



ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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No. 4

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 7, 1984 at 8:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, West Crescent Avenue, Allendale.

PROGRAM: Our guest speaker will be Mr. Anderson, vice president of the Mahwah Historical Society, who will discuss the story of the trolley car line and its routes through various area communities. Mr. Anderson will illustrate his talk by showing pictures relating to the trolley. This promises to be a most interesting program and we hope to have a terrific attendance.

SOCIETY NEWS: The Chairman of the Nominating Committee presents the following slate of officers for the coming year:

Dorothy Kornhoff, president
Eva Schmitt, vice president
Jeanne Cotz, treasurer
Geneva Keating, secretary
Annette Baum, trustee
Natalie Holeman, trustee
Marian Strangfeld, trustee
Harriett Grosman, trustee and program chairman

Pat Wardell, newsletter editor
Paulette From, publicity chairman
Shirley Cross, librarian

Additional nominations for any office may be made from the floor at our annual meeting on May 7, and election of officers will take place that night.

Please note that dues are payable in May. Use the form attached to this newsletter and mail them to the society at the address below, or you may pay them at the meeting on May 7th. Please note that because of the rising costs of printing, postage, and paper, we can no longer send our newsletter to members whose dues are in arrears, so please send your dues today. We thank you for your continuing support.

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CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

We're still receiving questionnaires from old and new friends who now live or once lived in Allendale. The original questionnaire was in last September's newsletter, and if you've misplaced it, or haven't gotten around to filling it in and sending it on, we urge you to just jot down your thoughts on plain paper and send them to the Society at the address on page one. Here are more questionnaires received:

Husband's Name: Howard Edward Webb

Wife's Name: Edith Atkinson Webb

Present Address: 12 Crescent Place, Allendale, N.J. 07401

Former Allendale Address: Edith--born & lived at 60 W. Crescent Ave. (corner of Heights Rd.) and moved to 74 Heights Rd. when 6 years old.

Children: Barbara Edith Webb Draper

Grandchildren: Christopher Webb Draper (5 yrs.) and Kimberley Joy Draper (2 yrs.)

Memories of Allendale: My father, Alfred E. Atkinson, moved to Allendale from Brooklyn, N.Y. in 1914 after having the large home at 60 W. Crescent Ave. (corner Heights Road) built for his family. The family, prior to this, came to this area in the summer to vacation. My father purchased the property from the O'Neill family. It was a large tract of land, about 22 acres, lying between Crescent Avenue and the old Erie Railroad, and on which they had a horse, cow, chickens, an orchard and gardens in which they raised asparagus, strawberries, etc. After moving to Allendale, my Dad met my Mother, Lillian Gertrude Borger, who had come to Allendale with her parents in March 1898 when 9 years old, from New York City, and who lived at 70 W. Allendale Avenue. My parents were married Oct. 2, 1918. Both were very active in Archer Methodist Church, where my Mother sang a great deal and took part in Church plays. I've often heard her mention "Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works" in which she played the lead. Have often heard much about the great sleigh rides the church sponsored and which they enjoyed.

During these early years, my Dad and Mr. Robert Phair, along with Dr. Woodruff, then minister at Archer Church, helped to establish the first Boy Scout troop in Allendale.

In 1922 my father established Heights Road, had the land developed and had the first five homes built on Heights Road, one of them, at number 74 Heights Rd, being the one our family moved to from our Crescent Ave. house in 1925.

My Dad was always interested in town affairs and later served as Water Collector for the Borough.

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Husband's Name: Truman E. Keet

Wife's Maiden Name: Mildren Lillian Atkinson

Present Address: (temporary until summer 1985) 330 East Cordova St., Apt.382, Pasadena, California 91101

Former Allendale Address: 7 East Elbrook Drive (permanent address upon returning to Allendale in 1985)

When did you live in Allendale?: I lived there most of my life. I was born at 60 West Crescent Avenue, corner of Heights Road, in the house my father, Alfred E. Atkinson, had built for his parents in 1913-14. In 1925 we moved to 74 Heights Road, where I lived until I got married. When I married we lived at 170 Franklin Turnpike from 1952-1963; then at 7 East Elbrook Drive from 1965-1983. My mother, Lillian Gertrude Border, whose family came to Allendale in 1898, lived for many years at 70 West Allendale Avenue (next door to the Sweet Shop.)

Children: Marilyn Elaine Keet Templin and Linda Jill Keet

Grandchildren: Sarah Elain Templin (age 7) and Megan Atkinson Templin (age 6)

Memories of Allendale: There are many--Living in our big house on Crescent Avenue,

with its strawberry and asparagus beds in the backyard, and beyond them a big orchard; taking the trolley to Ramsey (we would board it at the end of Heights Road); growing up on Heights Road with my sister, Edith, and our friends Bianca Vernon and Herman Levy, and the good times we all had; going to school, first on Franklin Turnpike for 2 years, then starting 3rd grade in the new Brookside school; going on an 8th grade class trip to Rhode Island (there were only 22 in our class) and having to sing "Easter Parade" at our class night program; singing in Archer Church Choir and teaching Sunday School--also going on Sunday School picnics to Anona Park; swimming at Recreation Park, Hutches Pond, and Crestwood Lake; and of course we would never miss the 4th of July celebrations or the parade on Memorial Day.

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MY MEMORIES OF ALLENDALE.....by Edith A. Webb

There are so very many memories of Allendale. My earliest are of living in our home at 60 West Crescent Ave., which my father, Alfred E. Atkinson, originally had built for his parents in 1913 and which our family later occupied. I can still remember holidays spent there with large family gatherings, birthday parties my sister Mildred and I had, and proudly coming down the stairs at my Aunt Alice's wedding at which I was flower girl. I remember our neighbors, the Coopers across the street (Ann Christopher) and the Korndorfers next door, who had a big police dog. I also remember a big Chandler car my Dad had in the 1920s.

When I was six years old, in 1925, we moved to 74 Heights Road, where I remember many happy years growing up in the company of my sister Mildred, and our good friends Bianca Vernon and family, and Herman Levy and his family, along with many other neighbors, including the Hogans, the Matthews, the Blanchards, the Williams and the Tienkens and later the Winters.

I also remember starting school in the old school on Franklin Turnpike with Mr. Alling as principal and Mrs. McKecknie, my first teacher, and often walking to my Grandmother Borger's on Allendale Ave. for lunch. Then, when I was in fifth grade, I remember moving to the present Brookside School from which I graduated in 1933. Every one of our generation remembers what a great teacher Gertrude Etesse was, as well as many other good ones. I remember belonging to a 4-H club for a while and Katherine Wenzel teaching us cooking at her home on Dale Ave.

When young I spent time living at my Grandmother Borger's home on Allendale Ave. while my Dad was in Florida on business. I often roller skated with Oaksman Smiley and Patricia Smith, who both lived on Allendale Avenue then.

Our Sundays were most always spent at Archer Church, going to Sunday School, or teaching it later, or singing in the choir with my mother, Gertrude Atkinson and sister, Mildred. I remember Mr. Berdan and Mr. Hamilton as Sunday School superintendents, and Mrs. Hazel Nichols, a great choir director. I also remember riding bikes to choir rehearsals during World War II when there was little gas, often joined by Violet Winters, who then lived on Heights Road.

I didn't know my father's parents, Richard and Charlotte Atkinson, who died before I was born. They were married on the Island of Guernsey where my grandmother was born, and came to this country, where my grandfather later fought in the Civil War.

A Tribute to Willard Alling.....by Dorothy Alling Kornhoff

Willard Alling came to Allendale in 1907. He was a teacher at the Allendale Grammar School. Later he was promoted to Principal and was then appointed Supervising Principal.

He was born in Wyoming, Pennsylvania in 1879, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Alling. He attended the Grammar and High School there, after which he went to Harvard University. He studied law for three years in New York State and passed his New Jersey Bar Examination. He never practiced law due to illness. He was also a graduate of Pennsylvania State Normal School, where he received his training as a teacher.

After moving to Allendale he married Mabel Quackenbush and they had two children, Howard and Dorothy.

Among his students were former Congressman J. Parnell Thomas (class of 1910) and Dr. Percy Fisher of Ridgewood, his physician in later years (also in his class of 1910, the third class to be graduated under Mr. Alling.)

He had taught in Allendale for 33 years by the time of his death in November 1940. A testimonial dinner for Mr. Alling had been planned by the residents of Allendale, but it had been postponed because of his illness. Mr. Thomas said many regretted that they had been deprived of the opportunity to pay appropriate honor to Mr. Alling while he lived, yet he left knowing that everyone was his friend.

An understanding instructor, he frequently defended miscreants in school who were being criticized by their teachers, and a familiar expression of his was "Boys will be boys, you know!" Many a parent in Allendale went to his office and was given a "heart to heart" talk, and he always proudly pointed out that students didn't have to be driven to his office, but went of their own accord. He was very strict, but after school you would see him playing baseball with the children.

He was also Past Commander of Bethlehem Commandery Knights Templar No. 27. He would have been 105 years old April 27, 1984.

This was my Dad, of whom I was very proud, even though he cracked my head against the blackboard a few times!

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"FIRST FAMILIES" OF ALLENDALE...Notes on early residents of Allendale
compiled by Pat Wardell and vicinity

Compiler's Note: This alphabetical listing cannot be considered an all-inclusive list of prominent early residents. We invite any member or friend to write us to add information to any listing or to insert an omitted listing. We would welcome additional information for our files. These notes are being compiled using information at hand that has been accumulated over the years and we freely acknowledge that the lists, and the information, is far from complete. In general, it is our policy to list residents who were born or lived in Allendale and its vicinity before 1900, but there are a few exceptions for those with unusual or outstanding accomplishments or lengthy and dedicated service to Allendale.

Walton, Arthur Hobart

He was born about 1844 and married (1) Catherine A. Rowlandson. Both were natives of Brooklyn, N.Y., but sometime before October 1875, they had moved to Bergen County (probably to the Ridgewood area). Arthur H. Walton dealt in insurance (one-time president of the Lenox Fire Insurance Co.) and real estate. The area of Allendale known circa 1900 as Shady Side Park, was, by 1907 called Walton Heights, containing Walton Avenue (today's East Orchard Street.)

Arthur H. Walton and his wife Catherine A. Rowlandson, had several sons and daughters (among whom was Arthur Hobart Walton, Jr., born at Williamsburg, N.Y. Jan. 8, 1863, later Mayor of Oakland, N.J.). Arthur H. Walton died in May 1920 and was survived by his widow, who was his second wife.

Ware, Joseph H.

The Ramsey Journal, on July 6, 1894, reported: "Mr. Joseph Ware will soon commence building a house on his land east of Mr. Asten's." The house, reported to cost \$3000, was constructed between the autumn of 1894 and the spring of 1895. The Souvenir, a publication of the Archer Memorial Church, reported on December 15, 1894: "The Rossner Brothers are completing the dwelling for Rev. J. H. Ware. They have 'pushed' this enterprise right along. Only a few weeks since the rugged land was seen when now a building is being developed into a home of beauty and utility." The Ramsey Journal reported, in its issue of May 3, 1895: "Mr. Joseph Ware, while picking up some stone to put in front of his house, found an Indian Axe. It is one of the most perfect found in this part of the country."

Joseph H. Ware was a Local Elder and Superintendent of the Sunday School for Archer Church, and his wife taught Sunday School. Mrs. Ware was also a teacher in the Allendale school in 1900, and in December 1903 she was elected vice president of the Allendale Village Improvement Association.

Washburne, Edward Grant

He was born in New York City on October 30, 1864, and came to Allendale about 1907. He had formerly lived in Ramsey. He married Pauline Fischer and they had a daughter, Mildred Washburne, who married Percy S. Doty. They lived on East Orchard Street. E.G. Washburne was one of the founders of St. John's Episcopal Church in Ramsey and was later a member of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in Allendale, serving for 46 years as superintendent of the church school. Mr. Washburne was also a trustee of the Allendale Library for 20 years and served the Library Association as president for many of those years. Mr. Washburne died on May 17, 1943. His wife, Pauline Fischer Washburne, had died in February 1921.

Webb, James

Born in Oxford, England in 1838, he was the son of Peter Clayton Webb. James Webb married, in Marquette, Michigan, April 14, 1868, Anna Elizabeth Boone Parkinson. They had children: James H. Webb (died young); Lottie B. Webb, b. 1871, m. John F. Burgin; Peter Clayton Webb, b. Dec. 5, 1874, m. Flora Carolina Schaub; Charles Henry Webb, b. May 24, 1878, m. Emily A. Schmidt; James Edward Webb, b. Dec. 25, 1880, m. Ida May Durie; and Hiram Walter Webb, b. Jan. 22, 1883, m. Annie K. Robinstein.

James Webb was a machinist and carpenter. He and his family

moved to the Paterson area about 1873, later lived in Haledon, and came to Allendale about 1894-95, living on West Crescent Ave. and later on Crescent Place.

Anna Elizabeth Boone Parkinson Webb died June 22, 1883 in Haledon, N.J., and James Webb died October 7, 1920 in Allendale.

Webb, James Edward

The son of James Webb and Anna Elizabeth Boone Parkinson, he was born in Haledon, N.J. on December 25, 1880. He moved to Allendale at the age of 14 with his family. He married, at Piermont, N.Y. on April 27, 1907, Ida May Durie, daughter of John Henry Durie and Delphine Sneden. Ida May Durie had been born May 11, 1885. They had two sons: Howard Edward Webb (m. Edith Atkinson); and John Durie Webb (m. Anne Cullen).

James E. Webb was a building contractor. He built most of the homes on the north side of Crescent Place, and he lived at 4 Crescent Place until his death on May 19, 1965. He and his wife were members of the Archer Church, and Mrs. Webb was president of the Church Aid Society (1934-36) and a member of the Thimble Club of the Archer Church. She also served on the Allendale Board of Health.

Webb, Charles Henry

The son of James Webb and Anna Elizabeth Boone Parkinson, he was born on May 24, 1878 in Haledon, N.J. He married, in Fairlawn, N.J., September 6, 1903, Emily Augusta Schmidt. She had been born on March 21, 1880. They lived on West Crescent Avenue. Their children were: Charles A. Webb (m. Gretchen Judson); James W. Webb; and Augusta Webb (m. Albert Gerken).

Charles Henry Webb died Dec. 28, 1938 and Emily Augusta Schmidt Webb died June 24, 1965.

Weeks, Addison B.

Addison B. Weeks was born about 1830 and married Rachel Ackerman, daughter of Henry G. Ackerman and Ellen J. Zabriskie. Rachel Ackerman was born April 8, 1834 at Saddle River. Addison B. Weeks worked for the Erie Railroad. They had children: Charles H. Weeks and Ida M. Weeks (m. Augustus (?) Leaman).

Addison B. Weeks died June 12, 1879; Rachel Ackerman Weeks died July 15, 1872.

(to be continued)

Allendale Historical Society
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Individual Membership.....\$4.00

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