"Remembering Yesterday For The People Of Tomorrow



<u>Bulletin</u>

P.O. Box 118 • Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

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We meet on the third MONDAY of January, April, July, and October - at 7:00pm

OUR NEXT MEETING: Will be held on MONDAY July 19th at 7:00pm in the basement of the Haddon Heights Library (disabled accessible). Our speaker will be PrincetonArchitect Ronald Berlin, with a program entitled "A Labor of Love: Renovating the Woodrow Wilson House." Mr Berlin will recount the 52-month renovation project to restore the 114-year-old Princeton, NJ, home our 28th President lived in with his wife and daughters when he was still president of Princeton University. All are welcome, Admission is free.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Welcome to July and to Ron Berlin, who will document the renovation of the Woodrow Wilson House at our meeting on the 19th. Your attendance at this meeting is very important – otherwise you'll miss not just his informative lecture, but also the sign up for two great outings ~ the "Secrets of the Schuylkill" tour on Saturday, July 24th and the evening Pinelands Tour with last Fall's speaker Russell Juleg on Saturday, October 23rd. There is a cost of \$20 for the Schuylkill boat ride and \$10 for the Pinelands tour, so bring a check (or cash) with you as well. Space is limited, so the sign-ups will be first come-first served. Additional information on each outing will be available at the meeting.

On October 18th, our speaker will be Haddon Heights' own, Arborist Steve Dorsey, who will talk about our town's history of tree planting and present the Shade Commission's new publication on Heights' "Walking Arboretum." In January, historian Stanley H. Lipson will speak on the Centennial of Boy Scouting in America, illustrated with some of the 3,500 Boy Scouting postcards he has in his collection. In April, Marc Mappen, just retired Executive Director of the New Jersey Historical Commission, will present his new book, *There's More to New Jersey Than the Sopranos*.

Meanwhile, we are working with Camden County Parks to install two interpretive signs, one by the Canons and one at the Dell. They will highlight the history of the Haddon Heights Lake and early town history, and the role of King's Run and the Glover Fulling Mill in Haddon Heights' historical development. The two signs will be dedicated at the Revolutionary War Encampment on October 9th at the park. These signs, as well as one on the history of the Albertson Memorial Fountain, are being funded by donations from the Milton and Dorothy Sarnoff Raymond Foundation and the Brownrigg Charitable Trust in memory of Lynn Laitman.

Finally, we are encouraging the owners of the Borough's centennial buildings to replace their old faded yellow signs

with attractive new cast aluminum plaques designed by Robert Petrillo, who has the original plaque installed on his centennial home at 216 9th Ave. A sample plaque (pictured) that was ordered from Glading-Hill Memorials will be on display at our July meeting. See you there!

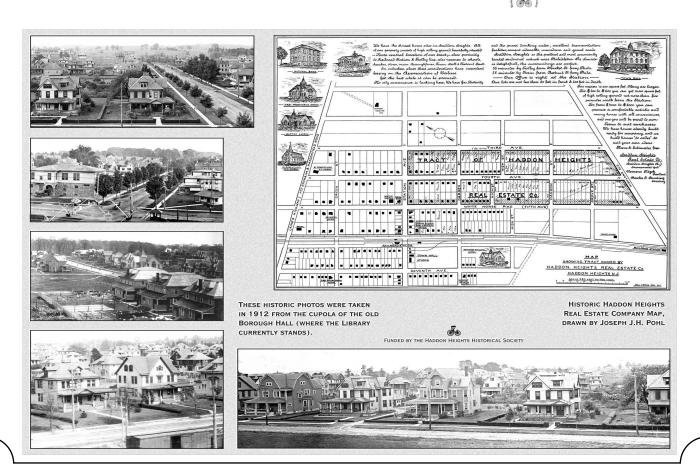
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<u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Still...</u> The Historical Society is in need of a couple of individuals willing to assist the Board in the following roles: Photographer, and Webmaster. We are looking for someone with a digital camera to chronicle our meetings, speakers, and events. We also need a webmaster to manage our new Historical Society website as it comes online! If you can help us, please contact one of the Board Members.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES...PAST TIMES (Part-III)- This is the third installment in our series of articles about the three interpretive historical signs along Station Avenue. The third sign is located in front of the Haddon Heights library and shows aerial views taken in 1912 from the cupola of the original Borough Hall that stood in the library's current location. These views show houses in every direction and are a wonderful source of information for property owners who wish to restore porches and other building components. In addition, the Haddon Heights Real Estate Company's promotional map is reproduced, showing lots that have been developed and others available for sale. Sketches of the Borough's churches are also included.

The public's reaction to these new signs has been overwhelmingly positive, and has led to interest in placing additional signs at other historic locations including the Glover Fulling Mill, the four Pre-Revolutionary War houses, and the Horse Trough at King's Highway. We are working in your interest to make more historical signs a reality. Stay tuned as the year progresses for additional information.



HISTORY ON PARADE— Although we Only had a few dedicated folks show up as marchers for the Historical Society, (please take this not so subtle hint and make it a point to join us next year!!) Once again, I decorated my 1929 Model A Ford with over two dozen flags and represented the Historical Society in the July Fourth parade through town. As in past years, my son-in-law's father, Mark Zimmerman from Mt. Laurel came to support our cause with his 1930 Model A Four-Door Sedan. I enjoy "Driving History" so much that my car "Florence" and I participated in five parades over four days to help others celebrate the 4th of July!!! I have included a few photos below.



Editor's Note: This article first appeared in the Society's July 1985 newsletter. It was written in January 1938 by Harry Marvin of Woodlynne, NJ. Mr. Marvin was a civil engineer who worked for the State of New Jersey, and was President of the Camden County Historical Society. Mr. Marvin's paper was donated to our Society by Mrs. Edna Gurley. It was uncovered by Bob Hunter as part of the research for the new County Park sign about the Dell and the Glover Mill pond.

W.P.A. Forces Excavate Revolutionary Cannon Ball on Haddon Heights Park Project

"During Christmas week of 1937,...a W.P.A. worker turning slow but thorough-going shovelfulls of mother earth on the nearby Camden County Park project along King's Run in Haddon Heights, uncovered a relic embedded there in the virgin soil for a century and a half. "Foreman Smith and his group constructing footpaths along the borders of the small but beautiful lake formed by impounding behind an artistic and substantial stone dam the waters of King's Run, a branch of Newton Creek, struck a cannon ball weighing three and a half pounds and measuring three inches in diameter. The ball, found about eighteen inches deep,... proved to be as free from corrosion as the day it left the furnace and forge operated by the American patriots at Batsto, Atsion, Weymouth or some other bog iron producing center, during the Revolutionary War. To the particularly resistant qualities of bog iron we owe the possibility of identification of the product, and thus its period of manufacture~ even to say that its mould was of two halves as shown by the slight ridge or burr formed by the seam.

"The finding of cannon balls throughout West Jersey is not uncommon, but usually the finds are at well-known locations of recorded battles or minor engagements, between the Provincial troops and the Hessians. Some, such as the Battle of Gloucester, are little known to the general reading public. The fact that Lafayette himself led the small American force and that they with few casualties to themselves, inflicted a loss of about sixty killed and wounded upon the British, lends interest to the engagement fought on November 25,1777. "Since the battle site was in the nearby vicinity it is only natural to connect our cannon ball with that battle. This is possible but not probable. "It is known that the British were equipped with artillery and that the battle began at about two miles from Gloucester on the "Gloucester Road" (Old King's Highway). Cannon fired by the British would have been aimed in the general direction of Haddon Heights, through which territory the Americans approached the enemy.

"The British had little time to develop their artillery fire, however, for the intrepid Lafayette aided by several other brilliant French officers and several hundred militia and crack riflemen quickly drove the Hessians back upon Gloucester. The Americans it is presumed traveled light and without artillery for they came down from Burlington County the morning of the battle and spent much of the day spying out the position of British forces and noting their activities. The attack occurred just before dusk. The result of this victory was the commissioning of Lafayette with the rank of Major General of the Continental Army, by Congress.

"At the spot where the cannon ball was excavated there stood in early days an earth dam about in the position of the present stone dam erected by W.P.A. which formed the mill pond of Jacob Albertson's grist mill known to have been in existence as early as 1750 [and was located in present-day Audubon where there is now a lake].... "The surveyors of the highways,"

of that period, often took advantage of the dams to effect crossing of streams, thus, saving the cost of bridge construction and maintenance. Too, mills, next to taverns and meeting houses were the chief places requiring accessible roads.

"Gloucester Road during the Revolution passed over Jacob Albertson's mill dam and because of the restricted width became rutted and we may surmise almost impassable during a winter thaw. It requires no gifted imagination to picture a supply wagon of the Colonial forces drawn by weary sweating horses boiling over the dam and up the hill hub-deep in clinging mud and clay; of a resultant collapse of wheel of axel under its heavy load of cannon shot intended for one of the American defenses on the Delaware.

And so in a prosaic way by the spilling of a loaded wagon in a deep rutted highway—a mere detail—like the shooting of a patriot sentry at dawn—each a minor but necessary part of final victory and the building of a great nation, it remains after one hundred and sixty years for a handful of rounded iron to remind us of the achievements of dauntless men who wrote greatness into our history."

Just a reminder...The Historical Society is a 501(c) 3 organization. Please keep us in mind as you plan your charitable donations. 2010 - Historical Society Board

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THANKS for listening ... I know you are out there.

We need more members interested in becoming active so we can keep this thing going for future generations!

Drop me a line. Let us know your recollections and memories of our town. Share some history!

Ken
Funkhouser, Editor

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