

Historical Marker - L2312 - Birthplace Of Alfred Day Hershey / Alfred Day Hershey (Marker ID#:L2312)



Front - Title/Description

Birthplace Of Alfred Day Hershey

Nobel Laureate Alfred Day Hershey (1908-1997) was born here in Owosso. He earned a B.S. in bacteriology and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science. While on the faculty of Washington University, Hershey made discoveries in bacteriology, immunology, virology and genetics. In 1943, Hershey, Max Delbrück and Salvador Luria formed the core of the Phage Group – a research network focused on viruses called bacteriophages.

Back - Title/Description

Alfred Day Hershey

In 1952, at the Carnegie Institution's Department of Genetics at Cold Spring Harbor, New York, Alfred Day Hershey and his lab assistant Martha Chase performed the "Blender Experiments." They revealed that DNA is the genetic material of life. For that and other discoveries in virology and genetics, Hershey, Max Delbrück and Salvador Luria received the 1969 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine and were credited as "The original founders of the modern science of molecular biology."

Significant Date:

Post WWII (1945-1970)

Registry Year: 2018 Erected Date: 2019

Marker Location

Address: 515 East Mason Street

City: Owosso

State: MI ZipCode: 48867

County: Shiawassee

Township: Caledonia

Lat: 42.99759100 / Long: -84.16402200

Web URL: