

Mark Belloni, M.A.

6746 East County Road 800 North Brownsburg, Indiana 46112 mark@belloniresearch.com www.belloniresearch.com

Property History Report 2343 South Garfield Drive

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I. Introduction

Tucked near the bottom of page 11 in the April 4, 1929, issue of *The Indianapolis Times*, a brief two-line notice informed readers that a man named H. Hilgemeier had filed a building permit for a house and garage at 2343 Garfield Drive. The estimated cost of the project was \$5,250.¹ That same year, the house—a charming brick bungalow with distinctive curved walls—was completed. It sat on a slight terrace, overlooking Garfield Park to the west.²

Surrounded by a neighborhood of middle-class homes built in the 1910s and 1920s, the bungalow blends easily into its surroundings. At first glance, it seems like just one of hundreds of similar houses scattered across Indianapolis. But a closer look at its history highlights notable stories about the development of the city's south side, the influence of its German-American community, and the rise of a once-thriving meatpacking industry.

II. Hilgemeier Family and Garfield Park Origins

The "H. Hilgemeier" listed on the 1929 building permit for 2343 Garfield Drive refers to Harry Charles Hilgemeier, born on October 18, 1879, in Indianapolis.³ He was the youngest of seven children born to Ferdinand Christian Hilgemeier and Anna Maria Sudbrock, German immigrants who had arrived in the United States prior to the Civil War.⁴ Harry's older siblings included two sisters, Mary and Matilda, and four brothers: George, William, Christian, and Frank.⁵

In the years before Harry's birth, the Hilgemeier family lived on the city's immediate south side, settling in the 1870s on Wyoming Street—now the site of the Lilly Corporate Center. It was while the family was living here that the city of Indianapolis purchased a short-lived horse

racing track in 1874 for the purpose of developing a public park.⁷ In its earliest years, the park was known as Southern Park or South Park, but was renamed Garfield Park in 1881 in honor of President James Garfield, following his assassination.⁸

By the 1880s, the Hilgemeier family had moved farther south to Prospect Street. 9
Then, in 1888, when Harry was nine years old, the family relocated again, this time to a home within walking distance of Garfield Park. 10 Their new residence was on Gatling Street (today Barth Avenue) in Beaty's Addition, one of the earliest residential subdivisions on the south side. 11 City directories from 1888 place the family in the second house north of Raymond Street, and land transfers from 1889–1900 identify the property as Lot 34, Block 7. 12 Today the address is 2154 Barth Avenue, roughly a tenminute walk from 2343 South Garfield Drive.

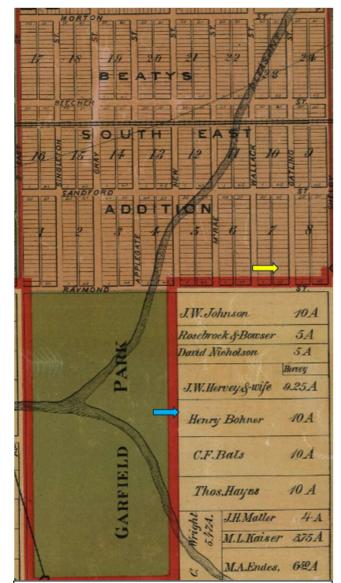
Garfield Park was severely underutilized in the 1880s and had not seen much improvement. When the Hilgemeiers moved to the northern edge of the park in 1888, it was still being used as a cattle pasture.

Interestingly, their move corresponded with the first real push to develop the park. A group of south side residents rallied the city to allocate funds for improvements in 1888.

That same year, the City Council authorized an ordinance to improve the park, setting aside \$10,000 to fund the effort.

Additional appropriations of \$7,000 followed in 1892 and 1893.

III. Hilgemeier Subdivision and Family Business



This 1889 map shows the area surrounding Garfield Park at the time the Hilgemeier family moved there. The yellow arrow (placed by the author) indicates the location of the original Hilgemeier home, while the blue arrow indicates the future home of Harry Hilgemeier at 2343 South Garfield Drive. Note that Garfield Park had not yet expanded, and the land to its east consisted of rural farm parcels. Courtesy of Indiana University Indianapolis, University Library, Historic Indiana Maps Collection.

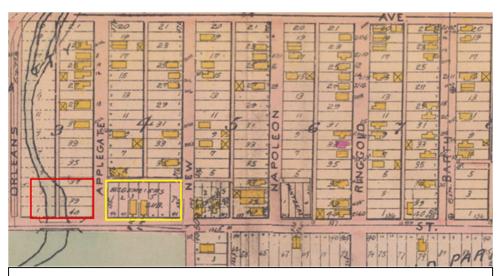
While improvements to Garfield Park were being made, the Hilgemeier family also played a role in shaping the development of the surrounding neighborhood. In 1887, they acquired fifteen lots along the north side of Raymond Street—an area bounded today by Pleasant Run to the

west and South Garfield Drive to the east.¹⁷ Sometime between 1887 and 1908, a portion of these lots was redeveloped as the Hilgemeier Subdivision.¹⁸

The subdivision was likely tied to the family's growing presence in the local meat industry. Christian Hilgemeier, the family patriarch, was working in the city's meat market as early as 1873 and remained active in the trade through the late 1880s. ¹⁹ His eldest son, Frank, followed him into the business by 1889, with his second son, Christian Jr., joining a year later. ²⁰ When Christian Sr. died of heart failure in 1893 at the age of 62, the family's business ventures did not decline. ²¹ Instead, his third son, George, entered the trade in 1895—the same year the firm name *Hilgemeier Bros*. first appeared in the city directory. ²²

The exact location of the Hilgemeier family's early business operations does not appear on surviving maps of the period, but various historical sources offer compelling clues. In 1894, Christian Jr. was operating as a wholesale meat dealer at the northeast corner of Gray and Raymond Streets—a site that corresponds to the fifteen lots the family had purchased in 1887 and later redeveloped into the Hilgemeier Subdivision.²³ Just two years later, *The Indianapolis News* reported growing neighborhood concerns:

Property owners near Garfield Park are complaining of the fertilizing establishment of Rauh & Co. and the slaughterhouse of Higemier [sic] Bros. The water from these establishments is drained into Pleasant Run, and flows into the lake in Garfield Park.²⁴



This 1908 map shows the Hilgemeier Subdivision (outlined in yellow, added by the author) and the likely location of the Hilgemeier business (outlined in red). Today, New Street is known as South Garfield Drive, and Applegate is now East Pleasant Run Parkway South Drive. Courtesy of Indiana University Indianapolis, University Library, Sanborn Map and Baist Atlas Collection.

Between 1896 and 1900, city directories listed the Hilgemeier Bros. business at the northeast corner of Raymond and Applegate Streets again placing the operation squarely within the footprint of the Hilgemeier Subdivision.²⁵ Further confirmation comes from George Hilgemeier's 1948 obituary, which recalled the firm's founding by their father Christian "in a

small plant near Garfield Park."²⁶ Taken together, these scattered pieces of evidence suggest that the family's early business was not only tied to their residential holdings, but also

physically embedded within the subdivision they helped shape along the north side of Raymond Street, near Pleasant Run.

In 1899, 20-year-old Harry Hilgemeier first appeared in the city directory under his own name, listed as a butcher boarding at his mother's house at 2124 Barth Avenue (the same house mentioned earlier, when Barth Avenue was known as Gatling Street).²⁷ 1899 was also the first year that the family's company was enumerated in the city directory specifically as a pork



This late 19th-century photograph of the Hilgemeier business was included in a full-page newspaper advertisement in 1924. This is likely the structure that stood on Pleasant Run near the family's subdivision. The individuals are unidentified but probably include members of the Hilgemeier family.

packing operation, under the ownership of Harry's older brothers, Frank and George, under the name Frank F. Hilgemeier & Bro.²⁸

A full-page ad the company placed on New Year's Eve 1924 stated that it was founded in 1885, only a few years before the family moved to the vicinity of Garfield Park.²⁹ It included "then and now" photographs that reveal what its early operations looked like.

IV. Harry and Minnie Hilgemeier and Early Life by Garfield Park

While the Hilgemeiers established their business on the edge of Garfield Park, the arrival of electric streetcar lines in 1896 and again in 1901 proved a boon to the area's development, offering quick and reliable access from the city center.³⁰ The promise of such improvements was already being recognized in 1895, when a member of the city's Board of Works, after visiting the park, predicted it would one day anchor a thriving residential district:

I predict that within ten years' time the ground around Garfield Park will be covered with homes and be a desirable residence portion of the city. When we get some improvements made down this way it will be a wonderful thing for this part of the town.³¹

In the summer of 1904, Harry Hilgemeier married Minnie Roembke.³² The two likely met through their shared roots in the southside German community, as well as their proximity as neighbors. The 1900 census lists Minnie, her younger sister Marie, and their parents, Conrad and Sophie, at 1815 Ringold Street—about half a mile north of the Hilgemeier home on Barth

Avenue.³³ Like the Hilgemeiers, the Roembkes were of German descent, though they had arrived more recently, in 1897.³⁴ Harry was a first-generation German American, while Minnie had been born in Germany.³⁵ Their first child, Harry Jr., was born in 1905, while they lived in their first home together at 808 East Raymond Street (now 814), on Lot 4 of the Hilgemeier subdivision.³⁶ Their daughter, Esther, followed in 1908.³⁷

In the year Esther was born, Harry and Minnie's home at 808 (now 814) Raymond Street stood near what was then the true southern edge of Indianapolis—a landscape in transition from rural to urban. This environment was familiar to Harry, who had grown up on the city's south side, where open fields and small farms coexisted with early subdivisions and scattered homes.³⁸ That same blend of countryside and city still defined the area in 1908. From their front





Harry Hilgemeier (c. 1933, photograph taken from his obituary) and Minnie Hilgemeier (1922, photograph taken from her passport application; the quality is poor).

porch, looking southeast across the road, Harry and Minnie would have seen rural land slowly giving way to development—fields transforming into residential streets. It was in that emerging neighborhood, just east of Garfield Park, that they would eventually build their second home.

The 1895 prediction made by the member of the city's Board of Works came true rather quickly. Fueled by electric streetcar lines and the broader expansion of Indianapolis around the turn of the century, the area surrounding Garfield Park began to transform rapidly. Between 1898 and 1901, the city developed a new eastern entrance to the park from Shelby Street. This improvement was followed by a wave of residential development between 1903 and 1913, including the Holliday Addition to the southeast and the Park Crest Addition to the south.

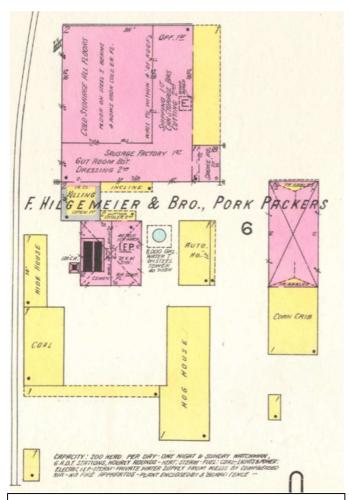
the north of the new entrance, across the street from the Hilgemeier residence at 814 Raymond Street, six smaller additions forming a cohesive neighborhood were platted in quick succession. A stretch of land between the new Shelby Street entrance and Southern Avenue remained undeveloped until it was purchased by the city in 1914—an expansion that established Garfield Park's present-day boundaries. 41

V. New Packing Plant & Family Prosperity

Meanwhile, the family's livelihood came from the Hilgemeier meat-packing company. Harry remained employed there while Minnie raised their children. The business grew steadily, and in 1912, a new \$20,000 plant was built at the corner of Raymond and West Streets.⁴²

An impressive operation, the main brick building housed cold storage, a sausage factory, gut room, dressing floors, and offices. Hogs were slaughtered in a nearby open-roofed killing room with a scalding vat and hair drum, then transported via an incline to the main building. A boiler and engine house powered the plant's refrigeration and machinery, using coal as fuel. Live hogs were kept in a large frame hog house, and hides were stored separately. Other structures included a corn crib, auto house, water tower, and coal storage. The plant could process 200 hogs per day—an operation that, by 1918, positioned the Hilgemeier family for success in what was then Indianapolis's principal industry.43

By 1920, the family was still living at 814
Raymond Street, and Minnie's father, Conrad,
had moved in with them. 44 In 1923, the
Hilgemeiers completed several repairs and
renovations to the home, and by 1924, they had
listed it for sale. 45 They then relocated to a
house on South Meridian Street, a property that



1915 Sanborn insurance map of the Hilgemeier packing plant at Raymond and West Streets. Pink buildings indicate brick construction, yellow indicate frame construction. Courtesy of Indiana University Indianapolis, University Library, Indianapolis Sanborn Map and Baist Atlas Collection.

had been in the family since at least 1902.⁴⁶ Both children completed their schooling in 1926—Harry Jr. graduated from Culver Military Academy, and Esther from Manual Training High School.⁴⁷ Around the same time, the Hilgemeier meat-packing business was thriving. In 1928 and 1929, two major expansions to the Raymond Street plant totaled \$110,000.⁴⁸





Esther Hilgemeier, left, and Harry Hilgemeier Jr., right, pictured in their school yearbooks.

VI. Return to Garfield Park

The Hilgemeiers remained at the South Meridian residence for only four years before deciding to return to the Garfield Park area. By 1927, only a handful of vacant lots remained along the park's northeastern edge. Development had progressed rapidly, transforming the semi-rural landscape Harry and Minnie had once known into a much denser, more urbanized neighborhood. In 1929, the couple built their new home overlooking Garfield Park on Lot 5 of Niermeyer's Addition, one of the few vacant lots left in the area. ⁴⁹ That same year, *The Indianapolis Star* ran a pair of articles in its regular "Our Street" feature, highlighting the appeal of Garfield Drive:

All the advantages of a country estate—without the cost.

This might well be the slogan of residents of Garfield drive, west of Shelby street, for they have just across the street the spacious grounds, the fountains, the sunken garden of Garfield park, truly an estate that would satisfy a plutocrat.

The well-planned appearance of the drive is distinctive. Houses are of the same general type, bungalows, some with small second stories, and of brick or brick-and-frame construction. The lawns are terraced, giving residents the advantages of privacy and

better view over the park. Down the grass plot that divides sidewalk from boulevard is a row of maple trees.⁵⁰

Residents of Garfield Drive north of Raymond Street had glowing reviews of the neighborhood:

Mrs. Madalene Shumaker, 2137 East Garfield drive, who has lived there sixteen years, declared that the street is the "prettiest in the city." "This street is so quiet and peaceful. It is away from the factory district and all of the smoke and soot. We also are four blocks from the rumbling, clanging street cars," she said.

"A splendid place to rear children," Mrs. John Baumann, 2129 East Garfield drive, asserted. She said she likes the street because every one is financially able to afford a pretty neat home, an automobile if they want one, and because the yards are kept in such perfect condition. The neighbors, she added, are fine. ⁵¹

By 1930, Harry and Minnie's new home was complete, and they were living there with Esther and Minnie's father. ⁵² Harry Jr. never settled into his parents' new home. In 1929, he and his wife built their own house across from Garfield Park at 2701 Allen Avenue. ⁵³ Esther stayed at the Garfield Drive home only briefly—just a few months—before marrying at the end of 1930 and moving to Evansville with her husband. ⁵⁴

The house witnessed loss in its earliest years: Minnie's father, Conrad, passed away there in December 1932, and his funeral was held in the home.⁵⁵ Harry Sr. lived in the home for only three years before his death in February 1933, just two months after Conrad; his funeral was also held there.⁵⁶ At that time, he was the superintendent of the truck drivers at the Hilgemeier packing company, a role that kept him connected to the family business. The company's fleet, often featured in local newspapers, bore his mark—clearly a point of pride for him.⁵⁷

After Harry Sr.'s death in 1933, Esther returned home, likely to support her mother through the loss. ⁵⁸ That same year, she filed for divorce and settled back into the Garfield Drive house with her young daughter, Lela. ⁵⁹ For much of the 1930s, three generations of Hilgemeier women— Minnie, Esther, and Lela—shared the home, making a life together while Esther worked for the Board of School Commissioners. ⁶⁰

In 1941, Esther remarried.⁶¹ Her new husband, Karl Braun, moved into the house, and two years later they welcomed a daughter, Sherrill.⁶² By 1950, the household had grown into a family of five.⁶³ That year marked the last time the home was occupied by the Hilgemeier family. Sale advertisements for the house appeared in August 1950, and by 1951 it was occupied by the Sappenfield family.⁶⁴

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¹ "Building Permits," *The Indianapolis Times*, 4 April 1929, page 11, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025). South Garfield Drive has had numerous names in the past, including New Street (its original name), East Garfield Drive, and simply just Garfield Drive.

² Baist, G. Wm. *Baist's Real Estate Atlas of Surveys of Indianapolis, Indiana*. Philadelphia: G. Wm. Baist, 1929. Plate 27. Indiana University Indianapolis Sanborn Map and Baist Atlas Collection.

(https://library.indianapolis.iu.edu/digitalcollections/sanbornjp2: accessed 22 June 2025). The home at 2343 South Garfield Drive does not appear in the 1927 Baist Real Estate Atlas, but does appear in the 1929 issue, confirming that it was finished the same year the building permit was posted in the newspaper.

³ World War I Draft Registration Card for Harry Charles Hilgemeier, 12 September 1918, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana Draft Board 9; World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918; Records of the Selective Service System, Record Group 163; National Archives, Washington, D.C.; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/: accessed 22 June 2025); 1900 U.S. census, Indiana, Marion County, Center Township, Indianapolis, Ward 14, ED 174, sheet B9, dwelling 178 family 189, Mary A. Hilgemeier household; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing NARA microfilm publication T623; "Harry C. Hilgemeier, Packer, Dies Suddenly," The Indianapolis Star, 8 February 1933, page 11, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025). Born before birth records were required by law in Indiana, Harry listed his birthday as October 18, 1879, on his WWI draft card. The 1900 U.S. census lists his birth month as October, but birth year as 1878. His obituary, published in February 1933, stated he was 53 years old, aligning with a birth year of 1879 if he was to turn 54 in October 1933. ⁴ 1900 U.S. census, Indiana, Marion County, Center Township, Indianapolis, Ward 14, ED 174, sheet B9, dwelling 178 family 189, Mary A. Hilgemeier household; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing National Archives microfilm publication T623; 1910 U.S. census, Indiana, Marion County, Indianapolis, Ward 13, ED 229, sheet 5A, family 109, dwelling 110, Mary Hilgemeir [sic] household; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing NARA microfilm publication T624. In both the 1900 and 1910 censuses, Harry's mother listed her immigration date as 1858; she and Harry's father were married in Indianapolis in 1860. German immigration to Indianapolis increased significantly in the mid-19th century, especially after the failed 1848 revolutions in the German states. Drawn by political freedom, economic opportunity, and religious tolerance, Germans quickly became a major presence in the city, comprising nearly 13% of the population by 1850. They were a culturally diverse group, organizing around both churches and secular clubs to preserve their language and customs. German immigrants helped shape Indianapolis's civic, cultural, and architectural landscape, founding businesses, schools, and hospitals, and designing key public buildings.

⁵ 1870 U.S. census, Indiana, Marion County, Ward 7, Indianapolis, page 13, dwelling 79, family 97, Christ. Hildemeier [sic] household; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing National Archives microfilm publication M593; 1880 U.S. census, Indiana, Marion County, Ward 21, Indianapolis, ED 127, page 31, dwelling 338, family 347, Chris Hilgemeier household; digital image, (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing National Archives microfilm publication T9. One of Harry's brothers, William, was killed in 1876 at the age of 4 after falling under a roller used for milling corn; *The Indianapolis News*, 24 April 1876, page 3, column 2; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁶ Hutchinson's Indianapolis City Directory (Indianapolis: Sentinel Steam Printing Establishment, 1870), 96, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD; Swartz & Tedrowe's Indianapolis City Directory, 1875 (Indianapolis: Sentinel Company, 1875), 198, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD. The portion of Wyoming Street where the Hilgemeiers lived in the 1870s, once situated between Delaware and East Street, no longer exists.

⁷ "City Council," The Indianapolis News, 13 January 1874, page 2, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁸ "Last Night's Meeting of Council," *The Indianapolis News*, 8 October 1881, page 3, column 2; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁹ *R. L. Polk & Co's Indianapolis Directory for 1880* (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1880), 275, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD; *Indianapolis Directory, 1885*, 305, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis; *Indianapolis Directory, 1887*, 402, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis. Note that the 1880 city directory lists the family on Coburn Street, while 1885 and 1887 list them on prospect street. These are the same street; Coburn became Prospect.

¹⁰ Indianapolis Directory, 1888, 416, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis.

¹¹ The Indianapolis News, 7 February 1874, page 4, column 3; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025); "Beaty's Addition to Indianapolis For Sale," *The Indianapolis News*, 14 February 1874, page 4, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025). Today, Beaty's addition is bounded by East Street to the west, Shelby to the east, Raymond to the south, and Minnesota to the north. Note the year it was platted, 1874, was the same year Garfield Park was established.

¹²"Real Estate Transfers, William B. West to Maria Hilgemeier," *The Indianapolis Journal*, 20 August 1889, page 5, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 15 July 2025); "Real Estate Transfers, Maria Hilgemeier to C. Hilgemeier," *The Indianapolis News*, 3 February 1894, page 6, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 15 July 2025); "Real Estate Transfers, Christian Hilgemeier to Frank Hilgemeier," *The Indianapolis News*, 28 January 1898, page 7, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 15 July 2025); "Sales of Real Estate, Frank Hilgemeier to C. F. Behrmann," *The Indianapolis Journal*, 21 June 1900, page 8, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 15 July 2025). The house transferred from Maria Hilgemeier to Christian Hilgemeier Jr. and then to Frank Hilgemeier before it left the family in 1900. The house standing today, based on its architecture and form, is likely the original Hilgemeier home.

- ¹³ "Improving Garfield Park," *The Indianapolis Journal*, 13 April 1888, page 8, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 7 July 2025).
- ¹⁴ "Garfield Park Improvements," *The Indianapolis News*, 5 April 1888, page 4, column 2; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 7 July 2025).
- ¹⁵ "Garfield Park Improvement," *The Indianapolis Journal*, 17 April 1888, page 8, column 3; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 7 July 2025).
- ¹⁶ "City's Southside Park," *The Indianapolis News*, 10 November 1893, page 6, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 8 July 2025).
- ¹⁷ Real Estate Transfers, D.M. Bradbury to Maria Hilgemeier," *The Indianapolis Journal*, 14 July 1887, page 6, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 14 July 2025).
- 18 The exact year the subdivision was platted is unclear, as the original plat does not list a date. A 1908 map shows it, so it was platted before then. Today the subdivision is made up of the addresses 802 828 East Raymond Street.
- ¹⁹ Indianapolis City Directory, 1873 (Indianapolis: Sentinel Company, 1873), 168, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025,
- https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD; Swartz & Tedrowe's Indianapolis City Directory, 1875 (Indianapolis: Sentinel Company, 1875), 198, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD; Indianapolis City Directory, 1880, 275, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis; Indianapolis Directory, 1885, 305, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis Directory, 1887, 402, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis.
- ²⁰ R. L. Polk & Co's Indianapolis Directory for 1889 (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1889), 398, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD; R. L. Polk & Co's Indianapolis Directory for 1890 (Indianapolis: R. L.Polk & Co., 1890), 409, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.
- ²¹ "Death Returns," *The Indianapolis News*, 1 March 1893, page 6, column 7; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 8 July 2025).
- ²² R. L. Polk & Co's Indianapolis Directory for 1895 (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1895), 422, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD. It is likely that the Hilgemeier sons joined the family business well before they appeared in the city directory. For example, Harry's obituary states he joined the business when he was 14
- ²³ R. L. Polk & Co's Indianapolis Directory for 1894 (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1894), 422, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD. Gray Street became Orleans Street which ultimately became Pleasant Run Parkway North. The northeast corner of Gray and Raymond Street technically corresponds to an area just outside of the Hilgemeier subdivision, but the city directory may not be precise. In all likelihood, at least part of the

Hilgemeier business existed in the greenspace that is now situation between Pleasant Run Parkway North and Pleasant Run Parkway South just north of Raymond Street, where the Pleasant Run Trail runs.

- ²⁴ "The Parks, Complaints to the Commissioners," *The Indianapolis News*, 9 July 1896, page 2, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 21 July 2025).
- ²⁵ R. L. Polk & Co's Indianapolis Directory for 1897 (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1897), 455, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD. Applegate Street today is known as Pleasant Run Parkway South Drive.
- ²⁶ "Heart Attack Proves Fatal to Hilgemeier," The Indianapolis Star, 26 May 1948, page 1, column 3; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 25 June 2025).
- ²⁷ R. L. Polk & Co's Indianapolis Directory for 1899 (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1899), 480, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD. Frank was living with Harry and their mother, while George owned another home just several houses north on Barth, and Christian lived at the intersection of Shelby and Raymond Streets.
- ²⁸ Ibid.
- ²⁹ The Indianapolis Star, 31 December 1924, page 23; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 25 June 2025).
- ³⁰ "A Park Gaining Beauty," The Indianapolis Journal, 26 July 1896, page 16, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 8 July 2025); "The Parks," The Indianapolis News, 9 July 1896, page 2, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 8 July 2025); "Shelby Street Extension," The Indianapolis News, 23 May 1901, page 2, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 9 July 2025).
- ³¹ "It Is Not Unsightly," The Indianapolis Journal, 25 April 1895, page 8, column 2; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 8 July 2025).
- ³² "One Day's Statistics," The Indianapolis Star, 1 July 1904, page 11, column 1; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 8 July 2025)
- ³³ 1900 U.S. census, Indiana, Marion County, Center Township, Indianapolis, Ward 14, ED 174, sheet B4, dwelling 73 family 76, Conrad Rombke household; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing National Archives microfilm publication T623. The Roembke house no longer stands. It was likely either demolished or moved when Ringold was developed into East Pleasant Run Parkway South Drive from 1910-1911. The location where the house once stood is roughly around 921 East Pleasant Run Parkway South Drive. ³⁴ Ibid. The Roembke family reported their immigration year to census enumerators as 1897.
- ³⁵ Ibid.; U.S. Passport Application for Minnie Hilgemeier, March 22, 1922; U.S. Department of State; *Passport* Applications, January 2, 1906 - March 31, 1925; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing NARA microfilm publication M1490. There is a nine-year discrepancy in Minnie's reported birth year between the 1900 census and her 1922 passport application. The passport lists 1882, which is likely correct. The difference may stem from the 1900 census, where the enumerator could have struggled to communicate with the family due to a language barrier.
- ³⁶ "Draft Registration Cards for Indiana, 1940-1947," draft registration card for Harry Conrad Hilgemeier, Marion County, Indiana; NARA microfilm publication M1986, Records of the Selective Service System, Record Group 147; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed July 8, 2025); "Birth Returns," The Indianapolis News, 26 April 1905, page 4, column 3; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 29 July 2025). Their house at 814 East Raymond still stands today. Harry's mother, Mary, lived next door at 806 East Raymond (today 810 East Raymond) in a house she built that same year.
- ³⁷ "One Day's Statistics-Births," *The Indianapolis Star*, 25 December 1908, page 10, column 3; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 29 July 2025).
- 38 Baist, G. Wm. Baist's Real Estate Atlas of Surveys of Indianapolis, Indiana. Philadelphia: G. Wm. Baist, 1908. Plate 27. Indiana University Indianapolis Sanborn Map and Baist Atlas Collection.
- (https://library.indianapolis.iu.edu/digitalcollections/sanbornjp2: accessed 22 June 2025). In 1908, Southern Avenue was the southern boundary of the city limits. Only a total of 15 homes stood in the neighborhood where 2343 Garfield Drive stands today. For evidence of the rural nature of the immediate area, see notice for the 1908 auction at the Thomas Hayes homestead, at what is now the location of the Garfield Park sunken gardens. The

Indianapolis Star, 13 August 1905, page 20, column 7; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 1 August 2025).

- ³⁹ "For Garfield Park," *The Indianapolis Journal*, 28 July 1898, page 3, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 9 July 2025); "Shelby Street Extension," *The Indianapolis News*, 23 May 1901, page 2, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 9 July 2025).
- ⁴⁰ "Plats Approved," *The Indianapolis Journal*, 28 May 1903, page 2, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 10 July 2025); "Park Crest," *The Indianapolis Star*, 25 May 1913, page 29, digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 10 July 2025)
- ⁴¹ "Many Transfers Recorded," *The Indianapolis Star,* 9 July 1914, page 10, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 10 July 2025).
- ⁴² "To Erect \$20,000 Plant," *The Indianapolis Star, 1*9 April 1912, page 12, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 25 June 2025).
- ⁴³ R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis City Directory (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1919), 20, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025,
- https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD. The 1919 Indianapolis city directory listed meat packing as the city's principal industry according to the value of product. In 1918, over 1,300,000 hogs, 268,000 cattle, and 15,000 sheep were slaughtered and processed. The Hilgemeiers were one of at least eight meat packing operations active in the city. Compared to behemoths such as Kingan & Co., once located on the site of White River State Park, the Hilgemeier operation was on the smaller end.
- ⁴⁴ 1920 U.S. census, Indiana, Marion County, Indianapolis, Ward 13, ED 230, sheet 6A, family 115, dwelling 115, Mary Hilgemeier household; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed 22 June 2025); citing NARA microfilm publication T625. At this point in time, Minnie's father was the last of their four parents still living. Harry's mother had died in 1916; Minnie's mother in 1919.
- ⁴⁵ "Building Permits," *The Indianapolis Star*, 20 January 1923, page 13, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 3 August 2025); "Building Permits," *The Indianapolis Star*, 26 May 1923, page 4, column 1; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 3 August 2025); *The Indianapolis Star*, 13 April 1924, page 31, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 3 August 2025). 814 Raymond Street was purchased by Ralph and Marie Moore. Marie was Harry's brother Christian's sister-in-law.
- ⁴⁶ R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis City Directory (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1926), 891, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD. Harry's brother George is first listed as living at the South Meridian property in 1902. By the time Harry and his family were living there, the address was 3559 South Meridian. It is unclear if the house is still standing, though it was likely close to the intersection of Meridian and Sumner Avenue. In all likelihood, the property had some sort of ties to the Stumpf family, whosehog grand 1872 Italianate house still stands today at 3225 South Meridian. Harry's oldest sister, Maria, married into the Stumpf family and lived at the house.
- ⁴⁷ The Senior Booster (Indianapolis: Emmerich Manual Training High School, 1926), 2, Emmerich Manual High School Digital Collection, Indianapolis Public Library Digital Collections, https://www.digitalindy.org; *Culver Military Academy Roll Call* (Culver, IN: Culver Military Academy, 1926), 131, digital image, Fold3 (https://www.fold3.com: accessed August 1, 2025).
- ⁴⁸ "Building Permits," *The Indianapolis News*, 28 August 1928, page 25, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 3 August 2025); "City Construction Permits Total \$228,175 for Week," *The Indianapolis News*, 27 April 1929, page 5, column 2; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 3 August 2025). The success of the Hilgemeier packing plant in the 1920s is also evident in the Italian Renaissance style house that Harry's brother George (the company's president) built in 1923 at 4266 North Pennsylvania Street. The house still stands today.
- ⁴⁹ Harry and Minnie likely owned Lot 5 in Niermeyer's Addition well before they built their house there. Marion County deed records prior to 1964 can only be accessed in person at the Recorder's Office by manually searching microfilmed indexes—a time-intensive process. For this report, four hours were spent searching the indexes, starting with 1929 and working backward to 1926, with no results. This suggests they purchased the lot sometime between about 1913, when Niermeyer's Addition was platted, and 1925, the last year examined in the search.

⁵⁰ "Our Street," *The Indianapolis Star*, 26 September 1929, page 10, column 3; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁵¹ "Our Street," *The Indianapolis Star,* 24 June 1929, page 3, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025). Note that South Garfield Drive today was once known as East Garfield Drive, not to be confused with the East Garfield Drive that still exists today, running west to east on the edge of the park.

⁵² 1930 U.S. census, population schedule, Center Township, Marion County, Indiana, enumeration district 49-420, sheet 21A, dwelling 146, family 150, Harry C. Hilgemeier household; digital image, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed August 1, 2025); citing NARA microfilm publication T626. According to the Indianapolis city directory, Harry, Minnie, and their children were living at 2305 South Garfield Drive in 1929 while their new home was being built a couple of lots to the south. See *Polk's Indianapolis City Directory* (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1929), 788, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

⁵³ For Harry Jr.'s marriage, see "Church Ceremony to Mark Wedding of Elsa Behrmann," *The Indianapolis Star*, 14 July 1929, page 44, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025); For the construction of their house, see "Building Permits," *The Indianapolis News*, 27 April 1929, page 26, column 7; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 3 August 2025).

⁵⁴ "Miss Esther Marie Hilgemeier to Marry J. Woolford Collins," *The Indianapolis Times*, 27 December 1930, page 8, column 1; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025); "Collins-Hilgemeier Wedding Is Pretty Holiday Season Event," *The Indianapolis Star*, 28 December 1930, page 25, column 1; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 23 June 2025); "Bride of Holiday Season," *The Indianapolis Star*, 4 January 1931, page 56, column 3; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁵⁵ "Conrad Roembke Sr.," *The Indianapolis Star,* 6 December 1932, page 12, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁵⁶ "Harry C. Hilgemeier, Packer, Dies Suddenly," *The Indianapolis Star*, 8 February 1933, page 11, column 5; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁵⁷ "Fleet of Ton Stewart Trucks," *The Indianapolis Star*, 5 October 1924, page 72, digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 25 June 2025); "15 Stewarts in Hilgemeier Fleet," *The Indianapolis Star*, 30 March 1930, page 26, digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025); "Hilgemeier & Bro. Delivery Fleet," *The Indianapolis Times*, 12 November 1932, page 9, digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁵⁸ "Mrs. J. W. Collins...," *The Indianapolis Star*, 23 September 1933, page 4, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 22 June 2025).

⁵⁹ "Suits filed in the county courts," *The Indianapolis Star*, 23 November 1933, page 19, column 4; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 4 August 2025).

⁶⁰ Polk's Indianapolis City Directory (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1935), 391, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025,

https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD; *Polk's Indianapolis City Directory* (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1939), 318, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD; 1940 U.S. census, population schedule, Indianapolis, Center Township, Marion County, Indiana, ward 17, enumeration district 96-293, sheet 15A, household 320, Minnie Hilgemeier household; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed August 1, 2025); citing NARA microfilm publication T627.

⁶¹ "Vital Statistics, Marriage Licenses," *The Indianapolis Star*, 27 September 1941, page 9, column 6; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 4 August 2025).

⁶² "Daily Vital Statistics, Births," *The Indianapolis News*, 5 October 1943, page 25, column 7; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 4 August 2025).

⁶³ 1950 U.S. census, population schedule, Indianapolis, Center Township, Marion County, Indiana, enumeration district 98-564, sheet 4, dwelling 46, Karl Braun household; digital image, *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org: accessed August 1, 2025); citing NARA microfilm publication T627.

⁶⁴ "2343 E. Garfield Dr.," *The Indianapolis Star*, 26 August 1950, page 21, column 1; digital image, Newspapers.com (https://newspapers.com: accessed 21 August 2025); *Polk's Indianapolis City Directory* (Indianapolis: R. L. Polk &

Co., 1952), 142, Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis, accessed 22 June 2025, https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

List of Sources and Source Explanations

Census Records

The U.S. Census, taken every ten years, recorded details about individuals and households, such as names, ages, occupations, and places of birth. These records help establish who lived in a house at different points in time and can reveal family relationships, migration patterns, and social status. While census takers sometimes made errors or missed households, the census remains one of the most important tools for tracing people connected to a property.

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U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1900 United States Federal Census. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. Accessed via FamilySearch. https://www.familysearch.org/.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1910 United States Federal Census. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. Accessed via FamilySearch. https://www.familysearch.org/.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1920 United States Federal Census. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. Accessed via FamilySearch. https://www.familysearch.org/.

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U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1940 United States Federal Census. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. Accessed via FamilySearch. https://www.familysearch.org/.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1950 United States Federal Census. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. Accessed via FamilySearch. https://www.familysearch.org/.

City Directories

City directories functioned much like phone books before telephones were common, listing heads of household, occupations, and addresses. They allow us to track when individuals or businesses occupied a specific property year by year. Directories are particularly valuable for filling in gaps between census years and documenting the presence of renters, business owners, or changing street names and numbers.

Hutchinson's Indianapolis City Directory. Indianapolis: Sentinel Steam Printing Establishment, 1870. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

Indianapolis City Directory. Indianapolis: Sentinel Company, 1873. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

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Indianapolis Directory, 1885. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

Indianapolis Directory, 1887. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

Indianapolis Directory, 1888. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis Directory, 1889. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1889. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis Directory, 1890. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1890. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis Directory, 1894. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1894. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.

- R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis Directory, 1895. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1895. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.
- *R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis Directory*, 1897. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1897. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.
- R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis Directory, 1899. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1899. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.
- *R. L. Polk & Co.'s Indianapolis City Directory*, 1919. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk & Co., 1919. Indianapolis City Directory Collection, University Library, Indiana University Indianapolis. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://ulib.iupui.edu/digitalcollections/ICD.
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Historic Newspapers

Newspapers provide rich details about community life, from real estate transactions and building permits to obituaries and social news. Articles and advertisements can document when a property was built, who lived there, or significant events that occurred at the site. Because newspapers captured both everyday life and major events, they add important color and context to the story of a house.

The Indianapolis Journal. Indianapolis, Indiana. Accessed via Newspapers.com. https://newspapers.com.

The Indianapolis News. Indianapolis, Indiana. Accessed via Newspapers.com. https://newspapers.com.

The Indianapolis Star. Indianapolis, Indiana. Accessed via Newspapers.com. https://newspapers.com.

The Indianapolis Times. Indianapolis, Indiana. Accessed via Newspapers.com. https://newspapers.com.

Insurance Maps (Sanborn & Baist)

Fire insurance maps, such as those produced by Sanborn and Baist, show detailed building footprints, construction materials, and neighborhood layouts. These maps reveal how a house or neighborhood changed over time, including additions, demolitions, or shifts in land use. They are especially valuable for understanding the physical evolution of a property within its broader urban context.

Baist, G. Wm. *Baist's Real Estate Atlas of Surveys of Indianapolis, Indiana*. Philadelphia: G. Wm. Baist, 1908. Plate 27. Indiana University Indianapolis Sanborn Map and Baist Atlas Collection. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://library.indianapolis.iu.edu/digitalcollections/sanbornip2.

Baist, G. Wm. *Baist's Real Estate Atlas of Surveys of Indianapolis, Indiana*. Philadelphia: G. Wm. Baist, 1929. Plate 27. Indiana University Indianapolis Sanborn Map and Baist Atlas Collection. Accessed June 22, 2025. https://library.indianapolis.iu.edu/digitalcollections/sanbornjp2.

Draft Registration Cards & Passport Applications

Draft registration cards, collected during World Wars I and II, recorded personal information such as age, address, occupation, employer, and sometimes physical description. These records often confirm where a person was living at a specific moment in time, tying individuals to a property. They are especially useful for placing residents in their social and economic context during the early 20th century.

Passport applications contain detailed personal data, including birthplaces, family information, occupations, and sometimes photographs. For property history, they can confirm identities and enrich biographical detail about residents.

Other Sources

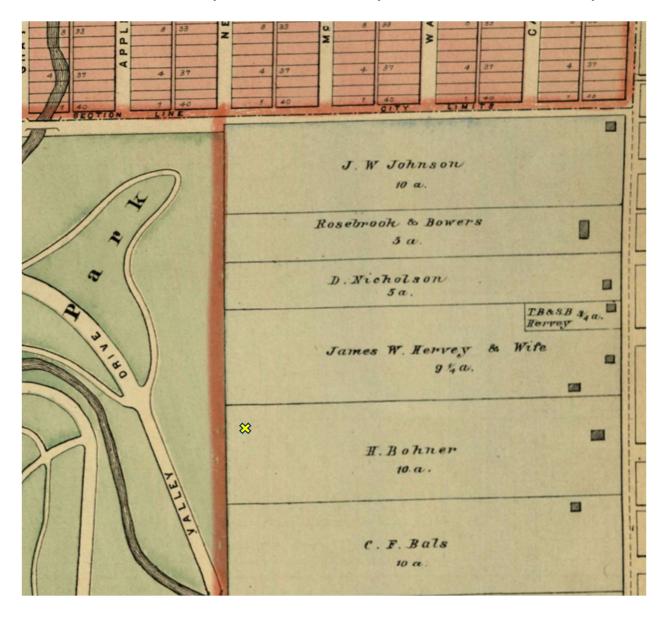
The Senior Booster. Indianapolis: Emmerich Manual Training High School, 1926. Digital image, Indianapolis Public Library Digital Collections, https://www.digitalindy.org.

Culver Military Academy Roll Call. Culver, IN: Culver Military Academy, 1926. Digital image, Fold3, https://www.fold3.com.

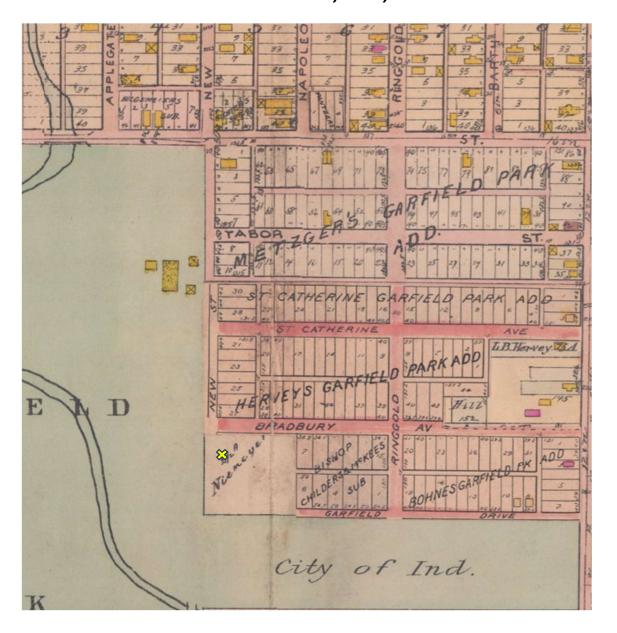
Appendix I: Map Chronology

The following is a series of snippets from historic maps that show the development of the area immediately surrounding 2343 South Garfield Drive. The yellow X represents the location of the home today.

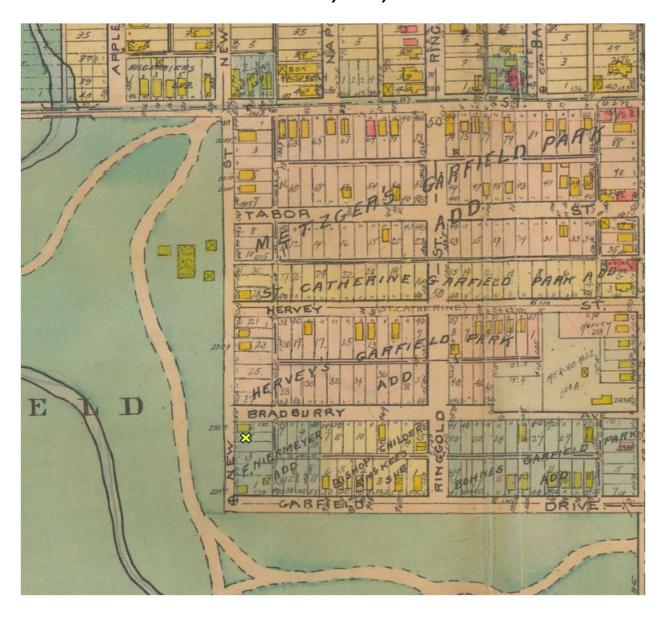




Baist Real Estate Atlas of Indianapolis, 1908. Courtesy of Indiana University Indianapolis
University Library.



Baist Real Estate Atlas of Indianapolis, 1916. Courtesy of Indiana University Indianapolis
University Library.



Baist Real Estate Atlas of Indianapolis, 1926. Courtesy of Indiana University Indianapolis University Library.



Baist Real Estate Atlas of Indianapolis, 1929. Courtesy of Indiana University Indianapolis
University Library.



Appendix II: Houses Related to 2343 South Garfield

The following addresses are other Hilgemeier houses located around Indianapolis:

2154 Barth Avenue – the Hilgemeier family's original house when they first moved to the Garfield Park area.

814 East Raymond Street – Harry and Minnie Hilgemeier's home prior to building 2343 South Garfield Drive. Their children, Esther and Harry Jr., were raised here.

810 East Raymond Street – home of Harry's mother, Maria Hilgemeier.

713 East Pleasant Run Parkway South – home of Harry's brother Christian Hilgemeier and his wife Lilly Ruth Hilgemeier.

4266 North Pennsylvania Avenue – home of Harry's brother George Hilgemeier and his wife Anna Backmeyer Hilgemeier.

3225 South Meridian Street – home of Harry's oldest sister Mary Hilgemeier Stumpf and her husband George Stumpf Jr.

2701 Allen Avenue – home of Harry Hilgemeier Jr. and his wife Elsa Behrmann Hilgemeier.

Appendix III: F. Hilgemeier & Bro. Meatpacking Plant

The Hilgemeier plant at the corner of Raymond and West Street operated until 1942, when it was forced to close due to the wartime economy. See "Hilgemeier Firm Quits Business," *The Indianapolis News*, 15 July 1942, pages 1 & 4 for more information (in the primary document appendix to this report).

Most of the original plant stood until at least 2007. Now, only one building remains on the premises. Aerial views of the packing plan from 1951 can be seen at the following links:

https://images.indianahistory.org/digital/collection/dc012/id/2618/rec/1

https://images.indianahistory.org/digital/collection/dc012/id/3100/rec/2

https://images.indianahistory.org/digital/collection/dc012/id/3552/rec/3

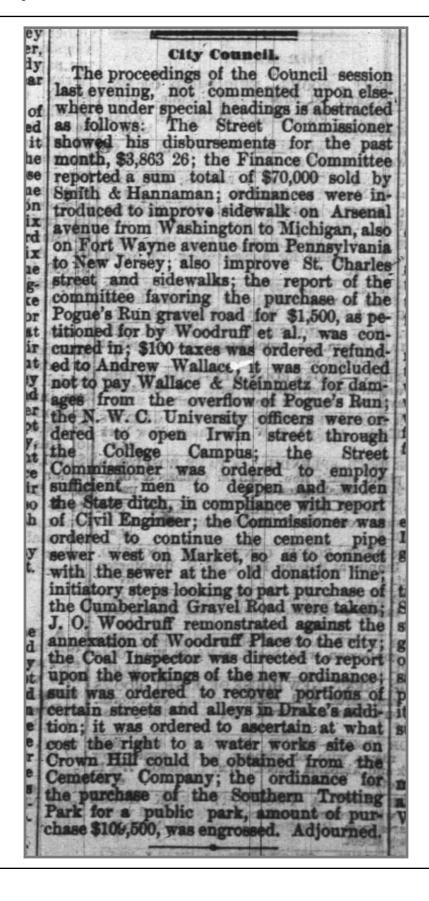
Appendix IV: Copies of Select Primary Sources

Copies of select newspaper articles and census records used in the research of the report are attached on the following pages. Because city directory entries are brief and repetitive, individual pages from Indianapolis city directories are not included. Digital copies of these can be obtained at https://library.indianapolis.iu.edu/digitalcollections/icd

Records are in chronological order; censuses begin with 1870 and end with 1950. The 1890 census, destroyed by fire, is not included.

Newspapers

by Ancestry

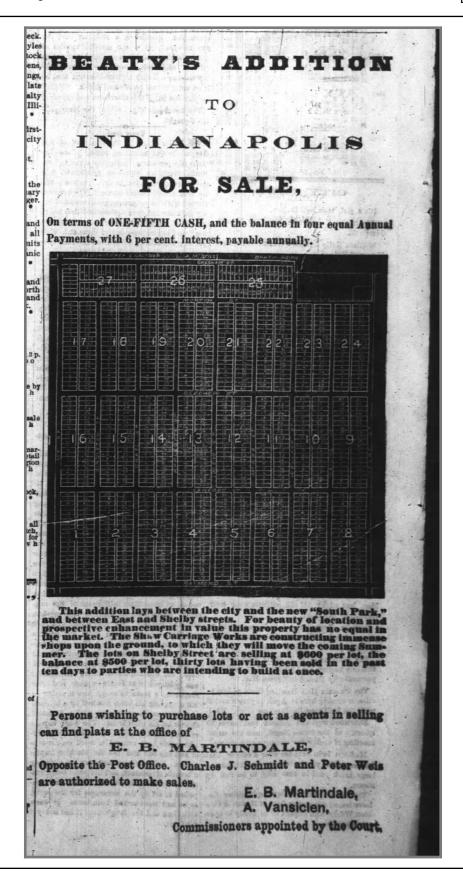


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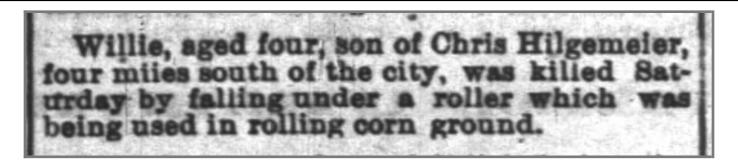
ligh The lots in Beaty's addition are now and being sold very rapidly at very low and on easy payments. The property adbv joins the South Park on the north, laying iere between the Park and the city. All the lots eet. except those fronting on Shelby street are 0th being sold at \$500 per lot, and those fronting mison Shelby street at \$600 per lot. One fifth of and the purchase money is payable in cash, and the balance on four equal annual payments acat 6 per cent, interest, payable annually. anv One hundred dollars cash will obtain a lot. 3dBy midsummer the Shaw Carriage Works will be moved to their new shop now being the constructed upon the ground. Active agents. her who have been giving their attention to this hth property have averaged a sale of two lots per The proprietors have placed the property at this low figure and propose to close them out. Persons wishing to purchase can find plats with Peter Weis. Charley Smith, ion or at the office of E. B. Martindale, opposite ue. the Post Office. ing

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Newspapers



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Last Night's Meeting of Council.

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Newspapers

THE WISH OF THE SOUTH SIDE.

Citizens Urge an Immediate and Extensive Improvement of Garfield Park.

A hundred or more citizens of the South Side met at the engine-house on the corner of Madison avenue and Morris street last night for the purpose of advancing the improvement of Garfield Park, which has, during the last two or three years, been used as a cattle pasture. Edwarn Dean presided. Quite a number of citizens spoke, and all urged that some measures be taken for improving the ground. Gen. John Coburn thought the Council should appropriate some money to be expended in planting trees, making walks and building a bridge across the stream passing through the park. He believed some arrangement could be made by which the prisoners at the work-house could be employed in such work. If this could be done the park, with a small amount of money, could be made the most in viting place in the city. He urged citizens of the South Side to plant trees this spring along all the driveways, and the work could be easily carried out if one hundred persons would volunteer to plant ten trees each. Council had been amiss in allowing the park to go down.
The 40,000 or 50,000 people on the South Side
were entitled to have some money expended,
and they must come to the front and demand

were entitled to have some money exhemed, and they must come to the front and demand to be recognized.

Councilman Kelly thought Council deserved some criticism for the course it had pursued. The councilman from the south side of Washington streethad to beg for all they got. Even the News, he said, after advising the purchase of the ground, complained that the city was about to be bankrupted because a South-side councilman had asked for a bridge on a street leading to the park. The street-cars should be run to the grounds, but it had to be admitted that at present there was no street leading there that was available for a car line. He was going to make an effort to have Shelby street extended, and then he believed a street-car track would be built. He favored the formation of a Garfield-park Association on the South side. South side.

South side.
Councilman Cummings, although not a resident of that section of the city, was called on to give his views, and he said that the grounds were the only available place for a park in Indianapolis. When the city saw its way clear, financially, it should appropriate not less than \$1,000 annually for improving the grounds, and in the meantime the city engineer should be required to make a plat of the park, fixing the location of waiks, driveways, trees and fountains.

quired to make a plat of the park, fixing the location of waiks, driveways, trees and fountains.

August Kuhn believed the South Side had always suffered from the fact that there was a division line between it and the north part of the city; but the dividing line was disappearing. There was too much of a selfshspirit pervading the Council, and he was afraid the South Side would never have any relief until a few more wards were made south of Washington street. Garfield Park was the only one Indianapolis could ever have, and the North Side should be interested. It should not be improved by 10-cent subscriptions, but by a tax levied on all the citizens alike.

Wm. H. Tucker believed now was the time to begin improving the grounds. Indianapolis lacked a park, and while the city was taking on new life it would be a good time to complete the work begun by the purchase of the ground. Nothing so fascinated strangers in a city as absautiful park. Indianapolis could not now present any attractions in that line. If a traveling man desired to spend Sunday in the city there were but two places where he could go and be interested. One was the stockyards and the other Crown Hill Cemetery.

Aldermen Reinecke, Lee Fulmer, Judge Denny and other gentlemen addressed the meeting, after which a committee, composed of Gen. Coburn. A. M. Kuhn, John Egger, Ernst I. Knodel and Edward Dean, was appointed to draft resolutions embracing the sense of the meeting for presentation to the Council at its next meeting.

next meeting.

Clipped By: reannporay Jul 7, 2025

Downloaded on Aug 23, 2025

Newspapers

IMPROVING GARFIELD PARK Another Enthusiastic Meeting in the Interest of an Appropriation. Mayor Denny and Several Councilmen Favor the Movement—The Matter to Come Be-fore the Council Next Monday Night,

Newspapers

and Markey.

Garfield Park Improvement.

Mr. Markey, by a special privilege, introduced the ordinance appropriating \$10,000 out of the general fund to be used in improving Garfield The ordinance provides that the money shall be spent by a special committee, under th direction of the Council, in improving the ground according to plans and specifications to be drawn up by the city engineer. Mr. Markey. on behalt of two hundred South-side citizens. who were present, moved to have the rules suspended and the ordinance put upon its passage.

Mr. Swain said he favored the appropriation. but he did not believe the amount asked should be pledged without the matter first going to the finance committee. It was an unusual thing for the Council to act so hastily, and he was not in favor of drawing upon the treasury without first allowing the finance committee to state where

the money was to come from.

Messrs. Hicklin and Trusler supported the ordinance. They said the improvement was not in the interest of the South Side alone; it was for the whole city. The public demanded that the park be improved, and they thought there

was no necessity for delay.

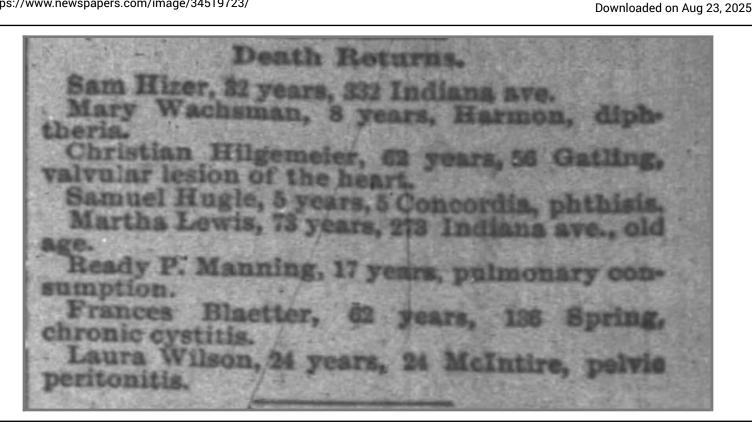
Mr. Thalman, chairman of the finance committee, did not think the city was able to appropriate more than \$5,000 at this time, but when the vote was called on the motion to suspend the rules it prevailed, Messrs. Dunn. McClelland, Swain and Thalman being the only ones who

voted in the negative.

Mr. Cummings offered an amendment to the ordinance, providing that 25 per cent, of the sum realized yearly from the saloon lincense be set apart for the improvement of the park, but it met with no encouragement, and was withdrawn. The ordinance was then passed. Messrs. Dunn. Thalman and Swain voted against it, on the ground that the city could not afford to approeriate such a large sum at this time.

Natural Cas Ordinana

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IT IS NOT UNSIGHTLY

NEW COMMISSIONERS MAKE A TRIP TO GARFIELD PARK.

A Wooden Dam Will Probably Be the of Streets.

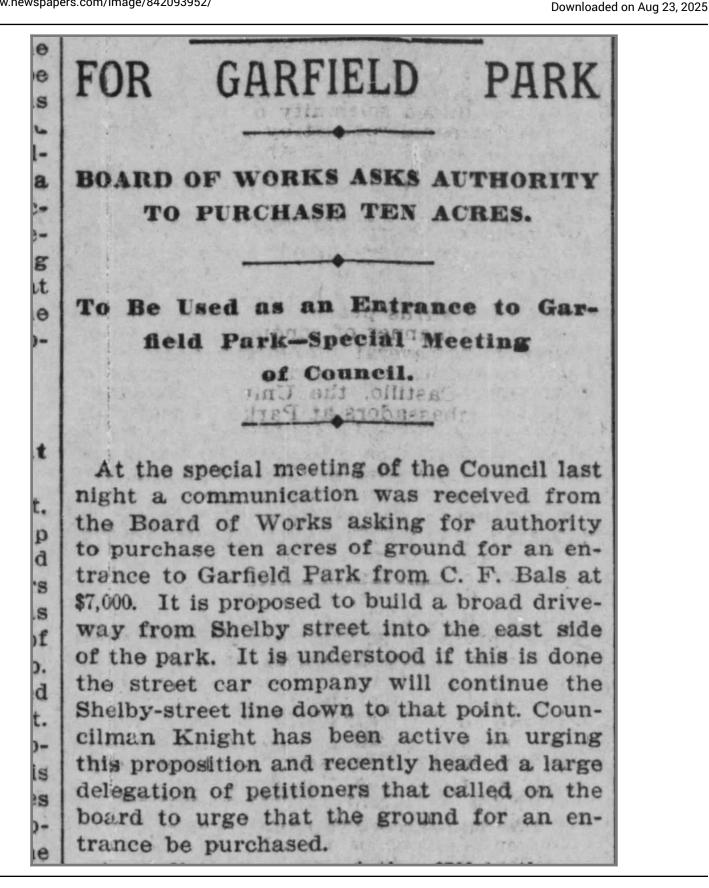
The park commissioners, accompanied by Mayor Denny, Mr. Atkinson, of the Board of Works, and City Engineer Brown, visited Garfield Park yesterday afternoon. The commissioners were surprised to find the park in such a good condition, as some of them, had been led to believe the grass was all dead, the trees were dying, and the place resembled a wilderness. They found the contrary true, for Garfield Park at present is beautiful. One member of the board said tought to be a pretty place, for it has cost the city enough to make it so. The ground was purchased in 1874 for \$109,000, a very liberal sum. For twenty years the city paid 73-10 per cent. interest on the \$109,500 worth of bonds. Last year Controller Trusher refunded the bonds at 4 per cent. The books at the controller's office show that Garfield Park has cost the city about \$909,000. An illustration of past mismanagement was noted by the commissioners yesterday. In the center of the park an old park committee built a mound, which it is said cost \$900. The mound was sodded and became an attraction. During the Sullivan regime this mound was partially destroyed and about \$250 was spent in hauling the dirt away. Mayor Denny, after he was elected, heard of the destruction of the mound and ordered it stopped. The present commissioners will have the mound rounded off and placed in the best condition that is possible with the dirt remaining.

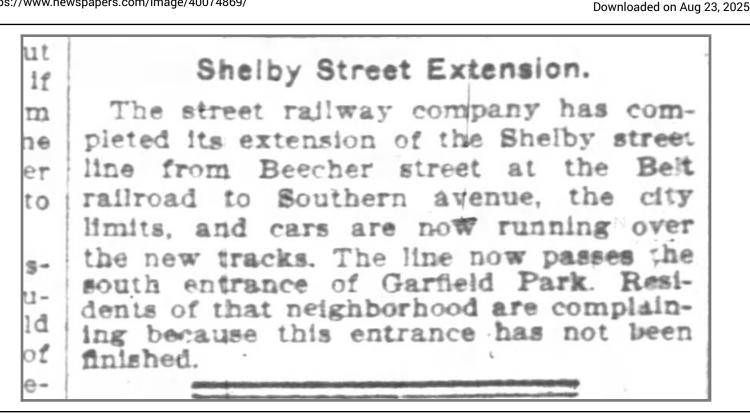
When the party visited the park yesterday afternoon some school children were laving a picnic in the grove. There were having an picnic in the grove. There were having a picnic in the grove and the place or sitting of people walking about the place or sitting of people walking about the place or sitting for "shiners." A number of women were going about hunting for "greens." The songs of many birds were heard, and the commissioners decided that the street opened should be improved and made energy services of



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PLATS APPROVED.

Holliday's Garfield Park addition, being a bdivision of a tract of land situate and Marion county, Indiana, all the southeast quarter of Sec-Township north. west half of said acres, more or less:

ifth Section West Park, being a subdiion of part of the west half of the southof Section Range 3 east, in Marion county, diana; 24 lots.

BOND APPROVED.

by ancestry.

Bireet.

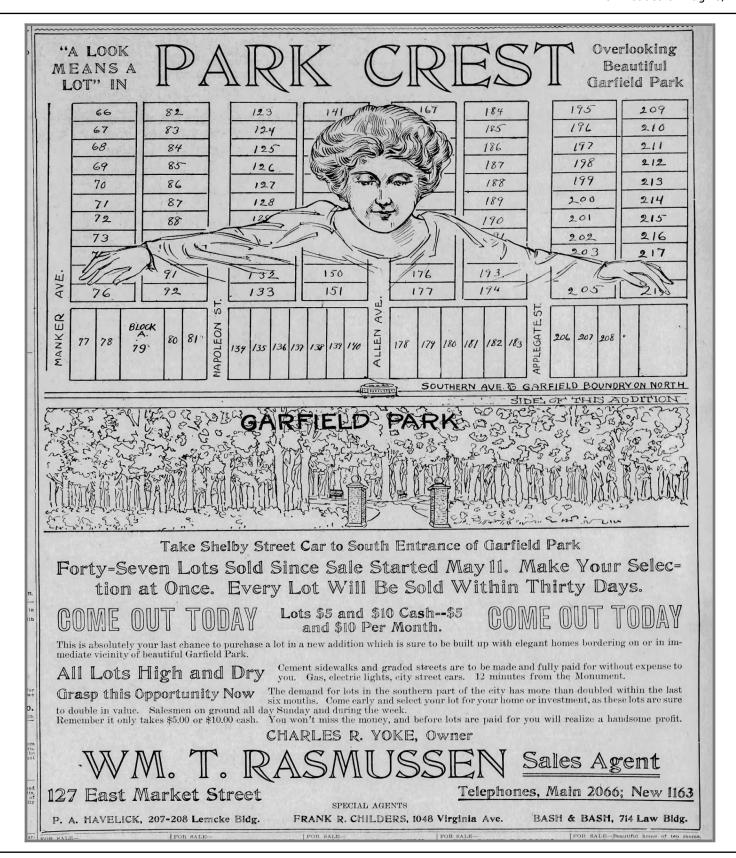
TO ERECT \$20,000 PLANT.

A building permit was issued to Frank Hilgemeier & Bros., meat packers, Shelthe Pennsylvania railroad street and the two-story erection of a building at Daisy Raymond and used as a packing plant. to be structure is to cost \$20,000. total of twenty-five building permits

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MANY TRANSFERS RECORDED

City Closes \$27,918.18 Deal, Adding Considerable Acreage to Garfield Park Addition-Permits Also Numerous.

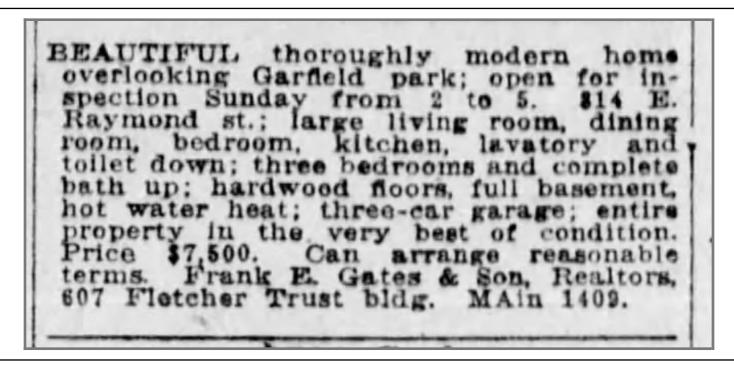
In contrast to last week, the activity in real estate and building permits started off with a rush yesterday. Thirty-seven building permits were issued, involving \$47,823, nearly one-half of the transac-There were forty-nine tions last week. real estate transfers, representing a total consideration of \$94,518.18, almost twice as much as the Monday preceding.

The real estate transfer totals were strengthened by the closing of a deal with Mary L. Kaiser, Julia M. Ettling and Frances M. Stratman by the city of Indianapolis whereby considerable acreage was added to the Garfield Park addition. The consideration was \$27,918.18, of which amount Mary Kaiser received \$8,000; Julia M. Ettling, \$10,870.18, and Frances M. Stratman, \$9,048.

Dr. Henry Jameson, chairman of the board of park commissioners, said last night that the Garfield Park addition of thirty-three acres was completed with the exception of one lot and house. three properties transferred yesterday are on the east side of Garfield Park between

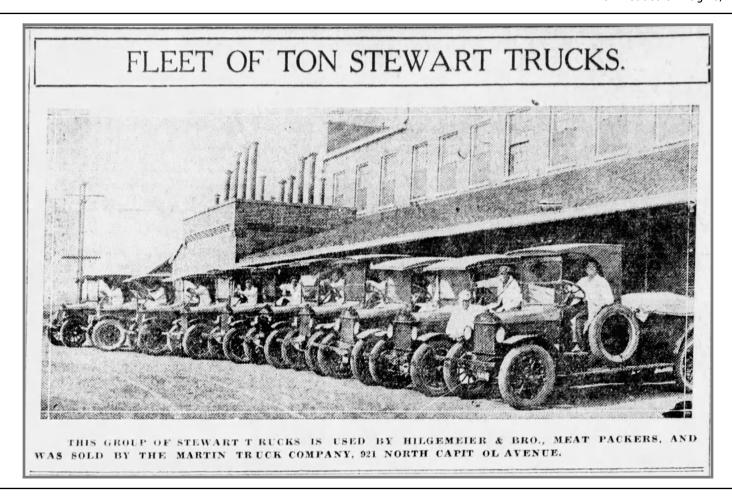
Garfield and Shelby streets.
The realty market was featured by the transfer of many residences for nominal considerations, none being for any large amount. Clyde J. Roach sold to Herbert H. Woodsmall a part of a quarter section in Center Township for the sum of

\$9,000.



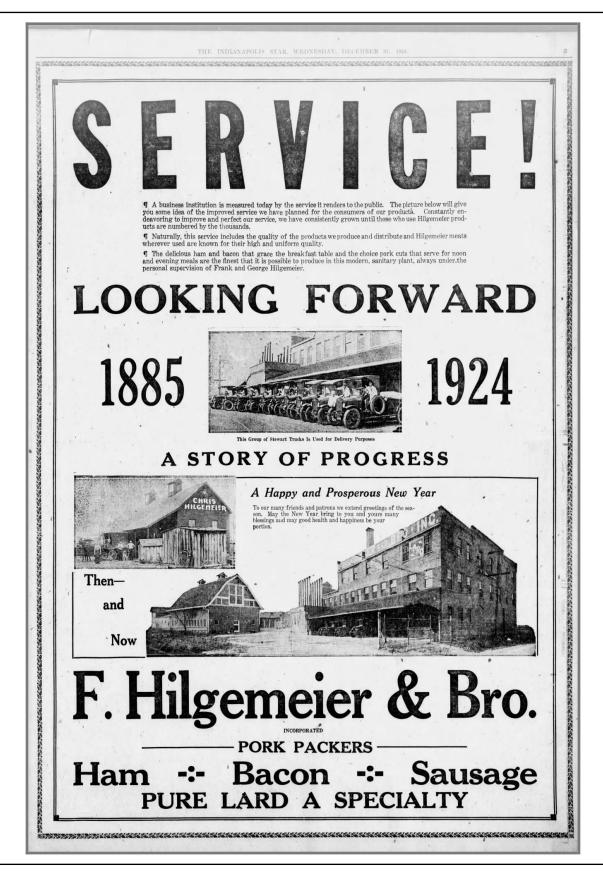
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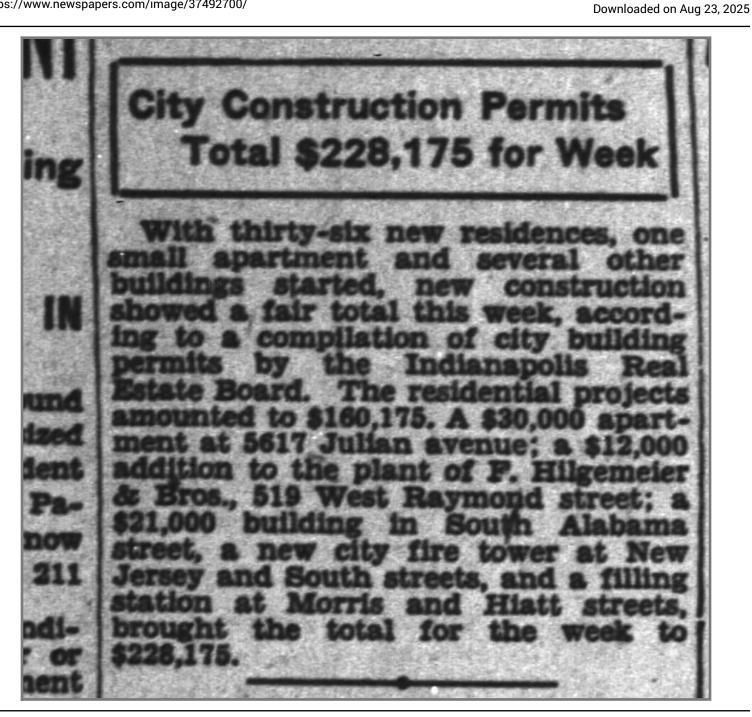


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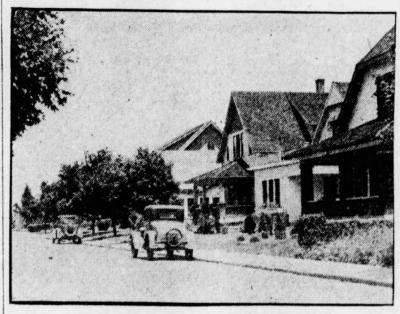
-	The state of the s
3	Quilding Donmite
-	Building Permits
7	F. Duepre, repairs, 855 Colton, \$400.
	G. Leppert, addition, 249 North Mount,
	V. Skaggs, garage, 2737 School, \$300.
	. J. W. Leonard, dwelling and garage, 4229
	Carrollton, \$7,250. J. F. Boehne, dwelling and garage, 2605
	East Thirtieth, \$2,750.
	M. E. McGuff, dwelling and garage, 4916 Young, \$4,200.
	J. C. Shea, remodel, 1928 North Delaware,
	\$450.
	C. Susennickel, addition, 607 Orange, \$415.
	J. Zimmerman, porch, 1738 South Tal-
	bott, \$250. Hoosier Petroleum Company, building,
	2037 East Washington, \$1,000.
	C. R. Yoke, reroof, 2916 Shelby, \$300. V. E. Shake, addition, 1018 North Rural,
1	\$1,000.
	F. M. Ruch, reroof, 3515 North Illinois, \$200.
	W. G. Harris, reroof, 25 North Riley,
	S235. C. G. Walsh, dwelling and garage, 5745
1	Broadway Terrace, \$6,800.
1	I. S. Wilson, dwelling and garage, 113
1	South Elder, \$5 700. H. Friedman, furnace, 1935 Park, \$270.
	H. Hilgemeier, dwelling and garage, 2343
	Garfield drive. \$5,250. R. Lageman, building. Michigan and
1	Noble. \$12,000.



by ancestry



(Photo by Star Staff Photographer.)



VIEW OF 2100 BLOCK, EAST GARFIELD DRIVE.

drive is one of the most beautiful Raymond street. sections of Indianapolis, its residents

They offer as a clincher for their assertion the fact that the street was so beautiful when it was called "New street" about ten years ago the city decided to include it in the boulevard system.

As a result the 2100 block of "New street" was clipped off and made a part of the Garfield park boulevard system and the name was changed to East Garfield drive.

"The city wants only beauty in its boulevard system," Mrs. H. L. Watson, 2149 East Garfield drive, declared, "so they took this part of New street."

Mr. and Mrs. Watson and their family have lived on East Garfield drive seven years. She asserted they like it because of its beauty, clean- are kept in such perfect condition liness and desirable location near The neighbors, she added, are ideal

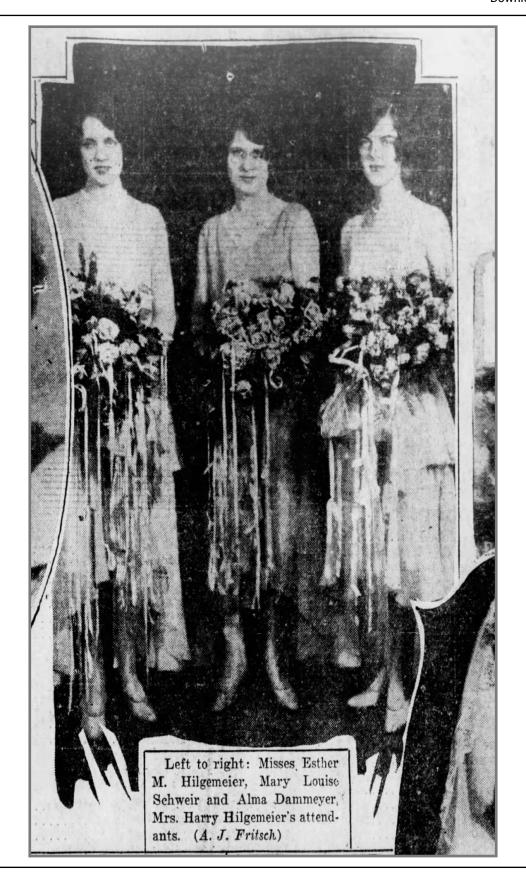
The 2100 block of East Garfield | Garfield park, which is just across

Other residents in the block expressed views similar to Mrs. Watson's concerning the street.

"I like the street because nearly every one owns his own home and the neighbors and surroundings are so pleasant," Mrs. Jess Haynes, 2145 East Garfield drive, said. She has lived in the neighborhood six years.

Mrs. Madalene Shumaker, East Garfield drive, who has lived there sixteen years, declared that the street is the "prettiest in the city." "This street is so quiet and peaceful. It is away from the factory district and all of the smoke and soot. We also are four blocks from the rumbling, clanging street cars, she said.

"A splendid place to rear children, Mrs. John Baumann, 2129 East Gar field drive, asserted. She said slie likes the street because every one i financially able to afford a pretty neat home, an automobile if the want one, and because the yard



by ancestry



(Photo by Star Staff Photographer.)



GARFIELD DRIVE, WEST OF SHELBY STREET ..

estate-without the cost."

This might well be the slogan of residents of Garfield drive, west of grounds, the fountains, the sunken garden of Garfield park, truly an estate that would satisfy a plutocrat.

The well-planned appearance of the drive is distinctive. Houses are of moved in eight years ago. the same general type, bungalows, some with small second stories, and of brick or brick-and-frame construction. The lawns are terraced, giving residents the advantages of privacy and better view over the park. Down the grass plot that divides sidewalk from boulevard is a row of maple trees.

Pioneer Residents.

Pioneer residents of the drive are construction, beautified by offices that line Shelby street.

All the advantages of a country flowers and shrubbery, at the corner of Ringgold street and Garfield drive. Mr. Bishop is head of a firm of jew-elers at 948 Virginia avenue.

The neighborhood is approximately Shelby street, for they have just fifteen years old. There is but one across the street the spacious vacant lot permitting further constrduction. It was practically built up when Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Dynes, who have a pleasant home at 1044, near the Shelby street corner,

Attractive Homes.

Attractive homes are occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Simon, in an all-brick house at 1014, and the Rev. William H. Knierim, in a freshly painted white frame house at 1020 Garfield drive.

Just around the corner from the neighborhood is the Shelby branch library at the intersection of Shelby Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Bishop, 968 street and Bradbury avenue, and Garfield drive, who live in a home of conveniently close are the store and



Miss Esther Marie Hilgemeier to Marry J. Woolford Collins

The marriage of Miss Esther Marie Hilgemeier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hilgemeier, 2343 Garfield avenue, and J. Woolford Collins, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Collins, Robinson, Ill., will take place at 8:30 tonight at Emmaus Lutheran church.

The Rev. W. C. Meinzen will perform the ceremony.

The church will be lighted by cathedral candles tied with bows of silver, and the altar, in a banking of palms, will be decorated with a basket of white roses and chrysanthemums.

Miss Frances Olsen, soloist, accompanied by G. W. Kastrup, organist, will sing.

Miss Garnet Roempke will be maid of honor. She will wear a gown of white satin and tulle. The bridesmaids will be Mrs. H. C. Hilgemeier Jr., and Miss Virginia Holmes. Mrs. Hilgemeier will wear white moire and Miss Holmes white crepe.

The gowns all will be made with lor, Louisville, princess lines. The attendants will Robinson, Ill.

wear long white gloves, silver turbans, silver slippers and carry white chrysantheniums tied with silver ribbon. They will wear markasite necklaces, the gifts of the bride.

The bride, whose father will give her in marriage, will wear ivory satin dress, princess style and floor length. Her veil is made with a cap and caught with rhinestones and orange blossoms. She will wear a markasite necklace in the shape of a rose, the gift of the bridegroom, and carry a bouquet of white orchids, gardenias and lilies of the valley.

A reception and a candlelight supper at the home will follow the ceremony.

The couple will go immediately to Evansville, where they will make their home, the bride traveling in a black and white crepe outfit.

Among the out-of-town guests who will attend the wedding are Mr. and Mrs. Chris Oefflinger and Mary Louise Oefflinger, New Albany; Mr. and Mrs. William Taylor, Louisville, and Mrs. G. L. Smith, Robinson. Ill.

Collins-Hilgemeier Wedding Is Pretty Holiday Season Event

A pretty wedding of the Christmas season took place at 8:30 o'clock last night at the Emmaus Lutheran Church when Miss Esther Hilgemeier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hilgemeier Sr., 2343 Garfield drive, became the bride of J. W. Collins, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Collins of Robinson, Ill.

The church was decorated with palms and ferns. There was a large decorated Christmas tree at one side of the front of the church and the greenery at the altar was interspersed with white chrysanthemums in vases tied with silver ribbon.

The ceremony was read by the white orchids, gardenias and lilies of Rev. W. C. Meinzen.

Preceding the ceremony G. W. Kastrup, organist, played a program of bridal music and Miss Frances Olsen sang "Beloved, It Is Morn" and "O Perfect Love."

Miss Garnet Roempke was maid of honor and the bridesmaids were Mrs. H. C. Hilgemeier Jr. and Miss Virginia Holmes.

Attendants' Gowns.

The attendants all wore gowns of white fashioned Princess style with skirts to the floor. They wore silver turbans and slippers and long white kid gloves and carried arm bouquets of white chrysanthemums. Roempke's gown was of satin, Mrs. Hilgemeier Jr.'s moire, and Miss Holmes's crepe.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was lovely in a gown of white satin with skirt to the Her veil was caught with rhinestones and orange blossoms. She carried a shower arm bouquet of the valley.

Gayle Collins of Robinson, Ill., was his brother's best man and the ushers were H. C. Hilgemeier Jr. and V. L. Smith.

Mrs. Hilgemeier, mother of the bride, wore a gown of brown chiffon with a shoulder bouquet and Mrs. Collins, mother of the bridegroom, wore a black lace gown with shoulder bouquet.

Reception Follows.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents. The bridal table was arranged with a three-tiered wedding cake and was lighted with white tapers.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins have gone to Evansville where they will live:

Among the out-of-town guests were Messrs and Mesdames R. L. Collins and V. L. Smith of Robinson, Chris Oeffinger and daughter of New Albany and William Taylor of Louisville, Ky.

Marriage of Collins / Collins





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CONRAD ROEMBKE SR.

Conrade Roembke Sr., 84 years old, a native of Germany, died yesterday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Harry Hilgemeier Sr., 2343 East Garfield drive, after an illness of two years.

Mr. Roembke came to the United States when he was 50 years old. While a citizen of Germany, he fought in the German army against He learned the France in 1870-71. cabinetmaking trade in Germany and followed that trade in the United States until he retired.

Mr. Roembke was a member of the Lutheran Evangelical Emmaus Survivors are four daugh-Church. ters, Mrs. Hilgemeier, Mrs. Louise Klier and Mrs. Jess Haynes, all of Mrs. William Indianapolis, and Struebe of Westfalen, Germany; two sons, Conrad Roembke Jr. and Henry Indianapolis; three Roembke of

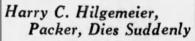
and William Frederick brothers. Roembke of Indianapolis, and Ernest Roembke of Westfalen, Germany, and a sister, Mrs. Charlotte Bisching of Westfalen, Germany.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon in the home of Mrs. Hilgemeier and in the Emmaus church at 2:30 o'clock. Burial will be in Concordia cemetery.

GRANT JACOBS.

Sherman Jacobs, Statehouse policeman, has received word of the death of his twin brother, Grant Jacobs, in Ventura, Cal., Mr. Jacobs died Friday of heart disease, Funeral services were held in Ventura yesterday. Mr. Jacobs was born Feb. 16. 1865, in Cicero, the son of Asa and Ellen Jacobs. He had spent the last twenty-five years in California.

by ancestry



(A. J. Fritsch Photo.)



HARRY C. HILGEMEIER.

Harry C. Hilgemeier, 53 years old, active in the packing industry in Indianapolis many years, died in his home, 2343 East Garfield drive, at 9:45 o'clock yesterday morning.

Mr. Hilgemeier had gone to his work at the F. Hilgemeier & Bro. plant at 519 West Raymond street, but returned home about 7:30 o'clock, when he became ill. Death was caused by heart disease.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon in the home and at 2:30 o'clock in the Emmaus Evangelical Lutheran Church. The Rev. W. C. Meinzen, pastor, will conduct the services. Burial will be in Concordia cemetery.

Mr. Hilgemeier was born in Indianapolis, a son of Chris Hilgemeier, founder of the packing company. He attended the St. Paul German Lutheran school and entered the business when he was 14 years old. He held many positions with the company and at the time of his death was superintendent of the stock department and of the truck drivers. His two brothers, Frank Hilgemeier and George Hilgemeier, are members of the firm.

Mr. Hilgemeier was a member of the Emmaus Church and was elected at trustee of the church this search.

Mr. Hilgemeier was a member of the Emmaus Church and was elected a trustee of the church this year. He was a supervisor of Concordia cemetery. Survivors besides the two brothers are the widow, Mrs. Minnie Hilgemeier; a daughter, Mrs. J. Woodford Collins; a son, Harry C. Hilgemeier Jr.; a sister, Mrs. Louis Schreiber of Julietta, and two grandchildren.

MRS. J. W. COLLINS, 2343 field drive, entertained last night with a bridal shower for Miss Virginia Holmes, whose engagement has announced to Ernest B. Smith. hostess was assisted mother, Mrs. Harry Hilgemeier Sr. Guests with the bride-elect her mother, Mrs. Frank Holmes, and Mesdames Donald Robert Schreiber, Rueben Behlmer, Emily Stout, Francis Zaring Hilgemeier Jr., and the Misses Danmeyer, Helen Margaret Holtman, Louise Schwier, Lenore Millie Tamblyn, Irene Russell, Mary Louise Schwier, Garnett Charlotte Byrne.



ce 519 West Raymond street are being or converted rapidly as possible into a cold storage plant for the preser- ic vation, of lease-lend foodstuffs and w

privately-owned stocks.

Killing of hogs at the plant ceased three weeks ago, according to the announcement of George Hilgemeier, to Jr., vice-president of the Hilgemeier m corporation and head of the South a Side Cold Storage Company partnership under which the firm will henceforth operate. George Hilgemeier, Sr., is president of the packing corporation and Walter Gerdts m is secretary-treasurer.

Since slaughtering operations ceased the company has been engaged in liquidating its stocks prep- 0 aratory to devoting all facilities to h cold storage. Large stocks, including twenty-five cars of cheese, already are in storage. Storage capacity, at f its peak this fall, will be from 225 to 250 cars of foodstuffs.

Hilgemeier said the necessity to discontinue the packing business be- n came apparent several months ago P when the office of price administration fixed a ceiling on wholesale n pork sales based on a hog market d of about \$13 a 100 pounds. No ceiling was placed on the live hog market, which since has reached \$15 a 100 pounds. Thus the company

Continued on Page 4, Part 1

by ancestry

HILGEMEIER FIRM

was unable to operate without a loss Hilgemeier said

Other larger packing houses are able to operate, Hilgemeier said, be-cause of a \$1.50 a 100-pound premium price paid by the federal surplus commodities corporation for leaselend foodstuffs. Hilgemeier's never has been a federally inspected plant, he said, and application for such inspection was not made because com-pany officials believed they could be of more service to the nation by providing much-needed cold storage space than by contributing a relatively small amount of pork products to lease-lend supplies.

"These supplies, we believe, can be more efficiently handled by the larger packers than by our business, which has been built almost entirely on a local trade," Hilgemeier said.

Parleys With OPA.

"We discovered, soon after the ceiling was put on our prices, that we could not get as much money from a dressed hog as it cost us on foot, even before we charged against it the necessary overhead, such as taxes and the salaries of approxi-mately 145 employes. Under such circumstances, of course, we could not continue to operate. The companies handling government busi-ness are able to make additional savings because there is no delivery cost to them such as there was to

us in serving local trade."

Hilgemeier said he attended numerous meetings with OPA offi-cials at Washington and several meetings at which pork packers sought to work out proposals to submit to OPA officials. No satisfactory solution was worked out, he said, leaving his company no alternative.

The Hilgemeier concern has killed from 50,000 to 60,000 hogs a year, exceeded in Indianapolis only by the Kingan & Co. and Armour & Co. plants.

The Hilgemeier business first was established by Christian Hilgemeier in a small plant near Garfield park, At his death fifty years ago, George, Sr., and Frank Hilgemeier took over the business, moving to larger quarters along the Pennsylvania railroad south of the city. The present site was occupied in 1912.

In addition to other factors contributing to the closing is the prospective war service of the younger Hilgemeier. He originally was Hilgemeier. He originally was classified in Class 1-A, but received a ninety-day reclassification in Class 3-A to wind up the business and place on its expanded program the cold storage concern, of which he has been the head for seven years. Recently, he has conferred with the quartermaster corps officials of the 5th corps area, believing his wide experience in the packing and cold storage business might be valuable to that phase of the war effort. He expects to have other such conferences within the next few days.

s. a O d	Proves Fatal To Hilgemeier	1
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h 1.	Ex-Packing Company	
	President Had Been	
n		
d	In Ill Health 2 Years	
h		
v	George August Hilgemeier Sr.,	
	Indianapolis industrialist, died	
e	of a heart attack last night in his	
t,	office at the F. Hilgemeier &	
-	Brothers packing house. Mr. Hilgemeier, 72 years old,	
d	4266 North Pennsylvania Street,	
k	was president of the firm a num-	(
	ber of years.	1
t -	He also served as president of	r
-	Hilgemeier Frosted Foods, Inc.,	r
-	Dunn Beverage Co., Inc., and	
t.	Dixon-Block Coal Co., Inc.	
d is e	NATIVE OF Indianapolis, he was an associate of the Madison Avenue State Bank of which he was a founder and past-president.	
	In declining health two years,	t
	he had devoted considerably less	S
	time than usual to business mat- ters recently, members of his	3
	family said.	e
	The meat packing plant, one	
1	of the oldest concerns in the city, closed in 1942 and was leased	e
	recently to Stark and Wetzel	S
1	Inc. for pork packing operations.	b
	It was founded by his father, Christian Hilgemeier, in a small	r
	plant near Garfield Park. At his	e
	death 50 years ago, two sons,	A
-	George Sr. and Frank, took over directorship and the plant sub-	V
-		
	Turn to Page 18, Column 6	n

Concluded From Page 1

sequently moved to its present site, 519 West Raymond Street.

MORE THAN 60,000 hogs were slaughtered there annually at the peak of operations.

Mr. Hilgemeier was a member of Pentalpha Masonic Lodge No. 564, the Scottish Rite, Shrine and Royal Order of Jesters. He belonged to the Zion Evangelical and Reformed Church.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Anna M. Hilgemeier; a daughter, Mrs. Marie H. Huckaby, and two sons, George Jr. and Edward H. Hilgemeier.

Flanner & Buchanan Mortuary is in charge of arrangements. Burial will be held in Crown Hill Mausoleum.



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Page No. 3/ Supervisor's Dist. No. 3

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Recd July 15, 1880. C.

Enumeration Dist. No. /27 SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in 2/2 Ward Indian apoli, in the County of Carrier enumerated by me on the Kinth day of June, 1880.

, State of Indiana

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In Citie	.1	1	Personal Description.	1	Civil Condition,	Occupation.		Health.	I E	ducation.		Nativity.	Enumerate
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	deitation.		du.; Chin	to mouth			en unemi		1				
	order of v	The Name of each Person whose place of abole, on 1st day of June, 1880, was to be small to the second	dulatto, 3	Relationship of each person to the head of this family—			a hus be	Is the person [on the day of the Knumera- tor's visit] sick or	THE YEAR		Place of Birth of this person, naming State or Territory	Place of Birth of the	Place of Birth of the
	Dered h	in this family.	lack, B; 3 alo, F. prior to,	daughter, servant,	prosel, D.	Profession, Occupation or Trade of each person, male or female.	this perse	temporarily disabled, so as to be unable to attend to ordinary business or duties?	in the Cer		naming State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.	son, naming the State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of	son, naming the State or Territory of United States, on the Country, if of
8 1	uses num		to, W.; Bi	oin the O	Die	The Cena	months o	ness or disability?	col withi	1 1		foreign túrth.	foreign birth.
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n		- Charley	10 m/1	Sn.	/	at School	В		,		Ind	Hanover	Prussio
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SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

(Supervisor's District No. _______) Sheet No. Enumeration District No. 174

Journy		
Township or other division of county	Center township	Name .
country or other account of commo	[Insert name of township, town, precinct, district, or other civil division	on, as the case may be. See instructions.
Name of incorporated city, town, or village,	within the above-named division,	City of Indianipolis

Ward of city, 14

Matter Richard , Enumerator. Enumerated by me on the 9th day of June, 1900, _

LOCATION.	NAME	RELATION.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.	Place of hirth of each nerson	NATIVITY. and parents of each person enumer	rated. If born in the United	CITIZENSHIP.	OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION	EDUCATION.	OWNERSHIP OF HO
N CITIES.	of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family.		DATE OF STORY OF STOR	States, give the State	and parents of each person enume or Terriory; if of foreign birth, gi	we the Country only.	os. in the	of each person ten years of age and over.	tr.	netgage
dwell dwell he ord	in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and said-the initial if any.	Relationship of each person to the bead of the family.	ertshay				immigra dred State of years 1 States.	0 0 0	d sch Eoglis	e or me
Numb w, in ation.	middle initial, if any. INCLUDE every person living on June 1, 1900. Our children born since June 1, 1909.	of the family.	Month. Year. by the control of the c	Place of birth of this PERSON.	Place of birth of FATHER of this person.	Place of birth of MOTHER of this person.	Year of it the Unit Number of United S	Occupation.	rende south) south	ned or
Number Number Visital Visital Order	Omrt children born since June 1, 1900.		Sex. Age Name Name Shart Its				MARKET MARKET STATES	×	0 21 22 23 24	0 0 4
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STATE Indiana COUNTY Marion
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TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY
THE PROPERTY OF THE PR

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910-POPULATION NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE . Interpretable Cathy sale (class and village, sore

CO SUPERVISORS DISTRICT NO. 7 ch Frederica SHEET NO. 129 STEET NO. 129 ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO. 729

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NAME OF INSTITUTION | Transmission | Tran House analor for clitas or towns, ...

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265 [D1-878] SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO. 7 SHEET NO. 6 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS STATE Ondiana FOURTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1920-POPULATION COUNTY Marion NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE Undiquetrolis WARD OF CITY 13 TOWNS OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY CENTER DIVISION AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP Oscar & Williamour ENUMERATOR ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE 10 DAY OF January NAME OF INSTITUTION 1920. NATIVITY AND MOTHER TONGUE.

numerated. It born in the United States, give the states, in addition, the mother tengue. (See Instructions. OCCUPATION. NAME F ABODE. of each person whose place of abode on January 1, 1920, was in this family.

Enter surname first, then the given name and middle hithin, if any. Trade, profession, or particular linkness in white hind of work dear, as a linkness in white dry goods after, effect, and effect of the profession of the pr Hone ber of Numor farm, et al. (New large)
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1930 Sheet No. ration District No. 49-430 State Indiana Supervisor's District No. 21X A 22 NOCHEDULE

Remerated by me on Mary 23, 1930, Mrs. Brokery Mells

COCCUTATION AND INDUSTRY

COCCU POPULATION SCHEDULE County Marion 13世 Block No. 184 Ward of city ... PRINCIPLE AND ALL AND Township or other Center Journaling .

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