

Where Berkley Got its Name

REF: MICHIGAN PLACE NAMES

by Walter Romig, LHD, 1986, p.57

Berkley, Oakland County: located at Woodward and 12 Mile Road; first settled largely by Detroiters to escape the higher cost of living there; incorporated as a village in 1923 and as a city in 1932; Elmer **Cromie** named the road that ran through his farm Berkley and the Berkley School was then under construction, so Berkley was selected from the names proposed. [Viola E. Toben]

REF: unknown

Berkley, Oakland County: located at Twelve Mile Road and Woodward Ave; first settled in _____ by dairy farmers from Troy, Royal Oak, and Bloomfield. Subdivision started about 1915.

Berkley was incorporated as a village in 1923 and as a city in 1932. Since organizational meetings were held at Berkley School on Berkeley Ave., consensus finally reached after encouragement by Fred **Lawton**. The name Berkeley was selected. When confirmation came from the county, the name was spelled Berkley so Berkley it is.

CHURCHES: Radio Temple: 3212 Twelve Mile Road.

REF: Berkley, Michigan City Directory, 1955 p.14

Radio Temple was established in Berkley in the year of 1920, even before the incorporation of the Village of Berkley. Several Real Estate Concerns had started subdivisions, and one was known as Berkley Subdivision. Because it appeared the best promotion, we began to call the entire section, Berkley.

Rev. **Weizierl** painted the sign which was located on the north and south intersection of Woodward and 12 Mile. Both sides read BERKLEY.

Then we entered the Radio and began to say to the people that we intended to put Berkley on the map. We would ask the listener to get out their maps and write the name Berkley in the place we would describe. Thus Berkley first found its place on the map. When Charles **Lindberg's** plane was forced down by a heavy fog on the **Lathrop** Farm, located at Southfield and 12 Mile Road, we seized the opportunity to tell our friends over the Radio that Berkley was just two miles east of where **Lindberg's** plane stopped by an apple tree.