

Chapter III

Neighborhood Areas, Properties, & Landmarks

Ye Olde Valley Inn

We find a true example of a "Historical Treasure" in Springettsbury Township: "Ye Olde Valley Inn." This landmark remained until 1962 when it was dismantled and removed to Susquehanna Gardens in York County where it has been restored.

John Greist, an English Quaker, was among the first settlers west of the Susquehanna River. In 1738, he built for his family a two-story limestone blockhouse, sixteen feet square. In those days, men's homes, in addition to protection from the elements, were built to withstand the possible attack of hostile Indians. His original building had a door and three windows facing the road and four windows on the second floor. Each window had two sashes, each containing six panes of glass. In those days, oiled and casement windows were used more often than glass windowpanes and sashes; these glass panes were a sign of financial affluence. Greist's home was erected five years after Penn's heirs permitted land grants to be issued in the area west of "The River". *It was the first inn of this area.*

Owners since have been variant. Edward Shippen to John Michael Beard in 1749; John Michael Beard to son George Beard in 1774; George Beard to Abraham Hiestand in 1814; Abraham Hiestand to widow, Susan Hiestand, to Abraham S. Hiestand, June 4, 1860. Hiestand to Loucks, date not determined; Daniel Loucks estate to Henry A. Hiestand and Susanna, to John S. Hiestand, April 19, 1879; John S. Hiestand to Susanna Hiestand, April 1, 1880; Susanna Hiestand and Henry A. Hiestand to John W. Gable, April 23, 1883; John W. Gable willed to his daughter, Susan H. Frank, February 11, 1921; Susan H. Frank to John G. and Henry H. Frank, April 13, 1934; Henry Frank et al to Manor Real Estate Company April 1, 1953; Manor Real Estate Company to Chase Manhattan Bank between 1953 and 1962; Chase Manhattan Bank to McCarthy Hyland Corp. December 3, 1962; McCarthy Hyland Corp. leased to McCrory Corp., December 3, 1962.

Note, John W. Gable and John and Henry Frank were married to family descendants of Hiestands. John Wesley Gable married Elizabeth M. Hiestand in Hellam, September 25, 1875. She was the daughter of Henry and Susan (Loucks) Hiestand. They had two children: Susan H. Gable, born June 25, 1877, who married Harry Frank September 20, 1899, and had three boys: John Gable Frank born February 21, 1902; Harry (Henry) Hiestand Frank born February 24, 1904; and Chauncy who died in infancy.

When John Greist sold the property, a new owner enlarged it and opened the house as an inn. Under Abraham Hiestand as proprietor, *the tavern became the largest west of the Susquehanna River.* Westward travel increased the fame of the Hiestand Tavern, and before the time of the railroads, it became a noted hotel. When Hiestand enlarged the building, he provided a ballroom on the second floor that was 50 feet long and 30 feet wide. The ballroom was well equipped, furnished and spacious. The landlord and his wife prepared bountiful suppers, and this was a great inducement to sleighing parties during the middle of the nineteenth century.

In the early days, this area, the Heart of the York Valley, was the scene of varied and heated discussions. An English general tried unsuccessfully to secure supplies and Conestoga wagons from the Pennsylvania Dutch of York County. They refused his request. Benjamin Franklin traveled from Philadelphia to York to successfully intercede with local settlers to make up a Conestoga wagon train of supplies for the Western Campaign.

When the Continental Congress sat in York in 1777 and 1778, visiting Colonial delegates frequented the Inn.

While the railroad was being built the civil engineers stayed in this house. Many parties were given here. *The inn was also an important link in the "Underground Railroad."* This was historically important for having aided runaway slaves *during the years immediately preceding the Civil War.* The great cellars under the inn had an opening to an old tunnel in which the escaping slaves are said to have been concealed when searching parties arrived.

In more recent years, the inn was two-and-one-half stories high. The original part was a blockhouse, a northeast parlor, with rooms immediately over it. Through the house ran a broad hall with rooms on either side. The front room on the west was originally the bar with a parlor behind it. Behind this was the large old kitchen with an enormous old fireplace. Other parlors were across the hall, and beyond them another hall and more rooms. There were a number of bedrooms upstairs, besides the former ballroom and some of the old doors and their hinges and locks remained.

When Ye Olde Valley Inn was dismantled, the findings were amazing. Among the discoveries were: (1) joists with an arc on the cove cornices, proof of the date of structure; (2) after removal of plaster, original paintings on the original wall were perfectly preserved; (3) a central chimney, the biggest surprise; (4) three windows where only two were known to exist in the 1740s; the third window on both floors, instead of two, along the sides of the house had been covered with stone in the 1800s when the inn was remodeled and expanded. Artifacts found included old shoes, old coins (one dated 1740), and pieces of pottery used in the early colonial period.

The timbered ceiling in parts of the cellar, with stones filled in to form it, is believed to be part of the original structure built in the 1730s. It was later expanded. There was Germanic timbering in the ceiling with interstices, which filled with rubble. There were cellars probably from the second extension work indicated changes in the brick work on the west wall, which indicated the inn had been extended to the rear and above the second floor. It is also thought that the earlier part had probably had a pent roof on the first floor and pent eaves on the second.

On the west end of the front the first four windows and the door between were of earlier date than the windows to the east, probably built in the most recent addition.

Evidence of growth was also seen in the third floor attic, the hand-hewn timbering now extended where the exterior wall about halfway across the present width of the building.

Other exterior features included original doors with wrought-iron hinges and catches and a considerable amount of hand-hewn, both in the attic and in the cellar.

The Schultz House

Nearly all-pioneer homes of early settlers of Springettsbury Township were log cabins. The hands of the immigrant built them themselves, and by the assistance of associates who followed him to the frontier. The first log houses were built from logs hewed from trunks of trees and made into beams and rafters.

Only a few early settlers built their dwellings from stone in the middle of this virgin forest. John Schultz, who settled with his wife in what was then Hellam Township, was one of these. He built his home, in 1734, a short distance east of York. It was a two-story dwelling, which still stands in Springettsbury Township and is in excellent state of preservation.

In its early history it was an old-time public inn. It had many interesting stories through colonial days and Revolutionary times. Tradition says *on September 30, 1777, the members of Continental Congress, on their way from Philadelphia to make York the seat of our nation's government, stopped at this inn for rest and refreshment.* In spite of its antique design, the house is a comfortable residence to this day.

A stone on one of the walls on the north side of this house contains the following words, carved carefully on a sandstone tablet: "17 a n o 34 bhab ich, Johann Schultz and Christina, seine frau dieses haus baut." Translation: "In the year 1734, John Schultz and his wife Christina built this house."

A short distance southwest of this historic property was the site of the prison used to confine British prisoners of war in the years 1781 and 1782.

The current owner of this property, Mrs. Clair Rowe (Beatrice), showed our author the cellar. The areas along the stonewalls, which faced the east side of the house, had spaces that were now filled in with stone and mortar. Mrs. Rowe pointed out that in early days these areas were openings in the walls and were used as a source of setting up protective weapons in case of attacks by intruders.

Mrs. Rowe also told us that when Johann Schultz built their home, his wife Christina carried mortar in buckets, used by Johann in his construction of their home.

The Monocacy Road was located in the area, in what is the lawn on the north side of her house. We can readily visualize its continued course along the Brubaker farm, at the time when Camp Security was existent on the property.

A spring on this property still supplies the water for the current family's needs. This same spring was a source of supply was a source of supply for the inhabitants at Camp Security.

The Hermit House

The Hermit house was built in 1740. It was originally designed and used as an ore weighing station called "Chestnut Hill Iron Ore Weighing Station."

In later years, the house was known as the "Hermit House" since a hermit, Curvin Houser, was the occupant for several years. Curvin lived in this area when a young man. He later moved to Philadelphia, where he worked as a train conductor. Curvin's father bought the farm with the stone house, where Curvin lived when he returned from Philadelphia.

Curvin farmed the land on this property, using horses and mules. Mr. Houser attended York County Academy.

Preston Chronister told us the hermit lived on this house without electricity, heat, plumbing or running water. He heated by use of wood fires in old stoves and lighted his way with lanterns.

He enjoyed eating prunes, shredded wheat, cheese, and sardines. He also ate fruit from the surrounding areas--some from the fields of neighboring farms, without the farmers' permission.

When the hermit would venture into the community, he was known to buy items using coins all dated the same year. He bought groceries at a grocery store in the Stony Brook area. The owners of this store shared this comment with us.

The hermit collected many items during his life and stored them in a haphazard and disorganized manner throughout the house. However, he was very particular with his firewood and with his opened cans. He cut all his firewood exactly the same length, using a measuring stick, and stacked it very neatly. Likewise, he saved all the cans he opened and stored them inside each other.

Mr. Houser had very visitors. Two known sisters were Mrs. Dietz and Mrs. Shenk. He did have milk delivered by Rutter Brothers.

Mr. Houser died in January of 1967 and was buried at Mt. Zion Cemetery.

The Hermit House was restored under the direction of Joe Kindig. It stands northeast of Pleasant Acres County Home, on Pleasant Valley Road. Mark and Shari Innerst own it. Most of its original floorboards, doors, woodwork, and hardware are still intact.

Homesteads

In the early 1900s, these beautiful homes, located in Springettsbury Township, included: "The Maples," home of John S. Heistand; "Avondale," owned by Col. A. C. Matthews; "The Woods," owned by Horace Keesey; "The Cedars," owned by Thomas A. Myers; "Blooming Dale," owned by Charles S. Weiser; "Elmwood," owned by Mrs. John H. Small; and the residences of Dr. K.L. Eisenhart, Edward Myers, and John Laing.

Mrs. Horace Keesey told us her late husband's father (Vincent) built his mansion in 1906. Mrs. Arlene Imes recalls that the Horace Keesey family built "The Woods" mansion on the northeast corner of Market Street. It was their summer home before Lincoln Woods.

East York was the Keesey Farm. John Longstreet bought it and developed East York. Mr. Longstreet built a house at North Hills Road and Wallace Street for his farmer, John Smith, grandfather of Arlene Imes. (John's daughter, Clara, married Clayton Dietz.)

The Joe Kindig farm was the area where Fayfield is located. Mr. Kindig dealt with wild horses. Mr. Smith trained wild horses from the West and then they were sold.

The Fayfield area still has a section without cement sidewalks, but the area is well kept. On John Smith's residence was a lovely springhouse. The Smiths had peacocks and deer.

In 1933, Clayton Dietz owned the wooden frame house, which included a blacksmith shop where Mr. Dietz also made wagons. They tore down the frame building and built a brick one with a garage and customer service area in the front, and a blacksmith shop in the rear.

Mrs. Arlene Imes shared this information. She and her husband first lived on Haines Road, but in 1986 they moved to Eastern Boulevard.

East York

The suburb of East York was being developed with the foresight that industrial expansion would attract a great increase in population. John H. Longstreet's vision foresaw the pathway of expansion.

Many beautiful homes were soon built and more building lots awaited new owners.

Known to many as the "Keesey Tract," the East York area was then listed as "fronting, for two-thirds of a mile, on both sides of Market Street, York's main thoroughfare, and part of the Great Lincoln Highway." Only an eleven-minute ride from center square, it featured high ground with perfect natural drainage, cement walks and curbs, macadamized streets, pure filtered water, electric lights, and a complete sewer system.

The York Railways Company lines ran the entire length of Market Street through the center of the tract and to adjoining boroughs. For a single carfare, you could ride the entire length of Market Street.

This East York area offered its members all the privileges of an up-to-date club. Of which any resident could be member and enjoy its privileges, including: dining services, games, lawn tennis, and the entire social advantages attendant thereto. The club's privileges were also open to members' families.

In 1912, the John S. Heistand School was built in this area on land donated by John S. Longstreet. This school was built in what was then the Independent School District. A graded school, managed by a progressive Board of Directors, its students were taught by competent

teachers in all grades from first to eighth and prepared for entrance into York High School. There, tuition was paid for by the Independent School District under an agreement with the city school board.

This first consideration in designing and erecting the building was the children's welfare. The building was located in the center of ample playgrounds, had two classrooms, boys' and girls' cloakrooms, functional toilets, and large basement playrooms for use in bad weather. The school, where all students and residents could obtain free use of well-selected books, also maintained a public library.

On East Market Street and nearby stood the area residences of George L. Stallman, Charles E. Tucker, Mahlon N. Haines, Congressman E.S. Brooks, Professor C.B. Heinly, Cleaver and Merrihew, William J. Gribben, E. P. Minnich, Dr. J.E. Barrick, and Sarah J. Mitzel.

The East York area has grown but still remains a place of beauty, whose charm greets the eye.

Glades

The village of Glades was once known as Detrop. It is situated along the road to Vinagar Ferry, east of Mt. Zion Road, and northeast of York. The name Glades was given to the village about 1800 by travelers going from York to the river because it was open passage or space in what was then a forest for miles around. In turn-of-the-century times a number of houses were existent there.

Zachariah Spangler conducted a general merchandise store in Glades for a third of a century, served two terms as tax collector, and was clerk of Springettsbury Township. Instrumental in founding the post office in the late 1890s at the Glades, Zachariah was its first postmaster and he named it "Detrop." For several years the village was known by both names. In 1900, the York post office absorbed Detrop, and the name ceased to exist. John M. Sheaffer came from Lancaster to the Glades around 1850. A shoemaker by trade, he later went into the cattle business and became one of the most prosperous cattlemen in the county.

Another leading citizen, William W. Gingerich, was active in various occupations: cigar making, carpentry, and his own general store. (Note: For more complete details about Spangler, Sheaffer, and Gingerich, see the individual articles about each in the Founding Fathers section of this history.)

In 1886, the Glades had a brick schoolhouse, a wagon maker's and blacksmith shop, and a cigar factory. Tobacco was a very important crop of the area farmers.

The former school is now used as an auction house, while the community remains surrounded by farms. This quaint village still offers peace and solitude to its residents.

Haines Acres—How It Grew

During the last third of Springettsbury Township's century of growth, one of its major suburban developments has been *Haines Acres*. Now with 1,100 homes housing more than 5,000 people on about 800 acres, this real estate enterprise has an interesting tale to tell.

The key players in its inception, each vitally important to the growth of this township, were Abe Epstein and Mahlon Haines.

Abe, a Polish emigrant, came to York from New York City as a young picture frame salesman in 1917. Marrying a local lass, Helen Forner, whose foot he tripped over on the trolley car, he settled down to work as traveling salesman. Buying six homes and selling five, in 1925, made his first venture into real estate. This convinced Abe that he could make a living in real estate, buying and selling homes in York. By 1946 his four sons—Bernard, Harold, Donald and Irwin—had joined him in the real estate business, which he incorporated as Epstein & Sons.

Eight years later, in 1954, Epstein bought the 205-acre farm from Mahlon Haines. Known locally as “The Colonel” and “The Shoe Wizard,” Mahlon Nathaniel Haines was a colorful and unique businessman and philanthropist. Haines agreed to donate \$2,500 to the Boy Scouts if the Epsteins would name their new development after him.

The first lots sold for \$2,500 apiece; a quarter-century later these lots had appreciated 800 percent and sold for \$20,000 each. And the original tract expanded slowly but surely from 205 to 800 acres. As more land was needed, the Epsteins located willing sellers and the building continues, until the boundaries reached Eastern Boulevard (north), Edgewood Road (east), East Prospect Street (south), and Haines Road (west).

Abe Epstein's enterprise has provided thousands of residents with homes in this township and beyond. His firm also developed numerous other housing projects in York County. Abe died in 1963, Irwin in 1973, Harold retired, and Bernard and Donald stay active in the family business.

A Wizard Named Haines

The poetic biography of Mahlon Nathaniel Haines, written in 1960, begins: “Does anyone actually know all they should/about this shoe man who really made good?”

Thirty-one years later the answer is obvious. Public memory is very short. Every politician knows that and most count on it. Still, it's hard to imagine that there folks in *Haines Acres*, folks driving regularly by the *Haines Shoe House* on U.S. 30, and folks attending Eastminister Presbyterian Church on *Haines Road* who know little or nothing about the multi-dimensional driving force whose legacy of caring, daring, and sharing has long been a factor in the progress of Springettsbury Township—the one and only Col. Mahlon N. Haines (1875-1962).

In addition to being the man for whom Haines Acres and Haines Road are named, the builder of the 25-foot-high shoe house on Shoe House Road, whose former farm house and barn were converted by the Eastminister Presbyterians into the church on Haines Road, was

a self-made man. He was a millionaire whose bigger-than-life antics made for feature stories in *Colliers*, *Life*, *Look*, *Time* and the *Saturday Evening Post*, plus countless newspapers throughout America and abroad.

Locating news articles about him is easy. The Colonel (an honorary title) was always his own best public relations man. He donated eight scrapbooks full of his news clippings to the Martin Memorial Library for community reference. The truly hard part is to devote the 80-plus hours required to read everything, and then to decide which of the fascinating stories best convey the colorful kaleidoscope that was Mahlon Haines.

Perhaps a good place to start would be to learn how others described Haines. The *Saturday Evening Post* said, "He began on a shoe string which he tied into a long string of shoe stores." The *New York Times* said, "No longer a boy, but he's every inch a wonder." The local newsman said, "Practically every Yorker, in one way or another, has been beneficiary of his generosity." York Y.M.C.A. executives noted, "He bounds up steps two at a time, boxes, plays baseball, skates, dances, exercises with dumbbells and Indian clubs—at age 75! St. Petersburg Independent News called him "our town's Horatio Alger- senior citizen." His many friends said Haines was "a live wire."

Indeed he was! But don't for one second imagine that Haines had an easy road to riches. Quite the opposite is true. His father died in an accident when he was still an infant, and his 30-year old mother had to manage their newly built department store in Washington, Ohio. Female ownership was frowned upon in business back in 1876, and ten years later she was bankrupt, her \$6,000 in capital exhausted. However, her ethics and industry had earned her both the respect of her peers and new financial backers.

Moving her store to Washington, D.C., Elizabeth Haines continued to innovate and work 16-hour days to make it prosper and to pay off her creditors. Without a dollar of personal capital, she built her "Haines Washington Store" into the largest American department store owned and operated by a woman.

In memory of her many years of devotion and hard work, and the many things his mother missed in life because of her nose-to-the-grindstone existence, Haines sponsored a trip for ladies over age 50" to go from York to Washington D.C. on a two-day sightseeing tour. The ladies called it the event of their lifetimes.

While true that Haines' mother showed him the way from rags to riches by her personal example, like most young folks, Mahlon was not anxious to reinvent the wheel. After all, wasn't she now sharing a pew with President McKinley every Sunday in church? And hadn't he worked hard for her at the store, even playing Santa Claus from her store rooftop at Christmas? So, when he got married and struck out on his own, he expected his now-wealthy mom to give him \$10,000 or so to get started.

She gave him \$100 as his wedding present and wished him good luck. He would certainly need it!

Not that Mahlon was without a solid educational base. He had attended district school in D.C., and then graduated from the University of Maryland's Agricultural College in 1896.

(In 1894, while a corporal there, he won a gold medal for excellence in individual competition drill.) But book learning is a far cry from on-the-job experience.

He came to York as a young businessman in 1905, borrowed funds to go into business, and was bankrupt in two years. Promptly starting off anew, Haines got a \$127 consignment of shoes from D.S. Peterman Co., paid \$15 monthly for a tiny shop and \$6 a week to hire a female clerk for his store.

Hauling shoes to the Market place in his little hand express wagon, he rented space at 15 cents a day to show off his wares and promote his store. He introduced the 98-cent shoe, drummed up customers, and sent them to the store, being satisfied with small profits on volume sales.

“The Gay Wizard of York” is what Saturday Evening Post called Haines in their April 1943 issue, which detailed his humble beginnings and praised his fantastic results. “From one store to 30 in 15 years!” was his banner in 1922, and by the time of the Post’s article, Haines was already a merchandizing legend.

Mahlon’s movable retail store clearly showed his genius. He had a Ford automobile specially designed to display his wares, painted red with yellow lettering, and drove his shoes to the outlying farms and houses. Fitted with a customized large body, the sides of which were comprised of numerous glass panes, the drivable store displayed shoes on three-tiered, slanted shelves, through the center of which ran an aisle furnished with chairs. The driver doubled as shoe clerk.

This open display and the novelty of a store on wheels drew many lookers, whom Haines quickly turned into buyers of his sturdy work shoes at the low, low prices. *By June, 1931, “Haines, The Shoe Wizard, had the largest chain of shoe stores in the United States, according to “Footwear News.”* And the following year, when other merchants were slashing salaries, Haines raised his managers’ commissions! By April, 1935, he operated 50 stores.

Meanwhile, he incorporated with \$200,000 capital, paid off his earlier creditors at 100 cents on the dollar (when most bankruptcies were settled for 30 cents on the dollar), and gave an appreciation dinner at the Accomac Hotel for all employees of the York National Bank, since that bank had backed him when he arrived in York a penniless newcomer.

Needless to say, with such fine business ethics, Haines never had any trouble getting credit.

The Colonel, as he was affectionately called, lived much of his life in Springettsbury Township. With a farm in Haines Acres, a ranch in Yorkshire, and a racetrack and stables in Stony Brook, he was deeply entrenched in the doings of the township.

In November, 1925, Haines hosted 600 York businessmen at his Yorkshire ranch. The following year he donated a 50 by 25 foot site for the Springetts Fire Company Engine House. Then he sponsored a Bronco Billie Rodeo at Haines Park (adults 25 cents, children 10 cents) to benefit the Springetts Fire Company. Thousands attended.

In September, 1928, the local Valley Gas Company began using “The York Idea” first adopted by Haines. Their new stores on wheels began to demonstrate their products to

housewives in Stony Brook and nearby rural areas, and they drummed up 200 new installations in two weeks time.

In 1929, the airplane "Will Rogers" piloted by Wiley Post and bound for Oklahoma, landed in East York, and Haines was surprised to learn from Wiley that they followed the train tracks to find York because there were no airport maps at that time. The following year Mahlon was one of 28 initial subscribers to stock in York Airport Company on 150 acres of Joe Kindig's farm, located east of York in the area known as Fayfield. The airport made York eligible for daily air passenger service. Tied in with Pittsburgh Airways, it was sometimes touted as the world's fastest airline because one of their planes flew faster than any flown by the military. And it was cheap: one-way trips to New York City were \$14.40.

That same year his Haines Acres barn hosted a dance to benefit York's continental chapter of DeMolay. Tickets were 75 cents per couple. And Haines Acres was also the site of a festival for Epworth League of First Methodist Church, where 2,200 guests saw Elmwood versus Hiestand school in a spirited baseball game.

"York Man Provides District School" read the headlines in September, 1930. At Fifth Avenue and Maywood Road, Yorkshire, a two-room brick school was built by Haines for "The Independent School District of Springettsbury Township," and leased by him to the district for three years at the sum of \$1 per year, with option to buy at the cost price. The school was located about one-half block from a 10-acre park, which Haines planned to donate to the community.

July, 1931, saw construction of "a Waterbound Oil Macadam Road" from Lincoln Highway to Prospect Road, along Haines Acres, to be called "Haines Road."

In January, 1933, Haines was speaker for the Springettsbury taxpayer's league and their elected representative to the executive committee. He spoke to taxpayers' league units throughout the county. During that year advertisements in York papers read "Raw milk from blood-tested cows at Haines Acres." Haines was leader in the milk war with the dealers. At White Rose Arena he met with 4,400 milk producers to force the dealers to agree to \$1.40 per hundred pounds. Picketing dairy farmers at Bupp's dairy had already been tear-gassed by police and 10,000 pounds of milk was purposely spilled at four dairies. The farmers blockaded roadways into the area to prevent out-of-town farmer involvement. York dairy farmers won the day.

Haines Acres was the site of the first countywide corn-husking contest in 1934. And in 1941, Haines sold 20 building lots in Yorkshire to Thomas Mills, local realtor, for development as residential sites. A 1951 Dispatch picture featured the one-acre pond at Haines Acres, noting that the Springettsbury Fire Company regularly came there to test their pumping equipment. The following year, the Haines Acres home and farm was sold to Dr. Frank Weaver, and Haines moved to "The Hermitage" on Shoehouse Road.

The Sunday News reported, June 22, 1958, that Eastminister Presbyterian Church was now functioning in the 4-car garage which once belonged to Col. Haines, and they were using his former home as their church school.

By March, 1959, the Harrisburg Catholic Diocese had bought a 14-1/2 acre tract in Yorkshire, along Seventh Avenue in Springettsbury Township, from Eastland Realty Company, with original plans to build a church school, convent, and play area.

November, 1925, saw thousands visit Haines buffaloes at his Yorkshire ranch lands. The shaggy beasts grew lethargic in this climate and folks thrilled to see Haines and his pilot buzz them by airplane to keep them active and healthy. The last of the local herd was shot October 12, 1928, and Haines donated the meat to charity. It brought \$2 per pound, and the funds were given to V.N.A.

He also gave housing lots free in Yorkshire to the unemployed who agreed to build upon them. He held an "old folks dinner" for all those age 75 and over, and 300 attended in 1931. In all cities where he had stores, Haines gave Christmas presents of free shoes to the policemen and slippers and rubbers to the nurses. He sponsored bowling teams, baseball teams, basketball teams, marbles championships, awarded trophies to cross-country runners, and sponsored a contest for York County's largest turkey.

Mahlon gave twenty steers—one per week for twenty weeks—in 1932 to York's needy families. He had them butchered, cut into roasts, and distributed by the Salvation Army. The May, 1932, "American Business World" magazine cited his genuine sympathy for the unfortunate as a model for the entire industrial and business world.

Because his father was veteran of the army of Tennessee, and had accompanied Sherman on his famous march to the sea, Mahlon was ever the avid patriot. In 1919, when President Theodore Roosevelt died, Haines closed his chain of stores during the two-hour length of the funeral services, in respect for this great America. He bought the first 500 bricks and held the first donor's certificate for the York American legion home, and bought 100 bricks for the Legion home in Hanover, as well.

His correspondence held a personal letter of thanks from Herbert Hoover for his patriotic activities. In 1937 he was post commander of the American Legion, Chief Marshal of the Civil Veterans "Grand Army of the Republic" encampment, and their banquet speaker as well. Their tents were pitched around Haines Race Track. And the sons of Union veterans' reserve had their tenting encampment at Haines Acres.

In 1940, Mahlon used his property, the Haines Hotel, 5 West Philadelphia Street, as a focal for collection of "Bundles for Britain" during World War II, with the Haines building at Market and Duke Streets for a back-up location. The following year he gave United States defense bonds to each of his store managers. By April, 1943, local newspapers reported that Haines had personally bought \$75,000 worth of defense bonds and had promoted the sales of \$500,000 more. The first contributor to the World War II veterans fund in December, 1946, was Haines.

Long before the proliferation of the corner health spa, Haines was a physical fitness advocate. To illustrate the benefits of regular exercise, he put on programs for church groups and the Y.M.C.A., performing with Indian Clubs and dumbbells to packed horses. He supported the Y.M.C.A., and the Boy Scouts most especially, because he was convinced that these organizations taught good health and exercise habits to young men.

The local "Y" and Scouts each got \$2,500 on August 18, 1952, in a stunt by Haines that made for feature articles in Life magazine and the Chicago Tribune. Local antique dealer, Joe Kindig, who hadn't shaved nor had a haircut in 8 years, was coaxed by Haines to get a tonsorial refurbishing, with the understanding that Mahlon would contribute \$5,000 to charity and pay the barber. Kindig agreed and Haines paid up, even giving barber John Lucia a \$10 tip. (But when he next got his own hair cut, Haines said he was all through with \$5,000 haircuts, and only offered the barber his usual fee.)

The Saturday Evening Post (4-3-43) said Haines was "The Patron of the Boy Scouts of York." Indeed he was. In 1917 he played a role in organizing the York-Adams area council of Boy Scouts of America, then initiated Boy Scout camping at his 300-acre "Wizard Ranch" in the Accomac area.

In March, 1926, Mahlon led York's 20 Scout troops, with a total of 1,000 boys in tow, on a five mile hike, hosted them to soup and sandwiches at the Haines Farm, then sponsored a treasure hunt with over 200 hidden prizes on his Haines Acres grounds. Haines launched the Boy Scouting program for this area. As National B.S.A. councilman, he sponsored a weeklong Atlantic Ocean cruise for Scoutmasters. He chaired the annual planting of trees at Camp Ganoga in 1934. And in 1938, Haines received from each troop in Region 3 handmade birdhouses, in recognition of their appreciation for their national Councilman. That year he also donated \$1,000 to start a special regional fund to aid scouts in rural districts.

On his 70th birthday (3-5-45), the Colonel addressed the Region 3 Boy Scout Council's York-Adams area on how it feels to be 40 at 70! By 1960 he had sponsored his fifth Scout safari-jamboree at the Wizard Ranch. These safaris were his way of celebrating his birthday and cost him about \$15,000 each. The kids got a rare treat because he furnished buffalo steaks as the main course, from his own buffalo herd-even if he had to import them from his South Dakota ranch. In October, 1960, Haines made the Scouts a gift of Wizard Ranch. The regional Scout council's acceptance of the title transfer made the headlines December 1, 1960.

Haines was always off attending local, regional, and national Boy Scouting affairs because he took his obligations in Scouting very seriously. He was awarded the Silver Bear and the Silver Antelope Orders. Scouts honor him as a pioneer and leader at all levels since his "good turns" made Scouting possible for thousands of boys.

Because Haines loved the outdoors and an active, healthy lifestyle, he admired the American Indians. They, in turn, admired this feisty little paleface (five feet, six inches tall) making him honorary chief of the Sioux (Chief Flying Eagle), the Hopi (Chief Yellow Ears), and the Iroquios, and presenting him with a large buffalo robe, a feather bonnet, and other insignia of rank and esteem. The Boy Scouts playfully called Mahlon "Chief O-No-Noh."

If not for his regular regimen of exercise, Haines would never have had the fun of playing on the Florida team of the three-quarter-century baseball club in St. Petersburg, where only those aged 75 and up could compete. A lifetime baseball fan, he played ball until he reached age 83. And he played to win. When he hit his first home run, he gave \$1,000 to his club

for their planned senior citizens' center. His homers made the headlines in several states because Haines was news. He both on and off the field regularly entertained his fellow ball players, by his antics and at his dinner table.

Bob Hoffman's "Strength and Health" magazine did a nice article on this physically fit specimen. They appreciated the way he promptly donated funds for the York weight lifters to compete abroad in the Olympics, and the fact that he donated a complete set of York barbells to Lewisberg High School.

Ever the philanthropist, Haines made and gave away millions. His philosophy was put in a nutshell when he addressed his Sunday school on the topic "How to Get." His answer? "Give!" and he put his money where his mouth was.

In 1915, he gave 1,000 pairs of shoes to needy children as Christmas gifts, using the V.N.A. and Red Cross to act as his elves and select the worthy recipients. He gave the parents of York's largest family new shoes and a pig for their pot. The J.E. Mundis family won handily with 16 kids from age 25 down to 2 years, on March 10, 1927.

To celebrate his 63rd birthday, he sent candy bars to 83 prisoners in the jail and flower bouquets to 125 patients in local hospitals. A 1945 New York Times headline hailed Haines for "Painting the Town Red." At a cost of \$3,360.95 he had furnished all the paint needed to refurbish his former hometown of Old Washington, OH (pop. 1,400) when he noted that the homes looked rundown and drab. He represented Memorial Stadium Corporation to collect contributions to erect Memorial Stadium in 1947 and sponsored the first "York Community Brotherhood Banquet" for all races, creeds and colors in 1948. He gave diamond rings to each of his store managers' wives in 1949.

Mahlon auctioned off his silver collection in 1956 to aid crippled children in St. Petersburg, FL. On 1-23-60 he donated the champion baby beef to 4-H Club for their banquet at the Chalet Restaurant.

A lover of horses, Haines often rode about his grounds in cowboy regalia, wearing a string tie, or dressed in his Indian costumes. He owned trotters, pacers, jumpers, and riding horses. Buying eight to ten at a time, he soon had substantial stables, and won countless ribbons and trophies. He opened a half-mile track at Haines Park in Yorkshire, and added whippet dog races the same year (1929). His standard-bred racing horses and fine show horses were quite successful, thus harness racing at Haines Park was well attended through 1937.

This riding club owner covered 150 miles of the horseshoe trails in June, 1937 on horseback. Haines figured that any trail which had in its name both a horse and shoe was something tailor-made for him. Like Mahlon, his popular donkey "Blossom" loved children and was a friend to all. Though a lifelong Republican, the Colonel willingly agreed to allow his *jackass* to play the part of "Democrat" in the American Legion Review.

Amateur baseball league games, bicycle rodeos, horse and whippet races were not the only activities in Springettsbury Township's Haines Park. A statewide championship trap shoot was held there in January, 1933, at the Haines Range. Lincoln Highway's traffic was

rerouted to allow direct access to trap shooters and to circle traffic around the crowds attending the huge event. Machinery shows were also held there as well as hayrides, sleighing parties, and the Art Mix Rodeo.

In 1933, Haines planned a zoo and museum for Wizard Ranch and by May of 1934 his "Curioseum" was made public, with thousands attending. Site of numerous picnics, outings, and banquets; place of hundreds of oyster bakes, pot pie and ham dinners; where he entertained his fellow nobles of the York County Shrine Club, hosted a banquet for writers from the York Newspapers, and feted governor Earle's sons, Wizard Ranch was a spread which brought happiness to many of Haines' fellow citizens.

From his zoo at the ranch, Haines sent Pennsylvania's Secretary of Agriculture, the Honorable J.H. French, a "Zebu" roast, suggesting it as fine alternative to beef, and received a sincere letter of thanks for "the delicious roast."

In September, 1938, to celebrate his 33 years as a Yorker, Haines provided free entertainment every night for a week. He rode an elephant at the York Fairgrounds Circus and stole the show. He took friends on a fishing excursion and his group caught over 80 pounds of weakfish and croakers the same day.

To every bride Haines met he gave a dollar bill, and a \$50 lecture. One smart gal offered to take a \$1 lecture and \$50 cash!

The colonel held a four-county-wide contest for school kids to write an essay on his life and accomplishments, offering \$190 in cash prizes. He did the same thing for local newsmen, but the cash awards were cut in half for the pros. Always the genial host, York's Shoe Wizard entertained Wild Bill Cody at the York Country Club when Cody brought his Wild West show to York Fair. Gazette & Daily employees were entertained on Haines' yacht "Seniah" (Haines, spelled backwards.) He hosted area ministers on one occasion, courts and lawyers on another, at Accomac Inn; treated the National Guards to ice cream at York Sanitary Milk Company; and held a farmer's tax protest dinner at Hotel Yorktowne.

Haines never forgot his Alma Mater and entertained the faculty and alumni of his college on various occasions. He was made an honorary member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity in 1943. When his beloved University of Maryland wanted to build a worship chapel in 1952, he told the university president, "I want to be the first to donate. Just fill in the check and I'll sign it!" (Quoted from University of Maryland Memorial Chapel dedication booklet.)

"The Citizen March" was composed in Mahlon's honor by Thomas Tedesco when Haines was president of the York Band. Sousa's band played it in tribute to Haines when they came to York. Sousa's band played it in tribute to Haines when they came to York. And the march "Mahlon" was composed by Walter L. Bailey, Spring Garden Band, and first played at their Monday night concert May 27, 1933. Haines planned to have these pieces played at his 90th birthday celebration, but he died two years too soon to make this a reality.

A staunch churchman, Haines gave \$3,000 to help build the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church at Market and Richland Avenues. He also headed the campaign to build the first Methodist Episcopal Church at 340 East Market Street. A trustee of the church, Mahlon

was also the darling of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and offered a \$1,000 first prize in a church wide Methodist contest for young folks, on the topic of temperance and prohibition. Of the 75,000 entries, an 18-year old girl gave the best oration from Seattle, Washington.

When Gifford Pinchot was governor of Pennsylvania and York was a Democratic stronghold, Haines ran for Congress, on the Republican ticket. Unopposed in the 22nd district primaries, he lost in the general election. But not without a fight. He gave speeches to countless clubs and organizations, led 4,000 to storm City Hall in protest of a one-mill real estate tax increase, hitched up two fast trotters to a handsome eight-passenger cutter and took members of the Etude Music Club on a sleighing party, and had floats on local parades. You name it, Haines tried it.

The Legionnaires Band of Cape May, NJ stopped in York to play selections in his honor. He was personal friend of "Gentleman" Jim Corbett, the boxer who knocked out the great John L. Sullivan. A board member of York's Agricultural Society since 1909, Mahlon served as chairman of the General Committee and Amusements for their carnival. For Pennsylvania tuberculosis society he was a member of their State Seal Committee.

A world traveler, Haines visited Europe, Asia, and Russia. He said "The Russian people are sad and act like automations." In Nancy, France; Copenhagen, Denmark; York, England; and Havana, Cuba, Mahlon made newspaper headlines as easily as he did in Abilene, TX; Ocean City, NJ; Pittsburgh, PA; New York City, NY; or Rapid City, SD.

On a trip to Hollywood, Haines saw coffee shops shaped like coffee pots and dairy stores built like milk bottles. So the idea of a shoe house for a shoe wizard was born. Like the Margate, NJ "Lucy the Elephant," the house that Haines built in 1948 is an architectural curiosity, combining a sense of fun and fantasy. Wood lath, steel and wire-covered stucco, this three story, three bedroom shoe is 25 feet high, 48 feet long, has a living room, kitchen, and roof terrace on nine commercial acres, and is readily visible driving east along U.S. 30.

The doghouse and birdhouse are small-scale shoes, too. Shoe designs grace the silverware, little shoes decorate the fence rails and stained glass windows feature larger shoes. People stop their RV's on the highway to stand on the roof and get a better look.

"The most whimsical, most eccentric, most architecturally distinctive and best maintained of all the roadside attractions we've visited," said the Pittsburgh Press Sunday Magazine.

Architect Frederick Rempp and builders Edward Panebaker & Son created a visual portrayal from the nursery rhyme, "There was an old woman who lived in a shoe." They also made Mahlon a delightful logo for his shoe business when they erected his local landmark. Standing on Shoe House Road, it's referred to as "duck" architecture, after the duck-shaped duck stand built on 1931 on Long Island.

When Haines decided to retire from the shoe business, he simply gave the corporation to his employees. This allowed them to subsequently sell the shoe house, which was bought by a local orthodontist, Dr. Eleanor Hallman, whose estate sold it some 20-odd years later at an auction, in 1987. Annie Haines Keller and her husband purchased it. She is a granddaughter

of the shoe wizard. That purchase made the New York Times under the headline “The well-built elephant and other roadside attractions.”

Mahlon Haines was proud to be a Mason. A Tall Cedar, Knight Templar, Shriner and holder of the 32nd degree, he was presented with his 50-year pin by White Rose Lodge #706 in York, where he was a charter member of York County Shrine Club.

Whether he was at Haines Restage in Ocean City, Haines Retreat in St. Petersburg, Haines Timbers in North Carolina, or The Hermitage in York, Haines ceaselessly campaigned against the evils of smoking. Long before the United States Surgeon General proclaimed smoking hazardous to your health, the Colonel was buttonholing folks and offering cash dollars (anywhere from \$10 to \$100) to those who promised to stop smoking. His anti-smoking efforts were met with resistance back then, when lighting up a weed was the ‘in’ thing to do, and all the movie stars puffed on cigarettes and looked glamorous to impressionable viewers. Still, he never wavered in his belief that nicotine was deadly, and pursued his efforts towards a smoke-free environment filled with happy, healthy non-smokers.

There are some local males named Mahlon today because Haines gave free shoe to boys whose parents named them “Mahlon,” after him.

His first wife, June Brown Irwin, of Allenwood, PA, bore him two sons, Mahlon II and Stanley E., and a daughter who died in childhood. Mrs. Haines died suddenly September 24, 1951 at age 66, while Mahlon was away at their South Dakota Ranch on business.

His second wife, Grace Marianne Churchill of London, England, he first met on a European cruise and courted for two years. On June 5th, 1957, in Bedford, PA they married. And the second Mrs. Haines soon learned what the first had known, that she had married a very complex ball of fire. Haines forbears were hearty Norseman, canny Scotsmen, daring Englishman, and wild Irishmen, but his regimen of exercise is what he saw as the secret to a long, hardy life. In his thank you notes to countless well-wishers on his 80th birthday, he signed himself, “Colonel, Commodore, Captain Mahlon Nathaniel, Yorkshire Shoe Wizard, Indian Chief, cowboy, rancher, farmer, ball player, scout; Ocean City, Rapid City, St. Petersburg, York – Smokless Haines.”

He said, “Honest effort, honest motives and helpfulness to my fellow man have made me successful – not money.” His obituary, complete with picture, appeared in newspapers of ten states and the District of Columbia. Wednesday, October 31, 1962, at 8:35 a.m., Haines died at York Hospital, aged 87 years, 7 months, and 26 days. He then lived at the Hermitage on Shoe House Road, just across from his zany shoe house.

Most of his life Haines lived under an alias. At birth, his parents christened him “John Morrison Haines”. But following the accidental death of his father, his mother decided to call him “Mahlon Nathaniel,” which was his Dad’s given name, and that’s the name he used afterwards.

Rev. A.L. Bickell, his pastor from First Methodist Church, had this to say at his funeral services: “He was a man of deep conviction; no one ever doubted where he stood. He had

an abiding faith and interest in youth, was a true philanthropist, and was a religious man who loved and was loyal to his church.”

At the Longstown cemetery prior to Haines’ burial, Scout buglers sounded the mournful notes of taps from four distant corners. His pallbearers were local Eagle Scouts. Mrs. Haines received personal condolences from the nations’ chief Scout executive. Mourners came from far and wide to demonstrate their high regard and friendship for this lovable Springettsbury Township citizen whose personality and philanthropy were so vividly and widely known.

Ridgewood Road

From Mt. Zion to Pleasureville Hill, the Ridgewood Road area of Springettsbury Township was comprised of farms and farming until 1929.

The former Arvis homestead on Mt. Zion Road, which dates from 1815, now belongs to the Jeffrey Snyder family. The deed for Elmer and Helen Snyder’s farm on Deininger Road is dated 1828. The deed for the Gangloff property on Ridgewood Road dates back to 1840.

In the early 1900s, there had been the E.G. Keller general store (which operated more than 40 years), the Charles Frey store, a large hall for public meetings, a two-story school building, and several cigar stores which did a large business in this area.

In 1929, local furniture store owners, the Runkles, built their summer bungalow along the stream at what is now called Deininger Road. In her 1934 novel, “The Vonervand,” Katherine Haviland Taylor mentions this bungalow, which she calls “Happy Hollow Haven,” as a landmark.

Richard and Ruby Massan hand-built a log house in the woods above the Runkle bungalow in 1939.

Eleven years later, with the advent of “Woodstream” and the homes along Ridgewood Road, development of this area began in earnest. Hard roads, water and sewer lines, and desirable housing gobbled up most of this area’s farmlands. Only a few farms survived.

Many who grew up in this vicinity – such as the Spanglers, Arvins, Snyders, Sipes, Strongs, Livingston, and Rupperts – can well remember two of the old landmarks.

They recall using the small grocery store, run by David and Daisy Spangler, at the corner of Memory Lane and Ridgewood Road as a school bus stop. And they remember the old one-room school at the corner, which has long since made way for “progress.”

Springett

That section of Pleasureville once known as “Springett” is located in the extreme northeast corner of Springettsbury Township. It comprises 1,392 acres, bounded on the north and west by the Codorus Creek. The predominant land use in the sector has for some years been residential, and some very old homes are contained in the heart of it.

The Pleasureville area lays claim to several unique things: Its one-time nickname of "Possumtown," and its Memorial Day celebration featuring free "Army Bean Soup," which celebration has been held annually for so long as anyone local can remember.

By interviewing some old-timers who lived in the area, it was discovered that few people really knew how the community was given the nickname of "Possumtown." One version says the name was given because "one of the farms located near the present Mundis Mill Road, north of the cluster of homes that comprised the original Pleasureville community, was infested with possums." Another person said, "It doesn't matter how it got the name! Everybody knew the area and people used to gather to go somewhere on a Saturday night, and they would generally come to "Possumtown." It was a witty name, and just sort of caught on, and was easy to remember.

When that community got a post office during the later part of 1800's, it was known as "Springetts" Post Office. In the early days, the community consisted mainly of a few residential homes, a general store, the post office, Evangelical church, and Band Hall. Most of the people of the community worked in York, and walked to and from work. This was no simple task, as the terrain is extremely hilly. Still, the distance to the nearest trolley stop was 2 ½ to 3 miles away.

The clerk at "Springetts" Post Office would have to get the mail twice a day from the Mundis Mill, located near the western Maryland track, where the train brought it from faraway places. Old-timers enjoyed telling how they, as youngsters, had gone for the mail "down what was then known as gin run trail, across the swinging bridge, and on into the mill."

The Springetts Post Office was closed with the advent of rural free delivery service. And with its closing "Pleasureville" became the dominant name used in describing the area.

The annual Memorial Day Parade, celebration, and free bean soup event at "Possumtown/Springett/Pleasureville" had its origin in about 1866, in observance of the heroes and veterans who gave their lives in the American Civil War. It was first instituted by the "Old Relief Lodge," and organization of Civil War veterans, and soon developed as a major community event every year. When the "Old Relief Lodge," went out of existence, the "Patriotic Order of Sons of America," and later the "Knights of the Mystic Chain" assumed responsibility for this patriotic affair. These groups may no longer be active in the community, but it was their zeal and dedication that bridged the gap to the modern era and carried the celebration forward to this very day.

Now the affair is supported by the pastors of area churches and continued by a Memorial Day Committee whose sole interest is seeing that this observance, which has meant so much to everyone through the years, is continued.

Some records describing the event date back to the first of June in 1893. In reading over those old notes, a lot of history and a lot of old names of people who were the doers and shakers of their time were uncovered. The following excerpts from those records will give our readers the flavor and aura of those kinder, gentler days, when young and old, men and

ladies, engaged with willing hands to gather flowers and prepare for a Memorial to the honored dead and a celebration of life, called Decoration Day.

For 1894, the record shows "Rolls of Veterans," including these names: George W. Gruver, Henry Shultz, Ely Ream, Henry Shaffer, Milton Shenberger, David Kunkel, William Lightner, Jack Wilt, P.J. Eline, F.A. Inners, Levi Ness, Daniel Schroll, William Wolf, H.C. Roth, Henry A. Riely, and John J. Bear.

The officers for that year's celebration were George Gruver, chairman; A.D. Lightner, secretary; and Henry Shults, treasurer. Rev. P.J. Koontz was pastor, and William Lightner was appointed to take care of the flags.

Five dippers, 99 tin cups and 102 spoons were returned to the parsonage, following the big event. Bills presented for payment to the treasurer that year were as follows: William Shepp, for crackers, \$5.10; Frank Hovis, for beef, \$5.92; E.V. Keller, for beans, salt & condiments, \$5.18; ice cream for the cooks, 60 cents; for a total expenditure of \$16.80.

Various income was reported by treasurer Shultz, as follows: received of former treasurer Jack Wilt, \$5.07; collection at the hall, \$2.15; collection at Mt. Zion; \$5.65; collection at Pleasureville Church, \$2.11; also received of the two official "collectors," Henry Shaffer; \$1, and Mervin Copp, \$10 for total receipts of \$26.58.

Thus, with total expenses of \$16.80 being deducted from total receipts of \$26.58, there was \$9.78 remaining after all bills were satisfied.

In 1894, they bought 97 pounds of beef at 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents per pound, three skins at 20 cents, for a total of \$7.15. In 1895, the price of beef was up to 9 cents per pound, crackers cost 3.5 cents per pound, and beans were \$2.25 for a bushel.

On those early Memorial Days, the young boys would join their fathers; hitch up the team, and go to round up the big black kettles for the soup. They would then start the open fire so that, by the time the parade was in progress, the cooks would have the soup well on the way to becoming a succulent part of the days delights.

At the start, only eight kettles were used. But in later years, twenty-two kettles of army bean soup were made.

The town folks would gather at the lodge hall for the start of the parade, many dressed in their Sunday best. The ladies and young girls would carry parasols. Participants on horseback would lead the parade, and town folks would march 2-1/2 miles to the Mt. Zion Lutheran and Reformed Church, where the children would decorate the graves. Then all would enter the church for Memorial Day services.

Following these services, the parade would reassemble and march the 2-1/2 miles to Pleasureville Church, where a second service was held. Following this service the participants would reassemble and march to the park, where that mouth-watering soup was served.

Veterans were served at the poorhouse woods, owned by the county, and the area from which the county home got its wood, prior to the burning of coal. The committee next took their bean soup to a wooded site, which then housed the Pleasureville Barber Shop. But over time, new sites were utilized: the Band Hall, where the Pleasureville Legion is now located, and in more recent years, the affair was moved to Hively's Park.

The 1895 chairman for the Memorial Day Committee was G.W. Gruver, and Henry Schaffer of Glades acted as color bearer.

In 1896, Annie Ness, Gerty Myers and N. Spangler were appointed to make bouquets.

In 1898, the committee invited the Commonwealth Band; P.M. R.A. Venus Castle #92; Pleasureville Singing Choir; Mt. Zion singing Choir; and these three Sunday schools: Pleasureville U.B., Mt. Zion Union, and Hively's Union.

In 1899, it was voted to serve free bean soup once again and to hold the affair at Hively's Grove. The chief Marshall was Eli Ream.

In the year 1900's minutes, the community's name was referred to as "Springett," and at this time Pleasureville was also thus referred to. Their cost for the entire Memorial Day activity that year was \$23.63.

In 1901, the various groups invited by the committee were: all the local Sunday Schools; various singing choirs; P.M.R.A. Venus Castle #92; A.O.K. of M.C., Washington Camp #513; P.O.S.A., Commonwealth Band; King Arthur Castle #189; A.O.K. of M.C. of Emigsville, Washington Camp #510; and P.O.S.A. North York.

E.S. Reigal was president of the committee in 1902, when their costs for supplies were: beans at \$2.20 per bushel, crackers at 3-3/4 cents a pound, and the firewood was free. The celebration was again held at Hively's Grove, and the committee purchased 20 flags for grave markers.

In 1903, the Royal Band was fired for \$25.

In 1904, committee president was C.W. Myers.

The roll of veterans on 1905 was: George W. Gruver, Henry Shultz, Eli Ream, Henry Schaffer, Milton Shenberger, David Kunkel, William Lightner, P.J. Eline, F.A. Innerst, Levi Ness, Daniel Schroll, William Wolf, H.C. Roth, Henry Rieley, John H. Bear and Harry Schaffer.

The 1910 Master of Ceremonies was Rev. A. C. Crone of Emigsville.

The Sons of Union Veterans Group of York, known as Camp Ruhl, were invited to the 1911 festivities. A new flag was purchased for \$5.

In 1915, it was on motion voted to hold the services May 31.

In 1919, on motion by J. Innerst, it was decided to have all returned area veterans present at their Memorial Day services.

The six-man bean soup committee in 1927 were: Morgan Garbick, H. Kindig, W. Bahn, Harry Dellinger, Charles Hively and Wilbur Diehl.

In 1935 and 1940 veterans groups were again invited to participate and the event was held at Hively's Grove.

In 1943, a motion was carried to erect a memorial to the war heroes. They voted to erect it on the school ground of allowed to do so by the school board in Pleasureville.

Despite inclement weather in 1945, a dedication service was held for the memorial unveiling on November 11th. Many attended. Mrs. Clyde Boring led ten Girl Scouts, assisted by Mrs. Hartman, to officiate at the raising of the colors. The widows of Harold Wolf and Gerald Wire performed the unveiling of the Memorial, while Keith Billet rendered Taps.

A five-man bean soup committee in 1950, comprised of C.C. Innerst, James Almoney, Clyde Arvin, Richard Arvin and Russel Lecrone, made certain that no one went away hungry.

James Almoney of the 1950 committee was made chairman of the bean soup operations for 1952.

In 1959, the parade was still being held and the soup was still being served piping hot in tin cups.

In 1979, a local newspaper article stated: "The Memorial Day services were held at Mt. Zion United Church of Christ, Ridgewood Road. The cooks used 160 pounds of flat rib beef and 400 pounds of beans. This service dates back to the end of the Civil War, the first observance being May 30, 1896." Actually, the Pleasureville Memorial Day ceremony has been held for the past 124 years, which dates it back to 1866, rather than as indicated in the news release cited.

Another Innerst was chairman in 1979. His grandfather, Frederick Innerst, was a soldier in the Civil War.

For two years during World War I, due to a scarcity of beef, the service could not be held, despite the best efforts of the F.O.P. home and the American Legion, who promoted this ceremony with much zeal.

Today, the tradition continues, last year, for example, the event, in observance of lives lost in the American Civil War, was held Monday, May 28th, at Mt. Zion U.C.C., Ridgewood Road, in Springettsbury Township. Army beef and bean soup was cooked over an open fire, and 15 to 20 cast iron pots were used.

"The Recipe" is for old army bean soup, just as it was served back in the Civil War days to the Yankee front line troops. "The recipe was handed right down from the start," said

Adam Forrey, Association member and Chief Cook, who had risen at the crack of dawn the previous day to begin cooking the tasty concoction.

In 1990, they used 280 pounds of beans and 85 pounds of beef. About 350 soup lovers attended. Over 20 volunteers served nearly all of the soup within about three hours, and the remaining few gallons were donated to the Lutheran Home in York.

The free bean soup is not for sale, but donations are gratefully accepted, and faithfully used to replenish the supplies each year.

The current Memorial Day committee consists of Adam Forrey, James Almone, Russel Heindel and Roy Strausbaugh.

If you've never attended the "Big Day" at Pleasureville, why not plan now to check it out. You'll be glad you did.

Stony Brook

Stony Brook is east of York at an area where the railroad crossed the turnpike. The name Stony Brook came from the name of a nearby small stream, which flows, into Kreutz Creek. Around 1900, the village had a store, post office, coal yard, warehouse, and twenty dwellings. Heistand Mill, owned by William H. Heistand, was one of the earliest gristmills in York County. It was built soon after the first settlement of this region. *A blacksmith shop stood on the pike (roadway) near Stony Brook. Started in 1734, it was the first blacksmith shop west of the Susquehanna.*

On the property of John Stover near stony Brook village was a pure spring of chalybeate water. Famous in early days on account of its mineral qualities, water from this spring is still available today.

Tobacco was grown here because it adapted well to the fertile soil of Springettsbury Township. As early as 1840 it was being cultivated in Stony Brook.

In 1905, Horace Smyser's 16 acres of tobacco produced 28,000 pounds. The leaf from such locally grown tobacco found ready sale.

Fruit was also cultivated extensively in this area of Springettsbury Township. John S. Heistand had a large apple orchard on his farm at Stony Brook. He primarily raised York Imperial, Smith cider, and Bell Flower apples. In 1905 he harvested 3,200 bushels of apples from his orchard.

Thus, farming was well under way in Stony Brook at the beginning of this century.

In 1940, Elmer Horn had a butcher shop and Emma Horn had a grocery store, along the area where the railroad track passes through Stony Brook.

Cyrus Musser, a carpenter who lived just west of the Horn's store, was a coffin maker.

The Houser family, who also owned the Ettlne property, built the mill located next to Ettlne's antiques. Moses Waser managed this mill before he built his own mill on the north side of East Market Street.

The gristmill on the west side of Locust Grove Road was first owned by the Hiestand family, and later by Abram Hiestand throne. Prior to the 1940s, Billy Spangler was its manager.

It was rumored in the early 1900s that area residents of Stony Brook wanted to form it into a borough. This desire, however, was never pursued.