



PASSAIC COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER


LAMBERT
**PASSAIC COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

CASTLE
VALLEY ROAD, PATERSON N.J. 07503

“A Woman’s Work...” Opens April 9

An exhibit chronicling the varied achievements of Passaic County Women from the mid 19th and early 20th centuries will be featured at the Lambert Castle Museum this spring. “A Woman’s Work...: A look at Passaic County Women and their Achievements” opens April 9 and will run through October 29, 1989.

The display will be made up of several components. One will look at individual women and their specific contributions to local history. Among the women to be included are Mary Virginia Hawes Terhune, a local writer; Isabelle Hayward, a local artist; Jennie Tuttle Hobart, U.S. second lady and philanthropist; Maria Botto, Italian immigrant silk worker, and Mary Augusto, newspaper editor and community leader. In addition to the stories of these individuals, the exhibit will address the more general roles women as a group have played in the history of Passaic County. The themes of women at home, in the workplace, and in the community will be presented utilizing the Society’s extensive photographic and artifact collection.

This exhibit is made possible by a grant from the Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council through the New Jersey Historical Commission, the Jaqua Foundation, the Passaic County Rotary Clubs, and membership support. For more information, please call 881-2761.

Spring Craft Boutique

Suffering from the mid winter doldrums? Take heart, spring is right around the corner at the Lambert Castle Museum. The museum will host a Spring Holiday Boutique from March 11 - March 25.

Among the many delightful handcraft items for sale will be Easter baskets and arrangements, bunny rabbits, and quality gift items. The show, under the direction of Holiday House Boutique, will be open to the public Monday through Wednesday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Admission is \$2 (including two return visits) and benefits the Passaic County Historical Society.



A special preview party will be held on Friday evening March 10 from 7 - 10 p.m. Guests will be able to shop early for all their spring gift giving needs. Special craft doorprizes will be awarded throughout the evening and light refreshments will be served. Tickets to this benefit event are \$10.00 and include two return visits to the Boutique. For tickets and further information about the Boutique, please call 881-2761.



Turn of the Century Paterson

It was principally on our Saturday morning drives through Paterson that I became fascinated by the industrial aspect of our great "Silk City," and by the huge locomotive factories, and the Colt Firearms shop, the Barber thread mill and several lace making mills. We drove to our destination, usually Little Falls where Grandpa Stanley lived, through various streets, in order to see these several sections. This was in the very early nineties. The city was growing rapidly and that resulted in much change.

The distance between our house on East 28th Street and Little Falls was, I estimate, about eight or ten miles and to me every yard of it was packed with interest. We followed various routes, sometimes following the one side of the river, sometimes the other. If we went through lower Market Street we often stopped in Little Italy, where my mother would walk along the out of doors vegetable and fruit stands. This was the neighborhood where only a few spoke English, but bargaining was possible in one way or another. She purchased items unknown to most Americans — red peppers, artichokes, and broccoli. She acquired something of a reputation among her friends with her innovative menus. Contiguous with Little Italy was the Orthodox Jewish section. Here the men with beards and head coverings and the women with their wigs were as of another world. There was nearby, Little Dublin — near the side of the present Cathedral of St. John, which was then St. John's Church. Little Dublin seemed to have more than its share of bars! Indeed, there was a story oft repeated as to how, on Saturday nights, the priest, Father McNulty, would make the rounds, to send home some of the imbibers, and that when warning came that he was on his way, the drinkers would dive under the tables and behind the bar, on the floor.

But, during the daytime, these communities were peaceful and the atmosphere amicable. The adults were thankful for the opportunities of the new country and for the education available to their children. And many of these children grew to be the outstanding merchants, doctors, and dentists

and lawyers of their era. Indeed, several served Paterson as mayors.

On the way to Little Falls we went past the Cedar Grove Cemetery, the Westside Park, and under the railroad trestle and high above the Passaic River, and finally crossed the meandering stream just as entering the very small town of Little Falls. At or near the bridge were "The Little Falls of Little Falls," really a series of cascades, but furnishing sufficient power to run the Beatty Carpet Mill. On the Main Street were several handsome homes belonging to the Beattys, a very lovely old brownstone Dutch Reformed Church, and a few small shops.

We left Main Street to turn onto Lincoln to go a half block to Grandfather Stanley's house. The house was on a large corner plot, now occupied by three houses, but then the ground at the corner of Lincoln and Stanley Avenues was the vegetable garden — with a few rose bushes near the house. Little Falls was a serene village, neat, uncluttered, and seemed almost a part of Paterson. At High School age the children were entered in the Paterson High School. For important shopping, housewives used the Paterson department stores — Meyer Brothers or Quackenbush's. At the same time many Patersonians were going into New York for their important purchases such as the annual winter coat, maybe a tailored suit, or whatever!

On the journey back to Paterson, we traveled a different route, often eventually getting on Valley Road, passing Lambert's Castle and the magnificent Grand Falls. As we left the Falls we went between two silk mills and on one side of the street was a huge water wheel and the runway flowing from its base. There was something very exciting about that exhibition of power! At the same time one could see, through the windows of the factories, the workmen lined before the rows and rows of weaving machines. Occasionally it happened we passed after dark and it was a sight to see the interiors illuminated and to hear the ceaseless noise of the machines. One could not but realize that those workers had long days and a steady repetition of function. But to the onlooker it was a stirring scene.

What a GREAT place was Paterson at the turn of the century.

— Kathryn Stanley Dohr

Folk Finder

The Folk Finder column is devoted to helping genealogical researchers locate northern New Jersey ancestors/descendants. We invite researchers to submit requests for help, inquiries about family names, or queries concerning the exchange of family information. If you can assist any of our submitters, please contact them directly, or call Annita Zalenski (201) 595-7684.

1. Henry B. Steves, 1946 Exchange Street, Attica, NY 14011, would like to obtain information concerning his grandparents, AGATHA DODWSKA from Latvia and ANTHONY GASTOL from Russia-Poland. Agatha and Anthony resided in Passaic, New Jersey circa 1910. Mr. Steves wishes to contact other descendants of this couple.
2. Joan H. Meyer, 17896 W. Big Oaks Road, Wildwood, IL 60030-2024 is helping English friends locate their "cousins." Any information about WILLIAM and/or JAMES EVES, whose last known address was 243 18th Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey, and ROY and LYDIA EVES (or MORRISON) and their three sons, ROLAND, DONALD and HOWARD would be most appreciated.
3. Linda M. Greenwald, 17 Wendell Ave. Ext., Pittsfield, MA 01201, seeks the birthdate and parents of ANN TICE DOTY, who died in Wanaque in 1850. Ann Tice married FERRIS DOTY. Their children were PHEBE born 1789, HESTER born 1791, HENRY born 1793, and SUSAN born 1795.
4. Deirdre Speer, B.A., ULSTER ORIGINS, Stranagar, Desermartin, Co. Londonderry, Ulster (Northern Ireland) BT45 5LP, wishes to contact descendants of her great-grandfather's sisters who immigrated to the USA between 1870 and 1890. The sisters were REBECCA, MARTHA, BELLA, EMILY and ELIZA CURRY/CURRIE. Emily and Eliza resided in Paterson. Ms. Speer knows of the Paterson connection through oral tradition and one photograph taken in Paterson. It is also known that one of the five sisters married a German immigrant and another married a man named GAWN. Any information would be most helpful.
5. Mr. Andrew L. Meeker, 1434 Beaconsfield, Grosse Point Park, MI 48230, would like to purchase a copy of the compiled *Records of Officers and Men of New Jersey in Wars 1791 to 1815*, Trenton, State Gazette Publishing Company, 1909. Mr. Meeker is also interested in acquiring any other books relating to the men of New Jersey who served in the Revolutionary War.
6. Doris Allerman, 33 Pearl Place, Butler, NJ 07405, wishes to purchase a copy of the book *The Van Blaricom Family of New Jersey* by George Olin Zabriskie.

Genealogy Club Schedule

MARCH 11

"Oral History: A Tool for Genealogy"

Muriel Berson

APRIL 8

Field Trip to the National Archives, Bayonne, N.J.

MAY 13

"Mayflower Descendants"

Phyllis Hansen, Secretary to the Mayflower Descendants of N.J.

Meetings are held at 10 a.m. at the Lambert Castle Museum.



Be a Friend

The Friends of the Historical Society are looking for members. The purpose of the Friends group is to promote and support the activities of the Society. The Friends sponsor lectures and bus tours, volunteer, and raise funds to purchase much needed equipment for the Society's museum and library. If you have an interest in preserving local history and have some spare time to share, consider joining the Friends. For more information, please call 881-2761.



This Newsletter is published as a membership privilege of the Passaic County Historical Society, Lambert Castle, Valley Road, Paterson, New Jersey 07503. Telephone (201) 881-2761. Office Hours are Monday through Friday (9:00 - 4:00). President: Dr. Thomas Dayspring; Director: Susan Pumilia.