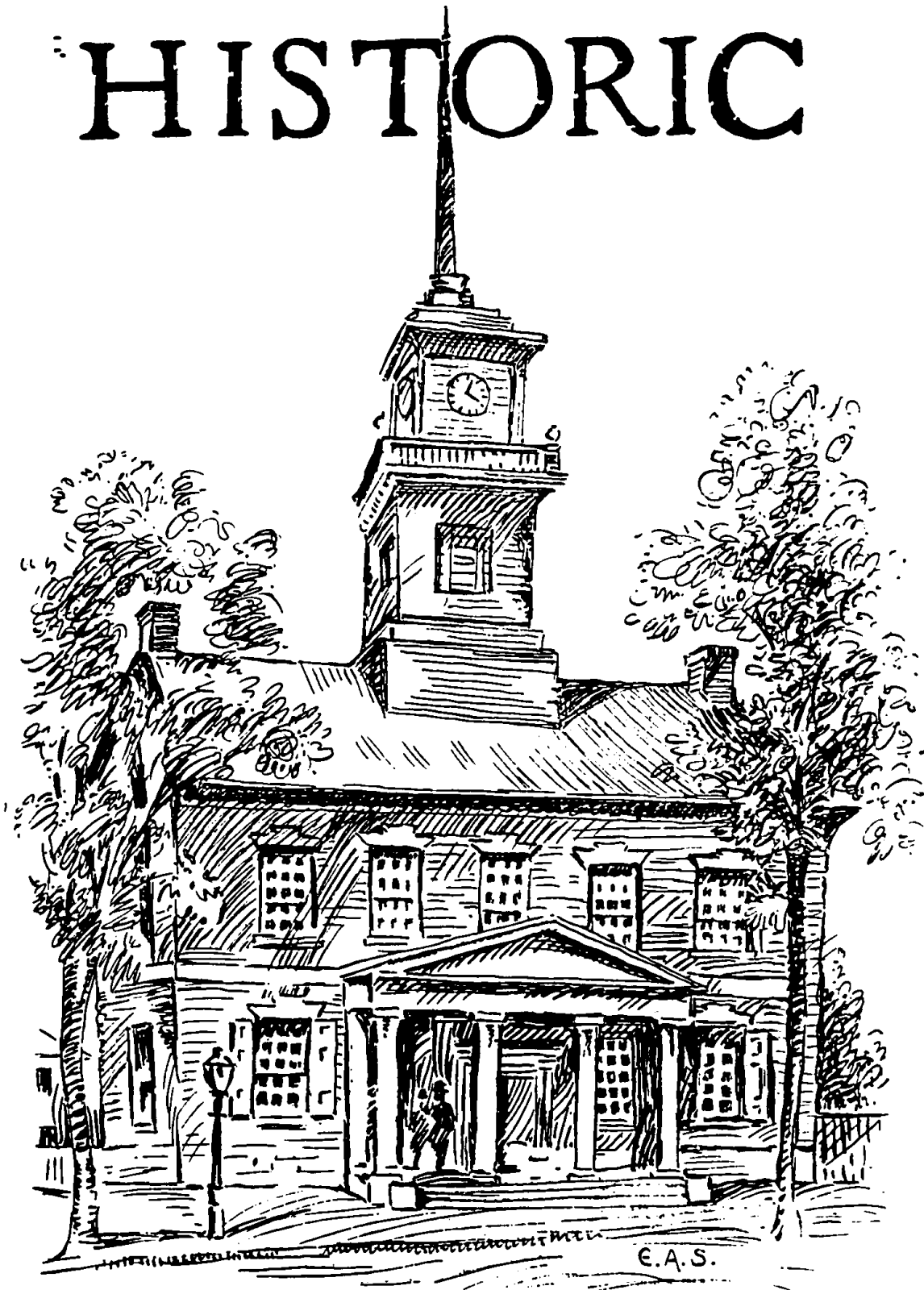


# HISTORIC



# WOODBURY

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THE NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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MAYOR'S PARLOUR.


BURY.

13th January, 1964

On behalf of the Town Council and townspeople of Bury I send greetings and good wishes to the townspeople of Woodbury on the occasion of the Tercentenary of your state.

In the three hundred years of its life Woodbury has grown to its present size by the efforts of all its residents. May the town continue to prosper and expand by your efforts and may this three hundredth anniversary be one of the brightest in your town's history.

Yours sincerely,

  
Mayor.

January 1, 1964

TO ALL CITIZENS:

A historic event will take place this year and will be brought to the attention of the nation and the world, when all of the Tercentenary committees throughout the state join together for the celebration of New Jersey's 300th anniversary.

The Woodbury Tercentenary committee has labored long and hard in an attempt to bring this event to an interesting conclusion. All of this preparation has been directed in a meaningful way, so that everyone's attention will be focused upon our community. Our committee hopes to create many lasting memories as a result of their Tercentenary planning.

In observance of these events, it is fitting that we, the people of Woodbury, take time to reflect upon and deeply appreciate the three hundred years of good fortune that New Jersey has enjoyed.

May this historic commemorative booklet be a reminder of the treasures of the past and give us all a dedicated feeling of pride for these rich and lasting memories.

Robert E. Brumund  
Mayor

January 1, 1964

The year 1964 marks the three hundredth anniversary of New Jersey, for in March of the year 1664, King Charles II of England granted to James, Duke of York, the land known as the Dutch Domain in the New World, and 19 years later, in 1683, John Wood and his wife became the founding residents of our community.

As of June 24, 1958, a New Jersey Tercentenary Commission was established by act of the State Legislature, and on March 7, 1961, members of the Woodbury Tercentenary Committee were appointed and administered the oath of office by Mayor Walter E. Trout.

We in Woodbury are proud of our heritage and the progress and development of our community over the past 300 years. It is the hope of the committee that this commemorative booklet will help make the observance of the Tercentenary a more meaningful, significant and memorable event.

As general chairman, I am most grateful to an enthusiastic and outstanding committee that has worked so faithfully and tirelessly to achieve the pride that comes only with worthwhile accomplishment.

Woodbury Tercentenary Committee  
Warren J. McClain  
Chairman

# OUR HERITAGE

**W**OODBURY'S founding is at once a relatively obscure item in history and yet an intimate part of American heritage. It would be surprising had Woodbury's founding been very outstanding, for the small settlement that became Woodbury was established, for the most part, by a Quaker family, the Woods, and Quakers are the very epitome of humbleness. The founding of Woodbury was by no means unique, since dozens of New Jersey and Pennsylvania towns owe their existence to early Quakers who sought refuge from religious persecution.

But it is this fact that Woodbury's founding is not unique which makes it such an intimate part of our heritage; essentially it is the same story as that of the Pilgrims' Plymouth or Penn's Philadelphia.

This story begins in England in the mid-17th century, particularly about the town of Bury, Lancashire. There the "Quakers" (as members of the Religious Society of Friends were derisively called) had accumulated a sizable following despite popular hostility.

Records indicate that as early as 1655 (twelve years before William Penn became a Quaker) Henry Wood of Tottington, near Bury, was professing Quakerism. In September of that year, Henry and a fellow Friend, after worshipping in a local chapel, attempted to speak to the people congregated there, to witness to their beliefs. At this, "ye rude people came upon ye said Henry Wood and stopped his mouth with a handkerchief . . .", as related by a prominent Quaker. Then, after having been beaten, he was haled before a justice and imprisoned for a month and a half.

No sooner had this dauntless Friend and patriarch of the Wood family been released than he resumed his religious activities. In 1660, both he and his wife, Isabel, were imprisoned for a month.

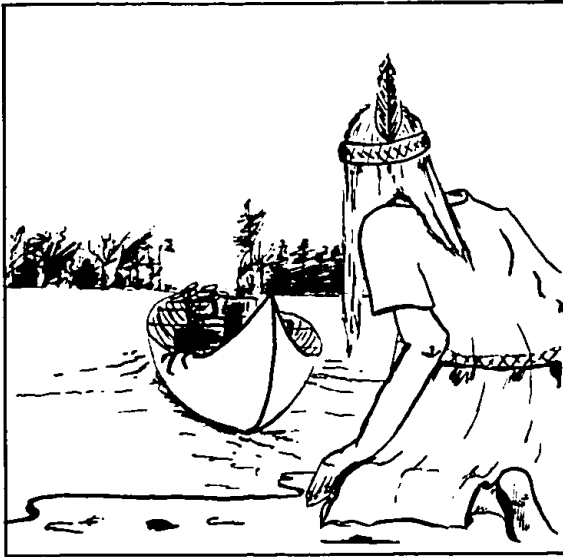
Four years later Henry's son, John, was fined heavily for not attending the Church of England. When asked by a justice whether or not he attended "ye Church in Bury, ye Church that we own", John was adamant, declaring, "I disown it. I verily deny it to be ye Church of God." The justice replied that



he would be made to "own it". He wasn't, for the following year he was committed to Lancaster Gaol, for persisting in his Quaker beliefs.

The persecution of Friends was maintained unflaggingly, and in 1682 John and Henry, who was nearing eighty, realized the opportunity offered them by the New World. They applied to the monthly meeting of Friends, and on April 20 a "certificate was given on behalf of Henry and John Wood who had before appeared in ye monthly meeting, and things being found clear in order to their removal to America."

It is very likely that previous Quaker settlements, and especially Penn's ambitious plans for Philadelphia, established the previous year, contributed heavily to the Woods' decision to leave England. It may be that a portion of the family, or at least Henry's brother, Richard, was among the first settlers of Philadelphia. In fact, it has been claimed that Richard Wood actually settled at the mouth of the creek some time before the arrival of the rest of the family. A legend connected with this states that the settlement's food supply became exhausted, and the men of the colony set out to find food. When their return was delayed, the women left at



the settlement faced starvation and were saved only by a gracious Indian maiden who floated a load of venison and corn across the creek to them.

On April 2 and 3, 1683, Edward Byllinge, one of the proprietors of West Jersey (part-owner of the grant originally made to Lord John Berkeley after the capture of New York and New Jersey by the English in 1664), ordered 100 acres of land to be surveyed to John Wood; likewise to his father, Henry; and also to his brothers, Constantine, Jeremiah, and Henry, Jr.

It might be assumed that the family set sail soon after obtaining title to the land; consequently, they would probably have arrived during the summer of 1683, almost certainly landing at Philadelphia. This date of arrival is partly substantiated by the fact that in late July, 1683, a child, Constantine, was born to John's wife, Alice Sale. This child is considered to be the first child born in the new settlement.

The Woods found the Jersey shore of the Delaware populated by a few Swedes, one of whom, Walla Swanson, owned 200 acres of land in what is now Woodbury. The family established themselves at the mouth of a creek on its southern banks in a region which the local Lenni Lenape Indians (or Delawares) called "Pescozackasing", interpreted to mean "place of black burrs". With a combination of the family name, "Wood", and the name of the Woods' local parish in England, "Bury", this creek became "Woodbury" Creek.

Other Friends joined the Woods, and by 1696 they were holding meetings at John's estate, "The

Shelter". John was probably the most prominent of all the English pioneers in Gloucester County, having been an important organizer of the county, a legislator, and justice of the county court before his death in 1703.

Local meetings such as those held at John's estate were continued until about 1715. At that time, the settlement at the mouth of the creek was deemed insufficient for the needs of the growing Quaker community. Accordingly, a site was selected a few miles inland where the King's Highway bridged Woodbury Creek, thus designating the location of Woodbury. The tract of land was purchased on behalf of the Friends by John Ladd, John Cooper, and Henry Wood, Jr., from John Swanson (the son of Walla Swanson).

The Woodbury Friends' Meetinghouse was erected on this site soon afterward. In 1721, Presbyterians built a log church north of the creek where the cemetery in North Woodbury now is situated. Growth of the community centered around this and the meetinghouse.

By the decade 1730-40, Woodbury had assumed the proportions of a small hamlet, becoming known simply as "Woodbury" instead of "Woodbury Creek".

In 1747, the *Pennsylvania Gazette* printed this description of Woodbury as a part of an advertisement for the purchase of a near-by plantation: "... in a fine, thriving village called Woodbury, in Gloucester County." The following year, the Swedish naturalist, Peter Kalm, while traveling in the colonies, chanced to pass through Woodbury. He referred to it as a "small place in the woods".

In all probability, Kalm made use of the local tavern, Wilkins Inn. A concept of the facilities he was offered may be derived from the following price list stipulated by the Gloucester County Court in 1742:

Every breakfast of tea, coffee, or chocolate	8d.
Every breakfast of other victuals	6d.
Every hot dinner or supper provided for a single person, with a pint of strong beer or cider	1s, 0d.
Every hot dinner or supper for a company, with a quart of strong beer or cider each	1s, 0d.
Every cold dinner or supper with a pint of strong beer or cider each	8d.
Every night's lodging, each person	3d.
HORSES	
Stabling every horse, each night and clover hay enough	8d.
Stabling every night and other hay enough	6d.
Every night pasture for a horse	6d.
Every two quarts of oats or other grains	3d.

Wilkins Inn was Woodbury's first inn, built some time before 1737 by Thomas Wilkins of bricks burned at old kilns on Woodbury Creek. Like all

good taverns of the time. Wilkins was a center of community life.

As newspapers were always precious commodities, taverns were often called upon to supply them. Requested the proprietor of Wilkins, "Anyone learning to spell, kindly use last week's newsletter." Apparently from personal experience, the tavernkeeper posted his counterparts to the modern "no credit" signs:

I've trusted many to my sorrow.

So pay today, I'll trust tomorrow.  
and:

If trust I must, my ale will pale,

My likker's good, My measure just,

But, honest Sirs, I will not trust.

During the Revolution the tavern was confiscated from its Tory owner and renamed *Hessians Defeated at Red Bank*. It is now the Hotel Paul.

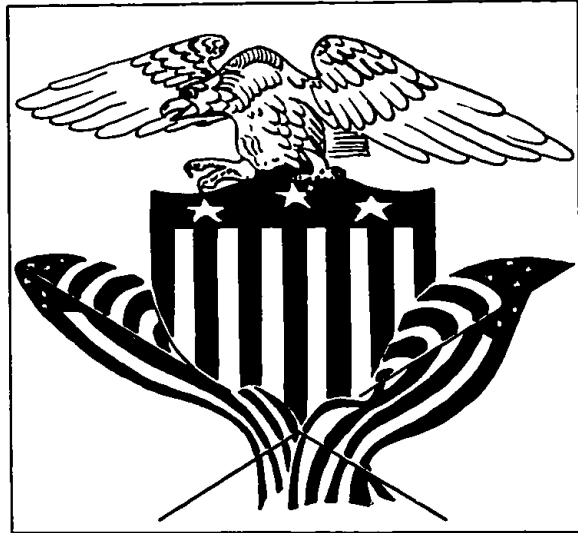
In the mid-1700's conflict arose over what is euphemistically termed the "Woodbury Creek Dam controversy". The source of misunderstanding lay with the erection of a dam across Woodbury Creek, near its mouth, which rendered the stream un-navigable.

In 1753 application was made to the colonial legislature for permission to "stop up" the creek. Failing to get official approval, those interested in the project proceeded to build the dam anyway the following year. The courts declared it a public nuisance, but its supporters stalled or resorted to outright violence. Once, a group of authorities, having come to remove the dam, were put to retreat when confronted with men building fires behind barricades for the purpose of making lye to throw on the officers. Eventually it was removed, but a few landowners along the creek prevailed when, in 1760, another dam legally replaced it. (This remained until 1831.)

By the time of the Revolution, Woodbury had emerged as a hamlet of considerable importance. The majority of Woodbury's citizenry were Quakers and, as such, adamantly refused to take up arms or outwardly support anyone. However, this fact was far from reducing Woodbury to obscurity.

One notable Woodbury patriot and member of the Continental Congress was John Cooper, a Quaker; for his patriot activities he was denounced by fellow Friends and "read out of meeting."

When the British captured Philadelphia in September, 1777, after the Battle of Brandywine, they found themselves virtually blockaded on the Delaware. To remedy this situation, Sir William Howe



determined to clear the river of two particularly obnoxious strongholds, Fort Mercer, at Red Bank (now called National Park), and Fort Mifflin, on an island in the Delaware.

Howe began with the seizure of the American garrison at Billingsport and the destruction of the *chevaux-de-frise*\* there.

Realizing the implications of an imminent attack on Red Bank, Washington ordered reinforcements, which brought the number of defenders to 400, under the command of Colonel Christopher Greene and his artillery assistant, Chevalier de Manduit du Plessis, a French engineer. New Jersey militia under General Silas Newcomb was also ordered up but was allowed to return after earthworks had been thrown up.

On October 21, 1777, Colonel Carl Emil Ulrich von Donop was dispatched from Philadelphia with three Hessian grenadier battalions, a regiment of foot, four companies of jägers, and some artillery. He crossed the Delaware at Coopers' Ferry (Camden) and advanced on Red Bank, bypassing Woodbury.

On the afternoon of the twenty-second, a Hessian officer with a flag of truce announced to the fort's defenders, in the King's name, that no quarter would be given should they stand and fight. Greene supposedly deputized an officer to mount the parapet and fling back the reply. "We'll see King George damned first! We want no quarter!"

The assault commenced immediately. Abatis and steady fire from American galleys in the river menaced the attack, and British ships below the *chevaux-de-frise* which attempted to give aid were

frustrated by shots, which fell short and were imbedded in the bluff before the fort.

As the onslaught lost its backbone, du Plessis sallied forth to repair some defenses. As he worked, he heard a voice implore in broken English, "Whoever you are, draw me hence." The astounded du Plessis found it to be the voice of Count von Donop, mortally wounded while vainly attempting to rally his men. He was taken across the creek to the Lowe house, where he died three days later. Before his death he said, "It is finishing a noble career early, but I die the victim of ambition and the avarice of my sovereign . . . See in me the vanity of all human pride. I have shone in all the courts of Europe and now I am dying on the banks of the Delaware, in the house of an obscure Quaker."

The tattered remnants of the defeated army fled through Woodbury, where the wounded were left. The Friends' Meetinghouse and the Cooper house both served as emergency hospitals. Those that died there were buried in the Strangers' Burying Ground (formerly on the site of Lupton Street, near Delaware).

As an anti-climax to the battle, the 64-gun British battleship "Augusta" grounded off shore near the mouth of Woodbury Creek. An ensuing fire touched off the powder magazine, and the ship blew up amid exultation from the troops at Fort Mercer.

References as to troop strength are hardly consistent. The Hessians probably had in action about 1500 men. Casualties in all grades reached well over 250, and captures alone amounted to that much. American casualties numbered about 32. It is said that more casualties were inflicted here in a forty-minute period than in any other assault of the Revolution.

November brought Lord General Charles Cornwallis across the river in the aftermath of von Donop's ill-fated venture. Reoccupying Billingsport, he then marched north with 5000 troops towards Woodbury and Red Bank. His maneuver did not go unnoticed, but the enemy's overwhelming odds prompted due precaution, and Fort Mercer was abandoned and destroyed the day before the British reached Woodbury.

From November 21 to 24, the British army of Lord Cornwallis encamped in Woodbury. Cornwallis naturally chose as his personal headquarters the best house available, and that happened to be the house of the patriot John Cooper, who was obliged to beat a hasty retreat. Officers were quartered in the meetinghouse, and artillery was parked in the

yard. The camp stretched from the creek to what is now Cooper Street and from the King's Highway past the present railway.

The diary of Job Whitall records that the British troops had a weakness for plundering, and he went to the campsite after Cornwallis had pulled out to see what could be reclaimed. He recovered his "large kettle", "but not our little pot." Also mentioned were the hide of a big brown ox and a Windsor chair. He notes with dismay that the soldiers made off with a number of boards and several thousand barrel staves, along with a few fitches of bacon. But if the hapless Quaker thought the occupation of Woodbury to be particularly injurious, the Battle of Red Bank was as well. Before the engagement the Americans drove 47 of his sheep into the fort (his house was located near the fort, and still stands), took grain, potatoes, and pillaged a fat cow he had killed.

Whitall, a long-suffering Friend, did not complain, however, in keeping with the nature of the Biblical character for whom he was named.

By the time Cornwallis had pulled out of Woodbury, he had dismantled the remaining works at Fort Mercer, finding a number unserviceable. A detailed inventory was made in a letter signed:

JAMES PATTISON

*Commander of the Royal  
Artillery in N. America*

Camp in Woodbury

Nov. 23, 1777

Since Woodbury was almost continuously the headquarters of local militia, it is not surprising that enemy thrusts here were contrived, though never executed.

In August of 1777, an apprehensive General Newcomb in Woodbury had written Governor Livingston, "Whether, as the movements of the enemy are so precarious, the orders given me might not be more discretionary, as I am always on the spot, and the service might suffer before proper orders could be obtained from your Excellency?"

Two months later he was not "on the spot", and his dilatory tactics allowed the defeated Hessians to escape after Red Bank. He was consequently replaced in December. Nonetheless, his concern was not without foundation, as attested to by the following extract from the *Royal Pennsylvania Gazette* of April 3, 1778: "On Tuesday last a party of the refugees (Tories), with a few marines, marched towards Woodbury upon hearing the militia had



collected about that place;—we have not heard of the event of this march farther than that a large number of cattle has been taken.” Apparently this expedition disintegrated into nothing more than a plundering band.

General “Mad” Anthony Wayne marched by Woodbury on a foraging mission in 1777, and in 1779 “Light Horse Harry” Lee foraged throughout South Jersey from his Woodbury headquarters. Among the records of Lee’s stay in Woodbury is the following letter:

Woodbury, January 24, 1779  
Received of Jacob Taggart, Q.M., by the hand of  
Andrew Lock, ninety-one and a half bushel Indian  
corn and ninety-six bushel oats for the use of  
Major Lee’s Light Dragoons, now at this place.  
Elnathan Zane, FM

In 1781 General Lafayette brought an acquaintance, the Marquis de Chastellux, to inspect the battleground at Red Bank. Uninvited, they entered the near-by Whitall house, but were ignored by James Whitall, who resented the intrusion. Lafayette finally broke the embarrassing silence and abruptly marched out the door, noticeably irritated and muttering uncomplimentary remarks about “the old Tory Quaker.”

Public opinion among the majority of Quakers in Woodbury toward the war may be summed up in the following polite but annoyed correspondence:

To General Varnum

The remonstrance of Friends the Proprietors of the meeting at Woodbury, Sheweth.

That the said house was built at our own expense on purpose to accommodate the assembling together for the Worship of Almighty God; but hath been taken and used for a considerable time as barracks for soldiers; a violation of private property which nothing but absolute necessity can excuse.

But as we continued to have use of it at the hours appointed for worship without much interruption we have patiently submitted; but to our surprise now we find it used as a hospital for sick soldiers and as we suppose under thy authority . . .

Signed in behalf of Friends of Woodbury Meeting by

John Tatum  
Wm Hues  
James Cooper  
David Cooper  
Isaac Ballinger  
Mark Miller

Woodbury 11th mo. 7th 1777.

However, Varnum, who had been occupying the ancient Ladd house (in Colonial Manor), departed hastily soon afterward, just before the arrival of Lord Cornwallis. The British were no better, possibly worse, and the Friends looked forward to a time when they could worship together in peace and tranquillity.

Following successful conclusion of the war for independence, during which Woodbury was alternately occupied by military forces of both sides, the small

town returned to its pre-Revolutionary status of a quiet colonial village. Woodbury residents returned to battle during the War of 1812 when a company of infantry called The Blues of Gloucester County was raised.

Woodbury at this early date lay along either side of what is now Broad Street except for two or three houses down what is now Delaware Street. The population of the town in 1815 was small, and there were only 71 dwellings in Woodbury, one of them the oldest dwelling now standing in the city, the Joseph Franklin residence on Broad Street.



The first balloon flight in America terminated near Woodbury in what is now Deptford Township on January 9, 1793. Francois Jean Pierre Blanchard, pioneering French balloonist, ascended from Philadelphia in a hydrogen-inflated balloon, and after a 46-minute flight, during which he travelled 15 miles and reached an altitude of 5812 feet, he descended to a less tumultuous welcome than that which saw him off. A cautious few local inhabitants ventured near and were shown a letter from George Washington directing the populace to afford him the utmost courtesy. The genial farmers packed the smiling Frenchman and his balloon into a farm wagon and carried him, in less than a stately manner, to Cooper’s Ferry, where he could return to Philadelphia.

# THE HERALD.

WOODBURY, N. J.

WEDNESDAY, April 25, 1821.

Our Subscribers in Haddonfield are informed, that in future our post rider will deliver their papers at the store of Joseph Porter, every Wednesday, about 10 o'clock. The following is a list of the places at which packages are left by the rider from this office, viz: Buck Tavern, Doughton's Shop, Mount Ephraim, Haddonfield, Chew's Landing, Blackwoodtown, Lamber Bridge, Thomas Bee's Store, and Joseph Dilkes' Store.

Subscribers living on the road leading to any of these places can have the paper thrown out at their own door, by leaving their directions at the office.

Our miscellaneous page of this week, it will be observed, is taken up principally with an Essay on Sunday Schools; we trust the great importance of the subject, and the elegant and perspicuous style in which it is written, will be sufficient apology for its length, and insure it an attentive perusal.

*The Execution*—For the information of those who may wish to witness this awful spectacle, we state, that the gallows is to be placed in the meadow on Woodbury Creek, and within a few yards of the bridge. The situation, is in our opinion, a good one, as the surrounding hills form a complete amphitheatre, upon which the spectators can stand and have a fair view, without crowding on the officers of justice. —We understand, that agreeably to an expressed wish of the prisoner, the execution will take place as soon after the time appointed, as the necessary arrangements will admit.

The TRIAL of this unfortunate & wretched man, together with some account of his life and his own voluntary acknowledgments, made since sentence was pronounced upon him, is now in the press, and will be ready for delivery on that day, at the several stores and taverns in Woodbury, and at the place of execution, price

12 1-2 CENTS.

The above notice refers to the hanging of John Gooby, a former slave, who had shot and killed one George Tiller. Sentenced to hang on April 27, 1821, he was granted a stay of execution by the governor, disappointing a "great concourse (supposed several thousands of people) from city & country men women and children," who had paraded the streets of Woodbury to see "ye awful spectacle," according to the diary of Samuel Mickel. Gooby was hanged several months later, and Mickel recorded: "Started about noon toward ye gallows below Woodbury. A great disorderly crowd attending."

The first newspaper in Woodbury was the *Gloucester Farmer*, published for only a very few months in 1816 by John Crane. The next paper was the *Village Herald*, published in Woodbury in 1819 as a representative of the Whig faction and edited by Philip J. Gray. He published the *Herald* for ten years before its sale to another publisher, who continued it as a Democratic paper. After a time this publication was moved to Camden.

In 1834 the *Constitution* was first published in Woodbury by Augustus S. Barber as an advocate of the Whig Party and later of the Republican Party. In 1878 the *Gloucester County Democrat* was established at Woodbury by William Gibbs. Since March, 1846, the *Constitution* has been in its present location on South Broad Street. The *Constitution* was published faithfully every week from its founding until April 25, 1945, when its last issue came off the press. It was the oldest county newspaper, having been published for 111 years and 8 months. The Constitution Company also enjoys the honor of being the oldest established business in the city of Woodbury with a continuous record of daily business from its founding to 1964.

The *Woodbury Daily Times*, Woodbury's only newspaper today, commenced publication on February 2, 1897, as the first daily paper established by J. Frank Wilson and Charles W. Hall. In January, 1933, the *Gloucester County Democrat* was changed to a daily under the name of the *Evening News and the Gloucester County Democrat*. After publication for a short period of years this paper was purchased by the *Woodbury Daily Times*.

The first schoolhouse in Woodbury was the Deptford School constructed in 1774 on the site of today's Deptford Free Library on Delaware Street. Originally a one-story structure, a second floor was added in 1820 with \$500 bequeathed by James Cooper for that purpose. The object of the new school, under the control of the Society of Friends, was "educational, moral and charitable."

Among the rules of the new school was the following:

"The teacher shall suffer no scholar in ye school that hath the itch or any other infectious distemper."

Woodbury Academy was erected in 1791 on the northeast corner of Broad and Center Streets with money raised by lottery. The Reverend Mr. Andrew Hunter, minister of the Presbyterian Congregation at that time and one of the trustees of the Academy, was the first teacher. In 1820 a second story was added to the building, and the first floor, which had



been used for some years both as a school and a house of worship by the Presbyterian Congregation, was fitted out as a church. It continued to be used for this purpose until 1834.

It should be noted in passing that Capt. James Lawrence, of "Don't Give Up the Ship" fame, was educated at the Woodbury Academy, as was Commodore Stephen Decatur, who then lived in Westville.

In 1856 a school was built on Oak Street. The present Walnut Street School and the now abandoned West End School were built in 1889.

In 1908 Governor Woodrow Wilson laid the cornerstone for the High School Building, and in 1926 the present high school addition and Central School was constructed.

The first provision for negro education was in a small room in the old Bethel African Church, and in 1915 the Carpenter Street School was constructed.

The West End Memorial School was dedicated in 1950, and the Evergreen School four years later.

A new high school gymnasium, Junior High School Annex and additions to all elementary schools were completed in 1957, followed by a new kitchen and high school cafeteria in 1960. Since 1863, including the present, there have been seven Superintendents of Schools.

A census of Woodbury, conducted by one John D. Scott in 1847 and published in the "Woodbury Herald," lists the following statistics about the county seat:

Number of houses	147	Freeholders	1
Number of shops	21	Doctors	3
Blacksmiths	12	Tailors	8
Wheelwrights	8	Butchers	4
Cabinet Makers	6	Halters	1
Chairmakers	1	Lawyers	3
Shoemakers	10	Squires	3
Coopers	1	Judges	4
Carpenters	12	Stores	10
Tinsmiths	2	Taverns	3
Watchmakers	1	Churches	2
Printers	5	Schools	6
Bricklayers	4	Printing office	1
Tobacconist	1	Laborers	51
Saddlers	2	Widows	34
Oystermen	1	Widowers	3
Milliners	3	Single girls	85
Mantlemakers	11	Old Maids	28
Mechanics	75	Bachelors	13
Constable	1		

Worthy of more than brief mention in any compilation of data concerning Woodbury is the mark left by the Green family, the town's first (and possibly only) industrial giant.



Lewis M. Green, born March 28, 1817, in Woolwich Township, engaged in teaching, pursued the study of medicine and shortly after his marriage at the age of 22 went to farming in Greenwich Township until the death of his wife, when he embarked upon a career selling clocks throughout the state. After accumulating some \$20,000, he became a merchant in Clarksboro. After a brief interval at selling clocks again, an attack of dyspepsia put Mr. Green on the road to industrial greatness.

Mr. Green was handed a cluster of blossoms by a friend, which, when combined with a formula he had known before, provided a remedy for his dyspepsia. Thus was born "Green's August Flower." Soon after, he purchased the formula for "Boschee's German Syrup," which met with the same instant success as the "Flower."

He then poured all his capital into the new-found patent medicine enterprise and was on the way to amassing a fortune of over half a million dollars. Mr. Green entered a financial arrangement with his son, George G. Green, by which the control and manufacture of the various articles passed to the son for an annual royalty of \$40,000. At one time Mr.

Green owned 80 acres within the city limits of Woodbury. He served several terms as mayor.

His son, George, went on to almost phenomenal success in the patent medicine business, which by his father's stipulation was to continue to be manufactured in Woodbury. He was also linked with other industrial enterprises in the city, such as the Standard Window Glass Works, of which he was chairman; Green's Steam Planing-Mill, which he owned, and The Woodbury Glass Works Co., of which he was president.

Green's August Flower Works on Railroad Avenue did a tremendous business, no doubt assisted in large part by the huge promotional campaign conducted from the Woodbury manufacturing plant. "Green's" boasted its own almanac and printing rooms. Five million of the almanacs printed in four languages were ordered in 1883, and nine printing presses were kept running to supply the demand. The mail from Green's deluged the post office, and Woodbury was seventh in the state for postal revenues.

Green's mass production was a striking example of efficiency and a splendid display of modern techniques. There were bottle washing rooms, packing rooms and a bottling room where 28 young ladies filled bottles with medicine. Chemists, of whose highly secretive work little was divulged, worked in a research laboratory in the same building.

The Green family accumulated a sizeable fortune. They owned, in addition to the mansion adjoining the factory, a hotel in Pasadena, Calif., and a summer house at Lake Hopatcong.

The turn of the century was the era of private railroad cars, status symbol of the day, and each year before the family left for Pasadena, Woodbury residents were permitted to tour their private railroad car as it stood on a nearby siding.

Eventually the glory of the patent medicine began to fade, but it wasn't until after World War I that Green's halted production.

In 1854 Woodbury was incorporated as a borough, and at the first town meeting James L. Gibbs was elected mayor. Under an act approved on March 16, 1870, by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey the town council of Woodbury met at the courthouse on March 21, 1871 and organized as a council of the city of Woodbury for the ensuing year with Thomas Brooks Joslin chosen president.

According to the General Assembly *Minutes* extending from May 12 to 15 inclusive, 1686, the

Third and Fourth Tenths petitioned the Burlington Assembly "to grant them jurisdiction, with court officers and to hold courts." During May 1686 this was granted and a meeting was held at Gloucester May 26, 1686, for organization.

The following is quoted verbatim from the Assembly *Minutes*:

"Resolved that there be a Court kept for the third & fourth Tenths one time the same to be held at newton & the other time at Red Bank."

Many attempts were made to remove the county seat from Woodbury to Camden. In November of 1824 the New Jersey Legislature authorized an election in the county of Gloucester to determine whether or not the county seat should be removed. In a spirited election on February 18, 1825, Woodbury won out over Camden, 2516 votes to 1640 votes. The inconvenience afforded the rapidly increasing population in the northern part of old Gloucester County, however, was responsible then in March of 1844 for a legislative act creating the County of Camden, and Woodbury's position as the county seat of Gloucester County was assured for the future.

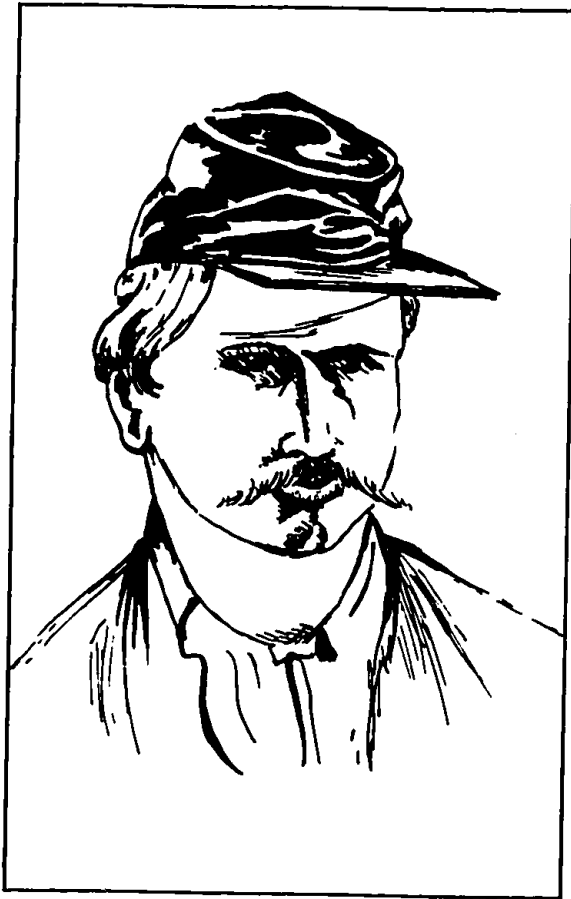
## CIVIL WAR

While the Civil War did not involve Woodbury directly, many young men of Woodbury answered Lincoln's call to arms to preserve the Union. One of these was Brigadier General George Bayard, son of Samuel Bayard, whose farm was located on Cooper Street, then called Good Intent Road, at the site of the present Woodbury Country Club. Brigadier General Bayard graduated from West Point in 1856 and in 1862, during the Battle of Fredericksburg, was mortally wounded and died within twenty-four hours.

Another Woodbury man who fought in the War between the States was Samuel French, a graduate of West Point in the same class as Ulysses S. Grant. French engaged in the war while living in the South, rose to the rank of General in the Confederate Army.

When this information was received in Woodbury, enraged citizens threatened to burn his home, located at the corner of Broad Street and Aberdeen Place. Only after the sheriff waved the Stars and Stripes from a second-story window of the home did the angry mob disperse.

In *The Constitution* of July 15, 1862, appeared an article advising that then Governor Olden of New Jersey ordered the raising of four regiments of infantry as New Jersey's quota in President



Lincoln's call shortly before for 300,000 additional troops to serve for three years.

The Twelfth Regiment was assigned to South Jersey with a rendezvous at Camp Stockton, Woodbury, in charge of Colonel R. C. Johnson. Camp Stockton was located on the Dickerson Farm, bounded by the old Mullica Hill Turnpike, now Mantua Avenue, Carpenter Street, Glassboro Road, now Barber Avenue, and the West Jersey railroad tracks. The Gloucester County company, made up of men from farm communities surrounding Woodbury, was to be recruited at Woodbury during July and August, 1862.

Recruiting posters advised that one month's pay of \$13 per month and \$25 bounty were to be given to each man in advance. In addition, \$2 to single men and \$6 to married men were to be paid each month by the State with a \$75 additional bounty upon discharge.

The Regiment was mustered into Federal Service on September 4, 1862, with 992 men on the rolls. The Regiment entrained for Camden on September 9, 1862, and then moved to Philadelphia and Balti-

more. During the ensuing three years the Regiment participated in 50 battles and skirmishes, including Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, The Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, and at The Siege of Petersburg, and was present at Appomattox, on April 9, 1865, when Lee surrendered.

The Regiment was mustered out of Federal Service on June 4, 1865, and discharged at Trenton on June 12, 1865. The regimental rolls list 177 men killed in battle; 410 wounded; and 101 who died from sickness and exposure.

### POST CIVIL WAR PERIOD

By 1880, Woodbury boasted a population of 2298, and three hotels—Newton's, at Broad and Delaware Streets; Paul's, on North Broad Street, south of Woodbury Creek, and the Columbia Hotel, which later was the foundation of Underwood Hospital. Newton's and Paul's Hotels were old structures, rich in history, and had been in existence for many years. Broad Street, a section of the Mullica Hill and Woodbury Turnpike Co., was a wide, unpaved thoroughfare, shaded by many trees and bordered on both sides by fine homes and shops offering a variety of services, including flour, feed and provisions, tin-smithing, a cigar factory, and a blacksmith shop. Town Hall stood at the corner of Broad and German (now Barber Avenue) Streets and housed the public library and a civic hall.

By 1890, Woodbury's population had increased to 3930, living in 478 homes. The preceding decade was marked by both industrial and residential construction, including the Consumers Gas Co., a new window glass works, the opening of Penn, Morris, Lincoln, Glover and West Streets in "West End" and similar "groundbreaking" in the Red Bank-Tatum Street area and the East Side.

In 1885, City Council had accepted the offer of the Woodbury Electric and Power Co. to light the city on moonless nights with 33 electric lights for \$2500. In the same year, city fathers took the first step toward establishment of a city water supply by awarding a contract for construction of a pumping station to carry water from the Tan Yard stream at Sewell to city homes, a project completed in 1887.

In 1886, Council appointed M. Ware Scott as official house numberer. Mr. Scott dutifully reported he found 735 business establishments and residences on 14 miles of streets.

The new courthouse was occupied on April 5, 1887, at a cost officially listed at \$75,367.09, and at the annual school meeting later the same year,

purchase of four buildings at Glover, Morris and Logan Streets for construction of the "West End School" was authorized. In 1889, the Wells-Hope Manufacturing Co., of Philadelphia, constructed a factory on Green Street, south of G. G. Green's laboratory. While shortlived as to its original purpose, the building later housed the Blasius Piano factory and then the Belber Trunk Co.

The trolley line came to Woodbury in 1893 and a year later was extended to Mantua and Almonesson, speeding transportation to Camden and Philadelphia.

The Woodbury Country Club was incorporated August 9, 1897, and an option was taken to purchase the Bayard House on Cooper Street for a club house and an adjoining field for recreational purposes.

Woodbury High School was established in 1899, and in 1903 the first class, consisting of four members, was graduated.

At the turn of the century, Woodbury listed a population of 4087.

After several years of controversy, Council adopted an ordinance to establish a town sewer system, but the work was abandoned in 1902 when the contractors found much quicksand and many springs to bar their progress and the work only 30 per cent complete. The contract was relet, however, and work began again, this time being successfully completed in 1905.

Woodbury's population continued to grow in the first decade of the new century. Site for the new high school was finally selected, its present location, and the cornerstone was laid on November 21, 1908. Named the William Milligan School for a former teacher in Woodbury, it was occupied in November, 1909. Little more than a year later, the school was destroyed by fire, but in 1911 the cornerstone was laid for the new Woodbury High School, which was dedicated by then Governor Woodrow Wilson.

World War I swept Woodbury residents up in patriotic fervor, with many young men answering the call to arms and other men and women taking jobs at Washington Park, Gloucester, site of a bag loading plant; at the duPont powder plant at Gibbstown, and at New York Shipyard. Still others took part in Red Cross and other patriotic activities. "Farmerettes" banded into groups to march to nearby areas to do farm work. "Yeomanettes" were the WACS and WAVES of World War I.

During the period from 1920 to 1930, the population grew from 5801 to 8172, and Woodbury began

to take on an appearance more similar to that of today. North Woodbury expanded through construction of 275 homes by Frank and Leon Budd in the area of Watkins, Crescent, Progress, Ford Avenues and Tatum Street.

The Memorial in honor of Woodbury's World War I veterans was erected in 1924 at the entrance to the high school grounds.

Woodbury weathered the depression of 1929 when scrip was used freely and relief lists soared, but in the ensuing years Woodbury grew into the beautiful, thriving city it is today, a permanent monument to the Woods, of Bury, England.

## WOODBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Woodbury Public Library is one of the oldest libraries in the nation and is the second oldest in South Jersey, for its history can be traced to colonial times. Only the Mt. Holly Public Library is older, having been chartered in 1765.

The Library is the result of the union of two of the mainstays of learning and culture—a school and a library—the first dating from 1773, and the second from 1794.

The Library became known as The Woodbury Public Library in 1961, before which it was called The Deptford Institute Free Library, from the consolidation in 1895 of the Deptford Institute (originally The Deptford Free School Society, 1773) and The Woodbury Library Company (originally The Union Library of Woodbury, 1794).

The first parent organization of the Library, the Deptford Free School Society, was founded in October 20, 1773, by a group of prominent Friends. The building thus erected still exists as the east part of Woodbury City Hall. The school continued in operation until 1889, and in 1893 the trustees decided that because of the public schooling available, a private school was no longer needed. They then deeded to the city the building and property to be used for a "Library, Reading Room, Lecture Room and Museum", to be known as The Deptford Institute and supported by the city.

The Library's second parent organization, The Union Library Company, was founded April 24, 1794, by a group of about seventy-five Friends, many of them from the same families who organized The Deptford Free School Society. For an entrance fee of \$8.00 and annual dues of \$1, the shareholders were privileged to use the library, which was granted a room in the old court house to house the books. In 1801, the name of the Library was changed to

The Woodbury Library Company, and in 1814 the Library was incorporated under an act of the New Jersey Legislature entitled "An Act to Incorporate Societies for the Promotion of Learning."

No building was ever constructed to house the Library, and in 1875 it was moved from The Court House to the Old Town Hall at the corner of Broad Street and East Barber Avenue (then German Street), where the Young People's Christian Association was paid 10 shares per year to operate it. In 1878 the Female Library Company undertook its operation for a year. In 1879 this company united with the Woodbury Library Company. Until this time, men seem to have had almost complete charge of running the Library, but from this date, women took a larger part in its organization.

In 1884, the Library was housed in a room rented from A. S. Marshall at the back of his drug store in the Green Block at Broad and Centre Streets. In 1886 the Trustees agreed to allow "the General Public the use of the room and books, while in the room", but the Library did not become free to the general public to borrow books until its merger with The Deptford Institute in 1895 (and then only if the member was guaranteed by a property owner).

In accordance with the agreement between the city and the Deptford Institute in 1894, a room in the old school house was furnished as a library and reading room, the rest of the building to be used for municipal purposes. In 1895 the Trustees of the Library Company presented to the city, through the Trustees of the Deptford Institute Free Library, the 3000 volumes in their collection "to be used for purposes of a Free Library in the City of Woodbury". Thus the Library began its life as a free public library.

The Library continued in its quarters in City Hall until its growth made construction of a separate building imperative. In 1953, a new building was erected adjoining the municipal building, and the Library became a separate entity. On May 23, 1961, because of confusion arising over the formation in Deptford Township of the Deptford Library Association, the name of Deptford Institute Free Library was changed to Woodbury Public Library.

## WOODBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 1799, the first fire company in Woodbury was formed under the name of "The Woodbury Fire Association". The members paid the expenses of this company out of their own pockets and eventually

bought the hand engine which is now housed at the present Friendship Fire House.

The equipment required of each member of the Association was two buckets for water and a linen bag to carry articles from burning buildings. Water was passed, after being pumped from one of the City's fire wells, from hand to hand in leather buckets along a line of persons, which stretched to the scene of the fire. The water was then dumped into the hand pumper, which squirted the water on the fire. This hand pumper is still in the possession of the Friendship Fire Co.

The fire wells, whose contracts were awarded to the lowest bidder, eventually totaled twenty-five and were located at various points throughout the City. To insure use of these pumps for fires only, they were locked with large locks and chains.

A board of fire wardens was appointed to make monthly checks of the fire wells, but there was little that could be done when the wells were found to be frozen in winter or dry in summer. Even after the Friendship Fire Company was formed, the wells still fell under the jurisdiction of the Association.

By 1830, interest in the Association waned, and the membership dwindled. During that year, however, a statute was passed exempting members of fire companies from military service. There was, subsequently, a very abrupt increase of interest shown in an effective fire fighting organization. Hence, however doubtful the motives of the founders might have been, the present Friendship Fire Company was formed.

In the year 1840, a constitution and by-laws were adopted in a reorganization of the Company, and in 1846, the location of the fire house was changed from Broad Street to Cooper Street, just east of Broad, in a building built by the members themselves.

Leather hose was purchased and put into use in 1843, as an improvement over the line of leather buckets. A hand-drawn, hand-pumped, suction-type of engine, together with two hundred feet of leather hose, was purchased in 1862 at a cost of \$700.00. At the same time, a hose carriage was purchased at a cost of \$50.00.

By 1867, the growth of the City, especially the growth of North Woodbury, was becoming apparent. It was realized that this section of town had no close fire protection as it took considerable time to move the fire apparatus from the fire house on Cooper Street to the north side of the creek. An appeal was made by the citizens of North Woodbury to the old



Association, to house some apparatus in their section of the City; however, all equipment had been previously handed over to the Friendship Fire Company, and the Association could not act. At the next meeting of the Friendship Fire Company, it was decided that the small fire engine and one hose carriage should be located in North Woodbury.

This was the beginning of what is now known as Goodwill Fire Co. #2. The first meeting for which we have a record was held on January 13, 1888. A building committee was appointed, and W. H. Livermore presented the fire company with a deed to the property where the present Good Will Fire House now stands.

In December, 1889, the building committee turned over the new building to the company, and the city presented the company with a hose crab to wind and store hose.

During the first years many of the company purchases were paid for by the men in the company itself. In 1891 they purchased new badges that were paid for by each member buying his own.

In that year they procured more equipment for their uniforms by purchasing belts and hats from the Horstman Co. In August of that year they purchased flannel material for shirts. The company was continually bettering itself. By December, 1892, they had purchased hats, badges, shirts, and belts. At that time the company was invited to attend the housing of a new carriage for the Volunteer Fire Association of Camden.

The year 1898 was a bright one for the company. They made the last payment on the mortgage of the firehouse. In the following years the company purchased the adjoining lot and put a new cement front in the drive-way of the house. The community and merchants donated several other pieces of equipment to the company. 1901 saw a new stable erected for the company on the new lot.

Friendship Fire Company incorporated in 1886, and City Council adopted the ordinance which enabled it to establish control of and regulate the Fire Department in the City of Woodbury. This action followed the establishment of a city water supply system which brought fire hydrants into existence in Woodbury.

In addition to the two-wheeled, hand-drawn hose cart, a horse-drawn hose wagon was purchased. The records show, however, that many times, the hand-drawn cart reached the fire before the horse-drawn wagon. A horse-drawn ladder truck was purchased in 1894 but was too large to be accommodated at the

Friendship Fire House on Cooper Street. Money then was appropriated for the two story building, completed in 1898, which stands on Delaware Street and is the present home of the Friendship Fire Company.

After destruction of the Woodbury High School by fire in 1911, a horse-drawn steamer was purchased. When the High School was again stricken with a serious fire in 1915, two pumper-type motor fire engines were purchased by the City, one being housed at Good Will Fire House, the other being housed at the Friendship Fire House. In 1941, these pumpers were replaced by two Mack pumpers, which are still in use in the respective departments. In 1955, a 500 GPM pumper and booster was housed during the One Hundred Twenty-fifth Anniversary celebration of the Friendship Fire Company.

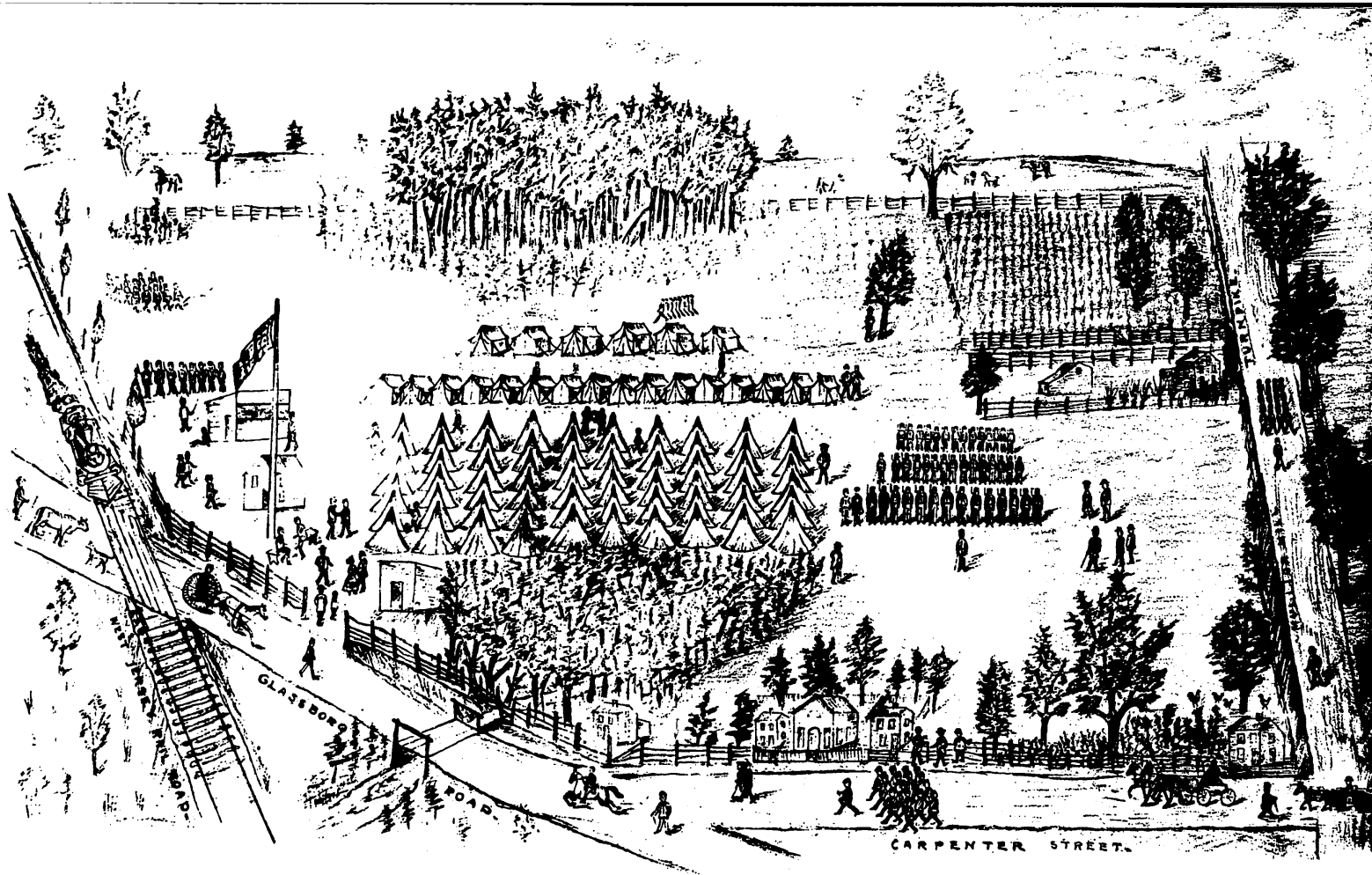
In 1925, a motorized ladder truck was secured and housed at the Friendship Fire House until 1943, when it was replaced by a more modern American LaFrance Aerial Ladder Truck.

In June, 1949, Council created the Woodbury Fire Department, under the direction of a chief and deputy chief and split the Department into two battalions under the command of the battalion chief. The first battalion is housed at the Friendship Fire House and is charged with the protection of all Woodbury south of the Woodbury Creek. The second battalion is housed in the Good Will Fire House and is charged with the protection of the section of Woodbury north of the Woodbury Creek.

## THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On January 12, 1903, twenty-three citizens organized the Gloucester County Historical Society in the Woodbury Court House. This organization was composed almost entirely of the descendants of the pioneers of Old Gloucester. At this meeting John G. Whitall was elected president and served until January 8, 1918.

At the first annual meeting at the Woodbury Court House on January 11, 1904, the Society announced their intentions of keeping the Whitall farm for historical purposes. James Murray, tenant of the farm at Redbank, had advertised a sale of his personal property, because he had been warned that the Government was about to sell the hundred-acre farm, which was the scene of the Battle of Fort Mercer, and his lease would be terminated.



CAMP STOCKTON LOCATED AT WOODBURY, N.J. ON THE DICKERSON FARM. RENDEZVOUS OF THE 12th REGIMENT N.J. VOLUNTEERS. RECRUITED JULY, AUG., SEPT. 1862, BROKE CAMP FOR THE SEAT OF WAR SUNDAY SEPT. 7th 1862. SKETCHED FROM MEMORY BY M. WARE SCOTT, 1907. COL. J. HOWARD WILLETS, LIEUT. COL. EDWARD L. STRATTON AND OTHER SOLDIERS OF THE COMMAND AIDED IN THE SKETCH.

Through the efforts of David O. Watkins, chairman of a special committee on the Preservation of the Redbank Battlefield, an act was approved in Congress in 1905 which set apart about twenty acres of the battlefield under the care of the Gloucester County Board of Freeholders.

In 1918, Frank H. Stewart became president of the Gloucester County Historical Society. The purchase of the Judge Jessup property for twelve thousand dollars was negotiated in November, 1924.

The Jessup property was situated on Old King's Highway, a road that ran behind the present Gloucester County Historical Society, which is located on 90 North Broad Street. One hundred and eighty-six years ago it was a two-story building with a garret, but it was altered by the late Judge Jessup to its present form. This property was built by John Sparks in 1765.

At one time the Jessup property was owned by Andrew Hunter, famous clergyman, tea burner, chaplain of the Revolution and educator. Andrew Hunter was one of the founders and the first principal of the Woodbury Academy. It was later owned by John Lawrence, brother of Captain James Lawrence of "Don't give up the ship" fame. This naval hero, when a boy, attended the Academy School in Woodbury while living with his brother. Captain Lawrence's picture can be seen hanging in the Historical Society Building.

### BANKS

The State Legislature on April 5, 1855, in response to a petition by Gloucester Countians, granted a charter for the Gloucester County Bank of Woodbury. Within three days the capital stock of \$100,000 was subscribed, and before the year was out, an imposing bank structure had been constructed at the corner of Broad and Bank (now Hunter) Streets. While building was going on, the bank conducted its business from the home of James W. Caldwell, cashier, who lived across the street. One of the new bank's first moves was to issue \$50,000 in currency, a risky procedure in those days because of counterfeiters, but the bank cashier was kept on his toes because false bills taken in were charged against his salary. The present home of the bank at Broad and Cooper Streets was built in 1923. In May, 1865, the name was changed to the First National Bank of Woodbury with the "and Trust Company" added in 1925. On November 10, 1960, the Woodbury Trust Co. was consolidated with the First National Bank and Trust Co. and the name changed to the First

County National Bank and Trust Co. In addition to the Main Office, the bank has three branches.

The Farmers and Mechanics National Bank of Woodbury was established April 28, 1887, with the capital stock of \$100,000 almost immediately oversubscribed by \$30,000. The Charles Knisell property was purchased for the site of the new bank, and business was conducted in the old Surrogate's Office until the new building was completed and the new financial institution opened its doors on June 28, 1887. In December, 1959, the bank moved from its quarters at 17 North Broad Street to its present location at 220 South Broad Street. This institution also has three branch locations.

### HOSPITALS

Underwood Hospital, an expanding institution named for its founder, Dr. J. Harris Underwood, began in 1915 in the old Columbia Hotel, located at Broad Street and Red Bank Avenue, site of the present hospital. Dr. Underwood had graduated from Jefferson Medical College and served his internship at Cooper Hospital, Camden. He first went into practice in 1906 in National Park but before long opened an office in his home across the street from the present hospital. Patients, whom he admitted to his home for care, soon overran the house, and purchase of the Columbia Hotel across the street followed. Identified as the Underwood Private Hospital, it consisted of medical and dental offices (his brother, Amos P. Underwood, was a practicing dentist), a laboratory and four rooms for patients. Woodbury soon outstripped the small hospital, and in 1919 the first addition was opened.

Expansion and addition have been the policy at the hospital since that time. In 1927 a three-story building was added; the John C. Dunn Memorial Wing was constructed in 1932; an annex was built in 1948; the three-story Downs Building was completed in 1953, raising capacity to 107 beds and 24 bassinets. Present expansion plans now in progress include construction of a modern six-story wing which will substantially increase the bed capacity along with its attendant services.

Dr. Underwood died on November 15, 1957, leaving a permanent memorial to Woodbury.

Memorial Hospital at the corner of Broad and Hunter Streets, originally a home built in 1810, was purchased from the Matlack family in 1912 and converted into the 16-bed Brewer Hospital, functioning as a private obstetric and surgical hospital until the death of Dr. William Brewer in 1939. In

1940, the hospital became a non-profit corporation with the establishment of a board of trustees following its purchase from the Brewer Estate. The dwelling remained unchanged to all outward appearances until 1951, when an expansion program was begun. A two-story addition was completed in that year, and bed capacity was raised to 24. Additional land was acquired adjoining the hospital, and in 1956 another expansion was completed, raising the bed capacity to 48. In the fall of 1960, the original hospital building was demolished, and two new wings were added again, increasing the bed capacity, this time to 76.

Present expansion plans look toward an increase in bed capacity to 260 with attendant expansion of all facilities and eventually a 500-bed hospital.

### CHURCHES

The Bethlehem Baptist Church at 414 Mantua Avenue was organized in 1896, and the church itself was built in 1906. This structure was replaced with another, and on March 24, 1963, the first services were held in the new building.

St. John's Lutheran Church, Salem Avenue and Lincoln Street, is the result of a change in 1888 of the German Presbyterian congregation, organized in 1881, to a Lutheran congregation. The German Presbyterian congregation built the original church structure on Lincoln Street in 1883 after meeting for the first two years on the second floor of Solfeiss Hall on Broad Street. Additions to the church were constructed in 1925 and 1954, and a Fellowship Hall was built in 1957.

The Woodbury Seventh Day Adventist Church, South Evergreen Avenue and East Barber Avenue, was first organized in 1909 in a mission building on old German Street. In 1934 the church moved to Pilgrim Avenue, Colonial Manor, but in July, 1962, moved into its newly constructed home at the present location.

Christ Episcopal Church, Delaware and New Streets, has been the site of the congregation since its establishment in 1855. The church building was completed in 1856, but the mission church did not become a regularly organized parish until 1874. In the early 1900s the church was completely renovated, and in 1914, the parish house was built, and an addition was put on in 1951.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Euclid and Cooper Streets, was established as a parish in 1877 after being a mission of the Gloucester parish since 1859. The first church was built on Salem Avenue

in 1865. The cornerstone of the present church property was laid in 1909, but by 1923 it proved too small and consequently was enlarged that year. The church purchased the property of the late Col. G. G. Green, at Cooper and Green Streets, in 1943, and the present parochial school at that site opened in 1944 and by 1949 had eight grades. The present rectory was purchased in 1957 at the northeast corner of Euclid and Cooper Streets. Rooms were added to the school in 1953 and again in 1961 as enrollment increased.

Beth Israel Congregation, which in 1962 moved into its new synagogue at High and Warner Streets, had its beginnings in 1922 when 14 families met to form the Woodbury Hebrew Congregation. First services for the High Holy Days in 1923 were held at the old Academy School, Broad Street and East Centre Street. The congregation subsequently met in the Old Red Men's Hall and in the second floor of a building at Broad Street and Aberdeen Place before building a permanent synagogue at West Centre and Harrison Streets in 1939.

The Presbyterian Church at Broad and West Centre Streets dates back to 1721 when John Tatem deeded an acre of ground on Kings Highway, North Broad Street, for a Meeting House and Burial Ground. After the Battle of Red Bank, the church members refused to use the building, asserting it was haunted since it had been used as a commissary by the Hessians, and the building fell into disrepair and was ordered demolished by the town fathers in 1804. In 1819, a number of the congregation met in the Academy School, which one of their ministers had been instrumental in founding, and reorganized the corporation, which was officially recorded with the County Clerk. In 1834 the new church at the present location, across the street from the old Academy, was under construction. In 1878 a wooden chapel at the rear of the church was built as a Sunday School and in 1895 was replaced by a stone structure. During various renovations, the chapel and church were joined, and the church was re-decorated.

The First Baptist Church of Woodbury had its beginnings in 1856 when a group assembled in the old Court House to conduct their first service. In the following year these services were transferred to the old Oak Street School House. In August, 1857, the group was formally recognized as a church after earlier having purchased the tract of land at 544 North Broad Street, where the present church building stands. Plans for the present structure were

drawn by David Gandoff of Philadelphia and presented to the congregation in May, 1858. Members moved into the then still uncompleted church in the latter part of 1858.

Kemble Memorial Methodist Church on South Broad Street is an outgrowth of a Methodist minister's visit here in August, 1770. Preaching services have been held regularly since 1797, first in the old Court House and later in a dwelling moved to the corner of Morris and West Streets and dedicated as a church. In 1832 a new brick church was dedicated on South Broad Street. The present church building was constructed in 1887, largely through the generosity of William H. Kemble, whose name it carries. The name was changed in 1898 to the Kemble Memorial Methodist-Episcopal Church from the Woodbury Methodist Episcopal Church, with the word "Episcopal" being dropped later. An educational building was dedicated in 1928.

The Central Baptist Church at West Centre and Jackson Streets is an outgrowth of the First Baptist Church and was first formed under the name of the South Side Baptist School by a group of mothers who claimed their children were frightened when passing through the covered bridge, which spanned Woodbury creek, while enroute to the North Woodbury Church. The South Side Baptist Sunday School began its teachings in June, 1889, in rooms on the second floor of the Green Block at Broad and East Centre Streets. The decision was made in 1896 to establish a Baptist Church in the central section of Woodbury to be known as the Central Baptist Church. In 1899, Colonel Green gave the congregation a 70-foot lot on East Centre Street, site of the present N. J. Bell Telephone Co. office. The congregation occupied the new church building in the spring of 1903 and retained this as their house of worship until the early 1950s when they moved into their present church.

Bethel A.M.E. Church, at 53 Carpenter Street, was organized in 1817 in an old log cabin in North Woodbury. The group continued to worship in private homes, school houses or any other available space until 1840 when through the efforts of members of the congregation a permanent church structure, now demolished, was first erected at the site where the present building stands today.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 60 Progress Avenue, held its first services early in 1924 in the Good Will Fire Hall. Within six months, the congregation moved its place of worship to the new parsonage on Progress Avenue and in October,

1926, dedicated the church building. A new house of worship was dedicated on June 14, 1955.

Pilgrim Holiness Church, 67 Oak Street, was founded 1926.

Church of God in Christ, 20 Railroad Avenue, was founded 1942.

Church of God, 18 Nelson Avenue, was founded 1929.

Mt. Zion Methodist Church, 43 Stuart Street, was founded 1918.

North Baptist Church, 1020 North Evergreen Avenue, was founded 1945.

Antioch Church of God, 69 Stuart Street, was founded 1915.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, 52 North Broad Street, was founded 1933.

Church of God and Saints of Christ, Inc., 44 Railroad Avenue, was founded 1960.

## NATIONAL GUARD

The parent organization of the present 1st Battalion (M), 114th Infantry, New Jersey Army National Guard, was constituted March 9, 1869, as the 5th Battalion, New Jersey National Guard and partially organized April 14, 1869, with units in Burlington and Camden. Rapid expansion of the Battalion resulted in its redesignation as the 6th Infantry Regiment on 24 August 1870.

The organization had its first taste of active Federal service in 1898 when elements were mustered in at Sea Girt, New Jersey. After a year of active service the Regiment was mustered out and reorganized 3rd Infantry Regiment, New Jersey National Guard.

World War I saw the organization back in Federal service, consolidated with elements of the Delaware National Guard to form the 114th Infantry Regiment, 29th Division. Campaign streamers were earned for fighting in the Meuse-Argonne and Alsace Campaigns.

World War II saw the organization in active Federal service for the third time, serving as an element of the 44th Infantry Division. The 114th earned campaign streamers for four major battles: Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland, and Central Europe.

After World War II, the reorganization of the unit, to be known as the 114th Armored Infantry Battalion as a part of the 50th Armored Division, took place on July 5, 1946. The Woodbury unit has since been redesignated twice and is currently organized as the 1st Battalion (M), 114th Infantry, New Jersey Army National Guard.



Photo supplied by the Gloucester County Historical Society identifies this structure as the First Methodist - Episcopal Church of Woodbury, erected in 1780, and later moved to old Federal Street.

The Franklin House, at 44 North Broad Street, is the oldest house in Woodbury and one of the oldest in New Jersey. It is shown here as it appeared in 1911. The property dates back to 1765 and remained in the Franklin family until 1911. Originally Old Kings Highway passed in back of the house, which was then the front.



Artist's sketch of the Hotel Paul on North Broad Street and adjoining livery as it probably appeared about 1845.



Old *Constitution* Office on South Broad Street as it looked many years ago. *Weekly Constitution* started publishing in 1834 and continued for more than a century.

Gloucester County Bank Building at the corner of North Broad Street and Bank Street (now Hunter Street) adjoining the James Cooper home is shown as it looked just after construction in 1855. The bank conducted business in this building until 1894, when it moved to South Broad Street, then to its present location at Broad and Cooper Streets in 1923.



This old photograph of the Friends' Meeting House on the hill of the east side of North Broad Street, near the creek, also shows the old school, which formerly was located on the same property. The west end of the Friends' Meeting House was erected in 1715, and the east end in 1785. The Friends' Meeting House is one of the oldest original places of worship in the Woodbury area.

Cornerstone laying ceremonies for the new Court House were attended by many notables of the era, some of whom are shown posing grandly upon the foundation.



The old Court House at the corner of Broad and Delaware Streets remained standing during construction of the present Court House in 1887.

Evergreen Hall in the Pines, on Cooper Street, was destroyed by fire in 1924 and was replaced by the present apartment house structure.

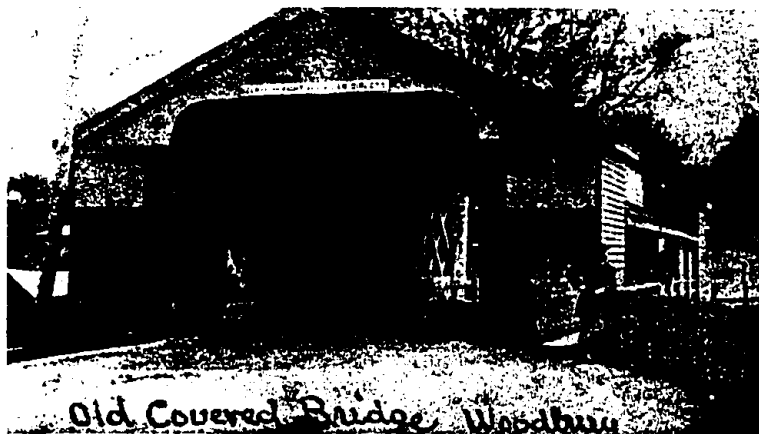






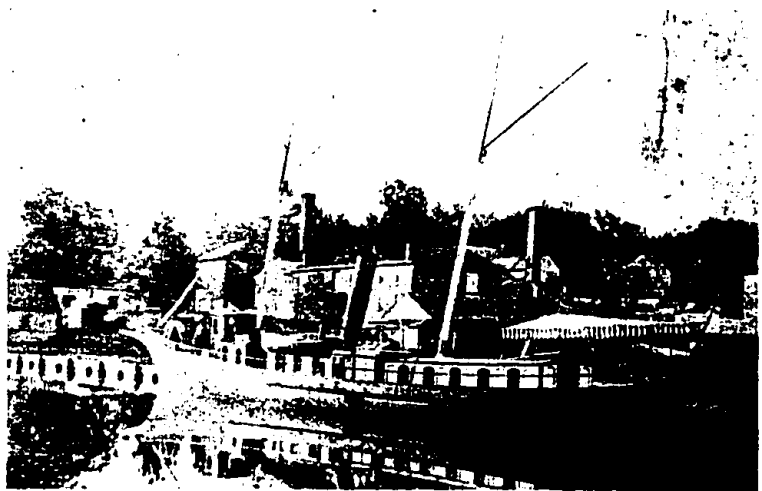
Toll gate of the Woodbury-Mantua Turnpike in South Woodbury shows collector receiving toll from occupant of an early model horseless carriage.

The old covered bridge, which carried Broad Street across Woodbury Creek, was replaced in 1893 by a structure similar to that now in use. The roadway was raised nine feet for the new bridge to permit passage of canal boats beneath.



Toll gate above Woodbury on the Gloucester Pike as it appeared around the turn of the century. House in this picture still stands on Old Broadway near the Evergreen Avenue cut off in North Woodbury.

G. G. Green's steam yacht, berthed in the Woodbury Creek near the old covered bridge.



Partial view of G. G. Green's grounds from the Woodbury depot about 1890.

"Private Palace Car" of G. G. Green, of patent medicine fame, stands on siding at Woodbury Railroad Station. Car was opened to visitors annually prior to family's leaving for California.





Rambo's coach met trains daily at the Woodbury depot and provided taxi service to various points in the city and surrounding areas.

Horse-drawn hose carriage of the Good Will Fire Company driven by Forest Sweeten as it appeared about 1900. The horse may be "Mac," who died in 1926 at the age of 32 and had learned to respond to the fire bell as quickly as the firemen.



Old home of Friendship Fire Co. on the north side of Cooper Street across the street from Hendry's Court was vacated by the fire company in 1898, and the building was demolished in the 1920s to make way for a service station.

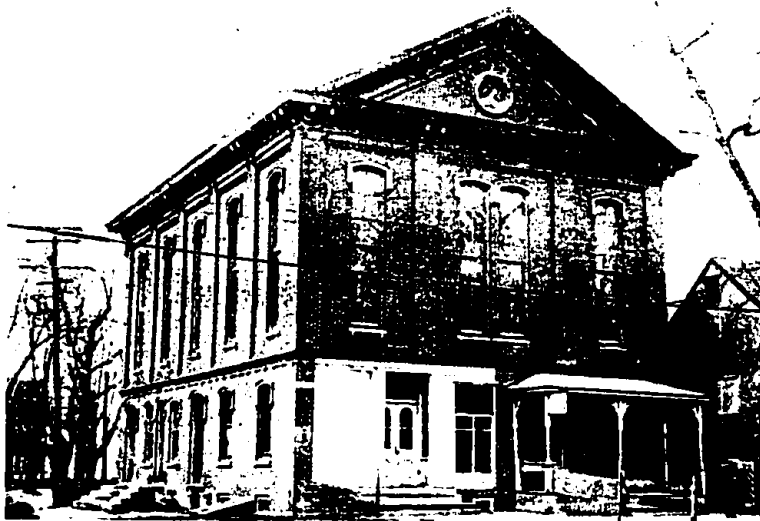
Camden-Gloucester-Woodbury trolley line came to Woodbury in 1893. Car No. 13, shown in front of the court house, apparently held no ill omen for the passengers and operator.



Composite photo of the courthouse corner early in 1900's shows wide cobblestone street completely devoid of automobile traffic.

Photo of glassworks might be that of either the Standard Window Glass Works or the Woodbury Glass Works Co. The Standard Glass Works was located on the north bank of the Woodbury creek adjacent to the covered bridge.





This photograph shows that the old Town Hall, which formerly stood at Broad Street and Barber Avenue.

Old photo of Presbyterian Church at Broad and Center Streets built in 1834. In 1906 the brick structure was covered by stone.



The first high school, built in 1876, formerly located at East Center and Broad Streets, graduated the first class of Woodbury High School, consisting of four members in 1904. It was removed in 1925.

**CARRIAGE MAKING.**  
**WOODBURY, N. J.**

THE undersigned has commenced the above business, in its various branches, in the shop of Thomas Glover. Having been in the business for thirteen years, and five years of that time as Trimmer for the well known carriage maker, George W. Watson, of Philadelphia, he feels confident that he can give entire satisfaction to all those who may favor him with their patronage. By his strict attention to business, he hopes to receive a liberal share of the patronage of his friends and the public in general.

Particular attention paid to putting on **BUGGY TOPS.** Also, to

**Painting, Trimming and Repairing** in general. Prices moderate. Give me a call.

**WILLIAM C. MONTGOMERY.**

March 21, 1859.

**NOTICE**

IS hereby given, that the annual meeting of the Stockholders of the "LAWRENCEVILLE, BERKLEY AND THOROUGHFARE TURNPIKE COMPANY," will be held AT PAUL'S SCHOOL HOUSE, on Monday the 4th of April next, at 2 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of electing officers and transacting other business appertaining to said company.

**CHARLES GREEN,**

March 19, 1859.

Secretary.

Clipping from one of the Woodbury papers of March, 1859, advertises services available from William C. Montgomery, carriage maker, and advises of the annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Lawrenceville, Berkley and Thoroughfare Turnpike Company to be held April 3, 1859.

G. G. Green's block between Center Street and Hopkins Street boasted George W. Cattell's "Guns and Sporting Goods"; Democrat Office, "Printing and Publishing"; T. Earl Budd, "Fine Groceries"; C. W. Starr, "Dry Goods"; and I. Brown & Co., "Hardware".

**Daniel H. Mumford**

PROPRIETOR OF

**West End  
Livery Stables**

New and Second-Hand Wagons for Sale  
or Exchange



**Harness Made  
and Repaired**

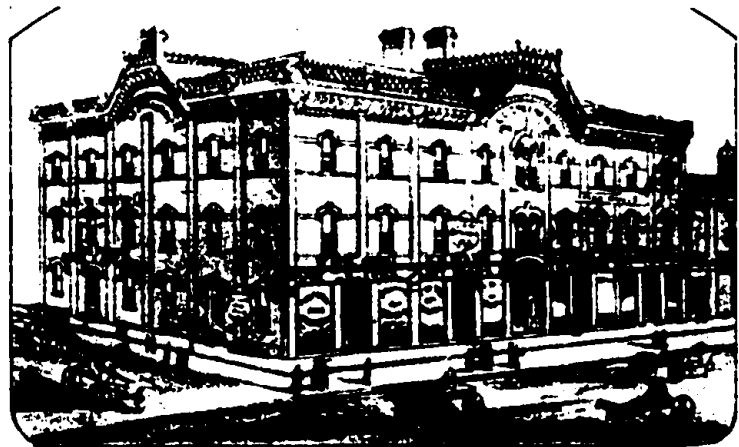
New and Second-Hand Furniture and all  
kinds of Stoves and Pipe, &c.

**Horse Clothing at Lowest Prices**

Bell Phone No. 1. Eastern No. 44

**Broad St. and Salem Ave., Woodbury**

Livery stables were an important part of life until the advent of the automobile, and Dan Mumford used this handbill to advertise the services he offered to residents of Woodbury and surrounding areas.





Cooper Street, looking east from the G. G. Green estate toward Lake Drive, shows horse-drawn carriage and women gowned in fashions of the early 1900's.

Old sketch of Cooper Street looking west toward the railroad depot and the center of town shows the G. G. Green mansion, now the site of St. Patrick's School.



Abbott property at the corner of Broad and Cooper Streets was purchased by the First National Bank and demolished to make way for construction of a new bank building on the site in 1922.



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## CITY OF WOODBURY TRICENTENARY COMMITTEE



**WOODBURY TRICENTENARY COMMITTEE** which arranged City's participation in State Anniversary included, left to right, Mayor Robert E. Brumund, J. A. Ernest Zimmerman, J. Sennett Holston, Treasurer; Mrs. Kurt F. Hoelle, Secretary; Oscar L. Books, Dr. Warren J. McClain, Chairman; Eugene L. Horan, Jr., Mrs. C. Anthony Ficara, Donald A. Smith, Robert K. Talley, Everett B. Fisler and Walter E. Trout. Absent when the photograph was taken was Alfred E. Hill and Robert W. Taylor. Raymond C. Archut and Frank F. Hogarth, both deceased, were original members of the committee.



"Historic Woodbury" is published in commemoration of the 300th Anniversary of the State of New Jersey, 1664-1964.

The Editorial Staff of "Historic Woodbury" extends its sincere appreciation to the Gloucester County Historical Society and the many citizens of Woodbury who provided historical data, photographs, old newspapers and maps used in

preparation of this booklet. The Committee was also fortunate in receiving much valuable information about the Wood family from the officials of Bury, Lancashire, England.

Without this generous assistance from our own citizens and those of Bury, publication of this booklet would not have been possible.

EUGENE L. HORAN, JR.	Editor
OSCAR L. BOOKS	Layout
MRS. C. ANTHONY FICARA	Research
RICHARD DANN	Associate Editor
MRS. JOHN H. AVIS, JR.	Artist
RICHARD ULZHEIMER	Artist
EVERETT B. FISLER	Photography
J. A. ERNEST ZIMMERMANN	Historian

4 Representation of Woodbury Bank in the County of Gloucester  
 Distinct from actual survey, on a scale of 10 chains to an inch.  
 The distance from the dam to the bridge at Woodbury, by way of the bank is 4 miles taking 18 rods.  
 The distance from the dam to the bridge on a straight line is 2 3/4 miles & 6 rods.  
 The distance from the dam to the bridge at Woodbury, by way of the bank is 3 1/2 miles & 6 rods.  
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