

# THE GATES MILLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[gatesmillshistoricalsociety.org](http://gatesmillshistoricalsociety.org)



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President,  
Marcia Anselmo

Vice President,  
Gail Palmer

Treasurer,  
Helen Gelbach

Secretary,  
Sherry Levering

Susan Bercheck

Scott Broome

Dave Burke

Ray Burke

Sally Burke

Lou Butz

Daniel Collister

Cathy DiVincenzo

Christine Hansen

Diane Hladky

Hadley Kline

John Kramer

Barbara Leirvik

Lucy Lytle

Tillie Malm

Sue Marston

Charles O'Malley

John Reid

Jim Stafford

LOOK AT ALL OUR  
PHOTOS OF  
GATES MILLS  
THROUGH THE  
YEARS AND  
OUR PREVIOUS  
PINK SHEET  
PAGES ON OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE.

THE MUSEUM IS  
OPEN BY  
APPOINTMENT:  
440.423.1040

A look back in time....

The Cleveland Press, Friday, January 31, 1947

## Social Scene

### Oldest House Withstood Casualties

By ELIZABETH NEWELL

"Yes three tar barrels rolled right into this bedroom where I'm standing." It was Mrs. Stouder Thompson talking. She was telling me and photographer Byron Filkins about the oldest home in Gates Mills.

Located on the corner of Old Mill and River Rds., this small frame cottage, adjacent to the Chagrin Valley Hunt Club, has withstood countless casualties. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and their son, Pete, are the present occupants. They moved in last October and will stay in the overgrown doll house until their own home on Wilson Mills Road is completed.

A barricade now protects the corner where the cottage now stands. Being located at the foot of the steep east hill, it has been crashed into by trucks and autos whose brakes gave way coming down the hill.

"The kitchen," Mrs. Thompson explained, "was once the village post office. The doctor's office is now the living room. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cahill were former occupants. Their daughter, Betty, was born in the house. For years it was the home of Lorian Rovelto, the Hunt Club's manager."

Looking down River Rd. from the cottage once can see the other buildings which formed the original village. They are now owned by the Chagrin Valley Hunt Club. The club was the Maple Leaf Inn. Travelers found lodging in the house now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Morris Bradley. The ice house is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Everett. Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Merkel occupy what was Mr. Higgins' grocery store. The buildings face the river. From the back they are within view of the Chagrin Valley Hunt Club grounds.

The Thompsons, during the war, were in Fort Worth, Tex., for four years, where Mr. Thompson, a colonel, was stationed at the training command headquarters of the Army Air Forces.



Please send historical items to The Historical Society, P.O. Box 191, Gates Mills, OH 44040