

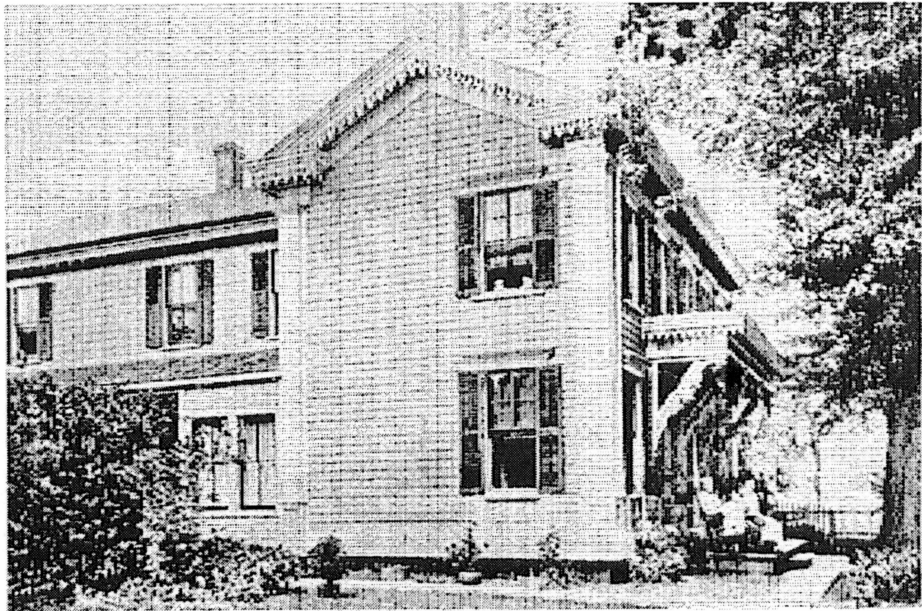
HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

MAY - JUNE, 1992

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL DOLL SHOW & SALE

This year's Raffle Doll worth \$250.

The Society will sponsor its Sixteenth Annual Doll Show and Sale on Saturday, May 16th, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. at the Hightstown Country Club, located on Monmouth Street behind Mom's Peppermill Restaurant. This year the raffle doll is called "Serenity - Apple & Spice." She is a beautiful "Lee Middleton" original standing 22-inches tall and retails for \$250.00. Please don't miss this chance to see the many antique and collectible dolls, teddy bears, etc. - and don't forget to bring your children. Parking is free and there will be a cafeteria on the premises. Admission will be \$3.00 per person at the door or \$2.50 with an advertising coupon (one can be found on page three of this newsletter).



The Anderson-Holland House Circa 1914 located at 107 Old Cranbury Road

HISTORIC SITES IN HIGHTSTOWN AND EAST WINDSOR

(The Seventh Installment in a Continuing Series)

The Anderson-Holland house was built circa 1860 with additions and alterations circa 1900 and circa 1960. The front block of the Anderson-Holland house is architecturally significant as the most elaborately ornamented mid-nineteenth-century farmhouse in East Windsor to survive with its exterior intact. Within the township, only this house exhibits both its bracketed porch hood and cornice ornament. The porch itself is a unique feature, with its hood supported by elaborate brackets instead of posts. The carpenter who produced these flourishes has not been identified.

The land this house occupies originally was part of the Abraham Bergen farm. He died in 1827 and the farm was divided by commissioners appointed by the Orphans Court due to the involvement of minors. The portion of

the farm west of the Bordentown & South Amboy Turnpike (now North Main Street) was allotted to Sarah (Bergen) Johnes, wife of Samuel C. Johnes. Old York Road (now known as Old Cranbury Road) *cont. page2*

SOCIETY'S ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Society's Annual Business Meeting will be held at Ely House (164 North Main Street, Hightstown) at 7:30 P.M. on Monday, May 18, 1992. End of the year reports will be presented and discussed, and election of officers and trustees for 1992 -1993 will be held. Robert Craig, Chairman of the Railroad Freight Station Restoration Committee, will give a summary of the progress of the Society's principal on-going project and its goals and plans for the future.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

- 6 Executive Committee (7:30 PM)
- 16 16th Annual Doll Show & Sale (10 AM - 4 PM)
- 18 Annual Meeting (7:30 PM)

JUNE

- 3 Executive Committee (7:30 PM)
- 6 6th Annual Town Fest (9 AM - 4 PM)
- 7 Annual Picnic (3 PM - 6 PM)

ANDERSON-HOLLAND HOUSE

Cont. from Page 1

ran through this land.

Stephen Anderson purchased 3-acres in 1829 from Samuel and Sarah Johnes. It is believed that soon thereafter a 1 and 1/2-story frame house was built on this land on the site of the present day house. This house had one all-purpose room on the first floor and two bedrooms on the second floor. It is believed that Stephen and his brother, Jesse, lived there. In 1832, Stephen purchased 5-acres from the farm owned by Lydia Perrine which adjoined his on the west. That same year, Jesse Anderson purchased 8.95-acres also from Lydia Perrine. Jesse Anderson (1803-1892) and Ann Elizabeth (1811-1891), his wife, purchased 1-acre including the house from Stephen and Catherine in 1835. In 1836, Stephen and Catherine purchased a house and lot from Britton Applegate along the railroad in East Windsor Township and probably moved there. Jesse and Ann purchased additional land adjoining their farm of 5.55-acres from Joseph Anderson, probably a brother to Stephen and Jesse, on 4/9/1842 and 21.36 acres from Stephen and Catherine Anderson on 4/21/1842. The total contiguous acres owned by Jesse and Ann along both sides of Old Cranbury Road now totalled 36.86. Jesse listed his occupation as "mason" in the 1850 Federal Census. Circa 1860, Jesse and Ann added a two-room wide by two-story addition with a front porch on the front of the 1829 house. The addition was "two steps" higher than the original house. The original house became the kitchen. Ann Elizabeth was the daughter of Andrew S. Appleget of Monroe Township. Jesse and Ann raised their family in this house. One of their sons, Theodore, enlisted in Company E, 2nd New Jersey Cavalry, during the Civil War, and was appointed Commissary of the Regiment. He was "taken prisoner by the Rebels in Tennessee on Feb 29th, 1864 and was confined in prison at Andersonville, GA, where he sickened and died Aug 28th, 1864."

Jacob Perrine and Helen A., his wife, purchased this farm in 1877 and probably lived there. George A. Haviland and Emeline J., his wife, purchased this farm in 1887 and probably lived there.

George died in 1890 and his widow was forced to sell the farm. William R. Norton and Mary E., his wife, purchased this farm in 1891. They probably did not live there.

Michael Holland and Sarah (Ward), his wife, purchased this farm on 3/7/1892. Sarah was related to the Ward family from Cranbury. Prior to this they lived in Etra where their first child, Emma, was born in 1890. Their second child, Mary, was born on this farm on 9/9/1892. About 1900, the 1829 house was detached and moved back away from the circa 1860 addition. A new addition was then added to the rear of the 1860 addition consisting of a kitchen and dining room on the first floor and four bedrooms on the second floor. A one-story open porch was also added on the south side of the addition. In 1935, 1936, and 1944, Michael and Sarah sold land to the State of New Jersey for the Hightstown Bypass, now known as Route #130. This road effectively cut the Holland farm in half. Sarah Holland predeceased her husband, however, her date of death is not presently known. Michael Holland died in 1956 leaving the farm to his children and their husbands: Emma and Anthony Muldoon and Mary and Leonard Lewis. He stipulated in his will, dated 1951, that they may sell the land on the other side of Route #130 from the farm house and he gave to Emma and Anthony the building that they built and used as a "rug factory." Anthony Muldoon died in 1958 and left everything to his wife. In 1960, the 1829 house, which was used for laundry and storage, was razed. A one-room addition composed of a living room, bath room, laundry room, and attached garage was added to the west side of the 1900 addition. Apparently the bottom part of the circa 1860 addition front porch was removed and replaced with a smaller concrete and brick porch bottom. Also in 1960, the remaining heirs of Michael Holland decided to subdivide part of the farm into house lots. This proposed development was named "Cranbury Heights." The main street through this development was called "Holland Lane." The development received its final approval from East Windsor Township on 4/12/1962. Emma Muldoon died earlier, 4/6/1962, and left everything to her sister.

Later that same year, the remaining heirs, Mary and Leonard Lewis sold land to the State of New Jersey for the present-day New Jersey State Police Barracks. In 1964, they sold the remaining land on the other side of Route #130 to Cranbury Manor, Inc. Leonard died in 1965 and left everything to his widow. Mary subdivided the land south of Old Cranbury Road in 1973 leaving the present-day farmhouse lot containing 0.813-acres. She died in 1975 and left everything to her friend, Jack Pagano. Mary was a retired school teacher with the New York City Board of Education.

Benjamin J. Zaitz purchased the farmhouse lot and the remaining farm land (located on the north side of Old Cranbury Road) in 1977. Stanley Sackowitz purchased only the farmhouse lot in 1987. Betty Zaitz, Benjamin J. Zaitz, and The Summit Trust Company, Trustees, purchased the farmhouse lot in 1990.

WINDSOR HOLLOW & WINDSOR MILL PREHISTORIC SITES

(One Mile Road)

The Windsor Mill and Windsor Hollow Prehistoric Sites were inhabited between 8000 BC and AD 1600 by native American Indians. These two sites are the most significant known complex of prehistoric archaeological sites in East Windsor Township. Considered in a broader regional context, these are significant archaeological sites that have yielded and have the potential to yield information important to prehistory. The importance of these sites results in part from the 9000 year duration of site use by aboriginal groups and the exceptional integrity of the archaeological deposits.

The presence of the Early and Middle Archaic deposits (circa 8000 BC - 4000 BC) is very important. Few intact deposits dating to these early periods are known in the state. As a result, any attempt at reconstructing the behavioral patterns of these early groups is based on scant empirical evidence. Archaeological deposits from the Windsor sites have the potential to provide data con-

cerning group composition, group mobility, lithic procurement patterns, and settlement patterns.

Intact Late Archaic archaeological sites (circa 4000 BC -1000 BC) are much more frequent in the region than are the earlier sites and the Windsor sites are representative of a class of larger Late Archaic sites known in the Inner Coastal Plain of New Jersey. Other comparable sites in the area are the Wellnut Hill Site [28-Mi-90] in Middlesex County and the RCA Site in West Windsor Township, Mercer County, both located in the Millstone River Drainage Basin downstream from the Windsor sites. It should be noted that the Wellnut Hill Site was determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in 1981.

The Wellnut Hill Site is considered significant primarily for the data contained in its intact Late Archaic Lackawaxen component. Archaeological investigations at the Windsor Hollow and Windsor Mill sites demonstrate that the integrity of Late Archaic Lackawaxen components at these sites far exceeds that of the similar cultural deposit at Wellnut Hill. The presence of extensive intact Late Archaic deposits at both the Windsor Hollow Site and Windsor Mill Site provides an opportunity to examine Late Archaic subsistence and settlement patterns. The presence of archaeological features and floral and faunal remains associated with the Late Archaic occupations, provides an opportunity to study group composition, group mobility, and lithic procurement and utilization patterns of Late Archaic groups.

Although deposits post-dating the Late Archaic do occur at both the Windsor Hollow and Windsor Mill sites, these are relatively minor and are not considered as contributing much to the significance of the sites.

Until the beginning of the eighteenth century, the title to these sites remained vested in the The Board of Proprietors of East New Jersey. In 1701, the Board transferred 1,800 acres, including these

sites, to fellow proprietor William Dockwra as a dividend of his propriety. Dockwra was a London merchant and political figure who never came to America, and the property eventually descended to his grandson, Humphrey Bowles, who also resided in England. In 1758, Bowles, sold this tract to Oliver DeLancey and Henry Cuyler, Jr., two New York City merchants. They promptly made two sales to men who subsequently settled on other parts of this tract. George Rhea, a Monmouth County farmer, purchased 318 acres at the western end of the tract in 1759, and John Pullen of Middlesex County purchased 140.5 acres at the eastern end of the tract in 1760. When Henry Cuyler, Jr. died, a division of the remaining lands that Cuyler and DeLancey had held in common was made, creating lots #44 and 45. These sites lie within what became lot #44. In 1773 DeLancey sold his half-interest in these two lots to the Executors of Henry Cuyler, Jr. George Ely purchased lot #45 in 1789.

Old Trenton Road was opened in 1803. Lot #44 had been an isolated parcel of woodland, but the opening of Old Trenton Road made it accessible. Robert Ayres and Joanna, his wife, purchased lot #44 comprising 134+ acres in 1804. It is believed that part of the present day Ayres-Wilson house was built not long after 1804, probably for their son, Wilson. Wilson Ayres and Agnes, his wife, probably farmed the

entire 134+ acres until 1811 when they purchased 57 of the 134+ acres from his parents. Rescarrick Ayres, probably another son of Robert, purchased the remaining 76 of the 134+ acres in 1833, but it is doubtful he resided there. In 1834 One Mile Road was opened between Old Trenton Road and Hightstown-Princeton Road.

Jefferson Wright and Rebecca, his wife, purchased the 76 acre tract in February 1835. However, the acreage had increased to 91.10 probably due the resolution of an earlier boundary line dispute and a new survey. They sold the portion of the tract west of One Mile Road in March 1835. James Wilson and Hannah, his wife, purchased the portion east of One Mile Road in 1837. It is believed that a house was built on this tract by 1849 probably for their son, Elias Dye Wilson. James died in 1862 and in his last will and testament he stipulated that his farm be sold at public sale. The sale was held on 2/13/1864 at the Hotel of Jonathan F. Reed in Hightstown. Apparently this farm was not included in the sale because it was intended to go to Elias. To get around the will, the heirs sold the farm in April 1864 to James H. Conover. Elias and Hannah I., his wife, purchased the farm later the same month. He died and left the farm to Hannah and their child, Mary Ann. Nelson Petty purchased the farm in 1865, but it is doubtful he lived there.

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Hightstown-East Windsor Historical Society's 16TH ANNUAL DOLL SHOW & SALE Exit 8 on N.J. Turnpike, Hightstown, New Jersey



DOLLS AND COLLECTIBLES
MAY 16, 1992
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Hightstown Country Club
Monmouth Street Opposite the
Clarion Hotel

Free Parking • Cafeteria

Admission: \$3.00 (\$2.50 with card)

DIRECTIONS

From the New Jersey Turnpike:

1. Get off at Exit 8.
2. Go east on Route 33 (toward Freehold).
3. Approximately 1/4 mile on left side, will be Mom's Peppermill Restaurant.
4. Make left (Woodside Ave.) immediately after Restaurant, and the Hightstown Country Club will be seen on your left hand side.

PREHISTORIC SITES

cont. from page 3

Vincent Dey VanNest (1837-1911) and Margaret A., his wife, purchased the farm in 1867. Apparently the first recorded report of Indian relics appears in the 3/16/1876 issue of the Hightstown Gazette. "A large variety of aboriginal remains have been sent to us by Mr. V. D. Vannest of this Borough. The collection consists of stone and earthenware, found on the high ground near the Millstone Brook, on Mr. Vannest's farm. A large stone pestle, shaped exactly like a modern rolling pin, stone spear and arrowheads, and a quantity of broken earthenware are among the relics, which were all found at one place. Mr. Vannest reports that he found twenty-two spear heads laid up in a regular heap, and surrounded by stones placed in two circles. There was also a bed of coals and ashes over a foot in depth nearby, all being about a foot under the sod. This is plainly one of the camping grounds where Lo, the poor Indian lived before the war, and where his wives made their corn bread and manu-

factured the implements of war, to replenish the stock of their absent lord and master." Apparently Vincent and Margaret ran into financial difficulties and lost the farm. Sarah E. VanNest purchased the farm at public sale in October 1887.

*This Article will be continued
in the next issue of the
Historical Society News.*

ANNUAL PICNIC

The Society will hold its Annual Picnic
on Sunday, June 7th,
from 3 P.M. to 6 P.M.

on the grounds of the Ely House,
weather permitting.

The Society will supply the hamburgers, hot dogs, and soda. Members and guests are requested to bring a place setting for each person in their party and salad, chips, pretzels, or desert to share. This old fashioned picnic is always a popular event. Come and share the fellowship in the outdoors at our annual end-of-the-year event!

**Hightstown-East Windsor
Historical Society**
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Hightstown, New Jersey 08520

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