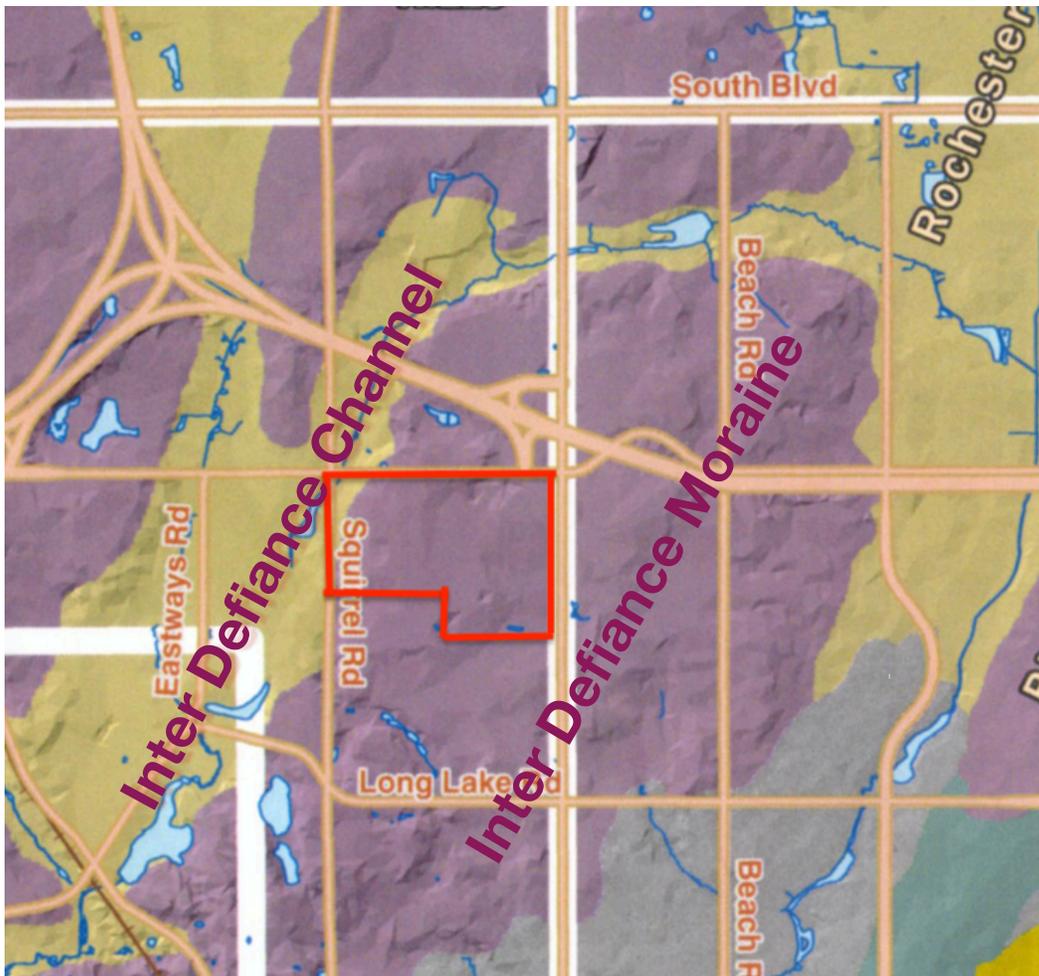
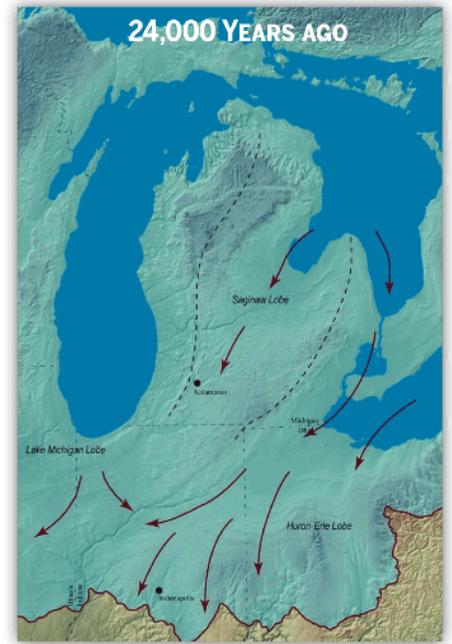


A History of the Kentmoor Subdivision

Geology

The geology of Bloomfield Township and our subdivision was formed by the action over time of various massive glaciers that covered the area. The last one receded about 15,000 years ago. As they melted they left behind large moraines and channels. This glacial activity resulted in the hills, small lakes, large boulders and the source of The Rouge River with its tributaries. The large boulders we see around our neighborhood actually came from Canada brought here by the glaciers.

Our subdivision sits on top of the Inner Defiance Moraine with the west side sloping down into the Inner Defiance Channel creating the the hill going down to Squirrel Rd when going west on Square Lake Rd, Lenox, and Westview. The channel is one of the beginning branches of the Rouge River.



Geological Survey Map

Early Human Habitation

Very little is known of the earliest people to live in our area as no written or oral history exist to draw from. What is know is pieced together from archeological evidence.

Paleo-Indians, 10,000 B.C. - 8000 B.C.

The first people to arrive in Michigan after the Ice Age glaciers receded were Paleo-Indians that migrated from the south sometime around 10,000 B.C.

Archaic-Indians, 8000 B.C. to 1000 B.C.

Over time as the climate conditions warmed, the environment changed. Hardwood forests started to appear and with them a wider range of game to hunt. There was a refinement of hunting tools and the atlatl came into use allowing a hunter to double the distance a spear could be thrown.

Woodland-Indians

The Early Woodland Period- (1000 B.C. to 300 B.C.)

The Middle Woodland Period- (300 B.C. to 500 A.D.) (Hopewell)

The Late Woodland Period - (1000 A.D. to 1620)

According to their own oral tradition the People of The Three Fires, or the Anishinaabe (Ottawa, Potawatomi and Ojibway) journeyed many years ago from lands on the Atlantic seaboard to the Great Lakes area. It was these various bands of Native Americans that loosely shared the same Algonquin dialect that the first European explorers, traders, and settlers encountered when they first came to Michigan. Some lived in large villages and grew corn, beans, squash and sunflowers on their nearby fields. They supplemented what they grew by hunting and fishing and gathering wild plants. Their homes were built of saplings, bark and rush mats.



Treaties, Survey and Land Sales

After the American Revolutionary War, The Treaty of Paris in 1783 ceded to the United States a large tract of land east of the Mississippi River which included land that is now Michigan. But the land was still the property of the Indian tribes and was so recognized by law. Before settlers could legally obtain land in southeast Michigan, the government first had to come to a mutual agreement with the Indian tribes to relinquish their claims to the land. The status of the Indian tribes under American law was that of nations within a nation and each of the treaties with the Indian tribes was subject to the approval of the United States Senate, the same as treaties with foreign countries.

In 1807, the Governor of the Territory of Michigan, William Hull, negotiated the Treaty of Detroit with the Ottawa, Chippewa, Wyandot, and Potawatomi Indians under which they agreed to cede to the US Government a tract of land comprising of roughly the southeast corner of the lower peninsula for monetary and other compensations.



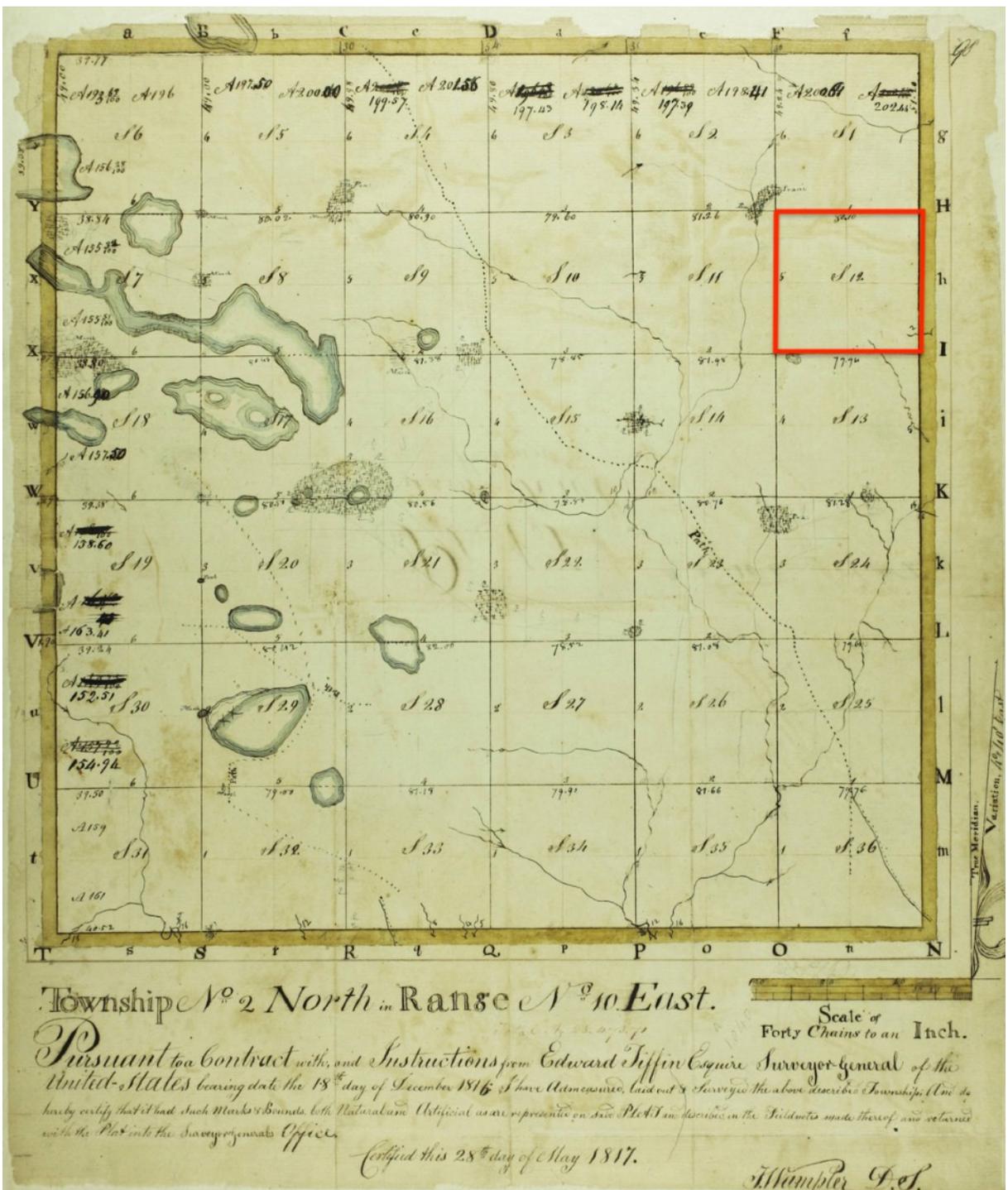
1783 Treaty of Paris



1807 Treaty of Detroit

With a treaty in place the the US Government could now offer land for sale to settlers who wished to come to Michigan.

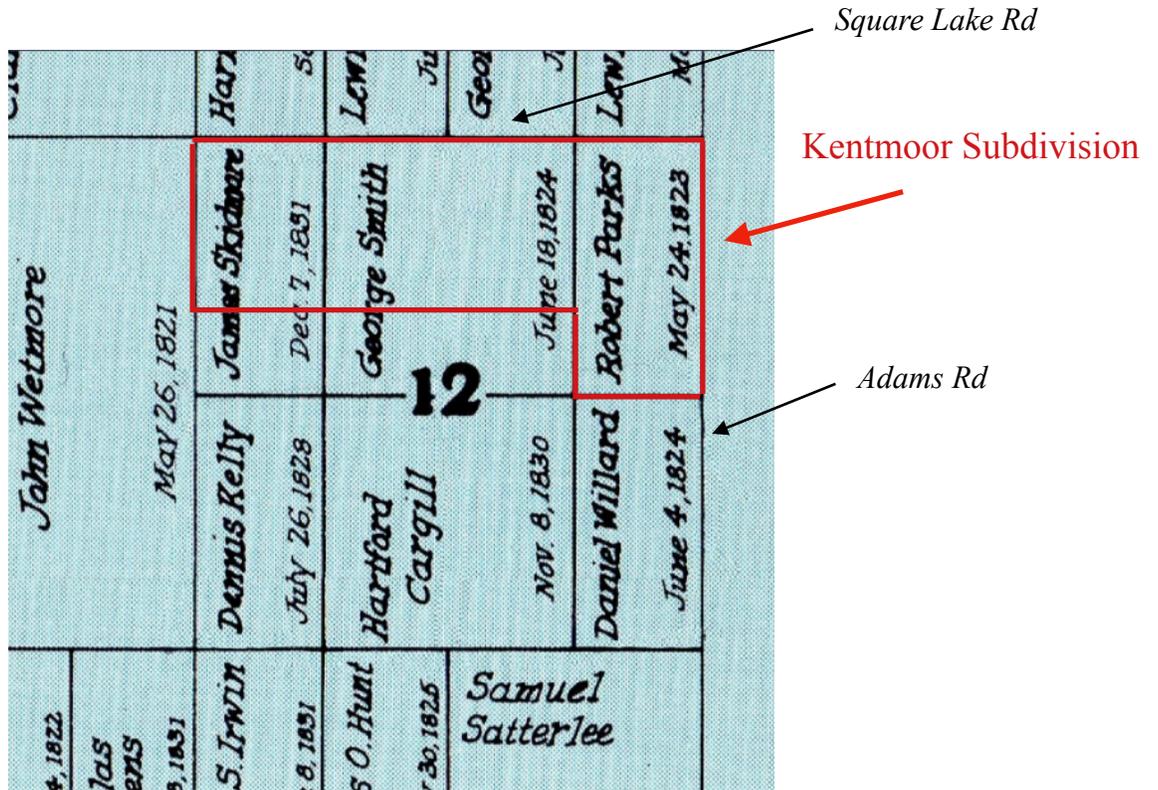
But, before the land could be put up for sale it had to be surveyed. The surveyors began their work in 1815 to create townships by establishing a base line (*which later became 8 Mile Rd*) and a meridian line. All land surveyed in Michigan start from these reference lines. Thus "T2N, R10E" means the second township north of the base line and the tenth township East of the Meridian. The townships would be six by six miles square containing 36 one square mile sections. The sections within would be numbered starting with #1 in the northeast corner.



Bloomfield Township Survey Map showing Section 12 where our Subdivision is

In 1818 the government land office was opened in Detroit right after the initial land survey. Therefore, the earliest land purchases in Bloomfield Township were recorded in 1818 with most of the land purchased during the 1820s. Much of the land was purchased by families coming from western New York State and other areas on the East Coast. A few parcels were purchased by immigrants coming to Michigan directly from England or Ireland. The amount of land purchased by each settler was almost always at least 40 acres, but parcels of 80 and even 160 acres (a quarter section (1/2 mile by 1/2 mile) were popular. A few even larger parcels were purchased.

The first settlers to purchase property and settle on the land that eventually became our Kentmoor Subdivision were Robert Parks (May 1825), George Smith (June 1824) & James Skidmore (December 1831).

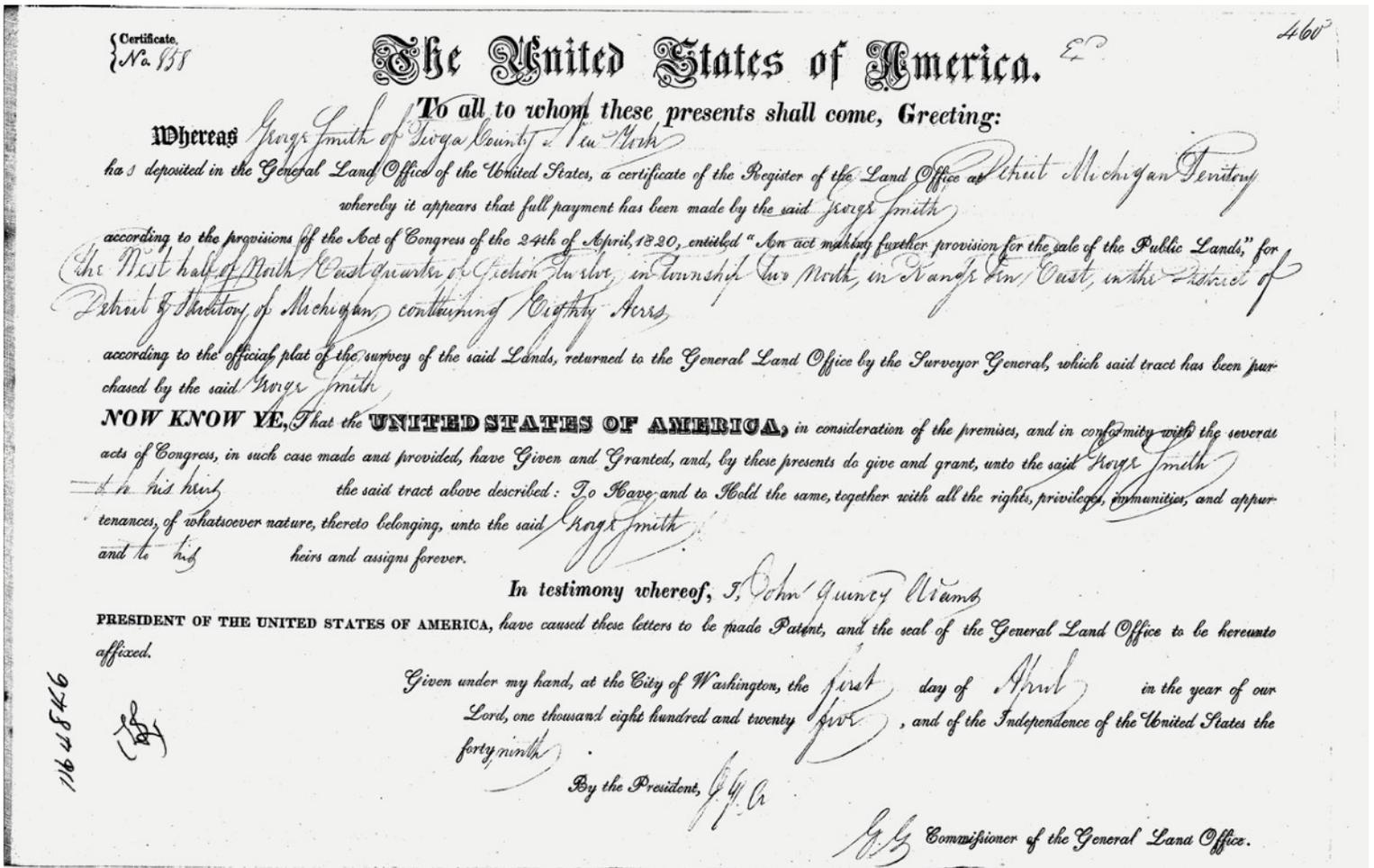


Original land owners map from the Bloomfield Blossoms Book

12. 2. N. 10. E. 640				
80	Robert Parks	Oakland	Mich	May 24. 1825
80	Daniel Willard	"	"	June 4. 1824
80	George Smith	Tioga	" N.Y.	" 18. "
80	Drs Drs	"	"	" 22. "
80	Dennis Kelly	Oakland	"	Mich July 26. 1828
160	Hartford Cargill	Ontario	" N.Y.	Nov 8. 1830
80	James Skidmore	Oakland	" Mich	Dec 7. 1831.

+	+	+	+
+	+	+	+

These first landowners would receive a letter of Patent from the US Government signed by the President of the United States.



Patent for George Smith signed by John Quincy Adams

The Pioneers and the Building of a Farming Community

Many Pioneer families arrived in Michigan by way of the water route over Lake Erie by steamship having arrived in Buffalo, NY via the Erie Canal which was first in use in 1821. Newcomers would land in Detroit or sometimes travel by water up to the mouth of the Clinton River. They would usually travel on foot or by wagon to what is now Birmingham in the very southeast corner of Bloomfield Township and then locate the property they had purchased, or wish to evaluate by finding the

appropriate stakes that the surveyors had previously marked set on the corners of the sections. Once they had purchased their parcel of land, they would select a spot suitable for a dwelling and quite often construct a temporary log structure from trees felled on their land. They would clear some of the land and plant their first crops. If they were successful, a few years later the log structure was either replaced by, or incorporated into, a frame house built from lumber milled by the early water powered saw mills. Later grist mills came into being to grind the grain that was grown. Some of these became cider mills since much of the land was used for orchard crops.

Roads were almost non-existent in the township when the first settlers arrived. There were a number of paths used by Native Americans. (These were even noted on the 1817 survey maps.) The most prominent of these in Bloomfield Township roughly followed the route of today's Woodward Avenue (Saginaw Trail). However, it was initially not at all suitable for even wagon travel.



1828 advertisement

During the early days of settlement, roadways evolved that for the most part followed along the lines that were delineated by the surveyors marking out the boundaries of the one square mile sections. A few roads, however, evolved a bit differently by following a wagon path made by a farmer from his property to the nearest settlement. One prime example of this is what today is known as Vaughan Rd. that runs on a southwest to northeast diagonal from the farm of Abraham Vaughan to what was originally named Bloomfield Centre at Long Lake and Woodward Ave.

The property that George Smith purchased in 1824 is a large portion of our subdivision property. It's also where my home is located. So, in researching the history of my home I was able to gather a great deal of information about the area that would become a large portion of our subdivision.

George and Malinda Smith and their daughter Hannah came from Tioga, New York. The 1840 census shows them living on their land at that time. There is no hard evidence of where their house or cabin was, but they maintained a farm and their products can be seen on the 1850 Products of Agriculture Survey.

They had 33 horses, 44 sheep, 9 swine, 7 other cattle, and 5 milch cows. They grew wheat, Indian corn, Irish potatoes and buckwheat and produced 90 pounds of wool, 300 pounds of butter and 60 pounds of cheese.

George Smith held the property for 29 years. On December 24, 1853, they sold a large part of their property to Nelson & Olive Madden.

The 1857 Bloomfield Township map shows how the land ownership and farms would eventually shape our subdivision. The Madden and Webber farms now make up our subdivision shape. The Madden property can be seen on the 1857 map along with the District School #4.

No house is shown and it is not known exactly where they lived but they probably lived in a house somewhere on the north side of Square Lake Rd. I suspect that it was the old small white farmhouse that was previously on the current Bowers School Farm and was relocated to Squirrel Rd.

In 1855, just two years after purchasing the farm, Nelson Madden died leaving his wife Olive and his children to manage the farm.

One of his sons, Alpheus enlisted in Michigan Company F fifth infantry in the Civil War. He died in Alexandria, VA in 1861 and is buried in the Alexandria National Cemetery, VA. His name is on the Civil War monument in Birmingham.



The 1857 Bloomfield Township

On September 9th 1865, Nelson's oldest son, Robert filed a bill of complaint vs Olive Madden in Oakland County Court

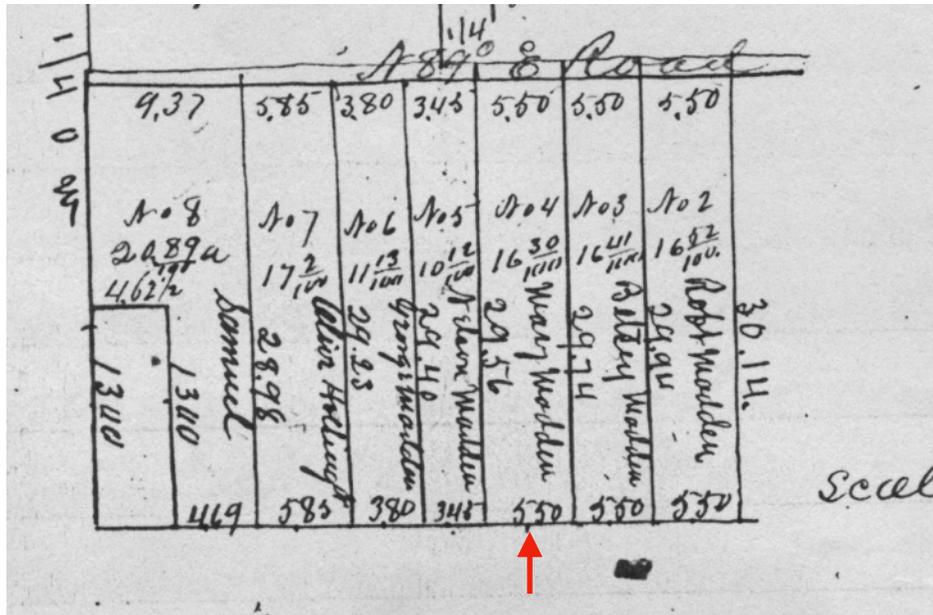


Alpheus Madden



The Civil War monument in Birmingham listing Alpheus Madden

requesting a division of the Madden property amongst all of the Madden heirs and that a guardian be appointed for Betsey, Mary, Nelson, and George Madden since they were minors. On March 1st, 1866 the land division was made. Mary Madden, inherited property No 4, 16.3 acres along SquareLake Rd . She was now 18 years old.



1866 land division - (section of Liber 119)

A year later, on March 6, 1867 Mary Madden married Clark Beach who lived on a farm around the corner on Adams Road. They most likely went to school together at the one room school house #4 that was located on her family's farm.

In August of 1870, Clark purchased the adjoining lots #2 and #3 from Robert Madden and wife and in May of 1871, he purchased additional adjoining lots #5 & #6 from Nelson and George Madden.

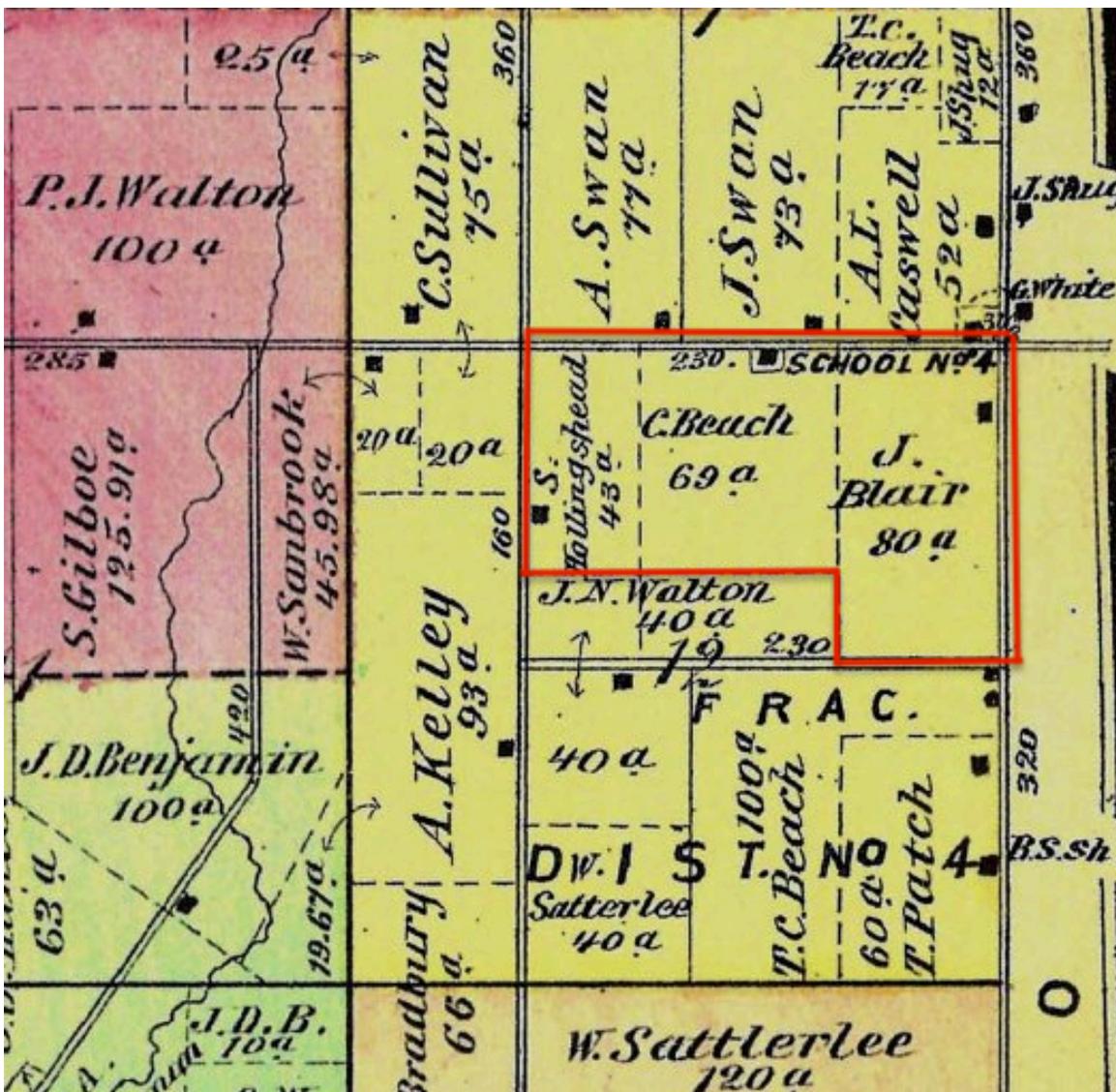


1867 Wedding Photo of Clark and Mary Beach

1867 Wedding Photo

Some time between their marriage and before the 1870 census, Clark and Mary build a small farmhouse on their property. Based on the original foundation, the house that Clark and Mary built was a two story upright in the Greek Revival style approximately 18ft x 26ft with a single story attached wing 12' x 12'. The front door faced Square Lake Road with a covered porch. Clark and Mary now have a 69 acre farm along with a one room school house on their property that can be seen on the 1872 Bloomfield Township Map. Clark and Mary farmed the land where a large portion of our subdivision currently is and lived in the farm house they built for six years with their three children Orator, Lodema, and Edna.

The 1872 map shows that the Hollingshead, Beach and Blair farms make up the area and shape of what will become our current subdivision.



The 1872 Bloomfield Township Map

In October 1876 they sold the farm and moved in with Clark's elderly parents, to help run Clark's parents farm on Adams Road near Westview Rd where Clark lived as a child.



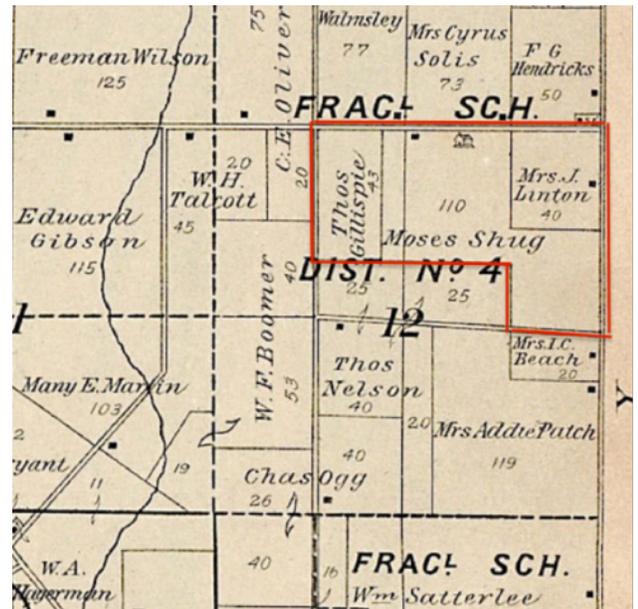
Clark and Mary on the porch of Clark's parents home on Adams Rd near Westview Rd

After Clark and Mary left, the farm changed hands eight times between 1870 -1915.

Timeline of Property Owners from 1824-1915

Owner	Date of Purchase	Date of Sale	Years Owned	Liber -Page		
US Gov't to George Smith	<i>June 18, 1824</i>	<i>December 24, 1853</i>	29	Gov. Reg. 196		
Clark & Mary Beach	<i>July 3, 1870</i>	<i>October 16, 1876</i>	6	Liber 50 page 324,25,26		<i>sold for \$2800</i>
John & Nettie Phipps 1880 (Marries Nettie Brock in 1877)	<i>October 16, 1876</i>	<i>March 6, 1880</i>	4	117-214 Reference to: Liber 119-368	70.48A	<i>Purchased - \$2800 Sold - \$3400</i>
Lafayette & Phebe O'Dell (moved from Southfield with new born child)	<i>March 6, 1880</i>	<i>February 3, 1887</i>	7	131-502	70.48A	<i>Purchase - \$3400 Sold -\$3800</i>
Moses & Minnie Schug	<i>February 3, 1887</i>	<i>October 25, 1896</i>	9	154-535	69.45A	<i>Purchase - \$3800 (Son John inherits Property)</i>
John & Lillian Schug (after John inherits property a year later on November 3, 1907 John marries Lillian Haddrille and his Sister Mabel marries Lee Stanley on same day)	<i>October 25, 1896</i>	<i>March 12, 1904</i>	8	<i>Moses Died after being hit by a train while visiting relatives in Pennsylvania. Son John inherits property</i>		<i>(Son John inherits Property) Sold for \$3400</i>
Lee & Mabel Stanley (John Schug sells property to his sister Mable and husband Lee)	<i>March 12, 1904</i>	<i>March 10, 1908</i>	4	203-610	69.45A	<i>Purchase - \$3400 Sold - \$5500</i>
Arthor & Lena Spencer	<i>March 10, 1908</i>	<i>March 15, 1909</i>	1	226-264	69.45A	<i>Purchased - \$5500 sold for \$1 and other valuable considerations</i>
William & Carrie Porritt	<i>March 15, 1909</i>	<i>December 14, 1909</i>	9 mo	231-382	69.45A	<i>sold for \$4500</i>
Edwin A & Grace Heacock	<i>December 14, 1909</i>	<i>July 17, 1915</i>	6	235-326	69.45A	<i>sold for \$7500</i>

The 1896 Township Map now shows the farmhouse that Clark and Mary built and shows that Moses Shug purchased additional property that would become our subdivision. During this time Bloomfield remained an active farming community. The map shows a school house and 2 farmhouses. The one room school house that is shown on Moses Shug's property will eventually move to Mrs. Linton's property and be called the Linton School. It was located on what is now the south west corner of Vhay Lane and Square Lake Rd. The Linton school remained an active local one room school house for the community through the 1946/47 school year after which it was voted to consolidate with School District #2. The Property was sold to Briggs Development in 1949 and the building eventually was sold and moved to Sylvan Lake and turned into a home.



1896 Bloomfield Township map

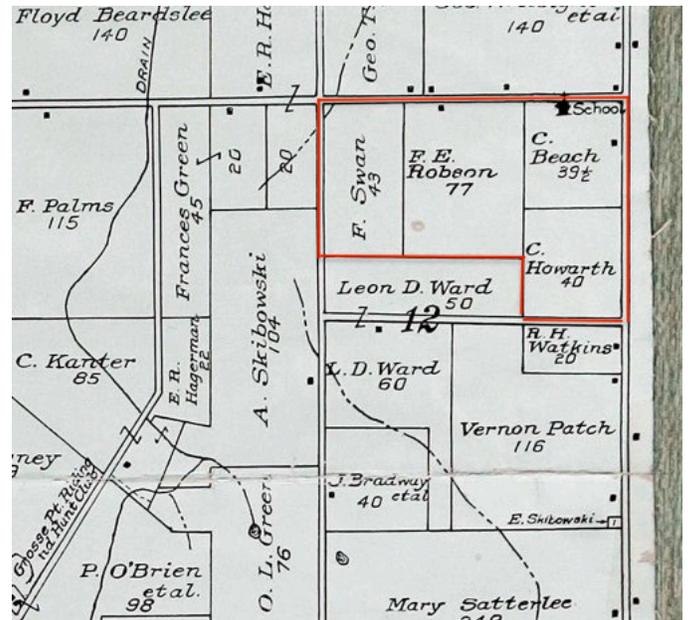
1945-46 school year memory excerpts from former student Bill Raisch

“The schoolhouse had no running water. Water was obtained from a hand pump in the front of the school. Two out houses, girls and boys were located behind the school. An American flag was raised and lowered each day on the flag pole in front of the school, students were assigned chores pumping water from the well, raising / taking down the flag, etc. I remember the school as having eight grades and 15 students all but three or four of the students lived on nearby farms. Mrs. Jeanne Walker was the teacher. Each student had his her own desk. Instruction by grade level occurred at a table located in the center of the school house near the stove, which provided heat for the school. Instruction was very personalized. Because of the small number of students considerable attention was given to individual needs. Mrs. Walker had to prepare several lesson plans each night for the following days instructions. The students and Mrs. Walker ate lunch together. Before lunch, we lined up inside the front door and washed our hands in a pan filled with water from the outside pump. We also had recess together, students and Mrs. Walker. We played touch football in the fall, slid down the hill to the rear of the school in the winter and enjoyed softball. In the spring football and softball were played in a field adjacent to the school house. In addition to the academics, such important things as courtesy, responsibility and teamwork and cooperation were learned as well. The caring attentiveness to individual needs which Miss Walker demonstrated made a lasting impression on me, clearly and in so many ways she modeled excellence and education. I felt Blessed to have had the Linton School experience.”

Bill Baisch went on to the University of Michigan (undergrad and graduate) and became a public school teacher and administrator.

In 1916 the Bloomfield Township map shows the owners of the land are now Swan, F. E. Robson, Beach, & Howarth.

Frank R. Robson purchased the farm from Edwin & Grace Heacock in July of 1915. Robson owned the farm for 19 years, from 1915 to 1934 but I could find no evidence that he ever lived in the house. Frank Robson worked in the legal department of the Michigan Central Railroad as general attorney from 1909 to 1917, and then as general counsel. From 1930 to 1932 he was a vice president. The 1920 census showed his residence to be 108 East Ferry Avenue in Detroit, a beautiful large mansion that still exists today. It's unlikely that Frank and Caroline Robson ever lived on the farm. They most likely purchased the farm as an investment and rented the farm. The 1930 Census shows Alva and Gail Ferguson renting the farm for \$350 per month. They were most likely renting the farm during Robson's ownership.



1916 Bloomfield Township map

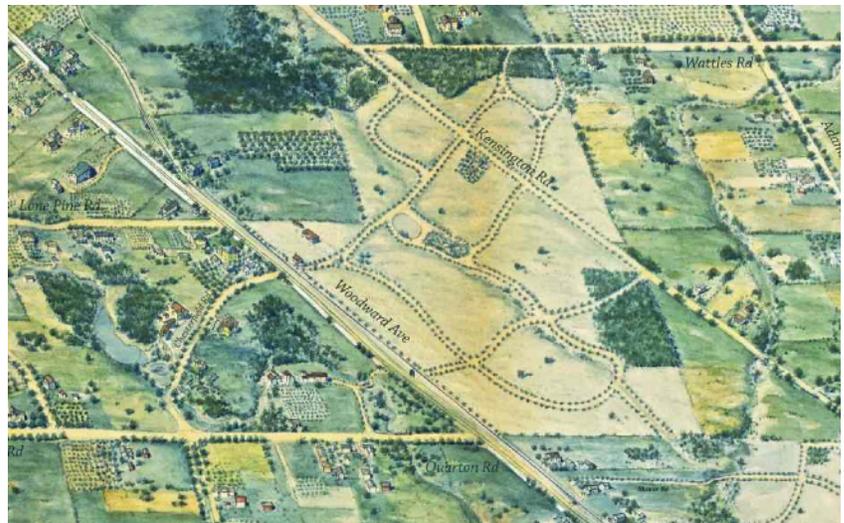
Country Estates & the Growth of Residential Subdivisions



Looking North on Woodward toward the intersection of Long Lake Road, notice the Detroit To Pontiac rail service next to the Road.

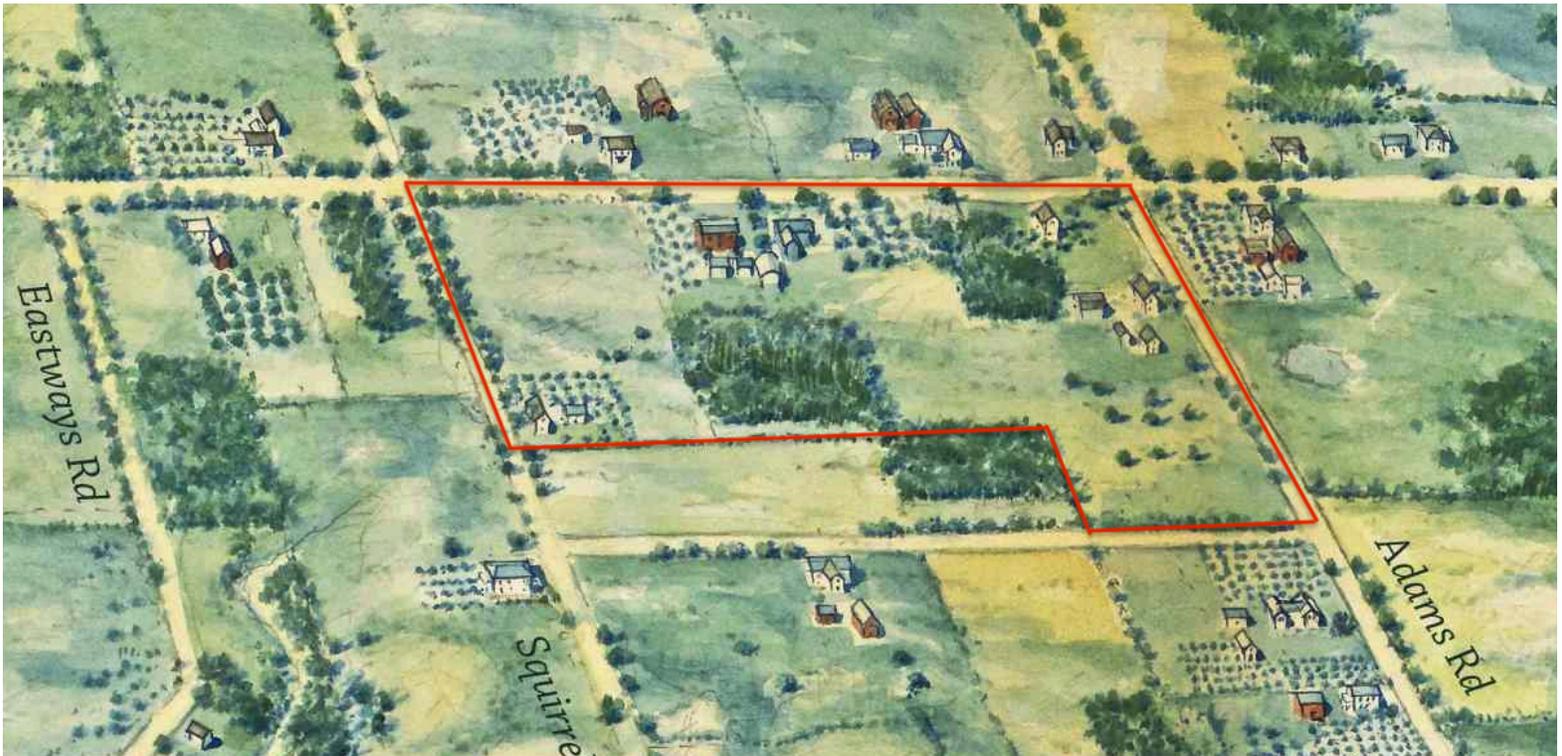
Starting in the early years of the 20th century, with the increased popularity of the automobile, the improvements of the roads and the Detroit to Pontiac electric rail passenger service, it became more convenient for successful business people in Detroit to establish residences in the “Hills of Bloomfield” and still commute daily to their businesses. Developers and even individual estate owners felt that they could make a profit by buying up farms and turning them into residential subdivisions.

In 1915 developer Judson Bradway commissioned a beautiful and detailed large Birds Eye View map of most of Bloomfield Township in order to promote the sale of homesites in his Bloomfield Estates subdivision off Woodward just north of Birmingham, and other properties.



A section of the map showing his Bloomfield Estates

The 1915 Birds Eye View Map that he commissioned is located in the Township Offices. The Bloomfield Historical Society has made a digital copy of the map and it is available on their website for anyone to view and zoom-in to look around our township, similar to Google maps but like it was in 1915. <https://www.bloomfieldhistoricalsociety.org/historical-maps/>
 This section of the map show gives an idea of what our subdivision looked like in 1915. Three farms and the Linton school house can be seen.



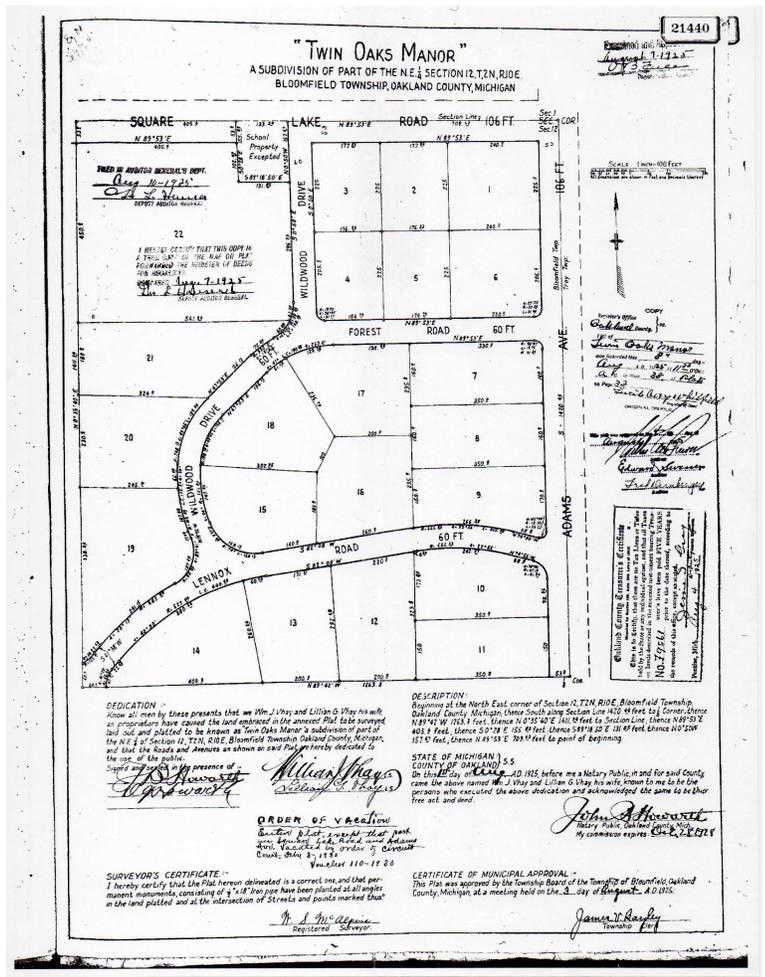
The 1915 BEV map shows what the area of our Kentmoor Subdivision looked like in 1915.

By 1927 the purchasing of Bloomfield Township land and farms as an investment was well under way. The Township map shows our subdivision land is now owned by Briggs Investment Co, Henry Knepper Trustee, and the Twin Oaks Manor sub.



1927 Township Map

In 1925 W. J. Vhay created a subdivision called Twin Oaks Manor on the corner of Adams Road and Square Lake Road hoping to sell the properties. Unfortunately, due the Great Depression following the stock market crash in October 1929, Twin Oaks Manor never got developed.



It will be Top O' The Morning At The Crest

WHEN you wake in your home in Twin Oaks Manor you will really be refreshed. Your acre or so of ground will be fresh with dew. You will look over fields and woods to the neighboring estates in the lower country, and again you will be proud to be a resident of Bloomfield. In every way you will be ready for a quick run over good roads to Detroit.

Twin Oaks Manor, a W. J. Vhay property, is at the corner of Square Lake and Adams Road, near the Bloomfield Hunt Club, and, according to the government survey, is the highest point in the locality. It is actually at the crest of the Eastern Bloomfield Hills. The new East Long Lake concrete highway will soon make it only a few minutes away from Wider Woodward Avenue.

TWIN OAKS MANOR

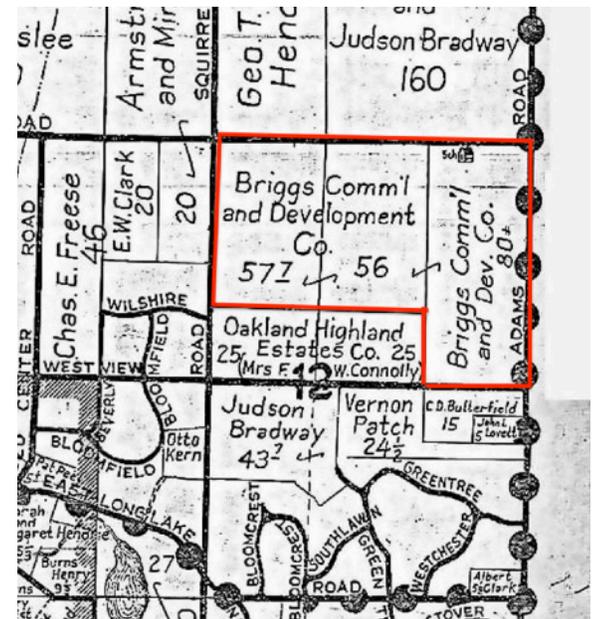
Just Drive In and Look It Over

PHONE 321

**WHITEHEAD
AND
STANDART CO.**

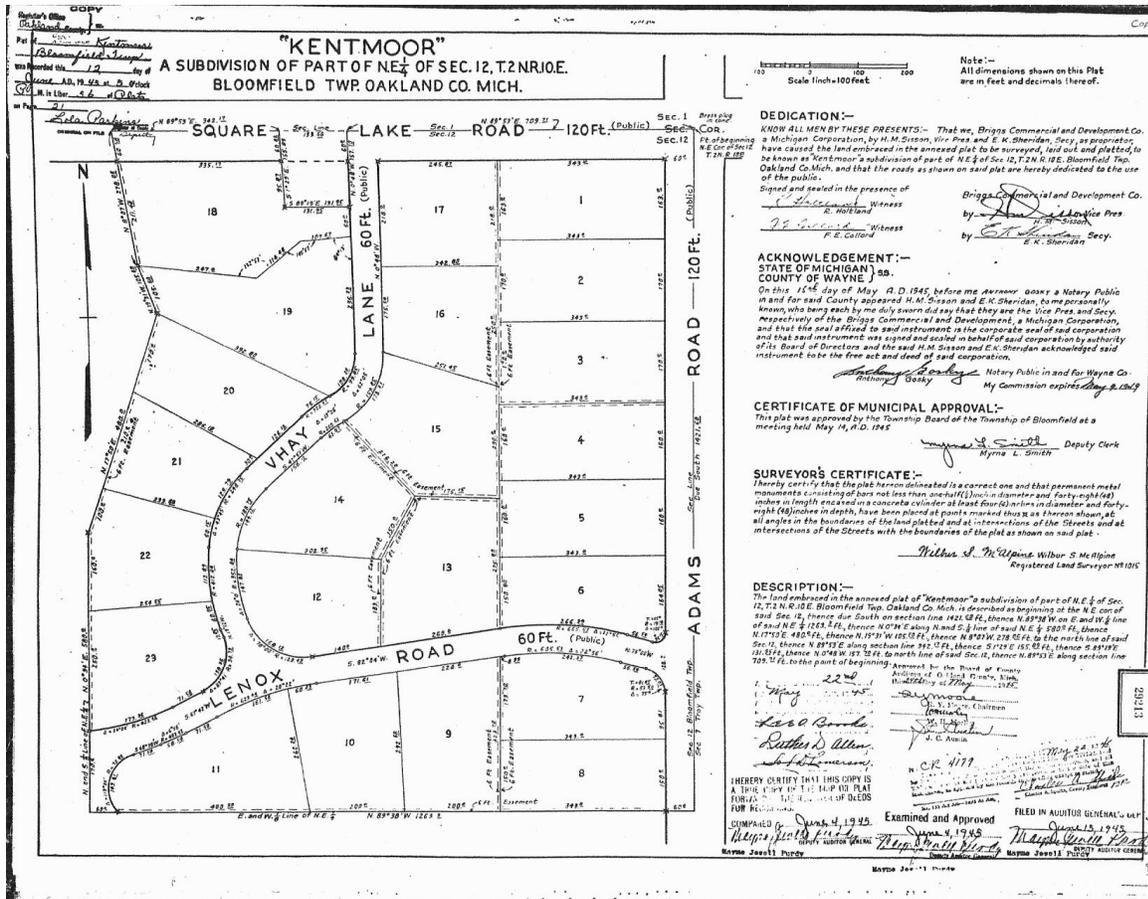
110 N. WOODWARD AVENUE
BIRMINGHAM

By 1930 Briggs Commercial and Development Co. had purchased all of farms that would become the Kentmoor Subdivision. Following the stock market crash and the economic effects of World War II, very little residential development occurred between 1930 and 1945. During this time Briggs Commercial & Development Co. in Birmingham began purchasing more farms and land in the area.

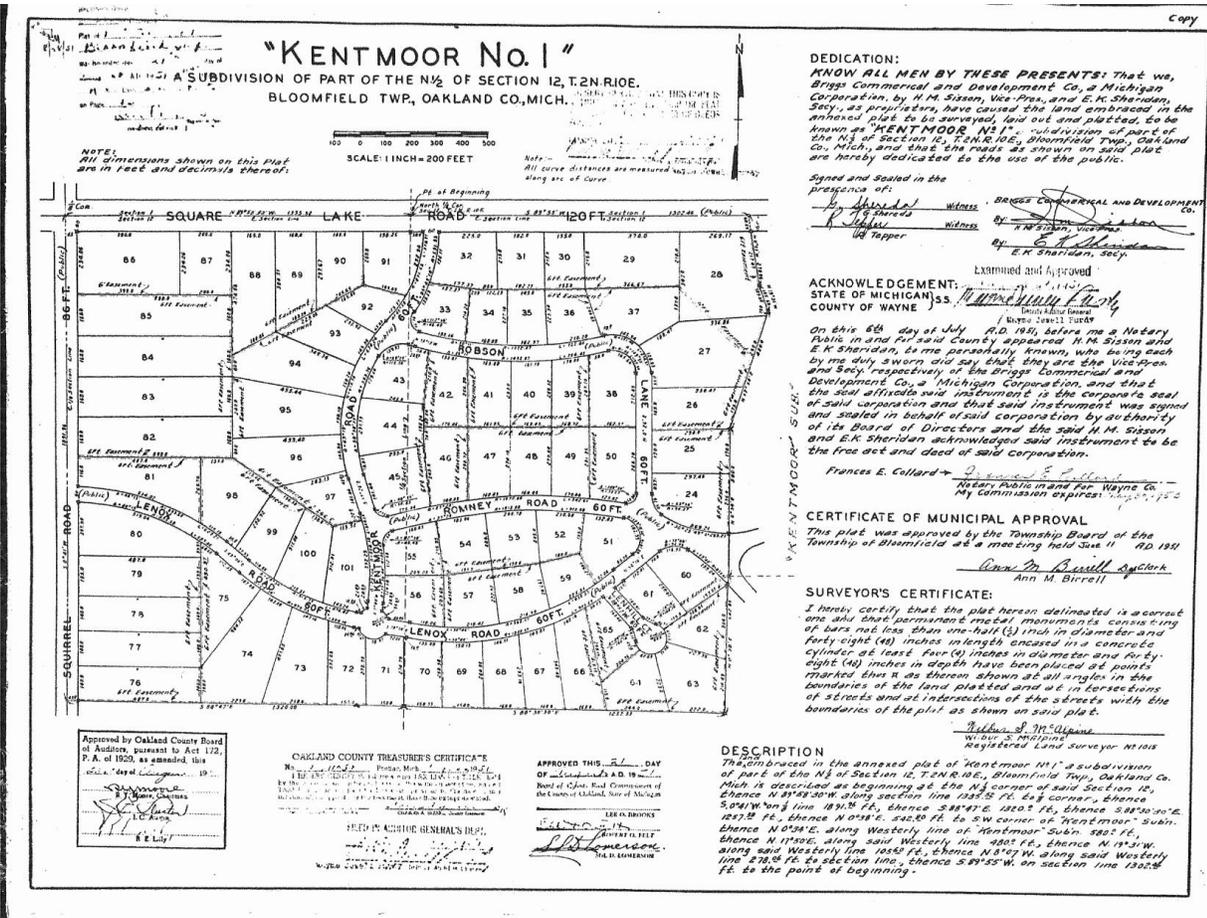


1930 Bloomfield Township Map

The first subdivision platted by the Briggs Commercial and Development Co. was Kentmoor, platted on June 12, 1945. This was approximately the same area that the Vhay's had platted and tried to develop back in 1925. Briggs named one of the roads Vhay Lane. It was probably named after the Vhay family. They were prominent figures in the Bloomfield social group and closely connected to the Briggs family's circle. The Vhays owned a significant parcel of land near the Briggs' Walbri Hall. They owned the property surrounding what is now known as Vhay Lake.



The next Property that Briggs Commercial & Development Co. platted was Kentmoor #1 on August 29, 1951. This was the largest Kentmoor Plat and it included the farmhouse Clark and Mary Beach built in 1870. Now 2525 Kentmoor Road.



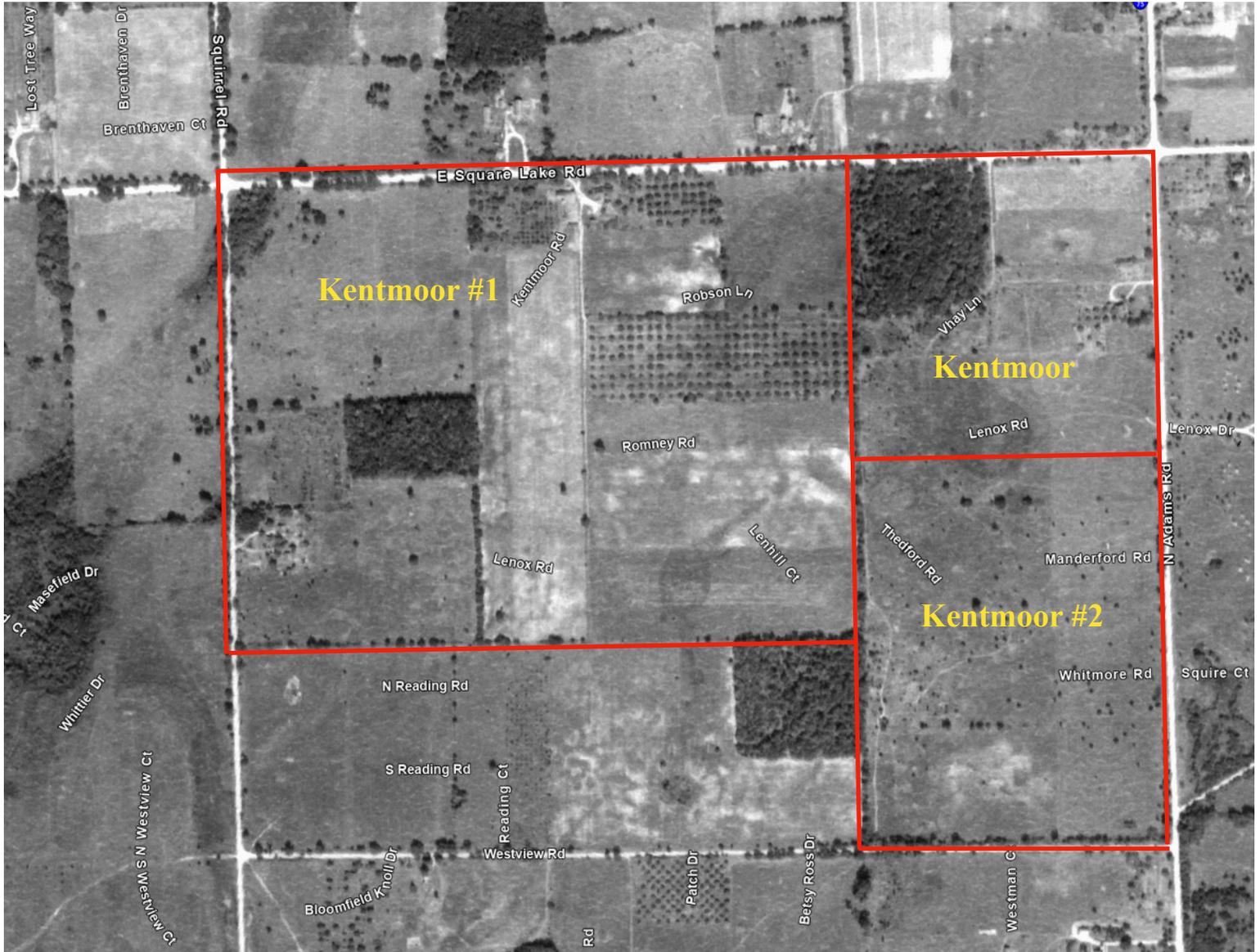
When the Briggs Commercial and Development Company platted this land in 1951, they may have named the streets after business or family associates. I could find no hard evidence but here are some possibilities.

Romney Road - In 1951 George Romney was not yet Governor. But, he was a prominent local figure and a rising star in the automotive industry at Nash-Kelvinator and Briggs Manufacturing was a supplier.

Robson Lane - F. E. Robson was a well known attorney from the Michigan Central RR and he was the person the Briggs Company bought the property from.

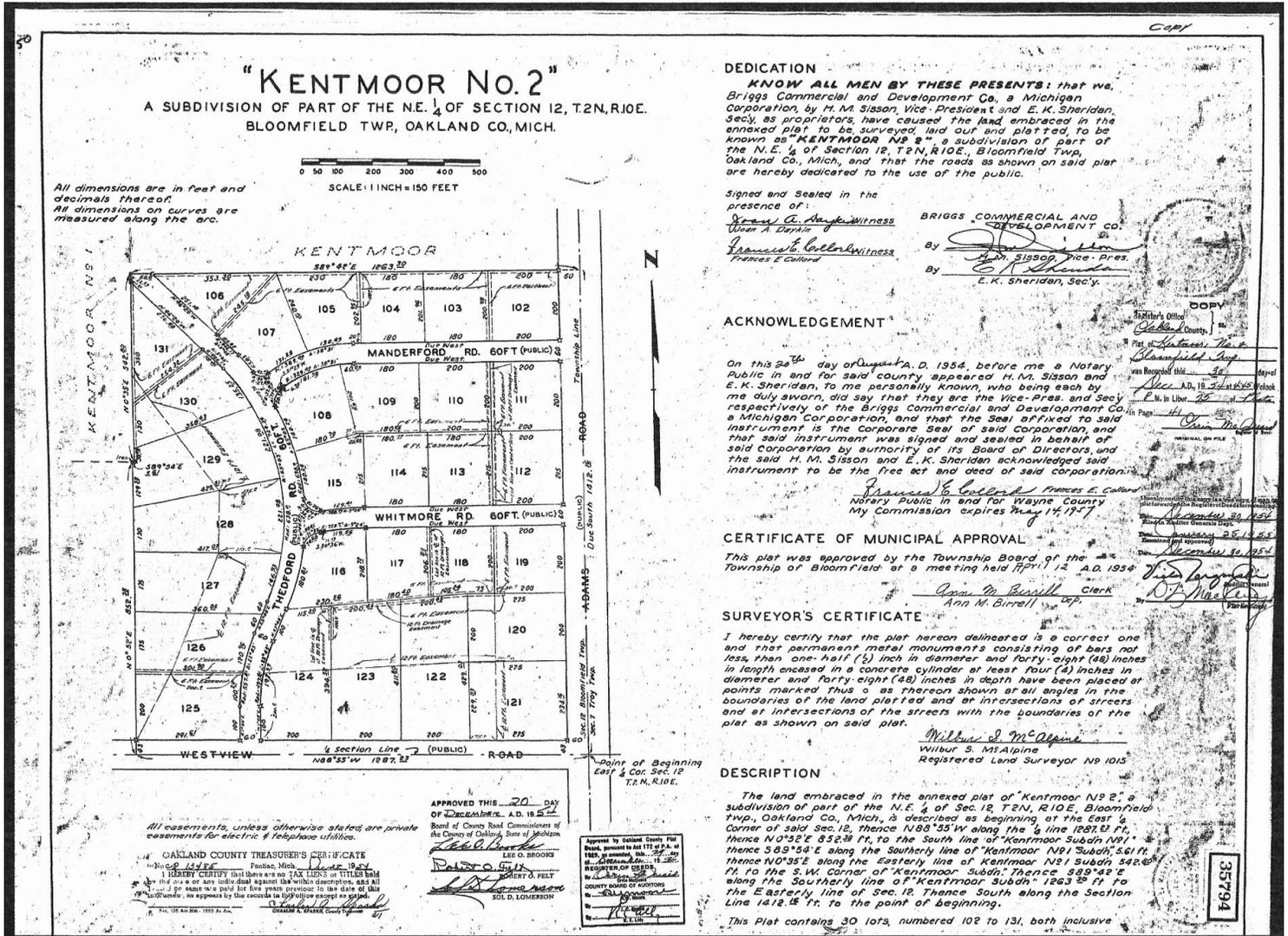
Kentmoor Road: This name was likely chosen to evoke a "country manor" feel (common in the 1950s Bloomfield), and to brand the specific subdivision project.

This aerial photo shows what our subdivision looked like in 1940, before it was developed. Cropland and orchards can clearly be seen along with 3 farms that would be rentals during this time. One on Adams Rd, one on Square Lake Rd (our house) and one on Squirrel Rd. During this time most of the farms in the area were rented. When I first moved here in 1979 some of remains of the rows of apple trees could still be seen when walking the neighborhood. Notice the open fields for crops with a lack of trees. The views must have been impressive from the top of the hills. I think I know now why Westview road got it's name.



1940 Aerial Survey section from Oakland County Property Gateway

Kentmoor #2 was platted August 20, 1954. And that completed the plating of the three Sections of our Kentmoor Subdivision.



I could find no firm evidence but here are some possible sources for some of the road names in Kentmoor #2.

Theford Road - possibly someone connected to Nash -Kalvinator or to the Briggs Manufacturing Co. or the family's private interests.

Manderford Road - Manderford is a "composite" name, a style of naming very common in 1950s subdivision development. It could be a reference to the Mander family, who were prominent in Detroit social and business circles

Whitmore Road -. Whitmore Road in Detroit and Whitmore Plaza Apartments stood as a symbol of elegance—the Briggs executives possibly imported this high-status name to Bloomfield to brand their new subdivision with the same sense of prestige.

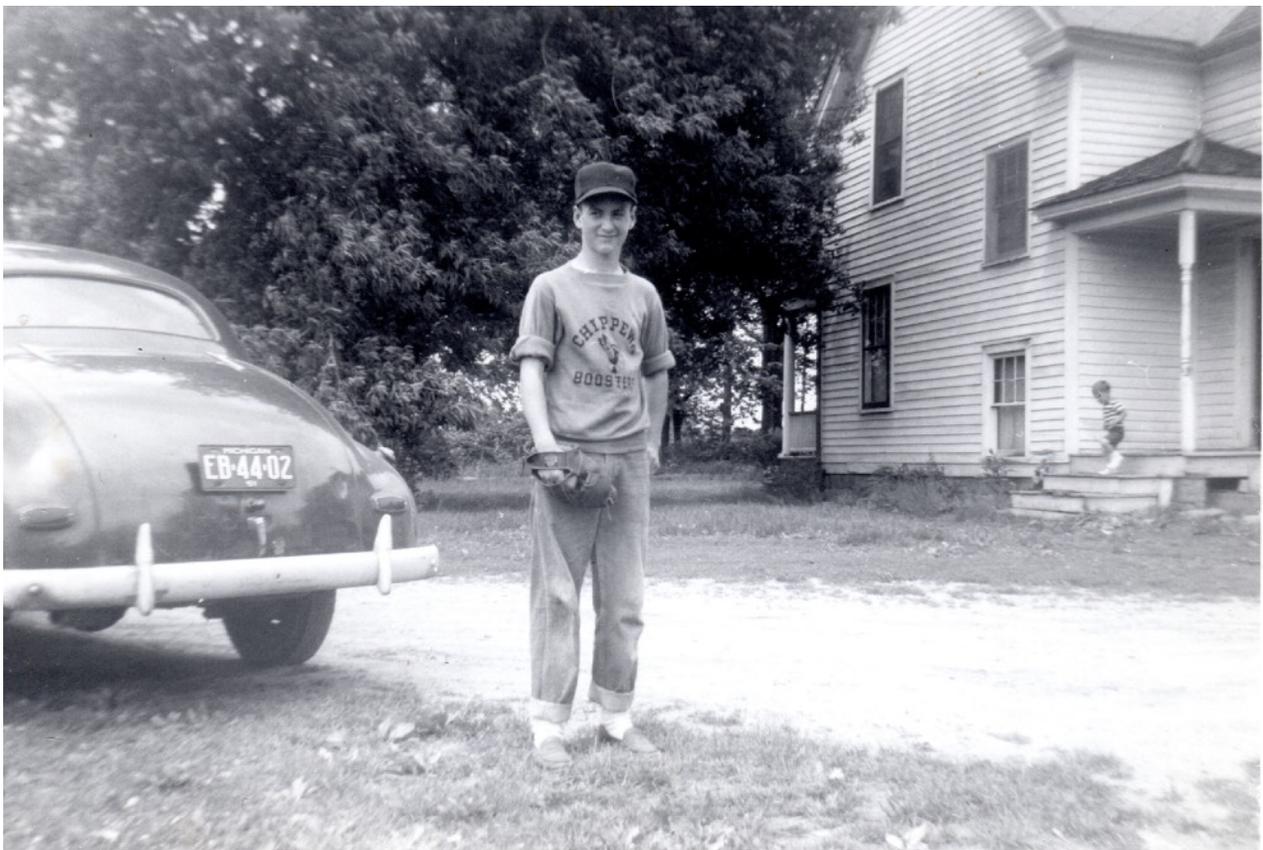
By a lucky coincidence I was able to get some photos from the early 50's of the house that Clark and Mary built. Jim Bowers called me one day and said that he met someone at a funeral who said that he lived in a farmhouse when he was a young boy on Square Lake Road across from the Bowers School Farm. Jim got his phone number and I was eventually able to meet and talk to Boyd Ferguson, one of the sons of the Ferguson family that was renting the farm from Briggs during the 1930's and early 1950's. He remembers his mother loading their pick up truck with apples from their orchard to drive down Adams road to the Detroit Farmers Market. He was about 5 or 6 years old when his family moved out because the development was starting. He was able to find a few photos of the farm and house from his childhood.



Farmhouse Clark & Mary Built - North side front porch facing the road - 1262 Square Lake Rd



1951 - Horse stable/storage building and chicken coop in Background. L-R Boyd's great grandmother Dora Shaffer & Dorothy Lash. My garage is built on the foundation of he horse stable in the background.



Boyd's brother Robert Ferguson w/baseball glove - West side of house



L-R, Donald Ferguson, Ray Allison, Boyd Ferguson and Gordon Allison. Gordon worked the Bulldozer making Kentmoor Rd.

These photos give a little glimpse what the house and farm looked like before the house was renovated and our Kentmoor No.1 subdivision was created out of the orchards and fields. Often, developers would tear down the old farmhouses on the property they were developing so they could have the lot available to sell. But for some reason they chose to completely rebuild and update the old farmhouse on Square Lake Rd that Clark and Mary Beach built back in 1870. Perhaps as a model home or a place to meet to look over the available properties. They put on a addition with large bay windows, moved the front entrance to face the newly created Kentmoor Road and covered the clapboard with cedar shake. I don't know what happened to the other two farmhouses when Briggs developed the other properties in the 1950s. It's possible that the farmhouse on Adams Rd in the first Kentmoor Plat may have survived also. I have looked for additional photos but have not found anything other than this 1963 aerial photo from Oakland County and the aerial photo given to me by Warren Simon. If you read this history and have any photos from the early days of our subdivision that you would be willing to share please let me know.

By 1963 it looks like most of the properties have homes on them.



1963 Aerial Photo of the south part of the Kentmoor Subdivision



1960's Aerial Photo of the south part of the Kentmoor Subdivision

Authors Note:

This history of the Kentmoor Subdivision grew out of my wanting to learn about the history of my house. We moved here in November of 1978. My wife and I were living in Royal Oak with our one year old daughter and had been looking around at houses for a possible move. A listings from Weir, Manual, Snyder & Ranke in Birmingham came out and we saw a photo of an attractive and unusual house. We called and ended up viewing it that same day. We immediately knew that this was the house for us. We have loved living and raising our family here. We always knew our house was old but we didn't know how old. Over the years while gardening around the house I found many artifacts from the previous residents including a old clay pipe, a WW1 toy soldier, axe heads, horse teeth and shoes, various bits of china and glass, and farm implement parts. I even had fun finding artifacts with with my grandkids using a metal detector. Sometime during dry weather in the summer the outline in the grass of some unknown farm buildings. I also noticed a slight depression in the front lawn about 40-50 feet from the house. When I dug down I discovered what was probably a circular stone well or cistern. Walking in the subdivision I could see the remains of rows of old apple trees. It wasn't very long after moving in that we thought the house could originally have been a farm house and the land around it a farm. For years I attempted to answer that question on and off a little at a time. I knew nothing about local history and even less about how to go about finding the history. I would get interested for a while, then get discouraged lose interest and quit for years, then I would find some more old items while gardening and it would spark my interest again.



I eventually visited the Oakland County Records Department looking for deeds and I also got to know John Marshall, one of the historians from the Bloomfield Historical Society who helped me to learn how to gather and organize the information I found.

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