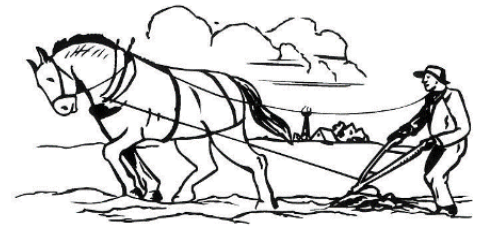


MEMO



Founded in 1977

Racial Covenants in Roseville

By Nancy Adomeit

Yes, really. Admittedly, I knew very little of this topic when I was asked to write this article. But a quick Internet search brought forth a plethora of information. First, I needed a good definition: *"Racial covenants are clauses that were inserted into property deeds to prevent people who were not White from buying or occupying land."*

While these restrictions were prohibited in Minnesota in 1953 and made illegal nationally in 1968 when the Fair Housing Act was passed, the language persists in many deeds on file at the Ramsey County Courthouse.

Next, I located examples of clauses that still exist in Roseville deeds from the Mapping Prejudice project:

"For a period of thirty (30) years from the date of this instrument no part of the above described property shall be sold, conveyed, mortgaged, leased or rented to any person of negro, Chinese, Japanese, or Hebrew descent, nor shall be used or occupied by any such person except as may be serving as a domestic servant for the owner or tenent of said property while said owner or tenant is residing thereon."

"The said premises shall not be sold, mortgaged, leased or occupied by any person or persons who are not a member or members of the Caucasian Race, but this shall not prevent the keeping of domestic servants who are not members of the Caucasian Race."

"The grantees cannot sell, lease or rent said real estate to anyone of the black, brown, yellow or Semetic races."

"In consideration of the premises the said parties of the second part, for themselves, their successors and assigns, agree to the restriction that no person belonging to any race except the Caucasian shall purchase or occupy the aforesaid premises, or any part thereof"

"that no outside toilets shall be used or maintained on the premises; and that the premises shall be sold or rented to persons of the white or Caucasian race only."

"nor will he ever sell or convey to any person except of the Caucasian race the said piece of land above conveyed to him"

"That grantee can not sell or lease said real estate to a colored person"

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Officers

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651-484-1708

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Historian
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Please leave a message

September Program – Terry Swanson

Beginning in 2007, Terry Swanson was the Gibbs Farm program and site manager. Much of the informational focus was on the life of Jane DeBow Gibbs, the matriarch of the family. The source of much of that information was from Lillie Gibbs, her daughter, who documented much of her mother's life.

After retirement, Terry researched photos, maps, programs, a personal Bible, Lillie's dictionary, and school notebooks, along with accounts of Lillie's life from her brother and father. Terry incorporated this information into a fictionalized historical diary of Lillie's life at age 11. Terry teamed with local artist, Peggy Stern, to illustrate and hand letter titles and chapter pages in the resulting book.

The book is written principally for 8 to 11 year olds but enjoyable for all. The program will highlight some of the background research done which resulted in Grasshoppers in My Bed.

Important Dates

Membership Meetings

Monday, Sept. 19, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 12, 2022 –6:00 p.m.

Membership meetings are held in the Fireside Room at the Oval. Door prizes, snacks and fellowship provided at all meetings.

Board Meetings:

Thurs. Nov. 10, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

Board meetings are held in the Aspen room at City Hall.



Archivist Report

By LaVerne Dickhudt

Our archives are pretty stable right now.

We did get one new donation. It is one of the first ice skating costumes worn in the competitions. It is a very pretty red one. The Historical Society wants to thank you very much.

It is always interesting to see what is out there.

All archives should be Roseville related.



Heritage Report

By Sharon Pillen



Success and summer fun for the Society at central park during Rose Fest and the summer picnic in July.

For the 4th of July in the park, Dick Wenkel demonstrated how to grind corn meal. There were heritage bonnets, jellies and books available for purchase.

This year a box lunch from Jersey Mike's was served at the summer picnic. There was a group of 30 who attended. Feedback from the membership said, let's do this again. The Roseville mayor attended the picnic and said a few words thanking us for our hard work in the community.

We are working on displays of our heritage at the museum, so be sure and stop in. We would love to see you.

Our fundraiser will again be held during the month of November. See page 3 for dates and times. Volunteer help will be needed---please call to help for a couple of hours. Volunteers are needed for 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 12:30 -3:00 p.m. There will always be a leader in charge. You will be assisting by talking with customers, passing out cookie samples, and helping package purchased items.

The list of items for sale is growing because the membership has been busy donating. We appreciate the jars, material, yarn, Christmas tins, grannies' items, fruit, sugar and flour. Wow---thank you! All the homemade food items are already on sale at the office. We have some new items in our jams, pickles, syrups, and food items to make in a jar. Sewing items will be arriving soon. Items coming in on a regular basis---come and shop early for yourself or early gift shopping.

Tidbits:

Did you know in 1937---Woman's Day magazine published a food magazine for the supermarket, gas home refrigerators arrived, and the dashboard electric range was introduced.

From the Kitchen and Craft Room of your Heritage Director

Products are for sale now in our office and during our craft month of November at city hall. We will also have our doors open for the Holiday Boutique sale December 3 and 4. Sixty-plus vendors — National Cookie Weekend — free samples.

All jams and pickled item are \$5.

Rhubarb Jams:

Apricot Strawberry pineapple
Blackberry
Blueberry
Blueberry Raspberry
Blueberry/Strawberry
Cherry
Classic Cherry/Strawberry
Very Berry---three berries
Peach
Raspberry
Strawberry
Strawberry Apricot
Strawberry Peach

All Day Apple Butter
Apple Sauce
Barbecue Sauce
Rhubarb Sauce
Blackberry Sauce

Pickled Items

Beet Pickles
Bread and Butter pickles
Carrots
Dill green beans
Pea pods
Peppers

Sugar Cookies

packaged in tins & gift containers

Breads

Ginger
Chocolate Zucchini

Relishes

Cucumber
Onion
Beet

Sewing Items

Aprons
Bonnets
Misc. Christmas stocking stuffers

Grannies Attic

Old and new vintage items

Doggie Treats

Cookie, Soup & Apple Pie mixes in quart jars

Come and shop early for the holidays.

Lots of fun things for sale starting November 1, 2022, through December 4, 2022.

Open 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily.

Closed Veterans Day November 11, 2022, and Thanksgiving November 24 & 25, 2022

New items coming in each week of sale.



Racial Covenants continued from page 1

Inheritance is how families tend to maintain and grow their wealth. In their day, these restrictive covenants prevented Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC) from acquiring land in desirable neighborhoods when it was still potentially affordable. Unwittingly in Roseville, the effects of restrictive covenants have been perpetuated by the selling of family homes to next generation of the family. *“If a [Black] family could afford to buy into a white neighborhood without government help, the FHA would refuse to insure future mortgages even to Whites in that neighborhood, because it was now threatened with integration,”* historian Richard Rothstein writes in *The American Prospect*.

No insurance – no mortgage – no purchase of property – no growth of family wealth.

In the 1930s, the FHA refused to insure houses for Black families, or even insure houses in white neighborhoods that were too close to Black ones. Physical separation of BIPOC and White populations was achieved by the building of industrial parks, putting up tall and long walls, creating green space or parks. Highways were built through and between neighborhoods. Perhaps you remember the once thriving Rondo neighborhood in Saint Paul?

Although this practice started decades earlier (some say as far back as 1880s) it became legally systemic during the Great Depression.

“The Great Depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s delivered a gut punch to the average American. By 1933, a quarter of Americans were out of work, the national average income had slumped to less than half of what it had been a few years earlier and more than one million Americans faced foreclosure on their homes.

“One of the multiple programs a newly-elected Franklin D. Roosevelt established to stimulate the economy offered home-buying aid for Americans—but only White Americans. The Federal Housing Administration, operated through the New Deal’s National Housing Act of 1934,

promoted homeownership by providing federal backing of loans—guaranteeing mortgages. But from its inception, the FHA limited assistance to prospective White buyers.

“The FHA had a manual which explicitly said that it was risky to make mortgage loans in predominantly Black areas,” explains Richard D. Kahlenberg, a senior fellow at The Century Foundation who has written about housing segregation in the United States. “And so as a result, the federal subsidy for home ownership went almost entirely to White people.

“The term “redlining” originates with actual red lines on maps that identified predominantly-Black neighborhoods as “hazardous.” Starting in the 1930s, the government-sponsored Home Owners’ Loan Corporation and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board used these maps to deny lending and investment services to Black Americans.” ([What Is 'Redlining'? - HISTORY](#))

In 2019, the Minnesota Legislature passed a law allowing people to renounce these covenants by filing a document with Minnesota counties free of charge. We now have a means to face and learn about the inequities that were perpetrated by these covenants.

We can 1) Learn; 2) Act; and 3) Become involved.

First, learn about restrictive covenants. Go to the [Mapping Prejudice Project](#). For example, there you can find the current state of home ownership: *“The Twin Cities has the highest gap between Black and White homeownership rates for any major metropolitan area in the country. While 78 percent of White families own homes in the Twin Cities, only 25 percent of Black families are homeowners.”*

Second, act upon your knowledge to explore your deed. Use the Mapping Prejudice site to review the group’s preliminary findings on the interactive map. Put in your address to see if a restrictive covenant has been found at your address. Keep in mind that this information is still preliminary. Just because your specific address isn’t listed, does not

Racial Covenants continued.

mean you don't have such a covenant on your deed. Contact [JustDeeds](#) to help you get restrictive language discharged from your deed. This a free process but depending on demand, it may take a while to complete the process. Local lawyers are volunteering to assist homeowners through this process. Title Companies have offered to do the filing work for free.

Third, become involved in Roseville's grassroots efforts to move our community forward. Deepen your knowledge by attending programs sponsored by [Do Good Roseville](#) and other organizations. We don't need to rewrite or erase history. We need to understand the past, put it in context of today's morals and values and change what we can to alter the trajectory of inequality.

Roseville Historical Society Membership Meeting Minutes 5/17/2022

Officers present:

President -Alyssa Kroschel, V. President -Dick Wenkel, Treasurer- Beverly Kroschel, Heritage-Sharon Pillen, Asst. Heritage Director-Jonn Pillen, Archivist-LaVerne Dickhudt, Secretary-Absent.

Program was presented by Dick Wenkel, "Cutting Edge Technology on the Farm". Dick had a display of many tools, some still used today, and some used on the farm in years past.

Heritage Director

Sharon P. brought some of her home-made jams and pickles to sell for \$5.00 a jar. She announced she will not be selling her items at craft sales this year unless she is invited to do so. She also had one jar on each table for a door prize. The "Grannies' Attic" sale at the Historical Society office was very successful, last year, and made about \$500.00. This will start again this year November 1st and continue through the Craft Sale at the Village Hall in December. She also announced she will pursue getting poinsettias to have at the craft sale in December.

Again, National Cookie Day will be on the Sunday of the Craft sale in December. She will have free cookies available for visitors.

Sharon thanked everyone for their donations of cookie tins, jars, sugar, flour and mugs. These donations help keep her expenses down.

She also has gotten a "Cottage License" for selling her home-made products to the public. It is on display at RHS room in City Hall.

Membership

Beverly announced that previous members, now in care centers, are considered Honorary Members, and receive a copy of the Newsletter when they are sent out, and they do not have to pay dues.

It was mentioned that Sam Fudenberg cuts out all the obituaries of those folks who died that have lived in Roseville and sends them to the office. That is a big help.

Treasurer's Report was available on the tables.

Upcoming Events

The Historical Society will be in the Roseville Parade for Rosefest. There will be 3 units. The fancy yellow car owned and driven by Wayne Greisel with President Alyssa riding in it, Jonn Pillen will be driving his truck with some members as passengers and Eric Gunard will follow with his tractor.

"4th of July in the Park New ", Sharon will have a table selling homemade dog biscuits and small jars of jams and jellies. Nancy Wenkel may have bonnets for sale, and Dick Wenkel may have a demonstration with a corn sheller and burr mill.

New Business

a Tuesday night. Previously it has been potluck, but Sharon suggested it might be easier to have box lunches. She will check into some prices.

Minutes submitted by Nancy Wenkel, Acting Secretary

Roseville Historical Society Membership Form

Make check payable to:
Roseville Historical Society
2660 Civic Center Drive
Roseville, MN 55113

Annual Membership
_____ \$10 Individual
_____ \$15 Family

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

St _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Dues for calendar year(s) 20 _____ 20 _____

Date _____

The Roseville Historical Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization. Money given above membership amount is tax deductible. All memberships run for the calendar year (January – December).

Roseville Historical Society
2660 Civic Center Drive
Roseville, MN 55113