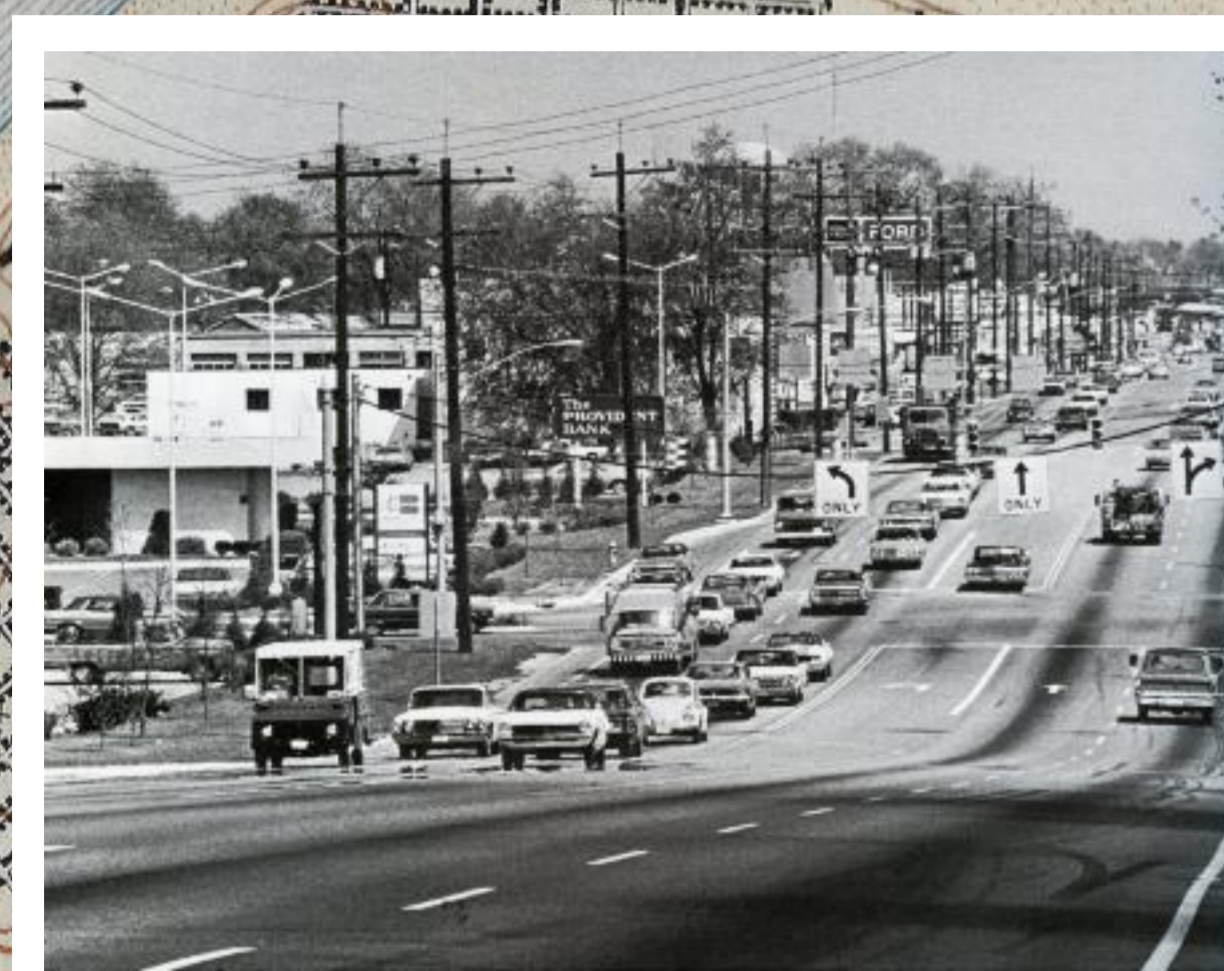


# Beechmont Avenue

With 35,000 vehicles traveling down Beechmont Avenue each day, it is hard to visualize its beginnings as a dirt road surrounded by farms. Once a private toll road called the Ohio Turnpike, the county now owns the roadway which was widened to four lanes in 1960.



The busy entrance to the Beechmont Mall in 1971 across from Forest Road. The enclosed mall opened in October 1969 with some 56 stores including Shillito's, Pogue's and Woolworth's.



Beechmont Avenue in about 1910, looking west toward the intersection with Forest Road. It was a narrow and dusty road with the tracks of the Interurban Railway & Terminal Company alongside it.



Aerial view of Beechmont Avenue looking west in 2004. Photo Henry C. Dolive.



The Ohio Historical Marker recognizing the first fortified settlement in Anderson Township, Garard/Martin Station, 1790, is located on Elstun Road, off Beechmont Avenue.



The Davis Market operated at the intersection of Beechmont Avenue and Salem Pike in the 1920s.



Located on Beechmont Avenue across from Salem Pike, the Fruit Hill District 13 School was built in the 1870s. After one central school was opened in 1929, the building was used commercially until being razed in the 1970s.



During its heyday, Beechmont Mall hosted some 50 stores, mostly attracting shoppers in the Anderson area.



William Emerson Ayer (1893-1936) opened one of the earliest car dealerships in Anderson in 1916. This photo (ca. 1923) includes company employees and the building at the corner of today's Beechmont Avenue and Wolfangel Road.



School principal Harvey Markley Van Saun and teacher Mrs. Beagle posed with their students at the Fruit Hill District 13 School in the spring of 1925.



In 1915, the Johnson sisters and friends posed proudly in a Ford Model T along Beechmont Avenue when it was called Ohio Pike or the Cincinnati-West Union Road.



For nearly 50 years, William J. Hammer (1851-1927) manufactured carriages and wagons at his shop just west of Eight Mile on Beechmont Avenue when the road was known as Ohio Pike.



In 1950, the General Protestant Orphan Home moved to Beechmont Avenue on today's Beech Acres Parenting Center site. The annual Orphan Feast continued its tradition as one of the largest one-day festivals in Cincinnati up to the late 1980s.



Anderson Township's first fire station was centrally located on Salem Pike near Beechmont Avenue in 1942.



Industrial arts students at Anderson School display their tools for the yearbook photographer in about 1931.



The central Anderson Township school building opened in the fall of 1929 with 525 pupils in first through eleventh grade. It was used for classes up to 1982.



Beechmont Avenue was once surrounded by farm fields. This rare photograph from about 1880 shows the farm of Aaron Hopper (1820-1895) on today's Markley Road.



In about 1908 Mary Shinn (1885-1970) set up her camera equipment to photograph herself and the Salem Methodist Church. She descended from the Rev. Francis McCormick (1764-1836), who founded the church, one of the earliest in the township.

Map source: Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey Ohio - Kentucky, East Cincinnati Quadrangle Surveyed in 1898 Edition of 1914, reprinted 1936 Polyconic projection, North America datum. Note: Present-day road and place names have been added to the map.