

Maplewood Park

Although Maplewood Park is not “within” our West Side Village neighborhood, it has always been an anchor point as it sits on the westerly side of Buck Street...it is now known as Bass Park. Maplewood Park fairgrounds was a vast park that hosted harness racing and a huge fair in late summer. Other times of the year, it was the entertainment venue for horse races, baseball, polo, and bicycle tournaments. The auditorium was built in 1897 specifically to house the annual Music Festival which brought in a chorus of 600 and world class soloists. The auditorium when first built was the largest building of its kind in the state. It resembled a large barn with an ornate façade. The interior featured exposed rafters and beams and was said to have “fine acoustics”. The builder, James M. Davis, also built the Standpipe. Mr. Davis was actually a resident of our neighborhood living at 105 Third Street!