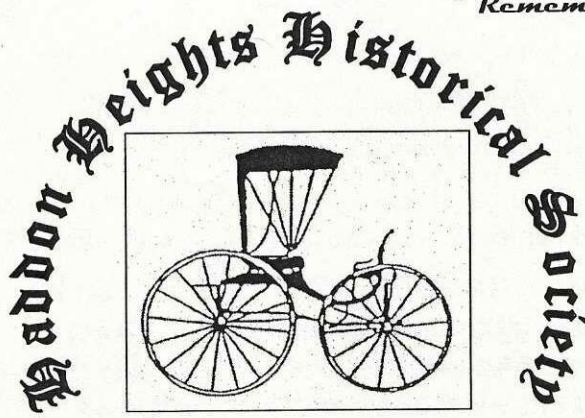


"Remembering Yesterday For The People Of Tomorrow"



Bulletin

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

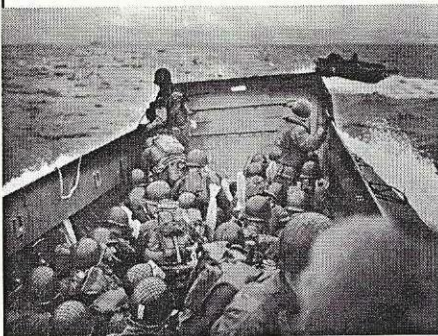
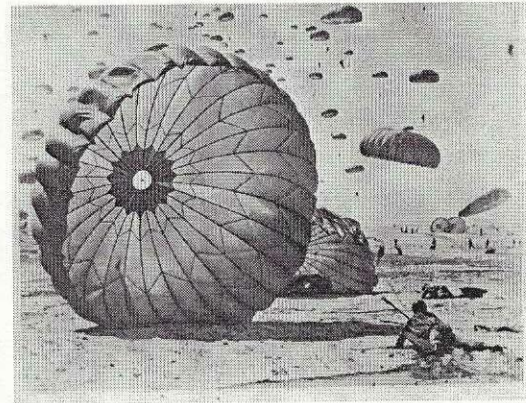
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Volume 39 Number 3

July 2014

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

JUNE 6, 1944- This is one of those days in history forever etched into the memory of our nation. It was "D-Day"; the largest military action in history. Our next meeting features a presentation by Bill Lange, a local educator and historian, discussing this pivotal day in our past. This multimedia presentation tells the courageous stories of the last great invasion of the last Great War. We will hear about strategies, sidelights, unknown & little known facts and personalities of the brave infantry and paratroopers. WW II artifacts will also be on display.



Over the course of 43 years as a H.S. history teacher, Mr. Lange received numerous awards and distinctions, including 2007 Teacher Of The Year award at Lenape H.S. as well as an award in 2010 for his use of technology in the classroom. He was inducted into the NJ Coaches Hall of Fame In 2007 and the S.J. Basketball Hall of Fame in 2008 for his achievements as a H.S. basketball coach. In 1985 he won a national contest, over 10,000 other contestants, to serve as a color commentator on national T.V. broadcasts for the CBA game of the week.

He recently began teaching at Camden County College as a part-time instructor. During his retirement he has spoken before numerous civic organizations, covering topics ranging from Gettysburg to prohibition. Please join us in the air conditioned Library as we once again welcome Bill Lange !

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- The weather is beautiful and sunny. A special thank you goes out to our Editor Ken Funkhouser and to his antique car, Florence, for representing The Historical Society in the Fourth of July Parade. I enjoyed riding in Florence this year and seeing all of you along the parade route. I look forward to seeing many of you at our July 21st meeting in the Haddon Heights Library at 7 PM. Peter Hill has once again planned an interesting program for the General Membership Meeting as Bill Lange commemorates The 70th anniversary of D- Day in his presentation. Please consider bringing a friend.

Elena



VOLUNTEERS FOR BOARD POSITIONS BEING SOUGHT- Please see page 4 for openings on the Board/Committees. To volunteer/suggest someone, see us at the July meeting!

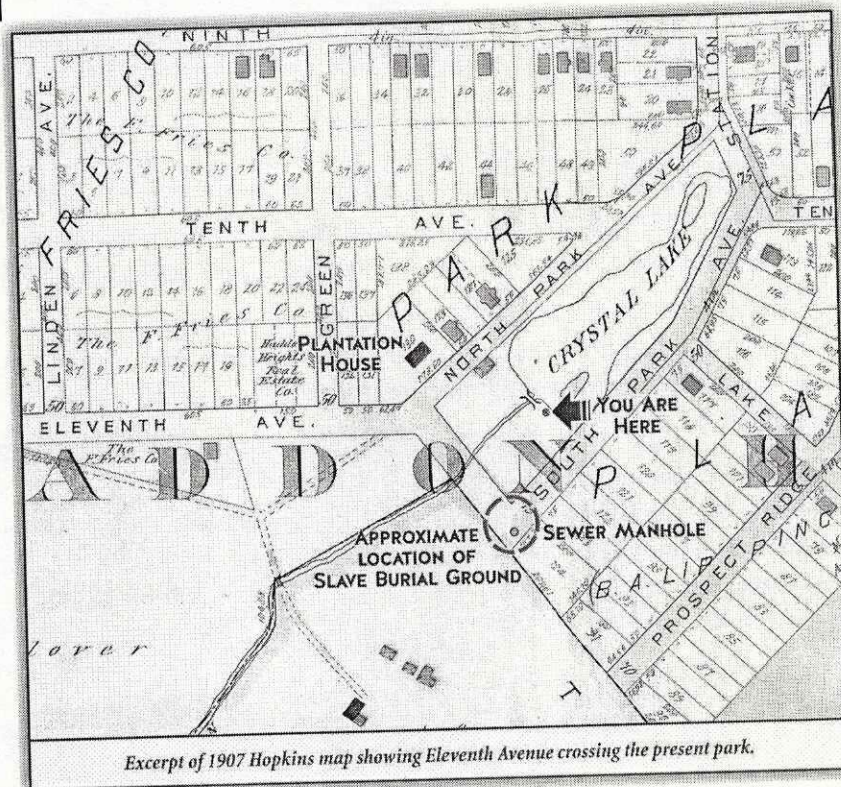
OCTOBER, 2014 MEETING TOPIC- Join us as Michael Doyle and others help us get to know Matthew Henson. Matthew Henson was an African American explorer best known as the co-discoverer of the North Pole with Robert Edwin Peary in 1909.

HADDON HEIGHTS FALL FESTIVAL- The annual Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday October 4th. Please visit our booth and peruse or items for sale... or just stop by to say "Hello."

THREE CHEERS FOR THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE! The Haddon Heights Historical Society is donating a new fringed American Flag to the Library. This new 3' x 5' ceremonial indoor flag will replace the current flag, and has been purchased from the historic Humphry's Flag Company of Philadelphia. This company has been manufacturing flags in Philadelphia for 150 years, after moving from New York. Thanks to Peter Hill for making the arrangements!

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HISTORIC MARKER CONTROVERSY-

You may have noticed that the Haddon Heights Historical Society has been in the news lately. This is quite unusual for our non-profit organization, dedicated to educating the community about local history. Nonetheless, articles and Letters to the Editor have appeared in both *The Retrospect* and the *Philadelphia Inquirer* about a couple of recent additions to our series of interpretive signs, and the reactions of a few people to the historical information they convey. Past Society President and Preservation Architect, Margaret Westfield has been deeply involved in our interpretive sign project since its inception. She offered to share with our membership, the recent situation she, and your Board have been faced with.



Excerpt of 1907 Hopkins map showing Eleventh Avenue crossing the present park.

The Society initiated a historical marker program five years ago with the intent of sharing relevant historical facts and photographs relating to significant sites throughout the town. As you travel around Haddon Heights, you may have noticed the twelve interpretive signs we have installed. In each instance, we discussed placement with each property owner or appropriate representative, and received permission to proceed. The total cost of these permanent historical markers, which has exceeded \$15,000, has been funded completely by charitable contributions to the Society in the memory of Lynn Laitman.

The most recent installations, two signs which were located in the Camden County Park, explained the histories of an 18th century slave burial ground and the c.1699 Hinchman-Lippincott House. We worked for months with the County's

Parks Department to obtain their approval of the content, design, and placement of the signs. They were installed on Wednesday, 7 May 2014.

The Hinchman-Lippincott sign was removed by the Camden County Parks Department the next day. The slavery sign was removed the following week. Parks officials, in a meeting with Bob Hunter and I, stated the removals were in response to two callers who complained that the local association with slavery is "offensive." What we didn't know at the time of the meeting was that the slavery sign had been vandalized and the interpretive plaque stolen, in the hours before the County removed the sign structure. The Haddon Heights Police Department is presently investigating this crime.

The mission of our Society is "to collect, record, and preserve local history with respect to sites, buildings, early settlers,...cemeteries,...and other matters of significance in the history and development of the community." The installation of historic markers promotes our mission and helps people of today understand the history of our community. The response to these new signs, albeit only expressed by a few individuals, emphasizes the need to educate people about history.

The existence of slavery in New Jersey is historical fact. It dates to the earliest days of English settlement, in all thirteen colonies. From New Hampshire to Georgia, plantation life necessitated laborers as a way of life, and to our great dismay today, many of those laborers were slaves. There were over 12,000 slaves in New Jersey in the year 1800. Efforts to abolish slavery grew, but as late as 1850, there were still 236 people held as slaves in New Jersey.

The Society believes that when someone says signage concerning our area's connection to slavery is "offensive", it is tantamount to denying that slavery existed. Such denial is far more offensive than providing informative displays that place slavery in its proper historical context. Therefore, despite what happened, we are negotiating with the County to reinstall the slavery sign. Since a new plaque needs to be manufactured to replace the vandalized and stolen sign, we are using this opportunity to make a few modifications to the sign. The new plaque will be labeled "Slave Burial Ground" - emphasizing the feature in the park and adjacent roadway that was the impetus for the sign's placement. We hope future generations will have a better understanding of the rich history of our area because of our interpretive signage initiative. Margaret Westfield



This historic photograph dates to c1955 and was taken from the same spot where you are standing, looking northwest. *

BRI SKELETONS ARE HADDON HTS. JINX

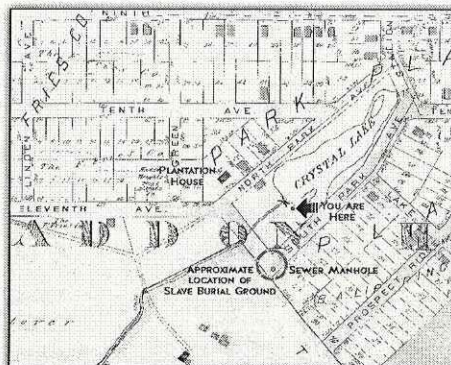
But Chief Van Leer Explains
They Are From Old
Graveyard

Haddon Heights, July 14.—Great excitement was created in the borough yesterday, when the workmen, engaged in the digging of a manhole, struck the bones of a skeleton. Chief Van Leer with the fact that, while doing their work, they had unearthed several fragments of human skeletons.

The chief, upon investigating the matter, advised the frightened men, and explained them that, since the manhole was being dug, a cemetery existed here about twenty years ago.

Former Recorder John Reeves explained that many years ago, a colored cemetery was located on this spot, but that it had been abandoned for a number of years. Very few indications can be found of the existence of a graveyard as the buildings have been taken away and mounds of weeds and undergrowth have taken their place.

Camden Daily Courier, 1922



Excerpt of 1907 Hopkins map showing Eleventh Avenue crossing the present park.

SLAVE BURIAL GROUND

During the late seventeenth and through much of the eighteenth century, slavery was an accepted way of life in working the original large plantations in this area. While several early British and German abolitionists sought to end forced servitude for life, members of the Society of Friends gradually reached a consensus by the 1770s that the practice should end among the Quakers, urged on by John Woolman and Newton Township resident Joshua Evans. By 1777, elders from the Woodbury and Haddonfield Friends' Meeting visited slave-owning Quakers to seek manumission. In September 1788, the Haddonfield Meeting noted, "No negroes held in bondage amongst us."

The first slaveholding landowner in present-day Haddon Heights was Quaker John Hugg Sr., who arrived in West New Jersey from Ireland, and purchased his first 500 acres from Newton colonist Robert Zane in 1683. A man of some means, Hugg assembled a plantation totaling 1300 acres, which extended more than three miles east from the confluence of Big and Little Timber Creek. Owning such a large plantation required Hugg to employ many servants, including slaves. At his death in January 1707, he held "7 negro girls" and "9 negroes [valued at] £270."

In May 1699, John Hugg conveyed 1,000 acres in Newton Township to John Hinchman. Hinchman arrived in West Jersey from Long Island, bringing with him at least one slave. A 1698 enumeration of residents of Flushing, Long Island identified John Hinchman as possessing "one negro slave named Hector." In July 1709, John Hinchman purchased a prepubescent male slave named Sambo from John Hugg Jr. for £35. In the fall of 1721, John Hinchman died while possessing "four negro slaves [valued at] £125."

Haddon Heights
Historical Society



In memory of
Lynn Latimer

Hinchman devised 300 acres to his eldest son, John Jr., whose 1754 estate inventory included "a negro woman, 3 negro young men and 2 negro boys, £280." In March 1777, Quaker elders reported that grandson John Hinchman III held "Mail and Femail" slaves and he was "not disposed to free them." Following the Revolutionary War, John III, who had remained loyal to the Crown, filed a claim in Great Britain for the property confiscated from him by the Americans. Property he claimed included "2 Young Negroe men one 16 and the other 18 years old valued at £100."

The Hinchman family had a slave burial ground on their farm. In July 1922, workmen unearthed several human bone fragments. They were excavating a sewer manhole at South Park Avenue and Eleventh Street, which once extended across the stream to South Park Avenue before Camden County constructed this park. Nothing denoted the burial ground's location at that time, as all grave markers had been removed as reported in the newspaper article shown above. You are now standing about 250' from the unmarked burial ground, circled on the 1907 map, above.

—Paul W. Schupp, Historian

COMING EVENTS

7/21/14- 7:00pm General Membership Meeting-
70th anniversary of D-Day; Bill Lang

10/20/14- 7:00pm General Membership Meeting-
1st to the North Pole- Discover Matthew Henson

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER- Your Dues
"Paid Through" YEAR date is printed on your
newsletter label. If your date is not 2014, your
Dues are "Due". Please make sure you are up to
date. Don't risk being dropped from our mailing !!

REMEMBER THE GOOD OLD DAYS-
We have copies of the Historical Society's book
"Haddon Heights-The Ideal Suburb" available for
sale at the Library. This book is a collection of
reminiscences from our past and holds much in-
sight into the early history of our town. Whether
you grew up here or just moved in, this book will
provide hours of enjoyable reading for only \$20.00

*Just a reminder...The Historical Society is a
501(c)3 organization. Please keep us in mind
as you plan your charitable donations. Make
us part of Your Legacy...*

THANKS for listening... As I was digging through one of my many bags of "old" stuff around the house, I
came across old editions of this newsletter, and was kind of surprised by the one dated April 1994. On the
last page, I made my first "sign-off" as Editor. It is hard to believe I have been editor of this quarterly newslet-
ter for 20 years !!!!!!!!! I guess that makes me a piece of history..... How about that?

Let us continue to remember yesterday for the people of tomorrow...

Ken Funkhouser, Editor

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<u>President-(2012-2014)</u>	Elena Hill
<u>Vice-President-(2014-2016)</u>	Bob Hunter
<u>Past President-</u>	Margaret Westfield
<u>Treasurer-(Ends 2016)</u>	Art Ritter
<u>Secretary- (Ends 2016)</u>	Judy Buecker
<u>Trustees-(2013-2016)</u>	Virginia Appleby Ken Funkhouser Anne McAdams

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<u>Newsletter Ed.-</u>	Ken Funkhouser
<u>Membership Chair-</u>	Joan Rossler
<u>Web Master-</u>	Dan Alexander
<u>Nominating Comm.-</u>	Bob Hunter/ Peter Hill
<u>Borough Council Liaison</u>	Rose Fitzgerald
<u>Affairs-</u>	Ginny Appleby
<u>Merch/Fund Raising-</u>	Joan Rossler/ Ginny Appleby
<u>Programs/Publicity-</u>	Peter Hill/ Dan Alexander
<u>Programs/Publicity- Asst.</u>	Vacant
<u>Digital Photographer</u>	Vacant
<u>Contact the Board : WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG</u>	
<u>Mail correspondence- P.O. Box 118 Haddon Heights, NJ 08035</u>	

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