OLD TOWN DELANCO A Walk Through Time SELF-GUIDED TOUR



Prepared by Peter Fritz from archival resources of the Delanco History Board

\$5/copy

What you need to know about Delanco

Our Town

Our town was established by local farmers on the site of Lenni Lenape hunting and fishing grounds at the confluence of what the Indians called the "Ancocas" Creek and the Delaware River. It was one of many camps in the watershed of the creek. Beginning in 1677, settlers were mainly English Quaker farmers and fishermen. Steam-boat service came to the Rancocas in 1824 and wharves were built. The railroad came through about 1834, and larger steamboats came to the upper Delaware in 1850. As a transportation hub, the area was ripe for development. Delanco became a postal zone in 1857. In 1859 Beverly Township divided from Wellingborough, and Delanco became independent in 1926. The first cart and pedestrian bridge on the Rancocas here was built in 1870. Trolley service arrived in 1901.

Delanco Land Company Development

Land north of Burlington Avenue to the Delaware River was originally Perkins, then Heaton Farmland. It was purchased by the Delanco Land Company in 1848. Riverfront lots were laid out and sold off. The company went to Sheriff's sale in 1855. Beginning in 1856 the riverfront lots attracted wealthy Philadelphia industrial families. Many of their summer residences remain, now as permanent homes.

Wilmerton's Delaranco Development

Land south of Burlington Avenue to the railroad west of Walnut Street was farmland owned by Richard F. and Elizabeth Wilmerton. In 1848, 30 acres were sold to the Thomas Fletcher family for a vineyard and winery. The rest was surveyed for building lots in 1852, then chartered and developed as the village of Delaranco beginning in 1855. Land was set aside for a village green. We call this section Old Town. The Wilmerton family lived in a large home at Burlington and Rancocas Avenues, now part of Gateway Park. A number of hotels and summer boarding houses became established. Most of these homes were built for tradesmen drawn to town to work in the shipbuilding and shoemaking industries.

Main Street in Our Town

Union Avenue served as the main street from 1850 to 1870, running from the steamboat wharf on the Delaware River to the railroad station on the Rancocas Creek. There was no cart/pedestrian bridge over the Rancocas in Delanco until 1870. After the bridge was built, the town "turned 90 degrees." Burlington Avenue became the new main street and Old Town Delanco began to lose importance for retail commerce.

1855

1848

Before and After 1870

Delanco-Riverside Bridges

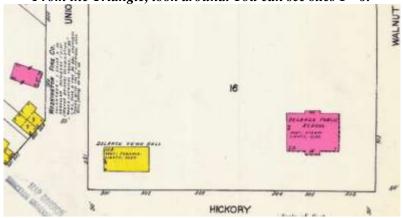
1870, 1901, 1923, 1935

Delanco farmers petitioned Burlington County to build a bridge over the Rancocas to help get fresh produce to market. The first cart/pedestrian drawbridge was built in 1870. It was reinforced in 1901 to handle light trolleys, and again in 1923 for heavier trucks and trolleys. The current Landon-Stone Bridge, with its turntable span, was dedicated in 1935, named after Thomas Landon and Edward Stone, high-ranking officers in the Spanish-American War and World War I. Both died in 1934.

Self-Guided Tour of Old Town Delanco

This easy 1-mile figure-8 loop begins and ends at the Triangle, the small lot at the intersection of Union Avenue, Poplar Street and Franklin Street in Delanco – The traditional center of Old Town.

There is plenty of on-street parking on Union and Hickory Streets. Walking or biking are preferable to driving. Note directions provided. Two centerfold maps are included to help you get your bearings. Lot numbers on Sanborn Maps do not relate to street addresses. From the Triangle, look around. You can see sites 1 - 6:



Sanborn Map from 1921. The Triangle is unmarked at lower left. Start here. **1. Delaranco Town Square 1852**

Union Avenue between Chestnut and Hickory

The Town Square was planned and dedicated as public open space by founder, Richard F. Wilmerton in his plan for the town of Delaranco in 1852. The original designation included only the western half of the square to Union Avenue. Philanthropist Andress J. Ridgway owned the ten building lots to the east, bordering Walnut Street. Ridgway made the land available to the town for additional space. The only buildings ever built on the square were the Civic Center and Hickory Street School. There was also a baseball stadium. All have been demolished. The ground is now used for school athletics and recreation for the town.



2. Site of the Delanco Civic Center Union Avenue at Hickory Street

1883

The original Civic Center had an auditorium with a stage for public meetings, musicals, and theatrical productions. The Delanco Choral Society and several local orchestras rehearsed and performed here. It was demolished in 1952. Some events were later held at Veteran's Memorial Hall on Buttonwood, Walnut Street School auditorium, and Town Hall. Two gentlemen in this photo were honored veterans of the Civil War.



3. Site of the Hickory Street School *Hickory Street at Walnut Street*

1902

The first public school was built on Perkins Lane, serving all of Beverly Township, of which Delanco was a part. The second was built on Buttonwood Street, and the third was built on the southeast corner of Town Square. It was two stories with eight classrooms. It closed in 1983 when Burlington Avenue School opened, and was torn down in 1984.



4. Walnut Street School

1925

Walnut Street between Burlington Avenue and Chestnut Street The fourth school was built on Walnut Street in 1925. It took the name Walnut Street School to differentiate it from neighboring Hickory Street School. Walnut Street School originally had nine classrooms and a capacity of 800. A wing was added along Burlington Avenue in 1954. The school has been in continuous use since 1925.



5. Roberts Store

C. 1880

440 Poplar Street at Vine Street

Many of our older residents remember stopping by Roberts Store as children on their way home from school. The store specialized in penny candy and other confections. The business was located in the large addition on the Vine Street side of the corner property. Many people remember that the entrance was on the corner of the building. The property is now a multi-family residence.



6. First Presbyterian Church Igreja Resgate Mission Church 505 Union Avenue at Vine and Poplar Streets

1873 2015

This was the second church established in Delanco. It cost \$3,500 to build. The congregation grew appreciably in 1886 when Fairview Presbyterian Church folded and merged with First Presbyterian. The church expanded in 1905, then again in 1961 when the 2-story education building was added to the rear of the church. The building was sold to Igreja Resgate Mission Church in 2015.

1921 Sanborn Map of Union Ave. from the Triangle (extreme left) unmarked to the railroad (extreme right):



Sites 7 and 8 lie between the Triangle and Pine St. on Union Ave.: Travel south (toward the right) to site 7 at the corner of Laurel St.:



7. Abraham and Lavinia Carter Home 510 Union Avenue

C. 1850

According to the 1860 Census, Abraham Carter was a carpenter. His home was later purchased by a Shipps descendant. The Carter and Shipps families were active in Delanco for many generations. The original twostory frame house can still be seen with its double bays on the south side.

Continue to next house on Union Ave for site 8:



8. John H. Shipps, Sr., Home and Store 610 Union Avenue

1897

John H. Shipps was listed as a Master Bridge builder in the 1860 Census. The build date for the home appears to be 1897. Shipps later built an addition to his home and opened a store. We have been told that there is a steel I-beam used as a bearing support in the old store section. It was procured from the construction of the Frankford Elevated Train in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania between 1915 and 1922. The store sold groceries, meats, and vegetables. It was later operated by his sons, John and Joseph. The house still stands. Sometime after 1955 the wooden façade and street entrance the store was removed, set back, and replaced by a new brick façade. The covered front porch has also been removed, however much of the original store is still recognizable as an addition at the front of the house as you see it today.

Veer left onto Pine St., cross Franklin St. to site 9:



9. Alfred and Naomi Whitney Edge Tool Company Farm Equipment 310 Pine Street

1859

Alfred Whitney built a home on Pine Street near Franklin in 1859. He began his career as a blacksmith with a shop located behind the home. Alfred and his two sons, Alfred and George were listed as edge tool manufacturers in the 1860 Census. They had sold the home and business to John Eckle and his family by 1895. Eckle made special tools and iron articles for customers, carrying on the tradition. The home still stands, looking much like the original.

Continue on Pine St. to Rancocas Ave. for site 10.



10. Thomas C. Steel House 750 Rancocas Avenue at Pine Street

C. 1870

Thomas was a successful and civic-minded industrialist with a plant making carriages in Trenton. Thomas was responsible for construction of the baseball stadium on the Green. His son, Louis D. Steel established the nearby shipyard, which operated for almost 50 years. Louis's daughter Helen was the last of the family to occupy the home. Stories are told that the famous bandmaster, John Philip Sousa visited Thomas when his train stopped in Delanco, and that the orchestra leader gave an impromptu solo horn performance on the lawn. Another visitor was reported to be Annie Oakley, who was traveling via rail with Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show.



This sailing sneakbox, named the *Monty C. Serpent*, was built on the property by Thomas' son, Louis D. Steel, probably as a winter project. It is now in the collection of the Tuckerton Seaport Museum.

The museum has loaned the boat to the Delanco History Board to put on display on several occasions.

The following post card shows the 700 and part of the 800 blocks of Rancocas Avenue from the Deacon house on the right, Pine Street intersection, the Steel house in the center and Poplar Street Wharf to the extreme left. The Rancocas waterfront was a place for recreation and commerce, including commercial fishing for shad and sturgeon. The photo was taken from the platform on the railroad bridge.

Site 11 is the 3-story residence to the right in this photo:

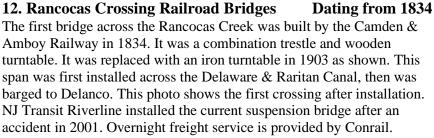


11. Site of Samuel C. and Mary Deacon House 800 Rancocas Avenue at Pine Street C. 1855

A master mason and builder, Samuel Deacon did work on the first library building in Delanco in 1865. Samuel served as postmaster from 1860-1871 and again from 1887-1889, though we do not yet know where the post office was actually located. The 3-story home with a flat roof has since been replaced by a modern brick bungalow.

From this point, you have a good view of the new railroad bridge over the Rancocas creek. It replaced the old turntable bridge in this photo:





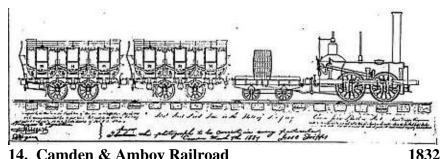
Go east on Rancocas Ave. to Pennsylvania Ave. for site 13:



13. Site of the Delaranco Hotel and Tavern1852812 Rancocas Avenue at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue

Henry Kriner & Sons, master wharf builders, probably came to Delanco to construct the steamboat wharf at the foot of Union Ave in 1850. Henry and Rebecca moved to Delanco about 1852, built Delanco's first hotel and tavern behind the railroad station, facing the Rancocas Creek and operated it for a few years. Isaac W. and Elizabeth Buck were proprietors about 1858 and Isaac served briefly as postmaster in 1860. A number of owners followed. Prohibition closed the tavern in 1917 and the hotel was demolished in 1937. Two bungalows now stand on the site.

before you, is the right of way for site 14, Camden & Amboy Railway:



14. Camden & Amboy Railroad1832Platforms at various locations on Railroad/Pennsylvania AvenueThe Camden & Amboy Railway Co. was conceived and built by Col.John Stevens of Hoboken, NJ. Stevens sailed to England to buy thelocomotive "John Bull" and the iron rails needed to build a rail line fromPerth Amboy to Camden. It required 23 sailing ships to deliver the

materials to Bordentown, NJ. Later a major spur was added to connect Bordentown with Trenton. Passengers initially rode in cars resembling stage coaches. Freight was shipped in containers similar to modern shipping modules. The C&A was taken over by the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1861 during the Civil War. The PRR went bankrupt in 1976. Passenger service through Delanco stopped in 1963 for about 25 years. Freight service continued under Conrail. Passenger service between Camden and Trenton resumed March 14, 2004 provided by NJ Transit's Riverline. The original John Bull engine is in the Smithsonian Museum. Full-size replicas of the John Bull, tender and passenger coach are on display at the Railroad Museum in Strasburg, Lancaster Co, PA.

Go east on Pennsylvania Ave. Turn left on Union Ave. to site 15



15. Joshua and Mary Scott Newton House 638 Union Avenue

C. 1875

Joshua Newton (1823-1868) was one of five children born to William and Anna Newton, all members of the original Samuel Newton family that farmed 430 acres of land from the Great Road (Route 130) to the Delaware River beginning in 1767. Joshua and Mary were not listed among the Newtons in the 1860 Census. This site was commended by the Burlington County Historical Commission when the town was surveyed in 1977. It was being renovated at the time.

Continue north on Union Ave. to Mulberry St. Site 16 is on the corner:



16. Wilmerton Residence 622 Union Avenue at Mulberry Street

C. 1900

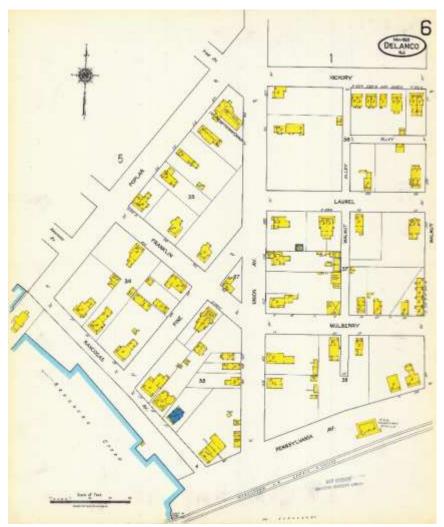
This is one of the properties in Delanco identified with the founding Wilmerton family, Rusty Wilmerton being the most recent. Since this photo was taken, the Victorian front porch has been removed. *Turn left on Franklin St. and proceed 4 blocks to Poplar St. for site 17:*



17. Micajah and Mary A. Dobbins Residence. General Store and Post Office 400 Poplar Street at Franklin Street

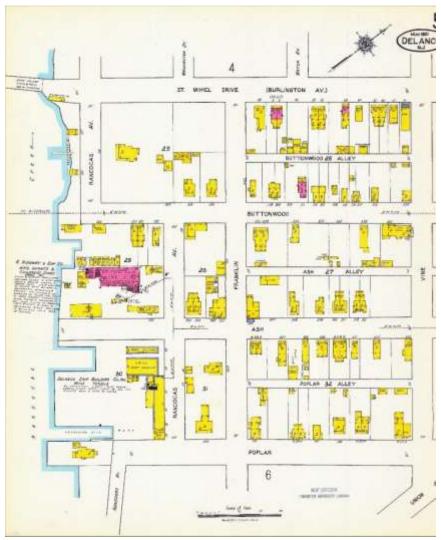
1855, 1857

Micajah Dobbins was a produce merchant from Philadelphia. Dobbins established a farm and built a home in Delanco in 1855, then opened a general store about 1857. Micajah was appointed Delanco's very first postmaster on October 5, 1857 and served until 1860. He was appointed surveyor of highways in 1859, and served on Beverly Township committee. The Dobbins farm lay north and south of Coopertown Road as shown in 1876 maps, and the Dobbins family operated a pickle factory on the site of the former sawmill, just across Franklin Street. Here are two maps of Old Town Delanco from 1921. Can you find your way using the landmarks given? The Triangle is the beginning/ending of your tour. It located at the top center intersection, but is not indicated on this map.



1921 Sanborn Fire Map of Delanco showing the Rancocas Creek (left) to Walnut Street (right); Hickory Street (top) to Pennsylvania Avenue and the railroad right of way (bottom). The compass rose indicates north.

The Triangle is located at the intersection to the bottom right, but is not indicated on the map. All the street names are the same. Good luck.



1921 Sanborn Fire Map of Delanco showing the Rancocas Creek, shipyard and shoe factory (left) to Vine Street (right); Burlington Ave (top) to Poplar St (bottom). The compass rose indicates north

Turn left on Poplar St. Go one block for sites 18, 19 and 20:



18. Poplar Avenue WharfEarly 1800sPhiladelphia, Rancocas & Mt. Holly Transport Co.1823Foot of Poplar Street at Rancocas Avenue1823

Steamboats operated on the Rancocas Creek as well as the Delaware River. Service reportedly began in 1823 with the steamboat *Norristown*. The wharf at the foot of Poplar Avenue supported commerce on the Rancocas Creek. It later became part of the steam sawmill operation and later the shipyard. The white house has been at this location on the wharf since the early 1900s.

19. Site of the Wilmerton Sawmill and Lumberyard1852On the Rancocas at Poplar Street and Rancocas Avenue

Richard Wilmerton was a land surveyor and a prominent landowner. His farmland lay along the Rancocas Creek from current day Hawk Island to the railroad south of Burlington Avenue. In 1845 he drew up the plans and received a charter from the NJ Legislature for a village to be called Delaranco. He set aside land for a public square and town hall. He established a steam-powered sawmill and lumber yard in 1852, which operated until 1883. The sawmill was later operated by Nathan Crane (see site 23). This was also reported to be the site of Micajah Dobbins' pickle factory and later a series of shipyards. (See site 20).

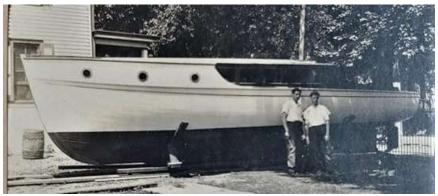
Delanco's first public library operated out of a small office building at the lumberyard in the 1860s. The Library Board built a larger building on Burlington Avenue at Vine Street (See site 32) in 1865. The first librarian is believed to be Miss Martha Fletcher, daughter of vintner Thomas Fletcher. Martha kept meticulous records and her listing of the books in the first library still exists. Her daily journal can be found at: http://www.delancotownship.com/filestorage/5300/5919/5923/Martha_Fl etcher%27s_Journal_1-1-1864_to_7-4-1867.pdf



20. Delanco Shipyards 200 Poplar Street at Rancocas

Late 1800s - Early 1900s

The property that supported Delanco's original steam-powered sawmill later became the site of Delanco's main shipyard. A number of boat yards run by Nathan Crane and Hartley were operating in the late 1800s. The yard at this location was established by Louis D. Steel in 1913. Followed by Delanco Shipbuilding in 1919, Rancocas Construction 1922-1939, and Robbins 1939-41. The yard constructed tugboats, barges and pleasure craft and assisted in the US war effort in WWII. Although the yard has been closed for years, the owner reports the machinery used to launch and recover vessels is still in place and operable.



Turn right on Rancocas Ave. Proceed 1 block to Ash St.

The large building on your right is the carriage house for site 21. Take a short detour around front to see the Schaeffer Residence:



21. Gottfried Schaeffer Residence and Ice House C. 1900 605 Franklin Street at Ash Street

Gottfried Schaeffer had many occupations around town. He operated a commercial ice business behind his home on this property and delivered the ice in blocks for refrigeration. He also used his cart for general hauling around town. He was the grandfather of realtor Shirley Rossi.

Return to the corner of Rancocas Ave. and Ash St. for site 22:



22. Andress J. and Meriam Ridgway Ridgway Shoe Factory 200 Ash Street at Rancocas Avenue

1881, 1885, 1912

Andress J. and Meriam Ridgeway built a home at the foot of Ash Street below Rancocas Avenue. Andress established a shoe manufacturing company in the garage of his home with three employees in 1881. In 1885, A.J. Ridgway and his son A.C. Ridgway constructed a two-story frame factory, then a three-story addition. They expanded by adding a three-story brick building in 1912. The frame structure burned in 1922. The brick shoe factory remains today, but is scheduled to be demolished in 2022. Turn right and continue east on Rancocas Ave., one block to site 23:



23. Nathan S. and Mary B. Crane House C. 1740 501 Rancocas Avenue at Buttonwood Street

Tax records report this home to have been built in 1740. It became the home of Nathan and Mary Crane. Nathan operated the sawmill and lumberyard on Poplar Street and established a shipyard on the Rancocas at the foot of Buttonwood Street. The home of Nathan and Mary Crane is now a multi-unit apartment house. The old Crane shipyard on the Rancocas Creek is now a single-family residence. (See site 24)

Turn left on Buttonwood St. Go 1 block to Rancocas Ave. for site 24:



24. Nathan Crane Shipvard and its successors 201 Buttonwood Street at Rancocas Avenue

1864

It later was known as Hartley's, then Borel's. It was also the home of a popular local rod and gun club where Delanco watermen stored their hunting and fishing equipment and swapped stories, as seen in the photo. Andress J. Ridgway's 2-story home can be seen in the background to the left. Photo was taken before the 1885 shoe factory (site 22) was built.

Turn right onto Rancocas Ave. Go 1/2 block for site 25:



25. Site of the Allen House/Rancocas Hotel C 1860 414 Rancocas Avenue – Now part of Gateway Park

One of Delanco's early hotels. Allen House, later called the Rancocas Hotel, was built on the center of five building lots on Rancocas Avenue between Burlington Avenue and Buttonwood Street, on land originally owned by Richard F. Wilmerton, the founder of Delanco. It appears on the Delanco map of 1876 and the Sanborn Fire Maps of the early 1900s. It was run by Mary Allen and her daughter Lindy Long in 1920. It was demolished about 1975. The property is now part of Gateway Park. *Go west on Rancocas Ave. to the park on Burlington Ave. for site 26:*



26. Site of the home Richard F. Wilmerton – Founder of Delanco 400 Rancocas Avenue at Burlington. Now Gateway Park.

No photos exist of the home. Maps indicate it was located near where the gazebo is sited in Delanco's Gateway Park.

Turn right onto Burlington Ave. Go 1/2 block for site 27:



27. Colonna's Barbershop and Shoe Repair
300 Burlington Avenue at Washington Street.1923 - 2015

Three generations of the Colonna family operated this business for over 75 years. Prior to the Colonnas, a small sweet shop operated here.
Go 1/2 block north on Burlington Ave. to Franklin St. Turn right onto Franklin St. at Delanco Market (Lou's Deli) to Buttonwood St.:



28. Andrew A. and Elizabeth McClure House 401-403 Buttonwood Street

C. 1855

Andrew McClure was born in Maryland. He was listed as a cordwainer in the 1860 Census. A cordwainer is a shoemaker (from the Spanish word cordovan for leather). At least 13 residents of Delanco were listed with that occupation in 1860. The Victorian era residence still stands. *Turn left (north) onto Buttonwood St. Third house on left is site 29:*



29. Ridgway Leather Factory/Shoe Repair C. 1880 414 Buttonwood Street

The Ridgway Shoe factory required a dependable supply of leather to manufacture its line of children's shoes. Thomas Ridgway, a cordwainer and the elder half-brother of Andress J. Ridgway, established a leather factory to guarantee a ready supply. The 2 1/2-story brick factory building still stands – remodeled as a single-family residence.

Go north on Buttonwood St. to Vine St. to view sites 30, 31, 32:



30. Site of Lytle & Toy Cash Grocery Store 441 Buttonwood Street

C. 1905

Frank Toy and Edward Lytle established the store to sell groceries, produce and meat. Toy being the butcher. They delivered the groceries by horse and wagon. Their horse, "Major", a former fire horse, was as much of a character as any 2-legged citizen. Toy gave up the grocery business during WWI and went to work as a shipbuilder, his father's trade, at Cramps Shipyard in Philadelphia. He ferried himself and other shipbuilders to work using his 28-foot cabin cruiser.



31. Isaac Newton House 416 Vine Street

The Newton family name was common in Delanco, associated with many properties and farms. Several were named Isaac. This residence is identified as belonging to an Isaac Newton. We are researching the Newton family who lived here about 1880.



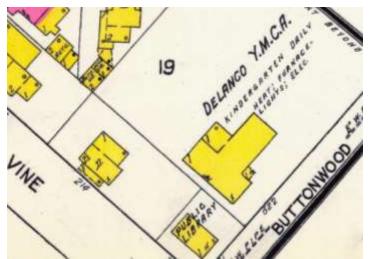
32. Site of Delanco's Second Public Library 502 Buttonwood Avenue at Vine Street

1865

Library services were first offered out of a building at Crane's lumber yard at 300 Poplar Street. However, the first dedicated library building, a frame structure in the Greek Revival Style, was built in 1865 adjacent to the schoolhouse. When the school became overcrowded, classes were

C. 1880

held in the library. In the 1970s the building served as Delanco's police station. The building was demolished, and site is now a parking lot.



The Sanborn Fire Map of 1921 shows location of Newton Residence, library and Buttonwood School, serving as Delanco's YMCA in 1921.



33. Site of Buttonwood Street School/Veteran's Hall 520 Buttonwood St. between Vine St. and Burlington Ave.

Delanco's first public school was constructed on Buttonwood Street in 1856. Its one classroom served until 1862 when a second classroom was added. As enrollment grew, the adjacent library was used for classrooms until Hickory Street School was built about 1903. This building was later converted into Veteran's Memorial Hall and was used for town functions and as Delanco's YMCA. It was demolished in 1964 to make room for a township building (see site 34).



34. Delanco Township Building1968 -515 Burlington Avenue at Buttonwood Street

Here is a view of the former township building under construction in 1968. It held township offices and the police department. Buttonwood Street is shown in the background. Construction photos were shot by John Daniels from his bedroom window. The building is currently a dental office.

Across Buttonwood Street. The left side of the double house is site 35:



35. Edward & Bettina Digg's House 519 Buttonwood Street

C 1880

Mr. Diggs was born in Virginia in 1882. He moved to New Jersey with his mother in 1898 at the death of his father. He came to Delanco in 1905. A kind and gentle soul, religious, hard-working entrepreneur, he was a role model for Delanco's children. He first served as handyman and coachman for Dr. Henry Weiler's family, then as a chauffeur and gardener for the Krusen family of Delaware Avenue. Ed married Bettina and bought this property in 1928. Ed later had a junk business, sawmill, and served as Delanco's fishmonger. He lived here with Bettina until his death in 1978.

Go north on Buttonwood St. to Burlington Ave. site 36 on left:



Fill out blank with the type of heating, lighting and plumbing you desire us to include for your complete home. Size 24 fr. by 36 fr.

The right side of the plan is laid out for three bedtooms, each with close The bath is planned to accommodate fixtures acconding to Specification No. 21A or 22B with Venetian mirrored medicine case over the lavatory.

36. Delanco's Winona Style Sears & Roebuck kit house C 1940 524 Burlington Avenue



This is a recent photo of the house shipped by Sears & Roebuck to this site and assembled about 1940. Compare it to the catalog advertisement shown. It is the 3-bedroom Winona model, floor plan is 21010B (right).

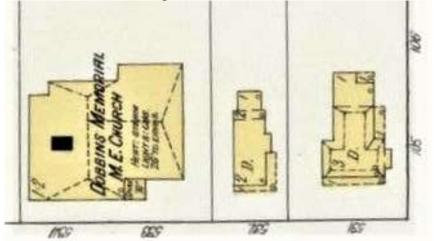
Turn right on Burlington Ave. and travel 1/2 block to site 37:



37. Hee & Boyd Pharmacy/Ross Pharmacy/Pied Out C.1910 538 Burlington Avenue

This building has served many purposes over the years. It first operated as a pharmacy by Eddie Hee and Clark Boyd, and later, Ross Pharmacy as in this photo from 1953. A front section was added, bringing the building out to the sidewalk. It later also served as a book depository for the Delanco Schools, Charles Chips, Laura's Dog Grooming, Dayton Inspection Services. Many of our older residents remember it as snack shop and soda fountain with after school activities like arcade games. It currently operates as a bakery, specializing in pies for take out or eat in.

Continue on Burlington Ave. to Union Ave. From the corner, find Dobbins Church, Parsonage and First Bank; sites 38, 39 and 40:

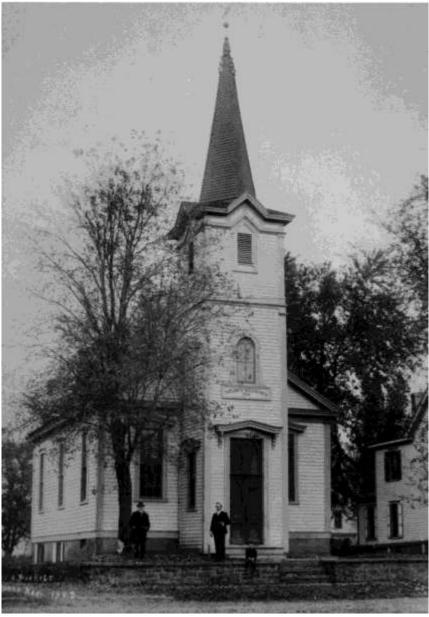


38. and **39.** Dobbins M.E. Church and 1st and 2nd parsonages *312, 320 and 330 Union Avenue*

This Sanborn Map view from 1909 shows the positions of the church after it was enlarged in 1902. The middle residence was used as the parsonage until 1947 when the Outcalt home (right) was purchased. The original parsonage (center) was incorporated into the church by way of a bridge structure that they named Del-Meth Hall.



This photo is from 1976 shows the current configuration of the church, Del-Meth Hall and the 2^{nd} parsonage just beyond to the right.



38. Dobbins Methodist Church *312 Union Avenue*

1857

Delanco Methodist Church was established in 1855 as a Sunday School meeting in homes. This photo shows the original church as it was built in 1957. It underwent major reconstruction in 1900 and in 1947 when the original parsonage was incorporated as Del-Meth Hall.



39. Dobbins Methodist Church Parsonage *330 Union Avenue at Burlington Avenue*

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1882
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1953

The original residence was built by Perkins in 1882. It was later owned by Hunter and Ferdinand Outcalt. The church acquired the property in 1947 for use as a parsonage, the former parsonage proving too small.



40. Delanco Savings Bank/First Bank 615 Burlington Avenue

Delanco Savings bank was founded in 1890 and first operated out of the William Stickel residence at 502 Burlington Avenue. The new building was built in 1953 and remodeled three times. It became a Federal Savings Bank in 1994. They opened a second site on Route 130 in Delran in 2006. Delanco FSB Merged with First Bank in April of 2018.

Turn right (south on Union). Go 1 1/2 blocks to site 41:



41. Washington Fire Company Fire House 429-435 Union Avenue

1919

Delanco's fire company was established February 22, 1898. Its first fire house was a frame garage behind a residence on Ash Street. When more space was required, land was acquired at 429 Union Avenue, the main street in town in the early days. The frame Ash Street fire house was moved to the new location. In 1919, a new brick building with double bays was erected, later enlarged and reconfigured with a single bay door. Washington Fire Company moved to its current location in 1984. It is now a single-family residence.



Delanco's first fire wagon is shown on Union Ave in this 1913 photo.



An ambulance and two fire trucks shown on display at the firehouse.



This undated photo was taken at a Memorial Day Celebration at the Triangle. In it we see Hickory Street School, Delanco Civic Center, two New Jersey State mounted police officers, and a contingent of Delanco Boy Scouts.

Congratulations!

You have returned to the Triangle, the traditional center of Old Town Delanco. We hope you enjoyed the tour.

Additional History Board resources can be found at: http://www.delancotownship.com/content/5300/5919/5923/default.asp