

Register of Old Buildings
Macon County Historical Coordinating Council

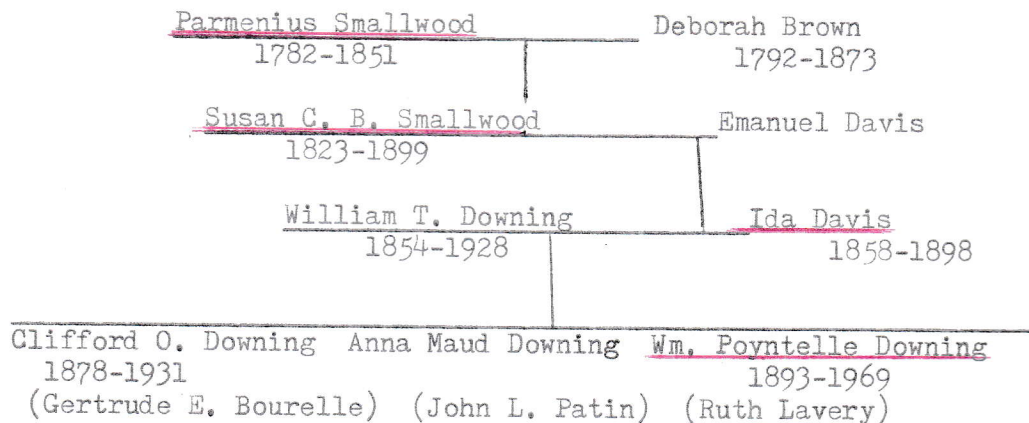
Address: 2430 North Water
Legal description: (from the Macon County assessor's office)
Sec. 2-16-2
W 376.73' of N 697' NW 1/4 SW 1/4 (exc street)

Date of original construction: Estimate of year built - 1874
(assessor's office)

Name of original owner: Parmenius Smallwood (Homesteaded the land in October, 1834)

History:

1. See the copy of the write-up of the Downing house as included in Places and People in Old Decatur, published by Decatur Zonta Club, 1975.
2. Since the land on which the 2430 N. Water Street was homesteaded by Parmenius Smallwood in October, 1831, was then handed down to descendants, see the line it followed where the land, the house at 2430 N. Water occupied is concerned. This is given below, with biographical data concerning the older generations given in attachments.



Present owner's name: Robert L. Logan

2430 North Water



Photo by Lynn Bohon, 1972

Downing House

2430 North Water Street
1840's

Parmenius Smallwood and his wife, Deborah, with ten of their children came in 1825 to what would later become Macon County. On March 28, 1829 he entered 320 acres at the land office in Vandalia. The house on this land would be one and one-half miles north of the center of Decatur, once the town was established, and Parmenius Smallwood or his descendants would live here until after the death in 1969 of his greatgrandson, Poyntelle Downing. At that time the title to the remaining 5.45 acres would go to Robert Logan for real estate development.

Parmenius Smallwood was closely involved with our early history. After Macon County came into existence on January 19, 1829, it became necessary by the same legislative act to establish a seat of justice. The act stated that when located and platted it was to be called Decatur. Benjamin Austin, surveyor, platted the original town which extended from Wood to Prairie Streets, and from Church to Water Streets; however, the land included in the plat had not yet been entered from the government. So on October 8, 1831, Parmenius Smallwood was one of three men, who having previously entered it, deeded twenty acres as a gift for the newly platted town.

Susan, one of the Smallwood's many children, married Benjamin Davis, and their daughter Ida Davis married William T. Downing in 1874. Poyntelle Downing, their son, was the last descendant to hold title to the property.

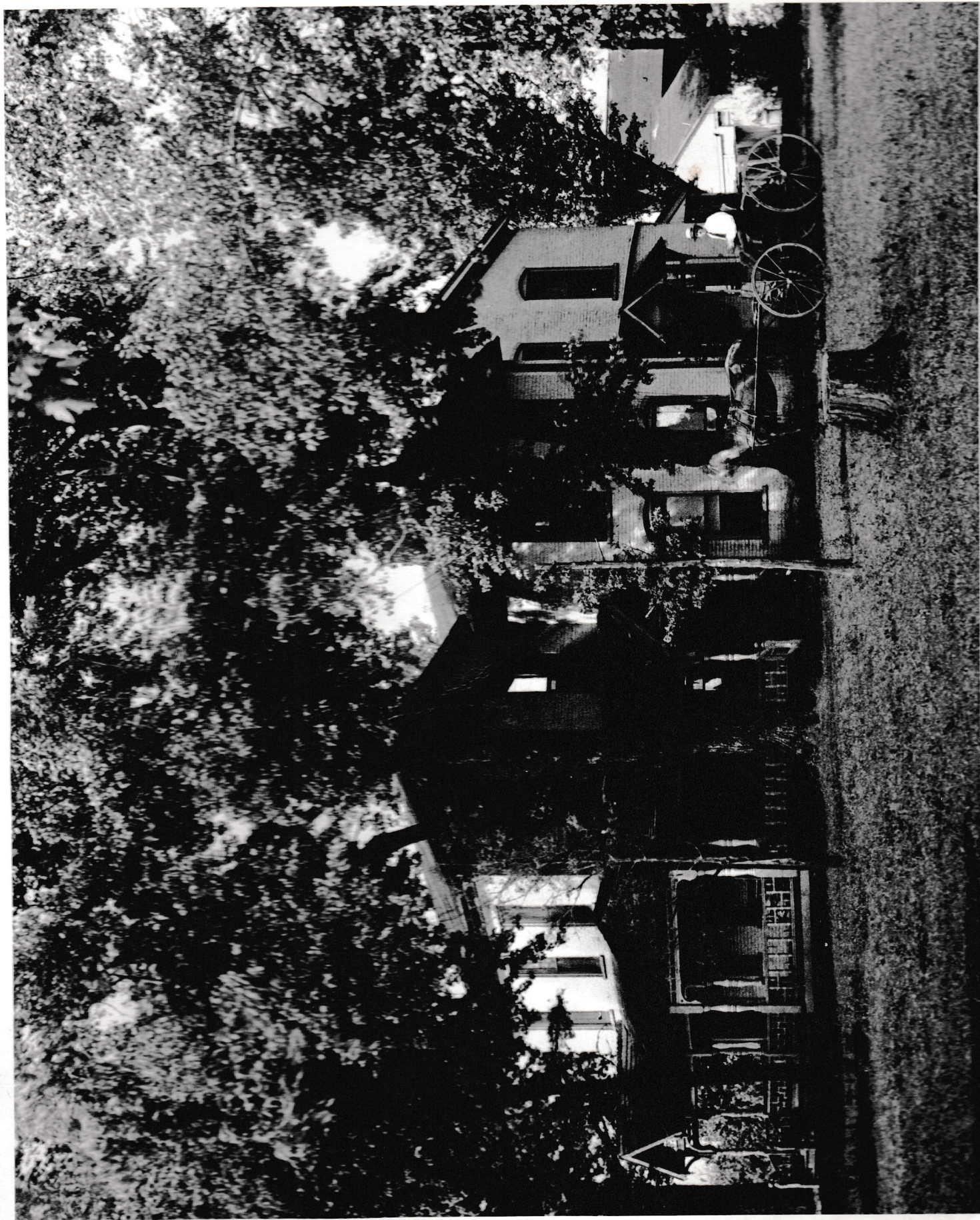
Poyntelle Downing's father, William T. Downing, was a prominent stock raiser, and at one time the property was known as the Evergreen Stock Farm. He was also interested in standard-bred horses and had many successful racers who no doubt raced at the Downing track.

The first home on the property would have been a log cabin, of course. Just when a bigger house was built for this very large family is not known. But Poyntelle Downing is quoted by descendants as saying that portions of the presently existing house were built some time in the 1840's. This brick house was built around an older frame house. At one time it was possible to see the frame of the older house in the attic of the present one.

The present house in earlier days was called a lovely suburban home, with all of the conveniences of a city home, or at times, the Downing mansion. With grounds that were spacious and with property well-cared for, even the casual passer-by was struck by its beauty.

Over the years modifications in structure were made. A porch along the south was removed and the roof modified. On the interior baths and a powder room were added. There are now nine main rooms. The woodwork is of hard wood, painted over. The dining room has a walnut floor. There are two fireplaces. On the second floor are an upstairs living room and three bedrooms. But without occupants who have a long attachment to the property, it appears to be deteriorating. The owner, Mr. Robert Logan, has said that he wants to leave this very old house intact as he develops the land around it.

*From Places and ⁹⁴ People in Old Decatur,
Zonta Club of Decatur, 1975.*



Wm. T. Downing at Family Home on N. Water St., Decatur, Ill. - Ca. 1920



L to R: Wm. Poyntelle * Two friends * Anna Maude * Clifford O. * Mrs. Wm. T. * Mr. Wm. T. Downing & Miss Anna Davie
DOWNING FAMILY AND HOME, Ca. 1896

AIR

ning In
b Letters



**W.T. Downing
Horse Fancier
Dies Sunday**

**Was Owner and Trainer of
Many Fast Trotters.**

William T. Downing, for many years one of the best known horse breeders and race men in central Illinois, died at 4:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon at his home, 1308 block North Water street. He would have been seventy-four years old in October. He had been confined to his bed for several months, following a surgical operation. For awhile after the operation he seemed to improve, but he had not the vitality to recuperate.

WORKED FOR WARASH.

Mr. Downing was born in Circleville, O., Oct. 17, 1854. He came to Decatur when a small boy, sixty-eight years ago. In his young manhood he worked for the Warash and was a member of a crew operating on the Springfield division. He was one of the old members of the Warash Veterans' association.

Mr. Downing and Miss Ida A. Davis were married in 1874. Her death occurred Feb. 11, 1888. Three children were born to that union and all survive. They are Clifford Downing and Max Anna Fern of Franklin, Colo., and Attorney William Fayette Downing of Decatur. Mr. Downing and Miss Virginia A. Peake of Decatur, were married Nov. 5, 1894, and she also survives. Mr. Downing was an early member of Decatur lodge No. 48, B. P. O. Elks.

OWNED RACE HORSES.

Before the days of the automobile and horse racing was about the most popular sport, Mr. Downing was most active in the game. He owned some mighty good horses and trained others. He was the owner of Billy G., one of the fastest trotters in Illinois race circuits. On Sept. 4, 1892, Mr. Downing drove Billy G. to a light sulky, covering the mile in 2:14, excellent time in those days. That was in a race meet in St. Louis. Many well known horses were bred at his stables and he was known to racing fans all over the country. He never lost interest in fine horses and always drove a good horse, even after the automobile became the popular pleasure vehicle.

The body was taken to Moran & Sons, funeral directors, and prepared for burial.

MISS LYDIA E. GOSSETT.

Miss Lydia E. Gossett of Oreana died at 4:30 o'clock Sunday morning at St. Mary's hospital. She was fifty-six years old last month. She had been in poor health for a long time.

Miss Gossett was born in Mechanicsburg May 8, 1872. She had made her home in Oreana for a long time and was a member of the Christian church there. She is survived by a sister and two brothers, Mrs. R. W. McCune of Muscatine, Ia., D. S. Gossett of Carroll, Ia., and Lee Gossett of Oreana. The body was taken to Dawson & Wikoff, funeral directors, and prepared for burial.

The funeral will be held at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the Christian church in Oreana. The burial will be in the Union cemetery.

**Champaign Scouts
To Attend Camp**

Will Be Here for Week Beginning June 10.

Word was received Monday morning by R. C. Varner, chief scout executive of Decatur Boy Scouts, that fifteen scouts from Champaign would spend a week at the scout camp on Lake Decatur, starting Sunday afternoon, June 10. The boys are from the Erasmus Memorial Episcopal church troop in Champaign, under Sgt. Herbert Miller.

With the camp opening Monday, June 11, final arrangements are being made for the opening. The block dock at the camp soon will be finished, it is said. The Sea Sledge, the scouts' new motor boat, was launched Sunday. It will probably be entirely finished by the opening of camp.

SCOUT MASTERS' CAMP.

Decatur scoutmasters camped at the Big Creek branch of the lake over the last week end. Camp meals were cooked over an open fire and the scoutmasters slept in the open. Wives and families of the scoutmasters visited the camp Sunday. Probably forty in all were there. Plans were discussed for the coming summer scout camp periods and talks on camp

truck skidded clear across the ditch and right in front of a Ford touring car driven by C. I. Maurer of rural route No. 3, which was going west.

WOMAN AND SON HURT.

The Maurer car was wrecked and Mrs. Maurer and her small son were painfully injured. Their hurts were dressed at St. Mary's hospital and are not serious. Mr. Elliott and Mr. Eastling escaped injury. The truck turned over and the man was thrown out, but she was apparently unhurt.

MAN STRUCK.

A Ford coupe driven by Russell Trainer of the St. James hotel, struck a colored man at the intersection of Wood and Franklin streets at 11:30 o'clock Sunday night. The colored man refused to give his name and address. He was not badly hurt.

**DRESS UP STREETS
FOR CONVENTION**

Kansas City—(A.P.A.)—When Kansas City dresses up for the Republican national convention, red, white and blue bunting will adorn about a hundred blocks of the principal streets.

The American eagle and the Republican elephant also will be used in the decorations.

Lamp posts along Eleventh street will hold the seals of the states and territories.

While the colors and stars of Old Glory will brighten the streets day and night, rain or shine, the flag itself will not be used, for etiquette forbids its flying after sundown and in inclement weather.

The decorations will be completed June 11, a day before the convention opens. They will cost more than \$5,000.

POLICE NOTES

Elizabeth Sharlock, 717 North Water street, reported to the police that some one entered her room while she was out for a few minutes and stole her leather purse containing \$12.

A. L. Benton of Mt. Zion reported his Ford roadster stolen from the Moose Country club. It carried license No. 849-469.

A Chevrolet sedan stolen Saturday night from Ray Marsh, 1424 North Oakland avenue, was found Sunday in the 390 block South Main street, out of gas.

A Chevrolet touring car stolen from J. W. Hill of Route 6 was found Sunday in the 500 block North Main street with one fender damaged.

**RHEUMATISM A
THING OF PAST**

Twice...
Whole...
and...
and...



CALL
Main 632
FOR A
Yellow Cab
ANY PLACE! ANY TIME!

PURE FOODS



**CALUMET
THE WORLD'S GREATEST
BAKING POWDER**



enables you to make an endless variety of wholesome, healthful foods—Cakes, Cookies, Biscuits, Doughnuts, etc.—all evenly raised and properly baked. Try it and learn why it

**LESS THAN
1¢
PER BAKING**

**MAKES
BAKING EASIER**

**DOUBLE
ACTING**

SALES 2 1/2 TIMES THOSE OF ANY OTHER BRAND

Decatur Diary

The Big Tree 'Boughs' to State

By Michael K. Burns

Of the Herald and Review Staff

In the days when horses and wagons were the principal means of transportation, a man could afford to make his own road. But automobiles needed permanent roads, free from the impediments of nature.

So it was that the Big Tree finally fell to the woodman's ax in 1916 after more than 90 years as a landmark.

The giant cottonwood, which stood in the middle of the old Bloomington Road (North Water) north of what was then the city, was but a sapling when Parmenius Smallwood settled the land on which it stood in 1824.

There was no road then and one day a teamster drove his team of horses astraddle the young tree. Smallwood decided to build a little fence around the trunk to prevent a repetition of the incident. The fence stood for many years until the cottonwood had achieved stature worthy of its sobriquet, the Big Tree.

The tree soon became a landmark to be seen for several miles. It stood exactly two miles north of the courthouse, was located right on the north and south section line and only a few feet off the east and west section line. The dirt road went on each side of it.

Although it was a nuisance to drivers of wide hay wagons, the tree was considered a blessing by many travelers. During the hot weather many a traveler would halt his team under the cool shade of the tree's spreading limbs.

When gravel was first placed on the roadway in 1884, there arose a determined effort to destroy the tree. But one resident sagely pointed out that it takes a half-century to grow a tree, while any fool can destroy it in an hour. William Downing, whose home stood next to the tree, led the tree's defenders.

A Warning

Road commissioners finally



Cottonwood: a Smallwood preserved the Big Tree

agreed to let the tree stand and built a full-width roadway on each side, with a wagon track on the edge nearest the tree serving as a warning.

A strong effort by automobile drivers to have the tree cut down in 1914 failed. Measurements at that time showed the circumference of the Big Tree to be 13 feet, 9 inches. Imbedded in the bark were thousands of nails which had been used to post public notices and advertising posters.

But the city was developing in that area. The Pythian

Home, county hospital, Oglesby School and Ursuline Sisters Academy were located there. The tree no longer served much purpose.

In 1916 the road became a state aid road and state authorities ordered the destruction of the cottonwood in the interest of traffic safety. A Stanley Steamer had crashed into the tree a short time before.

Friends of the old tree learned that you can fight City Hall, but not the State, and so in 1916 the Big Tree took its final bough.

Sold Sun, Feb. 13, 1895

Feb. 15, 1898

TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 15, 1898

THE DECATUR REVIEW

FI

MRS. WILLIAM DOWNING

Had About Four Months at the Hospital.

WAS ILL FOR MANY YEARS

Confined to the Bed for Last Four Months.

Mrs. Wm. Downing, wife of William Downing, died at 12:30 p. m. at her home, south of the city...

Her health in the last few months had been very poor, and she had been confined to the bed for the last four months...

She was born in the city of Decatur, Ga., and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Downing...

She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was a devoted and successful business woman...

She was a member of the city of Decatur, Ga., and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Downing...

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PEOPLE YOU KNOW.

A. L. Mayfield is sick.

C. A. Pollock was in Chicago yesterday.

A. G. Deben takes his Texas party south today.

T. Condo is here yesterday from Iowa.

E. W. Fisher of Iowa is visiting friends in Decatur.

Chas. Webb was in the city yesterday from Mason.

W. A. Williams of Osprey was in the city yesterday.

James Fairbanks of Hammond was in the city yesterday.

C. E. Akers went to Lincoln yesterday on a business trip.

C. T. Ford was a visitor to the city yesterday from Marion.

Mrs. Anna Beah is sick at her home on South Webster street.

Dr. D. O. Abrams has decided to practice medicine in Turcola.

F. W. Caldwell and son, Kenneth, went to Monticello yesterday.

W. R. Dimond of Argola spent Sunday with friends in the city.

Nay Burgess went to Bloomington yesterday on legal business.

Miss Jeanette Drake went to Chicago yesterday to visit friends.

Miss Abbie Linsom went to Sullivan yesterday to visit friends.

E. B. Eden of Sullivan was in the city last night on a business trip.

Miss May Pettis of Springfield is a guest of N. T. Watson and family.

Senator M. P. Kamm went to Springfield last night to attend the legislature.

Miss Mary Miller of the Ohio school spent Sunday with her parents here.

Ray Clark of Peoria, formerly of Decatur, is visiting friends in the city.

Wade Hollidayworth of Sullivan visited in the city Sunday with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Pollock returned home last night from a visit in Chicago.

John Wood started for California yesterday to join his father, Frank L. Wood.

Mr. and Mrs. Cass Caspeworth returned home Sunday morning from Spring Hill, Ala.

John Cann went to Mt. Pulaski last night for a visit of a few days with his family.

A. Gates of Indianapolis spent Saturday and Sunday in the city, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Downing.

Mrs. Harry Arnett of Rankin, Ill., is the guest of her mother, Mrs. Mary Arnett.

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TRACK AND TRAIN.

ANOTHER DEAD MAN FOUND.

Another man has been found dead on the track by the Chicago division of the Wabash. Sunday morning Conductor Crawshaw on train 35 found a dead man lying between the rails a few miles south of Reddick, a station about thirty miles north of Forrest. The man was nearly cut to pieces. The body was picked up and taken into Reddick, where the man resided. His name was Peter Flannigan. It was said that he had been on a spree Saturday night and was trying to steal a ride to Reddick from one of the towns near there.

ANOTHER TIME-CARD SCHOOL.

A time card school of instruction is to be held for the train service employes and the engineers and firemen of the Wabash on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The school will be held at the Abbeville hall on West Prairie avenue. The sessions on Wednesday will be held at 9 a. m., 2 p. m. and 7 p. m. The time for the school on Thursday will be announced at the meeting on Wednesday. All of the train men who are in the city on those days have been warned that they must be in attendance at the school and a show-check will be kept on those who have a layover here at that time. The school will be conducted by the trainmasters and officials of the machinery department.

CREWS CHANGED AGAIN.

Another change was made in the running of the crews on the Ft. Wayne and Decatur passenger run on the Wabash yesterday. Ever since the run was put on the Ninth district men have had the run between this city and Danville. By the change made yesterday there will be two eastern division crews on the run. Conductors Hank Gage and Martin, who have been running between Ft. Wayne and Danville, will now run through to this city. They will double the road every day and will have their lay over at Ft. Wayne. The five passenger crews that run between Danville and St. Louis have had to run the Ft. Wayne and Decatur run between Danville and this city during their lay over at Danville, each man taking his turn at it. They are not at all sorry at the change that has been made. The crews on this run have been changed five times since the run was put on last fall and there is a great deal of speculation as to how long the present order will remain in force.

PAY CARS THIS WEEK.

This is the week when the railroad men in this city receive their pay for the month of January. All of them are looking forward to the day when the pay cars will be here. Nearly all of the men will receive good wages for that month especially the Wabash men.

The Wabash pay car paid at East St. Louis yesterday and went west of the river last night. They will pay at Hannibal tomorrow morning and will lay over at Springfield tomorrow night. The car will arrive here at noon Thursday and will probably stay here until Friday morning.

The Vandavia is now paying the men on the main line and will go over the Peoria division on Thursday, when the employes here will get their wages.

The Illinois Central employes expect to have their checks mailed here Wednesday afternoon from Clinton, as the pay car will be there on that day. The P. D. & E. pay car will pay on the south and today and will pay the employes here Wednesday. The I. D. & W. pay car is expected to be here Thursday.

Wabash is doing another...

The Wabash is doing another...

Business on the line...

Arrangements at the compressed air run to the depot...

The town of Sullivan an important transfer...

A bill is before the legislature providing that a...

Some remarkable built recently at...

ELEC

Turners Elect O...

Anniversary Celebr...

The semi-annual election of officers...

MRS. S. V. DAVIS DEAD

Had Lived On One Farm Since 1826.

P. SMALLWOOD'S DAUGHTER

Other Deaths and Funerals of the Day.

Mr. Susan V. Davis, widow of the late Samuel Davis, and one of the early settlers of Macon county, passed away in death at 10 o'clock Wednesday night at her home, north of the city. She was born in 1826. She had lived on one farm since 1826. She was a devoted wife and mother and was highly respected in the community. She was buried in the city cemetery.

The death of Mrs. Davis occurred on the farm that had been her home since 1826. Her father, Samuel Davis, was one of the early settlers of Macon county, coming here in 1826. She was a devoted wife and mother and was highly respected in the community. She was buried in the city cemetery.

At that time they were engaged in trading in Chicago. They had a large family and were well-to-do. They were buried in the city cemetery. Mrs. Davis was a devoted wife and mother and was highly respected in the community. She was buried in the city cemetery.

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The funeral will be held at 2:30 o'clock Friday afternoon from St. John's Episcopal church. The interment will be at Greenwood.

DIED AT CHICKENHOLE. Dr. L. M. Lee received telegram Wednesday announcing the death of his mother, Mrs. Robert T. Lee.

BIG GIFTS TO U. C.

Valuable Land Donated and Hooker-feller Responds with Cash.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—President Harper of Chicago university, announced tonight at the twenty-seventh convocation of the university that gifts aggregating \$400,000 had been made to the institution. Martin A. Ryerson, president of the board of trustees, donated a tract of land adjoining that now occupied by the university. The value of this is \$240,000. John D. Rockwell had promised to donate the gift in cash, the making \$160,000. Marshall Field of the city gave a tract of land adjoining that given by Ryerson, and which has been used by the university as an athletic field. The value of this land is estimated at \$120,000. Edward Berglund has agreed that when this was given to the school he would give \$20,000 for the building of a gymnasium and equipment of athletic grounds. The university has previously received \$100,000 in land value and all new money from Rockwell's estate is cash.

Don. Carl Hoover delivered the convocation address, in which he urged the university to continue its work. The trustees were members of the convocation, and the convocation was held in the United States university building. The convocation was held in the United States university building.

WORLDWIDE SPAN DOORS

Will Be Available to the West of the Atlantic.

London, Jan. 4.—The world's largest door factory, the Span Door Co., has announced that it will be available to the west of the Atlantic. The factory is located in London and has been in operation for many years. It has a reputation for producing high-quality doors and is now expanding its operations to include the United States market.

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NICE STATE OF AFFAIRS

Reported by Dispatch of a Friend.

London, Jan. 4.—The state of affairs in the city of London is reported to be very good. The weather is pleasant and the people are happy. The city is in a state of peace and order, and there is no sign of any trouble. The people are enjoying the winter holidays and the city is in a state of peace and order.

MAYOR MAKES A CALL

Of Citizens of Decatur to Talk Over Building

AND SOME OTHER MATTERS

That Will Help Boom the City of Decatur.

Mayor E. J. Taylor has called a meeting for tonight at citizens in the name of the Decatur club. The object of which is to discuss matters of public interest and for the public good. The meeting will be held at the city hall and will be open to all citizens. The mayor will be present and will discuss the city's affairs and the progress of the city's development.

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CRUISE TO LONDON

Organized by the Young Men's Association.

London, Jan. 4.—The Young Men's Association of Decatur has organized a cruise to London. The cruise will be held in the month of June and will be open to all young men of the city. The cruise will be a most interesting and profitable one, and will give the young men a chance to see the sights of London and to meet with other young men from other parts of the world.

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MUNYON'S



I do not believe in a case of dyspepsia, indigestion, any stomach trouble that cannot be relieved at once and permanently cured by my DYSPEPSIA CURE.

MUNYON. At all druggists, 25c a vial. Guide to Health and medical advice free. 1500 Arch street, Phila.

DYSPEPSIA CURE

WRECKED IN MISSOURI

Engineer and Fireman Killed on Yellow Line Near Jefferson City.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 4.—The Missouri Pacific passenger train from Omaha and Kansas City to St. Louis was derailed and wrecked on the Yellow Line near Jefferson City. The engineer, Charles Brown, and the fireman, John Smith, were killed. The train was carrying a large number of passengers and a large amount of freight. The cause of the wreck is believed to be a defective track.

SCAPEGOAT DEAD

Dayton, O., Jan. 4.—John Frazier, Dayton murderer who figured as the alleged chief participant in the killing of Judge at Columbus several years ago, is dead. Many believed Frazier was merely a scapegoat and that the high political life merely tried to get rid of him by the execution of the law.

The high political life merely tried to get rid of him by the execution of the law. The high political life merely tried to get rid of him by the execution of the law.

TENNESSEE NEGRO CONFERENCE

Yakage, Mo., Jan. 4.—The year-long conference held in connection with the Tennessie Normal and Industrial College will be held Feb. 22. Attention was given to the importance of colored people being better and making themselves a problem in all companies by which they are surrounded in the world.

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CONVICTS TO BE RELEASED

London, Mo., Jan. 4.—The London branch of the Southern church of Eastern Day State, a movement which is a part of the movement for the release of convicts, has announced that it will be held in London, Mo., on Jan. 10.

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THEIR HOUSE A STUNNER

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THERE IS A CLAIM

London, Mo., Jan. 4.—The London branch of the Southern church of Eastern Day State, a movement which is a part of the movement for the release of convicts, has announced that it will be held in London, Mo., on Jan. 10.

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ried Elizabeth Burke, and with their five children, Estella, Uel, Clarence, Nettie and Maggie, they reside in Yuma, Colo. Their eldest daughter is the wife of G. W. Robinson, of Port Morgan, Colo., and has three children. Uel is also married. The next child, Eliza Ann, died when young. Governor wedded Mary J. Long, by whom he has two children: Della, wife of Frank Huber, and Burton. Alice is the wife of Warner J. Compton, a grain merchant of Maroa, and they have four daughters: Minnie, wife of Frank Cooper; Agnes, Lillie and Fannie. George, who completes the family, is represented on another page of this work. The mother of this family died August 9, 1874, in the faith of the Christian Church, to which she belonged.

On the 15th of August, 1876, Mr. Conover married Mrs. Susan Henry, daughter of John B. and Deborah C. (Morgan) Deevere, and widow of William Bayard Henry, of Brown County, Ohio. She was the mother of eleven children, but only one grew to maturity, Margaret, who died in her twentieth year. Her parents were natives of Pennsylvania, and were of German, French, Scotch and Welsh descent. Her father was in Baltimore when the first stone was laid for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and with his family he removed from eastern Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh in a wagon. His death occurred at Lostant, Ill., at the age of eighty-four years, and his wife died in Maroa in 1891, in her eighty-seventh year. Three of their sons, James S., William H. and David H., fill soldier's graves, the first-named having served in the Mexican War, and the other two in the Civil War. The family numbered nine children, but Mrs. Conover is now the only survivor.

About 1865 our subject came to Maroa, where he has since made his home, with the exception of one year spent in Funny Hollow, where he carried on a sawmill. He then returned to this city and built the large Midland Mill, now called the Midland Elevator, which he ran as a mill for several years and then made of it an elevator. On one occasion his coat was caught in the gearing of the mill and in the revolution of the machinery a rope was so wound around him that it nearly cost him his life. He once narrowly escaped death,

having fallen on a railroad track, and once in a runaway accident, yet he is now a well-preserved man of nearly eighty years.

Mr. and Mrs. Conover are members of the Christian Church, and he serves as one of its Trustees. He was formerly a Democrat in politics, but on account of his views on the temperance question he has joined the ranks of the Prohibition party. He owns two hundred and forty acres of land in Dakota, besides his present home in Maroa and other fine property. The best interests of the city have ever found in Mr. Conover a friend, and his hearty support and co-operation have been given to those enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.



MRS. SUSAN C. V. DAVIS is one of the early settlers of Macon County and an honored representative of one of the pioneer families. Her father, Parmenas Smallwood, was born near Charlestown, Jefferson County, Va., on the 27th of April, 1782, and served as a soldier in the War of 1812. He was married in the Old Dominion, June 23, 1807, to Deborah Brown, who was born near Charlestown May 12, 1792. Leaving the State of their nativity they went to Lancaster County, Ohio, where the father opened up a new farm. He became one of the earliest settlers of Macon County, Ill., emigrating to this place in 1825, accompanied by his wife and ten children. The journey was made with teams from Ohio. The winter after their arrival was spent at Sugar Grove, and they then located upon the farm which is now the home of Mrs. Davis, on section 3, Decatur Township. It has been in possession of the family since 1826.

The nearest neighbor of the Smallwoods at that time was forty miles away. Mr. Smallwood built a hewed-log cabin and in true pioneer style they began life in the West. He did his trading in Chicago, St. Louis and Springfield, where he bought salt at \$1.25 per barrel, while wheat sold

*Portrait and Biographical Record of Macon County,
Illinois, Lake City Publishing Co., Chicago,*

1893.

for thirty and forty cents per bushel. When the land came into market he purchased it from the Government, and upon the old homestead he spent the remainder of his life. In politics, he was an active supporter of the Whig party. His death occurred in 1848, and his wife was called to her final rest November 7, 1873. Mr. Smallwood was one of the few public-spirited men who helped to build up Decatur, he having donated ten acres to the city, which lies in the heart of the town.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smallwood were born the following children: Mrs. Rachel Murphy, deceased; George, who was a soldier in the Black Hawk War and died near Clinton, Ill.; John, Samuel and James, all deceased; Daniel; Amanda, wife of William Bennett; Elizabeth Roben, of Clinton, Ill.; Douglas and Asbarinah, both deceased; Mrs. Davis; Joseph, who is living in Decatur; and Gideon, who has also passed away.

Since a little child of three years, Mrs. Davis has resided upon the farm which is still her home, and in her girlhood she learned to spin and weave and perform such other duties as fell to the lot of the daughters of the household in those early days. One year she wove and dyed over two hundred yards of cloth. Her education was acquired in the old-time log schoolhouse, and with the family she experienced all the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life. Having attained to womanhood, she became the wife of Amanuel Davis, who was born and reared in Philadelphia, Pa. His father was a brick dealer and real-estate man of that city, and he there remained until 1841, when he came to the West. His death occurred on the 2d of January, 1861, when not yet forty years of age.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Davis were born four children, two of whom are now living. Eliza died in infancy. Ida A. is the wife of William T. Downing, who resides in the city of Decatur, where he is engaged in breeding fine stock. She was educated in the city schools, and by her marriage has become the mother of three children yet living: Clifford O., Anna Maud and William Poyntelle. They also lost one child, Ellis, who died at the age of five years. Benjamin A., who was educated in the Normal School of Illinois and Mt. Zion Acad-

emy, married at St. Louis, Mo., in 1879, and at his death left two children, Edna S. and Louisa. Anna E., the youngest of the Davis family, attended St. Mary's Hall, of Burlington, and Cottage Seminary, of Pottstown, Pa. She has spent some time in Pennsylvania and the East, but is still living on the old homestead. Mrs. Davis now spends the greater part of her time with her children. She is a lady possessed of many excellencies of character, which have won her a wide circle of friends and gained her the respect of all with whom she is acquainted. The story of pioneer life in Macon County is thoroughly familiar to her, and she has been an eye-witness of all the varied changes which have transformed this locality from a barren tract to one of the richest counties in the commonwealth.



JOSEPH STOCKS, proprietor and owner of the Montana Farm, situated on section 15, Dora Township, Moultrie County, is well known to the citizens of Macon County, and is deserving of representation in this volume. We feel assured that this record of his life will prove of interest to many of our readers. A native of England, he was born April 6, 1838. His father, Benjamin Stocks, was born in the same country in 1797, and in 1818 was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Campinot. Seven children were born of their union, Mary, Ellen, George, James, Ann, Emma and Joseph, but with the exception of our subject all are now deceased.

Our subject started work in England at the age of fourteen years at \$1 per week, working on the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway. He remained with them five years, the last year getting \$3 per week, out of which he saved a portion toward coming to America, where better opportunities and privileges were afforded young men, he believed, than in his own country. At the age of nineteen years he sailed from Liverpool, April 7, 1857, arriving in New York May 8. He went at once to

Fraternally Mr. Ludwig was a member of the Modern Woodmen in Sangamon county, and religiously was connected with the Baptist church of Roodhouse, to which his estimable wife also belonged. After her husband's death she returned to Decatur and purchased her present comfortable home at 1171 West Green street. She also owns another residence at No. 1034 West Green street and has other property. During her short residence here she has made many warm friends and is well liked by all who have the pleasure of her acquaintance.

WILLIAM T. DOWNING.

Among the important industries of Macon county stock-raising occupies a prominent place and it is to this occupation that William T. Downing now devotes his energies, being the proprietor of the Evergreen Stock Farm. His beautiful suburban home is located just outside the northern limits of Decatur and has all the improvements and conveniences of the average city residence.

Mr. Downing was born in Circleville, Ohio, August 17, 1854, a son of Thomas and Margaret A. (Dawson) Downing. The father, who was a contractor, spent his early life in Ohio, but about thirty-five years ago came to Macon county, Illinois, where he passed his remaining years, dying here in 1891, at the age of seventy-six. His wife did not long survive him. The Downings were originally from Delaware.

Our subject received a good practical education in the public schools and early manifested an interest in stock-raising. He began the business on his own account at the age of twenty-six years, though he had previously carried on operations along that line in connection with his father. He now makes a specialty of the most popular standard bred horses and has been very successful with his racers, these being his pride for the past twenty-five years. He buys and sells consid-

erable stock and prosperity has attended his efforts thus far in life, making him quite well-to-do. In business affairs he is prompt, energetic and notably reliable and he has the confidence and respect of all who know him. As a mere boy he entered the service of the Wabash Railroad Company and held the positions of baggageman and conductor before he was twenty years of age, but since that time his attention has been wholly devoted to his farming and stock-raising interests. His home and all its surroundings are modern and up-to-date in appointments and his is one of the finest locations in Decatur township. Socially Mr. Downing is an honored member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

On September 20, 1874, he was united in marriage at La Clede Hotel, in St. Louis, to Miss Ida Davis, a daughter of Benjamin and Susan C. B. Davis, of Philadelphia, and to them were born three children, who are still living: Anna Maude, now the wife of John L. Patton, of New Orleans; Clifford O. and William Pointelle. They lost one child, Ellis, who died at the age of five years. Mrs. Downing, who was a most estimable lady, died February 13, 1899, at the age of forty years, and her death was deeply mourned by many friends as well as her immediate family. She was a loving wife and tender mother and was held in high regard by all who knew her.

Her mother, Mrs. Susan C. B. Davis, was one of the early pioneers of Macon county and a representative of an old and honored family. She was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1823, and died in Decatur on the 4th of January, 1899. Her father, Parmelas Smallwood, was born April 27, 1782, near Charlestown, Jefferson county, West Virginia, and served as a soldier of the war of 1812. Before leaving his native state he was married June 23, 1807, to Miss Deborah Brown, who was also born near Charlestown, May 12, 1792. Later they removed to Lancaster county, Ohio, where Mr. Smallwood opened up a new farm, and as early as 1825 he came to Macon county.

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Illinois, accompanied by his wife and ten children, the journey being made by teams from Ohio. The winter after their arrival was spent at Sugar Grove, and from there they removed to a farm on section 3, Decatur township, which was the home of Mrs. Davis for many years. It has been in possession of the family since 1826. When they located here their nearest neighbor was forty miles away. Mr. Smallwood built a hewed long cabin and in true pioneer style began life in the west. He did his trading in Chicago, St. Louis and Springfield, where he bought salt at one dollar and a quarter per barrel and sold his wheat for thirty and forty cents per bushel. When the land came into market he purchased it from the government and upon the old homestead he spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred in 1848 and his wife was called to her final rest on the 7th of November, 1873. Politically he was an active supporter of the Whig party. He was one of the few public spirited men who helped to build up Decatur, donating ten acres to the city which lies in the heart of the town.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Smallwood were born the following children: Mrs. Rachel Murphy, deceased; George, who was a soldier of the Black Hawk war and died near Clinton, Illinois; John, Samuel and James, all deceased; Daniel; Amanda, wife of William Bennett; Mrs. Elizabeth Roben, of Clinton, Illinois; Douglas and Asberry, both deceased; Mrs. Davis; Joseph, who is living in Decatur; and Gideon, who has also passed away.

Mrs. Davis was only two years old when the family located in Decatur township. In her girlhood she learned to spin, weave and perform such other duties as fell to the lot of the girls of the family in those early days, and one year she wove and dyed over two hundred yards of cloth. Her education was acquired in the old-time log school house and with the family she experienced all the hardships and difficulties of pioneer life. Having attained womanhood she became the wife of

Benjamin Davis, who was born and reared in Philadelphia. His father was engaged in the brick and real estate business in that city and there he remained until 1841, when he came west. He died on the 2d of January, 1861, when not yet forty years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis had four children: Eliza died in infancy. Ida A., now deceased, was the wife of William T. Downing, whose name introduces this article. Benjamin A., the eldest who was educated in the Illinois Normal School and Mount Zion Academy, was married at St. Louis, Missouri, in 1879, and at his death left two children, Edna S. and Louisa. Anna E., the youngest of the family, acquired her education at St. Mary's Hall of Burlington, Iowa, and Cottage Seminary at Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Davis was a lady of many excellencies of character, which won for her a wide circle of friends and gained for her the respect of all with whom she was acquainted.

JAMES HADWIN.

During his early years James Hadwin was engaged in agricultural pursuits and in his undertakings met with excellent success, so that he is now enabled to live a retired life at his home in Decatur, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He was born in Shelby county, Illinois, June 14, 1860, and belongs to a family that has been actively identified with the development of this state.

His father, Thomas Hadwin, was born in the south of England in 1812, and in 1843 wedded Miss Mary Atkinson, also a native of England, born in Bland, Yorkshire, near the boundary of Westmoreland, November 12, 1819. The year of their marriage they came to America with the Atkinson family and on landing in New York proceeded at once to Ohio. As there were no railroads at that time a steamboat carried them to Albany, whence

of the county than Decatur, was then our representative in petition to our western territory. notions were entertained as seat, is denied by others who very probable, however, that justice" anticipated, for the theless, except as so much bal- tion of the county. And the were blighted about that time, except in the recollection of a

formed from portions of DeWitt county, 1843, the county of Moul- elby and Macon counties, each county now remains as left after Moultrie county. It now con- y-seven square miles, or

virtue of the foregoing act, 9, and proceeded to view the seat of justice;" and as a result wing report, as appears by the s' Court:

ed for the purpose of locating after being duly sworn before the peace for said county of ially viewed and examined the the advantages, of the present the said seat on the fifteenth in range two east, northeast r, the southeast corner of said liance to an act of the General

Approved January 19, 1829. Is and seals this tenth day of 9-

JOHN FLEMING, [Seal.]
 JOSSE RHODES, [Seal.]
 EASTON WHITTON." [Seal.]

by John H. Smith, Esq., Springfield 1876

When the site had been selected, as referred to in the above report, an order was made on the first day of June, 1829, by the County Commissioners, directing the "laying off" of the town of Decatur, as follows:

"Ordered, That Benjamin R. Austin, County Surveyor for the county of Macon, be and is hereby required to lay off the town of Decatur, in said county, after the form of Shelbyville, and make and return to one of the commissioners of this court, a complete plat of the same on or before the first day of July next."

Under the above order the "old town" of Decatur was laid out and platted, which contained twenty acres. Its boundaries were: Prairie street on the north, Water street on the east, Wood street on the south, and Church street on the west, and was divided by Main street, running east and west, and by North Main street, running north and south. The "old town" remains substantially as platted, "after the form of Shelbyville," with the exception that Merchant street has been formed since, and some of the lots are divided so as to run north and south instead of east and west, as laid out.

By the act creating this county, the land upon which the Com- missioners located the "seat of justice" was to be donated to the county. The land on which the county seat was located had not, in fact, been entered from the government at the time, but was afterwards entered by Parmenius Smallwood, Easton Whitton and Charles Prentice, and a deed was by them made to the County Commissioners, on the eighth day of October, 1831.

A sale of town lots, however, had been made by the County Commissioners on the tenth day of July, 1829, and bonds given to the purchasers.

The order of the Commissioners, under which this sale was made, is as follows:

"Ordered, That a sale of lots take place in the town of Decatur, in this county, on the tenth day of July next, on the following terms, to-wit: A credit of twelve months will be given, and note with approved security will be required, and that the clerk of this court is required to advertise the sale in the paper printed in Vandalia, until the day of sale."

The following order was also made, which we insert, showing the rate of taxation and the articles of property to be assessed:

William Hollenback, and was, when
son county. Their children's

at 1812, in New York. His
who died about 1868. He died
on, Illinois.

born in Guilford county, North
father removed to Tennessee,
03, and remained there about a
near Murphreysborough, where
830. Mr. Smith removed to
son county, where he remain-
e came to Macon county, where
t of Decatur, and died in 1855.
bert, was engaged in the Rev-
ner in North Carolina. Rob-
New Orleans. His first wife
24; he afterwards married Jane
nt, Iowa. His children were--
n. C. and Margaret; all by his

born in Rutherford county, Ten-
married Elizabeth Blanken-
rds married Rebecca R. Smith,
ember, 1875. He was a mem-
rs court for several years, and
ir; he was with the company
on county, towards the head of
Cheney's Grove. He died in
vious to the death of his wife.

ch 14, 1832; she married Jos.
is. ALEXANDER A. was born
Laura Jacobs, October 7, 1869.
ship. ABIGAIL E. was born
G. Henry; who now lives on
ET A. was born September 5,
; October 6, 1868; now living

HISTORY OF MACON COUNTY.

285
from its Organization to 1876 by John W. Smith, Esq.
Bochers Printing House, Springfield, 1876

WM. C. SMITH was born in Rutherford county, Tennessee.
July 5, 1819, moved to this county in 1828, from Sangamon county;
married Leacy J. Pope, February 17, 1842, who was born in
Wake county, North Carolina, October 25, 1819. Of their child-
ren—

JOHN W. was born February 9, 1843; married Mattie J. Week-
ly, September 1, 1868; now resides in Decatur.

GEORGE R. was born October 2, 1844; died November 17, 1845.
WILLIAM B. was born January 5, 1847; married Elizabeth Goff,
July 2, 1867; now lives in Wheatland township. ROBERT H. was
born November 27, 1849; married Belle Wilson, September 23,
1875; now resides in Blue Mound township. SARAH E. was born
February 5, 1852. JAMES M. was born March 20, 1854. DANIEL
C. was born March 24, 1857; died September 23, 1857.

PARMENAS SMALLWOOD was born in Virginia, near
Charleston, on the 27th of April, 1782; was married to Deborah
Brown, in the same state, on the 23d of June, 1807. She was born
near Charleston, May 12, 1792, and died November 7, 1873.
Parmenas S. died in the month of December, 1851. Of their
children—

YAMZEN B. was born May 9, 1808; married to John Murphy,
August 1, 1832, who is now living on Salt Creek. Yamzen S.
died August 27, 1835. GEORGE D. was born March 31, 1810. JOHN
B. was born November 5, 1811; died September 15, 1868. SAM-
UEL A. was born April 27, 1813, and now lives north of Decatur.
JAMES M. was born November 8, 1814; died June, 1852. DANIEL
M. was born May 1, 1816; died July 17, 1839. AMELIA A. was
born February 17, 1818; married William Bennett, and now re-
sides on Salt Creek, in Dewitt county. ELIZABETH H. was born
December 1, 1819; married Walter Roben, in Dewitt county.
DOUGLAS B. was born July 6, 1821; died September 25, 1844.
SUSAN C. V. was born February 14, 1828; married Emanuel
Davis, and now lives near Decatur. PARMENAS A. was born Aug.
31, 1824; now lives in DeWitt county. SARAH J. was born July 27,
1827; died October 5, 1846. JOSEPH P. was born July 10, 1829, and
now resides in Decatur. ASBARINAH was born November 27,
1827; died in October, 1831. GIDEON P. was born May 16, 1833;
now resides in Dewitt county.

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Cliff P. Downing
 Address 21535 S.E. Fariss Rd.
 City, State Gresham, Oregon 97030
 Date 1 November 1977

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 1 on chart No. 1.

Chart No. 1

b. Date of Birth
 p.b. Place of Birth
 m. Date of Marriage
 d. Date of Death
 p.d. Place of Death

4 CLIFFORD O. DOWNING
 (Father of No. 2)
 b. 23 October 1878
 p.b. Decatur, Illinois
 m. 29 May 1912
 d. January 1931 (53)
 p.d. Chicago, Illinois

2 CLIFFORD POYNTELLE DOWNING
 (Father of No. 1)
 b. 23 March 1913
 p.b. Elgin, Illinois
 m. 5 May 1961
 d.
 p.d.

5 GERTRUDE ELEANOR BOURELLE
 (Mother of No. 2)
 b. 25 February 1891
 p.b. Beatrice, Nebraska
 d. 4 May 1977 (86)
 p.d. Anaheim, California

1 JoANNE DOWNING
 b. 6 November 1962
 p.b. Ridgecrest, California
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

8 JESSE RAYMOND STOUT
 (Father of No. 3)
 b. 23 November 1883
 p.b. Mound City, Missouri
 m. 14 January 1908
 d. 20 October 1955 (72)
 p.d. San Bernardino, Calif.

3 LAURA JEAN STOUT
 (Mother of No. 1)
 b. 9 April 1924
 p.b. Oakley, Idaho
 d. 31 January 1967 (43)
 p.d. Ridgecrest, California

7 PEARL LabRIE
 (Mother of No. 3)
 b. 6 February 1890
 p.b. Turton, South Dakota
 d.
 p.d.

(Spouse of No. 1)

b. d.
 p.b. p.d.

8 WILLIAM THOMAS DOWNING
 (Father of No. 4)
 b. 17 August 1854
 p.b. Circleville, Ohio
 m. 20 September 1894
 d. 3 June 1928 (74)
 p.d. Decatur, Illinois

9 IDA AMELIA DAVIS
 (Mother of No. 4)
 b. 8 February 1858
 p.b. Decatur, Illinois
 d. 13 February 1898 (41)
 p.d. Decatur, Illinois

10 GEORGE ENOS BOURELLE
 (Father of No. 5)
 b. 1854
 p.b.
 m. 10 September 1888
 d. 1 March 1922 (68)
 p.d. Chicago, Illinois

11 MARY KATHERINE McDOWELL
 (Mother of No. 5)
 b. 26 May 1859
 p.b. Fairbury, Illinois
 d. 16 August 1940 (81)
 p.d. Los Angeles, California

12 JOSEPH STOUT
 (Father of No. 6)
 b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

13 MARIA RUSH
 (Mother of No. 6)
 b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

14 ARTHUR E. LabRIE
 (Father of No. 7)
 b. 2 November 1859
 p.b. Ste. Anne, Illinois
 m. 1889
 d. 9 June 1926 (67)
 p.d. Turton, South Dakota

15 VICTORIA LeFORT
 (Mother of No. 7)
 b. 26 February 1861
 p.b. Illinois
 d. 10 September 1896 (35)
 p.d. Turton, South Dakota

16 THOMAS DOWNING
 b. 1815 (Father of No. 8, Cont. on chart No. 2)
 m. 4 March 1850
 d. 1891 (76)
 17 MARGARET ANN DAWSON
 (Mother of No. 8, Cont. on chart No. 3)
 b. 1814
 d.

18 EMANUEL DAVIS
 (Father of No. 9, Cont. on chart No. 4)
 b. 1822
 m.
 d. 2 January 1861 (39)
 19 SUSAN C. V. SMALLWOOD
 (Mother of No. 9, Cont. on chart No. 5)
 b. 14 Feb. 1828
 d. 4 January 1899 (71)

20
 b. (Father of No. 10, Cont. on chart No. 6)
 m.
 d.
 21
 b. (Mother of No. 10, Cont. on chart No. 7)
 d.

22 WOODFORD G. McDOWELL
 (Father of No. 11, Cont. on chart No. 8)
 b. 3 Feb. 1818
 m. 31 March 1842
 d. 10 September 1904
 23 ELIZABETH LANE
 (Mother of No. 11, Cont. on chart No. 9)
 b. 17 Jan. 1823
 d. 1 October 1865 (42)

24
 b. (Father of No. 12, Cont. on chart No. 1)
 m.
 d.
 25
 b. (Mother of No. 12, Cont. on chart No. 1)
 d.

26
 b. (Father of No. 13, Cont. on chart No. 1)
 m.
 d.
 27
 b. (Mother of No. 13, Cont. on chart No. 1)
 d.

28 MARCEL LabRIE
 (Father of No. 14, Cont. on chart No. 2)
 b.
 m.
 d.
 29 CONSTANCE LERNIEUX
 (Mother of No. 14, Cont. on chart No. 2)
 b.
 d.

30 WILLIAM LeFORT
 (Father of No. 15, Cont. on chart No. 2)
 b.
 m.
 d.

31 MARIE SOREL
 (Mother of No. 15, Cont. on chart No. 2)
 b.
 d.

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler C.P. Downing

Address 21535 S.E. Fariss Rd.

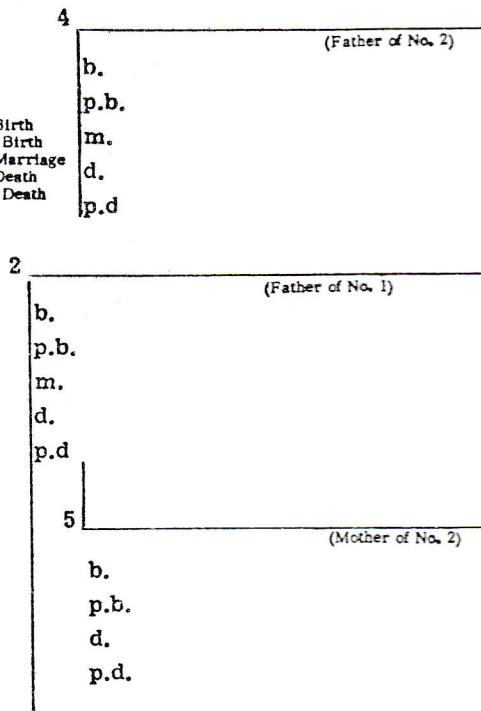
City, State Gresham, Oregon 97030

Date 1 December 1977

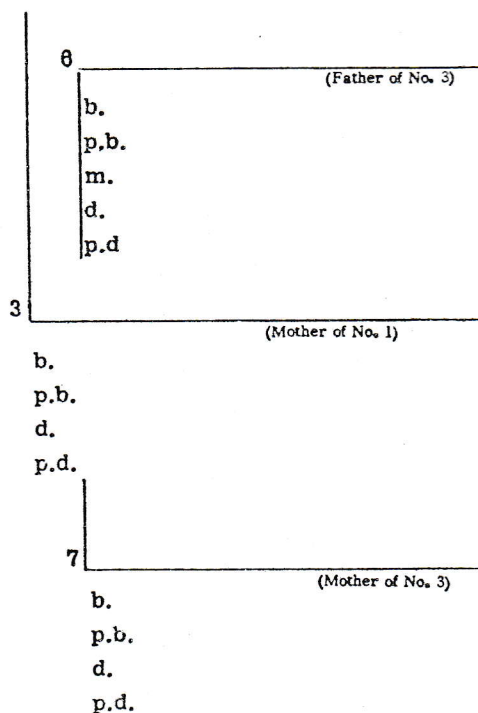
Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 16 on chart No. 1.

Chart No. 2

b. Date of Birth
p.b. Place of Birth
m. Date of Marriage
d. Date of Death
p.d. Place of Death

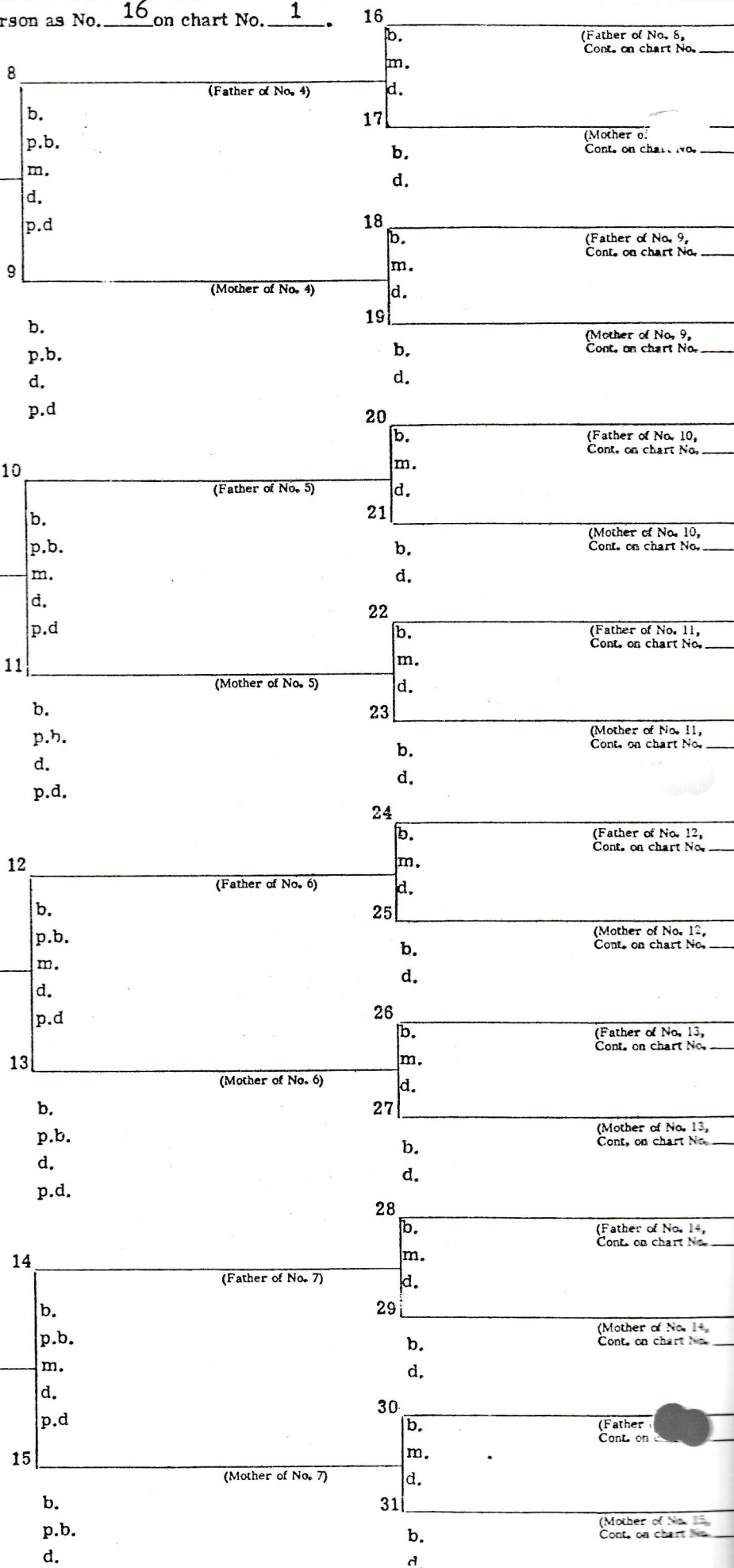


1 THOMAS DOWNING
b. 1815
p.b. Sussex County, Delaware
m. 4 March 1850
d. 1891 (76)
p.d. Decatur, Illinois



MARGARET ANN DAWSON
(Spouse of No. 1)

b. 1814 d.
p.b. Sussex Co. Del. p.d.



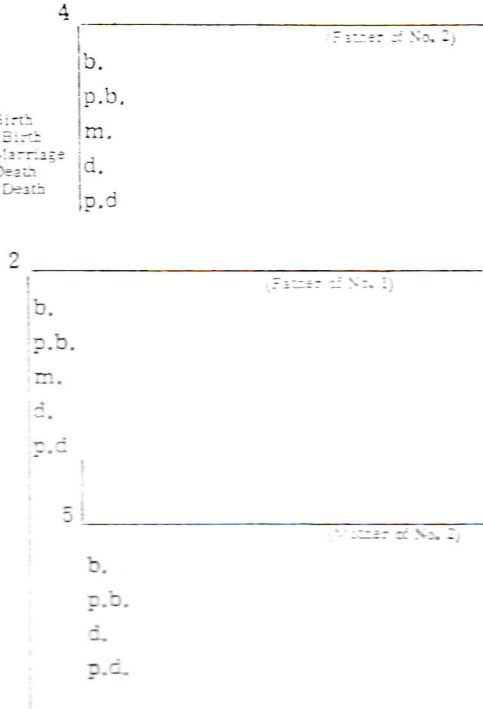
Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Cliff P. Downing
 Address 21535 S.E Fariss Rd.
 City, State Gresham, Oregon 97030
 Date 5 August 1977

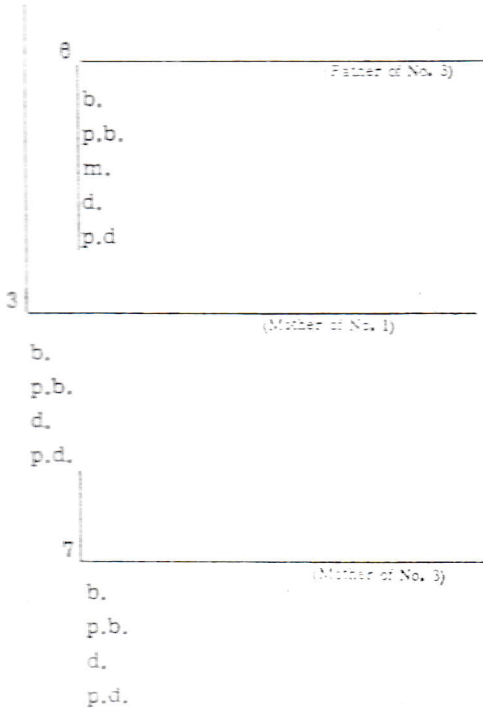
Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 17 on chart No. 1.

Chart No. 3

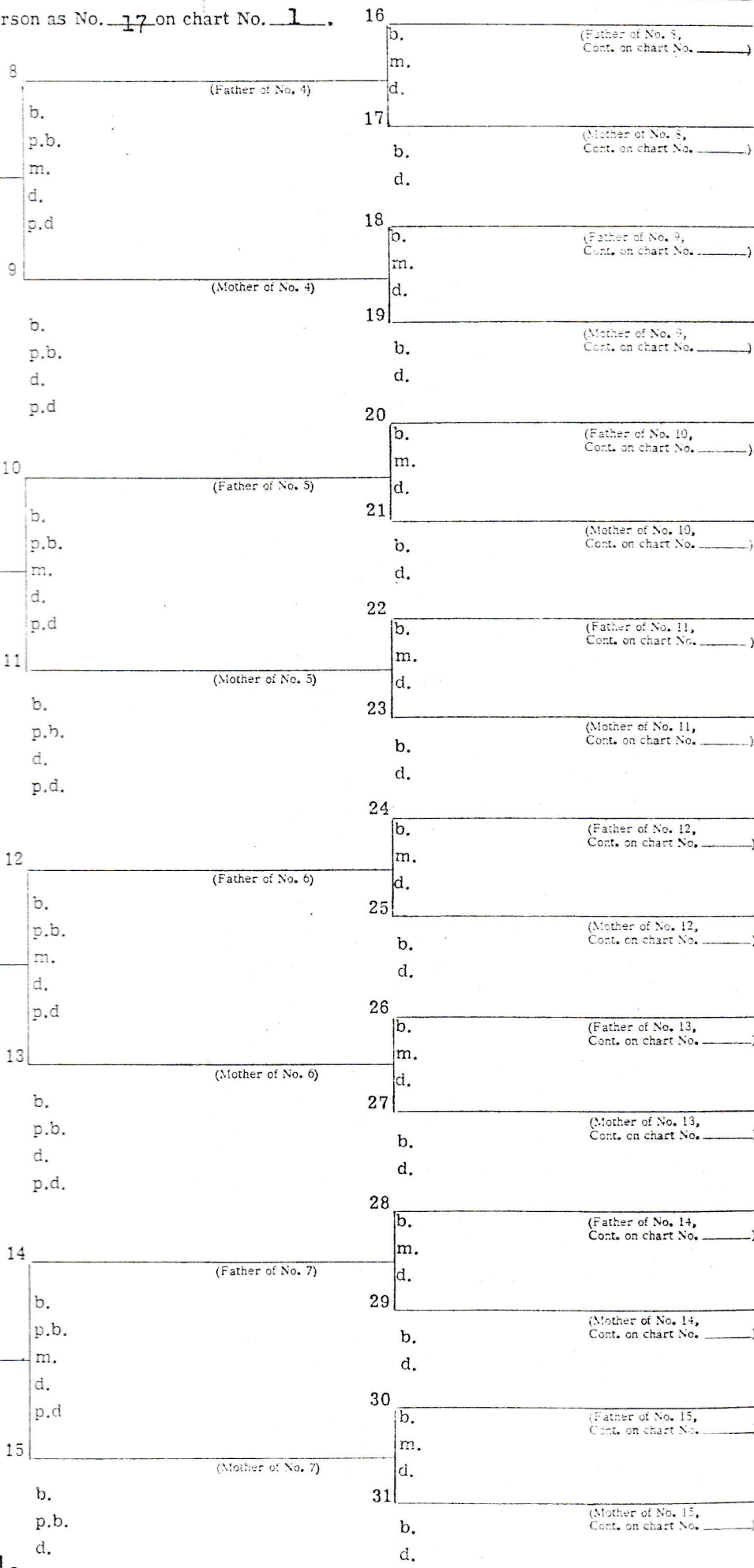
b. Date of Birth
 p.b. Place of Birth
 m. Date of Marriage
 d. Date of Death
 p.d. Place of Death



1 MARGARET A. DAWSON
 b. 1814
 p.b. Sussex Co., Delaware
 m. 1853
 d.
 p.d.



Thomas Downing
 (Spouse of No. 1)
 b. 1815 d. 1891
 p.b. Sussex Co., Del. p.d. Decatur, Ill.



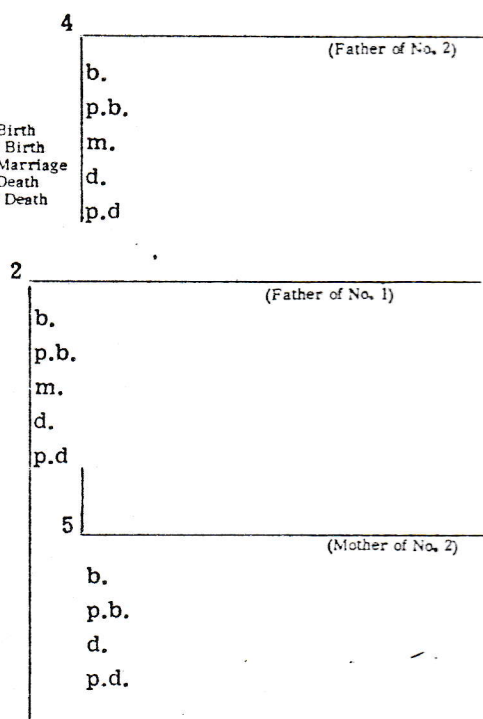
Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler CLIFF P. DOWNING
 Address 1902 S.E. 202nd Ave.
 City, State Portland, Ore. 97233
 Date 1 June 1976

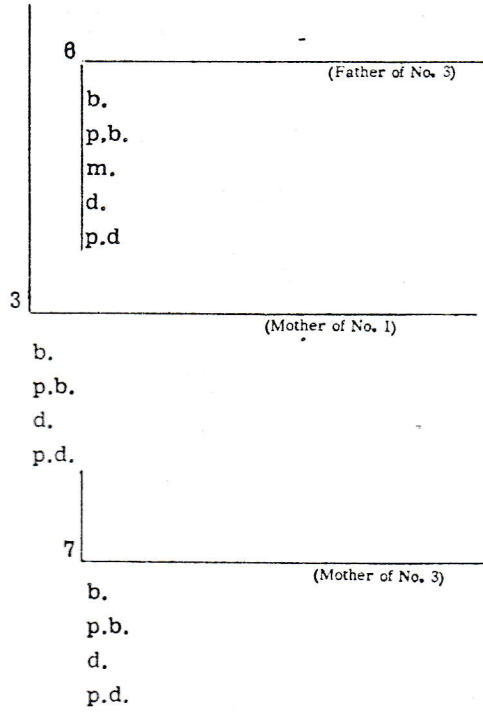
Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 18 on chart No. 1.

Chart No. 4

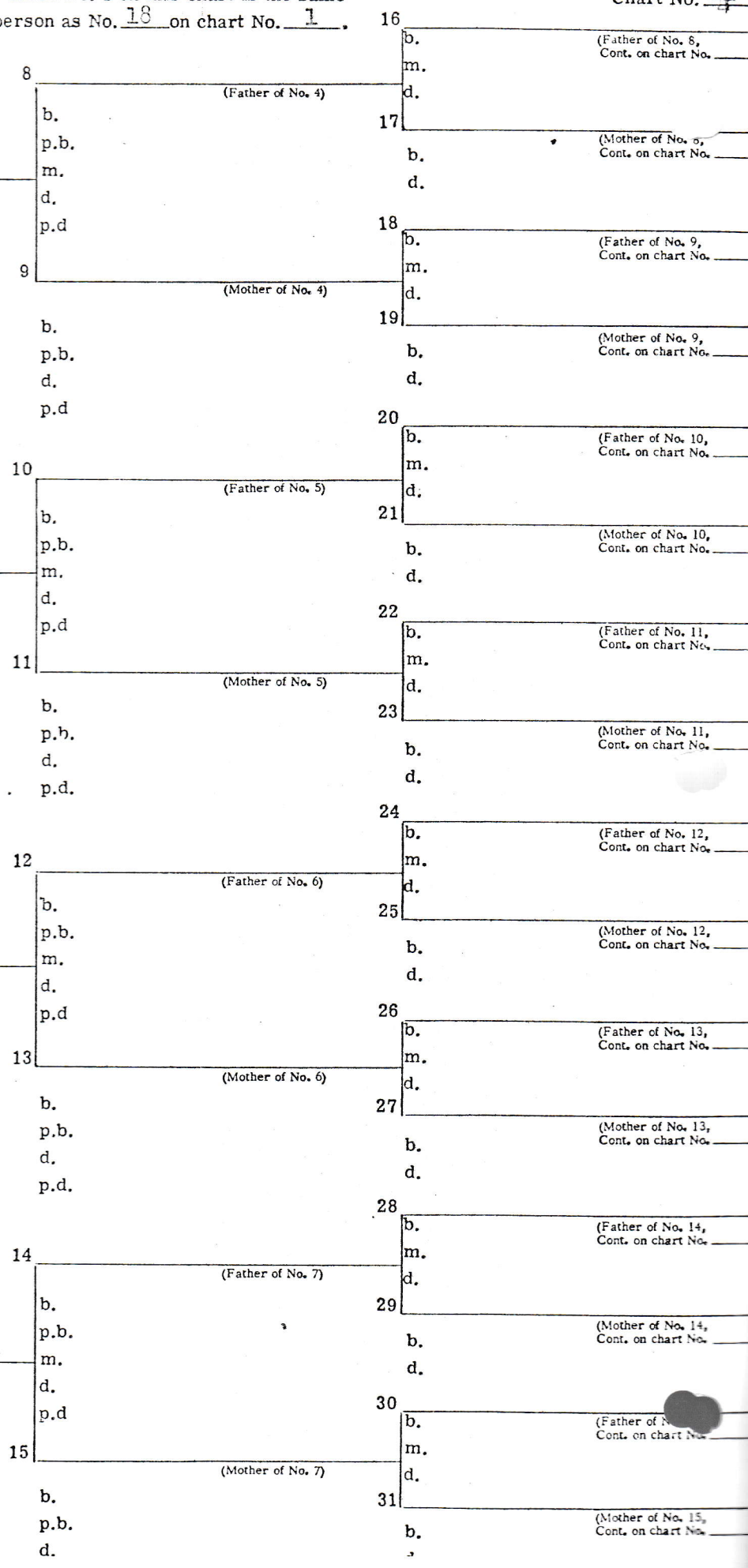
b. Date of Birth
 p.b. Place of Birth
 m. Date of Marriage
 d. Date of Death
 p.d. Place of Death



1 EMANUEL DAVIS
 b. 1822
 p.b. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 m.
 d. 2 January 1861 (39)
 p.d. Decatur, Illinois



SUSAN C. V. SMALLWOOD
 (Spouse of No. 1)
 b. 14 Feb. 1828 d.
 p.b. Decatur, Ill. p.d. Decatur, Ill.



Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler Cliff P. Downing
 Address 21535 S.E. Fariss Rd.
 City, State Gresham, Oregon 97030
 Date 5 August 1977

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. 19 on chart No. 1.

b. Date of Birth
 p.b. Place of Birth
 m. Date of Marriage
 d. Date of Death
 p.d. Place of Death

2 PARMENAS SMALLWOOD

(Father of No. 1)
 b. 27 April 1782
 p.b. Charleston, W. Virginia
 m. 23 June 1807
 d. 1848 (66)
 p.d. Decatur, Illinois

(Mother of No. 2)
 b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

1 SUSAN C.V. SMALLWOOD

b. 14 February 1828
 p.b. ~~Decatur, Illinois~~ OHIO
 m.
 d. 4 January 1899 (71)
 p.d. Decatur, Illinois

(Father of No. 3)
 b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

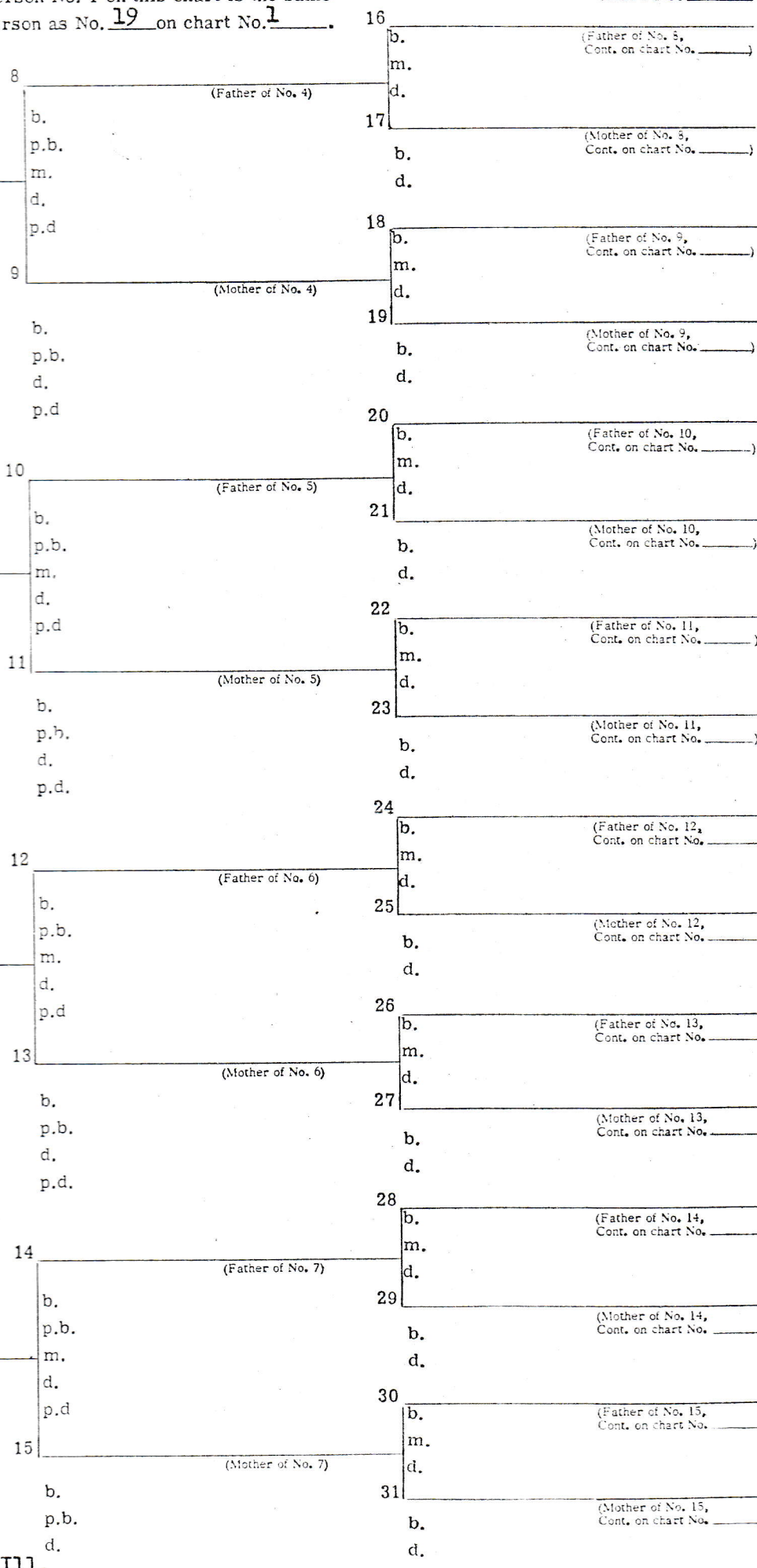
3 DEBORAH BROWN

(Mother of No. 1)
 b. 12 May 1792
 p.b. Charleston, (W.) Virginia
 d. 7 November 1873 (81)
 p.d. Decatur, Illinois

(Mother of No. 3)
 b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

Emanuel or Benjamin Davis

(Spouse of No. 1)
 b. 1822 d. 2 Jan. 1861
 p.b. Philadelphia, Pa. p.d. Decatur, Ill.



This Information Obtained From:

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Birth	23	Mar.	1913	Elgin,	Kane,	Illinois	
Chr'nd							
Mar.	5	May	1962	Las Vegas,	Clark,	Nevada	
Death							
Burial							

Places of Residence
 Occupation **Designer** Church Affiliation **None** Military Rec. **U.S. Navy**
 Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. **(1) Anita Miller**
 His Father **Clifford O. Downing** Mother's Maiden Name **Gertrude Bourelle**

Wife's Full Maiden Name **LAURA JEAN STOUT**

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth	9	April	1924	Oakley,	Cassia,	Idaho	
Chr'nd							
Death	31	Jan.	1967	Ridgecrest,	Kern,	California	
Burial	1	Feb.	1967	Los Angeles,	Los Angeles,	California	Cremated

Compiler **C. P. Downing** Places of Residence
 Address Occupation if other than Housewife **Beautician** Church Affiliation **None**
 City, State Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc.
 Date Her Father **Jesse Stout** Mother's Maiden Name **Pearl Labrie**

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
F	1 LORI LYNN Full Name of Spouse* Paul Kissenger	Birth	13	Aprl.	1957	SanBernardino,	San Bdn,	California	Adopted
		Mar.	3	Sept.	1976	Gresham,	Multnomah,	Oregon	
		Death							
		Burial							
F	2 JOANNE Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	6	Nov.	1962	Ridgecrest,	Kern,	California	
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	3 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	4 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	5 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	6 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	7 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	8 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	9 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	10 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

FAMILY GROUP No. _____
 This Information Obtained From: _____

Husband's Full Name **CLIFFORD O. DOWNING**

Husband's Date	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Birth	23	Oct.	1878	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Chr'nd							
Mar.	29	May	1912	Elgin,	Kane,	Illinois	
Death	Jan.	1931		Chicago,	Cook,	Illinois	
Burial	Jan.	1931		Chicago;	Cook,	Illinois	
Places of Residence							
Occupation	Stockman		Church Affiliation		Episcopal		Military Rec.
Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
His Father Wm. Thomas Downing				Mother's Maiden Name		Ida Anna Davis	

Wife's Full Maiden Name **GERTRUDE ELEANOR BOURELLE**

Wife's Date	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth	25	Feb.	1891	Beatrice,	Gage,	Nebraska	
Chr'nd							
Death	5	May	1977	Anaheim,	Orange,	California	
Burial	9	May	1977	Anaheim,	Orange,	California	
Places of Residence							
Occupation if other than Housewife				Church Affiliation			
Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
Her Father George Enos Bourelle				Mother's Maiden Name		Mary K. McDowell	

Compiler **C. P. Downing**

Address _____

City, State _____

Date _____

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Date	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Child
M	* CLIFFORD POYNTELLE (1) Anita Miller (2) Laura Jean Stout	Birth	23	Mar.	1913	Elgin,	Kane,	Illinois	
		Mar.			1940	Yuma,	Yuma,	Arizona	
		Death							
		Burial							
F	Margaret Louise Full Name of Spouse* Francis Cosentino	Birth	21	Jan.	1915	Chicago,	Cook,	Illinois	
		Mar.	28	Dec.	1935	Chicago,	Cook,	Illinois	
		Death							
		Burial							
3	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
4	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
5	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
6	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
7	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
8	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
9	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
10	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

FAMILY GROUP No. Husband's Full Name **WILLIAM THOMAS DOWNING**

This Information Obtained From:

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Birth	17	Aug.	1854	Circleville,	Pickaway,	Ohio	
Chr'nd							
Mar.	20	Sept.	1874	St. Louis,	St. Louis,	Missouri	
Death	3	June	1928	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Burial	6	June	1928	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Places of Residence	Circleville, Ohio - Decatur, Illinois						
Occupation	Stockman						
Church Affiliation	Episcopal						
Military Rec.							
Other wives, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
His Father Thomas Downing				Mother's Maiden Name Margaret A. Dawson			

Wife's Full Maiden Name **IDA AMELIA DAVIS**

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth	8	Feb.	1858	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Chr'nd							
Death	13	Feb.	1898	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Burial		Feb.	1898	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Compiler	C.P. Downing						
Places of Residence							
Address	21535 SE Fariss Rd			Occupation if other than Housewife		Church Affiliation Episcopal	
City, State	Gresham, Oregon						
Other husbands, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
Date	2 October 1977			Her Father Emanuel Davis		Mother's Maiden Name Susan V.C. Smallwood	

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
M	ELLIS A. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	6	March	1876	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Mar.							
		Death			1881	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Burial			1881	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
M	* CLIFFORD O. Full Name of Spouse* Gertrude Eleanor Bourell	Birth	23	Oct.	1878	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Mar.	29	May	1912	Elgin,	Kane,	Illinois	
		Death		Jan.	1931	Chicago,	Cook,	Illinois	
		Burial		Jan.	1931	Chicago,	Cook,	Illinois	
F	ANNA MAUDE Full Name of Spouse* John Patin	Birth	16	Oct.	1882	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Mar.							
		Death						California	
		Burial						California	
M	WILLIAM FOYNTELLE Full Name of Spouse* Ruth A. Lavery	Birth	29	Mar.	1894	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Mar.	25	May	1921	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Death	10	May	1969	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Burial	14	May	1969	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
		Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

FAMILY GROUP No.

Husband's Full Name

THOMAS DOWNING

This Information Obtained From:

DELAWARE MARRIAGE RECORDS
Vol 42, P. 104

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Birth			1815		Sussex,	Delaware	
Chr'nd							
Mar.	4	Mar.	1850		Sussex,	Delaware	
Death			1891	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Burial			1891	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	

Places of Residence **Circleville, Ohio; Decatur, Illinois**
 Occupation **Contractor** Church Affiliation _____ Military Rec. _____

Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc.
 Make separate sheet for each mar.

His Father _____ Mother's Maiden Name _____

Wife's Full Maiden Name **MARGARET ~~XX~~ DAWSON**

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth			1814			Delaware	
Chr'nd							
Death				Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Burial				Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	

Compiler **C. P. Downing** Places of Residence **Circleville, Ohio; Decatur, Illinois**
 Address **21535 SE Fariss Rd.** Occupation if other than Housewife _____ Church Affiliation _____

City, State **Gresham, Ore.**

Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc.
 Make separate sheet for each mar.

Date **6 October 1977** Her Father _____ Mother's Maiden Name _____

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
M	1 HARVEY Full Name of Spouse*	Birth			1851	Circleville, Pickaway,		Ohio	
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
M	2 * WILLIAM THOMAS Full Name of Spouse* Ida Amelia Davis	Birth	17	Aug.	1854	Circleville, Pickaway,		Ohio	
		Mar.	20	Sep.	1874	St. Louis, St. Louis,		Missouri	
		Death	3	June	1928	Decatur, Macon,		Illinois	
		Burial	6	June	1928	Decatur, Macon,		Illinois	
M	3 GEORGE, W. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth			1855			Iowa	
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	4 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	5 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	6 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	7 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	8 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	9 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	10 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

FAMILY GROUP No.

Husband's Full Name EMANUEL DAVIS

This Information Obtained From:

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Birth			1822	Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania			
Chr'nd							
Mar.							
Death	2 Jan.		1861	Decatur, Macon, Illinois			
Burial			1861	Decatur, Macon, Illinois			
Places of Residence							
Occupation Church Affiliation Military Rec.							
Other wives, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
His Father				Mother's Maiden Name			

Wife's Full Maiden Name SUSAN C. V. SMALLWOOD

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth	14 Feb.		1823	Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania			
Chr'nd							
Death	4 Jan.		1899	Decatur, Macon, Illinois			
Burial			1899	Decatur, Macon, Illinois			
Compiler Places of Residence							
Address Occupation if other than Housewife Church Affiliation							
City, State Other husbands, if any. No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
Date Her Father Parmenas Smallwood				Mother's Maiden Name Deborah Brown			

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
F	1 * IDA AMELIA Full Name of Spouse* Wm. Thomas Downing	Birth	8 Feb.		1858	Decatur, Macon, Illinois			
		Mar.	20 Sept.		1874	St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri			
		Death	13 Feb.		1898	Decatur, Macon, Illinois			
		Burial			1898	Decatur, Macon, Illinois			
F	2 ELIZA Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death	Infancy						
		Burial							
M	3 Benjamin A. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.			1879	St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri			
		Death							
		Burial							
F	4 ANNA E. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death	4 Jan.		1875				
		Burial							
5	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
6	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
7	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
8	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
9	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
10	Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

\$130 AN ACRE

A Value Put on the Downing
Feb. 16, Land. *1903*

Commissioners Report in Partition Case.

The commissioners in the case of Anna May Patin against Clifford G. Downing and others made a report in the circuit court Monday.

Mrs. Patin is suing to have partitioned land in which she has an interest in order to get her share of the property. The commissioners reported that the land involved consisted of 52.4 acres and valued it at \$13,791.20, or \$130 an acre.

The commissioners were R. A. Wilson, David Paterson and Edwin F. Kiny. The land is located just north of the city.

OLD DAVIS HOUSE BURNS; LOSS \$2,000

Nov. 30, 1911

Was Property of Poyntelle
Downing.

Damage estimated at around \$2,000 was done when fire destroyed the large three-story frame house on west side of the Bloomington road, just north of McKinley avenue, about 10:30 p. m. Wednesday.

The house was the property of Poyntelle Downing, son of William T. Downing, to whom it was left by his aunt Mrs. Anne Downing. It was occupied by the family of James E. Wilkerson, who conducts a harness shop at 359 East Main street.

The Wilkersons were away from home at the time, but it is thought that the fire originated from the grate. The house was burned to the ground. The loss on the house is estimated at between \$1,500 and \$1,800, fully covered by insurance. The loss on household goods will be around \$500.

The house in question built by Mrs. Anne E. Davis about sixteen years ago and was occupied by her for some years. The house cost about \$3,000 to build, but had deteriorated a good deal in the last few years.

APPROVED THE SALE

April 29, 1903

Of Downing Property at \$87
an Acre.

NO ONE OFFERED MORE

Though Witnesses Thought It
Worth More.

The sale of the Downing property north of Decatur was approved in the circuit court Wednesday morning. The property was sold at auction some time ago as the result of a suit in which Anna Maud Patin was the plaintiff and her two brothers the other persons interested in the land were the defendants. The property brought \$7 an acre at the sale and Mrs. Patin objected, saying the price was not high enough and there must have been some irregularity in the sale.

In order for Mrs. Patin to bring about another sale it would have been necessary to show that there was a purchaser who would have paid a higher price for the land and a bond would have to be given guaranteeing that a higher price should be bid at the second sale. This was not done, however, and it was impossible to show that there was fraud in the first sale.

NO ONE OFFERED MORE.

In order to be legal, property sold at an auction as the result of a court decision must be sold for two-thirds of the value at which it is appraised. In this case the property sold just up to the limit.

Attorney Whitley for the plaintiff introduced evidence in the court Tuesday evening to show that the land did not bring what it was worth. C. E. Akers testified that he thought the land was worth \$150 an acre. Judge W. G. Cochran asked if any one would pay a higher price for the land and furnish a bond to that effect, but no one was produced who would and this morning the sale was approved.

The property at the sale was bought by L. L. Burrows for the heirs of the Downing estate for whom he is guardian.

FAMILY GROUP No.

Husband's Full Name

PARMENAS SMALLWOOD

This Information Obtained From:

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on His
Birth	27	Apl.	1782	Charleston,	Jefferson,	(W) Virginia	
Chr'nd							
Mar.	23	June	1807	Charleston,	Jefferson,	(W) Virginia	
Death		Dec.	1848	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Burial		Dec.	1848	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Places of Residence							
Occupation				Church Affiliation		Military Rec. U.S. Army 1	
Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
His Father				Mother's Maiden Name			

Wife's Full Maiden Name DEBORAH BROWN

Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on W
Birth	12	May	1792	Charleston,	Jefferson,	(W) Virginia	
Chr'nd							
Death	7	Nov.	1873	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Burial		Nov.	1873	Decatur,	Macon,	Illinois	
Places of Residence							
Occupation if other than Housewife				Church Affiliation			
Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
Her Father				Mother's Maiden Name			

Compiler C.P. Downing

Address 21535 SE Fariss Rd

City, State Gresham, Oregon

Date 7 October 1977

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Cl
F	1 YAMZEN B. Full Name of Spouse* John Murphy	Birth	9	May	1808				
		Mar.	1	Aug.	1832				
		Death	27	Aug.	1835				
		Burial			1835				
M	2 GEORGE D. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	31	Mar.	1810				Black Haw War
		Mar.							
		Death			1903	Clinton,	DeWitt,	Illinois	
		Burial			1903				
M	3 JOHN B. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	5	Nov.	1811				
		Mar.							
		Death	15	Sep.	1868				
		Burial		Sept.	1868				
M	4 SAMUEL A. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	27	Apl.	1813				
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
M	5 JAMES M. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	8	Nov.	1814				
		Mar.							
		Death		June	1852				
		Burial		June	1852				
M	6 DANIEL M. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	1	May	1816				
		Mar.							
		Death	17	July	1839				
		Burial		July	1839				
F	7 AMELIA A. Full Name of Spouse* William Bennett	Birth	17	Feb.	1818				
		Mar.							
		Death			1893				
		Burial			1893				
F	8 ELIZABETH H. Full Name of Spouse* Walter Roben	Birth	1	Dec.	1819				
		Mar.							
		Death			1883				
		Burial			1883				
M	9 DOUGLAS B. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	6	July	1821				
		Mar.							
		Death	25	Sep.	1844				
		Burial		Sep.	1844				
M	10 PARMENAS A. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	31	Aug.	1824				
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

F	11	SARAH J. Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.	27 July 1846	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania		
			Death	5 Oct. 1846	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
			Burial	Oct. 1846	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
F	12	ASBARINAH Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	27 Nov. 1827			
			Mar.				
			Death	Oct. 1831			
			Burial	Oct. 1831			
F	13	* SUSAN C. V. Full Name of Spouse* Emanuel Davis	Birth	14 Feb. 1828	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania		
			Mar.				
			Death	4 Jan. 1899	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
			Burial	6 Jan. 1899	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
M	14	JOSEPH. P. Full Name of Spouse* Elizabeth	Birth	10 July 1829			
			Mar.				
			Death	1893	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
			Burial	1893	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
M	15	GIDEON P. Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	16 May 1833	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
			Mar.				
			Death	1903	Decatur, Macon,	Illinois	
			Burial				

Construction Progresses in Doctor's Park

By David W. Petrina

The first building in the Doctor's Park development of Robert L. Logan, has cleared labor, vandalism and weather problems and construction is progressing rapidly.

Four buildings are planned for the project located on the old Poyntelle Downing estate in the 2400 Block N. Water Street between Kenwood Ave. north to about E. McKinley Ave. extended across N. Water St.

This first U-shaped building has a basement and two stories. The ground floor will be devoted to offices for 16 physicians or dentists. The second floor will contain 32 single-living efficiency apartments.

The apartments will have individual electric heat and air conditioning units. The office level will have central gas heat and air conditioning.

Ground level offices with ramps will permit easy entry by wheel chair patients, Logan said.

Over-all dimensions of the building are 144 by 195 feet.

The U part of the building is parallel with the north boundary road and the location is a little more than two blocks from Decatur Memorial Hospital.

There will be parking for about 200 cars on the east and west sides of the office building and within the U formed by the structure.

Construction began in February, Logan said, and the building is expected to be ready about June 1, 1974. Apartment renting will begin after the building has been "roofed over," Logan said.

Although building costs have doubled since Logan started the project, he said he intends to build three other apartment buildings in the park, in sequence.

The three other buildings will each have four stories with no basements and devoted entirely to apartments. The three buildings will have 104 single one-bedroom apartments and eight two-bedroom apartments for a total of 144 apartments in the completed four-building development.

J. Rex Switzer AIA is the architect for Doctors Park. He explained the construction is masonry walls with light steel floor and roof joists. The exterior is panels of shake shingles attached to concrete block framed by bands of brick. The exterior will be the same on all four buildings.

(Robert) Logan Construction Co. is general contractor for the project and he sublets the work.

He said the efficiency apartments will rent for about \$112 a month.

Logan said the project started out with all local union labor

except for a St. Louis electrical firm. Picketing by the IBEW Local 146 union delayed the work about a month and during the period vandals caused about \$8,000 damage to electrical work. Logan said he hired a local union electrician and the picketing stopped.

Rainy weather earlier in the year also delayed basement construction, he said.

MORE—

The Downing mansion, 2430 N. Water St., will be preserved in the project, Logan said, and he has offered the building to the city of Decatur as a historic museum.

The city specified a 25-foot wide green belt sight barrier must be erected at the east boundary of the park which abuts residential area. The south part of the property on McKinley Avenue must be developed as four single-family residences according to the city approved plan. The Doctors Park proper is zoned 0-1 office district.

The Downing home was built in 1838, Logan said, and his offer to donate the building to the city is conditional on the city signing a covenant stating it will be maintained as a museum and kept in repair and painted every two years.

The 5½ acre tract for Doctors Park is platted as Robert Logan First Addition.

Logan has built 49 apartment buildings in Decatur.

"But when I finish this project I'll retire — if I ever finish it," he said.

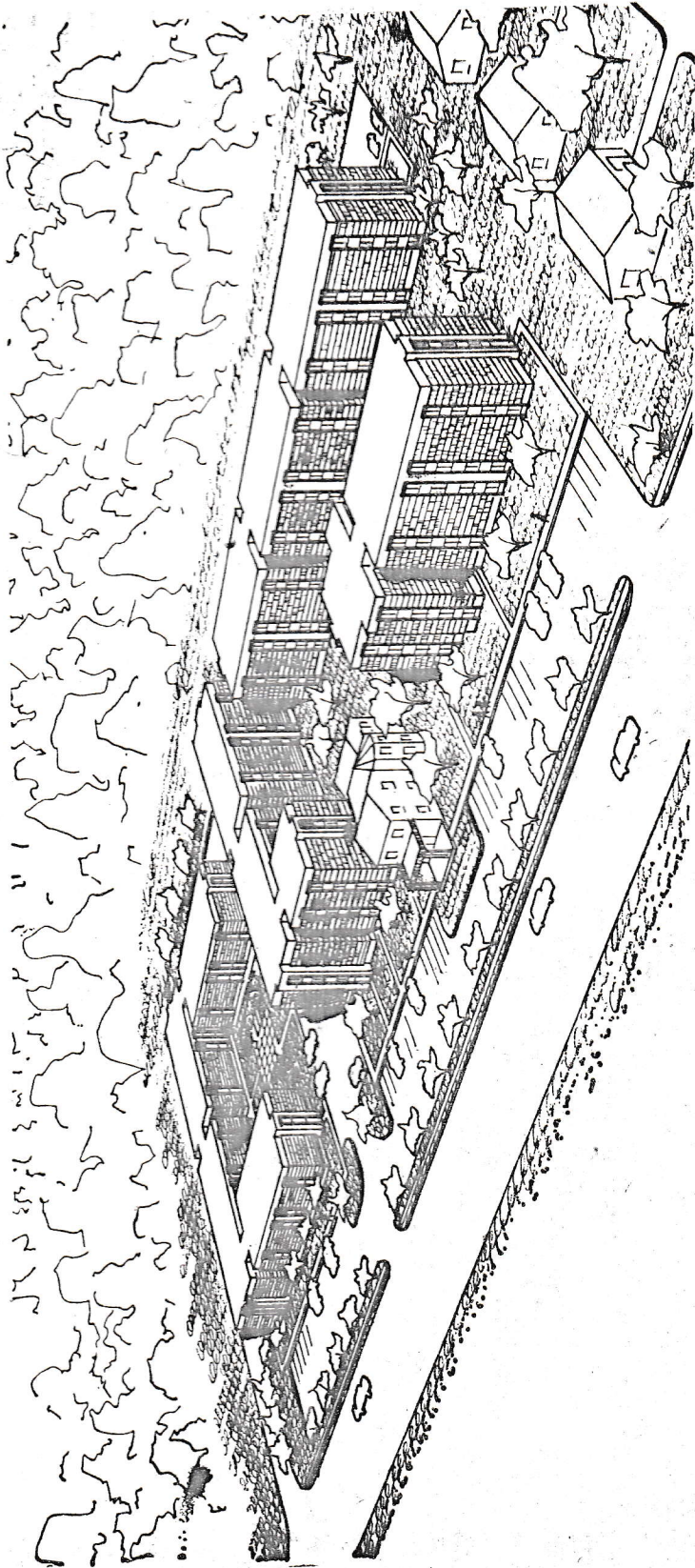
Estimated cost of the first building was \$250,000, he said, but now has risen to about \$400,000.

Logan's original plan was to complete the project in about five years but inflation, skyrocketing building costs and high interest rates may prolong the project, he added.

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Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, November 11, 1973



The first building at the left in this architect's sketch is under construction in Doctors Park

Memory of Childhood Fun Bond Which Unites Circus Fans Throughout Country

SCATTERED throughout the United States are 600 men and women who though geographically separated from each other, are banded together in one of the most unusual of organizations.

The bond that holds this organization together is a memory of the days they received as children when there was in town; when they carried water to the elephants, or followed the red wagons down the winding road or over the distant hills to far cities where boyhood eagerly awaits the magic of circus day.

Believing that a circus is as much fun today as it was when they were children—possibly more, fun, those people have united for the purpose of doing whatever friendly acts may be in their power to make the circus as great an entertainment for children of today as it was for the children of their day. Appropriately, the organization exists under the title of "Circus Fans' association."

Three Members Here

In Decatur there now are three members of this society: Charles Reynolds, 254 North Woodlawn avenue; Fred W. Hartbank, 115 North Westlawn avenue, and G. F. Phillips, assistant manager of the Decatur division of the Standard Oil company. R. Paul Hubbard, formerly of The Herald, now connected with the Associated Press in Detroit, also is a member. Mr. Hartbank formerly was a trouper with the 161 Ranch show and Mr. Phillips some years ago was in the advance force of the Hagenbach-Wallace circus.

The association was formed in Washington, D. C. in May, 1925. In the organization meeting, conducted in the Arlington hotel, circus fans from all over the country were present, and in the list of the first officers elected Washington, D. C., Evansville, Ind., Concord, N. H., Augusta, Ga., Peoria, Helena, Mont., are represented.

The association is headed by a national group, under which operate state organizations, there being one in every state in the union. The state organization of Illinois is headed by Lt. Governor Fred Sterling of Rockford, president, and G. F. Phillips of Decatur, vice-president.

On the roster of members are names that appear weekly in the nation's news. Several United States senators, a number of governors, mayors and other public officials, railroad presidents and other executives, doctors, lawyers, writers, stage and screen personalities, newspapermen, educators, leaders in the automotive world, manufacturers and other business and professional men and women are members. And there are even members in London, England and in several cities in Can-

Fun and Fellowship

"Fun and good fellowship" are the main reasons for the existence of the organization. But behind those reasons lies the philosophy that there is more fun than a circus—

and a certificate of membership are issued to members in good standing on May 1 of each year.

This association publishes a monthly magazine, "Chatter from the White Tops". It is published by Karl K. Knecht in Evansville, Ind. The association also has a column of news each week in the circus pages of the "Bill Board", weekly outdoor show world paper.

Plan Veterans' Home

The motto of the association is "We Pay As We Go", meaning that members buy their ticket and do not use their membership nor association to secure passes. Just for their real love of the circus do they do things for the circus and its people.

They believe the circus a wholesale line of entertainment, as well as one of educational advantages, by showing how good living and feats of athletics and acrobatics go for building better men and women. They want to encourage the circus to keep going and to go to all towns of the country by making their way easy for them. The menagerie, too, is held to be highly educational.

They also want to keep the circuses clean and will not aid any which have objectionable features or which resort to practices that are not legitimate and honorable.

Some day they hope to have a national museum where circus history, relics and general circus matters may be housed. So, too, they hope that in time they may be custodians and sponsors of a home where aged circus folks may spend their last days.

Downing Heads Drive To Confuse Aug. 28 Voters

—By Edward Lindsay

POYNTELLE Downing, attorney, real estate man and politician, appeared before the city council last Thursday in a new role—guardian of speculators in unimproved downtown real estate.

He said he represented himself and other owners of the 11 sites that have been tentatively selected as public parking lots. It is his fear, he indicated, that if these properties are taken by condemnation the prices will be too low.

The truth of the matter is that Poynt is much too clever a man to approach a subject in which he is interested as directly as this.

I have always liked Poynt and have known him more or less for 30 years.

Back in the '20s he was recognized as one of the behind-the-scenes leaders in the group of young Legion politicians who upset the old line Republican organization in Macon county. Like two of the others, after the first state-wide Democratic landslide in 1932, he grabbed a lucrative appointive job for himself and withdrew from taking responsibility or doing much work for the organization.

He has been on the state payroll more or less continuously since then and has convinced his friend, Edward J. Barrett, that he still has the magic touch politically in Macon county.

He was on Barrett's payroll as building and loan association examiner back in the days when Barrett was auditor of public accounts. Since Barrett has been secretary of state, Poynt has been chief clerk in the securities department, a job which he still holds.

I mention these things merely to put Poynt in focus.

Poynt's real interest is not quite what he says it is. While he lives outside the city limits, he has acquired quite a little downtown Decatur real estate over the years and has done pretty well with it.

He is opposed to an increase in the city tax rate in the referendum scheduled for Aug. 28.

This time the city council's case for higher taxes is pretty well documented. It has been made plain in the study of city finances by Dr. Leo Stipe of Millikin that the city has been operating at a deficit of \$50,000 a year for three years. The appearance of a "balanced budget" was made possible because of a substantial surplus in the water fund that was put into the general fund before the two million dollar waterworks improvement and watermain extension program was undertaken. The book experts, Chapman and Cutler, required that the council pass an ordinance saying it would not divert water funds for general use. State laws prohibit the diversion of water funds for other than water use anyway.

A committee from management and labor, under the chairmanship of Frank Eakin, recommended salary increases that would put the pay of city employees more nearly in line with (but still lower than) the pay for similar work in the community. These raises, that were put into effect as of July 15, represent an annual demand on the general fund of some \$142,000.

In addition to this, about \$30,000 a year is needed to replace worn-out city equipment, including a new fire truck this year, with another one to come a year or two in the future.

All of these items have been examined by reputable and well qualified community leaders who indorse the council's statement that present city services cannot be continued without a tax increase amounting to some \$330,000 a year.

Poynt is smart enough to see that he might look a little foolish if he said the Stine and Eakin committee reports were not sound. He couldn't directly oppose an increase in the city tax rate without appearing to be irresponsible.

So, being a clever politician, he set about creating a false issue. In his speech before the council on Thursday he tried to make it appear that the purpose of the referendum of Aug. 28 was not to keep the city going at the present level, but for a wholly new purpose—buying 11 parking lots from the poor real estate speculators. He knows better than that.

The budget for the coming year has been approved by the city council. The only mention of parking lots in this budget is a possible appropriation of \$7,500 to improve, and put parking meters on the proposed city hall site that already is owned by the city. It is expected that the income from this lot will more than pay for improving it within two years.

Under the law the city cannot spend money that is not shown in its annual budget. No matter what happens in the referendum on Aug. 28, no expenditures could be made for parking lots during the fiscal year. Poynt is a lawyer, familiar with the legal limitations on the city council, so it is obvious that his expressed concern over the use of tax money to acquire parking lots is deliberate hokum intended to mislead the voters.

It may work too. Nobody likes to pay higher taxes. A well financed campaign of confusion, under the leadership of a smart politician, can very easily result in a "No" vote in the Aug. 28 referendum.

The result of this will be the building up of debts for the future and, at the same time, reducing city services to a point that will be alarming. So alarming that it will be necessary for the city to stand the expense of a later election to get the same result that would come from a "Yes" vote on Aug. 28. That result is, for the city to meet the cost of its present operation.

Attorney Was Active Democrat

Decatur attorney William senior, died after a long illness at his home, 2130 N. Water St., at 2:10 a.m. today in St. Mary's Hospital. He had been ill since Wednesday.

Mr. Downing was actively engaged in Illinois Democratic party politics and during the 1930's and 1940's served in two state appointive posts.

In 1932, he was appointed chief examiner of the state building and loan division by then State Auditor Edward J. Barrett, a position he held for eight years.

In 1944 Barrett was elected secretary of state and he appointed Mr. Downing as securities commissioner for the State of Illinois, which he was until 1953.

Mr. Downing was appointed director of the federal home loan banks, Chicago district, in 1955, a position in which he served until his death.

Born March 3, 1893, in Decatur, he was a son of William Thomas and Ida Amelia Davis Downing.

He was a 1914 graduate of the University of Notre Dame law school and began practice in Decatur in 1915.

At Notre Dame, he was a classmate of the legendary football coach Knute Rockne.

During World War I, his law practice in Decatur was interrupted by a two-year assignment in the U.S. Navy.

Mr. Downing was selected for officers training and after serving in the Mediterranean Sea during the war was discharged as a lieutenant (j.g.).

His long law career, capped by becoming a bar association

He began his career with the Crea and Hoosum law firm, became associated with Edward A. Hayes and Emanuel Rosenberg in the Hayes, Downing and Rosenberg firm.

In 1958, the existing Downing, Smith, Jorgensen & Uhl law firm was formed.

He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church.

On May 25, 1921, he married Ruth A. Lavery in Decatur. She survives.

Other survivors include two daughters Mrs. Fredrick (Nancy) Buschmeyer, Rawlpinet, Pakistan; Amelia Francis Downing of Chicago; a son William T. Downing, Decatur; and five grandchildren.

The body is in Dawson & Wikoff Funeral Home. Arrangements are incomplete.