

Lake San Jacinto, Allendale, N. J.



"Small building to right is Simpson's Meat Market." ----Violet W. Straussman.

This picture probably dates from about 1905-1910. The postcard was printed in German for "J. H. Ackerman, Allendale, N.J." and was sold in Ackerman's General Store. This is the view you would have seen in 1905-1910 if you had been standing on the northeast side of the railroad tracks (in what is today the commuter's parking lot) and looking at the back of the hotel. The meat market shown on the right in the photograph stands on the site of today's Allendale Florist Shop. The perspective in the picture is slightly misleading: between the butcher shop and the front of the hotel lies a road--West Allendale Avenue.

Early butchers in Allendale included Bogert Westervelt (1873), A. Sherwood (1872-73), and William Dewar (1894). Theodore Price operated a traveling meat market in the early 1900's, but perhaps the first of Allendale's traveling butchers was Hopper Yeomans, who was operating a butcher route (also carrying vegetables) through this area as early as 1881. Probably about 1885 Yeomans established his butcher business in a building in the vicinity of Myrtle Avenue. By April 1894 he had bought out the business of William Dewar and was operating his butcher business from the meat market shown in the postcard view.

Probably sometime around 1905 Hopper Yeomans sold his butcher business to James E. Simpson, who continued to operate the meat market in the small store shown in the picture for another 10 years or so. About 1914-1915 Simpson moved his business to another store further east on West Allendale Avenue and Louis Guatelli built Allendale's first drug store on the site of the old meat market shown on the post card. Guatelli opened his drug store on August 30, 1915 and operated it until 1922 when Walter Temperlyn took over the business. Temperlyn ran the business until 1957 when Nick DiGruttilla and his wife, Betty, bought out the business. The DiGruttillas ran their pharmacy from the old Guatelli Building until about 1963-64 when they opened in their new location in the A & P Shopping Center. Today the old Guatelli Building houses the Allendale Florist.

----Patricia A. Wardell