



"Looking toward town center. The baseball diamond and municipal park are to the right." ----Violet W. Straussman.

This picture, dating from about 1910, shows the view seen looking east on West Allendale Avenue from the eastern end of what later became Allendale's Recreation Park.

The house shown on the left of the picture was probably originally the home of John Van Houten and was probably built in the late 1700's or early 1800's. John Van Houten was born 30 January 1763 and married in 1794 Margaret Nickler. It is said that within a few years of their marriage they settled in this house. John and Margaret Nickler Van Houten had two children: Margaret, who married John Lawbaugh (their daughter, Ann Eliza Lawbaugh later married Joseph Mallinson); and Paul, who married Rebecca Demarest in 1835.

Upon his marriage, in 1835, Paul built the house shown on the right of the picture, across the street from his father's homestead. In 1855, Paul and Rebecca's daughter Margaret married John L. Yeomans, and by 1867 they too were living in this house. Paul Van Houten died in 1870. At the time of the 1880 Federal Census, his widow, Rebecca, was listed as living with her daughter and son-in-law, John L. and Margaret Van Houten Yeomans. This house (at 209 West Allendale Avenue) remained in the Yeomans family until 1955, when it was purchased and renovated by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Beyer..

-----Patricia A. Wardell