

ALLENDALE HISTORY AND HERITAGE

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NO. 3

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March 6, 1989 at 8:00 p.m. at the Allendale Municipal Building, West Crescent Avenue, Allendale (second floor).

PROGRAM: Gardner Watts of Suffern will speak on "**History and Tales of Bear Mountain and Harriman Park.**" Mr. Watts is the Suffern, N.Y. Historian, has for many years been the leader of the Historic Hikers in Rockland County, and has taught history in the Suffern High School for 34 years.

As always, our meeting is free and open to the public, so please feel free to invite interested friends and neighbors to attend.

SOCIETY NEWS:

Donations to the Society

Our grateful thanks to Natalie Storms Holeman for donating 4 early (1910-1913) Allendale property tax bills for a house and land fronting on West Crescent Avenue owned by her father, Jacob J. Storms.

Thanks also to Bob Simson who generously donated several photographs, including: (1) a testimonial dinner for George Megnin given by the Allendale Fire Department, February 23, 1946 at the Crescent Terrace Inn; (2) Charter Night Banquet of the Allendale Lions Club, April 11, 1951 at the Green Room, Lafayette Hotel, Suffern, N.Y.; (3) postcard views of the Episcopal Church—"first" building (now Presbyterian Church) and "second" building (now Allendale Municipal complex); (4) three group photographs of gatherings and parties held at John Appert's home on Franklin Turnpike (probably in the 1950s).

A Plea for Help; Our Society Threatened

For the past several years when the time has come to prepare a slate of officers for election, we have struggled to find people willing to take

on the jobs of running the Society. Usually, then current officers have agreed to stay on in their jobs for another year.

But this year there is a major crisis of apathy that threatens to end the Society. We have no one who is willing to take on the presidency, and I am unable to continue in both capacities of president and newsletter chairman (I am willing to continue as newsletter chairman).

Our plea is for members to volunteer for the presidency and other leadership positions so that our Society can continue to exist.

What these leadership positions entail is a **minimum** of effort and commitment: we have 8 meetings a year (4 public and 4 board meetings, each held the 1st Monday of the month and usually lasting no longer than 2 hours). This is all that is needed to maintain the Society at its current level—our annual goals at present are simply to present 4 public meetings with appropriate programs and to publish our newsletter 4 times a year. This is a very small commitment, and we beg local members to consider volunteering.

Please call Pat Wardell at 327-0605 to volunteer. If there are no volunteers, our May meeting will be the Society's final meeting.

—Pat Wardell

ALLENDALE HOUSES BUILT BEFORE 1940

Compiled by Pat Wardell

Compiler's Note: This "inventory" of pre-1940 Allendale houses has been compiled using information in the Society's files and in my own files. Very few of the houses have been systematically researched, so we know that for most of them, the information is incomplete. We would welcome any additions, corrections, updating, etc. from our readers, and will happily add such information to the Society's files.

Only houses still in existence today are included in this inventory. Houses are generally named for the earliest known owner/occupant. Names associated with a house are not necessarily always owners; some may have been tenants. Also, not all owners actually lived in houses they owned; some houses were leased for rental income. The houses are listed alphabetically by street names, then numerically by house number.

(continued from the November 1988 issue)

3 Cottage Place

Appert House

Block 801, Lot 12 (Old Block 53, Lot 152)

Built about 1890, probably for Henry J. Appert. The house was sold October 22, 1970 by Ella M. Appert (then living at 51 Washington Street, Montclair, N.J.) to Alan Bandstra and Barbara R. Bandstra, his wife, who currently own and live in the house.



3 Cottage Place, 1940 Borough Tax Appraisal Photo

6 Cottage Place

Archer Cottage-Sievert House

Block 1805, Lot 3.2 (Old Block 30, Lot 2C)

Built about 1895 for the Archer family. By 1940 it was owned by Eugene A. Sievert, a retired minister, and Elizabeth Sievert.

This house and the one east of it at No. 8 Cottage Place were built about 1895 for O.H.P. Archer as houses for his employees and servants. It is because of these two "cottages" that the street was named Cottage Place. The street had earlier been known as "Chapel Street" or "Chapel Place," so-called because of the Episcopal Chapel that formerly stood in the willows near the northeast corner of



6 Cottage Place, 1940 Borough Tax Appraisal Photo

Franklin Turnpike and Cottage Place.

Previously an old stone house, possibly pre-Revolutionary, stood on approximately the site of these two "cottages," at the southeast corner of Franklin Turnpike and Cottage Place. *The Hackensack Republican* of May 24, 1894 reported: "Mr. Archer contemplates tearing down the old stone house on the turnpike. This is one of the landmarks of the town. Forty years ago this was one of the finest houses in Allendale and was occupied by Dr. Hasbrouck, a physician of local fame." On August 10, 1894 *The Ramsey Journal* reported: "Mr. Archer is having the old building that Dennis lived in for a number of years taken down. It is supposed a new building will take its place." The house just east of this one, at No. 8 Cottage Place, was built for O.H.P. Archer as a residence for Dennis O'Brien, Archer's coachman/liveryman.

In October 1947 a garage and breezeway was partially complete, and the property was assessed an additional \$50 for a chicken coop.



8 Cottage Place, 1940 Borough Tax Appraisal Photo

8 Cottage Place

Archer Cottage-Sievert House

Block 1805, Lot 4 (Old Block 30, Lot 2B)

Built about 1895 for the Archer family as a residence for Dennis O'Brien, O.H.P. Archer's coachman. By 1940 it was owned by Eugene A. Sievert, a retired minister, and Elizabeth Sievert. Sometime after c. 1940, Henry Werner occupied the house, and later, c. 1975 Indrikis M. Kaneps lived there. By October 1951 a side porch was 50% completed.

See historical notes for the house just west of this one (6 Cottage Place). These two "cottages" were taxed together as one unit until c. 1946.

**13/15 Cottage Place
Rowland Hotel and Store**

Block 801, Lot 11 (Old Block 53, Lot 154)

Built in 1884. On May 1, 1884, *The Hackensack Republican* reported: "Rowland's new grocery is under roof..."

Abraham Rowland, son of Charles Rowland, is listed in the 1880 Federal Census as a grocer. According to Maytie Rowland Southwick Sparling (1970 interview), Abe Rowland first had a store on West Crescent Avenue in a building located between the old Ackerson and Ackerman houses, which he rented from Henry Mallinson. This would have been located on the west side of West Crescent Avenue between today's railroad underpass and the intersection with Myrtle Avenue.

He advertised his store in the July 31, 1884 issue of *The Hackensack Republican*. He probably moved to this new location on Cottage Place in late 1884 or early 1885. This business is shown on Cottage Place ("A. Rowland's Hotel & Store") on an 1887 driving chart.

On September 6, 1884, Abraham C. Rowland, George Rowland, and Sarah A. Rowland and her husband, Charles B. Rowland, took a mortgage on this property from Thomas F. Rowland and Henry Rowland. By August 1892, Henry Rowland (of New York City) had died, and the executors of his Last Will and Testament went to court to satisfy the mortgage. This resulted in a public sale of the property, and the title passed, on October 19, 1892, from the Sheriff of Bergen County to Henry J. Appert.

Appert owned the property until 15 May 1908, when he sold it to Charles C. Scott, who sold it the same day to Appert's wife, Ella B. Appert. As a widow, she sold it on 10 May 1927 to Ella Prescott, who sold it the next day to Ella M. Appert, daughter of Henry J. and Ella B. Appert.

In 1942 Loretta J. Appert and her husband, Arthur A. Appert sold it to Bessie T. Nimmo. In April 1966 Hetty T. Hoerchgen, executrix of the Will of Bessie T. Nimmo, acquired the property and she sold it, on 1 October 1966, to Kenneth J. Mowerson, Sr. and Marjorie M. Mowerson.

The building, earlier called a "hotel," later was a two-family dwelling, and several tenants occupied portions of the house. Among them are: about 1933, R. Young, who rented the west side of the building; and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hoerschgen lived at No. 13, probably c. 1940s.

**2 Crescent Place
Webb House**

Block 403, Lot 2 (Old Block 43, Lot 33, later 33-1)

This house was built in 1926 by James E. Webb, a building contractor who built all of the pre-1940 houses on the north side of Crescent Place (and who lived at 4 Crescent Place).

James E. Webb and his wife, Ida May Webb, owned this house from 1926 until 1963, during which time they leased the property to various tenants for rental income.



2 Crescent Place, 1940 Borough Tax Appraisal Photo

Among the tenants were Frank and Grace Bates, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Morris (c.1940s through 1950s), and Mr. and Mrs. Cole (1962-63).

In 1963 the house was sold to Frank H. Cullen and his wife, Mae E. Cullen, parents of wife of the Webbs' son, John. About 1970 the house was sold to John D. Webb, Jr., grandson of the builder.

In 1940 the house was described as a 2 story, one family frame dwelling with a garage and open porch. It had a concrete block foundation, a wood shingle exterior and a composition shingle roof. There were 6 rooms, including 3 bedrooms and one half-tile bath. The floors were double oak and the trim was chestnut.

**3 Crescent Place
DeHossen-Brower House**

Block 402, Lot 2 (Old Block 42, Lot 15)

This house was built in 1922, probably for H.



3 Crescent Place, 1940 Borough Tax Appraisal Photo

DeHossen, who owned it in 1940. On April 19, 1944, Edward A. Brower and Dorothy O. Brower, his wife, bought the house.

In 1940 the house was described as a 1-1/2 story frame bungalow with a stone foundation, stucco exterior, and composition shingle roof. It had a garage, a bay, and 2 open porches. There were 8 rooms, including 5 bedrooms and 2 baths.

(series to be continued)

WPA Federal Writers' Project "Allendale and its Firefighters" History of Allendale

In 1938, the booklet "Allendale and its Firefighters" was published. The booklet was sponsored by the Volunteer Fire Department of Allendale and was compiled and illustrated by the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration of the State of New Jersey. The booklet was printed by the Ridgewood News Press.

The booklet was divided into two sections. The first was a brief "History of Allendale," and the second was a history of "The Allendale Fire Department."

This booklet had limited distribution in 1938 and copies of it are now quite rare. For this reason, we have decided to reprint it in this and upcoming issues of the newsletter, along with modern footnotes by Pat Wardell.

The unaltered text was written in 1937-38; the footnotes were written in 1988.

(Continued from November 1988 issue)

In 1900 began an era of development which continued sporadically until the recent depression. Culturally, the most important event that year was the establishment of a public library by Mrs. Walter Spring, assisted by Mrs. Stephen Van Houten, Mrs. Wallace Carver, Mrs. Frank Merrill and Mrs. Frank Drummond. The library, on the second floor of the borough hall¹, was patronized largely by summer boarders and was open only during June, July and August. Later it was moved to the Braun Building, where it remained until the erection of its own building at Franklin Turnpike and West Allendale Avenue in 1926.

In addition to the four-track railroad laid by the Erie in 1900, the same year saw a contract made with the Rockland Electric Company of Hillburn, N.Y., "to erect and maintain a pole line in the streets." Until then the borough had been served by oil street lamps and arc lights.

The borough had long felt the need for an adequate water supply. The more conservative townspeople had been able, however, to override the demand on the ground that the tax-payers could not support the cost. A series of disastrous fires, culminating in the Christmas blaze of 1909 when the Kornhoff and Scholz Buildings on Myrtle Avenue were destroyed, brought a full realization of the borough's water needs. In 1914, during the mayoralty of Gustave Nadler, a water system was installed through the Mount Prospect Water Company of New York. Pipes were laid and the water pumped from Ramsey. Today the borough has its own water supply plant in Allendale, built in 1930 during the mayoralty of J. Parnell Thomas, now Congressman for New Jersey's Seventh Congressional District, which includes Allendale.

A third general improvement was the widening of Allendale Avenue in the 1921-4 mayoralty term of Albert L. Zabriskie. Another general improvement was the laying of the Public Service gas mains in 1925, under the administration of William E. Kornhoff. This marked the end of a 10-year fight by northern New Jersey towns for Public Service recognition. Mayor Kornhoff recalls proudly the conference with Thomas McCarter, president

of the Public Service, when he threatened to form a \$150,000 company of his own if the private utility continued to refuse the borough's demands.

The zoning ordinance of 1928 was another progressive step, and the same year the police department was reorganized. A police committee, first appointed by the council in 1914, served without pay under a town marshal until 1919, when the marshal received payment. Increasing population and tax valuation led to the formation of the present department of a chief and five officers. The most spectacular crime with which the department has had to cope occurred on April 7, 1938, when five armed bandits committed a daylight holdup of the First National Bank and escaped with \$10,511.77. Succeeding weeks saw the borough visited by Department of Justice agents who arrested two men in New York City on April 17.

Allendale's parks and school system reflect its progressive spirit. The opening in 1925 of Recreation Park at West Allendale and West Crescent Avenues, the first of its kind in the State, was reported in the New York Times. Comprising 15-1/2 acres, it offers facilities for swimming, tennis, baseball and children's amusement. Memorial Park, Brookside and Park Avenues, was also dedicated in 1925, in memory of Allendale's World War dead. The park has a 20-foot marble shaft decorated with bronze memorial tablets. Originally, the park development was purchased by Herman Tallman and Harvey Sherwood in 1871. Timber on the land was cut down and sold to the railroad for fuel, and a large part of the acreage divided into building plots. To attract homeowners, the park was assigned to the private use of residents in the vicinity. Since then the park has reverted to the borough through eminent domain.

The school system has 260 primary-grade pupils in a modern three-story brick building, built in 1928-8 on Brookside Avenue. The school has 11 rooms, a large auditorium with a combined stage and gym, boys' and girls' showers, a nurse's room, board room, rest rooms, manual training and home economics room. Character education is stressed and the usual semiannual examinations have been discarded. Students are graded and promoted according to the merit of their regular classroom work.

The system of student government encourages civic consciousness. All school policies are decided upon by a model administration which includes such boards and departments as health, law, council, police, fire, sanitation, welfare and safety. From time to time the students hold council and court meetings at which Willard Alling, school principal, presides. High school training is obtained at Ramsey High School; bus transportation is arranged by the borough. The school budget for 1936-7 totaled \$34,000.

Of the three churches in Allendale, the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, Franklin Turnpike and Orchard Street², is the oldest. It was formed in 1872 when Mrs. Stephen Cable and her daughter organized a Sunday School in their home. The Archer Memorial Church, Franklin Turnpike and East Allendale Avenue, was founded in 1876. The Catholic Chapel of the Guardian Angel was established in 1913.

The Holiday Observers, a committee appointed by the mayor and council, supervise community sports and activ-

¹ The building referred to was, in 1938 when this booklet was written, the former schoolhouse on Franklin Turnpike, which then served as the Allendale Borough Hall. In 1900 it was Allendale's 4-year-old schoolhouse, and today it is (minus its original second story) the Allendale Police Department Building.

² The building is now the Highlands United Presbyterian Church.

ities on holidays. Several years ago a group of citizens living near Memorial Park organized to purchase fireworks for a display on July 4. The plan was repeated each year until it was made official. Each Fourth of July this committee stages an all-day program of races and games, with a fireworks display in the evening. It also supervises the distribution of Christmas baskets to the needy.

The Bergen Guards, organized in 1910 by Harry I. Hand, were a group of boys drilled in marching, the manual of arms, and army tactics. They wore khaki uniforms for drilling and dress uniforms of blue, and took part in parades and celebrations throughout Bergen County. The organization broke up at the time America entered the World War, when many of its members enlisted.

In addition to the fire department, other civic organizations are the American Legion, the Allendale Athletic Club, the Allendale Players (a dramatic organization), the Woman's Club, the Junior Woman's Club, the Garden Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, an active boys' club and several church and school groups. The Allendale Building and Loan Association was formed in May 1889. The borough is served by one weekly newspaper, the Allendale Argus, established in 1924 by Allen Kistler and taken over by the Ridgewood News Publishing Company shortly afterward.

THE ALLENDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Although the Borough of Allendale was a residential community even before the Civil War, it had no organized fire department until 1910. A disastrous fire on Myrtle Avenue on Christmas morning of 1909 shocked the citizens into action. Starting from an upset Christmas tree, it destroyed the buildings of Max Scholz and William J. Kornhoff; the La Conte family in the latter barely escaped death.

Residents recalled other fires that could not be stopped, particularly the one that destroyed the property of Henry J. Appert on Cottage Place in 1893. His store was full of onions at the time, and neighbors insisted that the smell of onions flavored the air of the vicinity for weeks afterward. In those years not even an organized bucket brigade existed, and fire victims could rely only upon neighbors who fetched pails of water from artesian wells, or upon the benevolence of a company in a nearby community. Usually the fire assumed hopeless proportions before help arrived.

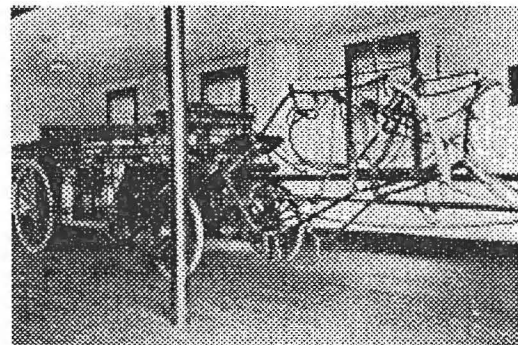
For these reasons 52 townsmen, determined to create a fire department, met at the Archer M.E. Hall on New Year's Eve in 1909. The Rev. H. B. Leech was chosen chairman and John Yeomans secretary, and a committee was named to consider a course of action. Other meetings were held during the next three weeks.

By January 24, 1910, a constitution had been adopted and papers of incorporation filed for the Allendale Fire Association. The first officers were William Dewsnap, president; R. W. Steele, chief; C.N. Elliot, secretary; and J.M. Christopher, treasurer. On January 27 the trustees appointed committees to find a site for a building and to procure necessary equipment. Shortly afterward a public subscription drive for funds was launched.

During the next month the association bought three chemical extinguishers and ordered from the Erie Railroad eight iron tires to be installed as fire signals at various points in the borough. At the first quarterly meeting in

March, \$588 in subscriptions was reported, whereupon a \$955 hook and ladder truck was ordered from the Combination Ladder Company. Unfortunately, the truck was not delivered in time for the \$25,000 fire which on March 15 razed the residence of Albert L. Zabriskie on East Allendale Avenue. This was the first fire to confront the newly formed association.

The volunteers continued their campaign. On July 4 they took part in patriotic exercises at Ridgewood. Naturally, the young association wanted to make an impression. When members appeared in the parade dressed in white duck trousers, white shirts, black belts, black shoes, black bow ties and white straw hats, gloves and canes, they created a sensation. As a result, the Allendale department was called "the silk stocking boys" for many years.



"Ready To Roll—1914"

Photo from the booklet "Allendale and its Firefighters"

The new hook and ladder truck arrived on August 18, 1910, and was housed in V. J. Braun's barn behind the Allendale Hotel. Residents enthusiastically joined the volunteer members in welcoming the borough's first means of fire protection. The truck is in use today, but is looked upon as a relic and will soon be scrapped.

At first the men pulled the truck to fires with ropes. Later, town merchants agreed to lend their teams of horses to haul the trucks. A special harness, hung from the ceiling of the firehouse, could be lowered upon the horses as they backed into position. In this way the truck could be rushed to fires a few seconds after a team arrived. The harness was donated by Dr. Harry M. Archer, honorary medical officer of the New York City Fire Department, who took a keen interest in the young organization.

The association voted in 1912 to pay \$5 to the owner of the first team of horses reaching headquarters after an alarm. This produced considerable rivalry between a lumber company and two grocery stores, and it was common in those days to see the three teams run a close race in pursuit of the \$5 prize.

(to be continued)

Did You Know?

Our Newsletter is sent to members in 18 different states and to Allendale schools, Allendale Mayor & Council, local public libraries, and area historical societies. In addition, subscriptions have been ordered by the New York Public Library, Allen Co. Pub. Library (Indiana), Rutgers University Library, New Jersey Historical Society and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

BUSINESSES IN ALLENDALE

Compiled by Pat Wardell

(Continued from the November 1988 issue)

Some bits and pieces about some of Allendale's businesses—past and present. We know that this list is incomplete and hope that some of our readers can add information.

Lydecker's Mill

Albert Lydecker was said to have built this grist mill, which stood on the Hohokus Brook near the intersection of West Crescent Avenue and Brookside Avenue, about 1880. The mill was said to have been a favorite gathering place for local residents. The pool formed by the mill dam later became the San Jacinto Swim Club. The house still standing near this site is said to be the original Lydecker home, probably built about the same time as the mill.

Prior to Lydecker's ownership, a saw mill may have been operated by J. Smith in this vicinity, as shown on the 1861 Hopkins-Corey Map.

In 1892 Lydecker sold the property and the mill to Edward E. Burtis, after which the business was known as Burtis' Mills.

Mac-Schmidt Nurseries

The Mac-Schmidt Nurseries, specializing in evergreens, was located on Franklin Turnpike in Allendale and was in business in 1929, when it was advertised in an Allendale Players souvenir booklet.

Magnet Grocery Store

The Magnet Grocery Store opened in May 1916. Herbert Winter wrote in his diary that it was located in the Guatelli Building, just west of Keck's. *The Ramsey Journal* reported that it opened for business in one of Dr. Pittis' stores in Allendale. The business was in one of the West Allendale Avenue storefront buildings opposite the Allendale Hotel.

D. Henry Zabriskie was the manager of this store, which was apparently part of a chain. A 1920 advertisement indicated that it was "Associated with 20,000 stores."

Mallinson's Cider Mill

Joseph Henry Mallinson ("Joe Hen") started this business in 1890 on Franklin Turnpike opposite the Archer Hall. The site had previously been used as a paint, wheelwright and blacksmith shop, run by Joseph Mallinson, Henry Mallinson and J.J. Pulis.

A *Ramsey Journal* article in September 1896 described the operation: "Mr. Mallinson has one of the best equipped cider presses in Bergen County. A load of apples is driven up to the mill, shoveled into a chute, from which they fall in buckets attached to an endless chain, which carries them up to the grater. After being reduced to a pulp they descend through a telescopic tube to the press where they are rapidly formed in layers. Layer after layer is put up and then the press is swung around by the screws. This is also run by steam and has three speeds, which run the press down in a few moments. A steam pump then takes the juice to a tank above, where it is strained, and from there runs in the barrels in your wagon by means of a hose. In less than half an hour a load of apples is convert-

ed into cider and is on your wagon ready to take home."

Mallinson Paint, Wheelwright & Blacksmith Shop

Before 1861 the blacksmith and Wagon shop of Henry Mallinson was located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Allendale Avenue and Franklin Turnpike. This property was later bought by O.H.P. Archer for his summer home, and today it is the location of the Church of the Guardian Angel (the large barn is a remnant of Mallinson's business).

After Archer bought the corner property, the business was moved across the intersection to the northwest corner, where the "Joe Hen" Mallinson house stands (this later became Van Houten Realty and is today a Schlott Realty office). Several buildings stood on this property, with the largest being across the Turnpike from Archer Hall. Henry and Joseph Mallinson and J.J. Pulis ran paint, wheelwright and blacksmith shops in these buildings from about 1873 until about 1890, when Joseph Henry Mallinson started his cider mill there.

Mansfield Hotel ("The Allendale House")

In early 1892 Henry J. Mansfield came to Allendale to run this hotel. It is not clear where the hotel was—it may have been the present "Allendale Hotel" building or a previous building on that site, or it may have been a building on the west side of the railroad tracks, long gone.

At any rate, his arrival created quite a stir in the community because he proposed to sell refreshments and applied to Bergen County courts for a license. This resulted in a local petition (with 102 signatures) against the proposal. In rebuttal, Mansfield circulated his own petition and gathered 112 signatures. In September 1892, the liquor license was rejected, and the *Ramsey Journal* reported that "the commuters will continue to carry home bundles which look as if they might contain a pair of corsets or something else."

By December 1892, Mansfield had been granted his license, and some, according to *The Ramsey Journal*, openly mourned the event: "The little tin sign which reads "Hinschliffs Lager" appears to have taken all the charm and romance out of our pleasant little town and a number of good citizens have signified their intention of moving away in the spring. It is said they will locate a Secaucus, that being the only village on the picturesque Erie unpolluted by a gin mill."

Marie en Rose Beauty Salon

This business, at 80 West Allendale Avenue, was advertised in August 1954 in *The Allendale Press*.

Charlie May's General Store

In the 1860s, Charlie May ran a general store near the Sherwood & Tallman Hotel in Allendale. One corner of the store was furnished as a bar, and became a favorite gathering place.

By May 1869 May had sold the store to Mr. Sherwood, of Monsey, N. Y.

McLeod's Department Store

This store, run by the B. McLeod family, opened on West Allendale Avenue in October 1926. In May-June 1929, the business moved to the newly completed John H. Ackerman building and the National Grocery Store moved into the department store's former location. By August

1936 McLeod's Department Store had moved again, into the store formerly occupied by Winter Brothers (who had moved into their new building).

The store sold a variety of merchandise, from mattresses, linoleum, rugs, carpets, bed sheets, window shades, awning made to order, to clothing, including Gotham Hosiery, Arow shirts, BVD underwear and Interwoven socks.

In 1940 the McLeod family moved to Ramsey, where they ran a hardware and linoleum store at 7 Main Street.

Melchionna's Confectionery

In December 1915 Eugene Melchionna took over the proprietorship of a candy and ice cream store near the trolley station in Allendale. Previous proprietors of a confectionery business at this same site had been James E. Webb, Wally Gasparini, George Mensching, and Bert Linkroum. Owners of the business after Melchionna were Samuel Dolsky and Israel Yachnin.

In 1921 Melchionna erected a new building, and the old store building was moved to Myrtle Avenue, where it was used as a residence.

In 1923 Melchionna installed an automatic player piano in his store. *The Ramsey Journal* reported that "with its orchestral attachments, [it] is kept performing continuously popular airs, by customers feeding the new arrival a nickel at a time." Melchionna sold the business about 1931 to Samuel Dolsky.

George Mensching's Confectionery

George Mensching ran this business before Eugene Melchionna (see above). Mensching advertised in a souvenir booklet in 1910: "Geo. Mensching, Stationery, Confectionery, Cigars and Tobacco. Papers delivered at Residence."

C. J. Miskowski, Decorator

C. J. Miskowski ran his interior and exterior decorating business from his 36 Heights Road home. He specialized in painting and paperhanging, and advertised in the 1963-64 *Here's Allendale*.

C.P. Morgan, Plumbing & Heating

C.P. Morgan, an early Allendale plumber, had an office in the newly completed Braun "Flatiron Building" c. 1911.

Mowerson's Dairy

In January 1933, Kenneth Mowerson bought the local retail dairy business from Holyer's. He delivered milk to local homes and continued in this business for more than 20 years.

William D. Mowerson, Painter & Decorator

William D. Mowerson advertised his painting and decorating business in a 1929 souvenir booklet.

Nadler-Kornhoff Realty Co.

Gustave Nadler and William Kornhoff formed this partnership early in the 20th century. They advertised in a 1920 souvenir booklet.

George P. Nimmo, Decorator

George P. Nimmo advertised his interior and exterior decorating business in a 1920 program booklet. He later became sheriff of Bergen County (1925-1927).

Oakley's Candy and Gift shop



El Oakley shown outside his candy and gift shop

Elting Oakley opened his candy and gift shop at 84 West Allendale Avenue on April 3, 1950 and closed September 30, 1968. In January 1987, Mr. Oakley wrote:

"I bought out Jean Cullen's gift shop on West Allendale Avenue in March 1950 and moved to the (then new) Pittis Building. Jean came with me for a few months, then her sister, Anne Webb, worked part time for me for the entire 18 years.

I carried the Hallmark and Norcross line of greeting cards, lamps, jewelry, Westmoreland and Fenton glassware, Corningware, and many other popular gifts. I also made home made chocolates and hard candy. As the chocolates did not have any preservatives, I discontinued them during the summer months. Easter and Valentine's Day were the big holidays."

Elting Oakley was president of the Allendale Chamber of Commerce for seven years, during which time the cherry trees on West Allendale Avenue were planted.

Odo's Fruit and Vegetable Store



Interior, Oakley's Candy and Gift Shop

In October 1929, *The Ramsey Journal* announced: "Jerry Odo, formerly of the Prospect Fruit Market, of Ridgewood, has opened a fruit and vegetable store in the John Ackerman Building. The store is a useful addition to the already large number of stores of the Borough."

(series to be continued)

Allendale Fire Department... Records of Early Calls to Fires (Abstracted)

(continued from the November 1988 issue)

September 27, 1935--5:30 p.m.-3:30 a.m.; Cottage Place; 2 story frame shed; storage and garage; Art Appert, owner & occupant; cause--backfire from truck; loss--total involved; Bldg. full of combustibles, hay, paraffin, gasoline, knock down cases, etc.; alarm not given until fully involved.

October 27, 1935--11 p.m.-1:15 a.m.; Rogers Road; 2 story frame residence; Osias, owner & occupant; cause--unknown; total loss on bldgs.; alarm not given until fully involved; no water available.

October 27, 1935--7:55 p.m.-8 p.m.; Hillside Avenue; Automobile; not needed; no loss.

December 14, 1935--2:45 a.m.-3:40 a.m.; E. Crescent Avenue; Barn & garage; Chas. Lay, owner; cause--part of barn used as smoke-house; slight damage.

December 31, 1935--5 a.m.-8:30 a.m.; High Street; 2-1/2 story frame residence; H. Kahse, owner & occupant; cause--defective chimney into partitions; slight damage.

January 2, 1936--8 a.m.-8:15 a.m.; Homewood Avenue; Automobile; N. Potter, owner; not needed; cause--backfire.

January 14, 1936--8 a.m.-8:15 a.m.; Turnpike; automobile; J. Knack, owner; cause--backfire.

February 20, 1936--11:30 a.m.-11:50 a.m.; Heights Road; automobile; Levy, owner & occupant; cause--backfire; no damage.

February 23, 1936--4 p.m.-6:10 p.m.; Turnpike; barn & buildings; Klaschka, owner & occupant; cause--unknown; Barn destroyed; outbuildings saved, no damage; Delay of notification by owner, attempted to put out himself.

March 23, 1936--2:10 p.m.-2:35 p.m.; East Allendale Avenue; Brush; Al Zabriskie, owner; cause--unknown; no damage; truck stuck in mud, towed out by Central Garage.

March 23, 1936--3:30 p.m.-5 p.m.; E. Crescent Ave.; Brush; M. Arlt, owner; cause--rubbish heap; no damage.

April 19, 1936--10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Ball Park; Brush; Boro, owner & occupant; cause--unknown; no damage.

-April 23, 1936--1:45 p.m.-2:15 p.m.; Crescent Avenue;

Brush; Chas. Webb, owner & occupant; cause--unknown; no damage. Hysterical woman treated by police chief.

April 27, 1936--1:35 p.m.-1:55 p.m.; Powell Road; Grass; H. Heidrick, owner; cause--unknown; no damage; Robt. Turner bitten by dog at fire, treated by firemen.

May 1, 1936--11:30 a.m.-12 noon; Midwood Ave.; Brush; Development Co., owner; cause--unknown; no damage.

May 11, 1936--7:05 p.m.-7:20 p.m.; Cottage Place; Brush; G. Archer; cause--unknown; no damage.

May 30, 1936--12:10 p.m.-1:05 p.m.; Crescent & Myrtle; Brush; Mrs. Lutz, owner; cause--unknown; no loss.

June 3, 1936--7:15 p.m.-8:45 p.m.; Hillside Avenue; Water Tower; C. Darrow, owner & occupant; cause--lightning; \$100 loss on bldgs; owner insured.

July 9, 1936--4:25 a.m.-4:50 a.m.; Crescent Avenue; Truck; Paterson owner; cause--short circuit; \$250 damage; owner sent alarm by passing motorist.

July 10, 1936--9:55 p.m.-10:50 p.m.; Turnpike; Brush; Homewood Ave.; cause--unknown; no loss.

July 17, 1936--8:20 a.m.-8:40 a.m.; Orchard Street; Brush; Kornhoff, owner; cause--RR; no loss.

August 3, 1936--4:30 p.m.-8:15 p.m.; Upper Saddle River; House & Barns; Wetzell, owner; Called by Saddle River Chief for assistance.

August 18, 1936--3 a.m.-3:45 a.m.; Turnpike; automobile; Schoenheiter, owner; cause--short circuit; \$25. damage.

September 28, 1936--10:40 p.m.-11:10 p.m.; Allen Street; House chimney; R.J. Christopher, owner; cause--wood burning; no loss.

September 30, 1936--11:20 a.m.-11:40 a.m.; Turnpike; Auto; Varey, owner; cause--backfire; \$10. damage.

November 16, 1936--4:30 a.m.-5:30 a.m.; Turnpike; auto; Mrs. Osias, owner; cause--short circuit; \$300. damage.

November 16, 1936--2 p.m.-2:15 p.m.; Turnpike; Brush; Mr. Higgins; cause--R.R.; no loss.

November 17, 1936--7 p.m.-8:10 p.m.; E. Allendale Ave.; Tool House; Unser, owner; cause--unknown; \$10. damage.

(series to be continued)

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

Annual Membership Dues: \$5.00 for membership from May through the following April.

The newsletter, **Allendale History and Heritage**, is published 4 times a year in September, November, February, and April, and mailed to members of the Allendale Historical Society. General meetings of the Society are held at the Allendale Municipal Building on W. Crescent Avenue the first Monday of October, December, March and May at 8:00 p.m.