

THE JACOBSTOWN RECORD

April 1975

Vol. III No. 3

Newsletter of the Jacobstown Historical Society
P.O. Box 345 Nazareth, Pa. 18064

Society Open House

Society members and their families will be welcomed at the Henry Homestead on Saturday, May 10 (rain date May 17) to walk through the natural gardens and grounds and to have refreshments in the old kitchen from 1:30 to 4:00 o'clock. Lorraine Mineo and her committee have worked hard in the garden, which this time last year was virtually a wilderness and Mary DeRaymond and her friends have attempted to reproduce the atmosphere of an early kitchen. Peggy Shuttleworth will be in charge of refreshments.

Be prepared to walk into the Homestead grounds from Henry Road. Parking will be near the bridge or Schoeneck Avenue opposite the Homestead. Although there will be no guided tours through the woods you may stroll through if you wish.

Spring Clean-up

There is much work to be done both inside and outside the Homestead. Can you spend a few hours? If so, get in touch with Albert Toth or Lorraine Mineo or Joe Lopresti for work on the pond (see Directory at end) and let them know when you can be helpful and find out what tools to bring.

Garden Notes

Progress and plans for the Homestead Natural Gardens.

There are four main projects we hope to accomplish this spring; (1) wood chipping the garden paths, (2) planting wildflowers in areas where they are diminished, (3) cleaning and repairing the pond area, and (4) raking and picking limestone chunks from the Hemlock Lane and parking area.

The Belfast girl scout troops will help us with projects 1, 2, and 4 on Saturday, April 21 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The morning's work will be celebrated with a doggie roast.

Joe Lopresti has graciously accepted the job of cleaning and rebuilding the rock work of the pond. We hope we will have adequate help with this man-sized job. Volunteers please!

Mr. Dan Hite, park superintendent, has moved some state park woodchips to the Homestead to ease project #1. Mr. Unger has also added to our woodchip pile.

Wildflowers, bulbs, seeds and sods have been ordered. We will be looking for more early blooming forget-me-nots, wild red columbine, wood anemone, and bluets. The Douglas Purdy's have offered some additional wild ginger. We, the Bill Mineo's, will be donating Dutchman's breeches, spring beauty, hepaticas and some wood anemone. Donations welcome on planting day.

Concern for the Hemlock Lane precipitated a meeting of board members with district service forester, Lee Sprankle and Dan Hite. Soil tests of the site show high calcium levels. In addition to this, neutral soil pH's have prompted us to

consider adding ferrous sulfate to the area of the hemlock lane.

A major project associated with the gardens is the re-establishment of the old driveway and removal of 2RC aggregate from the recent parking area and Hemlock Lane. We are hoping for monies to complete this costly project. Negotiations have begun; we are optimistic that all these projects will be done by late April.

A Spring Bulb Fund? Yes, we expect to plant spring bulbs in the Fall of 1975. Bulbs or a contribution for the purchase of some is another goal.

Respectfully,
Lorraine Mineo

Herb Garden at the Homestead to be established

Mrs. Diane Werner of Belfast has volunteered to work with Miss Mary Henry Stites in developing an herb garden at the Homestead. If you have any herb plants to contribute call Miss Stites (see Directory).

Archaeology

Good news - A new course to be offered at Northampton County Community College Virginia Lopresti will be the instructor. The Jacobsburg Historical Society members are working with Dr. William Conner at NCACC to set up a short course called "Archaeology for the Beginner." Tentative dates for the 1½ hour lecture and slide program are May 27, June 3, 10 and 17 in Room SC 134. The balance of the non-credit course will be field work at Jacobsburg State Park on Saturdays, 9 am - 12 noon, May 31, June 7, 14 and 21. If it rains too hard, work will continue in the laboratory to be set up in the Homestead. Application has been made and if approved, funds will be available from the Public Committee for the Humanities in Pa. and there will be no charge for the course. NCACC will take care of the publicity for the general public. Members may contact Virginia Lopresti for more information.

Digging Season 1975 Underway

On Saturday April 26 the Lopresti's start digging again above the tannery. Three more walls and foundations have been unearthed. The diggings at this point seem to bear out the statement by Mathew Henry that the tannery was built on the site of the furnace. We are pleased to note that members of the State Park staff have already placed stakes designating our historical sites.

Professor Tremor from Muhlenberg College was there with some students. They will be assisting through the month of May. Assistance is needed. Call Virginia Lopresti if you can go to the site on a Saturday (except April 26). If there is interest the Lopresti's will go with a group on Sunday or with two or more during the week. Please call! Anyone is welcome 9:30 am on Saturdays.

Field Notes

On Monday, June 17, 1974 five boys were picked up at St. Johns and Berwick Sts. in Easton, Pa. at 9 am. At first they were quiet and well-behaved. In appearance, they resembled the Room 222 gang on television. Their names were a bit confusing - Barry, Harry, Larry, Terry and Will. A brand new wheel-barrow and two new shovels provided by the Historical Society were ready for the onslaught. The first day set the pattern for most of the days for the next five weeks.

A two gallon cooler of water was secured in a nice shady spot. The crew divided into two groups, one group working inside the east wall with the wheelbarrow carrying loads of dirt, stones and debris to a dumping area about 25 feet outside the wall. The other group worked inside the west wall and threw the dirt to the outside of the building. Most mornings we did not start to dig before 10 am. By 10:30 the boys, not accustomed to working, were ready for a break for bug juice and pretzels. We tried to limit the pause to ten minutes. It was soon apparent that our teenagers were more interested in the \$2.00/hour they were being paid than they were in the work to be accomplished.

As soon as the first bit of broken glass was found, the crew was called together for instructions. It was explained to them that all "artifacts" were to be saved, examined and put into a paper bag for future study. In following these instructions they were very diligent because finding something gave them an excuse to put down the shovel and walk to the deposit area. Their interest in the bits and pieces of the past never wavered but a finiel from an old clock supposedly found in our discarded dirt by a non-crew member certainly made us unhappy to think that we missed something.

Thirty minutes were taken for a lunch break. The boys wanted a longer one, especially on very hot days when they wanted to cool off in the creek. We tried to explain to them we were donating our time and 8:30 am to 3:55 pm was the limit. In spite of rain, lightening, heat and bugs, we lasted five full weeks. Another ten minute break was taken in the afternoon. We had to start cleaning and putting away tools at 2:50 pm in order to have the boys returned to South Side Easton by 3:30 pm.

Submitted by Virginia Lopresti

95
The Boulton Cookbooks

We welcome a new contributor to our newsletter. Board member, Mary Henry Stites will write a series entitled "Boulton Cookbooks". Some interesting essays on cooking in earlier days and bits of history and family tradition will be featured.

The "receipts" that will follow are those that were used in the Boulton families - some frequently and some for 'company'. Some are practical for present day cooks and some will be of historical interest only. At present prices the dozen eggs, pound of butter, pound of sugar type of cookery makes interesting reading but is hardly for the budget-minded. The recipes themselves come from various sources, each bride entering her new family brought with her her own family's cherished best. There were also some treasures in the form of cookbooks - and some recipes were handwritten on slips of paper.

Among the cookbooks the most prized treasure of them all is "Mrs. Paul". Except for the need for frequent reference Mrs. Paul belongs in a safe deposit box. She is out of print and copies are hard to find - almost impossible in fact. My copy was printed in 1875 and has been handed down in the family. The recipes in it cover roughly the period from 1840 - 1875, possibly, even probably, dating from a considerably earlier time.

The author was a Philadelphia lady, not a relative of the Henry family but was considered to be a "connection" - a relative of relatives, a sister-in-law of one of the Scanton cousins.

The first recipe is a rich little drop cake, delicious and easy to make, equally at home with hot tea or iced tea. For a small family it can be cut in half with good results.

"DROP-CAKES

"One cup of butter, two of sugar, three of flour, four eggs; beat the butter, sugar and eggs together, add the flour and drop on buttered tins. Bake in a quick oven."

From "Cookery from Experience"

by Mrs. Sara L. Paul

Other recipes will follow in the months to come M.H.S.

Colonial Craft Fair - July 19, 1975

Last year's fair was great! We want this one to be even greater! Begin to plan for it now.

If you have a craft to demonstrate or any exhibit to display and haven't sent in your application now is the time. Also begin planning what you can contribute to our "foods sale" or anything appropriate to the fair (like small plants) that we could sell. Call Bobbie DiGerlando (see Directory).

Now is the time to decide to attend and display and contribute to our Craft Fair on July 19, 1975, 10 am to 5 pm at the Northampton County 4H Grounds, Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth, Pa.

People in the News

Congratulations are in order to board member Lester Stein who has been awarded the architectural contract for designing the new visitors center at Brandywine State Park near Philadelphia. The Center is to be completed for the BiCentennial.

The Society officers were privileged to attend the official Northampton County BiCentennial Kick-off dinner on March 11, which was also the 223rd birthday of Northampton County. Mr. John Schlegel, County Bi-centennial chairman, we thank you for a very exciting and enjoyable evening. Plans for many ambitious projects were outlined and the only comment that can be made is the Northampton County is going to be where the action is in 1976 - Philadelphia - look out!

April Board Meeting

The Board meeting was one of the longest on our record but much was accomplished. Two decisions were made involving long range plans. The first decision was that sometime in the future, when the society has need and has the financial capabilities, the Homestead will be used exclusively by the Society. To accomplish this goal a separate residence would be provided for caretakers, watchmen. Mr. Stein presented some plans and drawings showing how this could be accomplished. Obviously this is a plan to be accomplished in the somewhat distant future, but the board felt the need of long range plans to aid in the development and restoration of the property.

The second decision was to relocate the driveway. Unfortunately the parking shale and limestone placed in the driveway and in front of the house when the Park Supervisor occupied the property must be removed, Lorraine Mineo's report elaborates on the need for this. The new driveway will preserve the priceless hemlocks, improve the appearance of the front of the house, and restore the original driveway. The board voted to approve immediate action on this, subject to the approval of the Bureau of State Parks. Planned completion date is before May 10. (Open House date)

Datebook

Every Saturday in April and May - work at the Homestead

April 26 - Girl Scout work detail

May 10 - Open House at the Homestead 1:30 - 4:00 pm
(May 17 Rain date)

May 17 - Board meeting at President's House 8:00 sharp!

July 19 - Colonial Craft Fair 10 am to 5 pm

Membership

The work of our society has to this point been largely supported by dues. Some people have been very generous and contributed extra sums when paying their dues. But there are some of you who have not renewed your 1975 membership. We need you! Your interest, time and money. Please stop right now after reading and enjoying our newsletter and fill out the accompanying membership form and mail it to us with your check. Remember we are a non-profit organization so that everything you contribute is tax deductible. Doesn't that make you feel good at Income Tax season?

DIRECTORY

Catherine S. Beers - President	Easton (253-4547)
Joseph DiGerlando - Vice President (Editor)	Jacobsburg (759-7239)
Hilton Rahn - Secretary	Bethlehem (868-1789)
Margaret Taylor - Treasurer	Easton (252-1315)

Directors:

Mary DeRaymond - Open House	Nazareth (759-2820)
Catherine Fluck - Membership	Easton (253-1146)
Joseph Lopresti	Stockertown (759-1580)
Lorraine Mineo - Natural Garden	Nazareth (759-0867)
Charles Sandwick - Research	Easton (252-1290)
Lester Stein	Bethlehem (866-8920)
Mary Henry Stites - Homestead Grounds	Boulton (759-4693)
Albert Toth - Maintenance and Repairs	Belfast (759-2153)

Committees:

Bobbie DiGerlando - Craft Fair	Jacobsburg (759-7239)
Virginia Lopresti - Archaeology	Stockertown (759-1580)
Peggy Shuttleworth - Hospitality	Easton (252-4078)

1975

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JACOBSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Box 345, Nazareth, Pa. 18064

Student \$2.50	Single \$5.00	Sustaining \$10.00
Family \$12.50	Contributing \$15.00	Organization \$25.00

Name _____ check enclosed \$ _____
Street _____ Telephone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check if interested: Archaeology ☐ Research ☐ Restoration ☐ Program ☐
Other ☐ (specify) _____