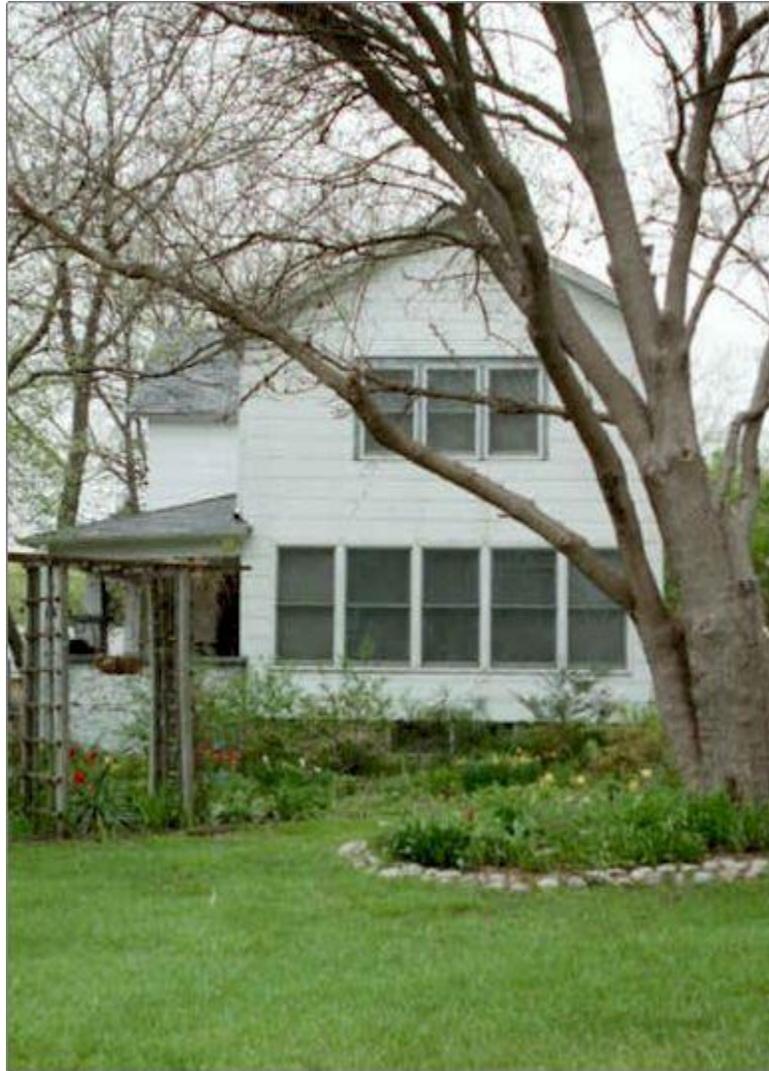


HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

1860s - "**Domianus House,**" 618 South Ardmore Avenue



Domianus Family

Henry C. Domianus was born in Hanover, Germany in 1847, was the son of Cord and Catherina (Wers) Domianus. In 1857 the family left Germany and came to the United States. His parents lived on a farm in Addison Township and four years later moved to a farm in York Township. As a child, Henry attended the nearby German and York Township District Schools. He later purchased a 120-acre farm with improvements from Henry Meyer. Today this land would lie between Highland Avenue and Madison Street, and between Harvard and Summit Avenues in Villa Park. It is thought that the farmhouse on this property was built in the late 1840's or early 1850s. The granite boulders used to build the front porch and fireplace were gathered on the property. "Because of its unique construction, including the timber supports and the double brick wall beneath the siding, this home may still

be standing when many more modern houses are gone." (Villa Park Argus, 7/22/37.) This house is located today at 618 South Ardmore Avenue.

Henry C. Domianus and Clara Jones were married in 1885 in Wheaton. She was born in 1863 in Germany, daughter of Gotlieb and Louisa (Breckmann) Jones. In the old farmhouse on Ardmore Avenue, Henry and Clara became the parents of six children: Fred E. (Minnie Deibricks), Henry J. (Anna Lowe), Martha S. (Albert Raack), William E., Ewald W. and Walter F.

Henry C. Domianus worked a thriving farm and was well known for his interest in the community, his strict integrity and reliability. Politically he was a Republican. He served one year as Tax Collector of York Township, twenty years as constable and held the office of road commissioner for a time.

The Domianus family were members of St. Peters Church in Elmhurst. In March of 1910, Henry C. retired from farming, and moved his family to Elmhurst.

Above was published in the book *Recollections – Village of Villa Park*

Villa Park Historic Preservation Commission 2007 — Photograph by Carol Marcus