

Urban Geography
Project: Maryland Sub-division
Concept: Urbanization

Urbanization? The Maryland Sub-Division

In this discussion of the Maryland Sub-Division I am pointing out the concept of urbanization. This sub-division boasts the many aspects of this concept very well from economic change, demographics, politics, culture, technology, and social implications. In describing these aspects of the Maryland subdivision I will mention such things as landmarks to provide good examples of change and along with other subjects within urbanization. These changes best describe the Maryland subdivision as whole and what was once at one time a booming area of housing and participated in a historical part of culture. However the subdivision fell off change in after 1957, but there was in the Maryland subdivision. In this discussion I will show that the Maryland sub-division, which is my neighborhood, is in fact a part of the urbanization process , but only at one time in history.

But first lets start of with a little history of the Maryland subdivision. In the early eighteen hundreds to –nineteen hundreds and further on thought years the property of the Maryland subdivision has changed hands several times till it was subdivided in 1905 for public grounds to broken up for real estate. However the land was purchased by John Jencks in September 13, 1816 from the state of Indiana and signed by the president of the time James Monroe. The land Jencks purchased was to be used as primary farmland. At this time of the state of Indiana there was not many landmarks established.

The land the Maryland subdivision sits on what was apart of a piece if land that stretched from across 136 acres in the north west quarter of section 10, within township eleven (honey creek township), of range nine west. This land was not totally developed till later on in the years. When it was developed it became one the oldest subdivisions in the area of vigo county since the division in 1905. Then in around 1829 the deed was then handed over to Joe Jencks after earning inheritance of his claims, mainly his land and estates. Do to lien on property. The land that Maryland subdivision sits on is apart of land that is apart of property

that is so valued, that the city of Terre Haute wants to annex the property to gain from the profits. Due to retail stores along Third Street and seventh street.

In discussing the economy of the Maryland subdivision and how it has been affected by the city economy of Terre Haute there are not many things you could discuss.

However there is only one thing that comes to mind, this would be the application of what is called the Kondratieff long waves and the Kuznet cycles over fifteen to twenty five years. The Maryland subdivision did have a huge boost in economy around the years after the war and during the years of the post war eras. The years between nineteen fifty five to nineteen fifty seven are ones which started several housing construction projects in the Maryland subdivision property. This property boom started the development in and around the Spring Hill and Seventh Street roads. Providing work for many of the people who lived in and around the city limits of Terre Haute. Before the nineteen fifties the property in the Maryland subdivision was not developed, the development came later.

In mentioning the Kuznet cycles of the area of the Maryland subdivision they were there highest around the 1950-57, then the development fell off around 1960 due to older people in majority. Then in roughly the years of 1980's – 1990's there was extensive building around the Spring Hill area. Such places have retail, gas, and offices suddenly were built. One great example would be the brick oven bakery, which lies in the boundaries of the Maryland subdivision. The bakery gets a large amount of its customers from the surrounding neighborhoods including the Maryland subdivision. At one point Wall Mart moved and built their store in what is the barren plaza that sits where Hobby Lobby now sits. Just another example of how the birth of jobs close to a neighborhood can affect the rise and fall of economic growth of the Maryland subdivision. However this was not a direct effect the fall came from older people still living in Maryland subdivision. Productivity of the Maryland subdivision has never decreased it has stayed on an even plain.

There has been progressive development in Maryland subdivision; a great example of this is the building of new houses or new houses being constructed and rental property becoming more noticeable. However the new houses only account for ten percent of

the subdivision without expansion of boundaries. The economics of the Maryland subdivision are diverse and rise and fall but however the changes that I had mentioned are very progressive.

In talking about the demographics of the Maryland subdivision the range is very great but mostly the same in relationship to size, composition, distribution and density. Most of the people who live in the Maryland subdivision are ones that are mostly white middle class or working class individuals. The size of the demographic is large. However there are people on the lower class who live in the corner of the subdivision in less than large housing. So in general the size is great with about one demographic, but spreading all demographics in age, sex, and income.

In discussing composition of the Maryland subdivision the only simple way that it can be discussed is in describing the what I call thickness of the one demographic. But the thickness is broken as well, but not by very much. The white demographic does spread to all incomes and living lifestyles without very much change, because owners do not move out of subdivision.

In talking of density the Maryland subdivision does not change in the aspects of density as well. The people who live here are for the most part the original owners of the houses in this subdivision. In general the density has remained with no change in this subdivision. Young couples that bought the property, and built housing own the homes; they are now the majority of older people in the subdivision. So in general this aspect has not changed as well, since the owners bought the houses in the 1950's.

In bringing up the politics of this of the Maryland subdivision there is little change as well, in the most part the politics within the subdivision are all the same either democratic or republican. No one else has changed any other places or things within the subdivision. There is no change in districts or areas where people are supposed to vote. In covering the topic of political change there is none to cover in the three areas.

As for culture there is a good amount of one culture in my neighborhood. Since this neighborhood is not seen any change and is in the county. The atmosphere and attitudes of this subdivision or the people who live in it are the reminiscent attitudes of the 1950's attitudes. The culture is the of the type they leave there doors open and is friendly to everyone they meet. Even more everyone knows just about everyone in some way either though walking or talking to their neighbor after working on the lawn or helping another person. Kids as well play in the streets and young people walk as well as kind of an activity to meet people or just as a way to be social. So as far as culture in terms of changing there is hardly very much change since the huge inception of the construction of housing in the Maryland subdivision during the 50's.

In conclusion the research I gathered from people who live here and as well as my parents abstract which has detailed plot sizes, numbers, and boundary layouts the change as far as urbanization goes has not been very much, the only change in urbanization is in the area along the outer boundary along seventh street that has been developed. As for the other processes there has been very little change in urbanization in the subdivision but outside it there has been. So if you think that long ago the area the Maryland subdivision sits on was nothing, there has been change but not with the years of 1957-2001. That is a very unique and interesting aspect to think about.