



Local couple buys historic Lang home

For the Delphos Herald

The last of the properties located on acreage originally purchased to establish Delphos and still owned by descendants of the founding fathers was sold today, ending more than 150 years of continuous family ownership.

The Bredeick-Lang House, located at the corner of Second and Cass streets and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was sold by the children of Jim and Ann Lang to Clint and Diane Gable of Delphos.

Built in 1859-60, the Bredeick-Lang House occupies a small portion of the 240 acres that Ferdinand Bredeick purchased in 1843 when land contracts surrounding the Miami-Erie Canal finally were put on the market. Ferdinand Bredeick came to America in 1833 from Verl, Germany, at the behest of his oldest brother, the Reverend John Otto Bredeick, to find land suitable for colonizing. After nearly 10 years of searching, Ferdinand settled upon land surrounding "Section Ten" of the Canal, believing that the Canal offered unique economic opportunities as a new mode of transportation. Ferdinand's brother arrived at "Ten Mile Woods" (as Delphos was then known) in late 1844, and the two platted their acreage.

Ferdinand and the Reverend Bredeick kept some land for themselves and sold other land cheaply to aid in the growth of the village. Rev. Bredeick used much of his 92 acres east of the canal to establish St. John's Church and parish. When he died in 1858, he bequeathed to the parish the lots where the church, rectory, schools, sister's convent and the old section of the cemetery are located.

Ferdinand Bredeick lived only until 1846. However, with Maria Wrocklage of Glandorf, he had three children who survived to adulthood: Maria Bernadina, Maria Victoria and Amelia (who was the first child born in the new settlement Ten Mile Woods in 1843). Maria Victoria built the Bredeick-Lang House on property she inherited from her father and lived there with her husband, Charles Shenk, from 1861 to 1881. When Maria Victoria died in 1881, she left the house to her sister Amelia.

By 1881, Amelia had been married to George F. Lang, proprietor of Eagle Flouring Mills and other local businesses, for nine years. During Amelia's ownership, the Bredeick-Lang House was used in a variety of ways, including as a tea house and funeral parlor. The house was passed on to George and Amelia's youngest son, Otto G. Lang, and his wife, Mayme, in the late 1920s, and to Otto and Mayme's only child, James, in the 1950s.

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Villa, a style rare in midwestern Ohio. It also was found to be historically significant as a family residence of the Bredeick's.

From 1957 until 2008, the Bredeick-Lang House was the primary residence of the family of Jim and Ann Steinle Lang. When Ann died in 2008, all of her surviving children resided outside of Delphos. They ultimately decided to sell the property.

"While we regret being unable to keep the Bredeick-Lang House in the family, we are delighted that Clint and Diane, with their appreciation of architecture, history and landscaping, will be taking over. We think the Bredeick-Lang House will become better than ever," George F. Lang, the oldest surviving son of Jim and Ann, said.

"Diane and I love the house. We look forward to the opportunities to modernize it while respecting its architectural and historic significance," Clint Gable said.



Clint Gable, holding his son, 2-year-old Camden, and his wife, Diane Gable, right, holding their 3-year-old daughter, Elle, stand with Annette Lang, Thursday at the front door of their new home. The Gables have purchased Lang's family home on West Second Street.