

# CUMBERLAND PATRIOT

The Cumberland County Historical Society  
Greenwich, New Jersey



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## 51st “CHRISTMAS IN GREENWICH”

*This year, “Christmas in Greenwich” will be held virtually!*

This year, we will be bringing “Christmas in Greenwich” to you! We hope you will join us on Sunday, December 13, 2020 from the comfort of your home with hot cocoa and marshmallows in hand. As you tour and learn the histories of a variety of homes in Greenwich, you will meet the homeowners who care for the houses and who brought to light the houses’ histories.

The event will be available to view on our YouTube Channel. To access our YouTube Channel, search “Cumberland County Historical Society NJ” in the search bar at the top of YouTube.com.

*Photo courtesy of the Cumberland County Historical Society.*

### “SPARE THE ROD, SPOIL THE CHILD”

#### Mayor Arthur C. Whitaker and His Spanking Machine, Bridgeton, NJ 1913 – 1921

*By Brittney Ingersoll*

“Spare the rod, spoil the child” has been used numerous times when reporting on Mayor Arthur C. Whitaker of Bridgeton, NJ and his spanking machine. Whitaker fully agreed with the above phrase and that the rod reformed the children who were met with the machine. (1)

On March 13, 1915, the *Bridgeton Evening News* reported that “some talk of installing a spanking machine at City Hall but in the meantime ‘Cap’ Woodruff is acting as official spanker.” (2) The boy who had undergone the spanking in the same article was James Sutton, who was 12 years old at the time. Prior to the infliction, “he had admitted before Mayor Whitaker that he smoked cigarettes, ran away from school, stayed out nights and kept a pocketbook taken from a little girl at school.” (3) Although, sometime between 1913 and 1914, Whitaker already had the spanking machine installed in City Hall. Some newspapers have reported that the machine was a secret that Mayor Whitaker and the police did not want to share. Due to the embarrassment and shame of being spanked, children who had experienced the machine were not eager to share the secret either. None of the children could be spanked, by the official spanker or spanking machine, without their parents’ consent. (4)

Based on the severity of the crime, the machine would be cranked to a certain level of harshness and rate that it would spank the child. One child was reported to have worn "...three pairs of trousers. One pair used in playing ball..." to soften the blow of the machine, except "the officer who (operated) the machine was not to be fooled and had the lad 'reduce' to one pair." (5) The machine was reported in the local newspapers as having been used disproportionately more on boys than girls and was an alternative punishment to prison. Many of the children whose actions led them to stand before Mayor Whitaker were truancy offenders. (6)

Mayor Whitaker did not administer the punishment, the responsibility of fulfilling the chastisement was on the cops and sometimes parents who wanted to take it upon themselves to participate in the disciplining. For example, Stanley Gould, aged 17, was "...charged with having taken the car of William F. Panz without the owner's consent, instead of washing it as he had been instructed to do." (7) The young adult was sentenced to the spanking machine "...with his father turning the handle." (8)

The spanking machine of Bridgeton was well known across North America and in 1920, Pathe Weekly visited Bridgeton to film the machine. Pathe Weekly was a newsreel company with offices in England and North America. The *Bridgeton Evening News* reported on February 26, 1920 that Mayor Whitaker "...did not take kindly to the request of the Pathe men but it was suggested it might give other cities a hint that the application of the rod might prevent the placing of a boy in a State institution and after putting this phase on the subject the mayor consented." (9) Mayor Whitaker saw this as an opportunity to proselytize his machine that he saw could reform young boys and girls from a life of crime and imprisonment. (10)

Mayor Whitaker seemed to truly believe in his apparatus and its power to 'save' children from the wrong path, that he believed they were on. He praised the spanking machine for transforming the children who had experienced it—from bad to good. While Mayor Whitaker praised his invention for reforming so many children, he did not describe himself as a savior but rather as a friend of the children. He even went as far as to proclaim that the friendship was not one sided, and that some of the kids would return and visit him to update him on how they were doing since the spanking. After years of witnessing the machine at work, Mayor Arthur C. Whitaker was absolute in his view that the proverb "spare the rod, spoil the child" was entirely correct and he had the evidence to prove it – the spanking machine. (11)

(1) "'Official Spanker' At City Hall," *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ) March 13, 1915; "Says 'Spanking Machine' Makes Bad Boys Good" *Healdsburg Tribune*, (Healdsburg, CA), April 23, 1920.

(2) "'Official Spanker' At City Hall," *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ) March 13, 1915.

(3) Ibid.

(4) "Spank Machine Has an Effect Upon the Boys," *The Leader-Post*, (Regina Saskatchewan, Canada), April 19, 2020, Newspapers.com (Accessed 10/6/2020); "'Official Spanker' At City Hall," *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ) March 13, 1915.

(5) "Spanking Machine," *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ), April 19, 1917.

(6) "Fine Parents Before Mayor Whitaker," *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ), March 20, 1917; *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ), March 20, 1917; "Spanking Machine" *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ), April 6, 1918.

(7) "Spanking Machine," *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ), December 20, 1921.

(8) Ibid.

(9) "Pathe Weekly Camera Men to Film Spanking Machine," *Bridgeton Evening News*, (Bridgeton, NJ), February 26, 1920.

(10) "History of Newsreel," <http://sunnycv.com/steve/filmnotes/newsreel.html> (accessed 10/6/2020).

(11) "Mayor's Spanking Machine A Substitute for Jail for Youthful Offenders," *Evening World*, (New York City, NY), March 1, 1920, Newspapers.com (Accessed 10/5/2020); "Spank Machine Has an Effect Upon the Boys," *The Leader-Post*, (Regina Saskatchewan, Canada), April 19, 2020, Newspapers.com (Accessed 10/6/2020); "Spanking Machine' Reforms a Village," *The Saturday Blade*, (Chicago, IL), March 27, 1920, antiqueclippings.blogspot.com.



Photo courtesy of the Cumberland County Historical Society.

Back of the photo reads: "Boys that play [hooky] from school are put through [the] 'spanking machine' (with consent of parents) at Bridgeton NJ. The boy never cares to hear it again. Pathe Weekly cameraman making [a] movie of [the] occasion. Last week six 'movie crazed' boys were spanked for small robberies."

## THE “PARK” BEFORE IT WAS A PARK

By Jim Bergmann

In the second article about the “Park” (*Cumberland Patriot*, Spring 2020—Vol. 52, No. 1—p. 10-11), Robert J. Buck had leased the Cumberland Nail and Iron Company (CN&IC) land in 1893. This act set in motion what would become the Bridgeton City Park we know today.

By 1894, Buck had leased the land CN-IC owned in Deerfield Township to the South Jersey Traction Company (SJTC). Their trolley line came north on Laurel Street (Old Deerfield Pike) to Park Avenue (Rammel’s Mill Road) then turned west. It then turned right into Tumbling Dam Park (TDP) near the bluff overlooking Sunset Lake. At the end of the line, they built a two-story pavilion. The pavilion “had public tables on the second floor and a refreshment booth on the ground level (1). This building sat just to the right, going north, at the end of Cheryl Terrace. Also near the end of Cheryl Terrace, towards the lake, was an octagonal building that held a merry-go-round that cost \$10,000. Just north of the merry-go-round, at the end of Shady Dell Lane, was the Airship Tower that had “flying swings.” All of these structures were on the upper level.

On the lower level, near the lake, and at the end of Gary Plaza, were bath houses. A toboggan slide that ended up on the lake originated on the upper level, and was added later. On the lake front, another two-story pavilion, partly over the water, had been erected earlier. It had a restaurant, ice cream parlor, shuffle boards and other amusements. The site had plans to build a 50-foot observation tower, a grandstand for the baseball field to seat 500 spectators and dressing rooms for the players. The site also hired the City Band, on special occasions, to perform on the trolleys heading to the park. (Tumbling Dam Park was not part of what was to become Bridgeton City Park.)

The pavilion on the lake was aptly named “Sunset Pavilion.” The management of the Pavilion in 1894 was L. Segal Co. The second floor was furnished to accommodate ladies and children. It was also used as a dance hall and had a piano available for patrons. Also in 1894, the number of bath houses was increased from 12 to 24 and work on the marine toboggan began.

In the *Pioneer Newspaper*, June 7, 1894, there were more details about the construction of buildings by SJTC. One was described as being “50 x 30 with eighteen feet posts, and peaked shingle roof,” and was to be erected “sixty feet from the line of the trolley track.” This building sat on the north end of the Sorantino property and partly overlapped onto the property bordered by Cheryl Terrace and Gla-Mar Drive. The building was to be “entirely open downstairs and up with a railing about the upper story” and “will be fitted up handsomely....” There were also “four or five smaller pavilions...along the water’s edge.” SJTC purchased a piece of ground 800 x 400 from Capt. Lehman Garrison. This was adjacent to the trolley tracks to the east, and “between the new road across the tomato patch....” A baseball field was to be laid out along with a five hundred seat grandstand. The article continued that once the Athletic Field was as “level as a billiard table,” then “the grounds will be arranged for baseball, football, tennis and all other athletic performances.” It was to be dedicated on “July 19, American Day, by Welcome Council team in a game probably with the strong Millville Club.”

The 50 x 30 building was to be used for multiple purposes. It was the summer theatre, concert hall, lecture hall, and dance hall. After the TDP closed, it was converted to the “Radio Barn Skating Rink” in 1941. It operated as the site for WSNJ until destroyed by fire in the 1940’s.

The headline in the *Dollar Weekly*, August 12, 1895, read “SUNSET PAVILION—A GREAT CROWD PRESENT ON SATURDAY— Highly successful opening of Smashey and Grosscup’s New Pleasure Resort at the Tumbling Dam.” The crowd was so large they ate up 225 quarts of ice cream, confections, cakes, pies and drank up all the lemonade. The naphtha launch “Adele” was a great success and a second one should be running by the end of the week. The launch ferried passengers from the end of the raceway to a pavilion near Sunset Pavilion. The merry-go-round was still under construction by contractor James E. Hicks for Bob Sylvester. The animals had arrived and were being stored in the pavilion.

Tumbling Dam Park officially opened on May 30, 1895 and there were thousands of people brought there by the SJTC, whose cars were trimmed with gay bunting and flags. There was a baseball game and that evening the Ariel Concert Band of Millville arrived on the 7 o’clock trolley. They were joined by the City Concert Band led by Dr. Tellier. They played songs like “Liberty Bell,” “Manhattan Beach March,” a polka, “Keep on Humming Darkies,” and the waltz, “Estudiantina.” It surely must have been something to see thousands of people, where today there are houses and streets.

While all the attention was being paid to TDP, life was still going on around the raceway and its adjoining woods. The only difference being the people using the raceway and lake had to buy a license to operate their boats on these waterways. The homeowners of the boat houses on Jeddy’s Pond (aka Crystal or Silver Lake) also paid a fee to Buck.

The *Dollar Weekly*, September 15, 1896, reported that Henry Maier, a city tobacconist, was trolling the raceway hoping to hook a bass. Instead, he caught a live alligator. Maier put it on display in his store. The mystery still remains about where it came from or what he finally did with his two and a half foot alligator.

The 1897 season opened on Memorial Day with Mr. Robinson as the Park Superintendent. A May 27th article in the *Bridgeton Evening News* reported that a surveyor “outlined the proposed bicycle track. It will be a fifth of a mile course, fifteen feet wide, and will be inside the ball grounds enclosure.” It was to be built by The Cumberland Construction Company. The article explained that the “corners will be properly thrown up, and it is expected that the track will be one of the fastest in this section of the country.” Also, there was to be a “two hundred foot straight away course” in front of the grandstand. It was to be lighted for night racing.

In the same article it said the carrousel (merry-go-round) built in 1894 was being dismantled by the Traction Company. It was to be moved nearer the bluff overlooking the lake. When reconstructed, it would serve as an amusement hall or concert building. Plans were to have a



"well equipped stage with scenery and dressing rooms." All patrons who came by trolley would be admitted free. Maybe the carrousel wasn't paying its way in the Park. Where did it go? A large 75 x 75 building was erected in 1901 on the lot at the "foot of Laurel Street...to be in use all week with Alonzo Buzby in charge." It also said "this is a very central and conversational location for the carrousel." The owners were Carll and Braunstein. Could it be the one that was in the Park?

By 1900, the Park manager was Mr. Tyler. The *Dollar Weekly*, May 24, 1900, said, "The Band Shell Now Stands in Its New Position in the Large and Beautiful Grove, which is Lighted by Electricity." This "Band Shell" had a dressing room on either side and was located about "midway between the two pavilions...." The article also described what was being done to the Sunset Pavilion at the lake. It said it was "now being thoroughly cleaned...the second floor is to be used as a dancing hall and Lessee Bloomingdale will place his pool tables and shuffle boards in the light and airy story of the upper pavilion. Both pavilions will this season be lighted by electricity." The "upper pavilion" was next to the trolley line.

The subject of a merry-go-round now came up. It said, "The Park has a particularly fine building for it. Contractor Ackley's workmen have been removing some of the partitions within so as to give more room in the building." What building? There was no more written on the subject.

Also in the August 23, 1900 *Bridgeton Evening News*, the headline read "WHERE STRIKES ARE POPULAR." These "strikes" were in the newest attraction in the Park, the newly erected bowling alley. It had "four splendid bowling alleys" installed by Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company. The alleys were modeled after the "famous bowling alleys at Fourth and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, where brokers, bankers and other men of money gather to exercise." The building was built by Smith and Conover and was 50' x 100' long. There was a four-inch foundation with the hardwood alleys on top. The gutters were a "deep maroon" and the "metal work is brightest nickel." The returns were of the latest "pattern, while the stops back of the pit are upon hinges which make them absolutely noiseless when the balls strike them." The Traction Company built and owned the alleys. It was thought the alleys would be a great success and if mild weather prevailed, likely could see bowling parties till Christmas. It would stay open even after the Park closed for the season.

Vaudeville was big in 1901, and shows were usually engaged for a week. Those who rode the trolley were admitted to a "wire enclosure" that had seats. Others had to stand unless they paid a nickel. Some of the performers were Gregory and Durrell, the "great feet-balancing artists" and "Doc Armstrong, the trick bicycle expert." "Doc" had expressed an interest in the desire to "ride his bicycle down the toboggan slide." (1) Well, "Doc" did the deed. It was called his 'ride for life' on his bike down the toboggan. They put strips of wood to cover the "little wheels" about "half-way up, or more, on the slide." If interpreted right, these wheels must help the toboggan on its way down the slide. "Doc" started at the end of the wooden strips and descended "in far less time than it takes to tell it." The slide is very steep at the beginning then leveled off before its last steep descent into the lake. The paper reported his descent was a "breeze" out on to the "raised spring-board placed over the water" and at the end "Doc dived from his wheel into the water, while the wheel tumbled over in the other direction and after striking the water was cared for by a bather." (2) Possibly the first and last time this was attempted.

Now, toboggan sleds were purchased. Two dozen of them came from Canada in 1902. The toboggan slide had also been rebuilt. (3) "GETTING READY FOR THE CARNIVAL" blared the newspaper headline. The "grand carnival," under the management of W. S. Miller, was from New York City. It was to open on September 1st. The men and tents arrived on the 29th. The crew of 36 men would be in charge of the attractions. There was a "tent for the fish pond" and the "Electric Theatre" was in the auditorium. The 'electric theatre' was "Edison's Cinematograph or moving pictures." Performers, including C. T. Wiegman, presented "the latest illustrated songs along with Harry Harper, musical comedian and comic juggler." Local workmen led by Ed M. Fithian were putting up booths for "Hires root beer fountain and Weber's candies." There would be no "gambling tolerated." (4)

The first article on canoes was in the *Bridgeton Evening News*, September 23, 1902. The headline read, "THE ROMANCE OF PINEY POINT." The Point was a favorite destination for the canoeists. The article went on, in the summer, ladies "wore their light dresses" but now "the fair sex wear jacket and walking skirt." The boys "don a sweater instead of open negligee and condescend to wear a hat instead of going bare-headed."

As the article continued to describe Piney Point "where the two trees branch and form a seat, for one, and yes, more often for two...and the pine needles form a carpet, the nooks are numerous, and the fallen logs are in plenty." It was the hope that this would continue for generations to come.

We are now several years into a new century. The CN&IC buildings on the west side of the Cohansey had ceased to operate. There is trepidation as to what would happen to the property. Will it be sold to a developer? Will the "Park" that's not a Park no longer exist? The lease of 1893 on the land and water for the west side of the Cohansey ceased to exist.

All the things that happened at TDP are not part of the "Park" since that land is not part of Bridgeton. It is now privately owned. However, the two were mistaken for one entity over the years. Could one exist without the other? Talk had begun right after the turn of the century to buy the CN&IC land. In a *Bridgeton Evening News* article, April 10, 1902, the owner of Ferracute, Oberlin Smith, sent a letter to Bridgeton City Council. His views ranged from "Financial, Sanitary and Aesthetic" as to why the city should buy the "Park."

Smith's financial reasons included it could be purchased at a "reasonable price," a "good investment," and that "real estate is now very cheap." He envisioned that waterpower would have greater value in the future. In his arguments for Sanitary and Aesthetics, he thought "progressive cities should have ample public parks in a location readily accessible to all the citizens. He feared the land would go to "speculators, who would cut down the trees and disfigure it with ugly buildings."

Mr. P. Kennedy Reeves sent a letter to the *Bridgeton Evening News* in April. A respected leader in the community, he wondered why there was

“opposition to the project.” He focused on the raceway. He wrote, “persons from a distance become enthusiastic when taken ‘up the Race’ for the first time. Boarding scholars at the Institute, Academy and Ivy Hall are sure to send home glowing accounts of its beauties.”

Kennedy felt the people did not “realize what a favor has been granted in the past by the Cumberland Nail and Iron Company in allowing the public free use of their property.” He felt most people objected to the “expense” which he felt was minimal considering the gains having a city park would bring. Kennedy believed the Council should authorize the immediate purchase of the property. The wheels would be set in motion to establish a City Park on September 24, 1902.

This ends the early part of the story of the “Park.” From this point on, the City and the owners of Tumbling Dam Park (Deerfield Township) would see many changes. The biggest being how the city would operate what would become Morningside and Waterworks Parks, the Raceway, Sunset Lake, Jeddy’s Pond and later Elmer Lake Park. There is a fascinating new century to come.

Sources:

- (1) *Bridgeton Evening News* – July 16, 1901.
- (2) *Bridgeton Evening News* – July 18, 1901.
- (3) *Dollar Weekly* – July 5, 1902.
- (4) *Bridgeton Evening News* – August 29, 1902.

## UPDATE ON THE NEW SWEDEN COLONIAL FARMSTEAD MUSEUM (Formerly of Bridgeton, New Jersey, now of Tinicum Township, Pennsylvania)

*By Joe Mathews*

My last update on the reconstruction of Bridgeton’s Farmstead was in the spring 2020 *Cumberland Patriot*. You may recall that we are reconstructing all 7 cabins of the New Sweden Farmstead Museum that used to stand in Bridgeton City Park. We are doing it at Governor Printz Park in Essington, part of Tinicum Township, Pennsylvania, where Gov. Printz established his headquarters in 1643 when Tinicum was an island separated from the mainland by Darby Creek and wetlands. We started with the largest of the cabins called the Main Residence, a 2-room cabin measuring 30’ X 16’. Our chief donor was the Swedish Colonial Society founded in Philadelphia in 1909. Their website is [www.colonialswedes.net](http://www.colonialswedes.net).

In December 2019, to our great surprise and delight, we received a grant of \$177,250 from the Crystal Trust of Wilmington, Delaware. Based on our calculations, this amount should cover the cost of building the remaining six cabins. After waiting for Pennsylvania’s Covid-19 construction ban to be lifted, building began on May 7, 2020. The contractor was the Amish-owned Highline Construction of Atglen, Pennsylvania. A small crew did the work of transporting the logs from their storage sites and sorting them, using the stamped washers that had been screwed into every log indicating its position in the building. The logs could then be mounted on foundations that had been built by the township at its own expense. Some of the logs were entirely or partially rotted and had to be replaced. Atlantic White Cedar replacement logs were purchased at Delmont Sawmill in Leesburg, New Jersey.

Since Covid-19 had closed the newly built splash pad nearby, work could proceed throughout the summer without interruption. This helped us stay within budget. As of August 13th, all of the cabins were up with roofs of cedar shakes. Chinking began a little later and was finished by early October. Still to be built are the two fireplaces, one in the Main Residence and the other in the Forge or Smithy. We hope our budget allows for all of this work; it appears as if it might.

When construction is complete, the New Sweden Company will deed the cabins to the township. Thereafter, the Swedish Colonial Society, Tinicum Township, the Tinicum Township Historical Society, and other Swedish and Finnish heritage organizations will collaborate in conducting education in New Sweden history and culture at the site. The riverfront park has been upgraded and will continue to host many community events. Nearby is the newly renovated 1799 Lazaretto Quarantine Hospital, a Federal-style historic building 3 1/2 stories high and 178 feet in length. It will house township offices and some museum space for New Sweden artifacts.

As one who knows how much work and dedication went into the original creation of the Farmstead in Bridgeton in 1988, I am thankful and proud that it has been given new life in Tinicum. Highline did a great job and turned what were dilapidated cabins into an attractive Swedish homestead that folkloric gnomes would be proud to inhabit! We hope Bridgetonians will come for a visit when we hold events there. The Swedish Colonial Society and other organizations will carry out the same mission that the original creators of the Farmstead did, namely, the preservation and promotion of the history and culture of the New Sweden colony in America.



*Photo courtesy by Bill Moller of the Tinicum Township Historical Society.*

*This is a recent photo of the nearly completed Farmstead in Governor Printz Park in Essington, Pennsylvania. Only five cabins of the seven cabins are visible.*

## WHERE IN THE WORLD IS JAHOKAVILLE?

*By Bill Saunderlin*

Every once in a while, it takes a collaborated effort to put together a story. This is one such story.

I was first alerted to Jahokaville while looking for a death notice for a research request in the local newspaper. While scanning through some *Bridgeton Chronicle* newspapers, I came across a notice which mentioned that this particular person had died in this community. I did not give it much thought at that moment because, on occasion, a family may put a death notice in the newspaper for someone who lives outside of this area. People move away but still want to alert friends, family, and former neighbors of their loved one's passing. This was in a March, 1883 Bridgeton newspaper. While still searching for another death notice, I came across two more notices within a couple of months that also mentioned Jahokaville. That piqued my attention as this was surely a local location and not somewhere outside of our region.

After seeing this, I asked my colleagues in the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical and Historical Library, if anyone knew where Jahokaville was located. No one seemed to know. I then documented these people and the data listed from the newspapers.

On my next trip to the New Jersey State Archives, I hoped to find a death certificate for these individuals to pinpoint a location. The location of Jahokaville started to piece together after finding the three different death certificates. It was recorded on their



death certificates that they all lived in Fairfield Township, above the Clark's Pond area. Even afterwards, while looking into maps and other sources, I had little else to go on.

Since I knew that Glenn Bingham, a friend of mine, was a very thorough researcher, I contacted him. I had a feeling that this would put him to the test! As it turns out, he stated that he never heard of Jahokaville (spelled various ways) but accepted the challenge to look further into this. Glenn also has many research friends so he put it out there to them to see if anyone had any knowledge about Jahokaville.

A friend of Glenn's, Bob Howey, contacted him to say that he found a publication by the Genealogical Society of New Jersey. It is called "Church Archives in Cumberland County." The Jahoqueville Church was listed with a brief historical write-up explaining that the A.M.E. Church of Jahoqueville was organized in 1838 and built in 1850. It states that the church burned down in 1910 and no longer exists. There was also mention of a cemetery but is now abandoned. It also states that Jahokaville was once a stop for slaves fleeing via the underground railway.

In the meantime, I had met Bill McLean from Fairfield Township, who had also recently learned of the settlement of Jahokaville. Bill related to me that he has a friend who is a lineman, who was doing work up in the bucket, when he looked down to see a few tombstones off in the distance. He knew that Bill lived nearby and had explored most cemeteries in the area. Bill had not known of this one. When time allowed, he did go back to explore some more of this area and talked to the immediate neighbors.

I see by a few of the death certificates that this cemetery was known as Friendship Cemetery. Could it be that the church was also named that? Most of the people that I researched from this area fall in the timeline between 1875 to 1920. Perhaps very little has been documented around Jahokaville area before that time. I still do not know how Jahokaville got its name and evolved. This settlement seemed to be an unknown area, with an unknown name, with little documentation.

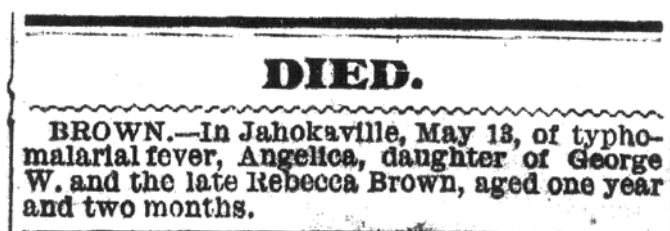
The area's boundaries are sketchy. Listed on the West Jersey History Project website, under Cumberland County old names and places, it mentions Jehokieville as a black settlement on Burlington Road at the intersection of Pamphylia Avenue.

Glenn, through his meticulous researching of maps, tax records, census records, etc., places the area called Jahokaville as south of Shoemaker Lane—north of the Gouldtown/Fairton Road, centered around Burlington Road, and extending some just east of Burlington Road.

To give you an idea as to the location today, if you are not familiar with the roads in the area, is that Jahokaville was situated southeast of Bridgeton, northeast of Fairton, and southwest of Gouldtown.

Glenn had put a lot of research effort into this Jahokaville project and it was intended only for us as a research history reference to that area. As time goes by, I feel this part of our local history could be forgotten. I am trying to make this area known for future researchers.

If anyone can add more knowledge about the Jahokaville settlement, please let me know! Perhaps if we know about the history of the church, or know the names off of the tombstones that remain in that cemetery, that could help in expanding our knowledge about Jahokaville and its history.



*Article courtesy of Bridgeton Chronicle Newspaper,  
Friday, May 18, 1883, page 2.*

From Straney, Shirley Garton. *Church archives in Cumberland County, New Jersey : an inventory.* (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Genealogical Society of New Jersey, 1982). P. 60 (entry 46)

46. Jahoqueville Church

An A.M.E church was organized in 1838 and built their church in 1850, which was still there in 1876. This was on the west side of Burlington Road across from Carney's near Fairton. The tiny settlement was once a stop for slaves fleeing through the underground railway. The people of the church got their drinking water from and outside open well across the road from the church in what is now Minous Carney's house. The church burned down before 1910, the cemetery is there but abandoned. The data is from Elizabeth (Mrs. Minous) Carney who currently lives in the house.

*Article sent to Glenn Bingham on August 16, 2013.*

## BRIDGETON TEN YEARS HENCE

*By Jim Bergmann*

On March 19, 1880, *The Bridgeton Evening News* ran the following article—"Bridgeton Ten Years Hence." It was the writer's prediction of what Bridgeton would look like in 1890. He begins "the stranger, who promenades our streets the year above mentioned, will observe many handsome dwellings with plate glass fronts, and perhaps ambitiously rearing themselves nearer the heavens than the present residences, with greater elegance of structure, and perhaps Corinthian or iconic columns. At night, he will see these same mansions brilliantly illuminated with the electric light, as also the street lamps. The heating of the town will be done by a 'joint stock company,' who will have vast boilers at some central point, or in suburbs, and steam pipes will connect with those houses that will supply water as now furnished.

There will be statuary and fountains, as in the continental cities. There will be one or more 'tramways' or street railroads, running directly from the depot through Pearl and other streets, up Broad, and going along Broad to the Academy, and in other directions.

The anticipated opera house, "Apollo Hall" (or by whatever cognomen it may be known), will present a brilliant appearance in the winter season.

The much talked of gravel and mud sidewalks will give place to flagstone and brick pavements. It is likely the Cohansey will be ploughed by a line of swift and commodious steamers.

Our agricultural fairgrounds will be much improved...we must earnestly hope that the twelve mile an hour English bicycle may not take possession of the sidewalks.

*The Bridgeton Evening News* will be much magnified, and we hope of great importance not only to the general public, but also to ourselves, 'so mote it be.'"

Plate glass windows were just coming into use at that time as were the columns. By 1890, electricity was beginning to replace gas lighting but the dream of steam heat only got to the buildings downtown. Trolleys took a few years longer to appear. An opera house would be built but was called "Moore's Opera House." The pavements and sidewalks did improve in some areas. There were steamers on the Cohansey by then, and the fairgrounds moved to Fayette Street in 1891. As far as the "twelve mile an hour English bicycle," that's another story. *The Bridgeton Evening News* did grow in importance by 1890. Whoever the fellow was that wrote the article did a decent job with his predictions.

About three weeks later in the April 3rd issue of *The Bridgeton Evening News*, a letter appeared signed, "Broad St." It began with "Gravel Stones" and went on, "I have been meditating for a long time an answer to much of the irresponsible stuff I read from day to day in *The Bridgeton Evening News*, touching the matter of brick pavements, new flagging, new hall, etc. Much of this silly nonsense emanates from the brain of some shallow thinkers who never stop to count cost (when someone else has the bill to foot) but just hollow 'reform,' improvement, or whatever they conceive in harmony with popular clamor.

These so called reformers, not having a cent to pay themselves in the way of public improvement, they can look complacently on and see others taxed out of existence, that they enjoy the luxury of being free with other people's money.

First, the *Bridgeton Daily* called for Water Works and it came, water works, debt and all.

Just because some hare-brained persons would convert Bridgeton into a paradise or public square. In short, we are opposed to the proposed improvements unless the individuals benefitted pay for it themselves."



The use of “we” might mean that more than just one taxpayer is unhappy on Broad Street. They may not realize that the sidewalk area doesn’t belong to anyone individual but is the responsibility of the City. As far as Bridgeton being converted into “paradise” the only place might have been the park which was not mentioned. Nothing new in politics.

## THE PHILIP DENNIS HOUSE—Where Patriotism Was Fed

*By Bill Saunderlin*

On occasion, while researching into older local newspapers, I often come across an article that I was not aware of previously.

One such item that caught my eye recently, was a column written by Carl Williams. This front page article was in the February 10th edition of *The Bridgeton Evening News* in 1933. It informs the reader about the Philip Dennis House, built circa 1725 in Greenwich Township, near Bayside.

The story goes on to state that an extremely large oven in the Dennis House is said to have produced many loaves of bread for the Cumberland County Militia, who were stationed in and around Greenwich during the Revolutionary War days.

Philip Dennis was the son of Jonathan Dennis, a member of the first group of settlers who immigrated to the Greenwich area from various parts of New England and from the coastal region of middle New Jersey. Upon the death of Jonathan Dennis in 1720, his son, Philip, inherited a large tract of land in Greenwich Township, partly bounded by the Delaware Bay. It was on this tract that Philip Dennis and wife, Lucy Bacon Dennis, built their home and raised seven children. Philip’s Creek, as noted in Greenwich Township in the 1876 *Cumberland County Atlas*, was named after him.

I have found no documentation or actual proof as to the verification of the bread baking endeavor, given to our local patriots. Perhaps this has been passed down over the years by friends, neighbors, and family members. If anyone can contribute more to this story, please let me know. I do know that patriotism ran high in this region due to the dedication and commitment towards the cause for independence.

Sadly, this ancient home has collapsed and no longer exists. At least this story of our forefather’s efforts towards the cause lives on!

**DOLLAR WEEKLY NEWS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1933**

### Tells About Dennis House, Where Bread Was Made For Revolutionary Soldiers

Like So Many Other American Colonial Homes, Was  
Built Near Navigable Waterway—Original  
Structural Features Have Been Retained,  
Including Parlour.

*Photo and article from the  
Dollar Weekly News on  
Friday, February 17, 1933.*

Colonial, gambrel-roofed house in Bacon’s Neck, Greenwich Township, built about the year 1725, by Philip Dennis. Tradition relates that in an ancient oven in this house many loaves of bread were baked for the subsistence of Revolutionary soldiers encamped in nearby sections.

*Paragraph taken from the Dollar Weekly News  
on Friday, February 17, 1933.*



*Photo from the Dollar Weekly News  
on Friday, February 17, 1933.*

## THE OLD STONE CHURCH

*By Jim Bergmann*

In 1906, the New Jersey Society—Sons of the American Revolution, published the book, **Patriotic Poems of New Jersey**.

Included, along with 97 other poems, was “The Old Stone Church, Fairton, Cumberland County, NJ 1780-1880.” The poem was read in September, 1880 at the centennial celebration at the church. The church’s connection to the Revolutionary War was through Rev. Ethan Osborn, who is described in the poem. Rev. Osborn graduated from Dartmouth College and enlisted in the Continental Army at the age of 18. He was with General Washington “during the retreat across the Jerseys in the times that tried men’s souls.” (1) The poem follows:

The Old Stone Church, time-worn and gray,  
Survives, through since its natal day  
A hundred years have passed away,

Still stands, while those who planned and reared,  
Its walls have long since disappeared,  
A sacred shrine, beloved, revered.

With hallowed memories running o’er,  
With visions of the times of yore,  
Dear to each heart forevermore.

And with them comes the kindly face,  
Of one, whose life was fondly trace—  
A Pastor full of heavenly grace.

A youth when, in those distant days,  
He led the flock in wisdom’s ways,  
With words of love and prayer and praise.

And still, through half a century,  
Of sweet devotion, lived to be,  
A Father in God’s ministry;

Till with the weight of years oppressed,  
His mission closed, accepted, blessed,  
He tranquilly lay down to rest,

And re-united now with those,  
Whom, gathered here, these graves enclose,  
The Pastor and his flock repose.

But the archangel's trump shall sound,  
And God himself rend every mound,  
Within this silent burial ground.

Then shall the dead awake, and be  
Redeemed from death's deep mystery,  
To life and immortality.

The fathers sleep; but what they wrought,  
The faith and love their lives have taught,  
Survive the changes time has brought.

And cherished with their memory,  
Prized as a precious legacy,  
The Old Stone Church shall ever be.

The poem was written  
by Francis DeHaes Janvier.

Source:

(1) **Patriotic Poems of New Jersey**, Chosen and Annotated by William Clinton Armstrong, New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution, 1906, p. 193.

## ACQUISITIONS – LUMMIS LIBRARY 2020

*By Warren Q. Adams*

**DONOR: Constance C. Schuchard (Roadstown, NJ)** 11" x 14" photo of Henry Welden, restorer of Ware rush seats, by Barry Solof, of Elmer; Original legal document, April 10, 1802, BridgeTown, NJ., Daniel Bowen to Benjamin Minch; Booklets 2 ea. "*Day in Old Newcastle*"; Booklet, "*A Citizens Guide to Creating Historic Districts*"; *Pennsylvania Dutch Stuff*, 1964; *Early American Life* magazine, 5 copies; Prints, nine copies of notable buildings in Cumberland County by James Cox.

**DONOR: David & Diann Ewan (Millville, NJ)** *South Jersey, A History 1664-1923* (4 Volume set); Fresnel Lens Marker Light—owned by John DuBois.

**DONOR: Valerie Baron (Port Elizabeth, NJ)** *Estate of Ruth Gibson Hedden; Bridgeton, Gem of Jersey*, Pamphlet, *The Town of Bridgeton*; Letter, 1933 by Elizabeth Shelling Rice Brooks; Rice family genealogy.

**DONOR: Vineland Historical Society (Vineland, NJ)** *A Souvenir of Bridgeton, 1895*; Organization papers of the Cumberland County Historical Society, November 4, 1905.

**DONOR: Bernadette Gimber (Bridgeton, NJ)** *Bridgeton Evening News*, August 3, 1934, November 21, 23, 24, 1933.

**DONOR: Kevin Chambers (Ocean Grove, NJ)** Deed, Jacob & Mary Sheppard to Phenix Cozier, 1848; Bill of Sale, Isaac Wynn to Ichabod Compton Esq. & John Hill (for the sloop Tabitha); Deed, Jacob & Sarah Sheppard to Phenix Cozier, 1879; *Colonial Homes* May - June 1980; 2 butter knives—engraved "T. H. Bowen & Co., Bridgeton, NJ"; Photo of Alan H. Lurch, S. J. Institute, 1904; Photo, Bridgeton Birthday Party; Check - First National Bank of Woodstown, 1923; City National Bank Salem; Millville National Bank; (Cumberland Co. Gas Co.), Receipt to Stevens & Danzenbaker, Cedarville; Receipt to Adams & Garrison, Cedarville; Lease, Herbert H. Wilson to Daniel Goss, 1934; *Small Towns, Black Lives; Timber Building in Britain*.

**DONOR: Geraldine Viola Ross (Springtown, NJ)** *Springtown Joins the Making of History*.



## 19th CENTURY BIRTH LEDGER BY MARTHA AUSTIN REEVES (1760-1832) Part 5

By Bill Saunderlin

This article is a continuation of the list from the ledger book by Martha Austin Reeves. As a refresher, Martha acted as a midwife, logging the births that she attended from 1801 to 1832. They were known to have taken place in the Stow Creek/Shiloh area. The logged documentations in their entirety include medical supplies administered by her and births. These notations expand through five numbers of the *Vineland Historical Magazine*, a quarterly periodical. This article ran from July 1939 through July 1940.

Spellings of certain names may not be accurate. More of her birth records will be continued in the next *Cumberland Patriot* edition and beyond.

## Births – 1812

January  
23 – George Cawman—son—David  
24 – David Cook—daughter—Phebe

February  
11 – Rev. John Davis—son—David Bond Davis  
15 – Jedidiah Davis—Daughter—?

March  
22 – Jedidiah Hall—daughter—Ruth Ann  
24 – John Demaris—son—Enoch  
27 – George Souder—twin daughters—Sarah and Mary

April  
7 – Joseph Bivens—son—Joseph  
21 – Samuel Davis—twins—daughter, Lucy and son, Samuel  
27 – John Dilshaver—son—John  
30 – Samuel Merriot—daughter—?

May  
1 – Henry Ott—son—John  
14 – James Dunn—son—John

June  
10 – Jonathan Fithian—daughter—Sarah

July  
7 – Frederick Fox—daughter—Susanna  
12 – George Johnson—son—Andrew  
14 – James Davis—daughter—Rebecca  
24 – Jacob Miller—daughter—Charlotte

August  
6 – James Garton—daughter—Lydia  
19 – David Reeves—daughter—Martha Moriah Reeves  
29 – Andrew Johnson—son—Henry  
30 – William Duffield—twin daughters—Phebe and Susan  
31 – Malacha Long—daughter—Santha (Cynthia?)

September  
10 – William Sayre—son—William  
14 – Lewis Danzenbaker—son—Daniel

October  
1 – John Bowen—daughter—Abigail  
5 – Joseph Miller—daughter—Harriet  
22 – John Walling—twins—daughter, Rebecca and son, Simon

November  
15 – John Shoemaker, Sr.—daughter—Margaret

December  
3 – Lewis Davis—daughter—Malissa  
3 – Joshua Mickle—son—Samuel  
8 – David Sheppard—son—David  
15 – Jonathan Garton—son—George Washington Garton

## Births – 1813

January  
15 – David Bowen—son—?  
31 – Jonathan Cornwell—daughter—Lydia

February  
1 – Ashbury Maul—daughter—Mariah  
12 – Elnathan Davis (Jr.)—daughter—Almeda  
26 – John Shoemaker—son—?

April  
5 – George Danzenbaker—daughter—Nancy  
14 – Richard Randolph—son—Joseph  
18 – Daniel Johnson—son—Samuel  
30 – Elizabeth Pierson—son—?

May  
15 – Thomas West (Jr.)—daughter—Adaline

June  
27 – Samuel Davis—son—George B. Davis

July  
2 – John West—son—Asa  
9 – David Davis—son—James

August  
1 – Rev. Nathaniel Reeve—daughter—Elizabeth  
29 – Benjamin Diamant—daughter—Eliza

September  
2 – Dickason Davis—daughter—Abigail  
13 – Daniel Bowen—daughter—Jane  
21 – Rev. John Davis—son—Jonathan  
28 – Joseph Swinney—daughter—Julie Ann

October  
12 – Lewis Moore—daughter—Elizabeth  
27 – Jonathan Merriott—son—Reuben

November  
5 – Sheppard Brooks—daughter—Charlotte  
7 – Azariah McFerson—daughter—Eunice  
10 – John Elwell—daughter—Anna Maria Elwell  
17 – Rachel Bacon—daughter—Nancy

December  
19 – Lawrence Casper—daughter—Rose Ann Casper

## Births – 1814

January  
10 – Preston Stratton—son—?  
11 – Jonathan T. Garrison—son—Jonathan Thompson Garrison  
31 – Azariah Moore—son—George Washington Moore

February  
18 – John Demaris—son—Elijah

March  
7 – Jeremiah T. Foster—daughter—Ruth Thompson Foster

April  
1 – David Reeves—daughter—Eliza Ann  
3 – Jacob Welch—daughter—Mariah  
28 – James Dunn—son—David

May  
10 – Jonathan Cornwell—daughter—Emily  
23 – Stephen Reeves—son—Joseph Theacre Reeves  
26 – George Shimp—son—Archibald  
27 – Uriah Gilman—daughter—Elizabeth Reeves Gilman  
28 – David Cook—daughter—Hannah

June  
2 – James Garton—daughter—Mary  
16 – John Sayre—daughter—Mary  
24 – Malacha Long—son—Daniel  
29 – Samuel Sayre—son—Jonathan

July  
1 – Elijah Riley—twins—daughter, Patience and son, Elijah  
7 – David Bowen—son—Abner  
7 – William Garrison, Jr.—daughter—Hannah  
20 – Samuel West—daughter—Ruth

August  
1 – Joseph Bivens—son—Benjamin  
4 – Mary West—daughter—Mariah  
11 – William Garrison, Esq.—son—William  
26 – David Fraser—daughter—Elizabeth

September  
3 – Levi Davis—daughter—Lucretia  
16 – Malon Davis—son—Evan

October  
19 – George Johnson—daughter—Susanna

November  
6 – Joshua Barrett—son—Ebenezer  
12 – Rev. John Davis—daughter—Susan Jane Davis  
20 – John Randolph—daughter—Rachel  
23 – Daniel Bowen—daughter—Lydia

December  
16 – Beriah Loper—daughter—Eliza Ann Loper

***A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO OUR NEWEST CCHS MEMBERS:***

**Frank DeMaio, Vineland, New Jersey**  
**Alfred C. and Lisa A. Laubsch, Jr., Bridgeton, New Jersey**  
**Mary Liber, Hamburg, Pennsylvania**  
**Danita Smith, Cincinnati, Ohio**

**THANK YOU FOR BECOMING A MEMBER!**

Thank you for your interest in the preservation of your community's history and joining the Cumberland County Historical Society! Your membership helps the Society in fulfilling its mission "to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the county through acquisitions, collections, exhibits and research, educational programs and publications for the benefit of current and future generations."

Your membership is valid for one year and is up for renewal every January. The fee for the membership is tax deductible.

**Benefits:**

- Periodic issues of the *Cumberland Patriot* newsletter (Physical & Digital Copy).
- To access the digital copies of the *Patriot*, visit: <https://cchistsoc.org/newsletters/>.
- The password is: 2020cchs. Please do not share the password.
- Free photocopies at the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Library (limited).
- Discount for the hearthside dinners—except for the January dinner.
- Members receive hearthside dinner dates prior to non-members.
- \$2 discount to annual Artisans' Faire and Marketplace admission. (September, 2021)
- \$2 discount to annual "Christmas in Greenwich" admission. (December, 2021)
- Discount for the annual business/dinner meeting. (November, 2021)

Note: If you have not received a membership card or need a replacement, please do not hesitate to call the CCHS at 856-455-8580.

**2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

The Cumberland County Historical Society greatly appreciates your interest, dedication, and support. Your membership helps the Society in fulfilling its mission "to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the county through acquisitions, collections, exhibits and research, educational programs and publications for the benefit of current and future generations." As we wrap up 2020 and this being the last *Cumberland Patriot* of the year, we would like to send a friendly reminder that it is time to renew your membership. Any membership purchased prior to October 1st will need to be renewed for 2021. If you are unsure whether you are a lifetime member or not, please contact us at 856-455-8580. The form below is to be used to fill out and mail back with a check payable to CCHS to PO Box 16, Greenwich, NJ 08323 by January 31, 2021. Dues that are not paid in January will result in a lapse of membership. Thank you again for your continued support!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you are interested in the preservation of your community’s history, then we invite you to become a member of the Cumberland County Historical Society. Your membership helps the Society in fulfilling its mission “to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the county through acquisitions, collections, exhibits and research, educational programs and publications for the benefit of current and future generations.”

Your membership is valid for one year and is up for renewal every January. The fees for the membership are tax deductible. Those who join late in the year will receive past copies of the *Cumberland Patriot* newsletter of that year. Letters and emails will go out notifying you when your membership needs to be renewed.

Benefits:

- \*Member must present membership card
- Periodic issues of the *Cumberland Patriot* newsletter (Physical & Digital Copy)
- Free photocopies at the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Library (limited)
  - Discount for the hearthside dinners (except for January’s dinner)
  - Members receive hearthside dinner dates prior to non-members
- \$2 discount to annual Greenwich Artisans’ Faire and Marketplace admission
  - \$2 discount to “Christmas in Greenwich” admission
  - Discount for the annual business/dinner meeting

Membership Fees:

- Individual \$20
- Couple \$30
- College Student (w/ID) \$15
- Under 18 years of age \$10
- Digital Membership \$10

\*Digital membership gives members access to digital copies of the *Cumberland Patriot* newsletter. No other membership benefits are included in the digital membership.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me. I wish to volunteer.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Mission Statement:** The Cumberland County Historical Society was established in 1905 to erect the Tea Burners' Monument. More than 100 years later, we are committed to our mission "to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the county through acquisitions, collections, exhibits and research, educational programs and publications for the benefit of current and future generations."

### OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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### PLEASE NOTE: VISITS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!

**For a tour of the Alan Ewing Carman Museum of Prehistory of Cumberland County and the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Library, please call 856-455-8580 to schedule an appointment.**

**For a tour of the Gibbon House, please call 856-455-4055 to schedule an appointment.**

### Hours of the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical and Historical Library and other local museums in Greenwich:

#### Warren & Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Library

**856-455-8580**

Wednesday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Saturday and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.  
Closed mid-December to first week in January

#### The Alan Ewing Carman Museum of Prehistory of Cumberland County

**856-455-8141**

Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.  
Closed mid-December, January, February and March

#### c. 1730 Gibbon House

**856-455-4055**

Tuesday through Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.  
Closed mid-December, January, February and March

#### 1852 John DuBois Maritime Museum

**856-455-1774**

**Due to maintenance construction, the Maritime Museum  
is temporarily closed until further notice.**

#### Cumberland County Historical Society's Office

**856-455-8580**

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1 to 4 p.m.  
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