

The Kenton County Historical Society



3-91

March

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND PROGRAM

On Wednesday evening, April 10th, 7:00 PM, Kenton County Public Library, Mr. Jack Howe will give an audio-visual presentation on the HISTORY OF THE NEWPORT BARRACKS.

Mr. Howe has been involved with the Ft Thomas Heritage League which has worked to preserve the Ft Thomas military Mess Hall. Mr. Howe was for many years also involved with the Boy Scouts. The meeting and program will be FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Wednesday Evening

7:00 PM

Kenton County Public Library

Fifth and Scott Streets

Covington

NEWS

Mr. Andrew Lutes has agreed to become Acting Programs Chairman. He succeeds Mrs. Elizabeth Chavez, who did an excellent job over a period of more than a year. We are very grateful to Elizabeth for for arranging speakers.

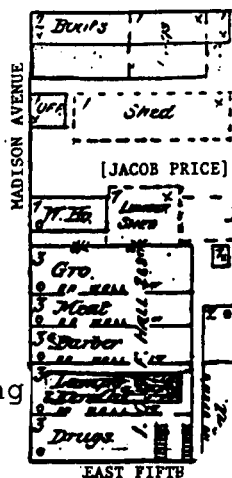
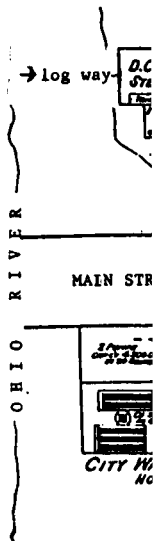
The very sad news is that on Sunday March 17th Mr. John Burns, a member of our Board of Directors and a charter member, passed away at the Florence Park Nursing Home (across from Boone County High School). He suffered from the severe pain of cancer especially toward the end. John began to feel pain last July-August. Later he entered the Nursing Home, seemed to recover to such a degree that he was hoping to return home. However, around Christmas, he began to decline. Mr. Burns was buried in Highland Cemetery.

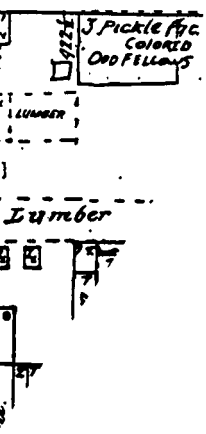
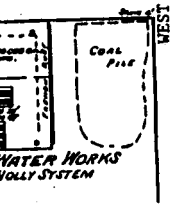
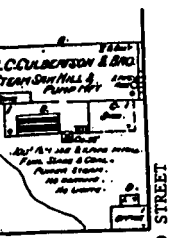
LUMBER BY RIVER AND BY RAIL

For Covington, originally a "river town," the opening of the Kentucky Central railroad in 1854 added another dimension in transport capacity, which facilitated the city's lumber supply, and manufacturing. According to an 1891 source, the D. C. Culbertson and Brother Steam Saw Mill and Pump Manufacturer Company originated in 1850. An 1886 Sanborn Insurance map shows it located at the northeast corner of Second and Main streets (opposite the city's water supply main) with a "log way" to elevate logs from the water. The company shipped regionally, not just locally, and manufactured cistern pumps as well. D. C. Culbertson remained in the city's directories past 1900--but by then in an apparently reduced capacity on Scott street as a supplier of wood shavings. Succeeding the D. C. Culbertson Company at Second and Main, the C. Crane Company operated the sawmill with log incline access as late as 1912.

The J. P. Carpenter wholesale and retail lumber company, at 225 Scott, had a 100 X 200 foot lot with an "L" passage to Second street. The location allowed for access to lumber transported either by river or by rail. The company sold rough and dressed lumber including hemlock and pine and retailed planks, flooring, siding, lath, shingles, posts, sash, blinds, mouldings, etc.

Jacob Price, a black religious and business leader in Covington,





had a 60 X 90 foot lot at 426-428 Madison in the the 1880s. He did a great deal of business in all kinds of dressed lumber, in sashes, doors, blinds, shingles, laths, locust and cedar posts. He employed "two delivery teams," and "a couple of yard men." He bought in large lots white pine from Michigan, and yellow pine from Alabama and Tennessee, and hemlock from New York state.

The Ohio Scroll and Lumber Company was located at the Railroad tracks on Twelfth and Washington in 1886. Then by 1898 the company had its factory and yard at the northeast corner of Russell and Stewart alley (where the United States IRS complex now stands). According to Charles D. Fuess Jr., his grandfather bought the company in 1910. The company later used large trucks to haul lumber which the railroad had transported north. However, the KENTUCKY POST reported (January 27, 1915) that Ohio Scroll was considering moving out. Charles Feuss, President, claimed that "several cities had offered flattering inducements to locate with them." The problem was that "the railroad yards in Covington are not large enough, and in a busy time it is hard to get cars set for us..." The company had been in Covington for thirty years and employed 150-200 men in the fabrication of furniture pieces and decorations in large amounts (to be shipped to manufacturers). However, Covington still had a strong point, according to Feuss, which was its "closeness to raw materials." And the company remained in Covington until displaced by Urban Renewal in the 1960s.

(by John Boh)

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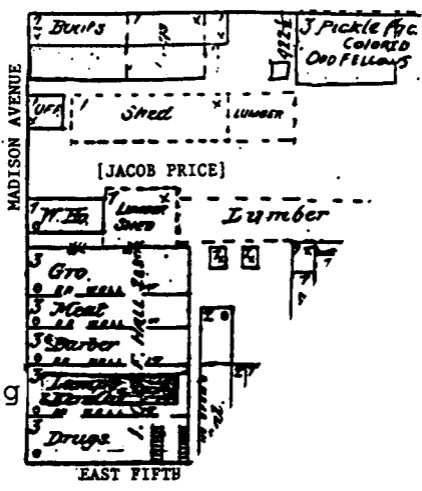
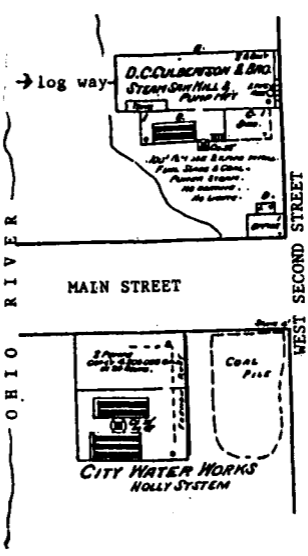
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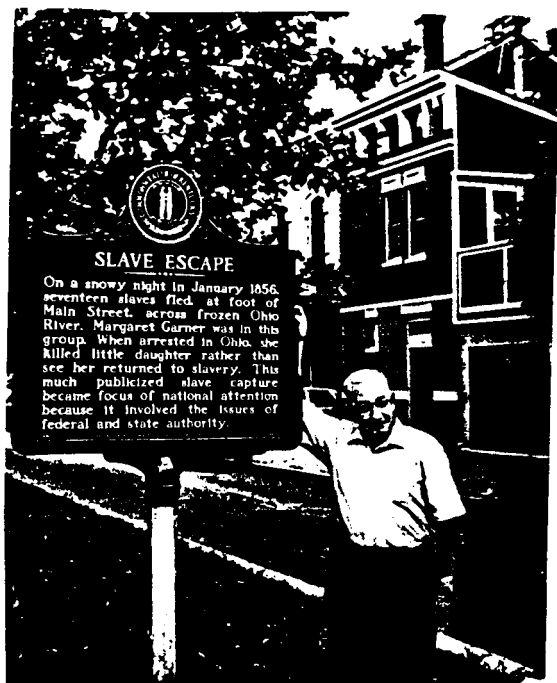
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JOHN E. BURNS

1922-1991

R. I. P.

Kenton County Historical Society
P. O. Box 641
Covington, KY 41012

Kenton County Sesquicentennial-1990
State of Kentucky Bicentennial-1992

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