

Thursday, April 14, 1983 O&E

(S-12A, F-11C, R-7B)C\*(R,W,G-10A)B,WbWpC

## Memorabilia from aviation's pioneers

# Dayton's historic village provides the Wright stuff

Carillon Park was built to preserve the history of the Dayton area, especially that part of the city's history relating to transportation. A dozen well-restored buildings bring to mind turn-of-the-century America.

I HAD A STRANGE sense of déjà vu when I stood in front of the Wright brothers' cycle shop in Dayton, Ohio. It is an exact copy of the original, which I have seen many times in Greenfield Village. The building here is part of a 65-acre restored village called Carillon Park, one of many Dayton-area sights worth stopping for on your way south on Interstate-75.

The park was built by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Deeds to preserve the history of the area, especially that part of Dayton history that relates to transportation. Mrs. Deeds was a music lover, so you will find a 32-bell carillon tower rising 151 feet from a sward of green grass at the entrance to the park.



1-of-a-kind traveler  
**Iris Jones**  
contributing travel editor

A dozen well-restored buildings follow a curve of street into turn-of-the-century America. The park is free, and easily seen in an hour, so it is a good diversion for families, especially if you like to combine your history with picnics and music.

In the summertime, when the carillon bells are sending concert sounds across the park, visitors make a riot of T-shirts, blue jeans, picnic baskets and summer color on the grass around the tower. When the bells aren't ringing, you can follow the sounds of children through the grist mill, the old school house, the pioneer cottage, and the restored buildings reclaimed from industrial America.

The Wright brothers were born here in Dayton, so the cycle shop once stood on Third Street. Unfortunately, nobody in town was interested enough in local history 50 years ago to stop Henry Ford from moving the original shop, and the Wright family home, to Greenfield Village.

The Wright Flyer III is here in Wright Hall, but the most interesting part of the park may be the Deeds Barn where Deeds, Charles Kettering and other members of "the barn gang" invented the self-starter. The electric starter, which replaced the hand crank, was an important step in the mass-market automobile industry.

DETROITERS also have a special interest in the wooden railroad coach built by The Barney and Smith Car Company for the Detroit and Mackinac Line. It was moved here from Boyne City, Mich., and restored in all of its red plush, stained-glass glory.

The two-story log-cabin building at the entrance to Carillon Park is the restored Newcom Tavern, which was the center of Dayton life in the 19th century. This is where travelers lodged and local citizens gathered to discuss the problems of the day.

If you stay overnight in Dayton, you can visit the "new" Newcom Tavern, a lively pub in the heart of the Oregon Historic District, a restored area of homes, shops and brick streets in the heart of the city.

On weekends, the long mahogany bar of the tavern is nearly empty, and the electric guitar echoes up the stairs into an empty loft, but on weekends you stand on line just to get in the door, let alone find space at one of the tiny round tables set against the rough brick wall.



IRIS SANDERSON JONES

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If all you have time for in Dayton is lunch or dinner, there are several interesting places to eat in town, all easily accessible from I-75.

For fish, try Jay's, Creative Cuisine or Charlie's Crab. The best steak in town is at a 1940s roadside called the Pine Club; you'll wait an hour at the big bar during busy times. The kids will love the ice cream and the game rooms at Tollivers.

You can order a "sidewalk suds" and

a variety of food from the stalls at The Arcade downtown; potato skins loaded with cheese and bacon at T.J. Fridays; good Mexican food at a popular hole-in-the-wall called Elia's on the east side of town.

The Trolley Stop, in the Oregon District, sells sandwiches and salad-makings according to weight. There are hot dogs, popcorn, deli sandwiches and egg rolls on pushcarts in Courthouse Square.

If you decide to visit the United States Air Force Museum, a "must" stop six miles northeast of Dayton at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, try the Greek food, especially the baklava, at the Athenian Restaurant across the street.

For information on Dayton, contact the Dayton/Montgomery County Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1980 Winsler Banks Tower, Dayton, Ohio 45423 or telephone 513-325-1444.

## Ann Arbor group offers European bicycle tours

All sorts of biking vacations are being announced by Bike Europe, 234 Nickels Arcade, Box 7928, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48107. A 45-day bicycle loop of Europe is scheduled May 12-June 23, May 30-July 12, June 24-Aug. 5. It costs \$990 plus air fare.

Three-week portions of these trips, which are geared to the novice biker rather than the one who wants to count how many miles traveled in a day.

If you want a free lesson on independent Budget Travel in Europe, write to The Palenque Traveler at the same address. It allows you all the transportation, accommodation and other information you need to do Europe on your own.

That's offered by Europe 101, which also offers a newspaper for \$5 for five issues per year, discount Eurailpasses, and agency services for American Youth Hostels.

Write to Bike Europe for information, or call 688-0529.



IRIS SANDERSON JONES

The Wright Cycle Co. shop in Carillon Park (above) is an exact duplicate of the Wright brothers' original shop — which was moved from Dayton to Michigan's Greenfield Village 50 years ago.

## Cave diving class is now available

A new cave diving course for the sport diver is now available through the Underwater Explorer's Society of Grand Bahama Island.

The six-day course, which includes 13 cavern and cave dives, costs \$79 including specialized equipment.

Contact the society at Box 15933, West Palm Beach, Fla. 33408.

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