

THE BULLETIN
of
RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume IV

1982

No. 2



INCORPORATED APRIL 30, 1948

Headquarters and Museum

THE FINLEY HOUSE

113 WEST BEECH TREE LANE
WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA 19087

Visitors Cordially Welcome. Telephone MUrray 8-2668.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At the annual meeting held in May, 1981, Mrs. Harrison Therman announced her retirement from the presidency of this Society. The onset of her seventeen years of able leadership coincided with the gift to the Society of the Finley property. It was under Mrs. Therman that the Society refurbished and furnished the House, built the Wagon House, and paid off the resulting debt. Her advice, activity and interest have been appreciated. We are sorry she no longer heads the organization, but pleased that she consented to remain a member of the Board of Directors.

At the same meeting John H. Grant, former Treasurer and a Director for thirteen years, and Dr. William L. Ziglar finished their terms on the Board. To them also go our thanks.

Since that time the Society has received a number of gifts, including \$335 in memory of Fleming Parke Laws. This memorial will be used to repair and rebind materials in our library, a project long needed and impossible earlier. We are grateful to the family and friends of Mr. Laws.

The usual activities continue. Objects of antiquarian interest have been lent at various times during the year to The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America, to a chapter of The Daughters of The American Revolution, and to the Wayne Elementary School. Queries on people or property come in increasing numbers from all over the country. Of particular interest to recent researchers have been our architectural blueprint collection, the Wendell and Smith records of the development of both Wayne and Overbrook, and our photographs.

We welcome our new members and hope all will visit the Finley House soon.

Cordially,
Katharine Hewitt Cummin

NEW MEMBERS

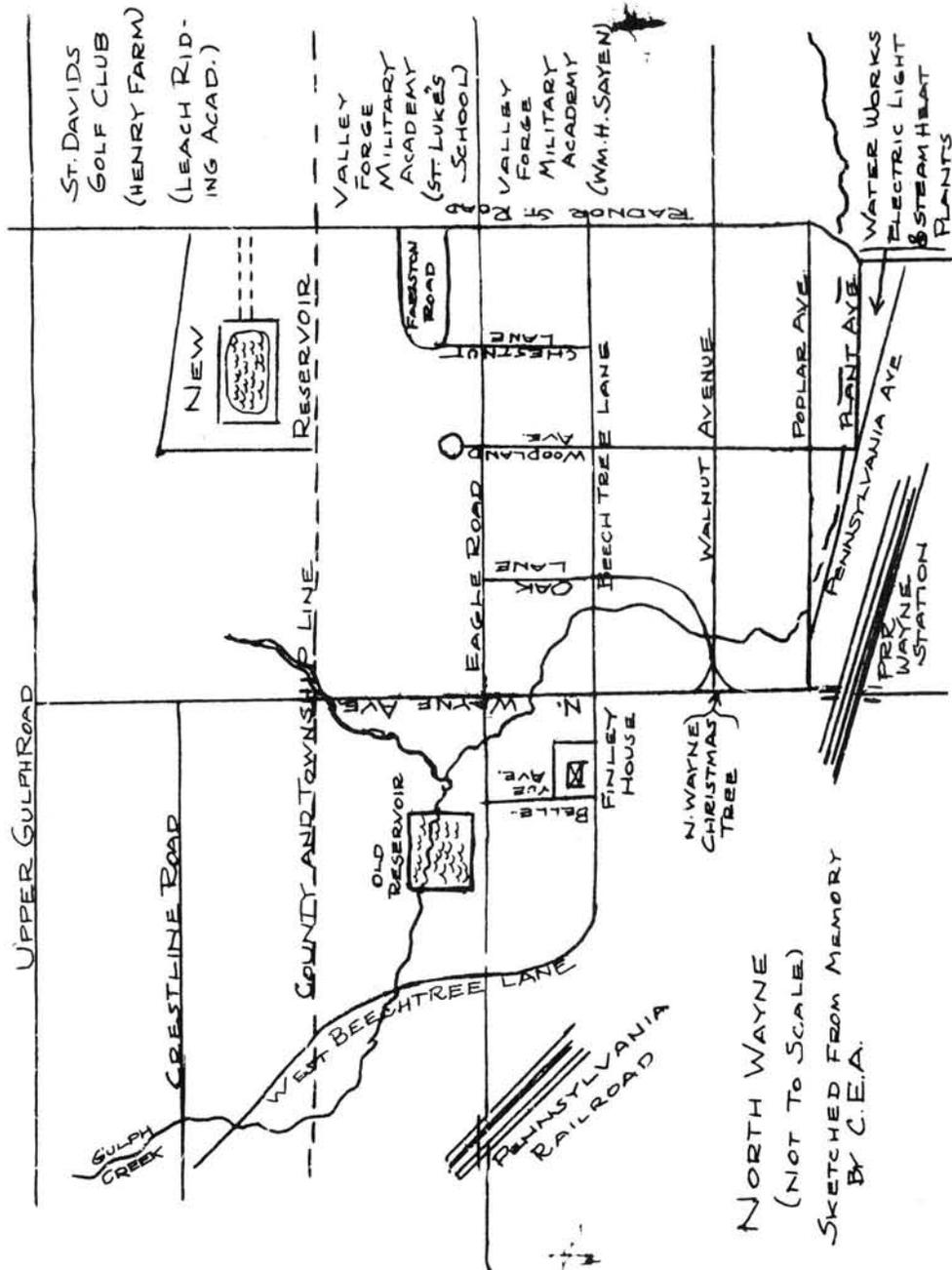
Ann Doring
Dorothy Foltz
Miss Judith A. Fritsch
Dr. and Mrs. David H. Hausman
Mrs. Ardis O. Hunt
Rita Levine
Jeanne Marek
Mrs. Thomas G. Meeker

Quaker Collection, Haverford College
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Robbins
George H. Sayen
Ronald Silverman
Virginia Vogt
Nelson O. Weadley
Joyce E. Wilson
Mrs. William R. Wood

NECROLOGY

Mrs. Charles S. Boles
Mrs. John M. Brewster
Edmund Cabeen
M. G. Canizares
Mrs. Robert H. Colgan
Mrs. Marie Good Hunt

David Lynch
John Mather
Lawrence Megargee
Mrs. Adolph G. Rosengarten, Jr.
Frederick Sayen
Mrs. Seaton Schroeder



LOCATION OF OLD AND NEW RESERVOIRS

"I WANT A DRINK OF WATER"

By Charles E. Alexander

That cry in the middle of the night!

Whether it was a real need, or just a demand for attention, it could not be denied. Sleepy-eyed and groggy, we stumbled to the bathroom, turned a faucet, filled a glass and hoped that we wouldn't spill it all over the crib. And then, just before slipping back into blissful nothingness, we may have remembered to think, "Was anything more convenient?"

Very few of us ever knew real "Country Living" when the luxury of a hand pump in the out-kitchen had come to replace the "Old Oaken Bucket" or the spring on the hillside. And yet it is less than a hundred years ago that Wayne, and in fact the whole Main Line, was still having to make do with private water systems.

It was in 1881 that Anthony J. Drexel and George W. Childs put into execution their dream and concept of "WAYNE." They had purchased the extensive holdings of J. Henry Askin and other adjoining lands, totalling more than 500 acres, and laid out their plan for the development of the "Wayne Estate." The Main Line Property Atlas of that year shows North Wayne as being laid out in a typical gridiron pattern with street names and lot numbers, but no houses on those lots as yet. One of the streets, today's Woodland Avenue, appears on the map as LOVE Avenue, possibly a prophecy, as that street and its parallels, Oak Lane and Chestnut Lane, were to burgeon with kids in the generations to come.

It wouldn't take long, as a matter of fact, for all this to change. By 1885 there would be 12 houses in North Wayne, and 26 living souls, "not including domestic servants," as the North Wayne Protective Association was to record in this year of its birth.

The house built by John M. Scherr at 412 Chestnut Lane bears the date of 1891 carved over its lintel, and this is significant of the mushrooming growth of Wayne by this time. Again, referring to the Property Atlas, we find North Wayne loaded with houses and Messrs. Drexel and Childs realized that something would have to be done about creating a public water supply if the town was going to continue to grow as it had in its first decade. On October 16, 1891 an application was filed with the Commonwealth for the incorporation of the "WAYNE WATER WORKS." On November 17 Governor Patterson approved the application. Apparently, red tape wasn't very strong in that Century and things got done.

Paragraph 2 of the application stated:

"Said Corporation is formed for the purpose of supplying water to the public in that part of the Township of Radnor, County of Delaware, lying between the Old Lancaster, or Conestoga Road, and the King of Prussia Road and Northwest of the Road leading from the Old Lancaster Road at the Friends' Meeting House to the King of Prussia Road near the Radnor Station."

The Corporation was capitalized at \$50,000 with one thousand shares being authorized at \$50 per share. The original shareholders' names and their addresses were:

Anthony J. Drexel	Philadelphia	499 shares
George W. Childs	Philadelphia	498 shares
Frank Smith	Wayne, Pa.	One share
Herman Wendell	Wayne, Pa.	One share
Walter B. Smith	Wayne, Pa.	One share

With the formality of incorporation being accomplished, we come to the practicalities of providing this public water supply, selection of its source, and the method of its accumulation and distribution. Herewith that history:

The genesis of this research stems from a rambling walk in the early Spring of 1982 to satisfy a long slumbering curiosity as to the existence, or otherwise, of a very sophisticated reservoir that was located due north of Chestnut Lane and Woodland Avenue, between Radnor Road and the LeBoutillier property (now the site of the Church of the Saviour) and just across the Township and County lines. I hadn't explored that area for sixty years, and I didn't know what to expect. Amazingly, the basin of the reservoir still exists, a deep, dry depression, overgrown with bushes and brambles, and, if one has enough imagination, it might seem to resemble a miniature "Barringer Crater."

As I stood there gazing at this almost-forgotten scene of my boyhood, I could still see in my mind's eye half a dozen small boys enjoying their private and secret swimming hole and later, as the seasons changed, the perfect hockey rink with steep, sloping sides that cushioned any wild shot and automatically returned the puck to the field of play. That, I well recall, was in the summer of 1913 and for several winters thereafter. And all that then conjured up a recollection of an even older reservoir that had also been built in North Wayne but already long in disuse. That other reservoir had been located just north of Eagle Road in the vicinity of what are now Forest Road and the 500 block of West Beechtree Lane.

My first acquaintance with the "Old Rezzy" was when Jack Mather (a generous donor of many historical documents to our Society) and "Fran" Dallett (Jim Dallett's father) and I set out on a project designed to put the Hudson's Bay Company out of business. With an original capital of fifteen cents we bought one muskrat trap at Welsh and Park's, and set it on the eroding bank of the abandoned but still partly water-filled "pond." We also tried our luck at "Fenny's," the Fenimore pond. We caught no fur, but it was a lot of fun covering our "trap line" in the Dallett's pony cart. In the following winter, however, Jim Wood and I conducted a fairly profitable goldfish business, chopping through the clear ice of the old "Rezzy" and fishing out the somnolent "goldies" with our bare hands. These were collected in a bucket and then rushed down to "AERNESHOLT," Colonel Wood's residence on Walnut Avenue and stored temporarily in the stationary washtub while we took orders and peddled goldfish all over North Wayne . . . ten cents per fish.

At this point it must be evident that I could go on and on with other exciting anecdotes of juvenile enterprises and/or delinquency as practiced in the second decade, but I must get back to the subject at hand: the history of the Wayne Water Works and its successors.

The booklet published by The Graphic Center — Argus Printing, entitled **Historic Wayne**, shows a picture of an old house on Bloomingdale Avenue accompanied by text reading: "The first reservoir lay behind the pictured house." I tried to run that down and I called Catherine Martin who grew up on Runnymede Avenue. She remembered that there had been a reservoir there at one time, but didn't know just what purpose it had served; she referred me to George Aman, Radnor's football captain in 1908 and now in his nineties. George also recalled the fact of a reservoir in that locality and said that the "mounds" (of its banks) were still visible. That was enough for me; I had to see for myself! The site is immediately in back of the house which is now an art gallery, but you would never know it for a reservoir; it is an empty space of elevated, level ground about 100 by 50 feet, fenced off, and serving as dogs' playing field. This area of approximately 5,000 square feet would make it one-quarter of the size of North Wayne's "new" reservoir, but its capacity would have been in even smaller proportion as allowance would have to be made for the width of the surrounding banks and it seems doubtful that it would have had as great a depth as the larger reservoir. Ted Brooks, who is pretty dependable as South Wayne's "historian", reminds me that the houses on Bloomingdale are just about the oldest anywhere around and were built by Mr. Askin back in the eighteen seventies, well before the advent of Drexel and Childs and the "Wayne Estate." Ted thinks that the reservoir may have been a private water facility, constructed by Mr. Askin to serve that immediate neighborhood. It seems quite reasonable. There does not appear to be any evidence in the files of the Philadelphia Suburban Water Company to indicate that this reservoir was an integral part of the "Wayne Water Works" system, but its presence in the Louella era deserves to be noted.

I feel sure that the old "Rezzy" was the original facility designed to serve as a source of public water supply for the Wayne Community, but I still can't find anybody today who knows exactly how it functioned or when it was abandoned. Douglas Wendell, whose father was one of the original incorporators of the Wayne Water Works, and for many years the factual manager of the Wayne Estate, thinks that the old Reservoir served as an originating source for the new reservoir and that the impounded water was pumped to the higher ground, from which it would flow by gravity to the pumping station at the foot of Woodland Avenue. This seems logical, as the water was in one place and gravity in another. Doug also

says that the basic water source was **not** the confluence of the two small brooks that are the headwaters of Gulph Creek (as I had always presumed) but, rather, from deep springs from which the water was piped and forced to the surface.

I should have known about the presence of these springs because there was a very beautiful open spring in that area which was the site, for many years, of the "Bums' camp." The bums (aka tramps or hoboes) chose this spot for two very good reasons: the spring itself, which was never defiled, and the proximity of a semaphore signal that governed the movements of westbound trains on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Freight trains receiving a restrictive signal were obliged to slow down or even come to a stop momentarily, and to an agile "tourist," this was just as good as an authorized station stop.

There are no records at the offices of the Water Company that give any clue as to just when the old "Rezzy" was abandoned. As I have previously noted, it was long gone as far back as 1911 and Eddie Clark's recollections coincide with mine, although he remembers that there was still enough of a pond for skating as late as around 1914. I hunted rabbits and woodcock in that general area in 1921 and there was nothing more than the brooks left at that time. The Property Atlas for 1926 shows that the lands encompassing the old pond had become possessed by E. E. Trout and he must have begun clearing and grading the land at about that time inasmuch as the first houses of the Forest Road development were built in 1927. Doug Wendell built his own house there just about on top of the old dam breast.

As to the history of the new reservoir, it may be possible to form some estimates of its life from the development of certain other Main Line water supply projects that were to become co-related to our own. Here I'll quote from some pages of history in the files of the Philadelphia Suburban Water Company which were copied for me by Jerry Sacchetti, Vice President in charge of Public Relations. Jerry gave up an entire morning to me, digging out old blueprints, maps and excerpts of speeches given to various groups by Officers of the Company which eventually consolidated all of the smaller local water companies.

"As of 1895 the Pennsylvania Railroad was in need of large amounts of water for its steam locomotives at Radnor where they scooped water from open troughs to avoid the necessity of stopping. There were also troughs at Glen Loch. At neither of these points was a local supply available. The railroad retained the services of the American Pipe Line Manufacturing Co., of Philadelphia, to investigate the broad situation and recommend the best supply for railroad use at these points.

"At this time there was no public water supply along the Main Line except a small supply at Wayne.

"Investigation by the American Pipe Line Manufacturing Company led to the rejection of Valley Creek (as well as the Schuylkill River and Mill Creek) because of excessive hardness and the selection of Pickering Creek near its mouth as an excellent source with ample volume of water of good quality.

"However, to develop a supply from this source for the use of the Pennsylvania Railroad alone was prohibitably (sic) expensive, whereas the inclusion of communities along the Main Line from Paoli to Bryn Mawr would permit the development of Pickering Creek in not only a sound but meritorious project."

At about this time, the strong man of the Pennsylvania Railroad was Alexander J. Cassatt* of Chesterbrook, First Vice-President and soon to be president. (1899 to 1906) Mr. Cassatt was a Civil Engineer graduate of Rensselaer

Institute of Technology and even though he may have been a bit tough and hard-boiled, he was a matchless operating officer and a man of great vision, as exemplified by this dream and concept of tying together public needs and those of his company. Mr. Cassatt was also a major stockholder of the Lancaster Turnpike Co. and this may have helped in expediting construction of water mains along the property lines of the turnpike, mains which today are still in the same location.

*See article by Patricia Talbot Davis in the 1980 issue of the *Bulletin*.

ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY

"By 1904 the Wayne Water Company had become embarrassed by the inadequacy of its source of supply and the increasing difficulty of supplying a sufficient quantity of water. Pickering Creek water, being now available, the Wayne Water Company was sold to and became merged into the "North Springfield Water Company" as of January 12, 1904, the sale carrying with it the sewerage works built for the Wayne Estate."

As a small boy it was my impression that the new reservoir was no longer in general use but that a full supply of water was being maintained for emergencies and fire protection. (It would have been invaluable if St. Luke's School had caught fire.) This would tie in with the Pickering having become the principal source of supply for the merged companies. At any rate when we were big enough to enjoy a summer of skinny dipping we honestly believed that we were no threat to our own table water.

My last firm recollection of this reservoir still being such is 1921 when my brother, home from the Navy on leave, and I did some target practice with his 45 automatic on some floating chunks of wood tossed into the water. The records of the North Springfield Water Company (eventually merged with Springfield Water Co.) show that the reservoir property was sold in that same year.

The indispensable Property Atlas (of 1926) shows that ownership of this property had passed to Mr. Roberts LeBoutillier whose estate occupied both sides of North Wayne Avenue, north of the county line and now extended east all the way to Radnor Road. On the west side it included the exquisite Japanese Garden and an amphitheatre and on the other side, near the house, an extensive rose garden. I guess it was around 1916 or so that I contracted with Mr. LeBoutillier to "exterminate" the rosebugs that were laying waste fresh blooms. I would pick off the bugs and drop them into a can of kerosene. Mr. LeBoutillier probably thought he had a bargain at a price of one cent per hundred, but he looked aghast when I presented my bill for \$3.50. He paid it immediately, however, without demur.

Mr. LeBoutillier was an eminent horticulturist and his "forest" contained an enormous variety of trees from all over the world, all carefully identified and tagged, including a hundred chestnut trees imported from Japan in an effort to offset the devastation of the American chestnut blight. Through the medium of a delightful interview with his granddaughter, Mrs. Thomas Stewart, I learned that after Mr. LeBoutillier, Senior, acquired the reservoir property he converted it into what might be termed a "water garden" and planted it with water lilies and goldfish! It was so maintained throughout his lifetime, and afterwards by his son Henry. Dorothy LeBoutillier Stewart remembers it well as an exciting scene of her childhood, but eventually with no other input than rainwater the reservoir expired; her younger brother Roberts, of Waterloo Gardens, says that in his earliest remembrance it was always dry.

And so, still visible and long in remembrance, it is one of the few remaining vestiges of a vision without which Wayne might never have been. And as you enjoy a glass of one of Nature's most priceless gifts to you, remember to pay your respects to those pioneers and their successors who, literally, put it in your hands. Because, after surviving this heterogeneous mish-mash of nostalgic fact and fancy, you are most certainly entitled to . . .

A drink of Water.

Acknowledgments

Jerry A. Sacchetti, Vice President, Philadelphia Suburban Water Co.
Douglas Carey Wendell, Secretary, Hale Pump Co., Retired
Edwin J. Clark, Radnor Township Fire Marshall, Retired
Mrs. Thomas E. Stewart (Dorothy LeBoutillier)
Robert LeBoutillier, President, Waterloo Gardens
Mrs. Charles J. Martin (Catherine Bard)
Theodore Boreham Brooks
George M. Aman, Jr.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held on May 17, 1981 at the home of Mrs. Caroline B. Ewing, Villanova, whose house was designed by Mr. Horace Trumbauer. A talk on the subject of that architect entitled "Architect for Town and Country" was given by Mr. John Groff of Rosemont. A transcription of his talk appears elsewhere in this issue.

On October 17, 1981 members of the Society visited **Stenton House** at 18th and Courtland Sts. in the Germantown Section of Philadelphia. The three-story brick Georgian mansion was designed and built by James Logan, William Penn's secretary, between 1723 and 1730. Both Generals Washington and Howe used Stenton as headquarters during the Revolution.

Mr. Mark Frazier Lloyd of the Germantown Historical Society gave a talk at the Finley House on December 7, 1981 on "Successful Management of the Local History Society." Not only did Mr. Lloyd point out that a society must be the repository of historical information to be drawn on by interested members of the community but that it should also engage actively in Community affairs to foster the development of mutual interests and responsibility. One way that this could be accomplished would be for the Society to sponsor a Colonial craft exhibit on the grounds. Possibly other social events could be scheduled which would increase the community's awareness of the significance of the Society.

Our guest speaker at the Finley House on February 25, 1982 was Mary Maples Dunn, Dean and professor of history at Bryn Mawr College, who spoke on "Women in Early America." Mrs. Dunn graphically developed the progress of women in America from the early days when it was accepted that their place was in the home, close to the hearth, catering to the needs of her household and particularly to those of her husband.

Gradually, women, feeling the influence of our liberated society, made themselves heard, turning around the age-old concept that their role was solely as a stabilizing influence in their home and community to the wider view that they have a very real and significant contribution to make to the well-being of our society as a whole.

On April 17, 1982 members of the Society went to the Radnor United Methodist Church for luncheon and a guided tour. The church, located in Garrett Hill (formerly known as Methodist Hill) was founded in 1780 with the first log church being built in 1783 on the present site. The present stone church was built in 1833 with additions and improvements being added over the years. A detailed history of the Church appeared in the Spring 1961 edition of the **Bulletin**.

ERRATUM

The 1981 **Bulletin** included an article on Portledge, the main building on the former Ellen Cushing Junior College campus. The editor regrets that the name of the article's co-author, Jessica Nussdorfer, was omitted.

"THE SUBURBAN AND WAYNE CRIMES"

According to "The Suburban and Wayne Times," the fourth annual dinner of the Wayne Chamber of Commerce on May 23, 1927, was "by far the biggest and best in the history of the Wayne business men." There were 384 dinners served to guests who paid \$3.50 for filet mignon, dancing and speeches at the Devon Park Hotel, but the main attraction may have been the hundreds of prizes donated by merchants and given away in drawings that night.

All the guests received "souvenirs," which presumably included the parody newspaper, "The Suburban and Wayne Crimes." However, there is no mention of the parody in contemporary articles about the dinner in "The Suburban."

The following four pages contain that parody.

RUTH TALLMADGE

Important
'Phone No.
4-11-44
"Bill the
Bootlegger"

THE SUBURBAN

AND WAYNE CRIMES

NOTHING
BUT
THE BUNK

Wayne Chamber of Commerce Edition, May 23, 1927

THE SUBURBAN AND WAYNE CRIMES

MUSICIAN MURDERED!

NEGLECTED SPOUSE TELLS STORY OF HER WOES.

Mr. Hans von Winkelstein Housenblauer, alleged musician of Midland avenue, was brutally beaten in his apartment between Sunday and midnight, according to Officer "Bob" Hobson, of the Radnor Homicide Squad.

The body of Mr. Blousenhauer was lying across a Turkish divan, with two broken legs and green upholstery, when Officer Hobson entered the wrecked apartment. Chief



of Police Lafferty (see illustration), who arrived in answer to a telephone call, said the murder had been committed with a blunt instrument, and suggested either the saxophone or the safety razor found near the murdered man's side.

Mrs. Sousesblauer told the police her husband had bought the saxophone two months ago because he wanted to become one of the Midland avenue elite and added that she told him at the time he couldn't afford it and that it was entirely too much to blow in. Fingerprints found on an empty whisky bottle led the police to believe they were on the trail of a poison rum plot. This theory was abandoned, however, when the fingerprints turned out to be those of Constable Jack McDermott, who had been called into the case.

THE GIRLS OF WAYNE

(Tune—"Maryland")

The girls of Wayne!
The girls of Wayne!
From paint and powder they abstain;
They ne'er put rouge upon their lips
And from the bottle take no sips.
There are no flappers in our town,
Which makes it one of great renown.
A bachelor you can't remain
If once you meet a girl of Wayne.

For beauty—but as is well known—
A homely Wayne girl ne'er was grown.
For wit—with one but try to jest
And see who comes off second best.
If on domestic work they're bent,
You'll find 'em in their element;
From loving them I can't refrain—
The girls of Wayne!
The girls of Wayne!

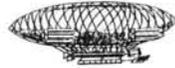
WAYNE'S HANDSOME NEW THEATER

Impresario Harry Fried has permitted us to inspect the plans for the new Wayne Theater, excavation for which was begun last week.

It will be of the Moorish type of architecture, with Byzantine entablatures and guimpe reverses cut decollete. It will be seven stories high, or maybe Harry told us seven stories about it—we forget which. There will be a roof garden in the basement and a department store on the roof. The seating capacity will be 3700, and there will be continuous performances beginning from 5.30 A. M.

The organ will be the finest in any theater between Strafford and St. Davids, and will be imported from Neufchatel. The theater will be opened on the evening of November 31, with a gala performance of the grand opera, "La Cuspidora," the eminent tenor, Hyacinth di Ignazio, singing the title role.

(Stanley Company, please notice.)



BY AIR MAIL

By special arrangement tonight's issue of The Suburban has been delivered by Zeppelin, pictured above. As you will notice, the whole character of the paper has, because of this, taken on an entirely different air.

CONFIDENT OF WINNING PENNANT

James Kelso Dunne, manager of the Wayne Men's Club baseball team, when interviewed by a reporter this morning, said they would make every effort to win the Belmont stakes cup. With the addition of Charlie Wilkins to the outfield the pennant is as good as won. The players are all equipped with new typewriters and expect to turn out a great average.



"THE SUBURBAN"

"What goes on, goes in."

(Published in this size as it may come in handy for a napkin later on.)

MONDAY, MAY 23, 1927

GREETINGS

Great preparations have been made for your entertainment this evening. The management has spared no effort to give you a good time—we hope you find here tonight the "makin's" and we invite you to roll your own.

This is a wonderful occasion. Gathered here around the festive board may be seen not only a dazzling array of pulchritudinous femininity, but the real he-men of the community, the men who make the wheels go 'round. Aren't they cute?

Probably at no other time of the year will our business men come into actual contact with so many people who owe them money.

As Shakespeare said: "On with the dance; let joy be unrefined!"

THE SPEAKERS

No extended introduction of tonight's speakers is necessary. The toastmaster, W. A. Wiedersheim, commonly denominated as "Bill," has plans up his sleeve for a better Wayne which he will present. If the diners will be quiet in the matter of salted peanuts; Rev. E. W. Rushton, our young Demosthenes, is fast becoming a national celebrity by his fine work on the platform and in the pulpit, and Leonard Ormerod, publicity manager of the Bell Telephone Company, will tell us why it takes so long to get Central, and many other pertinent facts.

And if the eminent jurists seated at the speakers' table don't improve this golden opportunity (the primaries come this summer) it will be their own fault—we have given them the tip.

MOTORIST ESCAPES DEATH IN CRASH

W. A. Wiedersheim, 2d, well-known solicitor, clubman and parachees player, had a miraculous escape from death recently while driving along Radnor road in his sedan at the terrific speed of 13 miles an hour. Happening to take a second glance at a lady passing by, Mr. Wiedersheim's car suddenly left the road and plunged off the edge of the railroad trestle. Mr. Wiedersheim, who is a horseman of no mean ability, jumped before the car struck the ditch, and escaped with a slight attack of pyorrhea. The car was completely wrecked.

MISSING WORD CONTEST

(\$5.00 for First Correct Solution)

—was taking his baby for a ride along Eagle road, when his auto stalled.

"Baby," he said, "I think we are out of gas."

"Don't be silly, daddy," she answered; "wait till we get off this highway."

Baby is only 18 years old, too.

IN HUBB'S STORE

Mrs. Newlywed—"Do you really think that sardines are healthy?"

Tommy Conway—"Well, madam, I never heard one complain."

EASY MONEY

Walt Hale—"What was all the noise over at your house, last night, Bud?"

Bud Park—"Oh, that was no'ing; only the salesman from the Lynam Electric Company collecting his 'easy' payments."

Farmer to Joe Cartwright—"Now be sure an' write plain on them bottles, which is fer the Jersey cow an' which is fer my wife. I don't want nothin' to happen to that Jersey cow."

THERE OR THEREABOUTS

"Dogs never go mad," recently remarked Dr. Lienhardt, of the Radnor Board of Health, "if they can get plenty of drink." A lot of us men wouldn't get mad under the same circumstances.

Walter Geist, the beauty specialist, says that some women who deny belief in miracles expect to see results when they pass through a beauty parlor for treatment.

A plumber belonging to this association recently was given a fortune by one of his customers. We seem to remember paying one or two little bills like that.

W. M. Witherow and Charlie Dawes—the only two pipe-smoking bankers of our acquaintance.

"I smell a Pongee." Judge Scanlan must be in the room.

From the Radnor High School: Teacher—"Give a sentence with the word 'incongruous.'" Pupil—"Tom Butler is now serving his 14th term incongruous."

Heard at the Wayne Theater: "Excuse me, madam, but do you mind coughing more quietly so that I may be better able to hear your friend read out the sub-titles?"

It takes about 1500 nuts to hold an automobile together, but it only takes one nut to scatter it all over the landscape.

If each and every one of the young ladies from the Suburban office doesn't go home with a prize package, the boss—well, draw your own conclusions.

Otis Hunsicker was so anxious not to miss the dinner that he came up a week ahead of the scheduled time. All dolled up, too.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

How accurately can you answer the following questions? If you can get them all right you rate 100 per cent. In our representative intelligence test:

1. How much is 2x2?
Ans.
2. How many letters in the word eats?
Ans.
3. What is Ira V. Hale's first name?
Ans.
4. In what direction is Wayne from St. Davids?
Ans.
5. What is the color of Brookmead milk?
Ans.
6. What is the name commonly applied to Lancaster pike through Wayne and St. Davids?
Ans.

NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY

"How to Make a Live Town, or When Do I Get My Commission?"—Raymond Dickson.
"A Nickel a Day Keeps the Poor House Away."—H. C. Hadley.
"Scapa Flow; or the Pimlico Mystery."—Claude S. La Dow.
"When I Can Read My Title Clear."—C. S. Boles.
"I Gather Them In; or Won't You Walk Into My Parlor?"—J. Harold Hallman.
"The Man from Utah."—Edgar Jones.
"The Brookmead Mystery; or the Mermaid That Doesn't Go Near the Water."—Charles Myers.
"How to Keep Thin."—R. J. Morrison.
"The Best Policy."—C. Walton Hale.

WHEN BEN WAS YOUNGER
Nervous passenger to Ben Amodei—"Hey, what makes this machine go from one side of the street to the other? This is my first ride in a taxi."
Ben—"You got nothing on me. This is my first job as a driver!"

This is your paper. Do with it what you darn please.

OUR MOTTO

Some say it with flowers,
Some say it with sweets,
Some say it with kisses,
Some say it with eats;
Some say it with jewelry,
Some say it with drink;
But our motto is always:
"Say it with ink."

WINS PRIZE



MRS. IMA JIGGER
who won the Suburban's prize for the best cooking recipe:

"Take a can of beans, put in boiling water for ten minutes and serve in the can."
Needless to say, her husband is a golf widower.

IN THE VENICE CAFE

The particular customer—"Two eggs poached, medium soft, buttered toast, not too hard, coffee, not too much cream in it."
Prop. Orazzi—"Yes sir, Would you like any special design on the dishes?"

THE ACID TEST

Customer—"I'll pay you for this battery when I get straightened out."
Perry Long—"Oh, no; we sell for cash only."
Customer—"Well, it says 'batteries charged' in your window."

YES! YES! GO ON!

"No doubt," remarked Harold Hallman, of the Wayne Title, as he looked at the signature: "This check may be good, but have you anything about you by which you can be identified?"

The bashful young damsel at the window hesitantly replied: "Well, I have a mole on my left knee."

FOR NON-MEMBERS ONLY

The Wayne Chamber of Commerce cordially invites every business man of this section to come into the organization. All you have to do is to tell the fellow at your left (or right) and he'll get you an application blank.

Dues are only \$5.00 a year, not much more than the cost of this dinner, for which you can get \$10.00 worth of food and cigars by attending the meetings, not to mention the sociability and inside information you will get about your neighbors.

But, if you can't attend meetings, it's worth many times \$5.00 to have the brains of the Chamber of Commerce at work for you, keeping an eye on all the town's civic interests.
That's fine. We knew you'd join!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

WANTED—Good strong boy to take the place of a horse. Apply A. J. Martin, Wayne Plumbing and Heating Company.

HOTEL—Why eat at home and get indigestion when you can come to the Devon Park?

FLIVVERS — Bill Devereaux wishes to announce new models with four doors. Three doors always caused an odd rattle. Now with four doors you can get an even rattle.

PROFESSIONAL—Gas administered with pay'n. Dr. Henefer.

FOR SALE—Several boxes slightly-used cough drops. Apply Smith Bros.' Hardware Store.

LOST—Appendix; last seen in Bryn Mawr Hospital. Return to Dr. Standen.

FOR SALE—Orthopedic Victrola; one foot missing. C. D. Lynam.

CHURCH NOTICE—Bring thimbles, scissors, needles and sandwiches for your lunch. Meeting at the church.

Subscription due. Please renew.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

I am living with my old uncle in Stafford, who is very wealthy, but won't give me any of his money. How can I get some money for myself?

TOM.

Ans.—Take a quart of lemon oil, four ounces of lamp black, a plug of chewing tobacco and a box of carpet tacks. Boil for eleven minutes over an open fire. Cool and put in your uncle's oatmeal.

IRA V. HALE'S NEW STORY

Two Packards rested side by side. Suddenly one of them twitched violently and shook a fender.

"What's the trouble?" asked the other.

"I think I must have got one of those Fords on me somewhere."

ALL JAKE WITH HIM

Mr. Wayne: "Will you marry me?"

Miss St. Davids: "Yes, but I must tell you that I am a somnambulist."

Mr. Wayne: "Oh, that's all right! You can go to your church and I'll go to mine."

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

Just as we are going to press comes word of more prizes offered by our business men, too late to be entered in the list of donors on the last page. They are just as much appreciated, however, and will be announced by President Lynam when drawn.

MUSICAL NOTE

Walter White says of a certain young person: "They call her Ray, because she always comes after dough."

ADVICE TO DRINKERS

"Use H2O instead of rye and pass away with N-U-I."

Every time our wife gets a permanent wave we think what a nice thing it would be if we could get a permanent shave.

This is your paper. Do with it what you darn please.

THE PRIZE LIST

This unprecedented galaxy of unparalleled "hand-outs" has been presented to the Chamber of Commerce absolutely "free gratis for nothing." Patronize our advertisers, as listed below.

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	CARTON OF CIGARETTES Richard Hobson
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HORACE TRUMBAUER: ARCHITECT FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY

A talk by John M. Groff

As a child I used to delight in the excursions I would make with my sister and cousin as we drove along the winding back roads of the Main Line enjoying the sweeping lawns, manicured gardens, duck ponds and the vistas of the large houses crowning the hills. However, it seemed as I grew older that there were fewer and fewer of these estates as the developers replaced lawn and garden with new housing. This alteration of the landscape makes people unaware of the design and layout of the Main Line fifty or sixty years ago. Its eighteenth century history is often more accessible in books or local newspapers or preserved house sites. I think even then that I realized a major part of the history of the area was slipping away quite unnoticed.

One outstanding example of the work of Horace Trumbauer was Whitmarsh Hall, the Stotesbury mansion completed in 1921 on the outskirts of Chestnut Hill. By the forties it was no longer a private home and its steady deterioration had begun. It is startling to think how short the passage of time was from a period when millions were spent on its construction to its demolition. In general we are more aware of the architectural accomplishments of William Strickland, Charles Bullfinch or John Notman in the early nineteenth century than Horace Trumbauer who produced over 400 major commissions from 1890 to 1935. Many of these you still see in this area but which you might not recognize. Only a few years ago this architect was referred to in a newspaper article as some architect named **Harold Trumbauer** whom the writer could not identify.

Today I do not want to argue taste or be an architectural critic. I do not wish to extol the remnants of one century over another, rather to present you with a variety of Trumbauer's works and to discuss a fascinating period in our history. I think this period is terribly confused. Only recently, Victorian taste and thought have been given their day as worthy of study. Labels like robber barons have clouded both the economic and social history of this age. I was shocked several years ago to read a letter in a journal by a prominent scholar speaking against preservation of the "stately homes" of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and calling for the demolition of the Vanderbilts' Breakers and Marble House in Newport as symbols of corruption and waste. No matter what one's political or social beliefs, to hide your eyes to the past is folly. I would like to think we have progressed by 1981 to a better understanding of history and preservation. Even seven years ago a journalist wrote in **Philadelphia Magazine** the following about Trumbauer's Ronaele-Anselm Hall built in Elkins Park in the twenties:

It reflects the most reactionary and hidebound use of materials and taste in architecture; it is a copy, a very unimaginative copy, of a 16th century English mansion; it is not even ugly enough to laugh at. Why would anyone want to save it?

I hope I can show you why.

Well, I will climb down from my soap-box now and hopefully give you an insight into Trumbauer and the town and country houses of the rich around the turn of the century.

As James Maher has written, Horace Trumbauer "is difficult to rescue from the past. He feared publicity and deliberately saw to his own obscurity." He was born in 1868 in Bucks County, one of six children of a traveling salesman. His education was scanty at best, a lack of which always made him insecure about his own position and reputation. Digby Baltzell wrote:

Success and wealth nevertheless brought Trumbauer little lasting satisfaction or relief from his overwhelming shyness and sense of inferiority at his lack of formal education.

The shunning he received from his fellow architects reinforced his insecurity. Amazing as it may seem, he was not elected to the American Institute of Architects until 1931 by his colleagues, many of whom, though university trained, lacked his success and renown.

Demonstrating as a child a talent for drawing, Trumbauer was able to enter the office of George and William Hewitt, Philadelphia architects, in 1884 and began to learn both draughtsmanship and architecture.

At this time the eclectic styles of Frank Furness and the Hewitts dominated architectural taste. Polychromatic exteriors and undulating surfaces like the Provident Life and Penn National Bank located a few blocks from Trumbauer's office were the acceptable style. Trumbauer was schooled in the Hewitts' innovative designs like their Maybrook built for distiller Henry Gibson in Wynnewood in the 1880's which incorporated a variety of historical styles. Yet, already, Trumbauer's interest in Renaissance design, particularly French, was developing.



TRUMBAUER DESIGNED JOHN WATT HOUSE

In 1890 Trumbauer opened his own office at 310 Chestnut St. in Philadelphia. His earliest work was either for small businesses or the design of outbuildings on farms and estates, but he was able to secure commissions for houses in the developments of Elkins Park and Wayne / St. Davids. In addition to some of the standard house designs he created in Wayne / St. Davids for Wendell & Smith, he also did individual houses for leather manufacturer Charles Walton, whose first Walmarthon was located on St. Davids Road and for banker John H. Watt whose house still stands at Louella Avenue and Upland Way. It is clear from these houses erected in 1892 that he was still working in the Victorian idiom loosely called the Queen Anne style where color and texture were the dominant concerns.

In his first year as an independent architect, Trumbauer received the proverbial launching of his career when William Welsh Harrison, Jr. commissioned Trumbauer to renovate his country home, Rosedale, on the Limekiln Pike north of Philadelphia. The \$35,000 renovation however burned in 1893 and Trumbauer undertook a new house on an increased scale where he could at last draw on historical prototypes. Using Alnwick Castle in New Castle, Northumberland, England as his prototype he created Grey Towers, a striking granite edifice which when completed in 1894 received wide attention, both negative and positive. Grey Towers' interiors also followed historical eclecticism and ranged from a Gothic Room to a Louis XVI parlor. The success of Grey Towers led Trumbauer to an association with the Elkins and Widener families of Philadelphia, the so-called traction magnates who had made large fortunes in inner-city transport. Their patronage in over two dozen houses and buildings sparked numerous other commissions although it also stereotyped Trumbauer as the architect of the nouveaux riches. Maher wrote concerning Trumbauer's clients that they

had in common, besides their wealth, a remarkable loyalty to him... he was able to persuade them to let him build for them a succession of costly mansions, a number of which rank with the most distinguished houses designed in this country at any time.

In 1896, again drawing on historical prototypes, Trumbauer created Cheltenham House for George W. Elkins in Elkins Park. This tudor style house focused on a two story great hall with heavily carved wood and plaster relief ceilings. In the next decade Trumbauer added stable, casino and fountains to the estate. Destroyed by fire in 1908 it was reconstructed the following year and only slightly altered.

In 1898 Trumbauer designed an Italian Renaissance mansion for Elkins's father, William, the founder of the family fortune, on a bordering estate. Elstowe Park, completed at a cost of \$119,000 in Indiana limestone, allowed Trumbauer free rein to his ideas on historical interpretation. The Architectural Record wrote:

If his work lacks the decided individualism which has hitherto marked the better class of work in Philadelphia, it is at the same time free from all eccentricity. It is never crude. It conforms to the prevalent standards of educated architects.

Trumbauer's commissions soon encompassed many parts of the East Coast as the very rich found his historical styles worthy of the statements they wished to make about their own wealth and position. In 1899 coal millionaire Edward J. Berwind of Philadelphia, New York, and Newport, asked Trumbauer to create a new mansion on the site of his summer home in Newport. Modeled after the Chateau d'Argenson at Asnieres, France (18th century) Trumbauer built the Elms, a house with elaborate details like the breccia marble hall, a 41' x 49' Venetian style ballroom, Chinoiserie breakfast room, Louis XVI drawing room and other historically styled rooms. The servants quarters were hidden behind a balustrade on the 3rd floor creating a more pleasing facade as well as being compatible with Berwind's desire to have his servants as invisible as possible.

Before I proceed with Trumbauer's work I just want to take a moment to discuss the change in country house design occurring around 1890-1900. The original movement to country life had been encouraged after the Civil War by a surplus of money and increased leisure time and facilitated by new transportation methods like the Pennsylvania Railroad's Main Line. As industrial and manufacturing fortunes grew there seemed to be a reaction against modernism and the stigma of industrial gain and new wealth. Country living and the panoply of associated clubs, gentleman's farms, and activities became a major trend. Linked to this was an identification with the lifestyle of the English country squire. The social intricacies of city life transferred to the country. Houses in general were rather low key, often rustic in design, with comfort recognized over style. The farm and country recreations were predominant. In Bryn Mawr, for example, publisher George W.

Childs' Wootton was begun in 1880. Baldwin Locomotive partner Edward Williams' Wentworth was built in the shape of a locomotive and banker Rudolph Ellis' rustic Fox Hill by architect Theophilus Chandler helped set the style. Frank Furness was the favored architect of the old guard Philadelphian and created noteworthy houses like Charles C. Harrison's Devon Farm, Happy Creek. There are some estates on a more lavish scale like distiller Joseph Sinnott's Renaissance style Rathalla in Rosemont or steel manufacturer Alan Wood's Woodmont in Gladwyne, but country homes were supposed to be an escape from the formalities and pressures of city life.

In the 1890's and early 1900's the change to more correct historical styles and an increase in the scale and formality of country estates occurred. Led by the nouveau riche who as William Herbert (a leading architectural critic) wrote in 1902:

... wanted to emancipate his children and his fellow country-men from the reproach of being raw and new; ... (tried) in every way to bring to bear upon them historical and traditional influences ... he (wanted) things with European reputation rich in historical association.

Some of the old guard soon followed suit, and on the Main Line estates like Craig Biddle's Laurento, built in the Georgian style from the designs of Boston's Peabody & Stearns in 1901, and William Wright's tudor Ravenscliff of 1906 were constructed.

Trumbauer was firmly ensconced in the middle of these changing fashions. The effect of the Chicago exposition of 1893 which helped launch the so-called American Renaissance with its new restraint and classicism seemed very suitable to the desires of his clients. In addition the dominance of Beaux-Arts principles of design: the grand plan of systematic arrangement of both interior and exterior spaces, coincided with historical perceptions.

Lynnewood Hall, the 110 room Georgian mansion built for P.A.B. Widener in Elkins Park 1898-1900 epitomized this style. In addition to the house, Trumbauer now incorporated interior design, landscaping, and outbuildings as an intricate part of his design. In 1913 landscape architect Jacques Greber was brought from France to create magnificent gardens on the 300 acre estate. In the state rooms and private rooms of this house patterned on a great English manor, noted interior designers, and antiques and painting dealer Joseph Duveen created striking rooms with imported boiseries and artworks. An entire gallery was built to house Widener's collection of over 500 paintings, one of the most important ever assembled in America. A dairy farm, race track, stables, greenhouse etc. completed the estate. As William Herbert noted, a house was but one aspect of a country estate. He indicted most American architects for overlooking the total concept of a great estate. Trumbauer on the other hand captured all elements of a plan, and began to develop an association of designers, art dealers, and landscapists of international reputation. It was soon after Lynnewood's completion that he also received into his growing firm, Julian Abele, the son of a Philadelphia physician and the first black to graduate from the University of Pennsylvania's architectural school and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Trumbauer's financing of this young man's studies was fortuitous indeed as he soon took over many commissions as Trumbauer's role became more a salesman and less a designer. As Trumbauer's insecurity and personal problems drove him occasionally to depression and alcohol, it was Abele who kept both Trumbauer and the firm at the forefront of success.

While Trumbauer's major commissions to date had been for the nouveaux riches, a stigma he never lost despite his variety of clients of both old and new money, in 1901-02 he did complete Woodcrest in Radnor (now Cabrini College) for James W. Paul, Jr., a Proper Philadelphian whose fortunes swelled as the executor of his father-in-law's, Anthony J. Drexel, estate. Reminiscent of Elkins's Cheltenham house, this tudor manor centered on a two-story wainscoted entrance hall with dining room and drawing room wings. The house originally had domed towers but at a later date it was altered to its present appearance. Again Trumbauer focused on all aspects of the estate's design, including an ornate cast iron fence costing over \$50,000 and surrounding its 230 acres, a compatible gate lodge, and a fine



WOODCREST IN RADNOR, NOW CABRINI COLLEGE

carriage house located across an avenue from the entrance court of the main house. The overall layout of the estate was worthy of the taste of Paul's well-known brother-in-law, William Waldorf Astor of New York. A working farm of 100 more acres was located across Gulph Road from Woodcrest with greenhouses, gardens, and later, structures like the colonial style farmhouse which was added in 1914 from Mellor & Meigs's design.

Trumbauer's commissions in this period also included numerous city residences like that for American Line's president and sugar refiner, Edward C. Knight, at 1629 Locust Street in Philadelphia and banker George Albert Huhn's Renaissance style town house at 16th and Walnut completed in 1907. In addition to these private residences he also undertook a number of commercial buildings and clubs including a wing for the Union League, the Racquet Club and the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. For the Widener Family he designed the Federal style Widener Memorial Industrial Training School for Crippled Children on Old York Road north of Philadelphia in 1902.

While Trumbauer's town houses, hotels and office buildings were of importance for their departure from the more eccentric styles of the late Victorian Period, it was in the design of country houses and estates that he excelled. His facility with a variety of historical styles is noteworthy. For example, in 1901-02 he created a country retreat for gas meter magnate John Gribbel, St. Austel's Hall, an Elizabethan manor in Wyncote; for Joseph B. McCall, president of Philadelphia Electric Company a colonial style house at 42nd and Walnut Streets in West Philadelphia; and for banker John Milton Colton, Wyndhurst, a tudor style house in Jenkintown.

In 1907 Trumbauer designed another half-timber tudor style mansion on the Main Line with many features similar to James Paul's Woodcrest. In Devon, on Waterloo road, Cornelius Hartmann Kuhn, a Philadelphia clubman, director of numerous companies and heir to a sizable fortune laid out his estate. The similarities to Woodcrest are evident

although on a reduced and somewhat more refined scale. As at Woodcrest, Trumbauer also included a stable and carriage house in the same style. The success and popularity of a particular country house often led to commissions along similar lines.

One of Trumbauer's most successful designs was a Georgian style house planned with a long horizontal front hall off of which were the major rooms. This design can be seen in a plan of Portledge made by Phyllis Maier when it was the Vassar Designer's Show House.* Portledge was the second house incorporating this long hall design in its first, second, and third floor plans when built about 1909 for the Henry Pepper Vauxes. An earlier house in which Trumbauer used this layout was constructed around 1906 for Edgar Scott, a president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, on his Lansdowne estate. Reminiscent of an American Federal house on a grander scale, Woodburne effectively incorporated formal rooms like a dining room with Chippendale furniture and family and servant areas removed from the guest wings.

In 1907 Alice Cramp White purchased 27.9 acres on Roberts Road in Rosemont and in the following two years commissioned a country house for her daughter and new son-in-law, investment banker and clubman Henry Pepper Vaux. As Mrs. White moved in similar circles to the Scotts she may have seen their Lansdowne house and desired a similar design. The 38 room house Trumbauer built held little resemblance to the Scott house on the exterior with its light colored stucco walls and limestone quoins, but had a similar floor plan. Dominated by a "music room" and a forty foot drawing room it had sweeping vistas over the countryside south of Bryn Mawr. Tended by seven house servants and four groundskeepers and a chauffeur, it was an attractive estate but modest in both scale and landscaping compared to Trumbauer's Widener family commissions.

The third house designed on this plan was the centerpiece of a working estate of over 560 acres located in Ithan. In 1911-12 Col. Robert L. Montgomery commissioned a house, gate lodge, stables, farm buildings, and farmer's cottages for Ardrossan, his Ayrshire dairy farm. This time Trumbauer departed from the Federalism of the Scott residence and the French flavor of Portledge to create a brick Georgian manor in the English countryhouse mode. Slightly larger and more formal, it had a ballroom, interiors of French walnut or quartered white oak with classical elements like Corinthian columns and carved marble mantelpieces. Eight bedrooms, dressing rooms, and six baths filled the second floor; the third floor held children's rooms, a playroom, nurses quarters, linen room, cedar closet, servants' wing, etc. This is one of the last of the large Main Line estates to survive.

Another house on a diminished scale may have followed a similar floor plan. It was built around 1910 for H. M. Nathanson in Rydal but is no longer standing.

About the same time Trumbauer created a stone Elizabethan house with a variation on his long horizontal hall design. Rather than placing it at the front of the structure he made it a central hall, a very effective plan typical of the Beaux-Arts design. This house was built for Thomas P. Hunter, a founder of the Acme Tea Co., later Acme Markets, and was located on Montgomery Avenue in Haverford. Colkenny, better known as the estate of Mrs. J. Leslie Davis in the twenties and thirties was later converted into offices for the Pennsylvania Highway Department but was later demolished with only a carriage house surviving.

At the time Trumbauer created these Main Line estates he gained national attention for some of the New York and Newport mansions he designed. Notable were the James Biddle Duke house at Fifth Avenue and 78th Street based on a Bordeaux, France chateau and Miramar, George D. Widener's elaborate Newport house completed in 1913 after his death on the Titanic. His widow, later Mrs. Alexander Rice, kept this house where she entertained lavishly in its stately rooms.

*Ed. note: See Pages 19 and 20 of the Fall, 1981 Issue of the *Bulletin* for more details.

Around World War I Trumbauer's commissions diminished, but the ones he completed were his most significant to both American country house architecture and public building design in Philadelphia. How much the design work was actually Trumbauer's is unclear. His assistant Julian Abele and his interior design associates were crucial to the success of these structures but he must have provided some binding thread to it all.

Around 1916, department store executive Morris Clothier decided to replace his relatively modest house built by James Gillingham in Villanova in the 1870's with a large white regency manor by Trumbauer. This house was the center of a family compound on over 150 acres along Montgomery Avenue. It was a striking form on the hillside overlooking the valley around Gulph Mills. It survives as a part of Northeastern Christian Junior College.

Soon after Trumbauer undertook the renovation of the home of cotton broker George H. McFadden, Jr., on South Ithan Ave., in Villanova. Trumbauer greatly altered the late Victorian house which stood there. In contrast to McFadden's father's nearby Barclay Farm, an 18th century inn which had been expanded, McFadden's Bloomfield took on the lines of a Loire Valley chateau of the 16th century. Placed in a setting of formal gardens the house now included a 46 by 25 foot music room, loggia, card room, library, breakfast room, dining room and servants' wing. A St. Quentin stone facade, extended chimneys, new dormers and cornices transformed the house. Supplementing the older carriage house and stables on the border of the property were a new garage in the style of the main house and a gardener's cottage. Interiors of the main house were probably designed by Lucien Alavoine, a leading New York and Paris decorator and long time Trumbauer associate.

Trumbauer's masterpiece was completed in 1921. Whitemarsh Hall, Edward T. Stotesbury's home near Chestnut Hill was opened to 800 members of Philadelphia and New York Society in that year. Situated on 400 acres, this 147 room house was the second



THE GARDEN FACADE OF WHITEMARSH HALL

commission completed for the Drexel & Co. and later Morgan & Co. partner, by Trumbauer. In 1911 he renovated Stotesbury's townhouse at 1925 Walnut Street in Philadelphia, with the help of interior designers like Allom and Alavoine, and art dealer Joseph Duveen.

In 1915 Stotesbury, whose income averaged in the millions each year, asked Trumbauer to begin plans for a country house. Working with landscape architect Jacques Greber, who had restored the gardens at Versailles, he planned a house of six stories (three underground) with a main block 283' x 100'. In 1916 ground was broken and in one year the house's fabric was completed, but with war approaching and considerable criticism of his extravagance Stotesbury delayed completion and loaned the house to be used as a hospital. The 100,000 square foot building served amply. After the war, Stotesbury rushed Whitemarsh Hall to completion and in 1921 the \$683,000 structure and its \$3,000,000 embellishments were ready. In addition to the large formal rooms were 35 servant rooms, numerous kitchens, bakeries, an ice-making plant, tailor shop, motion picture theatre, telephone switchboard, two passenger elevators, etc. The gardens were the equal of the house in splendor and rivaled any ever created in America.

In 1938 Stotesbury died and with most of a \$100,000,000 fortune dissipated Whitemarsh, which cost a million dollars a year to maintain, was closed. In 1946 with his wife Eva's death it was sold. By the 1960's all grandeur was gone as vandals reduced many rooms to rubble. The exterior became overgrown; the interiors graffiti covered. In 1980 the remains were demolished and condominiums now cover the house site.

Trumbauer's country house commissions after Whitemarsh Hall were among the last of the large period house style mansions. Around 1926 he completed Craig Hall in Haverford for John S. Muckle ... a fairly sedate brick Georgian house. For automobile heiress Mrs. Horace Dodge he designed Rose Terrace in Grosse Pointe, Michigan (1931-34) and in Long Branch, New Jersey created Shadow Lawn for Woolworth executive Hubert T. Parsons. Completed in 1930 for over \$10,000,000 (with furnishings) it was already archaic as the changes in lifestyles and the diminishing nature of America's fortunes prevailed. Parsons was heavily in debt by the time Shadow Lawn was completed and only occupied it briefly. It was sold for a small fraction of its cost.

Replacing the period mansion and Renaissance chateau were revivals in colonial architecture. In the Philadelphia area fieldstone farmhouses by R. Brognard Okie* or homes like that of William Hart's designed by Mellor & Meigs located in Radnor, became the favored style. The rural idiom took over, and even Rodman Griscom's large Gladwyne estate, Cedar Crest, was built in 1930 in the Norman farmhouse style. Clearly classicism like that of Trumbauer's was becoming outdated for residential architecture. His major commissions in that style in the later years were for public buildings which still needed a certain monumentality. Included were his work on the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Free Library of Philadelphia. Trumbauer died in 1938 in his modest Wynnefield house, a successful but relatively unhappy man.

If I leave you with any one image today I hope it is one of the vitality of the architecture of this era, which so enhanced the Main Line and other areas. I also hope that when it comes time to consider preservation of these great houses we can approach it in an enlightened manner. I sometimes have a feeling that in the year 2050 in a manner similar to Colonial Williamsburg we will be erecting a reproduction of a lost Trumbauer house as an historical statement. Let us make it easier for future historians by preserving intact what we now have.

* (1875-1945) Perhaps best remembered for his work in connection with the rebuilding of Pennsbury in 1938. See Fall 1982 and Winter 1983 issues of *Pennsylvania Heritage*, quarterly of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

ACCESSIONS

George Bovell

An old hay wagon, approximately 5 by 16 feet from one of the out-buildings at Waynesborough

The Bowen Family

A genealogy of the family

Theodore B. Brooks

Radnor Fire Company documents

Daniel N. Ehart

Vol. I, No. I of the **Wayne Times**, Dec. 7, 1885



THE OLD HAY WAGON

Mrs. Edward Forstall

Plan of property of Ethel R. H. Sayen in Tredyffrin Township

R. Dulaney Furlong (Holly Hill, Mathews, Va.)

Book on the Dulaney - Furlong and kindred families, Parsons, W. Va., 1975

Mrs. William Hacker

Various items of World War II Memorabilia of Wayne

Mrs. A. Adele Harvey

Photo of Spring house at Ford Hook (Atlee Road, Wayne) c. 1900

Mrs. Robert L. Headley

Recent issues of **Pennsylvania Heritage**

William P. Hutton

A photo album of Meeting Houses taken by his uncle, c. 1910

John M. Johnston

Book of essays entitled **Reveries by Veteran** (Col. Thomas Y. Field, U.S.M.C.) c. 1890, grandfather of the donor.

Mrs. John W. Leonard

Four family scrap books compiled in the 1890's

Mrs. James S. Maier

Typescripts: **Dundale 1890-1979; Portledge 1910-1980**

John L. Mather

Certificate from Philadelphia Bench Show, 1884; Telegram, 1891, from "Jno." in Cincinnati to Mr. Thomas Mather"

Miss Isabella Auld McKnight

The Valley Forge oration of Henry Arnett Brown, June 18, 1978

Photos of a fire at Maguire Building in c. 1906

Photos of a horse and wagon in front of the Opera House, Wayne

Souvenir program of the Radnor Fire Company Fifth Annual Parade and Convention, Wayne, June 9, 10, 1911

Mrs. Walter Mertz

Parody of the **Suburban and Wayne Times**, entitled "Suburban and Wayne Crimes," May 23, 1927. See Pages _____

Radnor Memorial Library

Bound copies of the **Wayne Gazette**, August 5, 1871 - August 17, 1872

Radnor Township Middle School

Four volumes on the history of Delaware County

George Sayen

Letters to Tweeters; book compiled by Margaret Holt Lowry Butler and containing letters written from France in World War I. They mention Radnor residents.

Frederick Sayen

Birds eggs collected by the donor in Wayne many years ago

Mr. & Mrs. Charles M. Tatum

File of Chester County Day "Newspapers"; 1954-1975

Duncan Niles Terry

Mounted copy of the winning design for the new Radnor Township coat of arms designed by Mr. Terry

Mrs. Charles Thomas

Five papers relating to Garrett Hill property on Garrett Avenue

Mrs. Richard Warren

Three Pamphlets relating to Devon and environs

Conrad Wilson

Constitution and Registry of Membership of the General Society of the War of 1812, Philadelphia, 1908

Twenty-six volumes of the printed **Pennsylvania Archives** covering from 1777 onward, second reprinting made in 1908

Biographical Annals of Montgomery County, Ellwood Roberts, ed. (1904)

RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Statement of Contributions, Revenues and Disbursements for
the period May 13, 1981 through April 30, 1982**

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REVENUES

Dues	\$1,427.00
Contributions including	
contributions contra expenses of \$510.91	1,487.91
Dividends	494.72
Interest	1,795.05
Net rent	2,751.25
Advertising	7.50
Sale of publications	45.45
Investment proceeds applied to maintenance	940.00
Miscellaneous	14.00
	<hr/>
	\$8,962.88

DISBURSEMENTS

Mailing and meeting expenses	658.75
Bulletin	879.17
Utilities	958.92
Insurance	850.00
Heating Expenses	2,433.37
Yard maintenance	600.00
Building maintenance	1,396.34
Cleaning service	300.75
Contributions	35.00
Miscellaneous	174.46
	<hr/>
	\$8,276.75

Contributions and Revenue in
Excess of Disbursements

\$ 686.13
ARTHUR H. MOSS,
Treasurer

Student Membership	\$1.00
Regular Membership	3.00
Contributing	10.00
Sustaining	25.00

All contributions are deductible (to the legal limit)
for United States Income Tax purposes

ATTENTION HISTORIANS!

**LIST OF PUBLICATIONS
FOR SALE AT THE RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

- Historic Wayne**, by Katharine H. Cummin. (The Graphics Center-Argus Printing Co., 1975). 47 Pages, illustrations. \$2.95 per copy.
- "Comfortable Homes in the Suburbs on the Hillside at Wayne and St. Davids," pictorial poster of 1890. (Reproduction) \$.50
- "Map of Radnor Township Showing Ownership in 1776", research by Katharine H. Cummin, drawn by Herbert S. Henderson (1976). \$3.00
- "Rural Homes, Wayne advertising pamphlet of 1890, illustrated. (Facsimile). \$.50
- Radnor in the War of the Revolution 1777-1778**, by Francis James Dallett (1976). 15 pages, illustrations. \$1.00 per copy.
- A Rare and Pleasing Thing: Radnor**, by Katharine Hewitt Cummin, Owlswick Press, 1977, \$19.75
- Past issues of the Bulletin of the Radnor Historical Society, \$2.00

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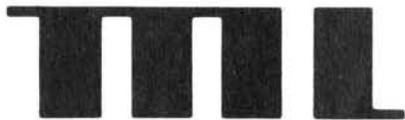
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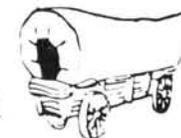
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