



ENQUIRER FILE

In 1929, Bald Knob in South Fairmount had not yet been carved up to fill in the land for Union Terminal.

# Bald Knob

*For The Enquirer's 175th anniversary this year, we are digging into our archives to showcase historic photographs that capture the people, places, events and character of this community that we have chronicled and been a part of the past 175 years.*

Bald Knob was never much to look at.

The South Fairmount hill near the Western Hills Viaduct has been carved up

so many times over the years that The Enquirer wrote in 1939, "the hill was left bare, bald, graceless, and useless."

In 1929, the Union Terminal Co. had plans to cut down the hill and use the 9 million cubic yards of dirt to fill in the land for the new Union Terminal and rail yards.

Workmen found that the shale and limestone had to be blasted with dynamite, which upset the neighbors. Then, in March 1930, debris from an errant explosion killed city inspector Amor C. Smith and bystander Gladys Gustafson, so the blasting was stopped.

The hacked-up hill remained an eyesore, but a good place to find trilobite fossils.

Will Radcliff, creator of Slush Puppie ice drinks, bought Bald Knob in 1978 and built the company headquarters on top. The plant is now the Cincinnati-Hamilton County Regional Emergency Operations Center.

*Jeff Suess*

