HOBOKEN HISTORY



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The Magazine of the Hoboken Historical Museum
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HOBOKEN HISTORY

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President: Bob Foster
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LETTER FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

I have been involved with the Hoboken Historical Museum since 1986 when it was first formed, and believe it is one of the most important organizations in Hoboken today I take the position seriously and will work hard to move forward.

We had our first meeting of the new year on January 7, and it was obvious from the crowded room of members that there was enough energy in the room to make things happen this year. Subcommittees for the following topics were formed: Artifact Acquisition; Cocktail Party Fund Raiser; Guest Speaker Program; Historical Markers; Permanent Site; Sybil's Cave Restoration; Walking Tours.

All committees will meet throughout the year on evenings other than our monthly meetings. If you cannot attend our monthly meeting and would like to get involved with a subcommittee or develop a new idea, please call me at 656-2240. I look forward to working with you.

Bob Foster
President, Hoboken Historical Museum

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Museum now holds its business meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm. The March 2 meeting will be held at Traders of Babylon, 259 First Street. All members are welcome, but this schedule is subject to change so please phone the Museum at 656-2240 to confirm.

1993 Lecture Series Begins in March

The Museum's 1993 lecture series begins
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, AT 8PM
in the Shannon Lounge, 106 First St.
(This is the building that back in 1912 was Bishop's Theater.) The speaker is Lisa Lipkin, Hudson County's "story teller." She specializes in the human side of history and will devote the evening to "Hudson River ghosts and folk legends." Lisa studied her craft at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London, and is looking forward to entertaining a new audience at what is sure to be a gala and fascinating evening.

Admission is free for Museum members; a donation of $3.00 per person is asked of the general public. Museum books and magazines and its famous T-shirts will be on sale. We thank the Hudson County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs for generously underwriting the event.

Our second lecture will also take place in the Shannon Lounge. It's scheduled for Tuesday, April 20 at 8pm. The evening is a return engagement of maritime historian and author Bill Miller. Bill is a long-time friend of the Museum and our most popular speaker. He's written dozens of books on maritime history, and on this occasion will present a slide lecture entitled "Hoboken and the Great Atlantic Liners."

Don't miss these two! March 16 and April 20!

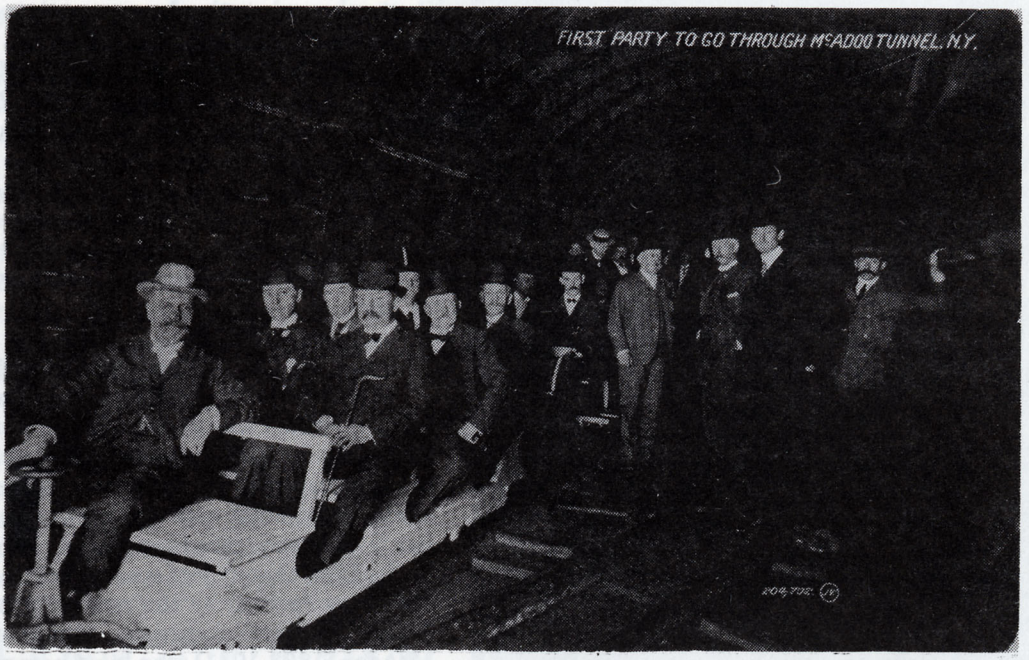
Museum News continues on page 21

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A Long Wait for the H&M

DIGGING HOBOKEN'S SUBWAY



The first party to go through the McAdoo Tunnels before the regular tracks and third rail had been laid, 1908.

Thirty-four years before the first train crossed under the Hudson River from Hoboken to Manhattan in the tunnel of what was then the Hudson & Manhattan Rail Road and is today PATH, work began on an underwater rail link between Hudson County and New York.

A visitors' guide to New York City of the time was optimistic and enthusiastic about the project. "One of the most daring undertakings ever attempted by modern engineers is now in progress" its excited article began.

"This great work," the guidebook continued, "is to consist of two tunnels laid side by side, each 18 feet wide and 16 feet high."

Early Plans, A Late Start

Plans for tunneling under the Hudson River were formed about the middle of the 19th Century, but it was not until 1873 that they took definite shape. In that year the Hudson River Tunnel Company was incorporated by De Witt C. Haskins to build a tunnel under the river to connect New York City with the railroads terminating on the Jersey shore. In November 1874 work began. His plan was for a tunnel 26 feet wide and 24 feet high to accommodate two tracks. It was to have an iron shell with a lining of brick masonry three feet thick. The first work was to sink a shaft on the Jersey side about 100 feet from the river at the foot of 15th Street in Jersey City. At the Manhattan end it was to terminate at Morton Street, just one block south of Christopher Street.

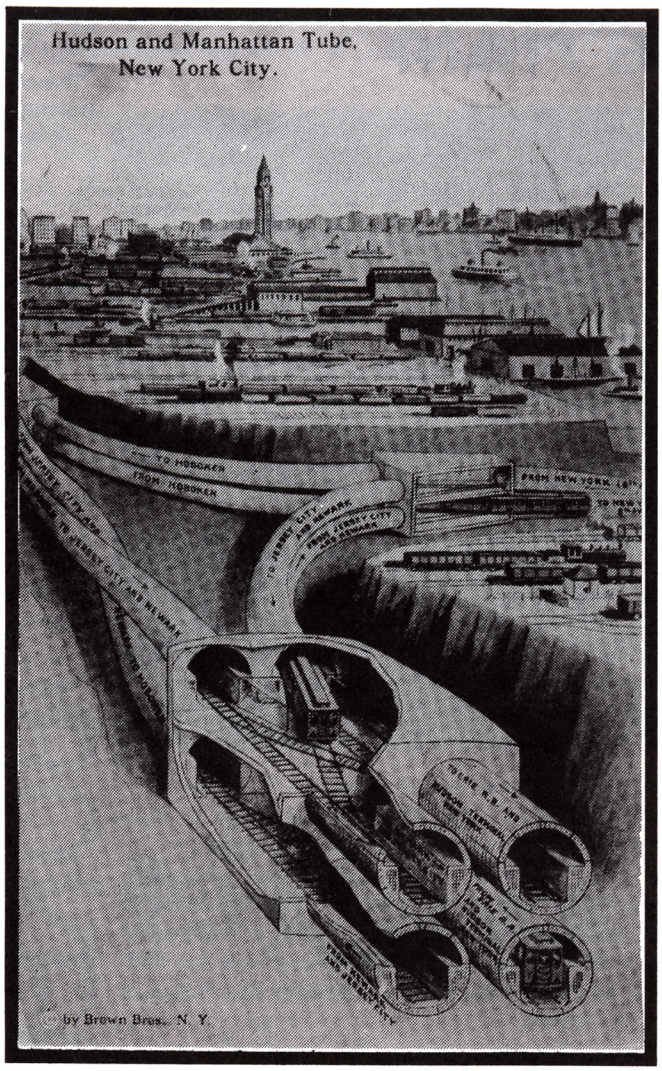
When the shaft reached a depth of 20 feet, the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Company started injunction proceedings to stop the project. Perhaps they saw it as a threat to their ferry service. This and other litigation stopped the work for five years. It was resumed in 1879, when the shaft was completed to a depth of 60 feet and at the bottom a heading was started. Compressed air was used to support the roof and keep out water.

The engineers in charge of the work changed to plans to provide for two tunnels instead of one, each to be elliptical in shape and to carry one track, and to be 18 feet high and 16 feet wide. By July 1880 the north tunnel had been driven 280 feet and the south tunnel 15 feet, when a bad "blow-out" of air occurred, letting river water into the works and drowning about 20 men. It took six months to sink a pneumatic caisson alongside and regain entry into the tunnel. Before the accident the tunnel had been allowed to get both out of grade and out of alignment, and some of the brick lining had cracked.

Compared with these problems, the great storm of 1992 was a breeze!

Running Out Of Money

In May 1881 General William S. Smith took charge as chief engineer, but remained only one year. During that year work was resumed and a caisson was sunk on the New York side at the foot of Morton Street. The work continued until November 1882, when it was stopped for lack of funds. By that time the north tunnel from New



Jersey had been driven 1,542 feet, the south tunnel 570 feet, and the north tunnel from New York 74 feet. In December 1882 Trenor W. Park, who had succeeded Haskins as president of the company, died at sea and was succeeded by C.G. Francklyn. More money was obtained and work was resumed in April 1883 at the New York end, but in August the money gave out and operations again were suspended. Hoboken's commuters were in for a long wait.

The suspension lasted until April, 1887, when work started again on the Jersey side, but was again halted in September when the Jersey north tunnel was out 1840 feet under the river.

In 1889 bonds were floated in England and work once more resumed, this time with S. Pearson & Sons of London as contractors and William R. Hutton as engineer. By the end of the year the north tunnel from Jersey City had been driven 2000 feet, although a bad "blow-out" marked the progress of the work. At this point the contractors introduced a tunnel shield, new and superior tunneling technology which was installed in 1890.

A Ten-Year Pause

A year later the north tunnel reached a point 3,700 feet out, which was about 700 feet across the New York State line. In 1891, however, a financial crisis arose and the company could not raise any more money. Work was again suspended, with the north tunnel now 3,900 feet out. The pause lasted ten years.

In 1899 the project was foreclosed by banks and in 1902 was revived by the newly formed New York and Jersey Railroad company, organized by William G. McAdoo [1863-1941] who later became Secretary of the Treasury under Woodrow Wilson and ran America's railroads during World War I. The project acquired the name "McAdoo Tunnels."

Hoboken kept on waiting. ⇒

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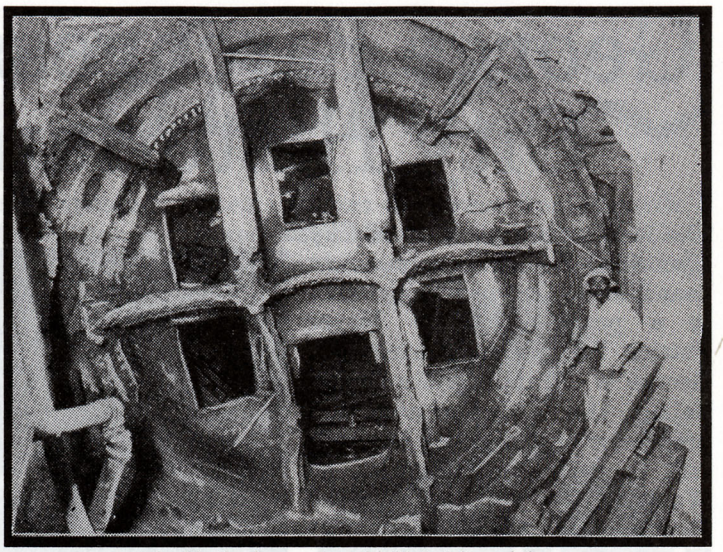
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Work resumed in 1902, with a second tunnel added to connect Jersey City with what is now the World Trade Center. The Morton Street route continued to Christopher St. in Manhattan, then on to Sixth Ave., with two tracks under Sixth Ave. to 34th St. and stations at 9th, 14th, 18th, 23rd, 28th, and 34th Sts. (The terminal at 34th St. was moved to 33rd St. when the 6th Ave. subway was built.) Another pair of tracks was to run under Ninth St. to Fourth Ave. (If you watch the tunnel from the front window of a PATH train, you can still see to your right the never-completed Ninth Street branch just as you turn uptown from the Ninth Street station. It never got to Fourth Avenue, just as the Sixth Avenue tracks never continued as planned to curve east under 42nd Street to Grand Central Terminal.)



Inside the burrowing shield that bored the H & M tubes beneath the Hudson River.

Teddy Presses The Button

In Washington, D.C. President Theodore Roosevelt pressed a button on his desk on February 25, 1908 to start the first run of a Hudson & Manhattan train from Hoboken to Manhattan. In 1916, the Hudson Tube fare between uptown New York stations and Jersey City and Hoboken was seven cents. Local fare between stations in Hoboken and Jersey City was five cents, and Manhattan to Newark was 17 cents.

It was not until 1962 that the Port Authority took over a bankrupt H&M and created today's stainless-steel, fluorescent-lighted, air-conditioned now one-dollar-a-ride Port Authority Trans-Hudson line called PATH. A long wait for Hoboken's subway, but worth it.

References:
James Blaine Walker, *50 Years of Rapid Transit*, The Law Printing Co., New York, 1918.
James D. McCabe, *New York by Gaslight*, Union Publishing House, New York, 1882.

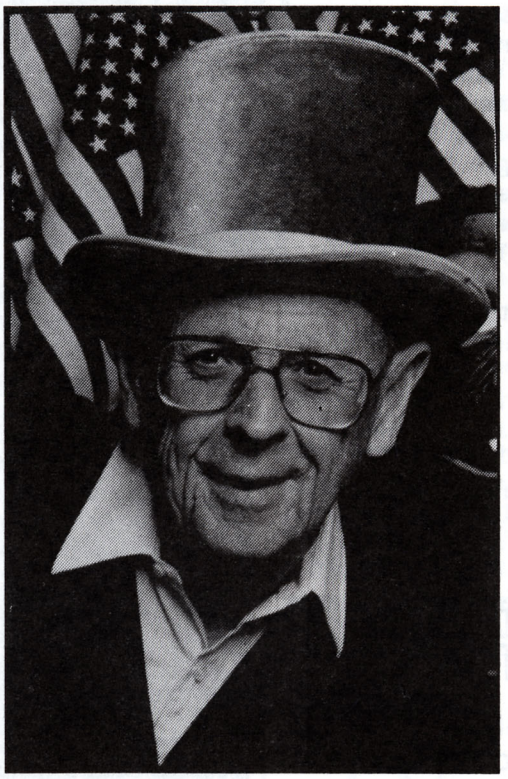
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George Kirchgessner appointed City Historian of Hoboken

The long vacant position of City Historian of Hoboken has now been filled by George Kirchgessner in a proclamation by Mayor Patrick Pasculli on January 27. George is an appropriate choice, being the third-generation proprietor of the oldest business still in its original location on Washington Street, United Decorating Company at 421 Washington Street, which was founded in 1899 by George's grandfather, Robert Kirchgessner.



George recalls that United sold costumes for Hoboken's popular entertainments and galas back before World War I, when our town's social life revolved around its numerous social clubs and organizations. Fanciful headgear designed and created by United for early 20th-Century Hoboken festivities have been acquired by the Hoboken Historical Museum and displayed in the Museum's City Hall exhibitions. Service flags that hung in many parlor windows during World War II were provided by United Decorating Co. and today the firm still conducts a lively trade in flags, bunting, costume sales, and decorations for civic, organizational, and family events, as well as Hoboken memorabilia.

George was born January 5, 1919 and attended Saints Peter and Paul school and Hoboken public school. George served three years and seven months in the army during World War II, attaining the rank of sergeant. On being discharged, he joined the family business with his father, William R. Kirchgessner, not realizing that it would ultimately become his life work. George and his wife Dolores carry on the family tradition started by his grandfather and father. George and Dolores are the parents of three sons: Gene, Mark (deceased), and Roy. They also have two grandsons.

United Decorating Co. has been a part of Hoboken life, from decorating the Hoboken piers for the departing doughboys of World War I to dressing Saint Ann's Auditorium for a presidential campaign appearance by President Ronald Reagan in 1984. Scarcely a public event in Hoboken has taken place before or since without decorations from United.

Grandfather Robert Kirchgessner was a stonecutter who worked in an establishment on Hoboken's 14th Street and also made some of the stonework for the arches of the Brooklyn Bridge. Later he ran a candy store in Jersey City. He opened United Decorating on the second floor of 421 in 1899. The company was one of the first in town to have its own delivery truck, a colorful Model T in 1917.

George Kirchgessner is a walking encyclopedia of Hoboken history, with personal knowledge and memories of our town matched by few other residents. He is a life member and trustee of the Hoboken Historical Museum, and a member of the Hoboken Historic Preservation Commission. His interest in Hoboken's past has inspired him to amass one of the city's largest private collections of old Hoboken picture postcards. United Decorating has a fine stock of old Hoboken picture postcards on sale, as well as other artifacts of yesterday's Hoboken.

In naming Museum Trustee George Kirchgessner as the official Hoboken Historian, Mayor Pasculli has honored a distinguished citizen of our city.

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Letters to Hattie ~

In 1876, 29-year-old Hattie Dewey of Hoboken married Benjamin F. Potter, a 50-year-old farmer from Himrods, a town near Seneca Lake in the middle of New York State. Hattie's mother and other relatives remained in Hoboken, and in the mid-1890s, Hattie's daughter Katie was sent to Hoboken for her last three years of school. Hattie kept letters; Museum board member Mary Stoeffhaas recently acquired some from Hattie's great-grandson, and gave us copies. (We don't have Hattie's replies.)

Most of the letters we have were written by teenage Katie when she lived with Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Gardinier, 732 Bloomfield Street. The Gardinier's daughter Cora was about Katie's age and spent summers with Katie's family in Himrods. There were also some Gardinier sons, the oldest called Arthur. No other children of Hattie's are mentioned except "dear little Olive" who had died.

There are also a few letters from friends of Hattie. One, called Katie (perhaps Hattie named her daughter for this friend) lived at 110 East 112th St. in New York. Two friends lived in Brooklyn: Mame at 444 Nostrand Ave., and Henrietta at 148 Heyward St. Friend Annie C. Church lived in Roseville (Ohio?)

When Hattie herself visited Hoboken, she usually stayed with her mother, Mrs. James Dewey, at 48 Third Street.

We have taken segments from the letters and collected them by topic: Shopping, Education, Recreation, Mother & Daughter Relationship, Politics, Moving, and Health (which is being held for another issue).



KATIE ?

SHOPPING

From Katie

Jan 1895

Grandma wanted me to ask you if you could get her any more skunk's grease.

Feb 1895

I told you before that Geo. Vintur gave Uncle Richard $7.00 and me $5.00. I got a skirt with my money and paid for having it made. It looks very nice.

March 1895

I received the skirt yesterday and think it very nice. It also fits me nichely. And I thank you very much for it. The skirt I bought me was black also. I told you Mamma but you must have forgotten. The one I bought isn't as fine cloth so I can wear it more common, and make good use of them both.

The flour is very good and Aunt Nellie makes lovely bread. Jimmie told me to tell you that wheat is $1.05 a bushel now. Gone up .05 cents.

April 1895

Mamma, it is very kind of you to piece those quilts. I know I shall like them. But take care of your eyes. Aunt Nellie will send you some calico and Annie too.

May 1895

I got me a new hat and Annie trimmed it for me. And a New pair

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of shoes and my money is all gone. There is so many things I want but will try and go with out. Cora is getting lots of new things. Aunt Nellie gave me a beautiful fine hankerchief for my birthday.



Oct 1895

Mrs. Gardinier, Cora and the boys have gone to church. I couldn't go because I haven't any coat and hat to wear.
It will take all the money to pay for my waist {WAIST- LENGTH BLOUSE} and Annie said she would trim my last winter's hat for me and we are going over to NY for some quills and ribbon and then I won't have any money left. They have lovely sacks {LOOSE-FITTING GARMENTS} in New York for at a little over $4.00. I wish I could have one.
How many bushels of corn and potatoes has Papa got? I wish you would send Uncle Richard a barrel of flour or something.
I have not got only one pair of shoes. When I was out to Roseville Georgie Church gave me a lovely electric doorbell with the battery and all. It is out there yet. I thought I would leave it until you came down.

Dec 1895

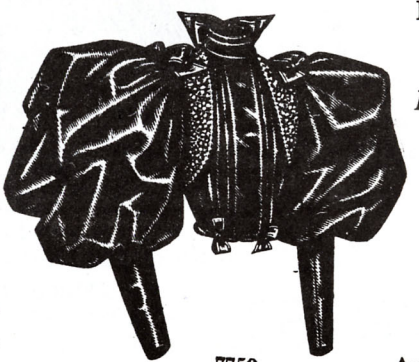
I write to let you know that we arrived here safely Friday night. Atwell was real glad to see me and had a good time with his grain and corn. They were all pleased with the meat and thank you very much.

Sept 1896

Cora and I are to be taken in the church next Sunday. And if you possible can I wish you would send me some money before that so I can go to NY Friday or Saturday and get me some kind of a hat as I haven't any only my summer hat and next Sunday will be October. I have a little over $2.00. Maybe $3.00 will be enough for now as I want a waist too. I have to have new shoes soon as I will have to wear my other ones to school.

Nov 1896

I went to New York Friday and got me a pair of gloves and as I have to give $1.80 of that money to the church I won't have enough for a dress or even a waist as I only have $2.00 and something now and after giving $1.80 from that I won't have scarcely any money left.
I do the very best I can. You spoke about me buying grapes, well I have not bought one since I have been here. If I only could have a couple of dresses now one for school and the other for good, while goods are so cheap, it would save a great deal. If I don't get a school dress soon I'll have to wear my good plaid dress. Mrs. Maretzik said she would make me a waist. I think she would make me a dress if I got one. I am trying to be as saving as possible. If you will send the rest of that red satin perhaps there will be enough for a waist.



EDUCATION

From friend Katie to Hattie in Hoboken

Dec 1894

It is next to impossible for me to get over to see you before the holidays as I have so much school work to attend to and also have missionary work (being in that committee) to plan, and see different people about money and meetings. I am really doing more than I ought to but I can't seem to help it just now.

From daughter Katie

Jan 1895

Will you please write to me soon and tell me if I can go to dancing school.

March 1895

Mamma if Papa gets worse be sure and tell me and I will come home. If I leave school now I can't come back for then I would get put back and lose all my percentage which I have studied for all winter. I am getting along splendid in school. Am on the honor roll every week. Miss Howard is so nice.

April 1895

We are being examined in school and I have to study very hard.

May 5, 1895

As we are nearly through with examination can't I come home the first part of June?

May 13, 1895

I have so many lessons I don't know what to do.

Oct 1895

I am getting along nicely in school.

Dec 1895

Have been studying rather hard to-day.

From Annie Church

July 1896

Do you think Katie will come back to Hoboken to school?

From daughter Katie

Nov 1895

Arthur has left school and is working in the Cotton Exchange in NY.

From friend Katie

Nov 1896

I have joined the N.Y. Society of Pedagogy & taken up a course of studies in the higher education, so with preparation for my daily work, attending the psychology, physical culture, lecture & conferences my time is just crowded full and letter writing has to be sadly neglected. My course for the winter includes psychology, rhetoric, logic, civics, history of education, art and science of education and the time is only too short for me to accomplish all that I would like to.

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From Henrietta

Nov 1898

How is your daughter's health, has she taken up music or is she school teaching?

RECREATION

From friend Katie

Dec 1894

A sincere "thank you" for your Christmas gift, and I feel I shall enjoy reading Samantha's views on the race.

From daughter Katie

Jan 1895

Have you got the dog yet. Don't give him away because I want him next summer.
I went to S. S. today.
{ANYBODY KNOW WHAT S.S. WAS?}

Mar 7, 1895

I am going to Odd Fellows Hall tonight with Aunt Nellie to the Boys Brigade Entertainment. aunt Nellie and Aunt Mary have gone to New York. I guess they will have a rainy time of it. It was pleasant when they started.

Mar 10, 1895

I was to George Vinturs to dinner to-day. Arthur and he came after me. And we went to S. S.

From "Lan" in NY

Mar 20, 1895

I was to Nell's to supper. Oh! What a time they are having in our church. Such a crowd every night. C. W. has left his wife. She is running with two men. I have seen her and he told me so he writes to me and has been to see me twice. What do you think of that? Now mind keep this. Do not tell any one. And Mrs. Wanger never.
I have written Charles a letter. He says that he will stop his drinking if I will hold fast to him. What would you do? You know he always liked me and I like him. He is in the Country now. Sent me a long letter.

From daughter Katie

May, 1895

I went to see Mrs. Vinten and she asked me to go to Central Park with her and Arthur some Saturday. Cora and I went to a little party of Isilines last Friday night and had a real nice time.

From Mr. Gardinier

July 1895

... when Cora has her visit out or you are tird of her do not hesitate to send me word & I will come after her. I was over to my wife to day and she wanted me to write to you & send her love to you.
I reamin yous respectfuly

From daughter Katie

Oct 1895

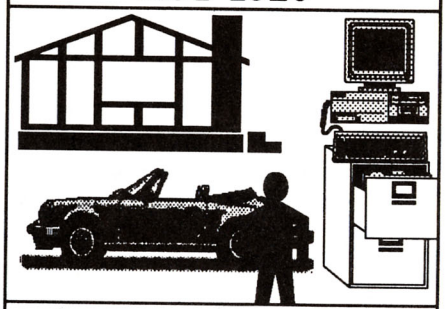
I was down to Aunt Nellie's Friday p.m. and stayed to tea. Had a nice time.
I like it here very much {IN HOBOKEN} but I do get so homesick.

From friend Katie

Dec 23, 1895

I send you with this note a tray for your bureau. I want you to use it and hope you will have as much pleasure in receiving it as I have in sending it. I trust it will reach you

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From daughter Katie

Sept 1896

When will my pictures be finished? Plase have them to be sure and send me a half dozen.
Will go and see Mrs. Herr as soon as I get a chance.
Atwell was very glad to see me and kissed me.

Nov 1896

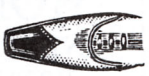
We all went to see the naval parade which was very nice, and also saw the great parade in NY Saturday. We had a fine place in Mr. Scribner's office on the corner of Broadway and Canal Streets. It was just grand. Jimmie Dewey was in it, with the brokers.
Halloween night I went to the party at Capt. Pollard's, the capt. of the Boy's Brigade, and had a lovely time.

From friend Katie

Nov 1896

I spent nine weeks this summer on Lake Placid among the beautiful Adirondack Mts. My room was in a private camp connected with the hotel and a most charming spot it was. I met many delightful people & learned more than ever to love the tall forest trees, the beautiful wildflowers creeping at our feet, and was charmed with the forest characters as they sang to me their morning and evening hymn.





MOTHER & DAUGHTER

From daughter Katie

Feb 1895

Mamma what makes you write such letters to me I can't stand it any longer it will kill me.
When I haven't done anything you don't want me to. You say I write to Mrs. Burgeth and sent her my picture. And I do not. And didn't send her any picture. I have not had any pictures taken.

Mar 1895

I received your letter Friday night. Am very sorry to hear you & Papa are so sick. I want to see you both so bad. Oh, Mamma, what makes you say I am deceiving you when I have been doing everything you wanted me. But - I don't get any credit for it; so what's the use. Why am I permitted to live and cause people so much trouble.
If Dear Little Olive had lived instead of me how much happier we all would be.
You say you know why I want to come home. The reason is because I have always loved my home. But you don't believe what I say. But don't stay there for me if you want to move so bad. I would like to come home once more but it would kill me to come away again & I can't leave school. What makes you say I don't love you? For I do love both. I wish you loved me half as much.

April 1895

I received your welcome letter today. I re'cd the money also and answered it but put the letter in a book and forgot to send it. I sent it yesterday A.M.
It is very kind of you to piece those quilts. I know I shall like them. But take care of your eyes. Aunt Nellie will send you some calico and Annie too.
Oh! Mamma, I want to see you and Papa so bad. Are you coming down here this spring? Don't call me deceitful when I try to do right by you.
Hoping this will find you and Papa better.From your Loving daughter who loves you.

POLITICS

From daughter Katie Nov 1896

Who did Papa vote for? I hope McKinley.
{McKinley won his first term as President. Women did not vote.}

From Henrietta Nov 1898

I suppose our new Governer pleased you. Papa was very much disappointed but Teddy deserved it, fighting for his country.
{After the Spanish-American War, Theodore Roosevelt was elected Governor of New York.}

MOVING IN HOBOKEN

From daughter Katie Mar 17, 1895

Annie is going to move, into a splendid place on Garden St.

May 5, 1895

Annie is all moved and nearly all settled. She has a lovely place much nicer than the other. Her address is 836 Garden St.

Illustrations from *The Delineator*, 1895.
[More *Letters to Hattie* in our next issue.]



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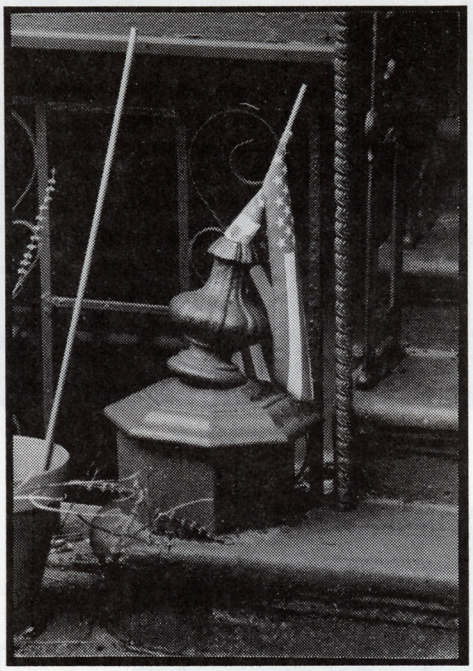
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HOBOKEN'S DECAYING GLORY

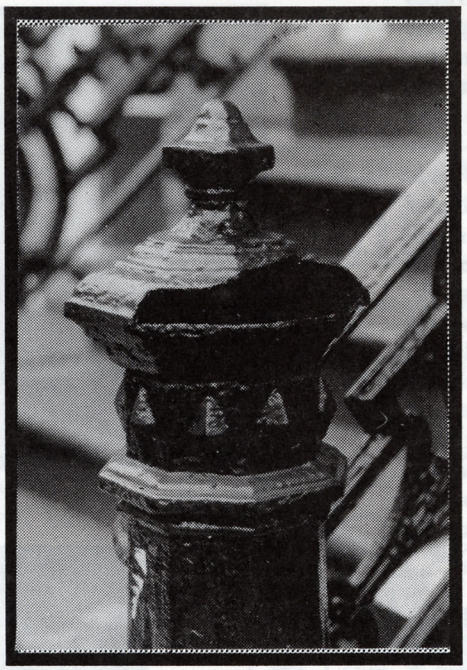


⇑ A simple cast-iron cylindrical pillar could return this dwarf on 10th Street to its original glory, flag or not. The original stoop railing looks good and deserves a restored pillar to accompany it. Even the boot scraper is still there.



⇐ This post on Madison Street is a candidate for destruction. Its open top will admit rain and snow which will rust-out the pillar from within.

Many cast-iron railings and ornamental pillars that make Hoboken's Victorian homes so distinctive are suffering from neglect and ill-advised repairs. They deserve better. Hoboken History *photography editor Bob Foster visited A&C Ironworks on Madison Street for practical advice on maintenance and repair of Hoboken's threatened architectural asset: cast iron.*



⇑ Like the pillar on Madison Street, this post on 10th Street is dangerously open to rain and snow. The top could be removed, repaired, and replaced by a skilled ironworker, saving the entire post.

Peter Arguelles, owner of A&C, specializes in the restoration of ornamental ironwork. He says that a lot more work goes into them than meets the eye. One of the most dangerous things that can be done to ironwork in an attempt by a homeowner to repair it is to fill the cast-iron cavity of a pillar or railing with concrete. This attracts moisture which in turn creates destructive interior rust which does its damage invisibly. A solid-looking cast-iron pillar can eventually rust to such a degree of thinness it is beyond repair. And rain or snow that collects in an open pillar freezes in winter, the ice expanding to crack the iron.

"To start with," Arguelles explains, "many cast-iron pillars consist of as many as ten to 15 cast-iron sections which are bolted together inside. In many cases Hoboken iron work is more than 100 years old, and during their century of winters and summers, heat and cold expand and contract the iron, opening seams and cracks through which rainwater and melted snow can leak to rust the insides, and freeze into ice to crack the iron."

Peter advises homeowners to properly restore their existing original ironwork, for it not only adds to the beauty, authenticity, and value of a Hoboken home, but modern replacements never have the weight or decorative detail of the original. And

damaged ironwork reduces the value of a home. Original iron work is irreplaceable, but it can be restored.

For a restoration job, generally Peter removes the posts and railings, stripping with a torch the usual century-old accumulation of paint that obscures the detail. Rust is removed, too, leaving the original metal 100 percent clean. The ironwork, which is modular to begin with, is then disassembled and broken parts repaired or replaced, using welding techniques that were not possible when the fixtures were first installed. Frequently the iron rod that runs from the top of a post down through its center to anchor it to the pavement, is rusted through and has to be replaced to stabilize the pillar. This missing or absent rod is why so many Hoboken cast-iron pillars lean or are dangerously unstable. And the interior braces that hold the parts of the pillar together are usually rusted out too.

The most frequently damaged section of a post is the square base which too many home owners have filled with concrete. A&C rebuilds these missing or rusted out bases with steel. Peter has a small stock of old cast-iron parts he is able to use to patch damaged iron work. He's always on the lookout for old Hoboken iron work thoughtlessly discarded by renovators.

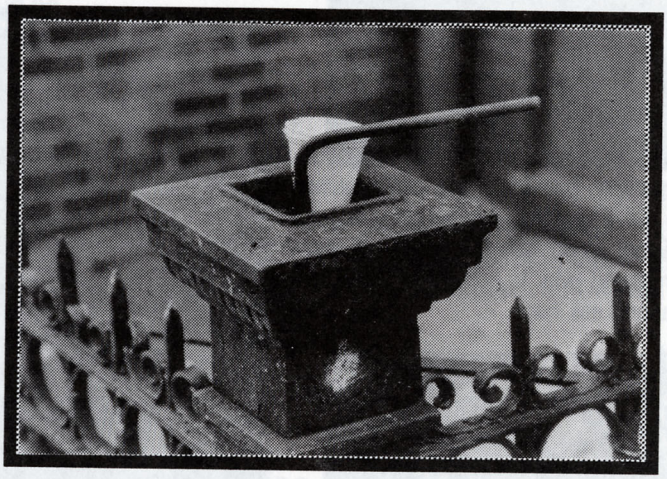
Once the restored ironwork is finished, Arguelles seals it from future rust with modern preservatives, and the good old Hoboken cast iron is prepared for another century of service and beauty.

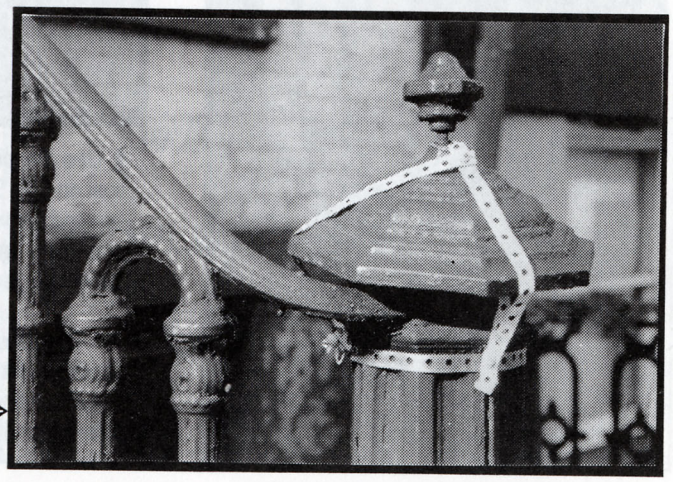
If you'd like to talk to Peter about your cast-iron work, you can reach him at 653-8681. For more information, contact:
The National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, DC 20036;
(202) 673-4000, or
The Old House Journal
2 Main Street
Gloucester, MA 01930;
(508) 283-3200.



⇐ The top of this pillar on Park Avenue is original, but its enclosure of modern tapestry brick provides a variation on Victorian brick, which was smooth.

This pillar on Madison Street invites rain and snow that will ultimately lead to its destruction. It deserves a better fate than being a waste basket. ⇓



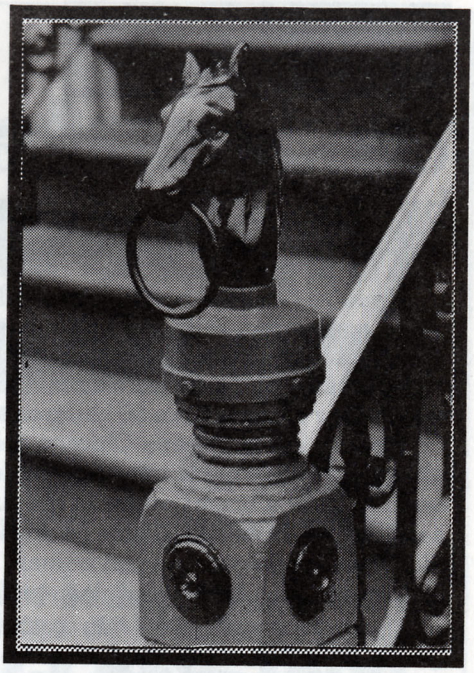


Galvanized iron straps will hold this post together for a while on Garden Street, but it looks like the center rod and interior bolts need to be replaced. ⇒



⇐ Only a stump remains of the post of this Madison Street stoop, holding up the original railing with a length of twisted wire. The fine surviving railing deserves a complete replacement cast iron post.

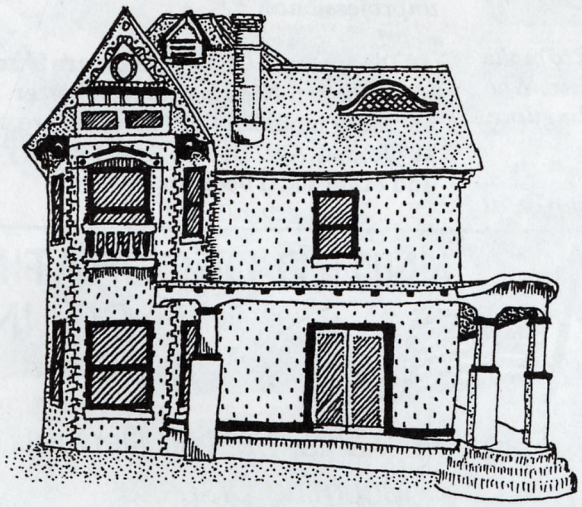
This post on uptown Garden Street is in good shape; the horsehead ornament provides protection and shows that a post can be capped even if not in the way it was originally. ⇒



Photographs by
Bob Foster

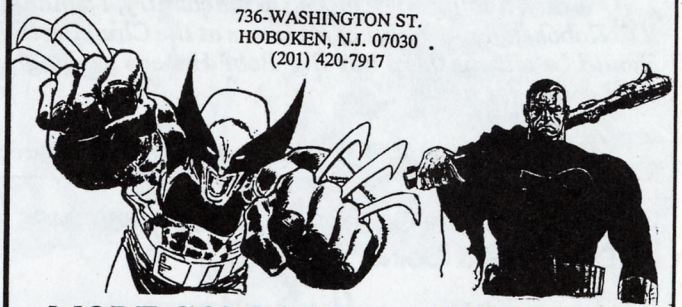
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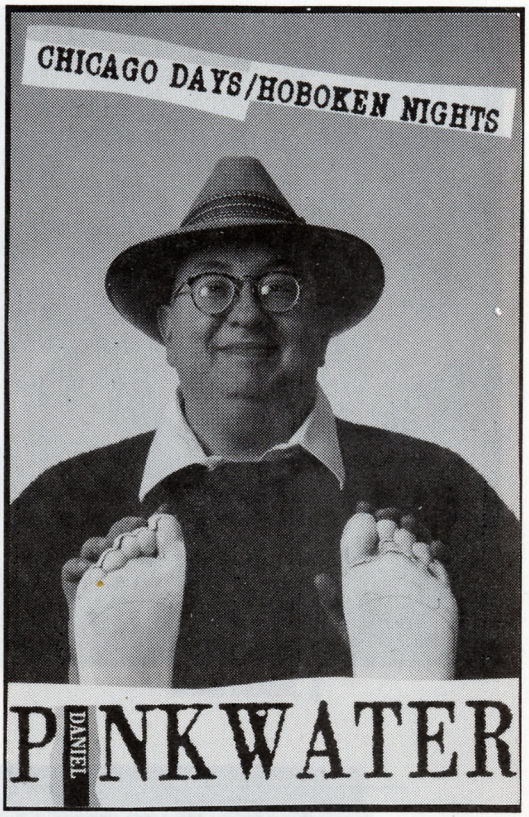
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Book Review

Chicago Days / Hoboken Nights
by Daniel Pinkwater

168 pages, Addison-Wesley, Reading, Mass., 1992.



If you've read the book by Daniel Pinkwater in which our town plays a starring role, *The Hoboken Chicken Emergency*, you'll appreciate this autobiographical reminiscence. Pinkwater is a commentator on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" and author of more than 50 children's books.

We will quickly leave Chicago behind (you can skip this part although you'll miss a lot of laughs) and find Pinkwater recalling setting off for a bright center of the American art scene, or at least as close as Hoboken. Here he survives as a New York artist alongside numerous cats and women, living on hors d'oeuvres at art gallery openings and losing sleep to his Hoboken neighbors' radios.

The author writes of a ride on the Hoboken ferry's final voyage (you'll like that story) and of some Hoboken street characters. Among them is "Pancho Villa" who unscrewed all the light bulbs in Pinkwater's loft building and who the Hoboken police department said they'd never catch.

Pinkwater lets his affection for Hoboken show through and you will enjoy reading about it, perhaps to strengthen your own regard for our city. He writes:

I loved that town. Every street, every block contained some relic or curiosity to be discovered. But the greatest thing about Hoboken was the people who lived there. The magnificent array of characters and types. I'll tell you about some of them. And he does:

Big Bob was said to be a persuader for a loan shark, and did other odd jobs that didn't bear thinking about.

Big Bob met some policemen one night, as he was coming out of a warehouse with an armload of merchandise. For a few weeks he was out on bail, wandering around the streets, practicing his defense."Ah'm innocent," he'd say. "Ah'm innocent."

One day, having since moved to the country, I'd managed to make it to Hoboken for a bucket of steamers at the Clam Broth House. Who should be sitting there but Big Bob? He was sucking up linguine. He'd gotten fat again.

"Ey, Pinky!"

We had a nice chat. The Iran-Contra hearings were going on at that time, and Big Bob had been following Oliver North's testimony.

"I don't get it," Big Bob said. "How come he doesn't want ta go to jail. Instead, dis guy starts in to mention people.

"G. Gordon Liddy went to jail. He never spilled a single woid. I don' want to say anythin' against a Lootenant Coinel in the Marines -- but dis guy strikes me as very unprofessional."

Pinkwater's Chicago Days are funny, but his Hoboken Nights are even better. These amusing memories of Hoboken are on sale at Golden Age Books, The Literary Shop, and other local book shops.

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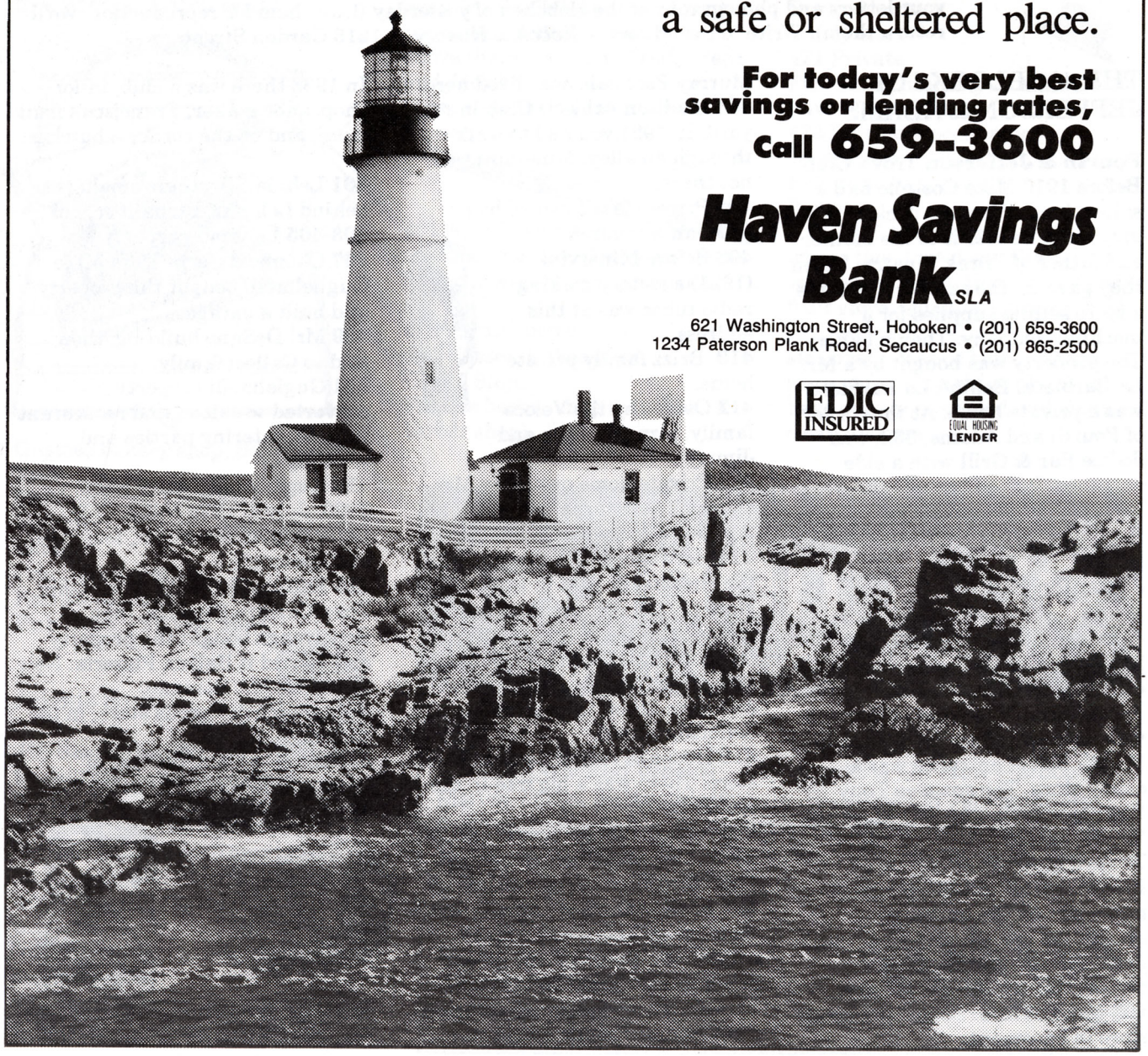
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Murray Pasquale's
MEMORIES OF THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD

Hoboken resident Murray Pasquale compiled a personal inventory of his memories of Hoboken's "Little Italy" from 1910 to 1980. We present it here, as he wrote it, listing the shops, landmarks, and families of two blocks of Adams and Jefferson Streets as they were in his lifetime, building by building.

His memories should stimulate your own, and if you have memories of your Hoboken that you would like to share with the readers of *Hoboken History*, we'd like to hear from you. We welcome your letters and photographs of the Hoboken of yesterday (loan them for reproduction, we'll return them). Write to the editors of *Hoboken History* at 1216 Garden Street.

THE 400 BLOCKS OF JEFFERSON & ADAMS

Fourth & Jefferson Troy's Club. Before 1919 Mike Costello had a saloon here. When he decided to give it up, he sold it to the mother and father of Frank Sinatra. When they gave up the saloon, it became a store selling supplies for a machine company. Then a bakery. The property was bought by a Mr. La Barbiera. Behind La Barbiera was a private home. At the corner of Fourth and Adams, 332, was Jodice Bar & Grill with a side entrance. It then became the D'Agostino Funeral Home.

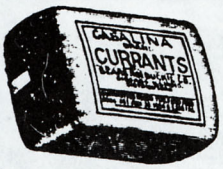
Jefferson Street

400 Corner store rented by Mr. Irvelino, an insurance agent. He then moved to the rear of the store, up the stoop. The front of the store was then rented by Joe Lisa, 1950. Fourth Street entrance was a candy store. The son was Tony Petrillo Singer, who was known as Val-Valente.
Toward Madison Street was Bartletta Hall (Frank, if your name was on the ballot, you always got my Mr.-and-Mrs. vote.)
Across the street, southwest corner, was a cigarette factory.
402 Mr. and Mrs. Policastro; candy store in basement.
Murray Pasquale once lived here.
404 Madison Athletic Club in rear yard. In 1921 you had to walk through an alley. Minervini was not there.
406 Private home owned by a German woman.
408 Before Minervini (1921) a factory making radio tubes was at this address.



410 Brizz family private home.
412 Owned by the Veloce family, pizzeria, Rose and Jimmy
414 Private home owned by Mrs. Grossi. These three wonderful families could never be replaced.
416 Here was a delicatessen. Pepi the shoemaker next to Lunato fruit store (1924). Johnny Pepi, son of the shoe maker, a hired guitarist for weddings. Pepino, shoe maker, started in the basement of 514 Jefferson Sreet, then moved to 416 Jefferson Street.
418 House in rear of Lunado fruit store. There was a big tree in the sidewalk.
420 At this address was the Oxford Club. Also Angelo's grocery store and Third Ward Democratic Club.
422 corner On this property was a restaurant. There was a stable called "The Barn" to rest horses going to Fifth and Madison Streets. There was also Frank the butcher and Jimmie's shoe store.
In 1938 there was a club, tailor shop. shoe maker, Francisco's fruit store, and on the corner a butcher.

401 Lehman Brothers smelters, behind Lehman a truant school.
403-405 Lehman property.
407 Chemical Corp. Then Mike Guglielmelli bought the property and built a garage.
409 Mr. DeSano building, then sold to Calleci family.
411 Gugielmelli property converted to saloon and restaurant in 1940, catering parties and weddings.
413 Gugielmelli Pastry Shop, 1920. July 1, 1922 called Cafe Bella Napoli. Ice cream, lemon ice and spumoni.
415 Raffale Carbone, shoe maker. Then Caiezza Pizzeria, then Bencivenga bought the property and named it Balboa Pizzeria. Now owned by Mr. Romano.
417 Orefice dry goods store, in the basement.
419 Nunche Club, brother of Dominick Miele, and Barber Shop.
421 Pinella's grocery warehouse.

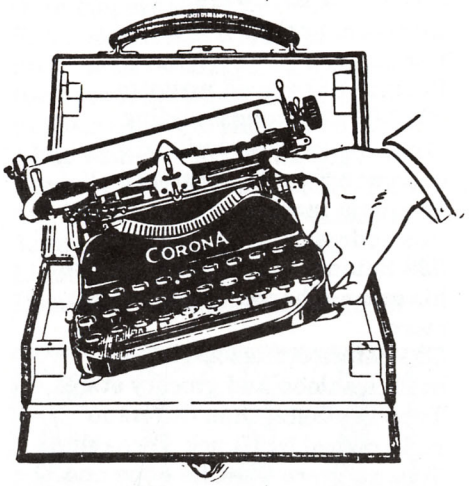




423 Lupo grocery store, Dopey Gus bar. Pinella's bar was converted to

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hardware store. There was a tailor shop behind the hardware store.
Where Bob had a fruit store were:
Costello music store (1925)
Rosenburg shoe shop
Del Guidice grocery store
Carlos' pastry
Corbisiero pastry
Antonio pastry, Eddie Antonio
I was in the store when Mrs. Antonio, mother of Eddie, received a letter and telegram from the government reading "Your son was killed in action." This was a trying moment for me.
Eddie was a very intelligent person, very studious, and spoke five different languages.

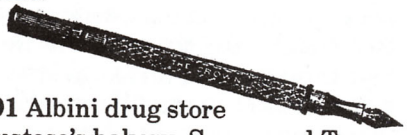


Gustoso bakery shop, Sonny and Tess
Chicken store, De Rosa
Fish store, Jimmy Lombardo (1920)
Later:
Fruit store, Vettoso
Fish store, Ralph
Fish store, Phil and Mary

Adams Street



400 Sam – the Spot bar
Capelli's bar and restaurant
Turso's bar, which is now Michael's bar and restaurant
402 Empty lot which once was the home of Montefort dry goods store.
404, 406, 408 These were all private homes.
420 Private home, also stationery store.
412 Carlos' pastry shop, which is now owned by Buddy and Mary who since have had five children.
414 Fiore's House of Quality Dairy where the famous mozzarelle is produced by John, and people from all nearby cities come to buy all his delicious cheeses and Italian cold cuts.
416 Once the home of Emanuel Battaglia, now Fiore's parking lot.
418 Home of Pepe Boss – Joey Nickey
Store rented to I.L.A. for meetings. Now this same store is rented by Mss. Di Monte Vergine. In 1942 rented to Mike the butcher.
420 Skelly's Restaurant started in the basement, in 1924, then moved upstairs. Skelly's nephew, Joey the policeman, rented the apartment above the restaurant. Skelly, Pepe, and Jack had the finest food in town. Pepe is now in a nursing home.



401 Albini drug store
Gustoso's bakery, Sonny and Tess
Eggert Feed Co. behind the drug store
403 Private home.
405 Kusseluk shoe store
Candy Store
Frank's barber shop (now Mike's barber shop)
407 Home of Kramer the policeman
409 Empty lot, so far as we can remember.
411 Private home.
415 D'Agostino funeral parlor
Club stationery store
417 Barber shop owned by Sylvia Rocco's father, also a candy store and a pizzeria.
419 Home of Mrs. Mussolina, and a butcher shop
Manna's butcher shop
Dr. Auriemma's office, one flight up
Club 35 (Mike the butcher)
Laundromat
Dry goods store
Candy store



421 Private
Fish store, property of Mike Della Fave
423 Pizzino grocery store
Warehouse
Pelligrino bar
Rex bar

In 1925 two stores were built where they tore down the warehouse. Then there was Festa fruit store, Quaglieri grocery, and dry goods store, Joe Palermo stationery & shoe shine. There were many shoe shine places to have our shoes shined and looking clean and neat.

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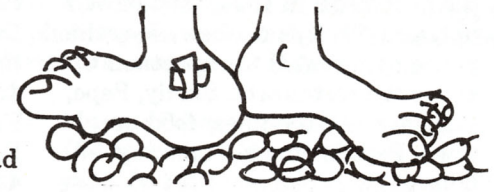
THE 500 BLOCKS OF JEFFERSON AND ADAMS

Jefferson Street

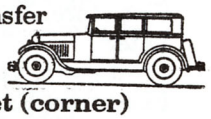
500 Ricco house, Frank Luciano, father of Lulu Luciano, bar.
Finizio grocery store
Henny's grocery and butcher shop
502 Home of the Corrado family (padrone)
Fruit store
Barber shop
Failla Funeral Parlor
Bar with bocci alley. (This was a good sport.)
(1940) Archangelo owned this house.
Corrado Geiedno
Dry goods store
504 Bencevenga family, owner (1910-1918) Mother and father had 13 children (15 people in four rooms).
Tony and Virginia Calabrese family
Maraano family
Borelli family
Marty the Ox (sometimes called "The Bull") lived at 504.
A store at this address was owned by Ernesto pastry shop
Migaleen, sister of Mrs. Finizio, ~~fruit store~~
Mike Gugielmelli ice cream parlor (1922)
506 First owner was Little Mike, the fireman.
Then bought by Yaccarino family. Mother Yaccarino was married at 513 Jefferson St., which was owned by the Liquoris
John Yaccarino was born at 513 Jefferson St.
Del Guidice grocery store
Butcher
Poultry store
Restaurant
Biggie's Clam Bar
508 Rose Petrillo family
George Petrillo family
Lulu, Mike and Kate
Lombardy family
Fusco family
DeSomma family
Candy store owned by Rose's parents, property now owned by Mr. & Mrs. E. Presti.



510 Borelli house – Pasquales; Murray born at 510 Jefferson
Yorka - Ann Ninzie
Rose and Babe "Jimmy Carter"
60 years ago a baker named Asunda had the stable in the rear. Then Joe Borelli bought it. Mike La Bruno was a baker. Later the stable was converted into a winery by an uncle. Whether we liked it or not we had to crush the grapes with our bare feet. We made sure we washed our feet first. There were many cuts and bruises which were the talk of the town. There were no machines. Everything was

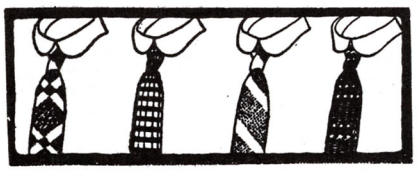


done by hand and our own two feet. Believe me, the wine was the best to be had and tasted good.
512 Elizabeth Mazziotti owned this home.
Tenants were: John Pasquale family, Russo family, Rottina family, Calabrese family, Victoria family, Cicero family.
Elizabeth's father had eight or nine goats. He would take them to the hills to graze and bring them back at night.
Henny and Willy's winery. Then a candy store by Nunzie.
514 Cappiello family, 12 people who lived in a three-room apartment.
Marotta family, 10 people who lived in a three-room apartment.
Tronolone and Russo families were other tenants who lived here.
22 people on the second floor.
Toilets in the hall. No wall-to- wall carpeting. God bless our parents, much patience was needed.
516 Del Monaco family
Di Geico family
Tessie Frizzy (70 years old)
Now owned by Tessie Frabasile
518 This house moved here from Jackson Street. Rose Marotta lived upstairs.
Garibaldi saloon.
John & Apicella bar
Society Club
Tinsmith
520 De Stefano family
Mariners family
Mike the Duke's sister
Store
Petrillos' bakery
Charlie's candy store with ice cream
Bier's bakery
Truglios family
Salinas family
Mike the longshoreman
Mike's candy store
Paddy's tailor
522 De Stefano property was a store, barber shop by Pepe, Mikey La Bruno wife's family, Grace Palmeri, and Vitale family
524 Shultz hardware
Ice cream parlor
Bar
Brother Babe lived upstairs
526 Mike Costello Building Contractors. They built 516 Jefferson Street. Carmine Pasquale Insurance Agency also at this address.
528 Sammy Lisa's house. Before his store, a barber shop, candy store.
530 Before Jefferson Hall was built, a saloon and grocery store.
Tube Brothers, then Jefferson Hall, owned by Chuck Vernaglia.
Tenants were CheChe Pepe and Lena Valentino.
Across the street on northwest corner were Sam and Pete Lisa garage, Eastern Transfer Company.

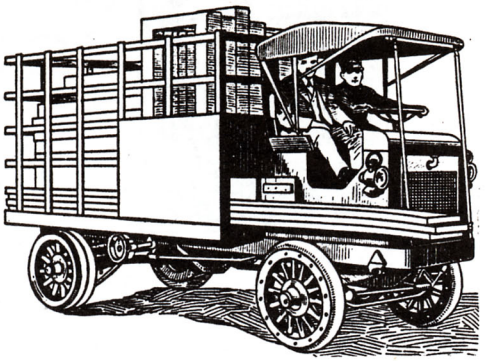


501 Jefferson Street (corner)
1910 to 1917
1. Rinaldi and Finizio Tavern, sold to Patsy Pinella
2. Home-made macaroni shop
3. Valentino shoe store; owner died. Then sold to Mr. Giangleano, then a grocery store. Lazzaro Valente brother Shoe's father was the shoe maker.
1918 to 1950
Building owned by Mr. and Mrs. Calabrese.
On the corner was Carollo's drug store, later Mancusi drug store.
There was also Patsy the shoe maker and Calabrese fruit store.
Later on it became Mary the

florist.
Trapani jewelry store.
One night a mother put her baby to bed along side the window. At this time window screens were not too secure, the baby rolled out of the window, three stories high. Died.
503 Basement (1930) Napolitani's pizzeria where Big Neal was a waiter.
Another candy store and Joe's Coffee Shop. Also Nunzie's fruit store.
Tenants were Pantoliano, Pascale, and Orlando families.
Mosca owned 505, a cousin owned 503, then sold to Mosca and bought from Naporano.
505 503 and 505 were both apartment buildings with stores in the basement where many businesses were. Here in 1935 was a bar with two big white dogs.
Tenants were Cuozzo family, Phil and his sister, Bob Steel family, Jenny Marble's sister, Sam Liguori, Gangolano family.
Dominick Niele pool room (1930)



507 A private home. There was a rear house which included Leo Magente and his brother "Gimmie-my-Dollar-Back," Louise, a Giant fan, and Anthony (This was a very fine family.)
509 This has been a vacant lot for years.
511 Petrillo house. Another house in the rear which ws used for keeping trucks to cart produce in the markets. Then the house was moved to the front. It was then renovated and rentd by Cowboy as a restaurant.



The home of Judge Carson.
Now belongs to Mario Raggio butcher shop.
Same store was rented to Failla Funeral Home.
513 Home of Mr. and Mrs. Liguori.
A paper mill and warehouse next door.
Tenants were Tony Pontillo, the ice man, Rossi and Hattie Liguori, Mike Romano, the Musto family, Philomena's husband.
I can recall the paper mill and the empty lot where we played marbles. I can still hear my mother calling me for supper (may God bless her.).
515 Here was a garage.
517 Here was the paper mill.
519 Rossario Mieli house, the sausage maker. At this time we paid 35 cents a pound. Upstairs lived Frank and Caroline D'Lorenzo, parents of Jessie Frabasile. By the way, Tessie was married at that address.
Nunzio store (the famous home-brew maker)
521 Private home
Tenants were: Lisa Ham & Eggs, Micoletta, Feola Joe, Mike Alutto, Tessie and Mike Totaro, Patsy and Mike Totaro.
523 Private home, house in the rear.
Freida and John Sansavere
Charlie Fat and his wife
Dairy milk store in front (1910)
525 Gallo family



Co. K Club
Joe Bambino
527 Private home
Mardello and Vernaglia families
Spina family
Palmieri family
Zig-Zig Chirichella
529 Private home
The Chirichella Knock-out family
Rose Geget; Caporino family
Joe Lisa mother & father
Paddy and Rose Ronga
Mickey and Mary Curci
Fifth and Adams Streets



Behind empty lot is now Public School 3. Between the school and Falco's clothing store was a shoe-maker owned by parents of Joseph Romano. At corner of Fifth and Grand, Nobile bar & grill with restaurant above.

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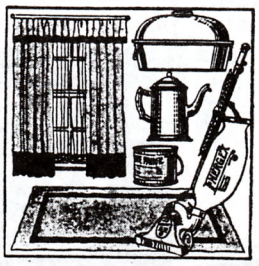
Adams Street



500 Saloon
Carollo's drug store
Steneck Bank
Caporino's stationery store
Cervelli's grocery store
Among the tenants was Costello Hall where numerous parties were held. This was later called Oxford Hall. The first couple to marry there was John Pascale and Jenny Tarantula (1910). Below the hall was Jake the Jew stationery store (1917). Alongside was the fruit store of Vettoso (Tuddy) mother and father. Next to them was a Tony the barber and Trapani's jewelry store.
500-504 Sadie's dry goods store
Red the butcher
Neil's grandfather and grandmother had a fruit store where everyone chatted.
506-508 Vincent and Teresa Fabrucino pastry shop was sold to Emil, then sold to people from New York, then to Giro. Benjamin Graziano, butcher, then sold to Red the butcher. Red the butcher began at 508 Adams Street.
510 Naddeo started here and moved to 522 Adams Street. Eddie Argenziano hardware and John the barber.
512 Joe Rosenburg, candy store, fruit store. Then moved and replaced by a barber shop.
514 De Vincenzo saloon with hall in the rear. He closed the front of the store and moved to the rear and made a shoe store called Sandy's. Also Spinelli funeral parlor.



518 Francisco bakery, then La Barbiera bakery, then Al Jordan, then Willie Salina, then Ciquanto.
520 Tex Corrado home, Slim Fortunato lived here. The store was Danny's bar with a dance hall.



522 Naddeo hardware store which is now owned and operated by Joe Capporino.
524 This is a private home. The tenants in this house were mother and father of Chickie and Mike Spina with the Bad Leg and Joe the Sheik, also boot black in the basement.
528 Curly Corrado bar & grill (1934) and now owned and operated by Joe Capporino stationery store.
530 Mike Curci property sold various kinds of nuts. Then sold to Chippie's mother who had a candy store, and also many people did home work on beads.
532 Henny Parisio, known as Cockeye Henny's Pool Parlor and Club.
534 Spina's Bar & Grill. Greatest hunter in the state. Now Tony's Finizio grocery store.
517 Malatesta Iron Works
519 Tailor and milk store
521 Poultry store owned by Mr. and Mrs. Luciano
523 Mickey's candy store
525 Barber shop and candy store
527 Private home
529 (Around 1925) Ba Deels candy store, Mr. and Mrs. Yacullo dry goods store
531 Russo's butcher shop, father and five sons (Jimmie, Charlie, Cherry, Babs, and Albert)
Also, home of Peluso and Tamburo families, and Committeeman Mike Addeso of the McFeeley regime.

On 5th between Madison Street and Jefferson
Corner: Linoleum store, Landy & Failla Funeral Parlor, Landy & Paul Del Pia Agency

Sixth & Jefferson Streets
Corner: Joe the Sheik (1930)
Hat Cleaning
Boot black and shoe shine



2nd store: Martell's fruit
3rd store: Waco Club
Across the street:
Corner: Mancusi drug store (1930)
Lewis Churches Trench
Rose and Frank Lia (mayor)
Now is John Pitera's jewlery store, in basement.

601 Adams (northeast corner)
Dorman grocery, then sold to Patsy Russo
Grocery store behind Patsy Russo
D'Antonio pastry shop moved from corner to middle of the block between Adams and Grand Streets.

600 Adams Street (northwest corner)
Bar & Grill (1931)
D'Antonio pastry shop.

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MUSEUM NEWS

MUSEUM OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES ELECTED FOR 1993

Officers and trustees of the Museum were elected at our January 7 meeting. They are:

President: Robert Foster
Vice President: Leonard A. Luizzi, Sr.
Treasurer: Gerard A. Lisa
Assistant Treasurer: Stephen Viko Kilnisan
Recording Secretary: Barbara Lippman
Corresponding Secretary: Paul Lippman
Trustees: Maureen Allex, John DePalma, Geri Fallo, Stephen Hefler, George Kirchgessner, Lynne Shapiro, Vincent Wassmann.

NEW MEMBERS and RENEWALS since November 20, 1992

Life Membership: David H. Sandt
2-year Membership: Mr. & Mrs. Allen L. Smith; Stanley Russell
Frank Calabrese, Carmine Calabrese
1-year Membership
Manuel and Amanda Ortega; Richard Kurland; Albert LaBook; Thomas Mulvihill; Lucille Ruggiero; Louis Botto; Ira Karasick; Robert Packer; Mr. & Mrs. Howard Reiss; Aaron Lewit & Lynne Shapiro; A. Myles Jackson; Carl Bowers; Kelley Cousineau; Ed Cousineau; Lawrence Kelty; Ms D. Rae; Jeff Tamarkin, Eugene Walton
2-year Renewal: Mr. & Mrs. Doyle
1-year Renewal: Vincent Wassmann; Robert Foster; Mr. & Mrs. Meredith Colket; John De Palma.

Spring Cocktail Party

The Museum will usher in the spring season with a festive cocktail party on Sunday, May 2 from 2pm to 7pm in the Sts. Peter and Paul school building, 410 Hudson Street. It features Hoboken's best party food and refreshments, with musical entertainment by John Christian. Donation is $12.00 per person, at the door or from United Decorating, 421 Washington Street.

Lenny Luizzi, cocktail party committee chairman, is looking for people with the time and imagination to help him make the Museum's good time an even better time. Give him a call at 420-1803.

The Museum's Board and other members after the first business meeting of 1993: ⇒
Left to right, standing:
Richard Kurland, Lynne Shapiro, Lenny Luizzi, John DePalma, Jenny Carulli, Kelley Cousineau, D. Rae, Ed Cousineau, Barbara Lippman, Paul Lippman, Geri Fallo, Viko Kilnisan, Maureen Allex.
Sitting: Vinny Wassmann, Bob Foster, George Kirchgessner.



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SANDWICHES TO TAKE OUT

Dear Friends of the Museum,

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the events of the last fifteen months. In October of 1991, after the resignation of former President Jim Hans, I assumed the office of President of our organization. This time certainly has been an interesting one for me. Although I've been a Trustee/Board Member of the Hoboken Historical Museum since its inception in 1986, this was my first real taste of the Museum's day-to-day operation. Only now can I fully appreciate the efforts Jim made as President for five years. On behalf of all Museum members I wish to thank him publicly for his work and wish him much success with his project of writing a book about Hoboken's rich historical past. I'm sure we'll all be anxiously awaiting the results of this laborious task.

Going forward, I'm pleased to report that we have survived this transition and that in some ways we are now stronger and more viable than ever before. This issue of *Hoboken History* is our sixth, proving that this publication can and will sustain itself. Personally, I see this quarterly magazine as the Museum's greatest accomplishment to date. It is a vehicle that enables us to reach out to the community at large, and beyond, with both historical and contemporary information about our City. In November we celebrated our seventh consecutive annual show at City Hall. The show entitled *Pressed Tin and Painted Brick – an Architectural Survey of Hoboken*, was well-attended and deemed a huge success. Though our application for a grant to fund the 1992 show was approved by the New Jersey Historical Commission, we were later informed that because of State budget cuts no moneys would be forthcoming. Faced with the dilemma of having to cancel the event, we stepped up our fund-raising efforts and were able to meet the expenses of the show without outside assistance.

In regard to fund-raising, this past year has been an extremely successful one. The Museum sponsored five flea markets, three outdoors at Church Square Park, and two indoors at Martha Institute. The flea markets have become a major source of revenue. In addition, we brought in much-needed funds from table sales at events such as the River City Fair and the Hoboken Train Festival, where we sold our newly designed *Heaven, Hell, or Hoboken* T-shirt. Currently there are plans in the works for the Museum to host a cocktail party/social early this spring. It's essential that we participate in as many community activities as possible, not only to directly support our organization, but also to increase our visibility. The more people become aware of the Museum the better are our chances of expanding our membership and in turn our volunteer group.

The purpose of this letter is not only to serve as a review, but also in part to act as an appeal. As with all groups there are varied commitments from those involved. One's personal life understandably takes priority over the amount of time an individual can volunteer to an organization. Changes in location, family, health, career, studies, etc., are all reasons that our group is in constant flux. The point is that we are always in need of "new blood." If you think you might be inclined to "get involved" with the Museum this could be the perfect time. Here's why. Last year, as President, I decided that rather than take up valuable time, during our monthly meetings, in planning Museum activities, we'd be better served in having separate committee meetings. This past year we began our guest speaker series as a result of individual committee meetings. Though we've only had one business meeting so far in 1993, it's apparent that newly elected President Bob Foster has full intentions of expanding on this concept. The results are (1) the business meetings will be less lengthy, and (2) those who may be interested in one specific Museum function can get involved without becoming overburdened, directing their energies to any chosen activity. The following is a list of established committees: artifact acquisitions, fund-raising, guest speaker series, historic markers, magazine, permanent site, Sybil's Cave restoration, and walking tours. Should anyone be interested in joining one or more of these committees or have an idea for starting a new one, please call the Museum at 656-2240 and leave a message.

In final, as I hand over the reins of the Museum to Bob Foster, I feel confident and enthusiastic that this will be a banner year for this organization. Quite frankly, it's with a deep sigh of relief that I return to the role of Trustee, with the satisfaction of having helped get through this difficult time, and lightened in that the responsibility now rests on the shoulders of another. It's been a long fifteen months! At risk of offending anyone, I would be remiss if I didn't mention a few names. My sincere thanks and appreciation to Bob Foster, Steve Hefler, George Kirchgessner, Barbara and Paul Lippman, and Kathy Rogers.

Cordially,
John DePalma

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MUSEUM NEWS

THE MUSEUM THANKS

Carolyn Rooney, of the Hoboken Public Library, for establishing a showcase at the Library featuring the Museum's Hoboken Architecture show and this magazine. Ms. Rooney also is distributing Museum membership application forms at the Library, one of the reasons why our membership has recently been on the rise.

DONATIONS

The Hoboken Historical Museum thanks the donors of these artifacts.

FROM John P. Fitzpatrick of Summit, NJ: *As They Passed Through the Port* by Major General David C. Shanks, Commanding Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, NJ, the Cary Publishing Company, Washington, DC, 1927.

FROM Nathaniel J. Coyne, DDS, Hoboken, NJ: *Service With Fighting Men, An Account of the Work of The American YMCA in the World War,* Vol. I and Vol. II, Association Press, New York, 1922.

FROM Frank P. Marciano: *Memories of the Old Neighborhood, Little Italy, from 1910 to 1980,* compiled by Murray Pasquale.

FROM Bob Maier: various letters and memos to the City of Hoboken and the City Council, 1852-1890;
annual financial statement of the City of Hoboken, 1872;
report of the City Surveyor to the City Council for Meadow District, City of Hoboken, 1900.

FROM Jim English: panoramic photo-lithograph depicting Hoboken piers during World War I.

FROM Hoboken Advantage: seven aerial photos depicting the waterfront of Hoboken circa 1987, 10x10, color.

FROM the Kaminsky family: "Tootsie" milky caramel candy box imprinted "manufactured in Hoboken" circa 1950s.

ACQUISITIONS

Ribbon of Ladies Auxiliary McFeeley Association, 1940s

Commemorative Menu from the Deutscher Club, 1907

Silver trophy cup bearing Holland America Line crest, circa 1950

Holland America Line garment hanger

Photograph of 1940s reenactment of run of John Stevens' pioneer steam locomotive, circa 1825, 8x10, black and white

Advertisement for Cordt and Delaney furniture store warehouse at First Street and Park Avenue circa 1900, reading "Millionaires sometimes need credit – we give it!"

Yearbooks of Demarest High School 1954 through 1960

Bill for funeral services and envelope from O'Hara Funeral Home, 1906

Political campaign literature for Mayor Cappiello, 1977

FASCINATING MUSEUM PURCHASE⇒

This photograph of Bishop's Theatre at 106 First Street is a recent museum acquisition. Look closely and you will recognize that the building is still there, now the Shannon Bar, just opposite the north side of City Hall. The theatre opened in 1912 and closed in the mid-1930s. It showed movies, and from the silent two-reelers advertised on the posters, this picture may date to 1912 when Bishop's opened. Notice the ushers on the fire escapes and the trolley tracks in the pavement out front.



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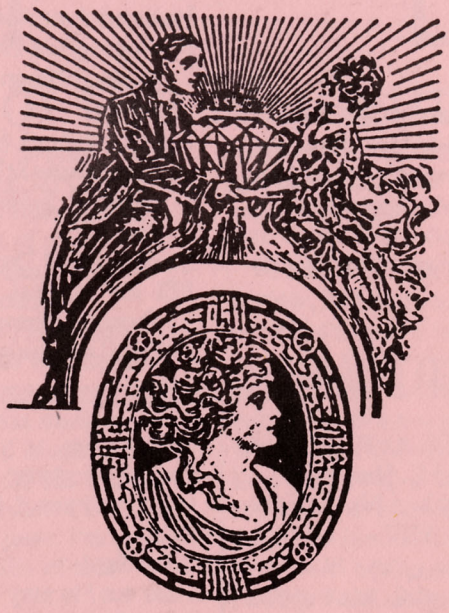
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