

Dr. Edward N. Tihen (1924-1991) was an avid reader and researcher of Wichita newspapers. His notes from Wichita newspapers -- the "Tihen Notes," as we call them -- provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle, Beacon or Eagle-Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): Merriman Park (present site of College Hill Park)

Wichita Beacon

Wednesday, October 13, 1886

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4. N. F. Niederlander has sold two of the finest lots in Merriman Park addition to Mr. H. Imboden.

Wichita Eagle

Friday, October 15, 1886

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4. Note says lots in Merriman park were sold yesterday to H. Imboden, A. W. Bitting, Rev. Hewitt, Capt. White, J. P. Allen, Mrs. Allman, T. K. McLean, and J. D. Hutchings.

Wichita Beacon

Tuesday, October 19, 1886

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1. Major Powell informs us that the South Main and 4th Avenue extensions of the street car line will be finished today or tomorrow, and by the last of the week the cars will be running nearly three miles south from Douglas avenue. The terminus of this line is within a quarter of a mile of the Kinkaid farm. This makes the total mileage in the city about 15 miles of operated track. ¶ He informs us also that he will transfer his graders and track layers to Douglas avenue and build the line out east from Hydraulic as rapidly as possible (Hydraulic being the present terminus) to the northwest corner of Merriman Park Place. The material for the extension is partly on the ground and is all on land. ¶ It is intended in less than a year from now to run a car line out Central avenue to Moser avenue and thence south to connect with the new line out East Douglas.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, January 20, 1889

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5. The streets in Merriman Park, College Hill, will be decorated with a double row of trees early in the spring.

Wichita Beacon**Saturday, August 18, 1906****page**

5. C. Q. Chandler, president of Kansas National Bank has purchased lot 1 in block B of Merriman's addition for \$3500 for a modern residence. The Merriman park is a private tract of land laid out during the boom of about 20 years ago. It comprises the only lots in the city which are of irregular shapes, in order to accommodate the wide and shaded driveways that curl about the park. The Country club is located in almost the exact center of the park. The old club house is located near the west end. ¶ Mr. Chandler's plot occupies a prominent view of the golf links. The lots have a frontage of three streets, East Park avenue on the north, Clinton (sic) avenue on the west, and Maple street on the south. To the southeast of the proposed Chandler residence is the H. W. Darling structure now in the course of construction. Several other architectural beauties now adorn the suburban tract.

Wichita Beacon**Monday, June 14, 1909****page**

9. Advertisement for sale of lots in "The Knoll," at west edge of Merriman park. Map.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, January 21, 1912****page**

13. Advertisement offering Wichita Country club for sale for \$10,000. Photograph of building. Says the club house cost over \$9500 to build. The grounds contain three and six-tenths acres. To reach it go south at Douglas at Roosevelt, then east at first turn of road, then take first right turn. "As soon as the Country Club surrender their lease, the Merriman Estate will doubtless throw the whole of Merriman Park on the market."

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, March 3, 1912****page**

13. Merriman park, one of the dreams of Wichita boom visionaries, has been sold by the Merriman heirs to Harry C. Trentman, a Wichita real estate dealer, who will place it on the market. ¶ During the boom, George Merriman had his 160 acre farm on the hill east of the city platted into city blocks and made into an addition to the city. It was platted in a different manner from other additions, with streets laid out in circles and graceful curves instead of checkerboard style. ¶ Only a small portion of the addition was sold before the boom collapsed, and many fine residences now occupy this corner of Merriman park on Circle Drive, etc. ¶ Part of the land is now used for the golf links of the Country club. The club's lease has nearly a year to run, but this area will be sold along with the rest of the addition. The original design of the streets and park reservations will be preserved and the blocks will be platted into large blocks from 200 to 250 feet long.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, July 2, 1912****page**

8. Petition granted to pave Circle Drive to Merriman Park addition.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, October 27, 1912****page**

17. "Merriman Park Place" on the crest of College Hill to be placed on the market tomorrow -- \$225 to \$750 per lot (Clifton east one block past Belmont Avenue to "East Street" from Douglas south to Kellogg?). This is the old Country Club grounds. The County Club lease expires in February.

Wichita Beacon**Saturday, October 23, 1915****page**

5. Large advertisement for sale of lots in Merriman Park Place.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, March 7, 1916****page**

11. Diagram showing plan of streets and parks on the Merriman Park addition, former site of the Wichita Country Club.

Wichita Beacon**Saturday, April 15, 1916****page**

3. Advertisement for sale of lots in Merriman Park Place. Says the work of paving Fountain, Belmont, English and Willow Streets has now begun. Details.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, March 25, 1917****page**

9. Home building is active in Merriman Park place, eight blocks bounded on north by Douglas, west by Fountain, south by Kellogg, and east by East street. ¶ This is part of the land originally owned by George E. Merriman, who rode into Wichita on horseback 45 years ago and bought a quarter section for \$1600. With A. A. Hyde he organized the Merriman Park Development company and laid out the land in tracts of two or three acres with boulevards and rounded artistic curves, but the post-boom days caused the project to "blow up." After that Mr. Merriman would never sell any of the land during his lifetime. The homes of Fred Stanley, Republican national committeeman, and H. W. Darling, lumber dealer, are on a part of the original Merriman land which was sold in the development company's days. ¶ When Mr. Merriman died fifteen years ago, his widow continued loyal to his policy of refusing to sell any of the land, but after

her death the heirs arranged to sell the land in tracts.

Wichita Beacon

Tuesday, May 15, 1917

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12. Howard L. Hammond, who is now building 20 bungalows in Riverside, has purchased from O. L. Miles the old Country Club House and grounds at the intersection of Maple and Merriman Roads in Merriman Park Addition and will build several fine houses on it at once. The tract, for which he paid \$12,500, contains something more than three acres. There is now on the place a large house, which will be worked over.

Wichita Beacon

Tuesday, February 13, 1923

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7. Residents of College Hill are petitioning the city to purchase and establish a park on the Merriman Park tract between Roosevelt and Fountain, south of Douglas. Details.