



Heritage News

A quarterly newsletter of Glendale Heritage Preservation, Winter 2025-2026

Fashion During Glendale's Early Years

During the mid-19th century on formal occasions, women wore full-length dresses with tight bodices and voluminous skirts. The skirt's

profile was typically maintained by several layers of petticoats, so that the wearer would appear to have an hourglass figure. The dress shown in this image, from the collection of the Cincinnati Art Museum, is dated 1850-1853 and made of silk taffeta (a ribbed weave). In the late 1850s, the crinoline (a structure of steel hoops) was introduced to replace the many layers of petticoats, maintaining the shape of the dress while also making it easier to move around.



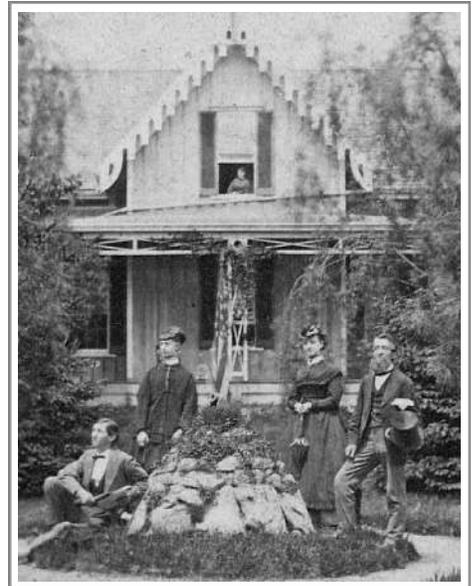
Men generally wore suits made up of a frock coat and trousers. The frock coat's torso was fitted, flared at the waist, and came down to the knees. Trousers were made of a lighter material and cut relatively straight. The suit shown in this image, from the collection of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, is dated 1852. The coat is made of wool and the trousers of linen twill (a ribbed texture).



Men also wore fancy embroidered waistcoats over a white shirt with a cravat or a bow tie. The shirt collars were generally detachable so that the shirt could be worn several times while the collars were washed more frequently.

On formal occasions, men would don a top hat made of either beaver felt or, by the mid-1800s, silk plush. George W. Gallagher can be seen holding his top hat in this Frederick Glessner photograph from the mid-1860s. The photograph is taken outside the Gallagher's

home at 845 Greenville Avenue. His wife is wearing a typical day dress with a bonnet and parasol. Their young daughter wears a loose-fitting smock dress with a cap. Their son appears to be



wearing a lounge suit which replaced the frock coat in the mid-1860s. The jacket was shorter in length and looser around the torso.

While fashions change frequently in modern times, the fashions for women and men of the mid-1800s remained basically the same throughout the Victorian period. At the start of the 20th century, new ideas of fashion began to be introduced. The styles of the roaring 20s couldn't have been more different from what the Gallagher family wore in their photograph.

Submitted by Martin Sinnott

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Lake Hannigan

Glendale's Lake Avenue park was once the site of Lake Hannigan — a popular recreation spot for local residents. Families used it for fishing, boating and skating in the winter. But in those early days, the lake also played a critical role in the operation of the railroad that ran through the village.



Glendale Female College students at Lake Hannigan

Lake Hannigan was created by the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton railroad in 1850 to serve as a water reservoir for their steam locomotives. It was most likely dug by Irish immigrant laborers who worked for the railroad company. It covered four acres and was 17 feet deep.

A 300-foot dam held back the water of Town Run, a stream that runs the length of Glendale. From there, water was directed to the depot in the village square for replenishing the locomotives' water tank.

By 1921, the lake had not been maintained properly and the Ohio State Board of Health condemned it due to its poor sanitary condition. The lake was drained, and all that remains today is the depression in the ground left by Lake Hannigan.

Town Run, the stream that fed the lake, is now channeled through a pipe under Lake Park until it emerges beyond the original dam to continue across Lake Avenue and on through the village.

Occasionally Lake Hannigan returns. With heavy spring rain in 1999, Lake Park was filled once again with runoff from overflowing storm drains along Congress Avenue. It happened again, although to a lesser extent, in 2011.

Lake Park is now a pleasant green space and remains, to this day, a reminder of the village's varied and interesting history.

Submitted by Martin Sinnott

Fosdick, Ohio

For three years, Fosdick was the postal service name for the village of Glendale. Then, in 1854, the postal address was changed to Glendale.

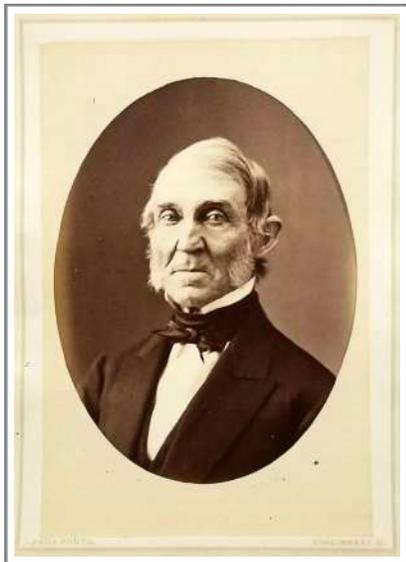
At Glendale's 150th anniversary celebration in 2005, the black squirrel sculpture was named Fosdick by the Village.

As a member of the Glendale Association, Fosdick was one of Glendale's founders. So, who was this Fosdick?

He was Samuel Fosdick, the son of Richard and Phebe Fosdick. He was born in New London, Connecticut, in 1801. At the age of nine, his parents and his six siblings set out for Cincinnati. They traveled first by horse and carriage over the mountains to Pittsburgh, and then by flatboat down the Ohio River. It took them 21 days.

Once settled in Cincinnati, Samuel's father, Richard, developed a process for preserving pork and became the city's first meat packer, spawning an industry that gave the city its nickname of Porkopolis.

At the age of 35, Samuel Fosdick stood for and was elected Hamilton County Sheriff - its 15th since 1790. He had responsibility for law enforcement, court service, and jail management.



At nearly the same time, in 1836, Samuel married Sarah Ann Wood. They had eight children, of which only two lived longer than their parents. Samuel died in 1881 at the age of 80, and Sarah died in 1886 at the age of 76.

On completion of his term as sheriff, Samuel set up business as a commission merchant on Sycamore Street. The commission merchant is someone who works as an intermediary between seller and buyer, and earns a commission on each sale. This role was often associated with livestock, with the commission merchant acting as a negotiator between the farmer and the processor.

By 1844, Samuel, with two business partners, Anthony Harkness and Jacob Strader, built the Franklin Cotton Mill at the junction of John Street and Third Street, not far from Longworth Hall. It was for many years Cincinnati's only cotton mill.

As an investor, Samuel invested in the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railway and the Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company. The Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railway became the catalyst for the siting of Glendale. Samuel was also reported to have bought and sold more real estate than anyone in Cincinnati other than Nicholas Longworth.

As a real estate investor, Samuel must have seen the opportunity to be in on the ground floor of the development of the village of Glendale. He was one of 30 businessmen to join the Glendale Association and committed to building

homes costing more than \$1,500 (\$60,000 today). In 1852, not only did he build a house for his family at 110 East Sharon Avenue, he also bought all



of the land north of Coral Avenue between Congress Avenue and the railroad tracks. He must have been the largest landowner in Glendale, so it is no wonder the post office referred to the area as Fosdick, Ohio.

Submitted by Martin Sinnott

Glendale Heritage Preservation Annual Meeting

Glendale Heritage Preservation's annual meeting was held on November 11 at Christ Church Glendale's All Saints Fellowship Hall. It was attended by 102 members and guests, who had come to hear Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens Director and CEO, Thane Maynard, who presented on the history of the Zoo.



The audience was captivated with Thane's stories from the founding of the Zoo in 1873 all the way through to modern times when the Zoo was credited with being the "Greenest Zoo in America."

Welcome our New Trustees

At the annual meeting portion of the evening, members elected four new trustees were voted on to Glendale Heritage Preservation's Board of Trustees.

Susan Armstrong

Susan and her husband, Snowden, moved to Glendale with their two young children in the early 1970s. They lived in a number of homes including one built by her husband on Chester Avenue. Currently, Susan lives in the Glendale Condominiums.



For 43 years, Susan enjoyed a career as a real estate agent. The best part of the job, she says, was introducing newcomers to Glendale. Now retired, Susan is looking forward to continuing her involvement with the village through Glendale Heritage Preservation.

Mike Beaugrand

Mike and his wife, Carolyn, have been residents of Glendale since 1986, residing at 44 East Sharon

Avenue. Their two children were educated in the Princeton City school system starting in first grade.

Mike worked at P&G for 35 years in manufacturing and engineering positions. For the past eight years, he was elected to serve as Treasurer for the Village of Glendale. Mike has volunteered with a number of Glendale organizations including Glendale Youth Sports. He led the annual pancake breakfast for three years when Glendale Heritage Preservation coordinated the event. He is planning to continue his volunteerism as a Glendale Heritage Preservation trustee.



Jennifer Grueninger

Jennifer and her family moved to Glendale in 1997, which is where her two children were raised. She retired from Gap, Inc. in 2020, after 34 years as an IT manager.



Since then, Jennifer has volunteered for several organizations, including the Glendale Garden Club, Harry Whiting Brown, the Community Library and, most recently, assisting in the Glendale Heritage Preservation archives. Now Jennifer will also become a trustee for Glendale Heritage Preservation.

Jeffrey Herbert

Jeffrey was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, and grew up in Western Hills. He has been a resident of Glendale since 2022. For more than 40 years, he worked at General Electric Aerospace in the engineering department, and continues as a part-time contractor in the company's Engineering Compliance Department.



For 32 years, Jeffrey was on the board of the Hamilton County Genealogical Society in several capacities. He is currently serving on the America 250-Ohio commission of Hamilton County. His keen interest in history will serve him well on Glendale Heritage Preservation's board.