David King was given a baseball bat used by Earl Boyd on one of the early Greenfield baseball teams. Earl was the husband of Marjorie Boyd who lived next door to David and John King (Lee and Mavis) on Mirabeau Street.

According to F.R. Harris (Hometown Chronicles) in above graphic, the Climax team was formed in 1870, had its heyday in 1874 and 1875.

The bat was donated to the Greenfield Historical Society on April 2, 2014.

The following information was gathered concerning baseball in Greenfield to ascertain whether Earl was on the Climax Team or other Greenfield teams.
Below is some information from census records and information from Ancestry.com

Marjorie (Plyley) Boyd – born August, 1883; died 1963 (Section 1, Lot 58)

Margie married Earl C. Boyd in Highland Co., Ohio, on Sept 21, 1912.

Earl C. Boyd – born 6/26/1875, died 2/14/1924 (Section 1 Lot 59)
Father was James Boyd, mother was Lucretia Chandler

Margie’s Father: Allen Plyley
Margie’s Mother: Celia Mitchell

1900 Census
Celia Plyley, head of household, age 53
Margie M. Plyley, daughter, age 17
Marcy C. Plyley, daughter, age 21
John Mitchel, son, age 30

1910 Census
Earl is listed as a boarder and Celia head of household.

1930 Census
Marjorie, age 46, widowed
Celia Plyley, head of household, age 82
Mary Plyley, daughter, age 50
Chester Mitchel, brother, age 70

1940 Census
Marjorie 57....widow, works at Pad Factory as small machine operator
living in Perry Township, Fayette Co.
lived there on farm in 1935.
Maude Plyley, 60..single, sister of Marjorie, works as folder at Pad Factory
John Mitchel, 70...half brother to Marjorie, born 1870...farm laborer

After compiling the above information, it was unclear if Earl Boyd could have played on the Greenfield Climax baseball team. The Climax team was started in 1870; Earl was born in 1875. So not knowing how long the Climax Baseball Team existed, we could not say for sure if Earl was on that particular team.

It was then discovered that F.R. Harris also wrote about early baseball in Greenfield. That section of Hometown Chronicles is shown below. In that section, Mr. Harris talks about baseball in Greenfield. Although he does not use the name of Climax Baseball, he does mention the “Town Team” and the creation of a team in 1899. In 1900 semi-professional teams were organized. The Greenfield team even played the Cincinnati Reds!

Many of the Greenfield baseball players were drafted into the Major and Minor baseball leagues. He mentions specifically that Earl Boyd went to the Minors. So what we know for sure is that Earl Boyd was one of the players in early Greenfield baseball.
Early Greenfield Baseball

Compiled by John King and Wendy Royse