

# Hunterdon Historical Newsletter

VOL. 2, NO. 2

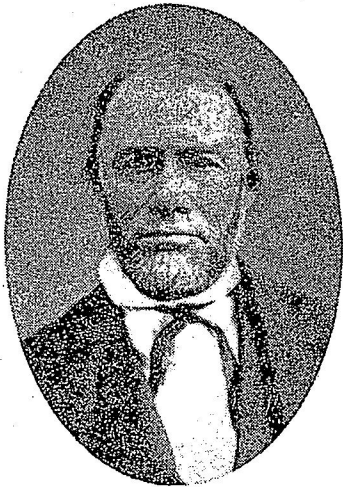
Published by Hunterdon County Historical Society

FALL, 1966

## James Wilson Marshall

### Topic of Fall Meeting

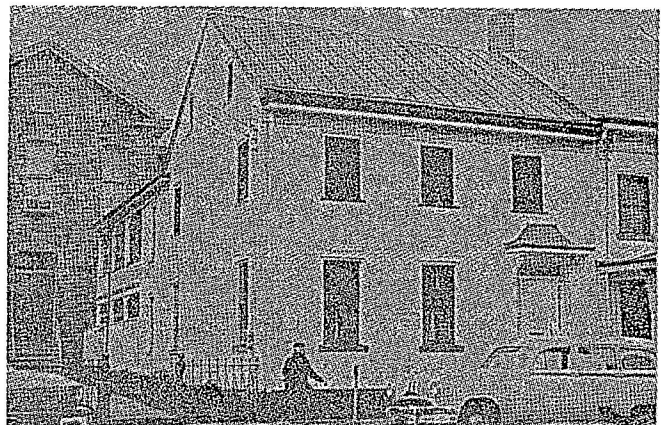
The State of New Jersey's acceptance of the boyhood home of Lambertville's most famous son, James Wilson Marshall, discoverer of California gold at Sutter's Mills in 1848 will be commemorated at a joint meeting of the Hunterdon County and Lambertville historical societies on Sunday, October 30, at 2 p.m. at the Lambertville Baptist Church.



"The Gold Rush", a film strip on Marshall's role in the greatest mass migration in this country's history, will be shown after a brief address by the newly appointed head of the State's Historic Sites Division

whose name will be announced by Commissioner Roe of the Dept. of Conservation and Development on October 10.

A resolution thanking Bishop Ahr of the Diocese of New Jersey and Father Loughman of St. John's Church for the gift of the house to the State will be presented at the meeting. A resolution of thanks will also be presented conveying to the State the gratitude of both historical societies for the State's proposed restoration of the Marshall home to its appearance in 1816 and for its eventual use as a Marshall memorial and as a home for the Lambertville Historical Society.



*James W. Marshall*

JAMES MARSHALL HOUSE

Built in 1816 by Philip Marshall, this house was, until 1834 the home of James Marshall, who discovered gold in the race of a California sawmill in 1848. The Gold Rush of '49, set in motion by his discovery, enriched the country by a billion dollars in gold. Although at one time a rich man, Marshall died penniless because of his generosity. Gold nuggets sent to Lambertville by him are embedded in the cornerstone of the Lambertville Baptist Church across the street from his home.

### HUNTERDON HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

Published Fall, Winter, Spring By The Hunterdon County Historical Society, 1 Maple Ave., Flemington, N.J.

Edited by the Publications Committee.

The Library of the Society is open Tuesday and Thursday, 1 to 3 p.m.

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
FOR STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY

## Newsletter Editor Retires

Marian B. Godown, editor of the first 3 issues of our NEWSLETTER will shortly move to Florida with her husband Albert W. Godown who is retiring from his longtime position with the State Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

We thank her for getting us off to a good start and for the success our NEWSLETTER has had thus far.

## Motor Bus Outing To Stenton and Pennsbury Manor Held

An all day motor bus outing to James Logan's Philadelphia home, to Hope Lodge, at Whitemarsh, and to William Penn's Manor of Pennsbury was enjoyed by 40 members and friends of our Society on Saturday, June 25.

A box luncheon was served at Militia Hill State Park at Whitemarsh and tea was served by the Pennsbury Society at Penn's Manor where Curator Dewey Lee Curtis gave a welcoming address.

Members of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames welcomed the visitors to "Stenton" where Mrs. Henry Berwind gave a guided tour of the Logan mansion.

Mrs. J.H. Wentz, Curator of Hope Lodge, conducted the party through this noted example of Georgian architecture.

## Califon History Published

"The Califon Story" by Helen Haggerty Geist (Mrs. Harry G. Geist) has just been published. It tells the history of the village from its founding to 1964 in 20 chapters and 169 pages filled with interesting facts and tales and illustrated with many photographs.



Elizabeth Van Fleet Vosseller (1874-1939) Co-Founder of the Flemington Choir School in 1895. From a portrait painted in 1935 by Mortimer Wilson and recently bequeathed to the Society by her sister Mrs. James MacFie Smith.

## Vosseller Papers and Portrait Received from Smith Bequest

Vosseller family papers, mss. of articles by Elizabeth Van Fleet Vosseller, and of her father Elias Vosseller, the noted local historian, records relating to the Flemington Choir School, and photograph albums have been received from the Estate of the late Mrs. James MacFie Smith (Bertha Vosseller)

The Flemington Choir School under Miss Vosseller's direction achieved nationwide recognition. Many of her pupils developed notable musical careers of whom perhaps the singer Paul Robeson is best known.

WANTED IN OUR LIBRARY: additions to our Family Bible records collection which now includes over 200 typed and photo-copied birth, death and marriage records.

## Deats Publications Given To Society's Publication Fund

Over 500 copies of Hunterdon local history publications and nearly 12,000 issues of "The Jerseyman" published by the late Hiram E. Deats, our long time secretary-librarian, have been given to the Society to be sold for the benefit of our Publication Fund by his son Charles T. Deats, our Vice President.

"The Jerseyman", a quarterly of local history was published 1891 to 1911 and contains many original research papers of Hunterdon interest which were read as Papers before our Society.

A complete list of all the Society's publication which are currently for sale including the Deats gift is being issued. Persons interested in purchasing our publications are invited to write for a free catalog.

## Robinson Gift Gratefully Acknowledged

The Trustees of the Society gratefully acknowledge a gift of \$500 from Mrs. George Robinson of Flemington, N.J.

Mrs. Robinson is the niece of Dr. George N. Best, Hunterdon physician and botanist (1847-1926), a founder of our Society and author of the first paper read before Society: "Duties of the Historian".

Previously Mrs. Robinson had presented to our Library 3 photographs of Dr. Best and the original MS of a paper read before the Society December 2, 1885: "The Scope and Work of a Local Historical Society".

### HOW TO JOIN

Please enroll me as a \_\_\_\_\_ member. Annual, \$4.00 per year; Contributing, \$10.00; Sustaining, \$25.00; Institutional, \$25.00; Life, \$100.00; Patron, \$1,000.00; Student, \$1.00 (18 years old or younger)

For which I enclose \_\_\_\_\_

.....  
.....  
.....

## Welcome . . . . New Members

- Mr. H.H. Buckelmueller Plainfield, N.J.
- Phillip A. Cane Rosemont, N.J.
- Miss Thelma Danielson Middle Valley, N.J.
- John H. Fulper Kewanee, Ill.
- Mrs. Harry G. Geist Califon, N.J.
- Melville L. Godley Flemington, N.J.
- Tim Libke (Student) Sparta, Wisc.
- Earl A. Medlyn Annandale, N.J.
- Mrs. Alice Narducci Lambertville, N.J.
- Mrs. Charles E. Pace Annandale, N.J.
- L.H. Rittenhouse (Contributing) Havertown, Pa.
- Mrs. Cynthia Rusch, Lambertville, N.J.
- Edith M. Search Lovington, New Mexico
- Mrs. Carlyle Wieseman Westfield, N.J.
- The Rev. Garford Williams Harford, Pa.

Membership Chairman, Miss Edith Jones, reports that the Society has 235 fully paid up members. She reports 2 members deceased since our last meeting and that a number of members are delinquent in paying their 1965 and 1966 dues.

The Society values its members upon whom its success depends. An enlarged membership will enable us to increase our effectiveness. All members are urged to get at least one new member each year!

### Form of Bequest

(This form is recommended for use in making a bequest of personal or real property, in a Will or otherwise, naming your society as beneficiary)

ITEM: I bequeath the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, N.J.

ITEM: I bequeath to the Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, N. J., without restrictions title to and full possession of historical materials and objects, (real estate, account books, diaries, Family Bibles, documents, papers, photographs, programs, newspapers, clippings, books, records.) etc.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

## Notes &amp; Queries

- SNOOK, John M. Information on. (Mrs. W.P. Miller. RD 2, Lebanon, Ohio) 2-2-1
- FULPER-HOPPOCK families. Pattenberg area, before 1851. (John Hoppock Fulper. RD2 Ke-wanee, Ill.) 2-2-2
- PEGG, Daniel and Revolutionary ancestors. (Miss Mary P. Huff, 801 E. Jefferson St., Clinton, Ill.) 2-2-3
- BELLIS, Phillip, Sr. and Harbert Bellis' father? (Mrs. W.C. Westgard, 1334 Butler St., Easton, Pa.) 2-2-4
- HEATH, David, of Amwell Twnshp. (Roy S. Heath, 611 N. Calhoun St., West Liberty, Iowa) 2-2-5
- LABAW, Revolutionary ancestors. (Mrs. James Wood, 3028 Henrietta St., La Crescenta, Cal.) 2-2-6
- PHILHOWER FAMILY (Mrs. Roy Philhower, 6622 Simon Lane, Loveland, Ohio) 2-2-7
- HART FAMILY (Miss F. Pfander, 702 N. 12th St., Clarinda, Iowa) 2-2-8
- RITTENHOUSE FAMILY of N.J. (L.H. Rittenhouse, 2612 Woodleigh Road, Havertown, Pa.) 2-2-9
- BLOOM FAMILY Revolutionary ancestors (Mrs. Theodore Holst, 528 Mercer Road, Princeton, N.J.) 2-2-10
- WILLETT, WILLIAM of Tewksbury Twnshp. Revolutionary war service-birth date. (Mrs. Willett Gorham, 14 Country Lane, Northfield, Ill.) 2-2-11
- SMITH, Jacob (in Canada by 1788), son of Mathias Smith of Amwell. Birth date and information regarding his wife's family wanted. She was Elizabeth Lewis of Canada. (Kenn Stryker-Rodda, 12 Garden Place, Brooklyn, N.Y.) 2-2-12
- KESTER, Benjamin and Rachel; Arnold and John. (Stuart B. Kester, Sr., Main Road Boston, N.Y.) 2-2-13
- STATISTICS: There have been 75 visitors to the Library since May; Mrs. Ray C. Wilson's Genalogical Committee has answered 23 inquiries from 10 states.

## OFFICERS

President .....	Norman C. Wittwer
Vice-President .....	Charles T. Deats
Vice-President .....	Frank E. Burd
Secretary .....	Edward H. Quick
Treasurer .....	Kenneth V. Myers
Assistant Treasurer .....	Miss Edith L. Jones
Corres. Secretary .....	Mrs. Ray C. Wilson
Ass't Corres. Sec. ....	Edwin W. Huff
Trustee .....	Mrs. Fred A. Abegg
Trustee .....	Edwin K. Large, Jr.
Librarian .....	B. A. Sorby

## Recent Acquisitions

## Photographs:

- Milford, N.J. views, c. 1890; 12 glass negative plates and prints (Mrs. Ray C. Wilson)
- Flemington views, c. 1890 and album of color tinted photographs of Choir School productions in various costumes (Smith-Vosseller gift)

## Objects:

- Antique clothing (Mrs. Kenneth Poole)
- Child's tea set owned by Rebecca Julia Deats (1848-1882) first wife of Porter C. Little and half-sister of Hiram E. Deats. (Mrs. Ray C. Wilson)

## Manuscripts:

- Pittstown, N.J., unidentified general store account book (1904-1906) and Raritan Township Voting History, etc. from Miss Mildred C. Larson, Acting Hunterdon County Clerk)
- Whitehouse, N.J. Post Office records, 1904-1934. (Mrs. Clarence T. Eick)
- Hunterdon County Slave Manumission records, 1787-1856; Sherriff's Forfeitures Book, 1759-1779. (Gift of Bergen Carter)

## Family Bibles:

- Quick, Moses (1824-1896) and Julia L. Naylor. (Mr. and Mrs. James White, Lambertville, N.J.)
- Godown Family: From Albert W. Godown, Sr.) Potts, William and Susan Dawes (Gift of Miss E. Annie Potts, Flemington, N.J.)

## Books, etc.

- Godown, Marion B. misc. articles by the donor from various publications; photographs and Lindbergh trial phonograph record. (Gift of Marian B. Godown (Mrs. Albert W.))
- Ramsey, Ruthanna S. "Sequel to Joseph Ramsey (1747-1834) 1966. 16p. (Gift of the author Mrs. Alvah P. Ramsey, St. Petersburg, Fla.)
- Burr, Nelson R. Narrative and critical bibliography of New Jersey. 1965. Purchase.
- Acker, George H. "Descendants of Peter Acker and his wife Jane Sutherland in Pendleton area, South Carolina" 1966 67 leaves (Includes Acker family of Hunterdon) Gift of the author.
- Geist, Helen H. The Califon Story. 1966 169 p. photos. (Gift of the author. Mrs. Harry G. Geist)
- JORDAN FAMILY data (From William T. Jordan, Meadowbrook, Pa.

