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Upper Ohio Valley

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# HISTORICAL REVIEW



*Herman Wunder*

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# UPPER OHIO VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW



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# **UPPER OHIO VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW**

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Single Copies: \$5.00

Founded by the Wheeling Area Historical Society in 1968, the **UPPER OHIO VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW** is the only publication of its kind in the northern panhandle of West Virginia. Dedicated solely to local history topics, it has become a treasured publication and valuable tool for studying and learning about our geographic area. Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation (WNHAC, later Wheeling Heritage) continued the tradition, editing and publishing the **REVIEW** from 2010-2018. Ownership of the **UOVHR** publication was transferred in the second half of 2018 to the Ohio County Public Library in Wheeling.

**UOVHR** content has historically included articles, transcribed documents, book reviews, and accounts of the economic, political, social, and cultural history of the greater Wheeling area contributed by historians, researchers, and scholars.

**OCPL** is honored to publish the **UOVHR** and continue this great tradition for years to come.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**On the Cover** ..... 4

## **Note from the Editor**

Seán P. Duffy, Ohio County Public Library ..... 6

## **Warwood’s 20th Century Growth and Development: The Evolution of “Watch Us Grow”**

by Dr. Charles A. Julian ..... 10

## **Finding Henry Warwood**

by Margaret Brennan ..... 33

## **Paper Turned into Leather: “LEATHEROID,” a Wheeling Invention**

by John Bowman (2018) ..... 37

**Remembering McNamara’s Drugstore**..... 47

## On the Cover

This recently discovered portrait of Henry Warwood inspired Margaret Brennan's article on page 33.

Since the early part of the last century, Warwood's motto has been "Watch Us Grow," as evinced by this postcard image courtesy Brent Carney. See page 10.

The best way to get to Warwood in the early days was by Streetcar. This one, photographed by Bill Gwynn, traversed the entirety of the new town from Loveland in the south, through the center, and up to Glenova. OCPL Archives. See page 14.

Though he probably never set foot in the town named after him, Henry Warwood's business did move across the Ohio from Martins Ferry, serving as the anchor business for its namesake.

Source: unknown. See page 12.

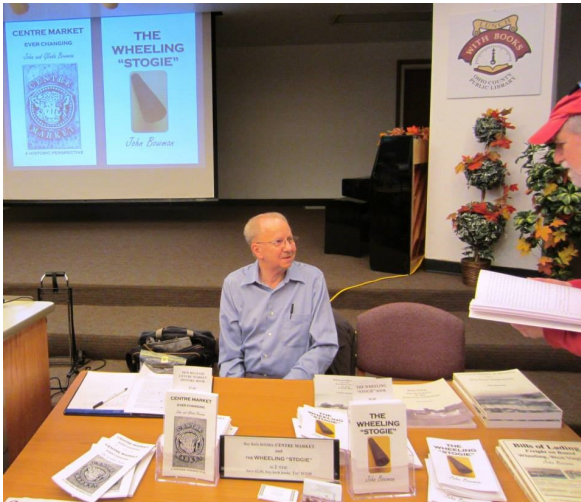


# UPPER OHIO VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

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Dear Readers:



We dedicate this issue of the *Review* to our friend John Bowman, Wheeling's preeminent steamboat expert. In 2018, when the *Review* became the responsibility of the Ohio County Public Library, a story submitted by John about an odd

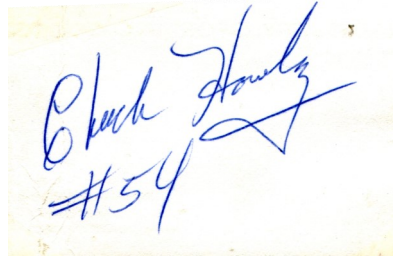
little product invented in Wheeling called "Leatheroid" came with it. Having nowhere appropriate to place the article at the time, it was lost in the shuffle. Now, we publish it as part of this edition, in honor of our friend.

This is also the first of a new series that will include histories of Wheeling's many fascinating neighborhoods. We begin in the north, with my own hometown of Warwood.

Warwood is also the hometown of a great athlete who is to finally be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame this August. His name, of course, is Chuck Howley.

I first learned about Mr. Howley when my dad brought home his autograph to me. It was written on the back of one of dad's business cards from Simon and Duffy Sporting Goods. He said he ran into Chuck who was in Warwood for an event in the 1970s. Dad

knew I despised the Dallas Cowboys, but Chuck Howley was from Warwood. Chuck Howley played football at Corpus Christi, just like me. It was a big deal to have this great football player come from my hometown. So I made one exception.



Years later, when I was working on a book called *Legendary Locals of Wheeling*, I naturally had to include Mr. Howley. One day the phone rang. It was Chuck Howley calling from Texas. I got to talk to him on the phone. Chuck Howley called *me*. And he sounded, to me, just like John Wayne. At that moment, I forgave him for playing for the Cowboys.

Chuck Howley was born in Wheeling and grew up in Warwood. He played football for Corpus Christi, Warwood High School, WVU, and the Dallas Cowboys. But he was much more than a football player, he was a great all-around athlete. At WVU he became the only athlete in school history to letter in five sports: football, track, wrestling, gymnastics, and swimming. Thinking his football career was over when he injured his knee after being drafted by the Bears, Chuck returned to Wheeling and purchased a Sunoco Station in Fulton. But when Dallas Coach Tom Landry came calling, Chuck unretired and was soon part of the legendary Doomsday Defense. He was named MVP of Super Bowl V after intercepting two passes and forcing a fumble in a 16-13 loss to the Baltimore Colts, making him the first defensive player and non-quarterback to win the honor. He remains the only Super Bowl MVP from a losing team.

Last October, anticipating his election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame after an absurdly long wait, Chuck's cousin Mike Beatty, himself a former head football coach at Warwood High School, presented a program for us about Chuck on behalf of the Howley family.





Mike Beatty presents about his cousin, Chuck Howley at the OCPL.

As announced at the program Wheeling's Mayor, Glenn Elliott, proclaimed Chuck's birthday, June 28 as "CHUCK HOWLEY DAY" throughout the City of Wheeling.

At that program I also announced the effort I was leading to fund a sign for Chuck to celebrate his achievements while welcoming people to his hometown of Warwood. Though plagued by many ups and downs, that effort continues.

If you would like to donate to the cause, please visit <https://gofund.me/982698e9>.



Whether the sign becomes a reality or not, I'd like to share here for the first time what it might look like.



Seán Duffy, Editor

**Front:**



Design: S. Duffy and E. Rothenbuehler. Image: West Virginia and Regional History Center WVU Libraries.

# Warwood's 20th Century Growth and Development: The Evolution of "Watch Us Grow"

by Dr. Charles A. Julian



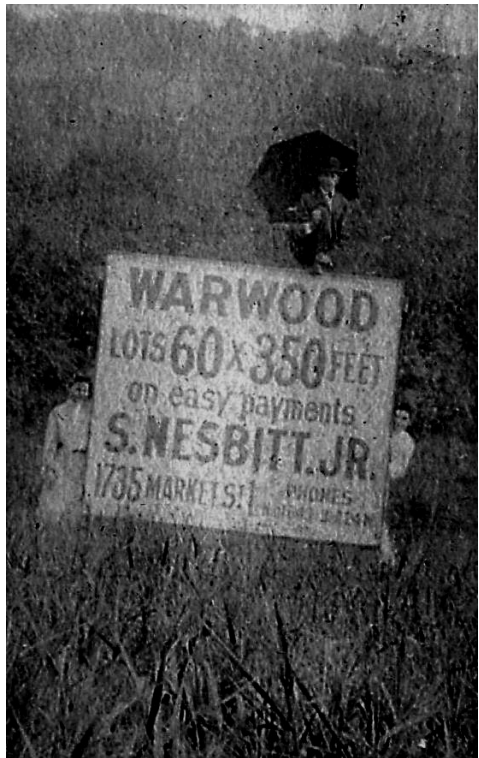
The formation of a parade at Warwood Avenue and 20th Street , early twentieth century. Courtesy Brent Carney.

At the cusp of the 20th Century, the section of Wheeling now known as Warwood was devoid of densely populated regions and composed primarily of expansive truck gardens/farms and estates owned by the area's first families: Culbertson, Dewey, Dorsch, Ebert, Garden, Kercher, Lash/Lasch, Myers, Riley/Reilly, Stenger, and others.

Before incorporation as the town of Warwood, the land located within the Richland Magisterial District included Glenova (named in honor of Thomas Glenn, the area's first resident), Richland (sometimes referred to as Warwood or Center Warwood), and Loveland. Although many speculate that the town of Warwood was named after Henry Warwood (the founder of the Warwood Tool Company, see page 31) the locality was named and incorporated after Henry retired and left Martins Ferry, Ohio in 1892 for

Brooklyn, New York to reside with his daughter Emily. It's unlikely that Henry Warwood ever had any connection with the town across the river from his factory.

In March 1904, the *Wheeling News-Register* reported that the Warwood Land Company had incorporated, and its directors included: R.J. McCullagh, John M. Brown, Dr. John L. Dickey, Ferdinand Wingerter, Dr. C.A. Wingerter, James W. Ewing, and S. Nesbitt, Jr. Robert J. McCullagh was appointed Treasurer and General Manager and for his efforts is commonly referred to as the “Father of Warwood.” Realtor Samuel L. Nesbitt, Jr. often worked with McCullagh selling Warwood Land Company lots. McCullagh was responsible for the purchase of over 127 acres eventually divided into five sections then subdivided into lots made available for sale at reasonable rates.



Warwood for sale, ca. 1904. Sophia Dauber Grubb Collection, OCPL Archives.

It is likely that McCullagh (or his business associates) cultivated connections with the owners of Warwood Tool Company, who in 1892, relocated their business from Martins Ferry, Ohio to South Wheeling (either Daniel L. Heiskell or Benjamin Walker Peterson). In 1903, Warwood Tool Company purchased seven acres of land from the Garden estate property to relocate its

plant and in July 1904, McCullagh submitted a real estate plat of Warwood (the first official geographic use of the name “Warwood”). Warwood Tool held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 22, 1904 and operations began in its new Warwood plant in 1905.



Immediately to the south of the Warwood Land Company’s property, the section of Loveland was developed. Marketed by the Loveland Improvement Company (incorporated in 1905), Loveland lots were promoted aggressively and included reasonable financing plans. Eventually the company sold completed houses on their lots and significant quality-of-life enhancements were developed by the company (water, gas, electric lights, sidewalks, schools, parks, etc.). The Company ceased operations in the mid-1920s.



A rare photo of the Loveland School taken during the 1936 flood.

Other areas contiguous to the two companies’ site were marketed by smaller real estate companies/developers and within a decade many residences had developed in the new community and grown up around the Warwood Tool Company. Glenova, Warwood, and Loveland each were self-governed municipal entities responsible for providing education, public safety, public works, and other

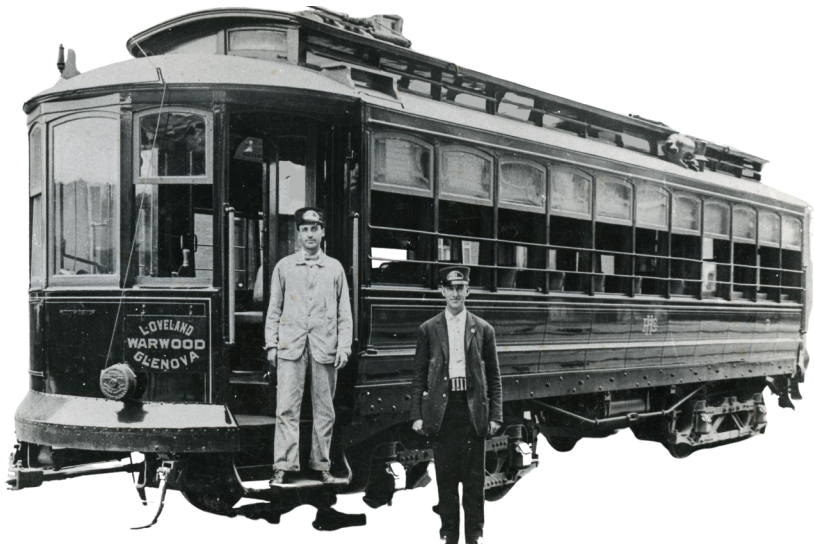
local amenities/civic improvements. However, eventually it just made sense that the contiguous areas should merge and consolidate their efforts to the ultimate benefit of citizens.

In January 1910, the local newspaper reported that residents of Loveland and South Warwood would vote on the issue of incorporating both contiguous areas and that the incorporated town's name would be "Woodsboro." It was presumed that residents of "Warwood proper" would be resistant to incorporation so the Loveland and South Warwood citizens proceeded with their incorporation procedures. The first step was an election to vote on incorporation of Woodsboro that was scheduled for February 10, 1910.

The citizens agreed to the incorporation of the two contiguous areas but encountered significant and prolonged opposition from important foes including large property owners, the Richland Coal Company, and the Pennsylvania Railroad. Several elections were held and contested and ultimately all three areas (Glenova, Warwood, and Loveland) voted on incorporation and the measure was approved. That election was contested in Circuit Court and the opposition won again on a legal technicality (a more current census was required). Officials conducted the appropriate census, held a final election in May 1911, and approval of incorporation passed by a majority of ninety votes. Judge Frank W. Nesbitt approved the Certificate of Incorporation and the town of Warwood officially was born on May 26, 1911.

June 27, 1911, the first Warwood municipal election was held. The Citizen Party candidates were swept into power and Dr. James William Abercrombie was elected the first Mayor. From 1911-1920, six men served as Warwood Mayor: Dr. Abercrombie, Charles Harris Dowler, Harry Charles Fuhr, William Edmund Helfenbine, Herman August Kindelberger, and John Herbert Montgomery. Dowler and Kindelberger each served 3 terms as Mayor. Dowler's final Mayoral term was intended to cease in 1919 when Wheeling citizens approved the Greater Wheeling





proposal (which included annexation of Warwood and other area suburbs). However, subsequent litigation delayed implementation until early 1920. Dowler and other Warwood councilors served extended terms until February 1920 when Warwood officially became a part of the City of Wheeling.

In 1907, Warwood had 3,000 inhabitants and by 1935 the population had grown to 7,000. Real estate sold well in the area, which was promoted for its pure drinking water, excellent utilities, number of churches, good schools, fine transportation (streetcar and railroad), location above flood zones, strong industrial base/good jobs, and better natural advantages. The community's slogan was "Warwood: Watch Us Grow!" The successful realization of the catchy slogan was the result of the growth and development of business and industries, civic and public-spirited citizens, individual achievement, organizational influence, and enhanced quality of life. Throughout the first half of the 20th Century, Warwood was an attractive and fulfilling place to live.

## Watch Us Grow Individual Influencers

Many hundreds of Warwoodians have contributed both negatively and positively to the growth and development of their community. A representative selection of past influential influencers (some not residing within the Warwood geographic area) illustrates their impact.

### *McCullagh, Robert James (1861-1943).*

R.J. McCullagh worked primarily as a laborer in various East Wheeling factories and businesses before commencing his partnership with Charles Lamb doing business as McCullagh & Lamb Company, real estate and fire and casualty insurance. In 1904, he was one of the incorporators and was appointed Treasurer and General Manager of the newly formed Warwood Land Company. In the company's early days, McCullagh filed Warwood Plat No 4 and began selling lots in what became known as the Warwood community. In 1913, he connected with a new business partner (John E. Reid) a concern which lasted until 1917. McCullagh continued solely in business (located in Wheeling) until 1920 when he relocated to Newton Falls, Ohio where his sons resided.



McCullagh and his partners shrewdly marketed Warwood as a desirable residential community (highest town along the Ohio River between Wheeling and Pittsburg — Pittsburgh after 1911—; far above the flood plain; a few minutes from Wheeling; streetcars pass your door; natural gas and a complete sewer system; etc.) while many of his competitors to the North and South were luring industrial and business concerns. The lots were generously priced (as low as \$300) but economically sized.



McCullagh likely cultivated his connections with Warwood Tool Company officials to promote growth and development of the area, which resulted in the town growing around the plant site.

Ultimately, he helped to develop Warwood Terrace and other local neighborhoods (Birch Lynn, McMechen, and Beech Bottom).

His talents and contributions justly earned him the title, “Father of Warwood.”

***Peterson, Benjamin Walker (1851-1925).***



B. Walker Peterson was a prominent Wheeling businessman and philanthropist with connections to Caldwell and Peterson (metal roofing, ceiling, and galvanized iron specialties), Dollar Savings and Trust Company, Wheeling Traction Company, Wheeling Mould and Factory, Ward Baking Company, Wheeling Sanitary Manufacturing, and War-

wick China Company. He was a graduate of Bethany College and the Rennselaer Polytechnic Institute and a director of the Ohio Valley General Hospital.

His engineering education and keen business abilities were well utilized when he and his associates acquired Warwood Tool Company in September 1892. At the turn of the 20th Century, the company acquired land north of Wheeling along the Ohio River for construction of a new factory. In 1904, ground was broken for the factory which began operations the following year.

Peterson wisely granted access to all of the company’s roadways to local residents and the company subsidized the construction of municipal water works. A subsequent Warwood Tool Company owner noted that revenues from the water works helped the company financially during initial lean fiscal times.

Peterson and company officials also provided quality of life advantages to local residents, including donation of land for a beach along the Ohio River shores and establishment of a neighborhood playground.

When Peterson died in 1925, the *Wheeling Intelligencer* noted, “Mr. Peterson was first of all a builder. Without his sound financial talent, his unquenchable optimism and liberal enthusiasm, the progress of this district would certainly have not been so rapid.” Walker Peterson’s strong business leadership also enabled both Warwood Tool Company and contiguous neighborhoods to grow and thrive.

***Dowler, Charles Harris (1860-1940).***

C. H. Dowler was a political force both in the town of Warwood and later within the City of Wheeling. He was born in Bellaire, Ohio and relocated to a farm in Marshall County with his parents. In 1887, at the age of twenty-one, he moved to Wheeling where he began work at Dowler and Dowler, retail dealers in hay, corn, oats, and mill feed. In 1906, he and his wife Eliza moved from South Wheeling to his newly constructed 18-room turreted house in Warwood.



Within a few years, he became established at Dowler and Dowler dealing in real estate, investments, stocks, and bonds. His business flourished and he became “respected as a man of sterling qualities. His business record is an enviable one.”

By 1910, the local press reported that Mr. Dowler was among those Warwoodians who favored incorporation of the Glenova, Warwood, and Loveland areas. At a mass meeting where citizens contemplated their next steps, it was Dowler who made the motion to define the specific area for the incorporation application. Frequently, he was a featured speaker at meetings related to the incorporation movement. As incorporation opponents delayed the

process through numerous legal filings and multiple elections, Dowler remained committed to the cause. In May 1911, prior to a final municipal election, Dowler hosted members of the Warwood Incorporation Committee at his home.

Eventually, residents approved the initiative, and the local Circuit Court judge granted the incorporation certificate. Dowler hosted a meeting at his house to consider candidates for Warwood's first Mayor. In the inaugural election for Mayor, Dowler was a candidate in the Citizen Party Primary. However, he lost the vote to Citizen Party nominee James W. Abercrombie who ultimately became Warwood's first Mayor in 1911.

Abercrombie served one mayoral term and retired from politics. In 1912 Dowler was elected the second Mayor of Warwood, and it was observed by the local newspaper's Warwood columnist that, "Mayor-elect Charles H. Dowler has always been a successful business man and it is believed that he will conduct the municipal business in just the same successful manner." In 1919, Dowler regained the Mayor's office at a time when the City of Wheeling was promoting annexation of the town as a part of the Greater Wheeling Movement. Wheelingites approved the annexation, and Dowler's mayoral term should have ended in 1919. However, Warwoodians did not approve annexation by a majority vote and litigated the election results. Dowler served an additional mayoral term until the annexation was approved in February 1920.

He became the first Wheeling City Council member to represent Warwood in that year. In 1922, he was appointed Wheeling's City Manager and served in that capacity for 16 months. His term as City Manager was a rocky one due to some contentious members of City Council.

In 1927, Dowler was named a Director at the Bank of Warwood. He remained active in his profession and community until his death in 1940.

***Helfenbine, William Edmund (1870-1940).***



W.E. Helfenbine was a resident of Warwood who remained active in the community as a businessman, banker, and politician – a true “mover and shaker.” He was born at Roney’s Point, West Virginia and remained in the local area all of his life. Helfenbine’s began his business career as a traveling salesman for several grocery companies. He operated a store in Roney’s Point for several years and in 1901, became a Warwood grocer (stores were located at 501 Warwood Avenue and 1715 Warwood Avenue). He retired from the grocery business in 1938.

Helfenbine was one of the organizers and first President of the Bank of Warwood. He remained a Director of the bank until his death.

Consistently active in Democratic politics, he served as Warwood’s fourth mayor in 1914; held one term as Ohio County Commissioner; and was elected to the Richland District Board of Education for four successive terms. In 1931, Helfenbine announced his candidacy for Manager/Mayor of Wheeling but was defeated for the position. However, his political connections may have helped him to secure the position of Supervisor, Ohio County for the State Road Commission in 1933 when the State of West Virginia assumed responsibility for maintenance of state highways. Helfenbine retained the position through January 1938.

More importantly to the Warwood community, Mr. Helfenbine played important roles during both the incorporation of the town of Warwood and the approval of Warwood annexation during the Greater Wheeling campaign. When town incorporation efforts began, Helfenbine served as Chair of the Incorporation Committee and the initiative proved to be successful.

However, when the Greater Wheeling municipal election resulted

in majority approval for annexation (but not among Warwood residents), Helfenbine served on a citizens committee to oppose the enactment of state legislation to authorize a city charter revision. In 1919, he traveled to Charleston in an attempt to thwart the legislative bill. By February 1920, the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals dashed all hopes of Greater Wheeling opponents, and the annexations were immediately effected.

W.E. Helfenbine was considered to be one of Warwood's oldest merchants and "an outstanding Wheeling citizen" who was "one of the most highly revered citizens of Warwood." During his State Road Commission tenure, he spearheaded efforts to improve the road between Wheeling and Warwood (River Road). Helfenbine's efforts throughout the city and county resulted in positive growth and development, especially for his fellow Warwoodians.

***Ritz, John Stonewall Jackson (1862-1945).***



Warwood resident, Judge John Stonewall Jackson "Stoney" Ritz was a dynamic force in law enforcement and jurisprudence in Wheeling and Ohio County. He was born in North Wheeling on September 21, 1862, to Michael and Sarah (Winter) Ritz. Young Ritz received limited schooling and at the age of ten years entered the rolling mill and nail factory. Later, he worked in the puddling mill of the Wheeling Steel and Iron Company. He continued in this laborious work and began studying law at night, eventually passing the state bar examination.

Stoney was known as a great sportsman (outstanding in boxing and baseball) and raced as a sculler on the Ohio River.

Ritz began work as a police officer in the 1880s. He was elected Wheeling's Chief of Police in 1901 and got reelected in 1902.

He served as Judge of the Police Court from 1918-24 and in 1924 was elected Judge of the Intermediate Court (reelected in 1930). In 1936, he decided not to run for reelection. He resumed the practice of law and worked until his death at the age of eighty-two.

At his death (January 7, 1945), it was noted "Judge Ritz was a strong and righteous man, his career a shining example of pluck and perseverance. He had a great understanding of human nature, a kindly disposition, and a love of all humanity, which traits manifested themselves in all his dealings with juvenile and criminal cases and won for him the love of many unfortunates and the admiration of the public. Stern in his righteousness, he was magnanimous with his power, and always tempered justice with mercy.

He was truly a self-made man. Being ambitious with a fidelity of purpose, he surmounted obstacles which won the respect and confidence of his fellowman. Never for a moment failing in his marital or parental duty never dismayed by a set-back, or discouraged by a loss, to him they were but stepping stones to success."

While judge, he dealt with both major and minor cases including dealing with Wheeling's infamous "Big Bill" Lias. He once defended a criminal, Raymond Styers, whom the Judge previously assisted with police capture and imprisonment (by offering a \$1,000 reward).

Judge Ritz was an effective leader in local law enforcement and jurisprudence which helped to make his growing community a safer place to live, thus earning the respect and admiration of his fellow citizens.

*Mercer, Joseph Loran (1913-1983).*



J. Loran Mercer, affectionately known as “The Chief,” first became acquainted with Warwood when the teenager’s family moved to the area in 1928 (his father purchased Warwood’s Lincoln Theatre). Young Loran worked as one of Wheeling’s first disc jockeys by spinning records at the Theatre.

Mercer enrolled at Duquesne University with the goal of becoming a concert pianist. “He worked his way through the music school by being the janitor, hitchhiking to Wheeling each weekend to operate the projectors and sell popcorn at the Lincoln Theater. The Depression took its toll financially, and he learned he could get a partial scholarship by playing in the school band. So, after six lessons on the baritone horn, Mercer was on his way to a music education career that he said included ‘about a thousand miles of walking up and down football fields.’

He received his Bachelor's degree from Duquesne in 1935 and was appointed Director of the Warwood High School band. He earned his Master's degree in 1954 from Marshall University.”

Throughout his 29 years (1936-1964) at Warwood High, Mercer conducted the High School Band, Cadet Band, and Orchestra. Warwood residents fondly remember the sounds of the band marching through the community while practicing their talents. Neighbors of the Mercers were often regaled with piano concerts which emanated from the grand piano in their Warwood residence.

“Mercer's Warwood High School Band set the standard and he was the band director to emulate. He led the Warwood High musicians to national recognition, with many individual students and groups of his students earning superior ratings in both regional and state contests and winning numerous scholarships and All-State Band

positions. Especially from 1940 to 1954, the Warwood band competed with larger local bands and often won top awards.

Mercer himself was recognized in April 1956 as one of the outstanding music directors in the nation. In 1958, the Warwood band performed with the Wheeling Symphony and also placed 10th out of seventy-two bands at the International Lions Convention in Chicago. The band performed at the Mid-East Band Clinic in Pittsburgh in 1963, the only West Virginia high school band ever to have performed in that event. In 1964, the state music educators elected Mercer to serve as director of the West Virginia All-State Band for the World 's Fair concerts in New York City.”

In 1964, “The Chief” became Ohio County Schools’ first Supervisor of Music. He implemented the county’s first strings program and at his retirement it was noted, “Mercer will be remembered as an innovator of band technique in the area, both as a band director and a music teacher.”

Mercer’s bands enhanced a multivariate array of events and activities from lawn fetes to classical concerts. He served as choir director/organist at Warwood’s Corpus Christi and Warwood United Methodist churches and positively impacted the lives of his fellow Warwoodians throughout his lifetime.

***Miller, Eileen Nellie (1921-2010).***

Eileen Miller grew up in Wheeling (with a single mother and two siblings) and was educated in the segregated, public schools of the city. She graduated from Lincoln High School and attended segregated West Virginia State College (Institute, WV) where she received a Bachelors’ degree in education in 1942. Her mother was an elevator operator, and she encouraged her daughter to work hard (at elevator jobs all around town) to make herself a success in life.





Miss Miller secured a teaching position at her secondary school alma mater (Lincoln), and remained there until the 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision that required the desegregation of public schools. In 1956, she was reassigned to Warwood High School where she maintained the junior high school library and taught primarily junior high school classes (English, Language Arts, and Reading). She was the first Black educator to teach at Warwood High School.

Short in stature, but bombastic in personality, Eileen Miller demanded respect and hard work from her students. In an interview with Dr. Martha Lash (Kent State University), she also recognized a difference in the types of students that she was now teaching in Warwood:

“Yes, the student background was quite different from what I was. Let me say this - same methods, basic methods. It was all basic. Now some things I did differently like [at Warwood] I was in a very, very highly populated neighborhood, where you had people of different backgrounds. When I say backgrounds, I’m speaking of nationalities. At Warwood, we had different nationalities, [and] backgrounds. In fact, we did a tree with recipes on it of different nationalities with recipes from countries representing the students [heritage].”

Eileen Miller was named the 1973-74 Ohio County Teacher of the Year. In addition to her regular duties, she taught summer school, Adult Basic Education, and church school (Macedonia Baptist) classes. She retired from Warwood Junior High School in 1983.

Miss Miller is representative of the outstanding educators who taught, motivated, and inspired thousands of students willing to learn and intellectually grow. The melting pot backgrounds of Warwoodians continue to this day with residents whose heritages extend around the world.

## Watch Us Grow Business and Industrial Influencers

Business and industrial growth helped fuel the increase in population, housing, and amenities for Warwood residents. Good transportation infrastructure (river, railroad, and public transportation venues) made the area an excellent place to locate a plant. The narrow geographical strip of land surrounded on the west by the Ohio River and the east by a range of hills was generally developed industrially and residentially in tandem. Mining and



Tipple, Richland/Costanzo coal mine, South Warwood, circa 1914-20.

drilling interests abounded (coal, gas, oil, and water) and all manner of industrial production proliferated (tin mill, airplane factory, furniture factory, steel mills, truck assembly, ceiling and roofing, sheet metal production, can production, stamping works, armature repair, etc.).

Domestic-related service businesses included grocers, bakers, dairies, cleaners, shoe repair, theaters, physicians, lawyers, post office, carpenters/contractors, roofers, plumbers, service stations/mechanics, moving/storage, florists, dentists, etc.). Many resi-

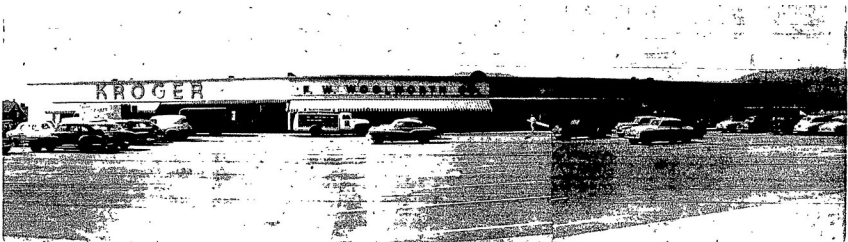
dents could walk to work or easily reach their job site by streetcars or buses. Entrepreneurs with clever ideas (such as Warwood Armature incorporators or inventor Samuel J. Sharp) could open businesses often from their homes or garages.

Centre Foundry and Machine Company, the oldest Warwood business still operating, began in 1840 manufacturing small iron castings. The concern was purchased by the Young brothers (1855) and they renamed the business (previously known as Baggs Foundry) in 1860. The name “Centre Foundry” was a nod to its original location in the Centre District of Wheeling. In 1923, the plant was relocated to its current location in the southern section of Warwood. During its height of success, the company employed nearly 120 workers. It has been noted that, “the company has grown with the Warwood community and has been invested in the development there. All of the sand that covers the former landfill at [North] 24th Street is from Centre Foundry. A much-used baseball field, playground, and basketball court now sit on that site.”

Warwood Tool Company began its life within the Ohio Valley (in 1854) across the river in Martins Ferry, Ohio. Henry Warwood sold his thriving business in 1892 when he retired and moved to Brooklyn and the company relocated to Wheeling. When the plant moved north of Wheeling, the plant’s construction became the catalyst for the development of the community of Warwood. Warwood Tool officials worked cooperatively with R.J. McCullagh and other developers, permitted access to streets and other improved areas, and provided necessary infrastructure to the new town (water works, etc.). The company improved quality of life by donating property for use by residents and consistently proved to be interested in the growth of Warwood. During the productive years of World War II, just over 80 employees were working at Warwood Tool. When Warwood Tool Company President John A Moore retired after 43 years of service with the company, it was noted that the Company had helped Warwood grow to “a

compact, progressive, and thriving community.”

The Warwood Plaza Shopping Center inaugurated consumer retail innovation in Wheeling and the surrounding area. The National Plazas Company of Rochester, New York planned a 12-unit endeavor (once a part of the Dorsch estate) projected to cost \$500,000 and designed it to “be of modern one-story construction containing arcades upon which the individual shops will front. It will be possible to drive in, find a parking space easily [300 spaces], and do complete shopping for the home at the shopping center.” The Center formally opened on October 13, 1953 with six tenants (Kroger Co., F.W. Woolworth Co., Aul and Shively, Inc., Toledo Scales, Lopreste’s [Produce], and Griest Drugs (with the Sunset Room restaurant). Later, a state liquor store and pastry shop were opened. The new shopping center (what would now be termed a strip mall) was a novelty that attracted visitors as far away as Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



WARWOOD SHOPPING CENTER OPENS TODAY offers a special view of the new Warwood Plaza Shopping Center which formally opens today at 8 o'clock. The three-story structure houses a number of business establishments, including Kroger, F. W. Woolworth Co., Toledo Scales, Aul and Shively, Inc., and Lopreste's. The parking area in front of the main building has space for more than 300 cars, and access and exit can be made from several directions. Several of the first opened stores today in the lot shown. The formal opening was observed by all of the establishments, many of which have been observed by all of the shoppers today. (Inquirer Photo)

### Warwood Plaza Shopping Center Opens Formally Tomorrow to Serve Valley Area



From the Oct. 13, 1953 Wheeling News-Register.

Local newspaper editor Harry Hamm observed, “If you drive by at night and see those modernistic, electrically-illuminated signs reflecting light on the huge parking lot, I’m sure you’ll feel just as proud as the people who have invested in the shopping center... You can’t help get the impression, that despite all our shortcomings, this community is definitely starting to grow up.”

The proliferation of strong and successful business and industry helped to make Warwood a desirable place to work, live, and grow.

### **Watch Us Grow Other Significant Influencers**

Religious institutions and houses of worship have substantially contributed to the growth and development of the Warwood community. In addition to spiritual sustenance, these faith communities often provided social activities, community improvements, economic assistance, and educational opportunities. By the mid-20th Century, congregations in Warwood (with their establishment dates) included: Warwood United Methodist Church (1905), Warwood Presbyterian Church (1906), Warwood Christian Church (1909), Warwood Evangelical Lutheran Church (1913), Corpus Christi Catholic Church (1916), Warwood Church of Christ (1957), and Warwood Church of God.

Public and private educational facilities have existed since the 1870s for the benefit of Warwood citizens and their families. Each geographic area (before Warwood incorporation) built school houses which were organized within the Richland Magisterial District. Residents were taxed either on their property or through levies to fund schools and their operation. By 1918, the Richland District High School (later named Warwood High School) was opened and in 1933 the West Virginia Legislature reorganized the state's public education system by creating 55 county school boards. The Ohio County School Board funded a new centralized elementary school (Warwood Grade School) which opened in 1942 and resulted in two centralized public schools for the community's secondary educational needs.

The Corpus Christi Parish organized a parochial school in 1916 "to serve the growing number of Catholics that settled north of downtown Wheeling." The Sisters of Saint Joseph (Wheeling) taught and administered the School until it was transferred to lay leadership in the late part of the 20th Century. Its mission has

consistently focused on providing a “strong, quality education alongside a solid religious program which engrains the importance of faith, kindness, and service to others.”

Both public and private educational institutions played a larger community role than just teaching classes. Frequently, facilities were used for other activities (sports, religious services, meetings, concerts, plays, etc.). Warwoodians were proud of their schools and devotedly supported their activities and endeavors. Teachers and administrators greatly influenced the growth and maturation of their charges – often endearing them to each other for life. The positive social benefit of these schools greatly strengthened the community’s quality of life.

Civic and fraternal organizations/bodies assisted in the physical, social, and economic growth of Warwood through the mid-20th Century. Both men and women of all ages participated in social and civic endeavors that benefited all people in their community. Some of these clubs/organizations included (with date of inception): Woman’s Club of Warwood (1920s); Junior Woman’s Club (1935); Civic League/Club of Warwood (1941); Warwood Lions Club (1944); and the Warwood Veterans Association (1948).

Especially significant were the Warwood Improvement Association and the Warwood Boosters. Officers of the Warwood Improvement Association secured an option on six and a half-acres of the Garden estate for the purpose of creating a central park and playgrounds. Eventually, the City of Wheeling purchased the land and created the park – known today as Garden Park. The Association’s actions saved the property from potential residential development. Other projects of the Association included flooding a portion of Garden Park for winter ice skating, eliminating the slag mine dumping in North Warwood, street improvements/paving [paving Warwood Avenue from Third to Sixth Streets, etc.], park and playground enhancement/improvements, public forums for candidates running for political

offices, sponsorship of athletic teams, and organizing the first Warwood High School Band. Although short-lived, the Association had a significant impact on improvement of the community.

In 1930, the Warwood Boosters Club was formed. Initial activities included a parade before the final game of that year's football season, cleaning the old band uniforms, and assistance with the erection of bleachers at the playing field. On August 14-15, 1931, the first annual lawn fete was held "on the northwest corner of the Warwood Park Athletic field." Over the years, many thousands of dollars were raised by this long-anticipated annual summer event. The Boosters Club members positively impacted the athletic programs at Warwood High School and other community events and improvements for over 60 years before the group disbanded.

The cumulative effect of these Other Significant Growth Influencers was to create a close-knit, service-driven, community-focused environment in which to live, work, play, and prosper.

In the mid-1930s, columnist Blanche D. Steenrod extolled Warwood's virtues and concurred with the town's "Watch Us Grow" slogan, "There is not a more healthful or beautiful sport in the nation, for the average citizen. The hills are covered with giant trees and beautiful verdure; trees line the roads and streets; the parks and playgrounds are alive with activity...the lawns are extensive and well kept, many have show places with marvelous bloom — all of this makes Warwood an attractive place to live and it is growing."

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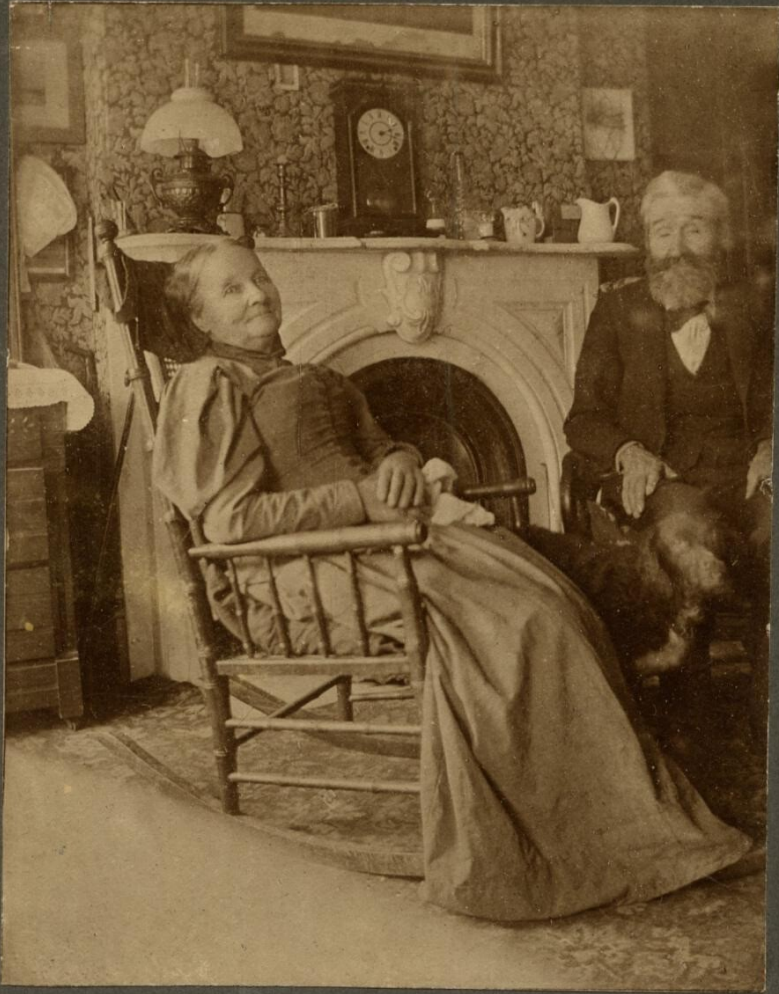
Online newspaper article databases including, but not limited to:

*Wheeling Daily Register; Wheeling Intelligencer; Wheeling News-Register; Wheeling Register*.

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*Dr. Charles A. Julian is a Wheeling native who grew up in both South Wheeling and Warwood (Warwood High School Class of 1971). He earned degrees from Glenville State College, University of Sheffield (England) - on a Rotary International Fellowship, George Peabody College for Teachers at Vanderbilt University, and the Florida State University. Within the field of library and information science, he has taught undergraduate classes, worked in library administration, headed library departments, written grants and proposals, and directed intellectual property efforts [primarily in higher education]. After 62+ years as a library/information professional, Julian retired in 2019 and returned to Wheeling [from West Virginia University, Keyser Campus, WV].*





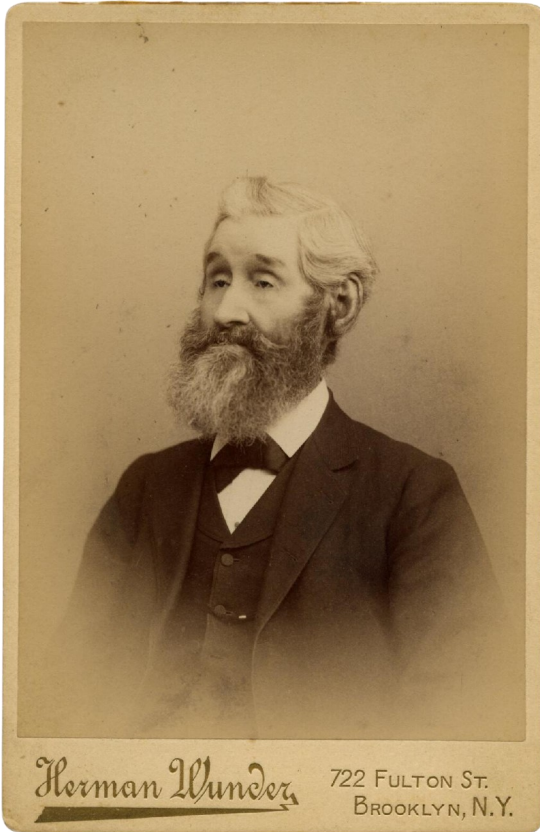
*FRANK PARSAR*

1225-27 Bedford Ave.  
NEW YORK.

Henry and Mary Warwood at their Brooklyn home.

# Finding Henry Warwood

by Margaret Brennan



Henry Warwood (1823-1900)

Wheeling's northern suburb bears the name of Henry Warwood, but he has been somewhat of a mystery man, that is until late 2021.

Henry, of course, founded the Warwood Tool Company, but there was no picture of him or much known about his family, until Chuck Julian's computer wizardry tracked down his two great-great granddaughters, Cecily and Melany Khan in New England. Then a treasure trove of pictures and

information flowed from here and there.

At this end, the 1890 book, *The History of the Upper Ohio Valley*, gave a basic outline of Henry's life. He was born in England in 1823 and began work in a factory at age 9, following his father, a skilled tool maker. Henry emigrated to this country in 1848 at age 25, and in 1854, he settled in Martins Ferry, Ohio, where he started a small business manufacturing rakes and min-

ers' tools. His quality of product and honest reputation helped his business grow and flourish.

In 1849, Henry had married Mary Bradshaw, and together they had five children: William (Louie), Sarah (Jennie), Maria, Emily, and Henry. The sad part of the story is that on a hill at Riverview Cemetery in Martins Ferry lie four of their five children. Two of the three girls died in the same year, 1870, one at 18, the other 15. The oldest boy Louie may have died in 1890, age unknown, and the youngest Harry in 1884, again age unknown. Harry is written up in the local paper as having typhoid fever, "a bright boy and was much liked by all who knew him." A search of the Belmont County birth and death records turned up nothing on the family. Standing at the Warwood graves was an evocative experience, wondering how parents endured such loss and knowing these graves probably had not been visited since 1892, when the Warwoodians left the Ohio Valley.

Yet the one bright spot was their remaining daughter, Emily. The write up of her marriage in February 1892 to Edwin Mason of Brooklyn, New York, gave some details of her life. She was a talented musician and played the organ at the Episcopal church in Martins Ferry as well as at First Presbyterian in Wheeling. Emily was described as a brilliant and highly accomplished, "queen among women."

The couple departed immediately for his home in Brooklyn, but in an interesting development, Henry Warwood and his wife left Martins Ferry in May of 1892 and moved in with the Masons, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Mary Warwood died October 27, 1899, age 79, at 1386 Dean Street, Emily's home. Seven months later, Henry Warwood died on May 27, 1900, age 77. They are both buried, as are Emily and Edwin, in Cypress Hills Cemetery in Brooklyn. Recently, Donte Nazzaro, Sam's grandson, was able to photograph Henry's large gravestone.

Emily Warwood Mason went on to have two children, Mary and Warwood. She died at a Georgia health resort in April 1906, age 46. Her husband Edwin passed away in 1921, age 69.

Son Warwood Mason became a sea captain and executive of American Export Lines, dying in 1974 at age 73. He married Alice Bradford Trumbull from a distinguished artistic family (painter John Trumbull) who became a well known abstract artist.

Warwood and Alice had one daughter Emily, who married Wolf Khan. They both developed into well recognized artists. Emily was noted for her paintings of joyful color. Emily, who died in 2019 and Wolf, who died in 2020, raised two daughters, Cecily and Melany Kahn, who are both artistic in their own right and who also have children.

Thus, the Warwood line continues down to the present. While Henry Warwood would not have known about the community of Warwood, having sold his company and moved away in 1892, his distinctive name lives on in our town and in his New England descendants. Through them, we are now able to look at the face of the man who founded Warwood Tool and thus gave Warwood its name.

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*A former history teacher and president of the Wheeling Area Historical Society for over 25 years, Margaret Brennan is a wealth of information on Wheeling's past. A native of Wheeling, Brennan earned a B.A. in history from Wheeling College and an M.A. in history from WVU. A published author, she has had articles run in Goldenseal and various scholarly publications. The consummate historian can most often be found researching and working to promote and preserve Wheeling's heritage. In 1998, Brennan was named a West Virginia History Hero by the WV Division of Culture and History. She was inducted into the Wheeling Hall of Fame in 2017.*





The Warwood children at Riverview Cemetery.



The Warwood grave at Cypress Hills Cemetery.



Graves of Mary and Henry Warwood at Cypress Hills Cemetery, Brooklyn, NY. Photo by Donte Nazzaro.

## **Paper Turned into Leather: “LEATHEROID,” a Wheeling Invention**

by John Bowman (2018)

Shelves of books with their Leather Bindings look great, but you just know that many of the books bindings aren't really leather. Faux leather book bindings, and artificial leather that we find covering many products are manufactured and marketed under many names, including a name we commonly know, “Leatherette,” and of course the faux leather product known as “Leatheroid.”

LEATHEROID was invented in Wheeling, West Virginia, some-time around or before 1879 at the Hanna & Clemmans, (Thompson Hannah, Thomas Hanna, Daniel W. Hanna, and Daniel Clemmans) “Fulton Paper Mill.” Leatheroid’s invention was an improvement in the manufacture of “Parchment” paper based on an 1877 patent of Thompson Hanna then of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.<sup>1</sup> “Parchment” paper (the real thing) was made from untanned animal skin (preferably goat) that produced a material suitable for writing. Pages of the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the Articles of Confederation were written on Parchment paper. By the mid-1800s, Parchment paper was being made from cellulose and cotton fiber that mimicked the surface of parchment.

Wheeling’s Fulton Paper Mill was founded very early (possibly in operation from the early 1820s) by Alexander Armstrong & Co. It was located on the south side of Center Street in Fulton <sup>2</sup> (a section of Wheeling) and the mill was powered by water from the nearby Wheeling Creek.

Alexander Armstrong & Company’s Fulton Paper Mill was seceded to the Spence & Thomas Hanna Paper Manufactory in 1872. Alexander Armstrong in his elder years had given up the daily running of the mill, (he died in 1868) and in 1878, the mill came under the ownership of Thomas Hanna and Daniel W.

Clemmans doing business as the “Fulton Paper Mill,” Hanna & Clemmans Paper Co. The mill was mainly manufacturing newspaper for Wheeling’s thriving newspaper business.

Hanna was experimenting with his patented “Parchment” paper, using different chemical solutions and modifications to some of the mills equipment, which resulted in the development of “Leatheroid.” George Knox,<sup>3</sup> an employee of the company, is credited with many of the new ideas used in this process. “Leatheroid” (imitation leather, the vinyl of its day) was prepared by using un-sized cotton paper that would allow the fiber to be vulcanized in a process using mineral acid.

The Fulton Paper Mill company marketed their patented “LEATHEROID” paper as being manufactured by their subsidiary company, the “Leatheroid Manufacturing Co.,” shipping it throughout America and Europe. The “Leatheroid” Manufacturing Company's first existence can be traced to Wheeling, West Virginia in 1879.<sup>4</sup> The State of West Virginia’s 1879 Session Laws named the following individuals holding shares:<sup>5</sup> Thompson Hanna owned 125 shares, Thomas S. Hanna 25 shares, Charles E. Dwight 25 shares, Daniel Clemmans 25 shares, and Daniel W. Hanna 1 share. Shares were valued at \$100.00 each.

Leatheroid (imitation leather) was advertised as being particularly adapted to the construction of carriages, railroad cars, chair seats, trunks, etcetera and etcetera. America’s railroads quickly picked-up on the new product, had it molded into wall panels and fitted it into their luxuriously appointed railcars. Soon, Wheeling homes were installing Leatheroid as wainscoting on their walls, and some of this Leatheroid wainscoting can yet be found in many old Wheeling homes. Leatheroid really does look like authentic leather, and it was sold as a leather product. One difference is that Leatheroid can be “design molded,” while real leather cannot.

Wheeling’s Leatheroid Manufacturing Company sold its patent and process in 1880 to a paper manufacturer in Pittsburgh, and in 1881, Leatheroid was sold to a manufacturer in Philadelphia. Finally, the Mousam Manufacturing Company purchased Leatheroid and its equipment and manufacturing operations, and moved it all to Kennebunk, Maine.<sup>6</sup>

60 THE GRIPSACK.

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**J. EVELEIGH & CO.,**  
**1753 Notre Dame St., Montreal,**  
 —MANUFACTURERS OF—  
**TRUNKS, TRAVELLING BAGS, &c.**  
**“LEATHEROID,”**



The Lightest and Strongest Trunk in the World.

Leatheroid the Toughest, Lightest, Strongest material known; hard as Rawhide; like Iron in texture.

**“LEATHEROID”**  
**SAMPLE TRUNKS**  
**AND CASES**

CATALOGUE M

LEATHEROID MFG. CO.  
 121 BEACH STREET  
 BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS  
 FACTORY AT KENNEBUNK, MAINE

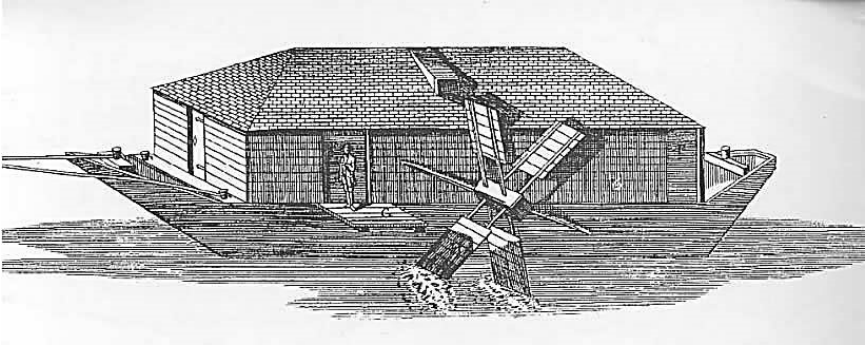
Left—1888 Gripsack catalog advertisement J. Eveleigh & Co. Montreal, Canada and, Right - Leatheroid Manufacturing Company “Leatheroid” advertisement from “Historic New England org.”

### Alexander Armstrong’s early history

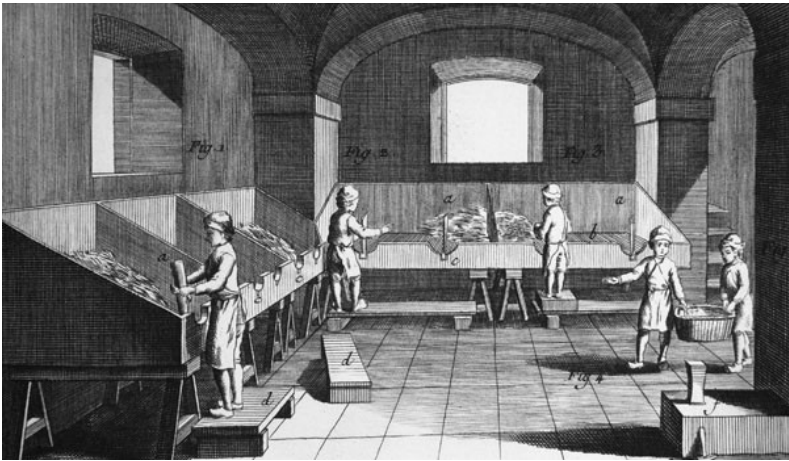
From 1807-1808, Alexander Armstrong (1785-1868) published the *Wheeling Repository*, Wheeling’s first newspaper. Mr. Armstrong had a small printing press next to his home on the west side of Main Street in Wheeling. This newspaper was a sort of weekly literary magazine of about eight pages, about eight by twelve inches in size. Armstrong’s paper was manufactured in a small paper mill inside a Wheeling built river barge that he had moored to the riverbank behind his residence just above Beymer’s Landing at what would then be the foot of Jefferson (Ninth) Street, and today would be under Wheeling’s I-70 ‘Fort Henry’ Bridge. Attached to the barge was a paddlewheel that in-turn,



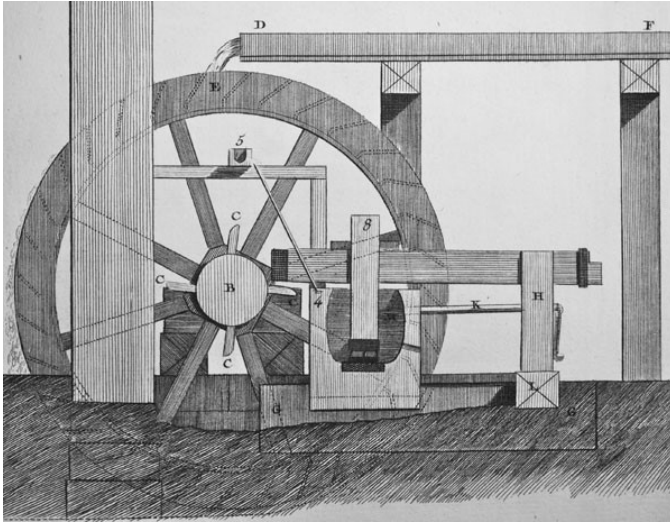
powered a cam-hammer setup inside the barge. The cam-hammer setup hammered old rags, (rags cut into small pieces that were soaked in a large water filled vat) into pulp. In essence, this was the beginning of papermaking.



Above Barge - Paddlewheel drawing: An Illustration from Water History.org.  
Below: University of Iowa "Paper Through Time." Cutting rags into smaller pieces and removing buttons, pins, and other foreign matter.



Evidently, early Wheeling didn't find a great need to read news as no newspaper was published from 1808 to 1820. Starting in 1820, Rob Curtis published the *Virginia North Western Gazette*, a Saturday edition. In 1821, it was known as the *Wheeling Gazette*, (Curtis, R.I., Publisher) a weekly and semi-weekly with office and plant on Monroe (Twelfth) Street. In 1826, John M.



Encyclopédie stampers; cut-away side view.

McCreary was his successor at 86 Main Street, corner of Monroe Street. The paper became the *Wheeling Daily Gazette* in the 1840s, published by James E. Wharton, and others followed. Armstrong’s Fulton Paper Mill furnished the newspaper.

THOMAS HANNA. DANIEL CLEMMANS.

**HANNA & CLEMMANS,**  
**Fulton Paper Mills,**

— — Manufacturers of — —

**Rag, Book, Tea and News Paper.**

NEWSPAPER A SPECIALTY. All orders by mail shall receive prompt attention. Satisfaction guaranteed.

A Fulton Paper Mill “Letter Head” from John Bowman’s collection.

In 1878, the Fulton Paper Mill advertised that they had shipped a superior grade of strong “Tea paper” throughout this area and the adjoining states into 1889-1890s.

Research revealed no trace of “Tea paper” per se, as advertised above, but an engineering description of the mechanical behavior of paper when subjected to tensile stresses as it is pulled to failure, known as tensile energy absorption, acronym “TEA,” (the breaking strength of paper) seems to fit the bill.

### **Wheeling’s other Paper Mills**

In 1826, William Lambdin erected a mill on land owned by William Chapline on Twenty-Third Street from Water to Main Streets in South (Centre) Wheeling. The Virginia Paper Mill operated for ten years and burned in 1836. At this time, the old Cotton Factory at 49 Water Street, operated by Marcus Wilson and Henry Echols, had failed and was in the process of being turned into a paper mill. Lambdin and his son purchased the mill and continued the paper milling business into 1858. William Lambdin and Son also ran a dry goods and grocery store at the same address. In 1858, Daniel Cushing, a partner with a Mr. Ayers in an oilcloth factory, purchased the mill and ran it until 1861.

The Point Paper Mill of A. & R. Fisher at 10 South Street on the point above Wheeling Creek was erected in 1837, operating into the mid-1840s. The two were proprietors of a blacksmith, wagon and plough making business at the same address.

**CUSHING & OSBUN,**  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
**BLACK AND FANCY COLORED LEATHER CLOTH,**  
**PLAIN AND ENAMELLED.**  
Also, Green Transparent Window Cloth,  
**WRAPPING AND ROOFING PAPER, BONNET AND STRAW BOARDS,**  
**WHEELING, VA.**

A Cushing & Osbun “Letter Head” from John Bowman’s collection.

Robinson, A.G. & Co., were paper manufacturers at 323 Water Street, Wheeling, Virginia in 1853. Joshua McCracken was a paper maker at 33 Water Street, Wheeling, Virginia in the 1850s; Daniel Cushing and Mr. Osburn turned the old Ayres & Cushing, oilcloth factory, established in 1855 on Webster (Twentieth) Street, located on the south side of Wheeling Creek into a paper manufactory in 1858. They advertised that they manufactured “Black and Fancy Colored Leather Cloth,” “Plain and Enamelled,” (this was probably oilcloth) and “Also, Green Transparent Window Cloth.” Along with oilcloth, they made straw paper and straw board for bonnet boxes into the 1870s.

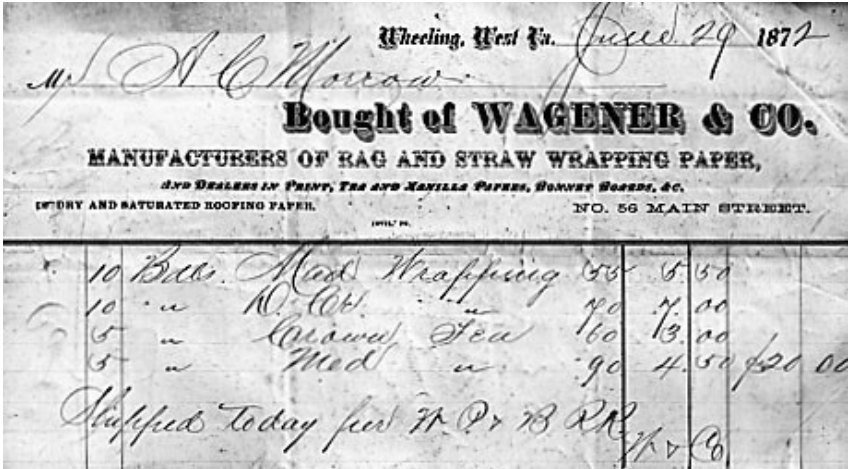
Oilcloth (aka Enameled Cloth) was made using a boiled linseed oil treatment on cotton or linen cloth, which gave the cloth a water-resistant surface. Oilcloth tablecloths were popular in America into the late 1950s. Straw board was a thick and coarse paper fabric of yellow paper or cardboard made of straw largely used by manufacturers of cheap paper boxes used in Wheeling’s Stogie trade.

In Wheeling’s early 1700 homes, log homes built before there was window glass, builders used paper greased with animal fat for window openings, which made it both translucent and waterproof. The author once noticed an old farm building with a window opening that had greased paper. It was just a cheap way to make a see through window.

Two Centre Wheeling, Virginia paper mills were listed in 1858, the Bassett & Co., paper manufacturer corner of Water and Mill Alley in South (Centre) Wheeling and the Phoenix Paper Mill, corner Water and Second Streets in South (Centre) Wheeling.

In 1859, we find the D. Wagener & Co. wholesale paper warehouse at 22 Main Street with an outlet at 1505 Main and 1506 South Streets, Wheeling, Virginia. In 1872, Wagener & Co. was listed as a manufacturer of Rag and Straw Wrapping Paper, and a dealers in Print, Tea and Manila Papers, Bonnet Boards etc.,

and Dry or Saturated Roofing Paper at 56 Main Street, Wheeling, W. Va.<sup>7</sup> Manila and Hemp scraps from Wheeling’s Rope making business went into papermaking. Manila paper was highly valued for its high strength and durability.



Wagener & Company “Bill of Lading” from John Bowman’s collection.

The R.G. Jordan & Co. paper manufactory and the Star Paper Mill in West Wheeling, Ohio supplied the Wagener Company from 1859 to 1880.

James Jepson & Co., paper manufacturers at 1321 Main Streets, Wheeling, was listed in 1889.

Wheeling’s first paper mill, The Hanna & Clemmans “Fulton Paper Mills,” would also be the city’s longest lasting paper manufacturing business, surviving well into the 1890s.

**Endnotes**

1 Patent #198,382 October 20, 1877 “Improvement in the Manufacture of Parchment-Paper” Hanna, Thompson and Hanna, Thompson S. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

2 Fulton, the town of: It is not known whether the name ‘Fulton’ was given by the owner of the paper mills there (a Mr. Armstrong) or Judge Thompson who was a congressional representative who later argued the

case against Pittsburgh's attempt to take down the Wheeling Suspension Bridge. But, the town was named for Robert Fulton, the designer of the steamboat who powered it up the Hudson River in 1807.

3 George Knox, Knox Lane in the Leatherwood area of Wheeling incorporated in 1868.

4 Source: Newton, J.H. Editor, Nichols, G.G., Sprankle, A.G. *History of the Pan-Handle, Being Historical Collections of the Counties of Ohio, Brooke, Marshall and Hancock, West Virginia* J.A. Caldwell, Wheeling, W.Va. 1879, pages 288, 289.

5 Source: *Acts of the Legislature of West Virginia at its Fourteenth Session Commencing January 8th 1879*; Published by W.J. Johnston Public Printer; Wheeling, West Virginia; 1879 page 248. The West Virginia law incorporated the company with \$20,200.00 in initial capitalization, each share having a \$100 value. The company was authorized to increase its capitalization to \$100,000 through the sale of additional shares with the value of \$100 each.

6 Patent #312,945 February 24, 1885 "Manufacture of Parchment-Paper or Leatheroid" Andrews, Emery Leatheroid Manufacturing Co. of Kennebunk, Maine

7 Source: Newton, J.H. Editor, Nichols, G.G., *Sprankle, A.G. History of the Pan-Handle, Being Historical Collections of the Counties of Ohio, Brooke, Marshall and Hancock, West Virginia* J.A. Caldwell, Wheeling, W.Va. 1879 Pg. 243

## **Photo Credits**

11888 *Gripsack* catalog advertisement J. Eveleigh & Co. Montreal, Canada.

2 Leatheroid Manufacturing Company, "Leatheroid" advertisement from "Historic New England org".

3 Figure 3. Cutting rags into smaller pieces and removing buttons, pins, and other foreign matter.

4 Figure 8. Encyclopédie stampers; cut-away side view. Pictures Used Credits: University of Iowa "Paper Through Time".

5 Barge with paddlewheel An Illustration from Water History.org

- 6 A Fulton Paper Mills “Letter Head” from John Bowman’s collection.
- 7 A Cushing & Osbun “Letter Head” from John Bowman’s collection.
- 8 D. Wagener & Company “Bill of Lading” from John Bowman’s collection.

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- 1 Bowman, John, *Bills of Lading Freight On Board Wheeling, W. Va.* Wheeling, WV 2012.
- 2 Newton, J.H. Editor, Nichols, G.G., Sprankle, A.G. *History of the Pan-Handle, Being Historical Collections of the Counties of Ohio, Brooke, Marshall and Hancock, West Virginia* J.A. Caldwell, Wheeling, W.Va. 1879 Reprint Heritage Books, Inc. Bowie, MD 1990.

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*Wheeling resident John Bowman was an Author, Historian, and Steamboat Model Builder. John wrote five books about steamboats, a book about the “Wheeling Stogie” and a book about Wheeling’s “Centre Market” with his wife Glinda, who is also an author. Over the years, John gave steamboat talks at “Lunch With Books”, and for other Ohio Valley organizations. He received commissions and built models for five museums and steamboat models for individual collectors. John was considered the most prolific steamboat model builder of his time.*

## Remembering McNamara's Drugstore



Many Warwoodians recently shared memories of McNamara's Drugstore on N 18th St. in Warwood: buying packs of baseball cards and chewing gum, going to the soda fountain to drink cherry Cokes served by "Alice," and wandering over to the magazine racks and booths in the back of the store to sit and look at comic books.

Thanks to the kindness of Marla and Greg Crabtree (above), the Ohio County Public Library will have one of those original, McNamara booths on display as a part of its "On Every Corner" exhibit through the summer of 2023.

The booth has been dressed up appropriately as it might have looked on an afternoon in 1976, when yours truly stopped in on the way home from Corpus Christi Grade School to pick up some comic books and a Walter Payton rookie card (not included in display).

Anyway, we hope you'll stop and visit. If you look closely, you can see names and initials carved in the wood. You can also read memories shared by people, and, through the kindness of Marla



and Greg, you are permitted to sit in the booth for a photo!

Just don't drink my cherry Coke or “borrow” my completely worthless display-only comic books!



And if you do take a picture in the booth, please, please, please post it on one of the Library's pages with #iLoveOCPL! or email it to:

[UOVHR@ohiocountylibrary.org](mailto:UOVHR@ohiocountylibrary.org).

We'll include some in the next *Review*.



“This is a photograph of my grandfather, William Edward McNamara Sr., standing in front of ‘the drug store’ in Warwood. The entrance door in the background was the stairway up to my Dad’s office. You can see part of his name on the wall. Just to the right of the sign between the two buildings was the spot where Jim Guthrie and I would tear open our packs of (5) baseball cards and a stick of bubblegum and made ‘trades.’ We would buy all the packs from my Uncle Rich or from my grandfather. They were kept in the candy counter immediately on the left as you walked into the store. Opposite the candy counter was the soda fountain on the right side of the store where we’d drink chocolate cherry Cokes until we were out of coins. Even then, ‘Alice’ might slip us a refill on the sly. The cash register was on the right side past the soda fountain, and the magazine racks and booths were in the back of the store. It was tough to get a seat there at lunch time during the school year, even if your name was McNamara! Between the pharmacy and the medical office, lots of great stories were lost along with that building, and even more great memories.”

~William McNamara

## McNamara Memories

“Lived down the street. Doc Mac, upstairs delivered me and my sisters. Caught the bus out front of the place to go to wheeling. Bought groceries across the street at Carole’s on credit. They also delivered. Went to dentist one block south. The bank too. There were two beer joints within a block and a pizza place as well. Who needed a car? The Lincoln movie theater was a block away. For a time there all you needed was a funeral home within the block and you would have been set for life and death.”

~Leonard Cross

“I loved McNamara's. Their vanilla cokes, a bag of chips and a comic book while sitting in a little wooden booth was awesome!” ~Joy Caldwell Thomas

“I remember skipping out of church on Sunday and going to McNamara's drug store and drinking cokes and reading the comic books while sitting in the booths in the back. Alice kept a small note book in her purse she would let you charge a few cokes during your visits after school and keep track of what you owed in her note book. You then would settle up with her after you got your allowance or somehow earned a few bucks. I guess she taught us our first lessons on the responsible use of credit. I also remember Mr. McNamara sitting in his chair and only got up to fill prescriptions in the back room.”

~ Paul Zogg

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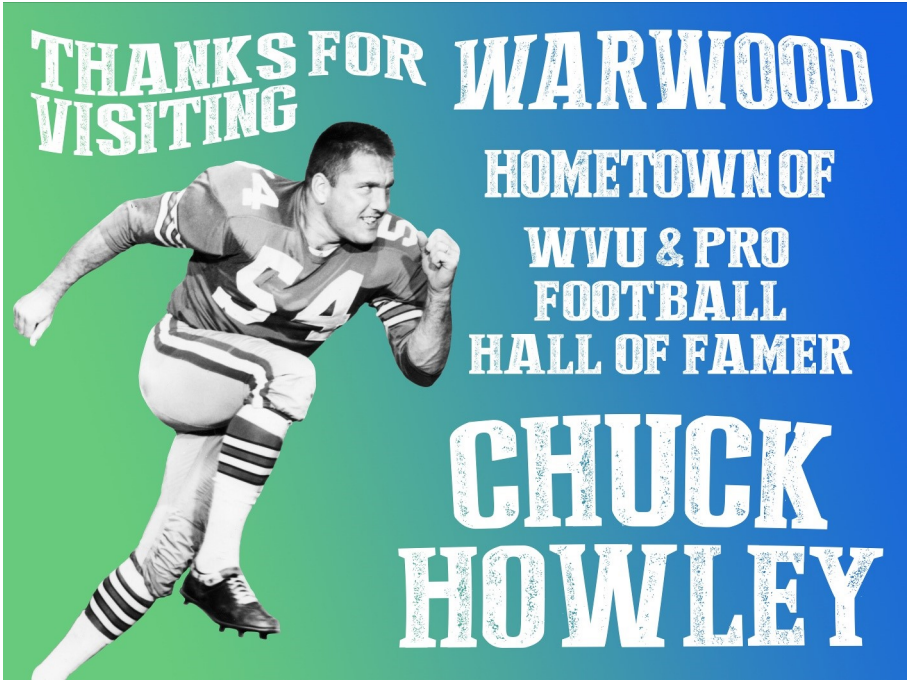
[www.archivingwheeling.org](http://www.archivingwheeling.org)

Archiving Wheeling is an online community designed to showcase the local and regional history collections of the Ohio County Public Library and its heritage partners. Contributor posts feature stories and images about the contents of each partner's archival and special collections, highlighting historic photographs, postcards and other images, books, journals, letters, maps, prints, pamphlets, brochures, advertising ephemera, and the like, that are related to the history of Wheeling or the Upper Ohio Valley region.



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## Howley Sign, Back



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**UPPER OHIO VALLEY  
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