

**THE BULLETIN**  
*of*  
**RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

VOLUME II

SPRING, 1967

No. 7



INCORPORATED APRIL 30, 1948

*Headquarters and Museum*

THE FINLEY HOUSE  
BEECH TREE LANE AND BELLEVUE AVENUE  
WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA

Visitors Cordially Welcome. Telephone MUrray 8-2668.

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\*Deceased

**RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
(a non-profit educational institution)

**Annual Treasurer's Report**

**April 30, 1967**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
Balance Cash — April 30, 1966 .....	\$ 487.03
Dues .....	588.00
Contributions .....	2,706.43
Rent .....	780.14
Interest — Common Stocks and Sausser Trust .....	1,140.97
Advertising .....	142.50
Miscellaneous Receipts .....	41.00
Total Receipts .....	\$5,886.07

**DISBURSEMENTS**

Stationery and Printing Expenses .....	\$ 215.79
Bulletins .....	377.75
Telephone .....	95.01
Insurance Premiums .....	280.00
Gas and Electric Service .....	241.62
Water and Sewer .....	94.68
Fuel Oil .....	521.79
Lawn Care and Snow Removal .....	51.50
<b>Borrowed Money:</b>	
Interest .....	\$ 382.19
Principal Payments .....	1,900.00
Total Disbursements .....	2,282.19
Repairs and Maintenance .....	201.57
Additional Building Costs .....	472.07
Furniture and Fixtures .....	699.04
Dues and Subscriptions .....	18.50
Miscellaneous Expenses .....	42.23
Total Disbursements .....	\$5,593.74
Balance Cash in General Fund — April 30, 1967 .....	292.33
Total .....	\$5,886.07

Additional Savings Account — \$68.88

Membership is open to those interested. Dues \$3.00 per annum.

Contributions to Society are deductible for Income Tax purposes.

Balance of Restoration Debt is \$5,900.

We need additional community support.

O. LOUIS EHMANN, JR., Treasurer  
123 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne, Pa.

As the Bulletin went to press the Society was shocked and distressed to learn of the death of its Vice President, James Rawle, II. Mr. Rawle became a Director of the Society in January of 1959 and had served as Vice President since May of 1965. His counsel, his assistance, his devotion to Radnor will be missed.

**SOUTH WAYNE AND THE WAYNE PUBLIC SAFETY ASSOCIATION**

(On December 7, 1966, Mr. Theodore B. Brooks addressed the Radnor Historical Society on the history of the Wayne Public Safety Association. His comments evoked recollections from members of his audience. The following article is a digest of the evening's discussion. Ed.)

The Wayne Public Safety Association was founded in South Wayne in 1890 in response to the same forces which had earlier led to the organization of the North Wayne Protective Association. A newly built and occupied community needed provisions for public safety and public works for which the local government was not empowered to contract. The Committee's 1891 Charter did require that all its services be "beneficial" to its members, however. The North Wayne Protective Association nurtured North Wayne; South Wayne needed to protect itself.

Logical minds, besides dealing with fire and police protection, almost immediately established sub-committees under the general headings of Public Safety and Public Works. Each new problem demanded a new committee until, among others, there was a Sanitary Committee, Sewer Committee, Telephone Committee, Water Committee, Steam Heat Committee, Electric Light Committee. The history of Wayne utilities appears in the minutes of this organization.

Fire was, of course, the first target. The Public Safety Association founded the Radnor Fire Department and, through the years, experienced close ties with it. In 1892, by subscription, the Association bought the land where the Fire House now stands, built the house at a cost of \$2,500, and bought equipment — a chemical engine and a ladder cart. The Association housed the engines and held its meetings there. It maintained the building by employing a janitor whose duties included flying the American flag on holidays and on days of Association meetings. The first janitor lasted exactly one month.

Mr. Frank Adelberger, florist and first Fire Chief, had both a First Assistant and Second Assistant by 1894. A fireman was not then purely volunteer; his pay was \$12. a year. The Lienhardt Bakery horses pulled the fire truck; Dr. Lienhardt, veterinarian, eventually became Chief, holding office a number of years. He is remembered also as the town's Medical Officer whose wife bravely stored rabid dogs' heads on ice.

An electric alarm, like that of the North Wayne Protective Association, called the

Fire Company to duty. It, like that of the North Wayne Protective Association, gave constant trouble. After the Electric Plant burned in 1896, the whistle was removed to the Steam Plant where steam forced the sound — "first a cough, then a whoop, then a shriek," Mr. Brooks said. This was effective; it was heard. It also took all steam off the boilers and this took five or six hours to replace while buildings cooled. It was at this time that Mr. Irwin suggested a \$20. charge for use of the fire engine for anyone not a member of the Fire Company nor a contributor to the Wayne Public Safety Association.

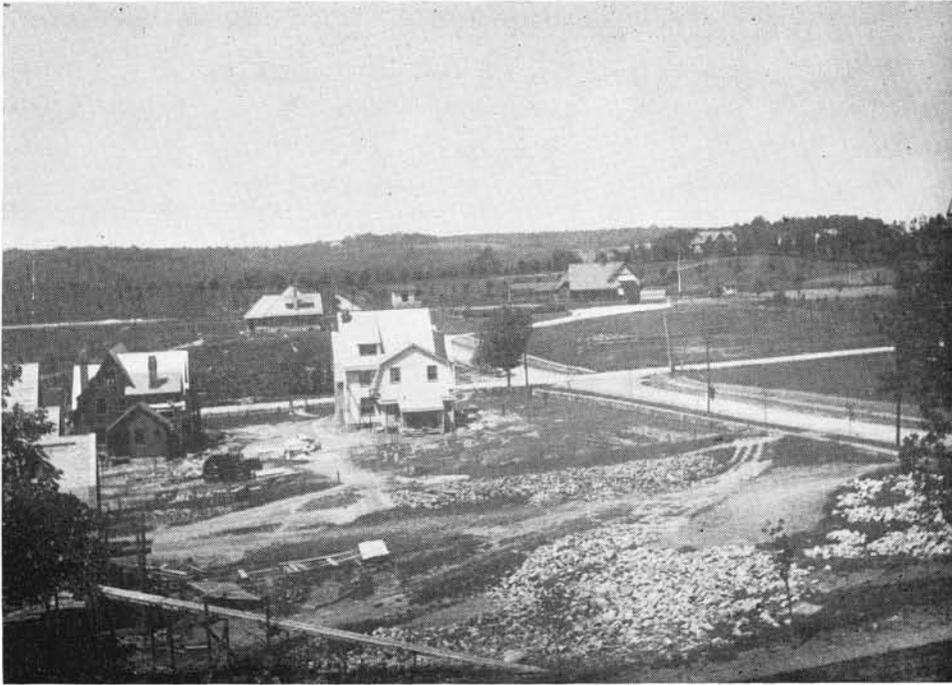
Other committees were also busy.

Two policemen were hired at \$40. a month. They were talk in 1891 of increasing their pay. But, when no police arrived at a bad fire, the force was fired for sleeping on duty. Mr. Leary, an engineer from Philadelphia, was paid \$4. a month for police work for a number of years. Annually, as his term expired, Mr. Leary discovered robbers in Wayne, scared them away with gunshot, never caught them, but thus always assured his own reemployment. Wendell and Smith, developers and builders of South Wayne, paid \$30. a month for some while for extra police whose chief accomplishment was the arresting of tramps. And then there was always the unanswered question of Mrs. Googert's purse; the Association offered a \$50. reward for the arrest and conviction of its thief.

The Telephone Committee, established in 1895, took until 1908 to arrange for telephones in the community on a trial basis. Householders were offered a ten day free trial on four-party lines. Many tried but few wanted.

The Water Committee, on behalf of the organization's members, appealed to the Water Company when it raised its rates. When steam prices rose, another committee called on the proprietors of the Steam Heat Company.

The Sewer Committee took interest in the Sewer Plant which stood on the Iven Avenue property now occupied by the Township Building. It used steam pumps to force wastes up the hill. Settlement beds were later developed between Iven Avenue



South Wayne, 1890, looking north toward the railroad — St. Davids Road is at right.

and the stream. One Wayne gentleman who, as a boy, fell in the settling tanks, lives to remember the occasion. Several dogs, however, drowned.

The natural rivalry between the older settlement, North Wayne (older by less than ten years), and the newer, South Wayne, was most evident to the younger generation in encounters of its members one with another. "The South used to start snowball fights; North Wayne sent them back." Thus spoke a North Wayne man, once a North Wayne boy.

On occasion mutual interest submerged competition, and "Joint" committees resulted. One of these committees took a census of Wayne showing:

	Males	Females
Adults	375	392
Children over 6	97	80
Children under 6	82	60
	554	532

The total figures included "one hundred . . . laboring men which, if deducted, would leave 454 males. . ." according to the Committee's report.

In 1894 the Joint Committee on the Establishment of Wayne as a Borough began a thorough study of the condition and needs of the area. The school tax was then 4 mills (against 70 now), the road tax 1 and a half mills, and the total budget \$8,550.

This committee finished its work, recommended that Wayne incorporate as a borough, but then met opposition from some residents who felt that government (this meant individuals) should not be given powers so large as those of a borough. During the ensuing delay and discussion the state legislature ended the debate by creating the municipal category of First Class Township. Radnor Township (including Wayne) became one of the first First Class Townships in the state.

Thereafter the Township assumed responsibility for police protection, for the sewers, for health services, and later for trash collection. All these had previously been on the Association's agenda. The Committee did not disband but, its duties lessened, met less often thereafter.

Liquidating, the Public Safety Committee

gave its chemical engine and ladder truck to the Township in 1902. It retained the Fire House which it rented to the Fire Company for \$20. a month, always reserving the right to meet there.

Fires are memorable, and Wayne residents reminisce about the fire in Dr. Elmer's barn ignited when the caretaker used gasoline (he thought it kerosene) to prime an oil stove. The Bellevue fire, of March 15, 1900, amid snow and ice, provided enough light for Douglass Wendell to read the newspaper. Dr. Norman Wack skated all the way from Mt. Pleasant to watch the blaze.

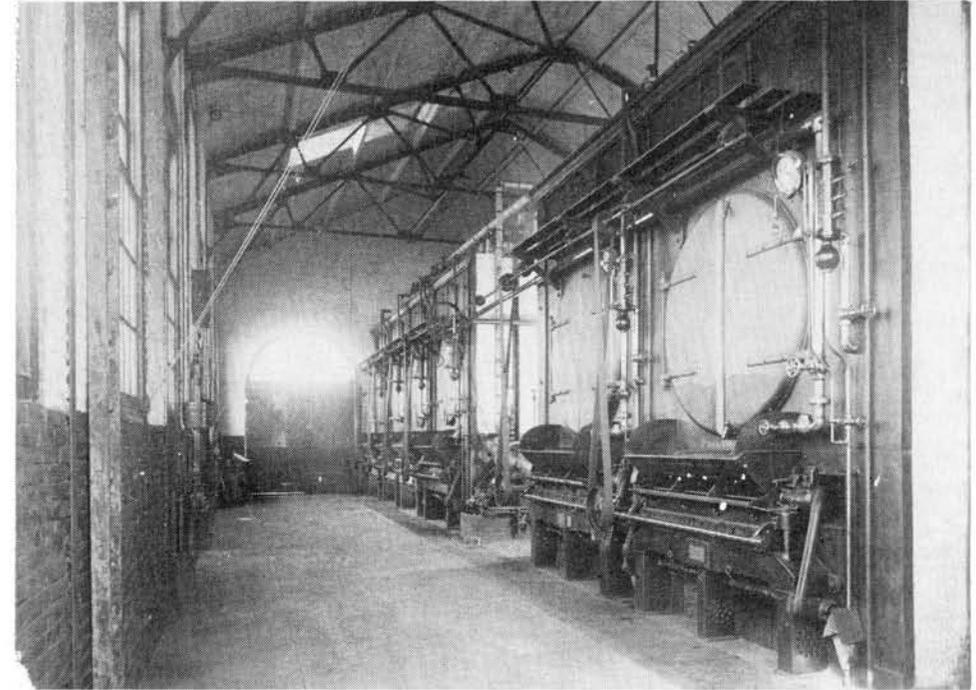
The year 1906 saw the incorporation of the Fire Company, the installation of Miss Farrell and her school as tenants in the top story of the Firehouse, and the spectacular burning of a hay barn in Conner's coal yard on Aberdeen Avenue. While two men climbed a roof and pressed long beams against the side of the barn to prevent an outward collapse, the Bryn Mawr Fire Department hitched its Bryn Mawr Ice Company horses, came to assist, arrived late but hooked two engines to-

gether in series to provide real force for a stream of water from one hose. There was real force; it dislodged all the boards remaining on one side of the barn. Mr. Forstall recalls once riding a bicycle following the Bryn Mawr engines all the way to King of Prussia. He had no trouble keeping up but the fire was over before their arrival.

Such occurrences convinced local firemen that speed, and therefore mechanization, was needed. The Fire Company appointed a Committee which soon found there existed no motorized fire engine in the country. Its members persuaded the Knox Company to design and make a pumper and ladder cart. Thus Wayne acquired the first mechanized fire equipment in the United States.

The Hale Fire Pump Company, now of Conshohocken, was a direct outgrowth of this need. It was founded here in Wayne by Jan Wendell, Charles Young, and Allen Hale. Its products, well-known, helped to protect London during World War II.

Wayne had other amenities too. Wendell and Smith, in developing South Wayne



Boiler Room, Wayne Electric Light and Steam Heat Co.

and St. Davids, erected the Wayne Steam Heat Company to provide steam to heat the new houses they built on Upland Way, Windermere Avenue, St. Davids Road, Midland Avenue, and nearby streets. Over the bed of the pipes the streets remained clear of snow as the steam moved hot and steady at two pounds pressure (except when exhausted by the fire whistle). While the residents received low cost heat, the company's expenses rose until by 1947 the Philadelphia Electric Company found itself losing \$40,000.00 in one season and so abandoned the plant in 1948. Heating costs are now three times as great, Mr. Brooks says.

For its operations the plant thrust two large chimneys toward the sky, one round and yellow, one square and brick, challenges to the youth of Wayne who, on occasion, climbed them. (Robert W. A. Wood reached the top, 150 feet up.)

Jan Wendell and Laurance Hart, teenagers in 1902-3, found another use for them as bases for a wireless receiving station aerial. After one week of continual kite-flying, they succeeded in draping a line (to which they planned to attach the aerial) over a lightning rod atop one stack. They paid "a laboring man" one dollar for which he climbed the other stack, inserted (in the wrong place) a hook to secure the aerial, descended, and then refused, perhaps naturally, to make the trip again. Someone did, however. The receiving set did work. Mr. Hart, suffering from pneumonia, was able to hear the broadcast of the Johnson-Jeffries fight in 1910.

When John Wanamaker refused to cooperate with Mr. Hart in a venture to send messages to ships at sea, Mr. Hart jammed Wanamaker's broadcasts to its

New York headquarters until the store reconsidered.

Central Wayne is built on water. Lakes, evident in nineteenth century maps, have disappeared, but the effects remain. In 1909 the site of the current Radnor Junior High School was offered by Wendell and Smith to the School Board for a High School. The Board agreed to accept it but only if Wendell and Smith would cover a creek that bisected it. This was done and a High School building erected. When water collected on the playing fields, Jan Wendell installed French drains which were so effective that, years later, when residents tried to flood the fields for skating, water carefully pumped there ran off immediately.

The Junior High School, formerly the High School, is built on piles; the Wayne Title and Trust Company paid \$25,000.00 more than expected for its building because of the necessity for piles.

Between the Fire House and the present Junior High School there stood, for many years, the Coffee House, managed by the Wayne Chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. When Wayne residents, early in the century, protested an application for a liquor license, the presiding judge agreed to deny the application provided a source of hot coffee for transients be established. The Coffee House resulted. Until after Prohibition there was no liquor sold legally in Wayne.

Today the Wayne Public Safety Association is a civic association in the current sense of the words. In 1915 it gave the Fire House, its first and last responsibility, to a group of trustees who, in turn, gave the building to the Fire Company in 1961. But the Association still reserves the right to meet in the Fire House Meeting Room.

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

With the passing of another year, the Radnor Historical Society has pursued its aim of fostering interest in local history, in collecting and preserving data and materials pertaining to Radnor Township and environs, and in giving assistance of a genealogical and historical nature to organizations and individuals, both personally and by correspondence.

The Finley House continues to be used as a polling place for the First Precinct, First Ward, of Radnor Township. It was our pleasure, during the past year, to have the North Wayne Protective Association hold one of its meetings in the House. The Society has also cooperated with Historic Delaware County in work necessary for its Spring House Tour. These are only a few of our associations with other organizations.

My report this year is mainly a letter of thanks to all those members and friends of the Radnor Historical Society who have contributed generously of their time and substance. I would like to name each one individually but space does not permit.

A sign, designed by Theo. B. White and executed by Theodore B. Brooks, now identifies our headquarters. Various early maps of Wayne and St. Davids have been framed and hung in the Finley House. The Rotary Club of Wayne provided us with forty-four folding chairs which are not only good looking but comfortable. They have been in constant use for meetings and for those people who have come to the Finley House to work or to do research.

A fascinating collection of old photographs and newspaper clippings, the property of the late James K. Heilner, was

given us through the courtesy of his brother, Laurence Heilner. With these came the Wendell collection of photographic prints and negatives, many dating before 1900. A gift of display cases and a donation by E. J. Wendell of two charming Victorian bookcases have provided us with more space for displays. Other equally useful and valuable gifts will be noted under the list of Recent Accessions elsewhere in this **BULLETIN**.

Financial contributions, over and above the annual dues, were given by thirty eight members and friends of the Society and amounted to \$2706.43.

For many years Mrs. Edward W. Westhead and Mrs. Richard Tunis have unfailingly provided and served the refreshments which have added to the enjoyment of our membership meetings. Mrs. Marie Good Hunt spent endless hours in the past months cataloguing our collection of books on local history. Without her invaluable assistance our library would not be in the useful form it is today. Mrs. Gertrude Ware Case, among other activities, has created a "Children's Corner" and has spent many hours in the arrangement for and of new acquisitions.

Thanks to the careful management of our Treasurer, O. Louis Ehmann Jr., debt has been decreased by \$1900.00 and we hope to pay off the remaining encumbrance before too long. The debt of appreciation we owe our members and friends cannot be fully paid off, however. All I can do, therefore, is offer once more my most sincere thanks to all those who have contributed, in so many ways, to the work of the Society.

Dorothy H. Therman

## NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes to membership the following persons who have joined since March of 1966:

George M. Aman Jr.  
Miss Bertha Clark  
Harry C. Creutzburg  
Charles W. Forbes  
Mrs. William Flammer  
Miss Charlotte B. Howe

Mrs. John L. Mather Jr.  
Mrs. Arthur Meigs  
Mrs. John R. Romine Jr.  
Mrs. N. James Simler  
Conrad Wilson

## NECROLOGY

The Society notes with deep regret the death, during the past year, of the following members:

Mrs. Brooks Bromley  
James K. Heilner

W. W. Hicks  
H. Harrison Smith

## ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY

### Sunday, May 23, 1966

The nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at three p.m. in the Finley House. Mrs. Robert I. Cummin described "Radnor in 1798," using information from the United States Direct Tax Return of that year. Predominantly a farming community, Radnor nonetheless supported three mills, three inns, and four tanneries. Property sizes varied from one quarter acre (near the Radnor Friends Meeting) to three hundred acres. The township's one hundred thirteen dwelling houses bore assessments ranging from

thirty dollars to five thousand dollars (the then new "Spread Eagle Tavern"). The median house was assessed at one hundred and seventy five dollars and, in construction, stood approximately twenty four by fifteen feet in size, two stories high, made of stone and frame (or log), and contained four to six windows. Exemplifying this house is that of Mrs. Raymond S. Springer at 734 East Lancaster Avenue which was built in 1798 by Peter Gaskill and rented in that year to Thomas D. Fendall, saddler.

At the Annual Business Meeting Theodore B. Brooks, Herbert S. Casey, Horace

B. Montgomery, Mrs. Edward W. Westhead, Bertram Wolfson, and Theo B. White were unanimously elected Directors to serve until 1969 and Edward L. Forstall to fill an unexpired term ending in 1967. Following the meeting refreshments were served.

**October 22, 1966**

Society members met at twelve noon at the Brandywine State Park near Chadd's Ford. After a picnic lunch the house known as "LaFayette's Headquarters" was visited. This old house, built in several periods, is interesting for the varying types of construction. Notable is the brick which forms a filler in the oldest wall and the crossttimbers in that wall. "Washington's Headquarters" was then visited. A reconstruction, the handsome house appealed to the Society, as did the grist mill ruin and the cylindrical stone icehouse built deep into the ground.

Members were then given a tour of the area, seeing sites of important fighting including the Birmingham Friends Meeting where various war dead are buried.

**December 7, 1966**

Theodore B. Brooks addressed the Society at eight p.m. in the Finley House, discussing the history of the Wayne Public Safety Association. An account of this meeting appears elsewhere in this **BULLETIN**.

**January 25, 1967**

The Society met at eight p.m. in the Community Room of the General Wayne Federal Savings and Loan Association to hear John F. Harbeson describe "The Desecration of the United States Capitol Building." Architect, and Consultant to the capitol Architect, Mr. Harbeson pleaded for renewal of and an addition to the west wall of that building. He cited the hazardous state of this cracking wall and the need for more office space. An addition

would, he said, relieve the old wall of strain, preserve historic murals, provide necessary extra space, and unify the building architecturally.

**March 25, 1967**

Mrs. Walter Lucas of Broomall showed the Society slides of early Delaware Coun-

ty buildings at eight p.m. in the General Wayne Federal Savings and Loan Association. In simple "Quaker" costume, Mrs. Lucas gave anecdote and fact covering many townships in the county and pointing out the influence of the Indians, Swedes, Welsh, English, and Germans.

**ACCESSIONS IN THE PAST YEAR**

Mrs. P. J. Adelberger: Photographs of St. Davids Toll Gate c. 1909, Sorrel Horse Hotel c. 1905, St. Martin's Chapel, Ithan.

D. C. Behrle, Jr.: Gavel and block made from oak piece used in construction of "Chuckswood" in Villanova. Mrs. Charles C. Harrison, Jr., who owned "Chuckswood," and Theodore B. Brooks cooperated in this gift.

Theodore B. Brooks: Ledger and by-laws of the Lower Merion Society for the Detection and Prosecution of Horse Thieves, 1839.

Store ledger 1913 (Dillon's Store, Radnor?).

Bryn Mawr Thrift Shop: Model of Whitehall Station made for the Thrift Shop by John M. Bissell.

Mrs. G. W. Case: Wooden inkwell for use in travel.  
China sandholder for blotting.

O. Louis Ehmann, Jr.: Photograph of St. Davids Railroad Station. NWPA invitation 1966.

Estate of James K. Heilner: Large collection of photographs, negatives, clippings from Philadelphia papers. Stereopticon with several slides. Property Atlas of the Main Line, 1908. **West Chester Centennial Souvenir 1799-1899.**

Mrs. William S. Koller: Brick from the recently demolished St. Davids station.

Miss Isabella Auld McKnight: Photographs of Gulph Creek 1910 and 1966, the Wambach family and car.  
Typed index for set of Mrs. Patterson's scrapbooks.

Horace B. Montgomery: Books, **Return the Golden Years**, by the donor.

**The Autobiography of a Pennsylvanian** by Samuel W. Pennypacker.

**History of Chester** by John Hill Martin. (on loan) **Mad Anthony Wayne** by Thomas Boyd.

(on loan) **Rural Pennsylvania** by the Rev. S. S. Hotchkiss.

**Yearbooks** for St. Luke's School, 1912, 1915, 1917, 1919.

Mrs. M. T. Nightwine: Three large display cases wired for lighting and fitted with locks.

Miss Caroline Robbins: Frames for six maps of nineteenth century Wayne.

Rotary Club of Wayne: Forty-four folding chairs.

Money for outdoor sign.  
William H. Seyfert: Set of interlocking cases for storage and display.

L. Cheyney Smith: Catalogue for sightseeing tours in Philadelphia area c. 1920.

Advertising pamphlet for New Jersey Seashore Resorts c. 1917.

Everett Jansen Wendell: Large collection of mounted photographs, negatives, glass plates, many dating to the 19th century.

Extensive group of early nineteenth century school books and books relating to the Quakers.

Two bookcases.

Isaac H. Whyte, Jr.: Carpet bag marked M.P.D., complete with lock and key, once the property of Mary Parke Downing (1799-1871).

Eyeglasses, chain and case.

Books and tracts, **Children in the Woods, Trials of the Poor, The Little Friends, Afraid of the Dark, The Carrier Pigeon.**

Bootjack.

Double-bladed butcher knife with corn-cob handle, dated 1750.

Wooden stretcher for child's socks.  
"Scotch" beaded purse.

Pair of lady's slippers size 3-1/2.  
Two net caps for ladies.

Children's Book, **Mother Goose Quarto**, 1831.

**Peter Parley's Juvenile Tales** with color illustrations, 1832.

Mrs. Robert W. A. Wood: Photographs of St. Davids Golf Course House, St. Davids signal tower with steam engine.

Framed portraits of two Indian Chiefs (photographs of oil paintings).

Clipping concerning Indians.  
History of St. Davids Golf Club.

Cabinet for library card catalogue.

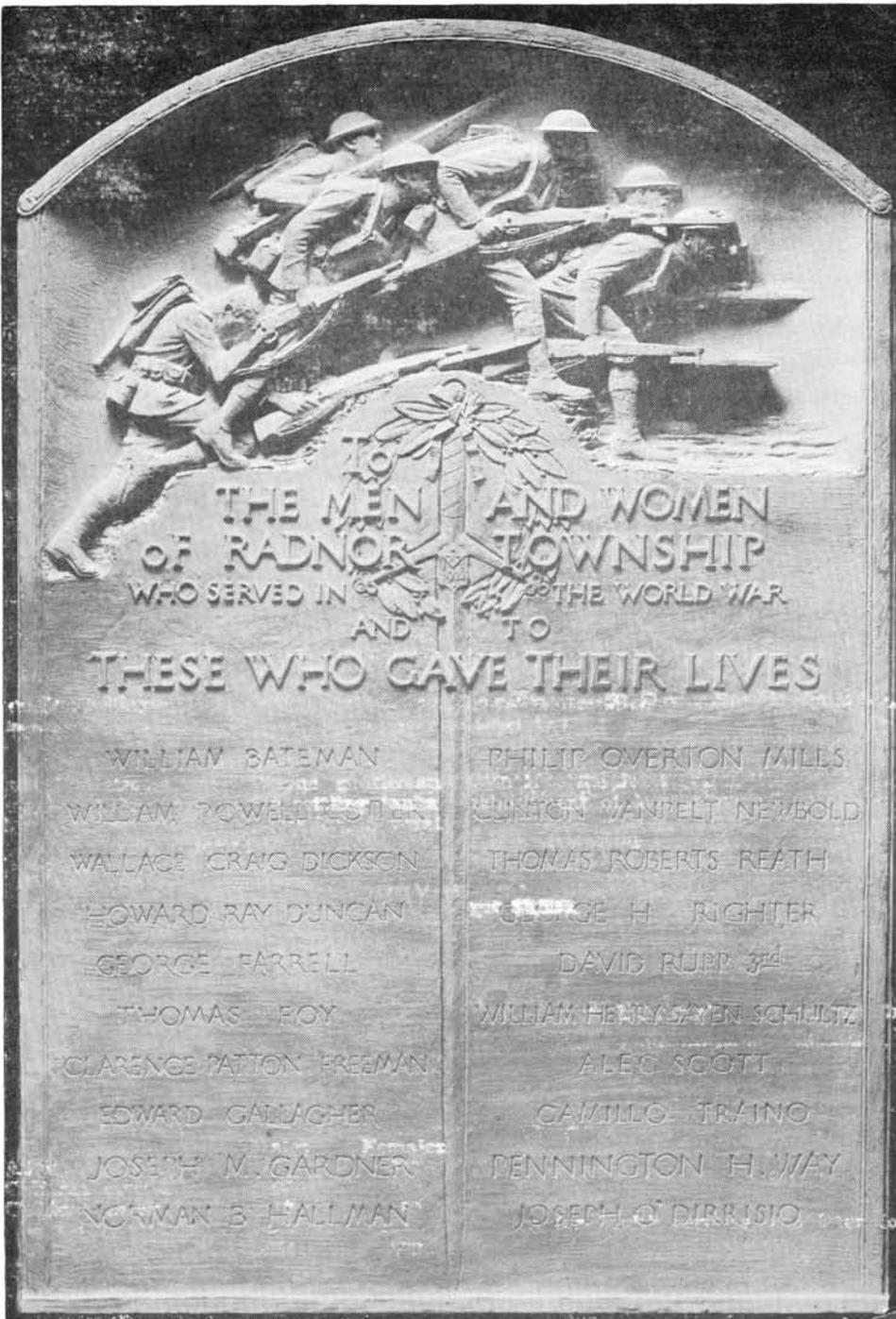
F. J. Dallett: Documents concerning the Ardrossan Beagles.



St. Davids Railroad Station c. 1890. Demolished 1966.

## THE WAR MEMORIAL

by Peggy Snow



Center Portion of Radnor Township War Memorial.

The Radnor Township Memorial was originated and designed in 1922. The plate in the center of the Memorial is an important feature, made by a famous bronze designer of that time. Forty four years after its dedication ceremony the Memorial was dismantled and put in a new location. Another ceremony was held for the rededication of the Radnor Township Memorial.

The Radnor Township Memorial was dedicated to all the men and women who made certain sacrifices or died in World War I, especially those in Radnor Township. A construction committee headed all ideas on the Memorial. They also discussed and decided upon cost, location and the design of the Memorial. Mr. W. Townsend Wright, chairman, Mrs. Benjamin Chew, Mr. Louis Adams, Mr. J. C. Harvey, Captain Clifton Lisle, Mrs. W. H. Brooks, Mr. W. S. Ellis and Mr. R. K. Cassatt were the important people making up the committee.

Mr. Louis Adams designed the Memorial in a general way. It is of Colonial architecture. It is made of a wall of stone with a bronze plate in the center. It has two stone benches extending from the front of the Memorial. It was placed on a triangular piece of ground against a setting of trees. The Chew family donated the land on which the Memorial used to stand, at the corner of Lancaster Pike and Iven Avenue. This location was decided upon by the construction committee, as the most convenient at the time. One of the main reasons was that it was in the center of the township, near the border of St. Davids and Wayne.

The bronze plate was made by Dr. R. Tait McKenzie of the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. McKenzie was born in Almonte, Ontario in Canada. His work at the University of Pennsylvania was the study of the figures of men. He was well known for the figures and plaques he made. Some of his most famous are the "Volunteer", the "Ace Bird," and the "Flying Sphere."

The bronze plate he made was supposed to be simple yet meaningful. It represents the American doughboys or army men of World War I fighting for their country. The figures on the plate are one quarter lifesize. At the top are six men in army uniform, charging over what represents a hill, with pointed bayonets in their hands.

After this comes a short phrase to the people it was dedicated to. It reads "To the Men and Women of Radnor Township who served in The World War and to Those Who Gave Their Lives." Following this are the twenty names, formed in two columns, of the men of Radnor Township who died serving in World War I.

The dedication of the Radnor Township Memorial was held Sunday, May 28, 1922.

The ceremony lasted most of the day. The actual Memorial was not used, but the plaster cast of the unfinished work was put in its place. The Memorial was not finished in time because the work and the planning were started on too late. There was also a shortness of funds. Miss Grace C. Roberts was the chairman of the Radnor Township Memorial Fund Committee.

The parade that began the ceremony consisted of the men belonging to the Anthony Wayne Post and the American Legion. It was headed by the Navy Yard Band, followed by a detachment of marines.

The exercises opened with the Rev. H. Gurley saying a prayer. This was followed by the children of the schools of Radnor Township singing "America". After that Mrs. Robert Graffen Wilson read a report on the progress of the Memorial. Following this Mr. Benjamin Chew, the owner of the land the Memorial used to stand on, gave the deed of that part of his property.

Senator George Pepper was then introduced. He read a speech dedicating the Memorial. The memorial was then unveiled by three children who lost their fathers in the war. The children were Pennington Way, eight, Gordan Way, six, and Frances Cotter. Lt. Way was killed Sept. 12, 1918, in a fight with eight German planes. Cotter was a wagoner with the supply company of the 315 infantry. He was killed about the same time. After the ceremony the group went to St. Martin's Church, Radnor where a special service was held. They were later entertained at dinner in the Parish House.

In the year 1966, forty-four years after its dedication, the Memorial was dismantled and relocated. This was done to allow for the widening of Lancaster Pike and was paid for by B. Altman and Co. which had bought the adjoining property. The new location was supposed to be safer. Also traffic would not be blocked on Memorial and Armistice Days.

A World War I Memorial Relocation Committee was appointed by the township to direct the operation. Under the chairmanship of C. Walton Hale with Theodore B. Brooks as Vice-Chairman, the committee consisted of: Walter A. Adelberger, Albert P. Bateman, Mrs. Benjamin S. Beall II, Mrs. Gertrude Ware Case, Mrs. William A. Draper, Fred M. Durso, John Litzenberg, Jerry Schutt, Richard J. Skillman, Mrs. PerOlof Therman, Berton Wingrad, and Mrs. Robert W.A. Wood. These members represented the two American Legion Posts in Wayne, the Radnor Historical Society, Civic Council, League of Women Voters, School District, High School Student Council, Police Department, the Saturday Club of Wayne, and relatives of those to whom the Memorial was inscribed.

After considering three places, the Committee chose one of them. The Memorial is now located on Township-owned land in front of the parking lot at the corner of South Wayne and Runnymede Avenues across from the Radnor Junior High School. Although a circle in front of the Radnor High School as well as its original location at Iven and Lancaster Avenues were also considered the first was chosen. The rededication ceremony also started

(This article was written from recent newspaper articles and from materials in the Radnor Historical Society files. Its author is a seventh grade student in the Radnor Junior High School. Ed.)



100 Windremere Avenue. Built 1890 by Clark J. Wood. Demolished 1966.

with a parade. The parade began at 10:15 on Monday, May 30, 1966, beginning at Pembroke Avenue. Legionnaires, Boy and Girl Scouts, township officials, and other residents of Radnor Township took places in the march.

Reverend John D. Galloway, the minister of the Wayne Presbyterian Church, began the ceremony with the invocation. Gerald P. Domenick, the commander of the Bateman-Gallagher Post 668 American Legion, read the honor roll of the war dead. Mrs. Thomas Robinson, president of the American Legion Post Auxiliary 418, and Mrs. T. Castorani, a gold-star mother, placed the wreaths around the Memorial. Herbert Russell, president of the Radnor Board of Commissioners, was the principal speaker. A post drill team saluted the war dead. Reverend D. Devine ended the ceremony with the benediction. The ceremony also included the Fire Department, the Police, the Paoli Legion, the V.F.W. Posts, and the Wayne Red Cross.

It has been a year since the Memorial had its relocation ceremony. It now lies in a safe location at the corner of South Wayne and Runnymede Avenues, representing those men and women who fought for their country.

## THE WAYNE LEGION HOME — 1891



(The Legion Home across the street from the Finley House was torn down a year ago. The following description was written probably for publication as news when the building was opened in 1891. The hand-written account, unsigned, is in the Society's files. Ed.)

The new Engine House and Meeting hall of The North Wayne Protective Association on Beech Tree Lane west of Wayne Avenue is now completed and will be open for the inspection of the Public on Saturday the 25th inst. from 4 to 10 o'clock p.m. The lot of ground 27 ft. wide by 60 ft. deep on which the house is situated adjoins the Merryvale ground on the east and was presented to the Association by Mr. George W. Childs in the month of May of this year. The Association then authorized the Committee of Ways and Means and Public Safety to have plans prepared and to enter into a contract for the erection of a building of sufficient size to house the fire apparatus and to hold their meetings. Mr. Robert E. Peterson Jr. of Oak Lane kindly offered his Services gratuitously to prepare plans and submitted drawings for the present structure which were promptly accepted and a contract for the erection entered into with Mr. George L. Baker of Wayne avenue, ground being broken on the 8th of June.

The building is 45 feet long and 21 ft. 9 in. wide, two stories in height surmounted with bell tower, the base of pointed stone, balance frame, shingled. The first floor is devoted to the storage of the fire apparatus and contains in addition, lava-

tory, hydrant and large closet and is finished in yellow pine, the floor of cement. The second floor will be used for the meetings of the association and is wainscoted with yellow pine to a height of four feet and finished above with rough coat of plaster tinted in ochre and is furnished with the necessary desk, chairs etc. to accommodate the large membership of the association. On this floor there is also a store room leading to the bell tower. The exterior is finished with Dexter stain with trimmings painted to match. The interior is hard oil all done by Messrs. McMahan Bros. of Wayne and who generously donated the labor. The grounds about the building are laid in Crushed Stone.

The total Cost of the building and contents represent an outlay of about \$3800. divided as follows:

Cost of building	\$2075
Furniture	125
Button Hand Engine	550
Hose Carriage	300
600 ft. 2½ in. rubber lined hose	330
Hook & ladder truck	225
50-gal. Buell Extinguisher	80
Champion Extinguisher with cart & extra Couplings & tools	115
	<hr/>
	\$3800

## THE CENTER OF RADNOR

by Katharine Hewitt Cummin

(On May 13, 1967, Historic Delaware County conducted an Open House Tour along Pennsylvania's Route 320, the old Radnor-Chester Road. Included in it were several of the buildings standing near the Radnor Friends Meeting House. This tour prompts the following article on the early history of the area and of the two families, Jerman and Siter, which, one after the other, long dominated the center of the township. Ed.)

William Penn's surveyors, laying out Radnor Township, plotted through its center a road running parallel to Radnor's outside East and West bounds. This road, known as Radnor Street, was a property boundary all of its length. Today its path can be discerned on property maps although, as a road, it is represented only by the current Radnor Street Road in the northern part of the township and, below, by a small portion of South Ithan Avenue.

In the center of the township this road was early crossed by a road to Newtown, by a road to Spring Mill across the Schuylkill River, and by the road to Chester. The earliest meetings of the Radnor Society of Friends were held, it is said, in the house of John Jerman (Jarman) who owned the lands in the township center. When the Society built its first Meeting House it placed it by this crossroads. The Conestoga Road also ran past the Meeting House and, over the years, a small settlement there arose.

John Jerman, from Llangurig in Montgomeryshire, Wales,<sup>1</sup> acquired in 1688 one hundred acres of land running in a narrow oblong from the Philadelphia County line (now County Line Road) half way across the township to Radnor Street.<sup>2</sup> Somewhere on those acres he built his first house. In 1703 the land was resurveyed as 152 acres and patented to John Jerman's widow, Margaret.<sup>3</sup> John Jerman, Jr. bought in 1726 fifty contiguous acres lying across Radnor Street.<sup>4</sup> It was the Jerman family, controlling these two hundred acres, which determined the early history of the region.

On December 16, 1735, John Jerman's heirs formally deeded to the Society of Friends the one acre piece of ground on which the Meeting House stands. The deed was signed by Margaret Jerman, relict of John, John Jerman (son of John) and Mary his wife, and by John's daughters Elizabeth (wife of Peter Taylor), Priscilla (wife of John Thomas of Newcastle), and Sarah (wife of Thomas Thomas of Chester County) and by their husbands. It was noted that Margaret, eldest daughter of

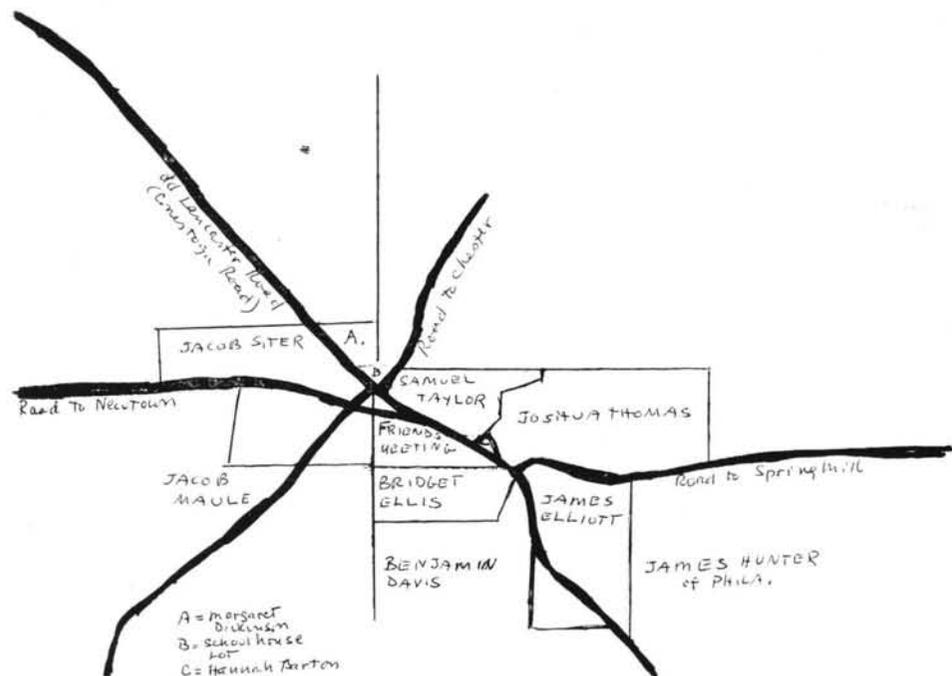
John Jerman, and her husband David Evan had earlier conveyed their rights to her mother, Margaret.<sup>5</sup>

This one acre was granted "to and for the use benefit and behoof of the poor of the people called quakers. . . in the township of Radnor. . . to erect and maintain one or more Meeting Houses, or place of religious worship and to and for the burial of the Dead and to and for such uses as the members. . . should. . . direct or appoint. . ."

Margaret, widow of John Jerman, wrote her will December 23, 1731, leaving her land to her only son, John Jerman Jr., and to his "lawful heirs begotten of his body". In 1758 John Jr. gave the 152 acres to his son Lewis Jerman to live on while the father petitioned the Court of Common Pleas to bar the entail on the property.<sup>6</sup> This the Court agreed to do and Lewis Jerman became the owner. The fifty acres (later called 52½) on the westerly side of Radnor Street, earlier bought by John Jr., were given by him to Lewis in 1767.<sup>7</sup>

Thus Lewis Jerman acquired his father's property, all but one small piece sold to Mordecai Morgan by John Jerman Jr. April 10, 1758. This was a triangular piece, approximately one third of an acre in size, lying at the northwest corner of the intersection of the Conestoga and Radnor Chester Roads. The deed seems not to have been recorded but reference to it appears in other deeds. Probably at the time of the sale to Morgan, but before 1769 in any event, this small piece was reserved for the use of a school and is called "the school house lot" as late as 1801.<sup>8</sup> Was there a school on the property? Was the land perhaps used for a school woodlot? The deeds do not say. It does seem unlikely that there was a school on this piece because as will be seen, another piece of ground was also designated for school use and because the grandchildren of Mordecai Morgan sold the small triangle to one of their number in 1808 with no reference to school use or to building.<sup>9</sup>

Lewis Jerman divided and sold his patrimony. In 1769 he sold 3-1/4 acres of the



The Radnor Center in 1798.

fifty-acre piece to Margaret Dickenson, widow,<sup>10</sup> probably a member of the Jerman family.<sup>11</sup> This piece bordered the Conestoga Road and adjoined the school house lot. She may have erected there the two small houses which stood there in 1798.

In 1770 he sold 14 acres (the survey included the Meeting House acre) to Jasher Roberts.<sup>12</sup> At the same time he mortgaged the remainder of the original 152 Jerman acres to Roberts.<sup>13</sup> In the following year, the mortgage having been paid, he sold the easternmost 100 acres (including a dwelling house) to John Bewley (Buley — probably once Beaulieu).<sup>14</sup> The middle acres of his original lands became eventually the property of William Roberts and Issacher Evans who sold in 1778 to Jacob Beery.<sup>15</sup> His remaining Radnor land, the rest of the fifty acre piece he sold in 1773 to Adam Siter (Cyter).<sup>16</sup>

Jasher Roberts was a resident of Radnor and taxed as a storekeeper before he bought land in Radnor's center. He may have established a store there, we do not know. After his death his widow sold the 14 acres to Evan Lewis, Yeoman.<sup>17</sup> Lewis and his wife Jane, on the second day of the sixth month in 1794, sold to a com-

mittee of the Radnor Society of Friends 6 acres and 17.8 perches of land. This property included and surrounded the one acre originally deeded by the Jermans. It was sold "for the use, benefit and behoof of the people called Quakers" . . . that they might "erect one or more houses or for the use, benefit or accommodation of a school or for such use as . . . members shall direct."<sup>18</sup>

By 1798 the area contained a number of houses and, like a "Food-Fuel-Service" center on a 1967 Turnpike, it offered all the amenities necessary to a traveler.

Approaching from the east on the Conestoga Road, the traveler first passed the driveway to "Woodstock" built and occupied (part of the year) by James Hunter, merchant, of Philadelphia. The stone house then stood two stories high, 33 by 24 feet in size.<sup>19</sup> The house, now larger, still stands although the driveway runs from Sproul Road. He also passed a one story house, part stone, part log, owned by Mr. Hunter but occupied by William Torrance, and a small springhouse in the meadow.<sup>19</sup>

He then saw (and perhaps patronized) James Elliott's "Sorrel Horse Tavern"

standing near the intersection with Mill Road. The two-story stone building stood 30 by 21 feet in size, over-shadowing its service quarters, a one-story stone kitchen and a log lumber house. The traveler also passed an empty stone house belonging to Mr. Elliott.<sup>19</sup>

Beyond the buildings a small stretch of open land belonged to Benjamin Davis (tailor) who owned in all 161 acres. A Davis house, reached from South Ithan Avenue, was destroyed this year for the Blue Route.

Ahead lay a one quarter acre piece of land (the smallest holding in the township) given to Hannah Barton, a widow, by her father, Abraham Griffith,<sup>20</sup> who had bought the central acres of the original Jerman tract.<sup>21</sup> By 1798 these acres belonged to Joshua Thomas,<sup>22</sup> cordwainer, whose house stood at the end of a drive beginning on South Spring Mill Road, and is probably incorporated in the F. Phelps Todd dwelling of today.

To the left lay the small house of Bridget Ellis, spinster and cousin of Benjamin Davis.<sup>23</sup> The two-story frame dwelling with six windows was untaxed because she was "a middleaged woman with an aged mother to support."<sup>19</sup> She was remembered in her aunt's will the following year,<sup>24</sup> however, and may have lost the tax exemption. Sproul Road, which did not then exist, now bisects her land.

Beyond Miss Ellis's house stood the Friends Meeting House. Across the Conestoga Road from the Meeting House Samuel Taylor, joiner, lived with his wife and five children<sup>25</sup> in a one-story log house, 18 by 20 feet in size with four windows. He also maintained a 14 by 14 foot log stable<sup>19</sup> (to shelter the horses of his customers?). This property had earlier been owned by a storekeeper<sup>26</sup> and supported, during much of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a neighborhood store.

To the north of the Taylor property ran the Radnor-Chester Road which then made a complete crossing of both the Conestoga Road and of Newtown Road, proceeding down the hill toward Chester, over lands of Jacob Siter and Jacob Maule, wheelwright. The Maule house which still stands then had eight windows in its two stories and was made part of stone and part of log. Larger than most Radnor houses, it ran 40 feet by 17.<sup>19</sup> The Siter property (once Jerman) held two houses. One, 16 by 30 feet, two stories, stone, was occupied by John and William Fields. Mary Pugh rented the other, a small house assessed at \$60.<sup>19</sup>

On the northwest corner of the intersection of the Conestoga and Radnor-Chester Roads lay the small schoolhouse lot, probably vacant. A school had been established some years earlier by the Friends Meeting but the precise location of its classroom(s) is unknown. It has been suggested that the eastern ell of the Meeting House was so used. There may have been a school building on the triangle between the three roads in front of the Meeting House. Certainly that was a portion of the lands granted by Evan Lewis for use for a school (or for other uses) and certainly the Radnor Township School District later built a schoolhouse (still standing but used as a private dwelling) on that plot.

Eleven and three-tenths perches beyond the corner on the right lay Widow Margaret Dickenson's land. She inhabited a one-story stone house, 22 by 15 feet, with four windows and rented a smaller house (assessed at \$30.) to Susannah Maul.<sup>19</sup>

Beyond, on both sides of the road, lay one hundred acres inherited for life by Elizabeth Siter from her husband Adam,<sup>27</sup> and improved with a two-story stone house 24 by 30 feet in size with 15 windows, and by a 12 by 16 springhouse (a fair dwelling for the day) and a 16 by 30 foot one-story stone kitchen.<sup>19</sup> And then the traveler had left the Radnor Meeting House area.

The center catered not only to travelers. Local people did business with the artisans and tradesmen there. Here in 1809 the Radnor Library was established. Here was held, probably, the last Radnor Town Meeting (the only one of which we have record).<sup>28</sup> Here, probably, was the store of Messrs. Siter and Brooke (mentioned in the Town Meeting Minutes) and here, by law, should have been the voting place of the Radnor electorate in local elections.

Over the next quarter of a century John Siter and his wife Ann acquired all the properties surrounding the Friends Meeting, owning both sides of the Conestoga Road from the crossing of Ithan Creek on the east of the Meeting House to the current intersection with Brookside Road. These included the properties of Samuel Taylor,<sup>29</sup> Margaret Dickenson,<sup>30</sup> Jacob Siter,<sup>31</sup> Elizabeth Siter<sup>32</sup> and the "Schoolhouse lot."<sup>33</sup>

John Siter died intestate in 1835, the properties then being divided (not necessarily according to previous boundaries) among his three daughters, Sarah Jane (wife of Isaiah Matlack, M.D.), Mary Ann (wife of Brinton Jacobs) and Eliza (wife of John F. Parke).<sup>34</sup> The Dickenson prop-

erty had been bought by Ann Siter personally; at her death in 1864 it went to her daughter Mrs. Matlack.<sup>35</sup> Until late in the century John Siter's daughters controlled the area, Mrs. Matlack developing the region known as "Banjotown."<sup>36</sup>

It would appear that with the exception of the Meeting House, the Atterbury

House (Jacob Maule's in 1798) possibly part of the Morris House (Elizabeth Siter's in 1798) and the Todd house (Joshua Thomas's), all the buildings now at the Ithan corner were constructed (or moved to their present locations) after 1798 although they may well stand on the sites of former buildings.

- 1 See Radnor Historical Society *Bulletin* 1965 p. 5.
- 2 Philadelphia Rolls Office Book E2 Vol. 5, p. 31.
- 3 Philadelphia Patent Book A Vol. 2, p. 594.
- 4 Chester County Deed Book F, p. 342, 343.
- 5 Chester County Deed Book K, p. 334.
- 6 Chester County Deed Book R, p. 62.
- 7 Chester County Deed Book R, p. 11.
- 8 Delaware County Deed Book E, p. 660.
- 9 Delaware County Deed Book I, p. 631.
- 10 Chester County Deed Book R, p. 11.
- 11 Her children were named Azariah, Jerman, Priscilla, Margaret, Elizabeth. Delaware County Deed Book E, p. 660.
- 12 Chester County Deed Book R, p. 62.
- 13 Chester County Deed Book R, p. 65.
- 14 Delaware County Deed Book C, p. 283.
- 15 Chester County Deed Book Y, p. 373.
- 16 Delaware County Deed Book C, p. 73.
- 17 Chester County Deed Book B, p. 147.
- 18 Delaware County Deed Book B, p. 315.
- 19 The physical descriptions of these buildings are all taken from the United States Direct Tax Return of 1798.

- 20 Delaware County Deed Book G, p. 43.
- 21 Chester County Deed Book Y, p. 373.
- 22 Delaware County Deed Book D, p. 319.
- 23 Delaware County Deed Book A, p. 168, records her purchase.
- 24 Will of Ruth Davis in Delaware County Will Book A, p. 293.
- 25 1800 United States Census.
- 26 Delaware County Deed Book D, p. 185 shows his purchase from Evan Lewis.
- 27 Delaware County Will Book A, p. 255.
- 28 See Radnor Historical Society *Bulletin* for 1963, p. 7.
- 29 Delaware County Deed Book H, p. 309.
- 30 Delaware County Deed Book P, p. 562.
- 31 Delaware County Deed Book E, p. 407.
- 32 Delaware County Deed Book D, p. 396.
- 33 Delaware County Deed Book K, p. 223. This 1811 deed does mention a dwelling.
- 34 Delaware County Deed Book T, p. 488-90.
- 35 Delaware County Deed Book N-2, p. 538.
- 36 See Radnor Historical Society *Bulletin* for 1963, p. 11.



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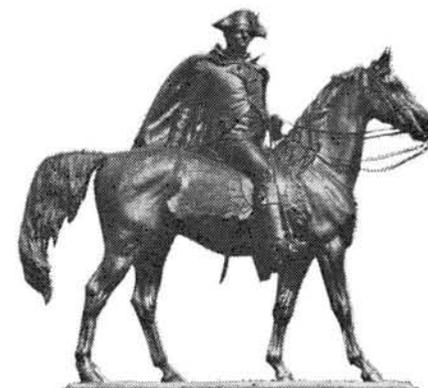
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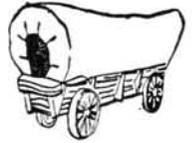
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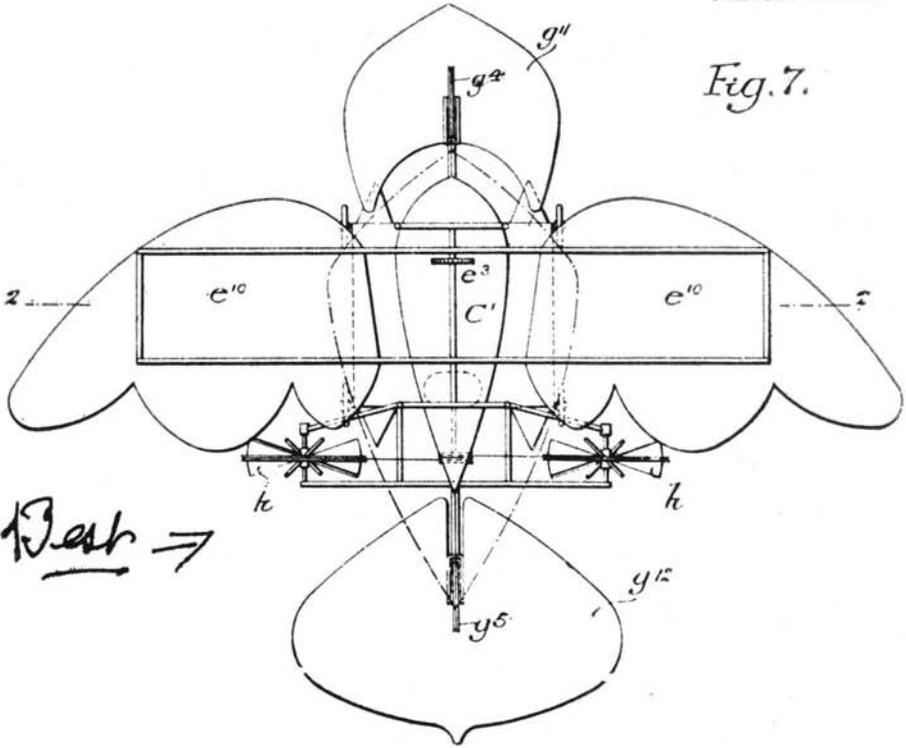
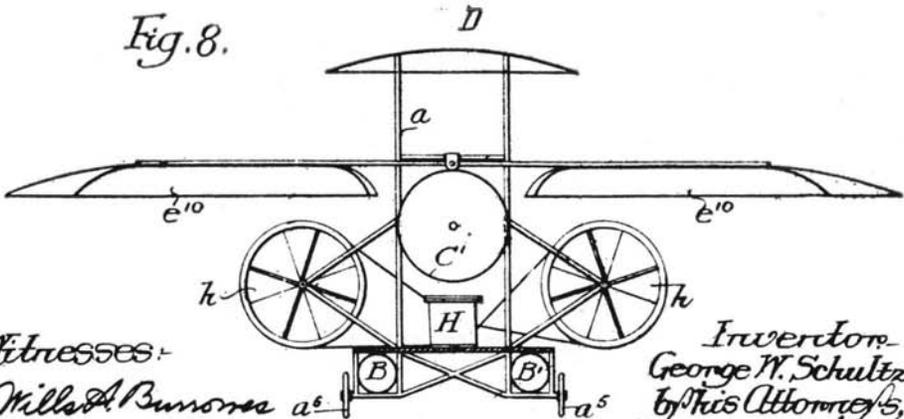


Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.



Witnesses:  
 Miles A. Burness a^5  
 Augustus B. Cooper

Inventor:  
 George W. Schultz.  
 by His Attorneys,  
 Fouson & Fouson