

ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

VOL. III

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No. 3

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 7, 1977, 8:30 p.m. at the Allendale Municipal Building.

PROGRAM: Miss Anne Lutz will present a program on local folklore.

NEWS AND VIEWS: It's that time of the year again--the time when we begin to look for members who might be interested in serving as officers or chairmen of our society. Jack Knapp has agreed to serve on the nominating committee; needed are two additional volunteers to assemble a slate of proposed officers. Won't you help ensure the continuity of our society by volunteering either to serve on the nominating committee or to serve as an officer or chairman? If you think you might be interested, please call either Jack Knapp (327-6939) or Pat Wardell (327-0605).

It's not too often that we receive such a delightful letter as the one we received a couple of months ago from Laura Barrett Haviland. We enjoyed it

so much that we asked permission to print it in our newsletter to share with all of our members. Mrs. Haviland graciously gave her permission, and so, in this issue, you can read her memories of Allendale in the early years of this century.

We also bring you, in this issue, the story of Allendale's very beautiful Bicentennial Quilt. And we thank Vi Huse for providing us with the background information on the planning and making of the quilt.

"Allendale: Background of a Borough" will continue in our next issue.

IN MEMORIAM: It is with very deep regret that we record the passing of one of our members, Mrs. Doris Mallinson Uhlinger.

SOME CHILDHOOD MEMORIES OF ALLENDALE.....by Laura Barrett Haviland
(Mrs. Stanley A. Haviland)

When I read the names of new society members, or names listed in the membership book, particularly those of the married ladies, I wonder what their maiden names were. Perhaps there are some I may have known in grammar school.

I was a Barrett and I wonder whether there are any old timers who remember the Barrett family. There were five children--Alice, Laura (that's me), Mildred, Marion, and Bill, and we all attended Allendale grammar school. My mother, Elizabeth, was the eldest daughter of Alfred Ivers, who has been mentioned a few times in your newsletter.

My father, Alonzo C. Barrett, owned a livery stable in Allendale from 1906 to 1912. It was the only "taxi" service in town. He was a Newark commuter, working for Clark's ONT Spool Cotton Co. through the day. He employed a young man named Charlie Simon to take care of the business in the daytime and my father took over in the evening. I believe Charlie is still living in Allendale. They would take people to and from the railroad station or anywhere they wished to go, even so far as Saddle River. There were two roads that crossed the tracks near the station in those days. My father was fond of horses and sometimes he bought race horses that could no longer race, hitched them to his sulky and rode for pleasure.

In 1906 we were living on Allendale Avenue in a house we referred to as the Kornhoff house. Mr. Kornhoff owned it and it was next door to his baker shop. Our stable, which was in back of the house, could be reached only by a dirt road that ran behind the houses and stores. I believe Mr. Grosman lived in the same house in 1913 and no doubt the stable was there then.

In 1909 we moved to the other side of Allendale Avenue, nearer the railroad station. Our house faced Allendale Avenue just across the road from the rear entrance to Mr. Braun's hotel. Mr. Yeomans owned this house so we called this one the Yeomans house, naturally. The property was between Allendale and Myrtle Avenues forming a triangle, so the back of the stable was on Myrtle Avenue. Later the trolley tracks cut across the point of the triangle. After a few years our house was moved to Myrtle Avenue to make room for businesses.

My father discontinued the livery service and we moved to Elm Street in 1912. Myra and Charter Mallinson lived across the road from us there. We moved to Red Bank in 1915 but kept in touch with and visited friends in Allendale.

My grandparents moved to Bergen County from Brooklyn because their second daughter, Adeline, was in poor health and they had heard that the air in Bergen County was exceptionally healthful. They eventually settled in Allendale on Franklin Turnpike, a little south of the toll gate hill. My grandfather, Alfred Ivers, bought a house which was a hundred and fifty years old, and several acres of land. There was a huge meadow down a slope in back of the house. Some of the meadow, I believe, he sold to Mr. Appert for his celery farm.

There is a little information concerning the Ivers house that may be of interest. It was originally a one and a half story house. They moved the back section across the driveway and made a small two story house of it which we called the "cottage." Then they built a new addition on the back which was the kitchen, and a full second story of seven bedrooms and a large attic above, known as the "garret" in those days.

Grandpa sold most of the land but lived in the same house until his death in 1919. His son Charles built a house next door on part of the property and sold the old house. Charlie's daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. J. Caffrey, are living there at the present time. Grandpa was a New York commuter. There is a street in Allendale named for him (Ivers Place).

There must have been more snow in the early 1900's than now because there were many sleighs in use for deliveries of produce, milk, meats, and such. We succeeded sometimes in hitching rides on the broad runners of the sleighs--dangerous, but fun. There was plenty of sleigh riding--coasting, that is--and bobsledding too. We would start at the top of the gate house hill, before it was cut

down to make it less steep, and ride all the way to Van Houten's and Nimmo's. Of course there were many strawrides too, and very little traffic of any kind.

Franklin Turnpike was a narrow dirt road until 1910-12 when it was paved. It was a difficult job as there were many large rocks to be blasted first. In order to widen the road they took a few feet of Grandpa's property leaving the end of the house very close to the road. When the paving was finished the people who owned horses were a little unhappy as the surface was hard for the horses' hooves. However, we children loved it. Soon after it was finished my sisters Alice and Mildred and some friends and I roller-skated all the way to Ridgewood on it. Naturally there was hardly any traffic at that time.

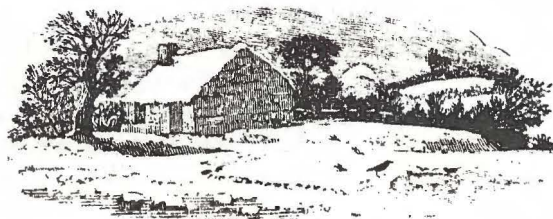
In 1912 the first airplane flew over Allendale. Someone must have been alerted because all the school pupils were permitted to go out in the yard and watch it. It was very exciting as it flew very low and we were greatly impressed.

While on the subject of school, there is an incident that may be remembered by some. Each year in June it was customary for the eighth grade students to take their exams before the other classes. They were on their own, then, to get ready for graduation. One of their activities was to carve their initials in the belfry. There were five "kids," I think, in the graduating class of 1912, and while doing their carving, my sister Alice accidentally stepped between the beams and her foot broke through the ceiling of the room below. It happened to be the room where my sister Mildred's class was taking their final examinations. Plaster fell on some of the desks, and the two classes in the room were so disrupted that they had to have a new set of tests sent and taken later. Mr. Alling, our Principal, was so upset that he expelled the whole class. They showed up every day and sat on the fence in front of the school. Finally Mr. Alling permitted them to graduate but refused to have his picture taken with them. From Allendale school we went on the trolley to high school in Ridgewood.

There were several places for us to go swimming. One was at the Crescent Avenue end of the ball field on West Allendale Avenue, one called Longrack; one was Hutches' pond (now, I believe, Lake San Jacinto), one was Smith's pond, and one where Crestwood Lake is at present.

Another small activity, if it could be called that, was stopping at the cider mill on our way home from school. Our parents were not too happy about it because everyone, young and old, drank cider from the same tin cup which hung on a nail. I think we kids were really not welcome.

Ice was delivered to our homes in wagons, and we kids would beg for a little piece to suck on, when they stopped at our house. Wagons also delivered meat to everyone. The housewife went out to the wagon, selected her meat, and the butcher would cut and weigh it in the back of the wagon. Quite different from our supermarkets today!



ALLENDALE'S BICENTENNIAL QUILT.....by Vi Huse

The quilt was one of three bicentennial projects undertaken by the Junior Woman's Club of Allendale. The idea of a quilt first took shape at a meeting during the spring of 1975 at which Maryann Richardson and Vi Huse, representing the Junior Woman's Club, Pat Wardell, representing the Allendale Historical Society, and Nancy Romaine, quilting expert, were present. All four were excited about doing a quilt after pouring over quilting books and seeing the beautiful handiwork that resulted. While the Junior Woman's Club initiated the project, it was felt that as many townspeople as possible should become involved to make it a truly community project. Members of the Community Arts Association and other interested Allendale residents began to design squares for the quilt. Word of mouth brought forward many industrious quilters to take part; stitchers ranged from first-time quilters to experts. The beautiful quilt you see pictured here is the result. It was presented as a gift to the Borough of Allendale on July 4, 1976, and it is hoped that it will be permanently displayed in Allendale's Borough Hall, or in the future, perhaps at Allendale's new library.

A KEY TO SCENES DEPICTED ON THE QUILT

Historical notes compiled by Pat Wardell.

Note: Originally many other scenes were planned for the quilt, but for various reasons, some never came to fruition. For this reason, the quilt is not a comprehensive "gallery" of all of Allendale's historic or interesting sites; your favorite scene or building may be missing. But those depicted are sure to bring back a memory or two to long-time Allendale residents. We've tried to compile a brief commentary on each scene depicted; we invite our readers to submit further comments, memories, and facts for publication in future issues.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35

1. Strawberry Pickers (Needlework: Peggy Hoefler---Design: Dorothy Shuit)
This scene depicts an annual event in Allendale's past, for when the strawberry crops ripened, every able-bodied man, woman, and child took to the field to harvest "red gold." During the last half of the 19th century, this area of Bergen County was known as the strawberry center of the east, with Allendale and Ramsey as its primary shipping centers.
2. Fourth of July (Needlework: Shirley Kirincich---Design: Felice Cebak)
The square represents Allendale's Holiday Observers (organized 1919), and the Allendale Athletic Association (groups by that name have been active in Allendale since at least 1900) and the scouting groups in Allendale (Boy Scouts were organized in 1917; Girl Scouts in 1932).
3. Christopher House (Needlework: Maureen Rosenthal--Design: Billie Samuelson)
This house at 330 Hillside Avenue is said to have been built by John Christopher before 1791. It is presently the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Moffitt.
4. Trolley at Allendale (Needlework: Cindy Farbaniec---Design: Dorothy Shuit)
First surveys for the North Jersey Rapid Transit Company were made in 1908. By 1911, the trolley ran through Allendale north to Suffern and south to Paterson and New York. The switch for the interchange with the Erie Railroad was built at Allendale. Service



ALLENDALE'S BICENTENNIAL QUILT

*Photo by Nancy van Arsdale
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was discontinued in 1929 and the tracks were shipped to the U.S.S.R. to be used on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

5. Christmas Carolers (Needlework: Viola Huse---Design: Billie Samuelson)

This square evokes memories of Allendale's Christmas Tree Association, which in 1916 established the tradition of erecting an annual community Christmas Tree. In 1917 the tree was decorated with hundreds of red, white, and blue lights, and on Christmas eve, the Allendale Community Chorus led the townspeople in singing carols.

6. Allendale Hotel (Needlework: Rosalie Rizzo---Design: Frances Johnson)

This building was probably erected in the early 1900's on or near the site of an earlier hotel built by Herman Tallman in 1870. The present owners are Mr. and Mrs. William J. Dixon.

7. Braun Building (Needlework: Marion & Julie Morse--Design: Frances Johnson)

Erected in 1911 by Val J. Braun, this building today houses the offices of Stiles Thomas. This wedge-shaped building (sometimes referred to as Allendale's "Flat-iron Building") was the home of the Allendale Library for a brief period beginning in 1919.

8. Smith House (Needlework: Frances Fargo---Design: Dorothy Shuit)

This small house, at 350 Brookside Avenue, is thought to have been built about the time of the Revolution. By 1850 Jacob Smith was living here and by 1861 he was running a sawmill on his property. In 1902 Christopher J. Smith purchased the property, and the pond formed by the brook next to this house was called "Smith's Pond."

9. Lumber Yard (Needlework: Jane Fowler---Design: Rosemary Rinck)

As early as 1870 a lumberyard existed in Allendale (it is not known who the owner was). Christopher Brothers (J. M. and R. J. Christopher) "Dealers in high grade coal, lumber, and building materials," established their business in Allendale about 1911.

10. Gousset House (Needlework: Ibolya Whitmore---Design: Billie Samuelson)

This house at 200 Hillside Avenue was purchased by Cyprian Gousset, a well-known confectioner, in 1902. Much later, in 1959, Charles J. O'Flynn bought the house. O'Flynn wrote more than 500 popular songs, including "Smile, Darn Ya, Smile," "Anniversary Song," and "The Farmer Took Another Load Away." Present owners are Mr. and Mrs. Donald Landzettel.

11. Fell-Ackerman-Cable House (Needlework: Betty & Julie Martinez--Design: Mary Harris)

Part of this house at 475 Franklin Turnpike is thought to have been built before the Revolution. Judge John Fell lived here before and during the Revolution. John G. Ackerman owned the house in 1846 when he played host to Joseph Warner Allen, the surveyor of the railroad for whom Allendale was named. By 1866 Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Cable had bought the house. In 1912 it was sold to Joseph B. Taylor. Mr. and Mrs. J. Pfister currently live in the house.

12. Guardian Angel Church (Needlework: Brigette Lyons---Design: Mary Harris)

In 1903 the first Masses were said in Allendale at services held in Linkroum's Confectionery Store. Later services were held in the gymnasium over the garage of H. J. Appert. In 1913 the house at 46 Maple St. was purchased from B. F. Hutches and converted into a chapel. In 1966 the new church building on the southeast corner of Allendale Avenue and Franklin Turnpike was dedicated.

13. Allendale Municipal Building (Needlework: Maryann Richardson--Design: Felice Cebak)

Built in 1896 as a schoolhouse, and used as such until 1929, this building was later headquarters (c. 1947) of American Legion Post 204 (at which time it was known as "the War Memorial Building.") In 1960 the building was renovated and since that time it has been used as Allendale's Borough Hall.

14. Archer Hall (Needlework: Martha Franklin---Design: Frances Johnson)

Built by O. H. P. Archer, the Hall was formally opened in 1884. Quite aside from its function as part of the Methodist Church, over the years the hall has been an integral part of Allendale's civic and cultural growth, housing such events as a lyceum (c. 1885), elections and polls (1894-early 1900's), community meetings, school graduations (early 1900's), and meetings of Allendale service groups (1977+).

15. Higgins-O'Neill House (Needlework: Barbara Pirie---Design: Pat Wardell)
This house, at 168 W. Crescent Ave., is now the Carriage House Restaurant. Michael Higgins bought the property in 1858 from John A. Smith. By 1861 Dennis Higgins owned the house. In 1868 Charles H. O'Neill, former Mayor of Jersey City, bought the house as a summer home. The house was converted to a restaurant about 1929-30, first as "The Steer Inn," and later as "Pat Job's Crescent Inn."

16. Winter in Allendale (Needlework: Joan Mastrobuoni---Design: Dorothy Shuit)
This square conjures up nostalgic memories of winters in turn-of-the-century Allendale, when sleighs were not just fun, but a normal means of transportation-- and toll gate hill down Franklin Turnpike was the best run in town!

17. Highlands Presbyterian Church (Needlework: Gail Anderson---Design: Billie Samuelson)

In 1965, the steering committee for the Allendale Presbyterian Mission, arranged for the purchase of the former Episcopal Church building, on the northeast corner of Orchard Street and Franklin Turnpike (built in 1875). The first Presbyterian service was held in the newly acquired chapel on September 12, 1965.

18. Borough Seal of Allendale (Needlework: Dorothy C. Clark--Design: Dorothy Shuit)
Allendale's official borough seal was designed by Dorothy Shuit of Park Avenue. It depicts motifs symbolic of Allendale's history.

19. Brookside School (Needlework: Eileen Frees---Design: Rosemary Rinck)
Brookside School opened in September 1929 with 225 pupils. H. J. Appert, head of the school board, was the key speaker at dedication ceremonies that same month.

20. Crestwood Lake & Red Barn Pavilion (Needlework: Marge Thoss---Design: Mary Harris)

Crestwood Lake--the enlarged former Mallinson's Pond--opened to the public as an ice skating rink in November 1927. The following May it opened for its first season as a public swimming club. In 1971 the Borough of Allendale purchased the lake and its surrounding acreage.

21. Memorial Park (Needlework: Linda Levy---Design: Dorothy Shuit)
The park was originally established about 1871 as a park for the residents of homes being erected along Park Avenue at that time by Herman Tallman and Harvey Sherwood. On May 30, 1925 the World War I monument was unveiled and the park became known as "Memorial Park."

22. Calvary Lutheran Church (Needlework: Lynne Victoria---Design: Mary Harris)
In 1954 the Calvary Lutheran Church was founded and its first services were held at the Allendale Firehouse. The church school building, on the north corner of Franklin Turnpike and Ivers Place, was dedicated in 1957; an addition was dedicated in 1960, and the present chapel was built in 1970.

23. Old Archer Church (Needlework: Carol Hentz---Design: Pat Wardell)
Built by O. H. P. Archer in 1876 as a memorial to his parents, the old church was found to be structurally unsound and was torn down in 1973. The new chapel was dedicated in 1974.

24. Epiphany Church (Needlework: Vivian Smith---Design: Mary Harris)
Started as a Sunday School in the home of Mrs. Stephen Cable in 1872, the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany met in chapels near Cottage Place (a re-fitted barn named "Hope Chapel" in 1873, and, by 1875, "The Chapel in the Willows" near the same site.) In 1894 the chapel was moved to the northeast corner of Orchard St. and Franklin Turnpike. The present church building, on West Crescent Avenue, was erected in the mid-1960's.

25. Toll Gate House (Needlework: Nancy Romaine---Design: Dorothy Shuit)
This house, razed in 1933, stood at the south corner of the intersection of Crescent Avenue and Franklin Turnpike. Built about 1801, it was used as a gate house until about 1850, during the period of time when Franklin Turnpike was a toll road.

26. Potter's Log Cabin (Needlework: Xenia Monfried---Design: Mary Harris)
This log cabin, built on the grounds of the home of George M. Potter, West Crescent Avenue, is fondly remembered by many of Allendale's early boy scouts. We're told that one highly revered ornament in the cabin was a genuine autograph of William F. ("Buffalo Bill") Cody! Heady stuff!
27. Smith-Van Blarcom House & Barns (Needlework: Anne Barbey--Design: Felice Cebak)
This house, which formerly stood on the site of Hillside School, was probably built before 1783 and was one of several "Smith" homes dotted along Hillside Avenue and Forest Road.
28. Old Allendale Fire House (Needlework: Ina Hamilton--Design: Felice Cebak)
Allendale's first fire house (which was destroyed by a fire in 1963) was dedicated in April 1913. In addition to being "home" for the fire department, this building through the years served as a boro hall and home of the Allendale Library; movies were shown here in the '20's; graduation exercises were held here, and radio & pet shows took place here from time to time.
29. Blacksmith Shop (Needlework: Tina Ostrowski---Design: Dorothy Shuit)
This square represents Allendale's early blacksmith shops, among them Pullis's Blacksmith Shop on Franklin Turnpike, and Zabriskie's Shop on Allendale Avenue.
30. Lee Memorial Library (Needlework: Elli Tappan---Design: Pat Wardell)
Allendale's library was established in 1900 on the second floor of the school building (today's borough hall). The main room of the present building (paid for by public subscription) was opened in 1926. The wing, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Lee, was added in 1941.
31. Apple Orchard (Needlework: Isabel Tallia--Design: Mary Harris)
In addition to its fame as a strawberry-raising center, Allendale in the second half of the 1800's was well known for its fruit orchards. Fruit bearing trees once covered much of Allendale's acreage, and a street in Allendale is named in commemoration: Orchard Street.
32. Lydecker's Mill (Needlework: Connie Melville & Connie Melville LaVecchio---Design: Frances Johnson)
Lydecker's Mill--a grist mill--stood on the site of today's San Jacinto Swim Club. Built about 1880, it was sold in 1892 to Edward E. Burtis, after which the site was known as Burtis Mills.
33. Allendale Train Station (Needlework: Ruth Scherb---Design: Ruth Scherb)
As early as 1850, a train station stood at Allendale. The present station, built in 1870, originally stood on the east side of the tracks. In October 1902 the building was moved across the tracks to its present location.
34. Allendale Meat Market (Needlework: Gail Cassens--Design: Felice Cebak)
This little butcher shop, started by Hopper Yeomans about 1894, stood on the site of today's Allendale Florist Shop.
35. Parade in Allendale (Needlework: Dottie Dyer---Design: Pat Wardell)
This square was designed from an old photograph of a parade through Allendale in 1920.

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

- Mrs. Whiting Anthony of Pennsylvania
- Mr. & Mrs. Earl G. Holmes of Vermont
- Mrs. Robert E. Kohler of Wisconsin
- Mr. Arnold P. Taylor of Connecticut
- Mr. William R. Taylor of Connecticut

Accessions

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to the society's collections:

- Two large framed maps, by Mrs. E. Arlt.
- A copy of the 1948-49 Bergen-Passaic telephone directory, by Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Rich.

Allendale Historical Society
P.O. Box 294, Allendale, N.J. 07401

Membership Categories: (Annual Dues)
Family Membership.....\$5.00
Individual Membership.....\$3.00

Dues are not required, but are voluntary for those members over 65.

Allendale History and Heritage is published four times a year in September, November, February, and April, and is mailed to members of the Allendale Historical Society.

Editor: Pat Wardell