

"Remembering Yesterday For The People Of Tomorrow"



Bulletin

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

WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG

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Easter Monday

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

OUR NEXT MEETING- KNOCK TWICE AND GIVE THE SECRET PASSWORD- Our next Gen-



eral Membership meeting will be held on Monday April 17th at 7:00pm in the Haddon Heights Library. Our presenter will be Local Educator and historian Bill Lange. You may recall his prior interesting programs, including one about the battle of Gettysburg. This time, Bill will speak to us about prohibition. He will even tie in some interesting facts about Camden County during the prohibition era. It lasted from 1920 through 1933, and was an attempt to legislate morality. It

took a Constitutional amendment to enact it, and another one to repeal it. The attempt to decrease the "evils" of alcohol actually created more - and new - types of crime. Please join us as Bill Lange takes us back to the roaring twenties!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- Spring is the season when vegetation begins to appear. It is always a happy time when the crocuses, daffodils, and forsythia begin to make the barren land a colorful landscape! I would like to thank Peter Hill for helping out with programs and publicity while Doug Michell is recovering. Doug is currently in the hospital recovering from a heart transplant. Please keep Doug and his family in your thoughts and prayers. We are excited about our April 17th meeting. Longtime resident and fellow historian, Bill Lang, will be presenting a very interesting program on Prohibition in the United States. I would like to wish you and your family a very happy Spring! *Elena Hill*

LAST HURRAH FOR HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT HARRISON-GLOVER HOUSE-

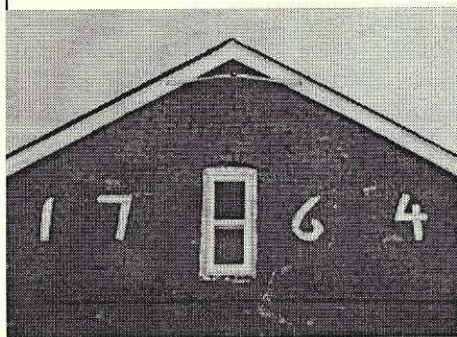


As you may have heard by now, the historically significant Harrison-Glover House in Bellmawr was demolished on Friday March 3, 2017 by the NJ Department of Transportation as part of a 900 million dollar reworking of the Rt. 295-Rt. 42 interchange. According to the published plans, the house was to be removed for construction of a sound barrier wall. Over the last couple of years, a dedicated group of individuals and historic preservation organizations worked feverishly in an attempt to gain a "stay of execution" for this historic property.

For some time just prior to the surprise razing of the home, there had been significant back and forth with the state, to come up with a solution which would satisfy all concerned. Most of those involved believed that solution would involve moving the structure. However, without notice, time ran out on March 3rd, just one day after the Camden County Historical Society filed a complaint in Superior Court to stall state action.

The oldest sections of house in question dated from 1764 and possibly earlier. During the Revolutionary War, the Harrison-Glover house was owned by Captain William Harrison, with property that ran along the Little Timber

Creek. Captain Harrison was commander of the township militia, and fought for the United States of America in the Battle of Gloucester under command of the Marquis de Lafayette.



This battle was important to the career of the Marquis as it quickly led to him being promoted to the command of a division of the Continental Army under General George Washington. During the Battle of Gloucester, some of the most intense



fighting took place on Harrison's land on the north side of Little Timber Creek. In fact, the NJDOT's own consultant historian found that the Harrison House was associated with two important military actions; the Hessian attack on Fort Mercer on October 22, 1777, and the Battle of Gloucester on November 25, 1777.

According to the NJ Department of Environmental protection, Natural Historic Resources, Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Harrison House was architecturally significant as a good example of a patterned brickwork house. Patterned brickwork provides the regionally distinctive architectural signature of southwestern New Jersey. Both the kitchen wing and the two story 1764 block, had facades laid in glazed-header Flemish bond. In addition the "1764" date was formed of brick. The NJ SHPO declared the Harrison House eligible for listing in the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. The house was also recorded by the Historic American Building Survey in 1937 and was in the Camden County survey of historic resources since 1992.

Since its plight- to make way for a highway sound barrier became publicized in 2014, many local and state organizations and several government officials advocated for the preservation of the Harrison House. Preservation New Jersey, the only state-wide private membership-supported historic preservation organization in New Jersey, listed the Harrison House as one of its 10 Most Endangered Historic Places in New Jersey in 2016. Unfortunately, all of the valiant and impassioned efforts to somehow save this piece of history, fell on deaf ears when at 7:00am on March 3rd, the NJDOT crews proceeded to demolish the home without notice and reportedly without appropriate permits to do so. By 10:00am, this significant place was a pile of historic rubble.



As Editor of this newsletter and a Trustee of your Haddon Heights Historical Society, I felt obligated to share this information with you. I also want to recognize the efforts of our past President and Historic Preservation Architect Margaret Westfield. I know she was a driving force behind the work to save this house!

(Portions reprinted from the Superior Court filing: Camden County Historical Society v. State of New Jersey Department of Transportation)



MEMORIES OF WORKING AT ZOBEL'S DRUG STORE-

The following article was submitted by Historical Society member Gerald Pietsch. He grew up in town and we have printed his reminiscences on other aspects of growing up on a small town. Please sit back, think back and enjoy his reflections.....

In 1963 I was employed at a Zobel's a true "neighborhood pharmacy" providing service claimed today by large corporate chains. Zobel's Drugs was owned and operated by a Haddon Heights resident, Ben Zobel, R.Ph. "Doc" Zobel, as he was known, knew his customers,

their families, and their medical needs. Customers entering his pharmacy, received personal care and a neighbor's concern for their well-being.

His pharmacy, located at 601-605 Station Ave, has since been sub-divided, and is presently a candy store and a Rita's Water Ice store. It was one of three pharmacies located on Station Ave. His competitors included Newhard Drugs, located directly across the street, now The Station House, and Leopold's Pharmacy located at 514 Station Ave.

The front of the pharmacy had large plate glass windows mounted in modern aluminum frames. There were two entrances. One faced Station Ave and the other was on the corner of Station and West Atlantic Ave. The pharmacist worked in the rear of the store facing the front windows and overlooking the soda fountain located along the wall on West Atlantic Ave. Greeting cards and sundries were located on shelves running front to back of the store parallel to the soda fountain.



Ben Zobel, probably in his late fifties, was of rather short stature, balding, and wore rimless spectacles. "Doc" was devoted to his profession and customers, and at times if the customer had need, he would either discount or provide the prescription at no cost. Ben courteously greeted his customers by name or if not known would refer to them as madam or sir. However, he could be abrupt with teenage soda fountain patrons thumbing through the comic books and magazines. "This is not a library," he would say. Regardless, he kept his sense of humor and their respect. I recognized this the evening he entered the ice cream area just as the milk shake machine ground to a halt, as the shake froze solid. I had been preparing a "special" shake for a friend. His response... "I think that you put a little too much ice cream in that son".



As a "soda jerk" and delivery boy, I tended the soda fountain, swept the floors, ran errands, and delivered prescriptions to shut-ins. It was on one of these deliveries that I first saw the Star of David and a number tattooed on the forearms of both a customer and his wife. The sight shocked me, and made the horror of World War II real to a boy born after its end. The vision has never left me.

The soda fountain was classics fifties style with red and grey Formica surface trimmed in aluminum. It had six stools at the counter and beyond the stools were three wooden booths. On the counter were the penny pretzels and

Tastykakes, two of my favorites. The work area had ice cream chests in front of the counter with pumps for the ice cream toppings. Behind the workspace on the outer wall, also in Formica with an inset mirror, was the Coke machine, seltzer water, coffee percolators, and the milk shake machines.

During the weekday hours, Mrs. White, an elderly woman from Camden, worked the fountain, while two local boys worked 5-9 in the evenings and 9-5 on Saturday. We alternated weeks working Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday or Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Salary was 82.5 cents per hour, not too bad for a 17 year old at that time. As added benefits, Zobel's provided a place for my friends to gather, a freezer top study hall used during slow periods, an occasional clandestine spoon of ice cream, and his muscle car to drive on deliveries!

It was my good fortune to have been employed at your neighbor pharmacy.- Gerald Pietsch

2017 Membership Application / Renewal- Haddon Heights Historical Society

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ E-Mail _____

Type of Membership: _____ Single- \$10.00 _____ Household- \$15.00

I would like to make a tax deductible donation to Haddon Heights Historical Society, in the amount of \$ _____

Coming Events

4/1/17- League of Historical Societies of NJ meeting: Wheaton Village, Millville, Cumberland Co.
4/17/17- 7:00pm- HH Historical Society Gen. Membership Meeting- Library
4/22/17- "Rhythm & Brews" event- downtown Haddon Heights, 3:00pm-8:00pm
5/13/17- Annual "Down by the Station" Day, HH
6/10/17- League of Historical Societies of NJ meeting: Liberty Hall, Union County
7/17/17- HH Historical Society Gen. Membership Meeting- Library

Contact Peter Hill for more information about LHSNJ Meetings

MEMBERSHIP DUES- Your "Paid Through YEAR" is printed on your Newsletter label. Your dues help keep history alive. Paid-up members will continue to receive the HHHS Newsletter!

If you provide us your e-mail address, you will also electronically receive a full color copy of each edition of the newsletter.

HADDON HEIGHTS BOOK- The Society's book "Haddon Heights-The Ideal Suburb" is available at the Library. Only \$20.00

2017 Historical Society Board

<u>President-(2016-2018)</u>	Elena Hill
<u>Vice-President-(2016-2018)</u>	Bob Hunter
<u>Past President-</u>	Margaret Westfield
<u>Treasurer-(Ends 2018)</u>	Art Ritter
<u>Secretary- (Ends 2020)</u>	Carolyn Finegar
<u>Trustees-(2016-2019)</u>	Ken Funkhouser
	Anne McAdams
	Peter Hill

COMMITTEES / CHAIRS

<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>	Vacant
<u>Affairs-</u>	Vacant
<u>Merch/Fund Raising-</u>	Joan Rossler
<u>Programs/Publicity-</u>	Doug Michell/ Dan Alexander
<u>Programs/Publicity- Asst.</u>	Vacant
<u>Digital Photographer</u>	Vacant

Contact the Board : WWW.HHHISTORICAL.ORG

Mail correspondence- P.O. Box 118 Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

The Haddon Heights 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...

There are so many channels on TV these days. One of the wonderful things about that is we get to look back and reflect on the early days of television. If you have grandchildren, have you shared your memories of "Old" TV shows with them? I find it great fun to sit down with my grandkids and watch some of the old shows, while explaining what was going on in MY childhood and the world at that time. You never know what an appreciation of history they will take away from the experience! Ken Funkhouser, Editor (23 yrs!)

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