

## HISTORIC BRENTWOOD

### BRENTWOOD HAS NOBILITY

The Noble family has indeed been a "noble" family of Brentwood. Patriarch Glenn was into preservation before Franklin made it fashionable. Years ago, he wrested two of Brentwood's most historic structures from decay and made them handsomely habitable -- the Paul Harmon House and Crockett Springs.

In 1929, Glenn's father, Albert Noble, bought five acres on the corner of Old Hickory Boulevard (then Brentwood Lane) and Franklin Pike (then Jackson Highway) and opened a drug store there. In May of that year, the following article appeared in a local newspaper:

"Brentwood is to have a drug store. It will be located at the junction of Jackson Highway and Brentwood Lane, just south of the Interurban property and will be called the Brentwood Heights Pharmacy. Mr. A. H. Noble is the owner, and Mr. Marion Oden will associate with him in the business. Mr. Noble has had many years experience as a proprietor of a drug store and as a prescribing pharmacist. Mr. Oden, who comes from a family of doctors and druggists, has been in the drug business for 10 years.

"The drug store building will simulate an English cottage and flowers and shrubs will be planted around it.

"America is learning that beauty and business are not antagonistic."

A couple of months later this follow-up appeared:

"Brentwood's drug store opened for business this week. Mr. A. H. Noble and Mr. Marion Oden will be associated in the enterprise, which will be known simply as Noble's. The store is very attractive both inside and out. The interior is finished in apple green and there are refreshment tables and their accompanying chairs of the same color. Mr. Noble has had a long experience as a pharmacist and Mr. Oden has been in the drug business for a number of years. A fine radio is one of the attractions of the place. A filling station will be run in connection with the store."

Noble's remained a drug store until 1947 when Glenn opened a restaurant there. It was a restaurant (and some time very elegant) for many years and was in and out of Noble hands. A motel was added next door in 1954 and is still in the Noble family, under the management of Eugenia Noble Delboy.

Noble's was the long-time scene of a daily breakfast round table frequented by everyone who was anyone in Brentwood. Gossip was that most political decisions were made there and

later rubber stamped By City Hall.

Noble's has been altered and expanded through the years to accommodate its various uses, but it remains a Brentwood landmark and institution and today is home to ERA Realty Company.

Maybe Alex should re-convene the Breakfast Club to deal with local partisan politics.

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