

Paddock Press

A publication for the neighborhood of Paddock Hills, Cincinnati, Ohio. Funded by the Neighborhood Support Program.
Newsletter address: PO Box 16028, Cincinnati, Ohio 45216-0028

100 Year Commemorative Issue



Paddock Hills Celebrates Centennial Year

It was 100 years ago this year that the first residential structure was built in what we now call Paddock Hills, when a home went up at the corner of Paddock Hills Avenue and Paddock Lane.

Paddock Hills: Some History

This area was long a crossroads for the region serving as a way station for travelers along the Miami and Erie Canal which ran along Ross Run (now Tennessee Avenue) and later those who rode the Marietta & Ohio Railroad, which had a station at Paddock Road and Tennessee. People would then journey to Cincinnati by horse and carriage on the same pathways we use today—Reading and Paddock Roads.

By the turn of the 20th century Avondale had been developed as one of the area's first suburbs and developers looked north. In 1903, the city annexed pasture and woodland from the Blachly family including the current Paddock Hills neighborhood and Avon Fields Golf Course. Developer Colonel Bragg built the golf course in 1907 to serve his new subdivision on the east side of Reading Road, now North Avondale.

The first residential development was a subdivision on Paddock Hills Ave and Paddock Lane in 1919, called Paddock Hills, taking its name from Paddock Road.

In 1924, realtor John Spilker purchased 60 acres and laid out the neighborhood as we recognize it today with plots for Avon Drive, Westminster, Bristol and Perth Lanes. The original Paddock Hills Avenue residents objected to the development encroaching on their bucolic setting, surrounded by a golf course and woodlands. They threatened a lawsuit. It's said Spilker bulldozed the first street one night before the suit could be filed.

Spilker envisioned the development as an upscale area for the offspring of Jewish families living in Avondale. In fact, early ads often referred to the development as "Avondale Heights."

Spilker built predominately English Tudor homes and in each lot planted a Pin Oak and a Poplar tree.

He also cut Avon Drive through to Reading Road in 1927.

**AVONDALE
HEIGHTS**

A desirable residential neighborhood of new and attractive homes.

This spot is high and healthful; large, level lots, with a splendid view of the surrounding country. We are now completing a center-hall 6-room residence of pleasing design; double garage; lot 60x130. This home is complete and modern in every respect. See it. Possession in 10 days. Terms can be arranged to suit. Price \$15,500.

ENTRANCE TO SUBDIVISION — From Paddock Hills av., off Paddock road, just north of Avon Fields golf grounds.

PACKARD & CO.
807 Neave Bldg.
M. 2800, Nor. 5657 L.

Cincinnati Enquirer Real Estate Ad 1926

A Racial Balance

Egan Hills Drive was developed in the late 30's followed by Egan Court. Development continued after World War II and by 1954 Sunnyslope, Clearbrook Drive and Springmeadow Lane were completed. Who moved to Paddock Hills? Initially many of the homeowners were Catholic. The second wave of people that moved here in the 1940s was predominately Jewish, many of them the children of the first Avondale residents.

AVONDALE HEIGHTS
1266 WESTMINSTER DRIVE
{Entrance from Paddock Hills Ave., off Paddock}
{Road—Just north of Avon Fields Golf Course.}

**One Of The New
Unusually Attractive Homes
Now Ready For Inspection**

Here is a distinctively designed home that will truly express your individual ideas. It has all the comforts and features you want and need. Priced at a very moderate figure.

On the first floor is a large living room, dining room, breakfast room and kitchen decorated with Belgian tile. An artistic stairway leads to the second floor; master bedroom and two other bedrooms, all having ample cupboard space; tile bath, with shower; two-car garage in basement. Home is completely decorated and ready for occupancy.

This home will be heated today for convenient inspection.

Phone: Kirby 5170
East 5102 X

LANG BROS.
Architects-Builders

"Homes of Character"

PHONES—Kirby 5170, East 5102 X.

Cincinnati Enquirer Real Estate Ad 1929

Paddock Hill's most enduring achievement has been maintaining a racially balanced neighborhood for nearly 50 years. The first African American families moved in during the late '60s at a time when the city remained highly segregated. With the work of farsighted community planners and activists, "white flight" was minimized.

Paddock Hills Assembly Trustee, LueKiucius Brown, moved to her current home on Westminster in 1974. As an African American she said she felt welcome at a time when red lining was common among real estate agents. "I think it was a slow process in the '60s," "But I felt very welcome. Our real estate agent was a Jewish lady and at the time red lining was so active. But she brought me right over to see the house as soon as I called about an ad. My husband made the offer the first day. I was invited to be on the Paddock Hills Board a year after we moved in. I lived next door to a Jewish couple and a doctor from Pakistan. So, the neighborhood was very welcoming."

It was a similar experience for Sam and Shirlane Nelson who moved into their home on Avon in 1972. "There were some people that wanted to move out when Sam and I moved here. They had their issues and moved on.

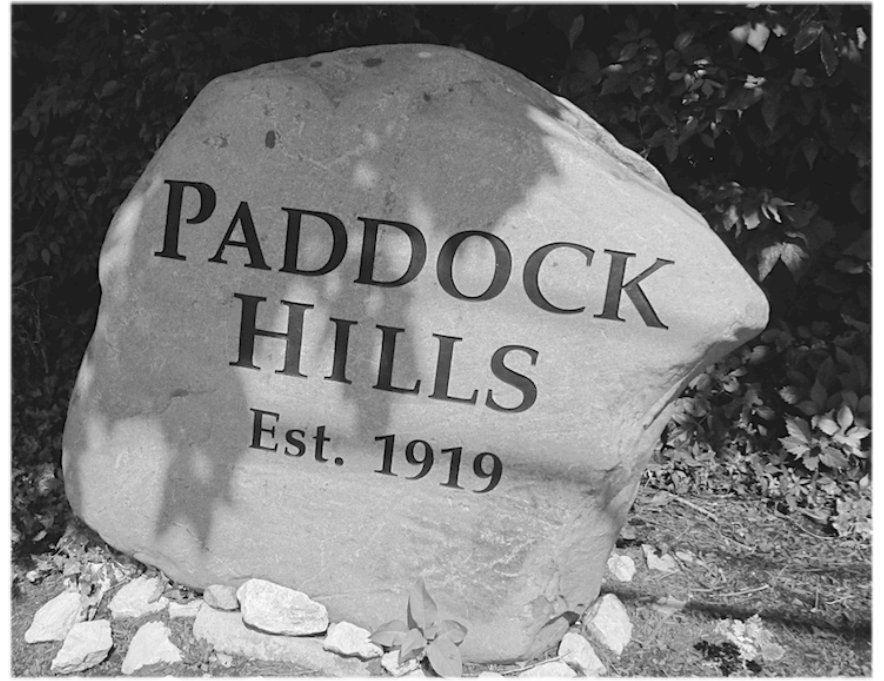
But there were also some wonderful neighbors who did not want to do that and were very welcoming," Shirlane said. Paddock Hills was considered successfully integrated by the mid-'70s and has maintained a racial balance ever since.

Shirlane points out a small but significant change occurred about 25 years ago when long time Paddock Hills Avenue resident Kathy Gottschlich lobbied for Paddock Hills to have its own code for MLS listings. "At the time Avondale, Bond Hill, Paddock Hills was under one code listing. Kathy went to the listing board and said, 'Look, we are a distinct neighborhood. We need our own code. We got it. It helps to define a neighborhood.'"

Paddock Hills Today

The Nelsons are real estate agents. Shirlane Nelson says Paddock Hills remains a sought after area. “Every now and then I get a call. I got one the other day from a realtor in Wyoming who said, ‘I’ve got someone who would love to get into Paddock Hills. Do you know of anything?’ People do respect this neighborhood.”

Paddock Hills has been a neighborhood where people seem content stay put. We have an unusually high number of families who have lived here for 20, 30 and even 50 years.



And some, who were raised in the neighborhood decided to move back to raise their own families.

Such is the story of Anne St. Pierre, who shared her thoughts on growing up in Paddock Hills:

Most days start in the same way for me.

I have a cup of coffee at my kitchen table while I gaze out of our French doors onto Paddock Hills Avenue. This scene has been fairly constant in my life and with any luck, will remain so.

My family, the Nienabers, came to Paddock Hills in 1973.

We moved into 1282 Paddock Hills Avenue. It needed a lot of work and, upon our arrival, I cried and continued to cry on and off for quite some time. It was only when my parents promised me that I could paint my bedroom pink that I felt a bit more at ease.

I grew to love my neighborhood and my neighbors.

I played a lot of tag, built umbrella houses, rode my bike and swam at Mrs. Graham’s house (there was a pool in her backyard all of those years ago). Halloween in PH was the best. So many houses, so much candy.

I spent many days visiting our friend, Gari Silverblatt, playing her piano or being mesmerized by the cool marble contraption she had in her living room. I remember the annual plant swap, the Ice Cream Social, the meetings at the Nature Center. I remember when Blue Gibbon arrived and I had my first Asian cuisine. I spent all of my school years including some college time at 1282. I babysat for most of the kids in the neighborhood including some whose families still live here and even some who have returned as adults.

Paddock Hills was then what it is now: safe, beautiful, friendly, welcoming, diverse.

The years have brought new faces but the feeling of our neighborhood remains the same. My parents finally moved after my mom retired in the early 2000s. They got a wonderful send-off from the neighbors and, although they moved physically, their hearts remained in Paddock Hills.

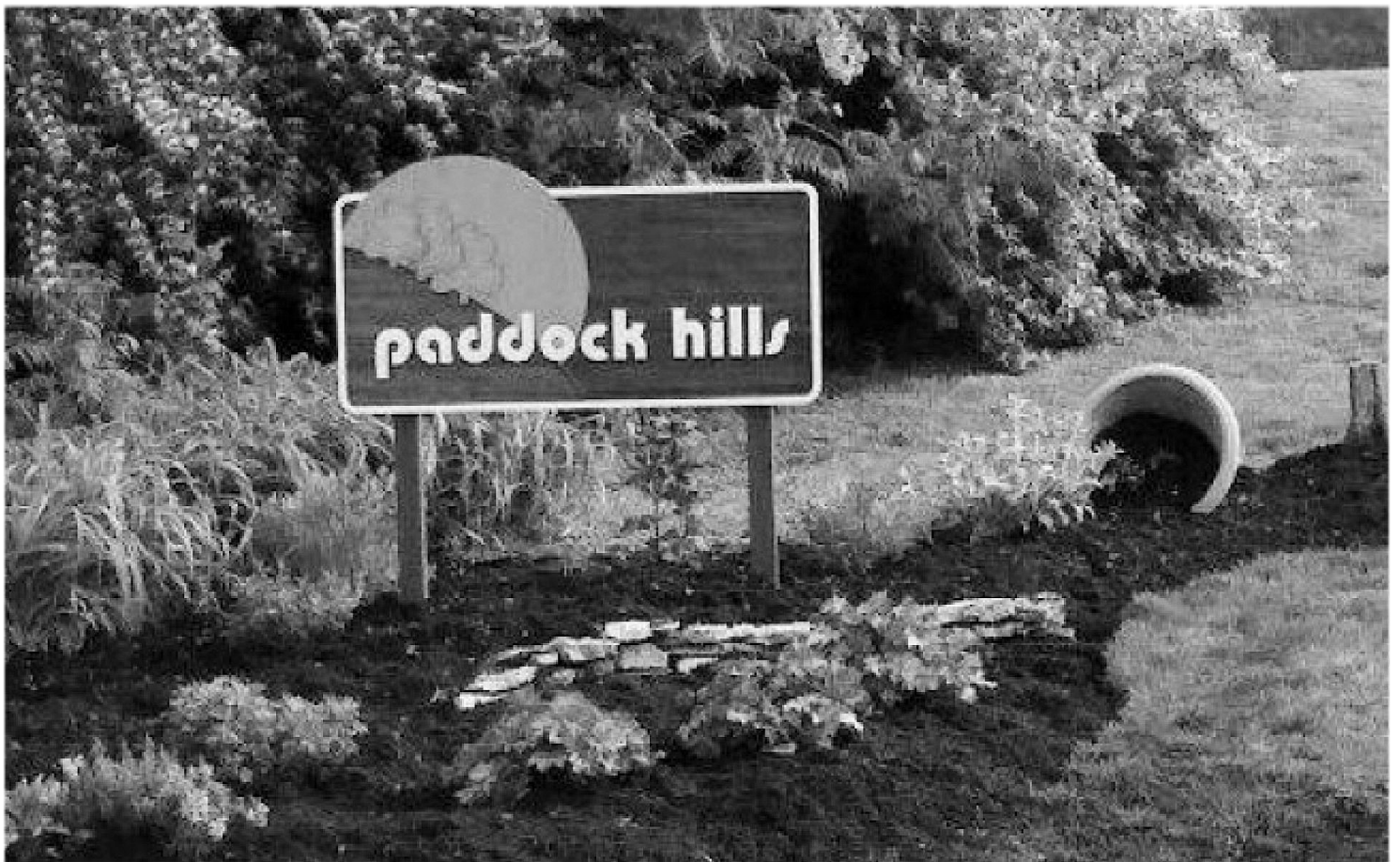
My heart did, too, and I was always hopeful that I would move back one day.

A few years ago, the resident of 1284 put out a message that he was planning to sell his home.

This house was very special to me as I had spent many evenings and summer days there babysitting. We toured the house, we bought the house. It has been a dream-come-true for me.

Full circle. And, the best part? I have some of the same neighbors I had when I was a little girl.

I have never experienced a neighborhood that has the same vibe as we do here in PH. We have something truly special and I am so thankful to be a part of it.



This Commemorative issue of the Paddock Press is dedicated to all the Paddock Hills residents past, present and future who share our community. We all benefit every day from the work put in by friends and neighbors who went before us and continue to live and work side by side with us.

Newsletter Delivery

From time to time we mail hard copies of the Paddock Press in an effort to reach new community members and neighbors who are absent from our email address list.

As we have moved to more cost effective electronic distribution and Web based platforms like Nextdoor and Facebook it is sometimes difficult to make connections.

If you are not currently receiving email copies of the Paddock Press, or need to update or make changes to your information please contact Paddock Press

Rick or Stacy Bird
newsbird@zoomtown.com or (513) 242-6488.

We are always looking for opportunities to welcome new neighbors, and celebrate neighbors' accomplishments and milestones

In the remaining issues of the Paddock Press this year, we would like to honor our neighborhood with features on long time residents and other articles on the history and character of Paddock Hills. Please share your stories.



Frequently Called Numbers

Unattended, abandoned cars, litter, overgrown weeds, snow removal, pot holes, dead animals, sidewalk repair and graffiti, etc.

To report concerns or request services from the city:
Cincinnati Public Works 591-6000
www.5916000.com

Cincinnati Police

District 4
569-8600

Officer Anthony Hill Neighborhood Officer
anthony.m.hill@cincinnati-oh.gov
569-8678

Avon Woods Nature Center

861-3435

Paddock Hills Media

Paddock Hills Neighborhood website <http://www.paddockhills.org>
Nextdoor Paddock Hills <http://paddockhills.nextdoor.com>
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Paddock-Hills-266186546751105/>

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Neighborhood Support Program - Susan Glas
Economic Development - Nicole McWhorter
Social - Liz Swain
Welcome - Emma Kitzmiller
Membership - Joyce Coleman
Youth Programs - Joe Galvin

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