

# Hunterdon Historical Record



HUNTERDON  
COUNTY  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

hunterdonhistory.org

## UPCOMING EVENTS

See our website for more details.

**April 1 , 11 am**  
**How to Research the**  
**History of *your* Old House**  
 Marfy Goodspeed, Presenter  
 Learn the process to research  
 your house history.  
 Deats Library, 114 Main Street  
 Flemington. Registration  
 required: 908-782-1091.

**April 29, 11 am**  
**How to Begin Your**  
**Family Genealogy**  
 Jackie Oshman, New Brunswick  
 Public Library, Presenter  
 Deats Library, 114 Main Street  
 Flemington. Registration  
 required: 908-782-1091.

**June 3, 11 am - 4 pm**  
***Hunterdon County***  
***Community Day***  
Hunterdon Co. Fair Grounds  
1207 Rt. 179, Lambertville  
Sponsored by the  
Chamber of Commerce

**Save September 23**  
**Fourth Annual**  
**Cemetery *Cemenar***  
Multiple speakers on  
cemeteries, preserved and lost,  
along with cider and snacks.  
Come and meet like-minded  
cemetery history lovers.

**Society Library Hours**  
Open 10 am-4 pm on Thursdays  
and these Saturdays:  
March 9, 23  
April 13, 27  
May 11, 25  
June 8, 22

*Meeting and lecture – free and open to the public*

## 1917-2017 -Hunterdon County During WW I

The Society will recognize the role Hunterdon County servicemen played in World War I at a 2:00 pm lecture on Sunday, March 12 at our annual spring meeting at the Flemington Presbyterian Church, 10 East Main Street.

Hunterdon resident Brian Armstrong will discuss the history of the war, the political climate in which the US entered the war, and will bring to life with photos, letters, newspaper reports, and military records Hunterdon County servicemen who died from battle wounds and disease during the war.

An independent historian, researcher and author, Mr. Armstrong frequently lectures throughout the state on local history. He holds a BA degree in history and a BA in political science from American University, Washington, DC. He is Vice-President, Central Region, for the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey.

The talk will last about 45 minutes, and be followed by a question and answer session. Cider and cookies will be served.

Infantryman Joseph T. Zannetti of Flemington died of influenza in 1918 one and a half years after enlisting in WWI and only 48 days after a promotion to corporal.



+ Zannetti, Joseph T. 2,522,686. \*White \*Galbreath  
 Residence: Flemington. Mor. Jersey  
 \*Enlist. \*R.A. #10088200. \*Discharged at Ft. Slocum, N.Y. Oct. 17, 1918.  
 Place of birth: Flemington, N.J. Age or date of birth: 22 9/12 Yrs.  
 Organizations served in, with dates of assignments and honors:  
 Co. I 22 Inf. to death  
 Grades, with date of appointment:  
 Pvt. Evt. 1 cl. June 3/18; Corp. Aug. 21/18  
 Engagements: XXXX  
 Served overseas from: to: from: to:  
 \*Discharged \*Died of influenza Oct. 7, 1918  
 Other wounds or injuries received in action:  
 Persons notified of death: Lucy Zannetti  
 28 Main St. Flemington, N.J.  
 Remarks:

## Help Us Identify Historical Sites

Trustee John Allen highlights maps on the Society's webpage in "Collection Gems". At right is an 1828 map of New Jersey from the David Rumsey Map Collection ([www.davidrumsey.com](http://www.davidrumsey.com)) that locates each "Mill or Manufactory", Church, Furnace, Forge, and Tavern.

To help, please go to the Society's website and identify all Hunterdon locations, or any others you might know. How? Download the images in the March Gem article, inspect them, and share your knowledge on the Society's Facebook page in the comments section. Since businesses often changed owners, an estimated timeline (within a decade) for any info provided would help.

John's comments on East Amwell locations are on the Society website. He invites you to challenge them and to add your own, wherever you can. He also thanks all for their help.



Brian Armstrong



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114 Main Street, Flemington, NJ 08822**EDITORIAL BOARD**Lora Jones, John Kuhl, Stephanie Stevens  
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2nd and 4th Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
and by appointment

TELEPHONE: 908-782-1091

WEBSITE: [www.hunterdonhistory.org](http://www.hunterdonhistory.org)EMAIL: [hunterdonhistory@embarqmail.com](mailto:hunterdonhistory@embarqmail.com)**OFFICERS & TRUSTEES***President:* Charles H. Fisher (2018)*Vice President:* Kenneth Cummings (2018)*Treasurer:* John W. Kuhl (2017)*Recording Secretary:* John Matsen (2019)

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**Become a Member**Dues payable annually  
on the calendar year,  
January to December

Seniors & Students—\$20	Business—\$150
Individual—\$30	Sustaining—\$200
Family—\$50	Life—\$500

Please send us your name, address, phone number, email address, and tell us if you would like to volunteer in the library, the archives, or the museum. Mail the information with your check to:

Hunterdon County Historical Society  
ATTN: Membership  
114 Main Street  
Flemington, NJ 08822

**Or join online with a credit card at:**  
[www.hunterdonhistory.org/membership](http://www.hunterdonhistory.org/membership)

**Acquisitions**

Artifacts and documents on the history of Hunterdon County and the families who resided here are welcome additions to the Society's Collections. Donations may not be available for research until they have been processed, a continuing activity. The Society thanks the donors for these recent acquisitions.

Craig, Robert. Two photographs: the A.T. Hageman farm in Readington Township, ca. 1890, and Herman Hageman, his wife, and son, ca. 1900.

Crowther, James. One photographic album and loose family photographs and genealogical notes, principally of Elizabeth Risler, William C. Case, and their children, ca. 1900-1955. (Two photographs at right.)

Holton, Linda J. A group of photographic images and news clippings concerning Kerr's Chickeries, of Frenchtown, NJ, ca. 1930-1975. (At page bottom.)

Landis, Margaret. Wedding gown, gloves, shoes and hose worn by Amelia Finney on her wedding day 1886. (See back page.)

Stevens, Stephanie. One pamphlet: "Brief History, Articles of Faith and Practice, with The Covenant and Standing Rules, of the Baptist Church, of Frenchtown, N.J." Lambertville, NJ: Clark Pierson, printer, 1867.

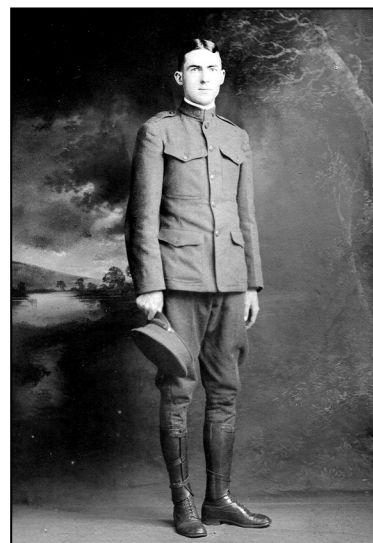
Swindell, Carol. Five photographs of the Hauptmann Trial, including exterior images of the Court House, Jail, and Union Hotel, 1935.

Verity, Joan. Three photographs: Frenchtown Porcelain Company (and employees), 1934; Frenchtown High School Class of 1956; and Frenchtown High School at Washington, D.C., 1934.



Above: Laura Ruth Case, age 2½ and James Milton Case, 4½, c. 1905

Below: James Milton Case, 1918



Kerr's Chickeries, Frenchtown, NJ, inside the Chick Sorting Room, and outside the building, ca. 1940.





## A Salute to Volunteers



Michael Alfano

**Mike Alfano** has been volunteering so long at the Hiram E. Deats Library that patrons call and ask for him by name. Mike grew up in Union County and moved to Hunterdon County with his wife Barbara in 1992 to take advantage of the better schools for their two children. You would never know he was not born and raised here, with his encyclopedic mind full of Hunterdon County surnames and historical connections.

A retired computer services provider, Mike's interest in history and genealogy sprung from researching the history of his land and from preparing his own genealogy that he traced back to the Mayflower. Along with his fascination with genealogy, Mike is continuously researching Hunterdon County's role in the Revolutionary War and serves as the State Registrar for the Sons of the Revolution.

Now Mike enjoys helping others organize their family genealogies as much as he did his own. If you need help with genealogical research at the library, call ahead, as Mike is always in demand. The Society is lucky to have him among our valued volunteers.

**Society volunteers donated 1,750 hours in 2016.**

## President Charles Fisher Asks for Members' Input

**The year 2017** is going to be an important one for the Society.

We are developing a new strategic plan and are looking for ways to diversify our programs, our finances, and our services. To be certain our plan encompasses the suggestions of our most ardent supporters --our members--we are asking that you help us.

**Please go to our web site, [hunterdonhistory.org](http://hunterdonhistory.org) and fill out our short survey. Your input is important to us and will help us determine the future uses of our historic house museum, the services we deliver in our research library, and the content of our outreach programs.**

We truly appreciate our members and I personally wish to thank all of you who donated to our membership drive this winter.

## Donations —Our Lifeforce

**T**he Society is pleased to report that The Large Foundation in Flemington has given us a \$4,000 grant for general operating support. Our appreciation for their recognition of our programs runs deep.

We also appreciate the numerous members who contributed above and beyond their membership dues. To date that figure is nearing \$15,000 — and growing! We heartily thank you all.

Thanks also go to Stephen H. Case for his generosity in funding the much needed storm window for Miss Bessey's Parlor. It is now in place. But our wish list lives on and may be found on our website. If you would like to contribute an item on the list, we'll permanently acknowledge your support.

## Get Your Newsletter Online And Help Us Save Money

Many thanks to those members who signed up to get their newsletter, in color, online. If you have not done so yet, please do. If we could significantly reduce printing and mailing costs, we could save well over \$2,000 each year!

Please email today to go paperless. (And while you are on the website, please click the red button and complete the membership survey.)

## Research Requests by Mail or Phone

\$25 per query for two hours of research by our volunteers using library and archival resources. See website for forms and more information.

## Hunterdon History That Never Happened -- What Might-Have-Been

by John W. Kuhl

**Not all history is old and musty.** Nor need it always be something that actually happened. One of the great things in Hunterdon history that never happened is recalled by the Jetport battle that waged here for 25 years. This battle is remembered today only by our older natives of age 60 or more. While the jetport didn't come, it nevertheless had a deep effect. All should know just how narrowly we avoided becoming just another polluted and congested blur on the landscape of our already densely populated state. Unless you lived in the time, it is difficult to imagine how threatened local residents felt. You had to have been through it. This short article can convey no more than the bare outlines of it all and comes almost entirely from newspaper clippings soon to be on file at our Society.

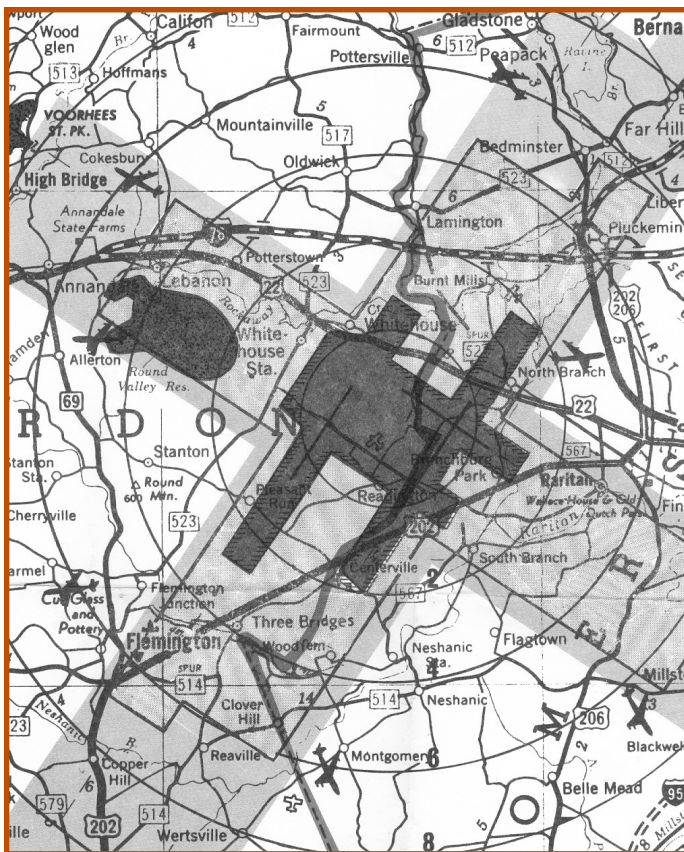
Those who picked up their *Hunterdon County Democrat* that Wednesday night at Higgins' newsstand in Flemington got the word first. Most in the county saw the startling news the next day, 12 September 1946. Increased post-war air traffic and the huge new passenger jets on the drawing boards were prompting the 25-year-old NY/NJ Port Authority to demand a new jetport further out from the city where land was cheaper and space was available for the longer runways needed for these new behemoths. According to the newspaper, officials were looking in particular at the flat land between Flemington and the Delaware River, known locally as the Croton flats. The Authority thought to themselves they could easily steamroller whatever opposition the rural bumpkins of Hunterdon might muster. It turned out they were dead wrong.

While relentless, bureaucracy moves slowly. It was six years later when another notice appeared in the newspaper. No surprise, the Port Authority was still looking at Hunterdon. Most residents still thought it quite unlikely but an editorial in the *Easton Express* came out in favor. Tewksbury Township in particular took it seriously and passed a protest resolution. Already underlying was the theme of the next 20 years; few were opposed to having a jetport, but almost no one wanted it in their own backyard. One early poll had only three percent here in favor of the jetport. Noise, jet fuel pollution, ground traffic woes, and civil dislocation were among the fears. Potential jobs had labor forces in full support, and some businessmen eagerly anticipated profits for their firms.

**AT THE END OF 1959**, the Port Authority released a report showing 15 possible sites for the new jetport and saying it preferred the area of the Great Swamp just southeast of Morristown. Hunterdon refused to be lulled, especially when test borings on the land in Readington Township were already in progress. A map showed the proposed facility centering on Solberg Airport and covering, along with its approaches, almost all of Readington Township. Locals arose overnight. Severe criticism was heaped on NJ Governor Robert Meyner who had come out in favor of having the jet-

port in the northern section of the state. Groups were officially formed on either side of the issue.

The battle was drawn. Coming at a time when some farmers were economically threatened and looking for an escape, real estate speculators jumped in, figuring to profit either from the jetport or the housing boom,



Hunterdon was Ground Zero in the 1960s for a proposed jetport to serve New York City. Map from Hunterdon-Somerset Jetport Association, 1967.

whichever came first. The county's huge poultry industry disappeared within a decade. Dairies likewise dwindled.

**ONE BY ONE**, the alternate sites were eliminated, but Hunterdon's two remained. Sites in Burlington County, the Maguire Air Force Base, and in Ocean County were vetoed as being too far out. The Port Authority clearly had no interest in building to benefit other cities like Trenton or Philadelphia. Others were dismissed as being too disruptive of existing air patterns. The combination of the clout of wealthy Morris County citizens and the perceived need to keep the Great Swamp as a natural preserve ended that possibility. It seemed apparent that while the Port Authority was publically downplaying Hunterdon as its "location", it nevertheless had it foremost in its sights. Locals felt more threatened than ever. Though during the 1960s Governor Hughes pledged to bar the jetport from Hunterdon, many doubted his ability to politically stick by his promise.

Among the avenues for opposition was a serious plan



for Hunterdon to preempt the situation by purchasing Solberg and developing its own county airport. Solberg now seemed the leading possibility. "Jetport Jitters" was a topic ever in the news. Some townships held off development plans, waiting to see what would happen. New high-speed rail was considered as a solution to the distance from New York. Efforts by officialdom to force the jetport on a federal or tri-state level did not come to fruition. One local problem here was that existing law did not require the Port Authority to pay real estate tax on land it acquired. Readington Township would be devastated, both physically and financially. Meanwhile Austin Tobin, Executive Director of the Port Authority was predicting extreme safety and air traffic disaster if he did not get his jetport. By 1967, everybody *elsewhere* was saying it had to be Solberg. This was after a rather unrealistic proposal to place the new airfield in the Long Island Sound or in the Atlantic Ocean between the two states. In the 1960s a new factor was the need to prevent the contamination of the water resources of the newly completed reservoirs at Round Valley and Spruce Run, the state's largest and third largest respectively.

**IT WAS NOW UP TO THE PEOPLE** to oppose it and over 90 percent did. Could they defeat it? Local control has long been a Jersey principle. Major forces were lined up against them. Official opinion was typified by the director of the Northeast region of the Federal Aviation who decried Hunterdon as "a postage stamp political jurisdiction with the will to frustrate the will of the majority". Director Tobin also was getting frustrated. "The only remaining workable site is...Solberg Airport in Hunterdon County". The State Transportation Commissioner was saying that no matter how sincere or legitimate might be the local interests, "these local protests must not be a determining factor". But the other side had support too. Radio and TV celebrity Arthur Godfrey had grown up in New Jersey. A navy veteran of both World Wars and a flier himself, he had bankrolled his brother for a farm in Hunterdon's Union Township. He had cogent arguments and, always earthy, had termed the Port Authority "a goat herd in the sheep pasture on this one". Governor Hughes, though under severe duress, held to his promise to bar the jetport in his final days in office.

The battle raged on in full scale with the stalwart defenders of Hunterdon pitted against almost everyone else in the state. The 1969 gubernatorial race was a final landmark. Candidate and former governor Robert Meyner could not bring himself to completely rule out Solberg. Republican rival William Cahill did and vowed, if elected, to veto anything that came before him favoring Solberg as a site. Hunterdon and Somerset led the way with record majorities to put him in office. A long struggle this intense would not die overnight, but Cahill's election effectively did end it. In September of 1970 the Authority finally issued a formal statement that it was all over. Hunterdon was now free to develop its own future, and it did. Much of the farm area reserved for the airport eventually became housing developments. Hunterdon has since become a bedroom area. Agriculture has receded. And with the aid of the opening of I-78, its population since the 1950s, has tripled.

**A FASCINATING AND FINAL FOOTNOTE** to it all was added by Don Shuman in the *Hunterdon County Democrat* of 8 August 2002. A keen observer of his times, he presented an unusually candid look at an underside of all this, albeit with an admitted "bit of doctoring" and "name changing". According to him, the Great Swamp was early on pushed by the Port Authority only as a feint to distract Hunterdon, all along their intended location. As a real estate agent, he was one of an insider group that had a plan to assemble by options or purchases, up to 17,000 acres of land in anticipation of the jetport. The cabal was to do so in the least conspicuous manner to avoid driving up the price of the land. The jetport, of course, never came, but an unprecedented housing boom did eventually follow. The important part was that the land, once dislodged from the farmers, was gone forever to an agriculture already weakened by other problems. Hunterdon got population growth instead.

### More Historical Might-Have-Beens

The jetport was not the only history that never happened in Hunterdon.

Early in Revolutionary times in Hunterdon (Mercer since 1838), Trenton was several times the seat of the Continental government. Congress authorized studies to make it permanent, but this was defeated by powerful interests from New England and Virginia. The new Capital was set instead in the Potomac River swamps of what today we call the District of Columbia. Perhaps the only remnant left here is the name, Federal City Road off I-295 near Pennington. Overlay on northern Mercer today's 60-mile radius around D.C. and you can begin to imagine how Hunterdon would have been affected.

The abundant water resources of Hunterdon have always been coveted by others. In the 1930s the state intended to dam the South Branch of the Raritan River from the High Bridge gorge back up that stream, inundating Califon and flooding it to Long Valley. It was dropped when the money in the depression time could not be raised. But it led, not long after WWII, to the construction of Round Valley and Spruce Run reservoirs. Hunterdon had little say in these reservoirs and, except for perhaps maintaining stream flow, was never able to even extract permission to use any of the water.

A deep water canal across New Jersey had been postulated since the 1700s, but the idea came to a head during WWII when German submarines were actively torpedoing Allied shipping off the Jersey coast. An inland route from the Chesapeake to New York would provide a secure alternative. It was possible physically, but it would take lots of water to cross New Jersey. The plan was to dam the Raritan River at the junction of its north and south branches at Two Bridges in Somerset County. This was to be the feeder system for the big new cross-state canal. But it would flood out most of the towns back up the South Branch from Neshanic Station through Three Bridges and up to Dart's Mill at Flemington Junction. Fortunately, the war ended before construction could begin. Anyway, the deep draft of today's large ships would have soon rendered it largely obsolete.

# Johannes Creveling and His Descendants

## a Genealogy by Michael and Janet Ann DeLorenzo Gesner

In 1970 (pre-genealogy days for the Gesners), Janet and Michael bought their first home, near Washington, NJ (Warren County). They've jokingly called it their starter home even though they are still in it today, forty-six years later. Prior to their purchase, the one-acre property was part of the Bodine farm for over 140 years. Owners before them were the **Creveling family**. This didn't mean anything to the Gesners at the time other than *just* the history of the property. **Samuel Creveling**, lived and died here - his tombstone is on a knoll about 600 feet from the home in a tiny fenced-in cemetery that looked down upon the current Gesner property. He died on March 20, 1827 at the young age of twenty-two with a surviving wife and child.

Today, Samuel is recognized as Janet's first Cousin, five times removed. The original property is described in the Second Edition of the Creveling Genealogy by Louis G. Creveling on pages 1002-1004. Samuel's father, Samuel, and Uncle **William Creveling** (Janet's Seventh Great Grandfather!) bought the property from the Robert Thompson Estate in 1791. What are the chances that a descendant would end up living on the same property that was once owned by an ancestor so long ago?

The deed mentions "houses" on the property and there is a question whether the present Gesner home could have been one of the those "houses." Michael doesn't think so but he does estimate that there were nine additions to the present structure over 150+ years. The house was originally one room, then a loft and further add-ons transformed the original abode into a colonial farmhouse. Janet surmises that the houses mentioned in the 1791 deed were log cabins, later replaced with the present construction.

If only Louis Creveling had known this when he published his last book. But, Janet's **Creveling** line wasn't known to him at the time and to be fair, her Creveling connections were difficult to uncover. But prove them the Gesners did and finally, she *is* in this latest edition. She descends from *two* Creveling siblings, **William** (1st born) and **Christiana** (8th born), making her a "double Creveling." In genealogy, "double relations" aren't that unusual. When family descendants live in a given area for over 250 years, you are bound to find cousin marriages. In most cases, the connection might equate to fourth or fifth cousins and who, other than a genealogist, would suspect the relationship? In Janet's case, her double relations were first cousins, once removed. "Oops, she married her cousin," is one of Michael's favorite remarks when discovering yet another cousin marriage.

The Gesners worked on this genealogy for over fifteen years. Firstly, they went through the Second Edition, making sure they had every family included in their "third edition." *Insider Clue*: The Second Edition has early docu-

ments and much more personal information than this genealogy. The book is in many area libraries. After thousands of hours of research, the books, Part I (Generations One through Ten) and Part II (Generations Eleven through Fifteen), are finished. The total number of individuals in this updated genealogy is close to 75,000. A few Creveling descendants uncovered in the final month of editing are not included, leaving the genealogy a work in progress.

*Copies of Johannes Creveling and His Descendants* are for sale in the Society's library. Part I and Part II are \$45 each or \$90 for both. Shipping adds \$15. The books also are available at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com) where one can view the entire index. If you would like to meet Michael and Janet, they volunteer in the Society library on the first and third Thursdays each month.

## Update on Our Members

### Profiling the Society

535 Total Members  
205 Members in Hunterdon County  
78 Members in rest of New Jersey  
249 Members in 35 other states  
3 Members outside US (Canada, UK, Australia)  
21 New members in 2016  
90 Life Members

### The Society welcomes these new members.

Peter Buchsbaum, Stockton, NJ  
Jim Davidson, Hopewell, NJ  
Elizabeth English, Stockton, NJ  
Stephen Fintko, Bethlehem, PA  
A. Wayne Fisher, Ringoes, NJ  
Ramona Hillier-O'Hara, Frenchtown, NJ  
Richard Oakley, Ashburn, VA  
Debbie Vinciguerra, Doylestown, PA  
Mark Zdepski, Stockton, NJ

### New LIFE Members

Ken & Marilyn Cummings, Headquarters, NJ  
Charles & Liz Fisher, Flemington, NJ  
Charles & Ravenna Taylor, Stockton, NJ

## In Memorium

William Hartman, The Villages, Florida  
Sharon Moore Colquhoun, Yardville, NJ  
Richard Piatt, West Chester, PA

## CURATOR DON CORNELIUS REPORTS ON ARCHIVING PROGRESS

In the last edition of our newsletter, I used this space to answer a member's question concerning the cost of operating a specially constructed archive building. In this edition, I will answer a different member's question: "What has the archives done recently?" It seems this particular member does not belong to or view social media, nor does this person regularly check our website ([hunterdonhistory.org](http://hunterdonhistory.org)).

I have become so comfortable in posting archives releases and events over those means of communication lately that this question serves as an excellent reminder that not all of our members use electronic communications. So, I will use this space for its original purpose: to inform members what the Manuscript Curator and his team are doing. To that end, here is a list of all of the collections the archives team has completed and released to the public since our spring 2016 newsletter:

**Collection 115, Ron Schultzel Cemetery and Church Files (1982-2008).** This extensive collection is a series of research and field exploration notes relating to cemeteries and churches of Hunterdon and Warren Counties. The papers contain research folders labeled by cemetery and church name. Most of the material includes research copies and work notes taken from published and unpublished books and manuscripts, supplemented by findings on trips to the cemetery or church in question. These additional research work notes can include tombstone inscriptions, photographs, correspondence, original or drawn locator maps, photocopies of deeds, photocopies of research sources, and original notes by Mr. Schultzel, creator of the collection.

**Collection 134, the Hanover/Deats Papers (1848-1961).** This collection consists of a number of miscellaneous documents concerning Hiram E. Deats and Hunterdon County in general. There are personal records of Hiram E. Deats in the collection, but also some records of other Hunterdon County individuals and organizations, including the Riverside Grange, a diary of Henry Race, and publications from the Hunterdon County Health and Hospital Survey Committee.

**Collection 153, Lillie Staats Letters (1904-1909).** This collection consists of private letters received by Ms. Lillie Staats. The collection spans from 1904-1909, when Ms. Staats resided in Ringoes, NJ, and at McKinley Hospital in Trenton, NJ.

**Collection 154, Jennie Haver Papers II (1922-1952).** Jennie Haver was a pioneering educator from Hunterdon County, and this collection includes annual statistics and reports, as well as more detailed monthly

statistics and reports, of the Helping Teacher's Association in Hunterdon County. It also includes a series of professional publications in which Ms. Haver is featured as the subject of an article or to which she contributed to as an author.

**Collection 172, Franklin Archives (1845-2014).** This collection is comprised of 12 containers of correspondence, photographs, documents, manuscripts, ledgers, pamphlets, financial documents, reports, brochures, programs, and other materials relating to the founding and governance of Franklin Township, Hunterdon County, NJ, and its civic and social activities. The collection will interest researchers of Franklin Township and Hunterdon County in general.

**Collection 173, the Verna Snyder Papers (1935-1975).** This collection consists of ephemera, news clippings, and memorabilia collected by Mrs. Verna Snyder,

who was Juror Number 4 in the trial of Richard Bruno Hauptmann for the kidnapping and murder of the infant son of famed aviator Charles Lindbergh.

**Collection 174, the C. Lloyd Fell Papers (1886-1939).** Mr. C. Lloyd Fell was the Clerk of Hunterdon County from 1925 until his death in 1939, and he also was active in many fraternal and

community organizations throughout his lifetime. These records are a mix of his personal and official business papers.

**Collection 175, Readington Glass Plate Negatives (1916).** The collection consists of 91 glass plate negative images of people and places in and around the Readington Village section of Readington Township, New Jersey. All images were photographed by Daniel B. Cole of Readington around 1916.

In addition, we also **added over 100 volumes to the Bound Manuscript Collection.** These include the diaries of Ann Stout (1871-1925); diaries of Augustus Shaw (1868-1906); Day Books of George H. Large (1882-1920); and financial ledgers of the Hunterdon County Clerk of Court (1793-1879).

So, for those of you who do not follow us on Facebook or regularly view our website, the above is an example of what the Manuscript Curator and archival volunteer team have been working on. We have a number of exciting collections and other things that we are currently working on that we hope will be ready soon, including some more photography collections, a new guide to the map collection, and more content for our online catalog.

I can't wait to share it all with you and write about it in the next year.



"The Robinson Boys", glass plate negative 88 from Collection 175.



## Spotlight on Collections: What's in Your Closet?

**This wedding gown** worn by Amelia Adelaide (Addie) Finney (1856-1936) was passed down through eight decades of cousins and given to the Society by Margaret Hunt Landis in honor of her son, James Clarkson Landis, an historian/genealogist. Addie married Albert Duy Anderson (1855-1936) on June 17, 1886 in Lambertville. The wedding was noted in the *Hunterdon Republican* newspaper. The lovely ivory satin gown includes a train, meant to wear with a bustle, as well as the gloves, shoes and hose Addie wore on her special day.

Addie was the eldest daughter of John Finney and Eliza Boice Coriell. They were a wealthy and influential family in Lambertville where John Finney headed the Lambertville Spoke Manufacturing Company. The company had mills all over the world that dealt with materials needed to make wheels, such as timber, lumber, hubs, and spokes.

Albert Duy Anderson, the groom, went to Princeton University graduating first in the class of 1878. He was a distinguished Lambertville lawyer and active in community affairs serving on the common council, as director and president of the Amwell National Bank, and director of the Lambertville Water Company. Albert died a week short of his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday with wife Addie dying just one day later.

The wedding gown, as well as its family history, is now safely preserved as part of the Historical Society collections.



Since 1885  
Collecting  
Preserving  
Sharing  
Hunterdon's History



Hunterdon County  
Historical Society  
114 Main Street  
Flemington, NJ  
08822

