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CENTREVILLE: THE RISE AND FALL OF A TOWNSHIP

By Bruce Bendler

The establishment of the American republic reinforced the belief long held by colonial British-Americans that their government should be accessible, accountable, and responsive. Petitioning had been a means to realize that belief since the emergence of parliamentary government in England. Brought across the Atlantic with the emergence of representative government in British North America, petitioning served as a means for voters to bring matters of concern to the attention of their elected colonial legislatures. Petitioners sought to keep those representatives accountable while facilitating their own ability to participate in political discourse. Petitioning continued to serve those purposes well into the era of the early republic.

In November of 1820, ninety-six inhabitants of Pittsgrove Township in Salem County, New Jersey, thus petitioned the state legislature, asking that the southeastern portion of their township be set off into a new township to be called Centreville. In addition, the petitioners asked that the new township be removed from Salem County and attached to Cumberland County.¹ The petitioners offered one main argument for their request. Their “local situation is such that we labor under great inconvenience and trouble as well as expense in attending the court and other necessary business” in Salem. Salem was twenty to twenty-five miles distant with no direct road there from Pittsgrove. The Cumberland County seat of “Bridge Town,” by comparison, was only six to eight miles distant. It was “very inconvenient and prejudicial” to attend sessions of the court or transact other business in Salem.

The effort that commenced in November of 1820 was not the first such effort. On February 3, 1812, the state Assembly had received petitions from “a number of the inhabitants of the township of Pittsgrove” asking for an “alteration in the division line” between Salem and Cumberland counties. The Assembly also received “the remonstrance of Cumberland counties. The Assembly

also received “the remonstrance of a number of the inhabitants of the same county against the measure.” The committee that deliberated on the petitions concluded that “it would be inexpedient at this time to make any alteration” to the boundary between the two counties.² Eight years later, folks in Pittsgrove renewed that effort.

Protocol required that the petitioners give public notice of their proposal. Thus, on November 6, 1820, the *Washington Whig* of Bridgeton published the notice that “application will be made to the legislature” to “set off part of the township of Pittsgrove” from Salem County and “attach the same to the county of Cumberland.” The new township—and county—line would begin at the then-current Salem-Cumberland county line near property of Jonathan Jagers and Jacob Newkirk and run “to the upper end of the Broad Pond near William Filar’s” and from there to the Gloucester County line.³

The brief notice published in the *Washington Whig* did draw a response from the public. When the newly-elected legislature convened a year later, more petitioners made their wishes known. By that time, advocates of the measure had prepared a bill for legislative consideration. On October 9, 1821, eleven petitioners succinctly endorsed the proposal set forth the previous year. The petitioners argued that the request be granted “owing to their local situation and laboring under many disadvantages and inconveniences.”⁴

The request to create a new township and detach it from Salem County did not go unchallenged. On October 11, 1821, fifty-five petitioners remonstrated “against any part of Salem County being attached to Cumberland County.” These petitioners set forth four arguments. First, Salem County was already smaller than its neighbor, and “no equivalent” land was offered to Salem. Second, a number of those who lived within the proposed new boundaries themselves opposed the proposal.

Contributing author Bruce Bendler earned his Ph. D. at the University of Delaware where he teaches history.

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The *Quarterly Newsletter* is published by the Salem County Historical Society Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

Mission Statement: The mission of the Salem County Historical Society is to seek, document, preserve, interpret and perpetuate Salem County's heritage, and to enhance the awareness and appreciation of that heritage, through its research, collections, functions, exhibits, educational programs and publications, for the benefit of future generations and for the betterment of the community.

Research Library & Museum Hours

Tuesday through Saturday
 Noon - 4PM
 Admission Fee \$5.00
 Free for Members

www.salemcountyhistoricalociety.com

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This publication may include historical materials that contain language or stereotypes reflecting the culture or language of a particular period or place. These items are presented as part of the historical record.

Please Recycle your Newsletter



Message From the Administrator

Spring is once again right around the corner, and like everyone else, we at the Salem County Historical Society look forward to the season of renewal. This winter has been a time of renovation and repair at the Society. The ongoing process of moving material out of storage in the Grant House and into the Annex Building has continued. The painting and repair of some of our interior spaces has been completed. Work on creating a new library storage and work space in the Grant House has begun. The work has often been slow and methodical, but the results are truly remarkable. We are remaking the Society a little at a time, and it is our hope to have new rooms and displays opening up over the summer.

Speaking of new displays, it is time once again for a new temporary exhibit at the Society. This cycle, the Society present "Salem County in the First Modern Decade: 1910-1919". This exhibit will examine through photographs and objects the story of the great changes that came to the County between 1910 and 1919. The centerpiece of the exhibit will be World War I, the first international event to profoundly impact the region. The exhibit will also focus on how new technologies and new industries were changing life in the county. The exhibit will look at the founding of the Chamber's Works at Carneys Point and the origins of Mannington Mills in Salem, both established during the decade and both among the first true industries in Salem County. These industries marked the first shift from an agricultural to an industrial economy in Salem County.

The exhibit will also focus on how changes in technology brought about significant changes in daily life in Salem County. The automobile, internal combustion farm equipment, wireless communication, and the airplane, all things significant to our lives today first arrived in the county during this decade. These technologies would alter life here in ways that could not be imagined at the time, bringing news, information, greater ease of transportation, and increased agricultural output to our communities. In order to tell these stories, the exhibit will use newspapers of the period, photographs, and objects from the collections of the Salem County Historical Society, the Historical Society of Penns Grove, Carneys Point and Oldmans, Mannington Mills, Fort Mott, and the Alloway History Museum to name a few. The exhibit opens on Saturday, April 8, and we invite everyone to come and see it.

So much of the work that has been done in the last few months at the Society, on the new exhibit, on moving library and museum materials into storage, or creating new work and exhibit spaces in the Society, is being done by our dedicated volunteers. We cannot thank them enough. All of these activities are only possible due to the support of our members, as well. We can never have enough of either members or volunteers, so spread the word and increase our support. We thank you and look forward to seeing you at the Society soon.

Sincerely,

Andrew R. Coldren
 Administrator and Curator

Salem Has Chinese Restaurant

Salem has a Chinese restaurant, the first of the kind ever in the city. It is located at the Warrick Building at the corner of Broadway and Keasbey streets and operated by Willie Low.

Salem Standard and Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, January 6, 1938

Calendar of Events

- ◆ **Sunday, March 5, 2017**
Open House at the Historical Society of Penns Grove, Carneys Point and Oldmans (Penns Grove, NJ) featuring a new exhibit on Civic Organizations, US Postal Service, Penns Grove High School and Track and Field. Time: 1:00PM-3:00PM
- ◆ **Sunday, March 12, 2017**
Quarterly Meeting 1:30PM Friends' Village in Woodstown, NJ
Speaker: Erv Parker Topic: "I Will Carry the Flag"—The Early Life of Edward Richardson
- ◆ **Saturday, April 8, 2017**
Our new exhibit opening, 12:00PM
"Salem County in the First Modern Decade: 1910-1919"
- ◆ **Saturday, April 22, 2017** "History Matters" Presentation at Salem County Historical Society, Salem, NJ Time: 10:00AM-12:00PM Presenter: Andrew Coldren, Administrator and Curator Topic: To be announced.
- ◆ **Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21, 2017**
Arts in Bloom in Salem County Time: 10:00AM- 5:00PM

Society News

On January 12th, the Society staff and Education Committee presented to the teachers of the Salem High Scholl and Middle School a professional development presentation on Salem County and the Civil War. This was the third of four scheduled presentations, the final one of which will be presented in May and will be on industry in Salem County.

On January 14th, Society Administrator and Curator presented the first of a new quarterly program called "History Matters". Eleven people attended the first talk, which was titled, "The History Traveler in Europe". The next talk will be on Saturday, April 22nd. Stay tuned to the Society website and Facebook page for more information as the date approaches.

Society Librarian Rich Guido presented a program on New Jersey in the French and Indian War to the Gloucester County chapter of the Sons of the Revolution on January 28th.

The Historical Society's new exhibit, "Salem County in the First Modern Decade: 1910-1919" opens to the public on Saturday, August 22nd. See the Message from the Administrator in this newsletter for more information on the new exhibit.

For Arts in Bloom this year, the Society will be hosting a display of glass from Salem glass artist Debbie DiMarco. The display will open on May 13th and close on May 27th.

MARCH QUARTERLY MEETING

On March 12th the Salem County Historical Society is pleased to present "*I Will Carry the Flag*"—*The Early Life of Edward Richardson*. Richardson was a resident of Salem County for over 60 years. As outlined in the Salem County Cultural & Heritage Commission "7 Steps to Freedom" project; Richardson escaped slavery by means of the Underground Railroad, fought with honor in the Civil War and went on to leave an influential legacy on the education of many local students. Upon his passing in 1922, the *Woodstown Monitor-Register* newspaper reported, "Probably no man's life was ever more handicapped than that of Richardson, and yet when he died he left a noble heritage behind him".

Lifetime county resident and Pilesgrove-Woodstown Historical Society Trustee Erv Parker will present an in-depth look at the events of Richardson's early life that influenced the "noble heritage" he left with our community.

\$2,000 in Donations Kick Off Microfilming Project of the *Woodstown Monitor-Register*

The Salem County Historical Society was recently given a one of a kind collection of, lost but found, deteriorating bound newspapers that have never been microfilmed or copied.

This rare historical collection consists of thirteen decaying bound books of the Woodstown, New Jersey newspaper titled *The Monitor-Register*, dating 1947 through 1959.



In order to rescue this local, valuable historic information for future researchers, the Society has undertaken a microfilming project. Following initial donations, the first six volumes were sent out for microfilming in January.

The estimated cost for this project is approximately \$6,000.

Welcome contributions, in order to aid in completing this project, may be mailed to: Salem County Historical Society, Newspaper Project, 83 Market Street, Salem, NJ 08079.

ELSH BREAKS NOSE

Dorey Elsh, of Pennsgrove, and star out-fielder of the Chicago White Sox, in a collision with Strunk, broke his nose yesterday in a game against New York. Dory's many friends here are sorry to hear of this misfortune as it may keep him out of several games.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, March 21, 1924

2016 Annual Appeal Donors

We did it! Thanks to your generous support, SCHS exceeded our goal during our 2016 Annual Appeal. As a member (or friend!) of SCHS you are aware of the great things the Society provides to the community – from exhibits to presentations to our research library. Thank you for your generosity and I invite you to stop by and see for yourself what your donation means to the Salem County Historical Society!

Mr. and Mrs. James N. Acton, Jr. in memory of Marion H. Patrick	Francis Fekel	Dennis K. and Trudy K. O'Hare
Gilbert and Carla Andrews	Dorothy D. Fisher	Lawrence B. and Joanne K. Owen
Gwen Art in honor of Barbara and Brian Duffy and family	Frank Leonards & Frank, LLC	Barbara S. Peterson
Donald Asay	William J. Gallo, Jr.	Mark and Suzanne Pierce
Mike Ayars	James M. Goslin in memory of the Goslin family	John Lewis Powell
Joanne and Russ Bassett in memory of Elma and Russ Bassett	Wayne Gotwals	Mr. and Mrs. Ted Ridgway, Jr.
Marjorie A. Bill	Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Haaf, Jr.	Frank and Elizabeth Robbins
Gail S. Boyd	Bill Hamilton	Craig and Gaynel Schneeman
Bob and Sue Breslin in memory of Elizabeth Breslin Smith	Charlotte and Charles Harrison	Ms. Marie A. Schuster
Robert and Shirley Brooks in memory of Charles J. Pedersen, Nobelist	Lois and Morant Hassler	John P. Scollan in memory of Oliver Brick
Joan Miller Brown in memory of Wyatt Wistar Miller	Mrs. Ray Anita Hemphill	Marianne Scollan
Mrs. Louise G. Brown	John and Wanda Hofbauer	Janet Sheridan
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Mr. and Mrs. David S. Campbell	Joann Humphrey	Steven Sickler in honor of Jane D. Sickler
Mr. and Mrs. John S. Carpenter, Jr.	Jean Hepner Jack	B. Harold Smick, Jr.
Charlotte B. Carty in memory of Claire S. Smick	Stratton C. Jaquette in memory of Libby Fogg	Sarah Alexander Smith in memory of Lee and Helen Alexander
Mssrs. Philip Correll and Ronald Magill	Margaret H. Johnson in memory of Bernard A. Hilliard	Nancy Spangler
Shirley Corsey	Kurt Kaufmann	Marjory T. Standiford
Robert and Cynthia Costa	Sylvia and Gill Lippincott	Nancy Starts
Suzanne and David Culver	James and Anavia Lloyd	Janice Van Meter Stavenick in memory of Earl H. Minch
Mr. and Mrs. James S. Davis, Jr.	Mannington Mills	Walter Stewart
Barbara Dawson	Sharon McCarson	William K. Stoms, Jr., Ed. D. in memory of William K. Stoms, Sr.
Barbara and Brian Duffy	Robert S. McPherson	Lois Strang in memory of Ethel Kernan
Gerald and Jacqueline Eddis	Laura Merlo	Sheldon Strober, Ed. D.
Jack Elk	Thomas and Barbara Miller	Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Tisa
James M. Eyler	F.H. Moore, Jr.	Gary and Linda Wilson
	Ellen Morrissey	Bob and Merry Woodruff
	Suzanne Nurnberg	Elizabeth H. Yerkes

New DuPont 'Y' to Open

The long-awaited opening of the new \$220,000 DuPont Community Y. M. C. A. at Carney's Point will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 1939.

The building is a beautiful red brick structure comprising two spacious wings and a central section. The two and a half-story building houses men's and women's lounges, six bowling alleys, gymnasium, auditorium, recreation room, refreshment room, men's, women's, and children's lockers, craft shop, youth department and various clubrooms and offices.

The structure takes the place of the old building, which was inadequate to house the tremendous scope of activities being carried out in it. Classified as an "Industrial Y. M. C. A." the local association has the largest membership of any such group in the United States.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, March 1, 1939

THE FREE MAIL DELIVERY

It Is Greatly Appreciated by Our Citizens

Free delivery of the mails has been established in this city two months and is greatly appreciated by the patrons of the Salem Post Office. Postmaster Miller says that over two-thirds of our citizens are having their mail delivered by carrier. And this system is gaining favor as hardly a day passes but that several persons apply to have their names placed on the free delivery list.

Over thirty pounds of mail has been delivered by a single carrier while going over his route and taking this figure as a basis over 200 pounds is being delivered daily. The efficiency in which the carriers, Messrs. Brooks, Wadsworth and Glaspey perform their labors and the courteous manner in which they look after the interests of the patrons of the office has gained for them many new friends. Free mail delivery in this city is surely appreciated.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, April 8, 1904

Library Acquisitions:

- Acton, James and Helen**, Salem, NJ. Bible Records Isaac and Lucy Ann Acton, Mark Stretch and Elizabeth Hildreth, Joseph Harker and Alice G. Harker.
- Benfer, David**, Wilmington, DE. Postcards depicting Ayars Machine Works, Salem Brass and Iron Foundry, Salem National Banking Company and pamphlets for Fenwick Theatre and Alloway Brotherhood, 1917. (2016.030)
- Britton, Philip S.**, Pennsville, NJ. Three Civil War patriotic postal covers postmarked Salem and Woodstown, NJ. (2016.019)
- Brooks, Robert**, Woodstown, NJ. United States Department of the Interior Survey Map dated 1951 showing parts of Salem County, NJ. (2016.048)
- Carlo, Donald**, Trenton, NJ. Materials from the NJ State Department of Labor relating to Salem County. (2016.042)
- Cassidy, Christine**, San Antonio, TX. Postcards belonging to Charles and Annie Ohlson who lived in Claysville from the 1880s until 1920s. They both immigrated from Sweden. (2016.033)
- DiMarco, Deborah**, Salem, NJ. Beaded tapestry of the Salem Oak and three ribbons awarded for the prize. (2016.044)
- Elwell, Bonny Beth**, Monroeville, NJ. Book entitled, "Eighteenth Century documents of Pittsgrove Presbyterian Church 1741-1799," edited by Bonny Beth Elwell. (2016.006)
- Forry, Sonia**, Cape May Court House, NJ. Materials relating to the Berkowitz family in Pittsgrove Township, NJ. (2016.013)
- Gotwals, Wayne**, Salem, NJ. Postcards of images in and around Salem County, NJ including churches and local industries. (2016.027)
- Griffin, Letty** (in memory of Dr. Dale M. Griffin), Woodstown, NJ. Drawing of the Salem County Guidance Center on West Broadway in Salem, NJ. (2016.041)
- Harrison Township Historical Society** (in memory of John and Betty McCue), Mullica Hill, NJ. 1799 marriage certificate for a Gill-Thompson wedding in Mannington, NJ. (2016.026)
- Hess, Ethel L.**, New Bern, NC. Book, "History and Gazetteer of New Jersey" and 1834 map of New Jersey. (2016.022)
- Kemm, Noel**, Salem, NJ. Photographs of the Freas House, West Supawana Road, Pennsville, NJ circa 1969. (2016.032)
- Magill, Ronald**, Salem, NJ. Travel trunk belonging to George Rumsey. (2016.025)
- Owen, Lawrence B.**, Pilesgrove, NJ. Salem County Comprehensive Development Plan - 1970 and pamphlet for the 1991 Woodstown by Candlelight Tour. (2016.021)
- Peterson, Karen**, Salem, NJ. Salem High School diploma for Helen Catherine Clancy dated June 17, 1920. (2016.037)
- Powell, Jim**, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Photographs and tintypes of members of the Githens, Curriden, Curry, Mankin and Snellbaker families circa 1840s-1860s. (2016.043)
- Romansky, Thomas**, Pennsville, NJ. Fifteen CDs produced by Tom Romansky recorded at various community events in Salem County. (2016.031)
- Stevens, Robert**, Oakton, VA. Book entitled, "The Old Houses of Salem County," by Joseph Sickler. (2016.029)
- Williams, Paul**, Millville, NJ. Postcards relating to the Glass Works companies in Salem County, NJ. (2016.046)

(to be continued)

Patriotic Italian Club

The first Italian club to be organized in Penns Grove held a meeting in their new club house, 20-22 W. Pitman Street, this week and elected the following officers: President, Andrew L. Colantuono; vice-president, P. Giordana; corresponding secretary, J. Clementi; financial secretary, C. Dolsemore; ass't secretary, A. Ferri; treasurer, A. Clementi.

A resolution was adopted and ordered sent to the railroad officials asking for a new passenger station and better train facilities.

A stirring patriotic resolution was also adopted by a unanimous rising vote in which the members pledged their services and their lives if needed to the United States in the accomplishment of the un-selfish purpose of the President, Congress and the people to defend the liberties of mankind; also that they stand ready to take up arms at any time to help carry Old Glory to victory over its enemies.

The members already number 100, all business men of Penns Grove.

The Penns Grove Record
Pennsgrove, NJ, April 27, 1917

The "East Avenue"



The "East Avenue," the new hotel building on East Avenue, will probably be opened for the accommodation of the public about the first of next month. The stables in connection with the building are temporarily occupied by Liveryman Fox.

Mrs. B. L. Budd, formerly of Pemberton, Burlington County, is the lessee, and comes highly recommended to our citizens as eminently fitted to preside over such an establishment.

The traveling photographer located on Salem Street took two excellent photographs of the new hotel building, yesterday morning.

The Monitor, Woodstown, NJ, March 8, 1889

[This hotel was constructed by Joseph G. Stretch who moved to Woodstown from Alloway in 1887 establishing the Central Lumber Company on Dickinson Street. This building now houses the Woodstown Post Office.]

NEW SERVICE CLUB

[As transcribed from Today's Sunbeam, December 20, 1974; "Golden Days" by William B. Vanneman.]

Sometime in 1942 the late **George "Cap" Kelsic** was visiting in Ardmore, Pa. and met a man named Sparks, who was an organizer for the service clubs called "**Frontiers of America.**" As a result of this meeting, Mr. Sparks came to Salem and met with Cap and a few of his friends from the other churches and the Salem Chapter was born. Later that year a photograph was taken of the club members.

I got in touch with Bob Hawthorne whom I had known well in Salem many years ago and asked him to fill me in with information about the members in the photo that I didn't know. This is how it goes.

Front row at the left is **Walter Henry** who worked for many years at the Gayner Glass Works and was a messenger and chauffeur for individual members of the family. He is now deceased.

On the front row at the right is **Joseph Cline** who worked for many years for **Leonard Freas**. After Mr. Freas passed away, Joe took over the business at the same location on Broadway until Snyders enlarged their store. Joe then moved to Sinnickson Street where he operated his business until he retired. He is now living in the Cherry Hill section.

On the second row at the left is **Joseph Netter**. Joseph worked at Gayner Glass Works for many years and is now deceased.

Next to Mr. Netter is **Alton Jordan**, who, after graduating from Salem High School where he excelled at track, went to Cheyney State Teachers College and received a degree in Education. He taught in the Salem school system until he retired a couple of years ago. At present he owns and operates the Evergreen Cemetery.

Next to Alton is **George Kelsic**, who as a young fellow was a good baseball pitcher and batter. Later he entered the cleaning and pressing business, formed the Perfection Cleaners and operated the business successfully until ill health forced his retirement. He is now deceased.

On the left of the third row is **Dr. A. S. Mason** who served as a physician in Salem for many years until he passed away. The Masons had two sons, Vaughan and Alvin. Both of the boys became physicians like their father and achieved great distinction in their hospital and teaching careers. Vaughan is now deceased but Alvin is presently practicing in New York City.

At Dr. Mason's left is **Daniel Chrisden** who worked for many years as an automobile mechanic for "**Chick**" **Pedrick's**



Members of Salem Chapter, **Frontiers of America**, are shown above upon the occasion of the presentation of a charter to the city's new African American service club last Sunday. Members are: **First row**, from the left: Walter Henry, President; Alton Jordan, Secretary; George H. Kelsic, Treasurer; Joseph Cline, Vice President. **Second row**: Joseph Netter, Chaplain; Daniel Chrisdon, Robert Hawthorne, Leon Bratcher. **Third row**: Dr. A. S. Mason, Edward Lindsey, Charles Jackson, Thomas Hayward, Toussaint Johnson. **Fourth row**: James Reed, Edward Duck, Jerry Williams, Rev. J. S. Brown, Charles Tribbett.

Salem Standard and Jerseyman, October 22, 1942

Buick agency. Dan is now retired and lives at Paradise Lakes near Alloway.

Next is "Bob"

Hawthorne who was a chauffeur for the J. B. **Campbell** family for 36 years. He was a good athlete in High School. After leaving the Campbell's he was with the Salem Police Department for eight years, from which he retired. He is now with the Salem Housing Authority which keeps him very busy.

On the right end of this row is **Leon Bratcher** who came to Salem from Maryland. He joined the Frontiers Club when it was formed and has been a valuable member. He was a factory worker and is now retired and lives in Salem.

On the left of the fourth row is **Clinton Lindsey**. He was mainly employed on farms and has been deceased for several years.

Next to Clinton is **Charles Jackson** who was quite an athlete in the Bridgeton High School. He spent most of his working life at Mannington Mills, where he became a foreman.

He is a good musician and the violin is his main instrument. He has always been active in affairs at Mt. Pisgah Methodist Church. He is now retired and lives in Salem.

Next is **Tom Hayward** who worked for many years at Bonham & Young's Butcher Shop. He later went to Mannington Mills from which he retired. He was an active member of the A.U.M.P. Church in Claysville. Tom is now deceased.

On Tom's left is **Toussant Johnson** who worked for many years for **Albert and Elizabeth Shea** as a chauffeur and handyman. He is now deceased.

On the left end of the rear row is **James Reed** who worked at Anchor Hocking Corp.'s Salem plant as a sheet-metal man until his retirement. He now works at St. John's Episcopal Church as a janitor and gardener.

The second man shown in the last row is **Edward Duck**, a prominent citizen of Claysville. He worked on farms and for many families in Salem. He had a good bass voice and sang in the choir at the Claysville church. Ed passed away about two years ago.

Next is **Jerry Williams** who worked at the Deepwater Operating plant until his retirement. He now lives on Hawks Bridge Road.

At Jerry's left is the **Rev. James Brown** who at this time was pastor at Mr. Pisgah Church in Salem and for several years afterward. He left Salem for another charge and has since passed away. At the right end of the last row is **Charles Tribbett** who worked at DuPont Chambers Works until his retirement. He has always been an active worker

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in the Mt. Hope Church in Salem and has held several offices. At present he is president of the Frontiers Club.

As can be noted from the above, this was and still is a fine group of responsible citizens, whose aim was to be of service to the community. Their principal concern has been to work with the youth of the city. They meet every two weeks at the different churches and it is to be hoped that they will continue their activities for many years to come.

This photograph was taken in front of the Mt. Zion Church which just recently celebrated the burning of the mortgage.



The New Mt. Pisgah Church

The new building for worship on Yorke street, which has been in the course of erection for some months past for the Mt. Pisgah A. M. E. Church, is so nearly completed as to allow the regular services to be held in the building. A short description of the church will be proper.

The edifice is 40x60 feet, with walls 32 feet high. The upper room is in an unfinished condition. The lower or lecture room has no equal in this city for its advantages and conveniences. The ceilings of this room are nine feet high, and although the surroundings, in a measure, are plain, everything seems to harmonize, and make it withal, well suited for a place of worship.

What most churches lack is proper ventilation, but in this building the builder has secured the desired end—constant circulation of air. Eight ventilators, consisting of flues running from ground to the roof, keep the air of the room in a pure state.

Embedded in the front wall of the church is a stone bearing this inscription: "For the people had a mind to work." The inscription is appropriate, for it was through the indefatigable efforts of Rev. R. M. Turner, the pastor, with a number of willing assistants, that the church stands to-day, after having been a number of years in contemplation.

The architect and builder of this edifice was Mr. Thos. M. Sinnickson, of this city, the church reflects much credit upon his skill as a builder. To Messrs. Perrine & Parker, the masons, and Mr. Wander, the painter, with their assistants, much credit is due for the artistic manner in which they have done their work.

National Standard, Salem, NJ, December 11, 1878

—The officials of **Mt. Hope M. E. Church** have placed a new pipe-organ in their church in this city. It was used for the first time at the services on Sunday, and is said to be a very fine instrument.

—We were in error last week in stating that the trustees of Mt. Hope M. E. Church had recently purchased a new pipe organ. It was bought by the *young people* of the congregation, to whom, of course, the honor should go.

National Standard, Salem, NJ, January 3 & 10, 1877

John Fenwick's Grave

By direction of the Salem County Historical Society, Dr. Joseph H. Thompson, of Salem, was charged with the duty of locating, if possible, the grave of John Fenwick, the first settler of Salem County, who died in 1684 and was buried in an old graveyard in Mannington not far from the Salem County Almshouse.

On Friday last Dr. Thompson, accompanied by Thomas Shourds, of Hancock's Bridge, and Samuel Kelty, of Salem, visited the locality, and after careful examination fixed, to their satisfaction, upon the spot where lies the dust of the founder of Fenwick colony.

It is on the Morgan farm, perhaps better known as the Elmer Reeve farm, adjoining the Almshouse property on the west, and is in the field which lies at the intersection of the Oakland and Salem and Woodstown roads. Steps will probably be taken by the Society to have the spot marked by a suitable monument.

The Monitor, Woodstown, NJ, June 12, 1885

Fenwick Bones at Monument — But Not John's

By Natalie F. Ware

Apparently there are Fenwick bones at the Fenwick's Gove Monument erected in honor of John Fenwick, on the Woodstown-Salem Road, but they are not the bones of John, the founder of Fenwick Colony, modern Salem and Cumberland Counties. After many years of questioning and delay because of doubt concerning the exact burial place of John Fenwick who died in 1683, the monument was placed at the junction of the Woodstown-Salem and Compromise Roads, and it was dedicated with a parade and considerable formality on July 4, 1924.

The following year, the Salem Sunbeam reported workmen excavating to lay gas pipes on West Broadway, Salem, near the old Redstrake Mansion, discovered human bones and handmade nails. George B. Macaltoner, of Woodstown, a Salem County historian, after searching the property records, concluded the bones were those of Priscilla Fenwick Champneys, daughter of John Fenwick and wife of Edward Champneys. Fenwick had deeded this area to his son-in-law, and Priscilla died there about a year after the colony arrived from England or in 1676. The place of her burial had not been recorded as far as has been ascertained.

Minutes of the Salem County Historical Society in 1926 indicate that Mr. Macaltoner reported his findings to the Society and suggested the bones be taken to the Fenwick Monument plot. "On motion this proposal was approved and Mr. Macaltoner, Mr. E. W. Humphreys and Mrs. Trueman Clayton were appointed to attend to the details of this transfer including proper inscription. All expenses to be born [sic] by this Society. That a day be selected and suitable ceremonies be observed."

Later minutes record "...the coroner, Mr. Leroy Allen, brought the bones in a neat little white box up to Fenwick's Grove and assisted the committee in the interment." So, after two hundred fifty years, Priscilla Fenwick Champneys was laid in her final resting place beside the monument erected for her father.

Reprinted from *The Way It Used To Be*, Vol. 1, No. 1: 25; March 1975.

SALEM COUNTY TREES FOR NEW YORK CITY PARK

Trees grown in Salem County are to form a portion of the scenery in a Park in the making in New York City.

These trees of the Oriental Plane variety and fifty-four in number have been taken from the property of William D. Acton at Pennsville, and sent to Fort Tryon Park, 199th Street and Washington Avenue, New York City.

The money for the beautification of the Park was donated by John D. Rockefeller, and for several weeks tree specialists toured South Jersey seeking certain types of trees and shrubbery. They found the Oriental Planes of Mr. Acton the best of that variety.

Salem Standard & Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, March 30 1933

[*Platanus orientalis*, or oriental plane, is a large, deciduous tree of the Platanaceae family, growing to 99 feet or more, and known for its longevity and spreading crown. Fort Tryon Park is a public park located in the Hudson Heights and Inwood neighborhoods of the borough of Manhattan in New York City. *Wikipedia*]

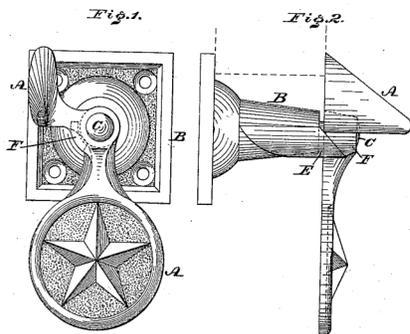
Another Patent

(Model.)

J. S. DUNHAM.
SHUTTER FASTENER.

No. 326,486.

Patented Sept. 15, 1885.

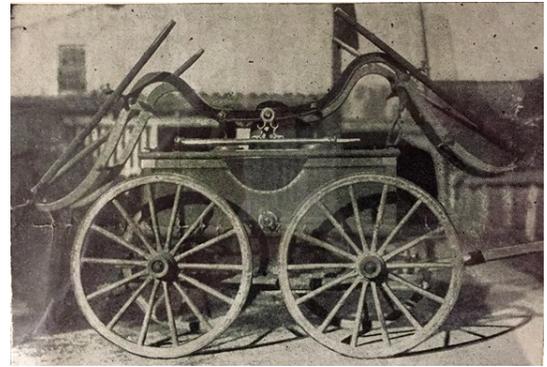


“Joseph S. Dunham has invented a contrivance that will be appreciated by people who are kept awake at night by the banging of shutters. It is a new kind of turn-buckle, or, as some would call it, a shutter fastener, which is self-adjusting, and is designed to fit shutters of any thickness. A pressure is kept on the shutter by means of a spring, which holds it securely when open. He has made application to have the contrivance patented.”

The South Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, January 13, 1885

[Joseph Dunham and his wife, the former Anna M. Smith, lived at 13 Church St., Salem with their two daughters Alida B. and Salle A. Dunham. In the Salem directory of 1882, his business occupation is listed as a manufacturer of a “Patent Bed-spring” located at 253 West Broadway, Salem.]

A NEW ENGINE



“The “Union Fire Company,” of Salem, received their new apparatus on Tuesday last by the steamboat “Portsmouth,” from Philadelphia. The Company turned out in force, and was escorted by the members of the “Reliance,” preceded by the Salem Brass Band.

“The Engine was manufactured at Agnew’s celebrated establishment, and is represented as being of extraordinary power for one of its dimensions.—The carriage was painted by Young, and the ornamental work by Murray, in his best style. On the front panel are the arms of the State,—on one side two female figures, one of whom is feeding a dove: emblematic of protection—and on the opposite are Justice and Peace. The back panel is ornamented by two female figures, surrounded by a beautiful wreath; indicating “Union.”

“The Engine is brass mounted, and finished in the most substantial and tasteful manner. It is intended to throw a side as well as a gallery stream.

“We have seen but few handsomer engines in the cities—and they have cost double the price of the “Union.” The latter, however, is a beautiful piece of workmanship, and reflects credit not only upon its builders and ornamenters, but upon the liberality of the township and the enterprise of the Company.

“The Brass Band, which made its first parade on the above occasion, discoursed much better music than could be expected when the short period during which its members have practiced is taken into consideration; and gave evidence of great proficiency at no distant day.” *National Standard*, Salem, NJ, March 3, 1847 [This fire engine can be viewed today at the Salem Fire Museum located at 166 East Broadway, Salem, NJ. For information, telephone (856) 935-0354.]

[“On the evening of September 7, 1847, **George Blake**, 28, was a passenger on the steamboat *Portsmouth* coming back to Philadelphia from a day excursion trip to **Salem, New Jersey** on the Delaware Bay. At approximately 10 PM the steamboat collided in the dark with another ship and Mr. Blake was thrown overboard. His body was not found until the 12th when the City Coroner ruled his death an accidental drowning.”

www.bethelburyingroundproject.com

“The steamboat *Portsmouth*, Captain James Devoe, built at Salem, Massachusetts, in 1837, was bought by Jacob Carrigan in 1845, and intended to be the pioneer of a through-line to Baltimore *via* the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. This effort, carried on for some time, proved to be unsuccessful. Subsequently the boat ran to Cape May and Lewestown.

“When leaving Arch street wharf, August 13, 1844, on one of her trips, there was a boiler explosion on board, by which two or three persons were killed and several injured.”

Public Ledger Almanac 1884

FIRE BUCKET 100 YEARS OLD

While the Union Fire House was being cleaned a short time ago, Assistant Postmaster William Lawson found an old fire bucket, the property of the old Union Fire Company. It has a leather strap over the top, has the words “Union” and the date 1743 on the side and is about 15 inches in height. Mr. Lawson has had it restored to its former condition and replaced in the Union House—an interesting relic of the old Union Fire Company.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, March 6, 1914

Sturgeon Fishing Industry Now Extinct
Fish Are Few
Caviar Prices Low Because of Russian Supply
Penns Grove Record, Penns Grove, NJ, May 1, 1925

For the first time in more than fifty years no fisherman will drift nets exclusively for sturgeon in the Delaware River and Bay. The fish are so few the price of caviar so low that it will not pay to fit out boat and net and spend time waiting for a fish when better employment can be had.

The price of caviar is lower than it has been for twenty-five years, because of the big supply now coming from Russia. The caviar from last year's catch of fish in Russian rivers can be bought for fifty cents a pound. With the tariff and freight added it can be delivered in New York for \$1 a pound.

One dollar a pound is the price paid this year for sturgeon roe, from an occasional fish caught in a shad net in the river and in pound nets in the ocean.

Harry A. Dalbow, who has been in business with Hansen brothers in New York City the past thirty years and has bought most of the sturgeon roe caught in the Delaware River and Bay the past several years, advised fishermen not to attempt to fish for sturgeon in the United States because it will not be profitable.

The price of caviar paid fishermen on the Delaware last year was \$1.50 to \$1.75 a pound and as high as \$2.75 a few years previous.

Harry A. Dalbow, began fishing when a boy on the Delaware River. Since 1890 he headed one of the biggest firms and has continued longer than any other single fisherman to handle caviar.



In partnership with the Hansen Brothers, the small factory for canning caviar was built on Railroad Avenue, Penns Grove in 1907. There he has packed into glass cans holding from two ounces to a pound, most of the caviar caught in the United States, and that imported from Russia. Its value amounted to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In 1912 Mr. Dalbow went to Russia for the firm of Hansen Brothers to fit up a cannery at Baku on the Caspian Sea. He also went to Astrakhan, the city at the mouth of the Volga River, in which most of the Russian sturgeon is caught.

Three years ago three Russians interested in the sturgeon industry came to Penns Grove to get Mr. Dalbow to go to Russia to manage their canneries of caviar. At his age he did not care to go on so long

a venture from home among strangers. They procured agents in New York City who are handling their exports, not only of caviar, but also sturgeon meat. They send their caviar in kegs which hold about 150 pounds and are having it put into small cans in New York City. Mr. Dalbow and Hansen's buy the supply for their old customers.

They are also exporting large quantities of sturgeon meat. It is sent in a frozen condition. On arrival some is smoked to preserve it. The past few years sturgeon meat has been scarce and as high as 30 to 45 cents a pound. The large imports have reduced the price to 12 cents a pound lately.

The Russian sturgeon has whiter meat and whiter roe than American sturgeon whose roe is dark like shot. That makes it somewhat preferable although of no better quality than prime American caviar.

Mr. Dalbow thinks if all fishing for sturgeon was stopped in the United States for some years, the industry may become profitable.

This sturgeon industry was worth \$150,000 to Penns Grove fishermen forty years ago.



A fine Rock fish—Mr. David Nelson of this county, caught in Alloways Creek with a hoop net a Rock Fish, measuring 4 feet 7 inches in length, and 3 feet one inch in circumference, which weighed 75 lbs. in the presence of Judge Nelson, and a number of other gentlemen who assert the fact.

Salem Messenger, Salem, New Jersey, April 12, 1826

"Captain Charles Dolbow, Pennsgrove, started south in command of his steam barge "Susie" accompanied by his usual number of men preparatory to entering upon their regular sturgeon campaign, in Southern waters. Mr. Blohm's party will not go south as heretofore, but will make an early beginning in the bay."

The South Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, January 13, 1884

Lower Creek

Mrs. Joseph B. Williamson, of this place, besides doing the washing, ironing, baking and the other routine duties of her household has, during the last seven weeks, knit a thousand yards of shad gill net.

The net is forty-nine meshes deep, and to knit this number of yards she was compelled to tie 750,000 knots. To take up a mesh and tie the knots she had to move her hand on an average thirty-five inches. This shows that during the knitting her hand moved the enormous distance of 414 miles, 526 yards and 2 feet.

National Standard, Salem, NJ, January 24, 1883

More Dead Fish—In noticing the mortality among the fish on our shores, the New York Sun of yesterday says:—"The infected district already embraces the entire coast, from near the east end of Long Island to the capes of Virginia, extending out into the ocean for a distance of one to three miles.

We learn from several intelligent citizens, some of them Sandy Hook pilots and captains of coasting vessels, that the shores of Long Island, New Jersey, and Delaware are lined with millions of dead fish, while thousands are found floating in every direction.

The cause of this strange calamity is yet unexplained. It has been noticed that the water in the infected district is discolored, and looks blacker than the ordinary sea water. Immediately on entering the brown water, the fish are seized with convulsions, rise to the surface, and die in a few minutes.

It seems to us that our scientific men should investigate this phenomenon, as speedily as possible. Many persons fear that on the approach of summer, a pestilence may result from the putrefaction of the masses of dead fish already thrown upon the coast, while the loss and injury to our great shad fisheries, the season of which is approaching, may be very disastrous."

National Standard, Salem, NJ, January 14, 1845

Capt. Wood caught a sturgeon at Fishing Creek, last week, which old fishermen say was the largest fish ever caught in the Delaware. It was estimated that it would weigh over 500 pounds.

The South Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, May 13, 1890

(continued from cover)

Third, the militia of Salem County had only two regiments; the boundary adjustment would deprive the militia of an estimated one hundred men. Finally, the petitioners questioned a “pernicious tendency” to divide counties in New Jersey, arguing that “no one knows how soon his own county may be divided.”⁵

The legislature granted only one of the requests set forth in the petition. It did create Centreville Township, passing a bill for that purpose on November 19, 1821, to be effective on March 1, 1822. The new enactment did not, however, separate the new township from Salem County. Even so, the legislature set the new township boundary as requested by the petitioners. The new law also specified procedures for the division of the assets and liabilities of Pittsgrove Township.⁶

Within a year, petitioners implored their legislators in Trenton to revise the act. On October 29, 1822, the Assembly received a petition to alter the new township’s northeastern boundary. Petitioners complained that the legislature had passed the enactment of 1821 “without consulting the inhabitants within the limits thereof.” Many folks in the area were not prepared “for the erection of a new one [township] and have found the boundaries inconvenient and entirely too small to answer the corporate purposes of a township.” Nevertheless, petitioners requested only a small adjustment in the boundary from the Jagers-Newkirk properties to the Gloucester County line.⁷

Petitioners apparently saw little advantage in the creation of a new, small township that remained within Salem County. The legislature thus enacted the requested boundary adjustment set forth by the petitioners, slightly enlarging Centreville Township, on November 19, 1823.⁸ As the original bill had, the revised enactment provided a procedure for the division of tax revenues and assets.⁹

Within a year, in 1824, more petitions arrived in Trenton. Some petitioners sought a complete repeal of the act of 1821 that created Centreville Township. Other petitions sought to repeal only the supplemental act of 1823. At the center of this debate was a newly-elected Assembly member from Pilesgrove Township, Israel R. Clawson. Clawson, a physician, served on the committee designated to receive the petitions. On November 17, 1824, he reported to his fellow Assembly members that “the committee reported against a repeal (of either act).” The entire Assembly concurred.¹⁰

In October of 1826, the voters of Salem County elected Israel R. Clawson to the Council, as the upper house of New Jersey’s General Assembly was then styled. Clawson again found himself in the vortex of the debate over the merits of Centreville’s continued existence; he received two letters from constituents about the issue. The two men who wrote Clawson expressed concern about the financial viability of the new township, as well as the burden that Pittsgrove would assume should Centreville be brought back within its bounds. The writers did not always clearly state their arguments, but they clearly did not want the townships reunited.

On November 25, 1826, Abraham Swing urged Clawson to support repeal of the supplementary act of 1823. But Swing also warned Clawson of a petition on its way to Trenton with a very different purpose. Supporters of this “large” petition had obtained signatures by “deceiving the people.” Its purpose was to “consolidate” both townships, an action that would “tend to strife and discord for years.” Swing then advised Clawson that residents of Pittsgrove had good reason to oppose the “consolidation.” Centreville had contracted considerable debts, the discharge of which “we do not feel anxious to have laid on our shoulders.” Swing mentioned another petition, sent to Trenton the previous year, which stated and clarified the fears of Pittsgrove residents about consolidation.

Swing then explained why repeal of the supplement, rather than consolidation, would benefit both Pittsgrove and the small area ceded to Centreville in 1823. He noted that the “names on their petition this session to throw us all together again is chiefly residents in the first survey (the original act of 1821), but few in the bounds of the suppt. (the act of 1823).” Swing further pointed out that “2 or 3 years ago those very men being easily shuffled from one thing to another, signed their names to two or three petitions in so many days, on opposite requests relating to said townships.” Swing then stated his main concern, that the supplement of 1823 left Pittsgrove in a poor economic position. Pittsgrove now had “one solitary grist mill” while Centreville had “three or four,” even though two of those were not in operation.¹¹ Evidently, the boundary adjustment would rectify that matter.

A few weeks later, Clawson received a letter from Jonathan Richman of Pittsgrove. Richman reported that “your friends in the naborwood” asked him to “right you a line respecting the township of Centrevill.” Clawson’s “friends” opposed the re-incorporation of Centreville into Pittsgrove. The residents of that township “find that they can’t support themselves they have become bankrupt & now want to com back to us for support.” Richman implored Clawson, “For God’s sake don’t let them back. We now it is in your power to put them off.”

Jonathan Richman suspected that advocates of reunifying the two townships sought to attain that goal without adequate public notice. Richman and his friends were aware of the effort to repeal the supplement of 1823, but he advised Clawson that they heard of “no advertisement of the repele of the whole.” Richman hinted at political consequences for Clawson if he did not block the repeal of the act of 1821. “If you do not due something for us we shall think you are in favor of your enemies which you now are all in that township.”¹²

Indeed, Clawson presented a petition “from a large number of the inhabitants of the township of Centreville” to the Council, seeking a repeal of the law establishing that township, on December 19, 1826, after a petition to repeal only the supplement had reached Trenton on November 13.¹³ Clawson again won appointment to a committee that would deliberate on the future of Centreville Township.

The petitioners received leave from the Council, based on the committee's recommendation, to prepare and present a bill at the next session (1827) of the legislature. The legislature, however, did not act on the matter during that session.¹⁴

The letters and petitions reminded Clawson that he had to pay attention to the local politics in Pittsgrove and Centreville townships. Centreville Township was never too supportive of Clawson's political aspirations. In 1824, when seeking election to the Assembly, Clawson had won only thirteen votes there, compared to 126 for the top vote getter, Jacob Wick.¹⁵ He did better in 1825, when he finished third in a field of nine candidates for the Assembly.¹⁶ From 1826 to 1828, when Clawson sought and won the county's one seat on the Council, he never received more than about one fourth of the vote in Centreville.¹⁷

On the other hand, Clawson held his own in Pittsgrove Township, except in 1825, when he finished fifth in that field of nine candidates.¹⁸ In 1826, he won forty-three votes compared to forty-two for Zacchaeus Ray and four for John Sinnickson for the seat on Council.¹⁹ In 1827, Clawson outpolled Anthony Nelson by a vote of fifty-one to forty.²⁰ And in 1828, Clawson outpolled Zacchaeus Ray, this time eighty-six to eighty-one.²¹ Thus, Clawson had good reason to pay heed to his "friends in the naborwood." Their opposition to reunifying the two townships could be of some consequence to Clawson's political fate in closely-contested Pittsgrove.

National politics also affected local political discourse in Centreville. By 1828, Israel R. Clawson had declared his support for the election of President John Quincy Adams to a second term. On August 9, 1828, a "late Resident of Centreville" published a column in the *Washington Whig* of Bridgeton, excoriating the "Jackson Party" in that township. He accused the "Jackson leaders" there of skullduggery and manipulation to gain support for Andrew Jackson's presidential bid. He noted that one Centreville Jacksonian had bragged that "there were only three men in Centreville that dared to support Dr. Clawson, the Adams candidate for Council." The anonymous writer claimed that he himself was one of those three targeted to be "smashed" by the Jackson organization. The "late Resident's" column did not mention the issue of reunifying the townships, but that local issue had not disappeared even with the increased attention to national politics in 1828.²²

In spite of ongoing opposition and legislative inaction, efforts continued to reunite the two townships. By 1829, a concerted and successful effort brought about the repeal of both the original act of 1821 and the supplementary act of 1823. By then, some politicians and voters seemed frustrated or uncertain about the best course of action. On February 14, 1828, Charles Elwell of Pittsgrove wrote Clawson, merely stating that "in regard to the township bisness the people seem quite dissatisfyd," without explaining why.²³ About eleven months later, Thomas Dubois of Pittsgrove admitted that "he hardly knew his own mind" on the issue. But he asserted that "the separation was made in the first place by all the intrigue

and deception and rascality that was possible, as you well know." Dubois expressed his willingness to accept "the wisdom of the legislature."²⁴

Soon thereafter, the legislature took what it presumably believed was the wise course of action. On February 18, 1829, the Council passed the bill sent to it "from the House of Assembly" to repeal the act of 1821 and the "supplement thereto" by a vote of nine to two. Israel R. Clawson, who had won re-election in 1828, voted with the majority.²⁵ Jonathan Richman's warning of 1826 proved true. Clawson did not win another term on the Council in 1829. He lost the newly-reunified Pittsgrove Township by a large margin. Voters in Salem County would not return him to the Council until 1832.

Thus, the brief existence of Centreville Township ended only eight years after its establishment. What began as an effort to make government more accessible for an arguably remote part of Salem County became enmeshed in controversy, mainly over financial matters. Efforts to separate Centreville from Salem County and incorporate it into Cumberland County did not end in 1829. Advocates revived the proposal in 1845 and 1855.²⁶ Pittsgrove Township would be permanently divided a year later, by the establishment of Upper Pittsgrove Township. What remained of Pittsgrove Township itself would be annexed by Cumberland County in 1867, only to be re-annexed by Salem County the following year.²⁷

Endnotes

- ¹ Petitions and Other Papers Relating to the Establishment of Municipalities (SLE00001) 48, New Jersey Department of Archives and Records Management, Trenton, New Jersey (hereafter: Petitions NJDARM).
- ² *Votes and Proceedings of the Thirty-sixth General Assembly of the State of New Jersey* (Trenton: James J. Wilson, 1812), 191.
- ³ *Washington Whig*, Bridgeton, New Jersey, November 6, 1820.
- ⁴ Petitions NJDARM 49.
- ⁵ *Ibid.*, 50.
- ⁶ *Acts of the Forty-sixth General Assembly of the State of New Jersey* (Trenton: Joseph Justice, 1822), 5.
- ⁷ Petitions NJDARM 52.
- ⁸ *Washington Whig*, Bridgeton, New Jersey, November 15, 1823.
- ⁹ *Acts of the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey* (Trenton: Joseph Justice, 1823), 50.
- ¹⁰ Proceedings of the Assembly, as reported in the *Washington Whig*, Bridgeton, New Jersey, November 27, 1824.
- ¹¹ Abraham Swing to Israel R. Clawson, November 25, 1826, Box 2, Folder 5, Clawson Family Papers, Rare Books and Special Collections, Firestone Library, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.
- ¹² Jonathan Richman to Clawson, December 12, 1826, RBSC Princeton.
- ¹³ *Washington Whig*, Bridgeton, New Jersey, November 25, 1826.
- ¹⁴ *Journal and Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the State of New Jersey* (Woodbury: P.J. Gray, 1827), 71, 80-1.
- ¹⁵ *True American*, Trenton, New Jersey, October 23, 1824.
- ¹⁶ *Salem Messenger*, Salem, New Jersey, November 2, 1825.
- ¹⁷ *Salem Messenger*, Salem, New Jersey, October 18, 1826; October 17, 1827; October 22, 1828.
- ¹⁸ *Salem Messenger*, Salem, New Jersey, November 2, 1825.
- ¹⁹ *Salem Messenger*, Salem, New Jersey, October 18, 1826.
- ²⁰ *Salem Messenger*, Salem, New Jersey, October 17, 1827.
- ²¹ *Salem Messenger*, Salem, New Jersey, October 22, 1828.
- ²² *Washington Whig*, Bridgeton, New Jersey, August 8, 1828.
- ²³ Charles Elwell to Clawson, February 14, 1828, RBSC Princeton.
- ²⁴ Thomas Dubois to Clawson, January 7, 1829, RBSC Princeton.
- ²⁵ *Journal of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the State of New Jersey* (Woodbury: P. J. Gray, 1829), 84.
- ²⁶ The *Salem Sunbeam*, Salem, New Jersey, September 21, 1855, contains a notice in the *Bridgeton Chronicle*, which the editors of the *Messenger* hoped would be even more "stoutly and successfully opposed" than previous such efforts.
- ²⁷ John P. Snyder, *The Story of New Jersey's Civil Boundaries 1606-1968* (Trenton: Bureau of Geology and Topography, 1968), 217.

ALEXANDER'S ANNALS

50 YEARS AGO

Pennsville Progress, Pennsville, NJ
March 1967

- Howard Johnson motel and restaurant at the turnpike toll gate takes shape.
- Sidney L. Riley, chemistry teacher at Pennsville Memorial High School awarded by the American Chemical Society as the outstanding science teacher in South Jersey for 1967.
- Pennsgrove Site of the 14th Cross Firing — NAACP Calls for a Protest March.
- James J. Johnson opens 1st self-serving car wash in Pennsville, New Jersey.
- Pennsville School Board releases architect's sketches of the proposed new Valley Park Elementary School.
- "For A Delicious Meal" Colonial Arms Restaurant.
- 1st Annual Purim Ball to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Oheb Shalom Synagogue on March 25th at the Holiday Inn, Deepwater.
- California Iceberg Lettuce—2 for 29¢ —Acme.

75 YEARS AGO

Salem Standard & Jerseyman, Salem, NJ
March 1942

- First Italo-American Citizens League dedicated its new home on West Pitman Street, Penns Grove.
- Liberty Fire Company observes its 75th anniversary.
- New Jersey Supreme Court rules pinball machines illegal—"Gambling Devices" must go from County.
- Lower Penns Neck goes modern—police car equipped with a radio system.
- Salem gasoline stations are now closed on Sundays.
- The Sandwich Shoppe, West Ave., Woodstown, owned several years by Adam Eichmann and son has been sold to Mr. & Mrs. Robert N. Paulding, who will continue the business.
- Grapefruit—4 for 19¢ —A & P.

100 YEARS AGO

Penns Grove Record, Pennsgrove, NJ
March 1917

- Free mail delivery in Penns Grove—Edward Wood and Samuel Miller staffed as the first mail servers in Penns Grove, New Jersey.
- The first row of bungalows, of new Swamptown, is completed and ready for occupancy. There are 1,000 applicants for 450 homes.
- The ceremony of organizing the Union Presbyterian Church of Carney's Point was held last Monday evening March 5th.
- Power from the big electric plant in Wilmington to Deep Water Point will supply power for the trolley and other purposes.
- Edwin Leap has a new automobile, Velie, the first of that kind in this region.
- Work has resumed on the new Episcopal Church on Cove Lane at crossing. It is to be of rough granite like the Baptist Church at Pedricktown.
- No smoking on the trolley cars of the Salem and Penns Grove Traction Company.
- "War Declared This Morning"—April 6, 1917

New Restaurant Opened

William H. Fitzgerald, proprietor of the Salem Amusement Parlor on Walnut Street, last Saturday, opened a restaurant in connection with the place. Warren Burgess, the well-known chef, is in charge.
Salem Standard & Jerseyman,
Salem, NJ, February 13, 1918

Tennis Club Formed

The Salem High School now has a tennis club with the following officers: President, Miss Theresa South; Secretary, Miss Helen Zaiser; Treasurer, Norman Fogg.
Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ,
April 7, 1916

The addition to Library Hall, now being built by Mr. Jonathan Ingham, will be the first building in Salem finished with a black mortar.

Salem Sunbeam,
Salem, NJ, February 8, 1878

Woodstown



Wall-O-Matic music selectors have been placed in the Eichmann Sandwich Shoppe for the pleasure of their customers.

Monitor-Register,
Woodstown, NJ,
March 13, 1941



1925 GOOSE GOSLIN GLOVE



T. A. W. Hoff, of the Mecum Building, has arranged with the Wilson Company to manufacture a "Goose Goslin glove" for this season and one is now on display at Mr. Hoff's store. Goslin is to use one of the gloves in the games with Washington this season and it is to be endorsed by the officials of the American League.

Salem Standard & Jerseyman,
Salem, NJ, February 18, 1925

FIRST WORK ON FIRST TROLLEY ROAD IN SALEM COUNTY

Work on the first trolley road in Salem County is now under construction by the Salem and Penn's Grove Traction Company. The line will start at Penn Street on West Main Street, Penn's Grove, extend eastward on Main Street to Broad Street then south on Broad to Maple Avenue, on out the shell road to Riverview the new powder village, on through Upper Penn's Neck Township to the E. I. DuPont Powder Plants No. 1, 2, and 3 and Deep Water, then to Churchtown, Pennsville, Harrisonville and Salem.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ, April 28, 1916

FINE NEW ORGAN

Members of the congregation of **St. Mary's Catholic Church** are looking forward with pleasure to hearing the fine new pipe organ now being installed and which will be played for the first time next Sunday morning. The official dedication will not take place, however, until sometime after Easter when a recital will be given.

The organ was built by Reuben Midner & Son [Reuben Midner & Son], of Brooklyn, New York, the firm which furnished the new organ that was dedicated May 15th 1915, by the congregation of the **Memorial Baptist Church** and is said to be the most up to date of its kind.

Salem Sunbeam, Salem, NJ,
March 3, 1916

[In 1914 the firm became the Midmer-Losh Organ Co. and is known today for having built the Atlantic City Convention Center organ, regarded by many as the largest pipe organ in the world.]

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Peg Danner	Christie Nelson
Barbara Dawson	Trudy K. O'Hare
Michael Dixon	Lawrence B. Owen
Barbara Smith Duffy	Amanda Pierce
Brian M. Duffy	Donald Pierce
Ellen Durham	James Rupert
Bonny Beth Elwell	Bill Saunderlin
Dottie Fisher	Craig Schneeman
William J. Gallo, Jr.	Gay Schneeman
Wayne Gotwals	Sheldon Strober, Ed. D.
Curt Harker	Walt Valentine
Sue Harker	Maggie Vaughan
Charles Harrison	Courtney Warren
Charlotte Harrison	Ruthanne Wright
Katherine Heverin	Diane Wohlrab
Eppie Jones	Ron Wohlrab
Peggy Kavanaugh	

Electric lights were turned on in **Elmer** on March 8th for the first, and residents of that place are delighted with the new lighting system, which is one of the best in that section. Jonathan Buzby is in charge of the service.

The Monitor-Register, Woodstown, NJ, March 20, 1924

**Corporate and Business Members
"Partnerships with History"**

FENWICK BENEFACTORS

The Denn House at Hancocks Bridge

GOODWIN PROVIDERS

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PEDERSEN PROVIDERS

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Berkshire Hathaway Home Services

Bob Brooks Auction Sales

Mr. and Mrs. James S. Davis

Mr. Robert L. Davis

Earle H. Sloan, Inc.

Harvest Community Bank

J.F. Elk Painting

John D. Jordan, Esq.

Morgan's Electrical Services

Oak Tree Chapter-NSDAR

Warner & Company, CPAs

Walter Nicholson Century 21

The Society is grateful for the support of our corporate and business members.

For more information about our

"Partnership with History" program

Call (856) 935-5004 or visit

www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

Membership Report:

Individual

Reverend Joesph Beardsley,
Poland, ME

Robert J. Coblentz,
Salem, NJ

Jerilyn Denn Fry,
Stratford, CT

New Industry in Allowaystown

—We now have a new branch of industry in our town. Samuel H. Wright, Jr., has started a brush manufactory in the second story of Reeve's building, over Keeley's [Edward Keely] segar manufactory, where he intends manufacturing brushes of all kinds.

National Standard, Salem, NJ, February 19, 1879

Post Office For Deep Water

A postal inspector who was touring Salem County recently has recommended to the Post Office Department the establishment of a post office at Deep Water, the little village in Upper Penn's Neck Township, near the Canal Bridge.

Salem Standard & Jerseyman, Salem, NJ, February 16, 1921

Yes, I would like to become a member of the

Salem County Historical Society!

Name _____ New Member Renewal or Gift

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Please circle your desired category

Student	\$10	We also have Business & Corporate Membership Opportunities!
Individual	\$25	Oak Tree Associate \$100-\$249
Family/Household	\$40	Pedersen Providers \$250-\$499
Partner	\$100	Goodwin Providers \$500-\$999
Sustaining	\$150	Fenwick Benefactors \$1000+
Contributing	\$250	For more information on how your business can become members of the Society, please call 856-935-5004
Lifetime	\$500	

Please make checks payable to the Salem County Historical Society. The Society now accepts credit card payments for

new memberships, renewals, and upgrades through our secure website:

www.salemcountyhistoricalsociety.com

RETURN TO: SCHS, 83 Market Street, Salem, NJ 08079

PHOTO ID PLEASE!



Unidentified photographs in the collection remain a perennial perplexity!

This photograph is identified on the reverse as "P.V. School" and may be a Lower Penn's Neck school group taken during the 1920's. Please help by identifying the pupils in this photo.

(000.711.0410)

The Salem County Historical Society receives general operating support grants and project grants from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of the Department of the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission. Additional funding has been made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through the Salem



Salem County Historical Society
83 Market Street
Salem, NJ 08079



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