



Gerald Chapman: Chapman was from New York City and spent most of the first 31 years of his life in the state of New York. His real name was George Chartres and he did not adopt the name Gerald Chapman until about 1911. While in prison in Auburn, New York his name appears as George Chartres in the 1910 census.

Like many of the men in this gang he spent much of his life behind bars. At the time he was released from prison in 1919 he had spent 11 of the last 12 years incarcerated.



Although publicity about Chapman was extensive between 1922 and 1926, his link to this Ohio gang was not widely publicized. The notoriety he and Anderson received for other criminal acts overshadowed this 1919-1921 time period, most notably their \$2,400,000 mail robbery in New York City on October 24, 1921. For this offense both he and Anderson received 25 year sentences in 1922, and in 1923 both men escaped from the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta, Georgia. Chapman disappeared after April 6, 1923, and Anderson escaped on December 30, 1923. Their whereabouts are generally unknown until April 5, 1924, when Chapman showed up at a car dealership in Steubenville, Ohio. Subsequently the two men stole a car from this dealership and drove to the farm of Ben and Mary Hance in Eaton, Indiana, in early April of 1924.



They used this farm as a hideout during the spring and summer of 1924, but moved to Massachusetts in the fall of that year. On October 12, 1924, during a failed robbery attempt of a department store, Chapman shot and fatally wounded a New Britain, Connecticut, policeman, James Skelly.

Chapman escaped, but was soon identified as the killer. He headed back to Indiana where he thought his hideout was unknown. He hid in several places around Fort Wayne and possibly Chicago, but returned to Muncie to the home of a doctor by the name of Harry Spickermon. Spickermon's address had been staked out and on January 18, 1925, Chapman was spotted leaving this residence.

He was captured a few minutes later. Eventually Chapman was sent to Connecticut for trial, and in April of 1925 he was convicted of murder. After a year of legal wrangling he was executed by hanging on April 6, 1926.