



The Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society Museum

"Preserving the history of law enforcement in the Greater Cincinnati area"

The Roll Call Newsletter

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Fall 2017

Greetings!



I get a lot of questions about our museum, and while I'm always glad to answer them, I thought it might be a good idea to provide the answers to some of the most often-asked questions here.

Parking's on us!



Don't forget free and convenient parking is now available for visitors to the Police Museum. Signs have been erected designating all space between 306 and 318 Reading Road as Police Museum Parking.

Parking is limited to 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Tuesday through Saturday and a Police Museum parking permit is required.

Parking permits, are available in the Museum Gift Shop.

Free money

Where is the police museum?

We're conveniently located downtown near JACK Casino at 308 Reading Rd.

What is the police museum?

It's a repository of artifacts, documents, and many other items depicting the history of law enforcement in our region. You can see such things as one of the first canines used in police work, a collection of uniforms from many area law enforcement agencies, technology from a bygone era and our Wall of Honor featuring officers killed in the line of duty.

Why haven't I heard more about the police museum?

That's a good question and one we're working on every day. We have been ramping up our outreach and trying to reach more members of the law enforcement community. You can help by forwarding this email and telling all your family and friends about this great resource we have right here in our region.

Who runs the police museum?

The police museum is overseen entirely by volunteers, most of whom are retired police officers themselves, and members of our families. It is truly a labor of love and we're always looking for more volunteers to share the love with us - staff the gift shop, lead tours, help us put up displays...we'll find something for you to do.

How is the museum funded?

Don't forget to support GCPHS every time you shop at Kroger or online through Amazon. It's like getting free money!



Kroger Community Rewards:
Register online [here](#).

Have your Kroger Plus card handy and be sure to set up your card for a Kroger Rewards Account.

When prompted to enter the name of the organization to receive awards, enter "Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society" or our NP number "82383."



Amazon Smile:
When you shop on Amazon, a portion of your purchase can now help support the work of GCPHS. Visit [here](#) and designate "Greater Cincinnati Police Historical Society Inc." as your charity. Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of each purchase price back to GCPHS.

Reminder: You will need to visit these sites each year to designate the museum as the recipient of your contributions.

This is perhaps the best question of all. There are a lot of expenses associated with running the museum (rent, utilities, etc.) and there are a number of ways you can help us:

- **Become a member.** The annual fee is only \$25. Apply [here](#).
- **Join our Roll of Honor.** For a commitment of just \$100 per year for 10 years, you can become a member of this elite group. Join [here](#).
- **Make a donation.** Anything helps - money, time, even your old police memorabilia you may have laying around the house.
- **Sign up** for Kroger Community Rewards and Amazon Smile - more info on this is to the left.
- **Consider** remembering the police museum in your will.

If there are any other questions you want to ask or if there is something you'd like to see in a future issue, please contact me [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support.

Lt. Steve Kramer, RET

The Birth of a Building by Lt. Alan C. March, RET



District on Broadway.

Cincinnati's expansion in the first decade of the 20th Century required more police and new police stations. One of the new station houses built in that period was the Second

The Second District had been housed at the legendary Hammond Street Station for decades. However, by January of 1910, City Fathers committed to building a new, up-to-date station for the Second District. They purchased land on Broadway at Arch Street, just south of Fourth Street, near the site where the former Fort Washington stood before Cincinnati became a village in 1802.

The Cincinnati firm of Adkins and Kennedy was hired to design the station house. Budgeted at \$70,000, the building would include a target range in the basement with shooting lanes of 20, 25, and 30 yards in length. Building plans included stables for four horses for mounted patrolmen. Other amenities were centralized forced air heating and, on the first floor, 22 jail cells for prisoners. A system for ventilating the jail cells when they were full was designed for "sanitary reasons."

A unique feature of the new Second District Station was

the receiving room where the prisoners would enter the building. The Arch Street side had doors wide enough to accommodate a motorized patrol wagon. When a wagon with a prisoner arrived, the station house keeper would open the door and the patrol wagon would drive inside, stopping at a door to the receiving room. Once the prisoner was removed from the wagon, a turntable would spin the wagon around so it could pull straight out of the building quickly on its next call.

The second floor included a dormitory to accommodate up to 75 men, who could rest or spend the night in the event of major disorder in the area. Next to the dormitory were a locker room and a bath room. A squad room, where patrolmen reported to begin their tours of duty, was adjacent to the dormitory. Another innovation was a central vacuum in the basement. Two Ionic columns framed the front entrance. The main entry hall and receiving room were done in a Mission motif.

Construction was to begin May 1, 1910 and be completed by the beginning of the new year. The contract for building the new Second District Station went to the L. P. Hazen Company of Cincinnati. Levi P. Hazen was the son of Cincinnati Chief of Detectives Lawrence M. Hazen, named for Lieutenant Levi Parker who was killed in the line of duty, and a successful contractor.

The L. P. Hazen Company built the first concrete building in Cincinnati in 1902 and a year later the world's first reinforced concrete skyscraper, the Ingalls Building, at Cincinnati's Fourth and Vine Streets. Hazen worked with legendary Cincinnati architect Samuel Hannaford as well as other architects, in putting up government buildings in Cincinnati and other states. (Hazen's brother, William Hazen, was the chief of the United States Secret Service under President Grover Cleveland in the 1890s.)

The Hazen Company ran into financial difficulties and filed for bankruptcy. However, the court ordered construction of the new Second District Station to be completed.

The new Second District Station house opened for business on Saturday, Oct. 21, 1911 at 5:30 a.m. Within an hour, patrolmen found an occupant for the brand new jail cells. 22-year old Thomas O'Bannion was standing on Eighth at Broadway holding two dress coats on his right arm and a pair of trousers over his left arm. He was arrested for "suspicion" (perhaps of theft) and taken to the new police facility. The jail cell bars were painted white rather than the traditional black or gray.

Eleven years later, the Second District was one of only

three stations designated to hold prisoners. Effective Jan. 1, 1923, only Central Station (in the basement of City Hall), the Second District, and the Fourth District (on W. 5th Street) were authorized as places to hold prisoners.

As early as 1927, the police school of instruction operated at the Broadway station. By 1951, the police school changed its name to the Police Academy and found a permanent home on the second floor. In 1970, the Second District was phased out and merged with District 1.

The Police Academy remained at the Broadway site for two more years then moved to the campus of Cincinnati Technical College, 3520 Central Parkway.

The department's Supply Unit and Traffic Section moved to the Broadway site in 1970 and 1972, respectively.

When the Cincinnati Police Department acquired the Bengals training complex at Spinney Field for its police academy, the Traffic Section and Supply Unit followed and left the Broadway location. For nearly two years, the old Second District station sat vacant and unused. In 2002, the Western-Southern Life Insurance Company, a long-time neighbor of the old Second District, purchased the Broadway station. The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Sites on May 18, 1981.

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Greater Cincinnati Police Museum
308 Reading Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45202
(513)300-3664
Open Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.