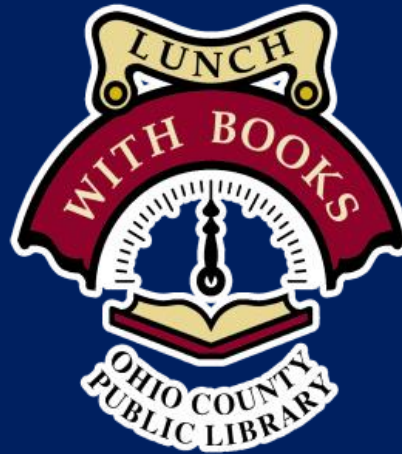




**GEORGE BRADLEY CUNNINGHAM:**  
***“AN ARCHITECT OF  
PROMINENCE IN THIS CITY”***



**DR. CHARLES A. JULIAN, PhD**  
**SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**



**DISCLAIMER**

**GIESEY**

**FRANZHEIM**

**1934 Architects**

Cunningham Geo B 1820 Eoff  
Faris Frederic 1117 Chapline  
Franzheim Edw B 1425 Chapline  
Grubb Louis D 5th fl Register bldg  
Leiner Jos 700 N Front  
Petticord Geo W 1081 National rd apt 1

**BATES**

**FARIS**

# HENRY "HARRY" SANFORD CUNNINGHAM'S FAMILY



Henry "Harry" Sanford  
Cunningham  
1872-1958



Florence Ivy Bowman  
1875-1962

1897



James Elmer  
Cunningham  
1898-1973



Robert Stanley  
Cunningham  
1907-1991



Florence Geneva  
Cunningham  
1900-1950



Nada Virginia  
Cunningham Burkhardt  
1909-1982



George Bradley  
Cunningham  
1902-1965



Harry Edward  
Cunningham Jr  
1914-1926



Myra Elizabeth  
Cunningham Brown  
1905-1996



Thomas Erven  
Cunningham  
1916-2000





**3832 EOFF STREET  
SOUTH WHEELING**

**HARRY SANFORD CUNNINGHAM**

Candidate for Council, Eighth Ward.



**1921**



**40 HAMILTON AVENUE**

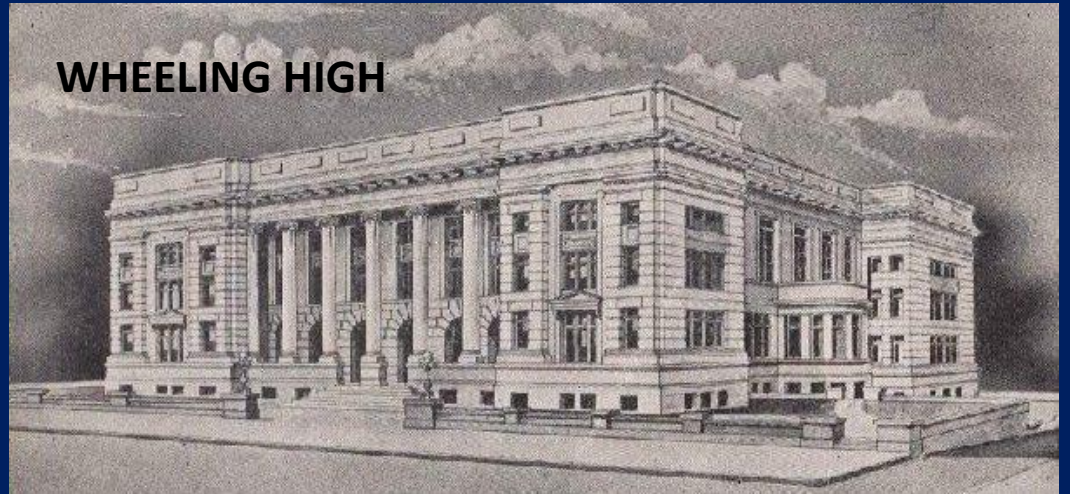


**RITCHIE**



**1918**

**WHEELING HIGH**



**1922**

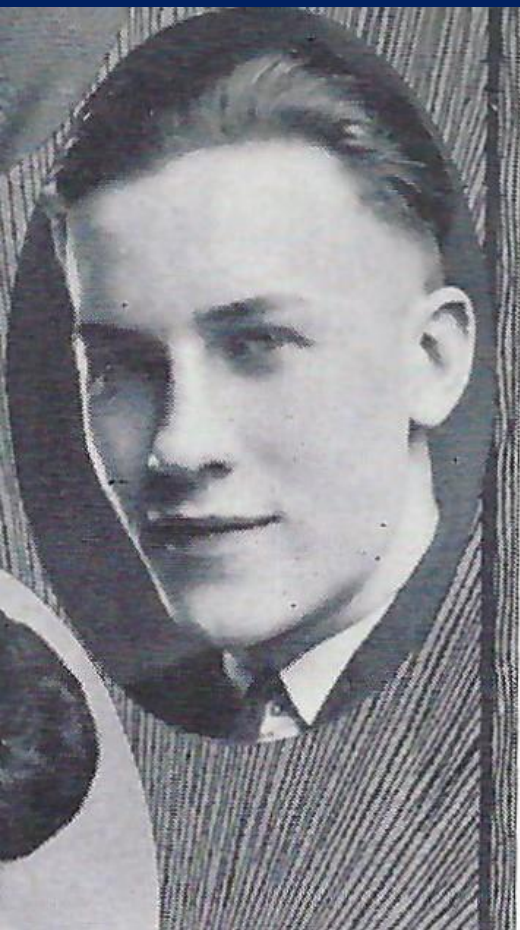


**1922-1925**

**SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE –  
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**



**1926**



## GEORGE CUNNINGHAM

"Cunnie" "Rev."

"I am not lazy but I hate to work."

Class Play.

Basketball, '20.

Track, '21.

Looks like a minister, but we bet he'll never orate from the pulpit. George's lisp is envied by many feminine "would-be-lispers." Chief vocation is killing time.



# Cross Country Victor



GEORGE CUNNINGHAM

Among Ohio Valley business, professional and civic leaders are many men and women who once were famous for their athletic prowess.

In this weekly series, the News-Register each Tuesday will bring its readers some of the background of these former stars and what they consider to be their most thrilling experience or most vivid memory in sports.

In early spring of 1921, the Wheeling YMCA staged what was planned to be an annual cross country run from the 'Y' building at Twentieth and Market Sts., to the gate at what is now Wheeling Park.

For some reason the race which measured exactly five miles never caught on and it was run only once with George B. Cunningham, now a Wheeling architect, but then a junior at Wheeling High School, winning the event by a sizeable margin.

Until that time Cunningham had never run track before and trained for the race through calisthenics and playing basketball regularly. He was a member of the Wheeling High basketball squad and after graduation played for a local pro team.

Today he resides on Forrest Road in Wheeling. He is a graduate of both Pitt and Ohio State Universities. At the time of his "greatest" day he was 17 years old.

By GEORGE B. CUNNINGHAM

I had never done any distance running before in my life, but one day as I was walking up Market St. from the high school I saw the gold medal that would be awarded to the winner of the YMCA race on display in the window of the old Lukens Jewelry store.

Right then I decided that I had to enter that race. I just had to win that medal.

As I recall there were eight or nine entries in the race representing high schools from the immediate Ohio Valley area including Wellsburg, Follansbee, Moundsville, Martins Ferry, Wheeling, Bridgeport, Triadelphia and a couple of others.

I ran for Wheeling.

We started out at the 'Y' building and were closely bunched going up Market St. toward Wheeling Hill. I guess we looked rather funny running along the main street in short pants because people stopped and stared at us all along the way.

I was about fifth when we hit the bottom of Wheeling Hill, but by the time we got to the top I was third and it was there I got my second wind. From that point on I was never pressed and by the time I finished at the park entrance, my nearest competitor, another Wheeling High boy named McCuskey, was still back at Triadelphia.

Everett Brinkman, who at that time was playing sports at Wheeling High, paced me in one of those old-time touring cars and at the end of the race when I dropped puffing and panting on the running board of the car, he



As Member of Wheeling Track Team (Lower Right)

made me get up and run all the way back to Triadelphia to get a shower and rubdown.

Ever then I was so stiff I could hardly walk for three days.

In the race I wore the soles of a pair of thin running shoes completely through.

"I JUST HAD  
TO WIN  
THAT  
MEDAL"

1921



## Theta Chi

*Founded at Norwich University, 1856*

ALPHA LAMBDA CHAPTER

Established 1921

COLORS: MILITARY RED AND WHITE

FLOWER: RED CARNATION

ACTIVE CHAPTERS: 39

ADDRESS: 1857 INDIANOLA AVENUE



Front Row : SHOLLENBARGER, GILLESPIE, HULL, HANLIN, WALKER, SORENSEN, IRICK.  
 Second Row: CAHOW, SCHAEFER, RUMBLE, SWOPE, CHARPIOT, LEWIS, HOPKINS,  
 NIEHAUS.  
 Third Row: MAY, WHITTINGTON, LEO, SCHWENN, DONLEY, WECKESSER, KUEBLER,  
 CHENEY.  
 Back Row: HINES, BRACY, CUNNINGHAM, DINIUS, MUGRAGE, LUCAS, BUSH.

## New Wheeling Architect.

George B. Cunningham has passed the state board of examination and has become a registered architect. He will soon open his office in the downtown district. The young architect is the son of Mr and Mrs. H S Cunningham of Hawthorne Court, Woodsdale. He is a graduate of Wheeling High school, and Ohio State University.

Wheeling Intelligencer  
 October 3, 1927-p 16



*Charming Bride*

1930



MRS. GEORGE B. CUNNINGHAM

Mr and Mrs George Becker  
announce the marriage of their  
daughter  
Elsa  
to  
Mr George B Cunningham  
on Thursday, November  
twenty-first  
nineteen hundred and twenty-  
nine  
Pittsburgh, Pa  
At home  
El Villa apartments  
after February fifteenth



## George Cunninghams Hosts At Novel Affair

Mr. and Mrs. George Cunningham are accredited with probably the most unique and clever of all novel Halloween functions occurring on this week's social calendar. They will preside as hosts this evening at their home on Hamilton avenue, in Woodsdale, and 38 friends of the hosts have been included in the event. An ingenious program of stunts, games, novelties and what nots have been arranged for the merriment of the assemblage. Mr. Don McKee will preside as master of ceremonies, and a hilarious one act play will be presented in impromptu style by John J. Reltz, George Petticord, Ed McKee, Harold Kaltenbach and James F. Cox. Mr. Ralph Glasser has been asked to be official tail twister, and the remaining guests will be called upon to contribute various acts.

Out-of-town guests at the affair will include Mrs. Linus D. Brown of Buffalo, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Herold of Pittsburgh.

1930

## Thirty-Eight Guests Enjoy Halloween Affair

Thirty-eight of the friends of Mr. and Mrs. George Cunningham, enjoyed the hilarious Halloween celebration last evening at their home on Hamilton avenue, in Woodsdale. The guests were asked for eight-thirty o'clock, and from the moment of their inauspicious and abrupt arrival via a sliding board in the basement to a late hour, a gala evening was enjoyed. Clever and unique means of eerie entertainment were devised for a supreme hilarity of the guests and later in the evening, a supper of attractive Halloween details was served.

The guests included

Messrs. and Mesdames—Don McKee, George Cunningham, Paul Herold, Harry Cunningham.

Misses—Frances Hayes, Florence McKee, Virginia Prickett, Lilly Muchek, Nada Cunningham, Florence Cunningham, Mary Jane Moore, Blanche Petres.

Messrs.—Ed. McKee, Alan McKee, Stanton Kettler, James F. Coy, John F. Reltz, George Petticord, Lefe Graner, Jr., Harold J. Kaltenbach, George Edwards, Ralph D. Glaser, Bernard Snedeker.

Mesdames—Louis D. Brown, of Buffalo.

## GEORGE'S FAMILY

George Bradley  
Cunningham, Sr.  
1902-1965

**MARRIED**  
**1929**

Elsa Marie  
(Becker)  
Cunningham  
1909-2000

Patricia Ann  
(Cunningham)  
Campbell  
1931-2021

George  
Bradley  
Cunningham,  
Jr.  
1934-1998

Judith Karen  
(Cunningham)  
Yahn  
[Living]

# GEORGE'S RESIDENCES

40 Hamilton Avenue  
Pine Knoll  
Forrest Road

Wheeling, WV  
St. Clairsville, OH  
Wheeling, WV  
(after 1955)

Florida

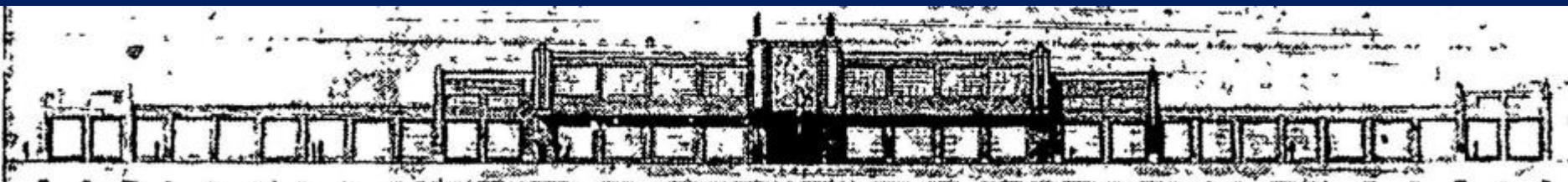


## WHEELING OFFICE LOCATIONS

<b>1926-1928</b>	<b>40 Hamilton Avenue</b>
<b>1930-1932</b>	<b>301 Pythian Building</b>
<b>1934</b>	<b>1820 Eoff Street</b>
<b>1938-1942</b>	<b>324 McLain Building</b>
<b>1946</b>	<b>208-209 Fidelity Building</b>
<b>1951</b>	<b>208-209 Methodist Building</b>
<b>1953</b>	<b>202-203 Methodist Building</b>
<b>1960</b>	<b>309 Methodist Building</b>

# ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTS

- AIRPORTS
- COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS
- FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION BUILDINGS
- HOUSING PROJECTS
- MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS
- RELIGIOUS STRUCTURES
- RESIDENCES-PRIVATE



This is a drawing of the modern market, to include a community gymnasium, swimming pool and rooftop playground, which will replace the 83-year-old Center Wheeling market house if the Wheeling Federal Projects association is successful in its efforts. The association announced the proposed new market house Thursday in connection with the coming visit of Colonel Henry Matson Waite, Cincinnati, assistant to Harold Ickes, secretary of the interior and the public works program, on Saturday

1933



**WARWOOD**



**CLAY SCHOOL**

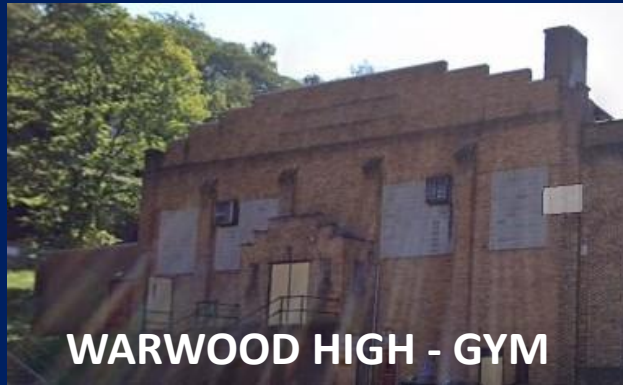


**LINSLEY GYM**



**BEHRENS GYMNASIUM, 1947.** By the mid-1950s the student body had grown to 300 students, 75 of whom were boarding students. This period of sustained growth prompted the addition (annex) to Weiss Hall in 1955 and a rebuilding of the footbridge in 1953, which had become worn as a result of increased traffic.

**WARWOOD HIGH - GYM**



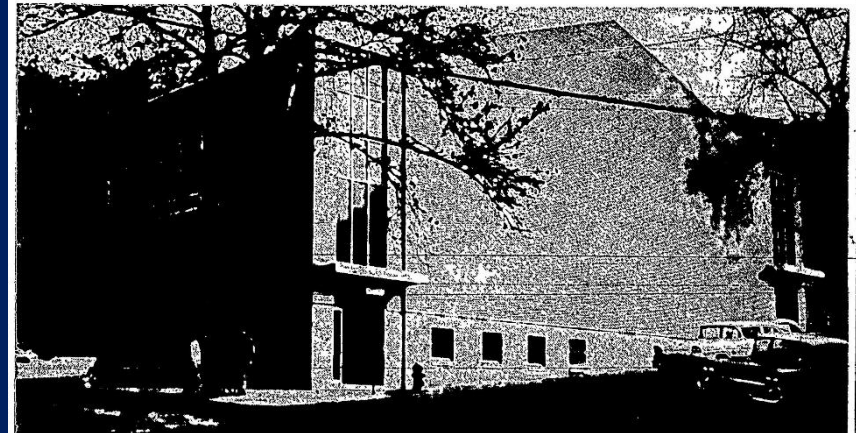
# SCHOOLS

**Proposed Glenville Normal Library Building**



George B. Cunningham, Wheeling architect, designer of proposed structure

***New Central Gym Converted to Classrooms***



### Plans Only Tentative

Under present plans the architects will do the preliminary sketching without charge, with the understanding that they will have a chance at regular assignments if the bond issue carries. However, the allocation of preliminary work will have no definite bearing on the projects which will be allotted, when and if the bond issue passes.

Under Saturday's allocation Frederic Faris will do sketching for Lincoln, East Wheeling, Philadelphia high schools, the Administration building and miscellaneous repairs.

Edward B. Franzheim has Warwood Grade, Valley Grove, Middle Creek and Union schools.

George B. Cunningham, East Twenty-ninth street, Bethlehem, Bridge street, Philadelphia Grade, Edgington Lane and Webster schools.

J. C. Burchinall, West Liberty.

Engstrom & Wynn, Centre, Clinton, Kruger street, Ritchie and Washington schools and the Wheeling high school storeroom.

Wheeling News Register, August 14, 1938-p1

**ASSIGNED:**

**WARWOOD GRADE SCHOOL  
CLAY SCHOOL**





## FORMER ARCHITECT



**GEO. B. CUNNINGHAM**

Captain George B. Cunningham, ~~former~~ Wheeling architect who entered the Army Air Force over a year ago, is now stationed with the headquarters squadron of the Missouri River Division at Omaha, Neb.

An aviation enthusiast in civilian life, Capt. Cunningham is a member of the Wheeling chapter of the National Aeronautics Authority and completed his flight training under the direction of Joe Higgins, instructor at Glendale field. He was also an active member of the Exchange club and was the architect for the new Warwood grade school and the new Clay school in East Wheeling. His wife resides in St. Clairsville, O.

**1943**



United States Army Air Force

**ENLISTED: APRIL 10, 1942**

**PLANE CRASHED JULY 1, 1944 (NEAR KARACHI, INDIA)**

**DISCHARGED: DECEMBER 19, 1945**

## Major George Cunningham Injured In Plane Crash In India July First

Major George B. Cunningham, Wheeling architect who is with the Army Air Transport command, is recovering from injuries suffered July 1 in a plane crash in the India theatre of operations. He is now able to walk about an army hospital in India. It was feared at first that his back had been broken.

In a letter to local relatives Major Cunningham said that he was piloting a twin-engine plane of Transport Command which was taking off from a field in India. When about 200 feet up in the air one of the engines "conked" and he was forced into a "belly" landing. Cunningham as well as the co-pilot and crew chief were hurt. All are on the way to recovery.

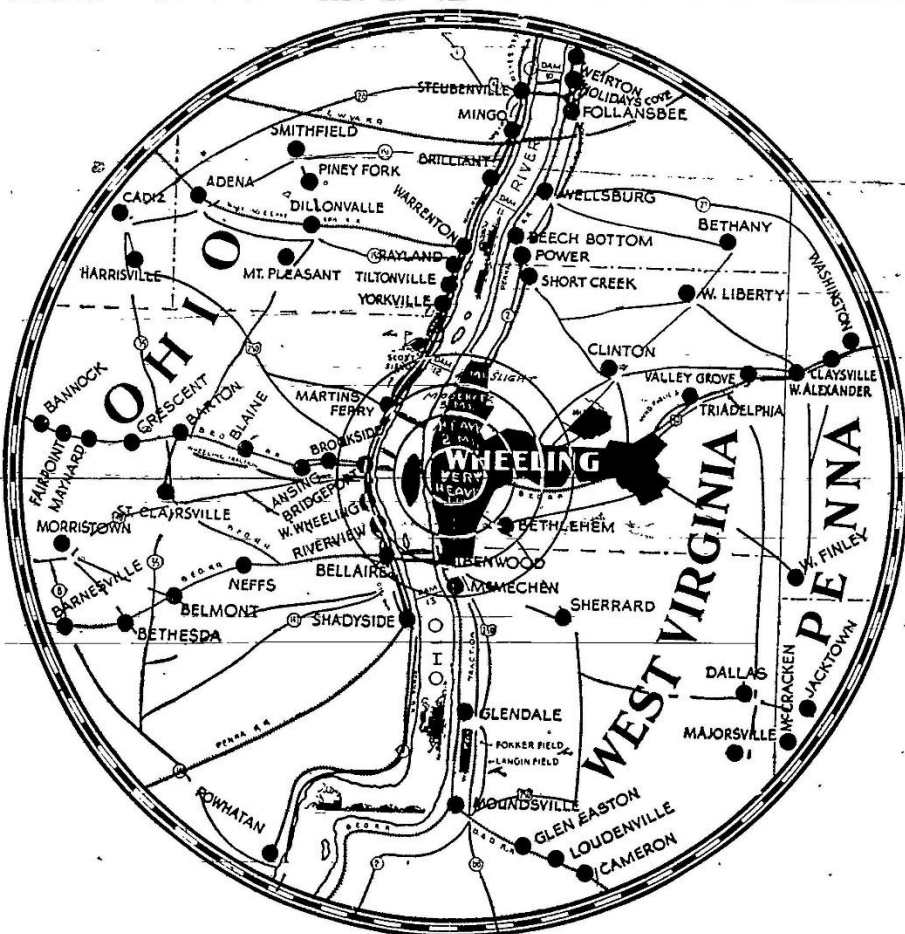
A member of the Reserve Officers, Cunningham was called up for active duty April 10, 1942 and served with the Missouri river division of the Engineer Corps as liaison officer between Washington and Omaha. He was promoted to the rank of major November 1943 and June 1, 1944, was transferred to the India-China-Burma wing of the Army Air Transport command.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Cunningham of Woodside, Major Cunningham is married to the former Elsa Becker Cunningham. Mrs. Cunningham and the couple's three children reside in Woodside.



**MAJOR GEO. CUNNINGHAM**

**1944**



This map was prepared to illustrate the damage which would occur in the area if an A-bomb were dropped at 12th and Market streets.

## A-Bomb Here Would Kill 8,000; Hurt 14,000 to 20,000

# City Not A-Target

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the first in a series of articles written by Major George B. Cunningham, USAF, of Wheeling, who has just returned from the Industrial College of the Armed-Services. Material for these articles was obtained from the Industrial College, the National Security Resources Board, Department of Defense, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission and other armed service divisions. The first article deals with the possibilities of an A-bomb attack on Wheeling and what effects it would have.

By George B. Cunningham,  
Major, U. S. Air Force Reserve

Wheeling is relatively safe against atomic bomb attacks in the near future, even though it lies in the heart of industrial America and is one of the leading Eastern steel and coal centers!

Several factors enter into this "insurance" against possible atomic attack from foreign aggressors.

These elements are:

- 1 Space and topography would influence the enemy's decision to by-pass Wheeling in looking for more choice spots to "plant" the A-bomb.
- 2 Lack of carrier to transport the bombs, particularly inland as far as Wheeling through 400 or more miles of air defenses.
- 3 The number of weapons the enemy could make available—the bombs would be saved for areas where they'd do the most industrial damage.
- 4 The expense of bomb delivery to this part of the nation also influences any potential enemy. As the range of operations increase, the "payload" decreases.
- 5 No country, for the present, could afford to use an atomic bomb on a city with less than 50,000 population or a congested industrial area of less than five square miles.

Now let's look at each of the above factors individually. First of all, there is no known military defense against the atomic bomb itself except space. It is and will continue to be our most potent protection.

This defense alone is not sufficient. It is reasonable to ascertain that with the increasing range of aircraft and the ever-increasing power of destruction of atomic weapons no area,

Wheeling included, in the United States will be immune from possible attack because of its location alone.

Because the destruction or immobilization of a nation's industries destroys the power of any nation to defend itself, highly concentrated areas of vital industry and population will be the most attractive targets.

The hills and topography of the Wheeling area would provide excellent protection against the effects of atomic bombing. In Nagasaki, with a greater population than Hiroshima, the loss of life and damage was less during the World War II A-bomb attack because of its hilly topography.

Any aggressor planning to use atomic weapons will be faced with the number of weapons it could make available. They are too expensive. The essential fissionable elements—uranium and plutonium—are scarce materials. Any aggressor nation must, therefore, assess a target in terms of the amount of fissionable material it is considered profitable to allocate to any city. This means each target must be assessed in terms of its essentialness to the aggressor nation's war-making capacity.

There is the additional factor of the expense of bomb delivery. It will probably continue to be practically axiomatic that as range increases, relative payload decreases, and costliness in proportion to damage becomes greater. To this must be added whatever loss is incurred in delivery of such a bomb through active defense interception.

Thus, although modern strategy is based upon the fact that any area in this country can be attacked, the staggering cost in material and energy of such an expensive attack would require that it be planned so as to accomplish the maximum damage to our production facilities.

It is reasonable to assume then that no foreign aggressor would use atomic bombs on any city of as few as 50,000 people or in a congested industrial area of less than five square miles. From the above, then, we may readily deduce that Wheeling is relatively safe as an atomic bomb target.

What would happen if an atomic bomb landed in the heart of the Wheeling business district?

The destructive zones of damage from the atomic blast within a one-mile area would be VERY HEAVY; in a two-mile radius the blast would be HEAVY; in a three-mile area it would be MODERATE; and beyond, the damage would be slight.

Fire destruction would be heavy within the one and two-mile zones and the path of fire destruction would follow the direction of prevailing winds.

Radiation, the "specter" of A-bomb attacks, would take a heavy toll within the three-mile zone and would follow the direction of prevailing winds.

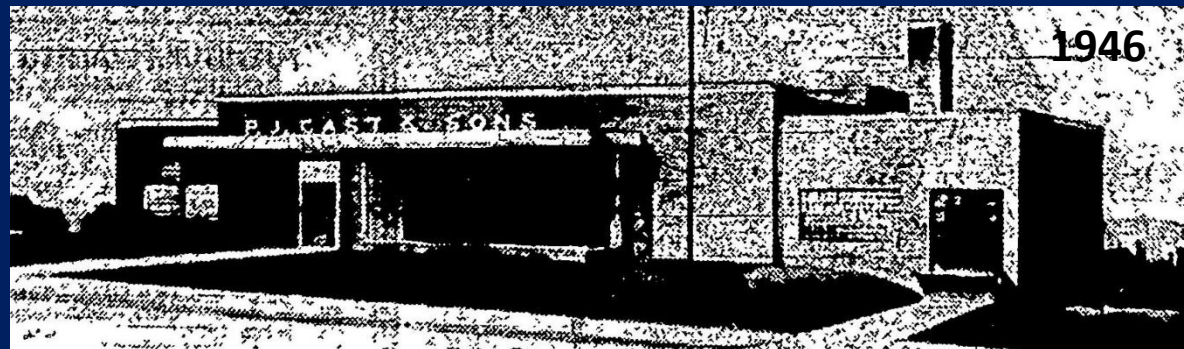
It is predicted that in the event of an atomic bomb attack or should a bomb hit in the heart of the Wheeling business district that six to eight thousand people would be killed outright, and fourteen to eighteen thousand people severely injured. Because of the damage to fire stations, ambulances, hospitals, etc., the assistance of outlying medical facilities and fire equipment is paramount in the consideration of any defense against A-bomb attack.



# COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

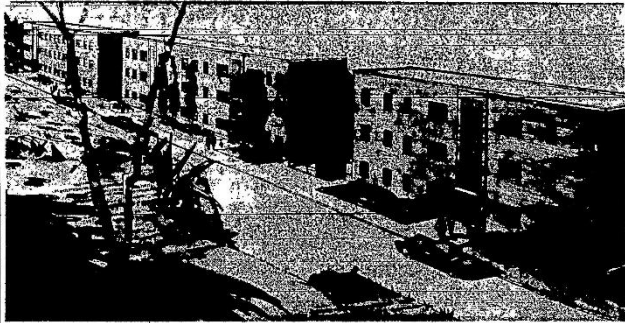


PEOPLE'S  
FURNITURE  
ADDITION  
1213-15  
MAIN STREET  
1937



WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1956

# 40-Unit Housing Project Approved



HOUSING PROJECT PLANS APPROVED — This is the architect's sketch of the Lincoln Homes housing development in Wheeling on which bids will be opened August 16. The Wheeling Housing Authority approved the plans yesterday after they had previously been okayed by the Public Housing Administration.

LINCOLN HOMES-WHEELING



SOUTH WHEELING



ZANESVILLE MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM



U.S. Air Force Academy

KITTYHAWK ASSOCIATES HAD OBTAINED THE SERVICES OF AMERICA'S BEST-KNOWN ARCHITECT, FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT. WHILE HE ADDED STAR POWER, HE ULTIMATELY SABOTAGED THE KITTYHAWK BID.





**HOLY RESURRECTION SERBIAN  
EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH-1948**



**MODEL GAS HOME-STRATFORD ROAD-1954**



**WHEELING EAGLES-944 MAIN -1940**

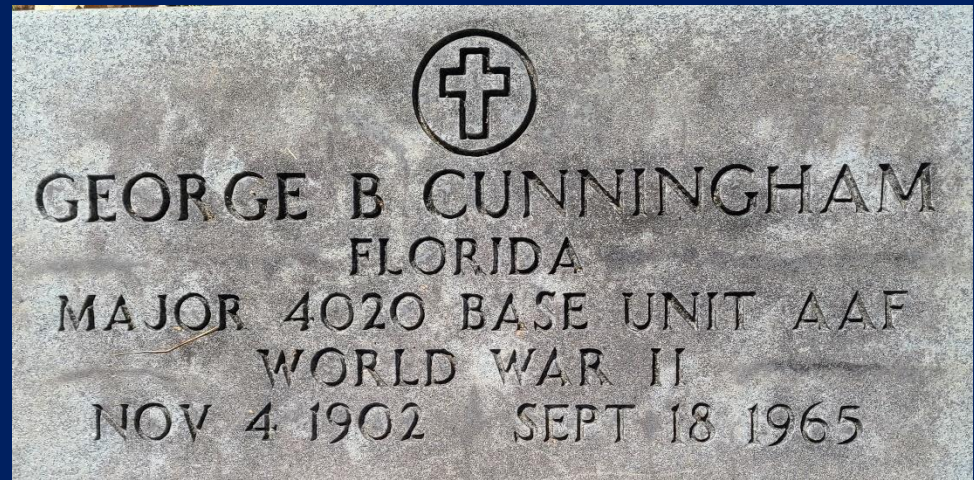


**MOUNDSVILLE EAGLES**



**CUNNINGHAM, George**  
 Bradley, 62, of 5900 Southwest  
 35th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale,  
 Fla., died Saturday in the Bro-  
 ward County General Hospital.  
 He was born in Wheeling, Nov.  
 4, 1902, he was a son of Harry  
 S. and Ivy Bowman Cunning-  
 ham, he was a registered Archi-  
 tect, AIA, with offices in  
 Wheeling and Ft. Lauderdale,  
 Fla. He was a graduate of the  
 University of Pittsburgh and a  
 retired Lt. Col. in the Air Force  
 Reserve, serving in the India-  
 Burma - China campaign dur-  
 ing World War II. He was a  
 member of Nelson Lodge 30,  
 A.F. & A.M., Scottish Rite bod-  
 ies in Wheeling, Osiris Temple  
 of the Shrine, and the Jesters.  
 A member of the American Le-  
 gion Post One, he also belonged  
 to the F.O.E. Lodge 344 and F.O.  
 Elks 28, all of Wheeling. Sur-  
 viving is a son, George B. Cun-  
 ningham, Jr., of St. Clairsville,  
 two daughters, Mrs. Patty  
 Campbell of Cedarburg, Wis.,  
 and Mrs. Judy Yahn of Wheel-  
 ing; three brothers, James E.  
 of Wheeling, Dr. Stanley R. of  
 Tacoma, Wash., and Thomas of  
 Cuyahoga Falls, O.; two sisters,  
 Mrs. Myra Brown of Roches-  
 ter, N.Y., and Mrs. Nada Burk-  
 hardt of Burlington, Ill.; and  
 three grandchildren. Friends  
 will be received at Kepner's,  
 1308 Chapline St., after 6 p.m.  
 this evening where services will  
 be held Thursday at 11 a.m.

with the Rev. A. V. Socker of  
 the Zion Lutheran Church offi-  
 ciating. Interment in Greenwood  
 Cemetery. The F. O. Elks No.  
 28 will hold services at the fu-  
 neral home Thursday at 7:30  
 p.m.



Greenwood Cemetery-Wheeling





## *Pretty Owner Poses With Show Entry*

Miss Judy Cunningham proudly displays "Wee Dare," her entry in the Tenth Annual Oglebay Park Saddle Club Horse Show to be held at Oglebay Park on Sept. 8 and 9. Judy, who is 13 years old, has ridden in many shows throughout the tri-state area. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Cunningham of this city.

News-Register photo—Muhleman

13 YEARS OLD



JUDITH "JUDY"  
KAREN  
(CUNNINGHAM)  
YAHN



Thank You

**DR. CHARLES A. JULIAN, PhD**

[wvpostcards@yahoo.com](mailto:wvpostcards@yahoo.com)