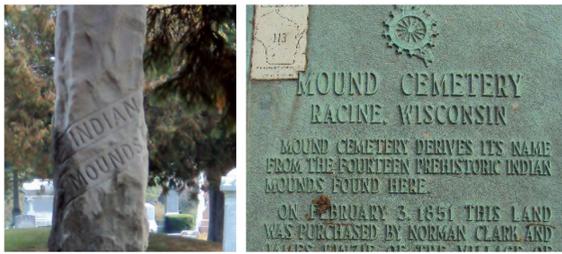


# CITY OF RACINE PLACES THAT MATTER



NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY

## MOUND CEMETERY

Scattered throughout mound cemetery are 14 burial mounds for which the cemetery is named. Woodland Mound Builders, inhabited the area up to 3,000 years ago. At one time there were about 125 mounds near the mouth of the Root River.



EARLY SETTLEMENT

## 1012 S. MAIN STREET

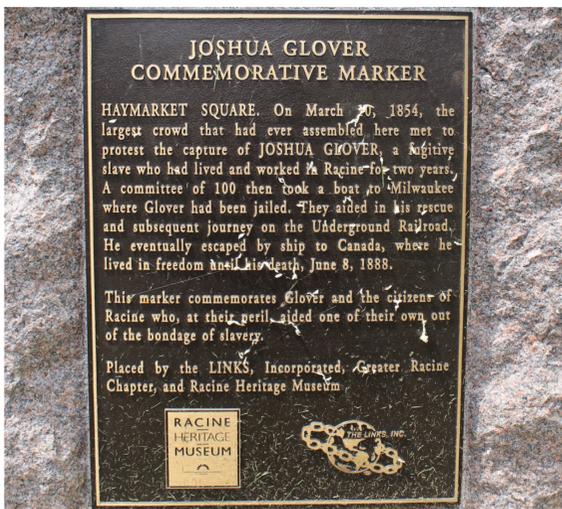
Many early settlers to Racine relocated from New England. This home, now the Masonic Club, was built by Henry S. Durand, a native of Connecticut. Durand moved to Racine in 1843, making his fortune in shipping, coal, lumber, and insurance.



DANISH AMERICAN HISTORY

## THE DANIA SOCIETY

Racine was once considered the "most Danish city in America" and was home to several Danish libraries, social institutions, and the Dania Society (pictured above). By the turn of the century, nearly 33,000 Danes (10% of the national total) called Racine home. Most worked in industrial plants like the J.I. Case Company.



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

## JOSHUA GLOVER COMMEMORATIVE MARKER

In the mid-1800s, Racine helped runaway slaves, such as Joshua Glover, escape to freedom. The state's first abolition society was formed in Racine County in 1840, and Wisconsin notably nullified the federal Fugitive Slave Act in 1855. The African American population would remain small until the start of the Great Migration in the 1890s. Many worked in Racine's industrial and service jobs but faced persistent discrimination regardless of acculturation.



HISPANIC AMERICAN HISTORY

## ST. PATRICKS CHURCH

Hispanics immigrated to Wisconsin and Racine in large numbers starting in the 1950s and worked as blue-collar workers in local industries. Although "Hispanic" is an amalgam of customs from multiple Spanish-speaking cultures, many have found common bonds through community and religion. St. Patrick's Church (above) is an important Hispanic icon in Racine today.



INDUSTRIAL HISTORY

## CREAM BRICK WORKERS COTTAGES

Racine has always been a manufacturing community. Vernacular workers cottages such as the one pictured above were built between 1881 and 1920 by families working in Racine's expanding industries. The people who built and lived in these homes may not be significant individually, but represent a group of highly skilled, proud, industrious, and hardworking persons essential to the rise and expansion of industry and commerce in Racine.



INDUSTRIAL HISTORY

## THOMAS DRIVER AND SONS MFG.

The Thomas Driver and Sons Manufacturing complex was considered the premier wood working firm for sashes, doors, and blinds in Racine and was operational between 1870 and 1915. Its work still embodies many of Racine's offices, banks, the First Presbyterian Church, Kenosha County Courthouse, St. Rose Catholic Church, and residences as far away as Kansas.



GERMAN AMERICAN HISTORY

## THE GERMAN MEN'S CLUB

Germans were the largest group of immigrants to settle in Racine between 1840 and 1870. Some were farmers while others were skilled craftsman. They often practiced different faiths but were united through a common culture, creating social clubs to preserve their language and social institutions.



OTHER HISTORY

## WHAT ELSE?

What did we miss? Use the blank board and sticky notes to let us know what other cultures are embedded in Racine's built environment!

- Irish history
- Armenian history
- Polish history
- Yugoslovian history
- Czech history

# CITY OF RACINE PEOPLE THAT MATTER

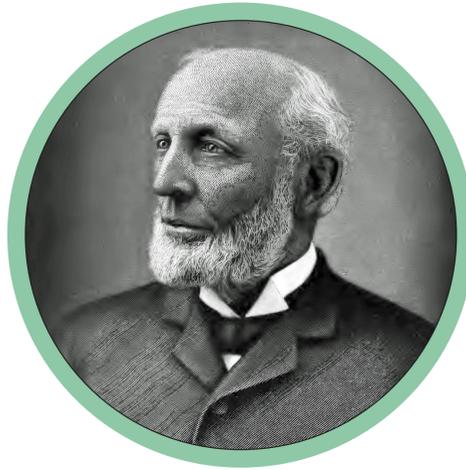
CITY OF RACINE  
HERITAGE PRESERVATION PLAN



**GILBERT KNAPP**

FOUNDER OF RACINE AND STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER

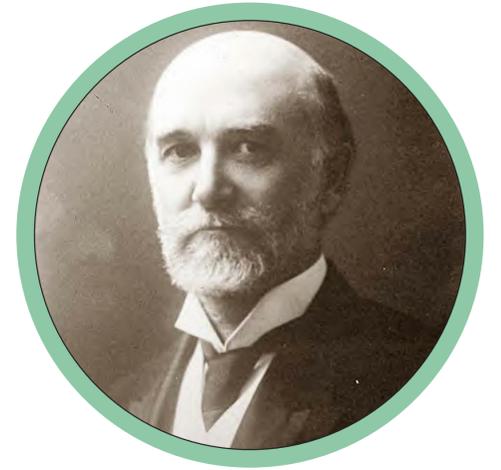
Knapp was born in Massachusetts, becoming a captain in the US Revenue Cutter Service. In 1834 Knapp would found Racine (Port Gilbert). He would later serve as a member of the Wisconsin State Assembly.



**JEROME INCREASE CASE**

FOUNDER - J.I. CASE COMPANY

Born in New York, Jerome would relocate to Wisconsin in 1842. By 1847 he would build a three-story factory along the Root River in Racine that would quickly become one of the world's most prolific producers of farm implements, steam engines, traction engines, and steam tractors. Case is indeed one of Racine's Titans of Industry!



**HENRY ALLEN COOPER**

US CONGRESSMAN (1893-1919) (1921-1931)

Henry Allen Cooper, native son of Wisconsin, moved to Racine in 1881. He was employed as a District Attorney and would later be elected as a member of the Wisconsin Senate, and US House of Representatives. Cooper was instrumental in bringing public works projects to Racine in the early 1900s, including the new City Hall, Racine Main Post Office, and Racine County Courthouse, all completed between 1930-1931.



**GEORGE BRAY**

CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST & HUMANITARIAN

George Bray was a city alderman, humanitarian, civil-rights activist, community organizer, founder and first president of the Racine NAACP. George lived his life trying to make the world a better place. The Bray Center at 924 Center Street, is an example of his enduring legacy and is named in his honor.



**OLYMPIA BROWN**

AMERICAN SUFFRAGIST AND THEOLOGIAN

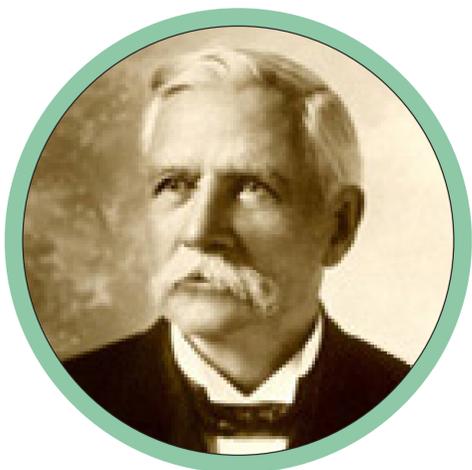
Olympia Brown was an American suffragist and close confidant to Susan B. Anthony. Brown would give hundreds of passionate speeches on behalf of women's rights, founded the New England Women's Suffrage Association, was a member of the National Woman's Party, and was president of the Federal Suffrage Association from 1903 until 1920.



**CHARLES (KAREL) JONAS**

CZECH JOURNALIST AND POLITICAL ACTIVIST

Charles (Karel) Jonas was a Czech journalist, linguist and political activist who immigrated to Racine in 1863 after fleeing unrest in Bohemia. He was editor of a Czech newspaper in Racine, the Slavie, and would later become a prominent politician and diplomat spending time as a City Alderman, State Assemblyman, Senator, Ambassador, and Lieutenant Governor of Wisconsin.



**SAMUEL CURTIS JOHNSON**

FOUNDER - SC JOHNSON

Samuel Johnson purchased a flooring business in Racine in 1886. The company would quickly grow into a local, national, and international power. SC Johnson was one of the first in the country to offer paid vacations, profit sharing, and pension plans to its employees. Samuel and SC Johnson are representative of Racine's early industrious and civic minded spirit.



**CORINNE REID-OWENS**

EDUCATOR, COMMUNITY ORGANIZER & CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Corinne Reid-Owens, the "Mother of Civil Rights" and "Rosa Parks of Racine" was an early black educator in the Racine Unified School District and an early pioneer in bringing equal access to blacks in education. She was a nationally recognized civil-rights activist who fought racial prejudices in Racine's neighborhood policing and housing practices.



**DID WE MISS SOMEONE?**

USE THE BLANK BOARD TO THE RIGHT TO TELL US WHO WE MISSED!

Can you think of any historical figures we missed? What about more recent figures who have played an important role in Racine's heritage? What about cultural and civic leaders?