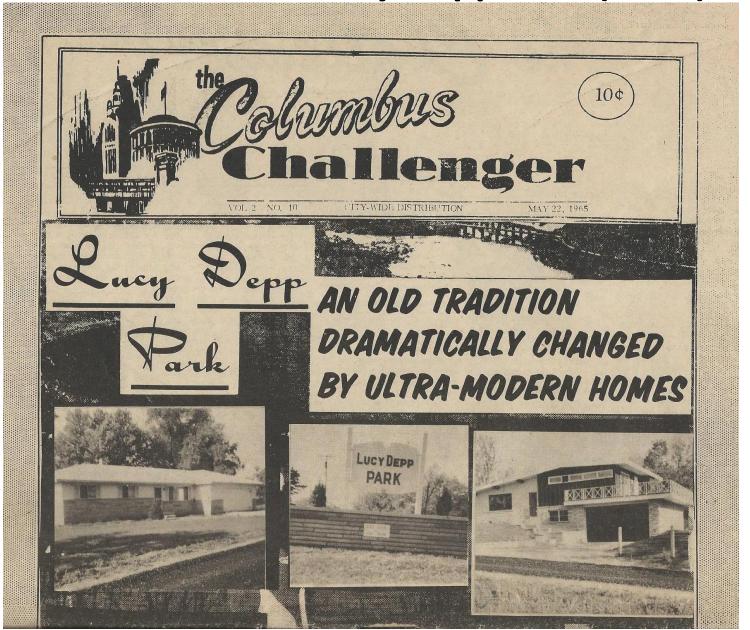
But two specific reasons sup. You will be glad to know that good, and nothing like that which The few who did build, either we have known to happen in other

Take care and may God bless

Callie B. Goode

Breezewood Villa, a 40,000 dollar means of transportation other he became the sole heir; and growing tradition in our time!

*article from Columbus Challenger newspaper (May 22, 1965)

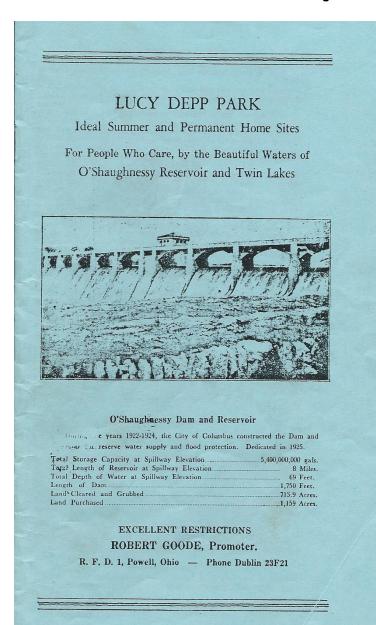


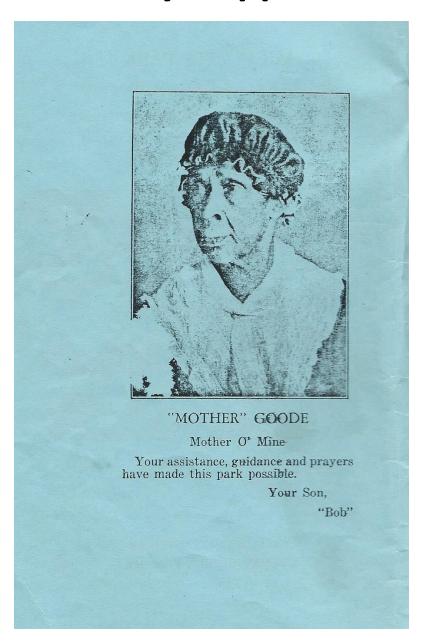
*article from Columbus Challenger newspaper (May 22, 1965)



*article from Columbus Challenger newspaper (May 22, 1965)

Booklet used to promote Lucy Depp Park





Historical Background

In 1835, Abram Depp, a free negro from Virginia, purchased several hundred acres of land, and settled upon it with his family.

He established an Underground Railway Station and no slave, having reached his home, was ever known to be returned to

bondage.

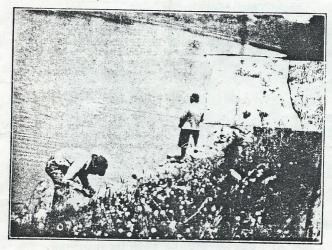
Mr. Etheldred (Dred) Weaver, (father of Mr. George Weaver, a resident of Columbus, a retired Mail Carrier and President of the Lot Owners' Association of the Lucy Depp Park) with others operated from Friend Street Station (now knows as Main St.) to the Depp Station. The loyalty of these men to the poinciples of right made possible the escape of many slaves to treedom.

The Cave which housed the fugitive slaves is sealed and obscured from view by the waters of the O'Shaughnessy Dam and Reservoir in the new order of things. The crumbled walls of the once beautiful stone house and residence of Abram Depp with a cottonwood tree standing in the front yard for more than eighty years spreads its branches majestically over the ruins today. Around the house to the east, down the hill slope at the roots of a tree is a spring, hidden by the growth of calomel and grass. It was here they quaffed the sparkling water from the cup or gourd to quench their thirst. These things are but mute reminders of the past.

For a number of years after the death of Mr. Depp and his wife, the place was known by the name of "The Depp Settle-

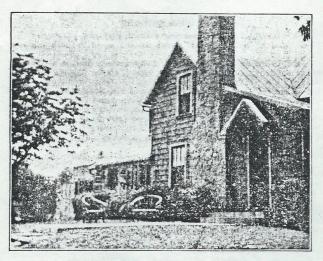
ment."

The share of this land inherited by Lucy Depp bears the unique distinction of never having had a mortgage placed upon it in its history. It has been in possession of the family for more than 100 years. Her name is being perpetuated in the development of this land, rich in history, beautifully situated and centrally located.



Twin Lakes

These lakes cover about 40 acres of land and one is a state fish sanctuary, supplying the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir with thousands of fish annually.



Central Cottage

More than 60 years ago, Racheal, a sister of Lucy Depp, built her home, which has since been remodelled into a modern cottage by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goode. He is Promoter of LUCY DEPP PARK.

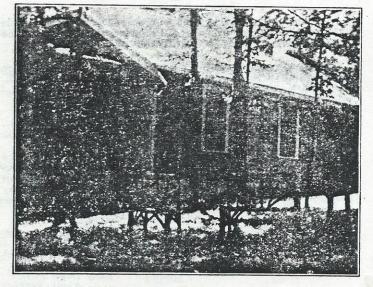
Name-Location-Acreage

There are 91 acres divided into three (3) Subdivisions, The Lucy Depp Park Place, Grove and Lake View Additions which will be known hereafter as the LUCY DEPP PARK, located about fourteen (14) miles northwest of the city limits of Columbus, Ohio, on the west side of the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir, less than a mile due north of the bridge on the Dublin Road.

A Sound Proposition

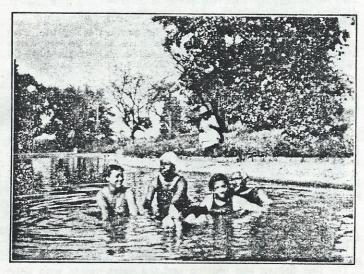
This is your opportunity to secure a Summer Place or a Permanent Home that will fit your family budget. Take a rest for your nerves out from the busy, crowded strain of city life and enjoy Nature at her Best. Fine Views, Fresh Air, Good Roads, Good Water, and Good People. You can use, and beautify your lot as soon as you contract for it,—and then, too, you will see it grow in value faster than a savings account. When you buy a lot at Lucy Depp Park you get more than a Deed to a piece of land.

BUY A LOT AT LUCY DEPP PARK where the stimulating natural surroundings with the recreational activities will be calculated to encourage, create and sustain a High Moral and Physical Standard.



"Time-Off"

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Parker, Columbus, Ohio. He is a Penn. Railroad Employe; she, proprietor of Bethel Flesh Reducing.



Lake Flournois "On a Hot Summer's Day." The Promoter, his wife and guests.

Testimonials

"We have greatly enjoyed our stay and hope to have our home here."-Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Anderson, former pastor and wife, St. Paul A. M. E. Church, Columbus, Ohio.

"One is charmed with the natural beauty which Lucy Depp Park offers. It is an ideal home site and has great possibilities."-Mrs. Alexine C. Spurlock, Officer Court of Domestic Relations, Hamilton County, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"May the sun never set on our beautiful Lucy Depp Park."-Miss Nella Stewart, Public School Teacher, Columbus, Ohio.

Excerpt: "It was certainly a great treat to be out of the busy city, keeping company with the trees and the beautiful surroundings of Lucy Depp Park. . . . The greatest inspiration comes in knowing that the land is owned and controlled by people of our group."-Miss Willa Player, Akron, Ohio, Teacher at Bennett College, Greensboro, N. C.

"This is the place for health, comfort and joy. Friends, please take advantage of the opportunity to buy while it is day."-Mrs. Mary E. Moses, Active Church Worker, Columbus, Ohio.

> Lucy Depp Park. April, 1938.

"Health lost, friends expected my death; moved here five years ago. A change for the better was perceptible after one month. Praise the Lord."-Minnie G. Jamison, State Director W.A.C.P. Ohio W. C. T. U.

"The greatest point of interest to visitors is Lucy Depp Park, where Nature is generous. The Scioto River is noted for its fishing and invigorating breeze."—(Mrs.) Anna B. Jones, Civic and Social Worker, Columbus, Ohio.

"Because of the health giving properties in the mineral water, my relatives and friends have been greatly benefited after a stay at Pauline Pines."-Mrs. Fannie P. Cook, Social Worker, Lucy Depp Park, Powell, Ohio.

"I know of no other enterprise for my people that is so outstanding as this park, the governmental restrictions and development make it a desirable place to live."—E. L. Rockhold, Expert Linoleum Contractor, Columbus, Ohio.

The Lucy Depp Park presents, to my mind, every aspect of the peaceful and dignified natural beauty so much coveted and sought in these days of urban strife and so essential to a wellrounded normal existence. It is believed that the park should be encouraged and developed as a mecca to be visited for inspiration, meditation, rest and a certain type of regeneration. W. W. COOPER, M.D., COLUMBUS, OHIO

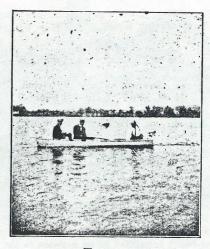
For one who leads a busy life there is nothing better than a quiet retreat such as is offered at Lucy Depp Park.

The water in our 85-ft. well has the same health features as

many of our famous springs.

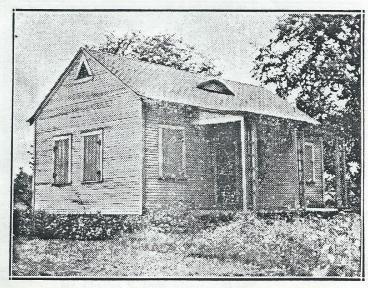
The fine fishing and boating and the quiet nights with only the sounds of nature is the only tonic one needs for a healthy, nervous system.

HELEN JENKINS DAVIS. RAYMOND THEO. DAVIS. COLUMBUS, OHIO



Terms

Lots from \$100.00 Up. Easy Payment plan \$10.00 down on a lot and \$5.00 per month; cash purchasers receive 10 per cent discount.



"Alpha"

(the first built)

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Banner. He is a Contractor of Columbus, Ohio.

Take Route 31 at Broad and High Streets going west. North on River Road, leaving Route 31 at Dublin Bridge. Take Route 257 to the O'Shaughnessy Dam. Cross bridge at Dam, going west to Route 745, go north 8-10 mile to LUCY DEPP PARK.

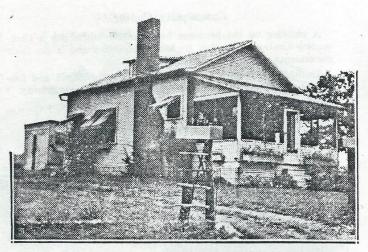
This route takes you by way of Riverside Park which includes in its scenes of varied beauty and interest The Gregg Dam, The Columbus Fishing Club, and the beautiful country homes of prominent citizens, The Apple Farms, etc., The Site of Historic Dublin, The Monument erected to the Memory of Leatherlips by the Wyandott Club, The O'Shaughnessy Dam and Reservoir, North of the bridge, The Columbus Zoo. The drive takes you through a path rich in scenic effect and cool, refreshing breezes which kies the silver sheened waters of the Scioto as they pass this beautiful channel.

A portion of the LUCY DEPP PARK is bordered on the north, east and west by the City Park lands which are maintained, improved and being beautified at no expense to the lot owners.



"Helenwood"

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Davis, Columbus, Ohio. He is a Physiotherapist; she a Public School Teacher.



"Bob White"

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond F. Mayle. He is a business man of Columbus, Ohio.

Business Site

Lots on State Route No. 745 are now on the market for business and residence sites.

Ideal Lots

Many wooded lots with many kinds of native trees. Some have healthy sugars, sturdy oaks, beech, walnut trees. Others are more in the open and can be beautified and landscaped according to the desire of the owner. All lots are desirable and drained, some level, others sloping, some overlook the lake and some the reservoir. There's any kind that mind or fancy may wish. THEY WILL GROW IN VALUE AND YOU WILL WISH YOU HAD PURCHASED ANOTHER ONE IN THIS HISTORIC PARK.

Each person making a purchase of one or more lots automatically becomes a member of the Lot Owners Association.

FIRST OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Mr. George Weaver, President of Finance Company.

1st Vice President Dr. C. B. Cox, Dentist.

2nd Vice Pres. Mrs. Blanche Love Anderson, Business Woman.

Secretary Miss Helen Jenkins, Public School Teacher.

Ass't Sec. Mr. Jas. H. Waldroph, Police Officer

Buckeye Bldg. & Loan Co.

Treasurer Dr. W. W. Cooper, Physician. Mr. J. J. Lee, Deputy Auditor, City of Columbus.

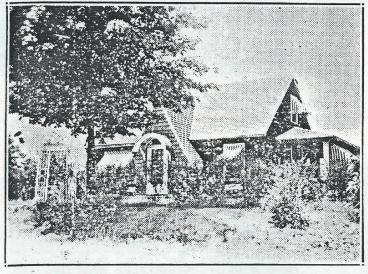
Mr. Charles R. Doll, Attorney-at-Law.
Miss Anna V. Hughes, Social Worker and Past President
of Ohio State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs.
Robert Goode, Promoter.

L. H. Godman, Attorney.

Community Center

A building on the premises has been remodeled for a Community Center by the Lot Owners Association and is for their convenience, comfort and pleasure.

Healthful recreational activities will be encouraged and fostered. A beautiful lake has been constructed for swimming.



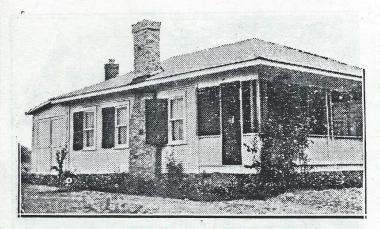
"Beverly Geane"

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Brooks, Funeral Directors, Columbus, Ohio.

Hillside Chapel

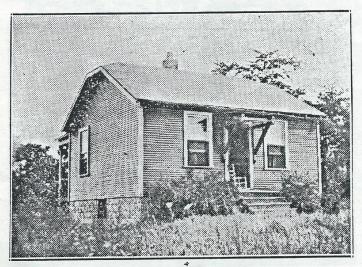
Is an Undenominational Open Air Church Site, provided for by the purchase of three (3) lots, which has been consecrated for Christian Service, on September 22, 1925, by Rev. S. H. Sweeney, Rev. J. S. Jackson, Rev. J. B. Pius, and Rev. John W. Chinn, in charge of Mrs. Minnie Goode Jamison, the donor.

Plans have been drawn by Mr. Carl E. Barnett, Architect. Beautification has begun by the planting of more than 200 shrubs and a dozen more trees.



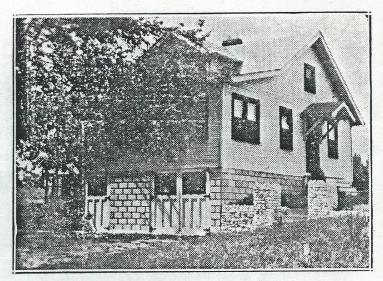
"River-View"

This cottage was built by the late Dr. W. J. Woodlin, and is now owned by Mr. Homer Whittington, a Postman in the U. S. Mail Service of Columbus, Ohio.



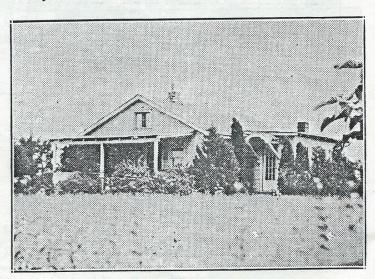
"Redwood"

The cottage of Mrs. J. F. Love, Columbus, Ohio, the widow of the late Rev. J. H. Love, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



"Ioka Cottage"

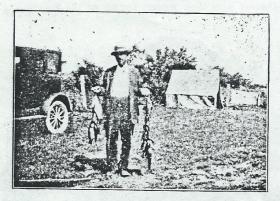
Built by the late Mr. J. J. Lee, Deputy Auditor of the City of Columbus; now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Koran Baskerville of Akron, Ohio. Mr. Baskerville is an Orderly at the Children's Hospital.



"Pauline Pines"

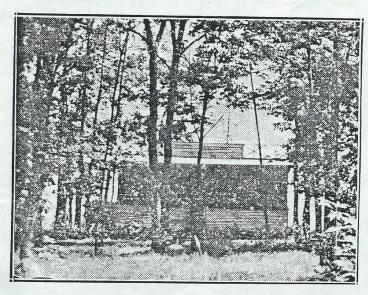
The cottage of Mrs. Fannie P. Cook, a Social Worker and Pastor of St. Luke A. M. E. Church, Columbus, Ohio.

The Place to Catch'um



Promotor Robert Goode

The fish in the picture were caught at the Park by a friend. Electricity, gas and telephone are available.

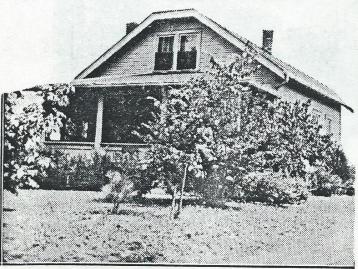


"Shady Rest"

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Brooks. He is a Master Plumber in Columbus, Ohio.

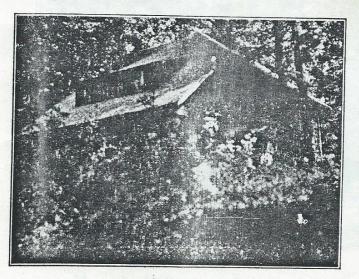
Annual Picnic

The Lot Owners have their Annual Outing on the Fourth of July



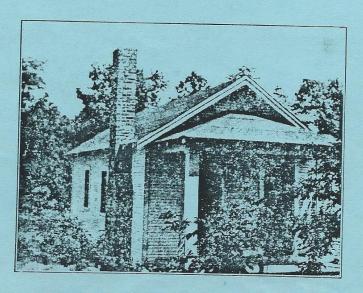
"Kenilworth"

The cottage of Miss Nella Stewart, Columbus, Ohio, a teacher at the Champion Avenue Junior High School.



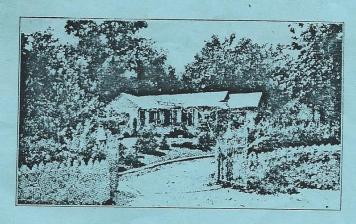
"No-See-Um"

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Millner, Columbus, Ohio. He is in private service.



"Maryland"

The cottage of Mr. and Mrs. D. Moses, Columbus, Ohio. He is a business man; she, an officer in St. Paul A. M. E. Church.



Breezewood Villa

The cottage of Dr. and Mrs. L. L. Jones, Columbus, Ohio. He is a Physician and she is prominent in Social, Philanthropic, Fraternal, Church and Civic Affairs.

Historical photos (circa 1930's) courtesy of Mike Hamilton

Robert Goode, Jean Baskerville, and Nan Goode at 6381 Harriott Rd (the Goode house) circa 1931. Robert's first wife was Nan Baskerville Goode.





Robert Goode holding Jean Baskerville on his lap with brother Bob Baskerville to his left. Standing are Minnie Goode Jamieson and Nan Goode (Robert's wife).



Mr. and Mrs. Spurlock, who lived at 9282 Frabell Dr., visiting with unknown, Helen Baskerville, Nan and Robert Goode at 6381 Harriott Rd. The kids are Bob and Jean Baskerville.

Jean Baskerville with basketball in front of the Goode House at 6381 Harriott Rd.



Ida Ray Simpson, Nan Goode, and Mrs. Spurlock working in the garden. Fred and Ida Ray Simpson were Helen Baskerville's brother and sister-in-law and would visit from Akron.



(Helen Baskerville was the mother of Jean and Bob, and Koran Baskerville's wife. Koran was Nan Goode's nephew.)

Nan Goode, Jean and Bob Baskerville, and unknown preparing to serve food. Friends of the Goodes would bring horses out to Lucy Depp Park to ride and then picnic by the barn.





Canteen after horseback riding in Lucy Depp Park. In line from left are unknown, Robert Goode, Koran Baskerville, and Nan Goode.

Splitting firewood by the barn at the Goode house (6381 Harriott Rd). Helen Baskerville, Jean Baskerville, Koran Baskerville, and Fred Simpson (Helen's brother).





Bob Baskerville, Nan Goode, Jean Baskerville, and Helen Baskerville.

Construction of swimming and fishing pond at 6381 Harriott Rd. in 1931.



Filling the swimming pond at 6381 Harriott Rd. A well was used to pump water into the pond. Jean Baskerville and friend are testing the water.





Jean and Bob Baskerville feeding ducks at the pond in 1931.

Bob and Jean Baskerville





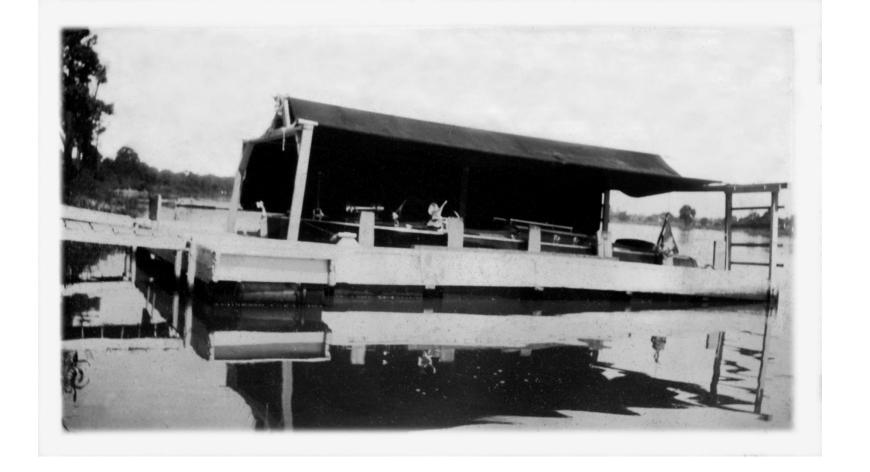
Large group fishing at the pond at 6381 Harriott Rd. Robert Goode is in the foreground.

Minnie Goode Jamison (Robert Goode's sister), Nan Goode, Helen Baskerville, Ruby Baskerville (Koran's niece), and Edith McCann (whose husband was a Columbus police officer).



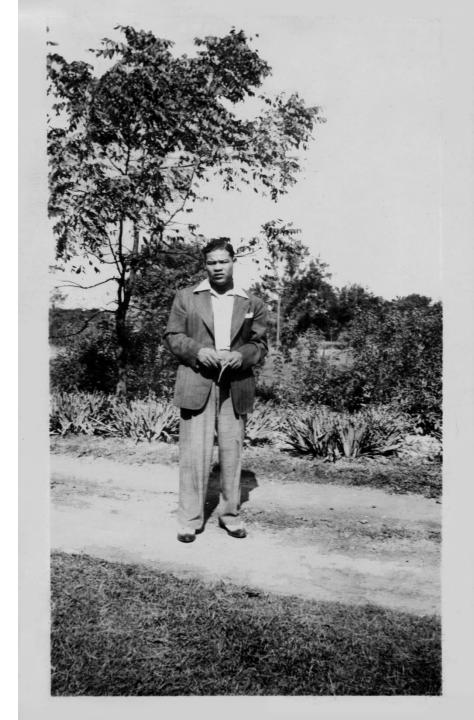


Koran Baskerville and Robert Goode fishing on O'Shaughnessy Reservoir. Robert had a dock at the end of Goode Rd.



Robert Goode's boat dock on the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir.
Located at the end of Goode Rd.

World Heavyweight **Boxing Champion Joe** Louis visiting Lucy Depp Park, circa 1938. Joe was a friend of Cecilia Chancellor, who lived at 6377 Lakeview. Cecilia was the principal of Champion Elementary School in Columbus.

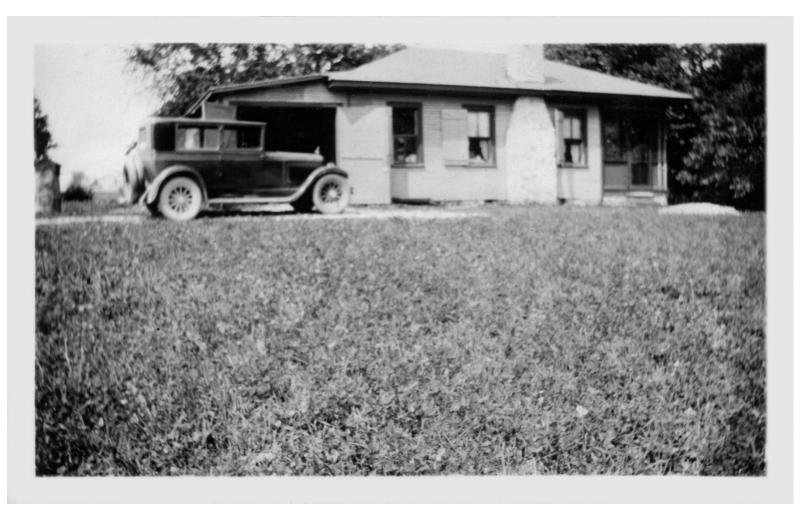




World Heavyweight
Boxing Champion Joe
Louis with Jean and Bob
Baskerville at Robert
Goode's house, 6381
Harriott Rd.

Helen and Koran Baskerville posing with Joe Louis' car (note the 1938 Michigan license plate).





Woodland cottage on Harriott Rd. Fred and Ida Ray used to stay there when visiting Lucy Depp Park.

Koran Baskerville and Robert Goode at Koran's home, 6160 Goode Rd.





Koran and Helen Baskerville in front of their home at 6160 Goode Rd.



Jean Baskerville, father Koran, and Bob Baskerville by their garden.

Jean Baskerville, unknown, Minnie Goode Jamison, Nan Goode, Mrs. Spurlock, Helen Baskerville, Robert Goode, Koran Baskerville, and Bob Baskerville at a barbecue at 6381 Harriott Rd.





After Nan Goode passed away from leukemia, Robert Goode married his second wife, Callie. This is Callie with her mother.

Callie Goode with her mother in 1952.
Callie is holding
Michael Hamilton
(son of Jean
Baskerville Hamilton).





Callie Goode and her Oldsmobile in the late 1950's.

Jean Baskerville on the John Deere mower cutting grass at Lucy Depp Park, circa mid 1940's.



Lucy Depp Park today – the spirit lives on!

- Historic Community with diverse Native American, Black and many blended roots
- ~ Current Community: composed with people who have lived in Lucy Depp Park all their lives and residents who are new to the area
- "Hospitality through an annual community picnic. Since the beginning of the park, there was a July 4 gathering. During the 1970's, it changed to a yearly Labor Day Picnic that continues today. A holiday open house also lives on in December.
- ~Future Community: the Lucy Depp Civic Association is working to ensure Lucy Depp Park is a place grounded in both a historic understanding and contemporary welcome!

















Labor
Day
Picnic
2013















Lucy Depp Holiday Gathering at 6381 Harriott Rd.



David
Tyler and
Arnett
Howard –
jazz
favorites
at Lucy
Depp
Park









For the first time in many years, the Lucy Depp Bell rang to signal the gathering for the community picnic. Repaired as a donation by Wanner Metal Works, this original bell was used as an all-clear signal to runaway slaves on their journey north along the Scioto River. The Depp Station was the first stop on the underground railroad north of Columbus, Ohio.







Lucy Depp Civic Association

- •founded by first residents of Lucy Depp Park.

 Disbanded to an informal network in the 1950's.
- •reorganized in 1967 (by-laws on following pages) and was very active in local affairs.
- •reorganized again in 1990's.
- •Goals are to build community, citizenship, raise interest and funds for historical marker, and take an active role in Concord Township and beyond.

Lucy Depp citizens at work together





A Dream come true! Friends of Freedom Underground Railroad Marker.



Labor Day 2016, with the labor of many and the leadership of Leslie Blankinship, a moving reenactment of the Depp story was shared.



Since 2015, St John AME Boys to Men, Girls to Women Mentoring have been planting very important seeds at Lucy Depp Park. Through gardening and a genealogy project they continue to build enduring community and understanding with neighbors.



Lucy Depp Civic Association meeting - at Shanghai Lily



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever does. ~ M Meade