



Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

VOL. 20, NO. 2

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SPRING 1984

Delaware & Raritan Canal Celebrates Its 150th Anniversary — Big Day is June 23



A scene along the D & R Canal. Towlines extended eighty to one hundred feet in front of the boat to the mules. Trenton Public Library

Open House at the Society's Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead is but one of the activities scheduled for June 23, 1984 along the Delaware and Raritan Canal to commemorate the 150th anniversary of its formal opening in June 1843.

The Delaware River Mill Society, at the Prallsville Mill, near Stockton will have wagon rides, canoe trips, exhibitions and screenings of "The D & R Canal."

Hunterdon County Historical Society, open house at the Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead adjacent to the canal at the Toll Bridge, exhibits, leisurely strolls along the banks of the canal, concert at 2 p.m. for which it is suggested you bring lawn chairs. The progress of the Holcombe-Jimison Restoration Committee's work on the barns and grounds since the open house last June will be evident.

Lambertville Historical Society, Cavallo Park, exhibit, poetry reading, picnic; the home of Ashbel Welch, the canal's engineer, will be marked with a plaque.

Come out and spend the day on June 23. There are activities to appeal to everyone's interests.

On June 16 a conference on the canal age in America, "The Delaware and Raritan Canal: A 150th Anniversary Symposium" will be held at the State Museum Auditorium in Trenton. In conjunction with the Symposium a special office of the U.S. Post Office will be established at the Museum with a D & R Canal cancellation. Registrations for the symposium may be made with James C. Amon, D & R Canal Commission, CN 402 (25 Calhoun Street, Trenton, NJ 08625. Registration is \$1.50 and optional luncheon \$3.00; total \$4.50.

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The Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead is located between Route 29 and the Delaware & Raritan Canal immediately south of the Route 202 bridge across the Delaware River between Stockton and Lambertville. Look for signs at entrance.

HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

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**COPIER PURCHASED WITH DONATIONS**

Response to the request for donations to purchase a copy machine for the Society headquarters provided approximately ¾ of the purchase cost. The Board of Trustees approved purchase of a new Canon PC 20 model with the capacity to reproduce in three colors — black, brown or blue — for \$1200. The machine makes excellent copies, even reproducing photographs, too. The Board thanks the members whose contributions made this purchase possible.

Marion O. Harris
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It's not too late to send YOUR contribution toward purchase of the machine. \$300 is still needed to cover the total purchase price. Do it today!

FOUND: Trimmer House.

In the previous issue of *Hunterdon Historical Newsletter* [Vol. 20, #1] in the article, "50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HABS" it was noted the current status of the Trimmer House near Califon was unknown. Several members responded to our plea for help in finding the house, the first of whom was Reverend William Bender of Califon. He reported the house had been restored and was well cared for. Mrs. J.M. O'Grady, historian of the Philhower Family Association, telephoned to identify the location of the house. A note from John Ely, West Orange, NJ, told us an article about the house had appeared in the 23 March 1967 *Hunterdon Democrat*; that the property had been purchased in 1931 by North Jersey Quarry co. and in 1940 a tenant, Samuel Hoover, lived there.

Student member Ray Jachowski wrote and enclosed copies of the Historic Sites survey forms on the house completed by architectural historian Dennis Bertland for the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission survey done prior to publication of its report in 1979.

Mr. Bertland placed the construction date in the early 1800's and describes it as a 1½ story stone house erected in two parts, with a bank cellar. Exterior details include 4/2, 6/6, and 9/6 sash and eyebrow windows; recessed, board-line entries and a shed-roofed porch supported by stone piers. A doorway in the west pier leads to a small, stone lean-to or storeroom. The original 4-bay unit (1808-1815) has a chimney in each gable. These provide two fireplaces in the cellar, one of which has a bake oven, and a third in one of the south rooms above. The narrow, rear portion of the first floor is divided into two small chambers by a small stair hall and entry. There is a random rubble stone barn of the same period adjacent in very good condition.

The house is set on a hill facing south above the north bank of the South Branch of the Raritan River. The house has had only minor alterations. Spring-house ruins are visible. The bank barn is a 3-bay stone structure on a stone stable with a frame supported forebay. There are ventilation slits in gables and batten doors hung on strap hinges.

In 1802 David Trimmer purchased a 332 acre tract from his brother, John. The house was built in the 74+ acre portion of the tract which William Trimmer inherited from his father, David in 1824. The farm was owned and occupied later in the 19th Century by William's daughter, Elizabeth and her husband, Jacob A. Weise.



(Continued from page 411)



Exhibitions to commemorate the canal opening are scheduled to begin:

- June 1 — Trenton Free Public Library
- June 5 — Rutgers University Libraries, New Brunswick
- June 10 — Historical Society of Princeton
- June 16 — "The Delaware & Raritan Canal: A Retrospective" at the State Museum through the Fall.

DELAWARE & RARITAN CANAL

The concept of a canal across New Jersey had been advanced as early as 1676 by William Penn. A project to connect the waters of the Delaware and Raritan Rivers was seriously considered in 1804 as a means of transporting goods to markets. A route was examined and a Legislative Act was passed authorizing the canal's construction by a private company. The company was formed but did not succeed in the project. In 1816 and again in 1823 the practicality of such a canal was demonstrated as an asset to domestic trade for the area.

A legislative act passed 4 February 1830 provided that "subscription books to the capital stock of the 'Delaware and Raritan Canal Company' shall be opened. . . in the amount of one million dollars, each share valued at one hundred dollars." The act gave the Company the right to ". . . construct a canal. . . from the waters of the Delaware River to the waters of the Raritan, and to improve the navigation of the said rivers. . . which canal shall be 50 feet wide at the waterline. . . at least five feet deep throughout. . . and supply the canal with water from the Delaware River by

constructing a feeder, which shall be so constructed as to form a navigable canal not less than thirty feet wide and four feet deep, to conduct water from any part of the river Delaware."

A route for the canal was surveyed in 1816. This was followed generally, with but few changes, by chief engineer Canvass White, when construction began in late 1830. The care that went into the selection of the route accounted in part for its comparatively low cost. The work was expedited by dividing the project into divisions which, in turn, were divided into sections. The eastern division was supervised by John Hopkins, the middle by George T. Olmstead, and Edward A. Douglas had charge of digging the canal through Trenton and southwestward to the Delaware. Ashbel Welch, Jr., the youngest engineer, was placed in charge of digging the feeder northwestward from Trenton.

Mr. Welch selected Lambertville for his headquarters. Workmen, for the most part Irish immigrants brought here from Cork by the boat load, were housed in hastily built shanties south of town. Some of the workmen brought wives and children with them. In the first year at Lambertville a severe epidemic of cholera broke out among the workmen, with workmen "dropping on their feet", causing panic in the area as the disease spread rapidly.

Under the supervision of Mr. Welch, a board of health was appointed and given the authority to require compliance with sanitary measures for residents of the town and its environs — which covered the workmen on the feeder. A hospital was set up in a nearly completed dwelling, Lilly Hill house. The dead were buried practically where they dropped, in Burrough's Woods on the Wolverton farm at Prallsville, on Bull's Island, between Somerset and Washington Crossing, and on the Lilly farm just out of town on the Rocktown Road.

Soon after the disease broke out in Lambertville workmen on other sections of the canal became ill. Measures patterned after those devised in the outbreak at Lambertville were employed to treat and halt the spread of the disease.

The main canal, connecting Bordentown on the Delaware with New Brunswick on the Raritan, was 44 miles long. The feeder, taking water from the Delaware above Lambertville and joining the main channel at Trenton, had a length of nearly 23 miles, width of 60 feet and a depth of 6 feet. The project was completed in less than four years. A remarkable accomplishment considering the entire canal was dug mainly by hand by thousands of workmen using picks, shovels, crowbars, wheelbarrows, carts and wagons. Construction costs were \$2,500,000 and \$265,000 covered the right-of-way. Much of the land for the right-of-way was

donated by adjacent land owners anticipating the benefit which would come to them and the area.

The canal was completed and operating in June 1834. Ashbel Welch, in a letter dated Trenton, June 27, 1834, to Solomon W. Roberts, portrays the opening of the canal. "I am here waiting for the packet on my way home from the canal celebration. On Wednesday the directors of our canal and railroad companies, and some thirty or more of the principal stockholders, together with the Governor [Peter Vroom], and sundry others of our great people, came up the 'feeder' as far as Lambertville in a Chesapeake and Delaware canal barge. After dining there all hands got aboard the barge — myself among the number — and started for Trenton about nine o'clock at night. By good luck more than good management, we got to Trenton without wrecking the boat, and after a short nap started off yesterday morning for New Brunswick.

The canal-banks for the whole distance were lined with people — that is to say, there were large collections of them at the landings, bridges, etc. A more jolly party than ours was in the afternoon you seldom meet. John C. Stevens, James S. Green, and Thomas Biddle acted as fun-makers, and they acquitted themselves admirably. . . . When we arrived at New Brunswick we were greeted with a salute of twenty-four guns, were received by the military with presented arms, stood something less than half an hour with our hats off while the mayor made a speech and was answered, hurrahed in return to their civilities until we were all hoarse, were marched up and down the streets, and a little after dark sat down to a sumptuous dinner, provided at the expense of the canal company. The military, for their arduous services (to wit, waiting under arms four or five hours and being nearly broil-

ed), received their pay partly in champagne, partly in glory."

The canal was officially open and the *Hunterdon Gazette* in the 25 June issue reported, "D & R Canal continues in good boatable condition. An elegant and spacious Barge passed through the Canal this week. . . it is expected to run next week with passengers from Princeton and Trenton for the Steamboat at Bordentown."

Financially the canal was a greater success than anticipated. Although half the cargo was coal, local business was stimulated by shipping lumber, grain, flour, iron and the famous Belgian blocks cut on Goat Hill, which were used to pave streets in New York and Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania Railroad leased the canal in 1871 and tonnage shipped on the canal gradually decreased, yielding to a more rapid means of transportation. Operations were abandoned in 1932 and the State of New Jersey acquired all rights to the Delaware & Raritan Canal in 1934.

Roxanne K. Carkhuff

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Howell, J. Roscoe, "Ashbel Welch, Civil Engineer", PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, October 1961, January 1962, Newark, New Jersey.

Petrie, Alfred G., LAMBERTVILLE NEW JERSEY FROM THE BEGINNING AS CORYELL'S FERRY, 1949, Lambertville, New Jersey.

Snell, James P., compiler, HISTORY OF HUNTERDON AND SOMERSET COUNTIES NEW JERSEY, 1881, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

4,000 MEN WANTED — Engineer's Office, Trenton, N. J.—Enlargement of the Delaware and Raritan Canal.—Wanted, immediately, for this work, 4,000 Men, including a large number of Masons and Carpenters. Also, first-rate energetic and experienced Superintendents, and about 50 Foremen. None but those known to the undersigned, or bringing the very best recommendations, need apply. Applications for these situations will be received at this office on Monday afternoon, the 27th inst., and until Jan. 1.

ASHBEL WELCH,
Engineer D. and R. Canal.

Photo credit *Champlain to Chesapeake: A Canal Era Pictorial Cruise*; by William J. McKelvey, Jr.

Social Life In Readington During The 1880's

[Editor's Note: *Exploring Hunterdon's Heritage* is a booklet written, edited and produced by students in "Discovering Your Local Community" a social studies course at Hunterdon Central High School. The following article, by Robert Cole is reprinted from Vol. 3, 1983-1984 with permission of the author and the course instructor, William R. Fernekes. Copies of the booklet are available from Hunterdon Central High School, Route 31, Flemington, NJ 08822 at a cost of \$1.50 each.]

Although one hundred years ago there were no cars, no roller skating rinks, no video games, and no movie theaters, people had an active recreational and social life. In Readington, several different activities were typical of the times.

During the spring and summer months, the social activity of Readington decreased. This was due in part to the fact that farming, which was the major occupation in Readington, required people to work from sunrise to sunset. In order to take advantage of available daylight, the farmers worked long, hard hours. This put a damper on parties because there was not as much free time at the end of the work day. Most people were extremely tired after a hard day's work around the farm.

Despite the need for heavy workloads during the summer, some activities were popular that fit into the social category. One of these was the "husking bee." In the *American College Dictionary*, it is defined as "a gathering of persons to assist in husking corn, usually a kind of merrymaking."¹ A farmer had corn which needed husking after the harvest time in late August. Each year a farmer purposely planted colored corn among his regular crop. The older teenagers came to the farm and started husking corn. During the husking, as colored corn turned up, whomever found a red ear was permitted to kiss a girl. Much flirting, joking and laughing accompanied this activity. The husking bees only took place during the period at the end of the summer and early fall when the husking of the corn harvest was necessary.

During the winter months, when the sun set earlier and the farmers could no longer work outside, there was more time for social affairs. "One of the earliest forms of entertainment was called a social party or a social dance,"² claimed Lorena Vincent, whose parents lived during the times. These social dances were held most frequently in the fall and winter months. Invitations were sent out to a selected number of guests. These invitations were very elaborate and probably "professionally written."³ A typical invitation stated, "yourself and lady are requested to attend a social dance,"⁴ which was usually held at one of the farms. The men were "assessed," and paid for the music or other expenses while the women brought desserts to eat. The dance itself occurred inside a farm house.

The music was often furnished in the Readington area by Church Vanhorn. He was a Negro who could "really fiddle; . . . he knew all the heel and toes and squares and he was a caller too."⁵ The heel and toe and other types of square dances were popular dances during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Everyone danced, even the older kids danced if their parents let

them. However, the younger children came to the party because there were no babysitters. Several beds were pushed together and all the children slept upstairs until it was time to depart. Many times the party lasted until the early hours of morning. Mrs. Vincent noted "They were never held on a Saturday night; it would have been a sin then to dance beyond twelve o'clock."⁶

Winter months allowed more free time and less working hours as the sun set earlier. Other social gatherings common among the younger, courting couples were ice-skating and sleigh-riding. The couples usually got together and skated on the Holland Brook across from the Readington General Store. This site was chosen because there was a dam next to the mill which overlooked the brook, and the ice was generally smoother. A sleigh ride was also chosen if there was a bright moon present. "Down the hill on Hillcrest Road and down the hill past the Readington Reformed Church on Readington Road, were the most common places for sleigh-riding,"⁷ according to Robert Cole, a lifelong resident of Readington. "If a boy controlled his sled well enough to reach farther than his friends, he might have gotten a kiss,"⁸ said Mr. Cole with a chuckle. After the skating and sleighing, the group would go to one of their homes for hot tea or cider and a fun time around a fire.

"Two other things that were very common in this area then. . . One was a calithump, . . . the other custom was called bellsnickling."⁹ A calithump was customary after a newlywed couple returned from their honeymoon. All the neighbors assembled in front of the house and made noise with sleigh bells, tin cans, sticks and anything else that made a noise. They made noise until the couple came out. It was up to the bride to have them all in for a drink or dessert. Today we still identify a married couple by the weird noisemakers used at weddings, but in contrast to earlier times these items are attached to car bumpers. Friends also come, as they did for a calithump, to a reception after the wedding to celebrate.

The other social custom, called "bellsnickling," was "sort of a like a halloween for adults."¹⁰ It was probably a Dutch custom and it took place between Christmas and New Years day. Adults would dress up in costumes and go to their neighbors' homes. The neighbors tried to guess who they were and provided them with something to eat or drink as well.

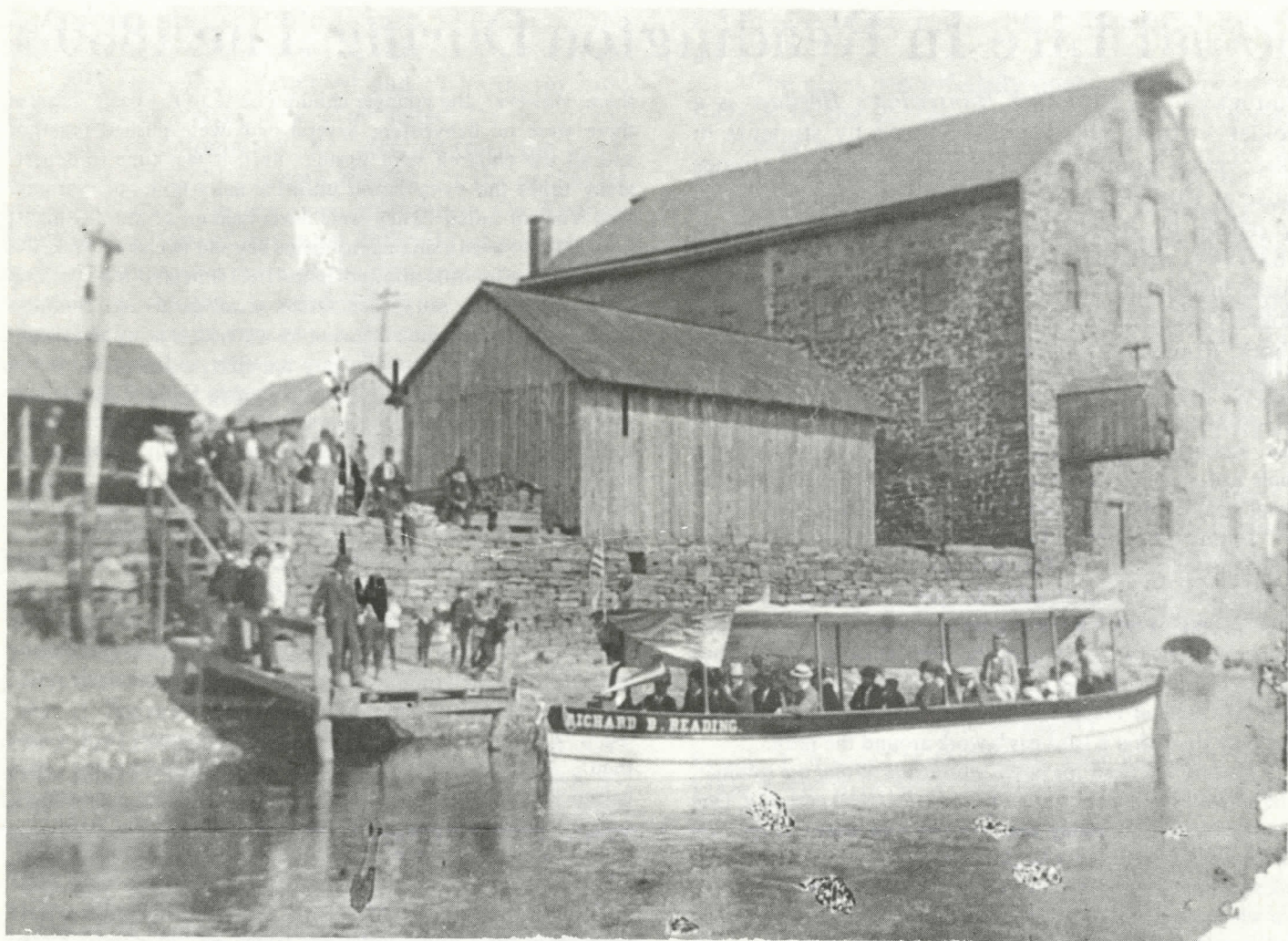
The society of the 1880s was a hard-working agrarian society in which everyone pulled a tremendous load. The social activities which occurred became even more important due to the diligence of the people. Such activities provided an outlet for personal enjoyment once the necessary work was completed. Although many small towns in America during the 1880s had their own social customs and activities, "amusements were little different in the towns that were growing up. . ."¹¹ The social events characteristic of Readington were no doubt common among many New Jersey villages of the period, making Readington a typical American town of the time.

FOOTNOTES

1. C.L. Barnhart, ed., *The American College Dictionary*, (New York: Random House Inc., 1959), p. 590.

2. Mrs. Lorena Vincent, interview by Bob Cole, Neshanic, NJ, 14 December 1983.

(Continued on page 418)



The RICHARD B. READING carrying passengers on an afternoon excursion up the D & R Canal. The location has been tentatively identified as the Prallsville mill. This photograph was included in the William J. Kinnamon Collection recently donated to the Society. Richard Bennett Reading, one of the Pennsylvania Railroad agents at Raven Rock, was born in the village in 1843.

Membership Report

The following new members have recently joined the Society. A warm welcome is extended to them.

Lois F. Becker, Bound Brook, NJ
 Mr. & Mrs. Roy Fisher, West Chester, PA
 Shirley H. Goetz, Murray Hill, NJ
 Mr. & Mrs. John Huff, Flemington, NJ
 Mrs. Robert R. Miller, Cedaredge, CO
 Ms. Ann Niessen, New Hope, PA
 Barry Opdyke, Somerset, NJ
 Mr. & Mrs. Earl J. Opdyke, Port Angeles, WA
 Edmund A. Osborne, Dover, PA
 Dorothy Runyon, Califon, NJ
 Mr. & Mrs. Sol Urbach, Flemington, NJ
 Ms. Catherine Callan West, Clinton, NJ
 Mrs. William O. Wright, Old Lyme, CT

Mrs. Frederick Stothoff
 Membership Secretary

HOW TO JOIN

Hunterdon County Historical Society
 114 Main Street
 Flemington, New Jersey 08822

Please enroll me as a member of your Society

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Annual | \$9.00 |
| Family | \$10.00 |
| Contributing | \$25.00 |
| Sustaining | \$50.00 |
| Institutional | \$100.00 and up per year |
| Life | \$150.00 |
| Student | \$1.00 (18 years of age or less) |

for which I enclose my remittance in the amount of \$

Name

Address

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Recent Acquisitions

The Hunterdon County Historical Society has received these donations during the past six months for which it expresses appreciation and a public thank you.

THE THATCHERS OF BERKSHIRE, ENGLAND, gift of author Helen Rowell, Columbus, IN

THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY, AMWELL VALLEY FIRE CO., RINGOES, N.J. 1983, gift of Edward H. Quick, Ringoes, NJ

HULLS IN 1850: A DIRECTORY OF PERSONS SURNAMED HULL IN THE U.S. IN 1850, gift of the author, Robert Hull Taylor, Lumberville, PA

HOLCOMBE - DOANE - HENKE FAMILY HISTORY 1812-1983, VOLUME 1, gift of the author, Mary Alice Henke, Enders, NE

THE KINNAMON FAMILY IN AMERICA, gift of the late William J. Kinnamon, Flemington, NJ

Tin box and contents which include miscellaneous papers and 32 photographs portraits and local scenes from Edwin K. Large, Jr., Flemington, NJ

Record Book of the Oakdale Social Club, 1928-1973; Constitution, minutes and membership rolls of the Oakdale Social Club [Delaware Township] donated for the Hunterdon County Historical Society's manuscript collection by Mrs. Charles Keener, Stockton, NJ

THE RINGO FAMILY HISTORY SERIES, Vol. XII, gift of James J. Ringo, Somerville, NJ

CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY 1616-1976: A NARRATIVE HISTORY, Jeffrey M. Dorward and Philip English Mackey, gift of Assemblyman Richard A. Zimmer, Flemington, NJ

THE OP DYKE GENEALOGY, Charles Wilson Opdyke, 1976 reprint of 1898 edition, donated by Barry W. Opdyke, Somerset, NJ "in memory of all my ancestors who made my life what it is."

From the collections of the late William J. Kinnamon, donated by his daughter, Mrs. Helen Lindsey, New Hope, PA, 52 photographs of local scenes and persons, 35 postcards of local scenes, 100+ slides circa 1966 of Flemington Speedway; 1923 Flemington Fair Association Pageant and History Program Souvenir Program; manuscript receipt dated 1810 for Flemington Aqueduct.

THE HAGLEY COOKBOOK donated by the Hagley Volunteers Cookbook Committee, Wilmington, DE

INTERMENTS IN READINGTON CHURCH CEMETERY, 1798-1977, compiled by Robert S. Cole; gift of the compiler, Readington, NJ

Primary Registry List Election, September 25, 1917, donated by Claire Young, Curator, Clinton Historical Museum, Clinton, NJ



FAMILY REUNION CALENDAR

APGAR ASSOCIATION — 15 September 1984 in Cokesbury

The 10th Annual Apgar Reunion has been scheduled for 15 September 1984 at the Cokesbury United Methodist Church.

The family patriarch, Johannes Peter Apgard, arrived in the American Colonies 250 years ago 23 September 1734. To celebrate the anniversary a trip to Philadelphia is planned. For details on reunion and anniversary trip write George Apgar, Jr., 416 Runyon Ave., Middlesex, NJ 08846.

FELVER FAMILY — 10 June 1984 in Celina, OH

The Felver family has scheduled a family reunion for June 10, 1984 in Celina, OH. If you are a Felver, or related to one, now or in the past, send a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) to receive information about the reunions to Robert Farmer, 1740 W. 275th S., Lafayette, IN 47905. Allied family names include Hines, Rhodes and Underwood.

PHILHOWER FAMILY REUNION — 8 September 1984

Each year the Philhower Family Reunion is held on the first Saturday following Labor Day. This year the date is 8 September at the Cokesbury Methodist Church. For details contact Mr. Raymond Philhower, 261 Speedwell Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960.

VAN-KOUWENHOVEN-CONOVER FAMILY ASSOCIATION — 23 June 1984

The Van Kouwenhoven-Conover Family Association was organized in Hunterdon County in August 1896 and this year, on 23 June, the Family Association will be holding its Annual Meeting at the Stanton Grange. For details write Charles P. Conover, President, Mendham Road, Gladstone, NJ 07934 or call him at 201-234-0848.

NOTES and QUERIES

Address correspondence to Genealogical Committee. Listings of ten lines free to members, non-member rate is 25¢ per line.

BELLIS: Samuel B. Bellis, b NJ ca 1809, mov with Mother to Savannah, GA bef 1840; d ca 1890 Iron Co. MO. Who were his parents? ADD: Tom Bellis, 2606 S. Troy St., Arlington, VA 22206.

APGAR, BUNN, CRAMER, HAZEN, HOFFMAN, HOOVER, MULLEN; Let us exch data, researching 1750-1830, William Hazen, Henry Hoffman, Jacob Mullen, Peter Apgar, George Cramer, Michael Hoover, John Bunn. All liv Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset and Warren-Essex Counties. Postage refunded. ADD: Anne Willard, R#1, Box 482, Red Bluff, CA 96080.

DRAKE, MORGAN: Interested in corres/w anyone with Drake anc in NJ and those which rem from NJ to PA, OH, IL. Des info re Andrew Morgan who d ca 1790, poss Hopewell NJ, had Asher, William, Benjamin, Andrew, Sarah, Dorothy, Mary and Elizabeth. ADD: Mrs. Ronald Radwanski, R.D. #4, Box 232, Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

BRINK, LEQUEAR, SINCLAIR: Researching Lequear fam, Daniel & Wesley Brink & children, all Sinclairs. There were 3 William Sinclairs in 1850 census index. Does anyone want to sell complete 1850 census of Hunterdon County? Any help would be appreciated. ADD: Mrs. Margaret Smith, 1504 N. University, Decatur, IL 62526.

HIBBS, MYERS: Des par, sib/o Peter A. Myers, b 12 June 1760 in NJ, believed to be near Pittstown. Peter serv Rev War NJ; m 3 Sept 1782 Mary Hibbs, b NJ 1762 dau/o Jacob & Elizabeth Hibbs; had Jacob, Peter, Jr., John, Joseph, Elizabeth, Sarah, Mary & Phoebe; remov to Green Co., PA. Peter d 4 Sept 1820, Mary d 1 March 1826; both bur Garads Fort, PA. ADD: Margaret M. Wright, 144 Rogers Lake Trail, Old Lyme, CT 06371.

SOCIAL LIFE IN READINGTON (Continued from page 415)

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

6. Ibid.

7. Mr. Robert Cole, interview by Bob Cole, Readington, NJ, 19 December 1983.

8. Ibid.

9. Interview with Lorena Vincent.

10. Ibid.

11. Richard Lingeman, *Small Town America*, (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin Co., 1980), p. 127.

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Trustees to the Class of 1987 were elected at the Annual Meeting on 25 March 1984. The Nominating Committee proposed Linn R. Creighton, John W. Kuhl, Kenneth V. Myers, and Richard H. Stothoff who were duly elected. By unanimous vote John Foran Schenk was elected Trustee Emeritus and a resolution was passed naming him an Honorary Life Member of the Society.

WHEREAS, John F. Schenk was elected a member of the Hunterdon County Historical Society at the 54th Annual Meeting of the said Society on 1 January 1938, and,

WHEREAS, John F. Schenk has served the Hunterdon County Historical Society as a Trustee since 1 September 1971, and as Chairman of the Museum Committee for eleven years, devoting his knowledge of architectural styles and details and his expertise in period antiques to the restoration, decoration and furnishing of the Doric House, which master carpenter Mahlon Fisher erected in 1846 as his family's residence, and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the restoration, Mr. Schenk conducted tours through the house providing visitors with a glimpse into gracious middle class village life circa 1850, and he created a brochure to further guide visitors enriching their educational tour of the Doric House,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in recognition of his contributions and dedicated service to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, John F. Schenk be named an Honorary Life Member of the Hunterdon County Historical Society on 25 March 1984.

/s/ Kenneth V. Myers

President

/s/ John W. Kuhl

Secretary

