



ANDRESS RIDGWAY erected this frame building in 1885 to house his shoe factory. It was located on Ran-

cocas Avenue near Buttonwood Street. In the factory's peak years, the addition at the right was erected.

Pritchett's store at the corner of Buttonwood Street and Rancocas Avenue, and then Fanny Johnson's trimming store at the post office.

Joseph B. Carter, Sr. later built a grocery store and home at the corner of Poplar and Vine Streets. He had five large coal bins and a barn on the property, too. The coal was for sale but he was very generous and gave much to the needy.

Carter also had three horses—one used to deliver groceries and two to deliver coal. He also rented the horses to the township for roadwork.

Carter was a very versatile gentleman. He kept the vital statistics and issued birth certificates, marriage licenses and death certificates. He was also township assessor and township treasurer for about 10 years, as well as postmaster for a time. After his death, his son, Joseph Carter, Jr. became treasurer and occupied that position for 35 years.

Joseph Carter, Sr. was one of the organizers of the Delanco Building and Loan Association, becoming its first president in 1890 and serving until 1924, when he died. He was elected president of the Library Association in 1882 and served at least until 1891, which is the last date of known recorded minutes.

The next owner of the Carter store was a Mr. McDonald, followed by Vogt, then by Brennan and Charles Roberts, who converted the edifice into apartments.



SHOE factory owner Andress Ridgway, born May 10, 1832, was nearly 92 when, on March 16, 1924, he held his great-grandson, Andress Owen Ridgway.



LOGOTYPE from an advertisement for Delanco Farm and Lumber is signed by S. S. Pancoast, who took over

in 1898 the lumber, coal and farm supply firm begun on Coopertown Road by George Q. Hammell.

DELANCO MEAT MARKET
 UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
B. F. SWAIM
 DEALER IN
Meats, Vegetables,
 AND STRICTLY
FRESH POULTRY
 Guaranteed good service and good goods. Special attention given to phone orders. Prompt delivery
 Phone 6 X.

THE PUBLIC is exhorted to lay in a supply of coal in an advertisement, right, in the 1920s by Ralph S. Charlton, who operated on the site of the original Hammell lumberyard. Above, an ad for a meat market operated by B. F. Swaim at Ash and Vine in the early 1900s.

On the opposite corner, X. Schmidt had the township's pioneer cigar and tobacco store.

The shoe factory was a business very important to the economy of the town.

Andress Ridgway, whose granddaughter Miss Lizette Ridgway lives at Franklin and Pine Streets, started a shoe factory in 1881 in his residence at the corner of Rancocas Avenue and Ash Street. There were three employees other than himself, and three or four years later, his son, A. C. Ridgway, became a partner.

The business prospered, and Ridgway

Whats the Answer?

People continually ask us how long will the coal strike last. The only answer we could make was to lay in ourselves, as much good coal as possible. Hundreds of foresighted householders accepted the answer and laid in a good portion of their own next winter's supply of coal—that is their answer

How will you answer to the heater next fall? That's the most timely question you can ask yourself today. Buy some of your next year's requirements now. That's your safest answer.

RALPH S. CHARLTON
DELANCO, N. J.

Telephone Riverside 189

**We are still able and anxious to serve
 you with good clean coal.**

erected a frame building in 1885 and later made additions to it. In 1912, the firm replaced the wooden structure with a large three-story brick building.

The firm, which did business as A. Ridgway and Son, manufactured children's and infants' shoes. By 1907, the company's splendidly equipped plant produced around 360,000 pairs of shoes a year. The firm employed about 90 skilled laborers with an annual payroll of about \$65,000.

At one time, Ridgway employed as many as 145 workers. The *Burlington County Press* in 1907 noted, "Their plant is perhaps the best appointed in the county."

Most of the shoes were shipped to New York,

Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and other large cities, and even to Cuba.

On May 10, 1922, the factory workers gave Andress Ridgway a special celebration for his 90th birthday. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, they shut down the machinery and all the workers assembled on the first floor. There they presented Ridgway with a fine bathrobe, a 5-pound box of chocolates, several other articles, and a walking stick with an electric light in the handle.

The firm continued operations in its brick building until the business closed in the late 1920s. The building was sold on Dec. 18, 1928, and in 1929, the Atlantic Paper Tube Company moved into the premises. In the 1960s, Charles Kalmes bought the building for back taxes and repaired it, using it for storage of boats and for outboard marine work. It was next owned by Albert Gault, who used it for the same purposes.

The George Q. Hammell Co. incorporated in 1894 and operated a large lumber, coal, farm supplies, millwork, paint and hardware business on Coopertown Road where the Stylex Manufacturing Company now stands. (Stylex has been doing business there since 1956, employs about 100, and ships its manufactured office furniture as far as Hawaii and Canada.)



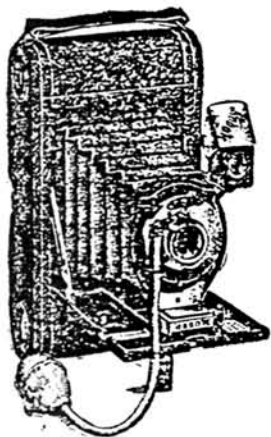
A BARBER SHOP was operated by George F. Smith in this house at the corner of Ash and Vine Streets after it had been vacated by the Swaim meat market. A private residence replaced the building and now stands on the site.



THE DELANCO Savings and Loan was situated in this building on Burlington Avenue in 1976. The building

was erected in 1952. The Association was organized in 1890.

NO BETTER HOLIDAY GIFTS for the money can be found than at The Old Reliable Central Store. We have gifts suitable for all ages; such as Watches, Clocks, Vases, Collar and Cuff Boxes, Albums, etc., at big reductions, special for the Christmas trade. In our choice of Christmas Goods we have not neglected the little ones. We have Sleds, Wagons, Dolls and Toys in abundance. A visit to the store will convince you that we have hundreds of other things that our limited space in this paper will not permit us to tell about.



What is better than a KODAK for a gift? We have them from \$1.00 up. A very popular gift is the Kodak Box No. 2, consisting of 1 No. 2 Brownie Camera, 1 Brownie Developing Box, 1 roll Film, one-quarter oz. Graduate, 2 Developing Powders, one half lb. Acid Fixing Powder, 1 Stirring Rod, 1 Printing Frame, 1 pkg. Velox Paper, 2 Dev. Tubes, 3 Trays, 1 doz. Mounts, 1 pkg. Dry Mounter, 1 Instruction Book. All for the sum of \$4.00.

Christmas Post Cards, 5c or 6 for 25c.

A CAMERA with all the works was going for the princely sum of \$4 according to this 1907 advertisement by Bacon's Central Store at Ash and Vine Streets. The store also sold sleds, wagons, dolls and other toys.

BACON'S CENTRAL STORE

DELANCO, N. J.

In October 1898, S.S. Pancoast became manager and treasurer of the Hammell firm, assuming entire control of its affairs, changing the name to Delanco Farm & Lumber Co. He more than doubled the volume of business as well as adding to its capital. Several large sheds and an additional 2-story warehouse were erected and, in 1907, a new large railroad trestle and siding were completed at a large outlay of funds. Pancoast later became full owner.

In 1916, John Jenkins bought the business and sold coal, lumber and other supplies. In 1918, during his ownership, a large fire occurred in the middle of the night. All the townspeople turned out for the great excitement, and the blaze from it lit up the sky for miles around. The lumberyard was totally destroyed and never rebuilt, although the scales were restored, a platform built and the business carried on to some extent.

In 1920, Jenkins died and his widow carried on the business until 1922, when she sold it to

Ralph Charlton. He later moved the business to Edgewater Park.

In the late 1800s, Mike Hart had a meat market in a one-room building on Ash Street near Bacon's store, and later he moved to another market at the corner of Ash and Vine Streets. B.F. Swaim became the new proprietor in 1906. He made a specialty of choice beef, mutton, lamb, veal and pork. He also sold vegetables and poultry.

Next, this store became Tom Smith's Barber shop, in 1912, and the business in turn was taken over by George F. Smith (no relation). For a while, Frank Schmidt worked with George F. Smith, but then Frank moved to a property near the fire-house.

From Ash and Vine, George F. Smith moved into a little shop on the back of Lewis Osmond's property at 702 Chestnut. He then moved to 520

Burlington Avenue and subsequently established himself at 616 Burlington Avenue, where he remained for many years. He was still barbering in the same place at the age of 87 according to an article written about him in the Oct. 27, 1961 issue of the *Burlington County Times*. He died at the age of 94.

Other barber shops in town were operated by Bob Stewart, by Bill Wahl on Vine Street and another on Ash Street by George Hahner, who later became a Delanco policeman.

In 1975, there were two barbers in town—Owen Brennan, who started in 1961 at Burlington and Edgewood, and Vincent Colonna, at Burlington Avenue and Washington Street.

The Colonna family had a barber shop in Delanco for over 50 years. Crescent Colonna originally worked for George F. Smith but decided to open a shop of his own in 1923 at the corner of Burlington Avenue and Washington Street. His father, Vincent, was a shoemaker in a shop adjoining the barbershop.

Crescent Colonna's brother, Ray Colonna, and Frank Schmidt worked with him. In 1956, Crescent Colonna retired and his sons, Crescent Colonna, Jr. and Vincent J. Colonna, took over. Vincent Colonna still operated the shop in 1976. Before the Colonnas opened the barber shop at that site, there was a restaurant there run by Fred Perkins.

As the population and home owners increased, some citizens thought it highly advisable to form an association to assist people in financing the building of adequate homes that would meet the approval of discriminating buyers.

Thus, on April 19, 1890, a group that included Joseph B. Carter, Sr. met to organize a building and loan association.

John G. Hippensteel was named temporary chairman and Dr. H. K. Weiler temporary secretary. One month later, a permanent organization took charge. The officers were Carter, president; Charles Knapp, treasurer; Hippensteel, secretary; and Charles E. Fletcher, conveyancer.

The first board of directors consisted of Charles Ashton, Sr., William H. Chamberlain, William H. Currie, John H. Day, Robert A. Feroe, Joseph W. Hansell, George W. Jordan, Frank H. Story and A. C. Ridgway.

Account number one was opened in the

name of director Charles Ashton, Sr. and was continued uninterrupted until his death, after which it was held in the name of his sister, Miss Laura D. Ashton, now deceased.

The June meeting that first year was held in the library building (since demolished) at the corner of Vine and Buttonwood.

In August 1890, George Rotenbury applied for and was granted the first loan—on a house on Cooper Street in Beverly. Not long after, William Denning requested and received a loan of \$1,200 to build a home on Buttonwood Street below Franklin.

Such developments as the Walters Extension in 1904, the Sinex Annex in 1912 and the Justin Spain development of Delview Lane and Larchmont Lane, in 1948, among others, added to building lot sites in the township.

In 1950, Lucy Irene Story filed the master plan for her development. It included the ground north of the Sinex Annex between Burlington Avenue and the Delaware River. The Building and Loan financed many of the houses in these developments.

In 1951, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation accepted the association, and all accounts became insured after Oct. 10, 1951. The name was changed to Delanco Savings and Loan Association.

The firm's present building on Burlington Avenue was opened in May 1952, at which time Rudolph E. Clarke was president.

Entering the Bicentennial year, the building and loan officers were J. B. Carter, Jr., chairman of the board; Harry Myers, Jr., president; H. C. Frech, vice-president; W. J. McClister III, executive vice-president; C. K. Adams, secretary; Ada M. Heppard, treasurer and assistant secretary; Daniel Lichtenthal, solicitor; and Jane Nippins, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer.

There was an advertisement in the *Burlington County Press* in 1907 for Bacon's Central Store (on Ash above Vine) and Kodak cameras were listed at prices of from \$1 up (ah, for the good old days). This store sold everything—candy, notions, toys, sleds, wagons, jewelry, clocks, dress materials, stationery, household articles, cooking utensils and much more. The second floor was used as a meeting place for such lodges as the Patriotic Order Sons of America, Delanco Red Men's Lodge, Tacoma



SHIPPS grocery store was founded by John H. Shipp on Union Avenue between Laurel and Mulberry Streets. It was later operated by Joseph H. Shipp, who

employed the trio standing in front of the store: From left, Roland (Pete) Ashton, Henry Jacoby and George Shipp, brother of Joseph. The horse? Topsy.

Tribe number 204 and their ladies auxiliaries. The Bacon brothers, George and Joseph, Jr., operated the business.

Around the corner from Bacon's store, Charles Burnick started a store in 1900 on Vine Street, dealing in groceries, provisions and a general line of household necessities. His trade extended all over Beverly Township (of which, remember, Delanco was then a part). He was highly esteemed in trade circles for his promptness and integrity.

This store was later run by Burnick's nephews, Charles Rogers and Earl Rogers, and upon the death of Charles, it was carried on by Earl until his death recently. The building still stands.

The house in which Charles Burnick lived, around the corner on Buttonwood, is one of the earliest homes in Delanco. It was later remodeled by Earl Rogers, and Mrs. Rogers still lives there.

George Fenimore, who lived on Ash Street and was the grandfather of Dr. Hammell P. Shipp, ran Fenimore's Express with George Burnick. The firm carted shipments of shoes from the Ridgway shoe factory to the railroad and probably to the wharves. George Burnick and

"Hen," his brother, did some livery service connected with the construction work going on at the Sinex Annex at that time. They had dump trucks and handled much of the excavation removal.

Another early grocery store was one operated by John H. Shipp with his two sons Joseph and Charles. The store was located on Union Avenue between Laurel and Mulberry Streets. Charles Shipp left the business to operate a farm in New York state but after their father died, Joseph continued the business. The firm was the first to introduce early southern produce into the Delanco markets. It was quite an astonishing sight then to see, at their store, fine, large ripe tomatoes when the ground was covered with snow in December. Because of the inconvenience of handling ration stamps during World War II, Joseph decided to retire from the business. The commercial segment of the building was remodeled into a living room for the family. Later, after the house was sold to Charles and Joan Willard Costello, it was turned into apartments.

The Lytle and Toy grocery store was located



THE OWNERS stand in front of the Lytle and Toy grocery at the corner of Buttonwood and Vine Streets —Ed Lytle (left) and Frank Toy. Only Lytle's name is

on the sign at the left, but both names appear on the wagon at right, to which is hitched the horse Major. Behind the store is the William Lovell home.

at the corner of Buttonwood and Vine Streets. Frank Toy and Edward Lytle were first cousins and began their store in 1905. They sold groceries, produce and meat, Toy being the butcher.

They delivered their orders by horse and wagon. Their horse, "Major," was as much of a character as some of the town's two-footed residents.

One day, a new boy was to begin work at the grocery and reminded Toy that, "I don't know where these people live." To which the unperturbed Mr. Toy replied, "Don't worry about that. I'll put the orders in the wagon in the proper order. Major knows the route, so you just let him go but hold onto the reins, and he will take you to the proper houses." And Major, one smart horse, actually did teach the delivery boy the route.

But there are other stories about Major. Such as:

One day, the boy was delivering an order at the upper end of Chestnut Street when the 12 o'clock whistle blew. Major began racing down Chestnut to Buttonwood with a petrified clerk at the other end of the reins. The boy thought Major was running away but he was merely dashing for the stable to get his noon meal.

At noon, Major always headed into the stable horsefirst (since he knew what side his hay

was bucketed on), but at the end of the day, he would turn himself around and back the wagon in first. And then permit himself to be unhitched, whereupon he would walk to his stall. Try that with your Chevrolet, you moderns.

The delivery boy's fears about Major's proclivity for breakneck gallop down Delanco streets were not entirely unjustified, it seems.

There is told the episode of the day Mr. Toy and his daughter Alice were coming back to Delanco from Palmyra with the horse and wagon when, suddenly, a train came along. Toy quickly told Alice to get into the back of the wagon and lie down on the floor. And not a moment too soon, either, for Major—matching strides with chugs—raced the train all the way from Palmyra to Riverside. Which is how Toy came to find out that Major was formerly a fire horse.

Toy gave up the grocery store around World War I. He became a ship builder, which had been his father's trade, at Cramp's shipyard at Cornwall, Pa., motoring himself and others from Delanco to the shipyard in his 28-foot cabin cruiser.

Feurnstiens had a dry goods store at the site after Lytle and Toy closed out. One of the women who operated the store wanted to be called "Frizzie B.M." because that was the name under which she composed music. Later, Pete Anholt

opened up a barber shop at the site, having moved from a little store behind Dora Grab's grocery. The Lytle-Toy building has now been torn down.

In the 1850s, Stacy White had a carpenter shop on Buttonwood Street where William Lovell's home stood in 1934, next to the Lytle and Toy store.

A. Whitney operated the first blacksmith shop and, in the 1880s, was followed by John Eckle, who made special tools and iron articles for customers. This was next to the Steel home on Pine Street. Eckle was remembered by the townspeople because he had an extremely obese daughter, who weighed over 300 pounds.

Another blacksmith shop was located on the alley between Buttonwood and Ash. William Mathis blacksmithed on Franklin, followed by William Young. A blacksmith named Smith had a shop at the bend in Burlington Avenue opposite Willow Street, where Hannemans later opened a store.

John Ewing had a woodworking shop next to Dr. Weiler's barn and was noted for his fine pieces.

In May 1900, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hannemann opened up a grocery at the aforementioned location, making renovations. They had two sons, Andrew and Herbert, who helped in the store. In 1920, they moved out of the store to 413 Burlington Avenue, where they set up two looms and began making rag rugs. They obtained hosiery waste from Taubel's Mill in Riverside. Herbert earned his money for college by helping in the business.

Herman Hannemann died in 1921 and his wife in 1955 at the age of 95. Herbert, after completing college, carried on a business called "Viking Products" in this home, selling typewriter ribbons and carbon paper. Cora Dennis served as his secretary in the business, which still continues at the rear of this property.

Frank Creekmore continued the former Hannemann grocery store for five years and was followed by McFadden's Grocery. The previous tenant at 413, a Mrs. Hughes, had a boarder who ran a blacksmith shop on the alley behind the property.

At 409 Burlington Avenue, R. Moloney operated the Tool and Die Co. on the alley behind the

residence from 1950. He is now retired.

On the same side of the alley was a livery stable that Mr. Allen, previous owner of the Moloney property, operated. He had a barn and at least two horses and carriages.

A few houses down the alley, a Mr. McCoy had a shoemaker's shop around 1915 and later. He made special shoes and repaired shoes.

Kemble's Milk House was next to Hannemann's store on Burlington Avenue where the Camera and Clock Shop, run by Lester Daniels since 1954, is now located. After the death of Mr. Kemble, his son Joe moved the milk business to Ash Street behind the firehouse.

"Pop" Carey's candy store was located in Cook's house on Buttonwood Street. The family lived in the house and the shop was in the basement, where one could also buy ice cream. Pop was a veteran of the Civil War and had a wooden leg. His wife worked for Dr. Weiler as a domestic.

George "Jake" Reeves ran an ice business at Franklin and Poplar in the old Perkins store after Joseph Carter moved and opened up his grocery at Poplar and Vine. Reeves later moved to Union, between Chestnut and Burlington. The ice house was behind his home, on the alley. He also used his team of horses to pull the fire trucks. Gotlieb Shaffer delivered ice for Reeves and finally went into his own ice business at Franklin and Ash, which he operated from 1922 to 1952.

Wister Petridge had an ice business at Union and Mulberry. There was also an ice house behind the coal and lumber yard on Coopertown Road. The ice was used to pack apples and peaches. Around this same period, Jerry Kates, a cripple, was a shoemaker living on Buttonwood Street.

In the early days, there was one doctor in town—Dr. H. K. Weiler. He was practicing here as late as 1915. His home and office were at Buttonwood and Franklin and his fee was 50 cents a visit. He was also a dentist. Once he was extracting a patient's tooth and pulled the patient right out of the chair. At which he then swore at the patient for not remaining seated.

Dr. Weiler often used sugar pills (placebos) to treat his patients—particularly if he suspected the patient of being a hypochondriac.

Ed Diggs, who celebrated his 108th birthday



STANDING in front of his ice truck, which is parked in front of the A&P grocery at Vine Street and Burlington Avenue, is Gottleib Shaffer.

in 1975, was Dr. Weiler's handy man and chauffeur for 17 years. He drove the horse and carriage and, when cars became available, worked as the doctor's chauffeur. He drove some of the first Cadillacs and Oldsmobiles.

Diggs claims he was born in 1867 in Spotts, Va., although he has no birth certificate to prove it. His mother, Rebecca, was not a slave. He first came to New Jersey in 1898 with his mother and lived in Charleston (Willingboro). He moved to Delanco on March 29, 1905, to work for Dr. Weiler.

In 1912 and again in 1914, he accompanied Dr. Weiler to Puerto Rico. On these trips, Dr. Weiler took his car with him, by boat. After the doctor's death, Diggs worked for the Keystone Watch Case Company for five years, then for the Krusens on the riverbank for nine years. During the Depression, he worked on the WPA (the Work Projects Administration).

For seven years after that, he was the local

"fish man," peddling fish he had bought in Philadelphia. During World War II, he worked at Fort Dix for 13 months. He had a truck and began collecting junk and selling what was salvageable from it. He remained in the junk business until his retirement.

He married his wife, Bettina when he was 83. He lied to her, telling her he was 67. He attended church regularly until the last few years when he became crippled with arthritis. He was honored by township officials in 1973 as senior citizen of the year.

Some of the later physicians in the township were Dr. George Wagner, Dr. Wm C.V. Wells, Dr. Hammell P. Shippo, Dr. Robert Elwell, Dr. Jonas Edwards, a dentist, and Dr. E.R. Hunter. In 1975, the roster of doctors in town included Dr. Robert Heal, Dr. Ernesto Trinidad, Dr. Alan Schaeffer, Dr. Ugo Palmonari, a dentist, Dr. Richard Stockton, an optometrist, Dr. Taciano Tamasi and Dr. Morris A. Robbins of Second Street who practices in Burlington. Dr. Harold J. Winkelspecht, a dentist, lives in Delanco at Delaware and Hazel Avenues but has offices in Beverly. Dr. L. G. Gunn, a dentist, lives in Delanco on Delaware Avenue and practices in Cinnaminson.

Early commission merchants included George Q. Hammell, Edward S. Hunter and Charles C. Shippo.

Harry J. Dennis was agent for the Pennsylvania Railroad at Delanco from 1882 to 1901, then went into the real estate and insurance business, with an office first on Mulberry Street, then later at the corner of Union and Burlington Avenues. He enjoyed a reputation for probity and reliability. Percy Willis, who lived at Franklin near Poplar Street, took over this business.

In 1907, Frank Story, Sr., the town's piano teacher, became organist in a new church in Woodbury. Another piano teacher was Mrs. Fred Fisher, who was also organist at the Presbyterian Church. One of Mrs. Fisher's pupils was Agnes Perkins, who later became herself the piano and organ teacher and, in April 1976, marked 50 years as organist for the Methodist Church.

Since Delanco was a summer resort, there were several boarding houses here.

Dr. Parson's boarding house stood at the foot of Union Avenue on the east side. This house, according to Woodward and Hageman



A TUG, one of many wooden ships built in Delanco, is launched about 1914 . . .



. . . AND THIS is the Christening party, all decked out in its finery. From 1913-17, the Rancocas Construction Company built tugs for the United States, later for the Dutch and British.



THIS TRAWLER, of the type built by the Rancocas Construction Company, rests on the ways in the final stages of construction. Louis D. Steel started building wooden boats on the Rancocas in the early 1900s and, in 1913, joined with three others in organizing Rancocas Construction.

and according to the Perkins tradition, was built by Abraham Perkins before 1850.

The Allen boarding house was on Rancocas Avenue above Wallace's service station. People came from Philadelphia and New York to spend their vacations here. The last tenant was Linda Long. The building was recently demolished.

Mrs. Fred Bohnberger ran a boarding house for several years at Third and Willow Streets in what is now the home of Dr. Alan Schaeffer. The overflow boarders were housed in the home that was built on Dr. Parsons' property at the foot of Union Avenue.

Boat building was an important industry in the history of Delanco.

Louis D. Steel, for example, seemed born with boats in his blood. At the age of 16, he built his first boat, 30 feet long.

His girl friend, Alma Birkhead, later to become his wife in 1913, christened it. Steel started a boat building business along the Rancocas at the foot of Poplar Street and called it L.D. Steel Ship Building. He crafted pleasure craft mainly at that time.

In 1913, Steel, Ridgway Potts, Jacob Schmidt and Herman Calhoun organized the Rancocas Construction Company. They cut their own lumber and built many bridges and wharves, plus the Chester and Bridgeport ferry docks, the Greenbank bridge and, of course, many boats.

During World War I, this company built tugs for the U.S. government and beam trawlers for commercial coastal fishermen, along with, again, pleasure craft. Two of their customers for pleasure craft were the president of the Packard Motor Company and the president of the Harrison Paint Works. One of the firm's speedboats won the Delaware River championship. They also launched a three-masted schooner alongside the pier at the foot of Poplar Street, but the ship, after making several trips along the coast, was lost off Brigantine.

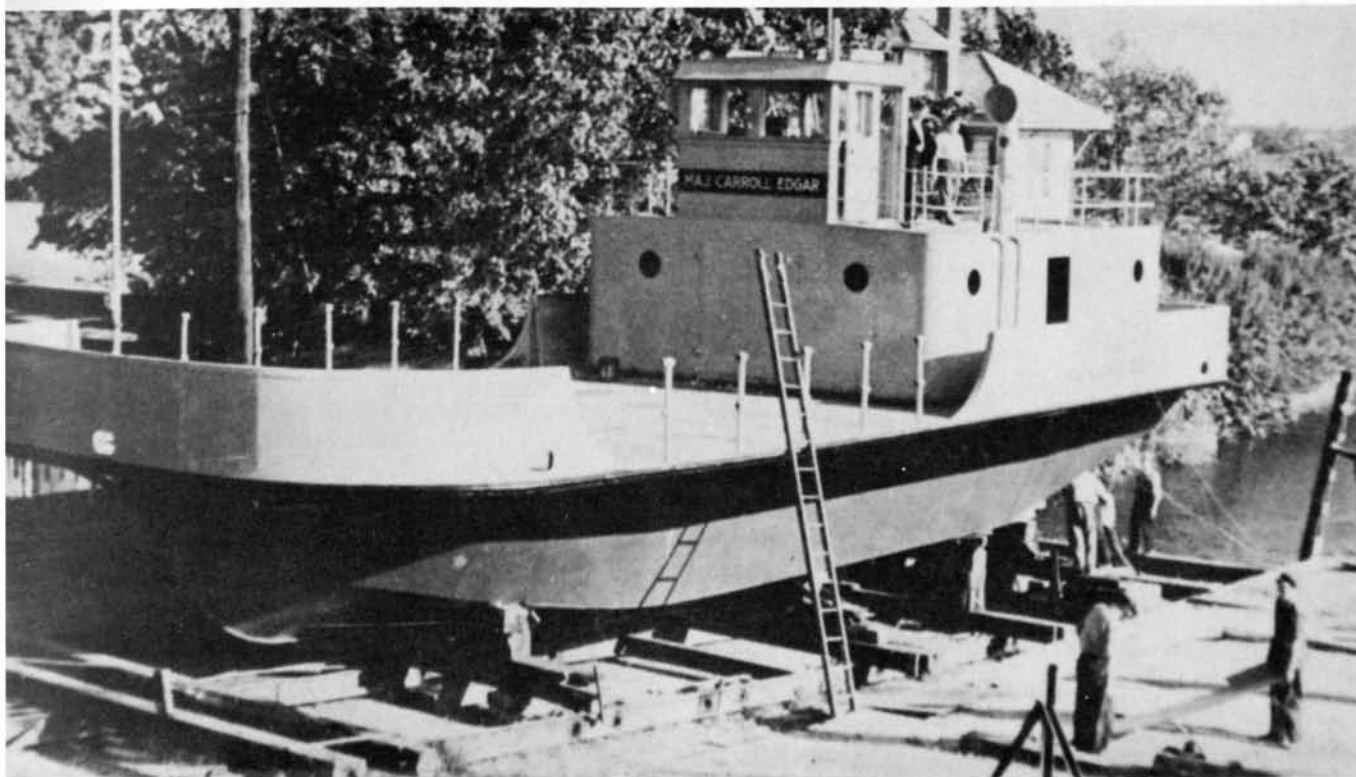
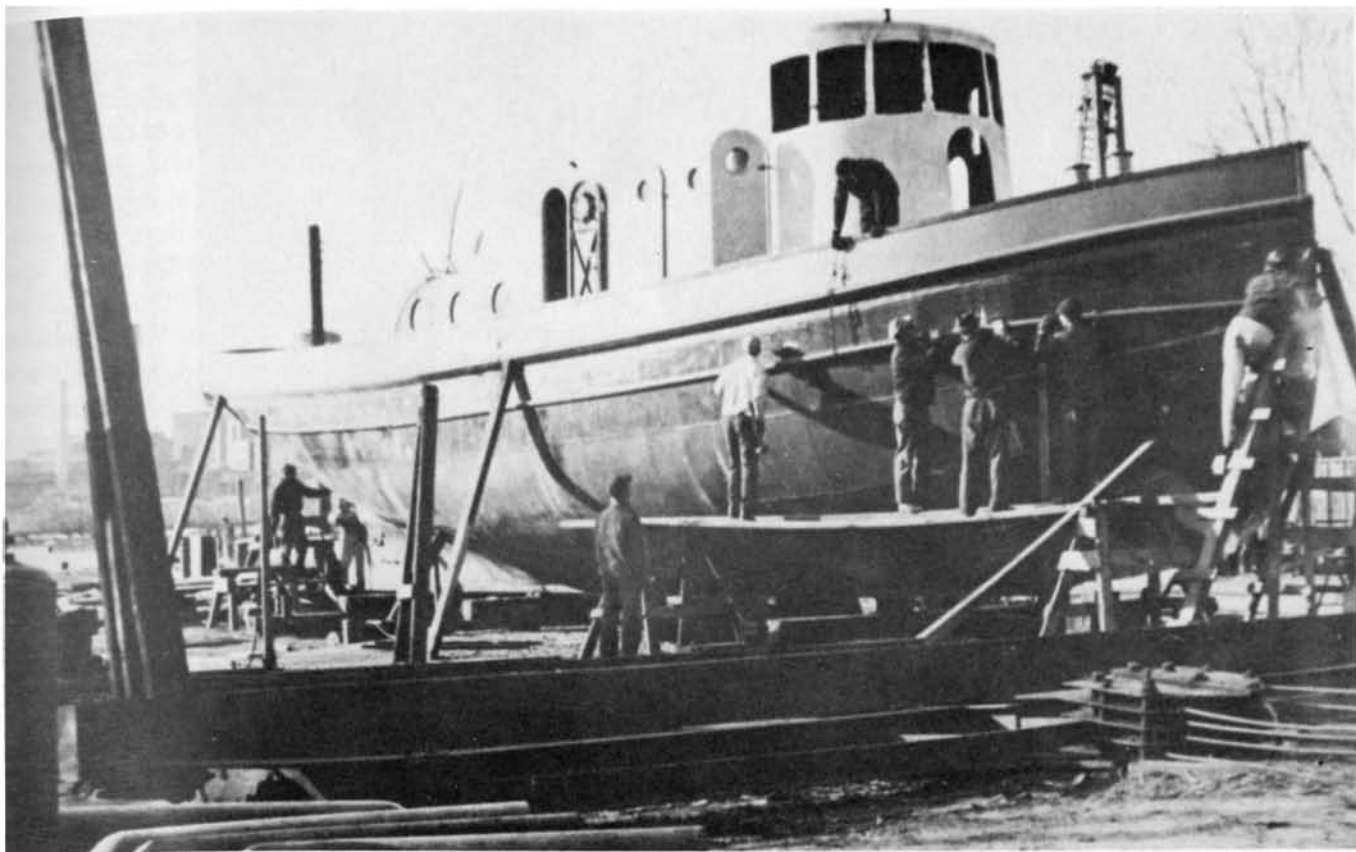
After World War I, Rancocas Construction built tugs for the British and Dutch governments. These boats were sailed all over the world.

Louis Steel died in 1965. The Steel home, in which Miss Helen Steel now lives, has been occupied by the Steel family for 91 years, which is believed to be the longest any Delanco family has lived on the same premises. The house was constructed in 1885 by her grandfather, Thomas Steel, who helped to lay out the town. Originally from Philadelphia, he had a carriage manufacturing business in Burlington. He sponsored one of the early baseball teams in Delanco.

The Rancocas Construction firm was sold in 1939 to Edmond E. Robins, Sr. Robins, a former merchant seaman, operated a fleet of dump trucks until 1928. He learned welding during the Depression, started a welding school, then began building boats at Essington, Pa., from designs drawn by J. Murray Watts, a naval architect. When the firm outgrew the facilities at Essington, Robins bought the Rancocas works.

In 1940, the Robins Shipbuilding and Welding Corp. built a 30-foot sailing sloop and a 46-foot ketch. In 1941, the firm constructed a 65-foot tug named the *Emma R* for Mrs. Robins.

During 1941-42, the yard repaired two 50-



TWO SHIPS constructed by the shipyard while it was operated by Edmond E. Robins Sr. were, top photo-

graph, the tug "Emma R.," named for Robins' wife, and, bottom, the Army ferry boat the "Major Carroll Edgar."



DELANCO'S first baseball team was organized around 1890. It played on the lot where the Hickory Street School is located. The money to erect the grandstands there was provided by Thomas Steel, the man in the business suit in the middle row with the diamond stickpin in his tie—his

trademark. Steel was the father of the man who later founded the shipyard in Delanco. The only others identifiable in the photograph are the two players on either end of the back row, believed to be the Demerest brothers.

foot army barges, three army engineer boats (one named the *Tacony*), rebuilt the tug *Sonetip* for George F. Petenos and the 74-year-old steam tug *Rebecca* for a Mr. Gallenthen.

Also launched in 1942 was a 65-foot army ferry boat, designed and built by the Robins firm. Upon launching, it was completed dockside and then delivered to Fort Slocum, N.Y. The shipyard was sold in 1943 to Eric Welding Service, owned by Albert Davies, who then ran it with his brothers, Bill and Howard Davies. After leaving the shipyard, Robins became successively an army inspector, superintendent for United Boat Service and then Continental Shipyard in New York, and a self-employed contractor. He built a mess hall at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., and four of the five Nike missile sites in New Jersey. He also constructed the King's Department Store in Edgewater Park and his own building in Willingboro before he retired.

Some of those who worked in the Robins shipyard from 1939-43 included John Horan, Ike Horan, Jim Long (of Maple Shade), George Dietrich, Joe Casel, Somers Norton (Mrs. Robins' father), Bill Oris of Pennsylvania, Orville Miller of Edgewater Park, and three Norristown men, Vince Gorman, George Gorman, Jr. and George Gorman, Sr.

When Robins opened the yard, he had 14 employees and during its peak, he employed 39.

Others involved in the boat business included Harry Wolf, a Camden man who built a few tugboats around 1958.

Located in the boatyard area but doing a different kind of business was Glenview Metal, a machine shop operated by John Dooley for a while prior to 1952. This firm was followed by Built-Well, which manufactured prefabricated sections for bungalows.

There was a winery in the old Fletcher Mansion, which had a sub-basement where Ben Faunce raised mushrooms.

Faunce, a graduate of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, started in business in 1897 in Philadelphia. In 1903, he moved his business into a building he built in Delanco at Burlington Avenue and Washington Street across from the barber shop. He was there for four years but was not successful, so he moved to Riverside.

He then invented a soft drink called Tak-a-Boost, which became very popular. That firm

eventually went out of business but some of Faunce's descendants started another firm, also manufacturing a soft drink, and called their product Drink-a-Toast. The firm is still in business and among its principals are Dr. Richard Stockton and his mother, Mrs. Ada Stockton, of Delanco, and Randall Faunce of Riverside, formerly of Delanco.

In the past, those doing extensive farming included Howard Russ, Sr. and Howard Russ, Jr., Frank Jones, William E. Fenimore, George Baggs, William Baggs, William Pennington, Harry Sutton, Walter Fenimore and his partner William Stickel, and the Perkinses.

In 1975, the roll of farmers included Stanley Russ, Harry R. Chant (who also has a farm market on Delanco Road), Frank Pennington, and Harry Adams and his son Irwin. Warren Russ also farmed many years until his death in the early 1970's.

Another farmer living on Perkins Lane was James Heal, whose grandparents came from England. He had two brothers, Tom and Charles, who also were farmers in the area.

James Heal went into the nursery business, raising plants for the farmers. He later added to this the cultivation of flowers. The older residents of the town remember him coming through the streets selling his lovely flowering plants. His hothouses were torn down in 1948. He had three daughters, Mary, Ada and Florence. The latter is still living in the Heal home, which is across the road from Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Knight, whose home was originally a schoolhouse.

Schneider was a men's tailor, doing business on Buttonwood across from Municipal Hall. Emily Moore was a ladies' hairdresser and manicurist. She walked around town to the homes of her clients carrying a little black satchel.

Sam Painter, a one-armed man, and Jack Seeds were the bridge tenders in 1910. They lived in a house across from Wallace's service station on the Rancocas Creek and kept boats to rent to fishermen, some of whom went out at night to catch eels.

About 75 years ago, Miss Essie Gamble was the town seamstress. She lived with her brother Clarence in a house that stood at Burlington and Union Avenues where the parking lot of the

Delanco Savings and Loan is now located.

Fred Hartung ran a paper route and a homemade candy business. The candy was so delicious that he used to get orders from as far away as Texas. The Sunday schools of the town used to order their Christmas candy from him.

One of the early painters was Dan Hamlin, followed by William Slight of Chestnut Street, Marvin Fisher of Third Street and Charles Price of Buttonwood Street.

The small row of houses on Walnut Street between Laurel and Mulberry Streets was, prior to its transformation, a bowling alley run by Andy Collum, a leading banjoist and vaudevillian. The small gray house around the corner was the connecting pool room. The row now consists of four houses.

In 1912, a store was erected on the corner of Burlington Avenue and Vine Street on a lot owned by Benjamin Bishop, grandfather of the aforementioned Frank Pennington. The Child's Grocery leased the building and opened a store. Later, this became an Acme Market and the firm carried on a grocery and meat business there until 1929, when they asked the owner of the building to enlarge the quarters. The owner moved the original store to the back of the lot, made it into apartments and put up a larger store (the Acme carrying on business temporarily in Riverside). The Acme firm moved back into Delanco and into the new store and carried on business there until 1958, when it relocated on Chester Avenue, Riverside, because it required still larger quarters.

Owen P. Merrill bought the store building in August, 1958 from Bill Pennington, the son-in-law of Mr. Bishop. In 1975, Merrill Sails was operating at that location. And in recent years, Arthur Fenimore had a TV shop next to Sails.

Before World War II, there was an A & P grocery store across the street. When the A & P moved, Charles Adams continued a grocery store at the location, followed by Dora Grab. Then it became a 5-and-10-cent store operated by Mr. and Mrs. N. Lopen. It is now occupied by Lippincott Engineering.

During the time of Dora's occupancy, a Mrs. Pearl Barckley operated a small homemade baked goods store behind Dora's for about two years. Around 1945, she moved her business into

the old library building and was there about eight years, running a luncheonette and grocery.

Next to the A & P was Mellendorf's candy and cigar store. His daughter, Maggie Krueger, carried on the business after his death. Successive operators were Joe Stahl, Mr. Faunce, Charlotte Brooks and the present shopkeeper, Mrs. Ruth Harper.

In addition to the grocery, the aforementioned Dora Grab also served delicious dinners for banquets, birthday and anniversary celebrations and other occasions in her farmhouse on Creek Road. She was a big-hearted soul and noted for her friendliness and generosity, a real diamond in the rough.

From 1922 to 1926, Henry M. Neely was authorized to operate Special Land Station 3XP from Delanco. The radio station was located on the Rancocas Creek at Buttonwood Street where Hartley earlier had his boat yard. Neely communicated by Morse code with the tugboats traveling up and down the Delaware. He lived on the old Fenimore farm and operated greenhouses there, but he also had a houseboat. A man of many talents, he also wrote a movie column for the *Philadelphia Ledger* and published a magazine called *E-Z Radio*.

Around this same time, George W. Russ had an ice cream parlor in the first house on the Delanco side of the bridge and it was a great attraction for young people.

Later, Jean Wells had a beauty parlor in the same building, probably the first such shop in Delanco. In 1938, Webb's tailor shop was located here, followed by Sam's luncheonette in the 1940's. The structure is now an apartment house.

Across the street on the same side of Burlington Avenue was Russ' cement block building, which he sold to a Mr. Kotlikoff, who operated a gentleman's clothing and dry goods store. Later, this building was remodeled into Fenimore's apartment house. This is on the Wilmer-ton tract, where Richard Wilmerton built a home-stead.

The building where Mike Hart established his meat market on Ash Street next to Hahner's became the firehouse. This building was later moved to the present site of Delanco's fire house and enlarged. Plans were made to rebuild a larger, brick firehouse, so, in 1919, Lewis Os-

mond, Sr., in partnership with Harry Beck, bought the first firehouse and had it moved, again, to Osmond's property at the corner of Burlington Avenue and Walnut Street. He and Beck went into the printing business there. In 1924, it was torn down and the lumber from it was sufficient to build five garages.

One half of the lower one, nearest the house, became Lewis Osmond, Jr.'s printing shop and the other half a store.

In the store half, Horace Randall operated a candy and ice cream store. Mrs. Lewis Osmond, Sr. ran this for a short time and it then became a shoemaker's shop operated by Vincent Gianetto, Sr. and, for a short time, by his son, Vincent, Jr. There followed Fred Dauber, who was also a shoemaker.

By this time, Lew Osmond, Jr. was ready to expand his printing shop and used the store for enlarging his quarters. In May of 1975, he retired and his son Robert continues the business.

Harold VanSciver and Louis McCord ran a second-hand car business under the name of VanSciver Motors for a few years at the southeast corner of Burlington Avenue and Walnut Street.

In the first block of Burlington Avenue above the bridge, there were several stores. On the corner of Burlington Avenue and Washington Street in the Faunce building was "Tootie" LeConey's pool room. "Poppy" Schneider followed, adding a tobacco shop in the front and a pool room in the rear. Frank Ambrose, Charles Hammell, Henry Brehm, Ed Banks, Al Wagner and Al Malone were some of the subsequent owners. The building is now an apartment house.

On the opposite side of Burlington Avenue, Charles Snyder ran a Tak-a-Boost store, being followed by Warren Denning, then by Bill Stahl, who added tobacco products. In 1975, Skip's Pizza Parlor took over the premises.

Next door was Conrad Gremminger's hardware store, which later became Margaret Gatti's drygoods store.

Charles Hammell bought a small barracks from Fort Dix and had it moved to the lot next to Gremminger's store and he then operated a luncheonette in it for about 10 years. The next owner was Al Jonys, who has done business as Al's Luncheonette for some 15 years.

Gremminger's meat market and groceries

opened around 1923 on the corner of Burlington and Franklin. Owner Joseph Gremminger was a very kindhearted and lovable man and was called "Joey" by everyone. "Hen" Richmond delivered Gremminger's groceries by bicycle. Gremminger retired about 1947, a short time before his death. The names of the next owners have been lost, but they were followed by Pete and Milly Jaye, then by Al Belmondo and lastly by Emil R. Tuch, who was operating it as the Delanco Market as the Bicentennial year opened.

In March 1936, Bud Wallace leased a Sunoco service station at Rancocas and Burlington Avenues where Max Berkowitz had been the previous proprietor. Wallace bought the business outright in 1954 and in 1976 he was still operating at the same spot and under the same Sunoco brand.

Next door to Wallace's station is Riverfront Cleaners, which briefly closed up shop there, then returned to Delanco and reopened at the old stand.

In the 500 block of Burlington Avenue, opposite Buttonwood Street, Eddie Hee and Clark Boyd built and operated a drug store. After that, George and Mary Shipps ran a luncheonette there and sold patent medicines for a short time.

Donald Ross, a pharmacist, bought the pharmacy from Boyd in 1941 and after Ross' death, Lee G. Cordier ran the pharmacy for a short time. When he was taken ill and died, the store was rented to a Mr. O'Brian, who opened a luncheonette. Virginia Clements bought it from Ross' heirs, and in turn sold it to Thomas R. Rossi. William Burch tried operating it as a luncheonette for a short time. The building then became a warehouse for books. In 1975, it was tenanted by Jelco Hosiery, doing wholesale and retail business.

At Union and Burlington, Harold Hunt and Ted Rapp opened up a garage and gas station. Later, it became Tieman's garage. After his death, the business was discontinued.

At 616 Burlington Avenue, William Quigg and a Mr. Spencer ran a grocery prior to George Smith's occupancy. They were followed by Fred Myers, who later built a storefront on the house next door owned by Mrs. E. S. Hunter and moved his grocery there. This store became, successively, Al Haley's, Stanley's, and Joe Smith's (of Riverside) and is now occupied by Baiada's Insurance Agency.

At the corner of Burlington Avenue and

Walnut Street, Harry Cook III and Ellis Kreiner built a service station after the shoe factory, for which both worked, had closed. They were in business until about 20 years ago. The site passed through several owners and for a time the Starlite seat cover firm occupied the premises. Starlite later moved down Walnut to a building opposite the Walnut Street School and the old service station was demolished and a Cumberland Farms dairy store erected on the site.

Richard S. Severns came to Delanco in 1912 at the age of 24. When the Sinex Annex first opened up for development, Severns built his first house—the fourth one in the Annex—for himself and his new bride, Gertrude Friday, a teacher.

One day while he was working on the house, Mr. Sinex saw him and offered him the “wonderful” weekly salary of \$21. The young bridegroom accepted and worked for Sinex for two years, building many houses, including the homes of George Krusen, Frank Lord and others—about 15 in all.

When the Sinex development work finally slowed down, Severns decided to go into the hardware and millwork business. In 1922, he erected a 2-story brick building on Burlington Avenue at Holly Street, calling the firm Richard S. Severns Millwork.

He then erected a building between Cook’s garage and his millwork building for Maurice Robinson, who operated a grocery store there from about 1920 for eight to ten years. In 1931, Severns sold the building to a Mr. Rogers and moved his business to larger quarters in Edgewater Park, where he continued in business until 1952, when his health failed and he had to sell his operation.

While Rogers owned the Severns building, the Patriotic Order Sons of America met upstairs. There were two stores on the lower floor of the structure, called the Colonial Building. The first store in the building, on the Holly Street side, was an A & P operated by Charles Williams. The second store was Delanco Hardware, operated by Ed Sauder.

Later, the Edwin Roberts wholesale plumbing supplies firm took over the building. Roberts joined the former Robinson store to the Colonial Building by erecting a building in between them. Roberts rented the Holly Street side to the post

office, which was a branch office of the Riverside post office. He lived upstairs.

After he retired, the firm was purchased by Jerome Rosner, who continued it in the same location. Needing more room, he took over the space occupied by the post office, which moved to the Camp Meeting Grounds shopping plaza. Rosner has been here 12 years and employs 10 persons.

Across Holly Street was a small ice cream store run by John Sheets. His son-in-law, John Hemmerle, enlarged the store and carried on the business for many years, and after his death, his daughter Hilda continued the business. In 1967, it became the property of Mary Hullings, who expanded it into a delicatessen and hoagie shop with a small line of groceries. Her husband Wilmer is now operating the business as Panda’s Deli I while she runs Panda Deli II in Tabernacle.

In 1910, a large cement block building was erected on the corner of Burlington and Hazel Avenues by A. L. Demerest to house automobiles—which had just come out—and to make repairs and sell gasoline. It was known as Delanco Garage, the first garage in town.

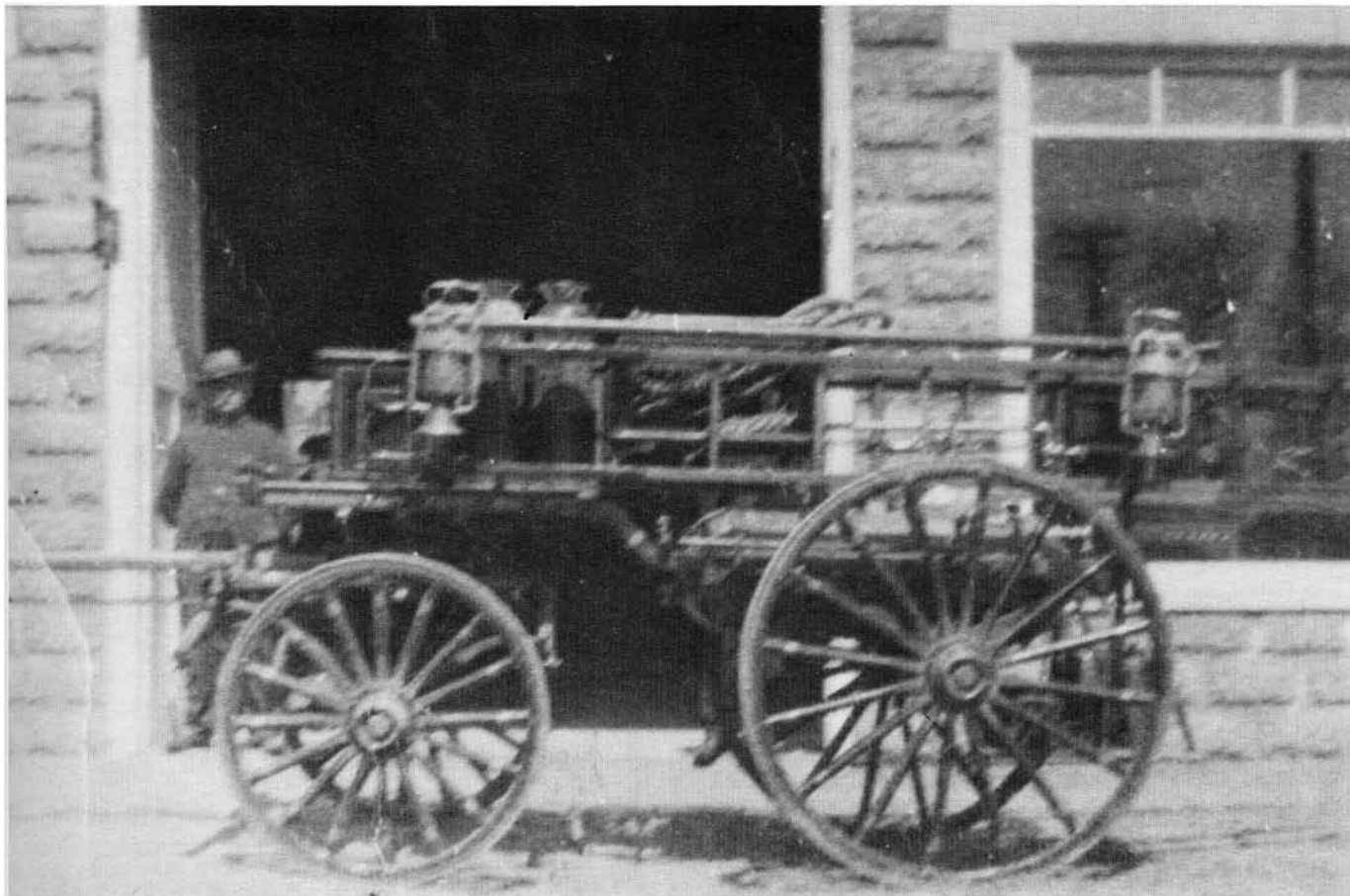
A 1922 advertisement for the firm reads, “Auto machinist and general repairing of all kinds, lawn mowers, locks, guns, door bells, umbrellas, dolls and go-carts repaired.”

The firm specialized in Ford autos. When Demerest died, his wife, Mattie, continued the business with the help of Mr. Addis. Talk about women’s lib, she had it! She wore a large black leather apron and was as good as any man when working on the cars or even the fire trucks.

Successor firms at that location included Budd Scott’s farm equipment business (which moved here from Bridgeboro), Charles Shipps’ trucking business and several temporary firms. The last occupant was N.J. Piano and Organ Sales, which went out of business after about a year. The building is now occupied by a firm that sells automobile accessories. The building is owned by Edith Feldman of Florida.

Across from Hemmerle’s, Howard Risley and Son did upholstery and chair-caning in their home.

Down Holly Street on Third Street, Maurice Herbst and his wife, Grace, built and opened a meat and poultry market selling both wholesale and retail during the Depression and continued in



THE FIRST piece of fire apparatus in Delanco, a hand-drawn fire engine, is parked in front of the Delanco

Garage (also the township's first gas station) at the corner of Hazel and Burlington Avenues. About 1910.

business for some 35 years until their retirement. The store is now unoccupied.

During the thirties and early forties at 320 Walnut Street, the late Mr. Poth raised flowers for sale in his greenhouse located on his property which ran back to Holly Street. The greenhouses were torn down and the land is now part of Roberts Plumbing Supplies.

There were several small stores in town—Harry Sparkes' grocery at Laurel and Walnut, Nixon's grocery on Mulberry Street, Kairitis' grocery at Coopertown Road and Laurel Street and Boenitsch's grocery on Walnut.

William Quigg had a huckster route in town in the 1920s. Abe Jones also had a huckster and fish route. Mr. W. Goldy recently started a produce route.

Roy Williams was a public accountant and had an office in his home near the bend on Willow Street. The business was continued by his son Robert, who also sold imitation brick siding. The location is now a private home.

About 50 years ago, the Prehno laundry was located on Poplar Street. Luther C. LeConey was the electrician of the town. He lived at Ash and Vine. In the 1920s, H. Dwight Torrey, who lived in Delanco, was the editor of the *Burlington County Press*, which was published in Riverside.

Annie Mulvaney was born in Ireland, lived in Boston and Philadelphia and came to Delanco about 45 years ago. She opened a beauty shop on Union Avenue near the firehouse, then moved to 532 Burlington Avenue, where she did business for many years. She had customers from as far away as California, Chicago, New York and South America. She held an important position in the Hair Dressers Association. She is now in her 80s and no longer operating the shop because of poor health.

There were several other beauty shop operators, no longer alive: Masie Roberts, of Vine Street; Dot Austin of 539 Burlington Avenue; Mrs. Tweedy of 1100 Burlington Avenue, later moving to 323 Delaware Avenue; and Eleanor Mullins of

RISLEY & SON

UPHOLSTERING AND CHAIRS CANED
SWEEPERS REPAIRED
DINING ROOM CHAIRS COVERED
\$1.25 to \$1.50 including Material

Burlington Avenue DELANCO, N. J.

Are You Thinking

OF HAVING YOUR HOUSE WIRED?
IF SO LET ME ESTIMATE

No muss or dirt to clean up if I do the work. Let a
trician do it

LUTHER C. LeCONEY

Ash and Vine Streets DELANCO, N. J.

A PRESS AD. WILL GUIDE BUYERS TO YOUR STORE
THE RETURN OF PROSPERITY IS SURE TO THOSE
WHO KEEP THEIR NAMES BEFORE THE PUBLIC.

E. H. BURTIS UNDERTAKER

WILLIAM L. HOLT
(Formerly with Bringham & Co.)
ASSISTANT

Delanco Office, Franklin and Poplar Streets
Riverside Office, 215 Bridgeboro Street
Bell Telephone, 127.

ADVERTISEMENTS from newspapers in the 1920s and early 1930s are for Delanco businesses—an upholsterer, an electrician, an undertaker and a meat market.



ALL OUR MEATS KEPT UNDER
MODERN REFRIGERATION, CON-
SEQUENTLY THEY REACH YOU
IN PERFECT CONDITION.

Herbst Meat Market

3rd and Holly Sts. Delanco, N. J.

Meats Fresher By a Day
From Abattoir to Butcher Shop

Calves Liver and Sweet Breads

Specials for Friday and Saturday

Rump - Round - Sirloin Steak lb 25c
All Beef Roasts . lb 25c

Stewing Beeflb 15c | Hamburglb 15c
Legs Lamblb 25c | Stewing Lamb 3 lbs 25c
Shoulders of Lamb lb 15c | Lamb Cropslb 25c

FRESH COUNTRY SCRAPPLElb 15c
HOME-MADE PORK SAUSAGElb 35c

BONELESS ROLLED VEALlb 25c
RUMP OF VEALlb 18c

City Dressed SHOULDERS OF PORKlb 27c
FRESH LOIN OF PORK (for roasting)lb 27c

Fresh Lamb's Liver, Veal Hearts Daily

All Meats U. S. Government Inspected
TELEPHONE 714

Union Avenue. At one time, Edith Kukalaini operated the Aloha Beauty Shop on Burlington Avenue. At the present, Clair Kairitis' shop at 400 Burlington Avenue is the only beauty shop in town.

At one time, Delanco even had an undertaker doing business in town, at Franklin and Poplar Streets, according to an advertisement in 1922 in the *Riverside Press*. William L. Holt advertised himself as an assistant undertaker for the E. H. Burtis firm.

One of the most unusual occupations in town is that of Richard Yardumian, who operates

a bookbinding business in the garage of his home at Third and Willow Streets.

During the history of Delanco, there has been only one bakery except for a small baked goods shop behind Lopen's 5-and-10-cent store. Frank Hartman lived with his family on Poplar Street in the old Briggs house next to the Carter store and worked in Oliver's Bakery in Burlington for about a year.

Then in 1921, Hartman bought a bakery on Cooper Street in Beverly. When he died in 1926,

Frank, Jr. and his mother sold the bakery and moved back to Delanco.

Frank Hartman, Jr. and his brother Joseph bought Haas' bakery in Riverside and operated it for five years. Then Frank erected a building on the back of his property at Poplar Alley and operated a bakery there from 1932 to 1962, selling both wholesale and retail. He had a retail outlet in a rented store in the Fox Theatre building in Riverside and ran a large wholesale route through the surrounding area. After his mother's death, the home was remodeled into four apartments. Frank built a lovely home on the property at Ash and Vine, at the site of the former George Smith barber shop.

There is present-day marine and winter storage for boats in Dan's Boat Yard at the end of Rancocas Avenue, operated by Daniel Thomas, who started the business in 1948. His daughter, Joyce Ward, has operated Delanco Boat Sales since 1973.

Harold F. Fisher and Sons manufacture marine canvas and truck covers in the former Ridgway shoe factory. The firm moved here from Berlin, N.J., about 1970 to have larger quarters and a more suitable location. The firm's sales area ranges from New England to Virginia Beach and as far west as Michigan.

Crownflex Abrasive Wheel Manufacturing is located at Rancocas and Ash, at the former site of Lakeman's Boat Company. The parent firm in Klinspor, Germany, set up the Crownflex branch here about 1958; it's the first company to manufacture high speed abrasives in this country.

Irgard Dreger, who was secretary for that concern 14 years ago, bought the two old army barracks on this corner and remodeled them into a very presentable office and warehouse. She now manufactures a small plumber's tool. She has been in business here for eight years.

Down the street from the Crownflex location is The Rug Man, a firm that moved here from Philadelphia in 1973 and offers a rental service in entrance mats and mops for commercial and industrial accounts. The firm employs 13 part-time and full-time employees and serves South Jersey and King of Prussia.

Lakeman Boat Company was originally situated at Dan's Boat Yard. Lakeman moved to the property next to the shoe factory and con-

<p>Anna B. Mulvaney DELANCO CENTRAL BEAUTY SHOP 428 Burlington Avenue</p> <p>Smart Croquignole Permanent Wave \$4</p> <p>Artistic Finger Waving in all styles All Branches of Beauty Culture Done Professionally by Skilled Operators.</p> <p>PHONE RIVERSIDE 711</p>	
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IN THE 1930s, this advertisement was published for a beauty shop located in a home across the street from the present municipal building.

ducted his boat sales there. Lakeman was later a salesman for Delanco Boat Sales.

At the corner of Burlington Avenue and Coopertown Road, Al Kershaw owns and operates a Citgo service station. This was formerly an Esso station operated by Al Capri and Russ Myers. Next to it on Coopertown Road is Witkowski Lumber, a firm dealing in second-hand lumber. They do business in the hall formerly occupied by the Tacoma Tribe of Red Men.

Barney Gerhart, whose father started the business as the Atlantic Paper Tube Company in the old Ridgway building, opened up his own business on the next property. He has been in business for 34 years, making tubes for textiles, mailing tubes and tubes for carpets and fireworks. He employs seven people.

On Maple Avenue is the Delanco Fence Company, operated by John Ciavarella, whose wife serves as secretary of the business and his daughter as treasurer. The firm has been in business since 1960 and employs 10 people.

In the 1800 block of Burlington Avenue, on the east side, is Ed Price's Flower Mart, originally opened by Bud Styles. Ed and Carol Price have operated this business since 1960.

Hagan's Garden Mart, across the street, began as a farm produce stand run by Nettie Fenimore, who also had a huckster route around town, selling fresh produce. This mart was being operated in 1976 by her granddaughter, Pat Forsell.

One of the earliest farm markets was at the William Fenimore farm, next to Hagan's. This

building later became an antique shop operated by Gertrude Jones Neely.

At the Halfway House, 2222 Burlington Avenue, James Roe deals in tropical fish and fish food.

The Kaiser Gypsum Co. plant opened in 1966 on the river side of Burlington Avenue on the original site of the Perkins farm. Kaiser employed over 100 and manufactured wallboard until it closed shop in mid-1976. The Anthony J. Cavalier Transportation Co., Inc., opened on an adjacent piece of ground in 1971 as a contract carrier for Kaiser over a 10-state area before it, too, went out of business.

On the east side of Burlington Avenue at Perkins Lane there is located a laundromat and cleaning establishment run by Frank Beaucamp for the past 25 years.

On Perkins Lane is the new Charles T. Gamble Industries building. The firm moved there in 1975 from Riverside, where the business originated. The firm employs about 120 and manufactures electronic components, transistors and testing equipment for TV and radio. Some of the firm's parts were used on equipment sent to the moon. The firm does work for Honeywell, Leeds and Northrup, and General Electric.

At Kansas Avenue and Burlington Avenue was the Parmin Car Clinic, opened in 1973 on the site of what was previously a Chevron gas station, operated by Al Martin. Basson Enterprises is now doing automotive repairs at the site.

Also at Kansas and Burlington is located Universal Uni-Seal, Inc., which distributes brass and copper fittings, plastic tubing and assembling valves. The business, begun 15 years ago, is owned by Sam Block, who employs nine persons.

At West and Burlington is an Arco service station originally opened by Thomas Jenkins about 1947. Frank Jones was the next owner and it is operated at present by John Yannarella. A few doors east, Myrtle and Walter Slight operated a grocery store and delicatessen from 1952, building the store first, then their home, before they retired.

The Inductotherm Corporation began as a small business on Illinois Avenue but became extremely successful, expanded and moved to Ranocas, N.J.

Returning to Coopertown Road, immediately upon crossing the railroad, we come

on the left to Triangle Pacific Corporation, located at the former Levitt supply depot. Triangle's parent company is in Great Neck, N.Y. The firm started here in 1972 and makes window and door units, kitchen cabinets and other lumber products. It employs 75 people.

Con-Wed is another large firm on Coopertown Road. Con-Wed manufactures a cellulose product called Tufflex and also a fiber blanket made from cotton and wool and used in padding furniture and bedding. The firm also manufactures oil brooms and sweepers for controlling oil spillage on bodies of water.

Greenwood Acres is a nursery on the former William Stickel farm, operated by his son-in-law, Bud Styles. The nursery grows evergreen trees and has been there 15 years. The farm was originally owned by Harry Cook, grandfather of the present Harry Cook. The next owner was William Baggs.

National Steel Service Center, Inc., on Coopertown Road, is a subsidiary of National Steel Corporation, whose home office is in Pittsburgh. National Steel moved here from Philadelphia four years ago, into an expandable structure on 10 acres of land. It employs 20 persons, specializes in high and low carbon steel, plus aluminum, and provides immediate service of articles from one pound to 100,000 pounds for customers in the Philadelphia market. Part of the building was formerly occupied by Granco.

Beyond National Steel is Harry R. Chant's farm market. Next door at 819 Coopertown Rd. is Warren Pitman, sign painter, who has been doing business since 1952.

Russell Megee, whose service station was formerly at Burlington and Walnut, is now the owner of Delanco Auto Body, located on three acres of ground on the Coopertown Road. Next to his shop is the business of John L. Wallace, who for 15 years has been repairing and maintaining heavy equipment.

Many growing industries are located on Creek Road. They include Leon Machine Company, which moved there from Route 130; Ascast Corporation, which manufactures metal-working equipment for foundries, employs about 22 people and has been here for 5 years (the property was originally Burdette Johnson's flower farm); and the New Jersey auto inspection center.

Also on Creek Road is Bair Transport, which

moved here in 1966. The firm employs 90 and does general commercial trucking from Washington to Massachusetts. Next door is C.B.L. Trucking, which moved here in 1970 from Pensaiken. It serves Philadelphia, southern Jersey and New York and employs 35.

There is also on Creek Road the Storage Trailer Service Co., which gives secured storage for campers and travel trailers. Across from this firm is Henry Eble's marina, which is located on the property owned by his mother, Dora Grab. There is a boat ramp and a snack bar and the business sells gas and oil for boats.

Mrs. Grab came to Delanco in 1915 and, with her mother, ran a club for John R. Drexel of Philadelphia.

Also on Creek Road, the Trojan Transportation Company has been here about four years, employing 12 truckers and five persons in the office. Burnett Construction Company, concrete contractors, moved here about 10 years ago from Bridgeboro Road. The firm employs about 50. Atco Pallet Company moved to Delanco from Atco in 1975 and employs 10. It manufactures wooden platforms on which to transport goods.

The Holiday Skating Center on Creek Road is actually in Edgewater Park, although its parking lot is in Delanco. The rink has programs

for Scouts, clubs and churches. Holiday Lake, at Rt. 130, was begun in 1950 and offers swimming and picnicking, operating during the summer and employing 40-50 persons.

On the Rancocas Creek above the railroad is the former site of Associated Box Corporation. The firm operated from 1952 until 1974, furnishing packaging material, and tin plate skids in particular, for U.S. Steel and other can companies.

Richard Rhawn owns and operates the Rhawn Flange and Machine Company on the former premises of the box company and employs 20 persons. He was in business for many years in Edgewater Park before moving to Delanco over a year ago. He supplies fabricated pipe to water supply companies.

On Laurel Street, Jay's Burglar and Fire Alarms Company is operated by J. Brown.

Two of the most recently established businesses, started in early 1976, are P.J.'s Plante Shoppe, owned by William Wright and Paul Swope, Jr. at 616 Burlington Ave., site of the former George Smith barber shop; and S & J Deli Inc., built and owned by Joseph and Jean Sadowski at Burlington and Memorial Avenues.



SOME OF THE EMPLOYEES of the Ridgway shoe factory gather outside for a "coffee break." Ross Borden,

who is mentioned elsewhere in the text, appears fourth from right in back row.

In the First Enumeration, There Were 352 of Us

The first census in which the citizens of Delanco were enumerated as a separate, distinct geographical entity was made in 1860, three years after Beverly Township (of which Delanco and Edgewater Park were then a part) had severed itself from Willingborough.

The 1860 Delanco census is interesting for a number of reasons, including the genealogical links it provides.

The 1860 census listed Delanco's 352 residents by household and, in some cases, by occupation and birthplace. In reprinting that census for this Bicentennial journal, we have included all of the information compiled in the original, deleting nothing. Where no occupation or birthplace was given in the original, none of course appears in this relisting.

The recitation of occupations is interesting for its variety and for the indication it gives us as to how the people of that day made their livelihoods. Among the first of those listed on the census is Andress Ridgway (they misspelled his name as Andre), who started the shoe factory in Delanco. A number of persons listed their occupation as cordwainer—a worker in cordovan leather, or shoemaker.

Because of our adjacency to the Delaware River, there are many marine-related occupations. There is Jacob Kriner, 30, a wharf builder. And Henry Kriner, 53, master wharf builder, and his sons John, 19, and Henry, 18, also wharf builders. And Moses Hughes, 25, sailor, and Lorenza Wells, 21, boatman; and five fishermen—John Demerest, 41; Christian Faunce, 28; Andrew Himes, 55; William Faunce, 39; and Joseph Smith, 30.

Besides a needle woman, day labourer, several seamstresses, telegraph operator and

various cooks and domestics, the 1860 census boasted this occupational cross-section:

Charles Webb, 42, a tea dealer; H. C. Wetmore, 34, Charles E. Fletcher, 22, and Miguel Zaldevar, 29, all listed as gentlemen; Richard Wilmerton, 20, a horticulturist and Thomas Fletcher, 32, the same; Micajah Dobbins, 51, storekeeper; Isaac LeConey, 31, bridge-tender.

Also, John Sterling, 30, doctor; Isaah Quigg, 60, boot and shoemaker (his son, Samuel, then 24 and a cordwainer, became schoolmaster); Richard L. Bauvis, 44, tailor; Catherine Borden, 33, needle woman; Stephen Paison, 42, retired dentist; Isaac W. Buck, 37, inn keeper; Alfred Whitney, 60, edge tool manufacturer and Eli Wells, 33, steamboat pilot.

Much of the area was still agricultural, however, as witness those who listed their occupation as farmer—Richard F. Wilmerton, 47; William Newton, 74; Nathan S. Crane, 64; Samuel Lowden, 62; Charles Fenimore, 28; Paul Jones, 55; Charles C. Dunn, 48, James Russ, 29; James Ellis, 42; Joseph Yerkes, 48; Charles Hubbs, 53, and Isaac Newton, 37.

In 1860, the oldest citizen was Sarah A. Brown, 100, born in North Carolina. She was a resident of the Raymond and Elizabeth Becket household. There were a number of young children under the age of one year but the youngest on the records was Sarah M. Deacon, three months old, the daughter of Samuel C. and Mary A. Deacon.

From the 1860 census, 12 direct descendants with the same family name were still listed among Delanco's citizenry in 1976. The roll call of names: Borden, Carter, De Night (listed as De-night in 1860), Fenimore, Hamlin, Hubbs, Jones, Le Coney, Newton, Quigg, Ridgway and Russ.

The 1860 Census

Name	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
Thomas Mervine	67	Retired gentleman	Penna.
Anne Mervine	53		
George Corneal	38	Cordwainer	N.J.
Adeline Corneal	36		Penna
James Corneal	17		
Emeline Corneal	14		
Henry Corneal	12		
Kate Corneal	10		
John Corneal	9		
Clarinday Corneal	4		
Hannah Corneal	3		
George W. Corneal	9/12		
Joseph Beinicke	41	Day Labourer	France
Fanny Beinicke	32		
Julia Beinicke	5		
Mary E. Beinicke	3		
Joseph H. Beinicke	1		
John L. Stockton	30	Master Carpenter	
Elizabeth Stockton	34		
Monroe M. Stockton	5		
Anna M. Stockton	3		
Howard Stockton	1		
Matilda Rennels	36		Penna.
Mary A. Wainer	40	Needle woman	N.J.
Anne Wainer	70	Needle woman	N.J.
Janet Canutheis	58		S.C.
David Waldhaur	28	Clerk	S.C.
Mary A. Reade	22		Penna.
Isaac C. Bell	8		N.J.
Raymond Becket	42	Day Labourer	Va.
Elizabeth Becket	37	Washer woman	Penna.
George Becket	7		
Louisa Williams	17		
Sarah A. Brown	100		N.C.
Max Segle	33	Day Labourer	Oldenburg
Mary Segle	44		Wirtemberg
Fletcher Segle	2		N.J.
Andre Ridgway	28		Penna.
Marianne Ridgway	27		N.J.
Loural Ridgway	3		N.J.
Thomas Ridgway	39	Cordwainer	Penna.
Aaron Ridgway	11		Penna.
Mary Ridgway	6		N.J.
Susan Hustin	65	Needle woman	
Frank Hustin	32	House carpenter	
Hester A. Pedrick	25		

Name	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
John Butcher	65	Cordwainer	
Sophia Butcher	61		
Charles Grey	69	Day Labourer	
Hannah Grey	60		
George Grey	27	Day Labourer	
Rachel Grey	17		
William Wilks	35	Cordwainer	England
Caroline Wilks	36		England
Caroline Wilks	13		England
Alice Wilks	9		New York
Anna Wilks	7		Penna.
George Wilks	4		Penna.
Edward Wilks	7/12		Penna.
Andrew A. McClure	33	Cordwainer	Maryland
Elizabeth McClure	28		Penna.
Catherine McClure	9		Penna.
Anna McClure	5		N.J.
Margaret McClure	1		N.J.
Margaret Shepperd	67	Nurse	Penna.
James Long	33	Cordwainer	
Kate Long	30		
Anne Long	12		
Thomas Long	9		
Alice Long	1		
John Demerest	41	Fisherman	
Maria Demerest	39		
Franklin Demerest	16		
William Demerest	14		
Lukins Demerest	11		
Kate Demerest	6		
Sarah A. Dennis	49		
John Dennis	31	Day Labourer	
Caddie Dennis	23		
Duffield D. Dennis	19		
Charles Dennis	7		N.J.
Harry J. Dennis	3		
William Denight	27	Store keeper	
Deborah Denight	30		
Samuel Denight	6		
Sarah Denight	1		
Jacob Kriner	30	Wharf builder	Penna.
Mary Kriner	34		New York
Jacob Kriner	2		N.J.
Johnathan Cottrell	30	House carpenter	N.J.
Ellen Cottrell	26		N.Y.
Marilda Cottrell	2		N.J.
Emmiline Reiley	68		Penna.
John Sterling	30	Doctor	Louisiana
Burke Sterling	20		N.J.