

CLINTONVILLE HISTORY



GLENMONT SCHOOL

1929-1952

In 1929, the Clintonville Area was in need of another school. Clinton Elementary was busting at the seams. WWI portable barracks buildings were moved to the vacant land on Glenmont Road-now known as 470 Glenmont. These barracks were said to have been purchased by a wealthy local businessman for relocation to the site. They may have been part of the Columbus Barracks (aka Ft. Hayes) or part of Chillicothe's Camp Sherman. The land had been purchased by the Board of Education in 1925. The previous land owner was Pauline Carl. Mrs. Carls' husband, Harry, was the President of H.W. Carl Construction Company, a builder of fine homes. He most likely purchased the land to build speculative homes. The first Principal of Glenmont School was **Celia Ann Van De Griff (pictured)**. Miss Van De Griff was born February 27, 1876. She was the daughter of John and Anna Davis Van De Griff. Her father was a basket maker. She grew up in Columbus. For most of her life, she lived at 31 E. Lane Ave. Her brother, Charles, was a bookkeeper for the Big Four Railroad. At the time of Glenmont's portable buildings, Cecil was also serving as the Principal of Clinton Elementary School. She was an educator all of her adult

life. In her retirement, she travelled with her sisters to Cuba, Bermuda and England. She died October 21, 1965.

Initially only first and second grade were offered at Glenmont.

First grade was taught by **Elsie C. Elliott**. Mrs. Elliott was born in Galloway, Ohio on July 7, 1885. Her parents were Charles and Laura Fulcher Colburn. Her great grandfather was Samuel Kinnear (Kinnear Road is named for him). Elsie taught school at First Ave. Elementary for many years. She married Frank Elliott in the early 1920s. She transferred to Glenmont when it opened. City Directories show that she was still teaching school in 1957. Her husband passed away that year. She died in 1965.

Second grade was taught by **Frances Jones**. Born October 26, 1899, she was the daughter of August Merritt and Elizabeth Irwin Grover. She married Emil Claire Jones in 1924. The couple lived at 75 Dunedin Road. Mrs. Jones ultimately became the Principal of Glenmont School.

In 1930, 3rd grade was added to the program.

Society Members Max Holzer and Dr. Bruce Barnes remember attending class at Glenmont School in the 1930s. At that time, the staff included Mrs. Swank, Mrs. Block, Miss Feeman and Mrs. Hanger.

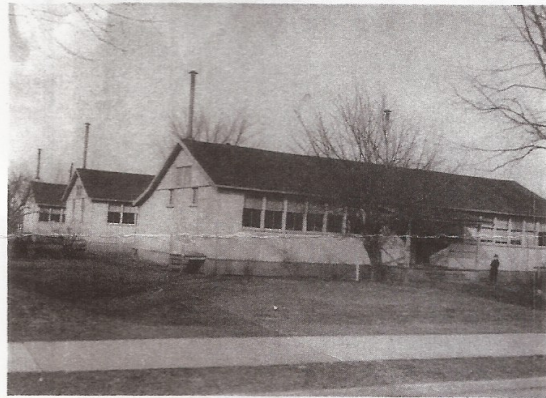
Margaret Cloud Swank was born in 1907. She was the daughter of Edward and Emma Ritter Cloud. In 1937, she married Durmont Swank. They lived on Wrexham Ave. Durmont passed away in 1945. I did not find a record of her marrying a second time and I found no record of children.

Verena Haberstick Block was born in 1891 in Columbus, OH. She taught at the 4th Street School before going to Glenmont and after Glenmont, she taught at Clinton. She was married to Leon Henry Block. They had four children: Saul, Pierson, Isabel, and Marion. The 1940 census lists Verena as a widow. That appears

to be incorrect. Her husband did not pass away until 1965. His death record shows him to be divorced.

Edna Feeman was born in Lancaster, Ohio in 1902. She was the daughter of Abraham and Catherine Walter Feeman. For 18 years, she taught Kindergarten and First Grade at Glenmont School. After that, she taught at Indian Springs School.

Mary Louise Hanger was born in Plain City, OH in 1887. She married Wallace Hanger in 1916. They had three children-Wallace, Jr. aka Sherwood, Robert and Mary. Unfortunately, Wallace, Sr. passed away in 1929. Mary Louise, her mother in law and her young family lived at 361 Northwood for many years. She was listed in both the 1930 and 1940 census as a public school teacher. She passed away in 1945.



(Glenmont Barracks)

According to Max Holzer and Dr. Bruce Branes the school custodian, Mr. Clark, was responsible for lighting the potbellied stoves that heated the barracks. During their school days, there were 9 rooms total with 20-25 students per room. Max remembers Miss Cloud getting married. He also remembers playing near the creek. Apparently, even back then, there was a problem with sewer overflow. The students would refer to the septic discharge in the creek as "holy water".

In 1952, the City of Columbus Schools built a permanent school on Glenmont.