



Heritage News

A quarterly newsletter of Glendale Heritage Preservation, Fall 2022

New Exhibit: Merchants of Glendale

We are all familiar with early morning scones at Bluebird or Friday night cheeseburgers at the Friendly Stop. We have likely eaten brunch at the Grand Finale or fish and chips at the Cock and Bull, but what have we missed out on? We have never gotten ice delivered by The Glendale Ice Club. We have never boarded our horses at A. J. Meagher's. And we have certainly never been caught gambling in the back of Bracker's Tavern!

Opening on September 24th, *The Merchants of Glendale* exhibit hopes to introduce you to some of the businesses that once served the village that we all call home. Some were only here for a brief time, but others survived for generations. The early businesses served the community as they built their homes, took care of their horses, and clothed their families. As time marched forward, and the surrounding area grew and automobiles became commonplace, the needs of the village changed. There are fewer businesses in the village than in earlier days, but they still play a part in our lives.

Glendale's businesses have been affected not only by the changing needs of the village, but also by disasters.

In the 1880s, a fire destroyed much of the west side of the Square and in

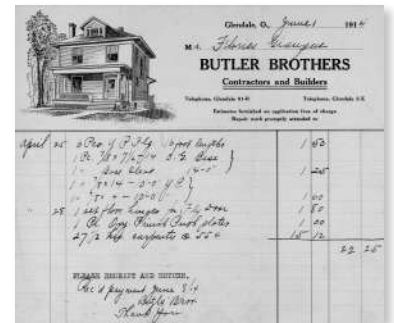


August 1912 a tornado damaged the Willis-Dooley Block (shown above), but businesses rebuilt and continued to serve the village.

One thing realized while creating this exhibit is that progress is not a straight line. Earlier business models included produce, meat and milk being delivered to homes. Eventually you could find most grocery items under one roof, as was the case when Kroger was in the Village Square. Now, however, many people prefer to have their items delivered to their homes or to visit local farmers markets.

Aside from images of earlier businesses, you will also have the opportunity to see a cash register that was once in J. J.

Kelly's Market and a business ledger containing the orders of Glendale residents whose names we still recognize. You'll find out where Sandy Koufax



signed his first major league contract and where Cheers star Ted Danson was roped into tending bar one night (apparently he wasn't very good at it!)

The Merchants of Glendale exhibit was created not only to teach visitors about Glendale's past, but also to learn from our visitors. We know that the businesses in the exhibit are only a portion of those that have existed in Glendale and hope to learn more about the ones that we didn't include – especially the numerous home-based businesses that were in the village. It is our hope that this exhibit gives the people of Glendale an opportunity to collaborate and share their knowledge and memories of Glendale businesses so that we can preserve that information for future generations and potential future merchants.

Submitted by Jill Beitz

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www.glendaleheritage.org
facebook: @glendaleheritagepreservation
email: GHP@fuse.net
telephone: (513) 771-8722

Glendale Heritage Preservation's Annual Meeting, November 8

You are invited to Glendale Heritage Preservation's Annual Meeting on November 8 in Christ Church's All Saints Fellowship Hall. Join us for a reception at 7:00 p.m. followed by the annual meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The highlight of the meeting will be a presentation by Steve Albert, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, who will provide an overview of the modern art collection of one of Glendale's greatest philanthropists,

Miss Mary E Johnston. Mr. Albert, benefiting from the assistance of curators at the Cincinnati Art Museum, will provide behind-the-scenes insights into Miss Mary's collecting strategies, methods, and finances. He will also discuss the little-known, dramatic, multi-year fight to preserve the collection, after Miss Mary's death.



Mary E. Johnston



Part of Mary Johnston's art collection bequest to the Cincinnati Art Museum: Vincent van Gogh's "Undergrowth with Two Figures" painted in 1890.

Also, the meeting will include a drawing of a member's name for a print of the famous 1865 lithograph of historic Glendale.

J. J. Kelly's Cash Register

The cash register in the Merchants of Glendale exhibit was made by the National Cash Register company in Dayton – a Dolphin Design model 356 – serial number 1021352 – with 33 keys and nickel-plated with an attractive marble till and a side printer. The serial number puts it as manufactured in September 1911 according to the NCR company records. Removing the cash drawer and turning it over reveals a paper sticker that has more information on the sale of the register. It confirmed that register 1021352 was sold on 21st August 1911 to J. J. Kelly of Glendale, Ohio – with a 2-year guarantee carrying a printed signature of John H. Patterson, the president of NCR.



Part of NCR's success was that they would sell registers configured to what their customers wanted. Interestingly the register sold to J. J. Kelly has a maximum key value of \$20 and a key to indicate "Meat". In 1911, \$20 would be the equivalent of around \$600 today, so the register was designed to cope with some large transactions and was not for use in some small candy or barber shop.

J. J. Kelly famously founded what became the Grand Finale at the corner of Congress Avenue and East Sharon Road – but in addition had a meat store close to the station. So, it was a pleasant surprise to see that this register had likely been purchased for use directly in the meat store.

Inside the register drawer is a separate lockable compartment designed to hold high value gold

coins, again illustrating that the register was designed to handle some high value transactions

At one stage the register would have carried a cast sign on top, either indicating "Amount Purchased" or sometimes the name of the establishment or owner. It is quite possible that somewhere out there is a nameplate with the name J. J. Kelly cast into it.

Inside the register, underneath the curved cover, are counters to indicate the number of customer transactions. There is also a lock to secure the keys in place so no one could use the register. Also, there are counters showing how many times the lid had been opened and showing the number of meat transactions.

All these features were designed to support the proprietor and minimize any pilferage by cashiers. Indeed, when first introduced, the register was known as the "Incorruptible Cashier" as it finally allowed proprietors to monitor takings and minimize thefts by unscrupulous employees. It was John Patterson's first purchase of a register in 1884 for his coal business that allowed him to finally turn in a profit, convinced him of the worldwide potential, and led him to invest in the company. The rest, as they say, is history.

The register pattern was called the Dolphin design and was a popular and fairly common design. As with most registers, it was available in polished brass, nickel plate and even copper oxidized finishes. The register was called a "Total Adder" type as it was able to show the total takings for the day without any additional action by the proprietor.

It is worth mentioning that the register has a marble till, these were popular with proprietors as the cashier could tap coins on the till surface and detect forgeries by the tone of the tap.

The register also has a patent plate with multiple patent dates. NCR was very assertive at challenging competitors with Patent infringement and successfully closed down competition, both in the USA and abroad.

Submitted by Hugh Cockwill following a visit to Glendale from the United Kingdom, where he has developed his interest in cash registers. If anyone has any further questions or is interested more in NCR cash registers – please do contact Hugh at hcockwill@aol.com.



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Glendale Elementary Photo Books

Bill Wayson recently visited Glendale Heritage Preservation to donate Glendale Elementary School classroom photograph books for 1958-1959 and 1959-1960. Here, Bill is pictured discussing his



donation with Glendale Heritage Preservation archivist Joanne Goode.

Bill Wayson was appointed principal of Glendale Elementary in 1958. It was the year Eckstein School

was closed and the Princeton School District became integrated. Glendale Elementary taught grades up to the 7th grade. Upon graduation students moved to the new Princeton School on Chester Road.

The two classroom photograph books contain photographs of each class alongside the names of the students and teacher. This photograph shows



Mrs. Lula Turner's Special Education class taken in 1959. Mrs. Lula Turner had previously taught at Eckstein School.