

Housing Developments in North Greenbush

I was asked recently if I knew where the name Eastmor (a housing development just off Edwards Road) originated. Today this development is more widely known as Grandview and contains the cross roads of Northview, Kuhl and Worthington. More about Eastmor a little later.

In an old newspaper I found a proposed zoning map for the town dating from 1945. North Greenbush was purported to be the first township in the county with codified zoning laws. The zoning map listed several named housing developments existing in 1945 (including Eastmor). I decided to explore this subject.

These developments seemed to begin after the turn of the 20th century when the big farms were sold off. The earliest I could identify was in Wynantskill around 1906 and was called Hillside (if you drive there today, you'll know why).

Snyders Lake was first developed in the 1910-20 period. These plots were named Lakeside Villa and Lakeview camp sites and probably resulted from the Snyder family selling off their extensive property around the lake.

The next big developments were in Wyantskill called Bellmeade & Dodge and Fairfax & Dodge settlements. The land came from selling off the Koon and Hidley farms to the Dodge Corporation who marketed the land and tied into the prefab houses sold through Sears Catalogues.

Other early developments were Whiteview and the Sharpe subdivision (along Whiteview and West Sand Lake Road).

Developments in other parts of the town came later. Van Allen Park (on the Rensselaer/ North Greenbush line) began in the 1920's; the Buddington Sharpe subdivision (including the area that's now up the hill from Teliska, and other land along Bloomingrove Drive). One other early development I've identified was called Alvarez subdivision and is to the west of Route 4 just north of Winter Street Extension.

Now back to Eastmor: Thomas F. Healy bought 40 acres of land from the Worthingtons in 1927. Because of the depression, many of the lots weren't sold until after World War II. The first deed recorded after Mr. Healy's purchase was for Henry Kuhl—I suspect this is where the street's name originated.

I still don't know where the name Eastmor came from, if you can help, or have other information on early developments; please call me at 283-6384.