

MANUSCRIPT OF CHARLES DEMARCO, JR.

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LIVINGSTON: A HISTORY WORTH REMEMBERING

by

CHARLES W. DeMARCO, JR.

PREFACE

When a person from out-of-state asks "Where do you come from?", I reply proudly, "Livingston, New Jersey," Then I am usually met with a second inquiry: "Where is that?"

As a twenty year resident of Livingston, I am proud to answer these questions, and pleased to have the opportunity to share with you some of the information that I have collected about Livingston over the past fifteen years.

My research for each piece of information concerning the Township of Livingston has taken me to academic institutions, archives and libraries, both public and private, from Maine to Virginia. I have searched dusty attics and barns, trampled through cemeteries, woods and swamps in order to accurately document Livingston's history.

Many people over the years have been curious as to how my active interest in local history developed. It began not long after my family moved to Livingston in 1965. My parents had purchased a new house on what was once the old Ashby farm just west of Livingston Center. I became friendly with one of our neighbors, Mrs. Mildred Ashby Vinson, whose father had developed our street. I would sit for hours on her front porch, listening to her talk about old times, about the Ashby family and farm, and the different events that occurred in Livingston's past.

Three other circumstances helped to encourage my interest in

Livingston's past. The first was that my parents' property abutted the old Teedtown cemetery. As a boy I would climb the fence from our property into the cemetery and read the various names listed on the tombstones, comparing those names to the names of buildings or streets in the township.

The second was when our next door neighbor, Edward Conklin dug up an Indian arrowhead in his yard and gave it to my parents. My mother, who had an artistic flair painted an Indian incorporating the arrowhead within it. This stimulated my interest in the Indians of the area, a subject about which I have been hooked ever since.

The third event occurred in high school in 1975. The class was required to write a term paper on a topic of American history prior to the Civil War. I chose to write about Livingston and thus began my research on the community. My teacher, Mrs. Leonore Freedman was extremely helpful in guiding my study.

During the Bicentennial in 1976, the Livingston Historical Society approached me to speak on Teedtown at their February meeting. I remember my excitement as I spoke to the respected members of our community about the town. The encouragement given me that evening, was the beginning of my dream to write this book.

Over the next four years, I began to research the history of Livingston in earnest. I lectured on the subject to local civic groups and to the students in the school system. In 1980, I was approached by the Editor of the West Essex Tribune, our town paper, about writing a series of articles on some old post cards of Livingston. The series, which ran for about four

years helped to increase my knowledge of Livingston's history.

In 1984, in preparation for the 175th anniversary of Livingston, I began to outline and write the draft for this book. My goal was to up-date the history of Livingston. With the help of the Livingston Township Council, that goal has become a reality.

I take great pride in presenting to you "Livingston: A History Worth Remembering." As with any publication I am sure that there are things that have been left out. I hope you will find this to be an interesting and informative story.

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DEDICATED TO THE RESIDENTS OF LIVINGSTON
PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

BIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES DeMARCO JR.

Charles W. DeMarco, Jr. has been researching and writing the history of the Township of Livingston since the early 1970's. Born in Belleville, New Jersey in 1959, he resided in the City of Newark until 1965, when he moved with his parents to Livingston.

Chuck has been quite active in many community organizations. He was Vice-President of the Livingston Historical Society; on the Board of Directors of the Morris Museum of Arts and Sciences; a member of the New Jersey Historical Society and a member of their Genealogy Club.

In 1980, Chuck was appointed to the staff of the Essex County Executive, Peter Shapiro. Chuck was the first Archivist, Historian and Records Manager in the 300 year history of Essex County. In this capacity, Chuck has been credited with several important historical finds.

In 1980, Chuck began to write a local history column entitled "Our Town...Historic Livingston" for the West Essex Tribune. Chuck wrote over 100 articles, and was the first person to publish a comprehensive genealogy of Governor Thomas Kean.

Presently, Chuck is Director of Research at the Greater Newark Chamber of Commerce as well as head of the Chamber's

Research Company.

In honor of the 175th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Township of Livingston, Chuck took up pad and pencil and began writing Livingston: A History Worth Remembering.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many people over the years have encouraged me in my quest for information about this township I call home. They have helped to make this book a reality. First, there are my parents, Charles and Carol DeMarco, who for endured my collecting of material on Livingston. They were a great source of encouragement and helped to foster my love of history. Thanks Mom and Dad for your input.

Second, there are Edward and Joan Conklin, my next door neighbors. Ed's family has lived in Livingston for over two hundred years. Ed encouraged my research in Livingston and he also gave me my first Livingston postcard. My sincere thanks to Dr. Joan Conklin, for taking the time to do the final edits of the book.

Third, my good friend Joseph Manning, who not only helped me gather some of the research material, but also spent countless hours listening to me read each chapter over and over again for completeness. Joe, my many thanks.

Fourth, I want to thank the Livingston Township Council: Mayor William Shaunessy, Councilmen Thomas Adams, Robert Leopold, Michael Schlossberg and David Wildstein for having the faith in me to write this book. Your comments and assistance were helpful and greatly appreciated.

My thanks to the entire staff of the Livingston Public Library, especially Director Lila Jane Roberts and reference librarians Arlene

Boland, Anne Shaw, Phyllis Richardson, Bessie Deering, Doris Adamus, and Alice Min, thanks for putting up with my craziness and monopolizing the reader-printer. Thanks too, for all the assistance you have given me in researching this history.

Thanks to Michael Vernaglia, for all the encouragement and support to complete this book and for designing a spectacular book cover. Thanks to Sharon Sullivan, for help with the photography in the book and to Jane Reiner, for input, criticism and guidance in the production of the book.

Thanks to Township Manager Charles Tahaney and Assistant Manager Russell Jones for assistance in getting the book to print and for reading the manuscript and making helpful suggestions.

Thanks to Carol Zbuska who spent endless days riding throughout the township photographically recording the changes that were occurring in the town. Thank you for your help and encouragement over the years.

Thanks to my dear friends, Frank Arcoleo, Deborah P. Arcoleo, Herb Rosenbluth, Hannah Simon, Duane and Kathy Turk, Tama and Joel Allen for your kind thoughts and words and for your encouragement as I wrote this book.

My sincere thanks to Dr. Guy McCombs for spending countless hours reading and editing the manuscript. Thank you for your input and for helping me achieve this important goal.

To my many friends, relatives and neighbors go my many thanks for your

CHAPTER 1

THE EARLY YEARS

1660 - 1760

Prior to the 1660's, the only people living in the region known today as Livingston were the Lenni Lenape Indians. This group of Indians, part of the Delaware tribe, was a peaceful people. They did not believe in war nor in the ownership of land; they were primarily nomadic. One wonders what they must have thought about the "white man," and his attempts to purchase their lands.

The history of Livingston actually begins with the history of New Jersey. Since this history is so important to the founding of Livingston, it is presented here in detail. And so it begins in 1664 when King Charles II bestowed upon his brother James, Duke of York, all the lands between the Connecticut River and the eastern side of the Delaware Bay. In June of that same year, the Duke of York conveyed to Lord John Berkeley and Sir James Carteret all the rights and title to Nova Caesaria, the land we know today as New Jersey.

In August of 1664, Philip Carteret, fourth cousin of Sir George Carteret established a settlement off Staten Island Sound, naming it Elizabeth Towne, in honor of Elizabeth Carteret, Sir George's wife. Not long after Elizabeth Towne was settled, Carteret sent agents into the other New England colonies looking for families to settle in the area. His description of the area interested the Puritans of Branford and Milford, Connecticut. They dispatched Captain Robert Treat and John Gregory to

investigate the colony.

Treat and Gregory explored the area known as the "Pesayak River and Towne." The town referred to was a Hackinsack (sic) Indian village. Impressed with what they saw, they returned to Connecticut, to convince their congregations to relocate. In May of 1666, two ships left Connecticut bound for the colony of New Jersey.

What a truly magnificent sight it must have been when these settlers first viewed New Jersey, a virgin territory of rolling hills and mountains, majestic forests of oak, pine, maple and birch, fields of wheat and oats, and forests filled with game. To these early settlers, New Jersey may have seemed like the Garden of Eden. It was in this paradise, at the mouth of the Passaic River, that they decided to make their home.

Landing on the banks of the "Pesayak," the colonists were met by several Indian chiefs. After an all day meeting, the Indians agreed to "sell" the land to these settlers although the final bill of sale was officially executed July 11, 1667. The tract of land bought by the settlers comprised most of what is today Essex County. For this land the settlers paid in the following goods which would today approximate \$700:

"..Fifty double hands (as much as hands together could hold) of (gun) powder, 100 bars of lead, 20 axes, 20 coats, 10 guns, 20 pistols, 10 kettles, 10 swords, four blankets, four barrels of beer, 10 pairs of breeches, 50 knives, 20 hoes, 850 fathoms of wampum, 20 ankers (anker equals 10 wine gallons) of liquor and 10 trooper coats."¹

The land involved consisted of 40,000 acres bounded by the Passaic River, Newark Bay, and the Watchung Mountains. The new town on the "Pesayak" was first named New Milford, but within a year was changed to

"New Ark." The name was chosen to honor Reverend Abraham Pierson's former home in England. Other sources indicate the name meant "New Work", signifying new spiritual ventures.²

In 1678, not more than a dozen years after the original land acquisition, a group of settlers decided to purchase another tract from the Indians in their hunting grounds, the Watchung Mountains. The price agreed upon was "fifty guns, twenty coats, fifty knives and thirteen cases of rum."³

At the same time the English government was taking form in the colony of New Jersey. In 1668, Sir George Carteret ordered the convocation of the first Provincial General Assembly for "making and constituting such wholesome lawes (sic) as shall be most needful and necessary."⁴

On July 1, 1676, the quintipartite deed (five deeds in one) was executed among the proprietors of New Jersey. East Jersey went to Carteret and West Jersey to Edward Billings, William Penn and others forming two separate colonies. In 1679/80, Sir George Carteret died and by the terms of his will, the province of East Jersey was to be sold to pay any debts.*

In February of 1681/82, East Jersey was sold to William Penn and eleven associates, thus creating the first Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey.

* The reason for the two years is as follows: Prior to September 14, 1752, the colonies were using the Julian calendar. Under this calendar, the new year began on March 25th and the year ended on March 24th. When it was decided to change to the Gregorian calendar, the new year then began on January 1st. Hence when a date is shown like 1679/80, it means that under

the old calendar the year was 1679, but in reality it was 1680. This applies only to those dates that fall between January 1st and March 24th.

One of the first acts recorded in the minutes of the Provincial Assembly was the creation of four counties on March 1, 1682/83. This ancient document which has survived to date reads:

Having taken into serious consideration the necessity of dividing the Province into respective counties for the better governing and settling (sic) of Courts in the same, Bee it enacted by this General Assembly and the authority thereof that this Province be divided into four counties as followeth...

Essex and the County thereof to contain all the settlements between the west side of the Hackinsack (sic) River and the parting line between Woodbridge and Elizabethtown and to extend westward and northward to the utmost bounds of the Province.⁵

With the action taken by that Assembly, the Counties of Essex, Bergen, Middlesex and Monmouth were formed. At that time Essex County comprised all of present day Essex, Union, and Passaic counties, parts of Hudson, Bergen, Somerset, Morris and Sussex counties and the southern portion of Rockland, Orange and Sullivan counties in New York.

In those early days, there was no separation of Church and State, and Essex County was built on Puritan ideals, with strict rules governing both social and family life. Only landowners who were members of the Church were permitted to vote or hold office. Taxes were assessed on men, children and servants, but not on women, since it was felt they had no monetary value.

The October 2nd minutes of the township of Newark, 1699, report that a group of residents agreed to form a committee to purchase "land lying westward of our bounds to the south branch of the Passaic River."⁶ By March

of 1701, the settlers made the additional purchase of a tract of land west of the Watchung Mountains from the Indians for 130L, (English Pounds Sterling). A description of the property reads:

A certain tract of Land situate in the County of Essex. Between the Top of the first mountain so called and Passaic River. Beginning at the Mouth of Pine Brook so called excepting a small tract lying by said river granted before to Mr. Theophilus Pierson as per deed may appear and down said Path unto Osborn's land and along his line to Newark line on the Mountain and northerly along said Mountain unto a place called Flat Notch by Gardners land and a white oak tree marked on four sides and thence northwest unto the Dutch line so called⁷ and along said line to the place, Where it began.

The shape of the parcel resembled that of a horse's neck, and so it was called the Horseneck Tract. This tract encompassed the present day townships of Caldwell, Roseland, Fairfield, West Caldwell, Essex Fells, Short Hills, Millburn, North Caldwell, and Livingston.

Some of the people living in the Town of Newark were becoming discontent with the constraints placed on their activities by the Church, so they decided to move northward and westward out of the bounds of Newark to establish their farms. The land on which these people finally made their homes, was uninhabited except by a few scattered Indian groups and an abundance of wildlife. Bear, wolf, raccoon, deer, beaver and bobcat were found roaming the woods. The pioneers had to traverse difficult Indian trails that ran through the Watchung Mountains. The most famous of these trails was known as the Minisink. It started on the upper Delaware River near Minisink Island, ran through Newton, Millburn, Westfield, Metuchen, crossed the Raritan River below New Brunswick and continued on through Matawan to the shore.⁸ Some of the pioneers settled in the hollow between the Second Watchung mountain and a promontory known as Canoe Hill (Riker

Hill today). As far as what is currently known, no formal settlement was established. The area was known by many names including Canoe Brook, Canoe Brook Swamp, and the Newark Mountains. The name Canoe Brook is derived from the major stream that flows through the area.

As legend has it, Canoe Brook was so named because the Lenni Lenape Indians went there to build their canoes. All along the banks of Canoe Brook grew ash, chestnut and birch trees in abundance. The frames were built and then covered with the bark of these trees. When the canoes were finished, the Indians would float them down the brook to the Passaic River.

In 1702/03, the East Jersey Board of Proprietors claimed title to the Horseneck Tract. The Board believed the tract to be their land because of the title given from King Charles II, through his brother the Duke of York, to Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. In that same year, after several requests from the colonists for a new governor, Queen Anne commissioned her cousin, Lord Cornbury, as governor of both East and West Jersey. The Queen then notified the Proprietors that she as Queen, not the Proprietors, had the right to govern the people. The Proprietors were forced to surrender their right to govern the lands of New Jersey. They were, however, allowed to retain their right to own and dispose of the land.

The new governor, Lord Cornbury, not completely satisfied with the voluntary surrender of the government by the Proprietors, forced an act through the Provincial Legislature nullifying all purchases made by the settlers from the Indians. Siding with the Proprietors, he invalidated all Indian purchases. This act, known as the "Long Bill," also declared all future land sales from the Indians to be invalid. The act also required a

payment of 40 schillings for each acre purchased from the Indians and not from the Proprietors. This payment was known as a quit-rent.

The Proprietors then began to divide and sell the tracts of land to speculators, ignoring those people who were already living or working the land. A complete accounting for the properties in present day Livingston is lacking because many of the early deeds no longer exist but those that have survived cover a vast region of the present day township.

The earliest known existing conveyance is that of Theophilus Pierson, who purchased a large tract from the Indians on August 15, 1700. For several reasons, this document is of great importance in tracing the history of Livingston. First, it is the earliest known land transaction. Second, it is the first Indian land transaction for the Livingston area. Third, it shows that, as early as 1700, the area was known as Canoe Brook Swamp. A portion of this historic document reads:

Know all men by these presents that we Mantzehena, Awerneno, Carahhsan, natives and sole proprietors of a certain tract of upland and meadow hereafter capraised (sic) for the love, good will and affection which we have and bear towards our loving friend, Mr. Theophilus Pierson of Newark, in the Province of East Jersey, have given, granted and by these presents do freely, fully, and absolutely grant, give unto said Theophilus Pierson, his heirs and assigns a certain tract of upland and meadow being situate and lying near the path which leads to Menussen upon the north side of Cannoe (sic) Brook Swamp and on the east side of the south branch of Passaig (sic) River...⁹

Over the next forty five years, few parcels of property were actually sold in the area known as Livingston. Those that were sold were purchased by speculators who then sold them to actual settlers. It appears that there was only a handful of people who actually lived in the area prior to the 1740's.

On June 10, 1701, Sir Robert Gordon purchased from the Proprietors 1,500 acres in the southwestern section of present day Livingston. Twenty years later, approximately 105 acres were sold by the Proprietors to Newark land speculator, John Johnson. Mr. Johnson's plot lay in the eastern part of the present township, on the north side of the Colonial Road (Mount Pleasant Avenue), and extended from a point about 120 feet east of Canoe Brook to the intersection of North Livingston and Mount Pleasant Avenues. It is believed that Mr. Johnson was the first land owner to actually settle in this area.

In 1722, John Burnet purchased from Proprietors Josiah Ogden and James Alexander, one hundred acres of land just west of the Johnson tract. It was described as being "on a brook by the name of Canoe Brook between the Mountains that are west from Newark and the Passaic River."¹⁰ This property was also on the north side of the Colonial Road and west of present day North Livingston Avenue. His "plantation" embraced the property where the Federated Church now stands, and extended westward to about Hillside Avenue. There is no evidence of land purchased in other than the northern area of the township, although, the will of Thomas Nicholson (October 1740) mentions a tract purchased from William Robinson some years before.

In 1741, a major tract was granted directly from King George II to Mr. John Stiles. His tract of land, which was over 1,500 acres, was in the southern section of our township. Stiles subdivided his tract into 100 acre lots and sold them under the name "Canoe Brook Lotts." In that same year Timothy Meeker purchased two tracts of land just east of Stiles'

property. Meeker's purchase totalled over 300 acres. The following year he increased the acreage by purchasing one of the 100 acre lots from John Stiles.

In 1744, two East Jersey Proprietors, Andrew and Lewis Johnson of Perth Amboy, sold to Nathaniel Camp and Jonathan Squire, "Yomen," (sic) 782 acres of land adjacent to the Passaic River in the area between the Colonial Road and the Minisink Trail. The price paid was 391L.

Finally, in 1745, Michael Kearney (an ancestor of Civil War General, Philip Kearney) purchased a large tract of land in the northern section of the township adjoining the Burnet tract. Kearney was the holder of several political offices, the highest being the secretaryship of the Province of East Jersey. In his third marriage, he was wed to Sarah, a daughter of Governor Lewis Morris, for whom Morris County is named. His plot of land was a huge rectangle that adjoined the Burnet tract on three sides, the north, east and west, extending from the top of Canoe Hill eastward to Canoe Brook.

No doubt there were other conveyances of land in the area we know as Livingston, but those deeds no longer exist. For example, there is a reference to William Rockhead who owned a large tract of land in the southern section of town. The will of Caleb Ward, dated September 1, 1746, begins " I Caleb Ward of Canoe Brook." This tells us that he too, was an early settler in the area. A Mr. Jonathan Hampton is also mentioned in several early deeds. Unfortunately, no record of their deeds can be found.

On March 7, 1744/45, a fire destroyed the dwelling of Jonathan Pierson,

who had in his possession the original Indian deed for the purchase of the Horseneck tract. With the deed destroyed, the settlers were now without proof that they had in fact purchased this land from the Indians. The settlers decided to execute another deed as similar to the original as possible so that they were legally able to sell their property in the future. This new deed points out the fate of its predecessor.

...a certain tract of land situated in the County of Essex. Between the top of the First Mountain so called and Passaic River...which deed was lost by fire in the house of Mr. Jonathan Pierson of Newark, Providently burnt the seventh day of March 1744/45 and bore the date of sometime in March: A.D. 1701/02.¹¹

After the new deed was executed, it was submitted to the Surveyor General's Office of the Board of Proprietors to be entered into the deed books. It seems that once word got out that the settlers no longer had the proof that they owned the land in the Horseneck tract, the Proprietors decided to evict all those settlers who would not pay to them quit-rents. The quit-rents totaled more than 40,000 pounds, an amount far more than the settlers could pay.

The Proprietors then proceeded to seek from the Provincial Supreme Court the following document:

Sundry Proprietors, so called in the years 1743/44 made a survey of unimproved lands in the County of Essex, included a great number of improvements and settled plantations in Van Gesin and Horseneck Areas. They then proceeded to sell some of these lands and offered the rest for sale, serving ejectment notices on the settlers and threatening to dispose one and all who would not yield their right and comply with their reasonable demands, add moreover, to make all persons in said County and Country, who had patents, etc. pay to them¹² quit-rents to value of 30,000 to 40,000 pounds.

The settlers in February of 1744, formed a committee to act for them in the

negotiations with the Proprietors. They agreed that if they did not like the results of the negotiations, they would take their case to England and place it before the King. On March 27, 1745, the committee met with Mr. Ogden, who was one of the Proprietors dealing with the Horseneck area. Mr. Ogden said he would explain the committee's concerns to the rest of the Board and transmit the rest of the information back to London. An answer would be forthcoming within eighteen months.

On September 19, 1745, Samuel Baldwin (whose relatives lived in Livingston) was arrested and imprisoned for cutting timber illegally. Baldwin, one of the most vocal members of the committee negotiating with the Proprietors contended he had purchased the land from the Indians and therefore had the right to cut the timber. On hearing of Baldwin's imprisonment, Timothy Meeker (a Livingston resident) and cousin of Baldwin, got together about one hundred men armed with staves, clubs, axes and iron crowbars, marched down to the jail on Broad Street in Newark and freed Baldwin.

Baldwin was triumphantly escorted back to his home by his liberators. Timothy Meeker's name headed the "List of Rioters in Essex County Returned upon a Record of View."¹³ The list included other names of people associated with the history of Livingston including the Balls, Baldwins, Harrisons and Williams. Other arrests followed, and again the mobs released the accused in a series of incidents known as the Horseneck Riots. The militant residents of the area that would eventually become Livingston would simply not comply with the mandates of the Proprietors. Thus, thirty two years before the American Revolution, we see evidence that the King had lost all power over these particular settlers.

Governor Jonathan Belcher, the presiding governor at the time of the riots, in writing to the King, stated:

I believe from the aforementioned statement of facts, it fully appears that his Province is in a state of entire disobedience to all Authority of Government and Law attended with circumstance which manifest a disproportion to revolt from their dependence on the Crown of Great Britain.¹⁴

Sometimes the incidents were quite vicious. The settlers in this area not only scorned the Crown, but also anyone who supported the British cause and they suffered discrimination in return. One settler, John Burnet, was evicted from his 200 acre farm because he was a relative of the colonial governor, William Burnet, and because he (John) sided with the Proprietors. Another more vicious incident occurred in 1749. Abraham Phillips bought land from the Proprietors and began to farm it even though another family, the Archers, had cleared it and were using it for farming.

In his deposition before the Supreme Court, Phillips stated that:

...on the 9th of November....a number of people named, whereof one had a gun, did come to his dwelling house....and violently threatened to destroy him and broke down several of his fences and improvements before his face; whereupon the said Abraham Phillips, with his aged mother departed from his house for fear of their lives, and went to other houses about two miles off, and when they departed, he....locked the door of his house, that he returned...and found a great part of the roof on his house pulled off, the door broke open and carried away, his hogs gone, and a stack of oats, cornstalks, and flax....burned.¹⁵

Phillips felt that this was done in retaliation because he had refused to join the rioters and had purchased his land from the Proprietors.

Under the leadership of Alexander MacWhorter, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Newark, hostility towards the mother country

swelled. The riots eventually spread throughout the colony and to other colonies as well. Unfortunately, the matter would not be settled for many years.

The resentment toward the King and the Proprietors did abate when the French and Indian War broke out in 1754. By 1756, there seems to have been enough people of positive sentiment living in the area for William Ely, a captain in the British Army, to attempt to recruit for the war.

An interesting accounting of Ely's efforts in recruitment provides an opportunity to see the emergence of local folklore. According to the information gleaned from the "Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely," the following incident took place:

He (Captain Ely) enrolled many young men of this vicinity for duty in Canada against the French, one of their number being the witch's son (this witch and her son lived on Riker Hill, not far from Captain Ely). The departure of this ne'er-do-well was regarded with satisfaction by Captain Ely, who probably welcomed the opportunity to rid the neighborhood of an undesirable citizen, but the witch was highly incensed against him for recruiting her boy and, according to the story, planned revenge. A short time afterward, one of the Captain's cows was found dead in the woods, and when the carcass was skinned the print of a human foot was discerned upon the inside of the hide, which was considered possible proof that the animal had been slain by witchcraft.¹⁶

The crowd that gathered to examine the evidence immediately sought to blame the supposed witch, but she had vanished. As the story goes, she followed her son to Canada.

Many of the other settlers of the area have documented activities in the French and Indian War. Jonathan Squier, who settled here in 1744, was commissioned by Captain Ely to transport men to Albany, New York, where the

men assembled for a march on the City of Quebec. An unreceipted bill for the journey reads:

King George, Detter
to Jonathan Squier

March 1756

to expense at my one (own) house	3-0-0
on the way to the point east	2-0-0
at camps	0-3-0
ferrying over my men	1-0-0
At Mr. Caights, New York	3-0-0
paid passage to Albany	0-16-0

	9-19-0* 17

* Pounds, schillings and pence

Both King George and his grandson defaulted payment of the bill. One could speculate that this was one of the reasons, Squier's two sons joined the Continental Army to fight against the King.

The Squier sons may not have been the only ones who resented actions of the Proprietors. Several members of the Baldwin family, had similar experiences. The first member of the Baldwin family to settle in Livingston was Joseph who was a cousin of Samuel of Horseneck Riot notoriety. Joseph's nephew, Captain Enos Baldwin, received a coat-of-arms from King George II for his service in the French and Indian War. Even though Enos received this special recognition, it is reported that he could not forget the trouble his family had with the Proprietors in 1745. Therefore, he volunteered to serve at the outbreak of the American Revolution.

Not only were the winds of war brewing, but so too the natural elements. The record of the first recorded weather related incident in the

Livingston area appeared in the New York Mercury in 1756. The article reads:

The Gust of Wind that was felt in Philadelphia the 22nd ult. as inserted in out last, being the same in which Capt. Ball suffered, was felt in a very severe Manner, about 4 o'clock in the Afternoon, of the same day, at Newark Mountains, in New Jersey, where the Orchards, Fences, Corn fields and Wood land, for about a mile and a half in length, are entirely ruined, many large trees broke down, and carried to an incredible distance from the Place where they stood. Houses and barns to the amount of 25 are quite blown away, amongst which were the following, viz: Samuel Pierson's Barn and Mill House, Justice Crane's Barn and Part of his house, Capt. Amos Harrison's house and barn, and a new house belonging to one Dodd, almost finished was entirely blown away and a barrel of wool, that happened to be in one of the Chambers, was carried above a Quarter of a mile off, and three days after found in a Swamp.¹⁸

Was the turbulence of the weather an omen of the turbulent times to come?

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 1

¹Folsom, Joseph F., The Municipalities of Essex County, New Jersey, -1666 - 1924, (New York, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1925), p.32.

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³Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.6.

⁴Leaming, Aaron; Spicer, Jacob, The Grants, Concessions and Original Constitutions of the Province of New Jersey, (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, William Bradford, 1758), p.77.

⁵Ibid., p.229.

⁶New Jersey Historical Society, Records of the Town of Newark, (Newark, New Jersey, Daily Advertizer Company, 1864), p.114.

⁷New Jersey Historical Society, Manuscript Collection, Manuscript #219.

⁸McCormick, Richard P., New Jersey from Colony to State, (Princeton, New Jersey, Van Nostrand Company, 1964), p.8.

⁹Trenton, New Jersey, State Archives, East Jersey Deeds: Indians to T. Pierson, August 15, 1700, Liber - O, p.151.

¹⁰Trenton, New Jersey, State Archives, East Jersey Deeds: Burnet to Ogden, May 25, 1722, Liber - C2, p.389.

¹¹New Jersey Historical Society, Manuscript Collection, Manuscript #219.

¹²Work Progress Administration, op.cit., p. 10.

¹³Ibid., p.12.

¹⁴New Jersey Historical Society, Manuscript Collection : Paris Papers, Volume V, p.21.

¹⁵Ibid., Volume T, February 14, 1749/50

¹⁶Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.61.

¹⁷Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.43.

¹⁸New York Mercury, July 5, 1756.

support, encouragement and kind words. They made this book a reality.

Lastly, to my younger brother, Thomas Karl DeMarco, my thanks for all the kind words and encouragement that you have provided while the book was in preparation. Again, thank you T.K. for understanding.

CHAPTER 2

TURBULENT TIMES

1760 - 1812

During the last half of the 18th century, the area we know today as Livingston began to take form. The early pioneers who first crossed the Watchung Mountain range were probably involved with the logging industry, a natural offshoot of the need to clear the land for farms. The lumber was shipped to the older settlements for use as fuel, furniture and the construction of buildings and seafaring vessels.

The early settlers found nearly all the means for their frugal existence in the wilderness. Beside the lumber that was used to build their homes, nutritional and cosmetic and medicinal resources were available to them. There were hickory nuts, berries, venison and fish for food. The large, fuzzy leaves of the giant mulleins were used as a beauty aid by the early Canoe Brook women. When rubbed on their cheeks they imparted the same pink glow as rouge. For medicinal aid there were herbs for teas and the wild mustard plant for poultices and plasters.

Sawmills soon dotted the course of Canoe Brook and, before long, one-and-one-half story clapboard dwellings began to replace crudely built log cabins. In the New Jersey Journal of September 2, 1762, the following advertisement appeared:

TO BE SOLD, BY

THEOPHILUS WARD

of CANOE BROOK, in ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

A tract of land and meadow, containing 225 acres, a good house, an Orchard of 100 good apple trees and an nursery of 300 trees; 100 peach trees and 30 acres in good fence and cleared, part of which is for mowing; a good stream through said farm, with a good Saw-mill; three quarters of said mill belongs to said farm; whoever purchases said farm, shall have a good warranted deed; whoever has a mind to purchase said farm may apply to Theophilus Ward, living on said premises.¹

In 1771, Henry W. Wade began construction on what would be considered Livingston's first clapboard dwelling. According to tradition, Henry owned a sawmill and ran it seven days and nights during the spring flood to cut the timber to construct his home.²

As the first roads traversed the mountains, more and more families settled in the area. In 1768, for example, Jonathan Hampton sold to Robert Leake several tracts of land in Canoe Brook on both sides of the Colonial road. During this period, many roads were constructed and between 1762 and 1775, over seventeen roads were approved for construction. These roads were not known by actual street names like today, but by their destination. For example "Road from Timothy Meekers to Canoe Brook," "Road from Epaphras Cooks to Hanover," or "Road from Henry Wades to the Road to Morris County."

The area known as Canoe Brook was slowly developing into individual hamlets or villages as more and more people moved into the area. One of the focal points of these early hamlets was the village inn or tavern. In this, Livingston was no different then any of the other communities of the area. The early records of our community make reference to Daniel Taylor,

Manning Force and Obadiah Smith applying for licenses to run a tavern in Canoe Brook prior to the American Revolution. This contradicts other records that state that in 1765, William Ely, Jr. is supposed to have constructed the first tavern in Canoe Brook at the corner of the Colonial road (Mount Pleasant Avenue) and Canoe Brook Road (South Livingston Avenue). The first record of William Ely, Jr. applying to run a tavern occurs in 1784. It is possible that Ely converted his house, which was thought to have been built in 1765, into a tavern in 1784.

Just prior to the outbreak of the American Revolution, the number of families that actually settled in the area we know as Livingston had increased dramatically. In 1773, Robert McChesney and his wife, Mary Ann, purchased "Cannue Brook Lott #8"³ near the present intersection of South Orange Avenue and Old Short Hills Road.

Robert McChesney was a weaver who had come from Ireland in the 1760's. Not knowing much about farming, nor much about the area, he still decided to make his home here rather than in the established town of Newark. These early settlers knew very little about the area in which they settled. According to Lillias Collins Cook, one day McChesney became interested in a little black animal with a long white stripe on his back. He proceeded to try and "pet" the little creature. Almost immediately, and to his chagrin, he increased his knowledge about one of the local animals of the area, the skunk.⁴

At the outset of the American Revolution, after almost thirty years the settlers of Canoe Brook, still recalled the Horseneck Riots and their bitterness to the British Crown. Few settlers in Canoe Brook sided with

the King. Those who did, however, fled the area to insure safety for themselves and their loved ones. One example is that of Adonijah Edison, (an ancestor of Thomas A. Edison) who lived in the Centerville section (Roseland) of town. With the onset of the Revolution, Adonijah moved his family to Canada with his Royalist brother and other relatives.

While it is not surprising that the settlers would fight against the British Crown, the number of men from the area, who fought in the struggle for independence was surprisingly large. Among the seventy-five who served in various capacities, there are those whose bravery or antics have caused their stories to have been recorded.

One such worthwhile story deals with William Ely, Jr., the eldest son of Captain William Ely. William Jr. was the sort of individual who loved to play practical jokes on his neighbors. During the War for Independence, William's leanings were more towards the Crown than towards independence. Knowing the suspicion with which his actions were regarded, William still enjoyed playing pranks at the expense of others.

Deciding one day to play a prank on the guard posted at the Hanover Bridge between present day Livingston and Hanover, William loaded his wagon with sacks that were filled with barnyard manure. He disguised the sacks to look like bales of contraband articles that were purchased from the British and being smuggled behind American lines, then he drove in the direction of the Hanover bridge. As Edwin Ely recalled a story told to him by his Aunt Sally:

"As he fully expected, he was halted by the sentries at the bridge, who supposed the bags to be filled with contraband articles which he had bought of

the British and Tories on Staten Island, and was endeavoring to smuggle within the American lines, where they could be sold at a handsome profit - a nefarious traffic called "London Trading," which, at an early period of the war, had been strictly prohibited, under heavy penalties, as inimical to the patriot cause. One of the soldiers sprang into the vehicle, informed Uncle Bill that he was under arrest, and preemptorily ordered him to turn about and drive to the office of the provost marshal, who was stationed at Northfield (then the largest village in the vicinity), and whose jurisdiction extended throughout that part of Essex County. When the office was reached, the sacks were opened and their odoriferous contents revealed, to the amazement and disgust of the provost and the chagrin of the sentinel, while Uncle Bill increased their discomfiture by filling the air with shouts of laughter."⁵

On a less fun-filled note, on June 23, 1780, many a brave man came out to fight at Springfield in a battle that has been recalled by one historian as the "Forgotten Victory."⁶ This was the last major and decisive battle of the American Revolution to be fought in New Jersey. Many of the early inhabitants of our township were among those fought there.

Several weeks before the battle, the militia in the area were called "to arms" several times, as the British tried to advance towards Morristown from Elizabeth. The inhabitants knew it was just a matter of time before the British would try to march for Morristown where George Washington was quartered. As the time grew near, the settlers prepared themselves. From early accounts, we get the following:

In the thirty or so houses of the village of Springfield panic reigned. Civilians flung silver down wells and hid other valuables in fields of rye and wheat, then piled furniture and blankets and bedding on wagons and headed west.⁷

Many of those people from Springfield and the surrounding area camped out in the area of Livingston. Some camped in the meadow near the house of the Squier family. According to tradition, Dame Squier, coming to her door in

the early morning was astonished to see the refugees before her house. After recovering from her amazement, she set to work preparing food for them all.⁸

As the people of Springfield prepared for the oncoming battle, so too were the many residents of the Livingston area. Moses Edwards, a private in the Essex County militia, was especially prepared. According to Lillias Collins Cook, Moses had the gift of "second sight." He foresaw who would fall the day before the battle. He went to each individual and bade them prepare for death. Tradition further says that he saw the soldier who would steal his knapsack and the place where it would be hidden. The day the event occurred, Moses went to the officer in-charge to complain. The officer drew out his soldiers. Edwards challenged the thief, the thief confessed the fact and the knapsack was recovered from the place where Edwards said it was hidden.⁹

One of the most famous stories surviving about the Battle of Springfield concerns Timothy Meeker. As told previously, Timothy was one of the earliest settlers in our community. This is the same Timothy Meeker who led a group of one hundred men to Newark in 1745, to free his cousin, Samuel Baldwin.

When the time came for the Battle of Springfield, Timothy, who was already over seventy years old, along with his ten sons, four sons-in-law and grandson, was eager to fight. From the diary of John Robertson Burnet the following account is taken:

"One or two days after the Battle of Springfield, while he (Timothy Jr.) was at work putting up his fences (for he remembered all

the lots in the area had been filled with cattle, sheep and hogs, drawn out of the way of the British, but to the story) on the road leading to Campbell's Paper Mill, at the time the old forge, there came five or six gentlemen on horseback and inquired of him if he was in favor of the American Cause. He answered "yes" and despised any man that was not. They asked him if there was any Tories in the place? He told them no Tories dust show his face there. They asked him if there was a man by the name of Timothy Meeker living near there. He told him his name was Timothy Meeker. They said they had been told that Timothy Meeker was in the Battle of Springfield with ten sons, and four son-in-laws. He said it was true, and that Timothy Meeker, Sr. was his father. They asked him if the people were displeased that Washington did not come into action with his troops, as his army lay but a little way above Springfield. He said "No. Washington was right, Washington was right. Washington can take his army where he pleases, and was right to let the Militia fight 'em, we can lick 'em. Whenever the Red Coats dust show themselves." At this time, the dinner horn blew, and he invited the gentlemen to go and take dinner with him, which they accepted.

When they went into dinner, his wife found fault with him, because he did not send one of the children to let her know that she could have killed some fowls and roasted them for dinner, but he said they were friends of the cause and friends of Washington, they would be satisfied. At this time one of the gentlemen remarked "That he did not doubt that Washington would be pleased to sit down to such a dinner, for no doubt he fared worse many a time." Dinner being over, the horses bridled and the gentlemen in the saddle, they held a few minutes consultation, when one of them turned to him and said, "Friend Meeker, you have treated us with so much hospitality and your mind so freely that I thought it would be wrongful of me to withhold from you who I am and what my station. I am George Washington, Commander-in-Chief of the American Army." At these words, Meeker was struck dumb as it were for some time, when he said, "General, I don't know but I have been spilling wheat, but you must lay it to my ignorance that I have been talking with so much vanity." The General said, "I know that you spoke the sentiments of your heart."¹⁰

The story was related to John Robertson Burnet by Jephtha Meeker, the son of Timothy Meeker Jr. As a token of the hospitality he received from Timothy Meeker, George Washington gave him a silver cup, which is now on display at the Springfield Public Library Museum.

There was a sad occasion in the area as a result of the war. One day Captain Ely came in for dinner after spending a day plowing one of his fields. His wife asked him to look at her arm, on which a peculiar eruption had mysteriously appeared. As it turned out, the eruption was smallpox, which Elizabeth Ely must have contracted, directly or indirectly, from the soldiers who were on occasion billeted in the houses in the area. Elizabeth died a few days later from the disease.¹¹

After the war, life in the Canoe Brook settlement began to return to normal. In 1782, the first known school in the area was started, although there is no known documentation to establish the date firmly. According to Lillias Collins Cook, it was at this time that the settlers of Canoe Brook erected a little stone schoolhouse at the intersection of present day Northfield Road and South Livingston Avenue. That one-room schoolhouse was known by many names: the Canoe Brook Meeting House, the Northfield Meeting House, and the Canoe Brook School Society. The building served several functions in addition to its use as a school. It was used for many years as a meeting place for the Canoe Brook Baptist Society, and was also used as a community meeting house.

Historically in the growth of any community, various factions will form over time. Prior to 1786, the residents of Canoe Brook either went to the Hanover Presbyterian Church, the Lyons Farms Baptist Church or the Presbyterian Church of Caldwell. In 1786, a group of eleven members of the Lyons Farms Baptist Society asked to be dismissed from that church to start their own church in Canoe Brook. On April 19, 1786, these same eleven people formed the Canoe Brook Baptist Society: Obed Denham, Mary Denham,

Moses Edwards, Desire Edwards, William Meeker, Mary Cory, Content Edwards, Thomas Force, Jr., Sarah Cook, Timothy Ward, and Timothy Meeker.¹² Many of these same founding members and their families were instrumental in the founding of our township some years later.

At the beginning, the new society was small and met in different members homes and at the stone school house. The group grew rapidly, and by 1790, larger quarters were needed. It happened that Squire Burnet was moving west, so the trustees of the Canoe Brook Society purchased his four and a half acre lot on the corner of Canoe Brook Road (now South Livingston Avenue) and the road leading from Newark to Hanover (Northfield Road). Mr. Burnet's home was then converted into a church structure with the help of many of its members.

In 1790, the United States decided to make an accounting of all of the citizens of the country. Although the records of this first census no longer exist, by piecing together other documents of the time, it appears that there were about 900 people living in the Canoe Brook area. These people, who were primarily involved in farming, who sold their goods to the merchants over the mountains in Newark. Many times the merchants from Newark would scout the countryside looking for good buys. Since in most cases the farmers from the area very rarely went to Newark, they weren't always aware of the value of their goods. This was the case for William Ely, Jr.

About 1792, when William Ely, Jr. returned home after a short absence, he learned that his wife had sold a substantial quantity of feathers to a Newark feather merchant at a very cheap price. Immediately leaving to find

the merchant, he caught up with the man, and reproached him for taking advantage of his wife, Ely demanded additional cash for the feathers. The merchant, however, told him that the feathers had been paid for and that no further payment would be made, and continued on to Newark. Since Ely knew arguing would do no good, he decided to get even with the merchant. Sneaking up behind the merchants wagon, William cut open the sacks of feathers, and allowed the contents to gradually escape. When reaching Newark, the merchant discovered the feathers had been strewn along the road for several miles, and that very few actually remained in his possession.¹³

In 1793, the New Jersey Legislature established the township of Springfield out of the southwestern portion of Newark. The northern boundary of the newly created township was the Colonial road. Four years later, in 1797, the township of Caldwell was formed taking as its southern boundary the Colonial road. The settlers of Canoe Brook were now residents of either Springfield or Caldwell.

By the turn of the century, seven distinct hamlets had begun to take shape in the area. In the north there was Centerville, Teedtown, and Morehousetown; and in the south, Squiertown, Northfield (or Canoe Brook), Cheapside, and Washington Place. The records also indicate that there was also an area known as Meekertown, which did not develop into a hamlet like the other seven, which was in the area of Old Short Hills Road.

The largest of the hamlets at that time was Northfield. How the name Northfield came to be used is only a matter of conjecture, but the best explanation is that, at that time, that part of Livingston was in the bounds Springfield. This particular section was the northern most part of

that township, so it could conveniently have been named Northfield, just as there is a Westfield.

In 1801, the Canoe Brook Baptist Society became incorporated, after the State Legislature mandated that all religious societies do so. The name chosen by the incorporators was the First Baptist Church and Society at Northfield. At that same time, the Society decided to erect a new church, and began soliciting to raise the necessary funds.

The area we know today as Livingston, together with the towns east in the Oranges, was well known for several products. One was apple cider. The wild apple trees that then dotted the countryside, once grafted with domestic apples, produced fine juicy ones. From Virginia to New England, the cider made in Livingston and the surrounding area became widely known and desired by the public. After a period of time the cider became "hard" which meant it had fermented enough that the imbiber could get drunk quite easily. This "hard" cider became known in the eastern states as "Jersey lightning."

Two other drinks of the settlers of the area were a drink known as "metheglin" and "switchel." Metheglin was a combination of water and honey boiled and fermented, with the addition of spices to give it zest and switchel consisted of nothing more than molasses and water with a dash of vinegar, ginger or rum. Both drinks were commonplace in the community at that time.¹⁴

Another product that became well known in the area, was the "Tidtown candle." Named after one of the hamlets of our township, this crude nightlight

consisted of a rag tied around an old copper coin immersed in a dish of molten lard.¹⁵ It was used in the homes to provide light for evening activities. It was cheaper to make and less time consuming than making candles.

In less than fifty years the virgin community truly entering the 19th century. In 1806, then Governor Joseph Bloomfield approved the formation of the Newark and Mount Pleasant Turnpike Company. This company was in charge of building and maintaining this road. When incorporated, the old Colonial road became officially known as the "Newark and Mount Pleasant Turnpike." In most cases, it was simply called the Mount Pleasant Turnpike. Prior to the rebuilding of the road in 1806, the road was described as a "primitive road leading from Newark through Orange and Hanover to Whippany."¹⁶

When the road was rebuilt and made into a turnpike, toll gates were installed. There were four in Livingston alone. One was on the east side of the bridge at the Passaic River. One stood near the present day traffic circle. Another stood at the intersection of Hillside Avenue, and the last was in the vicinity of Laurel Avenue.

Tolls were charged to everyone who traveled the road. The cost ranged from: "two cents for a pedestrian or a head of cattle to four cents for a one-horse wagon or carriage, to ten cents for a two horse team and wagon."¹⁷ These charges applied only to through traffic. People going to worship, militia men, and funeral corteges passed for free.

By 1811, the seven hamlets had grown in leaps and bounds. Only thirty

years before, there were just about one hundred people living in the area; now there were close to 1,000. However, once again, impending turbulence was signaling change. The residents were becoming discontented with having to travel to attend municipal meetings, so, just at the outbreak of the War of 1812, the residents decided enough was enough; it was time to establish a new town.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 2

¹New Jersey Journal, September 2, 1762.

²Cook, Lillias Collins, Pioneers of Old Northfield, (Livingston, New Jersey, Tribune Publishing Company, 1954), p.1.

³Ibid., p.12.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.72.

⁶Fleming, Thomas, The Battle of Springfield, (New Jersey Historical Commission's New Jersey's Revolutionary Experience, Number 8)

⁷Ibid.

⁸Cook, op. cit., p.11.

⁹Ibid., p.8.

¹⁰Burnet, John Robertson, John Robertson Burnet Papers (New Jersey Historical Society, Manuscript Collection, #1454.)

¹¹Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.78.

¹²Minutes of the Canoe Brook Baptist Society, April 19, 1786, p.1.

¹³Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.72.

¹⁴Ibid., p.343.

¹⁵Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.16.

¹⁶Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.38.

¹⁷Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.70.

CHAPTER 3

"A TOWN IS BORN"

1812 - 1813

In 1811, the seeds for the formation of our township were sown. At that time, half of our present day township was part of the Township of Caldwell, the other was part of Springfield. The boundary line that separated these two communities was the Newark - Mount Pleasant Turnpike. The inhabitants in this area began circulating petitions in their respective communities to form a new township. The people had many reasons for wanting to break away, but foremost on the list was that many of the inhabitants felt they had too far to go to attend township meetings and to vote in local elections.

Notices concerning the possible formation of a new town were posted in the prominent buildings in the area, and circulated to the local newspaper, the Sentinel of Freedom. Many people favored the formation, but there were also a great number who opposed it. Several petitions were circulated, including the following:

"To the Honorable, the Legislature of the State of New Jersey in Council and Assembly convened. The Memorial of the subscribers, inhabitants of the Township of Springfield in the County of Essex, Humbly Shewth (sic):

That your Memorialists have learned with regret that an attempt is about to be made before your honorable body to cut off part of the Townships of Springfield and Caldwell in order to erect another Township by the name of Amwell. Your memorialists have attentively considered the object in view and are of the opinion that it has not arisen from pure and patriotic motives, and can be productive of no public good. The Township of Springfield it will be remembered was a few years ago curtailed of about one third of its dimensions to form the Township of New Providence. As it now lays it is far from being unwieldy but by the measures which are now pursuing it

will again lose about one half of its remaining territory. Many of your memorialists live within that part of the Township intended so to be cut off which should it take place they would view as a great grievance in as much as it would interfere with their long established habits of public business, create a multiplicity of new offices and increase the public burdens with no other object in view, as far as your memorialists can perceive but to create Offices for a few aspiring and ambitious men.

Your Memorialists therefore pray that your Honorable body will protect them from the innovations of useless and aspiring men, by objecting the prayer of the Petition for dismembering their Township and in duty bound your memorialists will ever pray."

"Springfield, January 15, 1812."¹

Some of those who signed the petition opposing the formation of the township included: Ezra Baldwin, Caleb Tichenor, Joseph T. Hardy, Benjamin Morehouse, Richard Swaine and William Steele. As one can see by reading the petition, the inhabitants of this area who wished to form a new township had chosen the name Amwell. How this name was chosen we do not know, but we shall see how the name was changed to that of Livingston.

On January 15, 1812, a Mr. Pennington brought forth a petition and bill to the Committee that would discuss the possible formation of a new township. At the same time, another committeeman, Mr. Condict, brought forth a counter-petition, like the one shown above. Discussion began. On January 16, 1812, a report was read to the New Jersey Council, of the "Act to form the Township of Amwell out of portions of Springfield and Caldwell." A second reading occurred in the afternoon.

Then, on January 17, 1812, for reasons unknown, an amendment was brought before the Council which read, "An act to set off and erect the Township of Amwell in the County of Essex taken up...title to read An Act

to set up the Township of Livingston in the County of Essex which bill as amended ordered read." It seems that for reasons still unknown, the members of the committee decided that a new township should be formed, and it should not be called Amwell but Livingston. This no doubt was because there already was an Amwell in Hunterdon County. So the name was changed to Livingston, in honor of the first governor of our state, William Livingston.

Once the bill was passed in the New Jersey Council, it went to the Assembly. This occurred on January 20, 1812. The bill stayed in the Assembly for over on year and, on February 5, 1813, it was passed. Under the terms of the resolution, the inhabitants of the new township of Livingston were to meet on the second Tuesday in April of 1813, at the tavern of Isaac Samo, for the first township meeting.

As the date of April 12th approached, the residents of the seven hamlets began to think of whom they would like to have govern their new community. From the Northfield section, the Balls, Burnets, Edwards, Forces, Meekers and Wades would attend. Northfield, one of the oldest sections of the town, originally known as Canoe Brook, boasted of its own church, tavern, saw and grist mills and a school.

In the southwestern section of the township known as Washington Place, the Baldwins, Browns, Dickinsons and Swains would attend. The origin of the name Washington Place is unknown, although a school known as the Washington Place Academy was in the area.

Just north of Washington Place, on Livingston's western boundary, was

the hamlet of Cheapside. From Cheapside the Cranes, Condit's, Genungs, Hardys and Tichenors would attend. As a side note, various accounts are given for how Cheapside got its name. One explanation is that "chepe" is an old English word for market, and therefore, Cheapside means market side. The fact that this area was used for grazing of livestock before they were sold in Newark, might substantiate the market origination of the name. Another thought about the origin of Cheapside is that because this area is predominantly the low, swampy area within the Passaic River flood plain, it was the "cheap" side of town, whose land could be purchased cheaper.

Just north of Cheapside was Squiertown. From Squiertown the Camps, Genungs, Littells, and Squiers would attend. Squiertown was named after the Squier family who settled in the area in 1744, when Jonathan Squier purchased 782 acres of land along the Passaic River.

Next to Squiertown was Morehousetown. Situated just north of the Newark - Mount Pleasant Turnpike, the Morehouses settled in the area in the mid-1790's, and later opened a small general store. From this hamlet came the Beachs, Cooks, Kitchells, Morehouses and Tompkins.

North of the Morehousetown hamlet was Centerville. The Centerville hamlet had its own public tavern, a small general store and was on one of the oldest public roads in Essex County, known today as Eagle Rock Avenue. For Livingston's first township meeting, the Cobbs, DeCamps, Harrisons, Kents and Williamses would attend.

Lastly, just south of Centerville, was Teedtown. This section would be where the actual meeting would take place. At the crossroads of the Newark

- Mount Pleasant Turnpike and Canoe Brook Road, this hamlet had its own tavern, general store and school just like Northfield. Representing this hamlet was the Collins, Elys, Forces, Teeds and Wrights.

What kind of place was this "house of Issac Samo," designated by the new charter as the place to form this new township called Livingston? Built by William Ely, Jr. around 1765, it was a large structure that, probably by the date of the meeting, was showing signs of age. It faced easterly on the corner of the Newark - Mount Pleasant Turnpike and Canoe Brook Road. A large porch spanned the entire front of the structure. The interior had a taproom with long wide oak boards and a large comfortable fireplace in the south wall. A spacious reception hall lay to the rear; and above these two rooms was a large ballroom. Because of the number of interested citizens who would show up on this particular spring morning, the meeting more than likely would have taken place outside.

By buckboard, farm wagon, on horseback and foot, the residents made their way that early Monday morning to Samo's tavern to establish their community. The moderator was the first to be elected. It was his responsibility to determine who could vote and who could not. Eligible voters and candidates included "all white males, twenty-one years of age" provided they were either freeholders in the new township, had resided there at least six months and paid their taxes, or had rented a house by the year with rent valued at least five dollars.² Also, as the name moderator implied, it was his responsibility to keep order over the meeting. The law foresaw the possibility that someone might "by unnecessary noise or conversation" disrupt the proceedings and provided that "such person shall forfeit one dollar for such offense" or be evicted from the

meeting "by some of the constables and detained in confinement until the meeting ended."³

On this particular day, Joseph T. Hardy, Esq. was chosen to the distinguished position of Moderator. This same individual, just two years earlier in 1811, had signed the petition opposing the formation of this township, but on this particular day, he was in charge of its future.

The next position up for election that day was for that of town clerk, and Samuel Squier, Jr. was elected. The job of town clerk was to record accurately the minutes of the meeting to certify the results of the election, and to keep the records of the township.

A township committee of five members was next to be chosen. At this first town meeting, Joseph T. Hardy, Esq., Joseph Green, Peter Cook, Josiah Steele and Abner Ball, Esq. were elected. Their duties were "to examine and report to the town meeting, the accounts of the township officers, to superintend the expenditure of money, and to fill the vacancies between meetings of the township."⁴

Even though Abner Ball was elected to the Township committee, the residents of the new township felt that he should also be the Township Assessor. The Assessor's responsibility was to honestly and impartially value and assess the ratables within the boundaries of the Township of Livingston.

The next position to be filled was that of Collector. The job of Collector or Treasurer was to keep the monies of the township, to collect

the taxes due, and to disburse funds on the direction of the township committee. Ezra Morris was chosen as the first collector.

According to the law in 1798, by which the proceeding of this important meeting were governed, all townships were required to elect at their annual meeting, "three or more judicious Freeholders of good character, to hear and finally determine all appeals relative to unjust assessments, in cases of public taxation."⁵

Joseph Harrison, Esq., Brainard Dickinson and John Townley were elected as the three Commissioners of Appeal. One member, Joseph Harrison, was quite familiar with the responsibilities of this particular office, because back in 1797, he was elected to this same position in the Township of Caldwell. He was also chosen as the Judge of Elections on that April morning.

Other positions needed filling that day. Joseph T. Hardy and Caleb Tichenor were chosen to represent the Township on the Board of Freeholders for the County of Essex in Newark. Aaron Tompkins, Jr. and Henry W. Wade were elected as Overseers of the Poor. Josiah Steele and Rufus Harrison were elected as Surveyors of the Highway. It was the duty of these surveyors to see that the roads were kept passable, to lay out new roads if necessary, and to make sure that none of the inhabitants infringed on the common right-of-way by moving their fences into the road.

The last two positions to be filled on a day that was described as a beautiful spring morning included: Constable and Poundkeeper. Samuel Burnet, Jr. and Benjamin DeCamp were both elected as Constables. Joseph

Courter was chosen as the Poundkeeper.

From the beginning, the Township of Livingston recognized its social responsibilities. At that first meeting, four of the first nine resolutions passed by the residents concerned the status of the poor. One of the resolutions state that "...our Chosen Freeholders delay the building of the Poor House," probably because of the required increase in taxes. Those present also voted to instruct the Overseer of the Poor "to farm them out to the lowest bidder," and to appropriate \$300 to pay for their keep until the next town meeting.

Every household was charged with a property tax of fifty cents and storekeepers paid an additional half dollar. Single men were assessed five cents each, which implied that it must have been a privilege to be a single man in the township at that time. Cattle were taxed one cent per head and horses one and one half cents. Abner Ball made a complete inventory of the township that year and \$577.02 was collected. The state was paid \$75.29; the county, \$125.73; the poor, \$300; and \$75.00 was for use of the township committee and for any bad debts.⁶

Before the meeting ended on that first Monday in April of 1813, it was decided that the next township meeting would also be held at Samo's tavern. The farewells were made, and these soldiers, farmers, shoemakers, teachers, church deacons, started for home knowing that they had done well that day in Teedtown; they had officially consolidated their community ---A town was born!

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 3

¹ Trenton, New Jersey, State Archives, "Petition of the Inhabitants of Springfield, opposing the formation of a new township", Secretary of State Records, Division of Laws and Publications, Division of Municipalities, #40.

² Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.20.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid., p.21.

⁶ Trenton, New Jersey, State Archives, "Duplicate of Livingston Township for the Year 1813", Essex County Tax Ratables.

CHAPTER 4

LIVINGSTON'S INFANCY AND TRANSITION

1813-1860

In 1813, the infant Township of Livingston had a population of approximately one thousand, and was a quiet and serene community. There was very little that early Livingstonians needed from the big city of Newark. The pastures, fields and woods yielded not only what was necessary for the early Livingstonian to exist, but also many raw materials for trading. For example, the bark of several varieties of trees were in demand because they could be used in the leather tanning process. Among the early documents of our community there is reference to a receipt for "one lode of White oke bark, 136 feet" which was sold to a Newark tanner by Pell Teed, whose name in this instance was spelled as "Pill Tydd."¹

As to be expected, there were the usual shops and trades in the community. There were three village taverns: Samo's tavern in the Teedtown or Columbia Village section of the community; the tavern run by John Townley, in the Northfield section; and the public house kept by Cornelius Ball in the Centerville section of town. There were four general stores in the community. The first one was the Ely general store, located across the street from Samo's tavern. The structure, it was said, was built at the time when Indians still roamed in the area. The second general store was in the Northfield section, occupying an addition on the north side of Henry Wade's homestead. The third general store was in the western part of the township on the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike, and was run by David Morehouse. It was here that mail was brought from Morristown three times a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.² The fourth store was built and

operated by Amos Williams in Centerville on the Swinefield Road (now Eagle Rock Avenue). There was a blacksmith shop run by Moses Edwards in the Northfield section of the community. Moses was not only a blacksmith, but was also pastor of the Northfield Baptist Church.

The little community had several sawmills and gristmills along the banks of Canoe Brook. Since timber was so plentiful, the early Livingstonians carted wood to Newark and Elizabethtown, receiving prices ranging from two schillings and six pence to five schillings for a two-horse load.³ The Thomas Ball map of 1764 showed several mills in the area prior to the Revolutionary War. There is evidence that they continued to function until the mid 19th century. David and Jonathan Dickinson had two mills, one designated as a sawmill; the other, called Ward's mill, was apparently a gristmill. Ball's map also showed that Henry Wade had a mill on Canoe Brook, just south of present day Northfield Road. Further north on the banks of Canoe Brook was the sawmill of Thomas Force. Edwin Ely in his "Personal Memoirs" states:

"Aunt Sally is the authority for the statement that grandfather obtained the contract for supplying the lumber for the frame of Trinity Church, which was built in 1791 on the site of a former edifice destroyed by the enemy during the Revolutionary War, the timbers being drawn by oxen from the woods which covered the Orange Mountains."⁴

Enterprises like these were sidelines for the farmers of the community. As the land became relatively denuded of timber, the farmers turned to other crafts to supplement what they produced from their land from farming. As the area began to develop, new industries slowly began to replace farming as the major component of our community's economy.

One of the industries that had been around since the Revolutionary War

was leather tanning. The first known tannery was operated by Jonathan Force on his farm on the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike. Shortly afterward, a second tannery was founded by Nathaniel Squier, Jr. and operated by Nathaniel and two partners, Ashbel Green and Enoch Edwards.⁵ By the time the township was founded, many men were involved in the tanning and shoemaking trades.

Deacon Thomas Force, for example, was a leading shoemaker in the community. He ran his business from his home on Canoe Brook Road, near his sawmill. An indenture, dated January 18, 1808, that survives to date states:

"Witnesseth that Calvin Wade, Son of Jonathan Wade of the Township of Caldwell, County of Essex & State of New Jersey, doth, of his own free and voluntary will, and by the consent and advice of his father put himself apprentice unto Jonathan Force... to be taught in the Science and trade of Cordwinder and Tanning."⁶

The industry brought prosperity, during the War of 1812, as many of the farmers made extra money making shoes for the soldiers that were fighting the British. By 1824, Amos Williams had purchased a large farm in the vicinity of Centerville. While at first, he ran a general store, he slowly determined that there was a need for shoes and other leather goods. He ventured into the shoemaking trade and was also reputed to be the first local banker, paying interest comparable to the banks over the mountains in Orange to those who invested in his shoe and leather business.

During the time of development of this particular industry in Livingston the Methodist movement began. On December 4, 1822, the following agreement was adopted:

"We the subscribers being sensible of the Benefits of having the Gospel of Free Salvation Preached among

us Do Promise to pay to Demas Harrison and Benjamin Burras the several sums annexed to our names...for the purpose of Building a Methodist Meeting House near the School house in South Caldwell or North Livingston."⁷

In March of 1824, the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Centerville purchased an acre of land on Swinefield Road in order to erect a church building.

Development in the little township was slow but steady. By 1830 when the census of the United States was taken, there were 1,150 residents. Abner Squier recorded only the heads of households that year and it took several months to complete.

The township was first described in 1832, in Gordons' Gazetteer, it stated that, "the township had 52 single men, 5 merchants, 1 sawmill, 1 woollen factory, 65 householders, 166 horses and mules and 637 meat cattle under three years of age."⁸

Education was very important to the residents of Livingston. By 1832 there were already four school buildings in various sections of the township. First there was the Canoe Brook Stone School erected in 1782 in the Northfield section of town. Then in 1804, Moses Ely, E.C. Collins and Peter Cook established the Columbia Village School Society, erecting a building near the Ely tavern. The third school was built in 1807 in the Cheapside section of the community, when Samuel Parcel, Joseph T. Hardy, Matthias Swaine and Stephen Morehouse incorporated the Cheapside School Association. The fourth school was built sometime around 1822, when a new one room schoolhouse was built to replace an existing one in the Centerville section.

On September 25, 1832, the residents of Livingston felt another school was necessary and a meeting was held. Among the earliest records of the Livingston Board of Education is the following document:

"Articles of agreement made this 25th day of September 1832 Between Samuel Squier of the first part and Ira Squier, William Squier and Joseph C. Ward Trustees of the Squier Town district of the second part both parties of the Township of Livingston County of Essex and State of New Jersey Witnesseth that the said Samuel Squier doth agree to and with the Said Ira Squier, William Squier and Joseph C. Ward Trustees as aforesaid that is to say to furnish all the materials and to build a schoolhouse which is to stand on or near the corner of Parson Greens the same size as the schoolhouse near Moses Wrights and to be finished in the same mode and manner..."⁹

The cost of construction for this new school building was \$215 and was completed by January 1, 1833. The cost also included all the furnishings such as the teacher's desk, pupils' desks, benches, shutters and fixtures.

The panic of 1837 brought many problems to the township. By 1839, out of a total tax of \$1,490, about \$1,000 was earmarked for aiding the needy and unemployed. Since there was no real industry, other than leather goods, in the community, some residents found it difficult to make ends meet. The issues of welfare were a concern to early Livingstonians. Other social issues were demanding much attention during this period also.

Slavery in New Jersey was a long established institution that can be traced back to the early Dutch settlers who either brought the slaves with them or acquired them upon arrival. It is not known when slavery was first introduced in Livingston. But, by 1840 the institution of slavery was abolished in the township.

When Lords Berkeley and Carteret were given title to the lands of New Jersey as described in an earlier chapter, they established a company to import slaves to the new world. Not long after this, the first constitution of New Jersey was promulgated. Known as the "Concessions and Agreements," dated February of 1664/65, it made many provisions concerning slavery.

In the mid 1760's, there is reference to an ad that appeared in the New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury by Jonathan Squier and John Williams for two runaway slaves named John and Scipio. The next known reference to slaves in Livingston can be found in the inventory of the estate of William Ely, Jr. who died in 1807. Among the items listed in the inventory of his estate were two slaves, a woman named Jinn and a boy named Jack.¹⁰ It is thought that this boy Jack is the same slave whose manumission is recorded in Book B of Essex County Manumissions as Jack Buckly.

There were many laws concerning the governance of slaves. For example, if a slave was caught stealing, he would be whipped. If a slave committed murder, he would be burned alive and all the slaves from the surrounding countryside would be gathered to witness the event. It was for this reason that many slaves tried to escape and gain their freedom.

Livingston's last known "slave" the aforementioned Jack Buckly, was probably the same Jack referred to in the inventory of the estate of William Ely, Jr. According to Edwin A. Ely in his "Personal Memoirs" we get the following account of Jack Buckly:

"Grandfather Ely, owned a valuable Negro named Jack Buckly, who spent his boyhood on our farm, and was probably born there. My sister Maria had the impression that Grandfather gave him his freedom, for although an emancipation law was passed in 1820, it

applied only to slaves of a younger generation. After his manumission, Jack left my Grandfather, and worked for various other farmers of the neighborhood, although he was accustomed to return to the Homestead in winter when lacking work and at other times in incapacitated by illness; but, to the best of my recollection he did not come back after we bought the property."¹¹

Some years ago, the missing manumission books B and C of Essex County were discovered in the County Clerk's vault. The discovery of these two particular volumes is of importance not only to the history of the Township of Livingston, but also to the County of Essex. Originally there was only one known volume of manumissions recorded from 1805 to 1817, covering the manumissions of those slaves freed under New Jersey's 1804 Gradual Emancipation Act. Under this law, slaves were freed upon reaching the age of twenty four for males and twenty for females. The discovery of Volume B was of particular importance to the history of the township, because it records the manumission of Jack Buckly from Moses Ely on April 13, 1818.

According to this important document, Moses Ely had to certify to the two Overseers of the Poor, namely Rufus Harrison and John Townley, Jr., that Jack Buckly was "of sound mind and not under any bodily incapacity of obtaining a job, and also is not under the age of twenty one years nor above the age of forty years."¹² Buckly died in Livingston on April 11, 1857, at the age of seventy one, in the home of his employer, Josiah Mulford.

This was not the only record of slavery to exist in the township. The document for the bill of sale for a slave that was found several years ago on exhibit at the Newark Public Library and reads:

"Know all men by these presents that I, William Camp, of the Township of Livingston, County of Essex and State of New Jersey, have sold unto Israel Crane of the Township of Bloomfield, County of Essex, a certain colored girl named Bett, supposed to be fifteen years old in February last, for the sum of fifty dollars, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged...And I do hereby warrant same and defend the said black girl named Bett, unto the said Israel Crane, his heirs and assigns, for and during the legal term of her service, or until she shall be entitled to her freedom, agreeable to an Act passed by the Legislature of New Jersey in the year 1804.

Provided also that if the said black girl, Bett, was not more than fourteen years of age in February last, as W. Camp supposes, then in case that is found to be the fact, the said Israel Crane is to pay a further sum of five dollars.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty third day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twenty two, 1822."¹³

For many years, many of the inhabitants of Livingston attended the Northfield Baptist Church at the southern end of the community. As the years went by and the population increased, many felt the need to have a church in closer proximity to their homes. This was the case for many of the inhabitants of that part of Livingston then known as Teedtown.

On March 14, 1851, several members of the congregation of the Northfield Baptist Church and other interested members of the community met and decided it was in their best interest to form a new Church. At the same time, a letter was drafted by those who attended the Northfield church, asking permission to be dismissed from the congregation in order to become members of the new Church. It was also decided that there should be a public meeting held to form the new society.

About two weeks later, on March 31, 1851, a meeting was held at a local school to incorporate the new religious society. For the first few months,

the congregation met at the local school, and on June 17, 1851, as the congregation met at the home of Andrew Teed, the new church became formally recognized as a Baptist association. With many sites offered, the congregation decided on a parcel of land at the intersection of the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike and the road leading to Caldwell. A year and one half later, the new church was dedicated.

Similarly, a few years before the Civil War, in the Cheapside section of town, several members of the community who were attending services at the Methodist Church in Chatham, felt that it was time to have another Methodist Church in Livingston. The first meeting of these interested citizens took place in 1857 in the Washington Place Academy, and the Livingston Methodist Society was formed. After its formation, the congregation met both at the Washington Place Academy and at the Squiertown schoolhouse. In 1858, steps were taken to construct a church and the new structure was dedicated in November of 1858.

At the time of the Civil War, Livingston was still a small community that was well-known throughout the northern states for its excellence in making shoes. According to the 1850 census figures, out of a population of 1,149, ten percent of the inhabitants were involved in the shoemaking business.

Originally the shoemaking business was seasonal, and no doubt there were periods of great prosperity and other periods where business was slow. The shoemaking trade though, was not by any means a new industry to this area. Records show that as far back as the War of 1812, the inhabitants made shoes for the soldiers and also for anyone else needing footwear. It

is said that the early inhabitants of this area even made shoes for the Continental soldiers stationed at Jockey Hollow in Morristown.

There were many families that owned and ran small shoemaking outfits within their own homes. For example the Forces, DeCamps, Cannons, Burnets, Squiers and Condit were all well known for their shoemaking excellence. After the war this industry died down, mostly because there wasn't as much demand for shoes or leather goods. The inhabitants had to find a new source of income such as hat sizing, or dairying, thus bringing to a close one of Livingston's most thriving forms of business. The end of this period marked the beginning of another transition period for Livingston. a

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 4

¹ Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.16.

² "Livingston Passes An Anniversary Too," Caldwell Progress, February 9, 1918, p.1.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.79.

⁵ Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.59.

⁶ Ibid., p.59.

⁷ Fiftieth Anniversary Committee of Roseland, New Jersey, Roseland: Historical Album 1908 - 1958, (Caldwell, New Jersey, Ballard Printing Company, 1958), p.11.

⁸ Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.23.

⁹ Livingston Board of Education, "Articles of Agreement to Build a School at Squiertown"

¹⁰ Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Surrogates Office, "Inventory of Estate of William Ely, Jr." January 26, 1807.

¹¹ Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.331.

¹² Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Clerks Office, "Manumission of John Buckly" April 13, 1818.

¹³ "Livingston Was Once Slave Country, Old Document Says" West Essex Tribune, August 1, 1957, p.1.

CHAPTER 5
THE CIVIL WAR YEARS AND BEYOND
1860-1900

Around 1858, the winds of war were again beginning to blow. In the Centerville section of the community, the last general muster of all able-bodied men between eighteen and fifty occurred in June of that year. It is believed that this was the last general muster day held in Essex County. (Muster is defined as a call for formal military inspection).

Several weeks before, James Collins had been appointed by the General Assembly as the General of the militia and he then ordered a general muster for the district over which he presided. That district comprised all of what is now termed Western Essex County.

George W. Cooke was elected Captain of the Livingston Guards, Company of the Second Battalion, of the first Regiment of the Essex Brigade, receiving his commission from the Governor. He trained the Livingston men in the Commons just west of Samo's tavern. The records show that the following men were in his Battalion: James Collins, Sidney Collins, Benjamin Collins, George Courter, William Douglas, Augustine Earl, Brazilla Hopkins, Alonzo Hopkins, Jackson Hopkins, Samuel Hopkins, James Kipp, George Kent, Hugh McChesney, Cornelius Meeker, Issac Marsh, Woodruff Parkhurst, Montgomery Rose, Tobias Teed and Gibson Teed.¹

Recalling the Revolutionary War, the New Jersey legislature passed a law requiring every able bodied man between the age of eighteen and fifty who could bear arms to be called and be part of the militia. Every man so

ordered to attend was compelled to, or they were imposed with heavy fines. The law also provided for a general muster and training of the militia one day each year. During that war, Caleb Harrison set apart a piece of property in Centerville as a training field.²

Following the Mexican War, the idea of muster day fell into disuse until General Collins decided to revive it. Since, by then, it was somewhat of an oddity to call a muster, the event took on a festive atmosphere. Merchants took advantage of the situation, setting up stands where ginger cakes, rum and applejack were sold. The men were called to muster at ten o'clock, and by noon were marching around the field. Although it was probably taken in jest, the effort no doubt would be of help to those men who several years later would be called upon to fight in the Civil War.

The Civil War was very profitable for the leather trade, because of the high demand for the army. In Livingston, the industry reached it's peak. All the work of making shoes and boots was done by hand, furnishing work for men, women and children alike. Large numbers of women could earn a good living at their homes by sewing the upper parts of the shoes. The leather merchants in Newark cut the leather to the proper size and shape and shipped cut sections to any person willing to do the sewing.

During this high period for the leather industry in Livingston, John Ely, Joseph Johnson and Samuel Burnet were among the notables who went into the business of making shoes for soldiers. Joseph had the first machine to sew shoes in the community and the first one from over the mountains.³

The community provided a great contribution to the war through shoe making. However, the contributions were not confined to shoe making alone. One of the most famous of Livingston's residents to serve in the Civil War was Daniel E. Sickles. At the beginning of the war, President Lincoln promised Sickles that if he could raise several regiments of men, he would be made a brigadier general. Sickles delivered, and as promised, Lincoln appointed him general.

After a short period of time, Daniel Sickles became the commander of the Third Corps, which made its place in history at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Hearing that there was trouble at Gettysburg, General Sickles led his troops from Emmitsburg and was assigned to defend the promontory known as Little Round Top. During the battle of Gettysburg, the Third Corps lost one third of its men, and for a period of time Little Round Top was undefended. Sickles was one of the casualties of the historic battle: a cannon ball hit his leg, resulting in amputation, and ending his military career.

Several other residents who were casualties of the war include: George D. Harrison, Henry Bedford, George Stowe and Issac Sharp. George Harrison enlisted on August 14, 1862 at the age of 18, and was killed at the Battle of Antietam, Maryland on September 17, 1862. Henry Bedford enlisted in August of 1862 for three years. He served in Company E of the 13th Regiment. He was killed in action at Atlanta, Georgia on July 27, 1864. The sacrifice made by George Harrison and the other valiant men of Livingston won the unanimous support of the residents of the community forty years later for a New Jersey monument on the battlefield at Antietam.

Unfortunately, the Civil War took its toll on the township in a number of ways. Besides the loss of lives of many men who volunteered for service, there was also a loss of jobs. Clearly during the war, the shoe industry thrived; but, one of the major casualties after the war was the shoe business of Amos Williams.

At the beginning of the Civil War the value of leather products increased dramatically. In an attempt to stabilize the price, the Federal government bought leather in great quantities and instituted a new credit system by paying in thirty rather than sixty days, as was the custom. With Lee's surrender and the end of the war, Williams found himself with large quantities of leather and no customers. He was heavily in debt. Having been backed by his reputation and the loans of his friends, Williams was able to stabilize the fluctuating price of leather. After auctioning off almost all of his possessions, he barely saved his house, but was able to repay every penny he owed but his business was ruined. ⁴

There were some high marks after the war. By the mid 1860's, the Northfield Baptist Church was beginning to show signs of age. The green timbers used in 1800 to build the edifice had become warped and it was often colder inside the building than outside. The pastor and the congregation decided to hold a fair to raise the necessary funds to rebuild the structure. The fair was a huge success and a new building was raised in 1868. ⁵

After the war, a new industry, known as sizing, began to replace the shoemaking trade. Sizing, part of the hat making trade, flourished in Livingston from about 1870 until the turn of the century at which time the

industry moved to Connecticut.

The buckeye or sizing shops were usually operated on a small scale. In fact, the term "buckeye" referred to home based industries. The sizing process was simple. Large copper kettles were filled with a solution of boiling water and blue vitrol. Felt that had been shipped from the Oranges, was immersed in the kettles, then removed and dried until stiff. It was then ready to be cut into hats.

One of the largest of these shops was owned and operated by Peter Butler. Butler originally opened his shop in Millburn, and then for unknown reasons, moved his entire operation to Hobart Gap Road in town. Mr. Butler had between fifteen to twenty men working for him, making him one of the leading employers in the community. One reason that so many men were needed for this industry was that six to eight men were needed to lift the felt out of the kettles after it had been soaked.

There were several other buckeye shops in the community at that time, most being situated in the southern portion of the township. George Ward's shop was close to that of Mr. Butler's. Patrick Cowen had a hat making shop in the vicinity of present day Memorial Park.

The last surviving shop of this industry was operated by Mr. Judson Sprigg. He was the only hatter to engage in the entire hatmaking process from preparing the felt to assembling the finished hat. In the area his hats were sought due to his excellent workmanship.

There was one major disadvantage to working in this trade that no doubt

helped to bring about its demise. A disease known as "hatters shakes", resulted from the men putting their arms into the boiling vitrol solution, which was ultimately absorbed into their systems ultimately causing neurological damage.

In the early 1870's, the Centerville section of the community wanted a post office. Since there was already a Centerville in Hunterdon County, the government urged them to select another name. According to Freeman Harrison, his mother Sarah Condit Harrison attended a meeting in 1873 for the purpose of naming the new post office and suggested "Roselyn." William H. Harrison became the first postmaster of the Roselyn section of Livingston on February 13, 1874. On April 14, 1874 either, through misspelling or design, the federal government granted the post office to the Roseland section of Livingston.

In 1870, Major Jonathan DeCamp started a stagecoach run from the Centerville section of the community to Newark. At first, the stage was not as widely used as the railroad, which ran along the township's border. Edwin Ely, who travelled between Livingston and New York at that time recalled:

"When leaving New York... we crossed the Cortland Street ferry and proceeded to Newark by the New Jersey Railroad which is now part of the Pennsylvania system. At the end of our train there were usually two and sometimes three cars of the Morris and Essex lines which were dropped at Newark and drawn separately by horses through the city streets to the Morris and Essex terminus. Here the cars were again formed into a train and the westward journey resumed; but the locomotives of the period were so small and lacking in power that difficulty was always encountered in ascending the grade to Roseville. On leaving the Newark Station our Engineer would turn on a mighty head of steam and rush toward the hill at a furious speed hoping that the

momentum of the train would carry us to the summit, but the momentum was always spent and the power was quite certain to fail before we reached the top, compelling him to back down to ground to gather strength for a second effort."⁶

The railroad was preferred because of its reliability, but after a period of time, many people began to prefer stagecoach travel, it being more direct. By the mid-1880's the DeCamp stage company had gained popularity.

Although more popular, stagecoach travel had its problems. The major problem was the horrible grading of many of the roads. Not unlike today, no attempt was ever made to reduce the grades of some of the roads. The six mile trip from Livingston to Orange, for example, took over forty five minutes with the horses going at a steady trot. This type of trip was quite dangerous even at such slow speeds as eight miles per hour. Smith Ely, a descendent of Captain William Ely, was once hurled from his carriage and knocked unconscious.

In 1877, after many years of commuting from Livingston to New York, Ambrose Ely, brother of Smith Ely, purchased the remaining stock in the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike company from Ashbel Cook. He removed the toll gate by which he had felt inconvenienced by for quite sometime. The company's franchise was deemed abandoned and the road was reverted to the townShip.

The roads at that time were still basically dirt and gravel. Frequently the stages, which prided themselves on their precise time schedule, would be delayed by poor road conditions. One story that survives to date reads:

"A tale is told of a stagecoach that became stuck at a low stretch of Mount Pleasant Turnpike. As his team was foundering in the mud, the driver appealed to the passengers to alight, not only to lighten the coach, but also to help push it to higher ground. The passengers took one look at the deep sea of mud in which the horses stood up to their withers and declined the driver's request. One fellow reminded the driver that they all had paid their fares in full and were going to ride, come what may. At that the driver tied his reins to the handle of this whip, lighted his pipe and ceased all further effort. Asked how long he intended to stop here, the driver answered, "Till the mud dries."⁷

The weather hampered not only travel but also occasionally elections. On Monday, March 12, 1888 a great blizzard hit the community. The Saturday before had been springlike, and according to Freeman Harrison there was even an outdoor party not far from Livingston at which some of the men wore straw boaters. Sunday morning was mild and rainy; in the afternoon the weather turned. The rain became torrential, and after a few hours was followed by a sudden arctic cold and angry winds. By Monday morning the blizzard raged in all its fury.⁸ It was unlike any other snowstorm. In fact, many people thought it was not snow at all, but a mixture that looked like ice particles and glass ground into minute fragments.

The residents of the community still had their jobs to attend to, no matter how bad the weather. Many of the township's dairy farmers still had to deliver their supplies of milk. There are stories of people like Sam Burnet, who got as far as the top of the First Mountain in West Orange, and could go no further, taking refuge in a home on Northfield Road, where his horse froze to death.⁹

The mail had to be delivered, and the brave Benjamin DeCamp made it all the way to Orange with the stage. The weather was so severe that it was

the only time in the history of the stage line that there was no return trip.

By Tuesday, election day, the storm was over. The residents who were used to snowstorms did not realize the magnitude of the storm. Never before had they seen drifts to the second floors of homes or in some cases completely covering them. Freeman Harrison recalls:

"Three sons of Jephtha Baldwin of Northfield decided to make a friendly call on "Aunt Abbey" Johnson, and elderly lady greatly respected in the neighborhood. She was the widow of Joseph Johnson and lived in the old Johnson homestead on what is now South Livingston Avenue. After some effort the three brothers reached the location of the house. The home of "Aunt Abbey" was there no longer. At least it seemed that way on first sight, for the habitation was almost covered by an immense drift. The brothers estimated where the front door should be and set to work digging a tunnel. They found Mrs. Johnson well, though naturally disturbed by her experience with the storm, and paid her a nice visit."¹⁰

It took days for the township to dig out from the snowstorm but even inclement weather like fifteen foot drifts could not stop the spring elections. Even though several of the residents of the Centerville section of the township were able to make it to Amos Harrison's General Store, the ballot box never made it from Northfield and so the election was postponed. An excerpt from the Orange Chronicle of that time states:

"The great storm here completely buried the township as far as moving about was concerned. The milkmen that started out on Monday morning for Orange and Newark, with but one exception, failed to get back again until yesterday. The exception was Bertie Crane, son of Isaac S. Crane of Cheapside (now West Livingston). He started for home from Newark on Monday afternoon, but was obliged to abandon his sleigh on the mountain and keep on with his horses. When he reached Northfield, his horses were completely

exhausted and could go no farther. Bertie and his horses were cared for by William Diecks a little more than a mile from his home.

No election was held in Livingston on Tuesday. The Inspectors of Election, Josiah Conklin (of the Roseland section of the Township) and Charles Baldwin of Cheapside, lived at opposite ends of the township and were unable to get to the polls. The Township Clerk, Willie W. Burnet, started from Burnet Hill and struggled along in company with Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Diecks and his two sons, until they reached Northfield Center, where they left the ballot box. The high winds, great drifts, and driving snow prevented further locomotion, so the ballot box was left at J.J. Farley residence. The men got back to their homes as best as they could.

Yesterday every man in the township turned out to open the roads."¹¹

To this day, there has never been a snowstorm, to compare with the storm known as the Great Blizzard of '88.

Life for the young people of the township was centered around the school. Not long after the Civil War, Livingston had five schools. One was in the vicinity of Livingston Center. It was rebuilt three times, the last time was in 1880. The new school was a two-story frame structure, but for the first eighteen years only the first floor was used. In 1898, the upper floor was converted for use as Livingston's first high school.

Outside school, children enjoyed fishing and swimming in the spring and summer and during the winter months enjoyed the art of tobogganing.

"When cold weather came, and deep snow covered the ground, the Farley boys would dig a path, in the field across the road down towards the brook. Carrying water from their well, they would let it run down the slope, and it soon froze overnight.

At noon the next day, the children would rush for Farleys. Mrs. Farley would let them use an old extension table. This upside down would be filled with children and after a vigorous push, they would toboggan down almost to the brook. The legs of the table upside

down would make excellent posts to hang on to."¹²

For recreation, the older inhabitants would gather at the local general store to talk of the news of the day. In 1876 the Amos W. Harrison store was built on the southeastern corner of Mount Pleasant Avenue and South Livingston Avenue. Mr. Harrison was the township's postmaster and a leading citizen of the township. According to Freeman Harrison, his grandson, the downstairs of the building was used as a general store and post office combined. The upstairs of this building was used as a meeting hall for various functions, including township meetings and elections.

In 1886, the various departments and offices of the township were reorganized. The tax rate which had been \$1.17 per \$100 of assessed valuation was reduced to around 80 cents, and remained there for many years.

By the turn of the century two residents were helping to put the small township of Livingston on the map. The first was Smith Ely, who in 1877 had been elected as the first bachelor mayor of the City of New York. Ely, after holding office for several years, was also appointed Commissioner of Parks. Retiring around 1895, he returned to his family home in Livingston, where he continued to entertain various dignitaries.

The other was Clara Maass, who spent her early childhood in Livingston. Clara became a nurse and volunteered her services and her life to help in the research for yellow fever. It was through her efforts that in 1901, after her death from the bites of mosquitoes, that the cause of the disease's transmission was discovered.

Livingston as a community did not develop rapidly from the period of 1860 to 1900. As a small, self-sufficient rural community there was little need for the services required by cities or urban areas. Two examples of the differentiation between towns and cities follow. The townspeople got their water from wells and streams, whereas city dwellers relied on the city for water.

Even the organization of a police force was not necessary. Prior to 1850, the population of Livingston was under 1,000, and needed only one constable. In the early 1870's, a second constable was appointed mainly to collect delinquent taxes. Members of some of the township's most prominent families served as constables. The records from one of the first town meetings names a member of the Burnet family as the chief constable. The duties ranged from collecting license fees to detecting illegal distillers of hard cider.¹³

Of the two constables, at least one served for many years on an "as needed" basis. The town records show that Anthony Reinhardt was appointed as a special constable to enforce the license ordinance. He was employed for two weeks at \$2.00 a day. The the constables pay usually consisted of a twenty percent commission on the license fees they could collect from hotels, taverns, cider mills and other commercial establishments. It would not be until the 1920's that a police force would be needed.

The Civil War years and those to follow brought many forced changes and subsequent growth. As the nineteenth century came to a close the little township of Livingston was alive and well.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 5

¹Cook, Lillias Collins, Pioneers of Old Northfield, (Livingston, New Jersey, Tribune Publishing Company, 1954), p.15.

²"Defense Test Day Reminder of Pre-Civil War Muster Day," Newark News, September 11, 1924, p.7.

³Cook, op. cit., p.17.

⁴Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.61.

⁵Cook, op. cit., p.28.

⁶Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), pp.73-74.

⁷Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.72.

⁸"Freeman Harrison Writes of Livingston during Blizzard of '88," West Essex Tribune, March 8, 1956, p.3.

⁹Ibid.

¹⁰Ibid. p.3.

¹¹"The Blizzard of March 1888," West Essex Tribune March 13, 1952.

¹²Cook, op. cit., p.28.

¹³Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.31.

CHAPTER 6

LIVINGSTON IN A NEW ERA

1900 - 1929

The first two decades of the twentieth century brought many significant changes to the township. Livingston would gradually change from an agricultural community to a suburban residential community. As the population grew, so would the needs of its residents. Such basic services as running water, electricity, police and fire protection and telephone service were brought into Livingston homes during this time period. This would be a period filled with celebrations, the loss of historic structures and rapid population growth.

Since 1855, the State of New Jersey has taken its own census every ten years. In 1905, Eugene Van Zee was appointed Supervisor of the Census for the Township. According to the report filed by Eugene Van Zee, Livingston had 1,407 inhabitants: 423 dwelling houses, 130 farmers, 147 skilled laborers, 228 unskilled laborers and 789 citizens in other occupations. The census also accounted for 557 families in the township. American born citizens numbered 1,152, while 34 were from England, 28 were from Ireland, 75 were from Germany, 43 were from Italy and 75 came from other countries.

One of the first inventions of the modern age to come to Livingston was the telephone. In 1905, Amos Harrison and his brother had the first telephones installed. One was put in the general store and post office where it could be used by everyone. One farmer was reported to have doubted that this new fangled contraption would work and he asked to make a

call to a friend in Orange. The connection was made and the man's eyes "popped out" as he shouted, "By George, I've got him!"¹ The telephone service grew and more people had telephones installed. Most had the farmers line, where up to fifteen people shared a line. Thus, each person knew the business of the rest of his neighbors. There is a story of a woman who called her doctor at two o'clock in the morning. The sleepy doctor protested when the call evolved into a long discussion of the lady's ailment. "Well, doctor," the caller replied, "it's the only time I can tell you in detail about my case without feeling I have a whole audience listening."²

In 1906, one of Livingston's most important structures was demolished. The old tavern known as Uncle Billy's or Samo's tavern was torn down. It was in this building that the first of many annual township meetings was held. It was also the first of many early structures that would become a part of Livingston's past.

With the growth in Livingston's population, residents felt a need for additional school space. At a 1907 school district meeting, the residents in the Roseland section requested that the township build a new school at a price of eight thousand dollars. All township schools at that time were one-story, one room, white school houses. All grades met in the one room. What Roseland residents wanted was something innovative: a brick, two-story structure.

The school district meeting was held on the second floor of the old library. The President of the Board, Pell Collins, called the meeting to order. Many of the residents attended that meeting to vote against the

proposal. Although it was prior to women's suffrage, even the women were urged to attend and vote against the proposal.³ The citizens in the Roseland section were overwhelmingly defeated. They decided to petition the Legislature to form their own township. On March 10, 1908, the Governor signed the bill that put before the residents of the Roseland section of Livingston the question of incorporation. On April 10, 1908, the Borough of Roseland was formed.

By 1911, the township of Livingston was in the midst of two important celebrations. The first was the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Northfield Baptist Church. For the occasion, the interior of the structure was redecorated and steam heat was installed. The Caldwell Progress, the local newspaper of the time, ran an extensive article on the history of the Church in February and plans for a two-day celebration were made.

The anniversary celebration began on the night of April 18th with services at the Church. This was followed by an entire day of events on the 19th. Many of the other churches in the area sent representatives to participate in the commemoration ceremonies.

Several months later, the township celebrated the visit of an important dignitary who had been a former resident. Earlier in the year, the Township of Caldwell had invited Major-General Daniel Sickles to take part in the dedication services of a Civil War memorial in the Township. In accepting the invitation, Sickles expressed interest in visiting his childhood home of Livingston. In his letter Sickles wrote:

"I appreciate your kind thoughtfulness in making arrangements for a visit to the home of my early boyhood in Livingston, and am sending an automobile to

New York to convey me to Caldwell and to Livingston."⁴

At the time of his visit, Sickles was eighty four years old, and the last surviving Major-General of the Civil War. Several of the men who fought with him at the Battle of Gettysburg, including Stephen Edwards, were on hand to greet him upon his arrival.

The year 1913 saw the township celebrate the hundredth anniversary of its founding. Although there was no formal town wide celebration, there was a celebration in conjunction with the erection and unveiling of a war memorial to those men who fought in the Civil War through the efforts of Albert Sprigg and Melissa Collins, who formed as a funds soliciting committee. A seventy-eight foot flag pole was erected at the corner of Northfield Road and South Livingston Avenue on June 28, 1913. About two hundred were present when the flag pole was raised into position and Mildred MacQuaide and Halsey Spriggs, Jr. pulled on the halyards that unfurled a homemade American flag. This was the first in a series of events planned for the community as part of the project to erect the war memorial.

In early August of that same year, twenty men and six horses transferred a three ton boulder from behind the old Northfield school to a spot in front of the newly erected flag pole. It took three teams of oxen working almost an entire day to move the boulder, which would become part of the war memorial, approximately 250 feet.

On September 13, 1913, the day of the dedication, the largest crowd ever was drawn to the Northfield section of the community. The monument

was a bronze tablet which contained the names of the fifty one soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Miss Irene Brower of Orange, the granddaughter of Albert Sprigg unveiled the tablet. There were thirteen surviving Civil War veterans from the township who attended the celebration. They were: John Agar, Walter Force, Lester Genung, Ernest Hoffman, Samuel MacQuaide, Moses Meeker, George Parkhurst, Kenneth Parkhurst, Albert E. Plue, Frank Sprigg, Halsey Sprigg, Judson Sprigg and Thomas Ward.

Amos Harrison talked to the crowd about the history of the community. He pointed out that at the time of the Civil War, Livingston had a population of about 1,100 and that there were approximately 300 men eligible to be in military service. Thirty two volunteers came from Roseland, then called "Centerville."

It is interesting to note the recurrence of the number thirteen in relation to this event. The ceremony was held on the thirteenth day of the month in the thirteenth year, and of the fifty one veterans, there were thirteen survivors present.⁵

Although conditions naturally change to a certain degree, agriculture continued to be the principal industry in the township. The prevalent activities were the production of milk and raising poultry. Amos Harrison described this industry by saying:

"...it is safe to say that if one were to stand on Main Street, Orange and count the milk wagons on any morning, he would find, from the addresses on them, that more come from Livingston than from any other municipality of Essex County."⁶

The residents of the community began to feel the need to have some of

the amenities enjoyed by their neighbors in Newark. In June of 1913, they voted in favor of the Board of Education's resolution to build a new combined grammar and high school at the corner of Cedar Street and South Livingston Avenue. Later that same year Amos Harrison, who was a County Freeholder, began a campaign to have street lights installed on Mount Pleasant Avenue from the West Orange line to the Ely estate and on sections of North and South Midway Drive now, North and South Livingston Avenues.

Two new library associations were formed in the township in April of 1916. The Northfield Library Association was organized in the southern part of the town at the Northfield Baptist Church with the following persons serving as trustees: Samuel MacQuaide, Lillias Collins, Mrs. Arthur Oakley, Miss Ella McChesney and Walter Burnet. Meanwhile, during that same month in the northern part of the town, the Livingston Public Library Association was formed. Those involved in its formation were: George Parkhurst, Mrs. Edward Vincent, Edwin Ely, Alexander Kean, Frederick Hoffman, Mrs. Ralph DeCamp, Mrs. Robert DeCamp, Mrs. William Halsey, Mrs. John Ashby and Mrs. William Ashby. With the formation of these two separate libraries, a rivalry began between those two sections of town that would last for many years.

In 1917, the United States was involved in World War I. The Rev. Albert E. Plue of the Livingston Baptist Church stated to his congregation, "I expect Livingston to be loyal."⁷ Plue was dismayed at an incident that had occurred several days earlier, when a mass meeting was called to take action on the formation of a Home Defense League. On the evening of the event the only persons in attendance were the three men who arranged for the meeting. As word spread about the incident in the surrounding

communities, Reverend Plue decided to call his own meeting to rally the troops.

Forty three men from Livingston served in the armed services during the war. Mefford Maxfield was one of the many heroes. He was attached to the United States Navy supply ship "The Bridge" and during one of the sea battles, an American ship "The Antilles" was hit. Maxfield and several of his ship-mates rescued seventy five crew members of the ill-fated Antilles. Upon his return home in December of 1917, the Township held a reception in his honor.

After the war, there was an influx of people into the township. One of the effects of this increase in population was the increased demand for fresh water. Up until this time, each house in the community had its own well. In 1921 a group of citizens formed the Livingston Water Company. The leader of the movement was Amos Harrison, who had for years urged many of his neighbors to start a water company. On Harrison's insistence, the Township Committee surveyed the residents to determine how many wanted water piped into their homes. The response was overwhelming in favor of the proposal. The first water lines were installed along Mount Pleasant Avenue and North and South Livingston Avenues. The wells were on North Livingston Avenue behind the home of William Rathbun, one of the Water Company founders. From there, the water was pumped to a holding tank on Glendale Avenue next to the old Public Library.

Early that same year, Gottlieb Hockenjos, a Centre Market butcher from Newark, purchased the old Wright farm consisting of fifty-two acres located

on the northeast corner of Mount Pleasant and North Livingston Avenues. On the opposite corner was the general store and post office run by Amos Harrison. After purchasing the farm, Hockenjos immediately announced plans to construct a commercial building on the site. The building would contain eight retail stores on the ground level and several apartments above. This became known as Livingston Center.

The structure took about one and a half years to erect, with the first tenants taking occupancy in early November, 1923. On opening day, the stucco structure's tenants were; the DeCamp Bus Company, a drug store, a butcher shop, a hardware store, a grocery store, a barber shop, a delicatessen and a dry goods store. The early newspapers of the time ran headlines which read: "Livingston Center Is Beginning to Resemble Big-Time City," "Numerous Improvements Transforming Livingston Into Residential Suburb" and "Center Market Merchants Plan to Make Rural Livingston a Lively Suburb."

Livingston was beginning to develop as a suburban community. The first developer in town was Fred Duker. He constructed fourteen homes on either side of Amelia Avenue. These homes were the first to be laid out as part of a development tract.

The township's second development appeared in 1924, when John Ashby built sixteen houses along Hazel Avenue near the Center just north of Mount Pleasant Avenue. Many of the large old farms were soon eyed for possible development. Ralph DeCamp, the owner of the DeCamp Bus Company, organized one such development along Beverly Road near Hazel Avenue. The asking price for a three bedroom house on a fifty by two hundred foot lot was

\$10,000.

With all this development there came a need for more services in the Township. The years 1921 through 1926 saw some of the most significant changes in the community. The township was faced with meeting the needs of its residents, yet maintaining an affordable and attractive tax rate, a problem which continues as a challenge today.

Growing pains surfaced in the form of new and diversified township needs. Prior to 1921, the residents of Livingston lacked the advantage of a permanent fire department with the appropriate equipment. The Livingston homeowner was forced to be his own fire fighter. He made use of whatever equipment and volunteers that were available. Neighbors and friends were willing, but due to the distances which separated some of the residents, there was little anyone could do to extinguish a roaring blaze.

Late one night in 1921, a fire broke out in Amos Harrison's barn. Before anyone could respond, the barn and its contents were completely destroyed.⁸ At the suggestion of Clarence Dougal, a meeting was held at the J.O.U.A.M. Hall to discuss the formation of a volunteer fire department for the Township. The attendees were largely the members of the Livingston Gun Club. A committee was formed to organize the group. Herman Strahman was elected President and John Ashby was elected Chief. Three assistants were chosen: Ralph Crane, Judson Sprigg and Thomas Collins- one for each of the Township's three sections, West Livingston, Northfield, and Livingston Center.

In the beginning, all of the "equipment" of the Livingston Volunteer

Fire Department was kept in Clarence Dougal's wagon shed. This "equipment" included twelve fire extinguishers, twelve pairs of rubber boots, twelve hats and coats, four helmets and eighteen large wagon tires.⁹

The first major equipment addition to the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department was a gift from the City of Newark. An old chemical truck was donated to the Township and it became the township's first fire engine. The body of an old horse drawn truck was dismantled and placed on the chemical truck. Upon its completion, the township held a small celebration at Central School in honor of the new fire truck. The engine was christened "Mary Ann."

Electric light service first began in the township in 1921 also. Public Service Electric and Gas serviced the entire community until 1923 when the western part of the community became the responsibility of Jersey Central Power and Light.

The Livingston Police Department became a reality with the passage of an ordinance by the Township Committee in 1924. The ordinance regulated the appointments and duties of the officers. The original force consisted of the Chief and three chancemen. William Ashby became Chief and each of the chancemen were stationed at intersections within the township which were considered dangerous.

By 1925, the development of the township was in full swing. For over two hundred years, as many of the surrounding communities grew and prospered, Livingston remained a quiet, small, rural community. The population had remained fairly stable in terms of numbers. With the advent

of the DeCamp Bus lines as well as the automobile, people began to discover and move into the community.

Land sold very rapidly. Realtors came, auction sales were held, farms were cut up into small lots and sold as quickly as they were offered for sale. Landowners, who had inherited their property from their ancestors soon saw the values of their farms increase from a few hundred dollars to several thousand per acre, but although the building boom was on, in many respects Livingston was still very much a rural community.

Several incidents abruptly disturbed the community between 1925 and 1926 and caused a great deal of concern among many of the residents. In August of 1925 over three hundred members of the Ku Klux Klan held a meeting in a field off of Cedar Street to recruit new members from western Essex County. About fifty men signed up, and the meeting ended with the burning of a forty foot cross in the field.¹⁰

In June of 1926, the Klan applied for a permit to hold a parade in the township. The Township Committee voted against granting the permit. Many prominent citizens came to the committee meeting to voice their objection to the Klan's request for a parade permit. This was followed by an attack on the New Jersey Klan Titan while he was visiting the township. Not discouraged, the Ku Klux Klan held a large rally in late July which was attended by over 1,000 people. It was the Klan's goal to build a headquarters in the township, and the rally was to serve as a fundraiser. Activity in the township regarding the Ku Klux Klan died down after this event for a period of time.

In 1927, two major events occurred in the township that should be recorded as part of Livingston's history. They were the question of purchasing a fire truck for the township and the proposed change of the government.

The consideration of the purchase of a fire truck began in May of 1927. The fire chief appeared before the Township Committee requesting the purchase of an \$8,000 fire apparatus and five hundred feet of additional hose. No action was taken on the matter. Instead, at the election in November, a \$12,000 referendum for a new truck approved by the voters.

After the election, no action was taken to purchase the fire truck. At the first meeting of the Township Committee in December, twenty-four firemen, with their chief, appeared at the council meeting demanding that the council vote favorably on the \$12,500 American-La France fire engine. They threatened resignation if their demands were not met. A motion was finally made to purchase this engine, but it was never seconded. A week later, at a special meeting, the committee decided to receive bids in early January. This made the purchase of the fire engine out of the question for the remainder of the year, but eventually a Mack engine was purchased.

The Commission form of government was first considered by the residents of the Livingston on December 1, 1927 when a petition to change the government was presented to the Township Committee. From that date until the special election fifteen days later, this item was the topic of conversation among the residents.

The people supporting the change called themselves the Good Government League. Another organization was quickly formed which was known as the Citizens Committee. The Citizens Committee appealed to the citizens of Livingston to maintain the status quo. They believed that while Livingston might need a change of government, the traditions of over one hundred years should not be discarded without careful consideration. They argued that although a group of citizens in the township felt that a change in the form of government might remedy many problems, and there might be merit in their suggestions, two weeks was too short a period in which to make this important decision. On December 20, 1927, the motion to change the form of government was resoundly defeated by a record breaking number of votes.

As the period known as the "Roaring Twenties" came to a close, the township, as well as the nation as a whole, entered the Great Depression. The effects on Livingston would be substantial and they would slow the development that had been begun just a few years before.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 6

¹Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.28.

²Ibid., p.28.

³Lillias Collins Cook, interview held with William Page, Miriam Studley, Roseland, New Jersey, May 30, 1960.

⁴"General Sickles Will Come," Caldwell Progress, July 7, 1911, p.1.

⁵"Unveil Monument with Ceremonies," Caldwell Progress, September 20, 1913, p.8.

⁶"A Review of Livingston Township," Caldwell Progress, December 20, 1913, p.6.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.35.

⁹"Livingston Fire Department Started by Gun Club in '21," Newark Star Ledger, Fireman's Edition, Number 18, p.1.

¹⁰"Ku Klux Klan Again Meets in Livingston," West Essex Tribune, August 7, 1925, p.1.

CHAPTER 7

DEPRESSION, WAR AND PEACE

1930 - 1949

By 1930 the township of Livingston was in the throes of the Great Depression. There had been many changes in the last decade, Livingstonians found that they were called upon to make many adjustments to economic crisis and to the growth of the time. During this time, they were to feel the impact of World War II, but the residents still found time to celebrate events important to the town.

Real estate developments and increasing volumes of business gave rise to a charter for a local bank. Opening at Livingston Center in 1928, just months before the stock market crash, the new bank was able to weather the storm and remain open.

The reader will recall that in 1929, a Good Government League was formed to investigate changing Livingston's form of government. The resolution brought before the voters in December 20th of that year was, overwhelmingly defeated at the polls. Only one change resulted from the citizen's unhappiness with the current Township Committee structure. That change was the three-member committee was expanded to a five member committee.

The residents of the community banded together during the great economic crisis of 1929 and 1930 to help each other through hard times. Representatives of the leading organizations in the township gathered in

November of 1931 to form a Central Relief Bureau. The bureau's job was to assist the unemployed in finding jobs as well as to coordinate any work relief projects funded by the state.

It was estimated that over fifty families in the township needed relief. Seventy-five skilled and fifty unskilled male workers and twenty-four skilled and ten unskilled female were also jobless. The township committee outlined plans to have some of the unemployed in the community work on a major improvement project for the township. The work consisted of laying over twelve thousand feet of water mains on various roads in the township.¹

In April of 1936, with the discontinuance of the Emergency Relief Administration, the township established the position of Director of Welfare as well as a Welfare Department. Under the guidance of Harry MacDonough, the department's responsibilities included the investigation of relief applicants and the certification of people for Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects. Among the local WPA projects were sewing projects for women, road building, the laying of water mains and clearing of township lands for future development.

Preparations for Livingston's 125th Anniversary began in the spring of 1937. A committee was formed to plan the town wide celebration. Freeman Harrison was appointed chairman; Lillias Collins Cook, secretary; Leon O. Fisher, treasurer; and Edward Gaulkin, Reverend Lester N. Lawrence and George B. Schulte, members at large. The Committee believed that this was the time to establish an historical society for Livingston and Roseland.²

A meeting was held at the home of Congressman Kean for the purpose of organizing the Society and the celebration. A number of interested citizens attended the meeting to hear Freeman Harrison outline the proposed plans.³

In December the committee announced plans to publish a book on the history of the township. Representatives of the Federal Writers Project of the WPA informed the committee that it was possible to have its history written under their auspices with no expense to the Township other than for printing. The Township subsequently allocated monies in the budget for printing one thousand copies of the book.⁴

The first major event of the 125th anniversary was the celebration of Charter night on February 5th, 1938, with the celebration of Charter night, of the date on which the State Legislature had passed the act creating the township. Following the reading of the old charter from 1813, David Pierson, an historian from Orange gave a talk about the history of the area.

Two exhibitions took place. The first one was in March at Roosevelt School and the second one was in April at Harrison School. The residents of the community ransacked their attics and barns for items for display. Among the items on display at Roosevelt School were family documents of the Beach and Ward families and the minutes from the first township meeting. Toll receipts from the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike as well as the contract to build the first Squiertown school were also exhibited. For two days, hundreds of people came to see the variety of items that depicted early life in the township.⁵

An important part of the anniversary celebration was the play "Homespun Days" written by Lillias Collins Cook. The play was presented at the Northfield Baptist Church. An anniversary celebration week was scheduled in June. It began with a Youth day, when two hundred and sixty five Boy Scouts held a "camp-o-ree" in the field behind Roosevelt school. This was followed by a parade from Harrison School to Roosevelt School where concluding ceremonies were held.

The parade included floats; "bloomer girls" pedaling old bicycles; "horseless" carriages, the Volunteer Fire Department's engine "Mary Ann" and floats that portrayed events in the township's long history. The first prize went to the Northfield Baptist Church float. The Livingston Women's Club and the Kiwanis Club floats won second and third prizes, respectively.⁶

On July 7, 1938, the United States Government offered the township, through the Public Works Administration, funds for a sewer system. The offer was discussed at the July 7th Township Committee meeting and an advisory sewer committee was appointed. The Township passed a resolution accepting the funds from the Federal government.

A joint meeting of the citizens advisory committee and the Township Committee was held on July 21, 1938. The citizens committee requested that an informal referendum be held to ascertain the citizen's views concerning the construction of sewers. A motion was made for an informal non-binding referendum to be held on July 27, 1938. The referendum resulted in 451 negative votes and 357 in the affirmative. This vote was not to end the

matter.

On August 1, 1938, a petition signed by more than a thousand citizens was presented to the Township Committee. The petition urged the immediate construction of the sewers. The number of those signing the petition clarified the fact that the referendum vote was not really an accurate representation of the feelings of the community. After consideration, the sewer project was approved. On December 3, 1938 with a large group of citizens in attendance, the construction of the Livingston sewer system finally began. Herbert Mitschele Township Committeeman, had the honor of breaking ground at the corner of Burnet Street and East Hobart Gap Road.

The year 1939 was very productive for the township. In February the Township Committee announced plans to remodel the old Brennan home on Berkley Place into Livingston's first Township Hall. The conversion of the home was done with the help of the National Youth Administration. This would be the first time in one hundred and twenty six years that all departments and branches of Livingston's government would be centralized under one roof.

A second project that was completed in May of 1939 was Livingston's first official Post Office. This was the first separate postal facility within the township. Constructed by Freeman Harrison, it was leased to the federal government for five years.⁷

Lastly, one of the most important projects to be proposed was the construction of a civic center in the middle of the township. The project

called for the construction of ballfields, tennis courts, a recreation center, high school, and municipal building. This proposed civic center was the basis for the present government complex around Memorial Park.

The year 1940 was not too kind to the community. There were two major disasters in the township: the fire that destroyed the Northfield Baptist Church, and the blizzard that hit the township that winter.

Livingston's pride was also delt a blow in March of that year. After a recent ice storm, John B. Gambling of W.O.R. radio was going through the list of schools that were closed as a result of the storm. Coming to Livingston, he said, "Where is it? I've never seen it on the map. Is it in New Jersey?" Harry Hosking, chairman of the Planning Board promptly sat down and wrote a letter telling Mr. Gambling exactly where and what Livingston was. Mr. Gambling responded on the air: "Boys" he said, "we've got a serious situation. A whole community is mad at us." He told of the faux pas, read Hosking's letter and apologies were made.⁸

The Livingston Volunteer Fire Department was put to the test on February 1 of 1940 when a fire destroyed the 150 year old Northfield Baptist Church. The fire was discovered shortly after one o'clock in the afternoon by Leslie Rimback. Hearing a "roaring noise," he saw flames shooting through the roof and called the fire department. Blazing for over four hours, the fire totally destroyed the structure. Just as the firemen were about to leave, the huge bell fell forty feet from the belfry. The fire was caused by a gas explosion in the boiler room.

In early 1941, Livingston was once again forced to prepare for war.

In preparation, the Livingston Legion Americanism Council was established.⁹ This group held meetings to raise interest in civil defense. Throughout the fall of 1941, there were pleas published in the West Essex Tribune asking for civil defense personnel. On a national level, the Office of Civil Defense attempted to spark interest by creating National Civil Defense Week. They designated the week of November 11th through 16th.¹⁰ Livingston followed suit by scheduling the township's first test mobilization on Saturday, November 15. That afternoon, on the grounds of Roosevelt School, the volunteers performed first aid, extinguished fires, and controlled explosions while spectators watched from nearby grandstands.¹¹

The West Essex Tribune repeatedly informed the citizens of Livingston that if the war being waged in Europe ever advanced to the United States, Livingston was vulnerable to attack. The Curtiss-Wright propeller plant in Caldwell and the power station in Roseland were considered prime targets for enemy bombers. With the realization that Livingston could conceivably be a target, the township established a Civilian Defense Council.

The bombing at Pearl Harbor had a major impact on township wide participation in civil defense. Almost immediately, the Livingston Civilian Defense Council was reorganized into seven different units: Air Raid, Police and Fire, Transportation, Communications, Morale, Salvage and Medical.

The basic function of the Air Raid unit was to enforce the black-out and/or dim-out regulations as necessary. During a blackout, which was a protective measure designed to eliminate all lights and thus all landmarks

for enemy bombers, individual wardens would patrol their designated area for exposed lights. A dim-out was a restriction on exterior lighting up to thirteen miles from the shore, designated to protect coastal shipping.¹²

The Police and Fire units was composed of the police and fire departments. During a blackout, police were to ensure that traffic was off the roads, help those in trouble and enforce the blackouts. The fire department was to give first aid, extinguish fires and be prepared for potential action should there be an enemy bombing.

The Transportation Unit or Ladies Motor Corps served to transport Civil Defense personnel during the blackouts since no unauthorized vehicles were permitted on the roads during raids.¹³

The Communications Unit was comprised of the radio staff of the Livingston Amateur Radio Club and trained female volunteers. They assisted the police and participated in the emergency radio network of western Essex county.

The Morale Unit's role was to keep morale high. Headed by school superintendent Leon Fisher, the unit organized various events including a township Mother's Day celebration. One headline in the West Essex Tribune read:

"Fly the Flag this Sunday"

"The Livingston Civilian Morale Committee has asked us to remind all residents that this Sunday, June 14, 1942 is Flag Day, commemorating the first flag made by Betsy Ross. They ask that every loyal American join in honoring the flag, the nation and

the men in service by flying Old Glory this Sunday."¹⁴

The Medical Unit was divided into an ambulance squad and a corps of doctors and nurses. During drills, they were on alert and their function was to treat casualties should an incident occur.

The last unit, the Salvage Corps, collected paper and scrap metal for the War effort. Comprised of the Kiwanis Club, Board of Trade, Parent Teachers Association, Women's Club, Boy and Girl Scouts and representatives of the schools, this committee collected whatever was salvageable for the war effort. Almost every week an ad appeared in the West Essex Tribune asking residents to save the items listed below:

"Waste Paper - makes new paperboard to ship munitions, clothing and food for the soldiers at home and overseas."

"Old Rags - make needed materials for emergency buildings, wiping rags for war industries and reworked textiles."

"Scrap Metal - makes the steel, brass, copper, lead and other metals for the guns, planes, tanks, and ships necessary for victory."

"Old Rubber - makes new rubber for motorized forces for planes, tanks, and battleships, and for essential civilian needs."¹⁵

By October of 1942, this committee had collected over 195 tons of salvageable material, 100 tons more than was expected by the community. The committee remained active throughout the course of the War.

In 1942, the War effort was in full swing. By early February, over 600 Livingston men had registered for the draft. This represented almost

one tenth of the entire population of the township, estimated at 7,126. The Livingston Ration Board issued books to Livingston residents for sugar and gasoline. The theme for the July 4th parade that year was "Community At War."¹⁶

The parade, under the auspices of the Civilian Morale Committee, was intended to show what the community could do independently in a total war effort. The parade was divided into four divisions: elected and government officials; the Livingston Civilian Defense Council and its seven units; community organizations, both civic and patriotic; and the "Home Front," which was symbolized by the Essex County Good Will Commission.¹⁷

The war invaded all facets of life in Livingston. Besides the rationing, dim-outs, blackouts and salvage drives, a new type of worker was needed. A notice appeared in the West Essex Tribune which read: "Women Urged to Enter Industry." Wenonah Walher, Director of Recreation in Livingston, was the first woman from the town to leave for overseas duty. She left to be a field director of recreation for the Red Cross.

In July of 1942, Livingston women once again made national and local news. "Look" magazine was doing a series on American women. The third article in the series was devoted to the American housewife and it profiled Livingston resident Betty Morris. Later that year, by a margin of 312 votes, Mrs. Leslie N. Crichton became the first woman to serve on a Township Committee in Essex County.¹⁸

In 1943, war restrictions on local activities became increasingly apparent. At the end of January, one of the lead stories in the West Essex

Tribune bore the headline, "Driving to Church Allowed Only if You Live More Than Mile From Bus." Pleasure driving was banned so people were forced to walk. This resulted in a call for sidewalks by the Livingston Safety Council.

Along with all the other shortages caused by the war, there was also teacher shortage. The Board of Education changed its regulations to allow people with a teaching certificate from another state to become substitute teachers, but the real change occurred when the Board of Education amended its rules to permit married women to be hired as regular teachers. Prior to this time, only single women were permitted to teach in the public schools.

In late 1943, the State Department of Local Governments asked for a list of possible post-war capital improvements. The Township Committee spent one meeting having a wonderful time, as they put it, "dreaming." They came up with a list totaling \$1,210,203. This list did not even include a new town hall and police station.

During 1944 Livingston hit the national scene again. This time "Life" magazine printed an article with pictures of the town winning the War Production Banner for excellence in salvage. "Life" took pictures of all phases of the drive. It stated that Livingston had been selected as the best example of a small community's efforts on a scrap drive.

By the end of 1944, Livingston's residents were looking forward to both the end of the war and to Livingston's future. Plans were made for a civic center and for the expansion of the community. In a final

tabulation made at the close of the year, the township registrar of Vital Statistics announced that 176 babies had been born to Livingston families during the previous year. These births were believed to be the highest recorded number of births in Livingston's entire history!

The end of the War in Europe was observed quietly in the township, in contrast to the wild outbursts of enthusiasm in New York and Newark. The Livingston Civilian Defense Council was officially disbanded in July of 1945 by the Township Committee. At the same time, the entire council was appointed by Township Chairman Mitschele to serve as the Livingston War Memorial Fund Committee.

The sudden news that Japan had surrendered brought joy to Livingston as well as the rest of the nation. Response was immediate and vociferous, although no large demonstrations were held. Police reported that the township was noisy, but orderly during the evening. As soon as the news was heard, people with cars started blowing the horns, the township siren system was set off, and the township took on the appearance of Mardi Gras.

With the war over, Livingston returned to civilian life and continued its transformation from a rural farming community to a suburban township. Much of the news of the day was devoted to Livingston's development. The Planning Board was hard at work; the plans for the Civic Center were completed; debates over a proposed freeway persisted; new housing and housing for veterans was planned; zoning plans were drawn up and revised; and new industry began to move into the township.

Despite the growth in the town, the small town atmosphere had not

disappeared by any means. There was a blizzard in late February of 1946 that caused extensive traffic tie-ups. "The new horse-drawn sidewalk plow received its first test, and was reported to be satisfactory, despite the heaviness of the snow and the fact that county plows frequently went close to the edge."¹⁹

With the population growth that was occurring, it was once again necessary to build new schools. In July, five possible sites for future schools were selected. These sites were planned to provide schools within a mile of every section of the township. A conference was held to properly plan for the expansion of the township's school population.

Memorial Park was dedicated on the Fourth of July 1946, with an all day celebration. At the dedication ceremony, Township Chairman Mitschele said, "We rejoice in victory and the preservation of freedom and are grateful to the 832 Livingston men, over ten percent of the population, who fought for that freedom, grieving for the twenty five who did not return."²⁰

Livingston's population as of March 12, 1949 was 8,678 people. "The census indicates an increase of 2,718 people, or approximately fifty percent, since the official U.S. Census was taken in 1940."²¹ There were fears that the township was growing too fast. In a surprise move, the residents of Beaufort Avenue submitted petitions opposing the extension of the railroad as well as industry in Livingston. The petition also expressed the fear that there would be a large increase in the cost of various municipal services such as police, fire, water, and sewers.²²

As the decade of the 1940's came to a close there were many decisions

with which the township would be faced. During the first half of 1949, over a half million dollars worth of new building permits were issued. In August, National Suburban Centers of Massachusetts proposed the construction of a regional shopping center in the western portion of the township. The cost of this proposed center was over five million dollars. The township had to decide whether it wanted to retain its small town atmosphere by limiting its development or whether it should grow into a suburban community. If it decided in favor of the shopping center which was to be known as the Livingston Mall, Livingston would take the first step toward a change in its character. The decision was not required, however, because the plans were abandoned.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 7

¹"Township Committee Decides on Projects to Obtain State Aid," West Essex Tribune, November 19, 1931, p.1.

²"Historic Society Gets Started," West Essex Tribune, November 18, 1937, p.1.

³Ibid.

⁴"History of Livingston to be Written as Project," West Essex Tribune, December 9, 1937, p.1.

⁵"Many people pleased by 125th Anniversary Committee exhibit in Roosevelt School Saturday and Sunday," West Essex Tribune, March 24, 1938, p.1.

⁶Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.5.

⁷"Ceremonies Mark opening of Livingston Post Office Building," West Essex Tribune, May 4, 1939, p.1.

⁸"John Gambling of WOR Finds Out About Livingston, Promises to Make Visit Soon," West Essex Tribune, March 14, 1940, p.5.

⁹"Local War Veterans to Register Sunday for Possible Home Defense," West Essex Tribune, February 27, 1941, p.1.

¹⁰"To Observe Civil Defense Week Here," West Essex Tribune, October 30, 1941, p.1.

¹¹"Large Crowd Sees Local Defense Test," West Essex Tribune, November 20, 1941, p.1.

¹²"Army Orders Area Dimout," West Essex Tribune, April 30, 1942, p.1.

¹³"Women! Boy's! Your Services are Needed," West Essex Tribune, February 19, 1942, p.1.

¹⁴"Fly Flag This Sunday," West Essex Tribune, June 11, 1942, p.1.

¹⁵"Salvage For Victory," West Essex Tribune, February 12, 1942, p.1.

¹⁶"Community At War' to be Theme of Parade in July 4th Celebration," West Essex Tribune, June 25, 1942, p.1.

¹⁷Ibid.

¹⁸"Mrs. Critchton Wins Republican Nomination in Light Voting," West Essex Tribune, September 17, 1942, p.1.

¹⁹"Town Tied up by Blizzard," West Essex Tribune, February 21, 1946, p.1.

²⁰Speech by Herbert Mitschele on July 4th, 1946 at the Dedication of Memorial Park.

²¹"Livingston Census Shows 8,678 Persons," West Essex Tribune, March 24, 1949, p.1.

²²"Oppose Plan for Industry," West Essex Tribune, May 5, 1949, p.1.

CHAPTER 8

"LIVINGSTON GROWS UP"

1950 - 1980

Livingston's growth from 1950 through 1980 can best be described as the period in which the township truly became a suburban community. In this period of time, the government was completely reorganized, major highways were constructed, new government facilities were built and the township celebrated two significant historical events: the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its incorporation and the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the nation.

The year 1950 did not get off to such a good start in the township. A large area of the community was blacked out, and telephone service interrupted as a fire destroyed the old Bohnenberger barn on East Mount Pleasant Avenue. Over three thousand people came to watch the blaze, which spread quickly to the nearby telephone lines.

The sudden loss of power stopped the show at the Colony Movie Theater, just as one of the characters in "Battleground" said "Let's douse the light and go to sleep".¹ It took the audience about thirty seconds to realize the movie was not continuing.

In June of 1950, in a reorganization move intended to relieve the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department of extra duties, the ambulance service was set up as a separate unit. The new organization became the Livingston First Aid Squad.²

*Livingston
growth*
*The first page of this is on the
back of p 91*

The Board of Education published a report in the West Essex Tribune in July of 1950 about its long range plans. The rapid residential growth of the community had again outstripped the current school facilities. With the potential projected growth of the population to be one hundred thousand people, the Board of Education was again required to plan for the future. A survey confirmed that there was overcrowding in the schools. This forced the schools to use outside facilities wherever possible. The enrollment in the school system in January of that year was 1,172 pupils compared with an actual capacity of 980.

Livingston students of high school age attended classes in Caldwell, with the exception of a few students on Passaic Avenue who attended school in Millburn. The Board of Education was aware that by the year 1955, Livingston would have to have its own high school since Caldwell would need the space for its own residents.

The Board of Education report suggested a school-park setting for the future development of the community. The idea was to build a school adjacent to open space or a park. It would serve both as a buffer between the adjacent housing developments and the school and as a good recreational setting for the pupils. The report also recommended the eventual construction of over ten elementary schools, a junior high school and a high school.

In the following year, the Livingston Kiwanis Club urged the Township Committee to form a Charter Study Commission to study the possible reorganization of the government. They asked that the Committee put a

special referendum on the November ballot so that the citizens could make their feelings known.

The request was made in line with the provisions of the Faulkner Act, under which a municipality could reorganize its government. The procedure involved the election of a special charter commission to study the various forms of government and then propose the best one to the public.

The Township Committee refused to act on the proposal, suggesting that the matter be initiated by public petition. Such a petition required twenty percent of the voters in the township. The Kiwanis Club then began a campaign to acquire enough signatures to hold a referendum in the early part of 1952. Debate over whether or not to change the form of government went on for many months with articles and letters appearing in the local paper and the scheduling of public hearings.

By a narrow margin of one hundred and eighty six votes, the residents of Livingston defeated the proposal to change to the Council- Manager form of government. But the defeat did not mean that those interested in changing the government acquiesced. In January of 1954, several residents again appealed to the Township Committee to have a referendum to review the government. A referendum to approve a Charter Study Commission passed with 3,824 votes in favor and 615 against. Finally, in November of 1955, the Council-Manager form of government was approved by an overwhelming the voters by a four to one margin. The transition to the Council-Manager form of government would take place on January 1, 1957.

Several important events mark the late 50's. First, in February of

1956, St. Barnabas Hospital in Newark announced plans to construct a four hundred and fifty bed facility, "dedicated to the prevention and alleviation of disease".³ The new hospital, when completed in 1964, became the largest non-profit, non-sectarian general hospital in the State of New Jersey. This was decided after a study showed that more than seventy percent of the hospital's patients came from the Western Essex area.

During March of 1956, plans were once again announced for a regional shopping center at the intersection of South Orange Avenue and Walnut Street. An earlier proposal for the same site had been abandoned six years earlier. The plans were approved by the township in late July. They called for the center to be located on a sixty eight acre tract bounded by South Orange Avenue, Walnut Street and the Public Service high tension lines.⁴

One Livingston resident gained national attention during 1956. His name was Tom Courtney. Starting in 1954, Courtney set a new world record for the running of the 880 yard run. By August of 1956, the township was hosting various fundraising events to help defray the costs of Courtney's participation in the Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia. In November, Courtney won two gold medals, one for the 800 meter race and the second for his part in the American 1600 meter relay team.⁵

On January 1, 1957 the new Council-Manager form of government was implemented and it continues to exist today. Under this new system, the township's residents elected a Township Council just as they previously elected a Township Committee. The Council, in turn, chooses and appoints a professional Township Manager, charging him with the administration of any rules and ordinances it adopted. The first Township Manager was Robert

Harp, Harp relocated from North Adams, Massachusetts to take the position.

As provided by the Charter, the Manager is required to study the problems of the township, to collect and analyze relevant facts as the basis for his recommendations to the Council, and to provide for effective operation of the budget through sound purchasing and personnel practices. A full-time administrator, he is also available to the residents of the township for advice on their individual interactions with the various departments of the township government.

The Council also has the responsibility to appoint a Township Clerk. The Manager; however, is authorized to appoint subordinate officers and employees as needed and to delegate to department heads appropriate powers of appointment and dismissal.

There is a sharp separation between the legislative and administrative functions in the township government. The Council is responsible for long-range policy and planning, writing ordinances, adopting budgets, levying taxes, floating bonds, and on authorizing other municipal services. The Manager, on the other hand is responsible for the efficient administration of the day to day affairs.

At the time when Manager Harp took charge of the administration of Livingston's government there was an estimated population of 21,000 people. There were over 5,400 homes, 61 miles of streets, 10 schools and 176 acres of parkland. In that first year under the new form of government, a new Administrative Code was drafted and adopted, the fire house and the traffic circle were completed, and over fourteen acres of

parkland were added to the community.

The year 1959 saw the construction of a new hospital on Hillside Avenue. Known as West Essex General Hospital, the facility offered medical, surgical and emergency services for the residents of Livingston and the surrounding community.⁶

At approximately the same time, the library, which had been housed in a 77 year old clapboard structure, was deemed inadequate by both the library staff and many of the township residents. The interior of the structure provided for only 2,000 square feet of space, and housed over 25,000 volumes. There were, at the time, 5,000 active borrowers and a yearly circulation of 139,880 volumes.⁷ Consideration of planning a new facility were begun at this time.

Newark Academy decided to move from Newark to a 68 acre site just off South Orange Avenue that same year. In its 200 year history, the Academy had moved only three times. The original Academy was erected in 1774 in what is now Washington Park in Newark, but it was burned by the British in 1780. The school then relocated to a street which became known as "Academy" Street in Newark, where it remained until the early 1860's when it moved to High Street in order that the Academy Street site become a Federal Post Office.

The school then moved to the corner of First Street and Orange Street where it remained until the State of New Jersey condemned the land for the construction of Route 280. Newark Academy, after a heroic fundraising effort in 1964, opened its doors in the township of Livingston.⁸

In 1959, the township was graced by the presence of Eleanor Roosevelt, the widow of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Mrs. Roosevelt spoke to a crowd of over 900 people about her impressions of the international significance of the summit between President Eisenhower and Soviet Premier Khrushchev.⁹ Commenting on Mr. Khrushchev's remarks to the United Nations earlier that month, Mrs. Roosevelt stated:

"...total disarmament could not come about as easily as Secretary Khrushchev made it sound in his speech to the U.N....It can only work if all the nations of the world are members of the U.N. and agree upon it."¹⁰

As the decade coined "the sixties" came into being, Livingston was still undergoing the transformation that would eventually lead it to become an affluent suburban Essex community. But the community was unhappy with the taxes imposed by the County of Essex. On July 5, 1960, Mayor William Clark threatened that if Newark's welfare costs were shifted to the county government, it was indeed possible that the western Essex municipalities might seek legislation to have West Essex secede from Essex County and join Morris County. Municipalities like Livingston were opposed to the shift of the tax burden because they believed that the western Essex municipalities were already paying more than their fair share of county taxes, and that these communities were financing many county services enjoyed by Newark residents.

"West Essex communities are contributing 25 percent of their budget to county costs whereas Newark contributes only 10 percent," Clark declared. "Moreover, the ridiculous situation exists whereby the tax ratable value of Newark is only nine times the value of a small community

such as Livingston."¹¹

Clark continued: "In West Essex we recognize that Newark has problems. However, it would be just as logical for us to propose that, Newark absorb our excessive costs due to rapid growth such as new schools, sewer plants, water facilities and roads."¹² Nothing ever came of the Mayor's threat to secede from Essex County, although the problem with the county's taxes would haunt the township again in the future.

Because of the tremendous development occurring in the community, a group of residents from Livingston and Roseland formed an historic sites committee. They were concerned about the effect future development would have on the already dwindling number of historic sites and places within the community. Therefore, during the fall of 1961 they began to inventory those structures of historic value which were still standing in the township.

The inventory process took about one and one half years. Each structure was photographed, described, mapped out, and any and all information that could be gleaned from various sources was used to document it. This information would prove useful as the township looked ahead towards its sesquicentennial in 1963.

February 3, 1961, the residents of Livingston experienced one of the worst snowstorms since the Blizzard of 1888. On that Friday evening, it began to snow and by Saturday evening over twenty inches of snow had fallen. What made this storm unique was that after the storm had ended, there were several days of high wind gusts that caused severe drifting and

made it difficult to keep the roads and walkways clear. It took until the following Wednesday, February 8th, before the roads were passable, schools were able to reopen and life returned to normal.¹³

On October 2, 1962 the township was awakened by an explosion and fire that leveled the International Pump Plant on Dorsa Avenue. Considered the worst disaster in the history of the community, the explosion completely leveled the building and caused extensive damage to nearby structures. The walls of the building were found as far as three hundred feet from the site, and some pieces of the building were found as far as six hundred feet away.

The damage was not confined to just the industrial site. Nearby homes on Beaufort Avenue had broken windows and fallen ceilings. Many store windows in Livingston Center were shattered, and damage to store front windows in Roseland, Caldwell and Hanover were also reported.

At first, authorities thought that the explosion was at the nearby Nike base. Realizing that there was a real disaster at hand, many rescue units from the surrounding communities rushed to aid Livingston without waiting to be called. Luckily there was no loss of life, but damage was reported to be in the millions.¹⁴

On a happier note, on February 27, 1962, one year before the start of Livingston's Sesquicentennial year, Mayor George Cox initiated the planning for the event. He asked several individuals to attend a preliminary meeting two weeks later, with various civic leaders and members of the Township Council to begin planning for the Sesquicentennial. The result of

this initial endeavor was a celebration the likes of which had never been seen before in the history of Livingston.¹⁵

Twenty eight individuals attended this initial meeting. In the beginning, there was a great deal of confusion about what direction the celebration should take, but eventually the committee decided that the celebration should be centered around two major events. The events were to be a Grand Ball, with a colonial/historical theme, held on Founder's Day (February 5, 1963) and a Grand Weekend during the Fourth of July.¹⁶ At a later date, the plans for a Fourth of July celebration were dropped in favor of the Memorial Day weekend.¹⁷

Phase one of the Sesquicentennial took place as scheduled during the first week in February. By this time, the committee was very well organized. It moved into headquarters at the Force Home, which had just been acquired by the town.¹⁸ The committee's plans for this celebration week included private parties, religious recognition and participation in the anniversary and formal dances sponsored by various organizations.¹⁹ The most important event of the week was the Anniversary Party held on Founder's Day. Over 1,500 residents came to the Livingston High School auditorium. The crowd was so large many could not get seats and were obliged to go to the girls gymnasium to watch the event on closed circuit television.²⁰

During the week of May 24 - June 1, 1963 came the most spectacular phase of the celebration. On Monday, May 24th, the new Town Hall was dedicated, and later that evening the Livingston Council of the Arts and the Knights of Columbus presented a jointly sponsored minstrel show.

Beginning on Wednesday, May 29th, and running for four days was a large industrial exhibit in the girls gymnasium at Livingston High School. There were twenty five to thirty booths filled with displays that showed products produced in Livingston and their effect in the world.²¹ The industrial exhibit culminated on Saturday with tours and open houses at several local industrial sites.

Saturday evening was the highlight of the celebration, with a Gala Ball. Since there was no facility in Livingston that could accommodate the tremendous number of people that attended, the Ball was held in South Mountain Arena. One of the nice parts to the end of the celebration was the receipt by the Chairman of the following telegram:

Edward M. Connolly, Chairman
Sesquicentennial, Township of Livingston

On the occasion of the Sesquicentennial of the Township of Livingston, I am delighted to extend my congratulations and warm best wishes to all your citizens. This is a great milestone in the history of Livingston and one during which your accomplishments and progress can be recalled with pride and affection with the hope that Livingston will, in the years ahead, continue to prosper and grow even more vigorously than it has in the past hundred and fifty years.

John F. Kennedy²²

Besides the events described above, there were other things that were significant during the Sesquicentennial celebration. Although an historical society had been formed during the 125th Anniversary, it had been disbanded in 1939. Therefore, on March 18th, William K. Page was appointed chairman of an ad hoc committee to recommend the reformation of an historical society.

One of the major reasons for reviving the historical society was to put the Force Home to proper use. The Force Home had been acquired by the Town in the latter part of 1962. Serving on the committee with Page were: the Honorable Robert W. Kean, Freeman Harrison, Ruth Rockwood, Miriam Studley, Mrs. Peter Cooper, Bertha Swain, Edward Blake, James Dowd, Robert Harp, Dr. Harold Hoffman, William Klaber, Herbert Mitschele, John Pollack, Stanley Paton, William Sheridan and Robert Spohn.²³

The Livingston Historical Society had it's first meeting on September 23, 1963. The stated purpose of the Society was to foster and encourage an appreciation for and an understanding of the development of the Community. The Society would help to discover, collect, preserve, publish and exhibit any material which would help establish or illustrate the history of the area in all its facets.²⁴

The Township, was shocked by the news of the untimely death of President John F. Kennedy. The headline of the West Essex Tribune read, "Livingston Mourns Assassination of President Kennedy"²⁵ Every religious group in the community held special services for the slain President. The Veterans of Foreign Wars (V.F.W.), American Legion and Jewish War Veterans cooperatively organized a public memorial service at Memorial Park on the day of his funeral. The public and parochial schools were closed the day of the funeral, as were most of the businesses in town.

Livingston was represented in a special way at the President's funeral. Edward Nemith, a Livingston native, had the distinct honor of carrying the presidential flag right behind the casson carrying the President's flag

draped coffin. The nineteen year old was the head of the United States Navy Honor Guard, stationed in Washington, D.C.. Millions of people all over the world viewed the broadcast of this sad event.²⁶

The question of secession was brought up again in 1965. Mayor Axtell had considered that the nine townships beyond first mountain might entertain the idea about seceding from Essex to form a new county as far back as 1958. Mayor Axtell was unhappy about the county equalization tables which thrust a disproportionate share of the county's costs to Livingston.

The reader will recall that in 1960, Mayor Clark had also brought forward the idea of secession. This occurred when the City of Newark asked the New Jersey Legislature to take the burden of welfare costs and control away from municipalities in favor of having welfare run and paid for by the counties. By 1965, Clark who had become Mayor of Livingston for a second term, once again repeated his call for the Township to secede from Essex and join Morris County. The idea drew a great deal of criticism from not only Livingston officials, but also from Essex County and City of Newark.

Clark stated, "We're quite willing in Livingston to share in welfare costs for people who are not in the most fortunate circumstances. We're asking that the costs be spread equitably."²⁷ One of Clark's solutions was the elimination of the property tax in favor of a broad based tax. Another was that the costs associated with welfare be transferred to the state. This time, as in his earlier call for secession, no action was taken, and after a period of time the matter of a move for secession was forgotten.

The period of the late sixties saw some significant milestones reached. These included the construction of the town hall, public library and police headquarters. There was also the acquisition of over sixty acres of park land. A new master plan was adopted and the population grew from 23,870 in 1960 to 30,665 in 1970.

The decade of the seventies was also to see some significant achievements. In 1971, the first section of a north-south highway that would eventually link Route 24 in Chatham to Route 80 in Fairfield was completed. Known as Eisenhower Parkway, the section between Route 10 and South Orange Avenue was opened to traffic on October 14, 1971.

After twenty years of debate, planning and high expectations, on August 1, 1972, the Livingston Mall officially opened. The shopping center included three major department stores, and one hundred and eight small specialty stores. The net store floor area was 788,800 square feet and there was parking for over 5,000 automobiles.

In June of 1973, one of the most important events relative to the development of Livingston as a suburban community occurred. Although there had always been a reliable transportation system in the community, the township remained a community set apart from the rest of Essex County. On June 22, 1973 after close to twenty five years worth of planning and development, the interstate highway known as Route 280 was officially opened. This meant that Livingston was readily accessible to both Newark and New York by a major transportation artery. In many ways the highway could be viewed as a major asset to the community, but at the same time it

meant that Livingston would no longer be the quiet suburban municipality it had been for close to two hundred years.

With the new highway came further development. This development was different in that it was of a commercial nature. The completion of Eisenhower Parkway between Route 10 and Roseland, meant direct access to the Livingston Mall for great numbers of people. Businesses considering the new concept of office-park development began to look at the vast open space available in the community. For example, in the late 1970's the Becker Dairy Farm, long a landmark of both Livingston and Roseland was sold to several major developers who have since built a series of office complexes on this site which was once one of New Jersey's major dairy farms.

In 1976, the nation celebrated its Bicentennial. The township of Livingston similarly celebrated this momentous occasion. There was the Memorial Day Parade which was the largest ever held in the history of the township. It featured floats, musical units and marching units of all sorts as well as displays and floats from Town organizations.

The residents of Baker Road held their annual block party, but during this particular year they added a historical theme. The New Jersey Colonial Militia's Senior Fife and Drum Corps was invited to march along Baker Road playing music traditionally associated with the American Revolution. Many of the residents came dressed in colonial garb.

As a climax to its celebration, there were three gifts received by the Township all dedicated on October 9, 1976. First, through the courtesy of

the Oetiker Company, a four-faced clock, complete with chimes was installed in the cupola of the Township Hall.

Second, the Livingston Kiwanis Club had commissioned artist Edwin Havas, a former Livingston resident, to paint a mural for the north wall of the Council meeting room. Havas was also commissioned by the Livingston Art Association and Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Kean to create the third gift, a painting for the lobby of the Township Hall.

The year 1977 saw a significant change in the population of the Livingston School system. The graduating class of 1977 was the largest in the history of the school system, and it was also the beginning of a marked decline in the school systems overall population. Plans therefore had to be made to decide the fate of unneeded schools. In this period of time, several of the older schools were shut down and eventually sold. These included Roosevelt, Monmouth Court, and Squiertown. Roosevelt, which had been a school site for over one hundred and ninety years, is now a commercial office and retail center. Monmouth Court is a town community center, and Squiertown is used as a private school.

The last year of the decade, 1979 saw the township population reach its peak. For close to thirty years there had been a yearly increase in the population. In 1950, the population was 9,932; in 1960 it was 23,870; in 1970, 30,998, in 1979, 32,880. The year 1979 reflected building activity with a dollar value of over thirteen million. Most of the building was commercial; only forty-four new homes were actually constructed. This was the end of the building boom and the Township of Livingston's growth, which had begun back in the 1920's were also at an end.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 8

- ¹"Fire Destroys Bohnenburger Barn; Large Area Blacked Out as Power, Phone Cables Go Down," West Essex Tribune, March 9, 1950, p.1.
- ²"Set Up Local 1st Aid Squad," West Essex Tribune, June 1, 1950, p.1.
- ³"St. Barnabas to Build 450 Bed-Hospital Here; 10 Million Dollar Building Ready in 2 1/2 Years," West Essex Tribune, February 16, 1956, p.1.
- ⁴"Sommer's Brothers Propose Regional Shopping Center in Goodhardt Tract, West Livingston," West Essex Tribune, August 2, 1956, p.1.
- ⁵"Tom Courtney Sets New Meet Record; Wins Olympic 800 Meter in 1:47:7," West Essex Tribune, November 29, 1956, p.1.
- ⁶"To Start Construction of West Essex General Hospital Next Week; 42 Bed Unit to be Ready in November," West Essex Tribune, February 26, 1959, p.1.
- ⁷"Women Voters Report on Local Library," West Essex Tribune, March 19, 1959, sec.2, p.2.
- ⁸"Newark Academy May Move Here; Takes Option on 68 acre Tract," West Essex Tribune, April 9, 1959, p.1.
- ⁹"Total Disarmament is only way to Peace; but Must Involve all Nations, Says Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt," West Essex Tribune, October 29, 1959, p.1.
- ¹⁰Ibid.
- ¹¹"Livingston Mayor threatens secession on Welfare Issue," Newark Evening News, July 6, 1960, p.27.
- ¹²Ibid.
- ¹³"Town Still Digging Out from One of Worst Snow Storms in History of Area," West Essex Tribune, February 9, 1961, p.1.
- ¹⁴"Explosion levels International Pump Plant," West Essex Tribune, October 4, 1962, p.1.
- ¹⁵"What a Parade," West Essex Tribune, June 6, 1963, p.4.
- ¹⁶Livingston Sesquicentennial Executive Committee, minutes of meeting, April 11, 1962.
- ¹⁷Livingston Sesquicentennial Executive Committee, minutes of meeting, September 26, 1962.
- ¹⁸"Set Up Headquarters for Sesqui Centennial," West Essex Tribune,

February 14, 1963, p.1.

19 Livingston Sesquicentennial Events Committee, minutes from meetings of May 15 and June 11, 1962.

20 "Overflow Crowd at Town's 150th Birthday Celebration," West Essex Tribune, February 7, 1963, p.1.

21 "Plan Big Industrial Observance During Sesquicentennial Week," West Essex Tribune, March 21, 1963, p.1.

22 "Kennedy sends Greetings to Livingston on 150th Birthday," West Essex Tribune, May 29, 1963, p.1.

23 "Page to Head Committee to Set Up Livingston Historical Society," West Essex Tribune, March 21, 1963, p.1.

24 "Livingston Historical Society-Calendar of Events" 1979-1980.

25 "Livingston Mourns Assassination of President Kennedy," West Essex Tribune, November 27, 1963, p.1.

26 "Edward Nemeth Carries President's Flag in Funeral," West Essex Tribune, November 27, 1963, p.1.

27 "Clark Expands his reply to Critics of Secession," Newark Evening News, March 17, 1965, p.32.

CHAPTER 9

LIVINGSTON OF TODAY

1980 - 1988

In this the last chapter on the chronological history of Livingston, some of the milestones in the eight years that led up to the 175th Anniversary of the community are explored. Livingston today is quite different than the community it was 175 years ago, but the spirit of its residents and their goals have remained strikingly similar.

The census taken by the United States government showed a decline in the Township's population for the first time in 168 years. According to the federal government, Livingston's population in 1980 was 28,540.

The year 1982 was filled with pride for Livingston residents. The spotlight was on the township when local resident Thomas H. Kean was elected Governor of the State of New Jersey. Kean, a direct descendent of the Township's name sake, William Livingston, became the 48th Governor and the first resident from the Township to be elected to this position.

The headline from the West Essex Tribune of January 21, 1982 read "Inaugurate Kean as 48th Governor".¹ Nearly two thousand supporters, including many Livingston residents, attended the inaugural ceremonies in Trenton. The Livingston High School band played at the ceremonies. The Reverend Otto Lolk of St. Peter's Episcopal Church led a moment of silent meditation and then read a prayer.

The Governor broke with tradition when he decided not to relocate his family to the Governor's mansion in Princeton but to remain in his home

town. A reporter asked a member of the Governor's cabinet what it was that Livingston had over Princeton that made the Governor choose to live there? The cabinet member answered, "The Governor".²

1982 was also the year the Essex County celebrated its 300th Anniversary. The author was appointed to head up the county's official celebration. One event that took place was an exposition at the Livingston Mall in which each of the branches of County government presented a display. Among the items displayed were some of the early records of both Essex County and Livingston.

An event that startled the community occurred on November 19, 1982. Shortly after 4 P.M., two private aircraft, a twin engine Aero Commander and a single engine Cessna collided over the Township. The occupants of both planes were killed. The debris from the planes was scattered over a large section of the Township. Miraculously, none of the residents were hurt and no homes were damaged.³

Another milestone for Livingston in 1985 was the twenty ninth anniversary of the Council-Manager form of government. At the same time, Manager Harp announced his retirement plans effective in October. As the 1985 annual report states "In many respects, he (Robert Harp) was identified as being an integral part of this Township and is responsible for the foundations of honest and efficient public administration which has been the cornerstone of Livingston's public management."⁴

In November of that same year, the Township Council appointed Charles J. Tahaney as the second township manager under the present form of

government. Tahaney had been the Assistant to Mr. Harp from 1969 to 1979.

In 1986, a Livingston resident made national news after the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster in the Soviet Union. Edward Conklin an amateur radio operator was among the first individuals to obtain direct information from European countries concerning conditions and nuclear fallout. Direct communications were made with Kiev and the Ukraine.⁵

Television crews from both WOR and WABC came to Livingston to interview Conklin as he contacted several European countries. This was not the first time Mr. Conklin helped put Livingston on the "map." He had also been instrumental in helping people find their relatives after the earthquakes in both Italy and Mexico, and he was active in obtaining information during the Grenada invasion.

Plans for Livingston's 175th Anniversary Celebration began in the fall of 1987. An anniversary committee established the theme of the celebration as volunteerism. All of the local community organizations were asked to participate and a calendar of events was published. On February 13th, there was a celebration held at Township Hall.

The Council meeting room was full of residents, well wishers, and descendants of some of the community's founders. The program was conducted by Richard Peterman, president of the Livingston Historical Society. Among the honored guests at the Saturday afternoon ceremonies were Governor Thomas H. Kean, Congressman Dean Gallo, Freeholder Monroe Jay Lustbader, and Assemblyman Robert Franks.

The members of the Township Council: Thomas Adams, Robert Leopold, Michael Schlossberg, and David Wildstein, as well as Mayor William Shaunessy each spoke about a different aspect of the township. Mayor Shaunessy was presented with a replica of the original incorporation papers of the township from the personal collection of the author. The papers were framed by the Historical Society.

The highlight of the ceremony was when New Jersey Governor Thomas H. Kean spoke about the township's history, citing his pride in being a resident of the community. This was followed by a chronological history of Livingston presented by Township Manager Charles Tahaney and the author. The afternoon ended with the choral group from Livingston's Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons presenting several patriotic and inspirational songs.

There were other events and activities during the anniversary year, including a Gala Ball and Parade. The most important thing about the history of this community, is the pride that the residents have always had for the Township. It is that pride, and the willingness to get involved, that have made this community the wonderful place it is today. Livingston of 1988 can still be described as follows:

"The Township of Livingston is situated in a pleasant valley, west of the Orange Mountains, and extends west to the Passaic River...

Its physical features are romantic and inviting, some portions are hilly and others with gradual declivities, and said to have as deep and rich a soil as any in the State. It also contains many objects of curiosity and interest, among which is "Riker Hill," a promontory in the northern portion of the town, rising about 150 feet above the level of the surrounding country. The summit commands a very pleasing and extensive view."⁶

While this brief description was written in the Newark Daily Advertiser on December 29, 1859, it still describes the Township in many respects.

Although Livingston's population has grown, and the Township has been

~~extensively developed it is still a township which remembers its past,~~

and includes it in its plans for the future. This is Livingston at its

best!

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 9

¹"Inaugurate Kean as 48th Governor," West Essex Tribune, January 21, 1982, p.1.

²Kean, Thomas Howard, "Speech at Livingston 175th Anniversary Celebration," Township Hall, Livingston, February 13, 1988.

³Township of Livingston, Annual Report - 1985, p.7.

⁴"No local casualties from Mid-air collision," West Essex Tribune, November 24, 1982, p.1.

⁵"Resident Helps broadcasters obtain information on Chernobyl," West Essex Tribune, May 8, 1986, p.4.

⁶"Statistics of Livingston", Newark Daily Advertizer, December 29, 1859.

CHAPTER 10

LIVINGSTON'S INSTITUTIONS

There are six institutions in Livingston that over the years have helped to make the Township the special community it is today. They are the Auxiliary Police, Board of Education, Fire Department, First Aid Squad, Library, and Police Department. This chapter is devoted to the history of these fine institutions and the important services that they provide.

AUXILIARY POLICE

The Auxiliary Police were first organized in 1941 as part of the Civilian Defense Council. William L. Buerger was the chairman of the Council and the Auxiliary Police was headed by Police Sergeant William (Pete) Winans. In the beginning, the job of the auxiliaries was to assist in disaster work or as an additional police force should the town be under enemy attack during the war. As more men from the regular police force were called for military service, the auxiliaries filled in by riding with the regular police and by assisting wherever possible.

After World War II, there was no longer the need for an auxiliary police force, so it was disbanded. Then in 1949, with the re-activation of the Civilian Defense Council, the Auxiliary Police Force was re-activated. Captain Stephen Townley was placed in charge of the Livingston Auxiliary Police. There were forty seven men who volunteered for the force that

year. Each volunteer was required to be trained in various phases of first aid and police instruction including forty hours of practical police training.

By 1963, the force had grown to fifty three members. Certain requirements were set in order to remain on the force. Meetings were held once a month with lectures, movies and demonstrations to familiarize the Auxiliary with the latest information on first aid, crowd control, and other issues related to the police department. Each member was required to do traffic duty, to qualify to bear arms and to assist at various other auxiliary functions.

Since its inception, the Livingston Auxiliary Police have provided a multitude of services that the citizens of Livingston have utilized, and to which they have become accustomed over the years. Without the contributions made by these volunteers, the regular Police Department, with its present numbers, would find it difficult to render all of the functions now required of law enforcement agencies.

The Township of Livingston is fortunate to have an auxiliary police force. These men have never failed to respond to calls for assistance by the regular police department, whether for emergency situations or non-emergency duty. The Auxiliary Police are available on a twenty four hour, 365-day-per-year basis. Each year the Auxiliary Police log approximately 7,500 hours of service to the community.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The educational system has always been important in the history of Livingston. The first known school in Livingston is believed to have been established around 1782. There is no known documentation to establish the date firmly. "Pioneers of Old Northfield", written by Lillias Collins Cook, states that the settlers erected a little stone schoolhouse at the intersection of Northfield Road and Livingston Avenue but gives no exact date.

That one-room schoolhouse was known by many names: the Canoe Brook Meeting House, the Northfield Meeting House, and the Canoe Brook School Society. The crude stone structure, was erected "guiltless of mortar".¹ The building served several functions in addition to being used as a school. It was used for many years as a meeting place for the Northfield Baptist Church, and it was also used as a community meeting house. This was the only school in the area until 1804.

The first schoolmaster was George Gutherie. Gutherie not only taught school, he later went on to become an ordained Baptist minister in the Canoe Brook Baptist Society. Another early schoolmaster was Samuel Potter. Among the early documents, we find that Samuel Potter received from a parent on account for his daughter's schooling the following: "Samuel Potter, debtor to cash and tobacco 2/2 on January 28, 1794. February 20, 1794, one bushel potatoes 3/. to cash on molasses 4/. total 9/2 credit by schooling 9/2."²

A group of leading citizens from the area met in 1804 at William Ely's tavern for the purpose of establishing a second school. The original

document which is now recorded in the Essex County Clerk's Office, states:

"This certifies that the inhabitants have met at the house of William Ely agreeably to public notice set up ten days previous, and after assembled did then and there by plurality of voters incorporate themselves into a School Society agreeable to act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, and did then and there choose us the subscribers Trustees of said Corporation. And that we have taken and assumed the name of Trustees of Collumbia Village School Sosity (sic). Witness our hands and seals this 27th day of October 1804."³

The document was signed by Moses Ely, E.L. Collins and Peter Cook.

The name Columbia Village (or Collumbia Village) was chosen to distinguish it from the Canoe Brook School Society in the Northfield section of town. The new school society built a school on the north side of the old Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike, in the vicinity of the present day Livingston Center plaza.

For many years it was thought that these were the only two schools in Livingston at that early date. Recently, however, evidence has been found of another school, in the records of the County Clerk. This third school was incorporated in 1807 as the Cheapside School Association. It's founding members were: Joseph T. Hardy, Matthias Swaine and Stephen Morehouse, Jr..

For about five years these three schools served the community, and in 1812 a new clapboard building was erected to replace the decaying original one-room school in the Northfield section of the community. This new school, plus the schools of Columbia Village and Cheapside, served the town for many years.

It was not until September of 1832, that another school society was established. That society, formed by the residents of Squiertown, was actually the fifth school society in Livingston, because just a few years earlier, a school was established in the Centerville section, which is now part of Roseland.

Sometime after the Squiertown society was organized, the Washington Place School, sometimes known as the Washington Place Academy was established on Passaic Avenue near Parsonage Hill Road. The documentation concerning the founding of this school is believed lost, consequently the exact date of its incorporation is unknown. It is also possible that there is no documentation for the Washington Place Academy because it was originally the Cheapside School Association. It is thought that it may have eventually changed its name to the Washington Place Academy.

At the time that the original Washington Place Academy was constructed, schools were not tax supported. Each parent had to pay tuition in order for children to attend school. An example of a tuition bill can be found in the Sesquicentennial Supplement of the West Essex Tribune. It reports that in 1842 the cost to attend school for twenty nine days was ninety cents.⁴ The system for tuition changed however, in 1871, when a law was passed abolishing private tuition for public schools.

In 1845, Anthony Jacobus, a benefactor, left an endowment fund for the maintenance of the Washington Place School "forever". Unfortunately, the endowment was not large enough for its upkeep. Eventually the building became so unfit for use that it was moved behind the Baldwin cemetery and fell to pieces. The present structure was then built.

One of the more interesting teachers in the early schools in the township was Peter Butler. He became the schoolmaster at the Northfield school in the 1860's. Butler had originally studied to be a priest; he gave his pupils the benefit of his extensive training. Since he lived on the east side of Canoe Brook, whenever there was a heavy rain or the brook flooded he found it difficult to cross the brook to teach. His students would dutifully present themselves across the brook from Butler while he would shout "School's dismissed."⁵

By the early 1870's some of the original school structures began to show signs of decay and it was decided to replace them. In 1872, the Northfield school was torn down and a new structure put in its place. The new school was known as the District School #2. The old Columbia Village school was moved "to one side" to accommodate David Flynn who used it as a blacksmith shop. A new two story structure was constructed, but, for the first eighteen years only one room was used.

In 1889, James H. Brown and his wife, Catherine, deeded to the "Trustees of School District Number 23 of Essex County" for twenty dollars a tract of land to be used for the Washington Place Academy in Livingston. This piece of property gave the school a large tract with plenty of trees to be harvested for firewood to heat the school.

A board of education was first established in 1894, when the five district schoolhouses were taken over by one board, the predecessor of today's Livingston Board of Education. At that time teachers were paid thirty-five dollars monthly, quite a difference from the salaries of today.

There were five teachers altogether and a total salary expenditure of \$1,750 annually.

Not long after the Board of Education was established, there came a "Black Friday" in the District School #2 in Northfield. The morning session went well, but teacher O.D. Morey returned from lunch in an angry mood. He took out his anger on the innocent children, climaxing the day by dragging two little boys out in the hall and beating them severely. All of the students were subdued and frightened by this action. At that point, Frank W. Meeker, a member of the Board of Education and father of one of the little boys who had just been thrashed walked into the school. Mr. Morey became very nervous when he saw who the visitor was, but Mr. Meeker had come to visit the school and knew nothing about the affair. He chatted with Mr. Morey and then left.

That evening, when Mr. Meeker found his little boy crying after he was put to bed, he discovered the bruises. He also found out that his nephew had been treated in the same way. The Board of Education scheduled a session with Mr. O.D. Morey after which corporal punishment in the school system was forbidden. Mr. Morey was allowed to finish the few remaining weeks of the school year and after that was fired.⁸

In 1898, the Board of Education decided to convert the second story of the school on Mount Pleasant Avenue in Livingston center into a high school. John L. Hunt, who had been educated at Yale University, was the school's first principal. He planned and administered a four year curriculum, including all basic courses then required for college. The students were taught English, Latin, French, German, history and

mathematics.⁶ Some fifty to sixty students studied at the school each year, many coming from the surrounding communities. The first graduation took place in 1903. The graduating class had a total of four members: Matilda R. Hoch, William Collins, Minnie Collins (Ashby), and Ethel Hamilton.⁷

The State Board of Education discouraged the high school in Livingston since high schools existed in the larger surrounding towns of Caldwell and West Orange. As a result, the secondary program in Livingston was reduced to a three-year curriculum in 1909, a two year course in 1913, and was eventually eliminated in 1920. Secondary schools in Caldwell and West Orange served the township until 1955.

The improvement of the Livingston schools began in 1925 as a result of the growth in the community. The Board of Education decided to built a six room brick structure on the site of the District School #2 in Northfield center. The building, named Roosevelt School, was designed by a local carpenter, and completed in 1926. It was only two years later that additions were to be required.

In 1925, Squiertown School was the oldest existing school in the community. It had been remodeled in 1909 but prior to 1928 it remained a one room schoolhouse. In 1928, a four room addition was added.

As the town's population grew larger, it became necessary to erect another school in 1929. In that year the Livingston Board of Education decided to build the Amos W. Harrison School on North Livingston Avenue.⁹ The school was named in honor of Mr. Harrison, who had served as president

of the Board of Education for many years. The cornerstone of the building was laid on July 20, 1929 and by September it was in use.¹⁰

The modernization of Central School was the last attempt to build or modernize schools before the depression. Central School was built in 1911 at the corner of Cedar Street and South Livingston Avenue. The structure was built to replace the high school on Mount Pleasant Avenue, which had been condemned by the State Board of Education. The description of the school from an early article read:

"The building will be Colonial style, of red brick with gray stone trimmings and slate roof. An assembly room, with seating capacity for 200 persons, will be located in the basement. Three classrooms, two for thirty pupils each and one for thirty-six scholars, are to be on the first floor, as well as the principal's office and the library.

The second floor will have a classroom for thirty pupils and two recitation rooms, each to accommodate twenty scholars. There will also be a study hall large enough for fifty-four pupils, which may also be used as a classroom."¹¹

As previously stated, the high school program was eliminated in 1920. Central School, after its modernization in 1928, became a partial junior high school.

When the depression came to Livingston, building came to a halt here as it did all over the country. Many of the real estate developers went bankrupt and the town in turn acquired the properties through tax lien and foreclosure.¹² In this fashion all the land for future school development was acquired. "The most significant objective of the acquisition plan was to provide park-school sites of twenty to sixty acres a mile apart. This would enable all residents to travel one-half mile or less to a school or recreation area."¹³

In 1940, Leon Fisher, the superintendent of Livingston's schools, declared that the public schools were rapidly reaching their saturation point.¹⁴ The main reason that the problem occurred was that building had once again resumed in Livingston. Classes were overcrowded; sometimes over forty children were assigned to a classroom.

After World War II, rapid growth ensued as a building boom began in the Township. In 1949 a new junior high was built at Memorial Park. The very next year, a new elementary school was built to relieve the overcrowding at Roosevelt School. This new school was unusual, because the entire building was constructed with only one floor in order to make climbing stairs unnecessary.¹⁵ Named the Burnet Hill School, it opened on March 30, 1951. That same year it became necessary to build an addition of four rooms on to the newly finished school.

Soon another elementary school in the Roosevelt area was required. In 1952, Monmouth Court was built. The school had ten rooms and housed grades one through three, while Roosevelt housed grades four through six. Both schools were administered by the same principal.

In 1952, it became evident that yet another elementary school was needed. It was recommended by the Board of Education that Hillside School be built by September of 1954. But even with all of this construction, overcrowding in the elementary schools reach epidemic proportions. Additions to Harrison and Squiertown schools were needed. Kindergartens were held in the Recreation building at the Memorial Park. All rooms in the school system were utilized including the basements.¹⁶

In 1955 decisions were made to construct Collins and Mt. Pleasant Elementary schools. The buildings were to be completed by the Fall of 1956; however, a cement strike delayed the construction and neither building was completed until 1957.

The last elementary school to be built was Riker Hill. Discussions about the building began in October of 1962, the same year that additions were constructed on Harrison and Hillside schools. The outcome of the discussions about Riker Hill led not only to its construction, but also the addition of seven rooms to Collins School, seven rooms to Mt. Pleasant School and six rooms to Burnet Hill School.

Secondary education was by no means neglected during this period of growth in the township. With the partial conversion of the junior high at Memorial Park into the Livingston High School, it was necessary to construct a new junior high school. Mount Pleasant Junior High was completed in 1959 and the following year Heritage Junior High was built to alleviate the crowding at the high school.

The 1970's brought a time of unrest to the Livingston schools, in particular the high school. In 1970, a walkout occurred in protest of the examination policy of the principal. More importantly a case was brought to court concerning the right of free press. An underground newspaper, The Coalminer, was being published without the sponsorship of a teacher and was being distributed in the high school. The principal forbade its distribution and suspended the paper's editor. In response, the parents took the case to court which found in favor of the plaintiff.¹⁷ The case

was appealed by the Board of Education, but the Supreme Court of New Jersey would not overrule the decision.

By 1973, there was a decline in the student population began to occur. In 1973, Roosevelt school was closed, and in 1976 the students from Squiertown were merged with those of Riker Hill. Recommendations were made that included the closing of Monmouth Court and Squiertown.

The Livingston Board of Education is known as one of the best in the State of New Jersey. The educational programs are designed to meet the needs of students in a changing society. Livingston's teachers are highly respected. The programs and activities available to the students are a far cry from what was available when that little stone school was built in 1782.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Prior to 1922, if there was a fire in the Township of Livingston, the homeowner was forced to fight the fire on his own. Odds were slim that he could defeat a major blaze; his only sources of aid were his neighbors.

In 1922, after a fire destroyed the barn of Freeholder Amos W. Harrison, the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department was organized. John Ashby was elected chief, and Ralph Crane, Judson Sprigg and Thomas Collins were his assistants.

As mentioned earlier, the first fire headquarters was the wagon shed of Clarence Dougal. Stored in the shed were all the worldly possessions of the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department, consisting of twelve extinguishers, coats, boots and hats for twelve, and eighteen rubber tires.

On February 18, 1922 a fire of unknown origin broke out at the home of S.M. Savella on Livingston Avenue. This was the first call to be answered by the recently organized volunteer fire department. Members of the company responded quickly to the call sent by neighbors who discovered the blaze. The firemen formed a bucket brigade and quickly extinguished the fire.¹⁸

In 1923, Mrs. Sarah Harrison donated a plot of land on South Livingston Avenue and Oak Street as a site for a firehouse. Mr. Clarence Dougal, who had been instrumental in the organization of the department, submitted the low bid for the construction of the township's first firehouse.

About June of 1923, the Township Committee purchased a Reo chassis and the city of Newark gave the Township of Livingston an old chemical wagon which the firemen mounted on the Reo chassis. The first fire truck, "Mary Ann," was ready for use. Shortly thereafter, the Township Committee purchased six tire irons and hammers to be used as the first fire alarm.

In August 1927, Gottlieb Hockenjos, a Township Committeeman became Fire Chief. The following November a referendum was held for the purchase of a \$12,000 fire engine. The members of the Fire Department were in favor of buying a La France fire engine. However, in February of 1928, the Township Committee purchased a Mack fire engine because it was two dollars cheaper. All twenty four firemen promptly threatened resignation but to no avail. Several months later, when answering a fire alarm, the rear end of the fire engine fell out. This was quickly replaced by the Mack company at no cost.

The Township Committee then considered the advisability of having two paid drivers for the new fire truck. On April 1, 1929, the Township Committee appointed Elmer McPhail and Paul Zahn as a day and night driver, at salaries of \$2,500 and \$2,000 per year. On April 2, 1929, Hockenjos, (the Chief), and eighteen other men from the department resigned in protest. They formed the Livingston Pleasure Club in protest against having paid drivers, while the rest of the department was volunteer. When the remaining members of the department heard of the resignation of Hockenjos and the other eighteen members, they called a meeting at the fire house where they elected Clarence Dougal as the new chief.

On July 4, 1929, the cornerstone for the present firehouse was laid with fire companies throughout the state participating. Preceding

the event was a parade that ended at the firehouse. The volunteers built a fire drill tower at the rear of the new building. For four years the drill tower distinguished them from other volunteer fire departments in the state which had no such edifice. In 1937, it was discovered that the tower stood only partly on the property that had been donated by Mrs. Harrison. As a result the tower was torn down, but a year later a second tower was erected next to the present firehouse.

Chief Clarence Dougal was appointed as the first paid chief in 1938. The Township Committee passed this ordinance since they believed thought it was important that the fire chief be a salaried position. Under Dougal's direction the foundation was laid for today's fire department.

The department continued to operate with the one firehouse until 1949 when a second company was organized. The Northfield station was constructed to house the company and to insure a speedy response to the southern section of the township.

Dougal was succeeded by Chief Richard Quinn who served until 1952. Charles W. Schilling was then appointed as the fifth Chief of the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department. The department under Schilling's leadership has become one of the most efficient and well equipped paid or volunteer departments in the country.

In 1958 the third fire station was constructed at the Livingston traffic circle. In 1965, an addition was put on the original station, providing for five bays, offices and a squad room. The last addition was in 1975, when another engine bay and mechanic's area were added to the

original station.

In 1987 alone, the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department had responded to seven hundred and twenty one calls. There are presently sixty members of the department, with Charles Schilling as Chief, and Ralph Rea, Craig Handschuch and Craig Dufford serving as Deputy Chiefs. The Livingston Volunteer Fire Department continues to save the taxpayers of the Township of Livingston a great deal of money because of its voluntary status. The volunteers are truly dedicated to protecting the people of Livingston.

FIRST AID SQUAD

The Livingston First Aid Squad was started as an offshoot of the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department in 1933. A Packard automobile was converted into a rescue truck and equipped with first aid supplies and an inhalator. As the years progressed it became impractical for the fire department to operate both services. In 1950 the First Aid Squad split away from the Fire Department, although many of the men remained members of both organizations.

When founded in 1950, the squad had no permanent home. An extensive fundraising drive made it possible for the Squad to move into its own headquarters on East Cedar Street in 1957. The Squad remained at this location until 1980, when a new building was constructed next to the present fire headquarters at the site of the original fire house.

To become a member of the Livingston First Aid Squad, a volunteer must seek extensive training and certification. Presently there are thirty-six members of the squad. They operate three ambulances. During the year 1987, the Squad responded to in over three thousand calls. They, like the firemen, provide self-less service to the community.

LIVINGSTON LIBRARY

In 1902 an organization was founded in the Northfield section of the community known as the Northfield Social Club. In 1911, the members of the civic organization erected a club house near Canoe Brook on the property of Mrs. Francis MacQuaide. It was the concensus of the membership that to be of further service to the community they should open a free library at their clubhouse.

The first librarian was Lillias Collins Cook, Samuel MacQuaide was chosen as the trustee. The club sought the help of the State Library Commission so that the new library would be properly organized. This commission was instrumental in stocking the library in that it sent books to the library about twice a year. Then six hundred books were donated by the East Orange Library to help the Northfield library get off to a good start.

On November 13, 1912, a group of eight women, (two from the Caldwell-Roseland area and six from Livingston), formed a new club known as the C and L Circle. In 1913, six of the same women founded a new organization known as the Alpha Club. The six, Mrs. Ada Vincent, Mrs. Robert DeCamp, Mrs. John Ashby, Mrs. Ralph DeCamp and Mrs. William Ashby, met once a week, entertaining themselves with theater parties and book luncheons. Starting with two hundred volumes, they soon opened a small library in the closet of the Junior Order Hall. By 1916, the collection had grown to over 1,400 books.

In 1916, both clubs had accumulated so many books that they decided they needed larger working quarters. The Northfield club held a public meeting to survey the sentiments of the community toward a public library. Finding that there was a need for a library, the Northfield Social Club became the Northfield Free Library. With the permission of the Board of Education, it began operations from the old one-room District School #2.

At the same time, in Livingston Center the Alpha Club became incorporated as the Livingston Free Public Library. Since this club also needed additional space, its members approached the Board of Education about renting the old high school on East Mount Pleasant Avenue. Until its sale, the building was rented from the Board of Education for five dollars a year.

When Edwin Ely heard that the old school was to be sold, he bought the building at public auction for six hundred dollars and donated it to the library. Alexander Kean was also interested in purchasing the building for the library, but contributed to its maintenance instead. The two men continued to help the library through the purchase of equipment and books. In 1927, when Edwin Ely died, his will left an endowment of \$5,000 for the library.

In 1930, the building underwent extensive repairs. At the same time since the library services were becoming more extensively used, Miss Martha Devey was appointed as the first paid librarian. She replaced Mrs. Ada Vincent who had been the volunteer librarian for many years.

There was a great deal of competition between the two libraries.

In 1931, it was decided to hold a public referendum to decide whether the Northfield Library and the Livingston Library should be joined. A bitter dispute erupted, but the matter was eventually settled. In 1935, the combined libraries had over 12,000 volumes, with a total circulation of over 25,000.

The library continued to expand over the next two decades. On October 16, 1957, the Livingston Library Board of Trustees announced the replacement for Miss Devey who retired. Mrs. Ruth L. Rockwood was appointed librarian. One of the first things Mrs. Rockwood realized was that space was sorely needed. She started a campaign to build a new library built. In 1960, ground was broken for the construction of a new, larger library at Memorial Park. The building completed in 1961, was dedicated on December 4 of that year.

By 1975 the library collection included almost 100,000 volumes, 360 different periodicals, and many microfilms. It offered many programs for adults and children. Its circulation totaled over 275,000. At that point plans were formulated for expansion. In December of 1977, ground was broken for the addition on to the existing structure. About one and one half years later, the new wing was dedicated. This addition gave the library the capability to expand both its book collection and its services.

In the fall of 1980, Mrs. Rockwood announced that she would retire. She had served the town for twenty three years. Under her direction the library had grown tremendously. In February of 1981, Mrs. Leila-Jane Roberts was appointed the third Director of the Livingston Public Library.

The library had become one of the most important institutions in the community as well as Essex County. Presently there are over 110,000 volumes, and a circulation of 237,400. Under Mrs. Roberts direction, the library is being automated to make the services it provides more efficient. At this time the library building is being assessed to see how it can be made more useful for the vast variety of services and programs the Livingston Free Public Library now performs.

LIVINGSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

When the township was established in 1813, two men were elected as its first constables, Samuel Burnet Jr. and Benjamin DeCamp. No doubt the reason for having two constables was the size of the community. Samuel Burnet Jr. lived on the old Northfield Road(now known as West Hobart Gap Road), and Benjamin DeCamp lived in Centerville (now Roseland).

The April 12, 1813 township minutes detail the following:

"Know all men by these presents that we, Benjamin DeCamp, Cornelius Ball and Adonijah Edison of the Township of Livingston, County of Essex and State of New Jersey, are held and firmly bound unto the inhabitants of the Township of Livingston in the sum of two thousand dollars, for which payment will and truly to be made and done we bound ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators firmly by these presents."¹⁸

The entry goes on to indicate that such bonding was necessary because DeCamp had been elected constable; his money would not be returned until he had satisfactorily completed his term of office.

The early duties of the constables ranged from collecting license fees to the detecting of illegal distillers of hard cider. For the most part of Livingston seemed to be relatively crime-free. The most common offenses were swearing, drunkenness, theft and breaking the Sabbath.

In 1833, the Township became involved in the LeBlanc murder case, ending a relatively quiet twenty years. In the "Personal Memoirs" of Edwin Ely we find the following story:

"Samuel Sayre, an elderly and highly respected

citizen of Morristown, resided with his wife and a colored maid-servant in Morristown...On or about the 29th of April, 1833, Mr. Sayre, wishing to employ a gardener, engaged the services of Antoine LeBlanc.

On May 11, 1833, after nightfall, He (LeBlanc) induced Mr. Sayre to accompany him to the stable...and there terminated the old gentleman's existence, pursuing the same course with the employer's wife. Hastily and imperfectly he concealed the bodies of his victims beneath the manure heap...and gathering all the money and jewelry he could find,...which he packed in pillow cases, he started for New York.

LeBlanc pressed toward New York with all possible speed, but at Madison he left the direct course, owing to his unfamiliarity with a road which he travelled but once, and instead of following the Morris Turnpike by which he had come from the city, he turned to Hanover, and continued his eastward journey over the Mount Pleasant Turnpike...When between Morehousetown and Livingston (Center) he discarded his horse to continue on foot...

Following the trail of the fugitive, the officers passed through Hanover when the members of the Presbyterian Church were assembling for morning worship, the announcement of the crime creating great excitement...the meeting dismissed, and the men and boys of the congregation commenced a search for the murderer in the immediate neighborhood...and my cousin William Watson...told me that the woods lying south of his property, and those in other parts of the town were filled with searchers who came and went through the day."²⁰

LeBlanc was eventually captured at the Old Mosquito Tavern in the Hackensack Meadows. On September 6, 1833, he was convicted and hung. Among the many witnesses at LeBlanc's trial were Livingston residents David Morehouse, who discovered LeBlanc's horse, and Joseph Courter and Peter Cook, who testified that they had seen him early in the morning with a large bundle.

Another major event of the era was the breaking and entering of the Genung home in or around 1883 while the family was at church next door.

The Reverend Alexander Bastian, was holding Sunday services. No one in the congregation saw anything extraordinary in the stranger who stood in the vestibule. Just as the Reverend was pronouncing the benediction, a shrill whistle was heard and the stranger vanished. When the Genungs and Bastian who boarded with the Genungs, reached home, they found it stripped of all valuables. Only then did it become apparent that the stranger in the vestibule had been the "lookout" for the robbers and that his whistle had informed his companions that services were almost over. A full investigation took place, but the thieves were not apprehended.²¹

In the early 1900's someone broke into the township safe. The Township Committee offered a fifty dollar reward "to the person or persons who could give sufficient evidence to lead to the conviction of parties who shall commit burglary in the town."²²

In June of 1923, William Ashby was appointed as appointed chief of police by the Township Committee. He received no salary until February 1, 1929, when he became Livingston's first salaried chief.

The first police headquarters was located in the garage behind Chief Ashby's home on South Livingston Avenue. With only patrolmen Clifford Weimer and F.A. Correll to assist him, there were many times that the headquarters must be left unattended. If assistance was needed, Mrs. Ashby would hang a white dish towel out of an upstairs window as a signal to the cruising patrolmen. At night she would hang a lantern on the porch.

In the first two years that Livingston had a Police department there were several newsworthy incidents. The first was on February 24, 1925 when

a truck loaded with sixty-five half barrels of beer was captured in the Northfield section of town by Chief Ashby. The chief was making his usual rounds on his motorcycle when he saw the truck. His suspicions were aroused by the appearance of the load and he ordered the driver to stop the truck. He investigated the load and finding that it was beer, arrested the driver.²³

During the evening of November 19, 1925, Chief Ashby and Chief Thomas Gilhooley of the Essex County Park Police , led a raid on a bungalow on Roosevelt Avenue (now West Northfield Road) where they found morphine and highly intoxicating liquor. The police had been alerted that two women were being held captive. With the aide of a dozen policemen, the building was raided.²⁴ The bungalow turned out to be the headquarters of one of the biggest drug rings in the country. According to the reports, over twenty five people were arrested in New York and Philadelphia in connection with this drug ring.²⁵

In 1930 police headquarters was moved to the old firehouse. This solved the needs for space and security. By 1936 the force had four patrol cars and a one way radio system built by Martin Karig, a Livingston amateur radio operator.

On January 1, 1937, Richard G. Swain was appointed the township's second police chief. A few years after the appointment of Richard Swain as Chief of Police, the department was involved in a second murder case. Like the LeBlanc case, the actual murder was committed outside the boundaries of Livingston. The remains of a woman were found by hunters in the woods near Chestnut Street. The woman, who had been reported missing from Newark, was

found to have been murdered by an associate, who was sentenced to a lengthy jail term.

During World War II the size of the police force decreased to seven patrolmen, but with the population boom after the war, the force grew again.

One of the proud achievements of Chief Swain was the construction of the police station on South Livingston Avenue. Constructed in 1962, it provided the Livingston Police Department with a building solely designed for law enforcement for the first time.

In 1969 William Hucker, then a lieutenant, was named to succeed retiring Chief Swain. He served in the position as Chief until his retirement in 1980. Chief Hucker followed the traditions established by his predecessor and continued to build the department. Albert Fachet was appointed chief in 1980. He served until 1985.

Currently the Livingston Police Department is under the direction of Chief Donald Jones who was appointed in 1985. The department maintains daily twenty four hour protection to the community and its residents. The operation of the department is divided into two divisions, Uniform and Detective.

The Uniform Division is commanded by two captains who report directly to Chief Jones. The division is comprised of five lieutenants, five sergeants, a K-9 unit, twenty-seven patrolmen and six chancemen. The Uniform Division responds to many types of calls. As a result, its

officers must be trained in areas such as first aid, firearms, and criminal procedures. The mission of the Uniform Division is to maintain social order within the community.

The Detective Division has a six-man unit under the command of a detective captain. In addition to the captain, there is a sergeant and four detectives. It is the job of this division to follow up and investigate serious crimes that are reported in the community.

According to Chief Jones, the Livingston Police Department is the finest force in the State of New Jersey. It continues to build on the tradition and conduct established by Chief Richard Swain. The Livingston force is the only law enforcement agency in the country to maintain a strict hair and dress code. Chief Jones believes in discipline, integrity and efficiency for his department and his methods work. Since 1985, there has been a marked reduction of crime within the community.

The Livingston Police Department is the most highly educated police department in the State of New Jersey. Each officer is encouraged to advance his education and each officer is a specialist in an area of law enforcement.

The Livingston Police Department has always been aware of the ongoing needs for superior methods of training to insure the highest standard of safety to the residents of Livingston.

POST OFFICE

When the township of Livingston was established in 1913 the region had already had mail delivery three times a week, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. John Prince, a well-known and colorful character of the time, appointed himself mail carrier. He would regularly pick up mail for his neighbors in Northfield.²⁶

In 1857, Andrew Teed assumed the postmastership in the township. The post office was in the basement of his house on Mount Pleasant Avenue. Teed installed a row of glass jars, each labeled with a name of a resident and into these bottles would be deposited the individual's mail.

Amos W. Harrison followed Andrew Teed as postmaster in 1869. The post office was then transferred to the general store in Livingston Center. In 1875, a new general store was built by Harrison with accommodations for the mail. Harrison continued to be postmaster for forty years. The Post Office moved many times. It wasn't until 1939, that the township had a building dedicated solely to that purpose. As needs for space increased, the Post Office was moved several more times to meet the new demands.

Since 1939, there the post office has moved a few times. From 1959 until 1988, the post office was located in a building on South Livingston Avenue just south of the Fire Headquarters. In 1986, after several years of negotiations, the County of Essex sold its public works garage on West Mount Pleasant Avenue across from Hazel Avenue to the Federal Government for the purpose of building a modern postal facility. Completed in 1988,

the facility handles most of the mail in the community, although there is a small branch office in Northfield Center.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 10

¹Cook, Lillias Collins, Pioneers of Old Northfield, (Livingston, New Jersey, Tribune Publishing Company, 1954), p.2.

²Ibid., p.3.

³Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Clerks Office, Certificate of Incorporation, Columbia Village School Society, Liber A of Miscellaneous, p.51.

⁴"Livingston's Schools Have Been Focal Point of Community Effort," West Essex Tribune, Sesquicentennial Supplement, September 5, 1963, p.5.

⁵Cook, op. cit., p.28.

⁶Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.90.

⁷"This Year's Graduating Class is Far Cry in Size from First Class of Old High School," West Essex Tribune, June 20, 1957, p.1.

⁸"The Northfield School," West Essex Tribune, December 10, 1953.

⁹Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.88.

¹⁰Ibid.

¹¹"New Livingston Township Central School to Replace Present Building Condemned by the State Authority," Newark Sunday Call, July 1, 1911.

¹²Clark, Barry Phillip, Community Development Through Master Planning: A Case Study of Livingston, N.J., (Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Government, 1968), p.22.

¹³Ibid., p.21.

¹⁴"Forecasts School Congestion in Recent Report to Board," West Essex Tribune, March 13, 1941, p.1.

¹⁵"Plans Disclosed for Proposed Elementary School in Burnet Tract," West Essex Tribune, October 20, 1949, p.1.

¹⁶"May Avoid Part Time," West Essex Tribune, November 15, 1950, p.1.

¹⁷"Interim Policy on Non-School Publications Set by the Board of Education," West Essex Tribune, April 1, 1971, p.1.

¹⁸"Livingston Fire Loss \$300," Caldwell Progress, February 25, 1922, p.4.
¹⁹Township of Livingston, Minutes of Annual Meeting-April 13, 1813

²⁰Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.408.

²¹Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.32.

²²Ibid., p.33.

²³"Chief Ashby Seizes Truck Load of Beer," Caldwell Progress, February 27, 1925, p.1.

²⁴"Livingston Bungalow Raided by Police," Caldwell Progress, November 20, 1925, p.1.

²⁵"Dope Ring Uncovered by Livingston Raid," Caldwell Progress, February 12, 1926, p.1.

²⁶Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.38.

CHAPTER 11

HISTORIC HOMES AND BUILDINGS: PAST AND PRESENT

Livingston, like many other communities has its share of historic homes and sites. Since the community was settled before the American Revolution, there are still a fair number of structures still standing which were constructed during that period. In 1940, Livingston had the distinction of having more houses over one hundred years of age than any other community in the state.¹

The early settlers who built the first homes were simple, hardworking farmers. Homes were not built for comfort, but for usefulness and durability. Some structures were so sturdy that one resident, who lived on one of the old estates, recounted the problem in the demolition of one of the out buildings. The building had to be completely dismantled, piece by piece, just as it had been constructed some 150 years earlier.²

There are many styles of architecture to be found among the early buildings in our community. The earliest settlers were mainly from New England. They copied the Colonial style of architecture with some features from the Dutch style. The Dutch influence can be seen in several ways. One example is that some houses were built to face south, in disregard for facing the house to the road, even if it meant putting the back or a disdainful side to the road. Other Dutch features include the overhanging eaves and the popular Dutch or beehive oven.

During the Victorian era, many of these same farm houses were remodeled to reflect the mood of the period. Dormers, gables, leaded windows and the

ever popular gingerbread were added. Livingston is fortunate that many different styles of architecture, from the early 1700's to the present have survived.

Although some of the buildings described in this chapter have been demolished, their importance to the history of the community warrants their inclusion.

SAMO'S TAVERN

Constructed: 1765

Demolished: 1906

Nearly every community has its landmark, and Livingston was no exception. There are very few sites or buildings in western Essex communities that are more closely associated with local history than the building known as the Ely or Samo's tavern.

The early history of William Ely's tavern, sometimes called Uncle Billy's or Samo's tavern, is somewhat obscure. According to tradition, the tavern was built by William Ely, Jr. in 1765. Furthermore, William is supposed to have run the tavern until about 1790, when he built another tavern about one thousand feet to the west. There are many documented citations for a tavern on the Colonial highway in Canoe Brook, but the first mention of one being run by William Ely, Jr. occurs in 1724. It is quite possible that William Ely, Jr. helped in the construction of this building in 1765, but did not actually run the tavern himself until a later date.

A description of the structure reads:

"... it was large and of genuine character, an authentic Colonial beyond question. It was long, high and substantial and doubtless had great charm in its day. It faced easterly along the road to Northfield and the north end lay along what is now West Mount Pleasant Avenue. On the right, as one faced the building, there was a long projecting porch with railings, two windows and a doorway; on the left was another and more artistic porch. It was recessed, with a picturesque bluestone floor, two windows, a like number of columns supporting the floor above, and a wide, inviting door which in the old days led to the taproom.

The taproom was long and wide with great oak boards for flooring, and a big, comfortable fireplace in the south wall. To the rear was a spacious reception hall; above these two rooms was an immense ballroom, scene of frequent dances when the inn was busy and in its heyday. In the part of the building toward the highway was a central hall, with Colonial staircase, and several large rooms on each floor."³

In 1807, William Ely, Jr. died, willing both buildings to his son, James. James lived in the building until his death from typhus fever in April of 1815. Besides being a favorite stopping place for weary travellers on the stagecoach line, the building was also used as a local meeting place for the residents of the area.

In 1812, James sold the tavern to Isaac Samo a musician, and one-time orchestra leader of the old Park Theater in Park Row, New York. In 1813, according to a resolution passed by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey, the new Township of Livingston was to hold its organizational meeting at the tavern. For many years thereafter, the annual town meeting was held in the building. From 1819 until 1867 the ownership of the tavern changed hands several times. The owners included people such as Frederick Chapin, Jerry Campbell, Andrew M. Teed, Benjamin Teed, John Rose and Thomas Leyland. In 1867, the building was sold to the Harrison family who converted it into a private dwelling. In 1906, this landmark, which had stood since the days of the American Revolution, was torn down.

ELY AND HARRISON GENERAL STORE

Constructed: 1869

Still Standing

On the corner of East Mount Pleasant and South Livingston Avenues stands a building of historical importance. It is presently an office building, but back in the 1800's it was a general store.

The general store was a two story frame structure facing Mount Pleasant Avenue. It was built by Amos Harrison and referred to as Harrison's General store. This was the second structure to occupy this site. The first building was built before the American Revolution by the Ely family. For years it was a general store.

Around 1849, Rufus Harrison bought the Ely general store and Rufus' son, Amos took over the business in 1869. Amos had the original structure torn down about five years later and replaced it with the present structure. This continued to be the only general store in Livingston Center until 1922.

The general store was also used as a meeting place, a place of trade and as the United States Post Office. The last proprietor to run the general store was Mrs. Josephine Panek. The building's use as a general store came to an end in 1932, when the building was converted to the Livingston National Bank. The bank, the current First Jersey National Bank, maintained offices there until 1954. Since then this building has been the home of several other businesses including insurance and real estate.

BURNET TAVERN

Constructed: 1797

Demolished: 1950's

The old Burnet tavern stood on Hobart Gap Road, about a half mile west of Northfield Center. Constructed in 1797 by Samuel Burnet, the structure was run as the village tavern commencing in 1798. The building was a small ridge-roofed structure, with two floors and an attic with two extensions, one in the front with a sloping roof and one in the rear with a decked roof.⁴ At that time, Hobart Gap Road was the main road leading through the Northfield section of the township to Morristown.

The first stagecoach line running from New York to Easton, Pennsylvania ran on the old Northfield Road. When Samuel Burnet's tavern opened for business, it became one of the regular stops along the route. Samuel's daughter, Lucy Timms, along with her son A. Burnet Timms, ran the tavern from 1802 until about 1820.⁵ By that time, the new turnpike had opened in the northern section of the community, and Samuel's tavern became the new stopping point for the stagecoach line. In 1836, the Burnet family decided to close the tavern as business had moved to the other end of town.

HENRY WADE HOUSE

Constructed: 1771

Demolished: 1984

On a small knoll in the southern portion of Northfield Center at the corner of West Harrison and South Livingston Avenues stood the old Wade house. Known to many as the Henry Wade home, this house was an architecturally significant structure in our community.

The builder of the house, Henry Wells Wade was born in 1748, one of five sons of Jonathan and Dorothy (Wells) Wade of Elizabethtown, N.J. In 1770, for reasons unknown, Henry moved to the Canoe Brook settlement. According to Lillias C. Cook in her book "Pioneers of Old Northfield." Henry ran his sawmill for seven days and nights during the spring flood to cut timber for Livingston's first clapboard home.

When constructed in 1771, this one and one half story, garret clapboard house had three dormers on the second floor and was divided into four rooms on the first floor and two rooms above. An addition was added in 1866 on the north wall by Thomas Farley to serve as the first general store in Northfield.

In 1939, the Wade house was one of only two homes considered architecturally significant in the Historic American Building Survey conducted across the country. The structure was examined just before its demolition. The beams supporting the roof were still the original and each set, of which there were nine in all, were pegged and mortised together. The original wooden shingles remained, but had been covered over by more modern ones. The floor on the second story was the original; these oak

floorboards were over eighteen inches wide and supported by original beams between eight and ten inches thick.

The fireplace in the library on the first floor was original. Each brick surrounding the mantle was held in place by clay and mud. The original clapboard exterior remained, although it had been covered in the 1930's with asbestos shingles. The building was basically in the same condition as when it was built by Henry Wade some two hundred years before; it was a credit to its builder.

FORCE HOUSE

Constructed: 1740's

Still Standing

The Force Home, which stands across the street from the township hall, is one of the few pre-Revolutionary homesteads still standing in Livingston.

In or around the 1740's, Theophilus Ward purchased about 825 acres in Canoe Brook. Soon after he bought the land, he built a one-room house with a loft. Mr. Ward was not only a farmer, he also ran a sawmill which provided the materials for his new home.

In 1762, Mr. Ward decided to sell his farm, but he seems to have had difficulty in doing so. An advertisement similar to the one he put in the newspaper in 1762 appeared again in 1768. Finally, in the early 1770's, the farm was sold to John and Charity Badgley.

On April 7, 1777, 108 acres of the original Ward farm were sold by John and Charity Badgley to Mr. Samuel Force of Woodbridge. Samuel, in turn, gave the farm to his son, Thomas, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

After the war, Thomas returned to the farm at Canoe Brook, where he resumed his trade as a cobbler and owner of a sawmill. Thomas operated the sawmill until May of 1816, when his eighteen month old grandson, John Anderson, died as a result of a fall in the mill. The mill was never used again.

After his death in 1827, the property was willed to Thomas' son William. In 1839, William sold the property to John Emmons who, finding logging still profitable, decided to rebuild and operate the old sawmill once run by Thomas Force. He continued to run the mill until his death in 1869.

In 1884, the Emmons family sold the farm to Frank O'Riley, who remodeled the entire house and built a large barn to be used for horsebreeding. The farm was then known as the Oakwood Stock Farm and was run by O'Riley until the late 1920's.

After this, the land was sold several times until, the Township purchased the property in 1962. The home was restored by the Livingston Historical Society, which uses it as its headquarters.

The house was included on the National Register of Historic Sites and Places in February of 1982. This was the culmination of the twenty-year restoration effort by the members of the historical society.

WATSON HOUSE

Constructed: 1850

Demolished: 1930's

About fifty years ago, on the north side of West Mount Pleasant Avenue about one thousand feet west of Livingston Center, stood one of the finest Georgian mansions in the township. The house was constructed by William Watson in 1845. One of the largest homes in the community, it was a double frame building, three stories high, with seventeen rooms and all the modern conveniences of the time.⁶

In 1804, a young man named John Watson emigrated from Nottingham, England. He was born in 1784 to John and Martha Lee Watson and he accompanied his parents to this country. Upon arriving in America, they settled in New York City. John was a shoemaker by trade, but went to school to become a clergyman. His first assignment as a clergyman was the First Baptist Church of New York City.

Reverend Watson was married twice. His first wife was Phebe Smith. In 1811, John and Phebe left New York to settle in Livingston. The reason for their departure from New York is not known, however the Northfield Baptist Church was seeking a new minister. Around this time, the Reverend Moses Edwards, pastor of the Northfield Baptist Church, was moving to Bethel, Ohio. On May 6, 1818, Phebe Watson died and was buried in the Northfield Cemetery. Reverend Watson married Elizabeth Ely, the daughter of Moses and Rebecca Ely, in 1819.

The Watsons had three children: Benjamin Ely Watson, William Williamson Watson and Maria Watson. William was born in 1822. At the age of sixteen

left school to become an apprentice to a chairmaker in New York. After five years as an apprentice, William became a journeyman and later became a foreman with a New York firm. Because of his industrious nature, William soon became a partner in the Ingersoll, Jewett Company. He remained with this company for over thirty years until his retirement.

After his mother's death in 1844, William inherited the family estate on Mount Pleasant Avenue. About two years later, William married Nancy B. Teed, the daughter of Parker Teed. Shortly after his marriage, William began construction on a large mansion to replace the old farmhouse, which had been built about 1811. In 1851, the farmhouse was moved to a different location. The new Georgian-style mansion was the home of the Watsons for many years, until about 1925. At that time the estate, which consisted of 53 acres, was sold to Walter E. Fenner of West Orange. He then sold two acres and the mansion to Mr. John Looney of Morristown. The Looney family lived in the mansion for several years. In the mid-1930's a fire broke out, destroying the interior of the old mansion. It was eventually torn down.

ELY-BEACH HOUSE

Constructed: 1760's

Still Standing

About a quarter mile north of the Route 10 traffic circle on Beaufort Avenue stands one of the few remaining 18th century farmhouses in the community. Known throughout its history as the Beach house, it has been meticulously restored by its current owners.

For many years, the construction date and builder have been a mystery. It was built as a one-room, salt box style structure with a large fireplace on the western wall. This original room dates prior to the American Revolution. Tradition indicates that the home was built by a squatter who traded with Indians in the area.

The following information was gleaned from the Ely Memoirs:

"Riker Hill received its name in honor of Peter Riker, who lived in Colonial days, occupying a cabin in the woods about a mile and a quarter from the Ely residence. His dwelling was nearer the road leading from Roseland to Swinefield than to the road through Livingston, but it was a distance from either highway. He was the owner of ten acres of land which lay not exactly upon the top of the ridge, but a little westward of the crest."⁷

It is possible that the original owner was Peter Riker, since no known record exists as to what happened to this man, or who he was. In 1763, Captain William Ely is known to have bought several tracts of land in the vicinity of the home, and it is possible he owned the home and lived there prior to building his dwelling on the top of Riker Hill.

The second addition to the home was added just after the American

Revolution. This "new" addition was two full stories and a center hallway. The Dutch design hallway runs north to south, with connecting doors at either end.

This section of the home appears to have been built by Calvin Ely, the grandson of Captain William Ely. During the restoration, a Colonial sampler was found in this section, with the name Elizabeth Ann Ely-1818. Examination of the Ely genealogy indicates that Calvin was born in 1767 and died in 1832; he had a daughter Elizabeth Ann, who was born in 1810. From this and other data it is apparent that the Elys were living in the house prior to the first known records of ownership.

In 1826, the home and property were sold at a Sheriff's sale to Aaron and Phoebe Beach, newlyweds from Pine Brook. One story about Phoebe that has survived is as follows:

"Phoebe, becoming incensed at her horse one day, pulled up a stick to whip him. Noticing that the stick in her hands had roots, on impulse of the moment she planted it in the ground near the house. The stick then grew into a black walnut tree with a 13 foot circumference and a height of over 85 feet."⁸

In 1973, the tree was taken down, but a new black walnut is now growing up in its place.

The Beaches owned the home for only two years when it was sold to Marcus Beach. The home stayed in the family until 1912. It has been sold every ten years since. Over the past forty years, the various owners, realizing the historical significance of the home, began to restore it.

The home is a fine example of early American construction. The

foundation is of the dry stone type laid without mortar. Beams and rafters are of handhewn oak timbers four to six inches in width and mortised together with wooden pegs. The plaster walls are almost an inch thick.

EDWARDS HOUSE

Constructed: 1774

Demolished: 1929

On a slight knoll, near Northfield center facing south stood an old clapboard house. The structure was a typical colonial farmhouse, without pretense of beauty, but sturdy and serviceable. Built by Moses Edwards, the house was in the Edwards family for over 150 years.

Constructed along a lane, that became known as "Deacon's lane"⁹, the house had four good sized rooms on the first floor, divided by a large hall that opened both at the front and back. The second floor had the same number of rooms and above there was a large attic.

The house stood several hundred feet from the road along present day South Livingston Avenue, with a large variety of flower gardens and elm trees in the front. Behind the house was the well sweep, and Indian stone hollowed out years before, which was always filled with water for any hen or chicken who came for a drink.¹⁰

The house remained in the Edwards family until it was sold in 1894 by Mrs. Hannah Edwards Baldwin and her husband, Jeptha Baldwin to Mr. J.M. Jones of New York. Jones let the farmhouse fall into disuse.

In June of 1929, the Livingston Fire Department set fire to the old house, which had fallen into decay. Motorists and residents flocked to the neighborhood to watch one of the links between the Livingston of early days and the Livingston of the future, go up in flames.

ELY TAVERN

Constructed: 1798

Demolished: 1967

Just two short blocks west of Livingston Center on a slight slope on the south side of West Mount Pleasant Avenue, there stood a building that served as the second tavern in the Teedtown section of Livingston. Built in two distinct sections that were later combined into one, it opened as a tavern in 1798.

At the time the house was built, it was within the township of Caldwell since it was on the north side of the Colonial road. In 1806, when the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike was constructed, the road was realigned. The house was then said to be in the township of Springfield. Edwin Ely, in his "Personal Memoirs" gives the following description of the house:

"...shortly before the close of the eighteenth century he built or bought the house now owned by Mrs. Sarah Blodgett, on the south side of the turnpike farther toward the west, which building, it is said, he also devoted to tavern purposes. This structure was not built upon the Gardner tract, but on the opposite (north) side of the old road, and it stands with its rear to the turnpike, which was opened after its erection. It is of very substantial construction, the frame being filled in with brick, and was doubtless considered by its builders a remarkably fine mansion."¹¹

The house was the home of William Ely, Jr. until his death in 1807. On June 30, 1798, he had conveyed to his son James an equal undivided half interest in the house. James was willed the entire property when William died.

On March 5, 1808, an advertisement appeared in the Sentinel of Freedom

concerning the property. It appears that upon William's death, James had two houses to maintain, so he put this one up for sale. The advertisement read:

FOR SALE OR RENT

From the first of May next, the STAND whereon the subscriber now lives situated on the main road from Newark to Morristown, at the crossroad leading from Springfield to Caldwell, near the stand formerly kept by William Ely, dec.. The house is large, two stories high, with three rooms on a floor, and a large kitchen adjoining, a good well of water at the door, a good cellar under the whole, a good barn and shed, an ice house etc., a large blacksmith shop, all in good repair. There will be sold with it 7 acres of arable land adjoining with an orchard of about 100 apple trees, and as many peach trees, a part of which begins to bear. There will also be sold if required from 5 to 20 acres of land adjoining, covered with a thrifty growth of young wood and timber. The above premises is well calculated for a Public House, as there has been one kept within 60 rods for above 20 years last by William Ely, dec. and this is now the only public house from Orange to Hanover, and as the Newark and Mount Pleasant Turnpike is laid just by the door, and will probably be completed in one year, it will render it an object from any wishing to enter in that line of business."

James Ely¹²

Once James sold the property it changed hands several times, and for a period of time was owned by his cousins, the Watsons. Eventually it was no longer used as a private dwelling, and was used as a commercial establishment. By 1967, the elements had rotted the important support beams in the attic and around the chimneys, and it was decided to demolish the structure. Thus, the last of Livingston's early taverns became a part of the past.

JONATHAN SQUIER HOUSE

Constructed: 1744

Demolished: 1977

Along the bend of Walnut Street, at the corner of Squier Court, stood the oldest house constructed in the township of Livingston. Built by Jonathan Squier in 1744 after acquiring 782 acres of land in the western section of the community, the original portion of the house was of a simple salt box style with two rooms on the first floor and a loft above.

In the early 1800's the house was enlarged. The kitchen, once an outside shed with a stone oven, was added on to the house. Years later, the house had some ornamentation added to the exterior to give it a Victorian flavor.

Nine generations of the Squier family have lived in the old homestead. In 1963, the house was known to have had the oldest continuous family occupancy in the West Essex area and perhaps the State of New Jersey. After the death of Gilbert Squier in 1968, the house remained vacant for many years, and was eventually sold for development. Although the developers and the township went to great lengths to find someone to restore the house, the home was eventually demolished. Upon hearing of the building's demise, a local resident, Michael Kramer, was given permission to carefully dismantle the original section built in 1744, and the building was removed piece by piece to Boonton, New Jersey.

ELY MANSION

Constructed: 1811

Still Standing

One of the most prominent homes of the community still stands about 200 feet west of Hillside Avenue on West Mount Pleasant Avenue. Built in 1811 by Moses Ely, the house and its original residents were among the first settlers in the area.

Captain William Ely, the patriarch of the Ely family of Livingston, arrived in the township in 1751. He purchased a tract of fifty acres on the south side of Mount Pleasant Avenue from Thomas Gardner. The property is thought to have run from the intersection of Mount Pleasant and Livingston Avenues westward to Hillside Avenue. It is not known where the Captain's first residence stood on this tract, although Edwin Ely in his "Personal Memoirs" said that it stood on the site of the Ely tavern.

In 1757, Captain Ely bought 89 acres of land on Riker Hill on the north side of Mount Pleasant Avenue from Mrs. Euphemia Arabella Leonard, widow of Henry Leonard and daughter of Michael Kearny. He then built himself a new home on this tract. It is quite possible that the Captain was one of the first settlers to live on Riker Hill. This new residence was on the north side of the Colonial road and part of it was demolished in the mid-1800's. The kitchen section was moved by John Ely down to Hillside avenue just south of the Ely cemetery.

At about the time of Captain Ely's death, his son Moses left his house in New York and returned to Livingston, where he decided to devote his time to farming. He bought the family homestead on Riker Hill from his brother

William. In 1811, Moses built a new house closer to the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike, which had opened a few years earlier. With the abandonment of the old Colonial road, the old family dwelling was now quite some distance from the road.

In 1853, Moses Ely's son Epaphras C. and his family began spending the summer months on the Ely farm. The house, although large for its day, required that several changes be made to accommodate the large number of people living there.

About 1873, the members of the Ely family began to discuss the various shortcomings of the primitive farmhouse built in 1811. They began to plan the construction of a larger, more elegant structure. This, of course, would have meant demolishing the old structure, which Ambrose Ely refused to do. Expressing a willingness to spend any reasonable sum to enlarge, remodel and beautify the old house, Ambrose undertook the difficult task of altering the old farmhouse into an artistic villa. As Edwin Ely told the story:

"In the early spring of 1875, Ambrose resumed his operations on a much more extensive scale--so extensive that the appearance of the house was totally changed. The architect who planned and supervised the work was Joseph Dodd of Orange and the builder was Charles B. Meeker of the same place, a cousin of our foreman Moses Meeker. Few important alterations were made at this time in the upper story, other than constructing a gable in the centre of the front and rear, enlarging the dormers, and fashioning more artistic chimney shafts, but the parlor floor and the exterior of the building were completely transformed. The outside work included new clapboards, a new and ornamental roof, and a front piazza terminating at the east end in a porte-cochere. The front story was largely torn out and rebuilt."¹³

In 1877, the house became the residence of Smith Ely, the ex-Mayor of

New York City. Smith lived on the two hundred acre estate until his death in 1911. His brother, Edwin A. Ely, inherited the house. Edwin spent the summer months at the estate. Upon his death the house remained empty for several years. It was eventually sold to Thomas Cannon, the town tax assessor, whose grandparents were caretakers of the Ely estate when the family took up residence in New York. The house, rich with an important history; remains one of the most impressive Victorian mansions in the township.

DICKINSON HOUSE

Constructed: 1803

Still Standing

Situated in the southwest corner of Livingston, standing on East Orange Water Reserve property is a house steeped in history. Built near the banks of the Passaic River, the house and the area surrounding it are a living reminder of America's early heritage.

About 250 years ago, Bern Dickinson, a young settler, built a home by a hairpin turn of the Passaic River. Dickinson purchased 365 acres in an area that was used by the Lenni Lenape Indians as one of their encampments. In 1802, a fire destroyed this early dwelling. Bern's great-great-grandson Israel began construction on the present twelve room house, complete with "witch doors." These were used to guard the entrances to rooms during the period when it was widely believed that witches roamed the countryside and could be shut out if the sign of the cross was on the doors.

Many prominent people have visited the Dickinson house including President Theodore Roosevelt. At one time the house was considered a veritable wildlife museum. David Brainard Dickinson was known as the John Burroughs of New Jersey.¹⁴ He carefully indexed and arranged thousands of specimens of bird eggs, as well as a collection of stuffed birds native to the area. Both collections were considered the most extensive of their kind in the world.¹⁵

TEED HOUSE

Constructed: 1780

Demolished: 1963

About a third of a mile east of Livingston Center, on the south side of East Mount Pleasant Avenue near the banks of Canoe Brook, stood the old Teed house. The house was built about 200 years ago, when Andrew Teed and his wife Rachel moved to Livingston from Westchester County, New York.

The little white clapboard house originally faced south, but in later years a porch was added on the north side of the house facing the road. For many years this was the original home of the Teed family. It was also known as the Parker Teed house.

SAMUEL SQUIER HOUSE

Constructed: 1790

Still Standing

Situated on the hill along Hillside Avenue, just south of Northfield Road stands the Samuel Squier House. When and who actually built the house is not known, but in 1813, the house was owned by Samuel Squier Jr., who was the first town clerk of the newly incorporated Township of Livingston in 1813. The house was built in two sections, the southwest section constructed first. The overhang of the gable and the porch were added in Victorian Times. The house has been meticulously restored by its present owners.

WILLIAMS-CONDIT HOUSE

Constructed: 1790

Demolished: 1964

Near the corner of Walnut Street and South Orange Avenue stood one of Livingston's oldest homesteads. As early as 1746, Nathaniel Williams constructed his homestead on this site. After a number of years, the original homestead was torn down, and a second structure was erected on the site. Two additions were added, one around 1835 and another in the late 1800's.

In the early 1800's, the Williams family intermarried with the Condit family, and the owner of the house was Hiram Condit. The house was a typical nineteenth century farmhouse, but what distinguishes this property is not only the main house, but the adjacent "wash" or "cook house."

According to an architectural historian, this wash or cook house was probably used as a slave quarters, since it is known that the Williams family owned slaves. Eventually, the house was used as a summer kitchen, since there is a Dutch oven built into one of the walls. When it was learned that the this building as well as the main house were to be demolished to make way for the Mall, it was moved to its present site, behind the Force House at Memorial Park.

The "Cook House" as it is now known has been carefully restored by the Livingston Historical Society. The house, along with the Force Home, are both registered on the State and National Registers of Historic Sites and Places.

WARD-LITTELL HOUSE

Constructed: 1740

Still Standing

On the west side of Hillside Avenue, halfway between Northfield Road and Mount Pleasant Avenue, stands the old Littell house. Originally owned by a member of the Ward family, the house eventually came into possession of the Littell family just prior to the American Revolution. It is thought that Captain Eliakim Littell lived there.

In 1760, the first addition was added onto the existing two story, two room house. This addition was a lean-to added to the rear of the house. In about 1780, a kitchen was added to the south end of the house with a second floor for sleeping quarters. Finally, in 1840 the third addition, a formal living room, was built over the root cellar on the north side of the house.

The house remained in the Littell family until 1956, when it was sold. Since this time it has had three owners, but the house has been kept much in the same condition as when it was constructed almost 200 years ago.

BEACH-BAER HOUSE

Constructed: 1790's

Still Standing

About five hundred feet north of the Ely-Beach house, on the west side of Beaufort Avenue stands the old Beach-Baer house. Tradition says that after Duane Beach was married, he took his bride and moved across the street from his parental home. It is not known if he built the house, or if it was already standing when he moved in, but it is of similar construction to that of his parent's home in that it faces south and is of similar design.

Until recently, an old barn with a fourteen foot high fieldstone foundation bearing the date 1803 stood behind the house. The name George Morehouse was cut into the surface; this could mean that the house was owned by the Morehouse family for a period of time.

CRANE HOUSE

Constructed: 1780

Still Standing

On the bend of Dellmead Drive stands another of Livingston's older homes. It was built about 1780, at the corner of West Hobart Gap Road and Walnut Street, across from the Livingston Methodist Church. In 1810, the home was sold to Caleb Tichenor and his wife Apphia of Newark. According to tradition, the dwelling had a wide variety of uses. It served as a tavern during the Revolutionary War and later as a home and headquarters for a dairy farm.

After Caleb Tichenor's death, the property was inherited by his daughter Katherine who married Uzal Johnson. After the Johnsons' death, the house was willed to their daughter, Mary Johnson, who married Issac S. Crane. The Crane family ran a dairy business from the dwelling from 1858. Until fairly recently, the home had been in the family for over eight generations. From the Cranes, the house passed into ownership of the Jewell family, who were related to the Tichenors. It stayed in that family until a few years ago.

In 1955, the building was moved about eight hundred feet west off the intersection of Walnut Street and West Hobart Gap Road. It took several weeks to move the fourteen room house which weighed about two hundred tons. The house now faces north on a slight incline on Dellmead Drive.

CHARLES M. SQUIER HOUSE

Constructed: 1750

Demolished: 1986

One of Livingston's earlier dwellings stood at the southwest corner of Northfield and Hillside Avenues. Although it is not presently known who built the home or exactly when it was constructed, tradition says the home was built by a member of the Squier family.

The house was built in two distinct sections. The oldest was on the eastern section closest to Hillside Avenue. To 1979, this section, had not been altered. It was obviously a one room dwelling with a loft. The oak floorboards were at least eighteen inches wide and the hearth contained a Dutch oven. The original front of the house faced south, and the door, including its leather hinges, was still intact. It appears that the western section of the house was added around 1800. This section included a central hall, two rooms on the first floor and two rooms on the second. The fireplace mantle in the front parlor was unique in that ornamental carvings of deer heads complete with antlers protruded from the mantle. The dining room had a Federal style mantle complete with built-in cabinets surrounding the fireplace. The house may have been built by Nathaniel Squier Jr. but this is only speculation.

TOMPKINS HOUSE

Constructed: 1800

Still Standing

At the very end of Beaufort Avenue, almost at the Roseland border, stands a house whose age is not apparent at first glance. The house, which faces south, was built in two parts in very different periods. Known as the Tompkins house, the house was owned by this family for many years.

The western side of the house, which appears to be of earlier construction, is Dutch in style. The eastern side of the house was added later and is strongly English in style. During the Civil War, the deep roofed porch was added as well as the second story dormers. It is not known who built the house or who its earliest occupants were.

ELY WINDMILL

Constructed: 1896

Demolished: 1936

Although not as old as many of the dwellings previously described, the Ely windmill was one of Livingston's most distinguished landmarks for close to forty years.

In 1896, Ambrose Kitchell Ely, one of the sons of Epaphras C. and Julia K. Ely, contracted with Sidney Winans to build a windmill on top of Riker Hill at a cost of \$5,000. The windmill tower was twelve feet square and sixty-six feet high. The well that was directly underneath the structure was over two hundred and fifty feet deep. Perched about forty feet up on the inside of the tower enclosure was a 5,000 gallon water tank.

For forty years this building was a familiar landmark in the community. On Saturday, December 26, 1936, the windmill, which had fallen into a state of complete disrepair, was demolished. At exactly noon, with many spectators watching including three of the original men who helped build the mill, dynamite was placed at the base of two corners of the foundation. After the plunger was pushed, the windmill came crashing to the ground, and a familiar landmark was no more.¹⁶

BALDWIN-BROWN HOUSE

Constructed: 1797

Demolished

On the northeast corner of Passaic Avenue and Parsonage Hill Road stood a little yellow clapboard house bearing the date "1797." The house was built by David Baldwin who was one of the original "Horseneck rioteers" (sic). Baldwin broke open the Newark jail in 1745 to free his relative Samuel Baldwin.

The house originally a three room dwelling that faced south. An addition and several other architectural features were added in the 1880's. Although there was a date of 1797 on the exterior, evidence exists that indicates that the house may have actually been built much earlier.

MUCHMORE-BROWN HOUSE

Constructed: 1765

Demolished

The Muchmore-Brown house stood on a private dirt road that ran to Passaic Avenue near the Washington Place School. To many, the house was known as the James H. Brown or Eckert farmhouse, but recent information reveals that the house was originally owned and built by William Muchmore.

Many of the features of this house demonstrated that it was constructed prior to the American Revolution. The chimneys on both sections of the house were called "Jersey" chimneys. The clapboards were cut to expose the stone or brick of the lower chimney. The absence of windows on certain sides of the house are characteristic of frontier houses, built at a time when Indians still roamed the area.

The house was eventually sold to William Brown who owned the house until his death in 1879. At that time the house was willed to his son James H. Brown, who had married Catherine Ayres of Livingston. Catherine was a descendent of the Baldwin family. Brown was among the more prominent citizens of the community, serving for a period of time on the township committee.

KEAN MANSION

Constructed: 1893

Still Standing

The Kean estate is nestled on over three hundred acres of land fronting on East Mount Pleasant Avenue near the West Orange border. Home to one of New Jersey's most prominent historical families, the house and grounds are steeped in history.

The first member of the Kean family to actually live in Livingston was Alexander Livingston Kean. After his early years of schooling, Alexander enrolled at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.). Shortly after his graduation in 1892, Alexander's father died leaving him money with which he purchased 160 acres of land in Livingston from James and Cornelia Montgomery. Because he had studied architecture at M.I.T., he was able to design his own home.

The stone for the house, excluding the trim, was cut from a quarry located on the property itself. After the home was completed, a large amount of landscaping was done. The land was leveled, retaining walls were built, and a vista was cut through the trees in order to provide a view from the home.

When the house was completed, Alexander moved in and decided to import horses from the west which would be "broken" for saddle use. Unfortunately this business venture proved unsuccessful. In 1922, Alexander died and the house was willed to Robert Winthrop Kean, Alexander's nephew.

In 1924, Robert Winthrop and Elizabeth Stuyvesant Kean moved into the

thirty room, Georgian style mansion. Robert immediately became involved in the business and political affairs of the township. In 1927, he helped organize the Livingston National Bank and in 1939 he was elected Congressman for the district. Robert remained in politics until 1959, when he was defeated by Harrison Williams.

The house was also the boyhood home of the present Governor of the State of New Jersey, Thomas Howard Kean. Many important national figures have visited here. The house was recently sold to a developer. At the present time the fate of the house is unclear.

NATHANIEL SQUIER HOUSE

Constructed: 1750

Still Standing

Standing on the southwest corner of Eisenhower Parkway and Walnut Street is a house built by Nathaniel Squier around 1750. The house is built in two distinct sections. The southern section is a one and one half story Dutch style home. Around 1800, the northern section was added. Like most of the other homes in the area, a wide porch was added to the front of this clapboard home.

Prior to the Civil War, the property around the house was used for a tannery and a shoe shop. By 1939, there was no trace of either the shoe shop or the tannery.¹⁷

PELL COLLINS HOUSE

Constructed: 1860

Still Standing

Standing on the banks of Canoe Brook, just east of the Force Home, is the house known as the Collins house. The present building, built around the time of the Civil War, replaced an earlier structure built by William Collins, the grandson of Ebenezer Collins, who lived further north along Canoe Brook in the late 1760's. According to tradition, the present house was built because the older structure had burned down. The family farm comprised about fifty acres. Many members of the Collins family became important civic leaders in the community.

COOK-CANNON HOUSE

Constructed: 1770

Still Standing

About a mile east of Livingston Center, about one hundred feet east of Shrewsbury Drive, stands a house of considerable age. Known in 1939 as the Cannon house, it was constructed around 1770. Until recently not much was known about the house. It was owned by Epaphras Cook until his death in 1809. Epaphras was a member of the Cook family of Hanover and is known to have fought in the French and Indian War.

Prior to his marriage to Sarah Smith of Canoe Brook, Epaphras is thought to have lived in the Morehousetown section of the community. Tradition also says that he built a bridge over the Passaic River which for many years was known as Cook's Bridge.

Around the turn of the century, the house was owned by Ambrose K. Ely, and he in turn sold it to Michael Cannon, an employee of the Ely family. A description of the house in 1939 reads:

"The house, with several gables and dormer windows, gives the illusion of newness, for its old walls and ridge roof are now brown shingled. The main cooking fireplace is bricked up inside, and nothing is left but the telltale shingled protrusion on the outside, west wall. The south wall also indicates the age of the house; it has three windows of different sizes, one being very small."¹⁸

The house is one of the few remaining structures that stands along the course of the original turnpike. It is a true testament to its builder.

SMITH-WRIGHT HOUSE

Constructed: 1760

Demolished: 1962

Near the corner of Glendale Avenue and Mount Pleasant Avenue stood an old colonial home. For many years the house was known as the old Wright house. It faced south along Mount Pleasant Avenue. The construction was similar to that of the Ely tavern about a mile west. It is thought that the house was probably built by Obadiah Smith whose family had lived in the area since the early 1760's. Obadiah and his wife, Hannah, are known to have owned a house and property opposite Samo's tavern during the Revolution. In 1782 the following advertisement appeared in the New Jersey Journal of Chatham:

"To be let, and entered upon immediately, A valuable farm at Canoebrook, in Essex county, now in possession of Obadiah Smith, containing about 400 acres of land, on which there are two dwelling houses, two barns, a good well of water, and two good bearing orchards. It adjoins the farms of Capt. Ely and Mr. William Ely, on the west, and on the east, by lands now in possession of Mr. Collins."¹⁹

It is known that the house was standing and still owned by Obadiah in 1776, because Robert Erskine identifies the house of Obadiah Smith on the then south side of the main road east of the Livingston Center. Obadiah appears to have run a tavern or public house for a period of time, because records from 1773 until 1777 show that he applied for a tavern license. The property was eventually sold to Moses Wright. It would appear that the two and one half story eastern addition was added by Moses around 1800 and was of similar construction to many of the other homes in the area. For over one hundred years the property was known as the Wright farm, even when it was no longer owned by the Wright family. In 1921, Gottlieb Hockenjos purchased the farm and remodeled the homestead. With the eventual widening

of Mount Pleasant Avenue in 1960, the house was eventually torn down.

FOOTNOTES

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¹"Historic Homes in Livingston," Newark Sunday Call, December 1, 1940, p.43.

²Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.106.

³Harrison, Freeman, Flames Above the Riker, (Livingston, New Jersey, 1965), p.2.

⁴Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.112.

⁵Burnet, John Robertson, John Robertson Burnet Papers (New Jersey Historical Society, Manuscript Collection, #686.)

⁶"Livingston Estate Sold to Developers," Caldwell Progress, August 7, 1925, p.1.

⁷Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.39.

⁸Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p. 120.

⁹Cook, Lillias Collins, Pioneers of Old Northfield, (Livingston, New Jersey, Tribune Publishing Company, 1954), p.25.

¹⁰Ibid.

¹¹Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.71.

¹²Sentinel of Freedom, March 5, 1808.

¹³Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.397.

¹⁴Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.116.

¹⁵"Early American History Lives on in Livingston Woman's Home," Newark Evening News, June 28, 1953, p.25.

¹⁶"Ely Windmill," West Essex Tribune, December 31, 1936, p.1.

¹⁷Works Progress Administration, op. cit., p.118.

¹⁸Ibid., p.108.

¹⁹New Jersey Journal, April 3, 1782.

CHAPTER 12

FROM INDIAN PATHS TO MODERN ROADS (TRANSPORTATION IN LIVINGSTON)

We live today in an age of supersonic travel, jet propulsion and high speed highways. People tend to take these things for granted, giving little thought to their origin. Naturally the Concord, the airplane and the automobile are products of science, but so too are the roads that we travel. One of the more interesting facets of Livingston's history is its transportation network. Many of the main roadways that we take for granted in the township were thoughtfully laid out over two hundred years ago. Several of the roads followed trails used by the Indians.

Shortly after 1666, the first settlers of Newark found that the Indians who then inhabited the region had a rough but well defined trail leading through the Watchung mountains west toward Whippany. This trail was traversed by the Lenni Lenape Indians in their annual migrations from the upper reaches of the Delaware River to the New Jersey shore. The Indian name Menusing, given to this trail by the Indians, evolved into what is known today as the Minisink trail. When the first settlers of Canoe Brook crossed the mountains to the Livingston area they either followed this trail or two others which lay further to the north, known today as Mount Pleasant Avenue and Eagle Rock Avenue. It is no accident of topography that as Livingston was settled, the three earliest roads continued to run an east-west course. In those early days, the Township's markets, its sources of supplies, and a majority of its economic interests lay to the east.

As early as 1705, when the Swinefield Road (now Eagle Rock Avenue) was

built on the course of a feeder trail to the Minisink, the Minisink was known as the "old road."

The Colonial highway, or Mount Pleasant Avenue, has been known by different names over the years. While it is not certain exactly when this road was laid out, research indicates that as early as 1689 a "roadway" was established to transport iron from the foundries in Whippany to Newark.¹

No doubt this is the same road, which in 1759 was known as the Hanover Road, the name which appears on a deed between Henry Leonard and William Kelly. In 1764, this road appears on a map made by Thomas Ball and is labeled as the "Road from Morris Town to New Ark." Then in 1768, the deed of Jonathan Hampton to Robert Leake describes a parcel of land "lying on both sides of the road leading from Newark to Hanover." Edwin Ely in his "Memoirs" states:

"I have carefully searched, in the archives of East Jersey and of Essex County, for the recorded opening or dedication of the Colonial highway through Livingston, but although I discovered the survey of all other main roads of the period leading westward from Newark, I could find no record of the one in question. From this I deduce that the Livingston road had its origin in an Indian trail, which, after the coming of the white men, was naturally adopted by them, and was worn into a road by travel."²

When Robert Erskine was mapping the area for George Washington in 1776, he showed the Colonial road as one of the main thoroughfares in this area, although the name of the road was not given. This road was about two rods or thirty two feet wide. The course of the road was quite different from the present day roadway.

Starting at the West Orange boundary, the present road follows its

original course until the Canoe Brook bridge. Here the original road veered north for a distance, then south until it reached the Livingston Avenue intersection. West of this site the road skirted the knoll where the Federated Church stands and ran south and parallel to the present road. A short distance beyond the Ely tavern, the road veered north at an obtuse angle basically zig-zagging the present road until it reached the Passaic River.

About 1800, turnpike roads were becoming popular, as they provided a more direct route for many wagons carrying supplies to the larger towns. A fee, payable at toll gates along the way, was charged for using these roads. A long spear or pike was placed across these toll gates to ensure payment of the tolls. When the toll was paid, the pike was turned to allow the wagon or horseman to pass through.

In 1806, Governor Bloomfield approved the formation of the Newark and Mount Pleasant Turnpike Company. This company was in charge of building and maintaining a turnpike from Mount Pleasant in Morris County to Newark. When this company was incorporated, the road was named the Newark - Mount Pleasant Turnpike.

The turnpike through Livingston was built by Pell Teed and Moses Ely at a cost of one thousand dollars per mile. Part of their payment was in turnpike stock, the rest in cash. When the road was completed, toll gates were put across the road. There were four such toll gates in Livingston. One was on the east side of the bridge at the Passaic River. This gate prevented anyone from crossing without paying the toll. The second gate stood near the intersection of Northfield Road and the highway. The third

gate stood at the intersection of the highway with Hillside Avenue; and, the last gate was in the vicinity of Mount Pleasant Junior High School.

From the Federal Writers Guide, "Livingston: The Story of a Community," we get an account of the tolls imposed on this road:

"Toll charges ranged from two cents for a pedestrian or a head of cattle to four cents for a horse and rider, and from five cents for a one-horse wagon or carriage to ten cents for a two-horse team and wagon, plus an extra four cents for each additional horse or mule. These charges applied only to through traffic. Local husbandmen going about the customary business of their farms, people going to or coming from worship, militia men on muster day and funeral corteges could pass free of charge."³

Turnpike companies were private enterprises that had to be chartered by the state. The revenue raised by the tolls was used in part for repairs and to upgrade the road. In 1877, the last remaining toll gate, which was in West Orange, was being operated by Ashbel Cook. He was the last surviving stockholder in the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike Company and was thus free to own and operate this toll. According to Edwin Ely, his father and brothers would drive to Orange each day to catch the train to New York. The necessity of stopping to pay a few pennies for a toll was an inconvenience to them; so, Ambrose Ely purchased the remaining stock from Mr. Cook and had the gate removed.⁴ With the removal of the gate, the company no longer had any business. The result was that the road was surrendered to the public.

At that time the maintenance of the road was the responsibility of each of the townships that it traversed. In the late 1890's the road passed into ownership of the county, at which time it was partially regraded with cuts made into the mountain rather than over it. In 1920, the road became

part of the state highway system. In the late 1950's the state upgraded the highway by adding curbing and widening the roadbed at a cost of approximately one million dollars per mile.

Today, the road is known as East and West Mount Pleasant Avenue. The State Highway Department has designated the road as Route 10, and the United States Geological Survey calls it "The American Legion Highway." To those who use this road every day, many are not aware that they are travelling the same route followed by the early settlers over two hundred years ago, or that this was the first turnpike in the state.

For over two hundred years, Livingston Avenue has been a major artery in the township. Known by a variety of different names, it is one of the few roads that has not changed its course since it was first laid out.

North and South Livingston Avenues, as we know them today, were actually two separate roads when they were first proposed. The first road to be opened was what is known today as South Livingston Avenue. The record of the surveying and eventual opening of this road reads:

"We the subscribers, the surveyors of the roads for the County of Essex, being duly sworn to lay out a four rod (66 feet wide) road at Canoe Brook in the precinct of Newark and having this day met and viewed the premises, We do hereby lay out said road four rods wide. Beginning at the Middle of the road in the line between Jonathan Hampton's and Henry Wades (Northfield Road)...to the middle of the road leading from Newark to Morris County, (Mount Pleasant Avenue), dated August 26, 1772."⁵

For the first few years this road had no official name. It was simply known by such names as the "Road to Springfield" or the "Road to Canoe

Brook Meeting House." Eventually it took on the official name Canoe Brook Road, no doubt due to the fact that it ran along the banks of the brook. Evidence that it was officially known as Canoe Brook road is found in a road document which states "Beginning at Canoe Brook Road."⁶ For many years, it continued to bear this name. Years later the name was changed to Midway Drive, and in 1913, the name was officially changed to Livingston Avenue.

One of the first maps of this section of road was drawn by Robert Erskine in 1776. This map showed a major road running parallel to and on the banks of Canoe Brook, intersecting two major roadways that ran east and west. This seems to have been the only north to south route in the area.

North Livingston Avenue was officially opened in 1788, although the road had already been in existence prior to the American Revolution. It started at Swinefield Road (Eagle Rock Avenue) and ended at Mount Pleasant Avenue. According to Edwin Ely, this road was the only public road leading northward from the village. In the early days the road was on the west side of the knoll where the Federated Church now stands, instead of running on the east side as it presently does.⁷

Ely's statement is confirmed by the Revolutionary War maps made by Robert Erskine for the Continental Army, (which are now owned by the New York Historical Society). The maps show that South Livingston Avenue followed about the same course it does today but it terminated at Livingston Center. From there one could go west a short distance to the intersection of the road toward Caldwell, perhaps about where Hazel Avenue is today. When this early road towards Caldwell was abandoned is unknown,

although Ely states that the road was not in use when his recollection of Livingston began around 1850. At that time, according to Ely, North Livingston Avenue followed its present course.

No doubt when the road was "officially" opened in 1788, the old road which traversed the knoll on the west side was abandoned so that the road could intersect with the continuation of the road to Northfield. This northern stretch was known as "Dark Lane," although the several official names for it were "North Livingston Avenue," "North Midway Drive" and "Roseland Avenue."

The street was named "Dark Lane" because of the extensive tree cover over it. Miss Armella Squier Kent in 1976 described it:

"Why was it called Dark Lane? I wish I could picture it for you, the beautiful, thick woods which lined both sides of North Livingston Avenue entirely. The road was cool and delightful during summer and sheltered from the cold winds of winter. The trees were towering and of many varieties, an oasis of gorgeous greenery. At dusk, the winds whistled through the branches hastened one's footsteps toward home."⁸

Today, North and South Livingston Avenues continue to be the most heavily travelled of the north and south roadways through the township. One of the busiest intersections in Livingston today is the junction of East and West Mount Pleasant Avenues and North and South Livingston Avenues. Sometimes referred to as the Four Corners of Livingston or the Crossroads in earlier days, the intersection of Mount Pleasant and Livingston Avenues has and continues to be the "Crossroads" of the community.

Another old road in the community is East Cedar Street. The current

East Cedar Street was quite different when it was originally laid out. In the mid 1700's, the road started in the area known as St. Cloud in West Orange, and ran westward over the second mountain, ending at South Livingston Avenue. The road is believed to have been opened during the French and Indian War in 1754 as a supply route for General Gage. The road is illustrated on Robert Erskine's map of the area during the Revolutionary War.

In 1775, an extension was added to the road so that it connected with Northfield Road. This section became known as Cedar Street and the portion that extended over the mountain became known as Cedar Avenue. The Cedar Avenue portion of the road was eventually abandoned.

How or when the name Cedar Street came about is not known. On the 1880 map of Livingston, this name is already in use. In the 1890's Freeman Harrison recalls that the road was also known as "Scrap Alley."⁹ Back in those days, the present cement bridge that spans Canoe Brook was a quaint, wooden country bridge that was painted white. There were several homes that dotted the course of the road, including the Ashbys, the Ochs, the Geigers and Hopkins.

Present day Argyle Court follows the early course of Cedar Avenue and remnants of Cedar Avenue can still be seen at the north end of South Mountain Reservation in West Orange. The separation of the spur to East Northfield Road is today made more obvious by the addition of Shrewsbury Drive to the north. That road is for all practical purposes an extension of an earlier spur, dividing East Cedar Street into two sections, one running roughly north-south, the other roughly east-west.

Another old road in Livingston is Northfield Road. Northfield Road as we know it today is actually a collection of smaller roads that were joined together over the course of time. In 1763 a road was laid out from "Timothy Meekers to Canoe Brook."¹⁰ Early deeds mention this road and many mention its termination at the "Meeting house." The second section of Northfield Road was added around 1784, when a group of residents in the area petitioned the County to open up a road from Ward's to the Beach's. Prior to this, it is thought that the present day Hobart Gap Road was the only road leading west from this part of the community. Early road records as well as many of the early dwellings indicate that Hobart Gap Road was a main road in the area. There was a period of time during the 1930's that the road was known as Roosevelt Avenue.

A major controversy due to the widening of Northfield road erupted in 1930. At that time the county decided to widen the road from sixty six feet to one hundred feet. The widening meant that many of the graves in the Northfield Baptist Church cemetery had to be moved. A seventeen foot strip of the cemetery was taken and one hundred and nineteen reinterments were required. The residents of the community were quite upset that the graves of family members and ancestors were disturbed.

Prior to 1797, most travelers wishing to travel to Morristown from the Livingston area used Northfield Road. It was considered the best road for travel at that time. The original course of Northfield Road followed a portion of what is now West Hobart Gap Road west to the Passaic River. At that point the travelers had to ford the river, because there was no bridge. They then continued on to Morristown.

In 1797 the surveyors of the highways in Essex County plotted a road that started in the vicinity of what is now Wyoming Avenue in South Orange, and continued westward to the Passaic River. An ancient document recorded in the Essex County Road Book reads:

"We the surveyors of the highways in and for the Townships of Acquacknock, Elizabethtown and Westfield, in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey being legally convened and agreeably to an application made by Job Brown and other to the last Court of Common Pleas held at Newark in July term, and by an order from said Court to view the ground on the third Monday in July following, which is the seventeenth day of the said July, in order to lay out a road from the road at the top of the first mountain above Permenas Biggses in the nursery of Cherry trees nigh where his old house formerly stood in the different lines as hereafter described through several people's lands to Passaic River...beginning in the road at the top of first mountain...to the middle of the road leading from Capt. Enos Baldwin to Squire Town, thence the same course through the lands of said Parsel into the land of David Little Esq... thence south to the land of Jeremy Mulford...thence south to a Birch tree, marked on the bank of the said River."¹¹

The account is signed by Jacob Davis, David Clark, Samuel Donner Jr., Philomen Bates and Daniel Sayre.

This new road, which was parallel to Northfield Road, was to be opened by the first of October 1797. No doubt this road took some of the traffic from the existing Northfield Road, but it never achieved the same popularity as the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike.

On February 11, 1811, a group of businessmen banded together to form the Newark and Morristown Turnpike Company. This was the second turnpike

to be established within the bounds of our township. This new road followed much the same course as the road that had been plotted in 1797. Instead of fording the Passaic River, a bridge, known as the Columbia Bridge, was constructed.

This new turnpike, like its sister to the north, had several toll gates. One is known to have existed at the intersection of Passaic Avenue. It was run by Enos Little.

In the late 1870's, the name of the road was changed from the Newark and Morristown Turnpike to South Orange Avenue. In 1880, the original wooden bridge was demolished, and a steel bridge was built in its place. The new span was also called the Columbia Bridge. In the 1930's, the bridge was replaced by a concrete structure. That concrete bridge, despite its decaying condition, was used until 1979, when work began on the new structure that is in use today.

On September 18, 1980 the counties of Essex and Morris dedicated the newly completed bridge. The new structure, the fourth bridge at this location, was renamed after Francis McCormick, a recently retired Essex County Engineer.

In March of 1948, plans for the construction of an East-West highway were unveiled at a meeting of the Joint Council of Planning Boards of Essex County. This new freeway, would not compete with Route 10, because it would not serve the same purpose. It would be designed for high speed traffic into the heart of Newark. The new highway, or freeway as it was first proposed, would tunnel through the first and second mountains and

ending at Scotland Road in Orange. For years the plans for this super highway remained on the drawing board. Finally in the late 1950's the final proposal for a freeway on the northern border of Livingston was announced.

The new highway, to be known as Interstate 280, would connect Route 80 in Whippany to the New Jersey Turnpike in the Kearny meadows. The final design was eventually agreed upon and construction began. For the many years the highway was under construction, a set of railroad tracks ran down the center of the alignment to cart away stone blasted from the first and second mountains. Some of this crushed stone was used in the construction of the roadbed. When the highway was finally completed in 1973, the Livingston commuter could travel with ease to and from the City of Newark and the other surrounding communities.

Livingston had been blessed with a well conceived transportation system for over two hundred years. But, another important aspect of Livingston's transportation history concerns mass transit. As previously stated, transportation between the principal cities and towns like Livingston and Newark had its inception in New Jersey prior to the Revolutionary War. Construction of better roads, and eventually turnpikes, resulted in the opening of stagecoach lines and within a few years every important road or turnpike had its own stage line.

The first type of public conveyance was known as the "Jersey wagon." This consisted of a box body without springs that was covered with canvas and looked like the covered wagon of the western plains. It was eventually replaced by the Troy wagon, which had a coach top with "C" springs to

cushion the ride.

The earliest reference to a stagecoach driven through Livingston is mentioned by Dr. Ashbel Green in his autobiography, where he describes getting the New York paper from the stagecoach run by a Mr. Constant Cooper about ten years before the American Revolution. The stage ran from Mount Hope in Morris County to Paulus Hook in Jersey City, where passengers then left the coaches to cross the Hudson River by sailboat.

An early advertisement for this stage reads:

"A four-horse stage driven by Constant Cooper once a week between Mount Hope and Paulus Hook, which set out from Mount Hope at sunrise every Wednesday, and commenced the return journey on the following Friday at 9; spending the night in Whippany, and reaching home on Saturday at noon. The route was by way of Rockaway, Parsippany, Troy, Old Whippany, Hanover, Newark Mountains (Orange), and Newark; the passengers breakfasting in Troy and dining at Newark Mountains. The fare for the entire distance was one dollar and a third.¹²

It is likely that one of the familiar stopping points used by the early stages was Samuel Burnet's tavern, which stood on West Hobart Gap Road. The reason that this route was taken was that the old Colonial Road in the northern section of our community was not a graded road for travel. This changed in 1806 when the Newark and Mount Pleasant Turnpike Company was formed. The new road was a more direct and better graded road and soon most of the stagecoach lines opted to use this road rather than using Northfield.

With the new road, business began to boom for William Ely, Jr. and his

son James, owners of the tavern which stood on the corner of South Livingston Avenue and West Mount Pleasant Avenue. Samuel Merry, who ran a stage between Parrots Tavern in Hanover and Paulus Hook, in Jersey City, used the Ely tavern as a regular stopping point, as did other stage coaches that followed.

By 1838, there were many competing stage lines running through Livingston. The most celebrated owner and driver was Charles Colbeth who ran the line on the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike. The stage ran three times a week, stopping at the Ely tavern. The time it took from Morristown to New York, with all the connections was three and a half hours at a cost of one dollar.

In the mid 1850's, the stagecoaches were still in use, but they were being slowly driven out of business by the advance of the railroad. One such railroad was the Morristown-Erie Railroad, which operated between Newark and Morristown. One part of the line had a flag stop at Beaufort Avenue.

For many people the train was a faster means of transportation and it afforded a much smoother ride. These railroads took much of the business away from the stagecoach companies, but they did revive for a time. In 1870, Major Jonathan DeCamp, so named during the Civil War, decided to start a covered wagon route to Newark over the Newark-Mount Pleasant Turnpike. The round trip from Livingston to Newark and back took all day. This service did not seem to have a great deal of appeal for the people of the area, but Jonathan had enough foresight to see that such a service would be needed in the future. Besides the transportation of

people, the service also carried packages, mail and goods to and from the township.

In 1878, Major DeCamp was joined by his son Benjamin, who was Livingston's village blacksmith. At this time William Ward, William Van Zee and Benjamin DeCamp joined together to build a new type of stagecoach. Everything from the shaping of the boards for the carriage to the making of the wheels was done in William Van Zee's wagon shop. David Flynn, the village blacksmith shod the horses.

The first line established by Benjamin DeCamp ran between the Harrison General Store in Livingston and the Post Office in Orange. The stagecoach was a long canvas-topped vehicle, usually painted cream. It had two long parallel benches on the sides, a drivers seat and an entrance with steps at the rear. So that patrons would know that the stage was approaching, bells were placed on the horses.¹⁴ This stage was dubbed the "Livingston Accommodation" and its route was from Livingston to Orange.

Benjamin's Livingston blacksmith shop was the center of stagecoach operations. Benjamin not only assisted in the repair of the vehicles, he also was the driver.

Mr. DeCamp, who was called "Cap" by those who knew him well, was a large, sturdy fellow with a black mustache and rather dark features. He was also a generous man. There were people who Mr. DeCamp knew could not afford to pay the fare. In these cases, Benjamin would pull up on the horses, the wheels would grind to a stop and the inevitable question, "Want to ride?" would be asked.¹⁵ Benjamin DeCamp headed the company until 1906,

when his son Robert took over. In 1909, Robert created a mild sensation by acquiring a motor bus. Built like an open air trolley car, it was large, unwieldy and quite unreliable, since it had trouble climbing the first mountain. For these reasons it was used only as a back-up to the stages driven by Robert and his assistants, Ira and Walter King. Robert DeCamp led the firm until his death in 1917, and was then succeeded by his brother, Ralph.

Ralph DeCamp was a practicing dentist at the time his brother Robert died. He then decided to give up his dentistry practice to head the family transportation business. It was during his tenure that the business became modernized. He purchased the community's first "horseless wagon," which held eight passengers, and by 1923, there were eight DeCamp buses on the road. Ralph realized that it was about time to get a garage for all the buses in his new fleet because the old barn would no longer do. In that same year, he had a modern red brick garage built for \$35,000 on South Livingston Avenue next to the Central School. Three years later, in 1926, this garage was no longer large enough to accommodate the expanding fleet of vehicles. A new garage was built on West Mount Pleasant Avenue on the site of the present Post Office at a cost of \$170,000. It was built to accommodate further expansion. However, greater expansion than was expected eventually caused the company to consider relocating the entire operation out of Livingston.

In late May of 1952, the DeCamp Bus Lines decided to take three of their routes off the schedule for Livingston because they were becoming unprofitable. The townships residents objected and they were able to persuade the DeCamp company to close just two of the three lines. In early

1953, after acquiring the Nutley-New York Bus Lines, the company made the decision to relocate to Clifton. The old garage was then sold to the County of Essex.

For many years the DeCamp Bus Company continued to regularly serve the Livingston community. In 1983, the last of the local, regularly scheduled DeCamp bus lines was sold to New Jersey Transit, marking an end to 113 years of transportation service to the township where it began. A company that started by carrying only eight passengers had expanded to serving over three million in the 1980's. The DeCamp Bus Lines continues to serve the community through charter bus service.

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FOOTNOTES

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¹"Mapping Old Colonial Road and Other Historic Township Roads is Hobby for Local Historians," West Essex Tribune-Sesquicentennial Supplement, September 5, 1953, p.22.

²Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.41.

³Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community, (U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.70.

⁴Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.44.

⁵Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Clerk's Office, Essex County Road Book A, August 26, 1772, p.236.

⁶Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Clerk's Office, Essex County Unrecorded Road Record, Road from Timothy Meeker's to Cance Brook, August 23, 1773.

⁷Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.51.

⁸"Life on Dark Lane," West Essex Tribune-Bicentennial Supplement, July 1, 1976, p.12.

⁹Harrison, Freeman, Flames Above the Riker, (Livingston, New Jersey, 1965), p.121.

¹⁰Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Clerk's Office, Essex County Road Record, Unrecorded Roads, Road from Timothy Meeker's to Canoe Brook, June 1, 1763.

¹¹Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Clerk's Office, Essex County Road Book A, July 17, 1797, p.432.

¹²Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.47.

¹³"Seventy Years of Transportation Service," Newark Sunday Call, March 17, 1940.

¹⁴"Sale of DeCamp Bus Route Brings Back Fond Memories of Original Stage Line," West Essex Tribune, February 2, 1950, p.10.

¹⁵Ibid.

FOOTNOTES

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¹Newark, New Jersey, Essex County Clerk's Office, Essex County Religious Society Incorporations-Book B, December 13, 1851.

²Sentinel of Freedom, July 1, 1851, p.4.

³"Methodists To observe Centennial This Sunday," West Essex Tribune, May 14, 1951, p.3.

⁴Livingston Methodist Church, The First Hundred Years (Published by Author, 1959), p.9.

⁵"Livingston Celebration," Caldwell Progress, July 7, 1923, p.8.

⁶"To Break Ground for Livingston Chapel," Caldwell Progress, September 11, 1925, p.1.

⁷"Livingston Church Destroyed by Fire," Caldwell Progress, April 13, 1928, p.1.

⁸"Cross Burned on Livingston Church," Caldwell Progress, April 20, 1928, p.1.

⁹"Houses of Worship," West Essex Tribune-Bicentennial Supplement, July 1, 1976, p.37.

CHAPTER 14

LIVINGSTON CEMETERIES

Although it may seem somewhat unusual for there to be a chapter dedicated to the cemeteries in Livingston, the five cemeteries within the borders of the township have an interesting history. The cemeteries are the Ely, Northfield, Baldwin, Teedtown cemeteries and the Littell Family Burial Ground. A listing of those individuals buried in each of these cemeteries can be found in the appendix portion at the end of this book.

The early cemeteries in the Western Essex area were associated with a religious institution or were a private or family burial ground. In Livingston, one cemetery was connected with a church, one was part of an association, and the other three were private family burial grounds.

THE ELY CEMETERY

The Ely Cemetery is the oldest of the five cemeteries in the township. Situated on Hillside Avenue just south of West Mount Pleasant Avenue, it was established as a cemetery by Captain William Ely. Among the earliest interments were those of the Captain's daughter, Elizabeth, her husband, Frederick Jones, and their son, all of whom died in 1777. In 1865 the cemetery was enlarged to its present size. In 1901, the descendants of Captain William Ely decided to form an association for the preservation of the family cemetery. Under the terms of incorporation, only descendants of the Captain and their wives may be buried in the cemetery. There are currently about one hundred people within its gates. Among those interred are several veterans of different wars. The graves of Captain William Ely, a veteran of the French and Indian War; William Ely Jr., and Moses Ely veterans of the Revolutionary War; Epaphras Cook Ely, veteran of the War of 1812; Major Charles Smylie, a veteran of the Spanish American War; and Lt. Charles A. Smylie, a veteran of the First World War, can all be found in the cemetery.

Another distinction of the cemetery is that it contains the grave of a slave. Edwin Ely in his "Personal Memoirs", he recounts that there was a slave named Jack Buckly who worked for his grandfather, Moses Ely. In 1818 Moses gave Jack his freedom. Jack then worked for different farmers in the area. He died in 1857; he is one of the few people not related to the Ely family who is buried in their private cemetery. His small marble headstone

is on the north side of the main walkway.

There are two other important individuals buried there. Edwin Augustus Ely and Smith Ely. Edwin A. Ely was a renowned historian and rare book collector of Jerseyana, who was an author and an authority on the early history of Livingston. His brother, Smith Ely, was a United States Senator, Congressman and Mayor of the City of New York.

The Ely Family cemetery is under the care of the Livingston Historical Society. The Superior Court of the State of New Jersey granted permission to the Historical Society to maintain the cemetery as a historical landmark of the township. (See Appendix H for a listing of those known to be buried in the Ely cemetery.)

NORTHFIELD CEMETERY

On a slight knoll several hundred feet west of the intersection of South Livingston Avenue and West Northfield Road is the Northfield Cemetery. This cemetery, which is the third oldest in the community, may have been established possibly as early as 1793.

According to Lillias Collins Cook in her book, "Pioneers of Old Northfield," Moses Edwards' wife, Desire, who died in 1793, was buried on the west side of this cemetery. Sometime during the 1790's, Edwards, one of the founding members of the Northfield Baptist Church, was said to have donated to the church a parcel of land, on his farm. This was to be used as a burial ground. Perhaps the land was given to the church at that time. Unfortunately, the headstone of Desire Edwards no longer exists. There is some confusion about these dates since they differ with the account in the Federal Writers Guide, "Livingston: The Story of a Community." The Guide states that "The first Livingston Baldwin was Joseph, a cousin of Samuel, a leader of the Orange Mountain Men. Joseph died, nearly 90 years of age, at the outbreak of the Revolution (1775) and was buried in the Northfield Cemetery."¹ If this account is correct then this cemetery was established some twenty years earlier than Cook's records indicate. More extensive research may answer this question.

The cemetery is of interest because of its age and the number of soldiers from the Revolutionary War who are buried there. The oldest headstone still visible is that of Lydia Meeker who died on March 6, 1795, at the age of 36. She was the wife of Jonathan Meeker who was the tenth son of Timothy Meeker Sr., one of Livingston's original settlers. There is

no record of the site where Jonathan was buried. He did serve in the Revolutionary War and a strong possibility exists that he may be buried in this cemetery.

A short paragraph for four of the Revolutionary War soldiers thought to be buried in this cemetery is included below.

1. Epaphras Cook served under Colonel Aaron Schuyler's Jersey Regiment during the French and Indian War. In the Revolutionary War he was a private in Captain Elijah Squier's Company.

2. Abner Ball was a pillar of the community and a soldier of the Revolution. He enlisted in January of 1776 at the age of sixteen and served throughout the entire war. From the papers of John Robertson Burnet it is clear that Ball moved to the area in the late 1770's. In 1790 he became the clerk of the Northfield Baptist Church and in 1798 became a deacon. He was a justice of the peace for Essex County from 1801-1834 and a judge from 1815-1820. For many years he was also an assessor for the Township. He died on May 21, 1848.

3. Anthony King, enlisted at the age of nineteen at Newark in February of 1776. He became a corporal in May of that year and fought at Ticonderoga in New York State. He saw battle at Woodbridge, New Jersey, on April 19, 1777; Short Hills, New Jersey, June 26, 1777; Germantown, Pennsylvania, October 4, 1777; Chemung, New York, August 29, 1779, and was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia on October 19, 1781. King died on February 28, 1836 and both he and his wife Mary, who died in 1843, are buried in the cemetery although no headstones

remain.

4. Timothy Meeker, Sr. was one of the most colorful characters in the history of our community. Born in 1708, he was married three times. In 1741 he sold his farm in Springfield, and bought a large farm in the area of Canoe Brook. Timothy is credited as having built the first frame house ever constructed above Springfield at that time. He was involved in the Horseneck Riots of 1745, and with his ten sons, four sons-in-law and grandson, fought in the Battle of Springfield during the American Revolution. In December of 1798, Timothy died. Although there is no record known to exist that tells where he is buried, it is generally believed that he rests in an unmarked grave in this cemetery with many of his children.

In total there are thought to be over three hundred people interred in the cemetery. This number includes many other soldiers of the Revolutionary War as well as many other wars.

As noted earlier, the County of Essex widened Northfield Road in 1929. The widening of the road meant that one hundred and nineteen graves had to be were moved. Many of the early families in the community were upset because the final resting places of their ancestors were disturbed but it could not be avoided. The cemetery has been maintained by the Northfield Baptist Church since the day it was donated by Moses Edwards close to two hundred years ago. (See Appendix I for a listing of those known to be buried in the Northfield Cemetery.)

BALDWIN CEMETERY

The Baldwin Family was one of the early families that helped to establish Livingston. Upon the death of his grandson John, in 1784, Captain Enos Baldwin set aside a plot of land for a family burial ground. This cemetery is situated in the southwestern corner of the township on Passaic Avenue near Parsonage Hill Road. It is the second oldest of the township's five cemeteries. Over the years the cemetery has been known by such names as "The Cheapside Cemetery," "The Cemetery at Washington Place Schoolhouse," or the "Baldwin Family Burial Ground." It is this last name that is still used today. Most of the people that are interred in the cemetery are the children and grandchildren of Captain Enos Baldwin.

Captain Enos Baldwin was born in 1723. He was one of the two sons of John Baldwin. The family lived in the vicinity of Connecticut Farms. In 1745, Enos and his brother, Nathan, had their names appear on the "List of Rioteers for Essex County" that were brought to court concerning the Horseneck Riots. Enos fought for the country during the French and Indian War. For his efforts, he received the title of captain. In 1763, King George III granted Enos a coat-of-arms for his service in the war.

After his military service ended, Enos settled down to his farming and his family. Enos was married four times and had six children: Phebe, who married Matthias Denman; Martha, who married George Townley; Esther who married Nicholas Parcel (killed in the Battle of Springfield); Samuel, who married Lucy Fairchild; Sally who married David B. Dickinson; and David, who married Elizabeth Reeves.

Enos took an active interest in local government. The early records of the Township of Newark, give evidence that Enos served as Overseer of the Poor from 1775 to 1780, and from 1785 to 1788. He was one of the largest landowners in the area known as Cheapside.

In total there are twenty five people interred in the cemetery, including three Revolutionary war veterans. Between 1987 and 1988 the cemetery, which had been abandoned for many years, was cleaned and restored by a young Livingston youth, Jeffrey Conklin, as part of his eagle scout project. (See Appendix J for a listing of those known to be buried in the Baldwin Cemetery).

TEEDTOWN CEMETERY

The most recently established of Livingston's cemeteries, the Teedtown Cemetery, is located in Livingston Center. The origins of the cemetery are not known; however, tradition has it that this is the cemetery and burial ground of the Teed family who settled in Livingston in 1757.

The very early settlers of the community, however, were interred either in the Northfield, Ely or Baldwin cemeteries. Most of the inhabitants of what became known as Teedtown were buried at the Northfield cemetery. Among them were Obadiah Smith, a Revolutionary War tavern owner, and Pell Teed. Both men lived on Mount Pleasant Avenue in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

When the Livingston Baptist Church was established in 1851, no doubt the inhabitants of the area probably felt there should be a church cemetery in that section of the community. The first internment may have been that of Elizabeth Force, who died in 1851. She was the wife of Parker Teed. Her headstone bears the earliest date of those still marked.

Since the section of town was chiefly inhabited by the Teed family and those who married into the Teed family, the cemetery eventually became known by their family name. Over the course of the years many prominent people were buried in the cemetery. One of the most noteworthy contributors to the community was Andrew Teed. He served as Livingston as its postmaster. He also served as a constable and Sheriff of Essex County for many years.

In 1928 several relatives of those who were buried in the cemetery met at the home of Arthur VanZee for the purpose of establishing an association to insure that the cemetery would be properly maintained. A. Ross Force, George H. Parkhurst, John J. Force, Emma Baker, Maidie Parkhurst, Oscar Carter and Arthur VanZee formed the Livingston Baptist Cemetery Association. Through this association, funds were raised to maintain and preserve the cemetery. Today, due to the foresight of those people, an integral part of the township's history has been preserved for the future. (See Appendix K for a listing of those known to be buried in the Teedtown Cemetery).

LITTELL FAMILY BURIAL GROUND

Located in a field off of Passaic Avenue, three headstones remain in what was once the Littell family cemetery. Most of the stones are gone, and a complete record of those people buried there is not known. However, the stones that do remain give evidence that the cemetery was in existence in 1815. Mary Stiles was buried there at that time. Most of the people buried in the cemetery were members of the Littell family, whose house still stands on Hillside Avenue. (See Appendix L for a listing of those known to be buried in the Littell Family Burial Ground).

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 14

¹Works Progress Administration, Livingston, The Story of a Community,
(U.S.A., Progress Publishing Company, 1939), p.50.

CHAPTER 15

LIVINGSTON'S EARLY INDUSTRIES

CHAPTER 15

LIVINGSTON PERSONALITIES

Livingston has had its share of people who have made significant contributions to the history of the area. This chapter is dedicated to those individuals or families who by their deeds or actions have made an impact on the Town's history. While the reader may feel that people and families other than those included in this chapter are notable, it must be kept in mind that the author's decision on inclusion was based on historical impact. A decision was made to include only one living individual - Governor Thomas Howard Kean.

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON

William Livingston for whom our township was named, was born in Albany, New York on November 30, 1723. He was the fifth child of Philip and Catherine Livingston. William lived on the family farm in Albany until 1737 when, at the age of fourteen, he entered Yale University. In 1741, he graduated from Yale at the head of his class. After college, he studied law under James Alexander, a large land holder in the area. During the same period (1745) William married Miss Susannah French of New Jersey. Three years later, he received his license to practice law.

During this period of his life, William began writing poetry and articles for newspapers. His first poem, "Philosophical Solitude," was published in 1747. He had several articles published in the Independent

Reflector and the New York Mercury.

Just prior to the outbreak of the American Revolution, in 1772, William, his wife Catherine and their thirteen children moved to Elizabeth, New Jersey. The Livingston's new home, purchased in 1760, was named Liberty Hall. William had hopes of retiring when he moved to Elizabeth but this was not to be the case, for about two years after moving to New Jersey he was elected to the First Continental Congress. He was subsequently re-elected to the second and third congress. In June of 1776, he became Brigadier General and Commander in Chief of the New Jersey Militia. If William had not left Philadelphia to assume this post when he did, his name would have appeared on the Declaration of Independence.

At the outbreak of the American Revolution, William Livingston was elected the first governor of the new state of New Jersey. Mr. Livingston played an important role in the American Revolution. He supported George Washington's endeavors and for this he gained the wrath of the British officials. The British raided his home several times, attempting to capture him. The British thought that if Mr. Livingston was captured, resistance from the people of New Jersey would decrease. The British were not successful in their attempts so they offered a bribe of two thousand guineas to anyone who would do it for them. This never came to pass.

After the war, William was elected governor of New Jersey and he remained in this office until his death in 1790. He held this office for thirteen terms. His hopes for retirement never came to fruition.

William Livingston was a member of the State Constitutional Convention, a member of the Continental Congress, and the Federal Constitutional Convention. He was a good friend of George Washington and a man of widely known honesty. He was a statesman, a lawyer, a poet, and New Jersey's first governor. He was truly a remarkable man.

ASHBY FAMILY

The first member of the Ashby family to settle in Livingston was William Ashby. Ashby had emigrated from Canterbury, England to West Livingston, where he had a farm. Prior to 1838, William married Miss Julia Spencer of Chatham, N.J.¹

William S. Ashby, son of William and Julia Spencer Ashby was born on January 4, 1838, in Chatham, N.J. At the age of ten he began doing odd jobs and by the age of twenty-one, he purchased a farm on East Cedar Street, Livingston.² On July 3, 1859, he married Miss Mry Ann Agar, born on July 29, 1840 in Ireland. She was the daughter of James and Eliza Whitaker Agar who, upon arriving in America, had settled in the Northfield section of the township.

William and Mary Ann Ashby, had the following children: James Harvey, Julia E., Alice Adele, John, Eliza M., Apphia F., Lillian Mable, William Everett and Alfred. Two of these children went on to figure prominently in Livingston's history, John and William.

John Ashby was born on the old Ashby farm on Cedar Street on June 1, 1867. As a boy he assisted his father in delivering milk. After John married Emily Buhle, a local girl, they moved to Orange, where they lived for about fifteen years. John developed a trucking and express freight business known locally as "Ashby's Express."³

After retiring from the express business, he moved back to Livingston where he became involved in real estate development. His first venture was the development of Hazel Avenue just west of Livingston Center. John also showed interest in township affairs. He was appointed as Livingston's first fire chief in 1923. He also served several terms on the Township Committee, and was a member of the Livingston Gun Club, Masonic Lodge and Osceola Council Jr. O.U.A.M. John died in November of 1931.

William Ashby, brother of John Ashby was born in 1881. Like his brother, William assisted his father in the local milk delivery business. In 1911, William married Minnie E. Collins. Known as "Big Bill" Ashby, William was always eager to assist his neighbors. This eagerness led to William's appointment in 1919 as Livingston's first policeman and later as the first police chief. William took his job quite seriously. The early local newspapers are filled with articles about the fine job he did as police chief. William died in June of 1946.

ABNER BALL

Abner Ball, eldest son of Thomas and Mary Crane Ball was born on January 1, 1760. He was enrolled in the Essex County militia when he was sixteen and he served through the entire Revolutionary War. He served in the same company with his father. After the surrender of Cornwallis in 1783, he married Rachel Robertson, whose father, John Robertson, was a descendent of the old Scotch Clan, Donachie; and whose mother, Betsey Clark Robertson, was a cousin of Abraham Clark, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. They had one child, Betsey Clark, who married Samuel Burnet.

Abner Ball had learned surveying from his father. He was engaged in the surveying business during the summer months, and he taught school in the winter. In 1788, he purchased a large tract of land from Isaac Gillam, and built his home on present day East Northfield Road. In 1790, he and his wife joined the Northfield Baptist Church. Almost immediately after joining, he became church clerk and deacon, a position he held for many years. He was the Assessor of Livingston and the local Justice of the Peace from 1801 until 1834. Ball served in many capacities in the township until his death in 1848.

BURNET FAMILY

The first member of the Burnet family to settle in Livingston was Samuel Burnet. A soldier of the American Revolution, he married Ruth Hedges, daughter of Lemuel, a descendent of William Hedges, one of the earliest settlers of Easthampton, Long Island. In April, 1799, Samuel moved to Livingston and established himself as a farmer and tavern keeper. Due to declining health, Samuel was forced to give up farming. He moved to Chatham, where he died on June 4, 1819. Samuel and Ruth Burnet were the parents of ten children: Joseph, John W., Samuel, David, Sarah, Phebe C., Betsey B., Sophia, Mary, and Lewis W.

Samuel Burnet, son of Samuel and Ruth H. Burnet, was born on April 21, 1783. In 1803, he married Betsey Clark, second cousin to Abraham Clark, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and daughter of Abner and Rachel Robertson Ball. The couple was married by the Reverend Moses Edwards at the Northfield Baptist Church. They had eleven children, three sons and eight daughters. According to early records, the marriage of Samuel and Betsey was a happy one. Samuel used to say that he was "blest with one of the best companions a man ever had."⁴ Betsey Clark Burnet died in February of 1845. In March of 1847, Samuel married Harriet Jennings, widow of Zadoc Townley.

In 1808, Samuel an industrious, energetic man, purchased his father's farm. He lived there for fifty seven years. For a period of time, he delivered a newspaper the Sentinel of Freedom on a route extending through Essex County and far into the hills of Morris County. Besides delivering

the newspaper, Samuel served as a constable for several years. He was elected to office by the residents of Livingston from its first organization in 1813 until he was quite old. He held offices such as Assessor, Town Clerk, and Judge of Elections. In 1841, Governor Pennington appointed Samuel to the position of "Acknowledgement and Proof of Deeds for Essex County."⁵ Samuel died in 1865.

Samuel Horace Burnet, the seventh child of Samuel and Betsey Burnet, was born on March 11, 1815 in Livingston, N.J. On December 29, 1839, he married Hannah Maria Edwards. They were the parents of six children. In 1861, he was elected as a chosen Freeholder for Livingston. He helped to enlist many men in the Civil War. Through his efforts a new school building was erected in Northfield in the 1880's. He had successfully proposed legislation providing for voting by ballot at township meetings. He was the owner of two hundred and fifty acres of land in Livingston. Besides being a public official and farmer, he also ran a shoe making business until his death in 1904.

Samuel Burnet, grandson of Samuel Horace Burnet was born in 1881 on the family farm in Livingston. As a young boy, Samuel played baseball and loved to hunt. Young Samuel Burnet had the distinction of having killed the first known deer in Essex County. After having completed two years of high school, in 1896, Burnet went to work "cracking and carting stone for the town's roads." He later owned his own farm and operated a dairy on Burnet Hill until 1956. Burnet believed in the value of a good education. He served on the Board of Education for twenty seven years.

COLLINS FAMILY

The first member of the Collins family to settle in the Livingston area was Ebenezer Collins. Prior to 1776, he settled in the Canoe Brook area where he built a house on the south side of the Colonial road near the intersection of the road leading to Northfield.

Ebenezer was married twice. The first marriage was to Sarah Teed. They had one son, Andrew. After Sarah's death, Ebenezer married Abigail Teed, his sister-in-law. Five children resulted from this second marriage, Pell, William, James, Rachel and Sally were born.

Pell T. Collins was born in Livingston on March 6, 1794. He was a shoemaker and farmer by trade. He owned the old Watson home. One October 28, 1818, Pell T. Collins married Lockie Edwards at the Northfield Baptist Church. Pell and Lockie had twelve children, Abbie, James T., Enoch E., Hannah M., Sarah, Rachel, William, Vashti, Louise, Benjamin, and Monda.

Hannah Maria Collins, was born on February 6, 1825. She married George Cooke, who was born at Silver Mine, Connecticut on July 27, 1820. Lillias C. Cook recalled the following anecdote about their marriage:

"He came down from Connecticut for his bride, but arrived a day late. Great-grandmother Lockie was much perturbed, but the blue-eyed bride was calm. A wedding feast had been prepared and the guests had arrived. Everything was ready but the bridegroom.

The next day he came; the reason for the delay was not poor transportation, he explained. It was due to the tailor, who had not completed his wedding garments on time. He could not start for Northfield until he had: "Fitting apparel for his nuptials."⁶

William Collins, brother of Hannah M. was born in Livingston on September 14, 1832. On July 5, 1858, he married Mary Yeager of New York. They had a long and happy life, being married for sixty eight years.

In his early life, William learned the trade as a shoemaker, a trade in which he engaged for thirty years in partnership with his brother, at Morristown, N.J. For financial reasons, William eventually abandoned that line of business and purchased the old Edwards farm in Livingston, where he turned his attention to farming until his death in 1924.

Pell T. Collins, son of William and Mary Collins was born in 1870, on the family farm in Livingston. He was a life long resident of Livingston. As a young men he and his brothers, Mathew, Ed, and Joe were a well known singing quartet.

Pell became interested in the affairs of the township at a young age. He was a member of the Township Committee, and was also a member of the Board of Education. He was instrumental in the founding of the township's first high school. Pell died in 1953.

LILLIAS COLLINS COOK

Lillias Collins Cook was born in the Northfield section of Livingston in 1878. When Lillias was a young girl her father died. She lived with her mother in the Force home on South Livingston Avenue for a short time after his death.

About the time of World War I, Lillias met Joseph H. M. Cook of Roseland. Mr. Cook was a bee-keeper and dealer of bee-keeping supplies in New York City. During the war, there was a shortage of sugar, so people began to use honey as a substitute. Lillias joined the bee-keeping course offered by Joseph Cook, soon pupil and teacher were engaged to be married.

Among the qualities that endeared Lillias to her many friends was her sense of humor and keen enjoyment of life. Describing her wedding ceremony to her friend Miriam Studley, she told how the clergyman recited the line "Lillias, wilt thou take this man to be thy wedded husband?" Lillias replied clearly "I bee."⁷

As a young woman Lillias worked as a reporter for the Newark News. She covered the Livingston area. Not long after the stock market crash, Joseph Cook died, leaving Lillias his estate.

Always interested in local history, Lillias was one of the residents actively involved in the 125th Anniversary celebration of Livingston. Carefully combining the things she recalled about the township, she

published in 1954, a pamphlet on early Livingston entitled "Pioneers of Old Northfield."

Between 1952 and 1961, Lillias contributed seven stories about various memories of early Livingston. After finishing "Pioneers of Old Northfield," Lillias had hopes of publishing the histories of other sections of town she knew, including Cheapside, West Livingston, Morehousetown and Swinefield, but this did not come to pass.

Besides her many historical interests, Lillias was quite active in the community. When the Northfield Social Club established its own library, Lillias was the first librarian. She actively served the Northfield Baptist Church as a Sunday School teacher, church clerk and historian. Lillias continued to do research about Livingston and about her family until her death in 1968.

DAVID BRAINARD DICKINSON

David Brainard Dickinson was born in Livingston, N.J. in 1824, the son of Israel and Jane Caroline Budd Dickinson. The Dickinsons lived on the family farm which was originally settled by David's grandfather, Brainard, in the mid-1770's. Situated on a bend in the Passaic River near Chatham, the farm on which David lived comprised over three hundred acres.

David B. Dickinson began observing the wildlife of the area as a young boy. The land surrounding his home was a haven for all different forms of natural wild-life. During the spring, the meadows on the property would flood with the extra water from the Passaic River. The meadows then became the home of wild ducks and geese that had their young in the tall weeds and shrubs.

David had the foresight to know that eventually many of these different forms of wild-life would be driven away as Livingston developed. For this reason he studied both ornithology and taxidermy. He slowly collected and mounted as many of the species of wildlife as he could find in the area. His collection of bird eggs, stuffed birds and mammals was considered to be the largest private collection of its kind in the world.

The prize specimen of the collection was a rare Lawrence's warbler. In 1874, Dickinson noticed the warbler which was marked differently than any he had previously seen. He shot and then stuffed what proved to be a bird previously unknown to ornithologists.⁸

Dickinson was noted not only for his work in ornithology, but he also became known as the John Burroughs of New Jersey. For many years authorities said that it was impossible to graft or transplant a hickory tree. He not only transplanted and successfully grafted the tree, but the resultant hickory nuts were twice the normal size with a very thin shell.

Many prominent individuals visited with Dickinson and his family. The most famous was President Theodore Roosevelt. He visited the Dickinsons in order to hunt with David. Many foreign scientists and dignitaries were known to have consulted with Mr. Dickinson.

Dickinson was married twice. The first time to Margaret Budd on October 19, 1857. They had three children, William, Emma and Albert. After Margaret died, David married Justina Smith and they had one daughter, Edna.

Edna Dickinson, like her father was very interested in the wild-life and folklore of Livingston. Edna went to school at the Washington Place Academy for her early education. She attended high school in Caldwell, and then went on to Moravian College and Seminary in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Interested in preserving the rich past that was associated with her ancestral home, Edna Dickinson enjoyed giving tours to guests. An early newspaper article describes the home:

"A living reminder of early American history lies hidden today amid the thick woodland of western Livingston.

The relic is a 185 year old home, surrounded by 17

acres of forest, which is owned by Miss Edna Dickinson. She is mistress of a property to which her family has held title for more than 250 years.

...Beyond the table a cabinet contains more rare china and antique curios, gathered by the Dickinson family over the centuries. A cameo brooch set with carved figures of water birds lies close by a piece of Indian china colored in brilliant orange.

...Thousands of specimens of eggs, all carefully catalogued, are neatly filled in drawers of solid oak cabinets, themselves collectors pieces, having^g been built by a great-grandfather of Miss Dickinson's."

She was one of the founders of the Chatham Trust Company. During World War I, Edna Dickinson was presented with a medal for selling more war bonds than anyone else in the area. She was active in the real estate business in Chatham, N.J. until she retired in 1931. She died in September of 1954.

ELY FAMILY

The Ely family was among the earliest settlers of the community. Captain William Ely, the founder of the family which settled in Livingston, was born in Lyme, Connecticut on August 10, 1714. His military title was gained during King George's War, when he served in the Third Company or "train band" of Lyme. He was promoted in 1740, to lieutenant and in 1745, to captain. For reasons unknown, Captain Ely left Lyme and moved to Livingston.

Captain Ely arrived in Livingston in 1751 where he purchased from Thomas Gardner, a tract of fifty acres on the south side of the Colonial road. The property is thought to have run from the intersection of present day West Mount Pleasant Avenue and South Livingston Avenue westward to the neighborhood of Hillside Avenue. It is not known where the Captain's residence was on this fifty acre tract, although Edwin Ely in his "Personal Memoirs" stated that it stood near the site of the Ely tavern.

In 1757, Captain Ely bought an additional eighty nine acres of land on Riker Hill on the north side of the Colonial road from Mrs. Euphemia Arabella Leonard, widow of Henry Leonard and daughter of Michael Kearny. He then constructed a new home on this tract. It is quite possible that the Captain was one of the first settlers to live on Riker Hill.

Not long after moving to Livingston, the Captain began to involve himself in civic matters. He became the recruiting officer for the Livingston district during the French and Indian War. In 1761, his name appears in the Records of the Township of Newark as an Overseer of the

Highway, a position to which he was re-elected several times.

The Captain had married Elizabeth Perkins in 1737. Shortly after their settlement in Livingston, Captain Ely was having financial difficulties. These were due to his backing of a note for his brother; a lien was placed on his property. The officer who made the seizure advised Mrs. Ely to consider giving up her silver tea service for payment. She had inherited the set from her parents and she refused to do so. She must have been persuasive though, because she talked the gentleman out of taking any other property.

Not long after the American Revolution, in 1782, Elizabeth Ely died and was buried in the private cemetery on Hillside Avenue. Twenty years later, in April of 1802, Captain William Ely died. He was buried in the private cemetery next to his wife. It is interesting to note that on both the headstone and in the "Ely Genealogy" the date of death is given as April 3, 1802, but the Captain's funeral was not until April 25th. Perhaps the date on the headstone should read April 23, 1802. An early document states:

"Morris County SS. State of New Jersey. Personally appeared before me Daniel Hopping, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County, the Revd. Aaron Condit who being Duly sworn Did Depose & Say agreeably to record made by him at the time on the twenty fifth Day of April in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and two, he attended and Performed the funeral service of Captain William Ely of the township then of Caldwell, Now of Livingston in the County of Essex in said state and further this Deponent saith Not. August 11, 1817.

Aaron Condit, Minister of the
Congregation of Hanover

Sworn and subscribed before me the eleventh day of
August A.D. 1817

Daniel Hopping, Justice of the Peace.

Captain William Ely and his wife Elizabeth were the parents of ten children. The first child was born in 1738, but died in infancy. The following children lived to maturity: William Jr., Abraham, Elizabeth, Lois, Lucy, Joseph, Benjamin and Moses.

William Ely Jr. was born in Lyme, Connecticut on October 14, 1739. He married his cousin, Lucy Perkins of Ipswich, Massachusetts. In 1751, he accompanied his parents to Livingston. According to the Ely family tradition, William Ely Jr. received from his father, the fifty acre farm his father had bought from Thomas Gardner in 1751.

Around 1765, William Ely Jr., or "Uncle Bill" as he was known, is believed to have built the tavern at the southwest corner of the intersection of Mount Pleasant and Livingston Avenues. This same structure was later the site of the first town meeting in 1813. There is some conjecture as to whether William Ely Jr. sided with the British or the Americans during the Revolutionary War. However, records at the New Jersey Archives document a William Ely Jr. who served as a Private Minuteman in the Essex County Militia during the struggle for Independence.

After the Revolution, William Ely Jr. settled down to running his tavern. Like his father, William also became involved in the local government. William's name appears in the Records of the Township of Newark as an Overseer of the Poor in 1792 and 1793. In 1795, he was elected as an Overseer of the Highway. In 1798, William ran another tavern about 1,000 feet west of the original tavern. It was in this second tavern that William died in 1807. He and his wife, who died five years later in

1812, were interred in the family cemetery.

Another of Captain and Elizabeth Ely's children was Moses, who was born on November 18, 1756 in the Ely household in Livingston. He married Rebecca Cook, daughter of Epaphras Cook. Not much is known of the early life of Moses Ely until the Revolutionary War.

Moses was a Private in the 2nd Regiment of the Essex County Militia, under Captains Elijah Squier and Thomas Williams. He was at the Battles of Connecticut Farms, June 7, 1780 and Springfield, June 23, 1780. In the spring of 1778, he became a Teamster under Captain Joseph Johnson.

After the War, Moses and his family moved to New York City. They lived in the city until an epidemic of yellow fever broke out around the turn of the century. At that time they moved back to Livingston to the farm he inherited from his father. Moses and his wife Rebecca were the parents of nine children: Elizabeth, Abram Halsey, Moses Jr., Benjamin, Epaphras Cook, Sarah, Smith, John and Anna Maria.

In 1811, Moses Ely, who had been living in the dwelling built by his father the Captain, built a new larger dwelling south of the former structure. This building soon became a familiar landmark in the community and it was here that Moses devoted his last years to farming. He died in 1838.

In 1783, Elizabeth Ely was born to Moses and Rebecca Ely. Elizabeth was probably named after her paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Perkins Ely, wife of Captain William Ely, Sr. Elizabeth was married twice; first to

George Ring and second to Reverend John Watson. The second marriage took place in 1819. Reverend Watson was a native of Nottingham, England, who came to this country as a young boy. At the time of his marriage to Elizabeth Ely, Reverend Watson was the pastor of the Northfield Baptist Church. He resided on West Mount Pleasant Avenue. After a brief period of time in which Reverend Watson was Pastor of a church in Mt. Bethel, he returned to spend the rest of his life here in Livingston. He died on April 13, 1840 and was interred in the Ely cemetery. Elizabeth died four years later in 1844.

The second child born to Moses and Rebecca was Abraham Halsey Ely. He was born in Livingston in 1787 and was a farmer most of his life. In 1816, he married Emma Samo, daughter of Isaac Samo, who in 1812 had bought the Ely Tavern in Livingston center. Abraham and Emma resided not far from the family cemetery on Hillside Avenue. They were the parents of ten children. Abraham died in 1849 and Emma in 1874.

Smith Ely was the seventh child to have been born to Moses and Rebecca Ely. He was born in the Ely homestead in 1800. Smith, according to Edwin Ely, received his name in honor of the Smith family of Livingston to whom the Elys were related. Smith Ely, became the most prominent and most successful of the children of Moses and Rebecca Ely.

In 1823, Smith left Livingston to find his fortune in New York. Edwin Ely devotes an entire chapter in his "Personal Memoirs" to this man and the way in which he gained and lost his fortunes. For almost fifty years Smith lived in New York in what was considered one of the finest residences in the city.

In 1870, Smith became interested in copper mining. He left New York City to become the president of the Vermont Copper Company which owned and operated a mine in Vershire, Vermont. Over the course of the next few years Smith was not only the president of this mining company but he also became its owner. In the late 1870's, the town of Vershire decided to honor Smith, and changed their town's name from Vershire to Ely, Vermont. A few years later the name was changed back to Vershire. Unfortunately the Vermont Copper Company did not succeed and Smith Ely was totally ruined financially. In the summer of 1884, at the age of eighty four, he died. He was interred in the Ely cemetery beside his brothers and sisters.

The last of the children of Moses and Rebecca Ely that will be discussed is Epaphras Cook Ely. Epaphras was born in New York City in April, 1795. He was named after his maternal grandfather, Epaphras Cook of Livingston. When Epaphras was seven years old his parents moved back to the family farm in Livingston.

While a young man Epaphras became an apprentice in the tanning business to his older brother Moses Ely, Jr. This apprenticeship was interrupted with the War of 1812 when Moses Ely was called to serve his country. Since Moses had responsibility for a large family, Epaphras volunteered to go in his place.

In 1821, Epaphras moved back to the family farm in Livingston. The following year on April 22, 1822, Epaphras C. Ely was married to Julia Ann Kitchell at the home of her grandfather, Ambrose Kitchell, by the Reverend Aaron Condit in Hanover. In 1825, Epaphras and Julia Ely moved to New York

City. They were the parents of the following children: Ambrose Kitchell, Smith Jr., William Henry, Edwin Augustus and Maria Louise.

Epaphras was engaged in the hide and leather business. When his sons were old enough they joined his business. The Civil War was a great help to the Ely family's leather trade and as a result the family became very wealthy. In 1864, Julia Ann Ely died and a few months later Epaphras Cook Ely died. Both are buried in the family cemetery.

Epaphras and Julia Ely had two sons who achieved considerable fame: Smith Ely Jr. and Edwin Augustus Ely. Smith Ely Jr. was born on April 27, 1825 at the home of his grandfather in Hanover. Smith received his name as a compliment to his uncle Smith Ely of Ely, Vermont. To distinguish the two, Epaphras and Julia named their son Smith Ely Jr. As a young man Smith was employed by his father to be a clerk in the family leather trade. He studied law while in college and was admitted to practice in 1846, but never practiced his profession.

At an early age, Smith exhibited an interest in writing and submitted poetry and prose to magazines in Boston and New York. Not only was Smith interested in literary work, but he also many hobbies. He was a member of the Society of Colonial Wars, the Sons of the American Revolution and the Society of the War of 1812. His involvement in these organizations eventually drew him closer to his interest in politics.

Smith's interest in politics began in his youth. In the early 1840's he worked in the campaign of Henry Clay. In 1848, he was chosen president of the Northern Lights Association, a club for young men. Smith then

worked diligently for the Democratic party for many years. In 1856, he was elected a school trustee of the Seventeenth Ward in New York City. While in his first year in office as a trustee, he was elected to the New York State Senate. From 1860 to 1870, he was a member of the old Board of Supervisors for the City of New York.

In 1870 he was elected to the 42nd Congress of the United States, and subsequently he was elected to a second term. It was while in this office that he became chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department. In 1876, while in his second term of office, Smith resigned in order to run for Mayor of New York City.

In 1877, Smith was elected Mayor of New York City, an office he held for only two years. He was the first bachelor to hold the office of mayor. His administration had the distinction of having been able to reduce both the city tax rate and the annual debt at the same time, a feat that has never been repeated. Smith also became known as the "marrying mayor," which is in reference to the fact that he performed more marriages than any other New York City chief executive up to that time.

The last office that Smith held was that of Commissioner of the Parks for the City of New York. After retiring from this office, Smith moved to run the family farm in Livingston. On July 1, 1911, Smith Ely Jr. died. He left \$765,000 to many charitable and religious institutions in New York and New Jersey.

Edwin Augustus Ely was born on June 15, 1836, at his parents' home in New York City. His first name, Edwin, was selected in honor of Reverend

Edwin F. Hatfield, D.D., who was pastor of the Seventh Presbyterian Church of New York City, and the author of several works, including the "History of Elizabeth, N.J. Edwin's middle name, Augustus was to honor Augustus Ely, a cousin of Edwin's.

Edwin's education began at the age of five. He attended several private schools in New York and New Jersey. While in school he excelled in the field of history. From a very early age, he was interested in history and the collecting of old books.

When Edwin was about 17 years old, he was employed by his father as a clerk in the family leather trade. Edwin worked with his father until 1860, when his father retired. Edwin then went into partnership with his brother, Ambrose, acting as clerk. Nine years later, due to poor health, Edwin resigned. He then spent most of his time doing historical research.

Among his first projects was mapping the early land grants in Northern New Jersey. From the information gathered, Edwin was able to map the first plantations in the territory extending from Hobart Hill east of Chatham northwestward to include Livingston and Hanover. Edwin originally planned to publish his findings, but he realized that this undertaking was too great an expense.

In 1876, with the celebration of the United States Centennial, Edwin began to collect rare books about New Jersey. His interest in New Jersey was due to his family's involvement with the state.

In the year 1883, instead of living at the Ely homestead in Livingston,

Edwin stayed at his sister's home in Chatham. It was during this summer that he began researching "The History of Chatham," which was published many years later.

For the next forty years, Edwin spent a great deal of time travelling and collecting books and data relating to New Jersey. In 1926, he published his "Personal Memoirs," a great source of information about New Jersey. On June 19, 1927, Edwin Augustus Ely died at the age of 91. He was buried in the Ely cemetery on Hillside Avenue with the rest of his family.

According to his will, he left bequests to many charitable institutions in New York and New Jersey. One such bequest was to the New Jersey Historical Society in which Edwin had been a member since 1875. Edwin also left the Society his collection of rare books, autographed letters, book plates and lottery tickets. The Livingston Public Library also benefited from his generosity and contains a plaque in his memory.

ISAAC GILLAM

Isaac Gillam was born in Essex County in 1748. A farmer, in the mid 1770's he purchased one hundred acres of land in the Canoe Brook Lotts from John Stevens. The property was located at the intersection of present day East Northfield Road and South Livingston Avenue.

At the outbreak of the War of Independence, Gillam quickly rose to the rank of captain. He served throughout the entire war. He was one of the recruiting officers in the Livingston area, and was present at the Battle of Springfield on June 23, 1780.

Captain Gillam was brought up on charges, along with Lt. Colonel Jacob Crane and John Burnet, of the Essex County Militia. The finding of the Court Martial was announced by Governor Livingston in a proclamation published in the New Jersey Journal on December 26, 1781:

"At a General Court Martial whereof Colonel Silvanus Seely was President, held at Chatham, the 23rd day of October last, by order of his Excellency the Governor, and continued by several ajournments...Captain Isaac Gillam was tried...upon the following charges:

First for neglect of duty in a variety of instances.

1. In staying a great part of his time since his late appointment in the 12 months' service of the state at home.

2. In going home and continuing there several days and nights when he knew that a number of vessels were coming up Newark Bay and had reached the mouth of the river.

Second for giving unnecessary and unreasonable furloughs to his men'

Third for giving permission to a number of persons to go into and return from enemy lines;

Fourth for encouraging, protecting and supporting

the illicit trade and intercourse with the enemy; and for the sake of a bribe, releasing and discharging a quantity of goods seized by some of his men, on the way from the enemy's lines, by which means the state is deprived of a considerable sum of money and the punishment of offenders evaded;

Fifth that before and on the march of said company to Dobb's Ferry, the said Captain Gillam did begin and incite a mutiny and that at the sametime and place he did join in a mutiny; and that also knowing of the intended mutiny, he did not without delay give information thereof to any superior or¹⁰ commanding officer, nor endeavor to supress the same."

After the court martial Captain Gillam was found not guilty, and reinstated to his original rank and title. He returned to his farm in Livingston. In 1782, he sold to Abner Ball, fifty seven acres of land, which included the property where the Northfield Baptist Church now stands. Gillam lived in Livingston until his death in 1807.

HARRISON FAMILY

Among the names of the early settlers of Livingston, one of the most important and prominent families is the Harrison family. Although some would recognize the name as that of the elementary school on Livingston Avenue, many are not aware of the important contributions this family made to the community.

The first member of the Harrison family to settle in the Livingston area was Joseph Harrison III. In 1740, he purchased a large tract of land in the Centerville section. Besides being a farmer, Joseph was a soldier in the American Revolution. He fought at Springfield as a Minuteman. After the war, he became a Commissioner of Appeal and was chosen Judge of Elections. He became an elder in the Caldwell Presbyterian church in 1784. Married three times, Joseph had twelve children: Demas, Rufus, Samuel, Jared, Tamar, Abby and Joanna, all by his first wife; and Joseph, Harvey, Pheobe, Rhoda and Rufus, by the second.¹¹

Rufus married Phebe Williams and they had several children. A prominent man in the community, Rufus served as magistrate and a freeholder. He died in 1849 at the age of sixty nine.

Rufus F. Harrison, a son of Rufus and Phebe, was born in 1818 in Centerville. In 1849, he inherited the family farm, which was located at the corner of Harrison Avenue and Lincoln Street in Centerville, and devoted his early years to farming. Like his father and grandfather, he became interested in politics. He was elected to the county Board of

Freeholders, and also became a leading magistrate in the township.¹²

During the Civil War, Rufus was elected to the New Jersey Assembly. He was a leader in the fight to keep the City of Newark in the County of Essex. In 1864, he had the honor of casting the deciding vote in favor of New Jersey's ratification of the thirteenth amendment to the United States Constitution. Appointed assistant revenue collector, Rufus was also surveyor of the highways and a judge in the Essex County Court of Common Pleas.

He served as a trustee of the Livingston School Board for over forty years. Identified as a Whig, he was also an ardent Union patriot and an abolitionist. He married Harriet M. Williams in 1841 and they had eight children.

Amos Williams Harrison, son of Rufus and Harriet M. Harrison was born in Centerville on April 2, 1846 and was raised on the family farm. At the age of twenty; he began working for his uncle, who was the proprietor of a general store in the area. After working there for seven years, he decided to branch out and opened his own general store. In 1869, he opened the store in Livingston center. He rebuilt it in 1876, and ran it until 1897. He then constructed a house on Mount Pleasant Avenue next to his store.¹³

Amos was appointed Postmaster of Livingston in 1875; he served in this position for more than forty years. He then became the tax collector of Livingston and served in that post for seven years.

On May 19, 1879, Amos married Sarah C. Condit, daughter of Ira H.

Condit. It was Sarah who actually named the township of Roseland. On July 6, 1887, Amos and Sarah had their only child, Rufus Freeman Harrison.

By 1894, Amos decided to enter politics. That same year he was elected to the New Jersey State Assembly. Because of his background, he was familiar with agricultural problems and was instrumental in the passage of several bills of benefit to farmers. It was through his efforts that New Jersey passed the State Road Act.¹⁴

From 1898 to 1908, he served on the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Recognizing the need for beautiful recreational facilities, he was instrumental in the creation of Branch Brook Park in Newark and Grover Cleveland Park in Caldwell. He served on the Board of Directors of the Second National Bank of Orange along with Thomas Alva Edison.

In 1915, Amos resigned from his job as Postmaster. At that time a new civil examination was required for all fourth class postmasters. Amos refused to take the test and was therefore ineligible to continue as postmaster.

Amos served on the Livingston Board of Education until he resigned in 1920. In 1921, he helped form the Livingston Water Company. On Christmas day of that same year, Amos W. Harrison died. After the death of his father, Rufus Freeman Harrison assumed control of his father's business.

Rufus Freeman Harrison was born on July 6, 1887 in the house, now converted into stores, at 12 East Mount Pleasant Avenue. After attending school in Livingston, he went on to college at Princeton, graduating in

1911. Rufus Freeman Harrison's boyhood was atypical when compared with that of his fellow Livingstonians. The family vacationed at Ocean Grove during the summer months, when most families in town were working in the fields. Baseball, fishing, hunting and the like occupied his time, while he spent hours reading Shakespeare, Dickens, Milton and Churchill.

After college, he became a sports reporter for the New York Sun, and later was associated with Street and Smith Publications in New York. He wrote short stories and poetry and assistant editor of Top Notch Magazine.¹⁵

After his father's death, Rufus Freeman Harrison dropped his first name, and became known as Freeman. He decided to take over his father's business, and left the literary world. In 1927, he helped form the Livingston National Bank where he served as one of its vice-presidents.

He served a term on the Livingston Board of Education, was a member of the first Planning Board, and was a member of the Township Committee in the early 1930's. During World War II, he was active on the Civil Defense Council and the Ration Board.

In the mid 1950's, Freeman began writing and submitting articles on the History of Livingston to the West Essex Tribune. His interest in Livingston led him to be active in the formation of the Livingston Historical Society in the early 1960's. In 1965, he published a book, "Flames Above the Riker," which was a compilation of his vignettes.

Freeman Harrison died on June 21, 1973 at the age of eighty five. His

wife, Mrs. Elise Harrison continues to live in the community to this day.

ALEXANDER LIVINGSTON KEAN

The first member of the Kean family to actually live in Livingston was Alexander Livingston Kean. Alexander, the youngest child of Colonel John and Lucy Halstead Kean, was born on March 12, 1866.

As a young man, Alexander attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.). Shortly after he graduated in 1892, his father died. Alexander used his inheritance to purchase 160 acres of land in Livingston from James and Cornelia Montgomery. Since Alexander had studied architecture at M.I.T., he was able to use his knowledge of the subject in designing a house on the property.

The stone for the house, excluding the trim, was cut from a quarry on the property. After the home was complete, a large amount of landscaping was done. The land was leveled, retaining walls built, and a vista cut through the trees.

When the house was completed, Alexander turned his attention toward business. He decided to import horses from the West, with the idea of breaking them in for saddle use. This business venture proved unsuccessful and he soon abandoned it.

During his first few years in Livingston, Alexander spent his winters in Egypt. He continued to visit that country until World War I. After the War he spent all of his time at home.

In 1916, Alexander became interested in religion and decided to found a church. His plans included the erection of an abbey to serve as a home for retired Episcopal priests. That same year, he bought land and with the support of Mrs. Edith DeCamp, built a temporary chapel on East Mount Pleasant Avenue in an area called "Strawberry Hill." The first service was held there on Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1916. Kean continued planning for an abbey and a permanent church. On June 29, 1919, the first cornerstone was laid for St. Peter's Episcopal Church. At the time of Kean's death, November 27, 1922, the church was given over to the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The abbey was used for meetings of social and civic groups until it was converted to a rectory in the 1960's.

When Alexander L. Kean died he was fifty three years old. In his will he left a huge estate to his nephew Robert Winthrop Kean. The estate that still covers a large portion of the easterly edge of Livingston.

ROBERT WINTHROP KEAN

Robert Winthrop Kean, the father of governor Thomas H. Kean, was born on September 28, 1893, at the summer home of his maternal grandmother in Elberon, N.J. Robert was named in honor of his maternal grandfather, Robert Winthrop.

As a young lad, Robert lived on Park Avenue in New York City. He attended private schools from the age of eight, including St. Mark's School in Southboro, Massachusetts. He attended college at Harvard University. While a student at Harvard, he enlisted in the student reserve. He entered the army after graduation, just as World War I began.

During the war, Robert rose to the rank of lieutenant. He fought at Chateau Thierry, Soissons and St. Mihiel in France. On July 18, 1918, Robert Winthrop Kean received the distinguished service cross for his part in two successive waves of attack by the infantry at the Battle of Soissons.

In April of 1919, Robert went to work for the American Embassy in France. There, he was involved with the peace conference at Versailles. On his return to America, Robert joined his father's firm of Kean, Taylor and Company.

On October 18, 1920, Robert married Elizabeth Stuyvesant Howard of Hyde Park, New York, daughter of Thomas Howard and a direct descendent of Peter Stuyvesant.

Robert and Elizabeth Kean lived in New York for the first three years of their marriage. In 1922, upon the death of his uncle Alexander, Robert inherited the estate in Livingston. The Keans moved into the estate in May of 1924.

Once settled, Robert became involved in the affairs of the township. In 1927, he helped organize the Livingston National Bank and was its president for over twenty five years. He was also a founder of the Livingston American Legion Post and Boy Scout Troop 12, the first troop in Livingston.

Robert began his political career in 1929, when he sought a position on the Republican County Committee. Defeated in his first attempt in politics, he was elected two years later as Livingston Town chairman.

Mr. Kean was elected a United States Congressman for the 12th district in New Jersey in 1939. He was appointed to serve on the Banking and Finance Committee, a position he held until 1944. That same year, he was appointed to the House Ways and Means Committee. Because of his interest in Social Security, he studied every piece of related legislation and was dubbed "Mr. Social Security" by his Washington colleagues.

In 1959, Robert lost an election for the United States Senate to Harrison Williams. After this defeat, he retired from politics. Returning home to Livingston, he became involved in the building of Saint Barnabas Hospital in Livingston. The name was later changed to Saint Barnabas Medical Center. Kean served as chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Robert Winthrop Kean was always interested in the history of the his family, as well as the history of the area. In 1965, Mr. Kean presented a paper to the Livingston Historical Society on "Livingston and the Keans." Several years later, he wrote two books about himself and his family entitled "Dear Marraine" and "Fourscore Years." In September of 1980, Robert Winthrop Kean died, leaving his wife, six children, twenty-two grandchildren and five great grandchildren. His one son, Thomas continues his family's service in government.

THOMAS HOWARD KEAN

On Tuesday, January 19, 1982 a "first" was achieved in Livingston history. On that day, Thomas Howard Kean took the oath of office as the governor of the State of New Jersey. Kean was the first Livingston resident to achieve this high office, but he was not the first in his family to do so. He is the great, great, great, great grandnephew of New Jersey's first governor, William Livingston. He comes from a family that has long been devoted to public service. He is directly descended from six Colonial governors, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and several senators and delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

Thomas Howard Kean was born in April 21, 1935. As a young man he lived in both Livingston and Washington, D.C., because his father was in Congress. After his primary education, which included attendance at St. Marks School in Southboro, Massachusetts, he completed a bachelor of arts degree at Princeton University in 1957. After college, Tom taught history at St. Marks School for three years. In the early 1960's, he decided to seek further education. He chose to attend Columbia University where he earned a master's degree and completed courses for teaching certification in the State of New York. He also completed most of the course work toward a doctorate at Columbia.

In 1967, Tom began his career in politics when he was elected to the New Jersey Assembly representing District 25. At that time the district included Livingston. Three years after he was first elected, he became assistant majority leader of the Assembly, and in 1971, he was

elected majority leader. He became speaker of the Assembly during 1972-1973, but relinquished his duties in 1977 in order to run for governor.

After an unsuccessful bid for the gubernatorial nomination, Kean taught political science at Rutgers University. He was also president and chairman of the Realty Transfer Company of Elizabeth. In 1981, Thomas H. Kean decided to run for governor again. This time the results were so close that several days were required to check and recheck the votes. Finally, Thomas H. Kean was declared the winner for governor against Representative James Florio. The final tally of votes gave the governor 1,154,456 and Mr. Florio 1,144,202, a plurality of 1,797 votes.

In 1985, Thomas H. Kean was elected to a second term. This time the victory was clear. Kean took 69.58 percent of the vote against former Essex County Executive Peter Shapiro. In terms of plurality, Governor Kean's two election victories set records at both ends of the scale. In 1981, he won by the narrowest percentage in the history of New Jersey, and four years later he was re-elected with the greatest plurality of all time.

The many accomplishments of Governor Kean include the restructuring of the State Civil Service System, the revival of the economy, and an unemployment rate of less than 3.8 percent. For the first time in the history of the state, New Jersey was no longer a country cousin to New York.

Early in 1988, Governor Kean published a book "The Politics of Inclusion." The book drew national attention. It describes the governor's

life and his tenure as Governor of New Jersey. In August of 1988, the governor was asked to deliver the keynote address at the Republican National Convention in New Orleans. The address was well received. Both the Republicans and Democratic candidates began to use Kean's terminology as they incorporated the "politics of inclusion" into the rhetoric of their political speeches.

Kean has gained national recognition for his views on education and environment and his emphasis on values and the rights of states. He has encouraged a strong public relations campaign for New Jersey and has changed the image of the State. He has been a positive influence on the state and the nation.

WILLIAM KLABER, JR.

Born in Philadelphia, William Klaber, Jr. grew up in Montclair, and attended public schools there. He graduated magna cum laude from Bowdoin College with a degree in political science in 1937. After graduation he worked on the staff of the New Bedford Times in Massachusetts selling classified ads. He married Joyce Applegate on August 1, 1938. One of the guests at the Klaber's wedding was a Livingston resident who was a member of the Township Committee. Mr. Klaber learned from his guest that the four page Livingston tabloid was failing after nine years of operation by two different publishers.

In the fall of 1938, Mr. Klaber purchased the West Essex Tribune, which had an unpaid circulation of 432 copies, for \$500. In its first year of operation under Mr. Klaber's management, the newspaper made a profit. For years the paper was literally a one-man operation. Klaber wrote all the news articles, sold all the advertising, answered the telephone, did the proof reading, addressed the papers and collected the bills.

Mr. Klaber attended more Township Committee and Council meetings than any elected official. He was an active proponent of the switch to the council manager form of government here in Livingston, and was a leader in the successful Essex County charter change movement.

In addition to operating the West Essex Tribune, Mr. Klaber had been very active in a wide variety of community activities. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club, lay chaplain of the Old Guard, director of the Livingston

National Bank, and lay chaplain at Saint Barnabas Medical Center.

After forty one years as the editor of the West Essex Tribune, Mr. Klaber retired. He died in 1986, while on his way to his winter home in Florida.

CLARA LOUISE MAASS

Clara Louise Maass was born on June 26, 1876 to Robert and Hedwing Maass in East Orange. Clara was the oldest of their nine children. When she was a young girl, the Maass family left East Orange and moved to Livingston. Here they bought a small farm on Sycamore Avenue.

Clara attended school in the one room schoolhouse located at Northfield Center. Financial troubles seemed common to the Maass family, thus, Clara was forced to take a job as a "mother's helper" to help her parents.

When Clara was about fifteen years old, the Maass family left Livingston and returned to East Orange. At about the same time, she obtained a job at the Newark Orphan Asylum. She sent almost all of her earnings from the job to her mother to help support the family.

In 1883, Clara heard that the Newark German Hospital was looking for young girls to train to become nurses. Clara was accepted, and two years later, in 1895, she was among the school's first five graduates. After graduation she continued to work at the hospital.

On February 15, 1898, the U.S. battleship Maine was sunk in Havana Harbor in Cuba. This action escalated several decades of tension between the United States and Spain over Spain's policies in Cuba. In April of the same year the United States declared war against Spain. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, Clara Maass volunteered her services as an Army nurse.

Her first posts were in Florida and Georgia. She was then transferred to Cuba. Stationed in Santiago, she saw not only the suffering caused by war but also the ravages of yellow fever. The disease affected soldiers and civilians, young and old. The experience made a lasting impression on the young nurse. She was honorably discharged from the Army in 1899; shortly thereafter, she volunteered to work in a hospital in the Philippines.

Clara worked in the Philippines, for about a year. She contracted yellow fever, a major problem there. She became so ill that she was ordered home to rest and recuperate. While at home, Clara learned of attempts by the United States to find a cure for yellow fever in Cuba. The effort was aimed at finding out how the disease was transmitted. At the urging of a friend, Clara left for Cuba to work on the project.

Originally it was thought that yellow fever might be transmitted through the clothing of the infected person. This theory discounted, leaving the theory that it was transmitted by a mosquito. To test this theory, volunteers were asked to allow mosquitoes to bite them. The scientists hoped that after having a slight case of yellow fever, immunity to the disease would occur.

Clara Maass volunteered for the test, and on June 4, 1901, she contracted a very slight case of yellow fever. Unfortunately the test results were inconclusive, so she subjected herself to another mosquito bite in August of the same year. The earlier exposure had not provided immunity, and the disease resulted in her death on August 24, 1901. She

was the only American volunteer and the only woman to die in the testing. The project was not in vain, however, as it had demonstrated that the disease was carried by mosquitoes.

After her death, Clara Maass was buried in a small cemetery in Cuba. Her remains were later moved to Fairmount Cemetery in Newark, where she was buried with full military honors.

TIMOTHY MEEKER

Timothy Meeker was the patriarch of the Livingston Meekers. His forefathers were among the first to settle in Elizabethtown in the mid-1600's. Among the early settlers were three brothers, Joseph, Benjamin and John Meeker. All three brothers were quite involved in the early civic affairs of the area. Joseph was on the first grand jury in the state in 1671. He later was appointed one of the first sheriffs of Essex County. Benjamin was involved in land disputes between the early East Jersey Proprietors and the Elizabethtown settlers.

Timothy, is thought to have been born in Elizabethtown around 1708 or 1709. It is believed that he spent his early childhood on the family farm in the area known as Lyons Farms. At about the time he was 23, he married Sarah Pierson. Sarah was the daughter of Joseph and Hepzibah Pierson. She lived in the vicinity of what is now known as Maplewood.

After their marriage, between 1735 and 1736, Timothy and his wife Sarah bought a farm near the Springfield Presbyterian Church. In 1738, Sarah died after giving birth to their second child.

Not long after Sarah's death, Timothy married the daughter of Judge Aaron Munn. Shortly after the marriage, Timothy's second wife died. In 1741, Timothy married Desire Cory.

Not long after the marriage to Desire, Timothy sold the farm in Springfield, and purchased a large farm in the area of Canoe Brook.

Timothy is credited as having built the first frame house ever constructed above Springfield at that time.

Not long after moving to Canoe Brook, Timothy became embroiled in the Horseneck Riots of 1745. By that time, Timothy had become known as the undisputed leader of the Canoe Brook settlers. Timothy seems to have been quite involved in civic matters concerning this area. His name appears repeatedly on petitions for roads and taverns, and he was quite involved in the grand jury between 1735 and 1770.

Timothy and Desire were the parents of 18 children. All of the children were reared on the farm at Canoe Brook. At the time of the American Revolution, it is known that Timothy, with his ten sons, four sons-in-law and grandson, fought in the Battle of Springfield. After the battle, George Washington is said to have come to pay tribute to the valiant settler, who had fought to defend his country while over 70 years of age.

In 1782, Timothy, now nearly eighty, helped form the first school in the Canoe Brook settlement. Four years later, in 1786, Timothy was among the eleven members that left the Lyons Farms Baptist Church to form the Canoe Brook Baptist Church, now the Northfield Baptist Church.

In December of 1798, Timothy Meeker died. Although there is no record known to exist that tells where he is buried, it is believed that this great hero of the American Revolution and one of the great and respected settlers of this area is buried in an unmarked grave in the Northfield cemetery.

HERBERT MITSCHELE

Louis Mitschele and his wife, Amelia Oberle, came to Livingston from Germany sometime during the 1880's. They had ten children: Amelia, Sophia, Louis, William, Herbert, Rudolph, Bertha, Ella, Henrietta and Frances.

Herbert Mitschele was born in Livingston in 1904. He became active in Livingston public affairs in the mid 1930's. He was elected to the Township Committee in 1934. Mitschele rose to political dominance during the mid 1940's. He was mayor of Livingston for many years.

During his tenure on the Township Committee, the first sanitary sewer system was built, the first master plan developed and many of the basic codes of the township were adopted. He served continuously on the township's governing body until he decided not to run for re-election in 1956.

In the late 1920's, Herb Mitschele formed a partnership with Robert Baer to operate a sandpit on Congressional Parkway. During the depression, the Mitschele-Baer Company was dissolved. Mitschele then operated a dairy farm on Mount Pleasant Avenue.

After World War II, Mitschele organized the Herbert J. Mitschele and Sons, home builders, a firm which has been active in Livingston for over thirty years. He remained involved with his business until his death in April of 1980.

JOHN L. POLLOCK

Born in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania in 1893, John L. Pollock moved to Livingston in 1926. Pollock, who began working for New Jersey Bell Telephone Company in 1926, was transferred to Asbury Park in 1929. He then moved to Neptune. While in Neptune, John became Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 16, a position he held until he returned to Livingston in 1935. Known as the "Father of Scouting" in Livingston, Pollock was instrumental in organizing Boy Scout Troop 12. He began his scout work in 1918 as an assistant scoutmaster of Troop 4 in East Orange.

During World War II, Pollock served as chairman of the Livingston Civil Defense Council's Salvage Committee. Through his efforts, Livingston won national attention for the amount of materials salvaged by the residents of the township.

In 1940, Pollock was awarded the Bronze Vail Medal, New Jersey Bell Telephone Company's highest award for heroism, and the American National Red Cross Certificate of Merit, for aiding a child who was seriously injured in an automobile accident.

Pollock helped to organize the Livingston Senior Citizen's Old Guard. He was a charter member and honorary chairman. He was also a charter member of the Livingston Historical Society. He served as the first chairman of the Livingston Recreation and Parks Advisory Board. Pollock was voted Citizen of the year in Livingston three times. He died in February of 1981.

DANIEL E. SICKLES

On October 20, 1819, Daniel Edgar Sickles was born to George and Susan Marsh Sickles of New York City. Very little is known about his early life except that he was strong willed and had a hot temper.

When Daniel was about fifteen years old, he was sent to Glens Falls, New York, to a finishing academy. His parents hoped that here he would learn to curb his temper. Unfortunately, their hopes were in vain. One day Daniel got into an argument with one of his teachers; he quit school before they had a chance to expel him.

Around that same time, Daniel's father, George Sickles bought some property in Livingston on Beaufort Avenue. He had decided to try his hand at farming. After much coaxing, George persuaded his son to live on the farm and help in its operation. It appears that George was also a rather stubborn, aggressive character.

From Edwin A. Ely's "Personal Memoirs," comes the following account of George Sickles:

"My father's purchase at Livingston included not only the Homestead, property so called, but also a low meadow near the Passaic River, lying west of Little Neck Road (now Beaufort Avenue) in Morehousetown, at a distance of about a mile and a half from the farm...The property has no frontage on any public road, but is surrounded by lands of other people, and access to it from Beaufort Avenue could be gained only by a private lane crossing an intervening farm. At this time this intervening farm was owned by Mr. Sickles, a relative of General Daniel Sickles of the Civil War, a somewhat aggressive Englishman who, in maintaining his own rights, was apt to infringe upon those of others;

and who tried to prevent Uncle John from traversing the land with his cattle or his loads of hay, despite my uncle's representations that he had no other means of reaching his property and that the right of way was founded on immemorial usage. I was told that Sickles was decidedly, bellicose when my uncle encountered him on the lane."¹⁶

Daniel remained on the farm for several years but he wanted to further his education. After a very bitter quarrel with his father, Daniel left home for Princeton, where he obtained a job in a newspaper office.

After about a year of searching, George Sickles finally located Daniel. Realizing that Daniel had as strong a conviction as his own; he agreed to help his son further his education. George Sickles sent his son to a family friend, Lorenzo DaPonte, a professor at the University of the City of New York. After being tutored by professor DaPonte, Daniel entered the University.

Professor DaPonte died shortly after Daniel began his college education. Daniel then lost all interest in college. He left the university in 1840, and he entered the law firm of Benjamin Franklin Butler, attorney general under President VanBuren. Six years later, he was admitted to the bar.

In 1853, Daniel Edgar Sickles, then 32 years old, married Teresa Bagioli, who was 16 in New York City. He had met Teresa at the DaPonte household after the death of Lorenzo.

From 1857 to 1861, Sickles served in the United State Congress, but it was during this period that one of the more difficult events of his life took place. In February of 1859, Sickles enraged that all of Washington

seemed aware of the love affair between his wife, Teresa, and Philip Barton Key, the son of Francis Scott Key. One day Sickles received a note from a friend with the following message:

"Dear Sir;

With regret I enclose to your address the few lines but an indispensable duty compels me to do so, seeing that you are greatly imposed upon.

There is a fellow, I may say, for he is not a gentleman, by any means by the [name] of Philip Barton Key, and I believe the district attorney, who rents a house of a Negro man by the name of John A. Gray situated on 15th Street between K and L Streets, for no other purpose than to meet your wife Mrs. Sickles. He hangs a string out the window as a signal to her that he is in, and leaves the door unfastened, and she walks in and I do sir assure you with these few hints I leave the rest for you to imagine."

Daniel Sickles was furious. After confirming the contents of the note, he confronted Teresa and demanded her confession. After she nodded to her guilt, Daniel removed his wedding ring, and had her sign a written confession.

The next day while Sickles was meeting with a friend, he saw Key giving the signal to Teresa. On seeing this, Sickles ran with gun in hand and shot Key until he was dead.

One of the witnesses was a page-boy at the White House. After the incident, the page-boy informed President Buchanan. The President, hoping to save Sickles' future, told the boy to flee to North Carolina or risk being jailed as a witness.

Sickles was brought to court for murder, but acquitted. It was not long after the trial that Teresa gave up her will to live. She became a drug addict and died about a year later.

At the beginning of the Civil War, even though Sickles was a Democrat, he gave his full support to President Lincoln. Lincoln promised to make Daniel a brigadier general if he could raise some regiments of men. This he accomplished and as promised by the President, was awarded the rank of brigadier general.

After a short period of time, Daniel Sickles became the commander of the Third Corps, which gained its place in history at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Hearing that there was trouble at Gettysburg, General Sickles led his troops from Emmitsburg. Their assignment was to defend the promontory known as Little Round Top. During the battle, the Third Corps lost a third of its men, and for a period of time Little Round Top was undefended. Sickles was one of the casualties of the historic battle. A cannon ball hit his leg resulting in amputation and ending his military career.

After the war, Lincoln sent Sickles to Latin America on a secret mission. To this day the nature of the mission remains a secret of the State Department. While Sickles was in Latin America, President Lincoln was assassinated, and Sickles was summoned back to Washington.

The country's new leader, President Johnson, appointed Sickles as military governor over the Carolinas. He held that post until the impeachment proceedings against President Johnson.

In 1868, Grant was elected President, and Daniel again had a friend in the White House. As a reward for helping him get into office, President

Grant appointed Sickles Minister to Spain. Not long after the appointment, Sickles became involved in an intimate affair with the deposed Queen of Spain, Isabella. Since he was considered a commoner, Isabella couldn't marry him, but urged him to marry her lady-in-waiting, Caroline Creagh. This meant that the Queen could be with Daniel as much as she pleased, and no one could question their relationship. Soon all of Europe was calling Sickles the "Yankee King of Spain."

Sickles had to return to America for a short period in the mid-1880's, while Jay Gould was running the Erie Railroad. Hearing that the stock values were extremely low, Sickles who was a major stockholder, urged Gould to step down and Gould agreed. The stock rose more than fifteen points in response to his resignation. As a result Sickles got credit for the breakup of the Erie Railroad conspiracy.

Returning to Spain, Sickles decided to go to Paris with Isabella and his new wife, Caroline. Caroline could not tolerate the situation; she returned to Spain by herself. Sickles, in turn, left for America, inviting Caroline to join him, but she refused.

In 1893, at the age of 74, he was again elected to Congress. During his term, he fought for the interests of the veterans of the Civil War, and it was he who persuaded the government to purchase the Gettysburg battlefield as a tribute to the brave men who fought there.

In 1908, Caroline Sickles and her son, Stanton, traveled to America to be with her husband. He was not reconciled with Caroline until his death several years later, but during the interim period he was jailed for

failing to pay his debts. Once word of this became known, donations from Civil War veterans were made in to pay for the debts Sickles had incurred. He was released debt-free.

In July of 1911, Daniel Sickles returned to his boyhood home in Livingston. Three years later, on May 3, 1914, Daniel Sickles died. On his deathbed, at the urging of his son, he reconciled with Caroline. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, along with his fellow officers.

MIRIAM STUDLEY

Born in Amoy, China, the daughter of a Dutch Reformed Church missionary, Miriam V. Studley lived in that country for three years before her family moved to the Philippines. As a teenager she traveled to the United States, settling in Newburgh, New York. She was a graduate of Vassar College.

In 1931, Miss Studley joined the staff of the Newark Public Library as children's librarian. During her term in that position, the George Washington bicentennial was celebrated in 1932, and the 100th anniversary of Newark's charter in 1936. She contributed to both celebrations.

In 1944, she was transferred to the reference department at the library. Here she worked on assembling the New Jersey Reference Collection and in 1951, she became head of the New Jersey Reference Division of the Newark Public Library.

A respected scholar of New Jersey history, Miss Studley earned many awards and citations for her contributions to New Jersey history. In 1964, she authored a book for New Jersey's Tercentennial entitled: "Historic New Jersey, Through Visitor's Eyes." Miss Studley was instrumental in documenting the early history of Livingston where she was a charter member of the Livingston Historical Society. She assisted in the inventory of historic sites in town. She also wrote a paper entitled "The Ely Tavern-1798." Miss Studley died in 1984.

HENRY WELLS WADE

Henry Wells Wade was born in 1748, one of the five sons of Jonathan and Dorothy Wells Wade of Elizabethtown, N.J. In 1770, Henry moved to the Canoe Brook settlement. According to Lillias Collins Cook, Henry, who owned a sawmill, ran it for seven days and nights during the spring flood of 1771 to cut timber used to build what would become Livingston's first clapboard home.

On September 23, 1773, Henry was married to Margaret Ward of Livingston at the Hanover Presbyterian Church by Reverend Jacob Green. Besides being a farmer, raising a family and being the owner of a sawmill, Henry found the time at the early age of twenty six to become involved in local government. The first mention of Henry is in the "Record of the Township of Newark" when in March of 1774, he was elected as an Overseer of the Highway.

When the War of Independence broke out, Henry became a private in Captain Samuel Potter's Company, 3rd regiment of the New Jersey Continental Line. He enlisted on February 14, 1776 and was mustered at Fort Ticonderoga, New York on November 27, 1778. On July 1, 1778, he was promoted to Corporal under Richard Warrick. He served in the campaign against the Indians of the Six Nations in Pennsylvania in 1779. In January of 1781, he was detached to Captain Jonathan Forman's Company of Lieutenant Colonel Francis Barber's Battalion of Light Infantry of the New Jersey Continental Line, which was encamped at Head-of-Elk, Maryland. He was present at the siege of Yorktown and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis on

October 19, 1781. During the Battle of Springfield, N.J. in June of 1780, Henry sustained an injury to his leg by a bayonet.

After the War, Henry Wade went back to his farm and family at Canoe Brook. Henry and his wife Margaret were the parents of fifteen children, many of whom married into such notable families as the Harrisons, Wards, Edwards and Littells.

In April of 1789, Henry was once again elected as an Overseer of the Highway. In April of 1790, he was elected as an Overseer of the Poor. More importantly, Henry was actively involved in the formation of Livingston. He signed a petition to the State Legislature dated December 24, 1811, asking to form a new township. When the first meeting was held at Samo's tavern on April 12, 1813, Henry was elected to the position of Overseer of the Poor and he was re-elected in 1814. In 1818, his name appears on the Minute Book as being elected as an Overseer of the Highway, a post he was re-elected to in 1824. This was the last time Henry would serve the community in an official capacity, for on the evening of February 24, 1825, Henry died. He was later interred in the Hanover Presbyterian Cemetery, in East Hanover.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 15

¹Biographical and Genealogical History of the City of Newark and Essex County, New Jersey, Illustrated, (New York, Lewis Publishing Company, 1898), p.211.

²Ibid.

³"John Ashby," West Essex Tribune, November 19, 1931, p.1.

⁴Biographical and Genealogical History of the City of Newark and Essex County, New Jersey, op. cit., p.522.

⁵Ibid.

⁶Cook, Lillias Collins, Pioneers of Old Northfield (Livingston, New Jersey, Tribune Publishing Company, 1954), p.21.

⁷Proceedings of the Livingston Historical Society-March 1981, By the Old Bridge - Stories of Old Livingston by Lillias Collins Cook Edited by Peter M.G. Deane (Livingston, New Jersey, Tribune Publishing Company, 1981), p.5.

⁸Barton, Roger, How to Watch Birds, (New York, McGraw Hill Publishing Company, 1955), pp. 191-192.

⁹"Early American History lives on in Livingston Woman's Home," Newark Sunday News, June 28, 1953.

¹⁰New Jersey Journal, December 26, 1781, p.4.

¹¹Biographical and Genealogical History of the City of Newark and Essex County, New Jersey, op. cit., p.298.

¹²Ibid.

¹³Biographical and Genealogical History of the City of Newark and Essex County, New Jersey, op. cit., p.304.

¹⁴"Amos Harrison dies at Home in Livingston," Caldwell Progress, December 31, 1921, p.1.

¹⁵"Freeman Harrison Dies; Ex-Mayor, Historian," West Essex Tribune, June 28, 1973, p.1.

¹⁶Vanderpoel, Ambrose Ely, Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1939), p.330.

¹⁷Swanberg, W.A., Sickles the Incredible, (New York, Charles Scribner's and Sons, 1956) p.46.

CHAPTER 16

"GEOLOGY, GEOGRAPHY AND WILDLIFE OF LIVINGSTON"

Livingston's Geology

Over 200 million years ago, during the Triassic-Jurassic geologic periods of the Mesozoic Era, dramatic earth-building events shaped the land in northern New Jersey. The Livingston we know today is quite different in its physical appearance then it was at that time.

A great fault developed in the middle of the state, which is known today as the Ramapo, and extended as far north as Massachusetts and as far south as North Carolina. The fault caused the land on its eastern border to be down-faulted, resulting in a deep valley.

For millions of years, the elements of ice, rain, snow and wind eroded the rocks that made up the Appalachian Mountains. The sediment and debris from these mountains were carried down and deposited on the valley floor forming a thick layer of sand and silt, stained red from iron oxide.

While the Appalachian Mountains were being eroded, fissures in the earth's crust appeared, spewing forth lava. Three times over the course of millions of years the lava spewed forth, covering the sediment on the valley floor. The result was three large lava sheets close to one thousand feet thick, sandwiched between thousands of feet of silt and sand. The pressure that was exerted from all this material turned the silt and sand

into shale and sandstone and the lava hardened into basalt.

The inhabitants of this area were the dinosaurs. This particular area was semi-arid and the dinosaurs of the period liked to roam through it looking for food. They were not the large carnivorous dinosaurs that are depicted in the movies, but vegetarians that were small and long. During the volcanic activity these dinosaurs fled. The tracks they left behind were soon covered with additional silt and lava, and have been preserved.

Shifting from the active Ramapo fault tilted these layers of rock, so that their eastern edges were pushed up to form three steep mountains that we know today as the Watchung Mountains. The eastern most is called First Watchung, then there's Second Watchung and finally Third Watchung or Riker Hill. As the material hardened, pockets called vugs formed in the rock. In these vugs beautiful minerals began to form.¹

The last great step in the geological history of the Livingston area was the coming of the glaciers during the Pleistocene Epoch, which occurred approximately one million years ago. During this time Livingston was covered with over five thousand feet of ice. These glaciers put the finishing touches on the land and how it would look today.

This area was known as the Passaic River basin. The drainage of this basin prior to the time of the glaciers was quite different from that of present time. At that time there was a second branch of the Passaic River that passed through Short Hills running almost in the same direction as the present Interstate Route 24.

When the glacier first approached, it blocked the river southwest of Paterson and the water backed up to form a lake between the second Watchung Mountain and the Ramapo fault, and all of the drainage flowed into the sea by way of the Short Hills gap. Riker Hill during this period became an island in the lake. As the glacier advanced the it eventually covered the entire area with ice and as it reached Short Hills it blocked the drainage of the Passaic River with debris. The result was that as the glacier began to recede north, a much larger lake formed with its outlet being twelve miles southwest of Morristown.

The last stage of the lake's history was when the glacier receded beyond Paterson and Glacial lake Passaic began to drain to the north, changing the flow of the river from south to north. After the glacier disappeared, this outlet was gradually worn down low enough so that even the shallow lake was drained and both the river and the land took a form just about the same as they are now.²

The glaciers not only traveled down the Passaic River basin but also over the land around it. As it moved over the land it picked up rocks and pebbles and used them similar to sandpaper, scraping the earth and rock reshaping the topography.

When the glacier retreated, a number of hills known as kames were left behind. Two different kames can be found in the Livingston area. That with coarse rocks and silt or the type that is more or less layers of rock in distinctive beds. This second type is often found in elongated belts, and is more common in Livingston. An example of one can be seen just east of Livingston Center where there are marked depressions accompanied by small

hillocks.

Another gift of the glaciers were the huge boulders that were deposited as the glacier melted. Known as erratics, they are unlike the composition of the bedrock or stone normally found in the area. There are many erratics in the community, the most "famous" is the rock on Laurel Avenue near the West Orange border that is painted frequently between Livingston High School students and West Orange High School students.

Livingston's Geography

There are three streams in Livingston, Slough Brook, Bear Brook and Canoe Brook, all of which eventually flow into the Passaic River. The Canoe Brook that flows through Livingston is actually only a tributary of the much larger Canoe Brook that is formed when these tributaries join together.

This brook was greatly reduced as a result of the glaciers. At that time, the brook occupied the entire valley from the base on the west side of Second Mountain to the east side of Riker Hill. Just over one hundred and fifty years ago, this brook had enough of a volume of water to power several sawmills and gristmills along its course. Today, much of the water is lost through diversions into man-made storm sewers.

Bear Brook, a major tributary of Canoe Brook has also changed over the years. The effect of the clearing of all the huge tufts of grass on the

hillside along Cedar Street was immediately shown on Bear Brook. Great quantities of silt from the developments, and loss of the various meadows and its springs have caused it to be but a trickle of its former self. At one time people like Lillias Collins Cook and Clara Maass used to go wading in Bear Brook.

Slough Brook which runs through the middle of the township is the third tributary of Canoe Brook. Like the other two streams, this brook no longer has the volume of water it once had.

As the land in our township began to be developed, names were given to the different land formations to distinguish one area from another. This was the case here in Livingston, and names were given to the various streams, rivers and hills.

The highest portion of land in Livingston is a promontory known today as Riker Hill. Standing one hundred and fifty feet above sea level, this was not its original name. The first mention of this hill can be found in a colonial will dated 1689. The description of the man's holdings included a piece of property in Essex County at a place known as "Cannue Hill".³ For many years thereafter, this would be its name.

There were many people who owned land on Canoe Hill. Such people as John Burnet, William Kelly, William Penn, Michael Kearny and William Ely owned vast amounts of land there. Even though all these people were among the early landowners on the hill, that does not mean that they lived there. In 1776, when Robert Erskine made his maps for the Continental Army, he lists Captain William Ely as the only settler on the hill. When the Newark

to Mount Pleasant Turnpike was built in 1806, the map made of this road, called the hill, "Ely's Hill." Not long after this the northern section was designated as Riker Hill by the Ely family, after one of the earlier settlers who lived north of their farm. The southern section of the hill became known as Mine Hill.

Edwin A. Ely, in his "Personal Memoirs," gives the following account of how Mine Hill got its name.

"Mine Hill is so called because the rocks of which it is largely composed, contains a certain proportion of iron, and it was long ago believed that the iron could be mined to good advantage. Uncle John, my father's brother, who owned the farm at one time, determined to test this theory, and sank two shafts to a depth of six or eight feet, traces of which still remain, one on the Mine Hill and the other on the Riker, but he was assured by an expert to whom he submitted specimens of the ore that the iron did not occur in sufficient quantities to cover the cost of smelting."⁴

Mine Hill was also known by another unusual name. In a map of the property of David Morehouse, which was drawn about 1850, at the time of his death, Mine Hill is referred to as "Sodom."⁵

In an earlier chapter, how the name Canoe Brook was arrived at was discussed. Slough Brook was shown on many of the early maps of the 18th century, as Slough and Mire Brook. As the name implies Slough brook was so named because it was a place of deep mud, mire and a swampy area. John Robertson Burnet, mentions that Bear Brook got its name because it was where the bears used to stop and drink.

Livingston's Wildlife

Livingston at one time was a sanctuary for many different forms of wildlife. As the township developed, the creatures that were native to the area were driven further west and north. Majestic forests and broad green meadows have now been replaced with neatly manicured lawns and ornamental gardens.

The area we know today as Livingston would indeed be a surprise to its inhabitants of one hundred years ago. Long ago inhabitants from the township could walk in the fields and woods from the time wild strawberries turned red in the meadow until the time to harvest nuts of all kinds in October, the land was full of wild fruit for the picking. Raspberries, blackberries, elderberries, huckleberries, wild grapes and black cherries were in abundance.

The woods were filled with deer. Bear, raccoons, otters, woodchucks, rabbits, skunks, minks, muscrats, foxes, opposum, and several varieties of squirrels were abundant. By the late 1860's John Robertson Burnet noticed that several of the aforementioned animals were becoming scarce in the region.

In the meadows near the Passaic River, great flocks of wild ducks made their nests. Pigeons, black birds, owls, dove, partridge, blue jay, and even an occasional eagle could be spotted flying high above the trees. The woods were filled with an assortment of trees: oak, elm, maple, beech, walnut, cherry and pine. All of this is but a memory of a the Livingston

of a former time.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 16

¹DeMarco, Charles. Mode and Source of Formation of the Watchung Mountains of New Jersey, (Published by author, 1977)., p.2.

²Ibid.

³Trenton, New Jersey, New Jersey State Archives, Essex County Wills, Will of William Rockhead, 1689.

⁴Vanderpoel, Ambrose E. Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.39.

⁵Ibid. p.40.

CHAPTER 17

SUPERSTITIONS AND TRADITIONS

Livingston, like many other communities has its share of folklore that has been passed down from one generation to another. This chapter has been written to capture on paper some of these early stories, superstitions and traditions for future generations.

Many of the early settlers of Livingston were in one way or another superstitious. Such superstitions as it was bad luck if a farmer bred a red-nosed calf, or didn't kill pork unless it was in a new moon. These stories or superstitions were handed down from one generation to another, and in many cases make up the rich folklore we have today.

Not all of the stories have to do with the workings of a farm though. There are several stories that deal with such topics as ghosts, witches and the infamous Jersey Devil.

One of the earliest stories that has survived concerns Riker Hill. Edwin Ely in his "Personal Memoirs" recounts:

"The residents of Livingston in former days affirmed that on dark nights phosphorescent flames could be seen playing about the summit of the Mine Hill and leaping into the air upon the crest of the Riker. Though I doubt if there is anyone now living in the community who has seen these flames himself, I have conversed with many who, in their childhood, were assured that the phenomenon had been observed by their elders, whose veracity was beyond question.

Ely further states in his story that the late John Tompkins, a preacher at the Methodist Church in Livingston, showed him a spot on the crest of Riker Hill, where a heavy stone, if dropped on the ground would produce a

reverberation as though the mountain were hollow. This same spot Ely observed had a scorched or blasted appearance.

This wasn't the only unusual phenomenon concerning Riker Hill. In the early 1800's residents observed an explosion resembling a miniature volcanic eruption on Riker Hill, when a large ball of fire was projected into the air. It is said that the Indians who remained in the area held religious ceremonies on Riker Hill, supposedly near the spot where the flames originated from, and they regarded the area with a superstitious reverence.²

In the 1840's, many of the residents of the community believed in witchcraft. There is a story of how a family was having trouble making butter, and thought that the butter churn was hexed. The result was that they burned the churn.

John Robertston Burnet, another early Livingston historian, tells of how his grandmother had great apprehensions about card playing. She told of a man who locked himself in a room to play cards, but the devil entered through the keyhole and carried him off. For this reason, she refused to play cards.³

It is because of this that many homes were built with "witch doors." It was believed that "witch doors" guard the entrances to rooms. The doors, with beams intersecting to form a cross, were built into the houses at the time when the belief was still widespread that witches roamed the countryside and could be shut out by the sign of the cross.⁴

Another early tradition concerns funerals. In early times then people traveled long distances for funerals, they were provided with a hearty meal. The silver spoons for tea and coffee were fashioned in the shape of a coffin head and given as souvenirs to those who attended the funeral.⁵

The holidays in December are synonymous with tradition, religion, family and community. A Gallop poll done in 1981 found that of all holidays, Christmas and Hanukkah were selected by more than 70 percent as their favorites.

In turn of the century Livingston, a horse and sleigh were commonplace, as were the fireplace and frosted windowpanes. Livingston was then in its infant stage, with a population of less than 3,000. Listening to the words of the holiday songs, they are reminders of a bygone era. For example: "Sleighbells ring, are you listening? In the lane, snow is glistening." This is a fine description of Livingston before the age of the automobile, when sleighbells could be heard in the distance. The town was very quiet then without trucks, cars, buses or planes to drown out the sounds of young children singing Christmas carols.

Many of the old-timers would gather at Harrison's general store. The ladies of the town were there to buy last minute gifts, or ingredients for the Christmas feast. Farmers warmed themselves by the pot-belly stove, and talked of the news of the day.

Others stopped in to pick up their mail, or to buy a penny stamp to mail a Christmas postcard. Holly and red ribbons decorated the store windows. Across the street, Wright's orchard was glistening with the snow

on the bare branches, and up on the hill, the Livingston Baptist Church was decorated appropriately for the holiday.

In those days the stockings that were hung by the chimney were hand knitted, and the tree which was cut in the woods was decorated with bows, lighted candles, homemade ornaments, strung popcorn and cranberries.

It was the custom then to cut the tree and decorate it on Christmas Eve, and to dismantle it before the New Year. The smell of the fresh pine and of homemade cookies reminds us of the simplicity of the times. One person who describes those times was Edwin Ely in his "Personal Memoirs," he wrote:

"My brothers and I seldom received gifts except on Christmas and New Years Day. My recollection is that even our birthdays were not so celebrated, and we were perfectly content if favored by Santa Claus with a few attractive but trifling presents, the cost of which probably did not exceed one or two dollars for each recipient.

It was our parents' custom to arise early on Christmas morning, and to place gifts for each child upon his or her plate at the breakfast table, where they would be found when the family was called to the meal; and my delight at such times was unbounded, although I received nothing but some candy, a Christmas cake, and perhaps a picture-book; for in those days the children were not₆ accustomed to having more, and did not expect more."

The holidays in early Livingston were quaint, and traditions great. These early stories and traditions make us aware that the history of Livingston is worth remembering.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER 17

¹Vanderpoel, Ambrose E., Personal Memoirs of Edwin A. Ely, (New York, Charles Francis Press, 1926), p.39.

²Ibid., p.40.

³New Jersey Historical Society, Papers of John Robertson Burnet, (Manuscript Collection, MSS.#.104)

⁴"Early American History Lives on in Livingston Woman's Home," Newark Sunday News, June 28, 1953.

⁵Ibid.

⁶Vanderpoel, op. cit., p.346.

APPENDIX A

SOLDIERS FROM THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR
1752 - 1756

The list below, are the soldiers who fought in the French and Indian War, who lived in the Township of Livingston. This list was compiled from various records and sources. As far as is known, the list is complete. Those names marked with an asterisk are soldiers buried in Livingston cemeteries.

Baldwin, Enos *
Cook, Ellis
Cook, Ellis Jr.
Cook, Epaphras *
Cook, John
Ely, William *
Squier, Jonathan

APPENDIX B

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS 1775 - 1782

The list below, thought to be complete, is a listing of those Livingston soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War. This list was compiled from military rosters, checked against tavern petitions, deeds, mortgages, birth records, and death records, as well as many other sources. Those whose names are marked with an asterisk are buried in Livingston cemeteries.

Allen, Samuel	Meeker, Caleb
Baldwin, David*	Meeker, Corey
Baldwin, Capt. Enos*	Meeker, David
Baldwin, Samuel*	Meeker, Isaac
Ball, Aaron	Meeker, Jonas
Ball, Abner*	Meeker, John
Beach, Nathaniel	Meeker, Jonathan*
Belton, Thomas	Meeker, Capt. Joseph
Billington, Samuel	Meeker, Timothy Jr.*
Brookfield, Jacob	Meeker, Timothy Sr.*
Brown, Phineas	Meeker, William
Burnet, Aaron*	Miller, Lewis
Burnet, Squier	Morehouse, David
Burnet, Samuel*	Muchmore, David
Canfield, Joseph	Ogden, David
Cook, Epaphras*	Parcel, Thomas
Crane, Nathaniel	Pierson, Erastus
Crowell, Samuel	Pierson, Jabez
Dean, Jacob	Reock, Abraham
Dean, Thomas	Shelley, Samuel
Denman, Stephen	Smith, John
Dickinson, David	Smith, Obadiah*
Edward, Capt. Aaron	Squier, Capt. Elijah*
Edwards, Moses*	Squier, John
Ely, Joseph	Squier, Capt. Nathaniel*
Ely, Moses*	Swain, Jacob
Ely, William Jr.*	Teed, John*
Force, Thomas*	Teed, Pell
Gillam, Capt. Isaac	Tichenor, Zenas
Harrison, Joseph	Townley, Evitts
King, Anthony*	Wade, Henry W.
Little, David	Wade, Nathaniel
Little, Capt. Eliakim	Ward, Bethuel
Lockwood, Justice	Ward, Joseph*
Lyon, Benjamin	Williams, Jonathan
McChesney, Samuel*	William, Samuel
Meeker, Amos	Zeluff, Daniel

APPENDIX C

SOLDIERS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA INSURRECTION OF 1794

The names listed below are those residents of the Township of Livingston who volunteered and fought in the Pennsylvania Insurrection. The list was gleaned from the New Jersey Adjutant Generals Office, and compared with various sources for accuracy. The names marked with an asterisk are soldiers buried in Livingston cemeteries.

Baldwin, Issac*	Little, Jonathan*
Baldwin, Samuel*	Little, Samuel
Burnet, John	Marsh, Noah
Camp, William	Meeker, Daniel
Cobb, Frederick	Morehouse, Daniel
Condict, Jonathan	Parkhurst, Abraham
Cook, Epaphras *	Smith, Elihu
Edwards, Timothy	Smith, Joseph
Ely, James *	Smith, Uriah
Freeman, Thomas	Squier, Nathan
Gardner, William	Taylor, Daniel
Harrison, Ichabod	Wade, Nathaniel*
	Wade, Obadiah

APPENDIX D

SOLDIERS IN THE WAR WITH GREAT BRITIAN 1812 - 1815

The following list of men, were soldiers in the War with Great Britian from 1812 to 1815. These soldiers were residents of the Township of Livingston, and the list was compiled from tax records, deeds, mortgages, church records, diaries, etc. The names with an asterisk indicates that the individual is buried in a Livingston cemetery.

Baldwin, Aaron	Marquith, Richard
Beach, Job A.	Meeker, Bethuel
Beach, Samuel S.	Meeker, Elias*
Cook, John	Morehouse, Ebenezer
DeCamp, Benjamin	Muchmore, William
Dickerson, David Jr.	Nixon, Daniel
Dickerson, Joshua	Swain, Elias
Edwards, Issac	Townley, Edward
Genung, Stephen W.	Williams, Amos
Little, Enos	Winans, Elias
Little, Luther	Wright, Moses*

APPENDIX E

CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS 1860-1865

The list below, is a listing of the residents of the Township of Livingston who volunteered their services for their country and served in the Civil War. The names were gleaned from several sources including a plaque listing their names now in front of the Livingston Library, and from Adjutant General's records for the State of New Jersey.

Agar, John	MacQuaide, Thomas *
Beach, Henry O.	Meeker, Cornelius *
Bedford, Henry *	Morehouse, David
Butler, Issac *	Morehouse, Lewis
Butler, Peter J.	Morehouse, George
Campbell, Lewis	Nealy, John
Collins, James T. *	Parkhurst, Andrew
Delacroix, Alec	Parkhurst, John H.
Delacroix, John	Parkhurst, Henry
Delacroix, Joseph	Parkhurst, Woodruff
Delacroix, Theodore	Rheinhardt, Leonard
Dickinson, Edward	Smith, John *
Edwards, Moses *	Sprigg, Albert
Force, Jonathan *	Squier, Charles
Ford, George C.	Squier, Edwin T.
Genung, Silas P.	Squier, Elijah T.*
Grant, James	Squier, Theodore E.
Hoffman, Frederick*	Squier, Walter
Hoffman, Andrew J.	Sharp, Issac *
Hopkins, Samuel	Stowe, George
Hopkins, Lloyd	Teed, Lewis
Hopkins, Coward	Ward, Moses H.
Hunt, Bernard	Ward, Wellington *
Jerolman, David S.	Winans, Thomas
Wright, Anthony K. *	

APPENDIX F

SOLDIERS FROM WORLD WAR I
1915 - 1919

The following is a list of the soldiers who fought in World War I. The list has been obtained from a plaque that was originally placed in Central School in 1929.

Russel Brower	Elmer McCarthy
George D. Butler	Walter McQuaide
Pell T. Collins, Jr.	Harry Maxfield
Ross N. Collins	Charles M. Maxfield
William E. Collins	J. Morris Meeker
Raymond Combs	Aaron Mosher
A. Ross Crane	Frank Pfister
Raymond Dare	Herman A. Roll
Michael D'Amato	Malcolm Smith
Clarence H. Dougal	Martin Smith
Charles Ebert	William H. Stephens
Louis Fenske	Frank Till
Peter R. Fischer	Paul Leo Tracy
Carlton R. Force	Walter E. Tracy
Jonathan Force	Charles W. VanZee
Sheldon L. Force	Edward H. VanZee
Ellsworth Force	Thornton H. Webb
Leon C. Fund	Arthur G. Whitehouse
Chester Hine	William R. Winans
Blair D. Howell	Charles G. Zahn
George F. Howell	Frederick B. Zahn
Edward McCarthy	

APPENDIX G

SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT IN WORLD WAR II 1941 - 1945

The following is a list of those individuals from the township who fought in World War II. The list was gleaned from the dedication program of Memorial Park on July 4, 1946.

Abdalla, David C.	Bell, Frank H.
Abell, John J.	Bell, Lawrence
Ackerman, Harold	Bennert, Elmer
Adams, Roger H.	Bennert, L.W.
Adamus, Willard L.	Bennert, Richard
Ahl, Kenneth	Bennett, Alfred
Albrecht, Walter W.	Bennett, Melvin
Alinger, Ernest A.	Bethel, Carl Jr.
Allen, Thomas	Bethel, Franklin
Alsopp, Robert	Bethel, Richard
Anderson, Andrew	Bishe, Robert
Anderson, Carl Jr.	Bishop, Stanley
Anderson, Eric	Bittman, Donald
Anderson, Eugene	Blair, Francis
Angeloni, Matthew A.	Blake, Ray J.
Apgar, Harry D. Jr.	Blaker, Adolph
Ashby, Ralph E.	Bluhm, Fred A.
Ayers, Maurice T.	Blum, Millard R.
	Bodine, Carl
Bachman, Arthur	Bodine, Henry
Baer, Robert J.	Bogdan, Paul A.
Baffa, Joseph E.	Bolton, Albert Jr.
Bagley, Norman H.	Bottomley, Harold
Baker, Albert	Boutillette, James
Baker, William	Bowlby, Robert C.
Bakley, Joseph	Brady, William R.
Bamford, Thomas Jr.	Brandorf, Paul
Bangert, Theresa K.	Brant, Vernon
Barker, Carlton H.	Braun, Harry
Barnes, William J.	Bredahl, Robert C.
Barrett, Emmet	Breidenbach, Robert
Bataille, Edward	Brisco, John
Bataille, Eugene C.	Brisco, Kenneth
Bataille, Harry	Brokaw, Roy O.
Bataille, Robert	Brokaw, Thornton
Batt, Lewis T.	Brown, Frederick
Bauer, John	Brown, James
Baum, Lewis A.	Brown, Leon Jr.
Baum, Stanley A.	Brown, Peter Jr.
Bear, Ralph J.	Brown, Vivien S.
Beck, Howard A.	Bryan, Vernon
Beck, Robert E.	Buechle, Eleanore
Beldon, Harry P.	Buechle, Robert D.
Bell, David	Burack, Wallace
Bell, Frank D.	Burdick, Carl A.

Burrell, John
Burricelli, Gene
Butler, John A.
Buxton, J. Campbell
Byrnes, William

Cagara, Charles
Cahill, Henry
Caldwell, Hugh
Camp, William P.
Cannon, James M.
Cannon, Thomas
Cannon, William T.
Capista, Edward R.
Carner, Edward
Carner, William
Catallo, Charles
Cece, Francis
Clark, George
Cobb, Robert
Cohrs, Herbert
Cohrs, Raymond
Colby, Aerts
Coleman, C.C.
Collins, Edward Jr.
Collins, Edward
Collins, John P.
Collins, Margaret
Collins, Thomas Jr.
Collins, William
Conable, Robert J.
Condit, Robert
Conkling, Joshua
Connell, Edward
Connor, William Jr.
Conover, Robert
Conover, William Jr.
Cordasco, Nick
Coriell, Frederick A.
Correll, Eleanor R.
Coryell, Albert
Cowan, Thomas
Crane, Dorothy
Crane, George
Crawn, Carmin L.
Creswick, Maurice
Criblet, Philip
Cronise, William
Cruse, Stephen
Cunningham, Vincent
Cymansky, Leon

Damado, Michael
D'Amato, George
D'Ambrow, Peter

Damlow, Peter
D'Amore, Joseph
D'Auria, Henry
DeGroat, William
DeGroot, Christopher
DeGroot, William Jr.
Deir, John
Deir, Lloyd
DelCioppo, Frank
DelCioppo, John
DeMarco, Michael
Denman, James
DePaolo, Karol
DeRonde, Albert
DeRonde, Albert Jr.
DeRonde, Edward
DeRuyter, John Jr.
DeSurney, Charles
DeVita, Frank
DeVita, Hubert
DeVita, Peter Jr.
Diamond, Milton
Diamond, Philip
Diecks, Charles
Diecks, John
Diecks, Thomas
Diefenbach, Lydia
Diehl, Walter
Dinsmore, Howard
Doering, George
Doering, James
Domarecki, Joseph
Donahue, Franklyn
Donner, George
Dowd, Bernard
Dowd, David
Dowd, James
Dowd, Joseph P.
Dowd, Paul
Dowd, Robert J.
Downes, Francis
Downes, John J.
Drake, C. Richard
Duker, Ralph
Duschl, Herman
Duschl, Michael Jr.
Dusenbury, George M.
Dusenbury, Grace

Eccles, Arthur T.
Eckel, Richard A.
Eddy, Norman
Eden, Ethel
Ehinger, George W.

Ehresmann, Pearl W.
 Eichhorn, Homer
 Ellison, William A.
 English, Edward J.
 English, George A.
 English, Harry P.
 English, William F.
 Erb, Edward C.
 Erb, Ernest A.
 Erb, Richard A.
 Erb, Russell K.
 Erickson, Robert
 Ernst, Eugene E.
 Ernst, Frederick
 Evans, James
 Everett, Charles E.
 Everett, Clinton Jr.
 Everett, John B.

 Fairhurst, William S.
 Falcone, Paul
 Falk, Edwin
 Falk, John E.
 Falkenborg, Carlyle W.
 Fallon, Edward G.
 Farrell, James
 Faupel, Parker
 Federchak, Mike
 Fenske, Alfred
 Fenske, Arthur C.
 Fenske, Clarence O.
 Fenske, Emil D.
 Fenske, Gustave M.
 Fenske, LeRoy Robert
 Fenske, Robert D.
 Fenske, Walter E.
 Fernandez, C.J.
 Field, John W.
 Fielding, Douglas B.
 Fielding, George
 Fineran, John C.
 Finney, William Jr.
 Fischer, Edward
 Fischer, Ernest C.
 Fischer, Ernest 3rd.
 Fischer, Herbert
 Fischer, Herbert D.
 Fisher, Don Robert
 Flynn, Timothy
 Force, Andrew
 Force, Calvin
 Force, James
 Force, Merton
 Fortescue, Herbert
 Fox, Edwin D.

Freggens, Leslie
 Fund, August Wm. 3rd

 Gaboreau, Alfred V.
 Garrett, Marian
 Gashlin, Francis
 Gawler, Kenneth W.
 Gelbach, Louis
 Genung, Harry P.
 Geogio, Florian
 Gerard, Nicholas T.
 Gesserking, Edward
 Giese, Clara
 Gilmore, John H. Jr.
 Gilpatrick, Horace
 Giorgio, Florian H.
 Goeckel, Robert F.
 Gopel, Robert
 Gounard, Charles
 Graf, Anton
 Graf, Edward
 Graham, Winfield
 Green, Raymond K.
 Grobert, Alan
 Grossman, Clyde A.
 Grub, Walter R.
 Gubernat, Joseph C.
 Gubernat, Stanley
 Guenther, Roy
 Gustavson, Richard L.

 Hagen, Albert
 Haggerty, Warren
 Hallet, Frank
 Hammel, Edwin A.
 Hammel, Jean R.
 Hammett, Eugene Jr.
 Hamstra, Frederick
 Hanlein, Edwin G.
 Hannon, Michael
 Hanson, David
 Hardman, Robert E.
 Hardman, Thomas A.
 Hartman, Herbert E.
 Hartmann, August J.
 Harris, Charles H.
 Harris, Walter R.
 Hatala, Joseph P.
 Hazard, John R.
 Hazard, Robert J.
 Heaton, Ernest
 Heerwagen, Walter G.
 Heine, Guenther E.
 Heise, Arthur W.
 Hendricks, Edward A.

Herrmann, Joseph
Hess, Adam
Heteyi, Alexander Jr.
Heydecke, Emil
Heydorn, Arthur
Hill, H.E.
Hines, H. Chester
Hlavka, George
Hobbs, Field
Hobbs, John H.
Hockenjos, Frederick G.
Hockin, Russell Jr.
Hoehn, James Jr.
Hoffman, Wilbur
Hogrelus, Thomas
Holanick, Joseph
Hooper, Bates
Hooper, John N.
Hooper, Robert B.
Hopkins, John S.
Horne, John, Jr.
Horsfall, Ernest
Howell, Phillip
Hucker, Arthur
Huff, Everett
Huff, Dean A.
Hull, Robert S.
Hunkele, Charles
Hunnewell, Frank

Ivins, Ruben C.

Jacobus, Peter
Jameison, Peter
James, Willis Jr.
James, Robert B.
Janes, Andrew Mead
Jankola, Frank
Jankola, Richard
Jensen, Alfred
Jensen, Christian
Jensen, Harold
Jensen, John G.
Jeskey, Jack J.
Johnson, John
Johnson, Richard
Johnson, Roger W.
Johnston, John R.
Jones, Douglas
Jones, Helen
Jones, John R.
Jones, Waldron, Jr.

Kanouse, Oliver C.
Kanouse, William B.

Karig, Walter
Kayhart, Leonard
Kayhart, LeRoy
Kean, Hamilton F.
Kean, Robert W., Jr.
Keeton, John C.
Kellett, Leslie B.
Kellin, Ralph A.
Kennedy, John D.
Kenny, John F.
Kenny, Walter B.
Kent, Alfred H.
Kent, Douglas W.
Kent, Ralph L.
King, David W.
Kingsland, William T.
Kirkander, Rodney H.
Kirwan, Joseph, Jr.
Kitchell, Harry J.
Kittstein, Karl, Jr.
Klein, Emil
Klucknik, George S.
Kluchnik, Paul
Knuth, Ernest, Jr.
Koeck, Otto A.
Koehncke, John
Koerner, George
Kohl, Raymond C.
Kollmar, Robert P.
Konner, Malcolm
Kopp, Alvin H.
Kraeutler, Robert
Krank, Edward
Kristen, Warren F.
Kugler, John L.
Kuhn, Raymond D.

La Hart, Richard J.
Laity, Mildred K.
Lake, William
Lamers, Carl C.
Lanterman, Clifford
Laux, Fred K.
LaVecchia, Richard
Lawrence, Barton
Lawrence, Bruce D.
Lawrence, Wallace
Lawson, William A.
Leck, Frank J.
Leewright, Melvin
Lender, Albert
Lewis, Arthur
Lewis, Carl R.
Lewis, Edward R.
Lewis, Herbert

Limmer, Kenneth G.
Limmer, Richard E.
Lindeman, David D.
Lindsley, Thomas K.
Lister, Earl N.
Lister, Norman
Lister, Raymond
Lister, Robert
Lobb, William M.
Lombardino, Louis
Lombardo, Clifford
Long, James V.
Longfield, Warren E.
Longson, Robert A.
Lorenzo, Angelo
Lorenzo, Frank
Lorenzo, Sebastian
Lorz, Albert
Lott, Albert
Luce, Dr. Henry
Luciano, Samuel
Lurker, Arthur
Lurker, Theo.
Lutz, John Carl
Lynch, Earl M.
Lynch, Robert

Mabie, Benjamin
MacQuaide, Norman
MacQuaide, Robert
MacQuaide, Walter Jr.
MacQuaide, Wm. D. Jr.
Mangas, Wilbur
Mansfield, Vincent
Marckfeld, William
Marker, Walter
Martin, Donald
Martin, Lawrence
Martin, Thomas J.
Martin, Walter Jr.
Mason, James
Mason, John P.
Massey, Neil H.
Mast, Hugo
Mathews, Charles Jr.
Mathews, William
Matthew, John
Matthews, John H.
Matthews, Thomas
Mead, Richard
Meeker, Charles D.
Meissner, Ernest
Melone, Carmen
Menzel, Walter E.
Merdinger, George

Milbauer, LeRoy
Milisits, Edgar
Miller, Frederick
Miller, Frederick M.
Miller, Julius J.
Miller, Stanley M.
Miller, Vernon R.
Miller, William L.
Miller, Wm. LeRoy
Mills, William
Mirabella, Julia D.
Mitschele, George
Mitschele, Howard W.
Mitschele, Norman F.
Mitschele, Ralph E.
Montgomery, John Jr.
Moran, Henry A.
Morehouse, Marjorie
Morgan, Charles H.
Morgan, Warren F.
Morgan, Warren R.
Morris, Clarence A.
Morrow, Dwight
Morrow, Marion
Mosher, Harry J.
Mosher, Robert A.
Muench, John
Mulvihill, T.R.
Munro, John B.
Munsee, Roger
Murphy, Edward
Murray, R.C.
Myers, George P.

McArdle, D.J.
McChesney, Raymond
McChesney, William
McCoy, Arnold R.
McCulloh, William
McDermott, George M.
McDermott, John F.
McEvoy, Edward
McGill, John
McGrath, James
McGrath, F. Raymond
McGrath, Leo
McHugh, Thomas W.
McIlravey, Joseph
McKeeby, Howard
McKeeby, Richard
McKeon, George
McLeish, William
McNamara, Charles
McPartland, Raymond
McQueston, Reginald

McQuilkin, Robert

Nann, Robert A.
Narum, Edwin Jr.
Neff, Karl
Neu, Richard F.
Neuberger, Elmer
Neuschaefer, John
Newhouse, George
Newick, Russell Jr.
Newman, Harold K.
Newman, Margaret
Norelli, Alfred
Norelli, Anthony
Norelli, Vincent
Norris, Chester
Novicki, Clement

Oakley, Robert
Ochs, Herbert O.
Ochs, Philip C.
O'Connell, Edward
Ogden, Charles
Ogden, Frank
Ogden, Julian Jr.
Ohlsen, Henry
Olson, Stephen H.
Olson, Thomas R.
Ott, George
Ott, Leslie
Owen, Alfred

Paglia, Lucian
Palmer, Harry
Panek, Theodore
Papandrea, N.N.
Papp, Stanley
Parkhurst, Hubert
Paulosky, Joseph
Paulosky, Robert
Pennington, W.
Perciante, Angelo
Perciante, Henry
Perciante, Nicholas
Perry, Walter Jr.
Peters, Frederick W.
Petty, George A.
Pfeffer, Robert
Pfeifer, Harold
Pfister, Harold
Plant, James Jr.
Pobralski, Theodore
Poindexter, Robert
Polito, Nicholas
Porter, J. Frank

Porter, Robert
Potts, Alexander
Powers, Edward K.
Pressler, Edward
Price, Benjamin
Price, Edward
Prince, Theodore
Pulford, William

Raab, Betty May
Rall, Harold F.
Rathbun, Donald
Rathbun, Harold
Rathbun, William
Raymond, Clifford
Raymond, Elwood
Redeker, John
Reeves, Frank
Regan, Eugene
Reinhardt, William
Reinhardt, Ross M.
Rell, David Jr.
Reynolds, John
Richardson, M.B. Sr.
Richardson, M.B. Jr.
Richardson, Dr. M.T.
Riedinger, Gustav
Riehl, Herman
Riley, Vincent
Risedorf, Donald G.
Risedorf, Kenneth E.
Risedorf, Norman
Risedorf, Wilbur
Ritchie, Blair E.
Ritter, F.V.
Robertshaw, Charles
Robertshaw, Kenneth
Rogers, John F.
Romine, June A.
Romine, Leslie L.
Roselle, Crescent
Ross, Robert Gordon
Rothfus, Eddie
Royal, William
Rudiger, Thomas
Rudin, Alfred T.
Rudin, Eugene
Ruppell, John
Ruppell, Raymond A.
Russell, Forrest P.
Russell, James M.
Ruzza, Francis A.
Ruzza, Henry G.
Ryan, Thomas
Ryder, Lawrence

Sagendorf, Barry
 Sagendorf, Douglas
 Sagendorf, Vincent W.
 Saleski, John
 Sample, William
 Schaber, William R.
 Schafer, Bernard
 Schafer, John H.
 Schall, Edward Jr.
 Schall, Floyd E.
 Schelling, Thomas Jr.
 Schilling, Charles W.
 Schilling, Herbert H.
 Schilling, William
 Schmidt, Henry
 Schmidt, Johann
 Schneider, George G.
 Schnetzer, Paul T.
 Schobert, Paul C.
 Schobert, Robert L.
 Schobert, W.
 Schoene, Ruth Nancy
 Schroeder, Elwood
 Schroeder, R.
 Schweiker, Emerson C.
 Schwenke, Jack L.
 Scioscio, Andrew
 Scioscio, Charles
 Scott, James
 Seacord, Richard
 Seltmann, Heinz
 Seme, John A.
 Sheldon, Iva
 Silk, John
 Simmons, Betty
 Slingerland, D.
 Small, Carlos R.
 Small, Henry
 Smirnoff, Richard
 Smith, Alexander
 Smith, Emmett D.
 Smith, Gordon
 Smith, James C.
 Smith, John W.
 Smith, Leonard
 Smith, Matthew
 Smith, Rolland J.
 Smith, Roy C.
 Smith, Roy C. Jr.
 Smith, William Jr.
 Smythe, Edward H.
 Spiegel, Robert R.
 Spiess, Joseph
 Sprigg, Halsey
 Spurr, Joseph J. 3rd.

Squier, Walter
 Stadtman, Charles
 Standard, Ernest
 Steensen, Floyd J.
 Stempien, John
 Sterns, Sidney
 Stinson, Robert
 Stokes, Leonard
 Stokes, Pleasant
 Stokes, Robert
 Stokes, William H.
 Stolese, Frank J.
 Stolese, Harold
 Stoll, John
 Stoll, Kenneth
 Stoll, Russell
 Stout, William
 Strebe, Ralph
 Stroub, Stephen
 Stroud, Walter G.
 Sulpy, Joseph Jr.
 Swartz, James
 Swartz, Ronald

Tahaney, Charles
 Tahaney, Matthew
 Tahaney, Michael
 Tahaney, Patrick
 Tartaris, Peter
 Tassoni, Barney
 Telago, George
 Thomas, DeWitt
 Thompson, Roy C.
 Titchen, Robert
 Todd, Robert
 Tompkins, William
 Tomshaw, John
 Trocha, Herbert
 Trocha, Richard
 Trusdell, Warren
 Tunstead, Jack
 Turner, Robert
 Turton, William

Unsworth, William
 Upton, August F.

Van Brunt, Carl
 Vanderplate, Henry
 VanIdestine, Dudley
 VanNess, Benjamin
 VanNess, Richard
 Vassallo, Edward
 Vogel, Robert
 Volk, Robert A.

Volker, John Jr.
Volker, Joseph

Wagner, Robert
Wagner, Roger
Wagner, Thomas J.
Wahler, Wenonah
Waldau, Norbert
Waldau, Walter
Walinski, Lillian
Walker, George
Walker, Warren
Wallace, Bruce
Wallace, Wesley
Wallace, Robert
Walsh, Alexander
Ward, Charles
Ward, Waldron M.
Warren, Clarence W.
Warren, Fred C.
Warren, Theodore
Waters, Thomas
Watson, Wayne W.
Weber, Hubert
Weimer, Clifford Jr.
Weiss, Karl
Welsh, Kenneth W.
Wendel, Karl W.
Wentzel, Nicholas W.
Werner, Darwin E.
Werts, William
Westberg, John O.
Wetzel, Percy
Wetzel, Warren A.
White, Henry E.
Whitehead, Madison F.
Whitman, Harold B.
Whitman, William C.
Whitney, Glen
Whittles, Harry W.
Whyman, Joseph
Wilkins, Gerhard
Williams, Herbert
Williams, Howell G.
Willis, Roy
Winans, Bradford B.
Winans, Sidney B.
Wintergerter, Fred W.
Wintergerter, Harry C.
Wintergerter, Walter
Winter, Charles
Wisdom, Vernon A.
Wolf, Walter W.
Woodall, John
Woodruff, Gale

Woodside, Robert D.
Woolworth, Volney I.
Worrell, Robert
Worthington, Herbert
Wright, Donald
Wyman, Joseph

Young, Howard
Young, Kenneth P.

Zahn, Andrew Jr.
Zahn, Frederick Jr.
Zaleski, John
Zeeb, Walter Ludwig
Zuch, Robert F.

APPENDIX H

ELY CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS

The following is a list of those individuals buried in the Ely Cemetery. The list was compiled from records kept by various historians over the years including: John R. Burnet, 1852; D.A.R., 1900; Pell Collins, 1939; and Charles DeMarco, Jr., 1979.

BLODGET:

Sarah E. 1854-1936
Charles W. 1851-1904

BUCKLY:

Jack-slave of Ely family set free early in life
Died: April 11, 1851, age 71

CARPENTER:

John 1849-1919

CHAMBERS:

Alice Ely March 10, 1867-June 14, 1947
Dr. Porter Flewellen December 25, 1854-March 26, 1927

DOW:

Julia Ely beloved wife of Dr. Edmund Leroy Dow
Died November 2, 1924

ELY:

Abraham H. Ely, who died January 6, 1849
Aged 61 years, 7 months, 18 days

ELY:

Ambrose Kitchell
Born January 31, 1823 died February 6, 1907

Smith Ely Junior
Born April 17, 1825 died July 1, 1911
State Senator
Member of Congress
Mayor of the City of New York

Edwin Augustus
Born June 15, 1836 died June 19, 1927

ELY:

Charles Edward, eldest son of Abram H. and Emma Ely
who died October 11, 1837 aged 17 years, 11 months, 14 days

ELY:

Delia Rose, wife of Issac Ely
Born August 31, 1831 died October 3, 1903

ELY:

Elizabeth, wife of Captain Wm Ely, who departed this life

May 27, 1782. In the 68th year of her age.

ELY:

Emma Ely, wife of Abram H. Ely
Born November 19, 1799 died March 29, 1874
Aged 74 years, 7 months, 10 days

ELY:

Emma Louisa, daughter of Abram H. and Emma Ely
Died March 24, 1849

ELY:

Epaphras Cook, born April 15, 1795 died July 17, 1864
Julia Ann Ely, his wife,
Born November 9, 1800 died March 4, 1864

ELY:

Issac S., born November 21, 1825 died December 17, 1888

ELY:

James Ely, who departed this life April 21, 1815
Aged 44 years, 2 months and 25 days

ELY:

John born February 21, 1803 died January 21, 1894

ELY:

Lucy, wife of William Ely, who departed this life
January 30, 1812 Aged 75 years, 1 month and 3 days

ELY:

William H. Ely, born May 14, 1829 died October 16, 1913
Maria Josephine Rogers, his wife,
Born March 2, 1838 died November 2, 1924

ELY:

Moses Ely, who was born November 18, 1756
Died October 1, 1838 also
Rebecca, wife of Moses Ely who was born September 13, 1763
Died October 1, 1862

ELY:

Lorin Rebecca

ELY:

Smith Ely, born May 22, 1800
Died July 28, 1884

ELY:

William Ely Senior, who departed this
life April 3, 1802 Aged 88 years

ELY:

William Ely who departed this life
January 28, 1807 aged 68 years, 3 months, 17 days

FOLMAR:

Adelaide S., daughter of Alexander A. and Sarah
Folmer. Died August 11, 1849 aged 11 months, 24 days

FOLMAR:

Sara S. Ely, wife of Alexander A. Folmar
daughter of Abram and Emma Ely
Born December 22, 1822 died April 30, 1870

GODDARD:

Ely Goddard died October 19, 1910
in the 55 year of his age

GRAMMER:

Miles O. Grammer born 1832 died 1871
Anna Marie Ely, his wife, born 1839 died 1909

HALSEY:

Abraham, died March 5, 1827
Aged 36 years,
Sara Ely, his wife, died January 21, 1881
Aged 83 years

HALSEY:

Moses E., born November 16, 1823 died May 31, 1893
Adelia M. Teed, his wife, born September 28, 1830
Died September 6, 1897

HALSEY:

William W. Halsey, born 1881 died 1941
Gertrude F. Flynn, born 1879 died
Moses Ely Jr., born 1853 died 1924
Adelaide E. Jennings, born 1855 died 1877

HALSEY:

Ida M. Halsey, daughter of Moses E. and Adelia Halsey
Died July 17, 1872

INGERSOLL:

Rachel, wife of James H.
Born December 10, 1789 died November 29, 1856

INGERSOLL:

Maria Louise Ingersoll 1848-1911
Moses E. Ingersoll 1842-1928

INGERSOLL:

Lorin, born March 30, 1815 died August 27, 1889
Rebecca Ely, born April 15, 1819 died January 12, 1890

JENNINGS:

Samuel C., born February 19, 1828 died November 7, 1886
Elizabeth Ely, born June 11, 1832 died February 19, 1914

JONES:

Bennoni, son of Frederick and Elizabeth. died 1777 aged 3 years

JONES:

Elizabeth, wife of Frederick Jones and daughter of Capt. William and Elizabeth Ely. She died Jun 12, 1777 in the 33 year of her age.

JONES:

Frederick Jones. He died on May 30, 1777 in the 31 year of his age.

LARTER:

Robert, born 1813 died 1911

Adelaide Ely, his wife, born 1835 died 1910

LION:

Stephen, son of Henry and Martha Lion

Died September 16, 1777 aged 3 years (stone broken)

MASH:

Alonzo, born January 22, 1842 died December 18, 1867

George W., born November 28, 1840 died August 30, 1862

Eliza, born February 28, 1813 died January 17, 1845

Thomas, died October 8, 1843 aged 43 years

OLSTEAD:

Janice Halsey, died July 2, 1978

PLUMMER:

Mary Eliza Halsey, wife of William Plummer

Died March 21, 1844, Aged 26 years, 9 months

POWELL:

Sarah Ann Ingersoll, wife of Samuel Powell

Born April 2, 1811 died November 13, 1877

REINMANN:

Rev. William T.

SCHULTZ:

Lizzie Shourt, wife of Benjamin Schultz

Born May 17, 1812 died July 30, 1882

SHOURT:

Charles, who died April 9, 1845

Aged 31 years, 9 months, 1 day

SHOURT:

Oliver, who died June 26, 1851

Aged 83 years, 5 months, 20 days

SHOURT:

Rebecca Ely, wife of Charles Shourt

Born June 14, 1817 died April 28, 1899

SHOURT:

Samuel, son of Charles and Rebecca
Died April 4, 1842 Aged 3 years, 10 months

Robert, son of Charles and Rebecca
Died June 6, 1837 Aged 18 days

SMYLIE:

Major Charles Albert
Born 1858 died 1902

SMYLIE:

Lt. Charles Albert
Born 1893 died 1947

SMYLIE:

Elmore Ely
Born 1889 died 1890

SMYLIE:

Jane Miller, wife of Charles A. Smylie
Died September 20, 1936

SMYLIE:

Marjorie Ely Smylie, daughter of Major Charles
and Julia Ely Dow- April 30, 1891 - March 4, 1919

VANDERPOEL:

Ambrose Ely, born August 9, 1875 died April 4, 1940

VANDERPOEL:

George Burritt, born August 29, 1846 died October 16, 1925
Maria Louise, nee Ely, born June 2, 1844 died March 28, 1922

VANDERPOEL:

Julia Louise, daughter of George B. and Maria L. July 31, 1870 -
December 28, 1874, 4 years, 5 months

WATERBURY:

S.D. Holly, son of John and Catherine K. Waterbury
Born December 13, 1844 died April 30, 1848

WATSON:

Benjamin Ely, born January 23, 1820 died June 7, 1893
Susan C. Teed, his wife, born September 23, 1821 died November 20, 1851

WATSON:

Benjamin L., born November 25, 1845 died November 20, 1895
Emma L., his wife, born March 10, 1840 died June 18, 1913

WATSON:

Rev. John, died April 13, 1840, aged 54 years
Elizabeth Ely, his wife, died March 23, 1844, aged 60 years

WATSON:

John P., born August 31, 1847 died June 19, 1903

Emily Nealy, his wife, born September 29, 1862 died May 19, 1911

WATSON:

Laura Pringle, wife of John P.

Died August 9, 1876, aged 26

William P., son of John P. and Laura Pringle

Died August 26, 1876, aged 17 days

WATSON:

William E., 1852-1913

Louise, 1848-1918

WATSON:

Willie, son of W. Morris and Lydia A.

Born May 31, 1872 died May 29, 1892

WATSON:

William Williamson, born May 30, 1822 died October 30, 1901

Nancy B. Teed, his wife, born November 13, 1823 died May 10, 1917

WRIGHT:

Issac, son of Moses and Hannah Wright

Died March 8, 1840 aged 7 months

Moses, son of Moses and Hannah Wright

Died March 20, 1840 aged 7 months

APPENDIX I

NORTHFIELD CEMETERY

The following is a listing of those persons buried in the Northfield Cemetery. The names were compiled from various sources over the years including: John R. Burnet, 1852; D.A.R., 1900, Charles DeMarco, Jr. and Barbara Schuckman, 1980.

AGAR:

James Agar
Died November 15, 1881

Eliza Whitaker Agar, his wife
Died October 1854 (buried at sea)

Maria Wade Agar, second wife
Died October 3, 1873

ALLEN:

John Allen
1813 - 1890

Rebecca Allen, his wife
1832 - 1916

ALLESON:

Peter Alleson
Died April 8, 1820

BAKER:

Harold H. Baker
1865 - 1918

Matilda Baker
1842 - 1908

Ralph Baker
1881 - 1918

BAKER:

Joseph Baker
1878 - 1948

BALDWIN:

Joseph Baldwin
Revolutionary War Times, 90 years of age (WPA book., p.50)

BALL:

Abner Ball
January 4, 1760 - May 23, 1848

Rachel Ball, his wife
December 11, 1765 - February 23, 1845

BAUM:

William Baum
1835 - 1905

Dorothea Schenk Baum, his wife
1848 - 1923

BECK:

Louisa Ochs Beck
1870 - 1942

BECK:

Charles Beck
1898 - 1969

BEDFORD:

Henry Bedford
no dates

BEDFORD:

George Bedford
Died 1912

BROKAW:

Oscar Brokaw
Died 1921

BROKAW:

Caleb Brokaw
Died October 2, 1885

Eunice Brokaw, his wife
Died February 3, 1872

BURNET:

Aaron Burnet
Died January 5, 1836

Dorothy Burnet, his wife
Died January 15, 1829

BURNET:

Polly Burnet
Died October 11, 1850

BURNET:

Amy Burnet
late wife of Aaron

BURNET:

Enoch E.
1847 - 1934

Martha Grant, his wife
1850 - 1897

BURNET:

Children of Enoch and Martha Burnet:

Jessie Belle 1870 - 1872
Grace 1872 - 1872
Samuel Horace 1873 - 1874
Horace Irving 1881 - 1882
John Robertson 1883 - 1885
Enoch E. Jr. 1876 - 1927

BURNET:

John Robertson Burnet
1808 - 1874

BURNET:

Lewis Burnet
1817 - 1893

Catherine B. Ward, his wife
1826 - 1903

Mary Emma Burnet, only daughter
1847 - 1847

Willie Ward Burnet, only son
1856 - 1891

BURNET:

Lewis W. Burnet
Died 1881

Lewis T. Burnet
Died 1861

BURNET:

Phebe Louisa Burnet
died 1855

BURNET:

Samuel Burnet
Died 1865

Betsey C. Burnet, his wife
Died 1845

Harriet Burnet, 2nd Wife
1802 - 1861

BURNET:

Mary E. Johnson Burnet
Died 1886

BURNET:

Samuel H. Burnet
1815 - 1904

Hannah M Edwards, 1st wife
1817 - 1866

Louisa J. Collins, 2nd wife
1836 - 1903

Moses E., son
Died 1842

BURNWELL:

Richard Burnwell
Died 1844

Sarah Burnwell, his wife
Died 1859

BUTLER:

Peter Butler
1806 - 1874

Catherine Butler, his wife
1802 - 1893

CANNON:

Mary Cannon
Died 1836

CAVANAUGH:

Barbara Rimback Cavanaugh
1857 - 1885

Katie Rimback Cavanaugh
1863 - 1888

CLARK:

John O. Clark
Died 1923

COOK:

Abram Cook
1782 - 1825

Betsey Baldwin, his wife
1789 - 1874

COOK:

Epaphras Cook
Died 1809

Sarah, his wife
Died 1812

COOKE:

George Cooke
Died 1860

Lydia Cooke, his wife
Died 1851

COOKE:

Peter Cooke
Died 1841

COOKE:

Lydia Cooke, wife of Peter Cooke
Died 1832

Phebe Ann Cooke, daughter of Peter and Lydia Cooke
Died 1834

COURTER:

Joseph Courter
Died 1841

COURTER:

Emily Caroline Courter
Died 1845

COURTER:

Freddie Courter
Died 1885

COURTER:

Joseph Courter
Died 1864

Sarah Courter, his wife
Died 1854

Nancy Courter, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Courter
Died 1850

COURTER:

Moses Courter
1824 - 1879

Sarah Courter, his wife
1832 - 1878

DIEKS:

Albert Dieks
1864 - 1938

DIEKS:

William Dieks
1832 - 1913

DIEKS

Bertha C. Kober Dieks
1835 - 1878

DIECKS:

Ella Diecks
1871 - 1963

DIECKS:

Minnie Diecks
1868 - 1940

DIECKS:

Louis Diecks
1874 - 1966

Edith Diecks, his wife
1890 - 1941

EARL:

Maranda Nancy Earl
Died 1853

EARL:

Isaiah Earl
1803 - 1886

Eliza Nafie Earl, his wife
1808 - 1846

EARL:

Mary Elizabeth Woodruff Earl
Died 1839

EARL:

Moses Earl
Died 1851

Mary Earl, his wife
Died 1855

EDWARDS:

Enoch Edwards
Died 1853

Hannah Edwards, his wife
Died 1834

Catherine, daughter of Enoch and Hannah Edwards
Died 1823

EDWARDS:

Moses Edwards
Died 1870

Sarah Edwards
Died 1871

EDWARDS:

Tobias Edwards
1803 - 1872

Adaline M. Wilcox Edwards, his wife
1805 - 1881

Enoch Edwards, son of Tobias and Adaline Edwards
1830 - 1889

ELLIOTT:

Augustine Elliott
Died 1851

Elizabeth Elliott, his wife
Died 1836

EMMONS:

Betsey Emmons
Died 1873

Horace Irving Emmons
Died 1871

EMMONS:

Ann Eliza Emmons
Died 1841

EMMONS:

James Lyon Emmons
Died 1848

FENSKE:

Charles Fenske
Died 1915

FENSKE:

Emma Fenske
1889 - 1937

FORCE:

Henry Force
Died 1834

Mary Sydenham, his wife
Died 1871

FORCE:

Jonathan Force
Died 1850

Margaret Force, his wife
Died 1825

FORCE:

Jonathan Force Jr.
Died 1846

Electa Force, his wife
Died 1825

Julia James Force
Died 1881

FORCE:

Deacon Thomas Force
Died 1827

Hannah Force, his wife
Died 1838

GILL:

Eliza Gill
Died 1847

GREENE:

Jacob Greene
Died 1918

GROSSMAN:

Katherine Grossman
1872 - 1936

August Grossman
1870 - 1934

HANSEN:

Hans M. Hansen
1841 - 1926

Ingleberg Hansen
1849 - 1908

HAYWARD:

John Hayward
1810 - 1868

Hannah W. Cooke Hayward, his wife
1812 - 1886

Emma J. Drake, daughter of John and Hannah Hayward
1838 - 1877

HAYWARD:

Sophia B. Hayward
1840 - 1873

George W. Hayward, son of John and Hannah Hayward
1844 - 1915

HEINEMAN:

Paul Heineman
Died 1918

HENDRICKS:

Elizabeth Koon Hendricks
1859 - 1938

HIND:

William Hind
Died 1871

Martha Hind, his wife
Died 1878

HODSON:

Harry Hodson
1905 - 1965

Pauline Hodson
1907 - 1963

Paul Hodson
1934 - 1968

HOFFMAN:

Charlotte Hoffman
Died 1846

HOFFMAN:

Frederick J. Hoffman
Died 1924

Sarah A. Hoffman, his wife
no dates

Frederick Hoffman
Died 1898

Henry Hoffman
Died 1900

HOFFMAN:

Sarah James Hoffman
1831 - 1899

James Hoffman
1871 - 1896

HOPKINS:

A.J. Hopkins
no date

C.H. Hopkins
no date

HOPKINS:

William G. Hopkins
1839 - 1920

Adaline Hopkins
1843 - 1877

HOPKINS:

William N. Hopkins
1871 - 1929

Phoebe C. Taylor
1868 - 1939

HOWELL:

John Howell
Died 1858

JENNINGS:

Charles Jennings
Died 1831

Dorothy Jennings
Died 1851

JENNINGS:

David M. Jennings
1804 - 1859

Rachel Jennings
Died 1834

Abner Jennings
Died 1828

JENNINGS:

Philena Lesti
Died 1850

JOHNSON:

William R. Johnson
1853 - 1907

Katherine Johnson, his wife
1855 - 1893

JOHNSON:

William R. Johnson
1912 - 1931

JOHNSON:

Abbey Johnson
Died 1901

JOHNSON:

Joyce Agnes Johnson
1945 - 1968

JOHNSON:

Charles Johnson
Died 1923

JOHNSON:

William R. Johnson
1883 - 1964

Harriet Gamble Johnson
1882 - 1956

JUROE:

Natalie Young Juroe
1930 - 1959

KAISER:

Alfred Kaiser
Died 1918

KENT:

James Kent
Died 1847

KING:

Anthony King
no stone

Mary King
no stone

KING:

Daniel King
1888 - 1926

KUHLMAN:

Sarah Kuhlman
1844 - 1917

LAWSON:

William Lawson
Died 1825

LINCOLN:

Leroy Lincoln
1891 - 1972

LIND:

Amelia Miller
Died 1883

Louisa Miller, daughter of Amelia
Died 1883

LITTELL:

Phebe E. Meeker Littell
Died 1859

William H. Littell, son of Phebe
Died 1859

LITTELL:

Joseph W. Littell
Died 1868

Locha Force, his wife
Died 1845

LITTELL:

Sarah Littell
1828 - 1904

LYONS:

James Lyons
1857 - 1903

Rosanna P. Lyons
1860 - 1904

MacQUAIDE:

Thomas MacQuaide
Died 1881

MacQUAIDE:

Thomas MacQuaide
1845 - 1900

Frances Burnet MacQuaide, his wife
1849 - 1922

Thomas Burnet MacQuaide
1875 - 1897

Norman Robertson MacQuaide
1890 - 1890

MacQUAIDE:

Harriet MacQuaide
Died 1876

MacQUAIDE:

William Ouseley MacQuaide
1844 - 1874

MATLOCK:

Mary Matilda Matlock
Died 1876

McCHESNEY:

Samuel McChesney
1775 - 1834

Mary Meeker McChesney, his wife
1782 - 1859

MEEKER:

Abijah Meeker
Died 1854

Julia Ann Meeker, his wife
1806 - 1888

Jabez Meeker, son of Abijah and Julia Meeker
Died 1853

Sarah Jane Meeker, daughter
Died 1832

George Meeker, son
Died 1856

MEEKER:

Cornelius Meeker
Died 1871

MEEKER:

David Meeker
1846 - 1929

Henrietta Meeker
1852 - 1926

MEEKER:

Elias Meeker, Esq.
1790 - 1864

MEEKER:

Elias Meeker
1822 - 1890

MEEKER:

Phebe Burrell Meeker, wife of Elias Meeker
1821 - 1902

MEEKER:

Hannah Meeker
1789 - 1861

MEEKER:

Jeptha Meeker
Died 1850

Abigail Meeker
Died 1831

MEEKER:

Elenor F. Young Meeker
1823 - 1893

Rachel Meeker, daughter
Died 1843

MEEKER:

Ira Meeker, son of Elenor F. Meeker
Died 1848

Julia Meeker, daughter of Elenor F. Meeker
Died 1854

Mary L. Meeker
Died 1869

MEEKER:

Lydia Meeker
Died 1795

MEEKER:

Jonathan Meeker
Died 1870

Jane Meeker, his wife
Died 1870

MEEKER:

Timothy Meeker
Died 1798 (no stone)

MEEKER:

Peter S. Meeker
1835 - 1916

Hannah M. Burnet Meeker, his wife
1845 - 1899

MEEKER:

Ethel M. Meeker
1878 - 1905

Grace V. Meeker
1877 - 1938

J. Morris Meeker
1899 - 1941

MEEKER:

Samuel Meeker
1797 - 1878

Hannah Meeker, his wife
1796 - 1864

MEEKER:

Samuel H. Meeker
1824 - 1908

Dorcas Almira Williams Meeker, his wife
1830 - 1876

MEEKER:

Rachel F. Jennings Meeker, 2nd wife of Samuel H. Meeker
1832 - 1914

Phebe J. Meeker
Died 1868

Warren S. Meeker
Died 1864

Alanzo Meeker
Died 1868

Lizzie Meeker
Died 1881

MEEKER:

Watson Meeker
1841 - 1877

Horace Watson Meeker, son of Watson Meeker
1872 - 1873

Bessie Meeker
1876 - 1877

MEEKER:

Maurice Meeker
Died 1916

MEEKER:

William Meeker
Died 1916

MENZEL:

Edward Menzel Sr.
Died 1919

MILLER:

Louis Miller
1832 - 1900

Barbara Hyde Miller
1837 - 1911

MITSCHELE:

Mrs. Lewis Mitschele Sr.
Died 1919

MITSCHELE:

Louis Mitschele
1857 - 1939

Emilia Mitschele
1861 - 1919

MORGAN:

Sarah Ann Morgan
Died 1843

William Henry Morgan, son
Died 1848

Josephine Morgan, daughter
Died 1843

MULFORD:

John Mulford
Died 1813

Abigail Mulford
Died 1850

NAFIE:

Eliza Nafie
1808 - 1846

NEILHAUSEL:

Gertride Baum Neilhausel
Died 1955

OCHS:

Jacobina Grossman Ochs
1847 - 1911

PALMER:

Mary Palmer
Died 1918

PFISTER:

Margaret Pfister
1897 - 1937

PRATT:

Harriet Pratt
Died 1875

PRICE:

Edward R. Price
1851 - 1924

Isabella Sharp Price
1853 - 1942

RAHN:

Ernestine Rahn
1863 - 1922

Edward Rahn
1889 - 1909

REEVE:

Daniel Reeve
Died 1853

Louisa M. Reeve
Died 1849

Sarah Ann Reeve
Died 1854

Emeline Reeve
Died 1849

REEVE:

Issac Reeve
Died 1843

Rebecca Reeve
Died 1853

REEVES:

Emily Reeves
Died 1849

REEVES:

Parker Reeves
Died 1845

Elizabeth Reeves
Died 1861

Rachel Reeves
Died 1838

REINHARDT:

Alice Reinhardt
Died 1916

RIDDLE:

Virginia Frances Halsey Riddle
1853 - 1928

RIDDLE:

Walter Barton Riddle
1877 - 1930

RIECHEY:

Charles Riechey
Died 1875

RIMBACK:

Clara Rimback
Died 1919

RODMAN:

Charles Rodman
1866 - 1904

ROSS:

Julia M. Ross
1869 - 1939

RUDKIN:

Elizabeth Rudkin
Died 1865

SHARP:

Isaac Sharp
Died 1834

Charity Sharp
Died 1849

SHARP:

Jacob A. Sharp
1798 - 1857

Walter Sharp, son
Died 1838

SHARP:

Martha Sharp
1840 - 1923

SHARP:

Nelson Sharp
Died 1866

Eunice Sharp
Died 1875

Isaac Sharp
Died 1864

Sarah J. Sharp
Died 1860

SMITH:

John H. Smith
1819 - 1886

Eliza M. Sprigg Smith, his wife
1821 - 1911

Albert W. Smith
Died 1868

H. Ellsworth Smith
1862 - 1928

SMITH:

Obadiah Smith
Died 1829

SMITH:

Thomas Smith
1846 - 1912

Emeline M. Ward Smith, his wife
1848 - 1914

Robert Burns Smith, son
1873 - 1873

Alvan Ward Smith, son
1874 - 1875

SPRIGG:

Susie C. Van Wert Sprigg
1874 - 1904

SPRIGG:

Julia Ann Sprigg
Died 1851

SPRIGG:

William Sprigg
Died 1853

Lydia Sprigg
Died 1870

Mary J. Sprigg, daughter
Died 1853

SPRIGG:

Susie Sprigg
Died 1916

SQUIER:

Elijah T. Squier
Died 1887

SQUIER:

John O. Squier
Died 1889

Susan Edwards Squier, 1st wife
Died 1861

Phebe Courter, 2nd wife
Died 1878

Emma E. Squier
Died 1854

SQUIER:

Edwin Thomas Squier, son of John O. Squier
Died 1873

STEVENS:

Mary Ely Stevens
1879 - 1967

Irving R. Stevens
1873 - 1962

TAYLOR:

Phoebe C. Taylor
1869 - 1939

TEED:

Mary C. Teed
Died 1847

TEED:

Ebenezer Teed
Died 1849

Rusha Edwards Teed, his wife
Died 1872

John P. Teed, son
Died 1843

TEED:

Pell Teed
Died 1838

Desire Teed
Died 1813

THOMAS:

Emma Elizabeth MacQuaide Thomas
Died 1913

TOWNLEY:

Phebe A. Townley
1823 - 1843

Margaret M. Townley
1825 - 1852

Mary F. Townley
1813 - 1846

John S. Townley
1836 - 1838

TOWNLEY:

Isaac Townley
Died 1832

Sarah Townley
Died 1848

TOWNLEY:

Stephen Townley
Died 1853

Sarah Townley
Died 1875

WADE:

Nathaniel Wade Jr.
Died 1823

Jane Wade
Died 1832

WADE:

Sarah Wade
Died 1826

WADE:

Robert M. Wade
1813 - 1884

Juliett Wade
1824 - 1910

Edwin R. Wade
1851 - 1864

WALLACE:

Joseph R. Wallace
1898 - 1898

WARD:

Joseph Ward
Died 1823

Sarah Ward
Died 1825

WARD:

Wellington B.
no dates

WATSON:

Phebe Watson
Died 1818

WILSON:

Sarah Wilson
Died 1836

WINDLER:

Henry Windler
1870 - 1931

WRIGHT:

Harriet Maria Townley Wright
Died 1846

APPENDIX J

BALDWIN CEMETERY

The following is a listing of those persons buried in the Baldwin Cemetery. The list includes individuals whose headstones no longer exist but were present years ago. The list is a compilation of the following sources: Russell Rankin, 1935, Charles DeMarco, Jr. 1980.

AYRES:

Nancy B. Ayres
1798 - 1889

Jane, daughter of Nancy Ayres
1842 - 1898

BALDWIN:

Robert, son of David and Elizabeth Baldwin
Died November 11, 1787 - aged 8 days

BALDWIN:

Enos, son of David and Elizabeth Baldwin
Died June 25, 1789 - aged 4 months, 9 days

BALDWIN:

Phebe, 3rd wife of Capt. Enos Baldwin
Died May 25, 1806 - aged 60 years

BALDWIN:

Sarah, wife of Enos Baldwin
Died November 4, 1793 - aged 71 years

BALDWIN:

Capt. Enos Baldwin
Died December 21, 1807 - aged 84 years

BALDWIN:

Elizabeth, widow of David Baldwin
Died November 19, 1844 - aged 75 years, 6 months

BALDWIN:

David Baldwin
Died December 12, 1836 - aged 71 years

BALDWIN:

Moses Baldwin
Died July 12, 1833 - aged 43 years

BALDWIN:

Betsy F., wife of Moses Baldwin
Died November 17, 1831 - aged 32 years

BALDWIN:

Issac Baldwin
Died March 3, 1832 - aged 44 years

BALDWIN:

John, son of Samuel and Lucy Baldwin
Died September 9, 1784 - aged 14 months, 1 day

BALDWIN:

Samuel Baldwin
Died January 14, 1821 - aged 60 years

BALDWIN:

Isaac, son of Isaac and Mary Baldwin
Died August 14, 1833 - aged 9 years

BALDWIN:

Lucy Baldwin
Died February 6, 1821 - aged 57 years

CAMPFIELD:

Jane Campfield
Died February 8, 1838 - aged 17 years

ECKERT:

Rosa, daughter of Michael and Emma Eckert
February 26, 1896 - May 3, 1896

SWAIME:

Phebe Clark, daughter of Matthias and Sally Swaime
Died April 7, 1805 - aged 6 months, 2 days

SWAIME:

Mary Swaime, daughter of Matthias and Sally Swaime
Died October 9, 1815 - aged 4 years, 2 months and 9 days

TRYON:

Harriet P. Tryon, wife of Leander Tryon
Died April 17, 1842 - aged 32 years

WRIGHT:

Florie, daughter of Francis and Louisa Wright
Died January 10, 1898 - aged 17 years, 5 months, 10 days

APPENDIX K

TEEDTOWN CEMETERY

The list below was compiled from an on site inspection of the old cemetery by Charles DeMarco, Jr. in January, 1979.

ASHBY:

William S.
January 14, 1838 - March 18, 1904

Mary A. Agar, his wife
July 29, 1840 - May 7, 1918

ASHBY:

Julia E., daughter of William S. and Mary Ashby
died March 11, 1864 - 1 years, 4 months, and 11 days

ASHBY:

Lilly M., daughter of William S. and Mary Ashby
June 25, 1878 - August 20, 1886

ASHBY:

J. William Ashby
1913 - 1962

ASHBY:

William Ashby
1881 - 1946

BAKER:

William Collins Baker
May 1, 1847 - March 27, 18?

William Martin Baker
January 16, 1849 - July 3, 1885

Edmund Condit Baker
August 12, 1885 - October 14, 1857

Abner Brundage Baker
April 2, 1860 - January 27, 1906

Anna M. Baker
April 2, 1858 - January 5, 1926

Sadie Adelia Baker
February 28, 1868 - May 27, 1954

Emma Jane Baker
January 3, 1863 - May 20, 1955

BAKER:

Daniel Norris Baker
January 9, 1823 - March 20, 1897

Adelia Collins, his wife
November 25, 1823 - March 21, 1904

BAIRD:

Isabella Baird, a native of Scotland
Died April 22, 1858 aged 58 years.

BERRY:

Hattie E. Berry
1878 - 1906

Sarah L. Berry
1898 - 1900

CLINE:

Herbert Cline
1849 - 1934

Mary A., his wife
1851 - 1919

COLLINS:

Alfred R. Collins
April 4, 1880 - July 26, 1906

COLLINS:

George R. Collins
June 26, 1852 - June 26, 1912

COLLINS:

James T. Collins
Battery B., N.J.L. Art.

COLLINS:

Mary A. McChesney Collins, wife of James T. Collins
January 20, 1821 - March 31, 1875

COLLINS:

Melinda Wright Collins, wife of Benjamin Collins
1838 - 1924

COLLINS:

Laura J. Collins, daughter of Enoch and Phoebe Collins
October 15, 1856

COLLINS:

Lockie, wife of Pell T. Collins
July 12, 1800 - October 1, 1860

COLLINS:

Pell T. Collins
July 7, 1856 - aged 62 years

COOKE:

Lockie Cook
1848 - 1875

Edward Cooke
1855 - 1862

Franklin Cooke
1860 - 1864

Edwin Cooke
1862 - 1865

Hannah Cooke
1868 - 1874
Children of George W. and Hannah Cooke

DAUM:

Philip Daum
Co. H., 2nd Regiment, N.J. Vol.

DOMÉ:

Richard P. Dome, son of Isabella Dome
September 30, 1861

DOWIE:

John Dowie, a native of Scotland
April 20, 1870 aged 76 years

FORCE:

George Force
August 8, 1833 - March 25, 1910

Mary Elizabeth Post, his wife
August 23, 1838 - July 13, 1898

FORCE:

Daniel Baker Force, son of Jonathan and Susan A. Force
June 28, 1890 - June 24, 1896

FORCE:

Jonathan Force
Mem. Co. D., 20th Reg. N.J.
October 25, 1844 - February 18, 1912

Susan Amanda Baker Force, his wife
January 24, 1851 - July 1, 1920

FORCE:

George B. Force
June 11, 1820 - November 29, 1892

Jane Ross Force, his wife
August 31, 1825 - August 4, 1872

Mary H. Force
December 8, 1857 - September 8, 1901

FORCE:

A. Ross Force
August 19, 1868 - September 29, 1954

Alice Force
June 3, 1871 - November 16, 1956

FRANCES:

Hannah Frances
Died April 26, 1859

GRANNIS:

John Grannis
November 18, 1815 - July 30, 1898

Rachel A. DeHart, his wife
March 15, 1816 - January 18, 1899

GRANNIS:

Daniel E. Grannis
August 19, 1848 - December 21, 1918

Emma E. Force, his wife
September 1, 1852 - February 17, 1894

GEIGER:

John Geiger
1841 - 1911

Fred J. Geiger
1811 - 1899

Anna. M. Ludwig, his wife
1812 - 1893

HERDMAN

Sarah E. Herdman, daughter of Jonathan and Julia James Force
September 20, 1835 - January 3, 1914

HOPKINS:

Bezillar H. Hopkins
February 13, 1830 - June 14, 1902

Rachel Collins, his wife
July 31, 1830 - January 21, 1913

McCHESNEY:

Hugh McChesney
April 10, 1823 - July 25, 1895

Sarah F. Collins, his wife
January 9, 1827 - December 14, 1887

McCHESNEY:

Lillian McChesney, daughter of Hugh and Sarah F. McChesney
February 22, 1866 - aged 7 years, 29 days

McCHESNEY:

Sarah A. McChesney
August 6, 1861, aged 2 months, 25 days

McCHESNEY:

Elizabeth McChesney, daughter of Hugh and Sarah F. McChesney
January 19, 1861, aged 1 day

McCHESNEY:

Jessie E. McChesney, daughter of Hugh and Sarah F. McChesney
December 22, 1869 - September 30, 1904

MITCHELL:

Mary B. Mitchell, daughter of Jeremiah and Agness Mitchell
May 16, 1856, aged 11 years, 10 months, 14 days

NEALY:

Andrew Nealy
July 12, 1824 - December 15, 1902

Sarah J. Reeves, his wife
November 22, 1836 - March 9, 1910

PARKHURST:

Ella F. Teed, wife of John H. Parkhurst
April 23, 1842 - December 18, 1895

PARKHURST:

Sarah M. Parkhurst
October 3, 1850 - July 27, 1912

PARKHURST:

Emma C. Parkhurst
February 25, 1840 - January 4, 1890

PARKHURST:

Ward Parkhurst
February 19, 1862 - aged 51 years, 8 months, 14 days

PARKHURST:

Eliza Teed Parkhurst, wife of Ward Parkhurst
March 24, 1883 - in the 69th year of her age.

PARKHURST:

Frederick Parkhurst
March 27, 1856 - January 12, 1928

PARKHURST:

Theodore F. Parkhurst
August 15, 1870 - aged 26 years, 7 months, 10 days

SHANNON:

Eleanor Teed Shannon
August 28, 1897 - October 14, 1952

SMITH:

Mary R. Parkhurst, wife of George L. Smith
December 29, 1847 - April 9, 1885

SMITH:

William D. Smith
May 20, 1836 - July 26, 1893

SMITH:

Hannah E. Smith, wife of William D. Smith
1833 - 1888

SMITH:

Jennie Smith, wife of Arthur Smith
February 22, 1834 - January 12, 1864

SQUIER:

Raymond Roy Squier
February 25, 1884 - March 24, 1906

SQUIER:

Frances M. Squier
1849 - 1916

SQUIER:

Louis M. Squier
April 5, 1879 - December 22, 1948

TEED:

Benjamin F. Teed
August 24, 1880 - 69th year

TEED:

Andrew William Teed
1855 - 1921

TEED:

Andrew Camfield Teed
September 15, 1884 - July 14, 1938

TEED:

Sarah A. Cook, wife of Benjamin F. Teed
Died April 29, 1878 in her 59th year

TEED:

Parker Teed
February 22, 1855 aged 68 years, 3 months, 28 days

TEED:

Elizabeth Campbell Teed
1853 - 1929

TEED:

Andrew Teed
November 11, 1809 - September 28, 1886

Martha C. Walker, his wife
August 26, 1824 - February 26, 1894

TEED:

Jonathan F. Teed
July 12, 1819 - September 26, 1877

Mary Ward, his wife
April 7, 1821 - June 12, 1905

TEED:

Ella F. Teed, daughter of Eben and Hulda Teed
no date

TEED:

William F. Teed
February 7, 1880, aged 53 years, 5 months and 19 days

TEED:

Parker Teed
October 30, 1827 - July 11, 1907

Phebe Marsh, his wife
December 25, 1839 - August 21, 1917

TEED:

Ralph Nathan Teed
May 21, 1893 - May 30, 1961

TEED:

Catherine Camfield Teed
July 15, 1886 - December 21, 1973

TEED:

Elizabeth Force, wife of Parker Teed
Died March 21, 1851, aged 65 years, 8 months and 24 days

VANZEE:

William VanZee
1847 - 1927

Harriet VanZee
1845 - 1927

VANZEE:

Arthur W. VanZee
1887 - 1943

Lenzy VanZee
1874 - 1878

William VanZee
1881 - 1883

VANZEE:

Margie VanZee
1889 - 1890

VOLK:

Frederick Volk
February 25, 1849 - May 16, 1871

VOLK:

Leonard Volk
January 18, 1894 - aged 77 years and 22 days

John J. Volk
March 25, 1878 - aged 26 years, 5 months

WEBSTER:

Rev. Goodwin B. Webster
May 25, 1896 - May 26, 1957
Pennsylvania Private, U.S. Marine Corp. WWI

WRIGHT:

Anthony K. Wright
April 19, 1881 - aged 53 years

Lucinda Eldridge Wright, his wife
March 15, 1909 - aged 83

WRIGHT:

Gussie Wright
March 2, 1875 - aged 23 years

WRIGHT:

Moses Wright
January 20, 1859 - aged 63 years and 25 days

WRIGHT:

Thomas E. Wright
October 2, 1857 - aged 62

APPENDIX L

LITTELL FAMILY BURIAL GROUND

The information about the Littell Family Burial Ground was gleaned from the records of John R. Burnet, 1852, and the D.A.R., 1900, and various old written accounts.

LITTELL:

Jonathan Littell
Died July 29, 1847 - aged 77

LITTELL:

John, son of Jonathan and Susan Littell
Died September 23, 1815 - aged 3 years, 6 months, 6 days

STILES:

Mary L., wife of Noah Stiles Jr.
Died February 20, 1815 - aged 30 years, 10 months, 20 days

APPENDIX M

LIVINGSTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE PEOPLE (TOWNSHIP COUNCIL)

From 1813 to 1899, five committeemen were elected annually in the Township. Between 1900 and 1929, the committee was reduced in size to three members, each serving three year terms on a rotating basis. Beginning in 1930, the committee was once again expanded back to five members, one or two being elected each year. In 1957, as a result of the change to the Town manager form of government, the term of office was changed to every four years, with elections for two or three members being held every other year. (Please note that those with names with an asterisk after it indicates that the individual served as mayor during that term).

1813	Joseph T. Hardy, Joseph Green, Peter Cook, Josiah Steel, Abner Ball
1814	Joseph Green, Aron Tomkins, Abraham Reynolds, Peter Cook, Enoch Edwards
1815	Abraham Reynolds, Henry W. Wade, Aron Tomkins, Peter Cook, Parker Teed
1816	Abraham Reynolds, Enoch Edwards, Parker Teed, Ezra Morris, Josiah Steel
1817	Abraham Reynolds, Abner Ball, David Morehouse, Abraham Cook, Samuel Harrison
1818	Abraham Reynolds, Abner Ball, David Morehouse, Abraham Cook, Samuel Harrison
1819	Abraham Reynolds, Abner Ball, David Morehouse, Abraham Cook, Samuel Harrison
1820	Abraham Reynolds, Abraham Cook, David Morehouse, Samuel Harrison, Samuel Squier Jr.
1821	Josiah Steel, Abraham Cook, Abner Ball, Joseph T. Hardy, David Morehouse
1822	Abner Ball, David Morehouse, Abraham Cook, Samuel Harrison, Bern B. Foster
1823	Samuel Harrison, Abraham Cook, Moses S. Earle, Bern B. Foster, David Morehouse
1824	Rufus Harrison, Parker Teed, Abraham Cook, David Morehouse, Samuel Squier Jr.
1825	Rufus Harrison, Parker Teed, William Camp, David Morehouse, Moses Gardner

- 1826 Rufus Harrison, Parker Teed, William Camp,
Moses Gardner, Israel Dickinson
- 1827 Rufus Harrison, Samuel Squier Jr., Peter Cook,
Moses Gardner, Moses S. Earle
- 1828 Rufus Harrison, Peter Cook, Moses Gardner,
Samuel Squier Jr., Moses S. Earle
- 1829 Rufus Harrison, Peter Cook, Samuel Squier Jr.,
Moses Gardner, Moses S. Earle
- 1830 Rufus Harrison, James Collins, Samuel Squier Jr.,
Moses Gardner, Moses S. Earle
- 1831 Rufus Harrison, Joseph Courter, Samuel Squier Jr.
Joseph C. Ward, Moses Gardner
- 1832 Rufus Harrison, Joseph C. Ward, Joseph Courter,
Samuel Squier Jr., Moses S. Earle
- 1833 Rufus Harrison, Joseph Courter, Moses S. Earle,
Joseph C. Ward, Samuel Squier Jr.
- 1834 Rufus Harrison, Joseph Courter, Moses S. Earle,
Joseph C. Ward, Samuel Squier Jr.
- 1835 Rufus Harrison, Joseph Courter, Ira Squier
Moses S. Earle, Joseph C. Ward
- 1836 Rufus Harrison, Joseph C. Ward, Joseph Courter
Ira Squier, Abijah Meeker
- 1837 Rufus Harrison, Joseph Courter, Ira Squier,
Abijah Meeker, John Squier
- 1838 Jared F. Harrison, Joseph Courter, Ira Squier,
Moses S. Earle, John Squier
- 1839 Ira Squier, Jared F. Harrison, Joseph Courter,
Joseph C. Ward, William Morehouse
- 1840 Ira Squier, Jeremiah Mitchell, Joseph Courter,
Caleb S. Crane, Joseph C. Ward
- 1841 Ira Squier, Samuel Burnet, Joseph Courter,
Jeremiah Mitchell, Jared F. Harrison
- 1842 Ira Squier, Samuel Burnet, Joseph Courter,
Jeremiah Mitchell, Jared F. Harrison
- 1843 Ira Squier, Samuel Burnet, Joseph Courter,
Jeremiah Mitchell, Jared F. Harrison

- 1844 Ira Squier, Samuel Burnet, Joseph Courter,
Jeremiah Mitchell, Jared F. Harrison
- 1845 Ira Squier, Samuel Burnet, Jared F. Harrison,
Joseph Courter, Rufus F. Harrison
- 1846 Ira Squier, Samuel Burnet, Jared F. Harrison
Joseph Courter, Rufus F. Harrison
- 1847 Ira Squier, George J. Castle, Lewis M. Burnet,
Anthony A. Jacobus, Jared F. Harrison
- 1848 Ira Squier, George J. Castle, Lewis M. Burnet,
Anthony A. Jacobus, Jared F. Harrison
- 1849 Ira Squier, George J. Castle, Lewis M. Burnet,
Ebenezer F. Condit, Isaac Bond
- 1850 Ira Squier, Ebenezer F. Condit, Isaac Bond,
George J. Castle, Charles H. Jennings
- 1851 Ira Squier, Ebenezer F. Condit, Isaac Bond,
George J. Castle, John W. Young
- 1852 Ira Squier, Ebenezer F. Condit, George J. Castle,
Isaac Bond, Amos C. Rathbun
- 1853 Ira Squier, Ebenezer F. Condit, Isaac Bond,
Amos C. Rathbun, David B. Morehouse
- 1854 Ira Squier, Ebenezer F. Condit, Isaac Bond,
Samuel H. Burnet, Jonathan W. DeCamp
- 1855 Moses E. Halsey, Isaac Bond, Philip Harrison,
Ezra R. Squier, Ebenezer F. Condit
- 1856 Ebenezer F. Condit, Moses E. Halsey, Isaac Bond,
Philip Harrison, Ezra R. Squier
- 1857 Ebenezer F. Condit, Ira Squier, Philip Harrison,
Randolph Williams, John O. Squier
- 1858 Ebenezer F. Condit, Moses E. Halsey,
John R. Williams, Isaac Bond, Samuel H. Burnet
- 1859 Ashbel F. Cook, John R. Williams, Isaac Bond,
Tobias Edwards, William H. Pillow
- 1860 Ira Squier, Conrad Schieman, Levi Williams,
Amos C. Rathbun, Israel Dickinson
- 1861 Ira Squier, Conrad Schieman, Levi Williams,
Amos C. Rathbun, Israel Dickinson

- 1862 Ira Squier, Amos C. Rathbun, John H. Walker,
John B. Warring, Conrad Schieman
- 1863 John H. Walker, John B. Warring, Enoch E. Collins,
Isaac S. Crane, Andrew Teed
- 1864 Andrew Teed, Ezra Collier, John B. Warring,
Isaac S. Crane, Enoch E. Collins
- 1865 Andrew Teed, Ezra Collier, Isaac S. Crane,
William Diecks, David B. Morehouse
- 1866 Andrew Teed, Ezra Collier, Nelson Sharp,
William Diecks, David B. Morehouse
- 1867 Andrew Teed, Ira A. Condit, Samuel H. Burnet,
William Diecks, David B. Morehouse
- 1868 Andrew Teed, Ira A. Condit, Samuel H. Burnet,
John W. Young, George W. Reinhardt
- 1869 Andrew Teed, Ira A. Condit, Samuel H. Burnet,
John W. Young, George W. Reinhardt
- 1870 George Hoffman, John W. Lees, Lewis T. Rathbun,
David B. Morehouse, Philip H. Harrison
- 1871 George Hoffman, John W. Lees, Lewis T. Rathbun,
David B. Morehouse, Philip H. Harrison
- 1872 Philip H. Harrison, John W. Lees, George Hoffman,
Nelson Smith, William W. Squier
- 1873 John Grannis, Ezra Collier, Hezekiah H. Miller,
Nelson Smith, Lewis Weiner
- 1874 Nelson Smith, John Grannis, Ezra Collier,
Hezekiah H. Miller, Lewis Weiner
- 1875 John Grannis, William Diecks, Ezra Collier,
Hezekiah Miller, John W. Lees
- 1876 Aaron DeCamp, John Grannis, William Diecks,
William B. Winans, Hiram Farnham
- 1877 Aaron DeCamp, Jonathan Force, William Diecks,
Nelson Smith, Hiram Farnham
- 1878 Aaron DeCamp, Jonathan Force, Samuel H. Burnet,
Nelson Smith, Hiram Farnham
- 1879 Samuel H. Burnet, Nelson Smith, Jonathan Force,
George E. DeCamp, Bern W. Dickinson

- 1880 Samuel H. Burnet, Nelson Smith, George E. DeCamp,
Bern W. Dickinson, Moses E. Halsey
- 1881 George E. DeCamp, David Flynn, Sydney B. Winans,
William Diecks, Bern W. Dickinson
- 1882 George E. DeCamp, David Flynn, Sydney B. Winans,
William Diecks, James H. Brown
- 1883 Sidney B. Winans, Rufus F. Harrison,
Jonathan H. Force, William Diecks, James H. Brown
- 1884 Jonathan H. Force, Samuel H. Burnet, C.C. Kitchell,
Frederick Carle, Bern W. Dickinson
- 1885 Jonathan H. Force, Samuel H. Burnet, Wilbur W. DeCamp,
Frederick Carle, Bern W. Dickinson
- 1886 Samuel H. Burnet, Frederick Carle, Bern W. Dickinson,
Archibald Parkhurst, Wilbur W. DeCamp
- 1887 Nelson Smith, Frank W. Meeker, Alson Walker,
Bern W. Dickinson, Archibald Parkhurst
- 1888 Nelson Smith, Archibald Parkhurst, Alson Walker,
Bern W. Dickinson, Frank W. Meeker
- 1889 Nelson Smith, David Flynn, Alson Walker,
Frank W. Meeker, Bern W. Dickinson
- 1890 David Flynn, George L. Smith, Alson Walker,
Bern W. Dickinson, William Diecks Jr.
- 1891 Peter S. Meeker, David Flynn, George L. Smith,
William Diecks Jr., Anderson Squier
- 1892 Jonathan Force, Peter S. Meeker, George L. Smith,
William Diecks Jr., Bern W. Dickinson
- 1893 Jonathan Force, Peter S. Meeker, Joseph Baer,
William Diecks Jr., Bern W. Dickinson
- 1894 Jonathan Force, Peter S. Meeker, Joseph Baer,
William Diecks Jr., Bern W. Dickinson
- 1895 Daniel D. Granniss, William H. Harrison,
Joseph Baer, William Diecks Jr., Isaac Crane
- 1896 William H. Harrison, Daniel D. Granniss,
George W. Morehouse, William R. Johnson,
Isaac S. Crane
- 1897 Daniel D. Granniss, William H. Harrison,
George W. Morehouse, William R. Johnson,
Isaac S. Crane

1898 John H. Parkhurst, E. Augustus Williams, George W. Morehouse, William R. Johnson, Bern W. Dickinson

1899 John H. Parkhurst, E. Augustus Williams, George W. Morehouse, William R. Johnson, Bern W. Dickinson

1900 Henry H. Haven, Wilbur W. DeCamp, Pell T. Collins

1901 Henry H. Haven, Wilbur W. DeCamp, Pell T. Collins

1902 John H. Parkhurst, Wilbur W. DeCamp, Pell Collins

1903 John H. Parkhurst, Wilbur W. DeCamp, Pell Collins

1904 John H. Parkhurst, William H. Harrison, Bern W. Dickinson

1905 George H. Parkhurst, Bern W. Dickinson, William H. Harrison

1906 George H. Parkhurst, Bern W. Dickinson, William H. Harrison

1907 William H. Harrison, George H. Parkhurst, Bern W. Dickinson

1908 Charles Hoffman, William H. Harrison, George H. Parkhurst

1909 Charles H. Hoffman, Frederick M. Hoffman, Sidney B. Winans

1910 Sidney B. Winans, Frederick M. Hoffman, Gottlieb Ochs

1911 Gottlieb Ochs, Sidney B. Winans, Frederick Hoffman

1912 Frederick Hoffman, Gottlieb Ochs, Sidney B. Winans

1913 Sidney B. Winans, Gottlieb Ochs, Frederick Hoffman

1914 Gottlieb Ochs, Sidney B. Winans, Frederick Hoffman

1915 Anderson P. Squier, Gottlieb Ochs, Sidney B. Winans

1916 Frederick Hoffman, Anderson P. Squier, Gottlieb Ochs

1917 Henry Van Ness, Frederick Hoffman, Anderson P. Squier

1918 Anderson P. Squier, Henry B. Van Ness, Frederick M. Hoffman

1919 Sidney B. Winans, Anderson P. Squier, Henry
B. Van Ness

1920 Enoch E. Burnet, Sidney B. Winans, Anderson Squier

1921 Anderson Squier, Enoch E. Burnet, Sidney B. Winans

1922 Sidney B. Winans, Anderson Squier, Enoch E. Burnet

1923 Enoch E. Burnet, John Ashby, Anderson P. Squier

1924 Anderson P. Squier, John Ashby, Enoch E. Burnet

1925 John Ashby, Anderson P. Squier, Enoch E. Burnet

1926 Enoch E. Burnet, John Ashby, Anderson P. Squier*

1927 Lester Genung, Enoch E. Burnet*, John Ashby

1928 R. Freeman Harrison, Lester C. Genung*,
Samuel H. MacQuaide

1929 Samuel H. MacQuaide, R. Freeman Harrison,
Lester C. Genung*

1930 R. Freeman Harrison, Samuel H. MacQuaide, August
C. Baer, Gottlieb Hockenjos, Edward H. Van Ness*

1931 August C. Baer, Gottlieb Hockenjos, Edward H.
Van Ness, R. Freeman Harrison*, Samuel H. MacQuaide

1932 Edward Van Ness, Samuel H. MacQuaide*, August C.
Baer, Gottlieb Hockenjos, R. Freeman Harrison

1933 August C. Baer, Herman C. Beck, R. Freeman
Harrison, Edward Van Ness, Samuel MacQuaide*

1934 R. Freeman Harrison, August C. Baer, Herman Beck
Edward Van Ness, Samuel MacQuaide

1935 Herman Beck, R. Freeman Harrison, August C. Baer,
Joseph J. Spurr II, Herbert Mitschele

1936 Herman Beck, R. Freeman Harrison, William Buerger,
Joseph J. Spurr II, Herbert J. Mitschele

1937 Joseph J. Spurr II, Herman Beck, Herbert Mitschele,
William Buerger, Herman Strahman

1938 Joseph J. Spurr II, Herman Beck, Herbert Mitschele,
William Buerger, Herman Strahman

1939 Joseph J. Spurr II, Herman Beck, Herbert Mitschele,
William Buerger, Herman Strahman

1940 Joseph J. Spurr II, Herman Beck, Herbert Mitschele,
William Buerger, William Glassner

1941 Joseph J. Spurr II, Herman Beck, Herbert Mitschele,
Conrad G. Dahl, William Glassner

1942 Joseph J. Spurr II, Herman Beck, Herbert Mitschele,
Conrad G. Dahl, Ruth Morey Crichton

1943 Joseph J. Spurr II, Herman Beck, Herbert Mitschele,
Conrad G. Dahl, Ruth Morey Crichton

1944 Herman Beck, Conrad G. Dahl, Ruth Morey Crichton,
Clifford L. James, Herbert Mitschele

1945 T. Clyde Riley, Conrad G. Dahl, Ruth Morey
Crichton, Clifford L. James, Herbert Mitschele

1946 T. Clyde Riley, Conrad G. Dahl, Raymond Marks,
Clifford James, Herbert Mitschele

1947 T. Clyde Riley, Conrad G. Dahl, Raymond Marks,
Clifford James, Herbert Mitschele

1948 Raymond Marks, Clifford James, Herbert Mitschele*,
T. Clyde Riley, Robert Beck

1949 Clifford L. James, Herbert Mitschele, T. Clyde
Riley*, Robert Beck, Vernon Wisdom

1950 T. Clyde Riley, Robert Beck, Vernon Wisdom,
Richard P. Taft*, Frank Ingling

1951 Vernon Wisdom, Richard P. Taft, William Clark*,
Andrew Axtell, Frank Ingling

1952 Herbert Mitschele, Frank Ingling, Andrew Axtell,
William Clark, Vernon Wisdom*

1953 Andrew Axtell*, William Clark, Vernon Wisdom,
Herbert Mitschele, Frank Ingling

1954 Vernon Wisdom, Herbert Mitschele, Frank Ingling*,
Andrew Axtell, William Clark

1955 Herbert Mitschele*, Vernon Wisdom, Andrew Axtell,
William Clark, Arthur Skeels Sr.

1956 Andrew Axtell, William Clark*, Frank J. Biondi,
David Dowd, Arthur Skeels Sr.

1957 Andrew Axtell, William Clark, Frank J. Biondi,
David Dowd, Arthur Skeels Sr.*

1958 Andrew Axtell*, William Clark, Frank J. Biondi,
David Dowd, Arthur Skeels Sr.

1959 David Dowd*, Arthur Skeels Sr., William Clark,
George Cox, John Duetsch

1960 David Dowd, Frank J. Biondi, William Clark*,
George Cox, John Duetsch

1961 John Duetsch*, George Cox, William Clark,
Frank Biondi, Jack Naylor

1962 George Cox*, John Duetsch, William Clark,
Frank Biondi, Jack Naylor

1963 Frank Biondi*, Jack Naylor, George Cox,
John Duetsch, William Clark

1964 Jack Naylor*, Frank Biondi, George Cox,
John Duetsch, William Clark

1965 George Cox, John Duetsch, William Clark*,
Kenneth Dollinger, James Compton

1966 John Duetsch*, George Cox, William Clark,
Kenneth Dollinger, James Compton

1967 Peter Cooper*, James Compton, Kenneth Dollinger,
Kenneth Welch, Arthur Wynne Jr.

1968 Arthur Wynne Jr.*, James Compton, Peter Cooper,
Kenneth Dollinger, Kenneth Welch

1969 Kenneth Welch*, William Cooney, Peter Cooper,
Kenneth Dollinger, Arthur Wynne Jr.

1970 Kenneth Dollinger*, William Cooney, Peter Cooper,
Kenneth Welch, Arthur Wynne Jr.

1971 Peter Cooper*, William Cooney, Kenneth Dollinger,
John Rowley, Peter Cooper

1972 Kenneth Welch*, John Rowley, Peter Cooper,
Kenneth Dollinger, William Cooney (WC resigned,
James Compton appointed as replacement)

1973 Peter Cooper, John V. Rowley*, Kenneth Welch,
C. David Geer, James Isherwood

1974 Peter Cooper, John Rowley, Kenneth Welch*,
C. David Geer, James Isherwood

1975 C. David Geer, James Isherwood, Doris L. Beck*,
Donald Coburn, Dominick Crincoli

1976 Doris L. Beck, Donald Coburn, Dominick Crincoli*,
C. David Geer, James Isherwood

1977 Doris L. Beck, Donald Coburn*, Dominick Crincoli,
John P. Collins, John Grady Jr.

1978 Doris L. Beck*, Dominick Crincoli, John Grady Jr.,
John P. Collins, Donald Coburn (D.C. resigned,
Stephen Geffner appointed as replacement)

1979 John Grady Jr.*, Doris L. Beck, John Collins,
Dominick Crincoli, Stephen Geffner

1980 John Grady Jr., Doris L. Beck, John Collins,
Dominick Crincoli*, Stephen Geffner

1981 John Grady Jr., Doris L. Beck, John Collins,
Dominick Crincoli, Stephen Geffner*

1982 John Collins*, John Grady Jr., Doris L. Beck,
Dominick Crincoli, Stephen Geffner

1983 John Grady Jr.*, Dominick Crincoli, John Collins,
Robert Leopold, Shari Weiner

1984 Dominick Crincoli*, Robert Leopold, John Collins,
John Grady, Sharon L. Weiner

1985 Robert Leopold*, Sharon L. Weiner, Thomas Adams,
Dominick Crincoli, David Wildstein

1986 Sharon L. Weiner*, Dominick Crincoli, Thomas Adams,
Robert Leopold, David Wildstein

1987 David Wildstein*, Thomas Adams, Robert Leopold,
Michael Schlossberg, William Shaunessy

1988 William Shaunessy*, Michael Schlossberg, Thomas
Adams, Robert Leopold, David Wildstein

APPENDIX N

LIVINGSTON ORGANIZATIONS

The following are a listing of various community service organizations in the Township of Livingston. The author wishes to inform the reader that this list is not all inclusive and it is indeed possible that there are other organizations that may have inadvertently been left off this list.

American Association of Retired Persons, Livingston Chapter #3663

American Association of University Women

American Field Service

American Legion Post #201

Arts Association

Association of Retarded Citizens

Auxiliary Police

Babe Ruth Baseball League

Boy Scouts of America

Camera Club

Chamber of Commerce of Livingston

Clergy Association

Community Players

Elks Club

Fire Department

First Aid Squad

Free Public Library

Friends of the Library

Girl Scouts

Historical Society

Jewish War Veterans Post #740

Kiwanis Club of Livingston

Knights of Columbus #3533

Knights of Pythias #22

League of Women Voters

Lions Club

Little League - American

Little League - National

Livingston Garden Club

Livingston Soccer Club

Livingston Symphony Orchestra

Livingston TV 34

Masonic Lodge #289

Northfield Garden Club

Oak Leaf Club

Old Guard

Ort

Pacific Asian Coalition

Rotary Club

UNICO

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2856

Welcome Wagon of Livingston

Women's Club of Livingston

APPENDIX O
LIVINGSTON'S OLDEST BUSINESS

There are many types and forms of industry that have spurred Livingston's economy over the years. Shoe making, dairying, hat sizing, were once the primary industries of the community. All of these industries have been illustrated in various early chapters in this volume. There is however, one industry and business that deserves to be singled out because it is the oldest business in Livingston.

One of the county's and Livingston's earliest form of business was that of cider making. As far back as the 1680's, the town of Newark, which included the area of Livingston was producing more cider than all of the New England states. The countrysides as well as the farms in the area had many apple orchards, which was an added feature when it came time for the owner to sell his land.

Cider was a favorite drink among the pioneers. Throughout the Revolution and well into the 1800's, the cider from this area was sought for inns and taverns. The early cider was made from two kinds of apples, the Canfield apple and the Harrison apple. It is thought that this second apple was named after a member of the Harrison family who after years of grafting experiments produced an apple which was small, crispy and had a lot of juice. It is said that five of these trees, which in the mid 1800's sold at 35 cents apiece, produced over 100 bushels of apples.

If the cider was left for great periods of time, it usually began to ferment. It was then used by the early settlers as a cheap form of liquor that was less expensive than many other types. Early farmers could take the cider an through a crude form of distillation made a drink that became quite famous in Livingston and in the nations, "Jersey Lightning." This distilled form of cider, which was made by the farmers, was about 75 percent pure alcohol and took little or no money to produce.

The early innkeepers of the community kept an ample supply of this beverage on hand. An example of this can be found in "Livingston: The Story of a Community."

"Rec-Hanover, April 12th, 1799 of Pell Teed 2 casks of Spirits, said by the young man to contain on cask thirty-one gallons, the other eighteen gallons of Cyder(sic).

Tho. T. Eckley"

Cider making is one of the few businesses that still survives within the community. The oldest established business in Livingston is that of the Ochs' Cider Mill, which has been operated by the Ochs family for four generations.

After the Civil War, Gottlieb Ochs, an emigrant from Germany, bought a tract of land in the Northfield section of the township. In the late 1870's, Gottlieb began producing cider. The early cider was pressed by hand. Eventually, steam was used and today the operation is run electrically, still using the old press.

In the 1930's, the mill was operated by Mrs. Nettie Ochs, who ran the mill for a number of years. In 1937, she was known as the only woman cider

mill operator in the state of New Jersey. Today, the cider mill is run by Herbert and Robert Ochs. The mill is called the Nettie Ochs Cider Mill, after Herbert's mother. In 1977, the Livingston Chamber of Commerce recognized the mill as the oldest business in Livingston.

APPENDIX P

LIVINGSTON'S CHARTER

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

An Act to set off and erect the township of Livingston in the County of Essex.

I. Be it enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this state, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That all those parts of the townships of Springfield and Caldwell in the County of Essex, included within the following limits, Viz: Beginning at the mouth of a ditch of lands of Brainard Dickinson, about thirty rods south of said Dickinson's dwelling house, thence on a direct line to the centre of a bridge, near the house of Samuel Baldwin, thence on a direct line to Keens Mill, between the mountains, being the Southeast corner of Orange township, thence along the line of the township of Orange, to the north west corner of the same, near Joel Condicts quarry, thence running in a straight direction, to the mouth of the road, near Captain Burnet's, leading by Major Abijah Williams's, thence along the centre of said road, until it intersects the cross road leading from Swinefield to Cyrus Crane's saw mill, thence in a direct line to the centre of an island in Passaic River, opposite lands of Aaron Kitchell, Esq., thence up the river Passaic on the Morris County line to the place of beginning, be and the same is hereby set off from the said townships of Springfield and Caldwell, and erected into a separate township to be known by the name of the Township of Livingston.

II. And be it enacted, That the inhabitants of the said township of Livingston be and they hereby are constituted a body, politic and corporate, in law by the name of the "Inhabitants of the township of Livingston in the County of Essex" and entitled to all the privileges, authorities and advantages, that the other townships in the said county are entitled to, by virtue of the act, entitled an act, incorporating the inhabitants of townships designating their powers and regulating their meetings passed the twenty first day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight.

III. And be it enacted, That the first annual townmeeting of the inhabitants of the said township of Livingston, shall be held at the house now kept by Isaac Samo, in the said township.

IV. And be it enacted, That every person becoming chargeable as a pauper, after the second Monday in April next, shall be deemed a pauper of the township within whose limits he or she shall have gained his or her last legal residence. And the township committee of Springfield and Livingston shall meet on the third Monday in April next at the house of Thomas Parcel the third, in the township of Livingston, at ten oclock in the forenoon, and then and there proceed to make an allotment, between the said townships of such poor persons as shall then be chargeable and also of the debts and credits, monies, and other effects of the said township of Springfield, in proportion to the taxable property within their respective limits to be ascertained by the assessors books of the last years taxes; and if either

of the said committees in whole or in part shall neglect or refuse to meet as aforesaid, it shall be lawfull for such members of the said committees as do meet, to proceed to such distributions, which shall be final and conclusive. And the township committees of the townships of Caldwell and Livingston shall meet for the like purpose at the house of Cornelius L. Ball in the township of Caldwell, on the forth Monday in April next, at ten oclock in the forenoon, and then and there make and allotment of the poor, and distribution of debts and credits, monies and effects, of the township of Caldwell in the same manner and under the same regulations and restrictions, as is provided in the former part of this section.

Council Chamber
February 2nd, 1813

This bill having been three times read in Council, Resolved That the same do pass, By order of Council.

Aaron Ogden, President

House of Assembly
February 5th, 1813

This bill having been three times read. Resolved, That the same do pass. By order of the House.

Wm. Pearson, Speaker

APPENDIX Q

EARLY LIVINGSTON TAVERN OWNERS

The following is a listing of the early tavern or public house owners in Livingston. The list was compiled from the Essex County tavern petitions in the collection of the New Jersey State Archives. An example of a tavern petition is below.

"To the honorable Court of General Sessions now sitting at Newark for the County of Essex. We whose names are underwritten, humbly pray that Robert Ward may be licensed to keep a public house and inn at Cannoebrook (sic) where he now lives."

The earliest known petition that mentions our area is dated 1756, and the last citation is in 1851. Each owner was required to have certain provisions that included sufficient bed space and stabling for the horses. The petitions also inform us that the stated tavern owner was to be "a man of good repute for honesty and sobriety and temperance. The owner of the tavern was required to have the local residents of the community sign the petition, verifying that he was indeed fit to run such an establishment.

Among all the petitions listed below there was only one period when the residents of the community were in opposition to a "public house or tavern" in the township. The residents of the Livingston were not so pleased with the new tavern owner, but let the petition tell the story:

"To the HONOURABLE (sic) COURT of Quarter Sessions
of the Peace of the County of Essex New Jersey:

We the undersigned inhabitants of the Township of
Livingston beg leave to remonstrate against the
granting a licence (sic) to Benjamin S. Force to keep a
Tavern in said town for the following reasons among the
many that might be regarded (VIZ)
by letting men have to much liquor there by keeping
them entoxicated (sic) for a week or more at a time,
letting them have liquor when they had drank (sic) to
much already. Suffering and encouraging tryouts (sic)
on the Sabbath day by letting them have liquor which
would often end in quarrels thereby desturbing (sic)
the peace and good order of Society, corrupting the
morrals (sic) of youth which lead to pauperism and the
accompaning evils; resulting in a rumshop, as to
accomodating the visitor with a place of rest and
repass --- except those in the neighborhood and to them
it is a great evil.

Livingston April 11th 1836

Ezra Morris
Samuel Dodd
John Smith
James L. Ward
John Ely
Moses Ely
William Smith
William Osborn
Marcus Beach
Wm. D. Beach
Stephen D. Douglas
William Ware

John Muchmore
Israel Ward
Isaac Baldwin
Jonathan Squier
James Beach
Jared Smith
Andrew M. Kent
Henry F. Ward
Nathl. Squier

In 1846, a new law was passed regulating Inns and Taverns. The
law set rates and prices of all liquors, meats, and enterainment as
well as the prices for stabling and feeding of horses. Each Tavern
owner and Inn Keeper was required to prominently display the new
rates and if they did not abide by the law, they could be fined as
much as four dollars a day and lose their license.

Besides using these petitions as a source of information about local
taverns or inns, they are a valuable source of genealogical information
since the user might be able to locate the name of an ancestor that lived
in the community. Below is a listing of all of the tavern owners in the
Township of Livingston.

1756: Robert Ward
1770: Daniel Taylor
1771: Elihu Halstead
1773: Obadiah Smith

1774: Obadiah Smith
1776: Manning Force
1777: Obadiah Smith
1779: Daniel Taylor
1781: Daniel Taylor
1782: Benjamin Meeker
1783: Daniel Taylor
1783: Benjamin Meeker
1783: John Reuck
1784: William Ely, Jr.
1785: William Ely, Jr.
1786: Ichabod Clark
1786: William Ely, Jr.
1787: Jacob Brookfield
1787: Zenas Pierson
1788: William Ely, Jr.
1789: John Glean
1790: John Glean
1794: Nathaniel Taylor
1797: William Ely, Jr.
1798: William Ely, Jr.
1799: William Ely, Jr.
1799: Samuel Burnet
1801: William Ely, Jr.
1801: Samuel Burnet
1802: Aaron Reuck
1813: Isaac Samo
1813: Cornelius L. Ball
1819: Frederick Chapin
1820: Frederick Chapin
1820: Alpheus Edwards
1820: Henry Mourison
1824: Henry Mourison
1824: Isaac Sharp
1825: Henry Mourison
1825: Isaac Sharp
1826: Henry Mourison
1826: Isaac Sharp
1827: Frederick Chapin
1828: Frederick Chapin
1828: Henry Mourison
1830: Frederick Chapin
1830: Henry Mourison
1830: Isaac Sharp
1831: Frederick Chapin
1831: Isaac Sharp
1831: Caleb Ward Jr.
1832: Henry K. Hyde
1832: Isaac Sharp
1832: Caleb Ward Jr.
1833: Andrew Teed
1833: Caleb Ward Jr.
1834: Stephen J. Condit
1834: Andrew Teed
1835: Stephen J. Condit

1835: Benjamin S. Force
1836: Stehen J. Condit
1836: Benjamin Force
1836: Andrew Teed
1837: Stephen J. Condit
1837: Andrew Teed
1838: George Campbell
1838: Stephen J. Condit
1839: Stephen J. Condit
1839: John Rose
1840: Stephen J. Condit
1840: John Rose
1841: Stephen J. Condit
1841: John Rose
1842: John Rose
1843: Stephen J. Condit
1843: John Rose
1844: Stephen J. Condit
1844: John Rose
1845: Stephen J. Condit
1845: John Rose
1846: Stephen J. Condit
1846: John Rose
1848: Stephen J. Condit
1848: John Rose
1849: Stephen J. Condit
1849: John Rose
1850: John Rose
1851: John Rose

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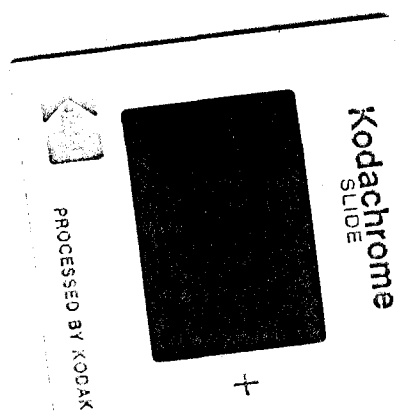
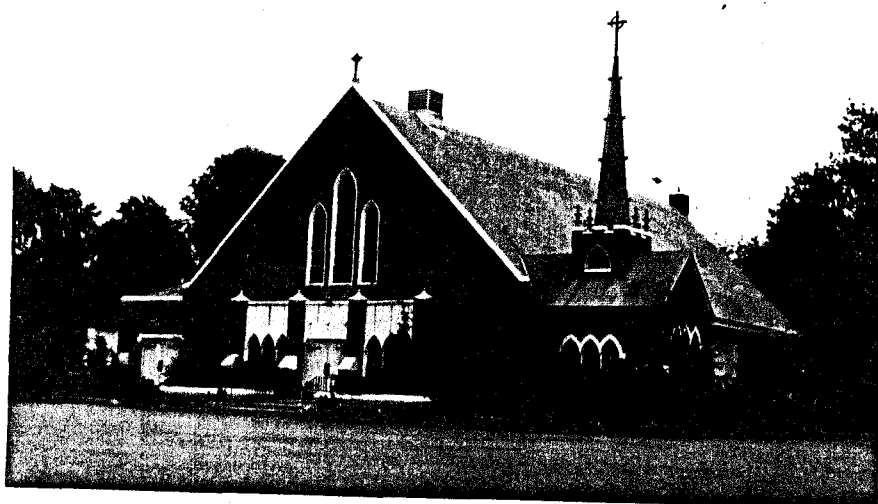
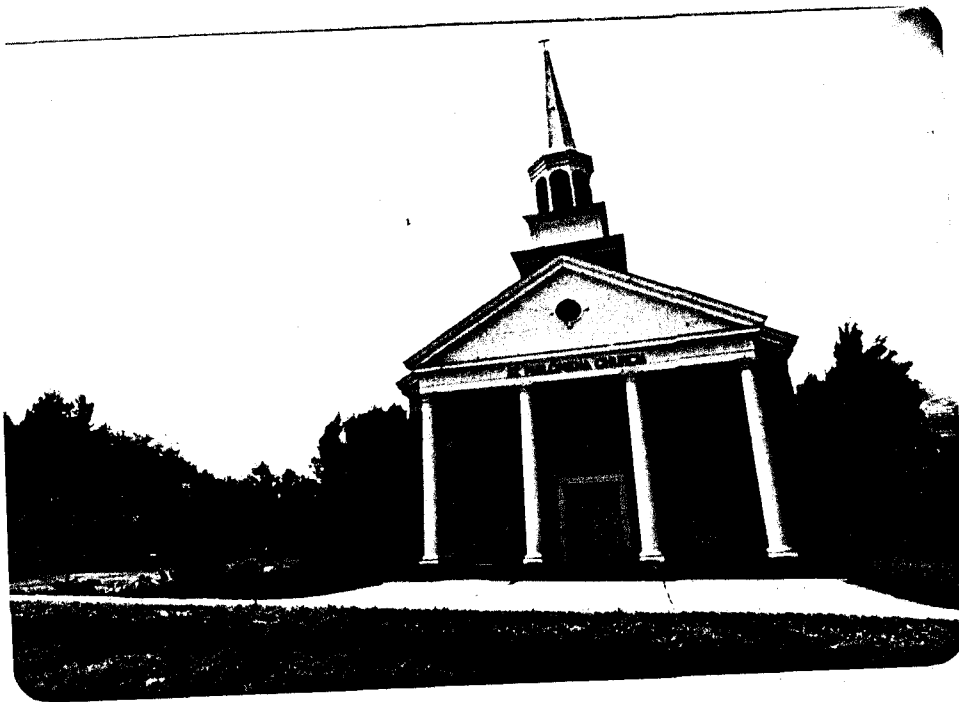
- 13-1 Our Lady of Sorrow Church on McClellan Avenue. Burned down 1927.
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Chapter 14

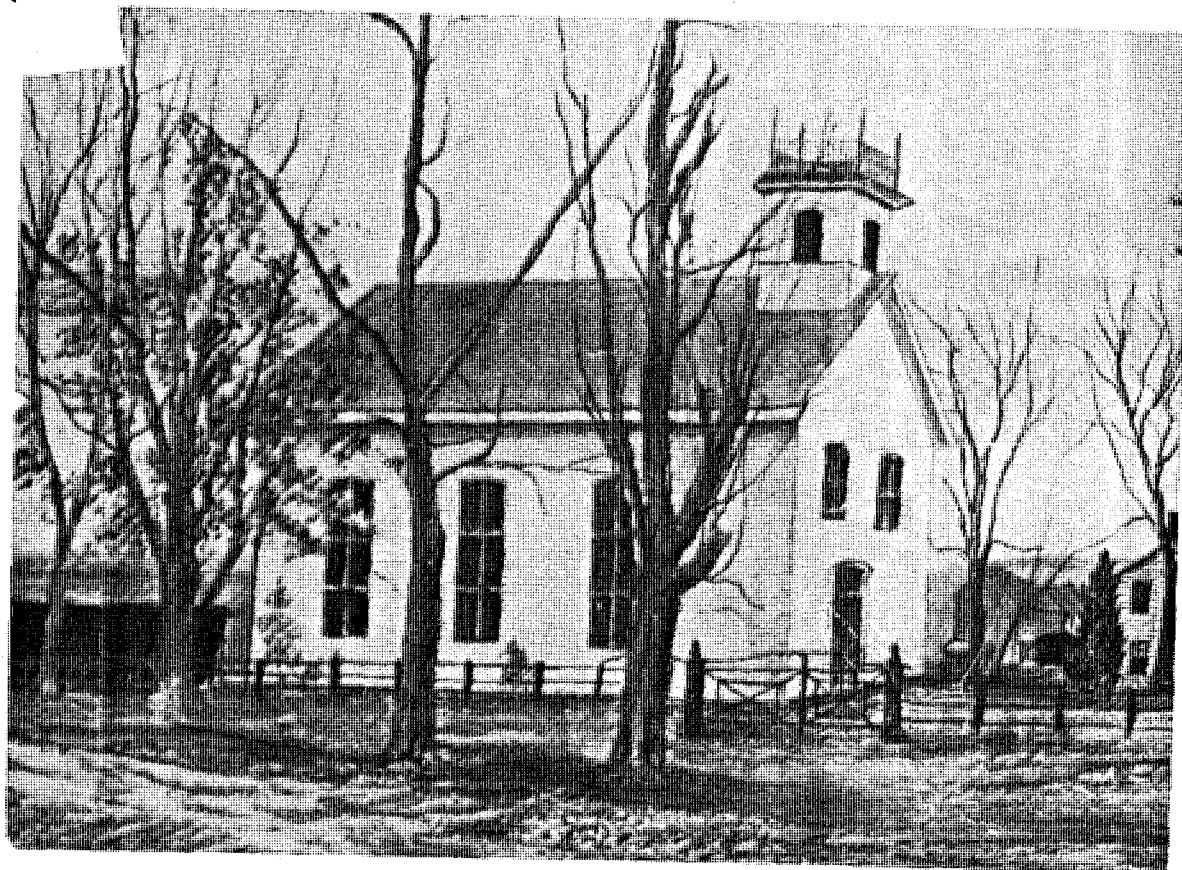
- 14-1 Baldwin Cemetery – 1980

Chapter 15

- 15-1 Samuel H. Burnet in front of his house on Hobart Gap Road – 1900



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Chapter Ten

Livingston Police Department - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Ten

Livingston Auxilliary Police - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Ten

Livingston Fire Department - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Ten

Livingston Fire Department Headquarters - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Ten

Livingston Public Library - 1968

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Ten

Livingston First Aid Squad - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

apter Ten

Livingston First Aid Squad - 1976

Kodachrome
DUPLICATE



MADE BY
KODAK



Photo by Carol Zbuska

apter Ten

Livingston Fire Headquarters - 1961



CZ

Photo by Carol Zbuska



Chief Swain
Lt. Fred Correll - Ret.
Sgt. Nelson Beck - Dec.
Lt. Ernest Knuth
Lt. Michael Curley
Capt. W.B. Winans - Ret.
Sgt. Clifford Weimer - Dec.
Capt. S.B. Townley
Lt. Robert Ollerenshaw

Chapter Ten

The Livingston Police Department - 1937

(L to R)

Chief Swain, Lt. Fred Correll, Sgt. Nelson Beck,
Lt. Ernest Knuth, Lt. Michael Curley, Capt. W.B.
Winans, Sgt. Clifford Weimer, Capt. S.B. Townley,
Lt. Robert Ollerenshaw.

Collection of C. DeMarco

1937



Chapter Ten

Washington Place School - Passaic Avenue -
Essex County's last remaining one room school house.

1986

Photo by Carol Zbuska

Chapter Ten

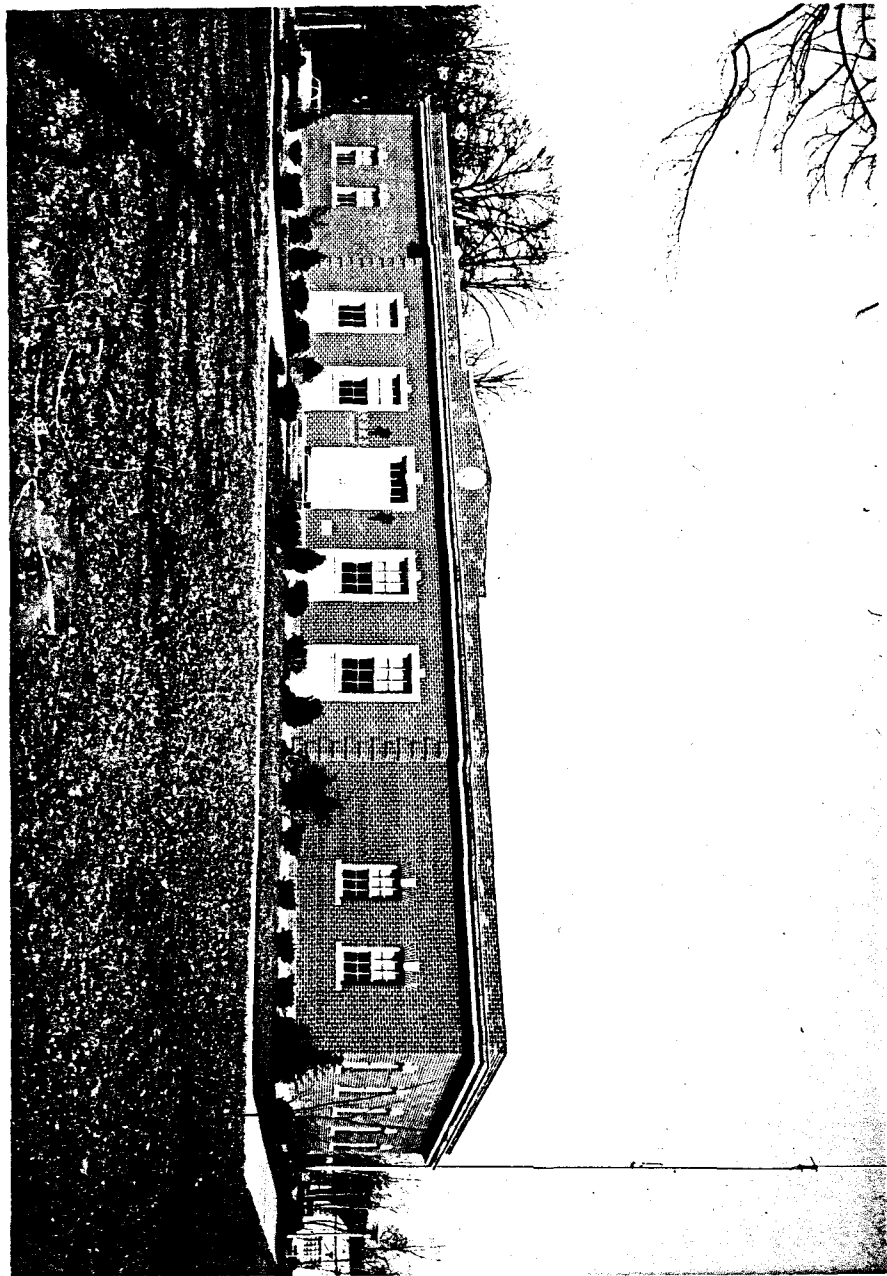
Livingston's First Police Chief:
John Ashby

Collection of C. DeMarco

Chapter Ten

Livingston's First Police Headquarters
(now the site of the Shop Rite - on South Livingston
Avenue) Moved from this location - January 1, 1930.

Collection of C. DeMarco



Collection of C. DeMarco

Livingston's present Police Headquarters.

Chapter Ten

Chapter Ten

Founders of the Livingston Public
Library - Known as the Alpha Club. 1913

Collection of C. DeMarco

Photo courtesy - Newark Public

Circa: 1909

Squiretown School on the Old Road

Chapter Ten

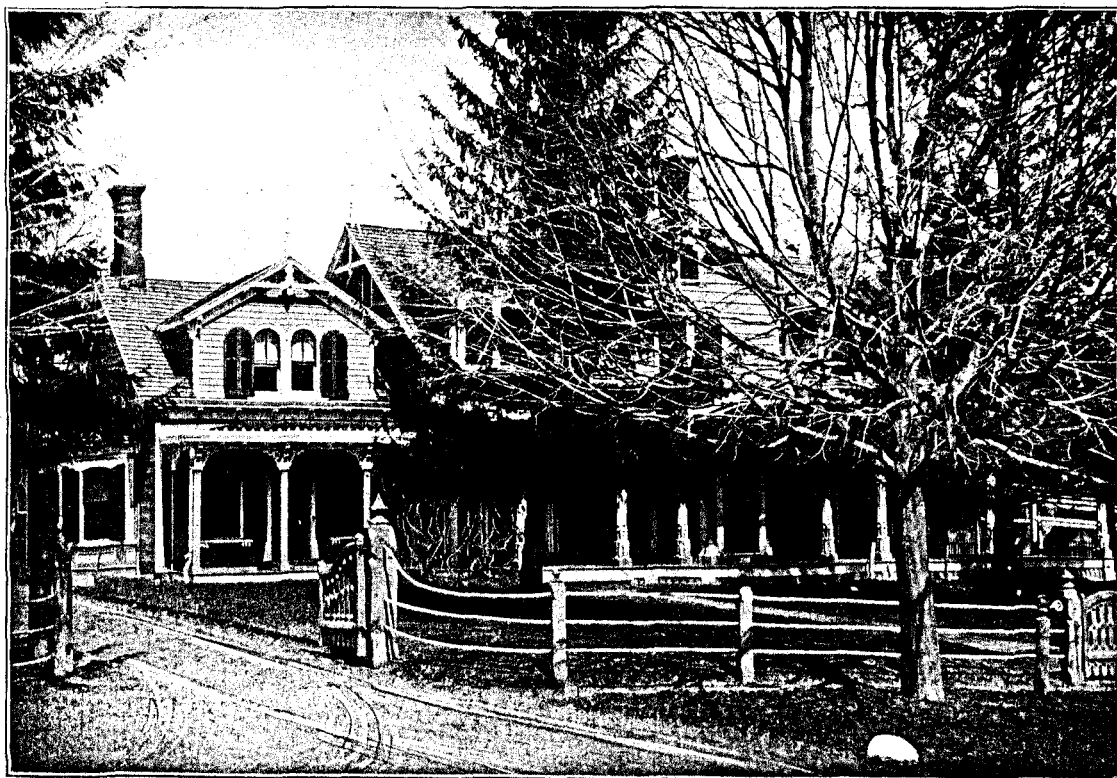


Chapter Ten

Livingston First Aid Squad - 1960's



Collection of Charles DeMarco



ELY HOMESTEAD, MOUNT PLEASANT AVENUE, LIVINGSTON. N. J. circa 1890
SHOWING ALTERATIONS.

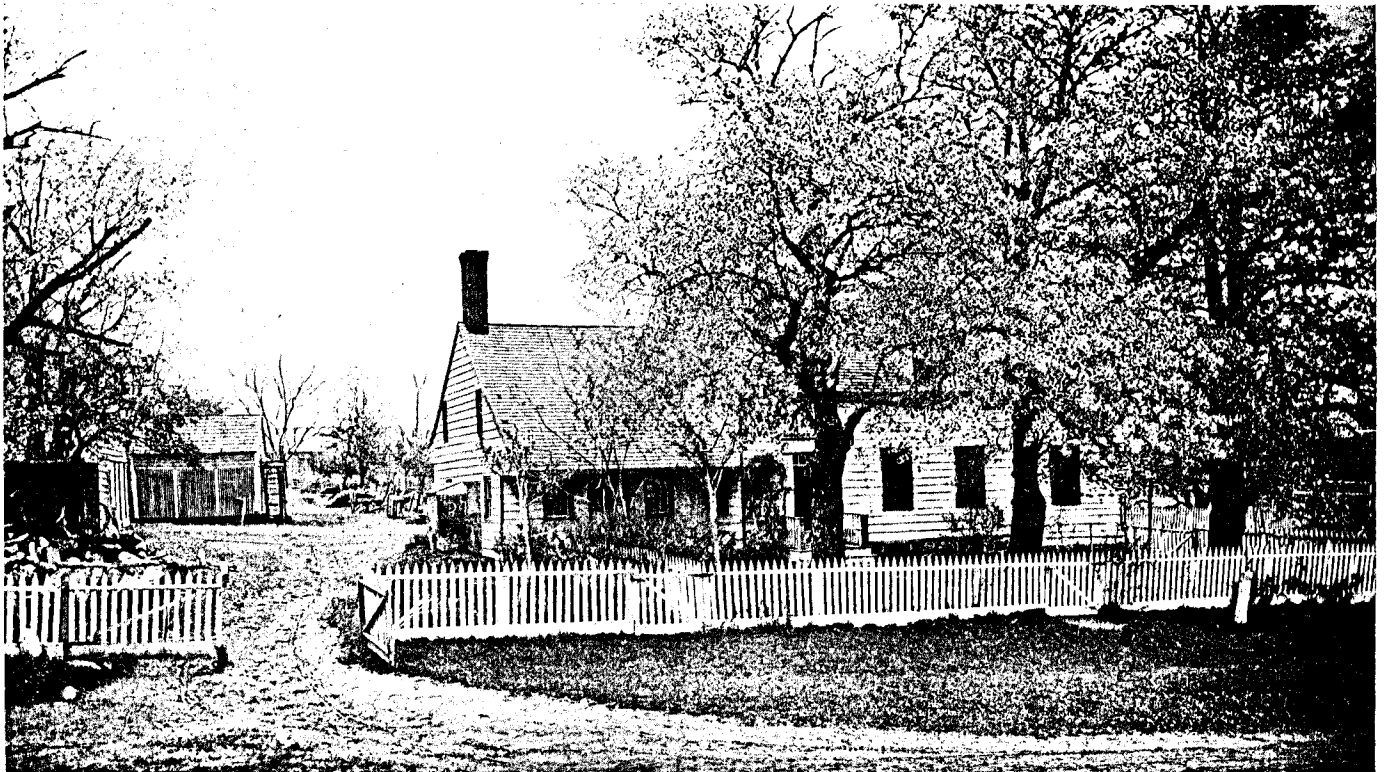
Chapter Eleven:

* Use photo's and captions on both sides.

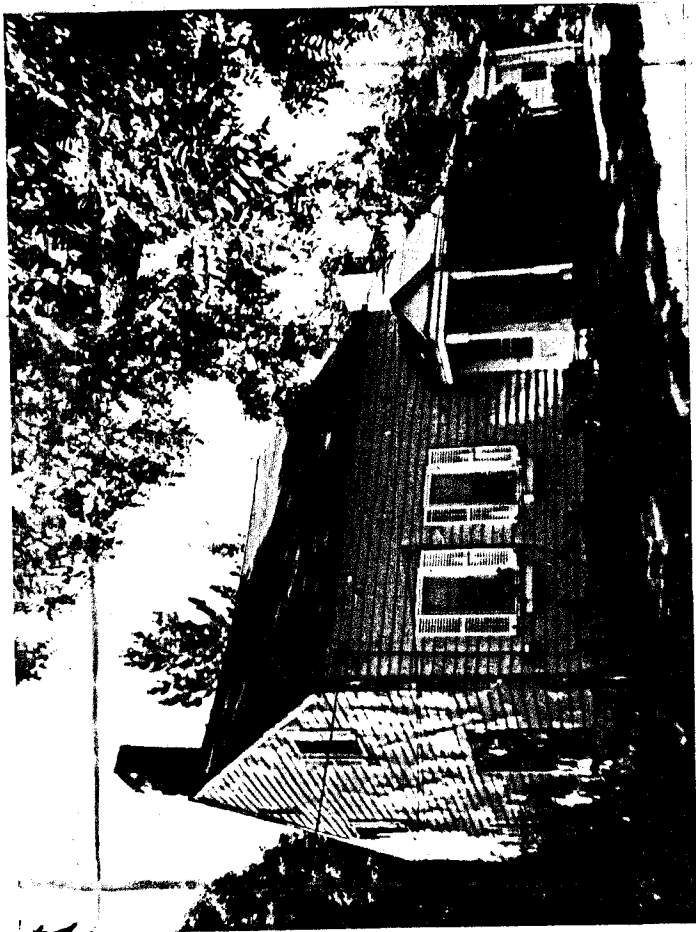
Chapter Eleven

Harrison General Store - 1900

Collection of Charles DeMarco



ELY HOMESTEAD, MOUNT PLEASANT AVENUE, LIVINGSTON, N. J. 1860
BUILT BY MOSES ELY, THE AUTHOR'S GRANDFATHER, 1841.



Ward-Littell House
124 Hillside Avenue

Chapter Eleven

Ward-Littell House - 1981

Photo Courtesy: Livingston Library

Livingston Historic Sites Survey

Chapter Eleven

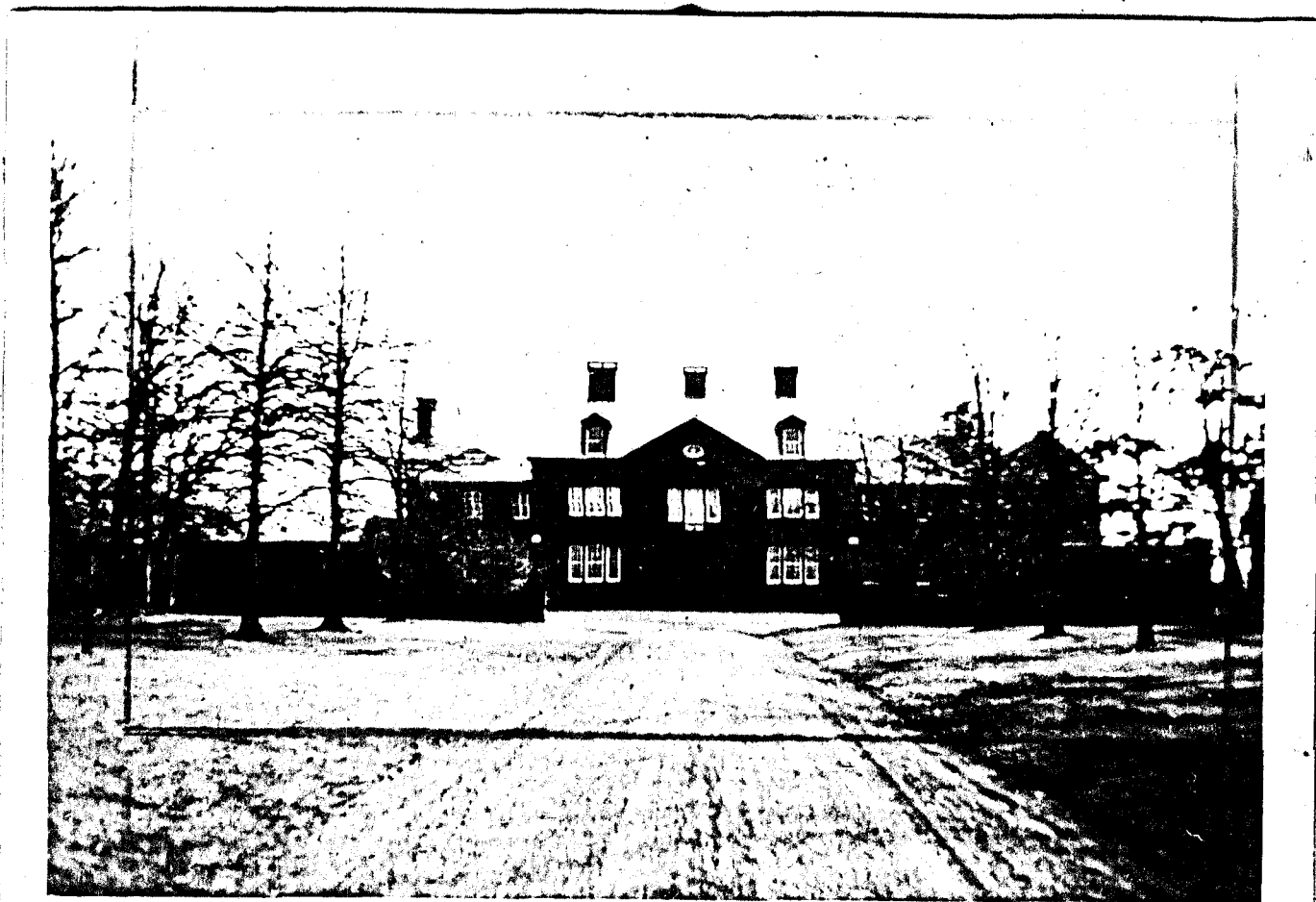
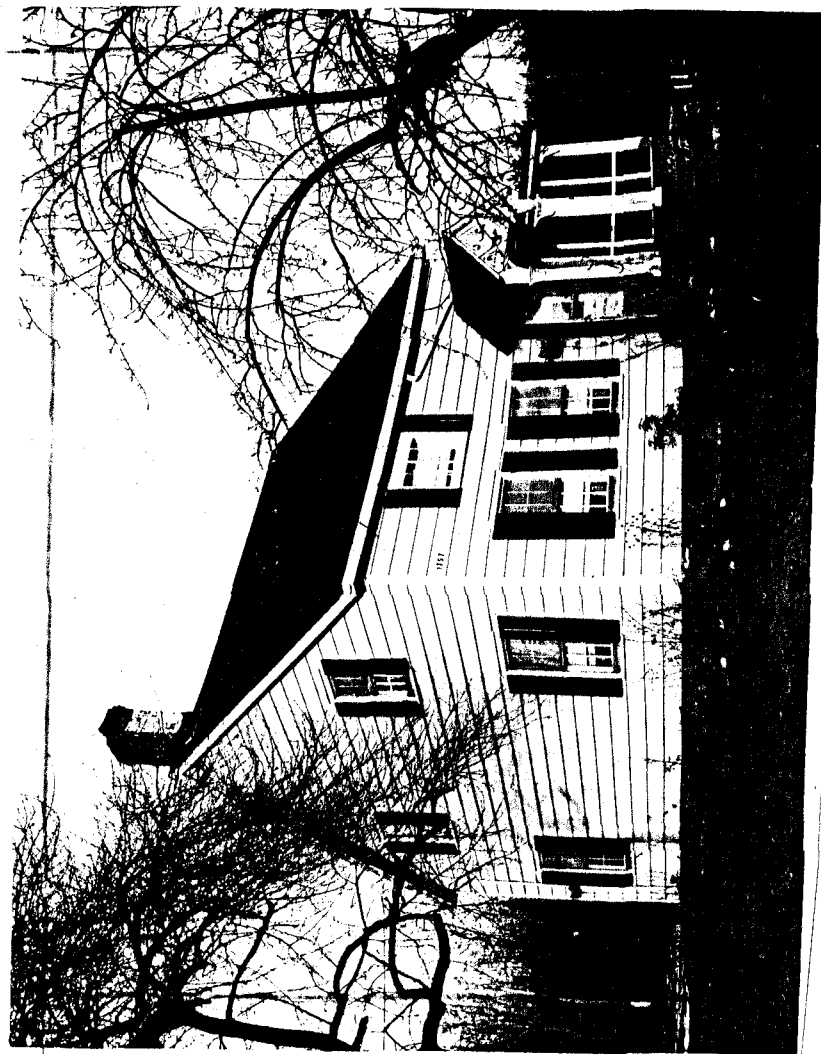
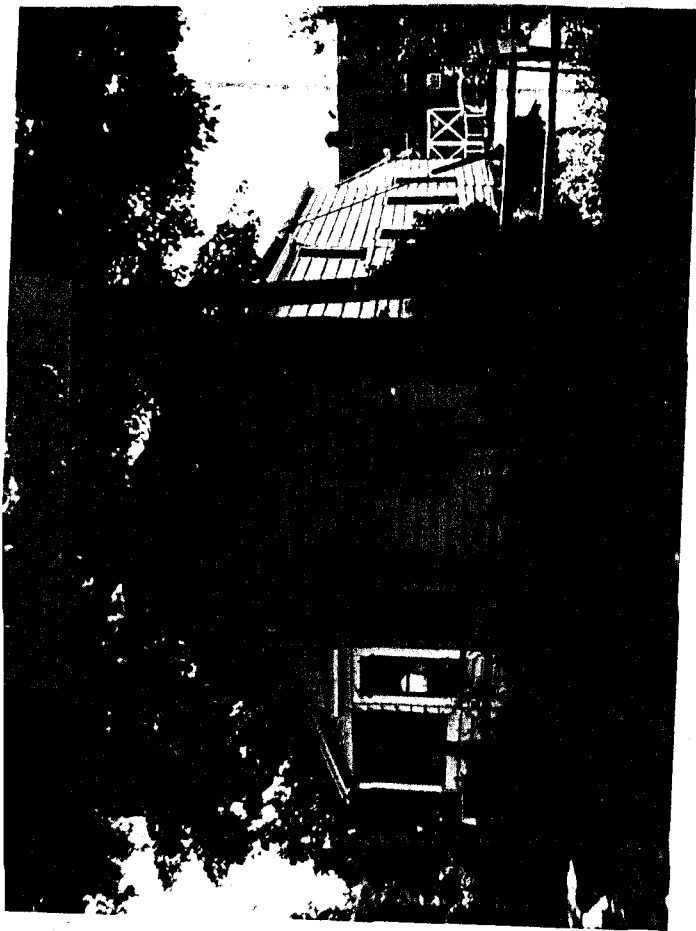
Ely-Beach House - circa 1961

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library

Chapter Eleven

Smith-Wright House: 1961

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library



1.1.1.1 D.L. C.L. 2.1.1.1
Chapter Eleven

Beach - Baer House: 1961

Photo Courtesy: Livingston Library

NE corner, Passaic Avenue &
Parsonage Hill Road

Chapter Eleven

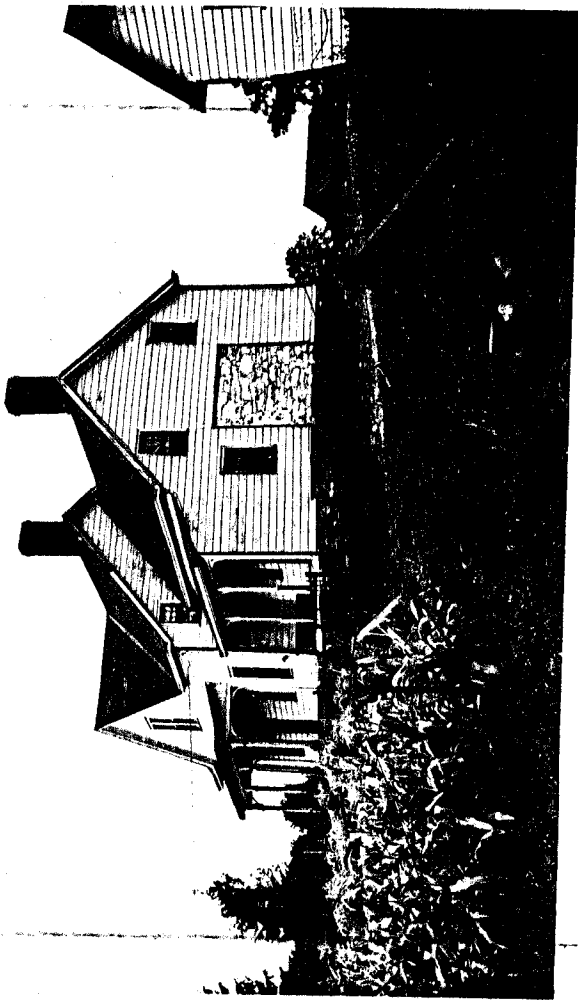
Baldwin - Brown House - circa 1961

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library

Chapter Eleven

Kean Mansion on East Mount Pleasant Avenue
as it appeared in 1952.

Collection of Charles DeMarco



Chapter Eleven

Harrison General Store as it appears in 1988.

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Livingston Historic Sites Survey

August 1961

Chapter Eleven:

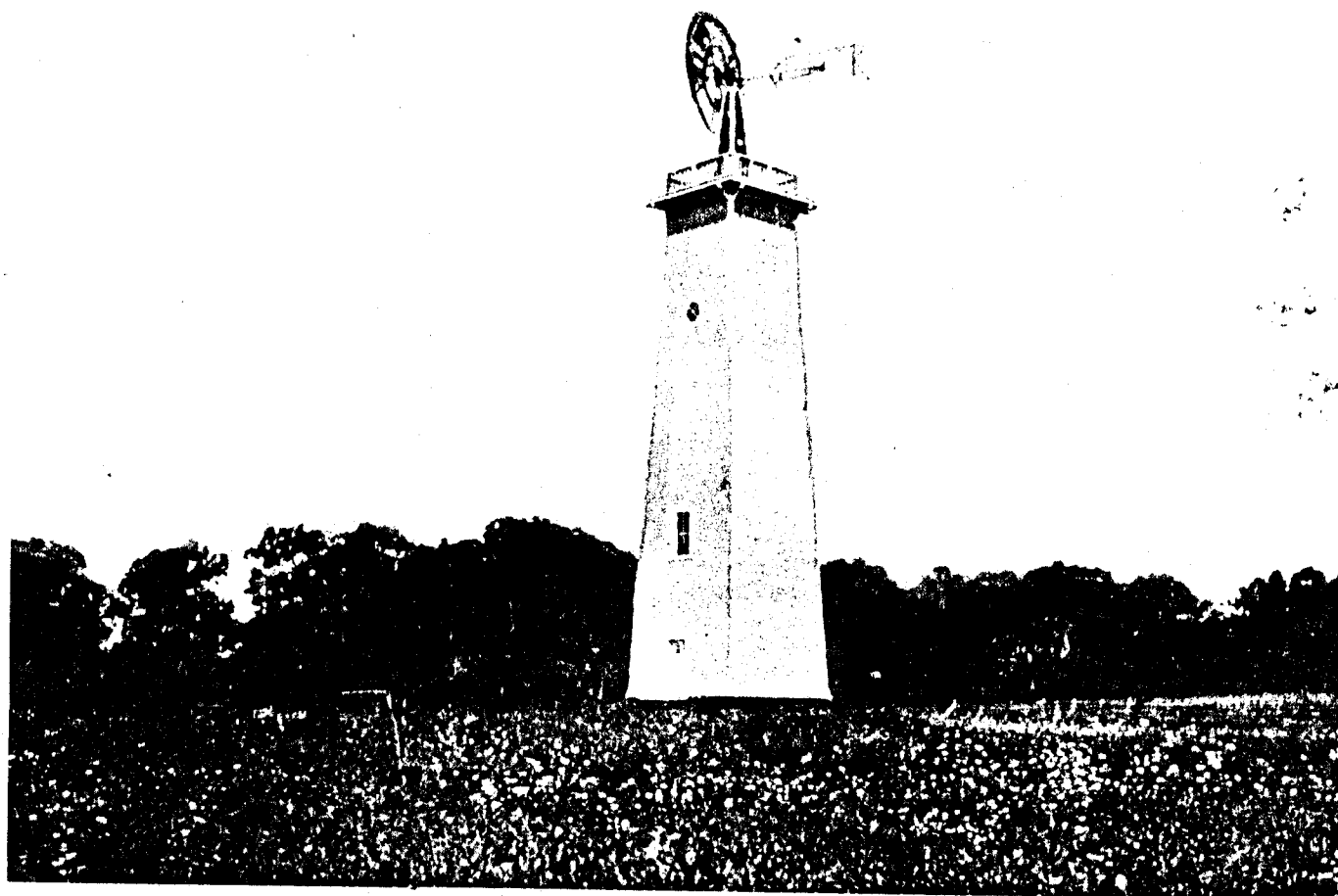
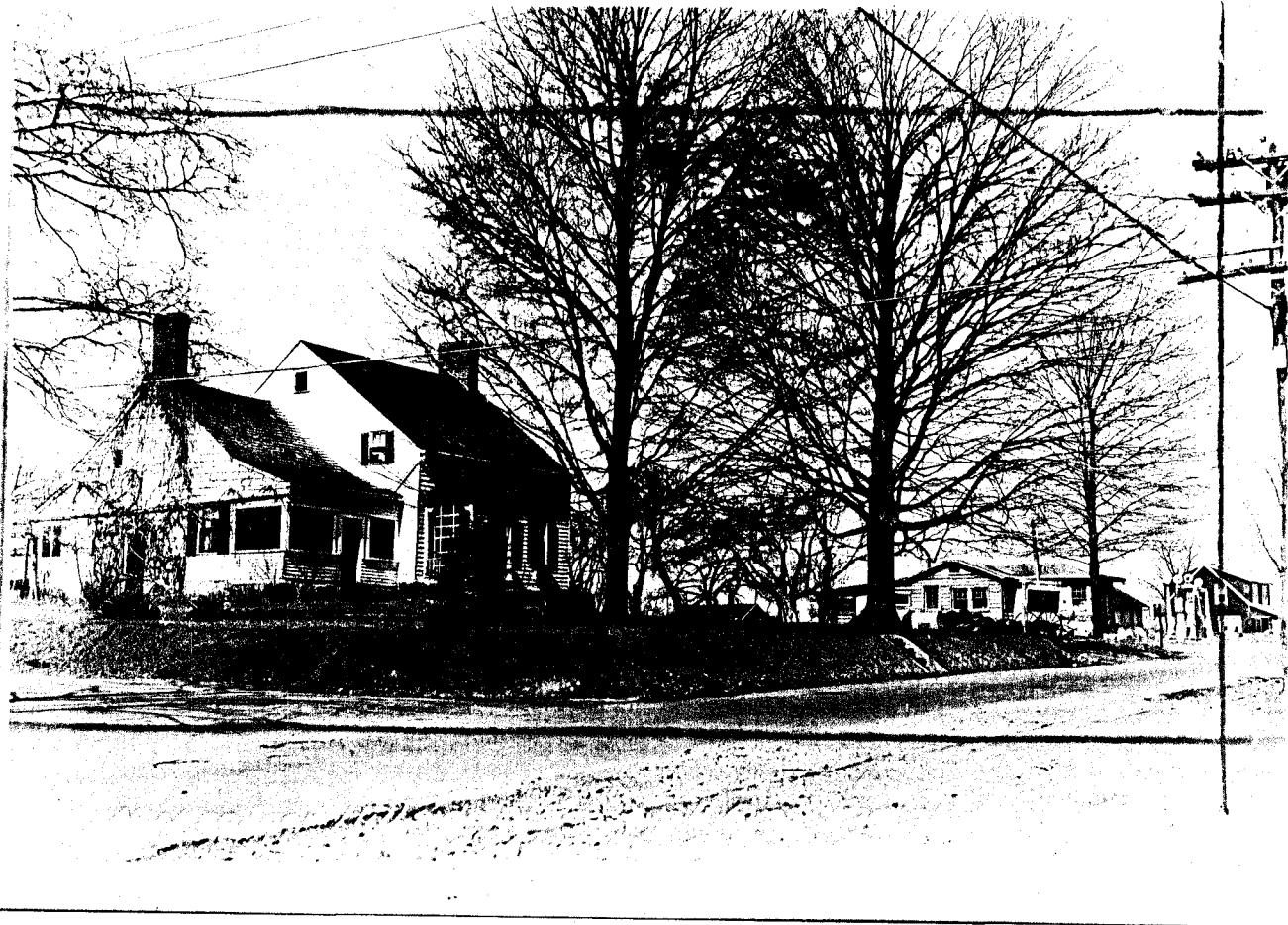
Collins House as it appeared in 1961.

Photo courtesy of Livingston Library

Chapter Eleven

Mudmore-Brown House - circa 1961

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library



Chapter Eleven:

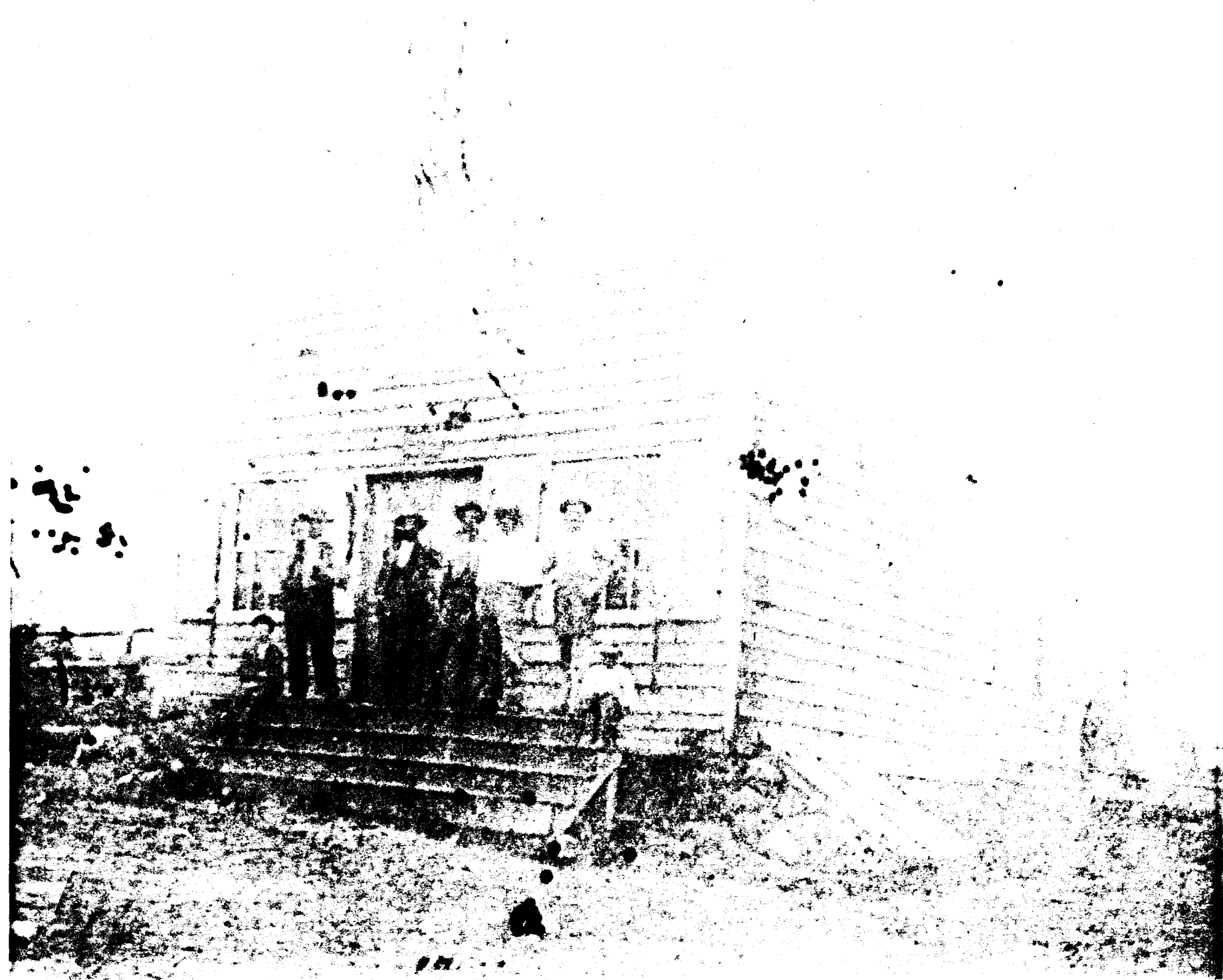
Charles M. Squier House - circa 1930

Collection of Charles DeMarco

Chapter Eleven:

The Ely windmill, a landmark in the community for forty years. This structure stood where St. Mary's Armenian Church presently stands.

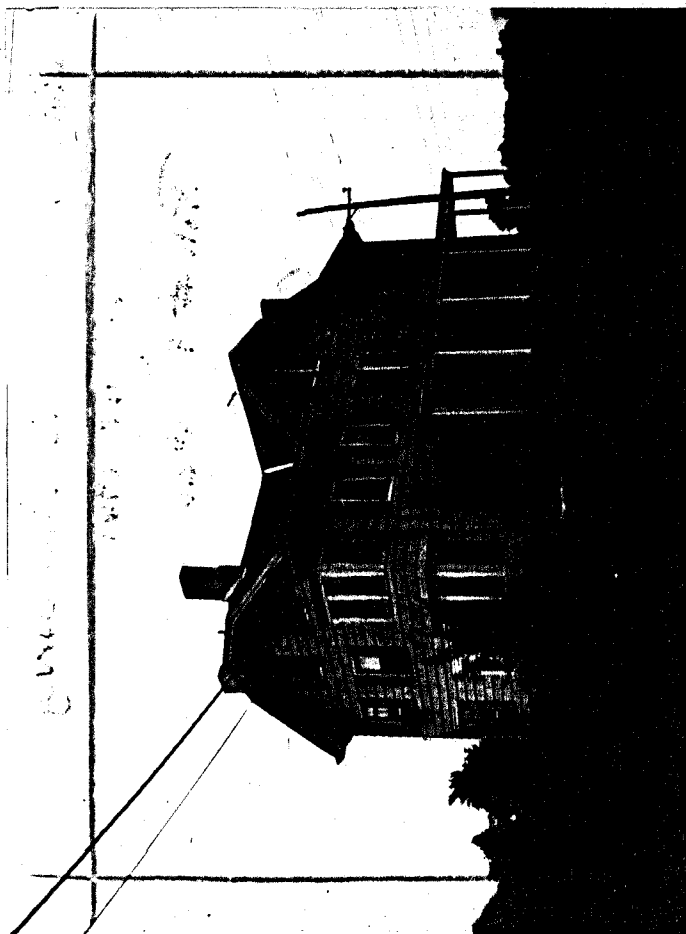
Collection of Charles DeMarco



Chapter Eleven

Old Ely General Store - 1860

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library



(not standing in 1982)

Front of 26 Teed Road - front of house
House faced ^{North} E. Mt. Pleasant Avenue.
A brook crossed ^{under} the road on or near
the property. (Bridge)

Chapter Eleven

Teed House: circa 1961

Photo courtesy Livingston Library

Livingston Historic Sites Survey
August 1961

Roll # 4 # 23

Crane House

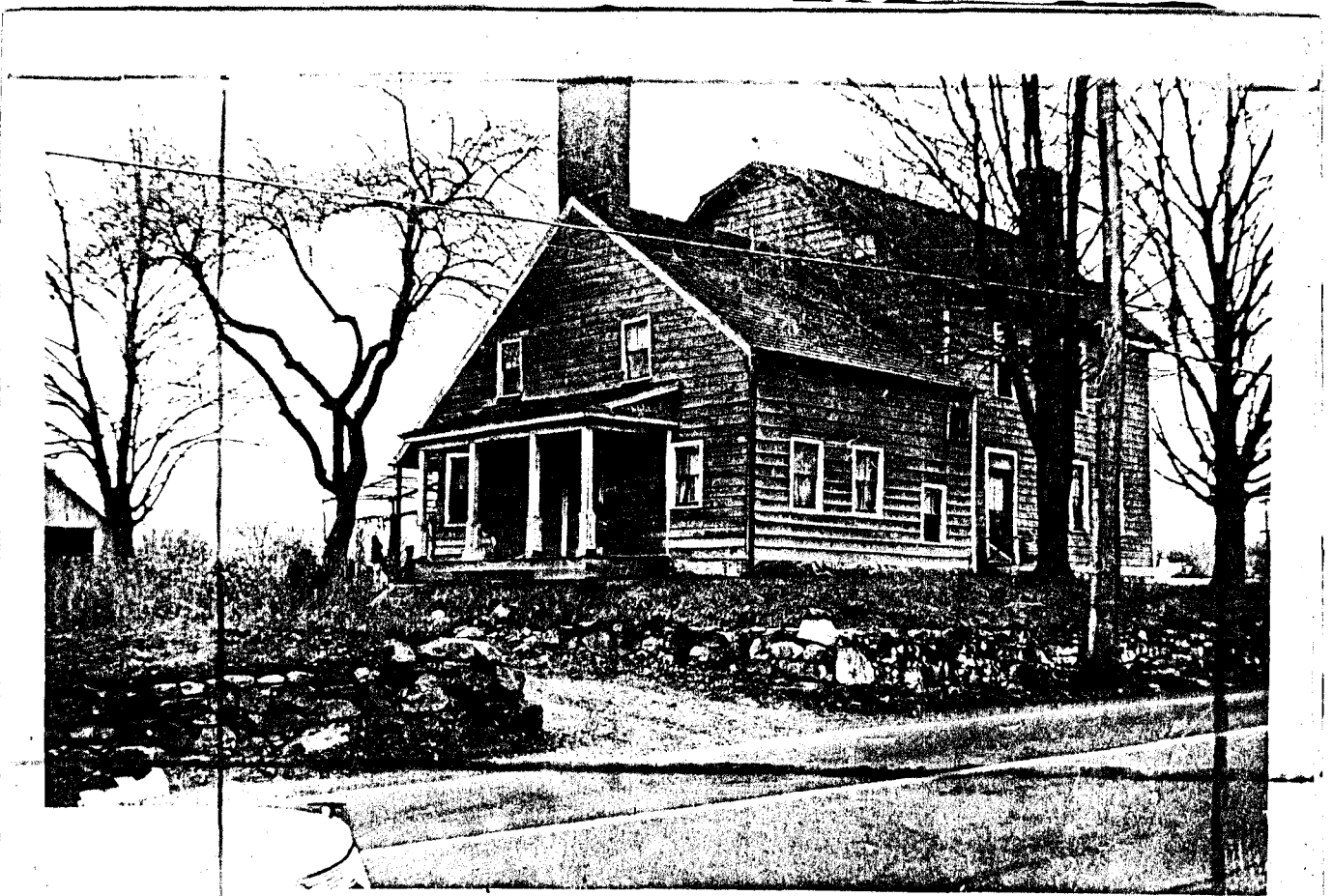
Chapter Eleven

Crane House: 1961

Photo by Shaen Sullivan

Chapter Eleven:

Ely Mansion on West Mount Pleasant Avenue
as it looks ~~in~~ in 1988.



#825 H J. W. Weber premises,
S. Livingston Ave, Livingston, N.J.

5/13/38

Chapter Eleven

Henry Wade House - 1938

Collection of C. DeMarco

Chapter Eleven:

Ely Tavern (now the site of Bonvini's Parking lot)
on West Mount Pleasant Avenue as it appeared in
the late 1920's.

Collection of Charles DeMarco



Chapter Eleven

Tompkin's House: circa 1961

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library

Chapter Eleven

The Dickinson House - circa: 1961

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library



Chapter Eleven

Old Burnet Tavern on West Hobart Gap Road
as it appeared in the late 1940's.

Collection of Charles DeMarco

Chapter Eleven

Force Homestead 1980

Collection of C. DeMarco

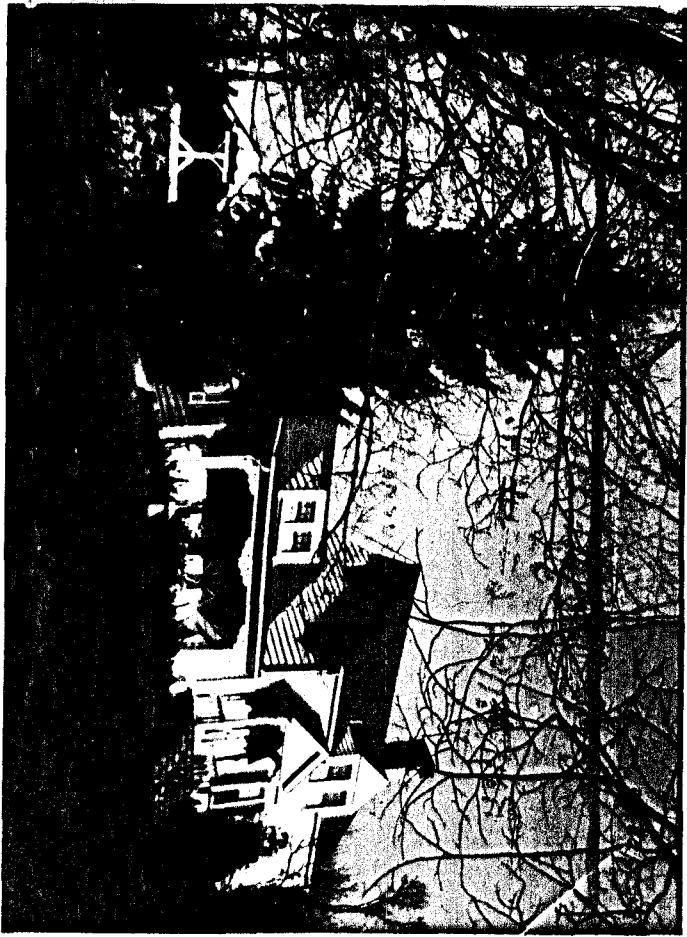


Photo courtesy Livingston Library

Samuel Squier Jr. House - Hillside Avenue - 1961

Chapter Eleven

Livingston Historic Sites Survey

Chapter Eleven

Jonathan Squier House - 1961

Photo courtesy Livingston Library

Chapter Eleven:

Samo's Tavern (Under Billy's Tavern) that stood on the South west corner of West Mount Pleasant Avenue & South Livingston Avenue. The building was demolished in 1906.

Photo courtesy Livingston Library

Chapter Twelve

Old Short Hills Road at Northfield Avenue -
1936.

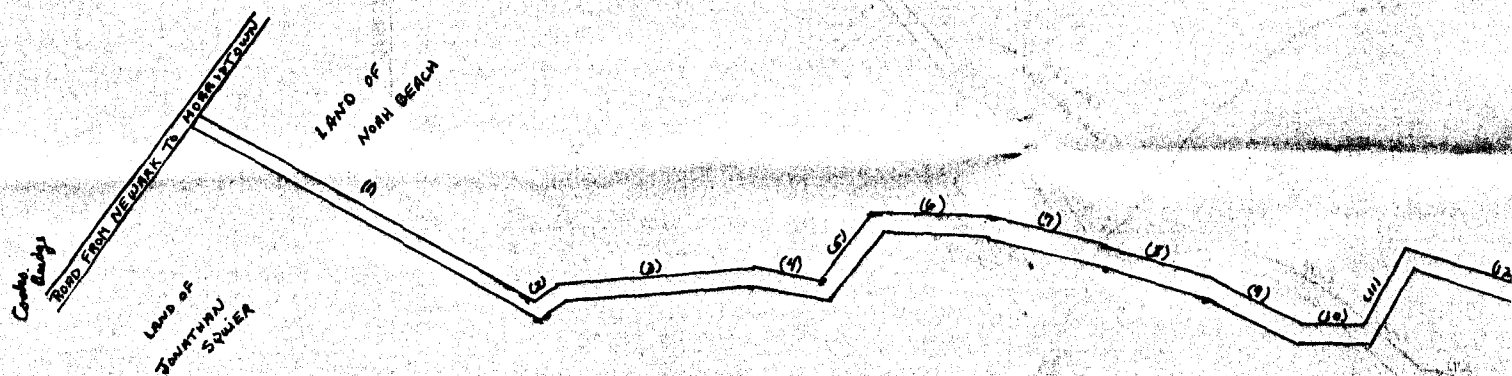
Collection of Charles DeMarco

Chapter Twelve

Northfield Road looking west from Canoe Brook - 1937

Collection of Charles DeMarco

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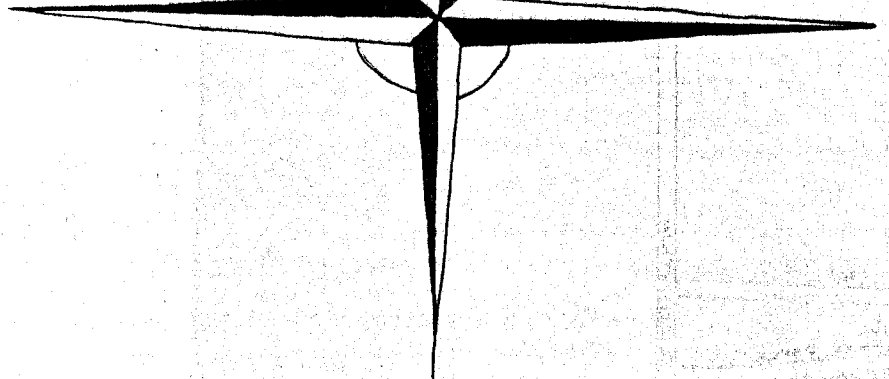


NOAH BEACH

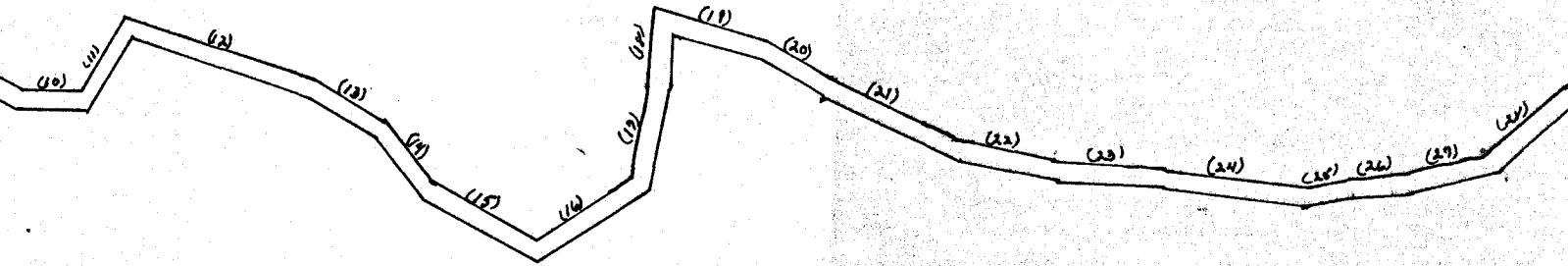
ROAD FROM CEDAR TO HORSEHEAD

LAND OF JONATHAN SQUIRE

N



W



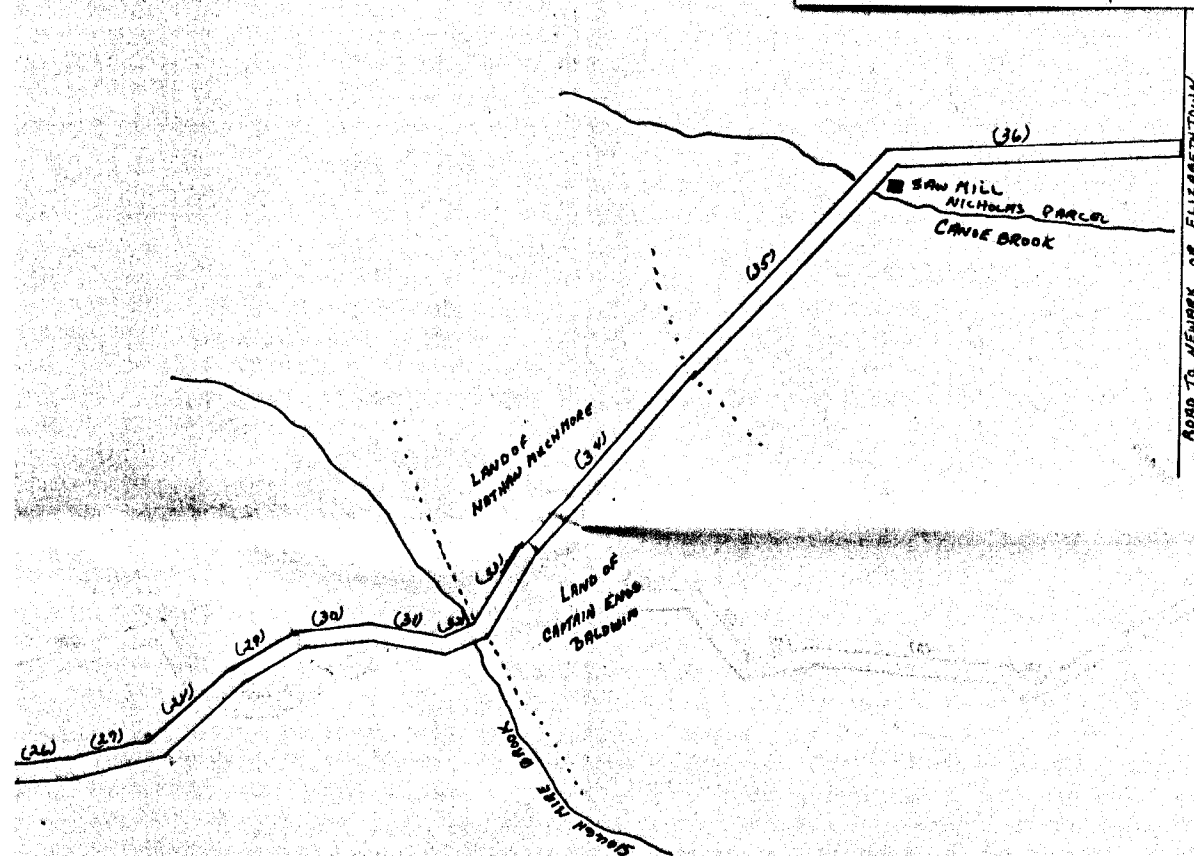
J. B.

ROA

Chapter Twelve

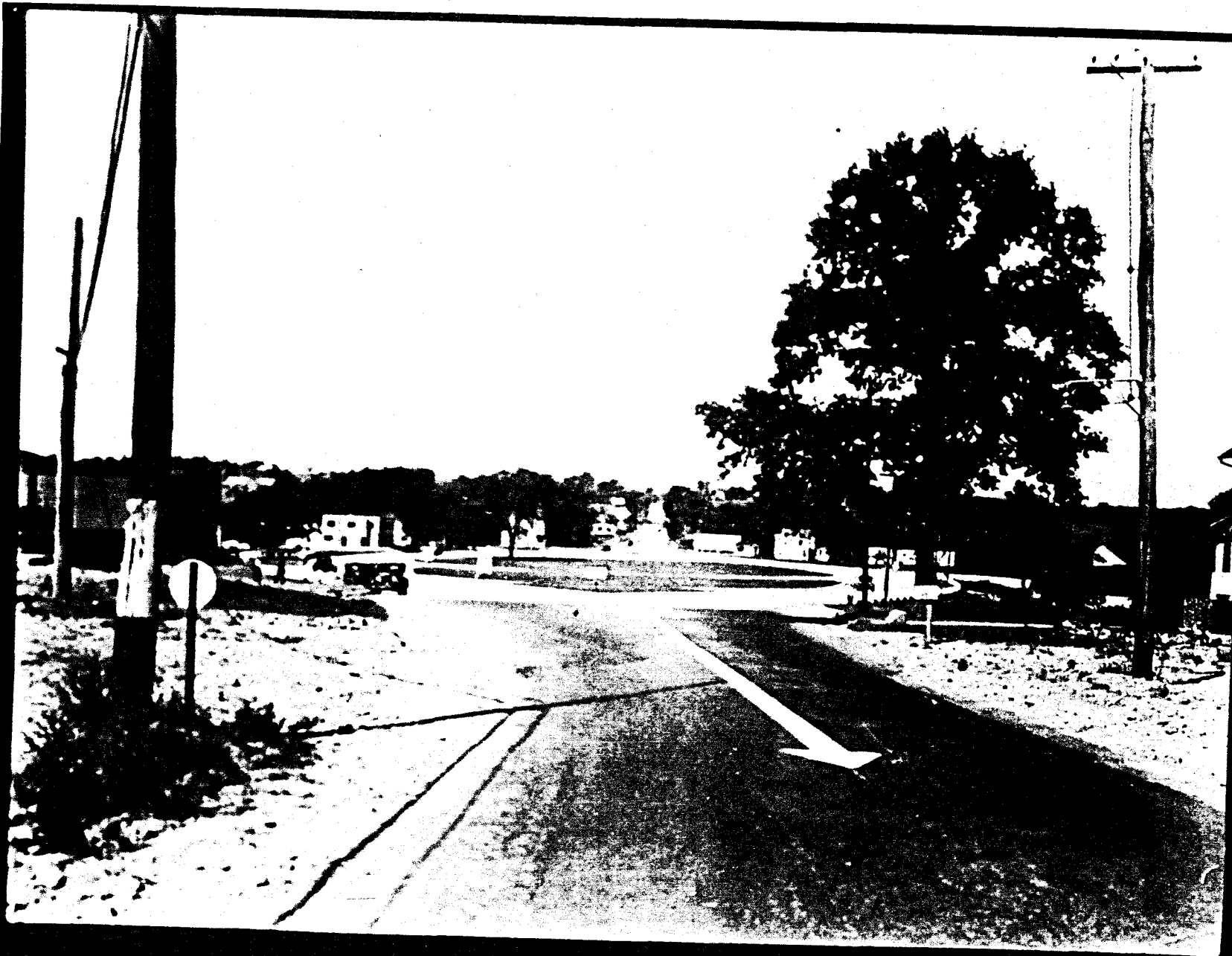
Facsimile map of Walnut Street - 1763

Map drawn by Charles DeMarco



ROAD FROM J. BURREL'S TO THE ROAD FROM NEWARK

By
Charles W. DeMarco Jr. 1980



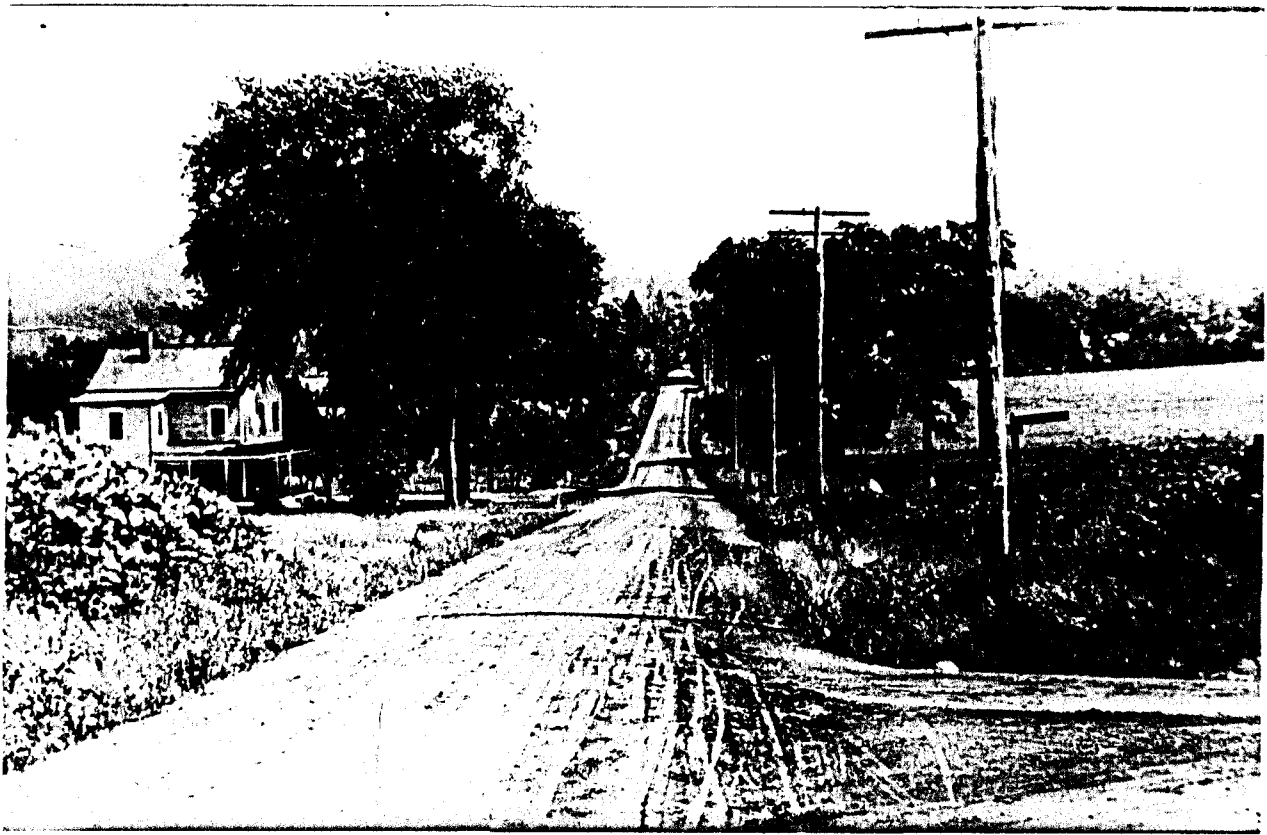
LIVINGSTON TRAFFIC CIRCLE LOOKING WEST FROM THE EASTERN END.

CC. 1940

Chapter Twelve

Livingston Traffic Circle - 1940

Photo Courtesy: Livingston Library



Chapter Twelve

West Mt. Pleasant Avenue at Walnut Street, looking
east. 1900.

Photo courtesy: Newark Library

West Mt. Pleasant Avenue at Walnut Street
looking East after the turn of the century.

Chapter Twelve

Livingston Traffic Circle - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Roadside At North Gate St. Livingston 5-3-31

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Chapter Twelve

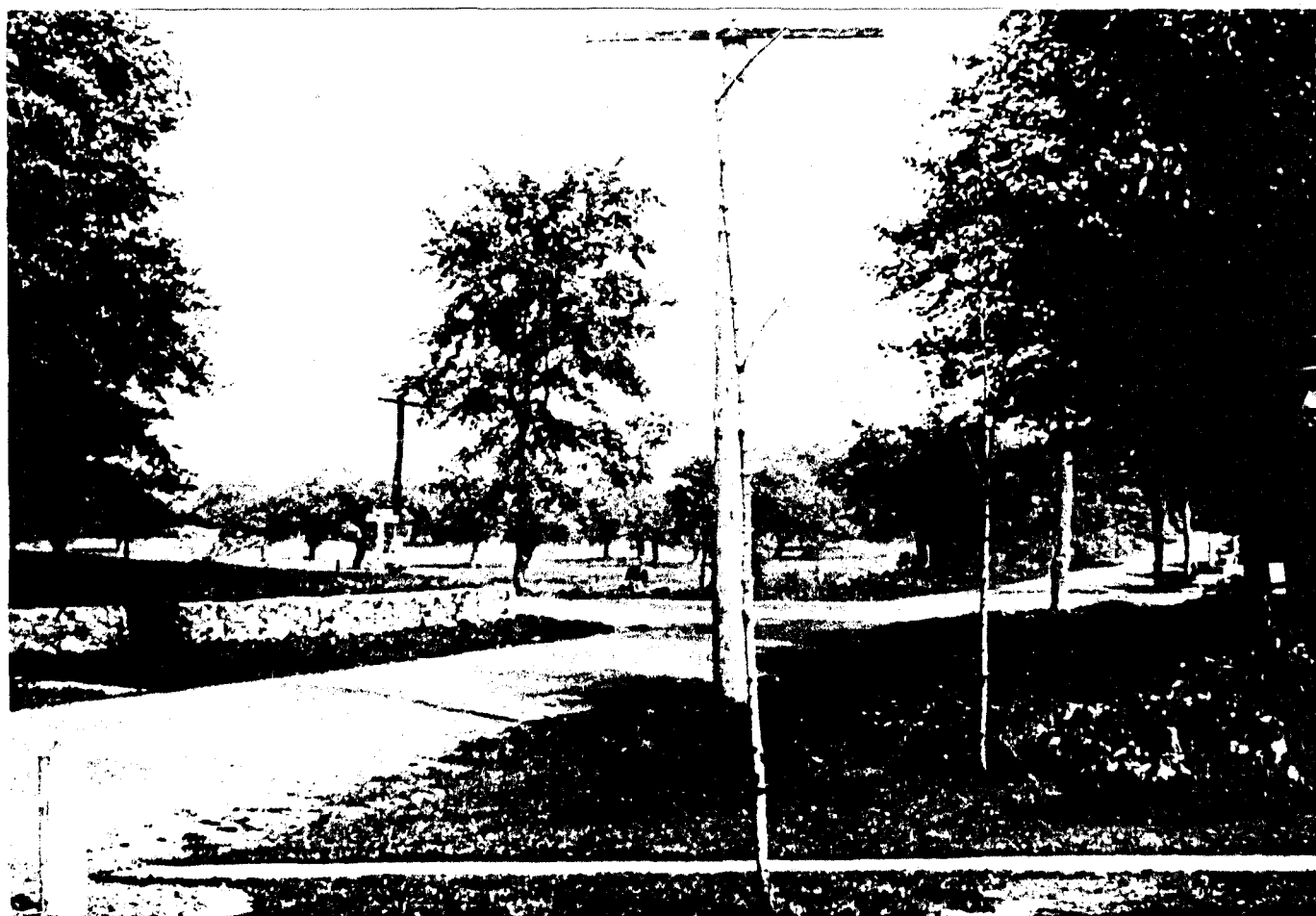
South Livingston Avenue looking north from
Cedar Street. 1931.

Collection of Charles DeMarco

Chapter Twelve

Old Short Hills Road at Northfield Avenue - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Twelve

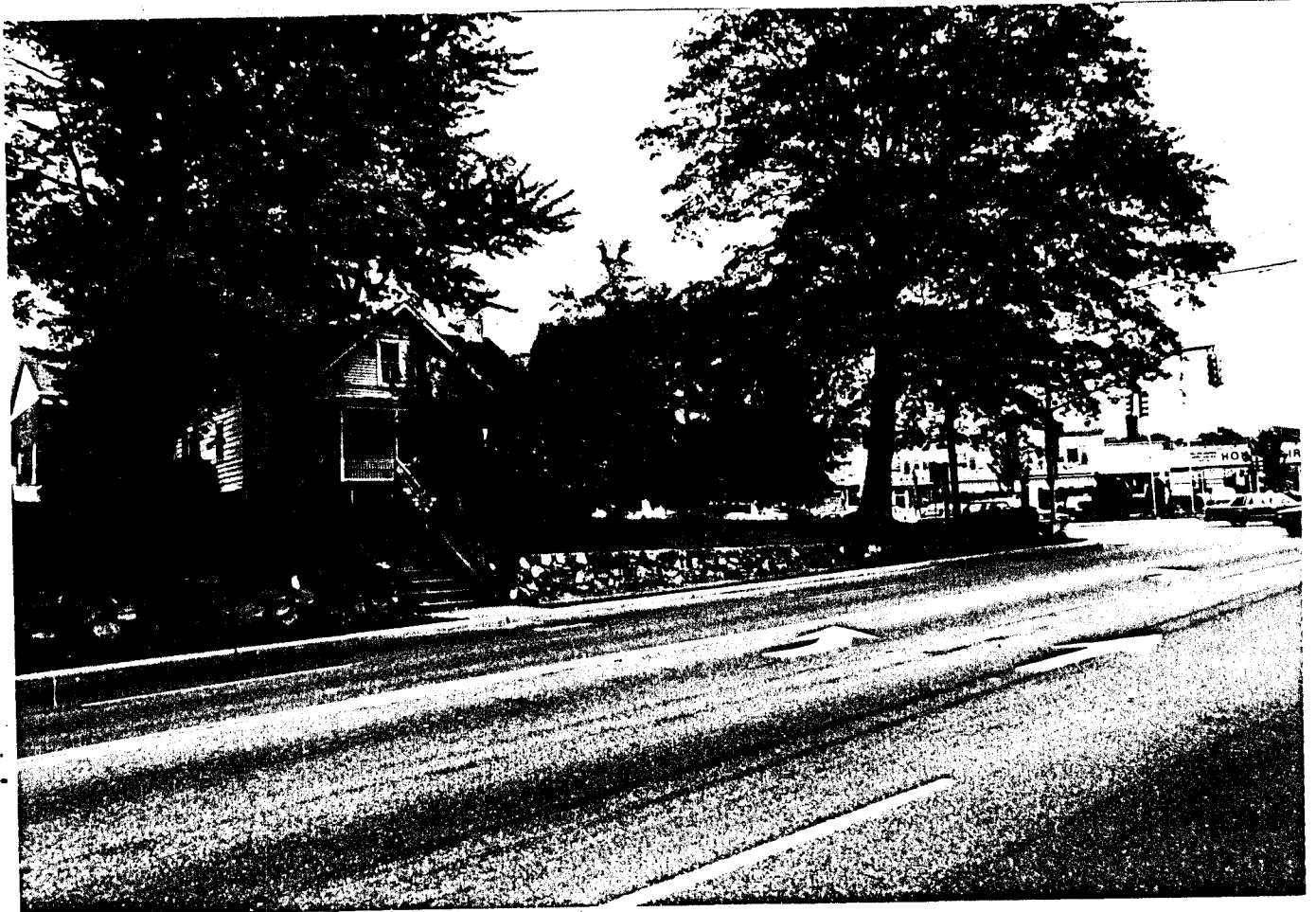
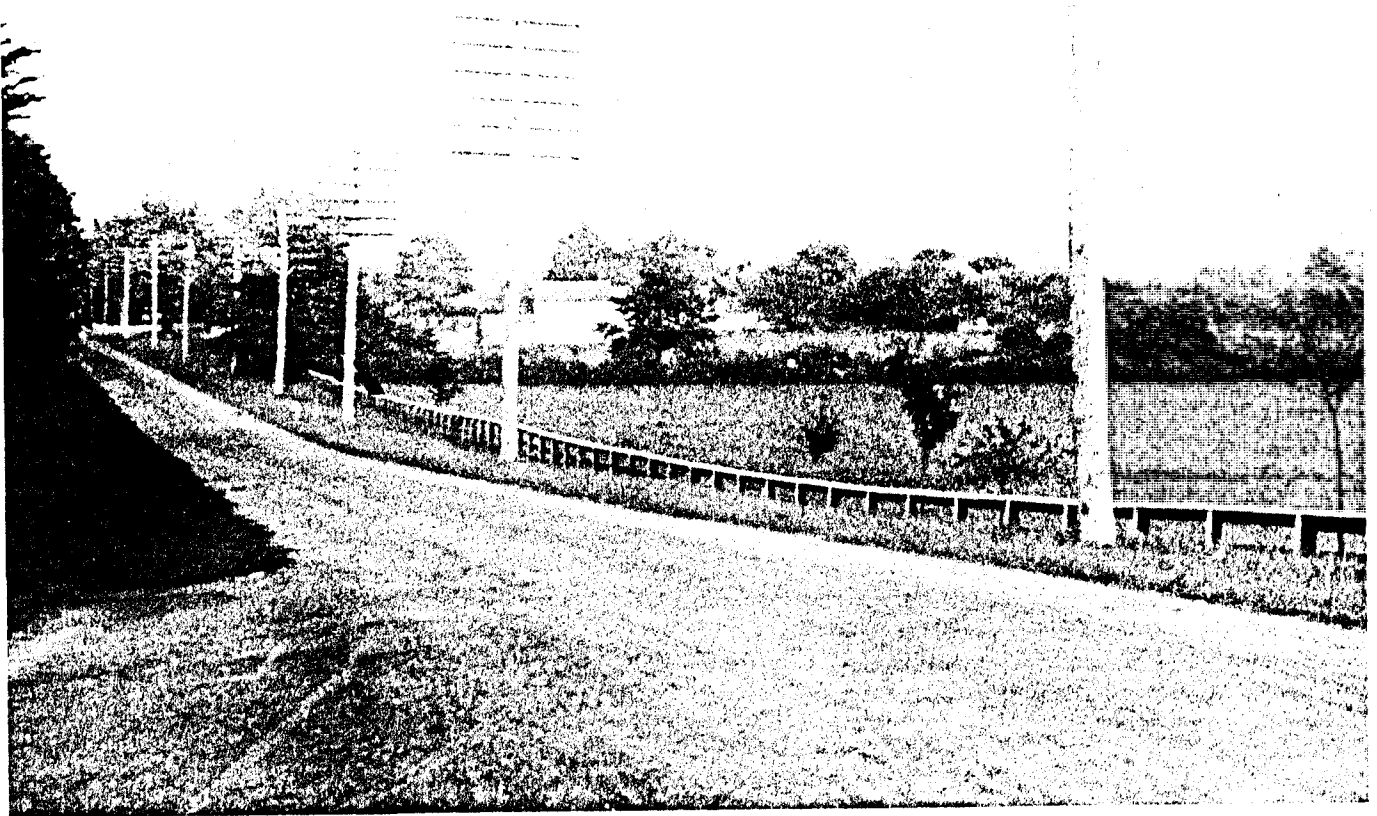
East Mount Pleasant Avenue at Livingston
Center. 1906.

Collection of Charles DeMarco

Chapter Twelve

Livingston Center looking east from
West Mount Pleasant Avenue - 1906.

Collection of Charles DeMarco



Chapter Twelve

West Mount Pleasant Avenue looking east. From
Watson estate. 1906.

Collection of Charles DeMarco

Chapter Twelve

Livingston Center looking east from
West Mount Pleasant Avenue. 1988

Photo by: Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Twelve

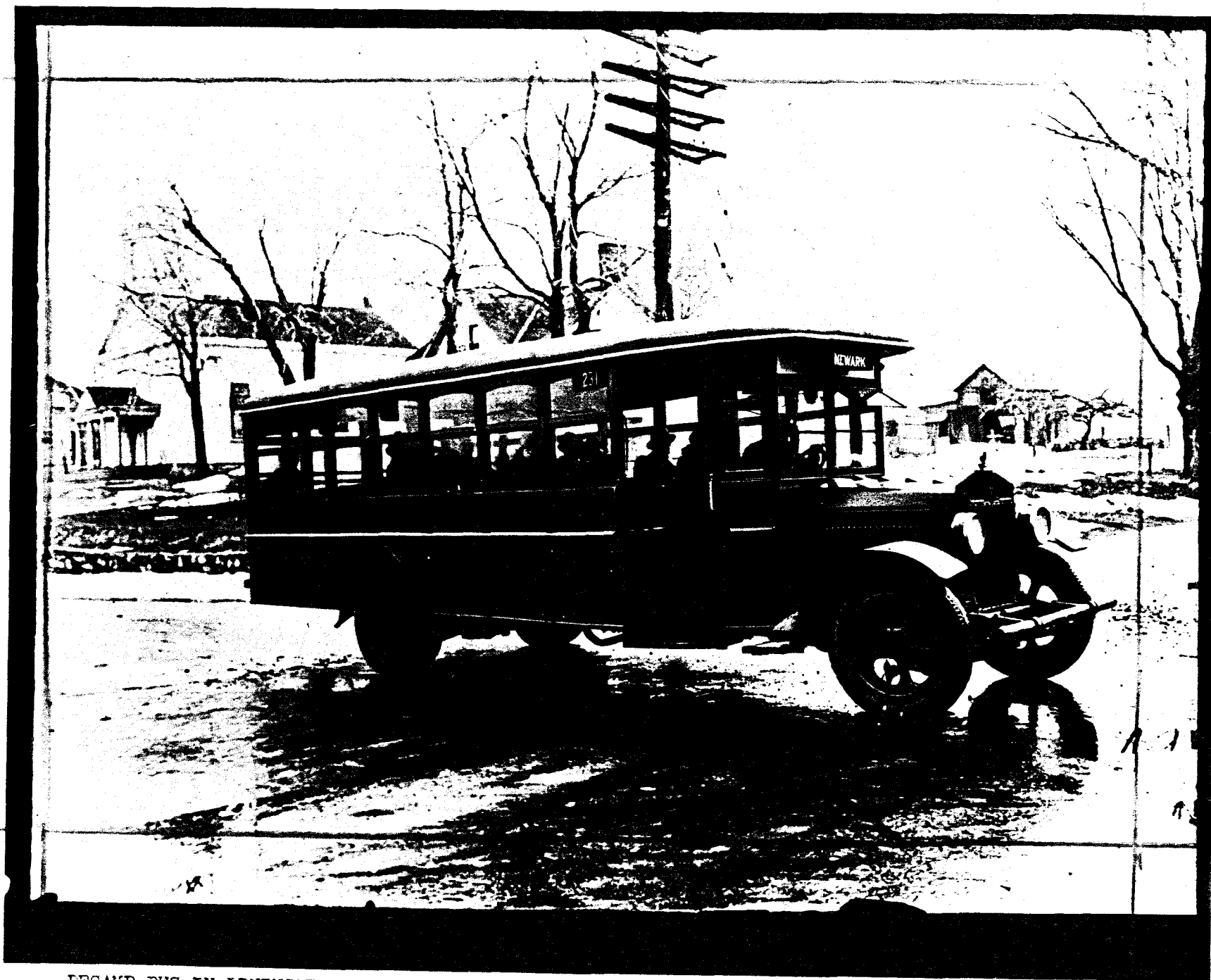
West Mount Pleasant Avenue looking east
From site of old Watson estate. 1988

Photo by: Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Twelve

DeCamp Stage Coach- 1900

Collection Charles DeMarco

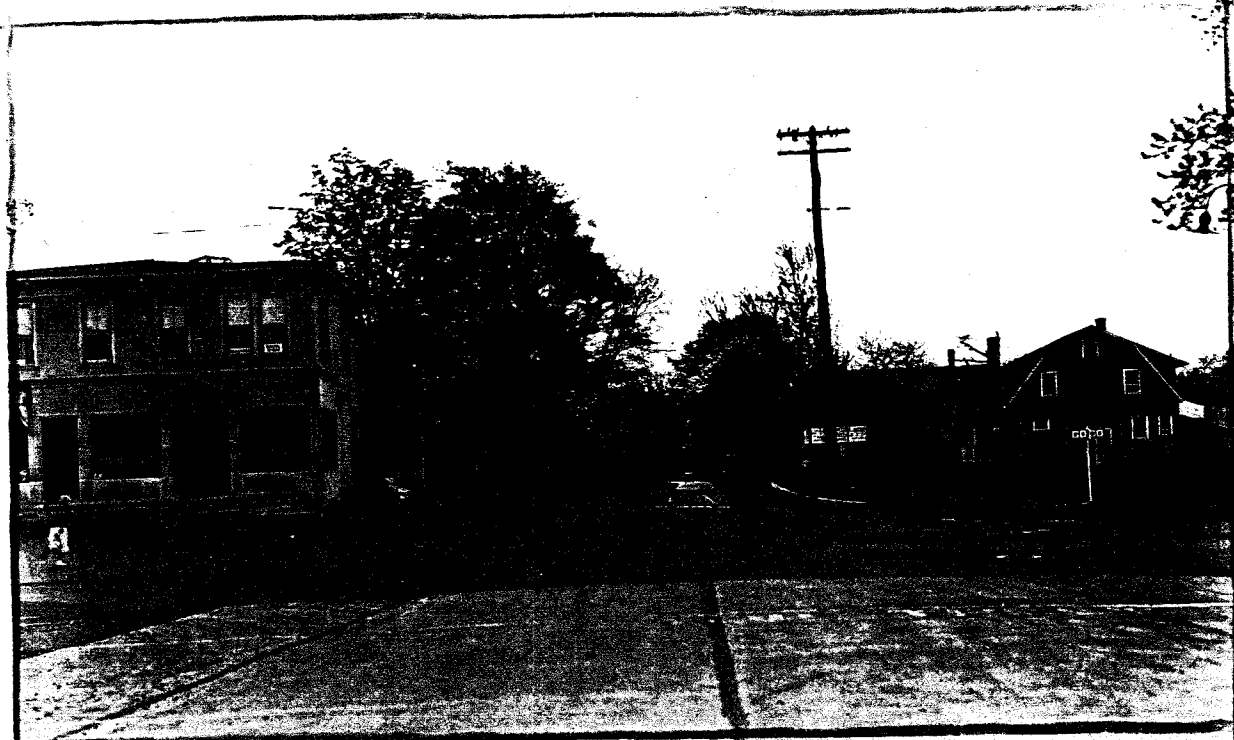


DECAMP BUS IN LIVINGSTON CENTER: LIVINGSTON BAPTIST CHURCH AND PARSONAGE, AND BARN PICTURED.
CC. 1919

Chapter Twelve

De Camp Bus - 1919

Photo courtesy: Newark Public Library

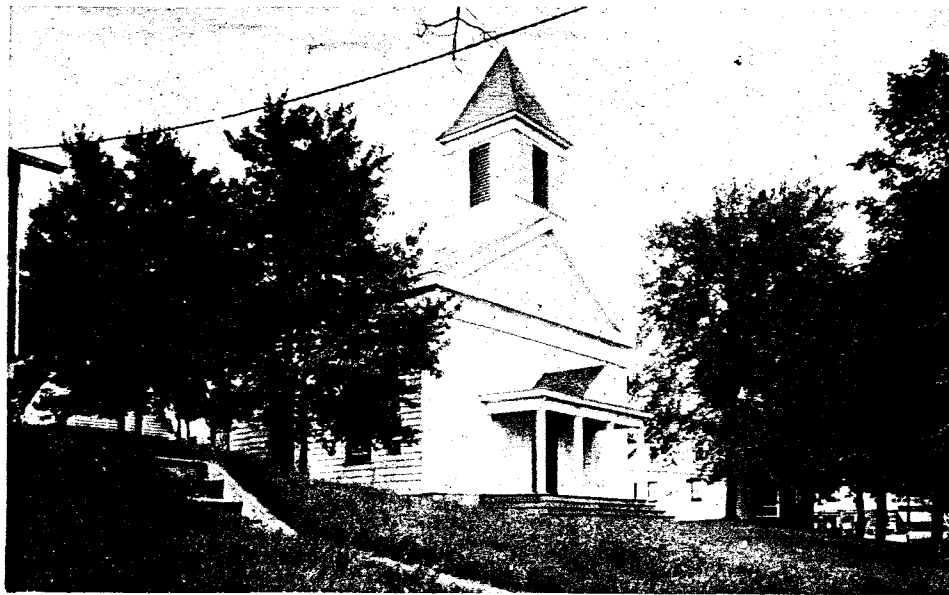


St. Andrew's - 2201 W. 15th St. - the Livingston 553-31

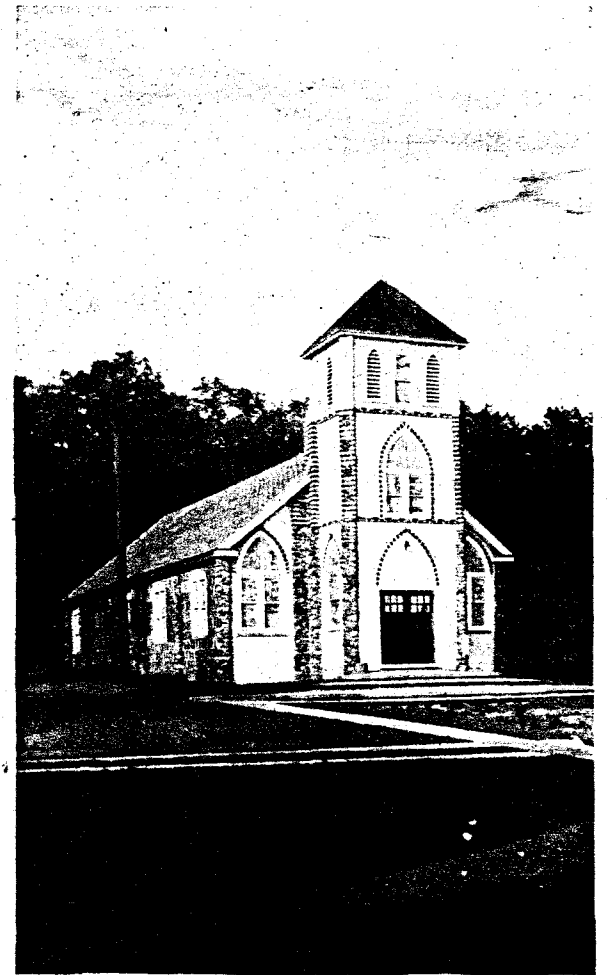
Chapter Twelve

South Livingston Avenue at Livingston Center - 1931

Collection of Charles DeMarco



BAPTIST CHURCH, LIVINGSTON, N. J.



MARY, MOTHER OF SORROWS, LIVINGSTON, N. J.

POST CARD

Our Lady of Sorrows Church on McClellan Avenue.
Burned down 1927.

Chapter 13.

Collection of Charles DeMarco, Jr.

Chapter Thirteen

St. Raphael's Church - 1979

Photo by Carol Zbuska

Chapter Thirteen

Livingston Baptist Church - 1927

Collection of Charles DeMarco



FOR CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ADDRESS ONLY



Chapter Thirteen

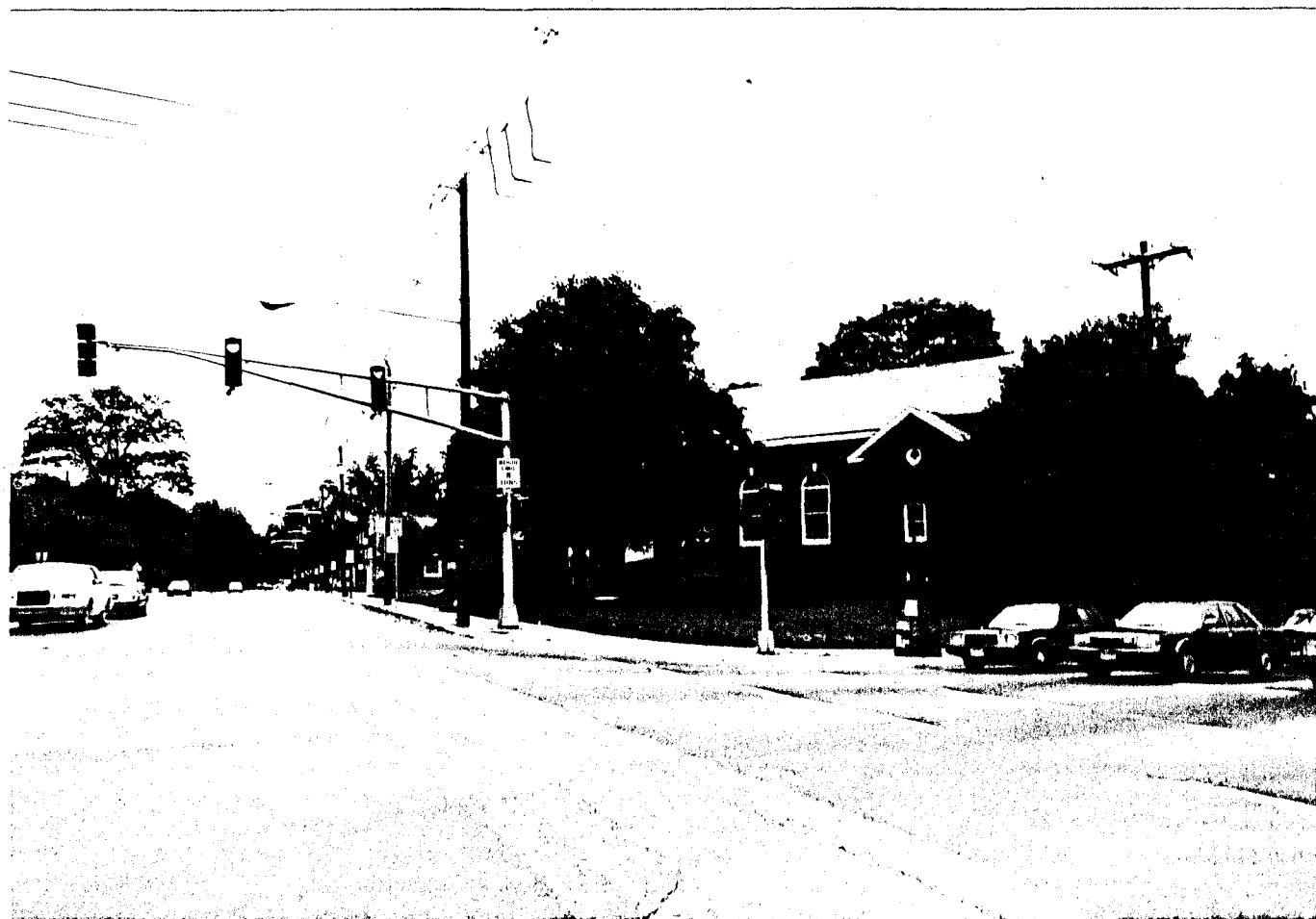
Livingston Methodist Church - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Thirteen

Olivet Chapel - (now Livingston Masonic Lodge) 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Thirteen

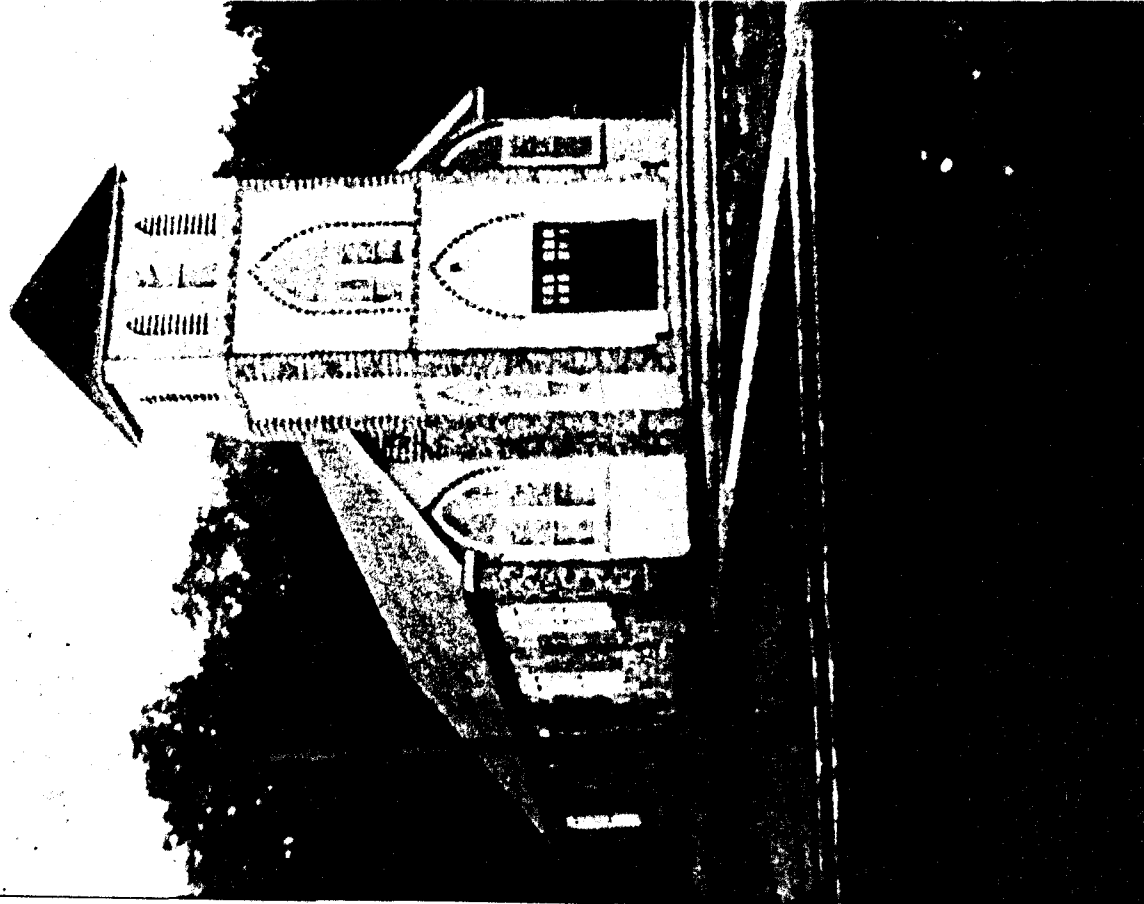
Livingston Federated Church - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Thirteen

Northfield Baptist Church - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Thirteen

Our Lady of Sorrows Church - 1927

Collection of Charles DeMarco

Northfield Baptist Church
fire. 1940.

Circ. 1940

Chapter Thirteen

Fire at Northfield Baptist Church - 1940

Photo courtesy: Newark Library



March 1974

Chapter Thirteen

St. Philomena Church - 1974

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library



Chapter Thirteen

Temple Beth Shalom - 1964

Tai

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library

SS

Jewish Temple

BETH SHALOM

Temple

2/6 00



Chapter Thirteen

Livingston Methodist Church - 1900



14 s+c

Photo by Carol Zbouska

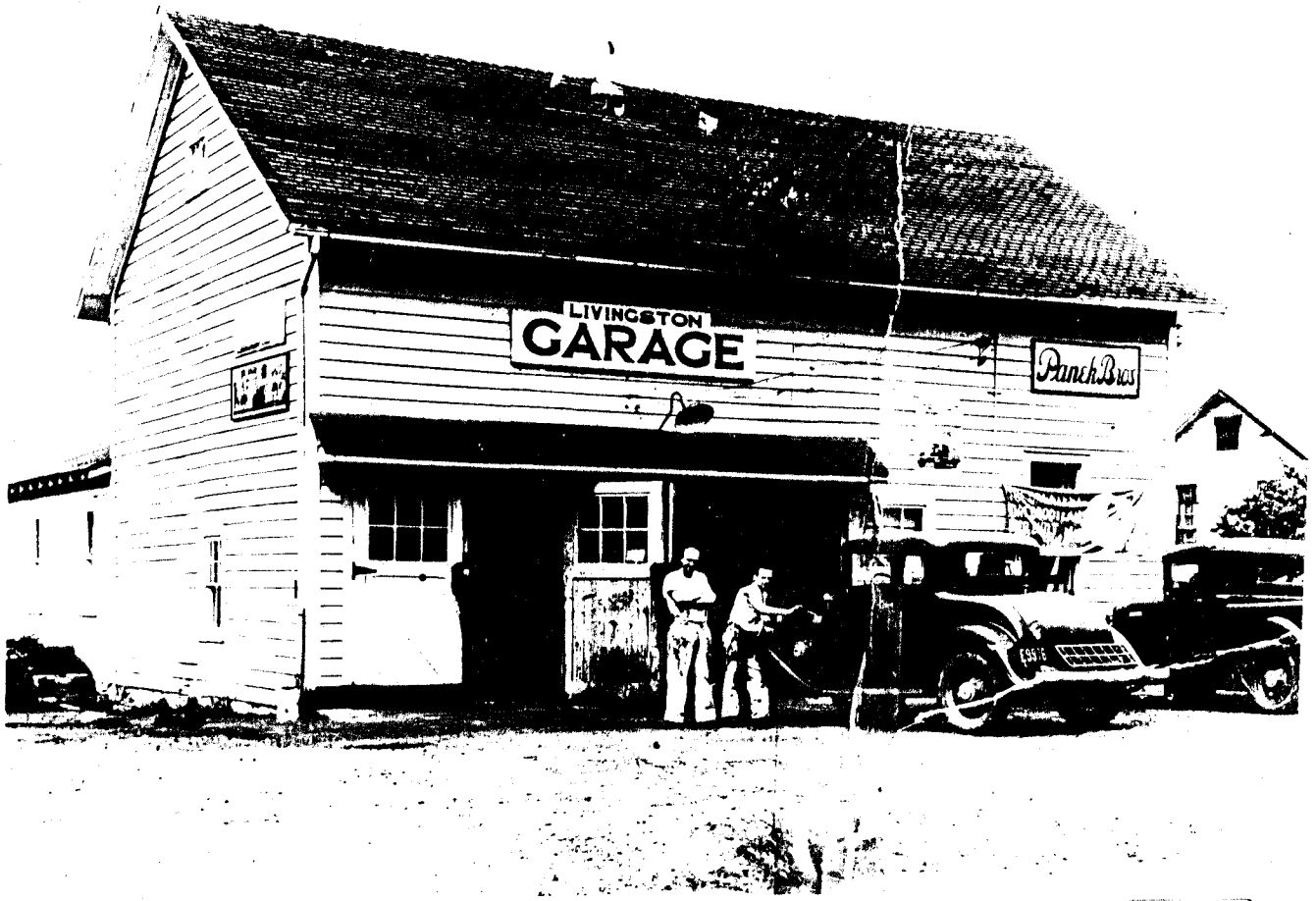
Baldwin Cemetery - 1940

Chapter Fourteen

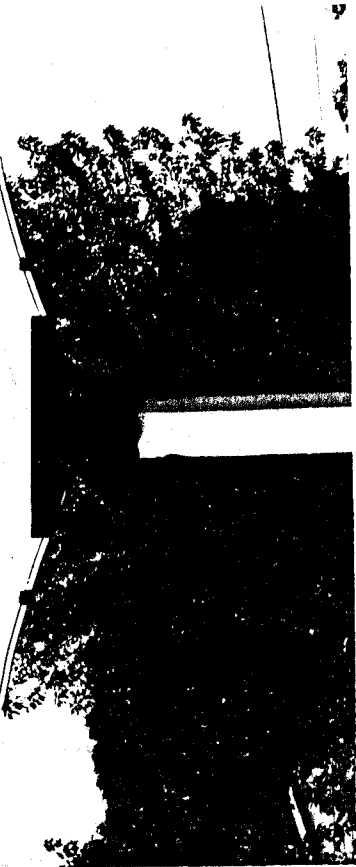
Chapter Fifteen

Samuel H. Burnet in front of his house
on Hobart Gap Road - 1900

Photo courtesy: WEST ESSEX TRIANGLE



LEAVING
EST. 1813
LIVINGSTON



Put this photo on Last page before
Bibliography



Emily, Belle Ashby
+ sister Henrietta Belle Bruning
baby?

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Jack Ashby

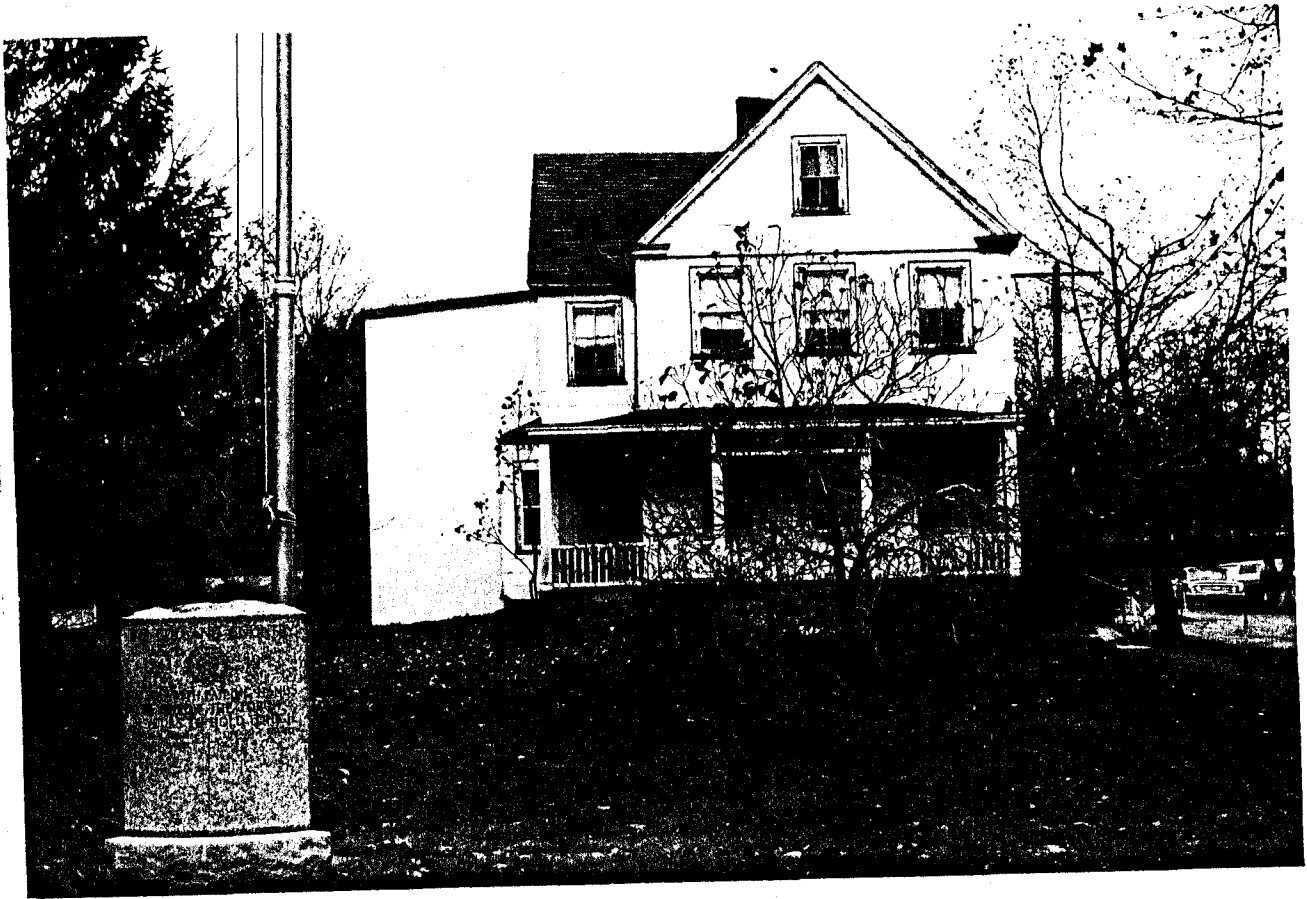
935

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Edith

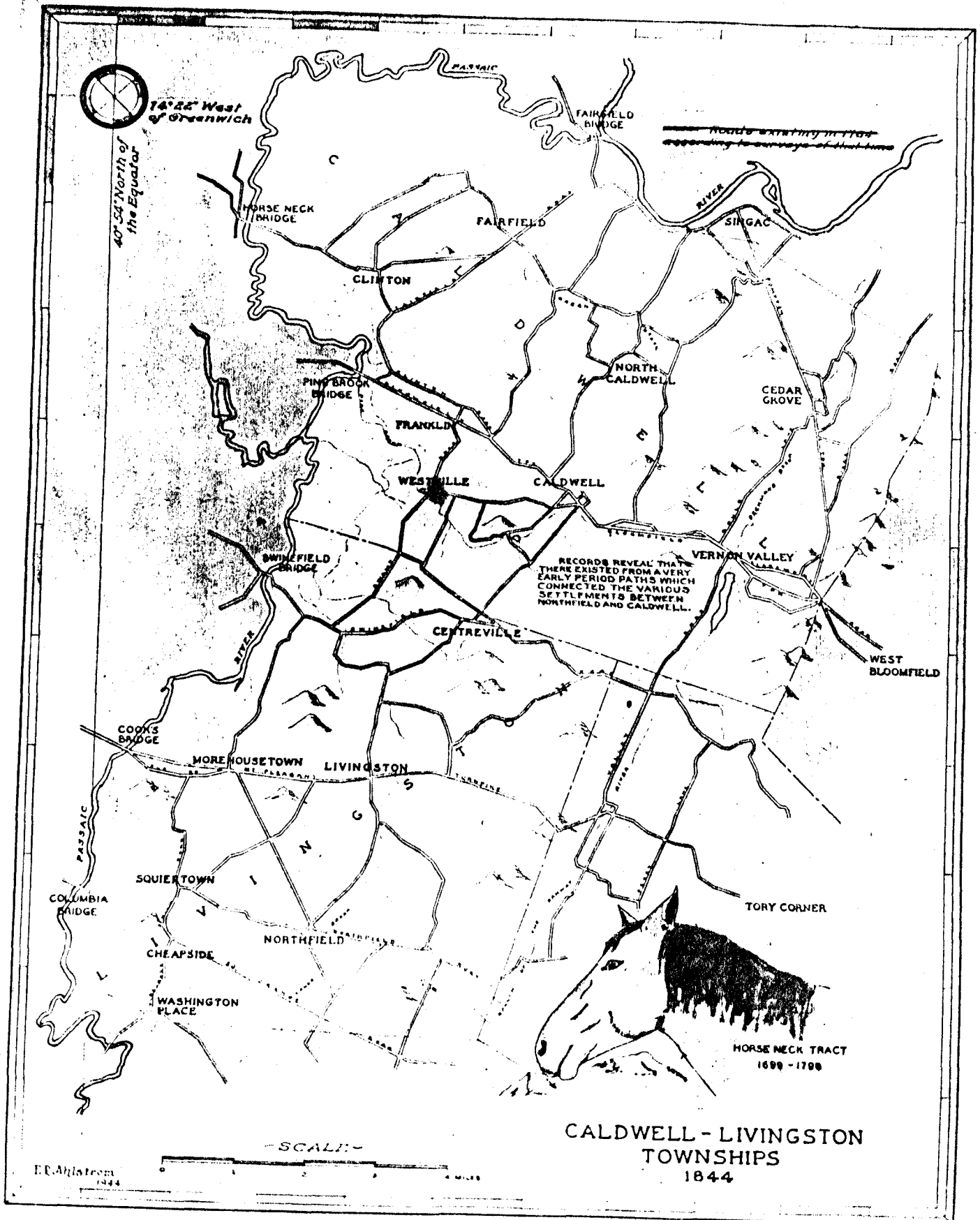


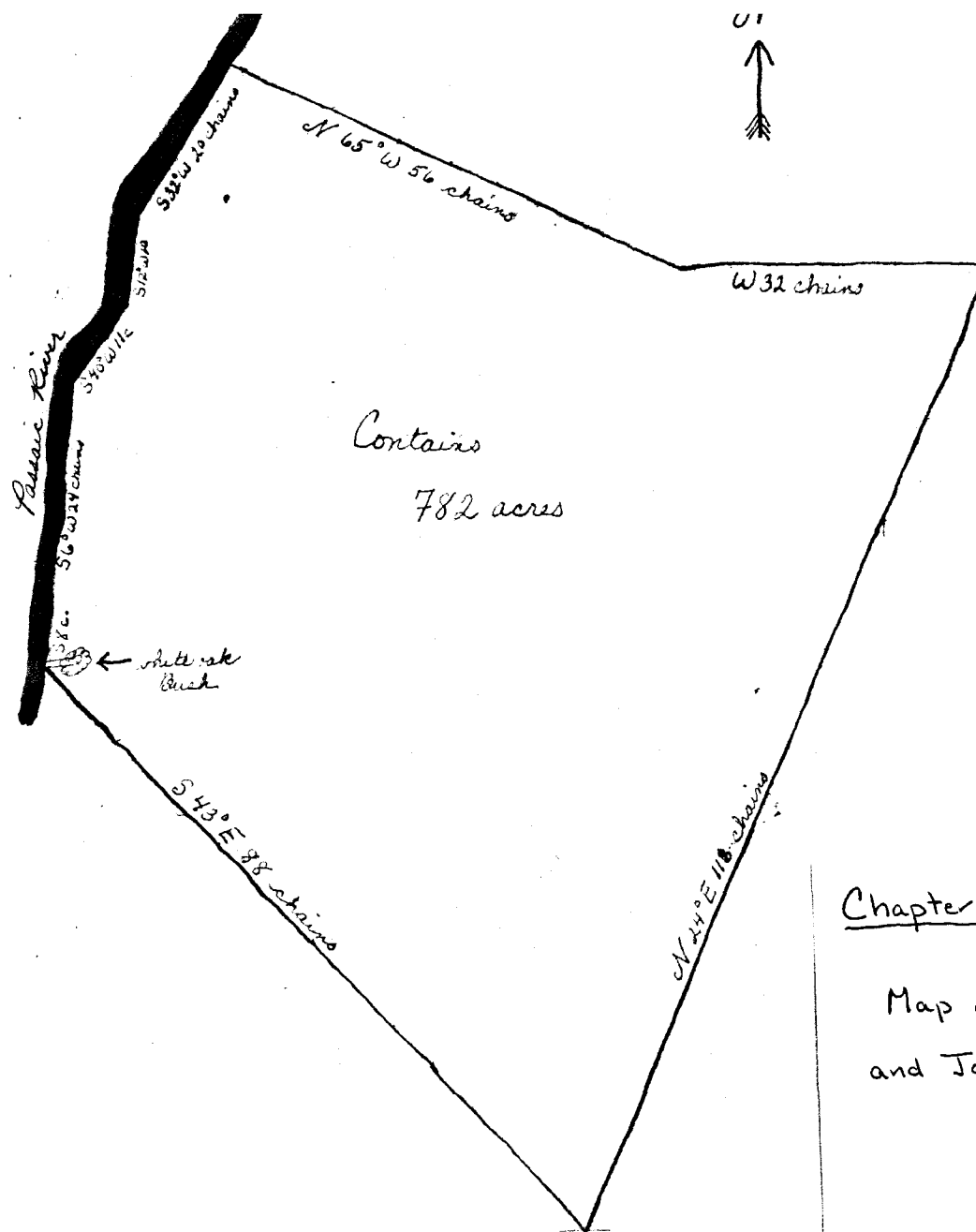




Chapter One

Map of the area known as Horseneck.





Contains
782 acres

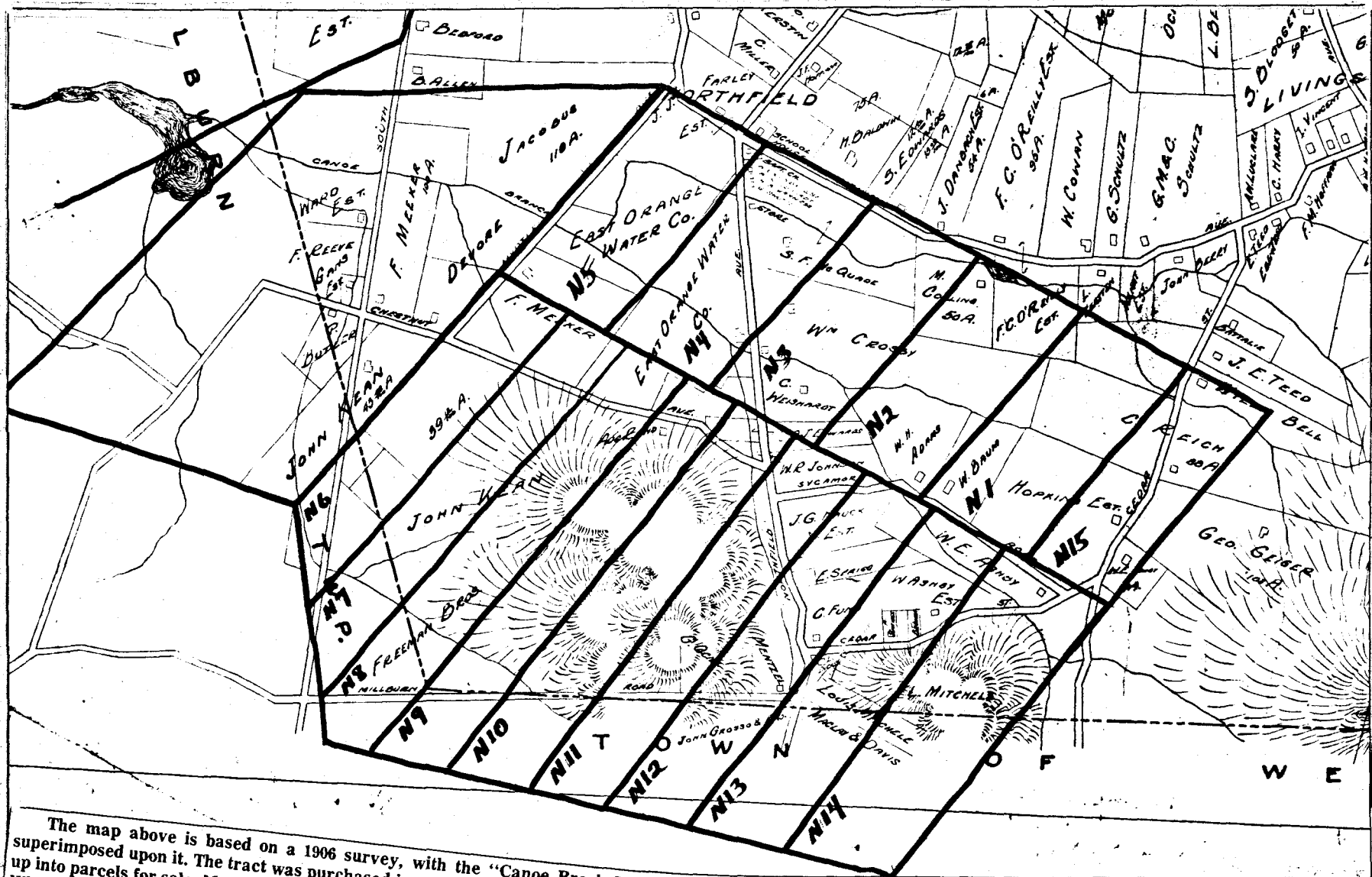
Andrew and Lewis Johnston
to
Nathaniel Camp and Jonathan Squire
1743/4

Key:
20 chains to the inch

Chapter One

Map of the property purchased by Nathaniel Camp
and Jonathan Squire - 1743/4

Collection of C. DeMarco



The map above is based on a 1906 survey, with the "Canoe Brook Lots" superimposed upon it. The tract was purchased in 1741 by John Stiles and divided up into parcels for sale. Many of the original lines of this tract are still significant. What is shown as Myrtle Avenue, for example, is the current course of East Hobart

Gap Road, forming the boundary between major portions of the tract. A portion of the course of South Livingston Avenue also follows the edge of Stiles' land. Many of the names on this map are still familiar today.

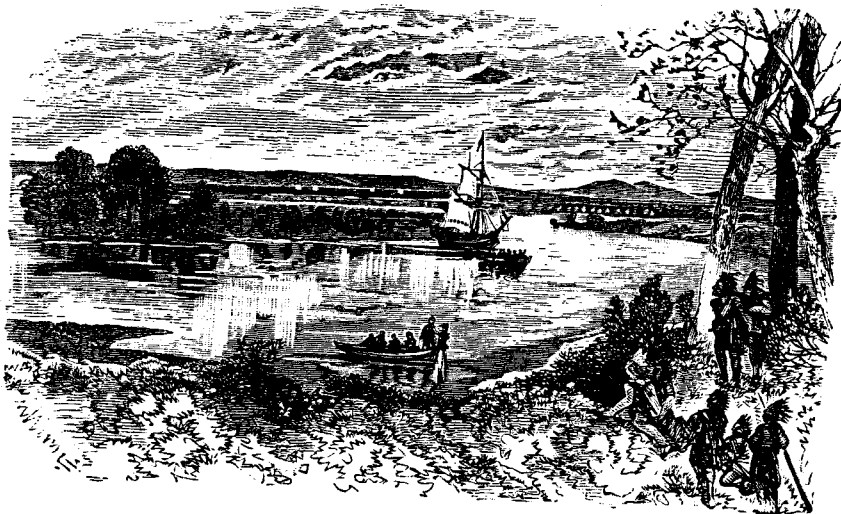
Chapter One

Map of the "Canoe Brook Lots"

* (Use description attached to Map)

Chapter One

The Landing at Newark by Robert Treat
and Company. May, 1666.



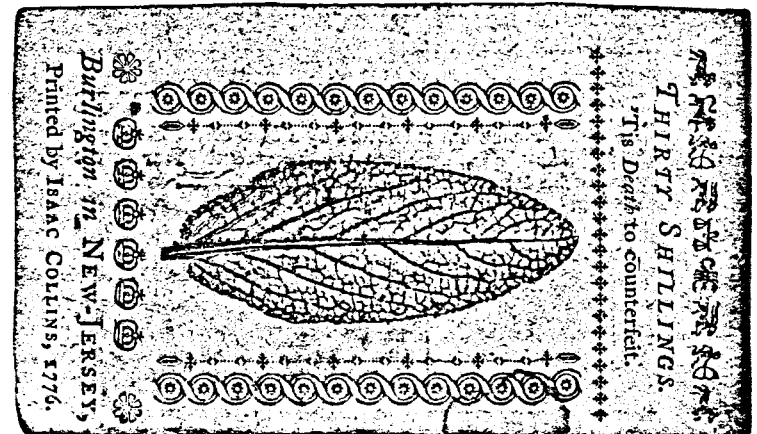
THE LANDING AT NEWARK, MAY, 1666.

Chapter One

Backside of New Jersey Colonial Money.

* Note that Counterfeiting was punishable by
Death.

From the Collection of C. DeMarco



Chapter Two

Receipt for a deed given by John Dean to
Parker Teed - March 10th, 1800

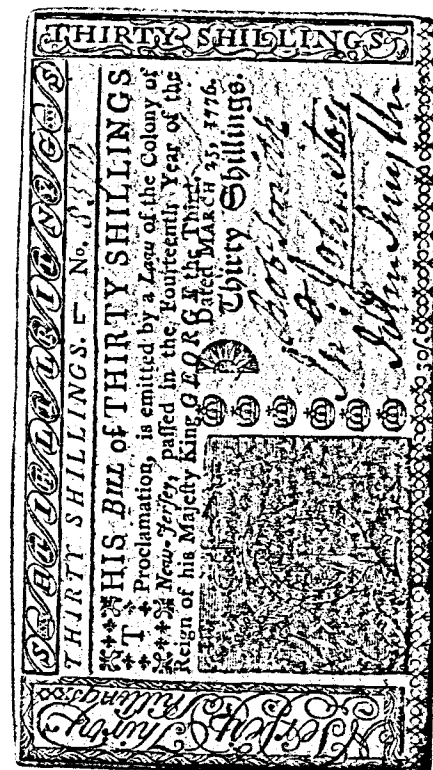
Collection of C. DeMarco

Chapter One:

Colonial New Jersey Money
Dated March 25, 1776

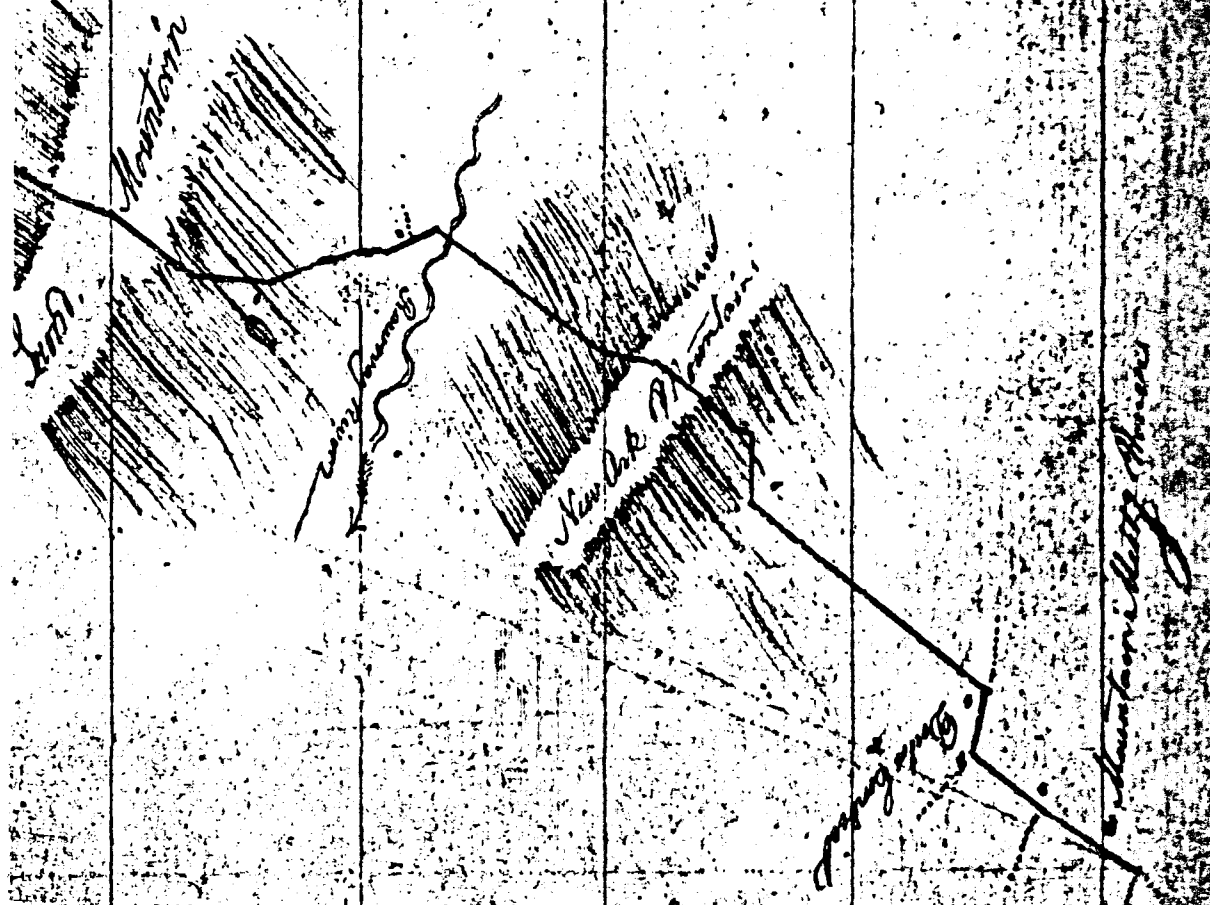
From the Collection of C. DeMarco

in Columbia Village March 10th 1800
I have to send by the Bearer Parker Teed
my Deed given by John Dean to me
and much obliged you to be
the Hilary Condit
Peter Teed



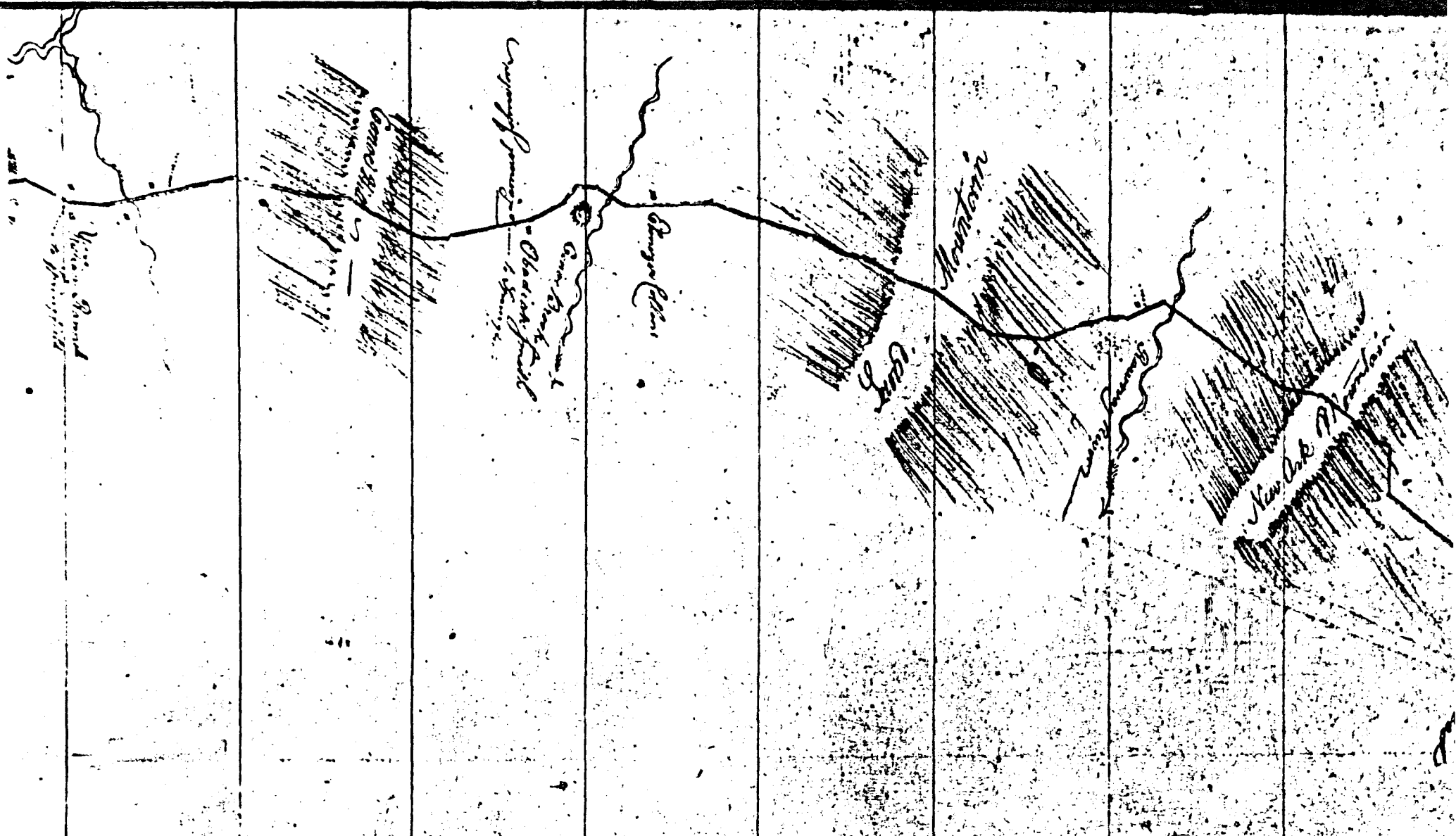
104, C.

Hill towards Newark
Mountain Making H.



Chapter Two

Map of the Colonial Highway and Canoe
Brook Area, by Robert Erskine



No 104, C.

From Bottle Hill towards Newark
past Mountain. No. 104

Township meeting of Livingston - April 12, 1813.

A copy of the Minutes of the first annual

Chapter Three

At an annual Townmeeting held by the Inhabitants of the Town-
ship of Livingston at the house of Isaac Samos Pinkney in
Livingston on Monday the twelfth day of April Eighteen hundred
and thirteen the following Town Officers were duly chosen

Moderator	Joseph T Hardy Esq
Town Clerk	Samuel Squier Junr
Assessor	Abner Ball Esq
Collector	Ezra Morris
Commissioners of Appeal	Joseph W Harrison Esq Barnard Dickinson John Townly
Chosen Freeholders	Joseph T Hardy Esq Caleb Dickinson Esq
Overseers of the Poor	Abner Tomkins Junr Henry W Widen
Surveyors of the Highway	Josiah Steel Profus Hammons

Town Clerk	Samuel Squier
Assessor	Abner Ball Esq
Collector	Ezra Morris
Commissioners of Highway	Joseph W. Harrison Esq Briamard Dickinson John Townly
Chosen Freeholders	Joseph T. Hardy Esq Caleb Dickinson Esq
Overseers of the Poor	Abner Samkins pr Henry W. Wade
Surveyors of the Highway	Josiah Steel Reuben Harrison
Constables	Samuel Burnet pr Benjamin De Camp
Town Meeting	Joseph Cowter
Judge of Election	Joseph Harrison Esq
Town Committee	Joseph T. Hardy Esq Joseph Green Peter Cook Josiah Steel Abner Ball Esq

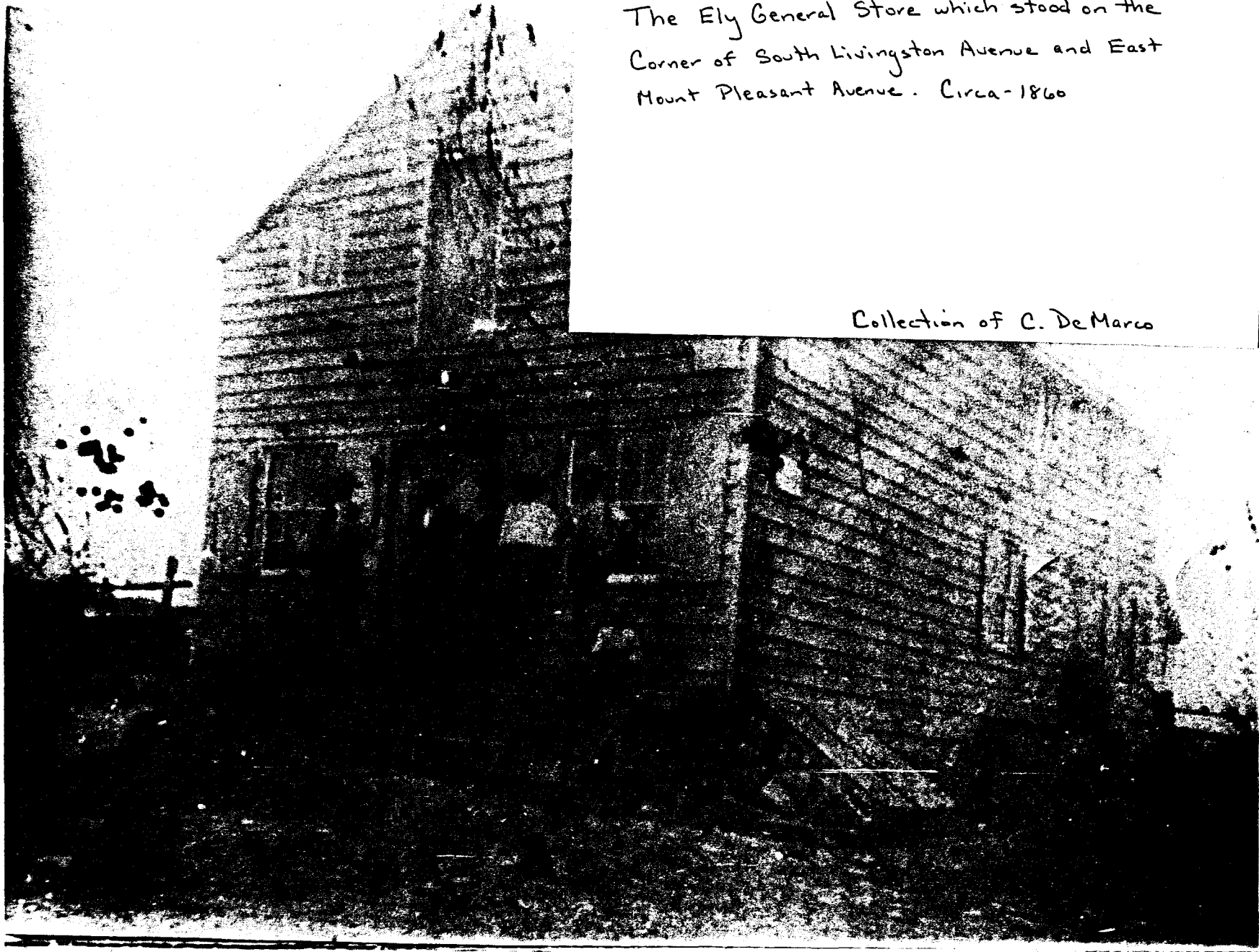
I do hereby certify the above to be a true copy
from the records

Samuel Squier pr Town Clerk

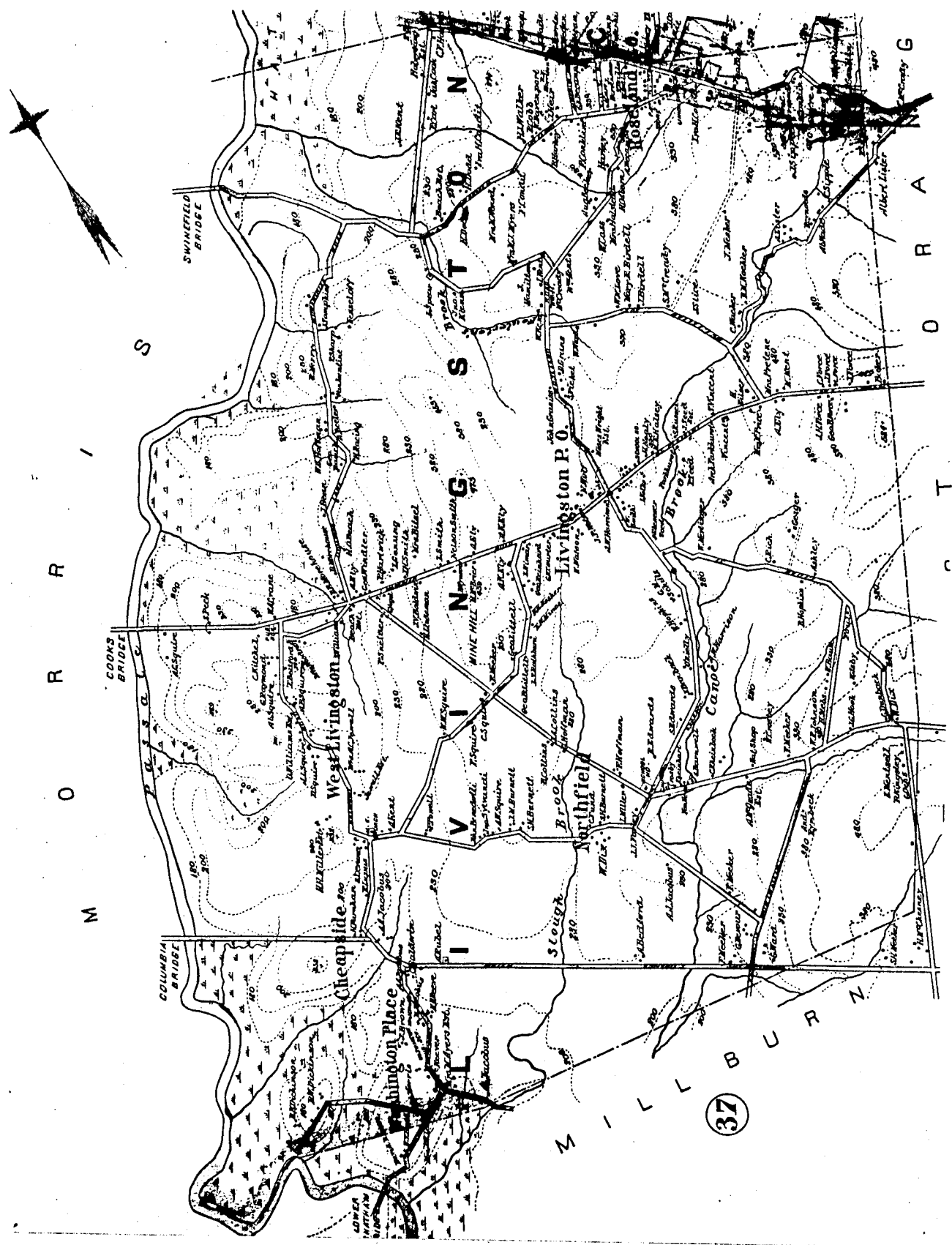
Chapter Four

The Ely General Store which stood on the
Corner of South Livingston Avenue and East
Mount Pleasant Avenue. Circa-1860

Collection of C. DeMarco



ELY GENERAL STORE WHICH STOOD ON THE CORNER OF SOUTH LIVINGSTON AVENUE AND EAST MOUNT PLEASANT AVENUE.
THIS BUILDING WAS BUILT WELL BEFORE THE REVOLUTION, AND WAS REPLACED IN 1869. cc.1860



Chapter Five

This is a map of Livingston made in 1882. It is interesting to note that many of the main streets homes and families are noted.



Chapter Five

Golden Star Fraternity in front of Harrison's
General Store, Livingston Center- circa: 1893

Photo courtesy: West Essex Tribune



Chapter Five

Flynn's Blacksmith Shop as it appeared at the turn of the century. This shop stood on the corner of East Mount Pleasant Avenue and Glendale Avenue.

(Use caption on photo)

Collection of C. DeMarco

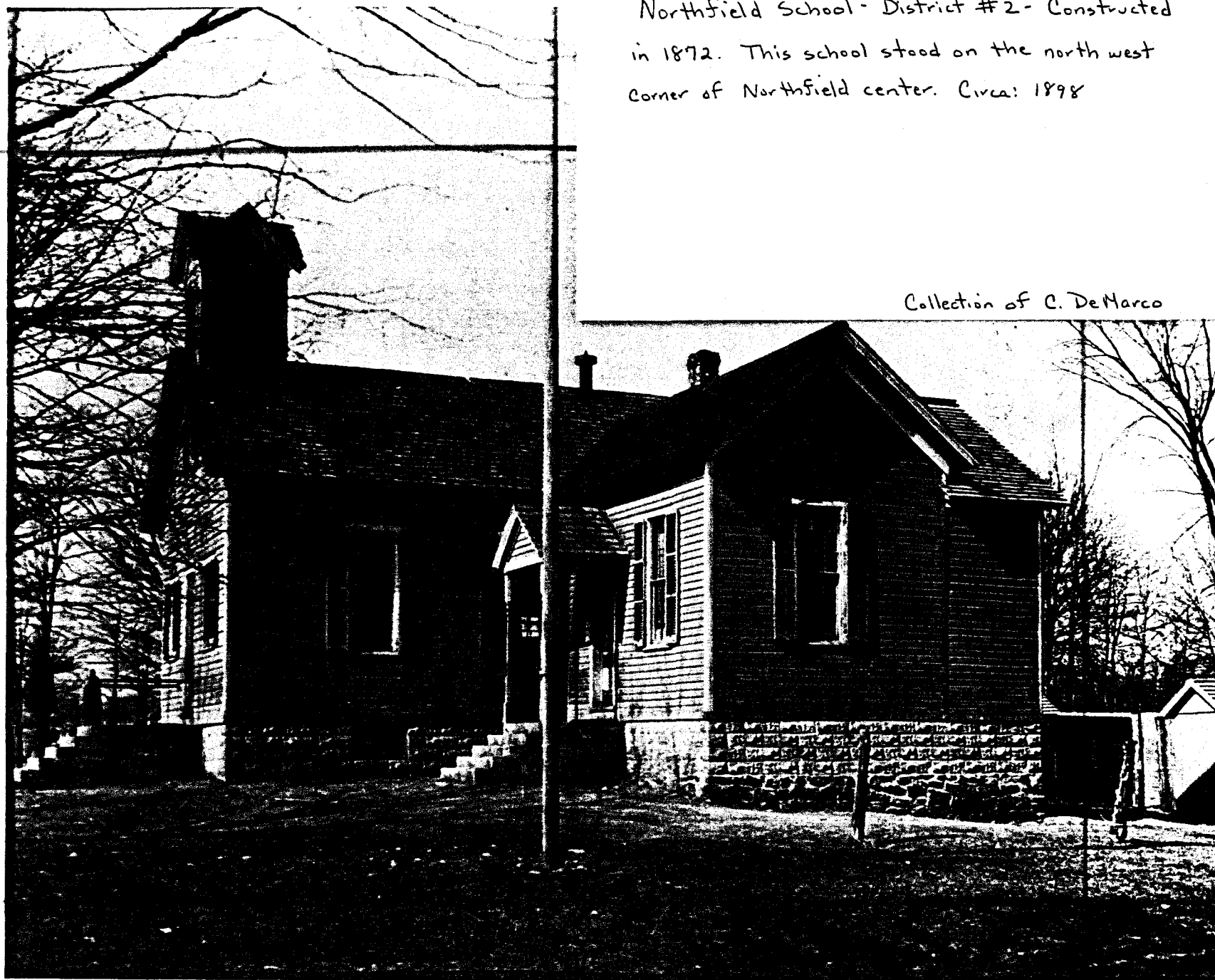


THE AMOS HARRISON GENERAL STORE WHICH REPLACED THE ELY STORE IN 1869. ACROSS THE STREET ALSO PICTURED IS SAMO'S TAVERN AS IT LOOKED AROUND 1900. THIS WAS THE SITE OF THE FIRST TOWN MEETING IN 1813. THE TAVERN WAS BUILT IN 1765 BY WILLIAM ELY JR. IT WAS TORN DOWN IN 1906.

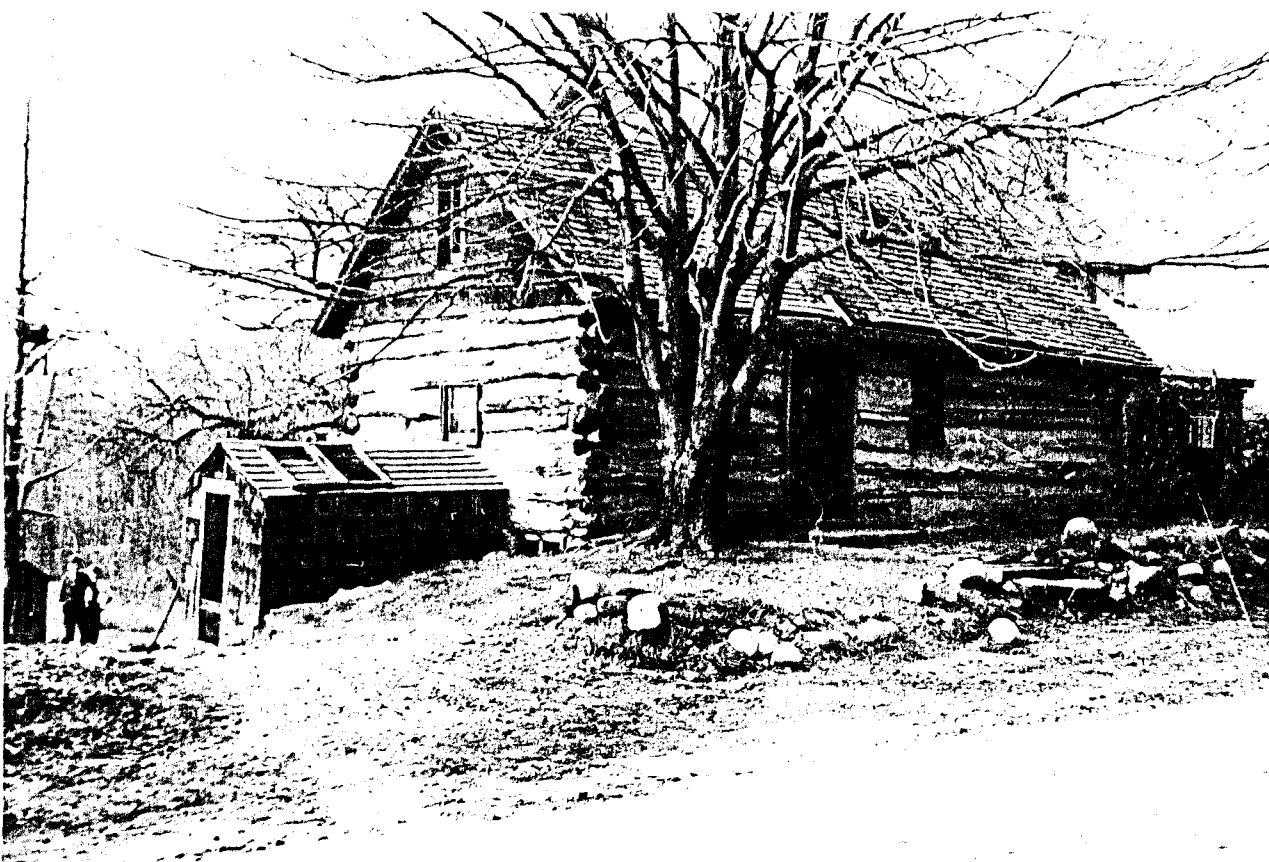
Chapter Five

Northfield School - District #2 - Constructed
in 1872. This school stood on the north west
corner of Northfield center. Circa: 1898

Collection of C. DeMarco



NORTHFIELD SCHOOL: BUILT IN 1872, AND KNOWN AS DISTRICT SCHOOL 2, LATER REPLACED IN 1926 BY ROOSEVELT SCHOOL



Chapter Six

One of Livingston's early homes that
was eventually demolished to make way for
housing developments. 1906

Collection of C DeMarco

Chapter Six

Canoe Brook in Livingston - circa 1911

Collection of C. DeMarco

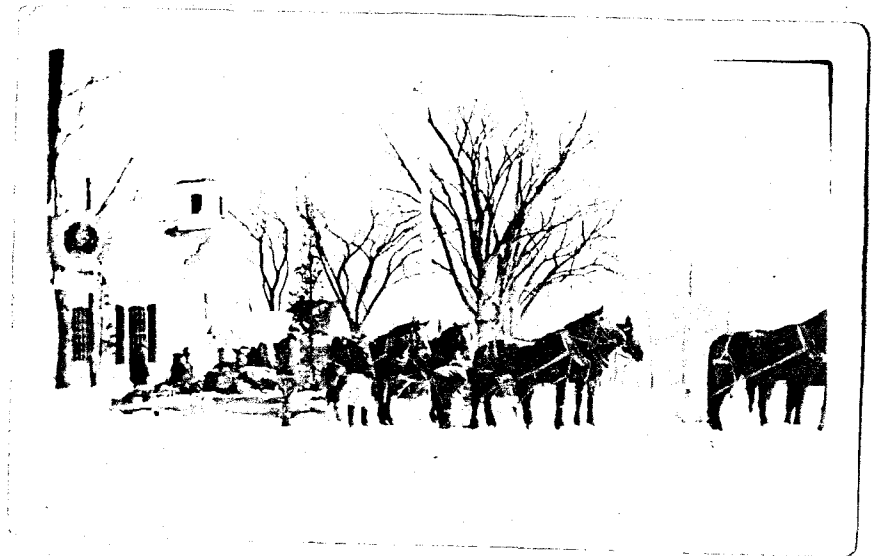


CANOE BROOK, Livingston, N. J.

Chapter Six

Northfield Baptist Church after a
snowfall - circa: ~~1911~~ Turn of the Century

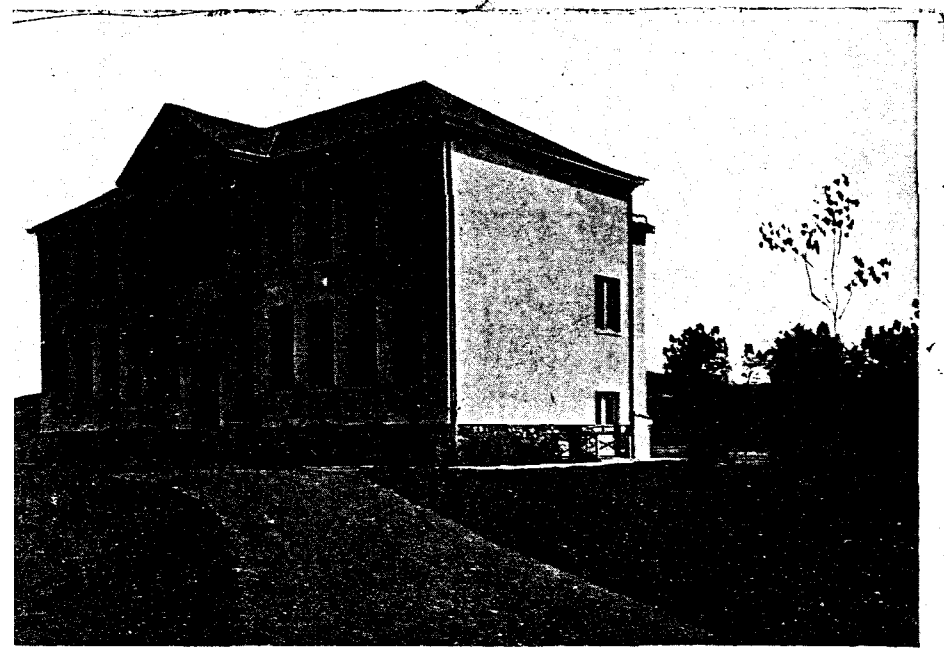
Collection of C. DeMarco



Chapter Six

Central School - (now Weight Watchers Headquarters)
as it appeared about 1911.

Collection of Charles DeMarco

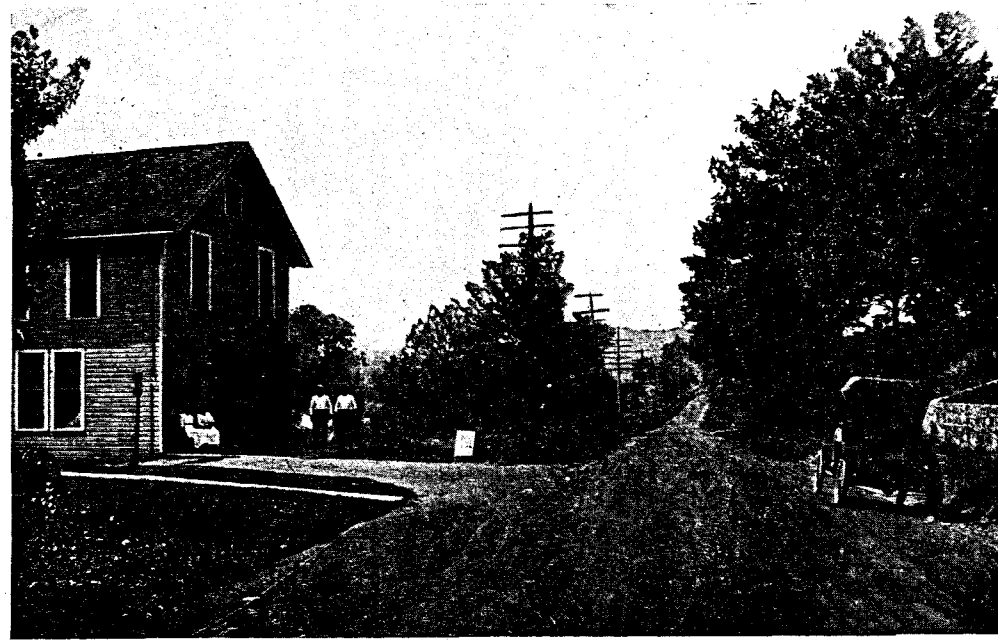


HIGH SCHOOL, Livingston, N. J.

Chapter Six

Mount Pleasant Avenue west of Livingston
Center - circa 1911

Collection of C. DeMarco



MT PLEASANT AVE., SHOWING COWAN'S STORE, Livingston, N. J.



Chapter Six

Livingston Masonic Lodge Show -
Fundraiser for Fire Department - 1926



Hand-horsed team plowing snow
at Northfield Center - about 1925.
Northfield Baptist church is in the
background. (Horses are facing west).

Chapter Six

Northfield Center after a snowstorm - 1925

233092

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library

Group 3
②

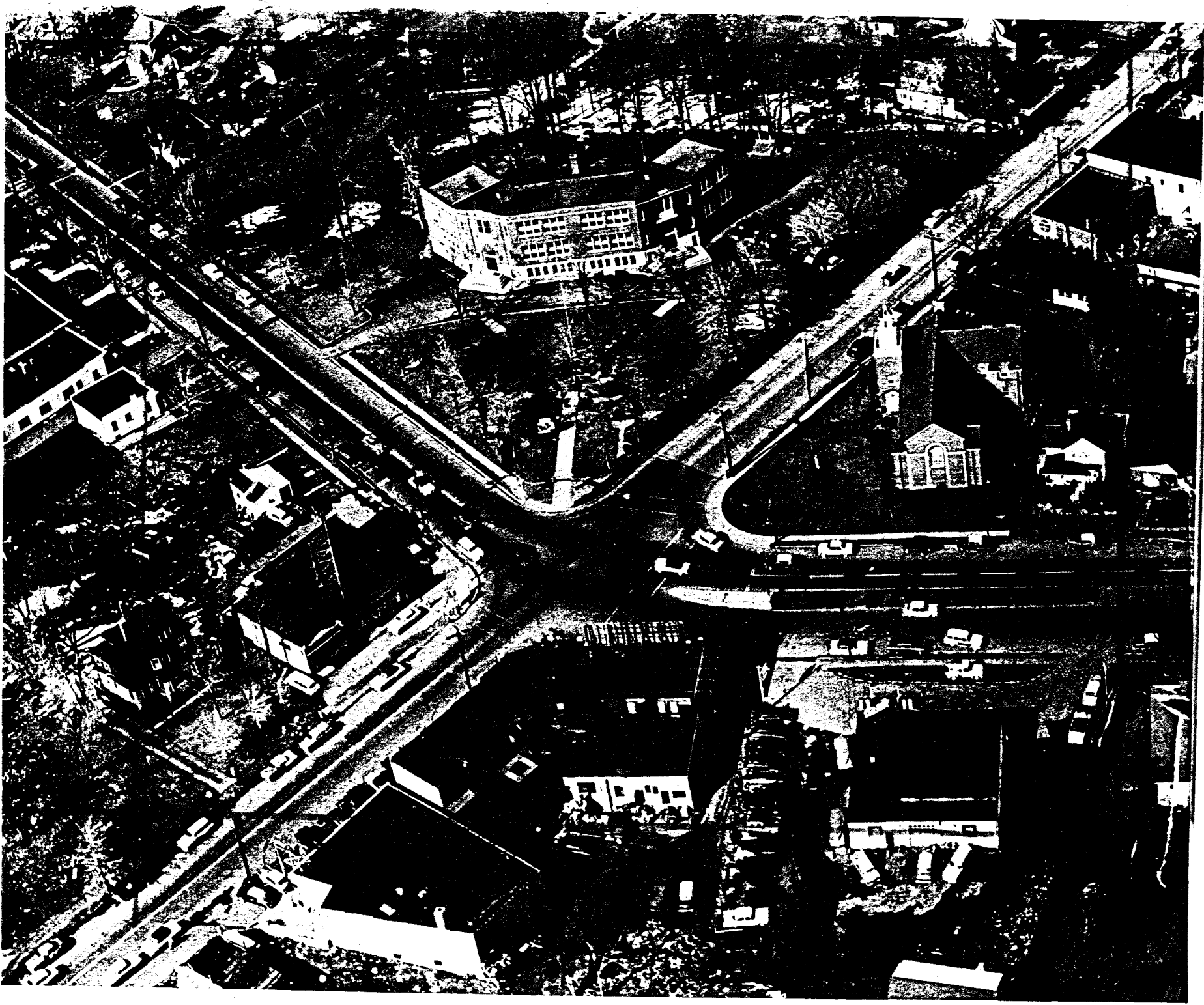
Livingston Historic Sites Survey

August 1961

Roll # 4 # 1

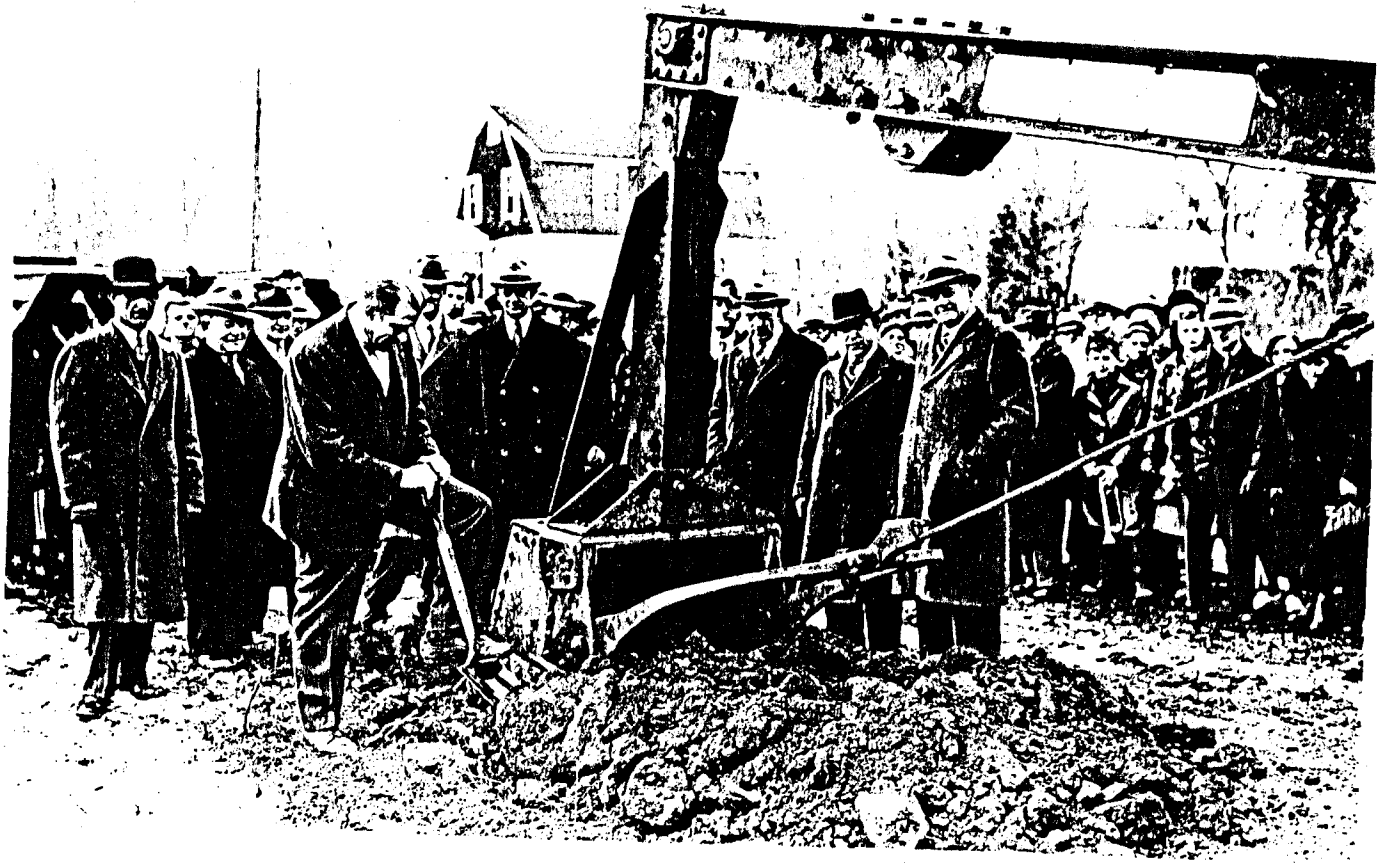
Dieck's House

Hobart Gap Road



Chapter Seven

Northfield Center as it appeared around
1935.



Chapter Seven

Herb Mitschele breaking ground for
Livingston's Sewer System. December 3, 1938

Courtesy of West Essex Tribune

Chapter Seven

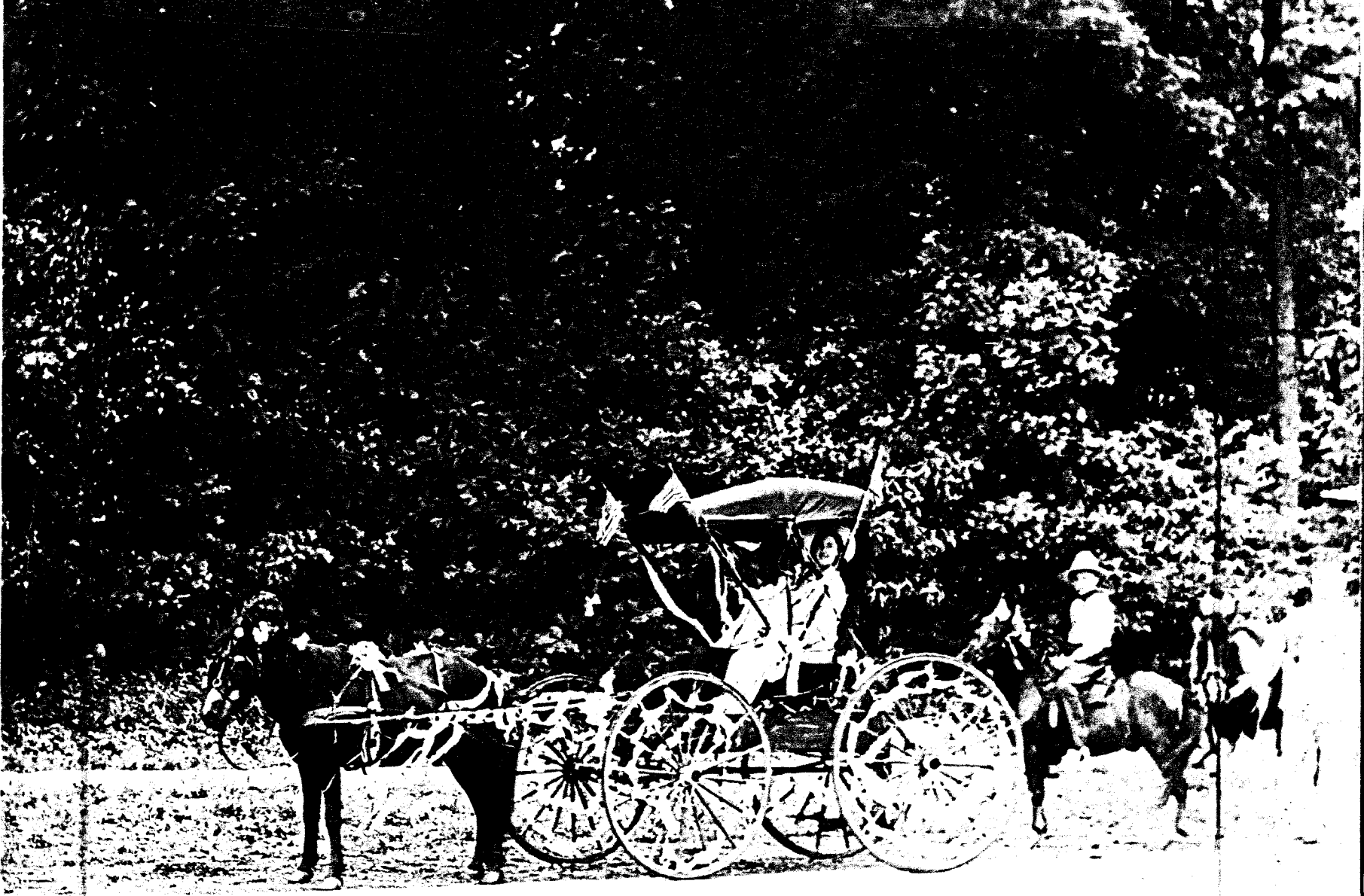
Livingston's 125th Anniversary Celebration
Parade - Mary Ann - Livingston's First
Fire Engine - 1938





Chapter Seven

Livingston's 125th Anniversary celebration
Parade- 1938



Chapter Seven

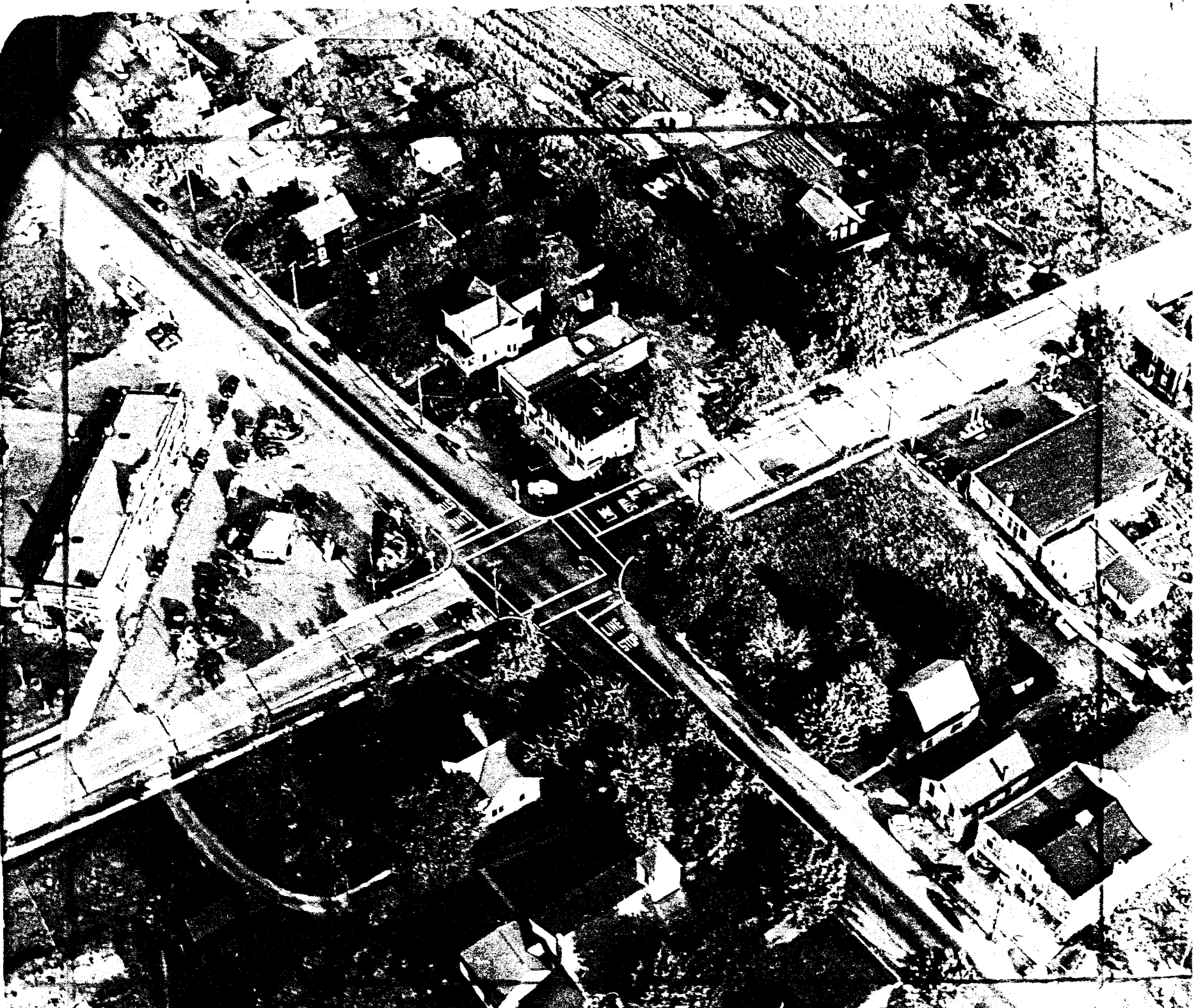
Livingston's 125th Anniversary celebration
Parade - 1938

**WELCOME
TO
LIVINGSTON'S
125TH
ANNIVERSARY
JUNE 4TH TO 11TH
1813-1938**

Chapter seven

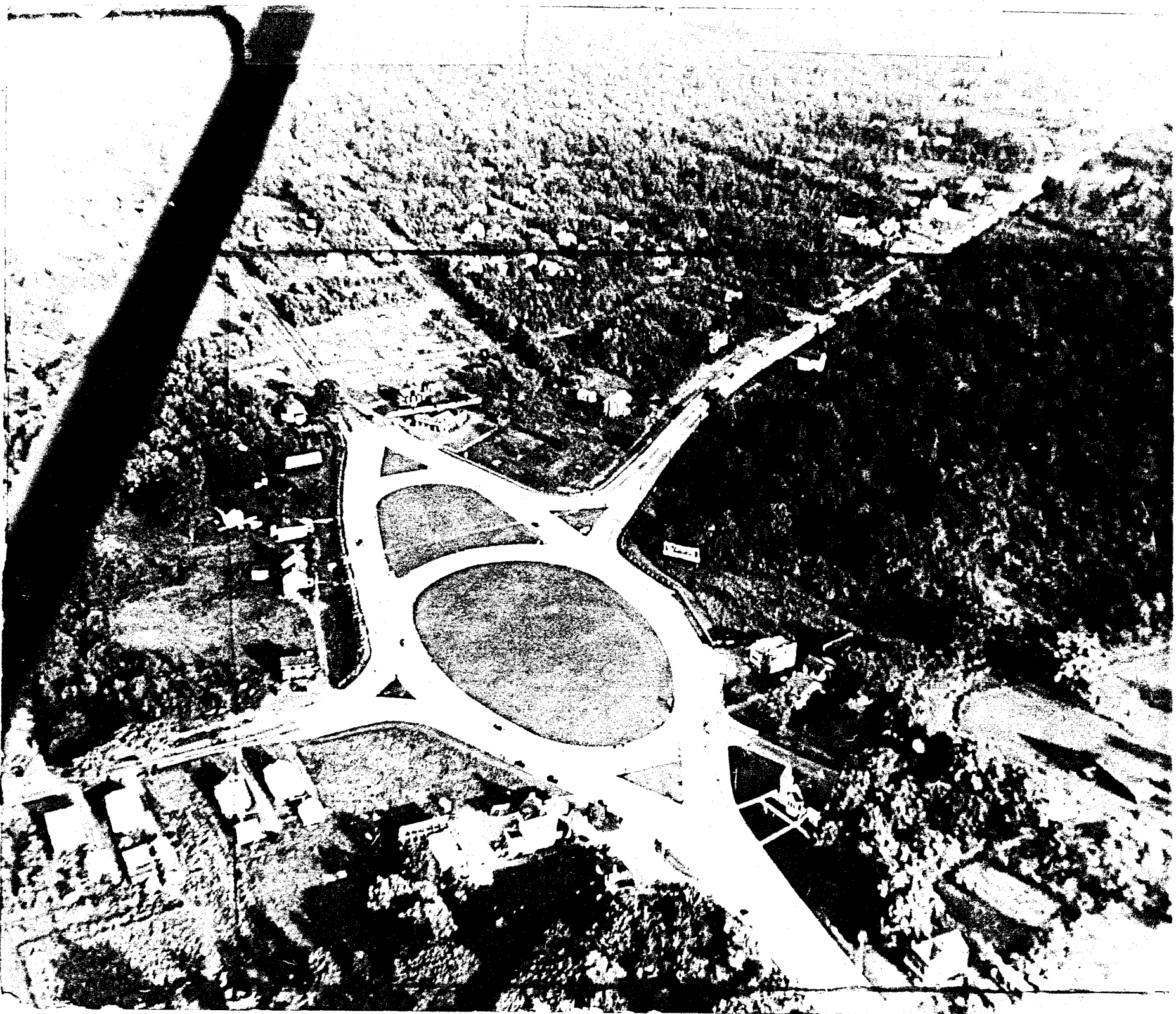
Banner used in the 125th Anniversary celebration
of Livingston.

Photo courtesy: West Essex Tribune



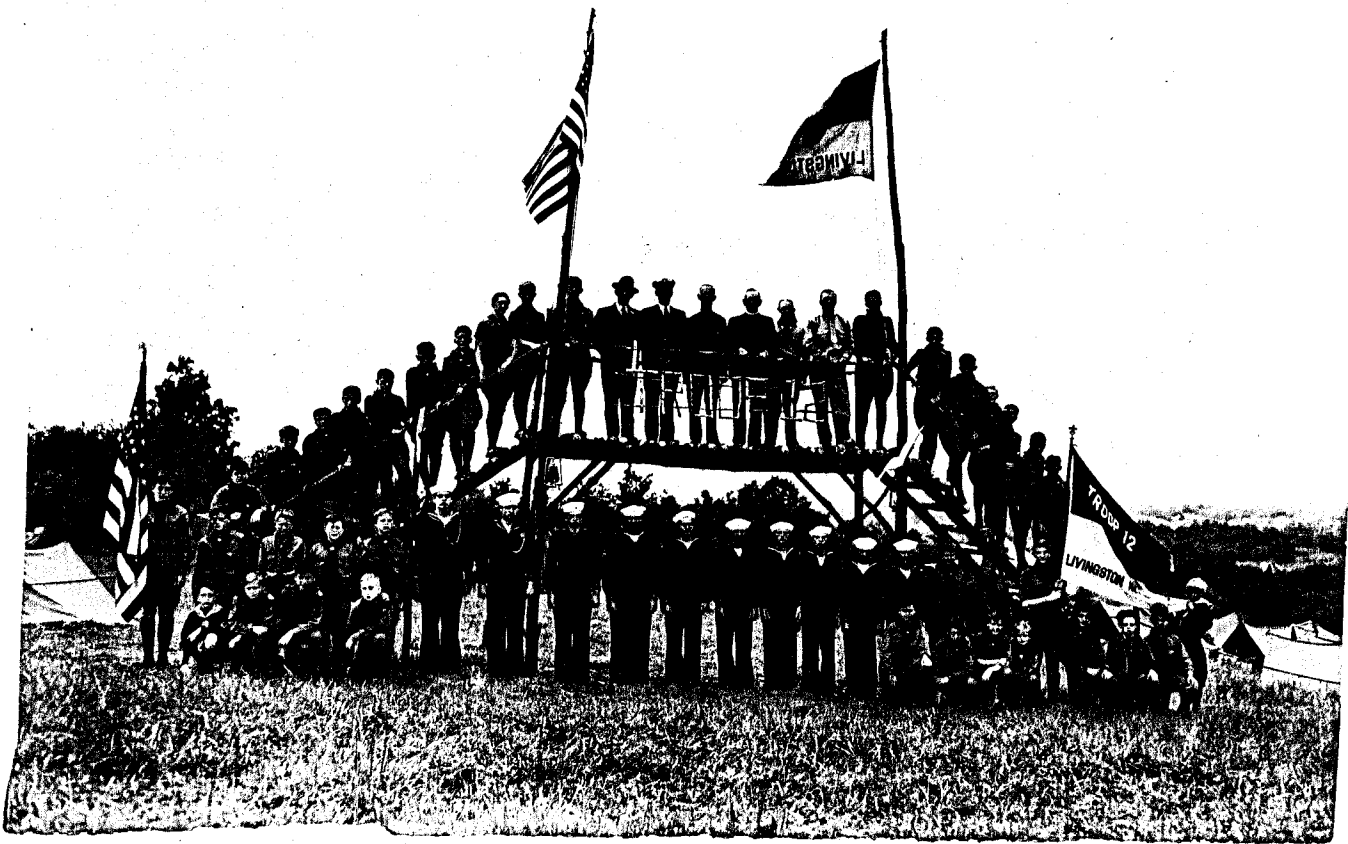
Chapter Seven

Livingston Center as it appeared in 1940.



Chapter Seven

Livingston Traffic Circle - 1940



Chapter Seven

Livingston Boy Scout Troop's 1942

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library

JUNK RALLY For LIVINGSTON

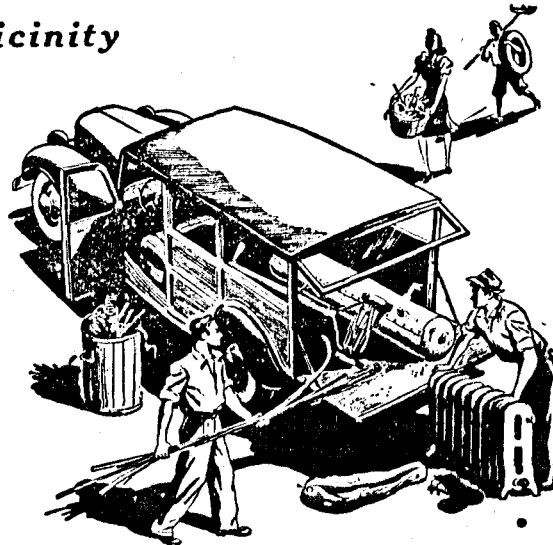
and vicinity

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27

at

TOWNSHIP GARAGE

(SO. LIVINGSTON and IRVING AVENUES)



Junk helps make guns,
tanks, ships for our fight-
ing men
Bring in anything made
of metal or rubber

Newspapers

Magazines

Rags



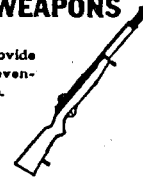
Let's Jolt them with Junk
from **LIVINGSTON**

THIS ADVERTISEMENT PUBLISHED BY THE
LIVINGSTON BOARD OF TRADE
TO HELP SPEED THE WAR EFFORT TO SUCCESS

JUNK MAKES FIGHTING WEAPONS



One old radiator will provide
scrap steel needed for seven-
teen .30 calibre rifles.



One old lawn mower will
help make six 3-inch shells.



One useless old tire
will provide as much
rubber as is used in
12 gas masks.

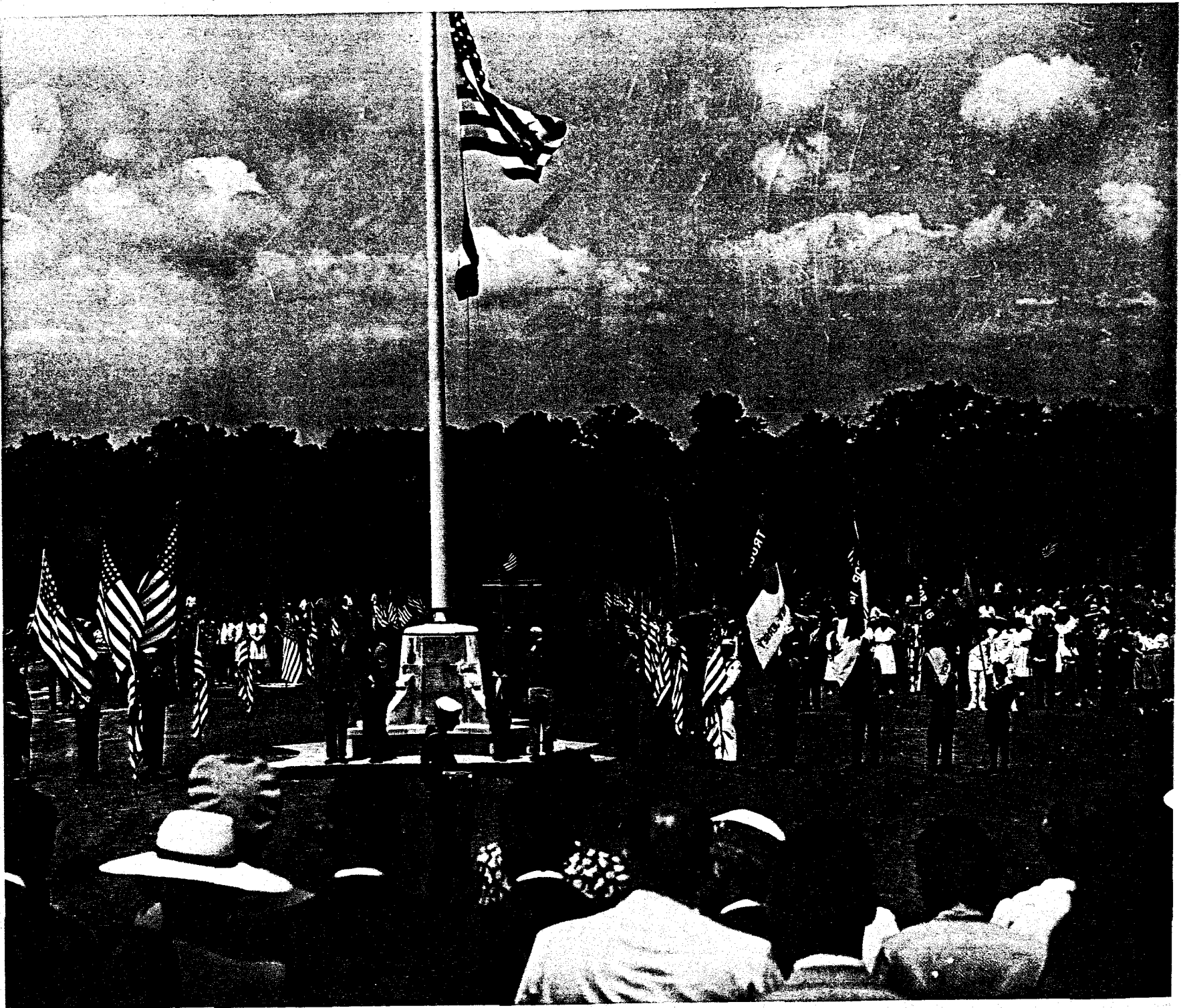


One old shovel will
help make 4 hand
grenades.



Chapter Seven:

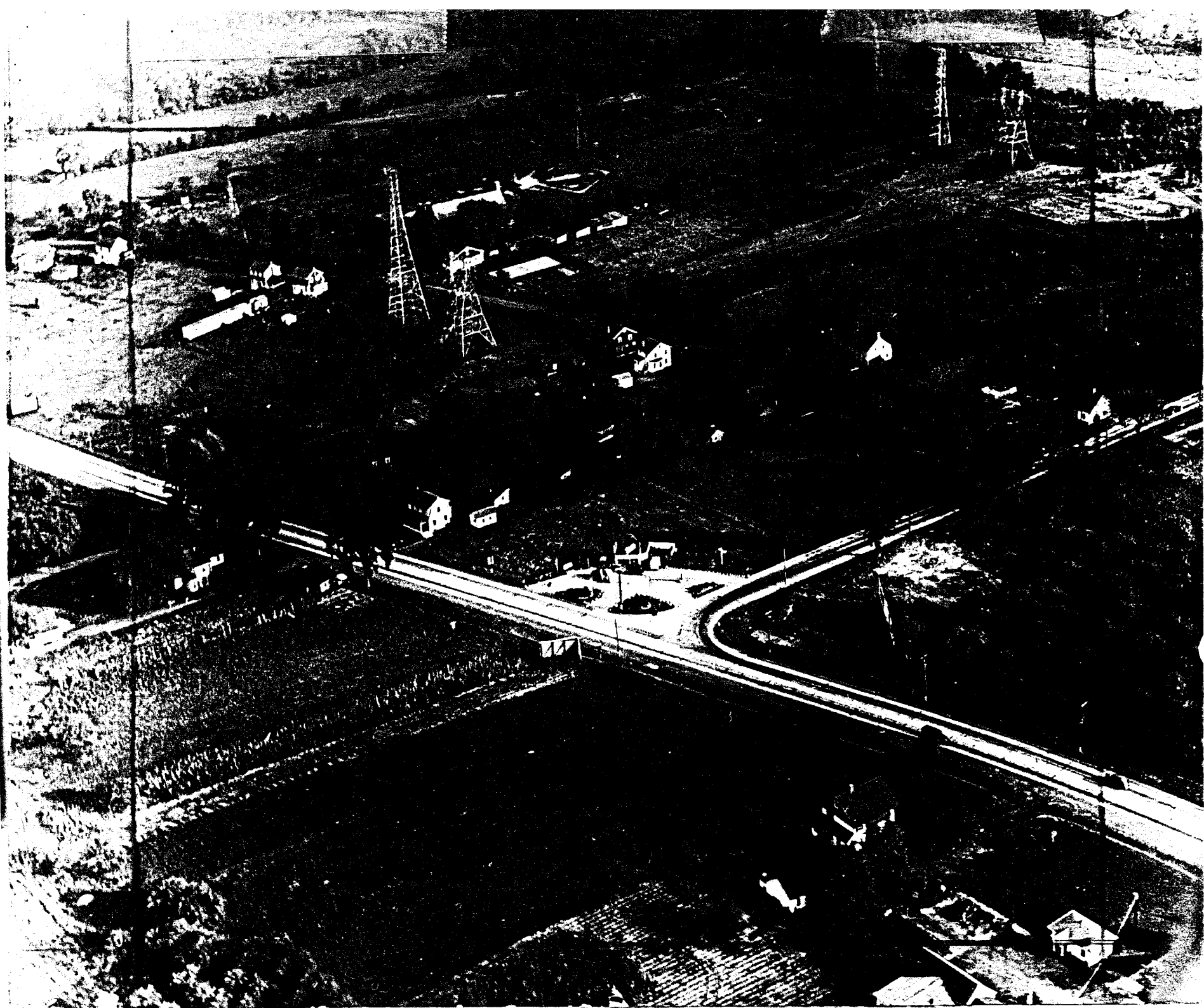
Advertisement in the West Essex Tribune
on September 24, 1942 as part of Livingston's
effort during the war.



Chapter Seven

Dedication of Flag Pole - Memorial Park - 1946

Chapter Seven

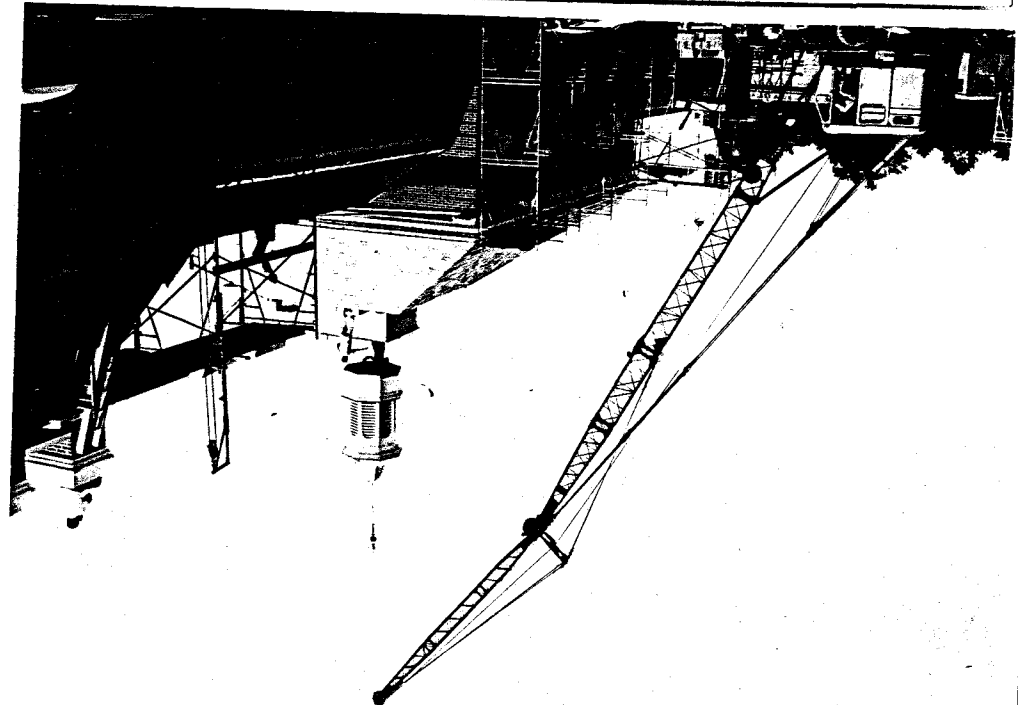
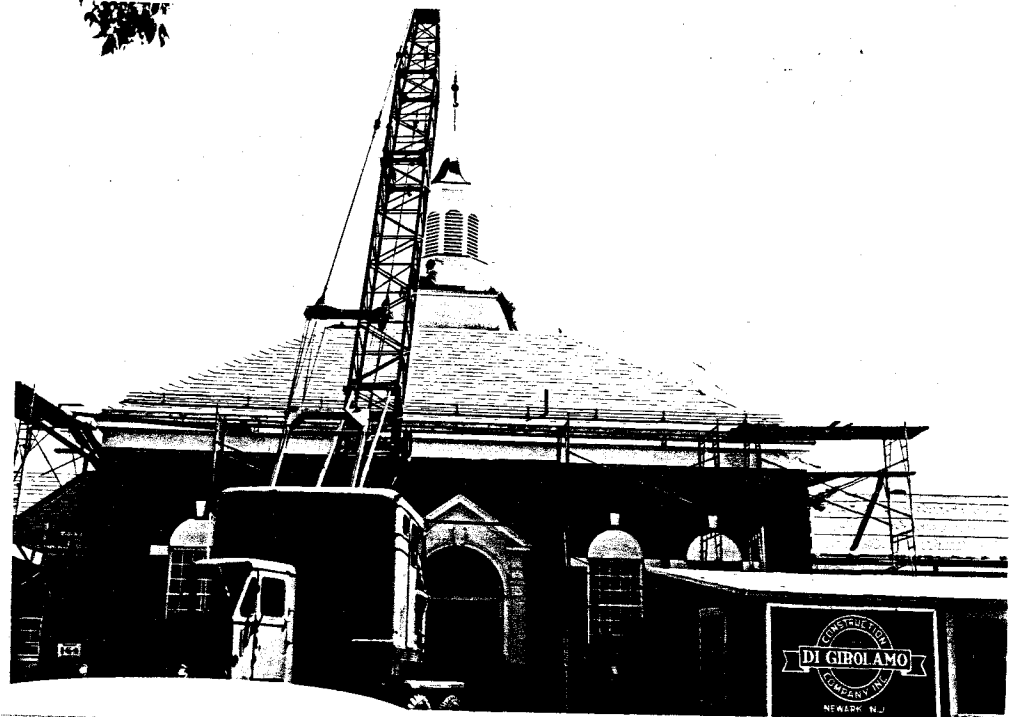
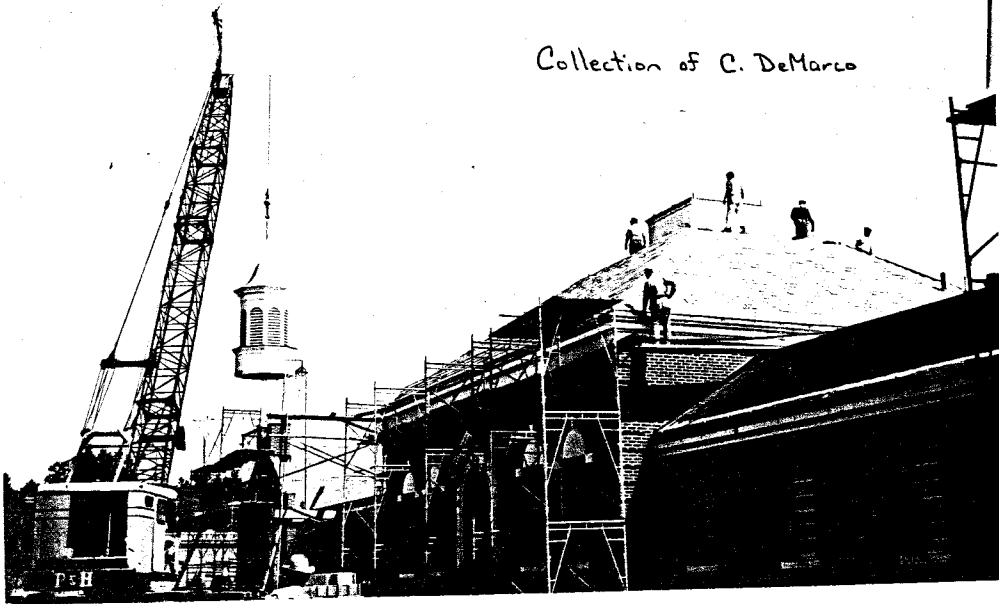


... street and

Chapter Eight

Construction of Township Hall - 1963

Collection of C. DeMarco





Chapter Eight

Livingston Auxilliary Police marching in
the 150th Anniversary Parade - 1963

Collection of C. DeMarco



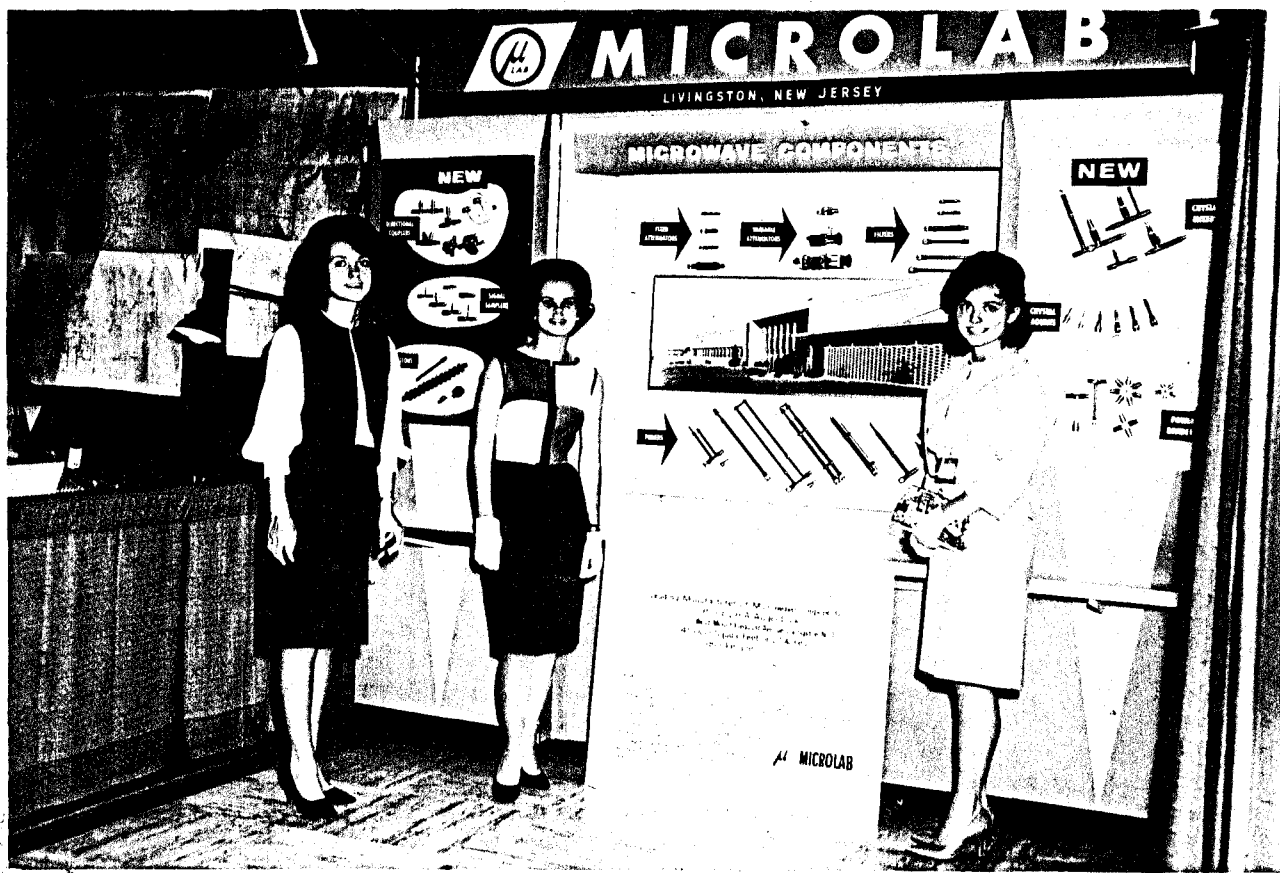
Chapter Eight

Livingston Township Hall after
completion - 1964



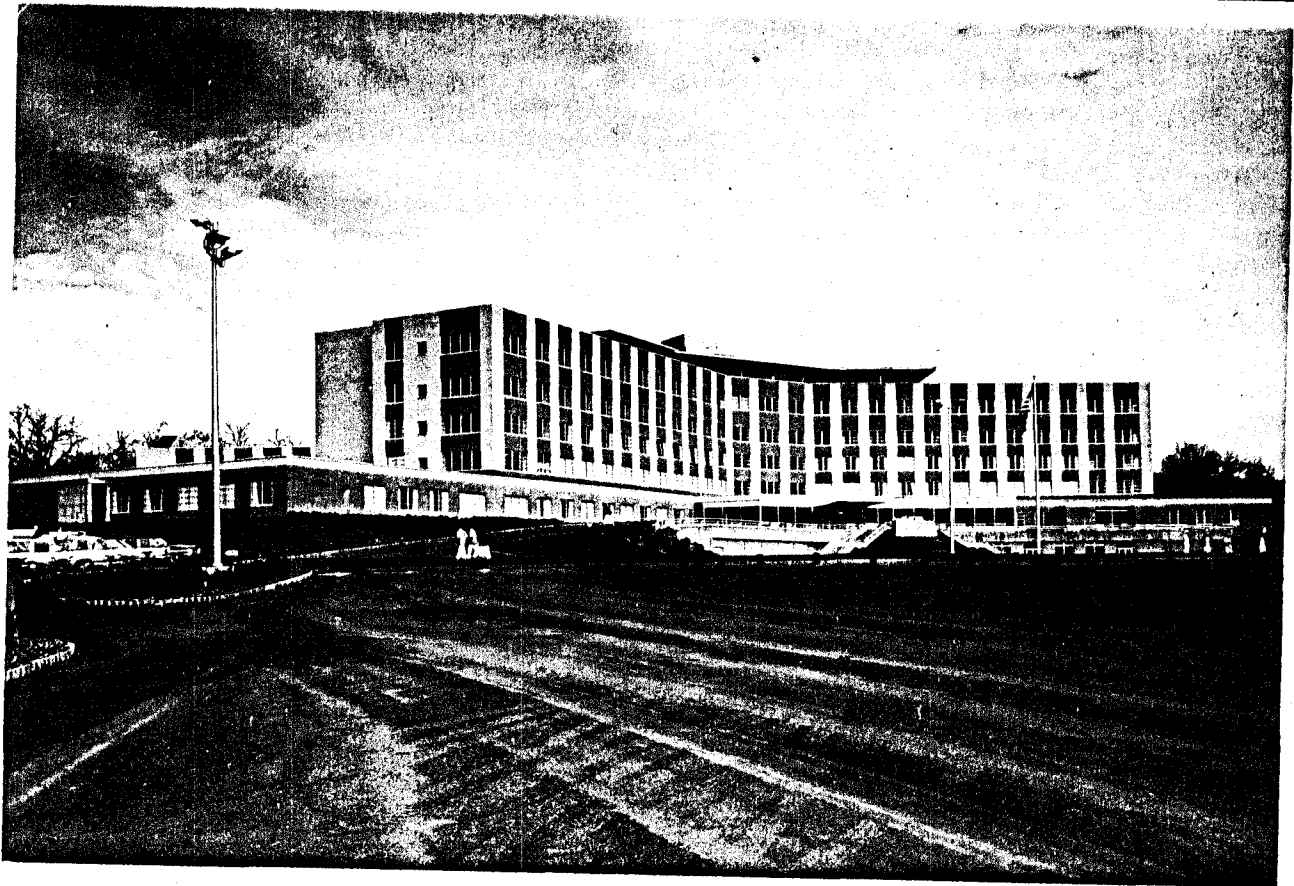
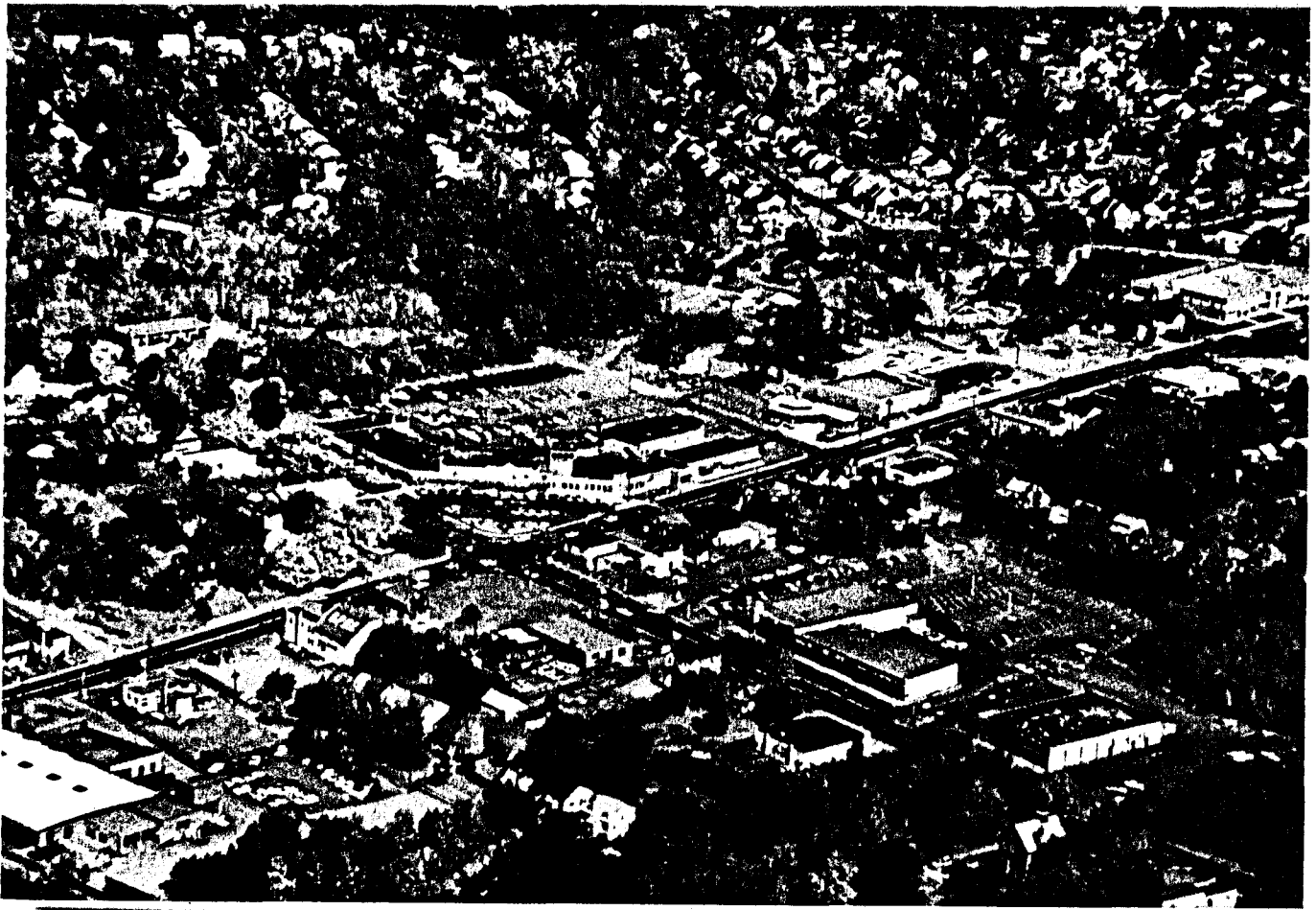
Chapter Eight

Old Livingston Fire Truck from 150th
Anniversary Parade - 1963



Chapter Eight

Exhibits from the Industrial Fair
during the 150th Anniversary celebration.
1963



Chapter Eight

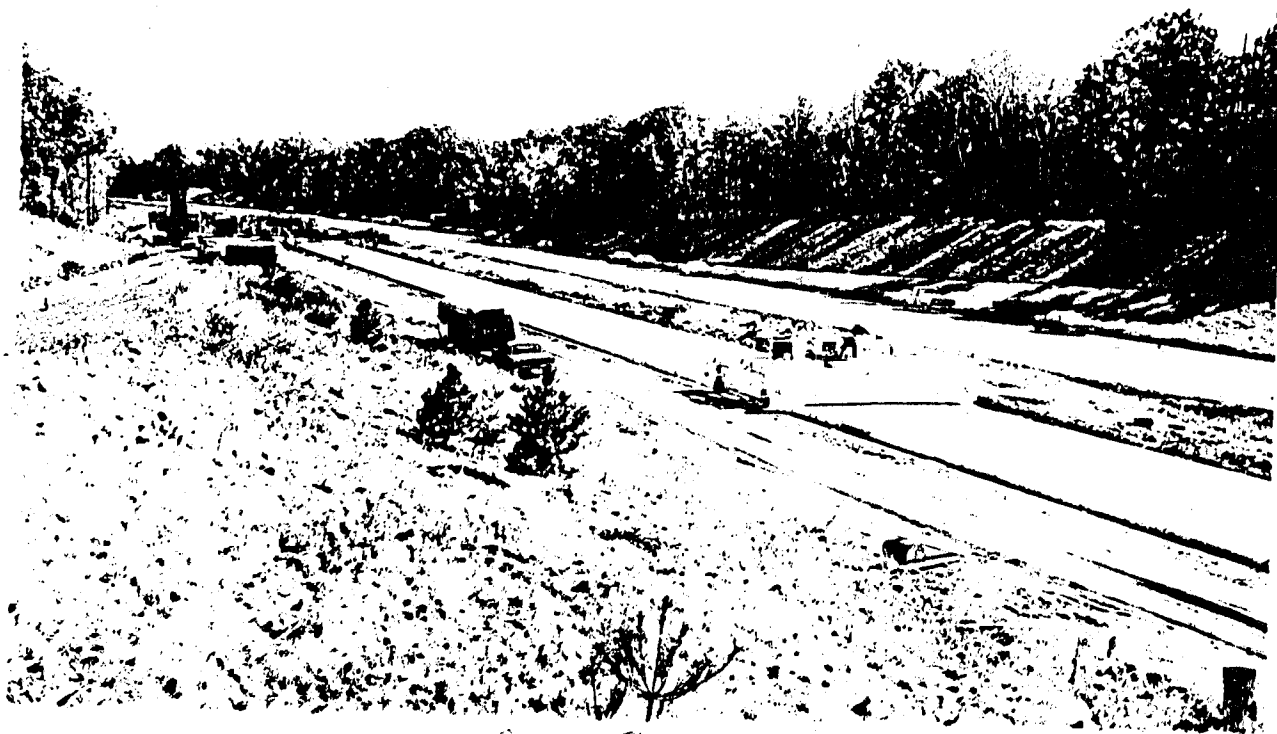
St. Barnabas Medical Center not long
CI 11 10.5



Chapter Eight

Livingston High School student
sit down - strike - 1970

Photo courtesy: West Essex Tribune

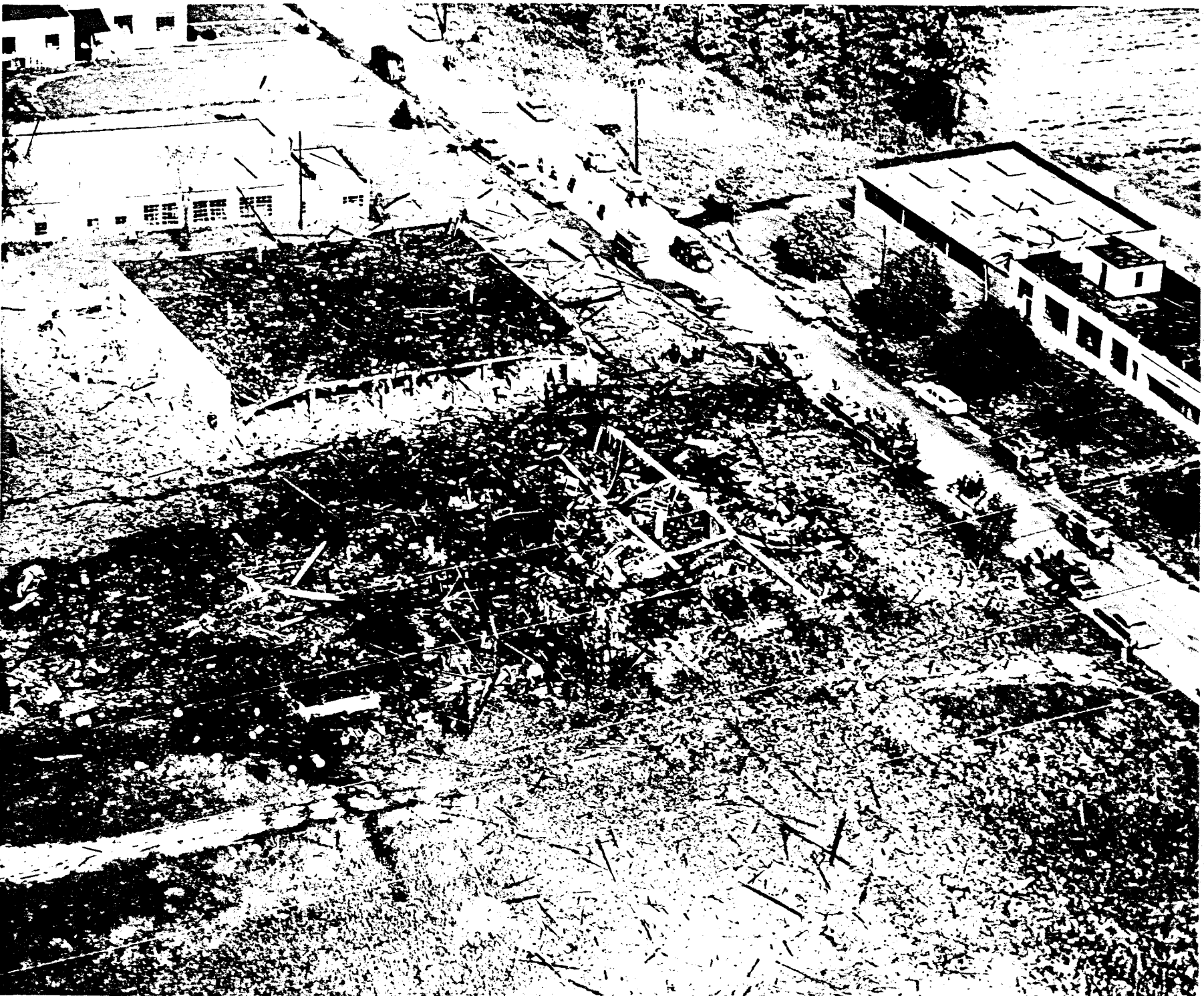


5-28-88

Chapter Eight

Interstate Route 280 under construction
just east of the Laurel Avenue overpass -
1472

Photo courtesy: West Essex Tribune



Chapter Eight

The site of the International Pump
Plant on Oxner Parkway after the



Chapter Nine

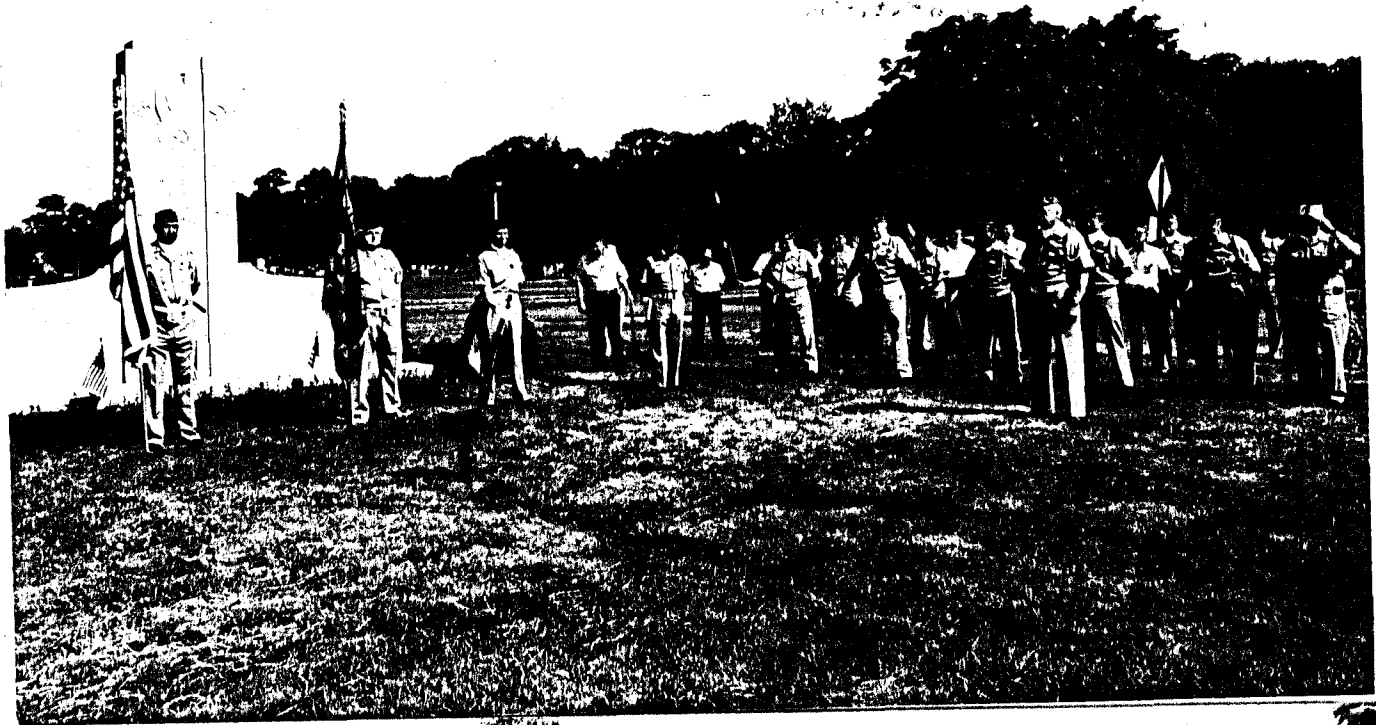
Livingston's Volunteer Fire Department in the Memorial Day Parade, during Livingston's 175th Anniversary celebration

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Nine

Participants in the Memorial Day Parade during Livingston's 175th Anniversary celebration.

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Nine

Memorial Day Services at Memorial Park - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter Nine

Livingston Township Hall, decked out for the 175th
Anniversary celebration.

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



Chapter Nine

Livingston Center - Formerly the Hockenjos
Building - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan



MOVED - 1-23-63 -



Chapter Ten

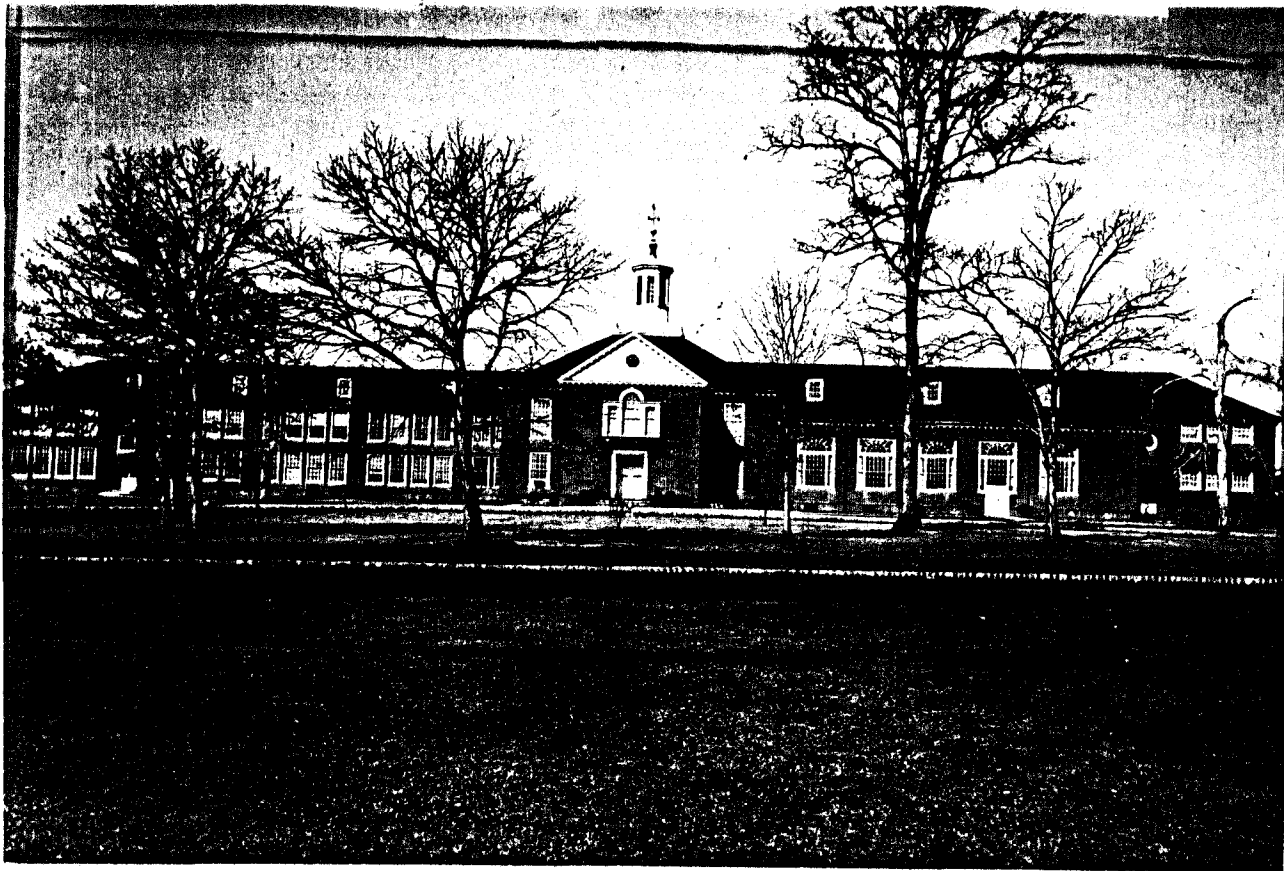
Livingston's second police headquarter's
(corner of Oak street & South Livingston
Avenue) At this location from January 1, 1930
to January 23, 1963.

Collection of C. DeMarco

Chapter Ten

Livingston Public Library which stood
on the corner of East Mount Pleasant Avenue
and Glendale Avenue - circa - 1950

Collection of C. DeMarco



Chapter Ten

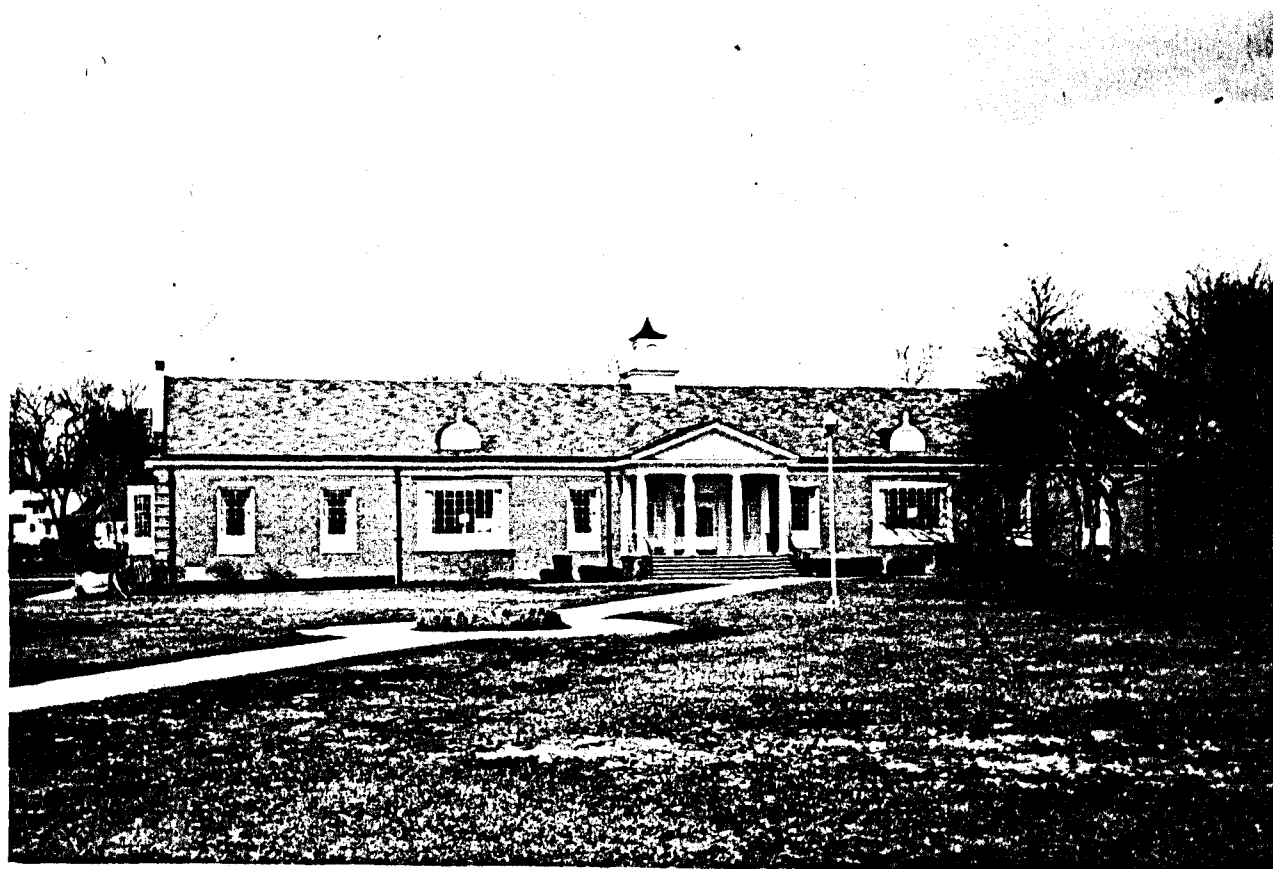
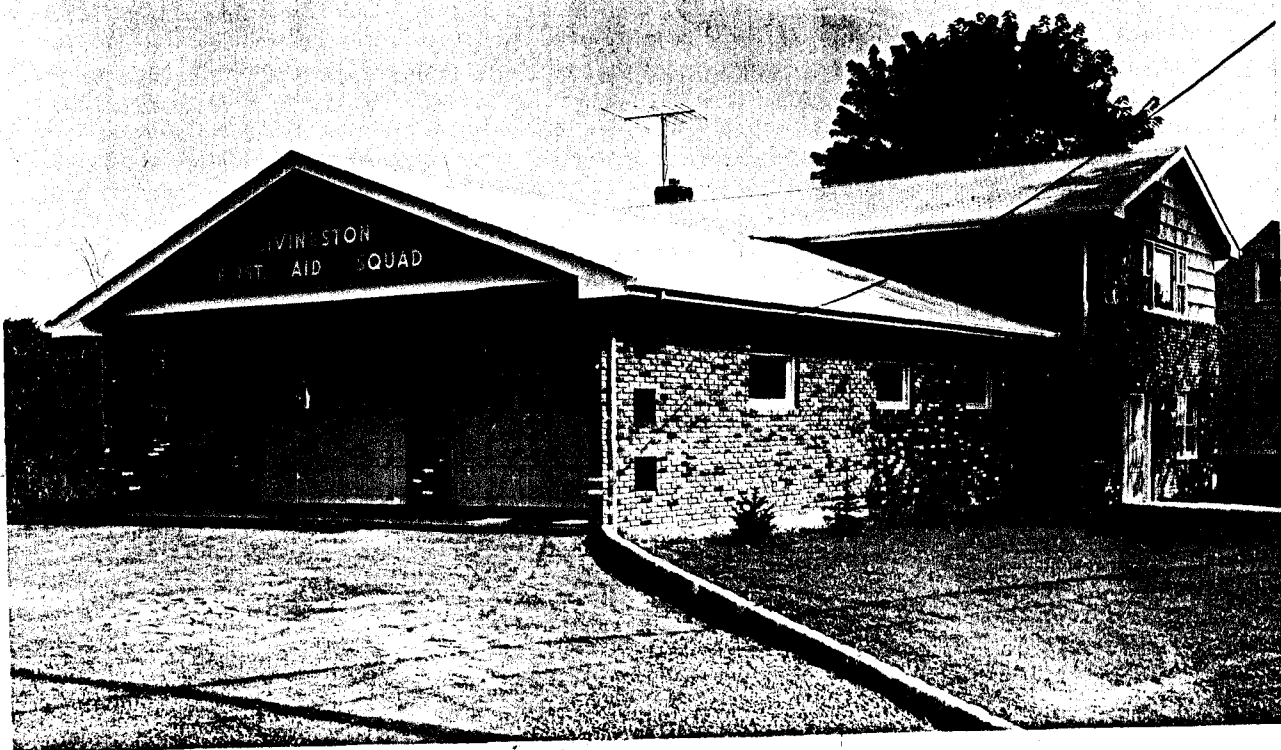
Construction of the Livingston First Aid
Squad building on the corner of Royal Avenue
and East Cedar St.

Collection of C. DeMarco

Chapter Ten

Livingston High School - 1980

Collection of C. DeMarco



Chapter Ten

Livingston First Aid Squad Building - 1968

Photo courtesy: Livingston Library

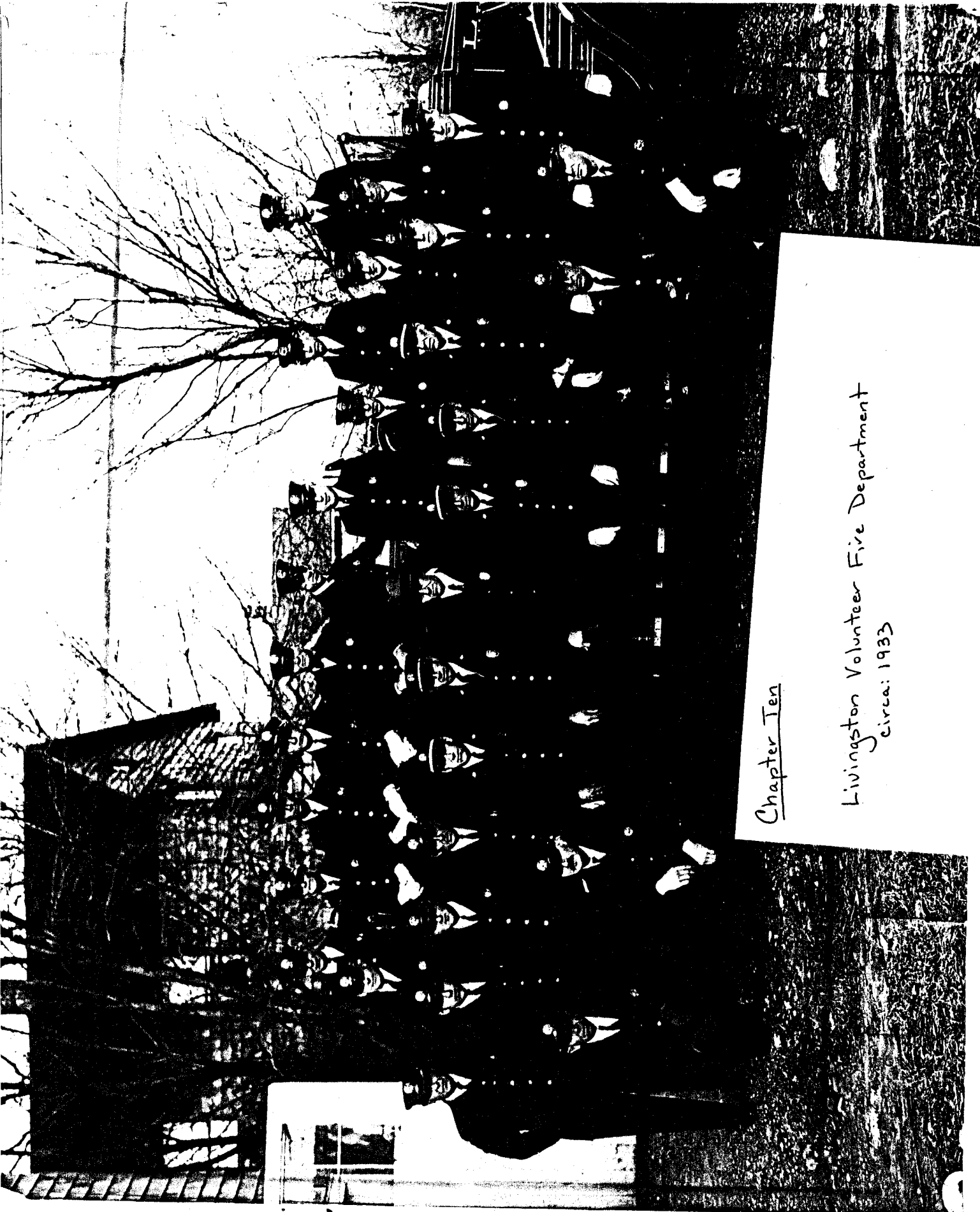
Chapter Ten

Livingston Public Library after
completion - 1961

Collection of C. DeMarco

Chapter Ten

Livingston Volunteer Fire Department
circa: 1933





Chapter 10-

Livingston Library Staff- August-1979



PROCESSED BY KODAK

Kodachrome
SLIDE

+



Chapter Ten

Harrison School - 1988

Photo by Sharon Sullivan

Chapter 10 -

Livingston Library Staff - August - 1979

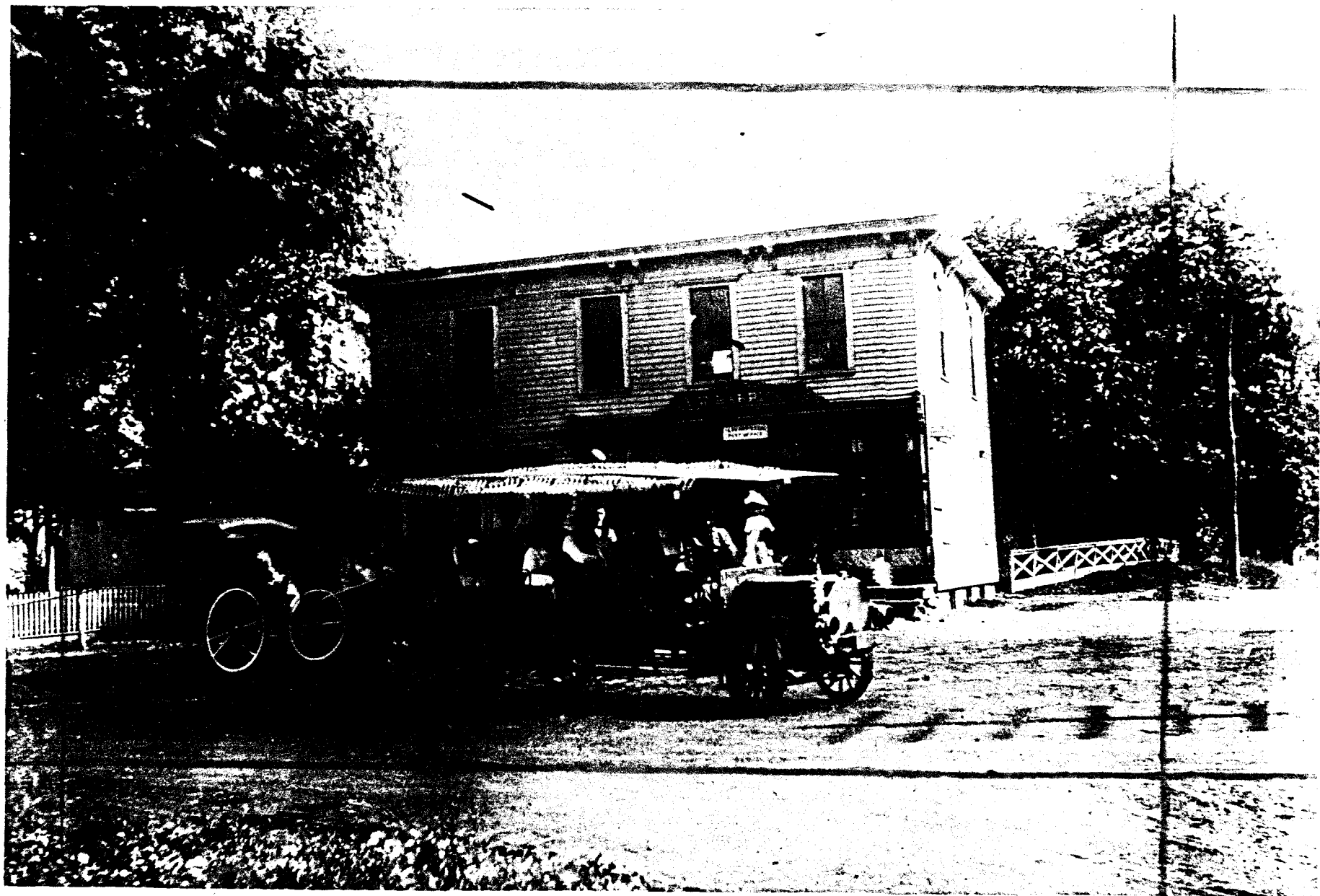


PROCESSED BY KODAK

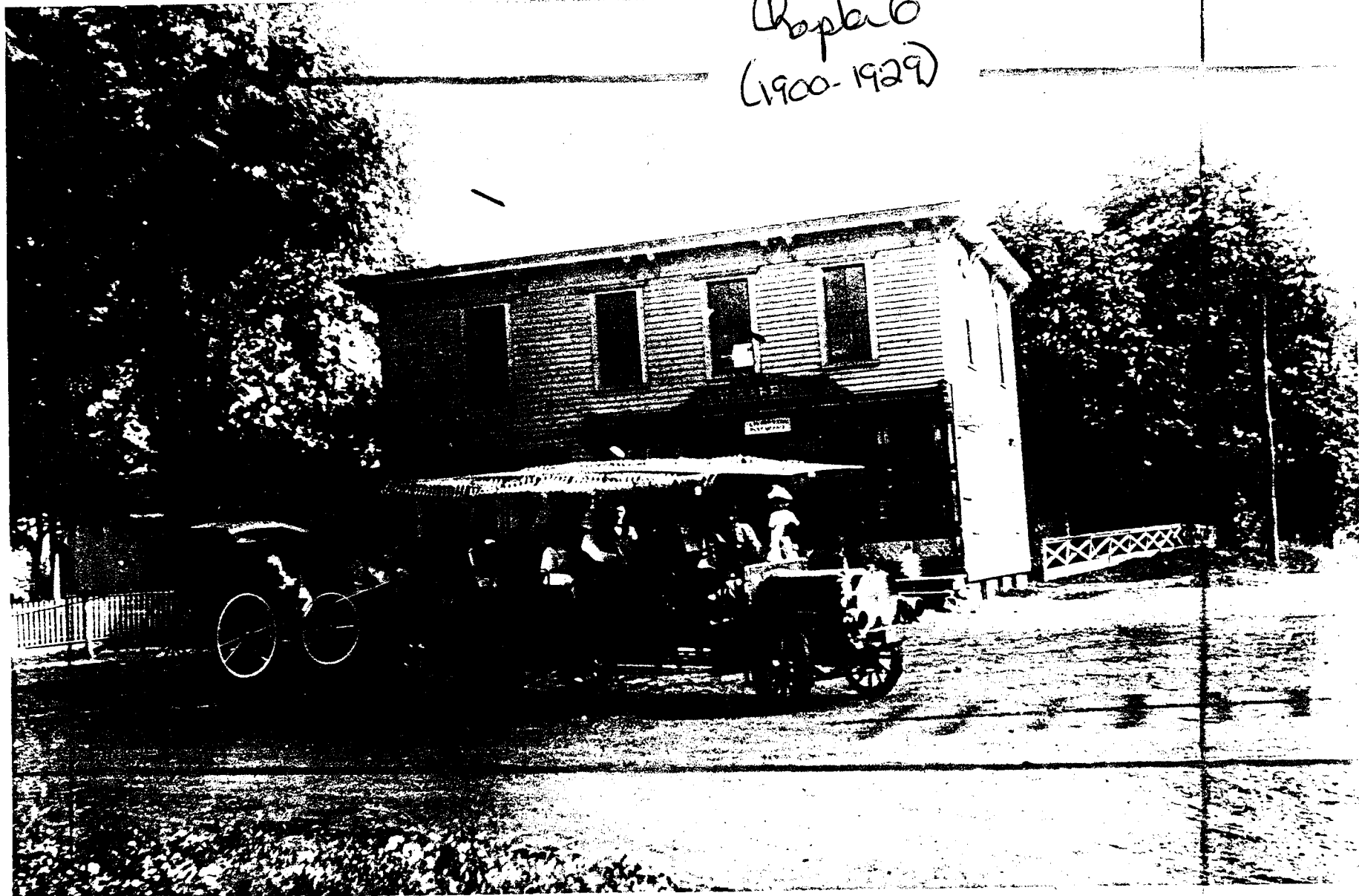


+

Kodachrome
SLIDE



Repla 6
(1900-1929)



Chuck
KKK

Arlene

Files KKK

Caldwell Progress
1925-27

Norma Manno Teed
KKK marches down Lincoln

Dry Raiders Seize Livingston Still

The largest still to be seized within the last few months was raided by federal prohibition investigators this afternoon on the Marycroft Farm, Sycamore avenue, (Livingston). Three men were arrested.

The farm was owned by the Ku Klux Klan when that organization was active in this section, but has since been sold. A board fence about ten feet high was recently erected around the property with the exception of a house and dance hall.

Word was spread around the neighborhood at that time that a golf course was to be constructed on the premises. Prior to that the land was used as a picnic ground.

The still, of the continuous process type, had a capacity of 35,000 gallons. On the premises were found three 50,000-gallon tanks of molasses and an empty 25,000-gallon tank in which molasses had been stored.

The federal men reported that no mash was found, but that there were two 50-gallon drums of alcohol in the building which housed the still.

They arrested Frank D'Mico of 189 Monroe street, Passaic; John Russo of 210 First street, Brooklyn, and Daniel Fitzgerald of Sycamore avenue, Livingston. The three men will be arraigned late this afternoon before United States Commissioner Joseph P. Holland on charges of manufacture and possession of liquor.

Man Found Injured At Klan Headquarters

A man believed to be John Shugg, Great Titan of the Ku Klux Klan in New Jersey, was found injured last night outside of the Klan headquarters in Livingston. He had apparently been struck over the head with a blunt instrument.

Dr. C. A. Birdsell of Caldwell, called by Police Chief Ashby, treated the man and friends took him away. The doctor today said he did not know the names of the injured man or his friends, but he thought the man he treated was Shugg.

The man was conscious at the time of the doctor's arrival and his injury was not serious, the doctor said.

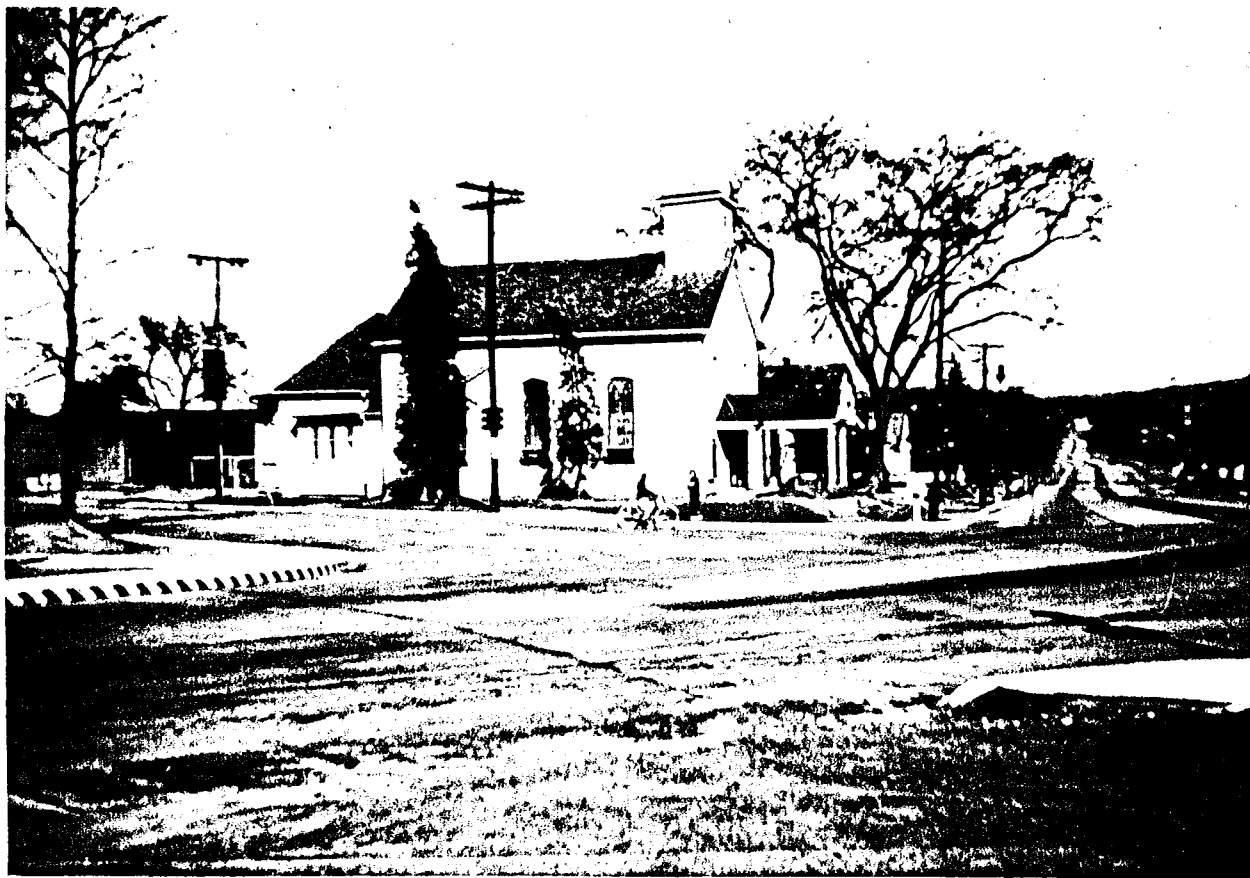
Probe of Night Attack on Klan Leader at Standstill

Unable to locate John Shugg, Great Titan of the Ku Klux Klan of New Jersey, who on Tuesday night was attacked by two men in a dark road in Livingston, Chief of Police William Ashby of that township today declared his investigation had come to a standstill. Members of the Klan, he believes, have spirited the leader away in an effort to avoid publicity.

Chief Ashby was called immediately to the scene of the attack and found the man unconscious. He soon revived, however, and told the chief he had secured a good look at his assailants and would be able to identify them. He added that he knew the identity of one of them.

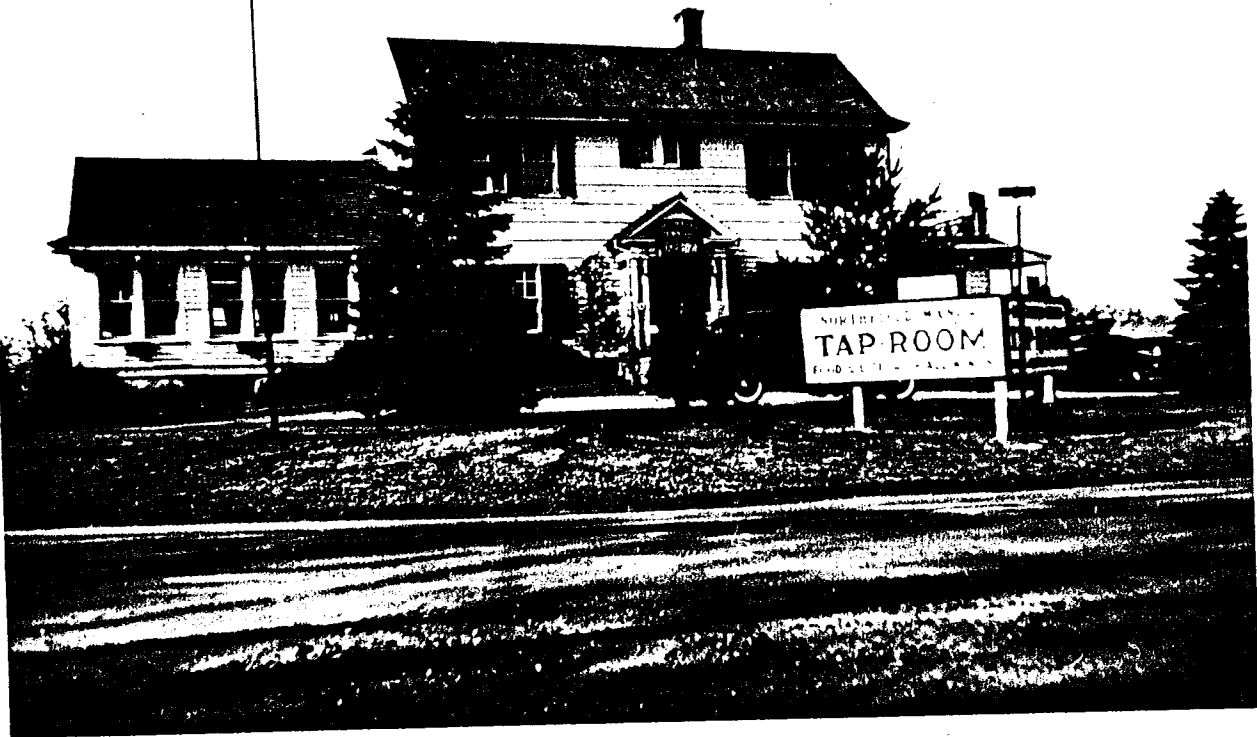
Shortly after friends of the injured man took care of him and carried him to one of their homes.

No address was given Chief Ashby by the man. A member of the Klan said Shugg had been living at headquarters of the Klan in Livingston outside of which the attack occurred. Dr. C. A. Birdsell of Caldwell treated the man. He said his injuries were not serious.

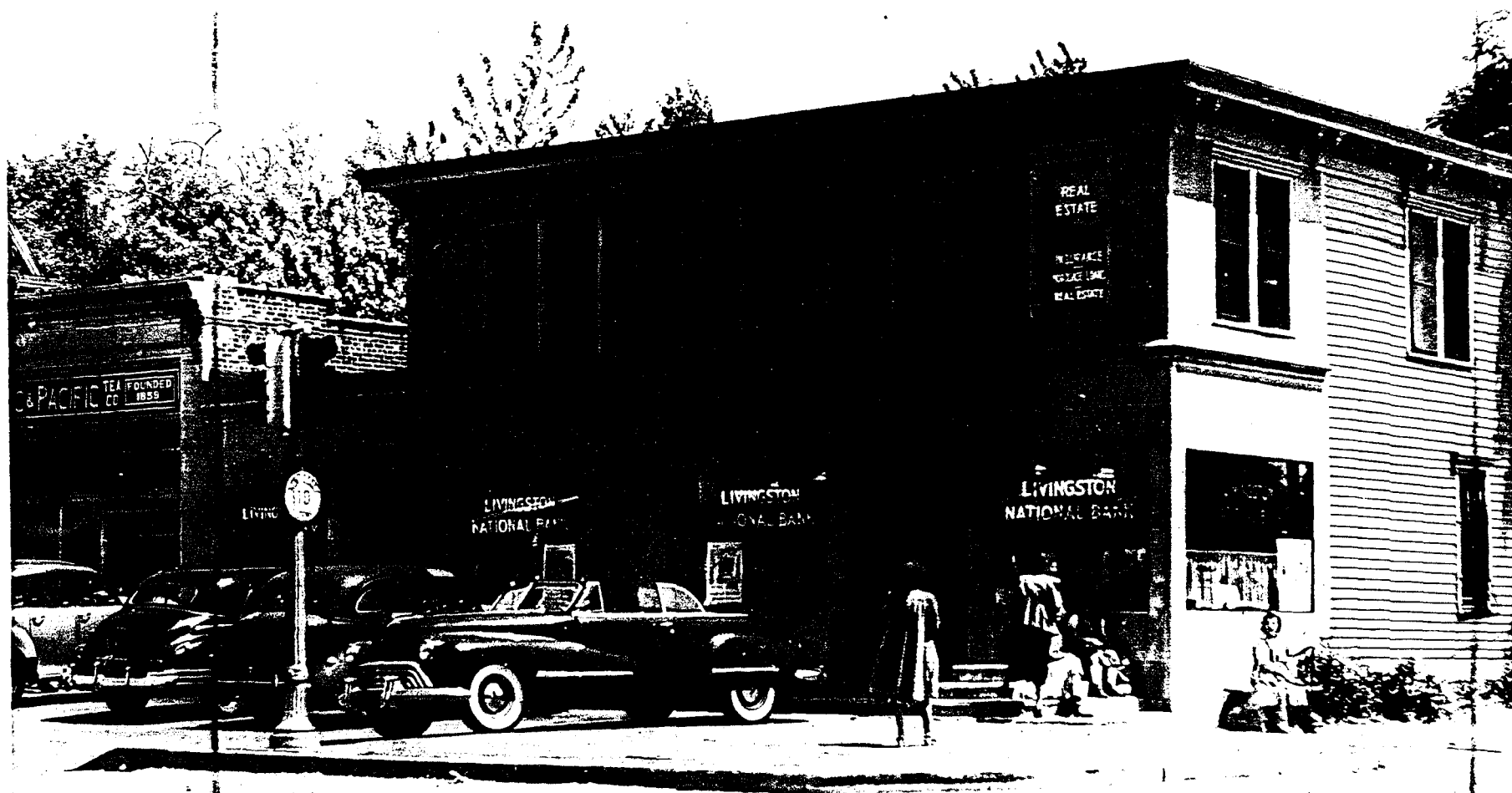


Chapta 7
(1930-1949)









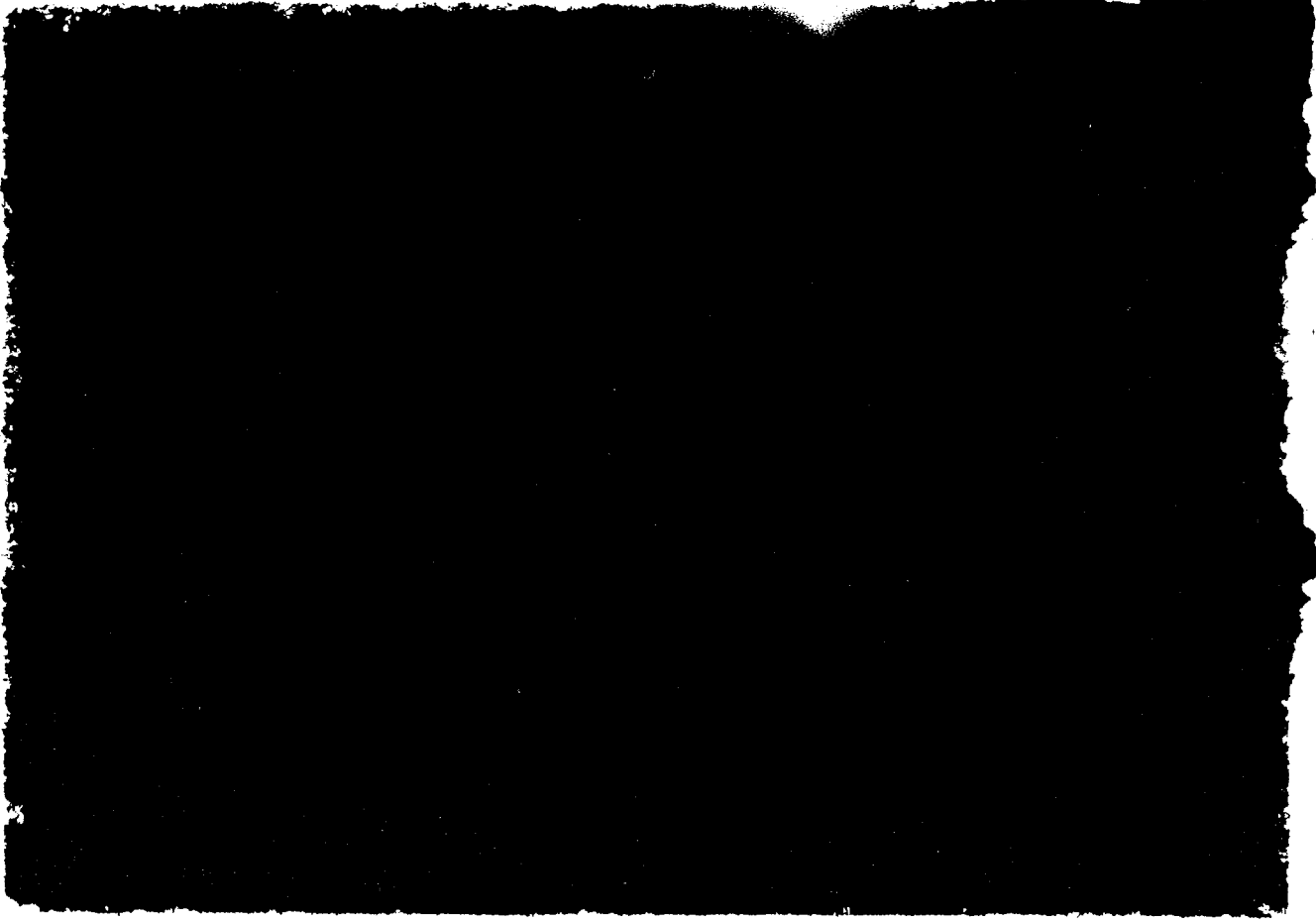


Chapter 8
1950-1980





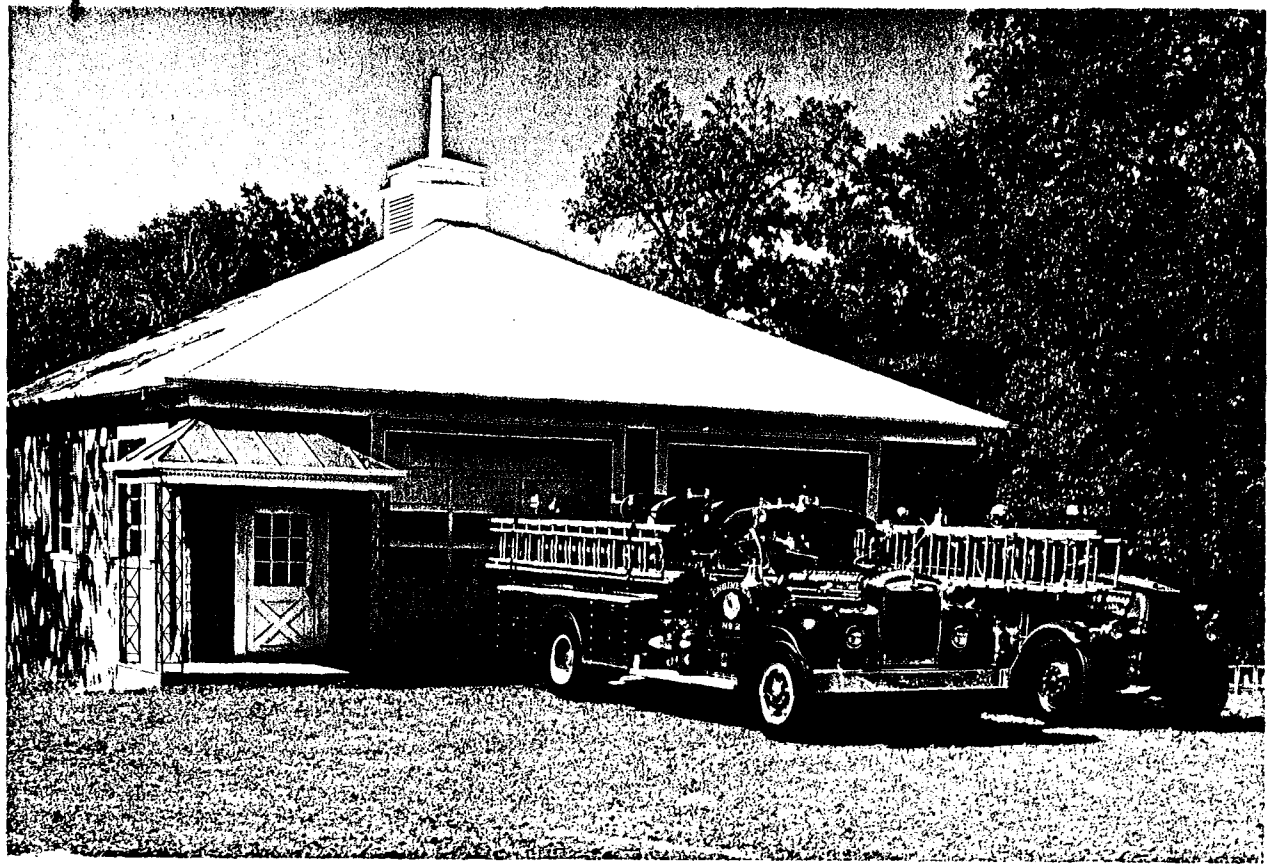


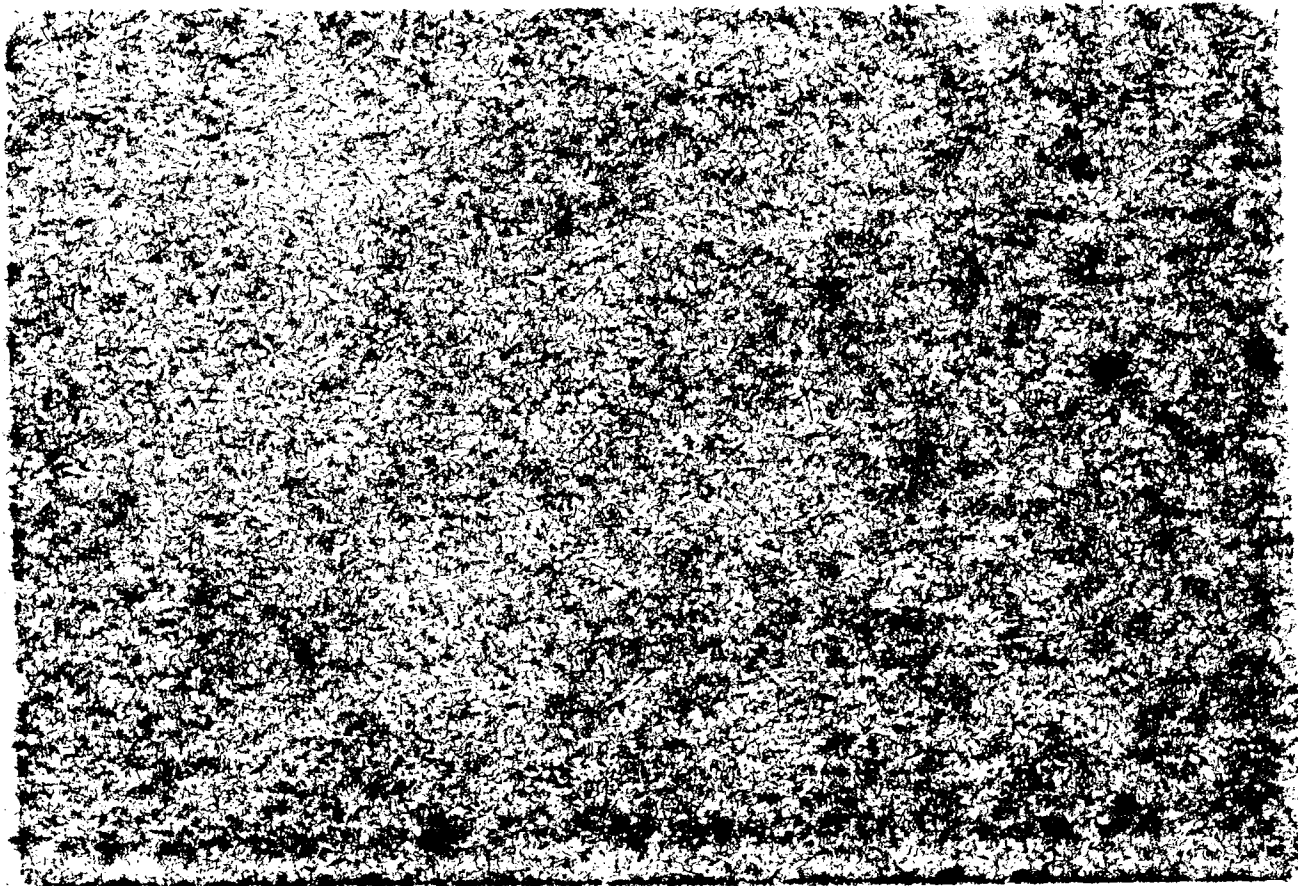


The inside of the Northfield Baptist
church was almost completely destroyed
by fire - on February 1, 1940.

PGFF
Anst

233399



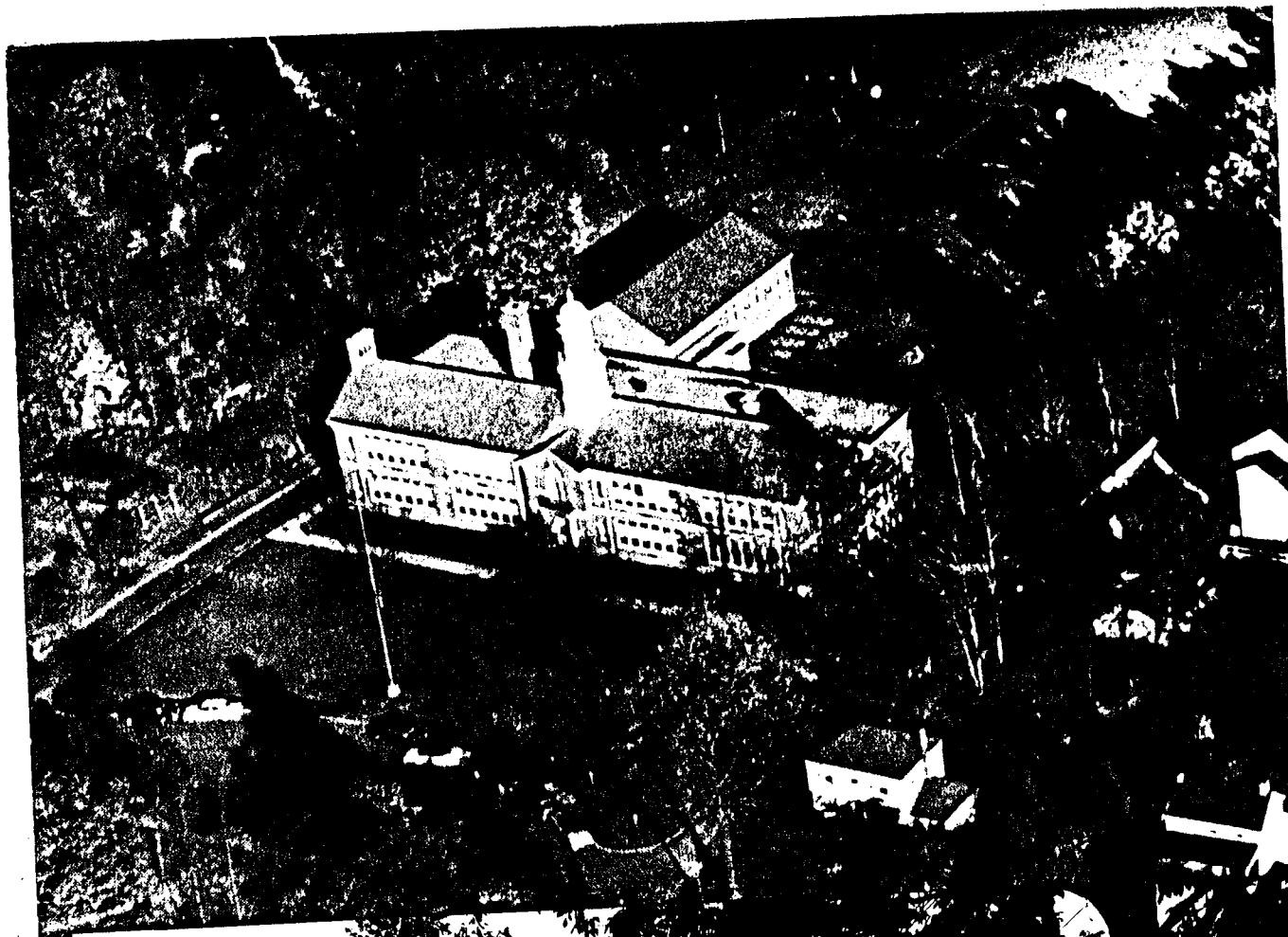


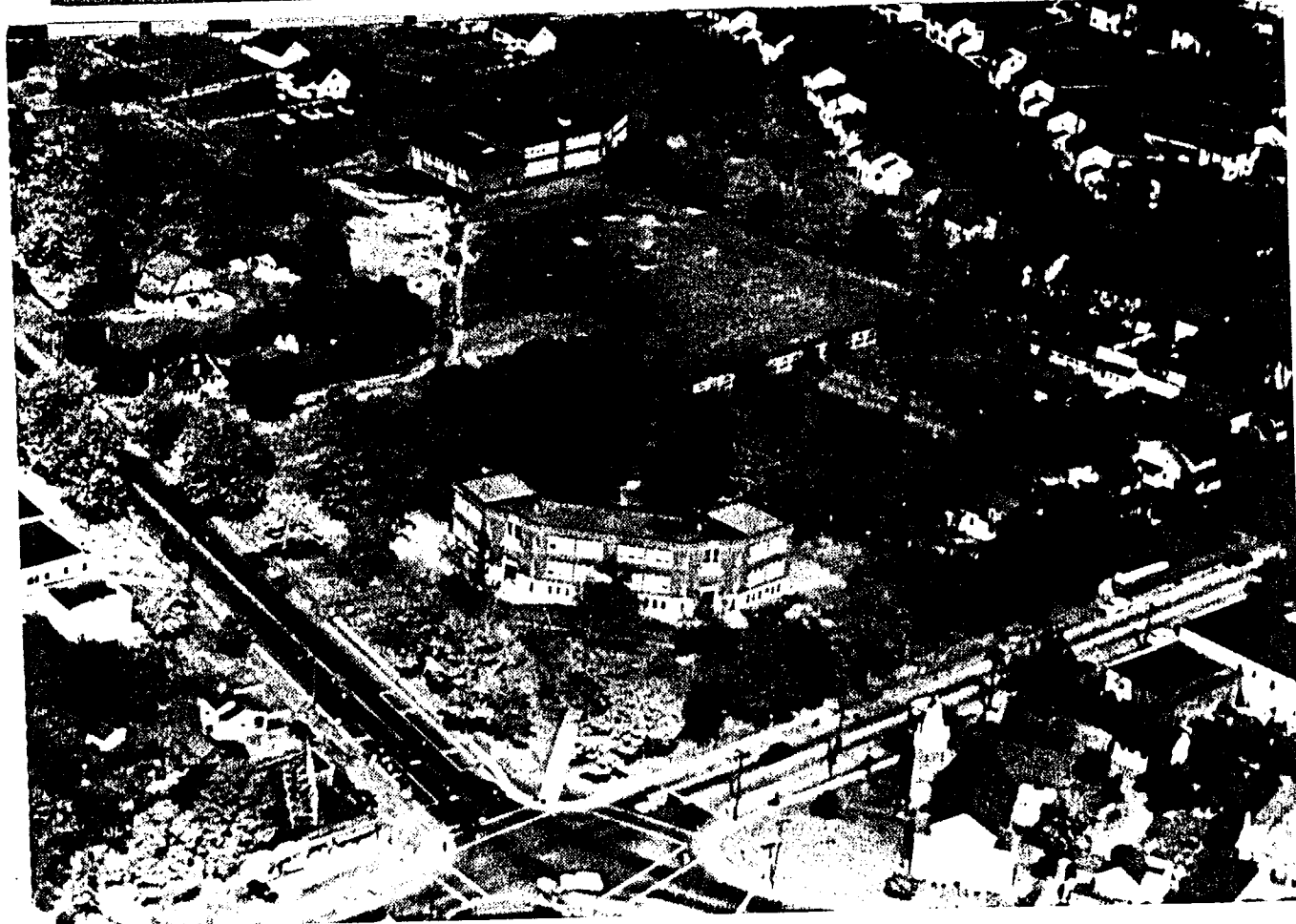
Livingston Historic Sites Survey
August 1961

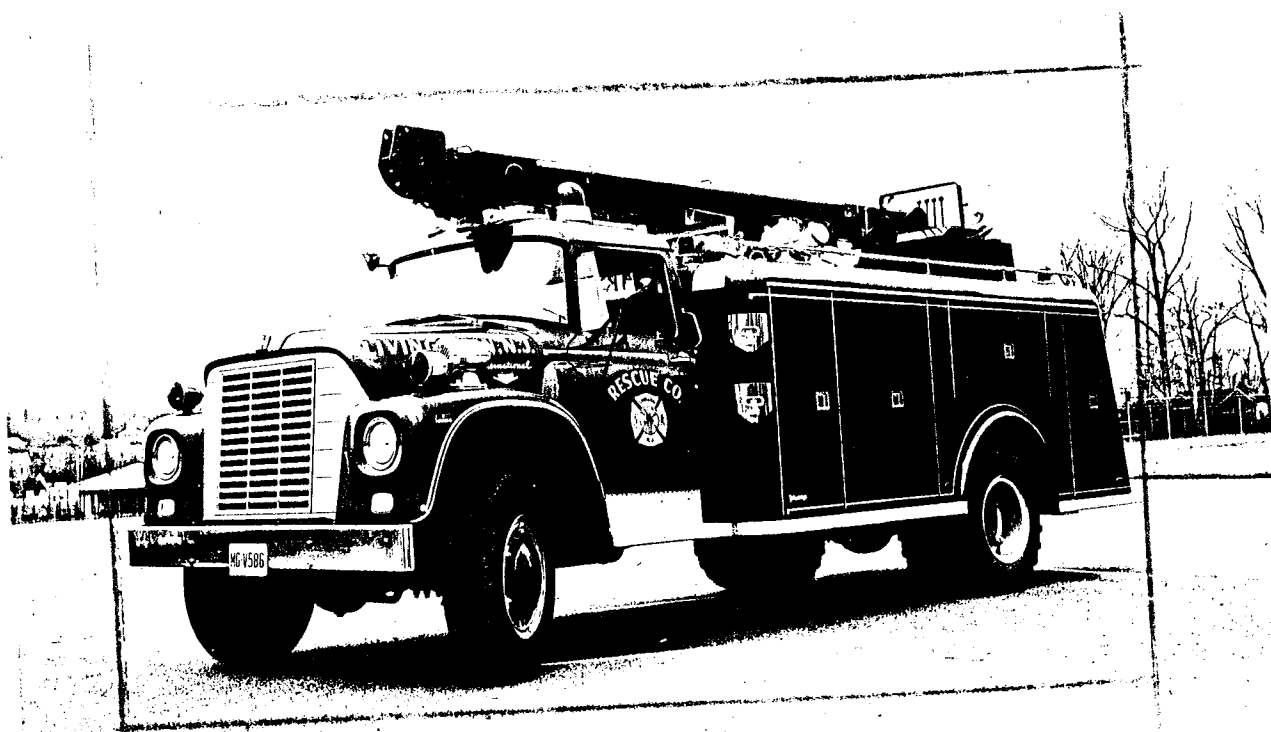
Roll #5 #10

Sheriff Andrew Teed
223 W. Mt. Pleasant Ave



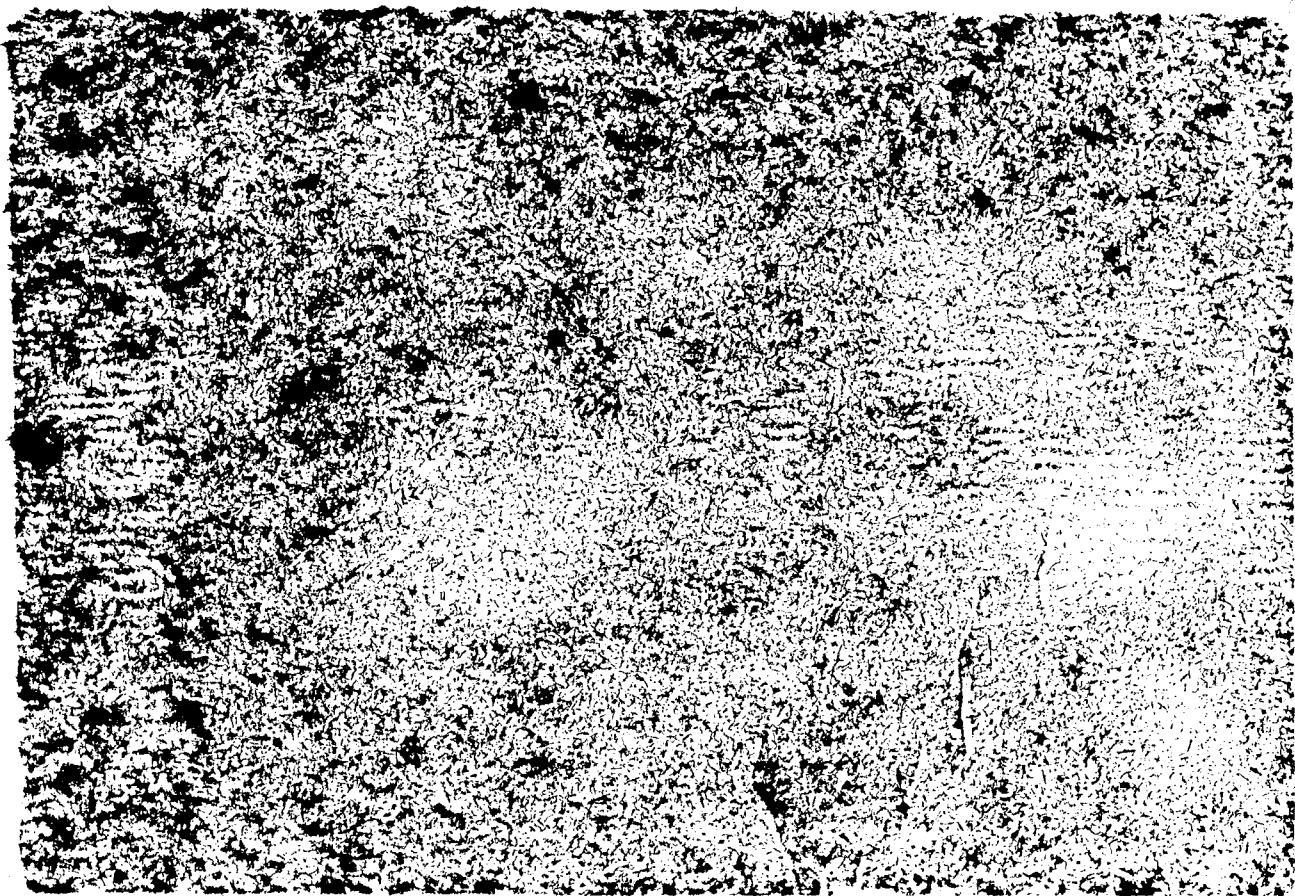


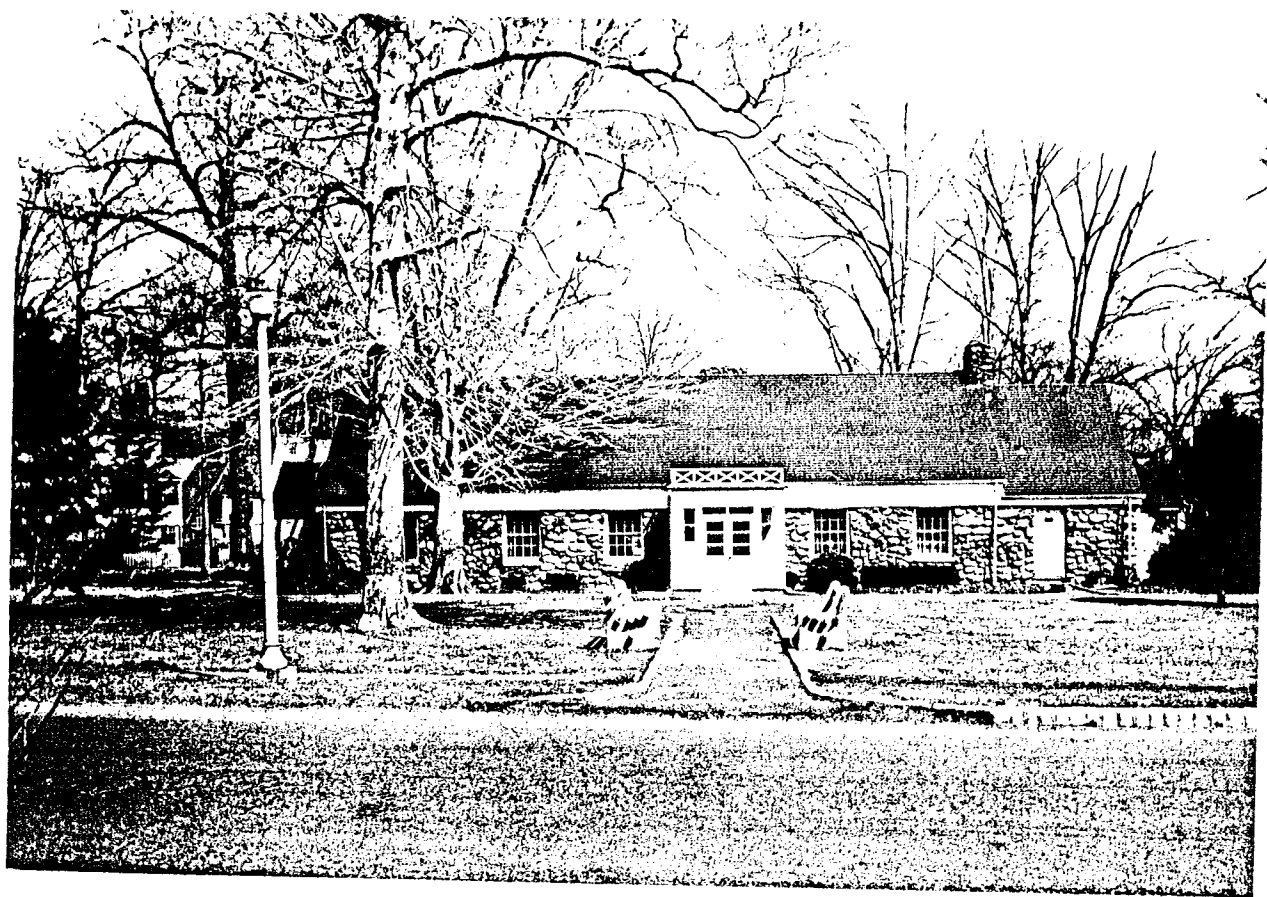




Golden Star Fraternity in
front of Harrison's store
Liv. Center 1893

3117





B A C K

C O V E R

Back in the days when Livingston was young, on deep dark nights, residents of the community claim that phosphorescent flames could be seen playing about the summit of Riker Hill, shooting from one side of the hill to the other. The mountain has been known by many names including: Canoe Hill, Mine Hill, Riker Hill and even Sodom! Although no one has seen this phenemonom in the last 100 years, this folk tale lives on, and has been graphically depicted on this cover. This important piece of folk lore, as well as many other important historical events are chronicled in **Livingston: A History Worth Remembering** From the days of the Indians through the 175th anniversary, historian and author Charles DeMarco, Jr. has captured the important, unusual and interesting facts and events as well as the lives of the people who helped to make Livingston and its story worth remembering.