



Vincent Groby Apple
1874 – 1932

Inducted 1996

Vincent Groby Apple was a prolific inventor and businessman. In 1895 he developed the first dynamo used for ignition on internal combustion engines. He went on to originate the lighting and ignition systems used in cars, planes, and boats through the 1930s. He invented what some believe to be the first electric self-starter and designed the flywheel magneto eventually used in Henry Ford's Model T automobiles. In 1899 he was one of the original incorporators of the Dayton Electrical Manufacturing Company, which became a key supplier of engine parts for the Wright brothers. Vincent Apple continued to improve aspects of automobile starters, lighting, and engines throughout his career: when he died in 1932, he owned 149 patents, had 42 patents pending, and was working on more than 250 inventions. He has more inventions to his credit than anyone else in Dayton. He was one of the first 100 to join the Engineers Club of Dayton and counted among his friends Thomas Edison and Henry Ford.

*The Dayton Region Walk of Fame is located on both sides of West Third Street between Shannon and Broadway streets and on Williams Street in the Wright Dunbar Historic District of Dayton, Ohio.
More information can be found at daytonregionwalkoffame.org*